



Retiree Newsletter

January 2015

President:	Larry Sessoms
Vice President:	Bob Goebel
Sec./Treasurer:	Alan Steffe
Directors:	Jon Moss, Ken Wechselberger, Jim Harshman
Sub-Directors:	Hal Hubbard, Bill Boechler, Jorge Medina
Director Emeritus:	Don Robins, John McAlpine, Jim Smeets, Joe Fetzer
Members At Large:	Ward Atkinson, Jim Irwin

Club Website: www.gmretireesaz.com

Official GM Retirees Website: wwwgmretiree.com

EDITOR'S WELCOME

Sorry about having to revert back to our old newsletter format, but 10 days worth of Holiday company and 4 days at the Mayo Clinic has prevented me from giving you great articles about you. So, never fear, I am only going to have to use this format for one more month, then back we go to our normal format. For March, our featured member write up will be Mary Ellen Stepanich, PhD. Mary Ellen's story is one to be told.

April's "special article" will be titled "Members and Their Pets". What I am asking you to do is to search your computer database for the best pictures of your pets and send them to me via email: jharsh333@gmail.com. Prizes will be awarded, so start searching today. Any pet! Dogs, cats, gold fish, turtles, you get the drift. The best submissions so far are a "cat getting a drink from a toilet" and a "Yorkshire Terrier" having too much fun on her birthday. This will be great fun, so start your submissions today. Who doesn't love their pet and like to show them off?

MY LAST PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

First and foremost, two thoughts: By the time this newsletter "hits the road" some of our holiday's will likely be past, but on behalf of your entire Board, as well as Faye and myself, we wish to all the happiest of holidays and the very best in 2015—gosh, I once thought 2000 was a long way off, and here we are well into another century! Also, I want to thank all for the privilege of serving as your President this past year. As a practical matter, the President's role in our Club is not particularly difficult because of the other members of our Board who assume most of the responsibility around organizing our activities, and my thanks certainly goes out to them.

We have already thanked Autumn Henderson and her staff at Liberty Buick/GMC for hosting a wonderful December luncheon. The meal was certainly enhanced by the setting, and by the performance of "Lilac Crazy". Next month's meeting, to be hosted by Arrowhead Cadillac in their new facility, is once again a dealer sponsored event and promises to be special with the attendance of guest speaker David Caldwell, Cadillac Director of Communications. This will be the one time in this year of our Club when GM Central Office will fly an executive out to be with us. I hope we'll have a full house to hear him discuss his new boss who came from BMW, new product plans and pricing strategies, global distribution initiatives including in China, and rationale around Cadillac's pending move to New York City.

Of course, our January meeting will also be a time to introduce your new officers for 2015. Our Nominating Committee, headed by Ken Wechselberger and including other past Presidents who remain active with our Board, have made and published their recommendations, and the process for other nominations has been published so I won't repeat all of that here. But apart from the positions of President, Vice President, and Secretary-Treasurer, I do want to repeat that we seek additional people to step up as "members at large" on our Board. These board members do not, per our by-laws, have a vote, but with that technical exception they really become the backbone of our organization, helping with ideas and setting up of meetings, and providing background to those who at a later time might wish to take on a more active role. Please consider speaking up, and taking on this little bit help to our organization.

And...there is our ongoing effort to bring more ladies into our leadership. In this context, we announced at our December meeting that Beverley Louton has agreed to head up a special committee of our Board, to be made up of lady volunteers to work with Beverly and provide our Board with their thoughts on meetings for our next year. We very much look forward to this input as part of our ongoing work to bring to you a broad variety of meeting venues and programs. Interested...contact Beverley at beverley5@yahoo.com.

Just a friendly reminder, **2015 Annual Club Calendar Year Dues** can be dropped off at our January meeting registration check in table "collection box" or sent direct to Jim Irwin. The Board has voted to keep the dues for 2015 at \$30.00. Club dues were due by January 1, 2015.

My very best to you and yours. With that, I sign off.

Larry Sessoms, President

YEAR-END FINANCIAL REPORT

Financial records for our Club are maintained on a meeting-year basis, running May through April. With that understanding, the Club finished the 2013-2014 year on April 30, 2014, with a bank balance of \$8,161.32. Income during the year comes basically from two areas – dues and the 50/50 raffle proceeds in the ratio of 80% from dues and 20% from the raffle. Last year 52% of the dues received went toward subsidies for monthly luncheons and meetings, including venues, speakers, and entertainment, in order to help keep our meetings affordable. The remainder of the dues and raffle income cover normal Club operations such as copies, mailings (principally to those members not on email), Board meetings, honoraria, and future program planning. As of December 3, 2014, our Club has a financial balance of \$8,530.70.

The club dues of \$30.00 per year, which are currently due to Jim Irwin for the 2015 year, are very important to our Club in that they are used in great part to subsidize and keep monthly meeting luncheon fees at the lowest possible amount. Similarly, the Club's support of the 50/50 raffle at the monthly meetings also helps keep the dues as low as possible.

As our Club By-Laws (Sec. VIII(5)) require, an audit of our financial records was conducted on November 12, 2014 by an Audit Committee appointed by Club President, Larry Sessoms, consisting of Hal Hubbard, Bill Boechler, and Jorge Medina. Their findings noted that the financial records are accurately being recorded and maintained.

Should there be any questions regarding this report or other financial matters, feel free to contact me in person or at alansteffe@yahoo.com.

Alan Steffe, Treasurer

FALL & WINTER SCHEDULE 2014-15

Tuesday, January 20: Meeting will be at Arrowhead Cadillac with lunch sponsored by the dealer (Mike Scarfia, Sales Manager; Rick Meewes, General Manager). Our GM Executive Speaker will be David Caldwell, Cadillac Director of Communications.

Wednesday, February 11: Meeting will be at the East Valley Culinary Arts School. Our speaker will be from the FBI to talk about criminal and cyber investigations which impact our members.

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. 68 Members and their guests have signed up for this event and will soon be receiving a "special instructions" bulletin that will outline the day's events in detail. That bulletin is expected to be in your hands by no later than January 20, 2015 immediately after we have conducted our practice run. We will have no surprises!

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

Annual Club Golf Outing—Date: March 27, 2015: The golf outing activity will be held at the PebbleCreek Golf Club and we once again will have Dealer and Divisional sponsorship for the gift bags, awards and drawings. Sign-Up flyer is being prepared as we speak. Ladies...where are you?

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.

Registration Acknowledgement Form
Arrowhead Cadillac
Tuesday, January 20, 2015
(Dealer Sponsored Event - Arrowhead Cadillac)

Yes, we/I plan to attend the Arrowhead Cadillac sponsored meeting:

Member Name _____ Spouse _____
Guest _____ Guest _____ Guest _____

Location: Arrowhead Cadillac dealership which is located at 8310 W. Bell Road, Glendale, AZ 85308.
Phone: (877) 668-1988 (Located just EAST of the 101 Loop)

Time: 10:30AM - 11:30AM - Check In
11:30AM - 11:45AM - Business Meeting
11:45AM - 12:30PM - Buffett Lunch (Veg. Alt. and Gluten Free available upon request)

Please **email** or **call** your response to: Jim Irwin, 535 Topeka Drive, Wickenburg, Arizona 85390
knjirwin@msn.com
(928) 684-2041

Your response is requested immediately or no later than January 15, 2015

Registration Acknowledgement Form
East Valley Culinary Arts School
Wednesday, February 11, 2015

You, your significant other and guests are invited to our February 2015 Club Meeting which is being held at the East Valley Institute of Technology - East Valley Culinary Arts School.

Date: Wednesday, February 11, 2015

Location: East Valley Culinary Arts School
1601 W. Main Street
Mesa, AZ

Directions: The East Valley Culinary Arts School is located on the campus of the East Valley Institute of Technology located 1/2 mile East of Dobson Road on W. Main Street in Mesa. If you are headed East from Dobson on W. Main turn right (South) into the campus and go straight for about a block. The Culinary Arts School will be right in front of you.

Time: 10:30AM/11:30AM Arrival
11:30AM/ 12:30PM Meeting/Speaker
12:30PM Lunch

Menu: **Soup:** Roasted Corn Chowder - Potatoes, Applewood Smoked Bacon, Corn
Salad: Caprese Salad - Tomato, Fresh Mozzarella, Micro Basil, Balsamic Drizzle.
Entree Choices: All entrees are served with accompanying starch & seasonal vegetables
1. Bone-In Braised Pork Chops: Demi-Glace, Carmelized Onions.
2. Grilled Salmon: Citrus Buerre Blanc
3. Vegetarian Alternative: Wellington - Cheese & Grilled Vegetables, Mushroom Duxelle, Puff Pastry
4. Gluten Free is available, but must be requested in advance.
Desserts: Miniature Pastry Plate - Cream Puff, Eclair, Fruit Tart, Chocolate Covered Fruit.
Beverages: Coffee and Iced Tea included.

Cost: \$19.00 per person all inclusive

Reservation Acknowledgement Form
Must Be Received By Friday, February 6, 2015

Name: _____ Spouse: _____

Guest: _____ Guest: _____

Choice of Entree: 1. Pork Chops____ 2. Salmon____ 3. Vegetarian Alternative____ 4. Gluten Free____
(Please select your choice of entree for everyone in your party.)

Please return your reservation to Jim Irwin, 535 Topeka Drive, Wickenburg, AZ 85390. You can also email or call Jim or simply drop this Acknowledgement Form in the January Meeting "Bucket" located on the check-in table. Phone # (928) 684-2041. Cancellations must be received by **NOON, February 6, 2015.**