

# Monthly Newsletter November/09

Newsletter No. 0023

## What's in This Month

*Topic: Build Sheet and PHS Documents*

*Tip: How to Use the Internet to your Advantage*

*Spotlight: Spotlight of the Month November 1979 Trans Am*

*Spotlight: Phoenix Graphix*

*Classifieds*



### Build Sheet and PHS Documents

Last month I talked about how to verify what your car is and how it was when it left the factory. Nothing is more important to do this than your Factory Build Sheet. This document is probably *THE* most important piece of paper you could have for your car.



Many years ago, people did not see the relevance of this little piece of paper. Typically there were two build sheets that came with your car. One located on the interior of your car either behind the rear seats in the frame or behind the cardboard separator, or under either of the front seats. Now build sheets have been found in other locations such as under the carpet or behind door panels, but under or behind

the seats was the most typical location. The second build sheet was usually placed on top of your gas tank. Now since this second one was more exposed to the elements of nature, they have usually deteriorated... but they have been found intact on more than one car. So if you do not find the one on the inside of your car, don't give up hope just yet, it is possible your second one is still in good shape. Sadly to say though, the build sheet is a "One of a Kind" document (or "Two of a kind" since there was usually two in the car). Once the build sheet is gone.. it is gone, there is no copy of it anywhere and there is no getting any duplicate of it.

Why the build sheet is important is because this one 8 1/2 x 11 piece of paper lists exactly how your car left the factory and lists every single option and item on your car. It is kinda like the directions for the Factory when they were building the car. It not only does it give you every general item about your car such as engine and transmission, but it also details every other little specific part on

your car. It lists what color decals your car had, which speedometer gauge cluster it had, the springs and shocks and wiring and any other extra option such as power windows and power locks, A/C, power trunk release and more.

T93 T/LAMP BLACK  
WS4 TRANS/AM  
WS6 T/AM MARK IV  
<WV7 FB HOOD EMBLE

15 FRI. SPRING  
RH LH  
KW KV

But it even gives you more information like the exact date of when your car was built. It also lets you know where the car was shipped to and the name and location of the original dealership of where your car was sold.

JOB SEQUENCE NUMBER  
20979996  
10 SCHED. NO. DATE  
91-0086  
01-09  
25 EXHAUST

So anything that you wanted to know about your car is listed on the build sheet. This document will prove if your car came with the W72 Pontiac 400 or if your car is that rare 455SD 4 speed that everyone is looking for. It will tell you if your car is a Special Edition or a Pace Car or a 10th Anniversary Trans Am. It goes beyond any decoding of the VIN number and Cowl Plate and will tell you all the specifics of what you need to know. That is why the build sheet is the most important document you could ever have for your car... well I guess except for the title of your car of course.

Next month I will let you know about the PHS Documents (Pontiac Historical Services) and what they can do for you. It is the next best thing you could have for your car to have it being documented.

109 CHASSIS NO. DICK WENZEL BUICK PONTIAC & G PO BOX 348 CLARKSVILLE 18-832		111 ORDER NUMBER JH1564		NORWOOD PLANT	
110 SHIPPED TO DICK WENZEL BUICK PONTIAC & G 844 E COLLEGE ST CLARKSVILLE		TN 37041		CAR LINE PONTIAC	
112 ZONE 115		113 YEAR 82		114 TRUCK 114	
116 DATE SHIPPED		117		120 COUNTRY ND	
121 CAR & EQUIP NUMBER					

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## Using the Internet to your advantage.

This sounds kinda simple, but most people overlook the fact that the Internet is a wonderful tool if you know how to use it. Now 78ta.com does have alot of information, but it is not complete and have every bit of information that is out there. The search engines are a wonderful thing to use and can let you find out just about anything you want to know.

the possibilities and choices that are presented in front of you. But if you go further and type in "replace 1978 Trans Am rear end 12 bolt chevy posi", then your chances of finding what you want will be a whole lot better. The more specific you are in your search, the better chance you have of finding the answer to the question you have. Most of the search engines use the same back end so don't worry about if you are using the right search engine or not. Use whatever one you are most comfortable with and stick with it. I don't think you would have any better luck using one over the other in the searches.

The other great thing you will find out there on the Internet is Forums (Messageboards). Maybe you won't find an answer that some one has posted out there on the Internet, but you might have a greater possibility of finding someone on a Forum that has done it and can give you some good advice. Sometimes there are general forums out there that you might find answers on and other times you will find specific forums that are created that are more in tune with what you want to do. For example, if you are looking to replace an engine in your Trans Am with a crate 502 motor from Chevy, then maybe you will not find the answer on a Trans Am forum, but I bet there is probably a forum out there

dedicated to the Chevy 502 that you will find answers on. Either way you look at it, you will probably be able to find exactly what you need out there if you just take the time to look and be specific about it.

Sometimes however you might want to keep your searches general in order to maybe find all the possibilities that may be out there. Like if you are looking for trans am parts, distributors and supplies. Just typing in "Trans Am Parts" will give you 12 good companies on the first to pages to order parts from. Once you find these, save these in your favorites to refer back to time and time again during your project or even just to keep your car looking like new when something breaks.

So sometimes a general search is more of what you need. But again, that is the wonderful thing about the internet... you can be specific as you want to find a certain thing, or as general as you want to find a broad range of topics to search and read through. The forums and messageboards are also a good resource in that area as well. Not only helping out in finding the parts that you need, but also possibly getting customer reviews on a company to find out what their experiences are like in dealing with them. Any way you look at it, you have a very good chance of finding whatever you may need on the Internet.

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Just type in what you are looking for.... the more specific the better.... and you will be presented with thousands of options and pages to look through to find the information you want. The more items and words you type in or the more specific that you are in the search, the better your chances are on finding exactly what you are looking for. Usually when looking at the search engines, if you don't find it on the first two or three pages of your search, then it is time to refine your key words. So if you type in "Trans Am Rear End", you might overwhelmed with

Google Trans Am Parts

Web:  Show options... Results: 1 - 10 of about 3,600,000 for Trans Am Parts (0.19 seconds)

**Trans Am Parts**  
[www.ellay.com](#) Vehicle Parts & Accessories! Bid on Trans Am Parts  
[Buy trans am parts](#)  
[www.classicindustries.com](#) Restoration & Performance Parts. Easy Ordering. Fast Shipping!  
[PY Classic Firebird Parts](#) 1967-81 Firebird Parts for 25 years Great Service/Price! 800-642-7278  
 Related searches: [78 trans am parts](#) [1978 trans am parts](#)  
[Hughes's Firebird and Trans Am parts](#)  
 Humorous twist on restorations and repairs as well as parts sales.  
[www.firebirdtransamparts.com/">www.firebirdtransamparts.com/](#)    
[Hilton's Pontiac Trans Am Site](#)  
 I have had so many people ask me about the Bands Edition Trans Am so I posted up a page about that as well. I also of course have the Parts for Sale ...  
[www.78ta.com/">www.78ta.com/](#)    
[Pontiac Trans Am Parts @ Car Parts Wholesale](#)  
 From the looks to the performance, there's no doubt that the Pontiac Trans Am is a wonderful sports car. And when equipped with high performance Parts ...  
[www.carpartswholesale.com/cpwp/pontiac-trans-am-parts.html](#)    
[Camaro Parts | Firebird Parts | Trans Am Parts | Nova Parts](#)  
 Truck Parts Camaro Parts Nova Parts Trans Am Parts Chevy Truck Parts Pontiac Parts GM Parts Camaro Engine Chevy Nova Chevy Nova Parts Camaro ...  
[www.classicindustries.com/">www.classicindustries.com/](#)    
[YourOne, Inc.](#)  
 Ben Reynolds Edition Trans Am - Ofihal Outside Team Goldberg - ORSCA Racing - Right Coast Association - HACKER SAFE certified sites prevent over 99.9% of ...  
[www.yourone.com/">www.yourone.com/](#)    
[LMPerformance - Camaro Parts, Mustang Parts, Corvette Parts, GT0](#)  
 If you are shopping for Late Model Mustang Parts, Camaro Parts, Firebird Parts, Trans Am Parts, GT0 Parts, Corvette Parts, GM Trucks, Ford Trucks, ...  
[www.lmperformance.com/">www.lmperformance.com/](#)    
[Youngs F-Body www.youngsbody.com - 82-02 Camaro Parts, Z28 Parts](#)  
 Young's Fibody Motorsports 82-02 Camaro Parts, Z28 Parts, Camaro SS Parts, Firebird Parts, Trans AM Parts, GTA Parts, Inc Parts, Formula Parts, ...  
[www.fibodymotorsports.com/">www.fibodymotorsports.com/](#)    
**TRANS AM CREATIONS - HOME PAGE**  
 Mar 20 2009 - Welcome to Trans Am Creations, one of the largest used parts centers for late model Camaros and Firebirds. We have one of the largest ...  
[www.transamcreations.com/">www.transamcreations.com/](#)    
[NPD Link National Parts Depot](#)  
 1967-1981 Firebird Parts - 1965-1981 Trans Am Parts National Parts Depot offers restorers and modifiers the fastest, lowest cost parts delivery. ...  
[www.npdlink.com/">www.npdlink.com/](#)    
[FibodyWarehouse](#)  
 1970 - 1981 FibodyWarehouse Catalog Choose From Camaro or Trans Am ... 1970-1981 Camaro and Trans Am Door Hinge Repair Kit ... Used GM (Factory Parts) ...  
[www.fibodywarehouse.com/">www.fibodywarehouse.com/](#)    
 Shopping results for **Trans Am Parts**  

	Pontiac Trans Am Headlight Motor Part 1987-92	\$4.95	new - 1A Auto.com
	PODiatc Firebird Trans AM backup light bulb LED back-up light bulb	\$14.95	new - Amazon.com
	Pontiac Trans Am High Tone High Output Horn 1989	\$52.95	new - 1A Auto.com

Searches related to **Trans Am Parts**  
[trans am aftermarket parts](#)    
[78 trans am parts](#)    
[firebird parts](#)    
[1978 pontiac firebird trans am parts](#)    
[2000 trans am parts](#)    
[1979 trans am parts](#)

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78ta.com Forum:  
<http://forum.78ta.com>  
Check out the Calendar  
for upcoming shows  
and events for 2009.

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### Spotlight of the Month - 1979 Trans Am of Doug Lester



Well, for most of us the Summer is now well over and the cars are all tucked away for the Winter. We all start getting that "Cabin Fever" of being locked indoors without our cars and start going a little nuts. But when we see a car as nice as the 1979 Trans Am of Doug Lester we can't hold back that smile on our faces. This is a beautiful example of a Trans Am if I ever saw one.

Doug has had his car for a little while now and has done a little bit of work to the car. Well, I guess "A little bit of work" is a bit of an understatement..... I don't know if there is a part of this car that hasn't been touched. As you are going to see from the photos below, there has been extensive work done to the car from head to toe. This is his 5th Trans Am, including a 1989 GTA Trans Am in his driveway as well. His current car that we see here started as a blue 301 4-speed car, but now has the Pontiac 400 to it. As you can see from the photos below what kind of work was in store....

But soon enough, the work started and many countless hours and nights were spent bringing this car back to a show stopping car. No detail was skipped, not item overlooked.

Before long, all the long hard work and tireless nights and days working on the car, you could see it all come together.

Before long, you could see that this was going to be a show winner for sure. But you don't have to take my word for it. Doug took his car to the Nationals this year and took second place in his class. So congratulations Doug on having a beautiful Trans Am that I know you take alot of pride in. It is also great to have you here on the Forum as well as in the OhioFirebirds with us. I look forward to many more shows to come. Also, if you need help with your next project... we are here for you....

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Phoenix Graphix has been in business since 1985 supplying quality decals for your restoration projects. Phoenix carries Officially licensed GM decals covering. Classic Muscle cars like the Trans Am, Camaro, Rambler, Roadrunner, SuperBee, Charger, Mustangs, Coronet and so many more. Their helpful staff will assist you in selecting the right decal kit for any restoration project. Give them a call at 1-800-941-4550 or visit their website at [www.phoenixgraphix.com](http://www.phoenixgraphix.com)

## Classifieds

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Want to sell your car in the Monthly Newsletter here at 78ta.com? Send an email to [Sales@78ta.com](mailto:Sales@78ta.com) for more information. List your car for sale that reaches over 100,000 people each and every month.

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Due to popular demand, 78ta.com in conjunction with Fbodywarehouse will be doing a full color Calendar for the 2010 Year. The Calendar will be a 12-Month full color calendar with all of the major US Holidays listed. It will be a full 11x17 calendar to hang on your wall or at your desk. I will also include any of the Major Trans Am Shows such as the Trans Am Nationals, The Ames Tri-Power Nationals, The POCl Convention, and More ! The Calendars will be printed The first week of December and sent out to you so that you will receive them by Christmas 2009. The calendars will be priced at \$19.99 plus \$5.01 for World Wide shipping.



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Here is a brand new reproduction Hurst Hatch storage bag for your 1976 to 1978 Trans Am with the Hurst T-tops. This will work for any of the cars that had the Hurst t-top roof like the Firebird/Trans Am, or the Olds 442, or anything with the Hurst T-top roof. \$159.00

