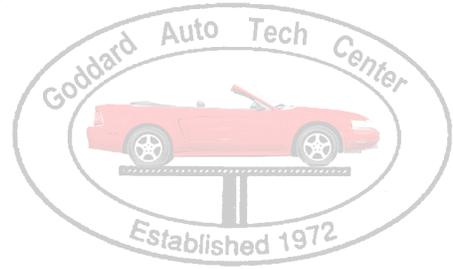


Goddard Auto Tech Center

May 31, 2001

To: GATC Membership  
From: GATC Secretary  
Subject: May 31, 2001 Meeting Minutes



A general meeting was held on May 31, 2001 in GSFC building 32, room E103. The meeting was preceded by a new membership badge photo session from 4-5 PM.

The meeting convened by the president, Ken Blumenstock, at 5 PM. There were 35 members attending and 30 absentee ballots received by the start of the meeting establishing a quorum for the announced items on the ballot. Additional officers present included Joe Generie, Treasurer, Frank Shelton, Facilities Manager and Joe Schepis/Secretary.

The first item on the agenda was immediately modified so as to postpone the pizza and soda buffet since it had not been delivered yet.

Ken proceeded with the remaining agenda items, below.

- Treasurer's report (appended to this document); The only item of interest by the members was the apparent delay in receiving monies owed to the club by members parking their cars at the garage. It was explained that all money is collected but it is difficult to "police" the issue regularly to enforce prompt payment.
- Election announcement; Gary McGuire (6-8933) was introduced as the 2001-02 Election Committee Chairman. Nominations and platforms should be provided to him by Friday, June 15th. The election meeting is scheduled for July 12, 2001.
- Lift and rotating machinery safety; If anyone needs to be shown how to lock lift two to preclude a hydraulics failure, contact one of the officers. Members should never wear gloves when working on or around the brake lathe, grinding wheel or drill press as serious injury could result. The exception to this would be thin latex gloves that normally tear very easily.
- Sewer line update; GSFC has agreed to pay for sewer line installation up to garage. This may include roughing in waste lines, to be resolved. GATC is responsible for removing the unused septic tank. Current

## Goddard Auto Tech Center

estimates are for \$800 for removal and fill. There was a unanimous vote that \$1000 in club funds be authorized for this expense.

- Tire and battery disposal; Battery disposal will continue since batteries are removed at no charge to the club. A health issue due to mosquito breeding which almost caused the club to stop accepting tires for disposal was avoided by storing the tires under the overhang built for fluid recycling. Tire disposal costs \$1.75 per tire and we seem to accumulate between 100 – 200 tires annually. Currently club funds (dues) are used to pay this fee. A discussion evolved around using PG County's semi-annual tire amnesty day to dispose of our tires at no charge. [Since there was no mention of a vote on any disposal issue on the ballot and without a quorum present, the issue was tabled.]
- Parking fees; The issue of too many cars being left at the garage without being consistently worked on was discussed. Ken suggested that if the monthly parking fee were higher, this would be an incentive for members not to neglect the vehicles. A vote to double the monthly parking fees was motioned and the following vote was recorded:
  - For the motion – attending: 23, absentee: 15, total = 38
  - Against – attending: 2, absentee: 7, total = 9

However, it was realized after the meeting that the motion to double the monthly parking fees is not carried, because 21 day notice is required to make any amendment to the by-laws. This amendment will be brought to vote again at the next meeting on July 12th.

- Parts washer; The club has been without a working parts washer for several years. A vote was held on whether the club should rent a varsol solvent parts washer at \$165 every 12 weeks, an aqueous parts washer for \$200 every 12 weeks or no parts washer. Discussion circled around the effective but hazardous varsol versus the environmentally friendly but ineffective aqueous solution. The following vote was recorded:
  - For varsol washer – attending: 25, absentee: 18, total=43
  - Aqueous – attending: 0, absentee: 4, total=4

The motion to rent the varsol parts washer is carried.

- Card key/Alarm system; A discussion of the configuration and options involving a Best Products card key system and alarm system. A vote to authorize \$2500 for this system was recorded:

## Goddard Auto Tech Center

- For security system – attending: 26, absentee: 18, total=44
- Against – attending: 0, absentee: 3, total=3

The motion to authorize funds for the security system is carried.

- Tool chest & tools; A discussion of the pros and cons of the club buying quality general purpose tools and a chest. Concern of theft is an issue, but the members agree that the security system should mitigate the risk. A vote to authorize \$2000 for this purpose was recorded:

- For tools – attending: 18, absentee: 15, total=33
- Against – attending: 6, absentee: 6, total=12

The motion to purchase tools and a tool chest is carried with the provision that the security system be installed before the tools are bought and stored at the garage.

The remainder of the meeting was in “open forum” format. Wheel weights for alloy wheels was brought up as a need. Ken responded that he picked up an alloy weight set at the Montgomery Wards liquidation auction and that the set needs to be organized and installed at the garage. The topic of members providing “expert advice” to non-club members on site was discussed as a community service and advertisement to attract more members, but was poorly received due to organizational difficulties. Finally, the GATC web page (<http://mscweb.gsfc.nasa.gov/gatc/>) was discussed regarding how the built in message board function was underutilized but could be employed to serve the GSFC community rather than just the GATC members.

The meeting was adjourned at 7 PM.

Joseph P. Schepis  
GATC Secretary