



NFTAC

NOVEMBER 2022

EAGLE

North America's Official Club for all year Firebirds and
Trans Ams including Formulas, GTAs and Conversions
Established in 1984

The Publication of the NATIONAL FIREBIRD AND TRANS AM CLUB



*'81 Bandit Trans
Am of Santiago
Class from
Springville,
Alabama*

INSIDE:

2022 Trans Am Nationals

2022 NJ Trans Am/ All Pontiac Run

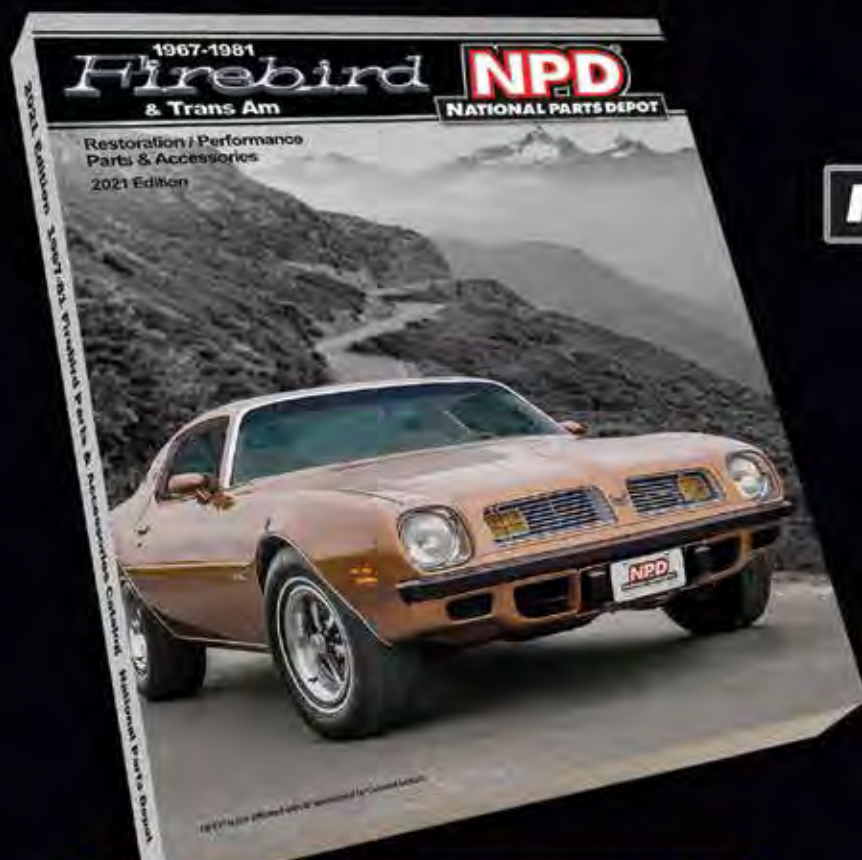
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**NATIONAL
FIREBIRD and
TRANS AM CLUB
EAGLE**

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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 and much more!

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FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Frank Ochal

Thanks again to the many new members that have joined recently. Thanks to Ben Deutschman, Mark Neumann, Samuel Gallen, Paul Albinger, John Norris 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.

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*.

The '81 Bandit Trans Am of Santiago Class is on the front cover of this issue of the *Eagle*. The story and more photos of this car will appear in a future issue.

The Firebird and Trans Am Calendar for this issue is a little light as most of the 2023 shows have not announced their scheduling yet. There should be more shortly. 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 thanking us for contributions to a car show. If you would like items which can be used for raffles or prizes, please contact us with the details including mailing address.

The New Products and Services Section contains featured items from our advertisers and sponsors. We also show some of our store items includ-

ing tech sections and polo/golf shirts.

Thanks to Ben Deutschman for his story and photos of the 2022 NJ/All Pontiac Run. This event always seems like a good time!

The Meet the New Members area continues to show new members joining all the time. Thanks for the support!

Mark Neumann's 'Birds in Flight' column for this issue is a story on how collector car pricing for Trans Am prices are rising and getting more expensive. The photos are courtesy of Mecum Auctions, Inc. We look forward to reading Mark's columns and they are always informative.

The Firebird and Trans Am Gal-

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

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<u>TYPE</u>	<u>AMOUNT PER ISSUE</u>
INSIDE COVERS (if available), 8 1/2" H x 11" V (can be bled)	\$175.00
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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, MasterCard, American Express, Discover & PayPal (info@firebirdtaclub.com).

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FIREBIRD AND TRANS AM CALENDAR

(please check for changes before departing for event)

NOVEMBER

19-20 Muscle Car Nationals, Rosemont, IL. www.mcacn.com.

JUNE 2023

26-July 1 51st Annual POCI International Convention, Murfreesboro, TN. www.poci.org.

JULY

21-23 Ames Performance Tri Power Pontiac Nationals, Summit Motorsports Park, Norwalk, OH. www.summitmotorsportspark.com.

AUGUST

25-27 38th Annual Trans Am Nationals, Fairborn, OH. Jerry Minor at 513-202-1212, or www.tanationals.org.

SEPTEMBER

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

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LETTERS TO THE NFTAC

Dear NFTAC,

I have owned 8 Firebird and Trans Ams.

- 1979 Firebird Trans Am Brown Auto. from February 1985 thru February 1987,
- 1984 Pontiac Trans Am Silver/ Blk 5 speed HO from February 1987 thru June 1988,
- 1979 Pontiac Formula 301 automatic from August 1988 thru April 1990,
- 1984 Pontiac Trans Am Blue/ Silver automatic from March 1990 thru April 1992,
- 1984 Pontiac Trans Am silver/ black automatic from March 1992 thru April 1993,
- 1989 Pontiac Trans Am GTA red automatic 350 from March 1996 thru January 2003,
- 1994 Pontiac Trans Am GT green 6 speed from November 2002 thru present and
- 2002 Pontiac Trans Am WS6 pewter, automatic from June 2022 thru present,

Helibert Hernandez
Kearney, New Jersey

Editor's Note: Great to have you as a member especially with your history of owning that many Firebirds and Trans Ams!

Dear NFTAC,

Thank you for your offer to supply door prizes for our 2022 Indian Uprising All Pontiac Weekend. We are most appreciative. As you may know, we do get a good number of Firebirds and Trans Ams attend this weekend Pontiac Event. So, your door prizes will fit in very appropriately. On behalf of the Cruisin' Tigers GTO and All Pontiac Club, we thank you for your door prizes donation and hope that you can join us at the show,

Ken Arendt

Vice Chairman, 2022 Indian Uprising All Pontiac Weekend

Dear NFTAC,

I bought my 1979 dark brown Trans Am 6.6 403 automatic 4 years ago and restored it to original factory condition except for exhaust. Here are some photos.

Ed Hebel

Owatonna, Minnesota



Dear NFTAC,

My 1999 Formula WS-6 LE is one of 20 1LE Firebirds built for model year 1999; the last year RPO (Regular Production Order) 1LE was available for Firebirds. The 1998 and 1999 Firebirds with RPO 1LE were all Formulas, all with 6-speeds and WS6 Ram Air package. RPO R7Q, an 'optional equipment delete' was mandatory and eliminated power windows, power door locks, power exterior mirrors, traction control -- essentially every item that was not standard equipment on a base 6-cylinder coupe. T-Tops were NOT available. The result was a Formula that barely weighed 3,300 pounds with a full tank of gas -- in other words, a hundred pounds less than a regular Trans Am (or Z28 /SS Camaro). The 1LE suspension featured higher durometer suspension bushings throughout, stiffer springs, larger diameter stabilizer bars, and Koni 'Double-Adjustable' shock absorbers. My 1LE was the only Firebird 1LE specifically built to be a 'company' car, was ordered by John Heinrich and Mark Hitchens, and assigned to GM's West Coast zone office in Thousand Oaks (CA) to build media awareness that RPO 1LE was still available and the performance improvements it made over a 'standard' WS6 Firebird. I worked on several car magazines (In-

cluding 'High Performance Pontiac') as West Coast Editor and quite happily accepted the assignment of covering the media introductions of the 30th Anniversary Tran Ams, It was during that event that John Heinrich told me about the 1LE Firebird that was on order and being assigned to GM's West Coast Zone. I got my name on the list that same day. A few weeks later I was called by Nancy Libby from the Zone Office and told that I had the following week with the brand new 1LE! I was so impressed with that car that, before my week was up, called Mark Hitchens (in PMD communications), discussed the car with him and made arrangements to buy it (at an incredible discount!) when it came out of service. And in mid-August of 1999, I became the only registered owner of one of the last 1LE Firebirds (and the only one show up in magazines like Road & Track) ever built. 23 years later the 'LAST 1LE' (its California personalized license plate) and I am still together.

V. Robert Wallace

Amelia Court House, Virginia

Dear NFTAC,

I am converting a scale model of a '79 Trans Am into a '78 Formula as used on the Rockford Files TV show. I am trying to obtain a photo of the engine bay focused on the radiator and the surrounding radiator support components. A view under the hood, but pointed toward the front and not the firewall. Since I have to modify the front nose facia I want to see just how much of the backside of that part is hidden so that I can recreate it.

If there is anyone in the Orange County area of Southern California who has such a vehicle who would let me take a photo, or if a member anywhere might be able to take such a photo and send it to me via email it would be greatly appreciated. Thanks,

Thomas Rupp

email: dimages@cox.net

EDITORS' DESK

Continued from page 4

lery contains the photo of the 2002 Trans Am CE of John Moore. Nice background and car. Also pictured is the '80 Trans Am of Kevin Janusek and '91 Firebird of Samuel Gallen. Great cars and photos!

Thanks to Paul Albinger from Gilbert, Arizona who owns a 1979 10th Anniversary Trans Am and a 1969 Firebird 400 convertible, for providing a story and photos from his trip to the **2022 Trans Am Nationals**. I have been to a number of the shows myself and it is something every Firebird or Trans Am owner or fan should attend at least once. Also thanks to Mark Neumann for his help in getting us this story and photos while on the road.

Our **Featured Car** this issue is the 2000 Pontiac Firebird Formula WS-6 of Andy Cain. Nice story with great photos.

The **Technical Section** contains many good questions and answers including an answer on where to find a source for repaired and remanufactured radios. Thanks to our Facebook group for most of these items.

The **Swap Meet Classifieds** contain many good items including a 1991 Firebird in Florida.

Our **back cover** contains a photo of the '68 Firebird coupe of Jon Norris.

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 20,000 members. We now have an **Instagram page at firebirdandtransclub.com**.

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 now at a reduced price of \$20.

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 I hope you had a great driving and show season!! Have a good upcoming holiday season!

Frank

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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**.

We also have a **Facebook group at firebird club** is especially good for getting immediate feedback on questions, local events and other concerns. Our **Facebook group** now has 20,000 members. We now have an **Instagram page** located at firebirdandtransclub.com!



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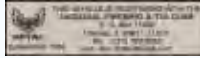
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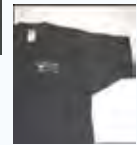


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NFTAC Golf/Polo Shirts:

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Story and photos by Ben Deutschman

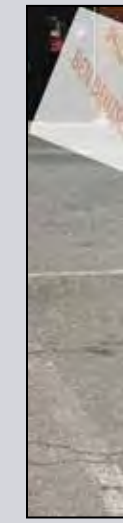
The weatherman was threatening horrendous rain, nuclear bombing by Putin, who knows, maybe even snow, but the morning of July 9, 2022, was nothing but clear skies, bright, and very warm sunshine, and a heaping helping of humidity.

Our troop gathered by the Edison New Jersey, Rt. 1 South McDonalds in the Crossroads Plaza Shopping Center starting around 1:00 p.m., and close to on time, departed around 2:00 p.m. The NJ Trans Am/All Pontiac Run took Rt. 287 to Rt. 22 East, and followed Terrell Rd into Fanwood, New Jersey, turning on to South Ave, and shortly thereafter, arriving at Fabios Bistro. Once at our destination, everyone found themselves a place to park, and the waiters and waitresses brought out menus, took the food orders.

Once everyone was done enjoying lunch, we assembled in the parking lot of Fabios Bistro, a free Raffle commenced, and a number of items donated by the National Firebird Trans Am Club were raffled off to some lucky winners.

The next and last item on the agenda, was the presentation of the Best Trans Am, and best Pontiac trophies sponsored by myself. The lucky winners were picked by the owner of Fabios Bistro (Greg Kowalczyk), and his partner.

And so, another NJ Trans Am/All Pontiac Run enters the history books.



ALL PONTIAC RUN





PHOENIX GRAPHIX
 "Any Decal, Any Car, Any Year!"



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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.

Allan Townsend, DesPlaines, Illinois
The membership was a gift from his uncle, Charles Julian.

Tony Anthony, Cypress, Texas
He has a '98 Trans Am Firehawk prototype.

Richard McChesney, Waukegan, Illinois

James L. Martin, Salinas, California
James has a 1993 Firebird.

Edward Hebel, Owatonna, Minnesota
He has a 1979 dark brown Trans Am 6.6 403 Olds automatic.

Charlevoix Motors, Charlevoix, Michigan

John Moore, Fort Meyers Beach, Florida
Albert Supp, Troy, Illinois

V. Robert Wallace, Amelia Court House, Virginia

Timothy J Turner II (TJ), Bull Valley, Illinois
TJ has a '79 cameo white Trans Am.

Brian Baker, Orchard Park, New York

Tennile Mather, Red Oak, Alberta, Canada
Tennile has a 2001 Trans Am WS-6 which is pewter with air brushed flames.

Tim Loveless, New Castle, Indiana

Eric Emory, Bossier, Louisiana
He has a '77 black Trans Am.

Kenneth Ludvigsen, Huntley, Illinois

Bob Proulx, Florissant, Missouri
Bob has a '94 yellow Formula.

Samuel Gallen, New Britain, Pennsylvania
He has a '91 red Firebird convertible.

J C Faulkner, Orange Park, Florida
J C has a buccaneer red '77 Trans Am.

Don Boser, Calgary, Alberta, Canada
He has a 1969 white with blue stripes Trans Am convertible.


Kevin Torrence, Ballwin, Missouri

Laura L. Allen-Besser, Grand Blanc, Michigan

Stephanie Andonian, Orient, Ohio
Stephanie has a '77 black Trans Am.


Michael S. Polachek, Perkaskil, Pennsylvania

GTO, Lemans, Cutlass, 442, Chevelle, Malibu, Skylark, GS, Regal, GN, Impala, Caprice
Camaro, Firebird, Trans Am, Monte Carlo, El Camino & Nova



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'BIRDS IN FLIGHT

By Mark E. Neumann

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

If you had \$440,000 in the bank right now, you could build that six-car garage you always wanted to store your Pontiac collection – and have enough left over to pay for a nice '69 Firebird. Convertible, even.

Or, you could have been sitting in the bidder's box at Mecum's Harrisburg, Pennsylvania classic car auction in July and bought a nicely equipped 1977 Trans-Am. For \$440,000.

Right, those zeros are correct.

At the auction, held July 27-30, Lot #S132.1, a 1977 Pontiac Trans Am SE with the 6.6L/Y82 option and the black and gold "Bandit" edition – and only 14 miles on the odometer – was the third highest price car sold. It was beaten out by a 2021 Mercedes-Benz AMG GT Black Series with 46 miles (1 of 1,700 produced) and a 1985 Lamborghini Countach LP5000S that sold for \$467,500. Two exotic, rare, high-performance cars – and a 1977 Pontiac Trans Am.

The Trans Am had the automatic transmission, T-tops, factory Uniroyal tires, air conditioning, rear defroster, cruise control, AM/FM (but no 8-track). And do not forget that 14 miles on the odometer.

TRANS AMs BRING BIG BUCKS

Is the Trans Am sold at Mecum's Harrisburg auction the most expensive ever sold? If you do not include the influence of stardom, the answer is probably yes.

A list of the 10 most expensive Pontiacs sold at auction, published by Hagerty in 2018 (<https://www.hagerty.com/media/market-trends/most-expensive-pontiacs-sold-at-auction/>), shows that a 1977 Firebird Trans Am used as a promotional vehicle during the filming of "Smokey and the Bandit" sold at the 2016 Barrett-Jackson Scottsdale auction for \$550,000 (this car was originally a '76 T/A that had been modified to look like a '77 model).

As Hagerty wrote at the time, "The premium for a Bandit car actually associated with the movie amounted to roughly 14 times what an ordinary Trans Am in this condition would expect to bring."

Back in 1977, you could have ordered a new Trans Am from your Pontiac dealership and paid about \$8,500 for the

car, according to PHS Automotive Services Inc. (<http://www.phs-online.com/>) who can get you detailed information on your favorite vintage Pontiac.

That is quite far from \$440,000. Like from Texarkana to Atlanta.

STRONG SELLERS

You read in my August "Birds of Flight" column that prices were climbing for low-mileage Trans Ams at auctions, particularly the special edition Trans Ams.

A 1979 Pontiac Trans Am, 10th Anniversary edition, unrestored with 38 miles, sold for \$118,250.

We also highlighted a second, low-mileage 1979 Trans Am going up on the block at Mecum's Glendale, Arizona auction on March 18. This car had 145 miles and the desirable 400 ci, four speed



Mecum Auctions in Harrisburg 2022 where this 1977 Pontiac Trans Am SE sold for \$440,000.



combination.

The price? The bidding started at \$50,000 and went up quickly, eventually settling at \$145,000.

PHS Automotive Services said 12,489 Trans Am with the Pontiac 400 block and the Y82 edition with T-tops were built in 1977. Pontiac sold another 1,217 Trans Ams with the 403 Olds engine.

But the \$440,000 price for that Trans Am may not be the ceiling, according to John Kraman. He knows a few things about classic cars: he is part of the broadcast team for television coverage of the Mecum auctions held around the country. He is also a Pontiac fan, owning a '64 GTO that he bought when he was 19.

“This (Trans Am) is likely one of the most valuable ones,” said Kraman, who was in the broadcast booth when the car went up for bid. “We have seen some nice ones that are restored, and we have seen some original cars, but this one was unique.”

Kraman said portions of the car, including the chassis and the engine compartment, were freshened up. The car had several previous owners, he said.

Despite that high end price for the Trans Am, “I don’t think they have topped out yet,” Kraman said. “When we look at cars from the 1970s, this is the car. This is the signature car. It’s very similar to the (Buick) GNXs of the 1980s.

“As time marches on...I think the price will continue to go up and up. As expensive as that car was, I think that was a decent buy,” Kraman said.



Photos Courtesy of Mecum Auctions, Inc.

John Kraman of Mecum Auctions



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. Mark also owns a 1970 Pontiac GTO convertible and a 1973 Grand Am.



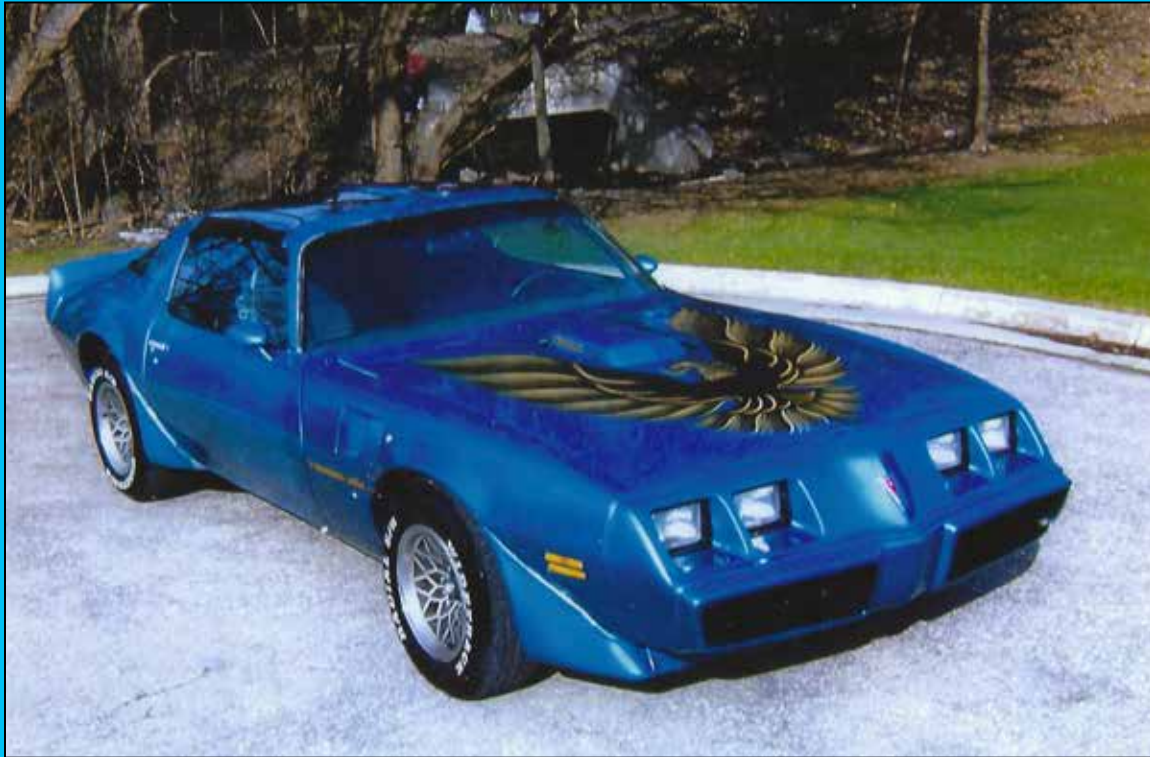


2002 TA CE of John Moore from Fort Meyers Beach, Florida



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.



'80 Trans Am of Kevin Janusek from Green Bay, Wisconsin

*I recently purchased a 1991
Firebird convertible 5.0 with
low miles. Pretty clean
original car needing some
minor work. Long time
Pontiac owner. Previously
owned both a 1967 Grand
Prix hard top and a 1967
Grand Prix Convertible. Also
once owned a 1974 Formula
Firebird and a 1977 LeMans
Can Am.
Samuel Gallen
New Britain, Pennsylvania*



2022 TRANS AM NATIONALS

Story and photos by Paul Albinger

The 37th Annual Trans Am Nationals was held in Fairborn Ohio from August 26 to the 28th, 2022. Each year funds are raised through silent and live auctions and 50/50 drawing “A Special Foundation” helping to make a dream come true for children with life threatening illnesses. This year nearly \$20,000 was raised.

This is a show where the best of the best Firebirds and Trans Am gather. This year was the 3rd largest show of all time with 516 cars from 32 states and Canada attending. Nightly cruises are held along with seminars featuring former Pontiac Motor Division executives sharing their knowledge, expertise, experiences, and memories. This year Jim Mattison, Herb Adams, John Schinella, and Bill Davis shared priceless information with us. This all culminated by meeting and renewing friendships ... even known to last all night as the fellowship under the entrance of the hotel continues on and on and on all day and all night.

The swap meet for all Pontiac parts, memorabilia, apparel, etc. lasted all 3 days.

Truly one of MUST DO / BUCKET LIST SHOWS for Pontiacers to attend with or without a car. Next year show dates are August 25 - 27, 2023.

Editor's Note: Paul Albinger lives in Gilbert, Arizona and owns a 1979 10th Anniversary Trans Am and a 1969 Firebird 400 convertible. Also thanks to Mark Neumann for his help in getting us this story and photos while on the road.



**2022 Trans Am
Nationals**



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. I hope 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: _____ ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP CODE: _____
 COUNTRY (if not USA): _____ PROVINCE (if CANADA): _____ POSTAL CODE: _____
 Cell/Mobile Phone: _____ (if applicable) Member No.: _____ Exp. Date: _____
 Other/Home Phone: _____ email: _____ (needed for eEagle and/or eMembership)

Join or renew on our secured website at
www.firebirdtaclub.com or
www.firebirdtransamclub.com

OPTIONAL (1-5):

- 1) **CAR REGISTRATION:**

Year	Serial Number (VIN #)	Model	Color
Firebird or Trans Am No. 1: _____	_____	_____	_____
other - (type of wheels, options, etc.): _____	_____	_____	_____
Firebird or Trans Am No. 2: _____	_____	_____	_____
other - (type of wheels, options, etc.): _____	_____	_____	_____
- 2) Areas of interest: _____
- 3) **MEMBER RECOMMENDATIONS:**
 Service, body or parts shop recommendation - Name: _____
 Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zipcode: _____
 email: _____ website: _____
 Type of business: _____ Phone: _____ Person: _____
- 4) Picture and/or story about your car (sent by mail or email)
- 5) How you heard of NFTAC: _____

Membership/renewal fee: ___\$35 for 1 yr, ___\$65 for 2 yrs, ___\$95 for 3 yrs with free t-shirt* or past Eagles on CD/USB drive/emailed or tech CD/USB drive/emailed, circle choice. (Outside USA: \$45 for 1 year, \$85 for 2 years or \$125 for 3 years with free t-shirt* or Eagles on CD/USB drive/emailed or tech CD/USB drive/emailed
 ___ 1 year eMembership-\$25, ___ 2 year eMembership-\$45, ___ 3 year eMembership-\$65 with free t-shirt* or tech CD/USB drive/emailed, circle choice (eEagle & access to website Members Only section, no materials via regular mail)

Enclose a check or money order made payable to "National Firebird Club" if renewing or joining the club.

OR CHARGE IT! Visa/MasterCard/Amex/Discover #: _____ Exp date: _____
 Check one: 1 year ___ or 2 years ___ or 3 years ___ Credit Card Security Code: _____
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 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



FEATURED CAR

This issue's featured car is the 2000 Pontiac Firebird Formula WS-6 of Andy Cain from Biloxi, Mississippi. Here is the story:

This is our 2000 Pontiac Firebird Formula WS-6. The build date was January of 2000 and my wife and I are the original owners. From the numbers I can find it was 1 of 233 Formula WS-6's built in 2000, 1 of 151 with the 6-speed manual transmission and 1 of 23 in bright red. The car was a daily driver until 2010 and currently has about 91K miles on the odometer. It was ordered from the factory pretty much loaded with leather 6-way power driver's seat, 6-speed manual with Hurst shifter, traction control, t-tops and the Monsoon Sound System with the cassette player. The car has since been upgraded to the Monsoon Sound System with CD player and trunk 12-disc CD-changer. The engine mods are modest, I've swapped out the LS1 intake manifold for a LS6, installed a ported and polished throttle body, coolant by-pass mod, oil catch can and SLP Cold Air Intake with a K&N filter. To stiffen up the frame I installed the strut tower brace, sub frame connectors and Detroit Speed Fender Flange kit. I had to replace the t-top sail panel band due to an issue with the glue bleeding through and bubbling the paint and leaving black streaks on the band. I had the MAGG Performance replacement sail panel installed and it fits and looks great. As far as suspension goes I upgraded to Bilstein shocks and slotted and dimpled rotors when the time came to replace them. I purchased the car to replace my 1994 Firebird Formula because I was concerned Pontiac was going to close down the Firebird line soon. Of course they didn't do that until 2002, but they did stop producing the Formula WS6 after 2000.

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

I've been a Pontiac guy since my high school days and as you can probably tell, I really enjoy this car. One of the strange things about the car that I've never been able to figure out is the paint in the engine bay is clear coated. I thought initially it was due to the car being a WS6 with a different hood so they clear coated the engine bay as it went down the line and then installed the WS6 hood. But after

seeing many Trans Am and Formula WS-6's without clear coated engine bays. I am not so sure. If you know the answer please let me know.

**2000 Formula
WS-6 of
Andy Cain
from Biloxi,
Mississippi**





**2000 Formula
WS-6 of Andy
Cain from Biloxi,
Mississippi**



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

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 tacentral7081@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 car (a 2000 Trans Am WS6) came with a Kenwood Bluetooth conversion radio system in it. Luckily the previous owner kept the original radio/CD with the car, which I had re-installed. Unfortunately, The CD player does not work, and the display does not light up to show radio stations or the time on the clock. I am hoping someone in the club can help me locate a used WORKING radio to put in it. I have researched the parts stores that are sponsors of this club, however I have not found anyone that has such a unit. I have not yet tried researching local junk yards.

I look forward to reading the EAGLE and being a part of the club! Thank you!

Terry Hilbert
Bettendorf, Iowa

A: I read your story on page 14 of the August issue concerning finding a source for repaired and remanufactured radios, including TAs, Firebirds, Formulas, etc. I had my TA's radio-CD player repaired or swapped out for a good-as-new unit several times. The article did not seem to provide contact information for the author, Terry Hilbert of Bettendorf, Iowa.

I don't know if he has tried the

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

folks at United Radio. Their email address is automotive@unitedradio.com and their web address is <https://www.unitedradio.com>. Their Automotive Electronics Division is located in Syracuse, NY.

Their phone #s are 800 448-0944 and 315 446-5570. I have used United Radio products and services in the past and was always happy with the outcome. Could you please forward my recommendation to Terry Hilbert.

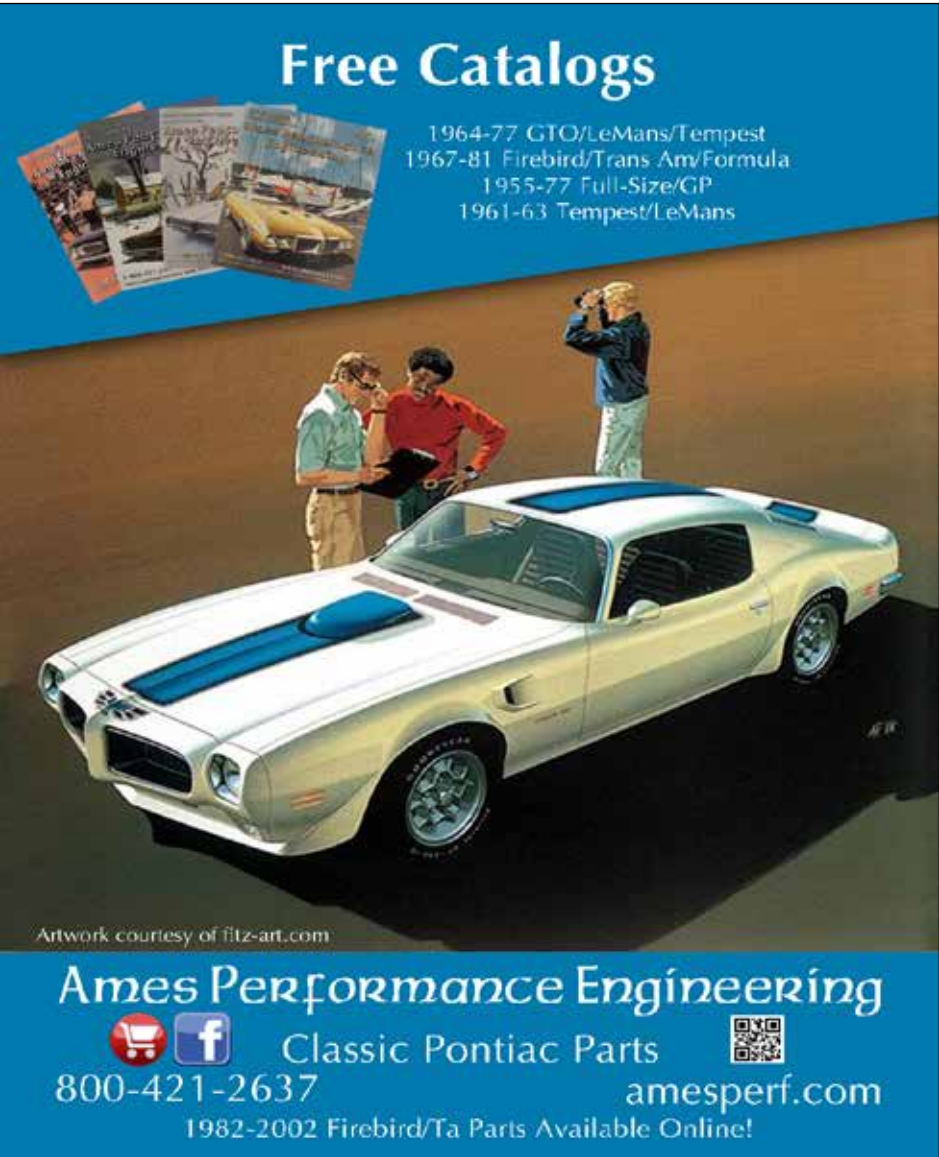
Charles Synborski
Original owner of 1994 TA GT

Editor's Note: Thank for your assistance in this matter. We forwarded your answer to Terry Hilbert when we received this.

Q: Does anyone have recommendations for transportation companies?

Looking to have my F-body shipped up within the next month from Virginia to Illinois.

I've put in a request and have gotten so many replies, but when I ask



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- 1955-77 Full-Size/GP
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QUESTIONS & ANSWERS (CONTINUED)

about insurance half get sketchy, and the rest promise the world.

Cost isn't the issue, just wondering who's reliable and responsible as I've never done this before

Thanks in advance!

Will Murphy

A: We recently used Sherpa Auto Transport and it was the smoothest delivery we have done yet. Bought the car on a Wednesday or Thursday and had the car by the next Wednesday in perfect condition in an enclosed trailer. Texas to Wisconsin!

The price couldn't be beat either. Trust me, I tried.

K. Mary Nelson

Q: I have a serious problem with my 1995 Firebird Formula V8. My gas leaks when I fill it up. I need new filler hose connected to the gas tank by clamps. I took the car in today to a mechanic and he said it was one piece and had to replace the whole tank. Is that true?

Terry Nemece

A: It's a one piece part unfortunately. One of the genius ideas GM came up with in the 90's. You may also want to replace the fuel pump too and put a brand new one in the tank as it's hard to replace to begin with.

Tony Webster



Q: Hi everyone, I'm having a real issue with my 1994 V8 Trans Am. I have replaced the fuel pump, fuel

pressure regulator, and the mass sensor. When we took the mass air flow sensor off the car started fine.

We thought it was bad so I got a new one and it's doing the same thing. It will sit and crank. If you are sitting still in traffic it will splutter and die. I don't know what else to do. Anyone have any advice?

Halyley Stone

A: Try the spare key, heck if I know why but that was the problem with my 1988 GTA. It stranded me a bunch of times. It was the key chip. Worth a try.

Brad Brittan

Q: I have a 1979 Trans Am with a 403 engine. I'm looking for a pigtail jumper wiring harness for my blower (fan) motor. I checked, Classic Industries, Second Generation, Firebird Central and Ames with no results.

Any place else you could recommend would be greatly appreciated. Thanks in advance.

Scott Seeley

A: I would also try Year One 800-932-7663, www.YearOne.com, National Parts Depot, 800-874-7595, www.nationalpartsdepot.com, Frank's Restoration Parts, 760-361-3242, www.franksPontiacparts.com and The Parts Place, 800-442-0411, www.thepartsplaceinc.com.

I am surprised Ames Performance Engineering, 1-800-421-2637, www.amesperf.com or Firebird Central, 859-408-2000, www.firebirdcentral.com did not have it as they carry a lot of items.

Kevin Busnahan

Q: Hello everyone! I need a little help with a decision on my 1990 Trans Am. Do I pay to have my 700r4 automatic tranny rebuilt, buy a new one, or go with a different tranny?

Open to all opinions and discussions! Thank you!

Kaeden Dre Stewart

A: Find a reputable transmission rebuild person and keep the car's drivetrain original.

Myron Kocher

Q: If you had a 1978 Trans Am with all matching numbers and all original, which restoration shop(s) would you recommend for me to take my TA too for an entire top to bottom restoration?

The motor, transmission, electronics, interior, wheels, special lighting inside and out, T-roof, music system, and exterior paint job with that extra coating on the paint that nothing sticks to at all, and a hand painted firebird. In other words ... everything.

Who and where would you recommend if money and distance does not matter? Serious answers only please. Thanks.

David Snead

A: Restore A Muscle Car in Lincoln, Nebraska or Trans Am Specialties in Miami, Florida.

If you want a concourse car you'll be afraid to drive because it's so nice, use Supercar Creations in Barberton Ohio. I guarantee few ever heard of him but I doubt you'll find better.

Bee Hill

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



1970 Formula 400 Ram Air car NOM Dealer replacement YS block 4 speed A/C - currently non-op Power Windows Recent paint by RedLine Restorations, Connecticut. Black interior. Bought from long time second owner. Beautiful car. \$38K Thanks for looking. Dgheidigirl@aol.com. NY



1991 Firebird, white, 79000 miles. T-Tops, Automatic, 6 cylinder. Original owner, garage kept last 18 years. Not showroom quality but paint in good shape a few minor parking lot dings. One missing part, the left side lower Air Dam Front Spoiler on front fender, clean interior. Runs well. VIN1G2FS23T7ML248440 \$12,500. Located in Kissimmee, FL. Test4959@aol.com. Cell phone: 732-278-4324 (leave message)

1994 Pontiac Firebird Formula, 53K miles. Please contact me for any more information. muddin8887@gmail.com or 832-781-7618. TX*



1999 Pontiac Firebird Formula. 5.7 V8, 6-speed manual transmission, 65K miles. Great condition. T-top convertible, alloy wheels, gray leather interior, Power windows, Driver power seat, Original AM/FM radio & CD player, Premium Monsoon

sound system. We owned the car for the past 20 years and have decided to sell it as we rarely drive it. VIN: 2G2FV22G5X2235850. Price: \$13,750. Contact Cristian at 904-376-5445 or boldan.c@gmail.com for additional details. Car is located in Jacksonville, Florida.*



1997 Firebird. (166K mi) \$8,500. V6. T-Tops. Automatic Transmission. Coupe. Hatchback. Black ext & grey

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)

fabric int, all in very good condition. Passenger headlight works, but doesn't pop up. Cracked-back bumper. VIN 2G2FS22K8V2219975. New battery, A/C, fuel-pump system, O2 sensors, ground straps, relays. Mt. Prospect, IL. merrittarndt@gmail.com or 415-846-7722.*

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)

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.

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.jessersclassickeyes.com, Ph: 330-376-8181, fax: 330-384-9129. (in every issue)

WANTED

In search of: a good **1968 black Firebird Deluxe steering wheel** for a driver. I have the horn buttons and trim. Paul Email me your contact info: pweaver@ucsd.edu.

Left side (driver) **lower air dam front spoiler** for a 1991 Firebird. John Schaible; test4959@aol.com; Kissimmee, Florida, 732-278-4324.

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)

One photo is included with your classified ad. We can add additional photographs of your car or item for \$15 each. (Note: This is addition to our normal classified ads rates which are FREE to members and \$25 for nonmembers for 50 words or less).

WARNING: CAR SALES SCAM. The check the "buyer" sends you may be a fake. If you deposit it into your account and then obtain a cashier's check for the difference and send it to the "buyer", 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.

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(INFORM COMPANY THAT YOU ARE A MEMBER OF THE NFTAC TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF DISCOUNT)

SUPPLIER AND ADDRESS	PHONE	DISCOUNT & PRODUCT
Am. Muscle Car Restorations , 14 Carriage Ct., Marlboro, NJ 07746	(800) 585-0686	10% on sales and service
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Hydro-E-Lectric , 5530 Independence Ct., Punta Gorda, FL 33982	(800) 343-4261	10% discount on hydraulic parts
Indian Artifacts , P. O. Box 350288, Brooklyn, NY 11235	(718) 332-4479	10% off any silk tie.
Showcase Pontiac , Phoenix, AZ (free shipping in U.S.)	(602) 264-2481	20% discount on GM parts
Steve Murphy , 19 Old Nyack Turnpike, Nanuet, NY 10954	(845) 623-4621	15% discount on trans. repairs
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Year One , 4559 Granite Dr., Tucker, GA 30085	(800) 950-9503	club discount to all members.

This section lists suppliers offering discounts to NFTAC members. If you wish to be listed, send the type of discount & product supplied along with your address and phone number.

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