

The Publication of the NATIONAL FIREBIRD AND TRANS AM CLUB

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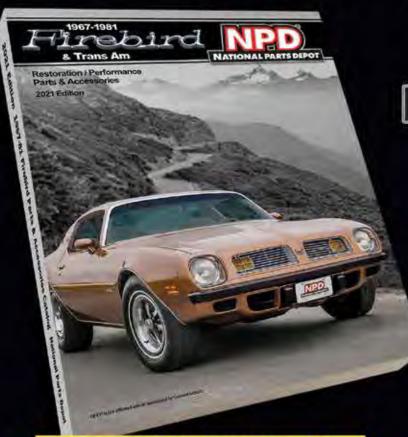
2021 Pontiac Celebration in Warwick, Rhode Island and morel



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NATIONAL FIREBIRD and TRANS AM CLUB **EAGLE**

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USER NAME: february2022 PASSWORD: firebirdtaclub

EDITOR:

Frank Ochal

STAFF ASSISTANTS:

Kevin Hemphill and Mark Neumann

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The National Firebird and Trans Am Club (NFTAC) is North America's largest and oldest club for all year Firebirds and Trans Ams including the Formula, GTA and Conversions. The NFTAC was founded in Chicago in 1984 to serve the interests of all Firebird and Trans Am owners and has members throughout North America and the world. Member benefits include the Eagle, the eEagle (sent to email address), tech advice, member recommendations on service, body and parts, free classified ads, a tradition of service and much more!

PRESIDENT

Frank Ochal 5433 N. Ashland Ave. Chicago, IL 60640 773-769-7166

emall: frank@firebirdtaclub.com

OTHER TECHNICAL STAFF

Jules Glogovscan Bill Baker Hunter Performance P.O. Box 591 Jessup, IA 50648 9302 Livernois Houston, TX 77080 319-827-3711 jghunter@nol.net bkbaker@jtt.net performance mods

TECHNICAL STAFF Todd Stahr

P. O. Box 22 Deerton, MI 49622

wfo71@hotmail.com

Eric Vicker P. O. Box 0033 South Park, PA 15129 412-708-7886 evicker@hotmail.com

David Heath at dmheat@pacbell.net and Terry Golliday III at synegal9@aol.com

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FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Thanks again to the many new members that have joined recently. Thanks to Wes Hardy, Rick DiGiacomo, Larry Kummer, Doug McCulloch, Dave Good and the other contributors to this issue!

Also many thanks to Todd Stahr, Eric Vicker and the others on their continuing technical help to our members on our message board and Facebook **Group** at www.facebook.com/groups/ firebirdclub.

Glad to seen that many of the cars shows were actually held.

All Technical Sections are now available on USB drive in addition to CD and printed versions. Technical Sections are topics, questions and answers published in the Eagle magazine. Available on CD or USB drive or in a printed version or an emailed pdf. Past issues of the Eagle magazine are now also available on USB drive in addition to CD and emailed pdf versions.

Special thanks to Mark Neumann who is now helping us with copy editing and proof reading the EAGLE. Look for another of his "Birds in Flight" columns which is now a regular feature in the Eagle.

All of the issues of the Eagle have been processed and mailed on time. Problems with the post office due to weather and absences due to the pandemic have caused some issues to be received late or not at all. Contact us and we will send replacement copies as long as supplies last.

The '68 Firebird 400 of Wes Hardy from Nahant, Massachusetts is on the front cover of this issue of the Eagle. Beautiful car with a great background Thanks Wes.

The Firebird and Trans Am Calendar for 2022 is starting to fill up with more being added all the time. Check our website for the most up to date list. Send in your show details so that we can list it in the Eagle and on our website.

This issue's letters section contains a letter on possible scams from people posing as buyers of cars. Please

be careful when selling. Another letter is on renewing an expired membership. You should always use the renewal form and we probably will be able to find your old membership number and information.

The New Products and Services **Section** contains new items from NPD. The Parts Place, Ames Performance Engineering and Firebird Central. Advertisers should continue to send in their new and featured products so that we can keep this section updated.

Thanks to everyone involved with the 2021 Pontiac Celebration for their work in setting up the show and sharing the report with us.

The **Meet the New Members** area

Continued on page 7

ARTICLES & PHOTOS

The NFTAC welcomes articles & photographs from members & will publish items that are of general interest to our members. We will pay for such in the form of credit toward renewal or regalia purchase. We would like articles on:

- upkeep & performance hints
- experiences with your car
- local event & club info
- photographs
- tech info & questions/answers

SEND TO:

NFTAC ARTICLES 5433 N. ASHLAND AVE., CHICAGO, IL 60640 U.S.A.

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AMOUNT PER ISSUE

INSIDE COVERS (if available), 8 1/2" H x 11" V (can be bled) \$175.00 FULL PAGE, 8 1/2" H x 11" V (can be bled) HALF PAGE, approx. 7 1/2" x 5" (horizontal or vertical) 80.00 QUARTER PAGE, approx. 3 3/4" x 5" (horizontal or vertical) 45.00 EIGHTH PAGE or less, approx. 3 3/4" x 2 1/2" (horiz. or vertical) 25.00 Business card ad rate is \$25.00 per issue.

above ad rates NOW apply to color or black & white ads Website Ad (approx. 500 pixels by 75 pixels) \$35 for 3 months, \$120 one year Message Board sponsor (individual board) \$35 for 3 months, \$120 one year (see website for additional website advertising rates)

DEADLINE DATE <u>ISSUE</u> **FEBRUARY DECEMBER 1** MAY MARCH 1 **AUGUST** JUNE 1 **NOVEMBER** SEPTEMBER 1

Printed magazine advertisers will also be listed on the National Firebird and Trans Am Club website in the advertisers/links sections and on the club message board

Members also receive the April, July, October and the January eEagle by email. Ad rates are \$35 for each issue. Deadline is the 1st day of the month prior to the issue.

Classified ads are free to NFTAC members. For others, classified ads are \$15.00 per insertion for 50 words or less. Classified ads will appear on our website, the Eagle, in the eEagle, message board, on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. Additional words are 50 cents each. Ads include one color photo, Additional photos are \$10 each.

Eagle display rates are based on camera-ready copy. Agency discounts will not be honored. A 10% discount is offered to NFTAC members. A 20% discount is offered on yearly (4 issues) contracts. Payment must accompany submissions. Art and typesetting extra. We accept Visa, Master Card, American Express, Discover & PayPal (info@firebirdtaclub.com).

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FIREBIRD AND TRANS AM CALENDAR

(please check for changes before departing for event)

MAY

19-22 Firebird Fest St. Louis, O'Fallon, IL www.firebirdfest.com.

22-28 Bandit Run, from Texarkana to Atlanta. www.facebook.com/groups/Banditrun2018/.

<u>JUNE</u>

2-5 21st Annual Pontiacs in Pigeon Forge, TN. www.pontiacsinpigeonforge.com.

<u>JULY</u>

12-16 50th Annual POCI International Convention, Catoosa, OK. www.poci.org or 763-479-2111.

AUGUST

12-14 31st Ames Performance Pontiac Nationals, Norwalk, OH. andi@pontiacnationals.com, www.pontiacnationals.com.

25-28 37th Annual Trans Am Nationals, Fairborn, OH. Jerry Minor at 513-202-1212. www.tanationals.org.

SEPTEMBER 2023

22-24 A Pontiac Celebration - 2023, Crowne Plaza Hotel, Warwick, RI. Rick at 401-934-0663 or frdigi@cox.net.

Please submit news of your event 3 months in advance



LETTERS TO THE NFTAC

Dear NFTAC,

Have you received any reports about a James from Florida? He contacted us about the MG we have for sale even though the member magazine that it will be in has not been sent out yet.

He wanted to buy for full price and have an inspector come and then transport. He said he was sending a check for the car and to pay the inspector. We have tried to contact him but he does not t respond. We are wondering if this is a scam?

Cynthia Howard

Editor's Note: Classified ads are visible on our website and other places long before the printed magazine comes out so that is probably how he saw the ad. We have not received any reports on a James from Florida but these type of scams are quite common.

We have a warning in almost every issue of the Eagle which sounds similar to this case and states:

WARNING: CAR SALES SCAM. The check the "buyer" sends you is a fake. If you deposit it into your account and then obtain a Cashier's Check for the difference and send it to the accomplice, it will be cashed before the fake check you deposited is returned to your bank and charged back to your account. You will be ripped off for the amount of the Cashier's Check that you sent.

Dear NFTAC.I

I used to be a NFTAC member long time ago, and I would like to become a member again please. So just wondering if I should go with "Renew membership" or apply for a new membership all the way from scratch?! Do you guys offer a life membership by any chance?

Salah Natto

Editor's Note: We do not offer life time

membership. Apply as a renewal and we should be able to locate your old membership info.

Dear NFTAC,

My first brand new car was a 1967 Firebird 326.

I would now like to find either a white or blue 1970 Trans Am. Let me know if any member would like to sell theirs.

> Jack McCullogh Woodstock, Georgia

Editor's Note: You can contact Jack about a 1970 Trans Am contact him at jrmccullogh@comcast.net. I would also suggest placing a wanted ad in the classifieds so that the request can appear in the Eagle magazine, the eEagle, the club message board, the club website, Facebook and Twitter.

Dear NFTAC.

Thank you for your support of "A Pontiac Celebration - 2021" Easter Regional Meet in Warwick, Rhode Island. The show once again was a huge success with many attendees and local car enthusiasts attending the Friday night "Teddy Bear Cruise" and even more beautiful Pontiacs packing the Saturday show field. It gets bigger and better with each show. Everyone had a great time and are already look-

ing forward to the next "Pontiac Celebration" in 2023.

Our 2021, 2012,2014,2016, 2018 and 2021 Pontiac Celebration shows have donated OVER \$60,000 to our two children's cancer charities, Alex's Lemonade Stand founLetters to the NFTAC

Letters should include the writer's full name, city and state. Send to:

NFTAC Letters 5433 N. Ashland Ave. Chicago, IL 60640 USA email: info@firebirdtaclub.com

dation for childhood cancer and The Tomorrow Fund helping children and families affected by cancer.

Thank you for all your support for this very important cause.

Larry Kummer & Rick DiGiacomo

Dear NFTAC,

I was told that a gentleman bought this car, took it home and his wife told he couldn't keep it at his home. So he took it to his grandparents home where he stored it.

It sat there for nine years. Sad to say both grandparents passed. He could not hide it any longer.

I was just looking to buy a 6.6 motor but when I saw the car I bought it.

Little did I know that the owner of the car is one of my business clients.

What a surprise for him to have his ex toy parked in my parking lot.

Sanford Conners Woodstock, Illinois



'78 Trans Am of Sanford Conners from Woodstock, Illinois



EDITORS' DESK

Continued from page 4

continues to show many new members joining. Thanks for the support!

Mark Neumann's 'Birds in **Flight** column for this issue is about how car shows and events continue throughout the winter months in many parts of the country. They should realize how luck they are.

The Firebird and Trans Am Galley contains photos of an '83 Trans Am Daytona 25th Anniversary model and its cross-fire injection motor. There is also s short story on Douglas McCullogh's 2000 WS6.

Our Featured Car this issue is also the car on the cover - the '68 Firebird 400 of Wes Hardy from Nahant, Massachusetts. Great story and beautiful photos.

The **Technical Section** contains many good questions and answers including one on calipers and brakes.

Thanks to our Facebook group for most of these items.

The Swap Meet Classifieds contain many good items including a newly listed '99 Trans Am WS-6.

Our back cover contains the photo of the '77 Trans Am of Dave Good. Nice color and photo!

You can now find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/groups/ firebirdclub and twitter in the groups/clubs section. Our Facebook group now has 13,000 members. We now have an Instagram page at firebirdandtransmclub.

We once again have all sizes of polo/golf shirts (L, XL & XXL) back in stock. They are available from the club store in this issue or online at the club's website.

We now issue plastic membership cards to all members. All current members should have received the plastic membership card. As the new membership card is plastic it is meant to be permanent and will no longer include your membership expiration date. Your membership expiration date and your number can always be found on the label on each issue of the printed EAGLE and other club mailings. You can always call, email or text us if you ever need a replacement card, your membership number or your expiration date.

We have expanded our list of **free** items that members can receive with 3 year membership or renewal. You can now receive either a free t-shirt, a tech CD or USB flash drive (or emailed) or past issues of the Eagle in pdf format on CD or USB flash drive (or emailed). We offer a 3 year membership or renewal rate for \$95 or \$125 for members outside the USA. We also have a 3 year eMembership for \$65 which also includes the free items. Save money and get a t-shirt or tech sections or past issues of the Eagle

Stay safe and have a great start to the new year!!

Frank

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Members can receive the eEagle, which is our email newsletter. This is in addition to the regular Eagle and is sent to members that have given us their email address. Members therefore can receive eight publications per vear. Send us your email address if you have one. If you have not received an eEagle by this time it is because we do not have an email address for you or not the correct one. Please send us your updated email address so that we may send you the eEagle and also correspond with you quickly when necessary. Members without email addresses will not miss anything but may receive the information in a different format and at a later date because of printing and mailing considerations.

Our club message board can be accessed through the club website at www.firebirdtaclub.com or directly at board.firebirdtaclub.com. We have a members only section of the message board. You can use the user id and password on page 3 of each Eagle or you can get a personal id. To do so, register and then login to the message board and send a message to us. Club member access allows posting of items for sale and photos and access to the club Members Section. The club blog is located at blog.firebirdtaclub.com and members can login and upload photos to photos.firebirdtaclub.com.

Join us on Facebook at National Firebird and Trans Am Club and follow us on Twitter at firebirdclub.

The Facebook group at firebird club is especially good for getting immediate feedback on questions, local events and other concerns. Our Facebook group now has 13,000 members.

We now have an **Instagram** page located at firebirdandtransamclub!





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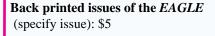
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NEW PRODUCTS AND SERVICES

In this section we highlight new products and services for Firebird and Trans Am owners. We hope you enjoy it and send in any information that you think should be included.

Current advertisers should send in product announcements.

NPD - DIAL SHIFT INDICATOR 1970 THRU 1981

National Parts Depot 900 SW 38th Ave. Ocala, FL 34474 Ph.: 1-800-874-7595

www.NationalPartsDepot.com

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THE PARTS PLACE -PONTIAC SERVICE BUTTON 14" DIA.

The Parts Place Inc. 630 Enterprise Ave. DeKalb, IL 60115 Ph.: 1-800-442-0411

website: www.thepartsplaceinc.com

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Part #: INT-2260. \$99.95

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TECH SECTIONS NOW ALSO AVAILABLE ON USB FLASH DRIVE

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All Technical Sections are now available on USB drive in addition to CD, email and printed versions.

Technical Sections are topics, questions and answers published in the *EAGLE* magazine. They are indexed by category such as electrical, suspension, etc. for easy reference and accessibility. Available from the NFTAC by ordering on the website or by using the order form in each issue of the *Eagle or on our website*.





The 3 volume combo that contains Tech Sections Volume I, II & III on CD or USB

drive for \$30 plus \$5 S&H (emailed for \$30) Volume I, II & III all printed for \$45 plus \$10 S&H.

Also available is a past issues of the Eagle on CD or USB drive. It is over 3000 pages and is \$15 plus \$5 S&H. It also can be emailed with no shipping charges.





2021 PONTIAC CELEBRATION

by Rick DiGiacomo and Larry Kummer

The 2021 "Pontiac Celebration" Eastern Regional Meet was a huge success, much welcomed after the year (2020) delay. Once again, our event continues to draw great Pontiacs showing, and many enthusiastic Pontiac hobbyists enjoying this special weekend gathering.

Not forgetting the purpose of this event—"Pontiacs with a Purpose"—many gave their time, energy, and contributions to our children's cancer charities: Alex's Lemonade Stand foundation for childhood cancer and The Tomorrow Fund helping children and families affected by cancer. To date we have donated over \$60,000 from "A Pontiac Celebration" 2010 through 2021. All from of our generous Pontiac enthusiasts. Proving how great Pontiac people are!

While a few Pontiac lovers arrived as early as Thursday to help with the event, many more rolled in on Friday to participate in our area-wide "Teddy Bear Cruise" that evening. Music, food, and drink attracted many great looking cars of all types, makes, and models from throughout the local community cruising in for the fun and to help support our charities.

The big event was the All Pontiac Car Show on Saturday. Overcast and then sunny Fall weather made for a great day. We were happy to see 220 beautiful Pontiacs on the show field. Though down a small amount from our 2018 Celebration, it was a very positive sign of the support of our Pontiac community during these continued trying times. Once again many local and surrounding Pontiac Clubs came out in force to make our event a huge success. This Celebration the Long Island Pontiac Clubs took home the Club Participation Award. Every year they come out in force to support and enjoy the Pontiac Celebration. We thank everyone for their support.

The Saturday evening BBQ dinner spread was enjoyed by a hungry crowd after a full day of car show and activities. But the high point of the banquet was when the many awards were given out to all who worked so hard preparing their beautiful cars. Top award of the evening – People's Choice – went to Frank Nolan with his beautiful 1978 Trans Am. Many other Specialty Trophies, some in memory of those who are no longer with us, but in our memories, were also presented.

Our PontiacRegistry.com trophy went to a beautiful 1970 Firebird Formula 400. Each Celebration, we select a Pontiac that we feel represents something special to our hobby. Often times it has been a car that may not be the best on the field, but yet captures something special about our great hobby and the special people who enjoy it. This year, we have to admit, it was the fact that this was not only a very gorgeous car, but that it stood alone (and thus stood out) as not-a-Trans Am. As such, we felt it was award-worthy as a Firebird that is so often overshadowed by the Trans Ams.

One of the last "awards" during our banquet was the drawing for the Vacation Raffle. This year saw a lucky winner heading off to a luxury condo vacation in the mountains of New Hampshire. It was especially delightful because the winner was a wonderful lady and her husband who have work tirelessly during all of our Celebrations to help make it bigger, better, and more enjoyable each year. A prize that was well deserved!





- WARWICK, RHODE ISLAND



(TOP ROW) There was no shortage of the earliest First Generation 1967-'69 Firebirds—convertibles, coupes, and even OHC-6 "Cammers." Equally well represented were the second generation F'Birds (MIDDLE and BOTTOM ROWS). And of special mention, we have to say that the green 1970 Formula 400 was our PontiacRegistry.com "Choice" for our 2021 Celebration. Why? Because it seems so seldom that you see a non Trans Am when these Birds gather. But perhaps even more rare was seeing his 1970 Esprit (BOTTOM LEFT). Although it was sporting a Formula twin scoop hood. And what would a Firebird gathering be without a "Bandit T/A"? This 1978 Trans Am (BOTTOM RIGHT) has a long award-winning history as well as Burt Reynold's photos and memorabilia.



NFTAC Website at www.firebirdtaclub.com or www.firebirdtaclub.com

The NFTAC website contains a lot of great information! You can renew, join and order club items on line. Please check out the site and give us some feedback! On the site you will find pictures, complete current and past issues of the magazine, up to date event info, message board, photo gallery, blog and a Members Only area! Come back often to see what's new.





MEET THE NEW MEMBERS!

This section highlights some of the new members that have joined the club since the last EAGLE. Welcome again to our new members. Recent members may appear in a subsequent issue.

Daniel Valdes, Boca Raton, Florida

Kevin Leopas, Oregon City, Oregon He has a '78 gold Trans Am Y88.

Mike McMullen, Milltown, New Jersey Mike has a '78 Martinique blue Trans Am.

Rory Phelan, Boardman, Ohio Rory has a '77 goldenrod yellow Trans Am.

Spencer H. Chaplain, Hayes, Virginia Spencer has an '88 Maui blue Formula.

Cindy Harris, Valley Village, California Cindy has an '89 red Trans Am GTA.

Jim Mears, Scott Depot, West Virginia

Steve Dague, Prince Frederick, Maryland Steve has a '69 Firebird Trans Am Clone.

Andrew Miranda, Clearwater, Florida

Shaun King, Munster, Indiana

Gail Goldsich, Minooka, Illinois

Stephen McHone, Port Jefferson Station, New York - He has an '80 Fiero bronze Trans Am and an '80 Francisco red Trans Am.

Mike Wilkinson, Jamison, Pennsylvania

Terry Hilbert, Bettendorf, Iowa Terry has a white 2000 Trans Am WS-6.

Paul Bruno, Lagrangeville, New York Paul has a 2002 navy blue metallic Trans Am WS-6.

Jack McCulloch, Woodstock, Georgia Jack is looking for a 1970 white or blue Trans Am.

Robert Bush, Katy, Texas Robert has a '74 buccaneer red Formula 400.

Bob Simmers, Bismarck, North Dakota

Michael Oliva, Waretown, New Jersey Michael has red '99 Trans Am WS-6 convertible.

John Creighton, Parker, Colorado John has an '80 Indy pace car white Turbo Trans Am.

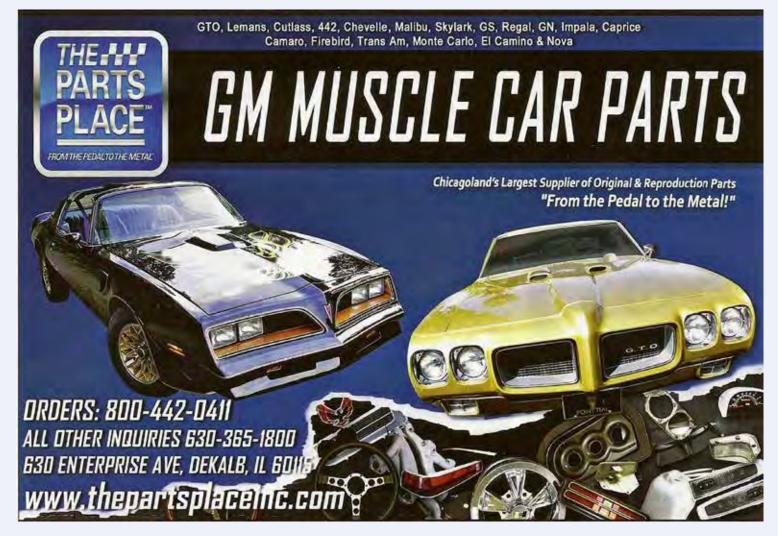
Ben J. Schwandt, Moorhead, Minnesota Ben has 3 Trans Ams.

Brett Rollins, Lawndale, Illinois Brett has a '79 white Trans Am.

John Hansinger, Brunswick, Ohio John has a '98 navy blue metallic Formula.

Frank & Carolyn Johnson, Front Royal, Virginia

Matthew Bowes, Townsend, Massachu-





'BIRDS IN FLIGHT

. By Mark E. Neumann

Editor's Note: this is the sixth in a series of columns about interesting stories connected with Firebirds and Trans Ams.

Winter Greetings from the American Southwest, where the timing of our car show events runs counter to our East Coast and Mid-Western 'Bird fans. Whether it's my home state of Arizona, or California or Nevada, the Sun Belt offers fabulous winter weather – great for beautiful sunsets and weekly car shows, cruising-in's, classic car auctions, vintage car rallies, or just riding down the road in your Firebird or Trans-Am.

It's always interesting to follow Facebook pages this time of year as Ponti-ackers get their cars ready for winter storage and we start enjoying our 70-degree days following a furnace-like summer. While the hardy ones with good A/C and cooling systems can head north to Flagstaff during the hot months, most of us wait it out until the fall.



Nothing like a Sunday drive during Thanksgiving weekend in your T/A after a hearty slice of pumpkin pie! Photo courtesy of Paul Albinger.

With three main Pontiac clubs in Arizona – two chapters of Pontiac Oakland Club International and a chapter of the GTO Association of America – along with a separately-organized club for the last-gen GTOs and a Firebird/Trans Am group – we like to keep our 'Birds at the front of the pack.

Some examples:

In late October, Trans Ams, Firebirds, GTOs, and G8s took off for a three-day trip to San Diego from the Phoenix area and Tucson. The weather was perfect. We joined over 200 other Pontiacs along the bay front for a beautiful show.







Activities director Paul Albinger, his wife Barbara and their '79 Trans Am in San Diego. Paul is coordinating our New Year's Day cruise. Photo courtesy of Paul Albinger.

- On November 18, we had a Pontiac club meeting in Mesa, AZ outside on the patio. Great attendance as we planned activities for the winter months. Such as ...
- For Dec. 4 and 5, we have had two car shows including a Toyz for Totz run to Wickenburg, Arizona. A club after-Christmas party is in the planning stages for late January also outside.

And just for kicks, activities director Paul Albinger, owner of a 1979 10h Anniversary Trans-Am, which he drives to car shows and took part in that 600-mile round-trip to San Diego, is organizing our first annual New Year's Day Cruise.

Other plans call for working as drivers for the MAG auction in Scottsdale in March and our annual Buick-Olds-Pontiac-Cadillac Show in March.

When you put the parka hoods up, we'll be putting the tops down. Stay warm!

To learn more about car shows in Arizona, check out CruisinArizona (https://sites.google.com/view/cruisinaz/home) Roddin' and Racin (https://roddinaz.com/); and Arizona Car Shows (www.arizonacarshows.com/carshows.htm)



About the author: Mark is the second owner of a Buccaneer Red 1974 Pontiac Trans-Am and serves on the copyediting team for the Eagle





FIREBIRD AND TRANS

see many more photos of members' cars in our Photo Gallery at:

http://photos.firebirdtaclub.com

In each issue of the EAGLE we feature photographs of members' cars. If you would like you and/or your car to appear, please send a picture to us.



My car is an '83 Trans Am Daytona 25th Anniversary model that I purchased last year from the original owner with 30,000 miles on it. It is in mint original condition. Here is a picture of the car and the cross-fire injection motor.

> **Phil Downs** San Rafael, California



AM GALLERY

This is a one owner car that I bought on the spot as I was delivering a load of cars at a GM dealership in July of 2002. Production had stopped & this was the first M6 model I had come across. It has 96,000 miles and is always garage kept.



2000 WS6 of Douglas McCulloch, San Antonio, Texas



MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

This page contains a form that incorporates some of the many functions of the club. The form below can be used to renew your membership, register your car, change your address, send in member recommendations or join for the first time. The form can also be used to do any combination of the above by checking the appropriate boxes. Ihope you find it easy and convenient to use.

Thank you for all of the notes sent along with your renewals. They make renewing members easier and definitely more interesting.

Always check the back cover of

each Eagle magazine above your address to see when your membership is expiring. If you live outside the U.S.A., the address label is on the envelope.

> This QR code allows you to access our club website directly by scanning it with the camera of your smart phone.



MEMBERSHIP FORM

NEW MEMBERSHIP - CAR REGISTRATION - RECOMMENDATIONS - RENEWAL - ADDRESS CHANGES					
check box:					
NAME:	ш		lain ar ranaur an arr		
ADDRESS:			Join or renew on our www.firebir	dtaclub.com or	
ADDRESS: CITY:	QTATE:	7IPCODE	:. W	ww.firebirdtransamclub.com	
COUNTRY (if not USA):	SIAIL	(if CANADA):	 POS	TAL CODE:	
COUNTRY (II HOLOSA)	PROVINCE	(II CANADA)	103	IAL CODE	
Home Phone:	(if applicable)	Member No.:	Е	Exp. Date:	
Cell/Other Phone:	email:		(needed for e	Eagle and/or eMembership)	
OPTIONAL (1-5):					
1) CAR REGISTRATION:	Voor Sorial Nu	mbor (\/INL#)	Model		
Color	real Selial Nu	mber (VIN #)	Model		
Firebird or Trans Am No. 1:					
other - (type of wheels, op					
Firebird or Trans Am No. 2:					
other - (type of wheels, op					
2) Areas of interest:	110113, 610.).				
3) MEMBER RECOMMENDA	TIONS:				
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Service, body or parts shop Address:	(City:	State:	Zincode:	
email:		website:			
Type of business:	F	Phone:	Person:		
4) Picture and/or story about y	our car (sent by mail or e	email)			
5) How you heard of NFTAC:					
	\$35 for 1 yr, \$\frac{\$}{r tech CD/USB drive/emailed}\$ les on CD/USB drive/emailed -\\$25, 2 year eMembership-\\$45, 3 year bers Only section, no materials via regular r	or tech CD/USB dri ar eMembership-\$65 with fre	ive/emailed		
Enclose a check or money ord OR CHARGE IT! Visa/Maste Check one: 1 year_					
	or call 773-769-7166 and l				
SEND TO: NATIONAL FIREBIRD and TRANS AM CLUB, 5433 N. ASHLAND AVE., CHICAGO, IL 60640 USA or email: info@firebirdtaclub.com *NOTE: Free t-shirts are available in Large, Extra Large and Double Extra Large (Medium-white only) and the color is based on availability but usually white					
1101E. Prec i-smits are available in Lai	ge, Eatia Laige and Double Extra	a Large (IVICUIUIII-WIIIIC	omy, and the color is vased	on availability but usually while	





FEATURED CAR

This issue's featured car is the '68 Firebird 400 of Wes Hardy from Nahant, Massachusetts. Here is his story:

Reading the latest issue of *Eagle*, reminded me that I've been meaning to send some pics of my restored 1968 Firebird 400 Convertible.

While not "numbers matching", it is a "period correct" '68 400, with a 4 spd M22 transmission & Hurst Shifter and a 355 Posi Rear End.

The original "somewhat frame off" restoration was done approx 15 years ago by a mechanic in NJ, who I bought the car from in August of 2019 after it had been "backed into" while being stored. Upon receiving the Bird, we (my mechanic & I) noticed a number of other "issues". It went into the shop and went through a "real" restoration at one of the area's best local

FEATURED CAR

To have your car considered for this section, send a photograph and history or story of the car to:

NFTAC Featured Car

5433 N. Ashland Ave.

Chicago, IL 60640 U.S.A.
or email: info@firebirdtaclub.com



'68 Firebird 400 of Wes Hardy from Nahant, Massachusetts



FEATURED CAR (CONTINUED)

shops - Louis Restoration and Repair in Salem Massachusetts. The engine was totally rebuilt and all of the fenders, quarter panels, doors, etc were taken off, taken back to bare metal, re-primed and realigned to better than new. Though the new



'68 Firebird 400 of Wes Hardy from Nahant, Massachusetts



restoration took over 6 months (and totally blew my budget!) the car is now approaching "show quality". As the attached pictures show, the beautiful new paint job is immaculate and "Blue" turns heads wherever I go!

Wes Hardy



National Firebird and Trans Am Club EAGLE - February 2022







LOCAL CHAPTERS

of the NATIONAL FIREBIRD and TRANS AM CLUB. 5433 N. ASHLAND AVE., CHICAGO, IL 60640 U.S.A. 773-769-7166

Connecticut (Southeast Firebird Club) - Mark Grillo, 41 Gardner, New London, 06320 (860) 442-2576 Connecticut (Charter Oak Firebird-TA Club) - Brad Benoit, (203) 467-4482, charteroakbirds@yahoo.com, www.charteroakbirds.com Florida (Emerald Coast Club) - Joey Voss, 738 El Camino Dr., Cantonment, FL 32533, (850) 968-1363, mrtransamws6@netscape.net Florida (Central Florida Firebirds) - Jim Charlton, 444 Longwood Cir, Longwood, FL 32750, 407-754-6609, www.orlanndowtw.com Mass. (Firebirds Forever Car Club) - Butch Nordstrom, Box 704, Dracut, MA 01826, 978-821-6914, www.firebirdsforever.cc, butch.n@comcast.net Michigan (1 Bad LS1 Racing - Detroit Metro) - Ronnie Duke, 110 Trealout, Fenton, MI 48430, 810-714-3626 New York (Long Island FB & T/A Club) - 16 Alley Pond Court, Dix Hills, NY 11746. customer@lifirebirds.com New York (Firebird Nation of N.A.) - 2 Eureka Dr. RR #4, Saratoga Spgs, NY 12866, 518-587-8215, tsmith24@earthlink.net North Carolina (Carolina Classic Club) - Bruce Nash, 4319 Olive Branch Rd., Wingate, NC 28174 (704) 233-4927, glenda1234@earthlink.net North Carolina (Performance Pontiacs of Carolinas) - 5005 Woodmark Dr., Greensboro, NC 27407, www.performancepontiacs.com North Carolina (Tarheel Tigers Club) - Steve Veatch, 3508 Layton Ridge Drive, Apex, NC 27539, tarheeltigers@bellsouth.net, www.tarheeltigers.com Ohio (Ohio Firebirds) - Brett Campbell, Box 5111, Mentor, OH 44061, Mentor, OH 44061. (216) 659-3539, www.ohiofirebirds.com Oklahoma (Heartland TA Club) - Keith & Myla Miller, Box 532, Norman, OK 73070, (405) 361-0405, www.heartlandtransamclub.com Pennsylvania (Eastern PA Firebird & TA Club) - Jeffrey Dickson, Box 1478, Kingston, PA 18704. (570) 283-6321, jsd@epix.net Pennsylvania (Western Penn. Chapter) - Tim Gordon, 58 Grudevich Rd., Canonsburg, PA 15317 (724) 746-5358 South Dakota - (Rapid City) - Roneal Sayler, 2941 Pioneer Drive, Rapid City, SD 57701. (605) 393-0993 Tennessee (Middle TN Firebird & T/A Club) - John Davis, Box 1843, Smyrna, TN 37167,(615) 223-5335, johndavis@nortelnetworks.com Tennessee (Memphis Chapter) - Chris Schafer Millington, TN 38053, transamman25@hotmail.com Texas (TA Club of Houston) - Frank Johengen, Ph.: (713) 773-4370, www.tachrev.com, email: frank@tachrev.com.

LOCAL CHAPTER INFO

Contact information for current local chapters are listed above. Join them if you are in the area. Remember to check all of the Local Chapters listed in your area. If there isn't a local chapter in your area, please think about

starting one. Write us for guidelines to help you.

NFTAC LOCAL CHAPTER REGISTRATION FORM

Send the information on this form if you wish to become a registered local chapter of the NFTAC					
NAME OF ORGANIZATION:					
AREA TO BE SERVED (be sure to check current local chapters):					
ORGANIZERS NAME:					
MAILING ADDRESS FOR LOCAL CHAPTER:					
PHONE NO: Other (email, website):					
Please list on separate sheet of paper: 1) approximate number of members expected; 2) club activities planned; 3) name of club paper; 4) chapter dues; 5) problems; 6) type of help from the national club wanted.					
Requirements:1) supply the NFTAC with current address and phone numbers; 2) NFTAC on mailing list to receive newsletter. 3) all members need not be but at least two officers must be members of NFTAC; 4) annual list of members submitte					
Benefits: 1) free publicity in EAGLE and on the CLUB MESSAGE BOARD by way of listing and articles; 2) affiliation with other clubs is permitted; 3) consideration for hosting national meets; 4) discounted membership if a substantial number of members join from a local chapter.	١				





SEND TO: NFTAC, 5433 N. ASHLAND AVE., CHICAGO, IL 60640 U.S.A. or info@firebirdtaclub.com

NFTAC TECHNICAL SERVICES

NFTAC TECHNICAL SECTIONS

A complete copy of all the Technical Sections, topics, questions and answers published in the EAGLE is available. Volume I contains reprints of the EAGLES published from 1984 to 1997 and is \$20 plus \$5 S&H (\$15 emailed or on CD). Volume II contains reprints of the EAGLES published from 1998 to 2007 and sells for \$20 plus \$5 S&H (\$15 emailed). Volume III contains reprints of the EAGLES published from 2008 to current and sells for \$20 plus \$5 S&H (\$15 emailed). Volume II and III are also available on CD or USB drive in pdf format for \$20 plus \$5 S& H. The above can be purchased as part of a 2 volume combo that contains Tech Sections Volume I & II both printed for \$30 plus \$5 S&H (\$25 emailed) or 3 volume combo that contains Tech Sections Volume I, II & III printed for \$40 plus \$10 S&H (\$30 emailed). Also available is a CD/USB drive combo which contains Volumes I, II & III on CD for \$30 plus S&H (\$30 emailed). All email versions are pdf files sent with no shipping charges. Each volume is indexed by subject for easy reference and each contains numerous articles, topics, questions and answers. Send to: NFTAC Tech Sections, 5433 N. Ashland Ave., Chicago, IL 60640, info@firebirdtaclub.com or use the order form in the Eagle or order online at our website.

MECHANICAL REPAIR SHOPS, PARTS SUPPLIERS AND BODY SHOPS

The National Firebird and Trans Am Club maintains a list of member recommended mechanical repair shops, parts suppliers and body shops. For the location of such an establishment in your area write to us at: NFTAC Recommendations, 5433 N. Ashland Ave., Chicago, IL 60640 U.S.A. The complete list is also available on our website (www.firebirdtaclub.com) in the "members only" area. Please note that the NFTAC assumes no liability or responsibility for the work of such shops and is merely passing on recommendations sent in by members. If you believe an establishment should be on our recommended list, inform us.

TECHNICAL STAFF

The National Firebird and Trans Am Club Technical Staff is prepared to assist you with questions that you may have regarding mechanical repairs and other general information about Firebirds and Trans Ams. Please address all questions to the technical staff at the following addresses. Please give your membership number and use discretion when calling. Your question may be answered by mail and may also appear in the EAGLE if it is of general interest to our members. Also be sure to see our message board on our website and Facebook group page for immediate help from fellow members.

Jules Glogovscan 9302 Livernois Houston, TX 77080

jghunter@nol.net performance modifications Bill Baker P. O. Box 591 Jessup, IA 50648 319-827-3711 bkbaker@jtt.net

Eric Vicker P. O. Box 0033 So. Park, PA 15129 412-708-7886

evicker@hotmail.com '69 to '76 model years

John Witzke, 5017 Providence Rd., Council Bluffs, IA 51503, 712-322-4697, email: pontiacw72@yahoo.com specialty: '77 to '79 W72 400 performance package, website: www.78ta.com/w72

David Heath via email at dmheat@pacbell.net

Terry Golliday III, via email at synegal9@aol.com

Bill Simcox (specializing in 1st generation cars), Box 2173, Springfield, OH 44443, 330-540-2661, Bill@SimcoxFire.com Bill Goforth (specializing in 2nd generation cars), via email at tacentral 7081 @aol.com or ph.: 770-887-9619 Joe Genara (3rd & 4th generation cars), ph. 203-457-9340, charteroaknews@comcast.net

and try our message board area on our website - www.firebirdtaclub.com or board.firebirdtaclub.com

NFTAC PARTS EXCHANGE

To help members to sell parts and members to acquire parts that other members may have, the NFTAC maintains spare parts lists sent in by members as part of the Parts Exchange. This is how it works:

Selling Parts:

To sell parts, list on a page (legibly) the parts you are selling. List on this page your name, address and phone number on the page. Send this page to the NFTAC.

Looking for Parts:

If you want parts, please contact us. You will receive copies of all parts lists received during the past year. Send to: NFTAC Parts Exchange, 5433 N. Ashland Ave., Chicago, IL 60640 U.S.A. The complete list is also available on our website (www.firebirdtaclub.com) in the "members only" area.





TECHNICAL SECTION - QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Please note: Questions and answers are provided for information and advice purposes. No liability either expressed or implied is assumed by reliance on the information presented either by the writers or the NFTAC. Some or all of the below is from our message board at board.firebirdtaclub. com and our Facebook page and group at National Firebird and Trans Am Club.

Also be sure to see our message board on our website and Facebook group page for immediate help from fellow members.

Q: My '94 Formula has developed a vibration coming from the rear. It feels like the tires are square. My tire guy says these cars are notorious for ring/pinion bushing failure.

Any suggestions? John Moraitis

A: Ring and pinion issues and bearing failures manifest as noises.

Be sure your tire are not flat spotted from not being driven often.

Michael Liberman

Q: I have a caliper/parking brake question on my '79 Trans Am with 4 disc brakes. I have been trying to get the rear brakes to engage fully after bleeding over and over. The brakes are hard when motor is off and 3/4 down when the motor is on.

I have been trying to figure out if in fact the pistons engage when I move the parking brake lever with vice grips. It does not seem to as wheels still spin.

The brake pads move some when the pedal is pressed but the brake feels weak. The complete system is new and there are no leaks.

What am I missing knowledge wise with this parking brake issue?

Tony Vlassis

A: I had the 4 wheel disc brake op-

for faster responses to your tech questions go to our website message board at board.firebirdtaclub.com

tion on my early 3rd generation car and over time the factory calipers just froze up. I almost could not stop in the rain once.

I ended up putting new rear calipers on.

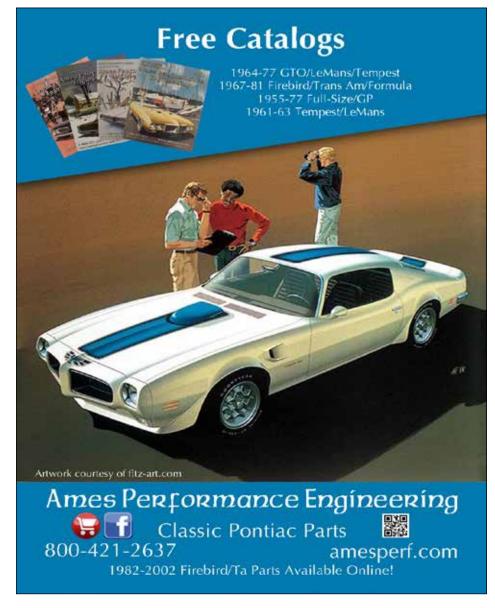
Jeff Inwood

Q: I am having a fuel dilemma on my 1998 LS1 that I am hoping can be solved here. Lean condition from all 4 O2's with lean at W.O.T. I'm not finding any vacuum leaks (idle is low too), no exhaust leaks near O2's, and 60 psi from fuel pump. I suspect mass air flow sensor, and most retailers have 3 prong plug in but this one is five prong. Help me out!

Frank Kellogg Jr.

A: There have had lean issues with oil covered MAF sensors before.

The 5 wire MAF has a air temp sensor inside of it. The 3 wire doesn't. I'm betting someone has put the 5



QUESTIONS & ANSWERS (CONTINUED)

wire MAF on your car with a adapter harness.

Poke around your harness and it should have the original 3 wire MAF plug and the 2 wire external air temp sensor plug there. It should unless someone cut and spliced them.

Anthony Walch

Q: I knew it would happen sooner or later. My driver side door is sagging on my '77 and I need to find some hinges.

My body guy looked in the obvious places and I am looking elsewhere. Suggestions?

Debbie White

A: Check to see if it needs just the bushing for the door hinges. They are fairly inexpensive or get the hinges from Ames Performance Engineering or NPD

John Greenough

Q: Any recommendations on how to fix the hatch from hanging past the quarter panels on my 3rd generation Trans Am. I know it's because the hatch struts push it out over time but I'm not sure.

Dylan Stallings

A: You need to unbolt the hatch and remove the old urethane. Apply new urethane, then realign and retighten the hatch through the glass nuts at the deck lid.

Justin Sumuda

Q: Ineed to replace the mid speakers in my 1999 Trans Am with the stock Monsoon radio. Does anyone have recommendations for speakers they have used? Thank you!

Alan Zais

A: Aftermarket is substantially bet-

ter than back in '99. I was able to fit two kicker 8 in. subs without modifying the panels. There was a small support bar I removed but they are still in use more than 20 years later.

Jeff Inwood

Q: I broke the timing chain. I replaced it and all gears and it started up without coolant and all that. It made me very happy. Then added coolant to test drive to make sure everything's OK and it started leaking on driver's side on the ground and blowing white smoke from exhaust pipes like a train and oil is green.

I think it's a driver's side head gasket but don't understand how it would have blown if it was OK before the timing chain broke and it didn't get hot . What do you think? I have a '96 LT1.

Peyton Homiak

A: Anytime I drain the coolant for repairs I always start the engine after repairs before adding coolant back to the system. That way you don't have to drain it again if something is wrong, You don't have to run the engine long.

It sounds like when you broke your timing chain, you damaged the head with the valves. More than likely you will need a new set of heads, or at least redone.

Walt B Thompson

Q: I have a 2002 Trans Am t-top car. Did these cars come with bags for the t-tops or did they have shades for the t tops on the inside?

Ryan Englade

A: My 2002 has shades inside you can remove.

They attach with small round Velcro pads. Or you can install without them.

Brandon Walker

Q: In search of some help please. I put a brand new fuel pump in a 1980 Trans Am. While there seems to be good pressure it simply will not draw fuel. I did put a couple gallons in the empty tank and still nothing. The car has been sitting since 1999 until I purchased it. I am now trying to get it to run. Any ideas?

If you put fuel down the carb fires right up but it simply will not draw any fuel.

Jason Pittman

A: Unhook the fuel line going into the fuel pump then blow compressed air into the fuel tank by removing gas cap and use a rag. Be careful not to blow too much psi until the line blows clean.

Also you may want to replace the fuel line and make sure there are no obstructions in the tank. Then try hook up lines to a gas can and see if it works. If it does, blockage is between the tank and pump.

Mechanical fuel pumps use a lever that rides on the camshaft to pump a rubber diaphragm inside the pump up and down. This creates suction that pulls fuel into the pump, and then pushes it along. A pair of one-way valves inside the pump only allow the gas to move in one direction (toward the engine).

William Echols

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Send any technical information that other members could benefit from to:

NFTAC Technical Info 5433 N. Ashland Ave. Chicago, IL 60640 U. S. A.

or email: info@firebirdtaclub.com





SWAP MEET CLASSIFIEDS

CARS FOR SALE



1967 Firebird 400 Convertible. \$31,000. Original blue interior in good condition, rear window is discolored. No rust (California car), minor dings. Runs, has been sitting for several years. Needs tune-up, fluids, brakes. Two speed auto. Contact Larry at email: peltonconsulting@sbcglobal.net.

1973 Formula. Professional restoration new suspension, brakes,462 c.i. Motor, 200 miles, new 350 trans.. 95% complete, road ready. Health issues force sale. Photos and details on request. \$18,000. Contact: Latimer Spinney at Azitwz777@gmail.com or phone: 804-435-6177, cell: 313-506-2500. VA.*



1974 Trans Am. 76,967 miles. Garage kept since purchase. Private sale by original owner's family. Recently repainted and restored. Has never been in an accident. 400 engine. Stored in Las Vegas. Call 928-920-0481 for details. \$45K OBO.*



1976 Pontiac Trans Am. 427, auto-

matic trans, T-Tops, good condition, needs a little work, serious inquiries only, \$12,995.00, kimberly.bukauskas@gmail.com. IL **







Two birds of a feather. Both 1988 Trans Ams: Redbird has 138,000 mi... Low miles on engine and trans, Blackbird has 23,000 mi. All original. Location Deland, Florida. Interested? Contact Duane at 541-899-7264.*

1994 Trans Am 25th Anniversary. Rare 6 speed manual, T-Tops, loaded, 14K mi, much doc, PMD letter stipulating 1 of 140 made. Window sticker,

SWAP MEET ADS

Swap meet ads are free to NFTAC members. Please limit swap meet ads to one per issue per member and to 50 words or less. Ads will appear once and must be resubmitted for each issue. Ads also appear on our website, in the eEagle, on our Message Board, Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

Ads include one color photo. Additional photos are \$10 each. For others and for commercial suppliers the rate is \$15.00 for 50 words or less. Additional words are 50 cents each. Deadline dates are the same as for the other EAGLE items which are found elsewhere in this issue.

The NFTAC makes no claims, either stated or implied, concerning the quality, authenticity or availability of items offered and claims no responsibility for any transactions as a result of the swap meet ad. Send your swap meet ad to:

> NFTAC SWAP MEET 5433 N. ASHLAND AVE. CHICAGO, IL 60640 U.S.A.

email: info@firebirdtaclub.com

(*ad also appeared in the last issue, ** appeared in previous issues, # temporary)



SWAP MEET CLASSIFIEDS (CONTINUED)

2006 appraisal 2 HP Pontiac mags featuring, ad reprints owners kit etc \$26,000. Cell 614-519-4805, land line 512-752-3032. Lampasas, TX.**



1995 Pontiac Trans Am. HB FTA 5.7L MFI HO V8. Grandmas ready to sell! This beauty has been garaged kept all her life. One owner. Never in an accident! Never saw salt or a snowflake! Only 18,920 miles. Bright RED T-Top, 4 speed automatic. All original parts, except battery. Still smells new. 5.7 liter V8 Engine. Alpine security and 6 disc audio system. Black Graphite leather interior, Power doors and windows, Keyless entry, Rear spoiler. \$19,995 firm. tmc2y-city.net or 614-264-4117. OH**



1997 Trans Am T-Tops, 36,269 miles Enkei wheels, drilled rotors, ram air hood, new head liner. All options work. Excellent condition Phone: 317-538-0352 or email: bubkeaton@aol.com. OH**



1998 Firebird Formula hardtop.

Automatic, original condition with Walker catback, rare gold color, gray interior, 101K miles, garaged, \$12k firm, 215-487-7927 or email: hdcliffc@aol.com. PA**



1998 Pontiac Trans Am: Black exterior, rwd, keyless entry, leather seats, T-roof, 8 cyl. 5.7, air cond., dual exhaust. One owner, no accidents, never driven in snow, excellent condi-56,994 miles Vin: tion. 2G2FV22G8W2203022. Asking \$12,500. Arie at 207-671-6364 or Arie. witham72@gmail.com. ME**



1999 Trans Am WS-6 ram air, convertible 20,500 miles,6 speed, original bill of sale and window sticker. Everything works, flawless condition. \$34,000 OBO. Call Mike at 917-335-8621. Car in Waretown, NJ.

ITEMS FOR SALE

Automotive Clock and Gauge Restoration. Restoration of speedometers, tachometers, gauge clusters, clocks, and gas tank sending units. Instrument services, Phone: 815-316-2921, www. ClocksAndGauges.com. (in every issue)

Keys ... N.O.S. (Original) and

Classic Key Sets for all Pontiacs. Keys stamped and cut by code. Locksmithing Services. POR-15. Restoration Products. Joey Jesser, 26 West Street Dept. NFTAC, Akron OH 44303. www. jessersclassickeys. com, Ph: 330-376-8181, fax: 330-384-9129. (in every issue)

WANTED

The NFTAC maintains spare parts lists from members. To receive a copy, contact us or go to our web page (www.firebirdtaclub.com) "members only" section. To ADD your Parts, Send in a legible List.

301 Turbo Low Pressure Switch. Looking to buy an NOS or a good used, in working condition, turbo low pressure switch. GM part #25036179. Easily identifiable from the high pressure switch, as it has the 1/8" NPT as compared to the 1/4" NPT. Any help in locating one would be greatly appreciated. 508-735-5537 or jpuniskis@ yahoo.com.**

For 1971 Firebird: Original wood grain steering wheel or stock plastic steering wheel. 4 speed transmission shifter that will fit Muncie M20 transmission, Randy at 712-303-0637. IA**

160 mph speedometer for my '82 Firebird. There used to be a company that made reworked reproductions with a new face. I can't seem to locate one. If you have one or can tell me where to get one, please contact me. Roger at niri.tatan@gmail.com.**

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valve. Jonathan at 860-424-6908 or jstasiewski@yahoo.com.**

1970 or 1971 Lucerne blue 4 speed Trans Am, all matching numbers drivetrain. High quality restoration only. Prefer ram air 3 or 455 on '71. Please serious sellers only. Vehicle is for my own personal use. Thank you. Joe at 818-383-2333.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pontiac - Oakland Museum. The Pontiac-Oakland Museum is open and

is home to many classic and antique Oakland and Pontiac cars, thousands of artifacts from dealer promotional items to signs, posters, and sales training aids, and an entire library filled with automotive-related print materials. The museum is located at 205 North Mill St., Pontiac, Illinois. Come see one of the world's greatest collections of Pontiac and Oakland automobile brand items. Open 7 days a week (except major holidays). For more information, call 815-842-2345 or www.pontiacoaklandmuseum.org (in every issue)

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