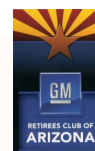


## VOLUME 3

MARCH 1, 2013



## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

EDITOR'S WELCOME	1
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE	1-2
MARCH MEETING/ RUSTLER'S ROOSTE RESTAURANT	3
NEW MEMBERS	4
GRANDMOTHERS IN MOTION	5-6
LADY KRAFTERS	7-8
50/50 DRAWING	9
DISCOUNT TICKET OFFERS	9

## EDITOR'S WELCOME



Volume 3 of The Club Reporter is once again packed with interesting stories about Club Members as well as, once again, offering "discounted" tickets for the Silver Star Playhouse and the March Race at the Phoenix Raceway. Be aware, time is running out to take advantage of these ticket offers, so act quickly if you are interested.

In addition, "You Requested It...and We Responded". As a result of Club Member requests, this month's issue of The Reporter will include the following improvements; 1.) All references to websites in the eNewsletter will be "Hot Linked" so all you have to do is "click on the link" in the document and presto, you will go right to that site. So, if it is highlighted "Green" that's your sign. 2.) The "Meeting Acknowledgement Form" will appear immediately after the "Presidents Message" at the beginning of the eNewsletter. This will eliminate you having to search all the way to the rear of the document to retrieve critical information.

Did you know that [www.GMRetiree.com](http://www.GMRetiree.com) has a "Hot-Topics" section on its home page in order for you to get the straight scoop on critical topics or corporate rumors? Also, if you have great photos you would like to share with other GM Retirees, go to same site and click on "Life & Lens" Photo Gallery located on GM Retirees home page.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Whew! Has it been cold or what? Thankfully, we're back to the great weather we all moved to the Phoenix area to enjoy. 2013 is going to be a great year for General Motors and hopefully all of us GM Retirees. The economy continues to improve, unemployment is stable, housing prices are on their way up and the automobile industry is growing back to the 15-16 million annual unit sales pace that was the standard before the 2008 market plunge.

**MARCH MEETING:** Tuesday, March 12, 2013, our March Club Meeting will be held at the legendary Rustler's Rooste Restaurant located just 15 minutes from downtown Phoenix and Tempe, 20 minutes from Scottsdale and 10 minutes from the Airport in the South Hill area of the city. Established in 1971, the legend goes that the original site atop a butte in the foothills of South Mountain, was a hideout for cattle rustlers.

## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- March meeting at Rustler's Rooste
- Discount Ticket offer NASCAR
- Special Event—Silver Star Playhouse
- Member news items wanted for future publications

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Today, it is Arizona's Legendary Cowboy Steakhouse. (Yep, and they serve rattlesnake) Beside the food, you will be able to stroll over the indoor water fall and gaze out at the breathtaking views the patio has to offer. It will include a steak and chicken barbeque served on an outdoor deck overlooking the Greater Phoenix Metro area. In addition, we have Todd Weber as our guest presenter. Todd is a historian, speaker and entertainer. With his dress, his props and his high energy manner he will regale our group with stories and demonstrations depicting the Mountain Men and Fur Traders who were early settlers here in Arizona. Full details are included in the "Meeting Reservation Form" included with this Newsletter.

**SPECIAL 20% OFF DISCOUNT TICKET OFFER - NASCAR March 3d Race at PIR:** Don't forget the 20% discount ticket offer which has been extended to all Club Members & Guests. Offer ends February 28, 2013. See ad for details.

**SPECIAL EVENT - Silver Star Playhouse, Mesa, AZ:** Back by popular demand, the GM Retirees Club of AZ has booked 50 seats for the Saturday, March 30, 2013, 2:30pm performance of "Butch Cassidy & The Sun Burnt Kid". This is a zany musical comedy which informs us about Butch and the Kid on their way to Bolivia to escape the law but first passing thru Mesa, AZ. There's good deeds and bad guys and sometimes it's hard to tell who's who. This special event is available to all Club Members and their guests at a steep 20% ticket discount of only \$14.00 per ticket (tax & gratuity included). There will not be a set menu meal included, but great burgers and pizza will be available at extra cost. Join us for a fun afternoon and bring your friends with you. Limited tickets are available and will sell fast, so make your reservations as soon as possible. Tickets can be purchased by sending your check to Mr. Alan Steffe, 19550 N. Grayhawk Dr. #1093, Scottsdale, AZ 85255. Please make check payable to the GM Retirees Club of AZ. Ticket requests must be received by March 25, 2013.

**CLUB ANNUAL SURVEY:** Finally, I want to thank you for the excellent response we have had from our members completing the Annual Club Survey. If you or your spouse haven't yet completed and mailed the survey, it's not too late. We will be compiling and analyzing the survey results and make needed modifications to our future activities based upon your input.

**DEATH NOTICES:** It is with great sorrow that I have to announce that we have lost two long time members of our Club.

**Arthur B. Wright** passed away on January 7, 2013 with family in Spokane, WA at the age of 96. He was a graduate of GMI and retired from General Motors as Director of Program Development for Oldsmobile. Art was the oldest living past President of the GM Retirees Club of AZ (1982). He will be missed.



**Franklin, William James "Bill" O'Boyle** passed away on December 22, 2012 in Mesa AZ at the age of 96. He was preceded in death by his wife Mary. He work for 39 years at the Electro Motive Division of *General Motors* as a tool engineer and was a veteran of WWII. May Bill rest in peace.

Thanks again for allowing me to serve your Club. See you at the Rustler's Roost on March 12th.

Respectively submitted;

Ken Wechselberger, President

## RUSTLER'S ROOSTE RESTAURANT- MARCH MEETING



**Date :** March 12, 2013

**Location:** Rustler's Rooste Restaurant  
8383 South 48th Street  
Phoenix, AZ 85014

**Time:** 10:30 AM Arrival  
11:30 AM Lunch  
12:30 PM Meeting

**Entertainment:** : Todd Weber became enthralled with history as a child, and by his teenage years was already building a collection of clothing and accoutrements representing the explorers and fur traders of the west. Years of reading journals and the historical accounts of the fascinating characters of the past, Todd became self taught on the facts and details of various periods of America's history. Over the last 25 years, he has taught countless groups of all ages. His collections of tools, arms, accoutrements and period clothing add to his presentations, making them very visual and memorable.



Todd is a noted Historian, Speaker and Entertainer.

**Cost: \$28.00 per person**  
all inclusive

**Cash Bar**

### Menu:

Grilled 8 oz Top Sirloin  
and

Chicken Breasts with  
Roasted Pepper Sauce

Mixed greens and  
vegetable salad with  
house dressing

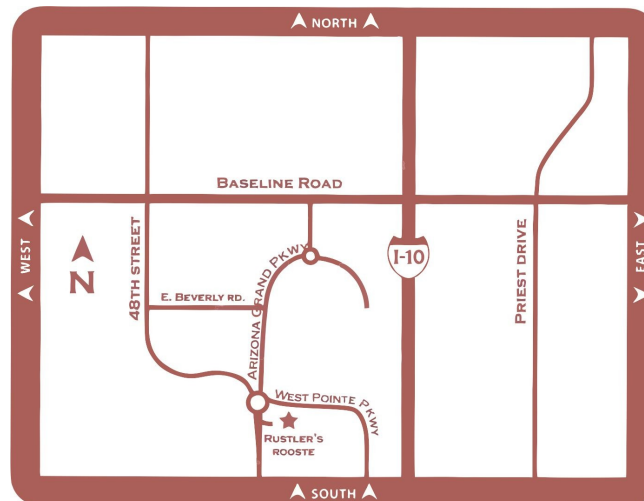
Corn cobbettes

Roasted red potatoes

Ranch rolls with butter  
and honey

Campfire coffee, Iced tea  
and water

Fresh baked apple pie



**Mobility challenged folks should enter to the right of the exit and directly onto the balcony luncheon area.**

Member: \_\_\_\_\_ Guest: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail your reservation form in the enclosed envelope to  
Jim Irwin, 535 Topeka Dr., Wickenburg, AZ 85390

**NEW MEMBERS—GEORGE & NANCY HEBERLING**

In the last issue of the Club eNewsletter, George and Nancy were introduced to the Club. However, I failed to copy and paste the most important part of the article into the eNewsletter. Nancy, please accept my sincere apology.

Nancy and George were married in 1959. She worked as a medical secretary for a surgeon located in Rochester Hills, MI., but was really into sports...golf and tennis. Back in the 1920's Nancy's Mom was ranked 3d in the United States by the US Tennis Association and played at Wimbledon. She also won the Pacific Northwest Mixed Doubles Tournament and played on the US Wightman Cup Team. Not to be out done, her Dad was invited to play an exhibition match in front of the Emperor of Japan as a member of the University of California Berkeley Tennis Team. They have three boys who are engineers and work or have worked at GM facilities (GM Milford Proving Grounds, Corvette Plant and the old Saginaw Steering plant.)

Today, Nancy and George live in Sun Lakes, AZ and have a home in Rochester Hills, MI so they can be home for Christmas and Summer visits with family. Nancy loves the golf league. Several years ago she won the Club Championship at Rolling Hills Golf and Country Club located in Tempe. In addition, quilting, computer graphics and reading take center stage when she doesn't have a club in her hands.

George and Nancy, we couldn't be happier to have you as new members.

**NEW MEMBERS - BUD & JOAN MAHNKEM**

**Bud** is a 32 year veteran of General Motors who began his career in 1969 as a Sales Engineer for New Departure-Hyatt Bearing Division in Syracuse, NY. He worked for the same boss for 16 years - which Bud feels may be a GM record. In 1986 - 1993, Bud worked as a Delco Moraine-NDH Program Sales Manager in Detroit. When GM began its outsourcing program, Bud was able to transfer to his favorite division, Pontiac. Then, the good life in the Southwest began to take shape with manager positions with Pontiac/GMC Service covering Arizona, New Mexico while living in Phoenix. Finally, he was promoted to Area Parts Manager - GM Parts in Tucson where in 2002 he retired.

Bud's most memorable contribution to GM was when three Pontiac vehicle lines had inadequate A/C units and wouldn't cool in the Arizona heat resulting in lost sales for the division. Using previous business relationships with Harrison Engineering Management and the Desert Proving Grounds, they raised the A/C Vehicle Test Bars and the next generation Bonneville A/C could adequately handle the Arizona heat.

**Joan** was born in Long Island, NY and met Bud in 1965 as patients on the same floor at Brooklyn Methodist Hospital. She was a Student Nurse and Bud was a Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute engineering student. She worked as a Registered Nurse both full and part time for years. They have 3 sons and 4 grand kids. Their oldest son has worked on some GM projects at his current Ad agency. Their second son is a Noise and Vibration Engineer at the GM Proving Ground and the youngest has passed the Law Bar Exam in California and works in Sacramento.

Bud and Joan live in Oro Valley, AZ which is a growing suburb of Tucson and love planning vacation trips.

Bud and Joan - Welcome to the Club



**"GRANDMOTHERS IN MOTION" - PAT STONER**

All mature adults understand the need for exercising and maintaining a good diet as we age in order to stay healthy and live a full life. However, Pat, a 13 year Club Member, took her health regimen to a new level seldom attempted or attained by most maturing adults. Shortly after Pat's husband John retired in 1983, they moved to the active adult community of Sun Lakes, AZ where Pat became heavily involved with a group called the "Dancin' Grannies".

It started as an exercise class in 1985 and blossomed into a "first class dance team" known throughout the country. Their leader believed that as we grow older and the years mount up, we tell ourselves that age is just a number, but our bodies are telling us something else. It was on this premise that the Dancin' Grannies were born; to introduce an exercise program that seniors could incorporate into their life-style and receive benefits physically and mentally as well.

After realizing the benefits received, the Dancin' Grannies performed in the community first and then continued to take the program public as the ladies realized the importance of keeping the body toned to enjoy a more active, healthy aging process.

Then things began to get serious. From 1986 to 1992, a core group of 10 women began every morning with a one hour training session followed by an actual Aerobic Class composed of some 60 women. Pat began to make uniforms for the group and invest her own money in order to make things possible. The Dancin' Grannies started doing parades, hired a manager and traveled throughout the states performing exercise dance routines showing the public that "age is just a number" and the body can keep up. A parade group of 24 women was organized which included the core group.

Pat's two most memorable events were the invitation to The Great American Workout at the White House where athletes from all sports gathered on the lawn. Standing next to such greats as Muhammad Ali, the Harlem Globe Trotters and many other Olympians was a thrill beyond belief. Pat remembers marching down Pennsylvania Avenue to the lawn of the White House where Barbara Bush put her arms around her and then into the White House for their own private personal tour.



## "GRANDMOTHERS IN MOTION" - PAT STONER



Second, has to be the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. 3 miles of marching and smiling. Where did the women get their music, you ask? Seems like their husbands had the privilege of trailering a specially prepared musical golf cart from parade to parade. Oh, what we won't do for our women.

Now, has all this effort paid off? You bet! Pat still lives in the Sun Lakes community with her husband John. They met at Fisher Body where John worked in Accounting and Pat worked in Purchasing and also worked as the Receptionist in the Main Lobby until they retired in 1982. In addition, they have raised 6 children. Pat says she is as strong and mentally sharp as ever, however, admits to a much less strenuous workout schedule. But, like most "high energy" individuals, Pat has now channeled all of her energies into her arts and crafts for charity....oh, did I tell you she has time to serve on the Board of Trustees at her church in her spare time?

The Dancin' Grannies best known performances were:

The Fiesta Bowl Parade, Phoenix - 1986

The Gilbert Parade - 1987

Senior Olympics 1988, 1989, 1990

The Phil Donahue Show - 1989

Idea Educational Conference  
(Association of Fitness Professionals) - 1989

Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade - 1990

Today's Show with Joe Garigiola - 1991

The Great American Workout  
(Presidential Fitness Program at the White House with President George Bush) - 1992

Several Exercise videos were made and sold across the U.S. - 1989, 1990

A Dancin' Grannies Calendar was made - 1992



4th place AZ Senior Olympics  
for Aerobic Dance





## LADY KRAFTERS—DEL THOMAS & PAT STONER

**Del** and **Pat** are long time GM Retirees Club of AZ members and belong to the 800 - 900 member Sun Lakes United Methodist Church. Now, for every church to function, they need members to serve and raise money to survive. So, what better way to do it than hold an old fashion Bazaar each year and have the members of the church create the arts, crafts and bake goods to pull it off...and pull it off they do. The ladies are called "Krafters" and they donate every Monday for 11 months out of the year creating items to be sold at the November church Bazaar. The Bazaar features divisions; Crafts & Paintings, Floral Arrangements, Sewing Projects, Jewelry and a "Simple Treasures" section. Most of the items the women create are made from recyclable materials to keep their costs down. On average, the annual November Bazaar raises between \$15,000 - \$16,000 profit each year which helps offset the costs to hold the Bazaar with the remainder going to the church's General Operations Fund.

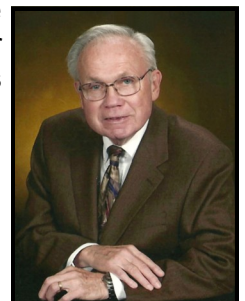


**Del** specializes, and is in charge of, the "Floral Arrangement Section" of the Bazaar. All of her creations are for the most part "pre-sold" before they even get to the Bazaar because of their beauty. For example, she makes "jewelry Christmas trees", both custom made upon request and one's made from donated jewelry for general sale. These are "highly sought after" at the show and normally don't last past the first hour of the event. Her other highly sought after items are in the bake goods category; Hungarian Nut Tortes, Apricot Squares and Grape Nut Bread. Can't you almost taste it? Yes, they are that good...they fall in the "to die for" category.



Del was born in Detroit and worked for the Quaker Oats Company in zone sales as an Administrative Assistant to the Zone Manager. In addition, she was heavily involved in community work with the Girl Scouts and was Neighborhood Chairperson in the Detroit Council for many years before she retired in 1991. Her father was from Budapest, Hungary. Dad started the J. A. Kozma Furnace Company in Dearborn, MI which produced heat treating furnaces for use in the automobile industry.

Del was introduced to her husband William by her husband's Aunt in 1955 and they were married for 52 years. They have 2 children; Amanda and Greg. William was a retired Fisher Body Purchasing executive who retired in 1991. William and Del joined the GM Retirees Club of AZ in 1995. William passed away in 2009.



## LADY KRAFTERS—DEL THOMAS & PAT STONER

**Help Wanted - Special Request:** Del is looking for anyone knowledgeable in the antique clock field. She was willed a clock that is estimated to have been made in the late 1700th century. It was built in the State of New York and first purchased by the owners of the Turner Farm who lived in Detroit. It was shipped, via covered wagon, from New York to Detroit. Then it was shipped to Del in Arizona in 1999. A similar clock was located in the Huntington Library & Botanical Gardens in San Marino, CA in their antique section, but at the time no one jotted down the specifications of the clock. The clock is an eight foot "Tall Case Clock" and has had some modifications done to it's interworking. If anyone in the Club can help Del determine the value of this heirloom it would be much appreciated.



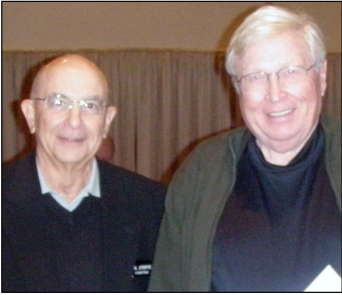
**Pat** is in charge of all "Sewing Projects" for the Bazaar which includes such items as handcrafted gifts and household items (table runners, aprons, placemats, fashion scarves, pet items and the like). But, she specializes in making outfits and accessories for the World Famous "American 18" Doll". Now ladies, let me have you step back for a moment to help you realize what I just told you. Yes, those are the Grand Baby dolls that many of you had to fly to Chicago to purchase for the kids at Christmas only to find out they cost \$120.00 a copy. Plus, you quickly find out that the hundred and twenty only includes under ware and slippers...clothes are extra!

Now, I would suggest you Grandfathers call the church to find out when they are holding the next Bazaar and get in line early to buy the stuff... it sure is cheaper than flying to Chicago. The Grand Kids still think you are a hero. Take a look at the quality of work Pat puts into her products.

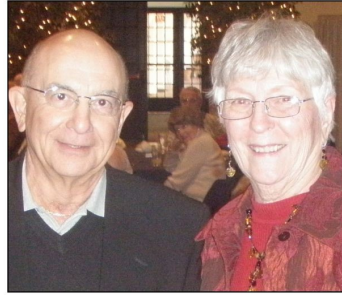
In addition, Pat represents the Krafters by sitting on the Church Board of Trustees. She started as part of the Building Committee in 2007 that was responsible for reviewing plans for the new, spacious educational building that was completed in 2009 which is where the "Krafters' Bazaar" is held today. Her current Board assignment deals with the entire church's "Energy Conservation Upgrade". Their mission is to work with Harmon Electric to upgrade all lighting to become more efficient and less expensive. Something had to be done to cut energy costs. The current monthly average bill is sometimes close to \$7,000.00 plus. Their goal is to cut the monthly expense by \$3,000.00. So, do you think the church chose the right woman for the job? She "sure has a lot of energy"!



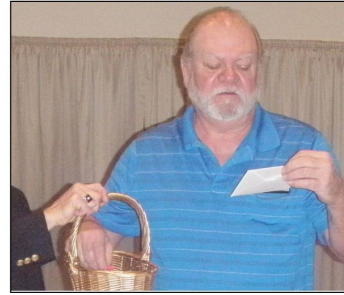


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## GM RETIREE CLUB



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