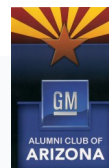


# THE CLUB REPORTER

MARCH 2017



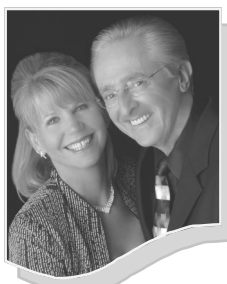
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## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- BOARD MEETING BRIEFING
- AUTONOMOUS VEHICLE BRIEFING

## EDITOR'S WELCOME



Well, that day has finally come where Diane and I must say good bye. Most of you probably have heard by now that we are building a new home in Saint Augustine, Florida near our two daughters and 8 grandchildren. We first published Volume 1 of The Club Reporter in January 2013 and 27 volumes later our journey must come to an end. I would like to take this opportunity to thank my wife Diane for all of the hours she has spent publishing the newsletter and offering her artistic touch to make it

special for you to enjoy. Oh, but never fear, the Club Publication will continue on with a new editor and publisher, but with a fresh new perspective on Club news and views. It truly has been a pleasure serving you and we thank you so much for allowing us into your homes and hearts.

Now, in this issue we are going to announce the "tentative" Club Fall and Winter Schedule for 2017/2018, introduce you to your new Vice President and look back at the pictures and events from our February meeting at Corte Bella. In addition, we would like you to pay close attention to the Club's Annual Financial Audit results where the Board is announcing a new pricing policy for the next Program Year.

Enjoy!

JIM & DIANE HARSHMAN,  
Editor & Publisher, The Club Reporter

New Club Website: [www.AzGmAlumni.com](http://www.AzGmAlumni.com)  
GM Corporate Website: [www.GMRetiree.com](http://www.GMRetiree.com)

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



It seems like yesterday that I was back in elementary school and watching short films in science class about what life would be like in the year 2000. Phones that allowed us to see the other person and cars smart enough to drive us to our destination were exciting to think about. But the reality of life kept me pretty busy for the next 60 years. Like you I've been able to keep up

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

with technology well-enough through the skills I gained while on the job and since then with the help of grandchildren. While the kids can help with latest features on my phone or laptop, I can't count on their experience with what's coming down the pike via autonomous vehicles. This will be a major game changer for society.

I have great anticipation about the presentation by the GM Public Policy Group on March 29<sup>th</sup>, and I hope you're registered to attend. In fact, Phoenix is one of only three sites in the entire nation to receive this presentation. So how was Phoenix selected? If you've visited the Community Page on GMRetirees.com recently you may have noticed that the GM Alumni Club of AZ is prominently placed and our Club brochure is available for viewing. We're regarded as a progressive group of individuals who enjoy well-planned monthly meetings, day-trips and more. We are a club rich with GM diversity, e.g. Buick, Chevrolet, Delphi, EDS, Electro-Motive, GMAC, GMC, Oldsmobile, Powertrain, and so many more. Most of the other clubs represent a single division, one location, or are just for executives. The club we've assembled over the years is an extraordinary mix of skills and insight all related in one form or another to the remarkable evolution of General Motors.

This presentation on autonomous vehicles is an investment in our future and something that will eventually impact anyone who drives a vehicle. As individuals, we will gain real insight that we can share intelligently with our friends and neighbors. It is an opportunity for us, a select group, and at the end of the day we truly want GM to remain an industry leader. As a Club, this is our best opportunity to earn more industry changing presentations from GM if we show sufficient interest.

A few weeks ago, advance invitations were emailed by GM to all members of the GM Alumni Club of AZ and a notice mailed with the last "Club Reporter" to those who do not have email. This is a phenomenal opportunity, and we don't want to leave anyone out. But there is limited seating, and over the next few weeks, GM will send additional invitations via email to those on their database with full-time AZ addresses within a 100-mile radius of PebbleCreek, our event location.

See you soon, Roxanne 810.280.1399



## GM Public Policy invites you and a guest to a GM RETIREE LUNCHEON

**Featuring:** Harry Lightsey, Executive Director, Emerging Technologies Policy  
Hal Lenox, Regional Director, State Government Relations – Western Region  
**Topic: GM Public Policy Update and Autonomous Vehicle Briefing**

**When:**

Wednesday, March 29, 2017  
11:30 Reception  
12:30 Lunch

**Where:**

Tuscany Falls Country Club at  
Pebble Creek  
16262 Clubhouse Drive  
Goodyear, AZ 85395

**Attire:** Business Casual

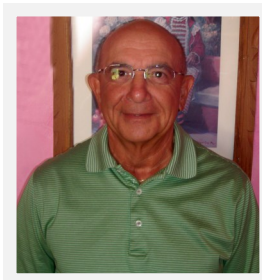
**If you would like to register and need help, please give me a call on my cell 810.280.1399.**  
This is an event of a lifetime and you won't want to miss it.

## PRESIDENT HOLDS MARCH BOARD MEETING AT COULTER TEMPE



One of Roxanne's stated goals for 2017 is for the Club to expand the role of dealership relationships as a "win-win" for the Club and the dealer in response to their years of support for our Club. As a result, Roxanne chose to hold the March 1st Board Meeting at Coulter Tempe (Cadillac, Buick & GMC) where, at the beginning of the meeting, she presented Greg DePaola, General Manager, with a Certificate of Appreciation from the Club for jointly strengthening the shared legacy of General Motors. Thanks Greg for all that you do for the Club. *Here is a recap of the "headlines" we would like to provide to you from this meeting:*

### Financial Update



As we are fast approaching the end of our Program Year and Fiscal Year at the end of April, it is only appropriate that I update the membership on the Club's financial condition. We started our Fiscal Year on May 1, 2016 with a bank balance of \$9,800. Since that time we have managed to very closely balance our income and expenses throughout the year, such that we expect to finish this Fiscal Year very close to where we started.

A financial audit team of Bob Adkins and Bill Boechler was appointed at the January 25<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting by our Club President as required in Article VIII, Section 5, of the Club's Bylaws. They carried out their audit on February 2<sup>nd</sup>, and found no deficiencies in the financial records, noting that financial books were accurate and appropriately being maintained.

At the March 1<sup>st</sup> Board Meeting, the Board reviewed a financial analysis of income and expenses over the past six years to understand what could be expected if our membership numbers continue to drop on an annual basis, as they have over the past seven years, and the Club continues to provide luncheon meetings and special events of the caliber that our membership have come to expect. The analysis showed that our normal operating expenses average ~\$3,100 per year, with our only sources of income coming from annual membership dues and 50/50 raffle proceeds.

As a result of this analysis and Board discussion during planning for the 2017-18 Program Year budget, the Board moved to charge guests at any "charged meeting" or "event" in the 2017-18 Program Year an additional *\$5 per guest fee* over that charged to our members and their spouses or significant others. *The rationale for this is that it will help offset the operating costs (\$3,100.00) that our members are paying through their dues, while our guests are technically getting these services which impact all meetings and events for free. This pricing policy change is in line with the Board's responsibility to manage the revenue provided by its members.* We hope it is clear that we love to have you invite your guests. We know that you're proud of your Club and enjoy, as we do, spending time with your guests at our events.

Should anyone have any questions about the Club's financial status or condition, feel free to contact me with your questions and/or concerns.

Alan Steffe  
Secretary/Treasurer

## RECAP OF HEADLINES FROM BOARD MEETING AT COULTER TEMPE

### Board Clarifies Email Policy

It is Board Policy to allow a member's email address to be listed in the Club's email address book upon receipt and acceptance of their Membership Request Form. Email addresses remain on the Club's email address site so long as the member remains a "member in good standing". However, it is also our policy not to immediately eliminate a past member's email from our records for a period of at least one year after they have decided not to renew their membership unless they specifically ask to be removed. Obviously, we would hope that during this "grace period" they may decide to rejoin the Club. It should be noted that Club Membership applies for a Calendar Year, with dues payable by January 1st of the applicable year.

Therefore, you should be aware that we have now purified our email list and have sent notices to past members who have chosen not to re-new their membership for a period which exceeds the "grace period". If the person renews their Club membership, we will leave their name on the list. Otherwise, their emails will be deleted from our Club email address book. In addition, a process has now been established where the auditors will conduct an email review as part of their annual financial audit and make recommendations for deletions.

### GM Headline News Article Emails



Thanks to Don Robins, we are now ready to share current GM News Articles with any member who would like to receive them. If you are interested in receiving the latest GM News, please contact Don Robins and request to be placed on his email address site. Don can be reached at.... drobins1137@msn.com.

### Tentative Club Fall & Winter 2017/2018 Schedule Guests Are Welcome

Our goal is to enjoy good times with friends, new and old, as we share our legacy with General Motors while experiencing the rich bounty of Arizona.

Tues, Nov 7, 2017	Liberty Buick GMC Dealer-Sponsored Lunch & Special Presentation
Thur, Dec 7, 2017	Arizona Broadway Dinner Theatre Matinee
Wed, Jan 17, 2018	Border Patrol Presentation - EVIT - Mesa
Tues, Feb. 13, 2018	McDowell Mt. Conservancy Presentation & Lunch
Tues, Mar 13, 2018	Kartchner Caverns Tour - Day Trip
Tues, Apr 3, 2018	Picnic In The Park - Cookout & Games
Tues, Apr TBD, 2018	Golf Scramble - Luncheon & Prizes

\* Check [www.azgmalumni.com](http://www.azgmalumni.com) for updates.

\*\* Registration forms will be available on the website when details are confirmed.



## 2017 WINTER SCHEDULE

**Tuesday**  
**April 4, 2017**



**Picnic In The Park**  
**PebbleCreek's**  
**Sunrise Park**  
**Goodyear, AZ**



We have reserved the park located on the East side of PebbleCreek Parkway for an afternoon of fun, games and great food and drinks. We have canopies to provide shade from the sun and tables and chairs for your comfort. 4 Bocce Ball Courts, 4 professional grade horse shoe pits, music, and team game competition are available for a day of fun with friends. This will be "The Picnic To Remember". Dillon's BBQ in Peoria will be supplying the food and the Mr. Softy Ice Cream Truck will be supplying the "Dairy Queen" type sundaes to cool things off. Oh, and did I mention Belgian Fat Tire Beer and red and white wines would be supplied? Cost - \$25.00 per person.

**Wednesday**  
**April 19, 2017**

**Annual Club**  
**Golf Scramble**  
**Starfire Golf Course**  
**Scottsdale, AZ**



Sport Fans, I think the word is out!!! For several years the Club has struggled to get more than 18 players to our golf outing, but in April 2016 all things changed when Bob and Barbara Goebel took the outing to the McCormick Ranch Country Club in Scottsdale. 28 players lined up in teams of four to compete for gift certificates and prizes. This year's scramble will include party favors for all golfers, as well as individual prizes for lowest team score, longest drive, closest to the pin, and longest putt. So,

begin now to create your winning teams. Last year we had six ladies join us and this year we're hoping for many more.

**Note:** All Meeting Acknowledgement Forms are attached for your convenience. However, be sure to consult your Club website for all meeting advertising and attendance forms. You may also refer your friends to [www.azgmalumni.com](http://www.azgmalumni.com) to click on the Calendar tab.

**MEET DENNIS AND PAM POWERS—2017 CLUB VICE PRESIDENT**

**DENNIS POWERS**, 2017 Club Vice President. Dennis was born in Racine, Wisconsin, but raised in Janesville where he met his wife Pam. Dennis began his career at GM in the Material Department at the Janesville Plant in 1968 in the car order group. He was promoted to Supervisor in 1976 and was transferred to Warren, MI working in NAO Process Engineering until retirement in July of 2000. During that period of his career, Dennis basically worked for all divisions...CPC, BOC, Small Car Group, CAD and Buick.

Some of Dennis's most memorable events while working at GM were; 1.) Being part of the Renovation Committee at the Tech Center to upgrade the Fisher Body Building. 2.) As Building Manager of the Ternstedt Building during the relocation from the Fisher Body Building. 3.) Being thankful for GM providing "flex hours" so he could enjoy his passion for coaching basketball where he was 9th Grade Assistant Coach at Malow Jr. High School for 13 years. Some of Dennis's hobbies include golf, reading, gardening and watching high school and college football and basketball.

In 2002, Dennis and his family moved to Phoenix to be close to their daughter. In 2006, he joined the GM Retirees Club of AZ and served on the Board for two years as Secretary/Treasurer as well as working with the AWIM program for 5 years.

**PAM POWERS:** Pam was born and raised in Janesville, Wisconsin. Having been born on Easter Sunday, she has always been accused of interrupting a big family dinner. She graduated from Janesville Sr. High School in 1964 and was immediately accepted into the Chicago Art Institute in one of their art programs. Before moving with her husband to Warren in 1976, Pam worked for the Register of Deeds of Rock County, Wisconsin where she created ID cards for all over the age of 18. Of course, I am sure she had many ID's for herself? From there she joined the Rock County Welfare Department where she interviewed people who were applying for aid. It was interesting for her to learn just how many families relied and lived on assistance for generations.

Once established in Warren, Pam went back to college full time graduating Magna Cum Laude all while raising two children. During this period a few good job offers came her way, such as working at the GM Design Staff, but school was her focus and she passed. Instead, after graduation, Pam went to work for K-Mart Corporation in Troy; where she ended up running a design department with a staff of 165 people. After 8 1/2 years with K-Mart they decided to outsource the whole department so all 165 of her staff were fired in September 1993. Pam was only one of only 25 that were chosen by the new company to set up and run a design group. Then, as often happens, after 6 months all of the 25 K-Mart employees were systematically fired. Thus, she retired.

No, the end of working was just the beginning of a new life chapter. Pam started golfing, painting, taking classes, entering contests and exhibitions and actually winning a couple of state recognitions for her work. Pam feels she was born to be a designer; helping many over the years in decorating their homes, etc. She notes that in the past 40 years she designed two of the many homes she and Dennis have built including the one they live in now which is always and still under renovation.

Pam and Dennis are proud that they have been married for 50 years. They consider themselves not only husband and wife, but best of friends.

## DENNIS AND PAM POWERS – CONTINUED

They are very proud of their two children. Their daughter, Christina, is a designer and has her own freelance business, while raising two children; (Connor 12 and Kendall 8). She and her husband Lincoln live in Arizona.

Their son Jim, who gave up the parties at college for a degree in science and went on to earn his Masters was offered a full ride to William & Mary, but chose to go work instead. Today, he is a chemist in R & D for Novartis in Cambridge, MA. Jim's name is on 7 patents for his work in cancer and other areas. He and his wife Jessica and their three little boys (Harrison 8, Sean 5 and Benjamin 2) live in Waltham, MA.

## REMEMBERING CORTE BELLA – FEBRUARY 2017



Yes, if you missed it, you heard right!!!! Professional Comedian, Mark Cordes was our Club's featured guest at our February 2017 meeting at the Corte Bella Country Club in Sun City West. He is best known locally for his side splitting routine called "The Spouse Whisperer", and he didn't disappoint. 94 Club Members and guests enjoyed a great lunch and Mark's comedic journey from "love at first sight" through "till death do us part", and all the funny stuff in between.



How do you tell the gender of a skeleton?  
This one is obvious....a male, because his mouth  
is glued shut.



It was great to be with you and I did the best I could with what I had to work with. Oh, if you find yourself getting a divorce as a result of my show, please let me know. I have this score card....free hat with every verifiable divorce. Thanks for having me!!



**"DOOR PRIZE" - WINNERS - CORTE BELLA**

The Board has given final approval to the concept of giving "Door Prizes" at each meeting, featuring items from GM, coupons from the Club, and coupons from our loyal dealers. Our Club benefits from our four loyal dealers who sponsor luncheons, provide giveaways for our golf scramble, actively promote our Club at their dealerships and on their websites, and now with giveaways as door prizes at Club meetings. The drawings began at Corte Bella which were well received. Therefore, drawings will be held at most meetings effective immediately. Thank you Courtesy Chevrolet, Coulter Tempe, Liberty Buick GMC and Sands Chevrolet.



Winner  
Delrene Buterakos



Winner  
Jim Irwin

**50/50 WINNERS - CORTE BELLA**

Jay Subhedar - \$67



Mary Ellen Stepanich - \$50



Susan Moss - \$35



Ben Snyder - \$20

**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**

Lyle & Marjorie Antieau  
Returning Member  
Oldsmobile, Lansing, Detroit



Robert & Beverly Craig  
GMAC  
Kansas City, Waterloo, IA



Dennis & Mary Ann Staley  
Orion Assembly  
Lake Orion, MI



**THANK YOU FROM DIANE E HARSHMAN - PUBLISHER**

Hello Club Members,

Yes, I have been the one behind the scenes for the past four years putting together a newsletter that was more pleasing to the eye. It's hard to believe that four years has passed since the club released the first "Club Reporter".

Even though I was not at your meetings, working on the Newsletter gave me the opportunity to get to know all of you through Jim's stories and pictures. Thank you for this challenge.....for a while I thought I worked at a real newspaper because at times my dead line was the day before. (I do believe Jim thought I was "Super Woman" or "Bewitch" and I could twitch my nose and it would be done.) He had no real idea what work really went into it...I suppose I shouldn't have made it look so easy. He would say just drop it in....Ha, ha where there is no room left. Any way, it was my pleasure to meet a lot of you at the few events I did attend.

I wish all of you, and the club much success, health and happiness.

What a great HONOR!

Heart 2 Heart,

Diane

P.S. You're in good hands with Roxanne!!



Thank you for honoring me and gifting me the wonderful clock acknowledging me as the publisher.

