

# THE GOAT CONNECTION

VOL.25-12 Newsletter of the GOLDEN GATE GOATS December 2019  
GTO CLUB OF THE GREATER SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA



**23rd Anniversary 1996 - 2019**

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## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Happy Holidays GGG,

Thank you for another great Xmas Holiday Party and braving the weather this past week end. There was so much water on 680 upon leaving post event with traffic moving at a crawl that a kayak and rain gear may have been the way to go. Hope nobody had any extended delays on their travels that afternoon.

Fortunately everyone was leaving reasonable space between cars as visibility was not good, I had deluge

conditions all the way to P town. Attendance once again was excellent, Back 40 brought their A game with both the food and their service adding to our experience. Our plan is to continue having our Holiday Party's there as long as all of you are pleased with the venue and as I type this all is good. As usual there was a plethora of really interesting white elephant gifts for our members to choose from... I suspect a few of them may make a return visit in 2020. As in years past many times gifts are stolen immediately and sometimes after some time has passed giving folks time to strategize. Always fun to see everyone's reaction when they open their package while sitting in the Chair of Fame. When the item is interesting we hear oohs and ahhs and when the item is not so interesting we hear sighs and/or comments like are you kidding.... some hold the item up announcing to the group to please take me! Can't wait to see what shows up next year...thanks to everyone for being so creative year after year.

Our first meeting of 2020 with an 11:30 start time at The Englander in San Leandro will be on Thursday February 6<sup>th</sup>. Would like to start working on our event calendar for next year at that meeting so please put on your thinking caps perhaps for an event that can be

rain or shine early in the year? We might be able to join NorCal Chevelles for one of their early 2020 events once their schedule is announced. As one possible option I will look into group discount tickets for the Disney museum in the SF Presidio. Another possibility is a get together at the Pacific Pinball Museum in Alameda; Mike LaCombe will be looking into that for us... stay tuned for details to follow on both event possibilities.

Marsha and I wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.....Till we meet again;

See ya in the fast lane,

Prez John

**GOLDEN GATE GOATS WEB**  
**SITE AVAILABLE AT:**  
**[www.gggoats.com](http://www.gggoats.com)**

## **GOLDEN GATE GOATS EVENT PICTURES**

We have a picture hosting site that has lots of event pictures. These can be downloaded to your own computer or you can order pictures directly from the site. Pictures can be viewed at:<http://imageevent.com/jimlent>

## **Email List**

We have an active list that provides frequent updates on club activities and provides links to pictures of club activities. E-mail [jimlent@comcast.net](mailto:jimlent@comcast.net) to join or to update your email address



## **CHANGES, MISSPELLINGS, ETC.**

**IF WE HAVEN'T GOT YOUR INFORMATION MIXED UP YET, JUST GIVE US TIME. WE ARE WORKING AS FAST AS WE CAN.**

**Please contact Jim Lent with any name, address, phone number or vehicle corrections or changes. (510) 799-6096.**

**E-MAIL: [jimlent@comcast.net](mailto:jimlent@comcast.net)  
SNAIL MAIL: Jim Lent - 118 Iris Court  
Hercules, CA 9454**



## **CAR OF THE MONTH ARTICLES**

Would you like to see your car, and its story, published in this newsletter. Take this opportunity now to memorialize your ride! Tell us about your ride: how you got it, what you have done to it, where you like to drive it, etc. Make your car the star. You can email your story and pictures to Jim Lent at; [jimlent@comcast.net](mailto:jimlent@comcast.net) or send them by snail mail to:  
Jim Lent  
118 Iris Court  
Hercules, CA 94547

**Best wishes to All Golden Gate Goaters from Jim & Jeannie Lent. Hope your holiday season is filled with good times. Here is a story of how Santa delivers the goods. Enjoy,**

**A Goat's Tale For Christmas by Tom Szymczyk,  
Delaware Valley Old Goat Club**

**Twas the night before Christmas, 1964 When an elf came knocking on Santa Claus' door. " Mr. Claus, there's a problem," was what the elf said, "The reindeer are sick, so they can't pull your sled!"**

**"They all caught the flu. They're hacking and wheezing. They have stuffy heads, and they're coughing and sneezing." "Give'em Ny Quil," said Santa, "is what you should do."**

**"But it won't be invented 'til 1982-"**

**"The reindeer can rest," Santa said to the elf "This year I'll deliver the presents myself. I've got a new beast that can pull the big sleigh, A beast I've been saving for just such a day."**

**They went around back, to Santa's garage And walked past a shiny, red super stock Dodge. "This one," said Santa, " belongs to Aunt Gina.**

**She's a little old lady from East Pasadena."**

**"The Dodge here is quick. My Corvette can run. But we need more than speed to get the job done. Delivering presents, we race through the skies. These cars are both fast, but I need one that flies!"**

**So Santa walked down to the end of the row And unlocked the door of a new 1966 GTO. He hooked up the sleigh and said,**

**"This one is mine. Three deuces, a four speed, and a 389."**

**He then cranked it over - It rumbled real loud. He idled outside, then spoke to the crowd, "Without any reindeer, I'll still make my run. Just me and this Goat, we're gonna have fun."**

**He revved it right up and then dropped the clutch. He wheeled through first. The guy was too much! By second he's airborne, and pulling some G's. He power shifts third while clearing the trees.**

**He circled the Pole and then headed south, A twinkle in his eye, and a smile on his mouth. And we heard him exclaim at a hundred miles per hour,**

**"When all else fails, you should always Tri Power!!!!**

**Happy Holidays.**

**YOUR AD COULD BE HERE! PERSONAL ADS FOR ALL  
GOLDEN GATE MEMBERS ARE FREE -  
NON-MEMBERS Ads - \$10.00 per month per ad.  
Contact: Jim Lent, 118 Iris Ct., Hercules CA 94547 (510) 799-6096 or  
email - [jimlent@comcast.net](mailto:jimlent@comcast.net)**

## **WANTED:**

**Endura bumper for a 1970 GTO.**

Contact John Arvizu at [hot\\_ss@yahoo.com](mailto:hot_ss@yahoo.com)

## **FOR SALE:**

**N O S 1965 PONTIAC GTO Passengers Side Grill Insert.** Slight Shelf Wear, no original Box. Never installed. \$600.00. You'll likely look long and hard to find another one. Don't wait for your Insurance Company to try to find one of these. I have one in Heated Storage protected by Sig & Sauer. Call **Ken Davis**. 408-209-2553. [kendavis14@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kendavis14@sbcglobal.net)

**'68' GTO turbo 400 transmission,** transmission with stand, 67 trunk skins, engine hoist, \$500 for everything or BO. Contact member **Paul Gribaldo** @  
Cell: 510-209-3909, Hm: 510-429-6930

# **GOLDEN GATE GOATS FACEBOOK PAGE**

Join our club Facebook page!

- Open discussions with members
- Share links with GGG web site
- Buy/Sell your auto parts

Join the blog by clicking on this link:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1739685286060250>

Find the 'Request to Join' on the page and send your request to us. Acceptance will take about a day, and you will be notified when you have been given permission.

Start sharing your ideas, stories, parts and recommendations with the club!



# Greater San Francisco Bay Area Pontiac GTO Club

[www.gggoats.com](http://www.gggoats.com)

## **CLUB OFFICERS**

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## **CLUB LOGO ITEMS**

In 2005 we opened our online club store on our website. The store carries a full line of apparel, house wares, and gifts with the Golden Gate Goats logo, Outlaw GTO Association of Western America logo, and images of our club cars! Go check it out at:  
[www.cafepress.com/gggoats](http://www.cafepress.com/gggoats)

Our goal is to preserve and keep the legend of the Pontiac GTO alive. We plan to do this by having fun as we learn more about our GTOs through various club activities: Cruises, Parades, Car Shows, Picnics & MORE!

## **2018 - Club Meetings**

Club Meetings are scheduled for the following months:  
February, March, April, May  
July, October, November  
Check the newsletter or website for updated dates, times & locations

**GOLDEN GATE GOATS EVENT PICTURES  
CAN BE VIEWED AT:**

**[HTTP://imageevent.com/jimlent](http://imageevent.com/jimlent)**

**VENDOR DISCOUNT  
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PLEASE SUPPORT THESE  
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*Special Car Club Discounts:*

\$0-99, 5%; \$100-up, 10%

*Catalogs \$5.00, refundable with 1st order*

*Catalogs free with order*

- 64-72 Chevelle/El Camino/Monte Carlo - 58-72 Impala - 62-74 Nova  
- 67-81 Camaro - 67-81 Firebird - 64-72 GTO - 64-72 Skylark/GS  
- 64-72 Outlass/442 - 66-74 Dodge/Plymouth

**Bethel's Goat Farm** - 10% discount - ask for Ed (408) 295-7611

**Performance Years** - offers discounts to club members on orders up to \$500 of 3% w/charge card or 5% prepay. Orders over \$500 8% with charge card or 10% prepay. 215-712-7400

**Paddock West** - offers club members a 10% discount on their orders. Identify yourselves with the code "GGG1" to get the discount. 800 854-8532 or (909) 798-4166.

**World Muffler** - 10% Discount - 966 E. El Camino Real, Sunnyvale - 408-738-2318 Contact Maynard Rougier or Patrick Karl

**Victory Automotive Machine**, 10 % Discount - 3500 Pearl Ave, Unit E. San Jose -Contact Vic Anderson 408-266-7570 victorymachine@netscape.com.

**COYBILT**  
5259 Jerusalem Ct., Unit 4  
Modesto CA 95356

Our phone number is 209-572-1965

Website [WWW.COYBILT.COM](http://WWW.COYBILT.COM)

**Restoration:** from stock to all out custom show stopper.

**Brake service:** Rebuilds, Performance Upgrades, Disc conversions, etc.

**Sheetmetal Replacement:** Rust repair, body modifications, panel replacement, etc.

**Suspension:** Stock rebuilds, Spring replacement, front end rebuilds, Complete Chassis upgrades, etc.

**Electrical:** Custom harness fabrication, stock harness repair, electrical diagnosis, Fuel injection wiring, etc.

**Engine:** Rebuilds, tune ups, performance modifications, Drivability improvements, Fuel injection service

**What ever your automotive needs maybe we can handle it.**

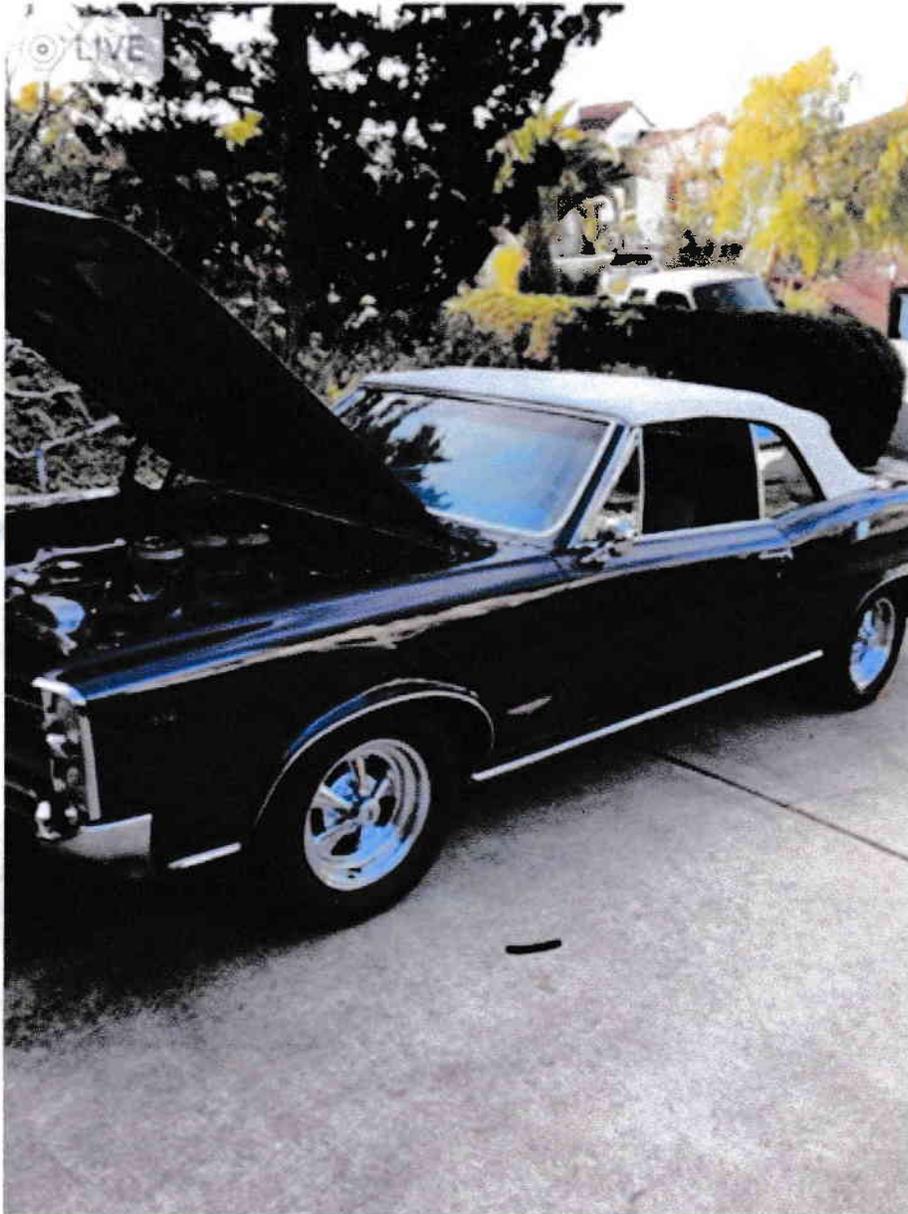




**DECEMBER**

**2019**

**GOLDEN GATE GOATS  
CAR OF THE MONTH**



**RICH COLOMBATTO'S 1967 GTO**

Here are some photos of my 66 GTO convertible: me in the Arizona desert mid-70's; new top October 2018 and new front fender in the shop this June for its 3<sup>rd</sup> and last "restoration". My dad bought me this car in my junior year of high school in 1968 as an early graduation present off the used car lot of Cunha Pontiac on Telegraph Avenue in Berkeley. I think he paid around \$1200 and the car had about 30,000 miles on it. It was a fairly basic model; 389 4 barrel, 4 speed with manual brakes. Options included power steering and top and an AM/FM radio. No gauges or tach, just idiot lights. The car had a sticker price of \$3647.76 new.

I used and abused the car my remaining 2 years at Berkeley High and then some junior college. During that time I burned through a stack of tires, several clutches and then blew the 389 racing my friends 442. Fortunately, one of my dad's WWII Marine buddies was a local municipal court judge who handled traffic court.

I put in a rebuilt 389, added a factory 3 deuce set up and posi-traction circa 1970. I drove the car during my college days at Arizona State making the Tempe to Berkeley run and back 2 or 3 times a year. My door to door time improved to 12 hours when interstate 5 was completed in the late 70's. Gas could be purchased from strategically located scabbers before a decent network of gas stations was established which was necessary when you're getting 10 to 12 miles to the gallon. I did add aftermarket AC and tunes for the long drives. The top would billow at 90 mph. I always left Tempe at night during hot weather and never overheated crossing interstate 10. I had to replace the back plastic window almost annually due to the sun; or get a fix-it ticket for lack of visibility; hence the passenger side aftermarket mirror, since removed and both sides replaced with 71 sport style mirrors.

Upon graduating ASU in 1975, I started law school in Southern California and made the LA to Berkeley run until engine #2 gave up the ghost. I garaged the car in about 1976 and there it sat until the early 80's. After graduating law school, getting a job and getting married I started a "restoration" including a driveway engine rebuild with a bigger cam, glass packs and a cheap body and paint job. It was mostly a weekender and I'd drop off and pick up my kids and friends' kids from school with the top down on nice days. But it ran hard with the big cam and was loud. It started to have issues – the engine rebuild was lousy – and life was busy so it went back into the garage for a decade or so.

In 2003 I began a mechanical restoration and upgrade that included a 455 engine installed by Wayne Barnes, et al, power assisted disc brakes, Griffin radiator and other upgrades. The factory 4 speed and Hurst shifter were rebuilt and are the only original mechanics. The car was then in my friend Bob Manini's body shop for 2 years. Lot's of chroming and NOS and aftermarket trim parts. The suspension was upgraded and I added a set of Crager SS mags that I always wanted with a set of Michelin radials. I got a set of factory gauges including a tach. Then life got in the way before I completed putting it back together and the GTO was relegated to the garage for another decade

or so until June 2018. I always kept the car registered but the last tag on the license plate was 2001.

I retired in 2016 and uncovered my GTO. In June 2018 I pumped the old gas out, added new and squirted some oil into the cylinder heads. The engine hand turned easily and fired up on the 3<sup>rd</sup> try but it was rough and I was hesitant to drive it since it had been sitting so long. I had it towed it out to Orinda Classic Cars and they went through it replacing the thermostat, water pump, gas tank and system components, brakes and some other miscellaneous items including completion of a power window conversion I had started but abandoned.

The top mechanism had been off the car for a decade or so. I had the frame powder coated and had it welded back in with new hydraulic rams and pump motor. A new white top was installed in October 2019 (with a glass window). But when the top was powered closed and latched, it managed to lift the body off the frame because all the bushings were rotted out. As a result, the fender/door gaps were all out of alignment. The car also suffered some unfortunate body damage so this June it was off to the body shop where it presently resides. New body bushings installed, front clip and doors r&r'ed with better gaps/alignment. During paint prep old (poor) body repair on the front fender was discovered so the fender was replaced (photo 3) and other body clean-up on the rear quarters. The car is now painted a dark blue metallic close to the original Nightwatch blue (code E) but with more metallic (actually an Audi color) and being finished and polished. I hope to get it back this month.

Now I wonder what to do with the interior; blue code 219. I have all the factory components but not fond of the vinyl seats; especially on hot days. Thinking about something mildly custom but using the stock seats/backs.

The old aftermarket AC is gone so also thinking about Vintage Air and exhaust cut outs to annoy my neighbors. I haven't dyno'ed it yet but it runs like a rocket when the secondaries kick in and sounds nice via Gardner Exhaust complete with resonators.

I hope to show it off at Tilden 2020; on my birthday.

Rich Colombatto

