

VOLUME 14

SUMMER EDITION 2014

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EDITOR'S WELCOME

Hello to all from "Hot & Sunny" Phoenix, Arizona. Hope, if you travelled north for the summer, you arrived safe and sound. In our Summer E-Newsletter Edition we find it fitting to recognize the fun that was had by all who attended the last two events of the Club year ending April 2014 in hopes to generate excitement for the upcoming year. So, in this "Special Summer Edition", we will look back at the Club Golf Outing held at the Oakwood Country Club and our final meeting held at Diamondback Stadium (aka; Chase Field). If you missed these two events, you missed some kind of fun. I had many Club Members and Guests come up to me at Chase Field and ask "how are you guys ever going to top this event?" Well, stay tuned "sport fans", Larry Sessoms will give you a glimpse of next year's events so you can begin to plan now and mark your calendars. So, let's get right to it.

Regards, Jim Harshman, Editor and Club Reporter

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Just a few final thoughts as we silence most of our Club communications for the summer months. First and foremost, enjoy the summer time whether by making the most of the Arizona heat, or by heading north for longer or shorter stints! But, I do ask that you now get out your calendars and write in our fall schedule, noting particularly that our October meeting will be on the third Tuesday (rather than our traditional second Tuesday) in order to accommodate as many snowbirds as possible, and that our November meeting will be on the second Wednesday because Veteran's Day is that Tuesday. All the rest of our regular meetings fall on our traditional second Tuesday--the exception being our February 24 bus trip which really promises to be special. Please see the full schedule at the end of this section.

We received a number of very nice comments about our April meeting at Diamondback Stadium (Chase Field). I'm sorry that some didn't attend because they were not interested in the baseball theme. For those who

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- 2014/15 Event Schedule

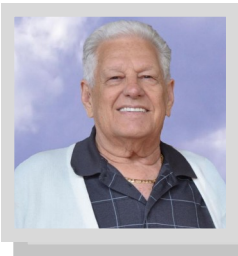
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

did attend, the forum and social time together proved to be a unique experience--one significantly enhanced by Don Denkinger's really outstanding discussion. Don toured the facilities with us and proved to be an entertainer extraordinaire!

I apologize that I had to leave the April meeting early—Faye and I departed the next day for China to visit our son and daughter-in-law who are teachers at the Shanghai American School (and to hold our newest granddaughter, now five months). In their classes the kids have children of several GM international service personnel. Interestingly, Faye and I visited Hong Kong in 1973, back before kids when Faye still worked for Delta Airlines. We then took a tour of Kowloon and rode some 15 miles to a fence line which we couldn't cross—Red China was on the other side and one couldn't enter there. My, how times change! We never thought we would walk on the Great Wall, see Tiananmen Square or the Terracotta Soldiers.

Now we prepare to head for our summer home at Warm Beach which is north of Seattle on Puget Sound. Should there be any questions, or you just want to keep in touch, don't hesitate to contact us. Lrsssms@aol.com.

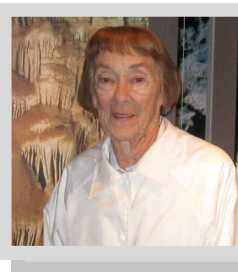
Best/Larry Sessoms, President GM Retirees Club of Arizona

CLUB MEMBER DEATH NOTICES:

JOHN EMLLEN ROBERTS, JR. 82, of Chandler, Arizona, passed away on April 1, 2014. John is the husband of Cadillac GM Retiree and long time Club Member Pam Roberts. John passed doing what he loved – traveling the seas with his beloved wife, Pam.

John was born in Acosta, Pennsylvania on November 27, 1931. John lived his childhood in Canton, Ohio, until he enlisted in the U.S. Army at the age of 18. He was a Korean War veteran and a recipient of the Purple Heart. Upon returning from the war, John settled in Detroit, Michigan for the next 40 years of his life filled with the love of his family and successfully building his electrical contracting business. John was a Christian and member of the Detroit First Church of the Nazarene and for 30 years spent time witnessing and on mission trips to over 16 countries around the world. In addition to his Work and Witness ministries, John spent time reading to 3rd grade children, serving the Indian Reservation community in areas of need.

John is survived by wife Pamela, four children, eight grandchildren, brother and four sisters-in-law, numerous nieces and nephews, and countless friends.



EVELYN LIND, of Sun City West, AZ, passed away on May 6, 2014. Evelyn is the wife of Hughes Aircraft GM Retiree Hal Lind who are long time Club Members.

FALL & WINTER SCHEDULE 2014-2015**2014****Tuesday, October 21:**

The Rustler's Rooste Restaurant's patio with registration and cash bar set up starting at 10:30am. World Champion Native American Hoop Dancer/Flutiest, Tony Duncan, will entertain during and after lunch.

Sunday, November 9:

NASCAR Sprint Cup Series "Quicken Loan 500" Race, Phoenix International Raceway, Avondale, AZ. Single ticket prices for this year's race will be \$44.00 *without* a Pit Pass or Lunch Voucher. Pit Passes, Lunch Voucher & Single Ticket option is available for \$85.00. Seating is the same as it has been for the last three years. A special NASCAR Ticket Offer will be mailed to you on August 1, 2014. Only 75 tickets are being made available for his years race.

Wednesday, November 12:

PebbleCreek Eagle's Nest Ballroom for our luncheon. A live video feed with a GM Detroit executive has been requested.

Tuesday, December 9:

Liberty Buick/GMC with lunch sponsored by the dealer (Autumn Henderson). A Christmas program is scheduled including a holiday quartet.

2015**Tuesday, January 13:**

Arrowhead Cadillac with lunch sponsored by the dealer (Mike Scarfia, Sales Manager; Rick Meewes, General Manager). A GM executive speaker has been requested.

Tuesday, February 10:

Sun Lakes Country Club is the site for our meeting. Our speaker will be from the Phoenix FBI office and will talk about criminal and cyber investigations which impact our members.

Tuesday, February 24:

Bus Trip to the Biosphere2, DeGrazia Gallery In The Sun, and dinner at the Hilton Tucson El Conquistador Golf and Tennis Resort. Details are still being worked out but will be published before our October meeting. Reservations for this trip and a very nice social/cocktail time with dinner, will have to be confirmed at least 2 months in advance.

Tuesday, March 10:

Lunch and a tour of Luke Air Force Base.

March Golf Outing—Date TBD:

PebbleCreek Country Club in 2015.

Tuesday, April 7:

Canyon Lake boat tour with lunch in a private room in the restaurant at the dock.

MARCH GOLF OUTING- OAKWOOD COUNTRY CLUB

WHAT A GREAT TIME! The best golf outing in years!

What made it so special was the outstanding and generous support of our local dealer partners and the GM Western Region. Here is what I am talking about:

Arrowhead Cadillac - donated (3) \$100.00 Golfsmith Gift Certificates which were the key prizes that were awarded to the individuals who won the Longest Drive, Closest to the Pin and the Longest Putt competition.



Coulter Buick/GMC - donated a complete Golf Set (Woods, Irons & Bag) which was used as the main prize in a drawing at the end of our event.

Guest Paul ("You Can Call Me Johnson") Johnson - Winner of the Delta X2400 Men's Golf Set.

Courtesy Chevrolet - donated Courtesy Chevrolet Shirts and Oil Change Certificates which were used as Drawing Awards and the Glass Wipes were given to every participant as part of the Tee Bags

Sands Chevrolet - Glendale & Surprise - donated Sleeves of Sands Chevrolet Golf Balls and Pullover Windbreaker Vests which every participant received who attended the event.

GM Western Region - donated Golf Balls, Hats, Golf Towels and Sun Glasses which were distributed to every participant as part of our Tee Bags. Additionally, Sport Chairs, Bottles, Mugs, Shirts and Sport Bag were distributed as drawing awards



Jon Moss

Don Robins

Guest Dave Christifull

John McAlpine

Winners of Sport Chairs

MARCH GOLF OUTING- OAKWOOD COUNTRY CLUB

Team 1 Winners



Lowest Net Score and Overall Team Winners:

(L to R) Alan Steffe, Larry Sessems, Guest Stu Seim, John Kobierowski. Stu Seim also won a \$100.00 Gift Certificate for being Closest to The Pin. John Koberowski won both Longest Drive and Longest Putt and walked away with \$200.00 in Gift Certificates.

Team 2 Winners



Lowest Gross Score:

(L to R) John McAlpine, Don Robins, John Moss, Guest Dave Christifull

Team 3 Winners

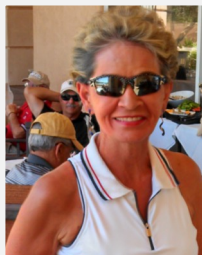


(L to R) Wayne Van Den Boom, Hal Hubbard, Dennis Powers, Ken Wechselberger

Team 4 Winners



(L to R) Bob Goebel, Guest Paul Johnson, Beverley Louton, Jim Harshman



Beverley Louton. "Ladies, ladies, ladies...where are you? This is the second year in a row that I have been the only female player. I am not complaining, because last year I took home a winner's prize of \$75.00 plus hats, golf balls and all the stuff that was in the Tee Bags. This year my cash winnings were down, but the food was great, our team scored a minus 4 and I went home with a Sands Chevrolet Pullover Windbreaker Vest, Sport Bag and a huge Tee Bag full of neat stuff. So, Barbara Goebel, Sue Smeets and all you other lady golfers in the Club, I will be coming to recruit you for next year. No excuses. I am convinced that a ladies team will match up against any of these guy teams and will win.

A special thanks goes out to all our fabulous dealer sponsors who made this golf outing one to remember.

Thank you, Ken Wechselberger and Don Robins for all your hard work in making this year's golf outing a success.

50/50 DRAWING WINNERS



Cal Fisher

\$65



Gary Horkey

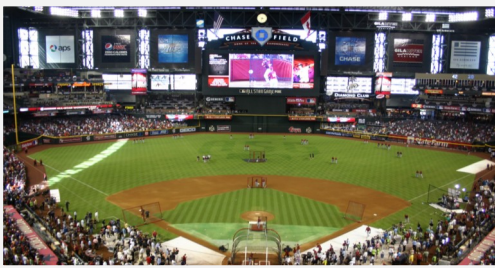
\$42

APRIL WINNERS!

You could be a WINNER too!

Don't forget to purchase your winning ticket at each meeting.

APRIL DIAMONDBACK STADIUM TOUR

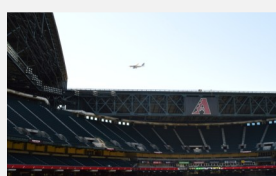


"One of the best and most informative Club outings in ages." That was the consensus of those members and guests who attended the April 8th meeting at Chase Field. Personal guided tours, stadium and team information "tid bits", sights from the dugout, walking through the players dressing rooms, views from the suites and lunch at TGI Fridays with Don Denking, MLB Umpire best remembered for an incorrect call he made at first base in Game 6 of the 1985 World Series.

Doesn't get any better than this. The following is a pictorial recap of the events that I hope you enjoy:

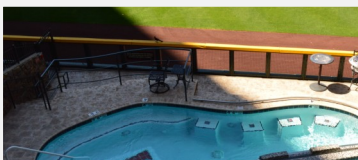


national?



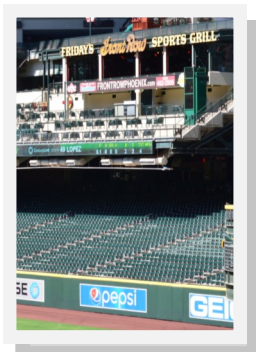
The day began with a private 1 1/2 hour tour by a member of the Chase Field Staff.

Bet you didn't know that it takes 30 minutes to close the retractable roof over the field. Do you think the field is in the flight path of Phoenix Inter-

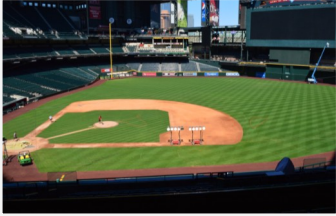


Where else in Major League Baseball can you and 33 other of your closest friends watch a pro baseball game from the center field pool? Only \$3,400.00. Bring your suit.

Nothing like having lunch at TGI Fridays in left field and leaving the kids on the roof with a baby sitter in the Child Care Center so you can enjoy the game and have a few pops.



APRIL DIAMONDBACK STADIUM TOUR



Did you know that Chase Field employs some 340 full time employees and on game or event days it will take over 3,400 people to pull off the event? (Includes vendor employees, etc.) Note the lights being used to make the grass grow in shaded areas around the diamond and in right field. The grass is completely replaced every year.



Did you know that the Diamondbacks hold the major league record for becoming the fastest "expansion team" in the majors to win a World Series after being added to the league in 1998. D-Backs did it in only their 4th season. They beat the New York Yankees in Game Seven of the 2001 World Series on a Luis Gonzales walk-off hit in the ninth inning at Chase Field.

So, how many people can you cram into the Diamondbacks dugout?



Have you ever dreamed what it would be like to be a "Bench Warmer" in the big leagues?

Guest speaker Don Denkinger, gentleman and retired MLB Umpire was guest speaker. Don gave us an inside look into the "behind the scenes" and "on field shenanigans" of baseball's elite coaches and players. And, for those of you from Detroit, Don is well familiar with Hoots, Nemos and the Lindel AC.



Gayle Denkinger and
Barbara Goebel

Marion Upper, 2006 Ms. Senior Michigan, Club Member Beverley Louton and Frankie Spaccarelli, owner Pacino's Italian Restaurant in Mesa, enjoy the view from high above the stands in left field.



(L to R)
Bob Goebel,
Don Denkinger and
Alan Steffe

APRIL DIAMONDBACK STADIUM TOUR



AWIM SUMMARY FOR 2013/2014 SCHOOL YEAR

A message from Don Robins, Phoenix Area AWIM Coordinator:

We just completed the 8th year of the 'A World In Motion' in Arizona. It was our best school year by far. We impacted 1956 students in 12 schools. We have been increasing the number of schools and impacted students each year. During the 2012/2013 school year we impacted 880 students. We have been so successful with the AWIM program in AZ, SAE asked us to come to the SAE Section Officers Leadership Seminar in Michigan this spring to tell our story. I attended with 2 other AWIM volunteers from AZ. The event was held at MIS in Brooklyn, MI. Some of the reasons our program is so successful is because of the support we get for GM, who supply all the materials at no cost to the schools, and the GM retirees who volunteer in the program. We also have great schools and teachers, without them we would not have an AWIM program in AZ.



March of this year, SAE presented the 2013 Gary Dickenson Award For Teaching Excellence to Karen Roscon, the AWIM teacher at Kino Junior High in Mesa. Only one teacher each year receives this award from SAE.

I would like to thank all the GM Retirees who volunteered in the AWIM program this school year.

(L to R) Don Robins, Hal Hubbard, Sun Lakes Rotary Club members



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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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