

THE CLUB REPORTER

MARCH 2015



EDITOR'S WELCOME

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

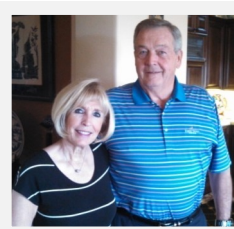
EDITOR'S WELCOME	1
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE	1-2
NEW VP	2-3
FALL & WINTER SCHEDULE	4
AWIM VOLUNTEERS	4-5
FEBRUARY MEETING	5-6
BIOSPHERE2 BUS TOUR	7-9
MARCH MEETING	10
FUTURE MEETINGS	11



Well Sport Fans, three more Newsletters and "it's all over but the shout" for this year. In this edition, we are focusing on introducing you to your new Vice President - Hal Hubbard, pictures from a few past and future events and a plea for AWIM volunteers. In April, our Member feature will be Mary Ellen Stepanich, PhD, a new feature called "Members And Their Pets" and lots of pictures from the March 27th Annual Golf Outing as well as the April 7th Dolly Steamboat Cruise on Canyon Lake. Of course, the Summer Edition will be used to announce our 2015/2016 Fall and Winter Calendar of Meetings and Events. I think you would agree that this has been a great year. Lots of new ideas from our Members produced different events and meetings. With your continued support, we will make our meetings and special events FUN AND INFORMATIVE and we can't wait to announce to you what we have in store for next year. Thank you all.

JIM HARSHMAN, Editor and Club Reporter

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Our 2015 calendar year season has gotten off to a great start and I hope you are enjoying the events and activities so far. The Club made history on February 24th by taking 72 Members and guests on the Biosphere2 Bus Tour and from reactions from all who attended, it was a great success and now sets the stage for more Special Club Events of it's kind. On April 7th, the Club's Special Event will be at the beautiful Canyon Lake Marina with lunch and a 1 1/2 hour scenic nature cruise aboard the Dolly Steamboat - Arizona's World Class Cruise. Now, for the 82 Members and guests who have already signed up for the cruise by the March 14th due date, you are guaranteed a ticket. However, as long as the Dolly Steamboat has tickets available, it is not too late to sign up and attend. In addition, if you did not sign up for the cruise because of driving limitations and you live in Sun City West, we have several members who are willing to car pool.

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- AWIM Volunteers Needed
- Golf & Canyon Creek Space Still Available

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Please call Jim Harshman at (480) 634-5332 if you are interested in a ride. I am certain that we will have a great full day event because of the great efforts that Jim Harshman and Jon Moss have made in putting this special event together.



I would like to take this opportunity to thank Jim Irwin for his many years of service as Keeper of Reservations and Rosters. While Jim is not departing, the Board needs someone to work with him for a few months to share and eventually assume these very important duties, necessary in keeping the GM Retiree's Club Menus, venues and collection of funds in order. Please contact myself or anyone on the Board with suggestions and/or interest.

Looking forward to seeing all of you over these next busy weeks of Club activity!

Sincerely, Bob & Barbara Goebel

NEW CLUB VICE PRESIDENT—HAL 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 Grounds 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 and exhibits were built by Hal during this period of his career. He retired in 2005 and is living in Buckeye, AZ. Hal

met his wife Cathi in Denver in 1983 and they were married in 1986. Hal and Cathi love country western dancing and have danced competitively in the past.

As a side job, Hal was a "Stuntman" from 1981 - 1991 and was Vice President of the Universal Stuntman Association. There's a certain sense of adventure tied to the entertainment business, especially in the stunt arena. Actors overcome insurmountable challenges and endure brutal encounters. It's a role that's always fascinated Hal, who got his opportunity to dabble in showbiz 30 years ago. One day, a recruiter walked up to him and offered him a job as a stuntman based on the fact that he thought Hal looked like Kenny Rogers, which wasn't the first time he had heard that comparison. "We used to really favor each other before Kenny had all of those facelifts,"

laughed Hubbard, who is actually taller than the country singer. Back in the 1980s, Universal Studios formed a number of satellite groups across the country that it could tap on when filming in different locations, and also stage local events on behalf of the media company. For Hubbard, it was the perfect opportunity to try something he's always wanted to do without giving up the security of his day job with General Motors.



NEW CLUB VICE PRESIDENT—HAL HUBBARD

torcycle jumps and other gutsy acts. “It all looks really daring, but it’s really just camera angles,” said Hubbard. “There’s a misconception about the profession in which people think we actually get hurt, but it’s just the opposite.”

Hubbard says acting is a lot more difficult than it looks. “The challenge is making it all come off believable, which includes groaning in pain,” he added. Everything is practiced a number of times to prevent the possibility of an injury, which isn’t always foolproof, but pretty reassuring for the stunt people. Fortunately, Hubbard was only injured twice. One incident occurred when an actress hit Hubbard over



the back too close to the seat of a breakable chair, “you could hear the wind being knocked out of me, she cracked several of my ribs,” he said in a reflective agonizing tone. The other time, he was sitting on top of a horse that had been startled by gun shots. The horse flung Hubbard straight up in the air catching his leg in the saddle and sending him crashing down on his head and into a wagon-wheel groove. It was the same type of fall that Christopher Reeve had, and he didn’t realize how lucky he was at the time.

Hal performed stunts for 7 years and trained others for another three. “It’s something he has always been secretly proud of doing. In addition to performing, Hubbard wrote and directed scenes for his group to do at various live and locally televised events. It was the perfect side gig for Hubbard to express his creativity.

Now in his early 60s, he volunteers his time at Arizona high schools teaching students engineering principles through the “A World In Motion” (AWIM) program.

Welcome Mr. Vice President. You have the kind of skills the Club is looking for to lead us into the future.

FALL & WINTER SCHEDULE 2014-2015

In December, it was announced that Club Member Beverley Louton had volunteered to lead a special committee of ladies to develop a proposal of "meetings" and "special events" for the Board to consider, which would make up the 2015/2016 Fall & Winter Club Calendar. In addition, the group accepted and considered all Member input that had been submitted to date before making their recommendations. The Board accepted the group's recommendations at the February Board Meeting and has assigned various Board Members to explore what it would take to execute the suggestions. Next year's calendar is scheduled to be released in the Summer Edition of The Club Reporter. All ladies on the committee who's suggestions are being considered will act as consultants to the Board Members assigned the exploratory tasks.

A "special thanks" to all the committee members who participated in this year activity:



Mary Lou Phillips



Cathi Hubbard, Pat Stoner, Beverley Louton, Chairperson, Barbara Goebel and Delrene Buterakos

Please continue with your input on preferred events to Beverley at beverley5@yahoo.com as we continue to strive to match activities with member requests.

HELP WANTED!!! AWIM VOLUNTEERS

As many of you know, we lost a dear, long time Club Member in February who will be greatly missed not only by Members, but by those hundreds of children whom he helped develop math and science knowledge over the years. **Ron Boyce** volunteered in various **A World In Motion (AWIM)** programs in the Phoenix area for the last seven year, and he will be sorely missed. Without our Club's GM Retiree volunteers, the local AWIM programs would be hard pressed to function. **WE NEED MORE GM RETIREE VOLUNTEERS FOR THE COMING YEAR IN BOTH THE TOLLISON AND SURPRISE, AZ LOCATIONS.**

HELP WANTED!!! AWIM VOLUNTEERS

**Susan Eddy, Nataly Lopez,
Alexis Parra, Azell Woods**

This has been a very successful school year for AWIM, thanks to the strong support by GM Retirees. The two AWIM programs just completed at Hurley Ranch in Tollison could not have taken place without Hal Hubbard taking a leadership role as AWIM Volunteer Site Coordinator. Cathi Hubbard and Ken Wechselberger were also key volunteers at Hurley Ranch. Tom Terry, Jim Smeets, Bill Boechler and Bob Koh-

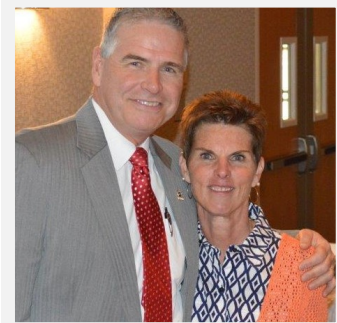
ler have been able to support our program at Canyon Ridge Elementary School, but have been short volunteers all year. Volunteers can work from 1hr/week to a couple of days/week depending on their willingness and our workload. With multiple classes going at once 4-6 volunteers are needed on a weekly basis at Canyon Ridge.

If you would like to volunteer in our AWIM efforts for the balance of this school year or in the 2015/2016 school year and you live in or are willing to drive to the Surprise area, contact Tom Terry at patandtomterry@aol.com. If you would like to volunteer in other parts of the Phoenix Area, contact Don Robins at drobins1137@msn.com. Remember, you don't have to be an engineer to volunteer, just one who wants to make a difference in a child's life. Women are great volunteers!

FEBRUARY 2015 CLUB MEETING—EAST VALLEY CULINARY ARTS SCHOOL

Well, it's official! The traditional "Passing Of The Clock" signifies that Larry Sessoms has officially completed his tour of duty as Club President and new President Bob Goebel begins his term as Club President.

FEBRUARY 2015 CLUB MEETING—EAST VALLEY CULINARY ARTS SCHOOL



FBI guest speakers Steven and Linda Hooper provided us some great information as to criminal and cyber investigations which impact our members. It was also Linda's birthday which we all celebrated and a small gift was presented.



Attendance is always up when we go to the East Mesa Culinary Arts School because it's the best food in town!

50/50 WINNERS—FEBRUARY MEETING



Bill Van Kampen \$70



Wayne Van Den Boom \$50



Joan Mahnken \$26

FEBRUARY 24TH BIOSPHERE 2 BUS TOUR

Pictures are worth a thousand words...enjoy!

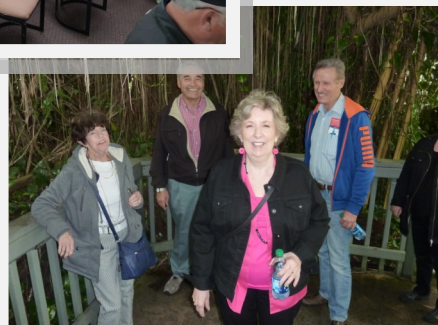


The Bus.....



The Tour Guides

Bioshpere 2



FEBRUARY 24TH BIOSPHERE 2 BUS TOUR



DeGazia Gallery



FEBRUARY 24TH BIOSPHERE 2 BUS TOUR



MARCH 2015 CLUB MEETING—PEBBLECREEK COUNTRY CLUB



Featured speaker - Lt. Col. Todd Ladd, Force Support Squadron Commander representing LukeAFB, offered Members an insight into the current and future mission of the base as well as the new F-35 Fighter Jets. PLUS, walked away the coveted "Cherry Pit Spitting Championship". Who would have thought? A distance of 25 feet plus, or some ungodly distance.

Something NEW! When is the last time you had a chance to play croquet and badminton? And, when is the last time you participated in a "Cherry Pit Spitting Contest"?



50/50 WINNERS—MARCH MEETING



Pat Stoner \$63



Mary Geyer \$43

CLUB ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

Rumor has it that there are just two spots open if you would like to join us at PebbleCreek Country Club. The date is March 27th and the cost is \$75.00 per person. If you are interested, please call Ken Wechselberger at (623) 251-3684.

CLUB CANYON LAKE DOLLY STEAMBOAT CRUISE

If you are interested in joining us on April 7th at the Canyon Lake Marina for lunch and a Noon 1 1/2 hour Dolly Steamboat Cruise, please call Jim Harshman at (313) 516-9587. If cruise tickets are still available, your in. The cost for lunch and the cruise is \$30.00. The Club is subsidizing this event.

Also, if you live in the Sun City West area and did not sign up due to driving restrictions, we have a few Members who are willing to car pool. Again, call Jim and he will do whatever possible to find you a ride.

"CLUB MEMBERS AND THERE PETS"

Remember to send Jim Harshman (jharsh333@gmail.com) pictures of your favorite pets for a special submission in next month's edition of The Club Reporter. Now, if you don't own a pet today, I am sure you have in the past, so give me a picture of that "POOCH". Maybe your sons or daughters have pets that you love...send me a picture! Enter today to win. Prizes will be awarded for "Best In Class", "Most Unique", "Most Loveable", "Most Awkward Position", and more. We have had some "doozies" submitted to date, so join the competition. Send me your photos.



www.gmretireesaz.com

GM RETIREES 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

FOR THE LATEST GM NEWS AND INFORMATION
GO TO WWW.GMRETIREE.COM