Welcome back everyone! It's time to "crank it up"...one more time. This year will be packed with fun and informative meetings and special events. Stuff that we have never done before, like our trip to the Tucson area to visit the BioSphere2, DeGrazia Gallery In The Sun with dinner at the Hilton Tucson El Conquistador Golf and Tennis Resort. To refresh your memory, we have again included our Club's 2014/2015 Meeting and Events Schedule in this edition of our newsletter. In addition, all future issues of The Club Reporter will include an "Advanced Meeting Acknowledgement Form" for your convenience in notifying us of your intent to attend the next month's meeting. This will greatly improve our attendance estimates and help eliminate cost over runs. We encourage you to fill out your "current" and "advanced" forms and mail both at the same time. "Advanced Forms" will also be available at the current month's check-in table.

Now, for a look at what you can expect as it relates to "Club Member" articles. It's funny, when I first started writing about Club Members, someone asked me..."what are you going to do when you run out of things to write about?" "Aren't you setting the bar so high, elevating expectations that eventually you won't be able to meet?" My answer..."behind every face there is a story and as long as we have members, we're good." All you have to do is to ask the right questions.

This month, we are featuring two stories about Club Members Susan & Jon Moss and Roger & Cathy Hanneman who share a common interest and hobby, genealogy. What's interesting is that each member approached it differently. Susan was lucky and found Ancestry.com, and other sites, which allowed her to trace her family history to alluring ties to royalty. While, Roger has traced many family lines back to the 1500-1600s using a more traditional approach. Roger also decided to become a local expert and dedicated himself to making sure information and expertise were easily made available to everyone. Read on, you won't believe what a little dedication can do. We will try to shed light on both approaches so that if you were to become interested in tracing your family tree, you would have some insight on how to start and where to go for help. So, the question is, how healthy is your "family tree"?

Now, sit back, turn up the "print font size" on your computer and enjoy the newsletter.

Regards, Jim Harshman, Editor and Club Reporter
Wow, our first newsletter of the season is right around the Autumnal Equinox—from then on out the days start to get shorter than the nights...and does our GM Retiree Club of Arizona ever have a fall/winter schedule for ya'll! So...wear your name tags (members, spouses, significant others—all!) and come join in what promises to be a really special first meeting of the season at Rustler’s Roost on October 21 (third Tuesday of the month to accommodate as many snowbirds as possible). Come early for the gathering to share stories of summer fun over a glass of whatever—I have one about my Dungeness catch out front of our summer home on Puget Sound which I’m happy to share. (See photo above.)

Jim and Diane Harshman, who do such a wonderful job with this newsletter each month, have included with this edition our schedule for the year. I’m pleased with your full Board’s leadership in pinning down a variety of events which we all hope will excite. At the same time, we look to you for more and different activity ideas. Our bus trip this winter to the Biosphere2 is an example of something we’ve never before tried—should it be the success we anticipate, we may have found a whole new opportunity for exploration along with social interchange. I hope that is the case, as Faye and I very much look forward to enjoying new venues with you.

In the interim, our alma matter GM seems to be doing well. There have been recent bumps in the road, including a big one left resting largely with several of my fellow attorneys on the Legal Staff. But GM has stepped up with considerate action focused on doing right, which was always my expectation and experience when actively employed. I encourage all to check out what’s current at GM via www.GMRetiree.com. And, of course, catch up on our Club at our website: www.GMRetireeClubofArizona.com.

Faye and I look forward to seeing all soon.

Best/Larry Sessoms

FALL & WINTER SCHEDULE 2014-2015

**Tuesday, October 21:**
Meeting will be held at the Rustler’s Rooste Restaurant’s patio with registration and cash bar set up starting at 10:30 AM. World Champion Native American Hoop Dancer/Flutiest, Tony Duncan will entertain during & after lunch.

**Sunday, November 9:**
NASCAR Sprint Cup Series "Quicken Loan 500" Race, Phoenix International Raceway, Avondale, AZ.
FALL & WINTER SCHEDULE 2014-2015

Wednesday, November 12:
Meeting will be at the PebbleCreek Eagle’s Nest Ballroom for our luncheon. A live video feed with a Detroit executive has been requested.

Tuesday, December 9:
Meeting will be at Liberty Buick with lunch sponsored by the dealer (Autumn Henderson). A Christmas program is scheduled including a holiday quartet.

Tuesday, January 13:
Meeting will be at 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 24:
This will be a "special event" and will feature a Bus Trip to the Biosphere2, DeGrazia Gallery In The Sun and dinner at the Hilton Tucson El Conquistador Golf and Tennis Resort. All members will receive a special announcement flyer for sign-up which will be published before our October 21st meeting. Reservation Acknowledgement Forms will also be made available at the sign-in table. Trip reservations will have to be in by December 1, 2014 so that bus arrangements can be confirmed.

Tuesday, March 10:
Our meeting will be at Luke Air Force Base and will include a tour, lunch and a special guest speaker.

March Golf Outing—Date TBD: Ken Wechselberger & Larry Sessoms will work on this activity to be held at PebbleCreek in March of 2015.

Tuesday, April 7:
This will be a "special event" meeting held at Canyon Lake which will include a Canyon Lake Boat Tour with lunch in a private room in the restaurant at the dock.
RUSTLER’S ROOST MEETING ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Date: October 21, 2014
Location: Rustler’s Roost Restaurant
8383 South 48th Street
Phoenix, AZ 85014
Time: 10:30 AM Arrival
11:45 AM President’s Greeting
12:00 PM Lunch
01:00 PM Meeting & Entertainment

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

Entertainment: Tony Duncan (Apache, Arikara, Hidatsa), Mesa resident and Native American world champion hoop dancer and flutist. He has performed for audiences world-wide including performances at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, The Smithsonian Museum, The Billboard Music Awards, The Tonight Show and The White House. Duncan is the current 2013-14 Native American Music Awards "Artist of the Year" and took 2nd Place in the 2014 World Champion Hoop Dance Contest held at the Heard Museum. For the past 5 years, Tony has been constantly ranked in the top 3 and captured the World Title in 2011.

Cost: $30.00 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 Cobbett’s Roasted Red Potatoes
Ranch Rolls with Butter and Honey
Campfire Coffee, Iced Tea and Water
Fresh Baked Apple Pie

Reservations Due By October 15, 2014.

Member: _________________________  Significant Other ________________________________
Guest: ___________________ Guest: ___________________Guest: ______________________

Please return your reservation to Jim Irwin, 535 Topeka Drive, Wickenburg, AZ 85390. Phone # (928) 684-2041. If you sign up for this meeting and find that you are unable to attend, please cancel your reservation with Jim Irwin as soon as possible. Please make checks payable to The GM Retirees Club.
ADVANCED PRE-REGISTRATION FORM—NOVEMBER

Date: Wednesday, November 12, 2014
Location: PebbleCreek Golf Resort
Tuscany Theatre & Eagle’s Nest Ballroom
3003 N. 164th Ave.
Goodyear, AZ 85395

Directions: Going West on the I-10, exit at PebbleCreek Parkway and go North. Continue past W. Virginia Ave. to Club House Drive and turn Left (West) Stop at gate and they will direct you to the Tuscany Theatre

Time: 10:30AM - 11:00AM Check In
11:00AM - 12:15PM Meeting Presentations
12:30PM - 1:30PM Luncheon and 50/50 Drawing

Cost: $22.00 per person

Menu:

Walnut Crusted Chicken - sautéed breast coated in a walnut crust and topped with a roasted apple demi-glace sauce with wild rice pilaf.

Beef Stroganoff - cubed beef in a sour cream mushroom sauce, served over buttered egg noodles.

Vegetarian -

Green Salad served with ranch & balsamic

All entrees served with green beans with bacon and onion.

Dessert: Cheesecake with raspberry swirl

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If you sign up for this meeting and find that you are unable to attend, please cancel your reservation with Jim Irwin so we do not pay for meals not served. Phone # (928) 684-2041

There is a five day advanced cancellation requirement from the Pebble Creek Management, so your cancellation must be received by mid-night, November 7, 2014

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PebbleCreek Golf Resort

Name: ___________________________ Spouse: ___________________________

Guest: ___________________________ Guest: ___________________________

Based on the number of people in your party, please indicate the number and choice of meals you desire:

1. Walnut Crusted Chicken______ 2. Beef Stroganoff______ 3. Vegetarian______

Please mail checks to:

Jim Irwin
535 Topeka Dr.
Wickenburg, AZ 85390

ALL CHECKS MUST BE RECEIVED BY November 7, 2014
SUSAN LEE (ST. CLAIR) MOSS was born in Ypsilanti, lived in Willow Run Village, and moved to Warren (a mile from the GM Tech Center) and then moved to Shelby Twp. Her father, after working on B-29 maintenance in the Army Air Corps, attended Lawrence Tech and soon after took a job at the Chrysler Missile Plant in Sterling Heights as an Electrician. Her mother was a R.N. working in area hospitals.

Susan attended Utica High School and Michigan Lutheran College in Detroit where she earned her certificate as a Medical Assistant. She worked throughout her career mainly for OB/GYN doctors and loved every minute of it. In later years she worked as an Interior Design Consultant for The Great Indoors in Shelby Twp.

In 1968 she met Jon, who was working for General Motors as an Automotive Engineer, and they were married after three months of dating! They will celebrate their 46th Anniversary in January. They have two sons and a daughter. Their oldest son is a CAD/UG Designer on contract to GM. Their 2nd son owns his own Computer Graphic business and their daughter is Executive Assistant to the Director of CARE (Community Education Referral & Education) of South East Michigan. There are four beautiful grandchildren!

As Jon's career at GM progressed and became more demanding, Susan returned home to take care of things. Now, before you begin to feel sorry for Susan, remember her husband was a GM Automotive Executive in charge of developing performance vehicles. (See The Club Reporter, dated January 2013) so, if you call going to races, riding in pace cars, meeting movie stars and celebrities all over the country sad, then feel sorry for her.

Susan loves to decorate her home, work in the garden, travel and most of all, her genealogy hobby. She is a "power user" of the Ancestry.com site and has traced her and Jon's family tree back to the same British royalty, William the Conqueror. They share great-grandparents down to King Edward I (Longshanks) and Susan's line continues to King Edward III.

Susan's "Genealogy Tips" for getting started:

1. Begin with talking to parents, Aunts and Uncles and anyone that might have had the family history passed on to them via picture family trees, old family bibles or written family histories. Borrow old pictures and go through what you have. Go on-line to Ancestry.com or one of the other avail-
SUSAN & JON MOSS’S “FAMILY TREE”

tree makers. Add everything you can about your parents, grandparents and all of their siblings before you start a paying membership. If you do become a paying member, they will give you hints about what other family trees are on the site plus census that are found, where they are buried, etc. and with the touch of a button you add this new information to your relative. They give you access to thousands of fact and pictures.

2. Know and get as many pieces of the puzzle as you can. Such as...were there surname changes, where did they live, was there more than one marriage and possible maiden names for the females.

3. Refer back to other family members if you hit a road block, even if you have to write to relatives overseas. Not every question can be solved, but sometimes you find that just connecting with others who are searching is a way to get a few more pieces of the puzzle. By doing this Susan was able to fill in the blanks on some people that her Mother knew were related but did not know how.

4. There is an archive center in Mesa that is a part of the Mormon Church from Salt Lake City. They will assist you in getting more information; they have one of the largest family trees in the world. Ancestry.com and TheFamilyTreeMaker.com are based in Utah. Newspapers are also a good research tool plus numerous other genealogy sites. If your ancestors were famous, you can Google them and Wikipedia also has a lot of information.

Susan’s first foray into her and Jon’s family trees started just before their 1st child was born in 1970. She wrote to her Aunt, who in turn wrote to family in England and several areas in the U.S. because no one in the immediate family had written down a family tree. For many years this information was written only in baby books and it was not until she made a trip to England with her father that a 2nd cousin over there had a journal from her father that had researched the family as far back as King Edward III. Also around this time Jon’s Mother began to do research in order to join the Henry Wolcott Society; Henry came from England in the early 1600’s. One of his grandsons, Oliver Wolcott, signed the Declaration of Independence. The farm land in Michigan that is presently owned by Jon and his brother has been passed down over the last 150+ years through five generations from Chauncy Stiles Wolcott. A cousin of Jon’s mother, who was also a Wolcott descendant, encouraged them to work together so that they could trace the family back to King John I, so they could join the Magna Charta Society, also.

About 15 years ago, Susan bought a computer program, Family Tree Maker 5, and included was an information disc. She found a picture of her paternal grandparents wedding license; her heart began to race, she got chills and she was hooked. Both had passed away before she was born and that was a true connection. About 4 years ago she joined Ancestry.com, and it became an obsession and she has spent many hours holed up in the computer room.

Susan and Jon both also have German and Prussian branches to their family trees, but so far much of that has been difficult to fill in because many of the records have not been translated.
Here are a few more highlights of their trees:

**King William I**
(William The Conqueror)
1027-1087 who was England's 1st Norman ruler.
Susan's 27th Great Grandfather. Jon traced back to this same royalty.

**Henry W-. Wolcott**
1578-1655

**Edmund W. Lockwood**
1574-1634
Born Combs England, only child of Richard & Elizabeth. Married twice. Died 1634 in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Edmund was one of Susan’s early arrivals to the United States.

**King Edward I**
("Longshanks")
1239-1307
He achieved fame as the Monarch who conquered Wales and tried, but failed to do the same to Scotland. Last King from which Jon & Susan descended.

**Percy Raymond St. Clair**

**King John I ("Lackland")**
1167-1216.
He succeeded his brother.
Susan’s 23 Great Grandfather.

**Wilhelm Feit**
1844-1922

**Johann Frederick Maash**
from Prussia -
1866 to Montaque, Michigan whose name was later changed to Moss.
Roger was born and raised in the Detroit area and graduated from Roseville High School. After graduation, he volunteered for the draft and served state side in the US Army, much of the time at Fort Meade, Maryland. During this period, Roger met Cathy at the USO in Baltimore and they were married in 1962. They have three daughters, all now living in the Phoenix area.  As far as interests for Roger...cars, boating, history, working on computers and genealogy are at the top of his list.

Roger's mother and father were your typical hard working mid-western parents.  Dad was a Tool & Die Inspector and Mom was an Administrative Assistant at Chrysler.  So, there is one thing that you could never say about Roger is that "he grew up with a silver spoon in his mouth".  After the Army he worked hard going to night school at Macomb County Junior College and finally graduating from Wayne State University in 1969 with a Marketing Degree.  Roger always loved cars, so it is no wonder that his work experience during this time included jobs with Sunoco, Chrysler and finally with Chevrolet where he started as a Warranty Processing Clerk in 1966.  Then his career developed through a series of job level changes in Chevrolet Sales which included Field District Sales positions, Dealer Communication Services and Dealer Organization.  In the Buffalo Zone Office, Roger began to focus on what would eventually be his career focus...trucks.  He became the Zone Truck Sales Engineer.  Next step, Western Region Area Manager Truck Sales and with a few steps in between he retired from the post of Regional Commercial & Specialty Vehicle Sales Manager for the Western Region.

Roger states that he believes his greatest contribution to GM made during his career was the part he played in instituting the Commercial Truck Dealer Network which greatly increased sales of this type of vehicle.  The program created separate Commercial Dealers and focused them, GM and the Truck Body Companies on working together to better meet the Commercial market needs.

Cathy was born and raised in Baltimore, MD.  Her father worked as a Longshoreman and her Mom was primarily a "stay-at-home" housewife.  Cathy attended Western High School, an all girls Catholic school.  Upon graduation, she was employed at the Social Security Administration in Baltimore and met Roger.  Obviously, Cathy was very busy moving and raising their children. Through their many moves with Chevrolet, Cathy always became a member of local community groups.  She felt communications was important.  And, in many of these organizations, Cathy started their first ever newsletter.  Her main interests are bridge, reading, genealogy, and her two Poodles, Mini & Marti.

Roger's family has been actively involved in Genealogy since the 1950's.  He took over his Mom's genealogy work which she compiled in a Buckingham book which can be found in many libraries.  Her work began way before copy machines, computer databases and the Internet.  Today, with computers, databases, the Internet and digital images of original documents available from countless sources so much more is readily available.
You can do in weeks what would not have been impossible without decades of travel, expense and effort. All this has made genealogy one of the most popular hobbies in the US. Television programs like, "Who Do You Think You Are?" which has been popular for several years, shows people how easily they can connect to their past.

When Roger retired, he needed something to fill some of that time that GM took every day and genealogy was a good part of it. After Roger moved to Arizona he joined the West Valley Genealogical Society (WVGS) and began to volunteer. The WVGS has about 650 members and is considered to be one of the larger Genealogical Societies in the country. Roger has been a long time Board Member, is a past Web Master and still chairs the Computer and Equipment Committee.

In his work career and now as a volunteer, Roger has always wanted to help others and improve things. When the library expanded he was the driving force to create the Society’s computer lab and all of the services that it offers the members and volunteers. From nothing, they now have a network of Lab PCs. These PCs have free access to many subscriber databases that allows the members to search many genealogical databases like Ancestry.com, Fold Three and American Ancestors. It is cheaper to be a member ($35 a year) than it would be to individually subscribe to the various genealogical sites on your own. To help you learn and better do your family history, the Society has monthly Membership meetings, Seminars, Trips, Classes and Special Interest Group meetings. VIA the Society website members can access the WVGS subscriber genealogical databases, events calendars, library catalog & other databases and make store purchases. You are encouraged to visit their website for more information (http://www.azwvgs.org).

Journals and diaries are one way that Roger learned about his ancestors and their lives. During the Civil War, Roger's Great Grandfather John Kennedy was a private in the Union Army. His small penciled diary details the things of a soldier's daily life. There were the typical comments about the weather, grub, loans and the constant marching from place to place.

But, it also covers his capture, 14 month imprisonment at Camp Ford, escape, recapture and later trek home from Texas after the South surrendered. Other earlier relatives' diaries told the real stories of what people endured not the text book versions.
The flag photo is the actual battle flag of the 77th Illinois Infantry Regiment that John Kennedy would have followed in battle. This flag was made by one of his future Buckingham in-laws. Star are on the flag for all of the states, Union and Confederate.

One of the earliest journals was written before the Revolutionary War. It was written by Reverend David Jones, a pastor, who in 1772 & 1773 went to Ohio country to convert the Indians. Later during the Revolutionary War this pastor was a courier/spy who carried messages from General Washington to Ben Franklin. Another ancestral relative in 1848 was the wagon master of a group going to Yamhill, Oregon. His journals showed that while Indians were a problem, more pioneers died crossing rivers and through illness than Indian attacks.

To say that the world is a small place and that we are all related more closely than you think is an understatement. President Obama is related to several other US presidents. Roger has learned that 2 of the 650 WVGS members are cousins with connections going back to mutual Revolutionary War ancestors.

To help pay back others for earlier documenting things and providing a record for his family, Roger has posted online over 5000 burial memorials. Most of these are for relatives and contain extensive biographical information, photos and links to other family members. You may want to visit the website and search for your relatives at findagrave.

Roger would be the first to admit that genealogy has been good to him, kept him busy and enabled him to learn a lot about his ancestors and their early days in this country.

Roger's "Genealogy Tips" for getting started not listed on Susan's suggestions:

1. Watch TV shows like "Who Do You Think You Are" and others.
2. If you want to go further follow Susan’s tips and be sure to talk to family members for information and start a “Basic Family Generation Chart”. If you want to do more to connect with your family start with steps 3 & 4 below.
3. In Arizona visit (let others help you and to learn the how to dos go to a class)
   West Valley Genealogical Society in Youngtown azwvgs.org
   Mesa Family History Center mesarfhc.org
4. From your PC visit these websites
   *ancestry.com ancestry.com (14 day free trial & public library free access)
   *family search familysearch.org
   Find A Grave findagrave.com

*In these sites start by doing a 1940 Census search for your family
ROGER & CATHY HANNEМАB “FAMILY TREE”

Well, that's all folks. Everything you would ever want to know to get started on your journey to determine if you are related to the King of England or President Obama. You never know! In closing, I would like to thank Susan Moss and Roger Hanneman for the time they spent in helping me with the creation of this article. I truly could not have created it on my own. THANKS!!
F O R  T H E  L A T E S T  G M  N E W S  A N D  I N F O R M A T I O N