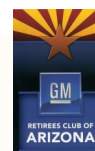


THE CLUB REPORTER

JANUARY 1, 2013



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EDITOR'S WELCOME



I would like to take a moment to welcome you to the new GM Retirees Club of Arizona's "Enhanced Email Version" of the Club Monthly Newsletter. This is our very first attempt to use the email process to communicate in mass to our Members and the President and Board of Directors feel that this is a major mile-stone in the Club's history. We can't thank you enough for your interest in the Club and we promise to provide you with not only monthly meeting information, but interesting stories about fellow club members. We want to know what you think of our publication, so your feedback and ideas are always welcome. All you need to do is respond to this email message or call me at (480) 634-5332. I will be happy to publish your letters or use your ideas in up-coming newsletters, so don't be bashful. Also, we solicit any NEW STORY IDEAS!

Now, sit back and enjoy our first edition.

Sincerely, Jim Harshman, Editor and Club Reporter

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



I hope everyone had a joyous holiday season with family and friends and are ready to start the second half of our 2012/2013 Club season. Our January meeting is at the Heard Museum and should be a very interesting experience especially for those who have never visited the Museum. The featured exhibit in January is the WW2 Navajo Code Talkers and their memorial. You will also be able to see and learn about Native American cultures, traditions, arts and crafts that were part of their history for centuries. The Heard is a fascinating Museum and we hope you will be able to attend. A "Meeting Attendance Flier" is attached for more information.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

At our January meeting you will be asked to elect the Club's officers for the 2013 season. As I mentioned in last month's Newsletter, the Board of Directors has recommended Ken Wechselberger for President, Larry Sessoms for Vice

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- January meeting at Heard Museum
- Election of officers
- Conformation of Bi-Laws
- Member news items wanted for future publications
- Volunteers needed for committees

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

President and Alan Steffe to remain as Secretary/Treasurer. At this meeting, these proposed officers, plus all other candidates you have nominated, will be voted on for these Board positions. We still need volunteers to serve on our "Special Events Committee", so if you are interested, please contact Jim Harshman at (480) 634-5332 or place your name on the nomination ballot that you received last month.

In addition, attached to this Newsletter, you will also find a copy of the proposed revised, (UNDERLINED), Club By-Laws which will require a membership approval vote before they can become official. If, after you have reviewed the proposed By-Law changes, you would like to make further suggestions for change, please contact Mr. Larry Sessoms with your thoughts and suggestions prior to the January 15, 2013 meeting. He can be reached at (360) 722-0650.

PENSION:

By the time of our January meeting, everyone will have received their first check from Prudential. I hope all of you have read your welcome package from Prudential, received your numbers and all is running smoothly. Remember, www.GMRetiree.com is the site to visit for the latest and greatest information on this pension payment change.

EMAIL NEWSLETTERS: All is on schedule for the implementation of our January enhanced Newsletter being sent out via email. The "First Edition" was sent out to all Cub Members who provided email addresses to us. The Newsletter was emailed on December 1, 2012 and was jam packed with color pictures of special events, 50/50 Winners, guest speakers and member stories of interest. Approximately 80% of our Club Members will be receiving their Newsletters via email, thus saving the Club the cost of postage and paper. So, if you haven't provided us with your email address, please do so at your earliest convenience. Just pick up a copy of the "Whistle Blowers Crib Sheet" at the check-in desk and hand it to one of the receptionist. Also, at the "check-in" table, we will have the "First Edition" in paper format on display in order for you to take a look at what you are missing. Suggestions for improvement or for future feature stories are always welcome and encouraged.

In closing, I would like to thank you for letting me be your President this past year. I feel the Club's leadership team has worked very hard to improve our Club with new direction for meeting topics, reducing costs and labor by email distribution of our Newsletter and the creation of our Marketing Brochure to encourage new member recruitment. I know the momentum the Club is now seeing will continue for years to come. Thank You.

Respectively submitted,
Jon A. Moss

WE SALUTE AN AMERICAN VETERAN



Club Member John Stoner joined the United States Navy - SeaBees on December 14, 1942 and was honorably discharged on February 12, 1946 with permanent disability. The highest rank he had attained before he retired was Ship Fitter Third Class SF3c(T)(CB). His units included; 97th & 108th N. Construction Battalions, US Naval Training Center in Danville, R.I. and the 146th Naval Combat Battalion.

John earned the following ribbons and medals; 1.) Victory Medal - WWII Navy Occupation Service 2.) European-African-Middle East Ribbon with One Star. 3.) Asiatic-Pacific Ribbon 4.) American Area Ribbon.

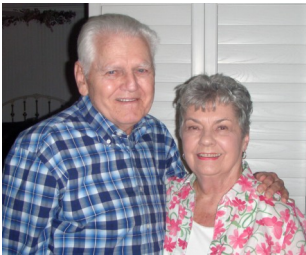
John demonstrated his bravery and commitment to his country by being part of the Invasion of France - June 6-7, 1944. As part of the 108th N. Construction Battalion "Sinking Crew", John and his mates were responsible for creating sectors of an artificial breakwater (artificial harbors) created by a line of Liberty ships deliberately sunk off Collerville, France which provided a mooring place for small water craft during and after the beachhead landing at Normandy, France. U.S. soldiers and equipment could then be deployed in manned landing craft toward the Allied beachhead after arriving from England. D-Day was the largest and greatest amphibious assault in U.S. history.

John's most memorable, and ultimately his worst, Navy experience was when he was stationed in Okinawa, Japan. John found out that Typhoons are scary, so he and his mates took shelter in a cave to ride out the storm. In the cave were urns of human bones, so John refused to get out of the rising waters and thus was exposed to an incredible amount of microorganisms which caused a contagious bacterial infection of his lungs and organs. John spent the next year and a half fighting Pulmonary Tuberculosis which almost claimed his life.



Invasion Money - 5 Franc's.
Part of money given to each sailor for service in France. Signed by shipmates.

WE SALUTE AN AMERICAN VETERAN



John is now 90 years old and living in Sun Lakes Arizona with his wife Patricia of forty years.



Members of the GM Retirees Club of Arizona salute you John Stoner and thank you for your service.

50/50 DRAWING WINNERS

October WINNERS!



Karen Humbert 1st Place \$87



Judith Robins 2nd Place \$58

You could be a
WINNER too!
Don't forget to
purchase your
winning ticket at
each meeting.

November WINNERS!



William Boechler 1st Place \$110



Jim Hoggard 2nd Place \$70



Bob Smith 3rd Place \$40

NEW MEMBERS - HAL AND CATHI HUBBARD



Hal is a 32 year veteran of General Motors who began his career at the Chevrolet Technical Center in 1968. In 1976, Hal transitioned to the GM Denver Emissions Laboratory where he worked until 1998. His final job with GM was at the Desert Proving Ground in Mesa, AZ where he worked as a Senior Project Tech specializing in V-8 engines for use in Pickups, Corvettes and Camaros. Many of the V-8 engine and transmission "cut away displays" used by GM in shows were built by Hal during this period of his career. He retired in 2005 and is living in Peoria, AZ.

NEW MEMBERS- HAL AND CATHI HUBBARD

As a side job, Hal was a "Stuntman" from 1981 - 1991 and was Vice President of the Universal Stuntman Association. He and his group performed in shows and held live stunt performances. Hal also owned a "Snap-On-Tool" franchise and tried his hand as a race car driver. Hal has three children, 2 sons and a daughter.

Cathi was born in Aurora, CO and is the second youngest child of 10. She met Hal in Denver in 1983 and they married in 1986. Cathi has been an office manager, managed a night club (she doesn't drink) and worked for a firm by the name of Modern Engineering at the Desert Proving Grounds. However, what makes her stand out is her unique hobbies; Cathi is a "Scrap-booker" and makes cards with rubber stamps. She is a member of an organization called "The Arizonian for Children - Life Book Program". She selects an abandon child, performs research about their past and creates a scrapbook of their life. Both Hal and Cathi love country western dancing and have danced competitively in the past.

GM CLUB RETIREES GO TO NASCAR RACE

On November 11, 2012, seventy-five (75) Club Members, family and friends attended the 2nd Annual NASCAR Race at the Phoenix International Raceway and boy did they get a show. Championship racing at its best with crashes and fights mixed in happening right in front of our stands.



Here are a few pictures of the action:



"The rumble"
starts off the
track in the
garage area
after Jeff Gordon
puts Boyer into
the wall!
Get your tickets
early for next
years race!

Who says all race fans are "Hill-Billy's"? You can't tell the Humbert's and the Irwin's that because they'll just take you to their camp site to show you how to bring the finer things of home to the track for a week. "Hill-Billy's"...no..."Hard Core GM Retiree NASCAR Fans"...yes!



Club Members Lee and Karen Humbert have been NASCAR fans for years, but especially since Lee retired in 2001. Beside spending time with family and friends, Lee and Karen have purchased an RV and joined an RV Club. This allowed them to really get involved in NASCAR racing big time since 2006. It started with a Sunday only Sprint Cup Race at PIR where to say they got "hooked on racing" would be an understatement. From there they started camping out at PIR in their RV with 8 - 10 of their friends staying for the entire race week where they could enjoy the entire NASCAR schedule of events.

GM CLUB RETIREES GO TO NASCAR RACE



They all meet in the unreserved camping section and establish their camps together in a large circle. Inside the circle they setup a large dining area and have a space for a large camp fire that they enjoy in the evenings.

The camp site schedule revolves around NASCAR'S schedule of events for the week, so meals and activities have to be coordinated. Most meals are pot luck with everyone bringing dishes to share. Our favorite meal is our morning Brunch usually held on Saturday or Sunday morning before the Big Race. Of course our Brunches start with Mimosas and there is always ample food so nobody goes hungry. Beside the exciting races, our week is filled with conversation, race discussions, laughter, games, hiking, happy hours and ending the evenings around the campfire. It just doesn't get any better than this! Oh, did I mention that one of Lee and Karen's NASCAR goals is trying to visit as many NASCAR tracks around the country as possible. So far, they have been to races at PIR, Las Vegas Motor Speedway, Charlotte Motor Speedway, Michigan International Speedway and Richmond International Raceway. Their plans for 2013 are to attend a race at both the Texas Motor Speedway and Kansas Speedway in addition to both PIR races.

"Campsites are
always available."

Come join the
fun next
November at our
3rd annual
NASCAR outing!

Club Members **Jim and Kathy Irwin** also have the NASCAR bug and were able to be part of Lee and Karen's camping group at PIR for the first time. They have "bitten the RV bullet", but until November 11th have primarily used their RV for site seeing and visiting friends and relatives around the United States. Jim & Kathy estimate that they use their RV for about 160 - 170 days per year. Do you think they are traveling in style? But as soon as they pulled up to the camp site at PIR and saw those other thousand or so RV's in the lot, they weren't sure RV's even were allowed at the race track. Now a fixture of the NASCAR/Lee & Karen camping group, you just might see them back for more racing next year.



JON MOSS HONORED



The August 2012 issue of **Auto Enthusiast Magazine** recognized **Chevrolet Legacy -"10 Men Who Mattered"** one of which is our current Club President Jon Moss. According to the article "Chevrolet wouldn't be the brand it is today without the participation of employees who did more than punch a time card every day". These men each

made their time at Chevy a part of their lives, contributing not only time and professional acumen, but energy, foresight and an unbridled belief in what they were doing. Each, in their own way, helped make Chevrolet one of the world's top automotive brands and a cultural icon with few peers. Anytime your name is associated with the likes of Louis Chevrolet, William "Billy" Durant, Ed Cole and others, it is an extreme honor and we congratulate Jon.



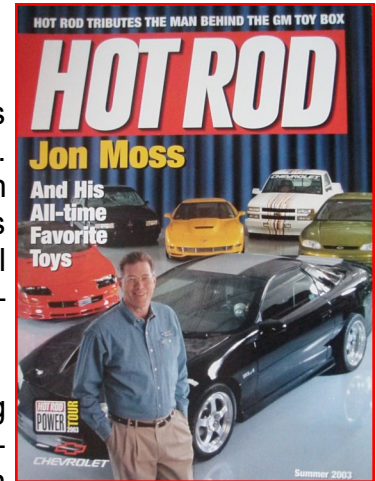
Jon Moss was known as a "True Hot-Rodder" one who builds "Bitchen cars" that make drivers have white knuckles and passengers scream!

Now, let's take a look at why Jon made this prestigious list. One thing all ten men had in common was that they all were presented with " **THE OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE!**" and they accepted the challenge. Jon was at the right place at the right time. Back in the late 70's through the early 90's, GM brands had lost their identity, performance was non-existent, innovation was lacking and Oldsmobile was a forgotten brand. In addition, the imports were invading our shores with excellent, small, innovative products that consumers wanted. Couple that with the fact that more final GM product decisions were being made by "bean counters" and lawyers rather than brand teams and customers, it was a formula for disaster. Oh, remember those government regulations...they didn't help either. Something had to be done. Customers were leaving GM in droves.

Jon's background as a "chassis designer" and "suspension specialist" for multiple car & truck platforms, including performance cars, made him uniquely qualified to become Chevrolet's first "Special Vehicle Group" Manager in 1986. The group consisted of from 8 - 10 people whose MISSION: 1.) Work with the brand teams and the GM Design Center to push the design & performance envelope to pique customer interest on existing brands. 2.) Help create a "cult hero" among die-hard Chevy performance fans. 3.) Create "drool-inducing" prototypes that may or may not make it to production. 4.) Build product prototypes that take on the exploding import sport compact market. 5.) Promote concept vehicles through articles in auto-enthusiast types of periodicals (Motor Trend, Chevy High Performance Magazine, Car & Driver, Automotive News, etc.), auto shows, SEMA shows, trade shows, press ride and drives, racing events and Hollywood/high profile individuals such as Dale Earnhardt, Jay Leno, Tim Allen and Greg Norman - "The Shark".

JON MOSS HONORED

6.) Create these prototypes and show cars using parts and components which were already available through GM Parts and aftermarket suppliers. Vehicle creations must be accomplished on a low budget with fabrication farmed out to Detroit area contractors. Jon has appeared on numerous magazine covers and has been written up in over a thousand articles. All of the above injected a much needed adrenalin to a division that was suffering an "identity crisis".



The Chevrolet "Special Vehicle Group" was so successful in building Chevy brand image and improving sales that in 1992 the Corporation consolidated all divisional special vehicle efforts into one team lead by Jon which was charged with also overseeing the creation of high performance concepts for all of GM products, but the annual collection of outrageous project vehicles became known as "The Toy Box" were almost always Chevrolets. Many of these concepts evolved into production models. Jon managed all GM special vehicle brands, including pace cars for major races, until he retired in 2004. All of the above Chevrolet Mission Objectives were incorporated into the new Corporate group, but "raw performance" came to the forefront during this period. The Corporate strategy was to repair and build brand image around performance excitement. Jon was known as a "true hot-rodder", one who builds "bitchen cars" that "make drivers have white knuckles and passengers scream". He was known to "terrorize" Detroit's Woodward Ave in the '60's in an L-88 Corvette. So, do you think GM picked the right guy for the job?

Now, let's take a look at some of Jon's best known accomplishments:



HEARD MUSEUM JANUARY 15, 2013

Date: Tuesday, January 15

Location: Heard Museum

2301 N. Central Avenue

Phoenix, AZ 85004

602-252-8848

Time:

10am-11am : Arrival

11am-12 noon : Lunch

12 noon—1 pm : Program

1pm-2pm: Tour



Menu: Choice of:

- 1: Oven roasted Turkey with a melted Brie sauce, sliced granny smith apples, chipotle mayonnaise, fresh baked cranberry walnut bread.
2. Hot Pastrami with aged swiss cheese, whole grain mustard on a warm pretzel bun.
3. Hummus veggie wrap, tepary/ bean hummus tomatoes, roasted red bell peppers, grilled red onions ,pepitas, smoked gouda, romain lettuce, spinach tortilla.

Served with chopped ceasar salad, sliced tomatoes, crispy parmesan chips, ro-main, tangy Caesar dressing.

Desert: Assorted cookie plat-ter. Home made chocolate chip, lemon white chocolate chip and oatmeal apple cookies.

Beverage: Choice of homel-made lemonade, iced tea, and assorted sodas, or bot-tled water.

Price: \$35 per person



**“Reservation form
must be returned
by Friday,
January 11, 2013”
Early submission
would be
appreciated.**

Program: Brief business meeting including elections of officers and Bi-Laws change approval or disapproval.

Heard Museum will have a short presentation by staff.

Tour of museum on your own or go on a 45 minute docent, free guided tour, your choice.

Chairman: Ward Atkinson

JANUARY MEETING RESERVATION FORM:

Member _____ Guest _____

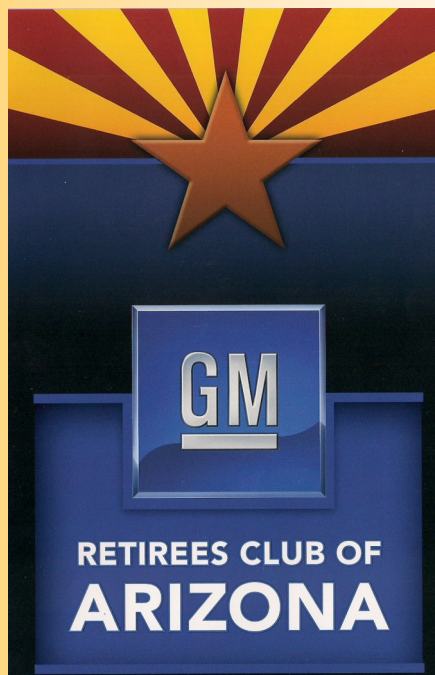
Guest _____ Guest _____

Guest _____ Guest _____

If you haven't paid your annual dues (\$30) you may include them with your January reservation payment and mail them in the en-closed envelope to Jim Irwin, 535 Topeka Drive, Wickenburg, AZ 85390

www.GMRetireesAZ.com

GM RETIREE CLUB



" A G M R E T I R E E S C L U B O F A R I Z O N A P U B L I C A T I O N "

Designed by Diane E. Harshman

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