



GGG After 30 Defining Our Future Path....

The Times They Are a Changin'

Greetings GGG,

Hope those of you that attended last Sunday's Danville show had an exciting time participating in the largest local gathering of GTO's in recent memory. Former member Dave Svoboda worked hard to bring this together and he certainly deserves special mention for doing that. Although I had the best of intentions and pre-registered early for the show it just wasn't in the cards for me or my GTO to get there as my back issues flared up yet again....I just grin and bear it as best I can and get back on the horse as my body allows. Fingers crossed that will be soon.

Jim Lent's condition is about the same as previously shared with you requiring the continued services of a skilled nursing facility. That is all I can say at this time respecting the Lent family's privacy, am sure you understand will pass on any updates going forward as allowed. Jim and I worked as a team running GGG since Day 1 with help from others over the years. Jim's commitment played a huge part in our success for 30 years and I miss collaborating with him.

Yes, indeed the bold portion of the title for this month's Presidents Message comes from a Bob Dylan song. I chose it because IMHO it accurately conveys where the Golden Gate Goats are currently at as we navigate a world and classic car hobby environment that is changing rapidly around us with many things beyond our control. The tomorrow I/we have been discussing over the past several years has now arrived on our doorstep. Difficult message for me to write however the time has come for us to step it up and meet the challenges ahead of us

As many of our members progress through their golden years their lives adjust accordingly. Priorities change as does what they can do physically sometimes daily. Speaking for myself am at a point where I need to cut back across many of my favorite activities as I adjust to my

current limitations after three surgeries that include two neck surgeries earlier this year and my initial lower back surgery in 2021. I must admit have been in denial expecting that I would come back 100%, however it is time for me to wake up and accept the fact that it is not going to happen. Recovery is a process and as you know it takes a lot of time and is a moving target with many peaks and valleys. Just started weekly acupuncture treatments for 6 weeks that hopefully will help my back pain. My surgeries required us to postpone a trip to Japan this year that was to celebrate our 50th wedding anniversary. We have rescheduled that trip for March 2027 although my recovery still has a long way to go. Am incredibly grateful for what I can still do, however I need to make some adjustments as I am slowing down. Walking long distances with days of working continually all day long with endless energy are squarely in my rear-view mirror, am sure a few of you are in the same boat?

The time has come for me to ask our membership for help with running our club and taking us to new heights. We currently have several leadership positions open to include the positions of Treasurer, Newsletter Editor and Event Coordinator all these positions will require starting from scratch. Treasurer will need to open a dedicated no fee GGG account and process and collect dues, Newsletter Editor will need to design and distribute an entirely new newsletter, Event Coordinator will need to take over facilitating our traditional Tilden Park summer picnic and Xmas celebration plus car show coordinating etc. Ultimately if we had someone that has website experience that would be a huge plus. These positions along with President and Al Schendan's Marketing Manager position will form our new Board of Directors. Even with restructuring in progress, we will face several future challenges as we need to figure out a way to add new members and get/keep them involved, deal with cars that get older each year, etc. There are more questions than answers going forward, my crystal ball is still MIA. The answers to these questions cannot be answered today so let us begin moving forward by taking one day at a time starting now. Implementing our restructuring will be our focal point until completed as we must evolve to survive. I am fully committed to this process please join me on this journey. Those of you interested in applying for one of these positions, please reach out to me 650-477-8540 phone/text or e mail mitygto@aol.com. We will discuss it at our upcoming meeting(s) as well. GGG has a storied 30-year history to build upon and our future direction in part will be determined by our existing memberships' future participation. I hope some of you will reach up and meet this challenge head on enabling GGG to continue its legacy well into the future. Everyone's input is welcome so reach out with any questions and/or comments you may have. I understand this will not happen overnight and would like to have help onboard as/if we continue into 2027. By that I mean people taking on these positions do not need to be fully up and running although that would be a plus but committed, on board, in progress and moving forward. Yes, I understand this is a BIG ASK, and we have our work cut

out for us. I will leave it here so everyone has time to consider what is being asked and will stay connected via frequent e mail messages as more information becomes available.

Will discuss our Holiday Xmas party on Saturday December 5th at JP's from 11 to 2 in next month's October President's message outlining the menu selections and co-pay details so make sure your calendar is marked so you don't miss this event.

Labor Day Holiday weekend is just around the corner, do enjoy yours. Until our Tuesday September 15th meeting see ya in the fast lane!

Prez John