

## THE CLUB REPORTER

DECEMBER 2017



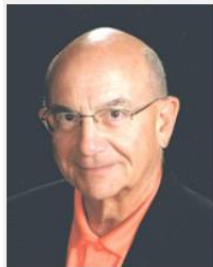
## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

EDITOR'S WELCOME	1
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE	2
2018 MEETING UPDATES	3-4
MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME	5
KETTERING (GMI) ALUMNI LUNCHEON	5
NOVEMBER 7 <sup>TH</sup> MEETING SUMMARY	6-7
MEETING REGISTRATION FORMS	8-9
MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM	10

## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- President's Message
- Meeting Updates
- Membership Renewal Information
- Kettering (GMI) Pres. Visiting Arizona
- November 17<sup>th</sup> Meeting Pictures

## EDITOR'S WELCOME



Hello Alumni! I hope that everyone had a very enjoyable Thanksgiving holiday and is now looking forward to the upcoming Christmas holiday. This is that time of year that seems to flash by very quickly. Yet among all the activity, I still want to keep all our members up-to-date and aware of all the positive things happening in our Club.

The Club year started off with an exceptional GM speaker, Rob Peterson, Buick Marketing Manager, at the luncheon provided by Liberty Buick & GMC at Palmbrook Country Club. You will find pictures from that event on pages 6 & 7.

Be sure to review the upcoming 2018 events detailed on pages 3 & 4 and get your registration forms submitted by the dates shown for each event. You will not want to miss the interesting topics to be presented on January 17<sup>th</sup> and February 15<sup>th</sup>. In addition, the April 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting content has been changed from that of a picnic to an urban cowboy activity, something you will not want to miss. So check out all the details on page 4.

Again as we approach the end of calendar year 2017, it means that it is time to **renew your Club Membership for the 2018 Calendar Year**. Further membership renewal information can be found on page 5 of this Newsletter.

In closing, I want to wish everyone a very ***Blessed Christmas***, and hope you will be able to enjoy it with family and friends. I also wish you a very ***Happy New Year!*** And look forward to seeing everyone at our first meeting of the new year on January 17<sup>th</sup> at the East Valley Institute of Technology Culinary School to learn all about the U.S. Border Patrol activities.

Enjoy!

*Alan Steffe*

Editor & Publisher, The Club Reporter  
alansteffe@yahoo.com



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



In this season of thanksgiving and celebration, I'm energized by the continued growth of our Club with new and interesting members and fruitful partnerships that continue to come our way. As members of the GM Alumni Club of AZ, we share activities in this beautiful state and enjoy relationships far beyond the average person who worked for General Motors. Many of the 100 retiree/alumni clubs across the nation are exclusive to one site, work group, or a single division. The footprint of our Club includes GM salaried personnel from more than 40 different divisions and affiliates, and a few associate members. Our brain trust is well beyond the norm.

The camaraderie we enjoy within our Club is certain. 27 of our members worked in engineering, 25 had careers in sales and service, 20 in manufacturing, and the remainder in HR, finance, IT, communications, training, medical, and legal. Added to that is the experience our Associate members bring – ranging from nursing to business executives to business owners. Our Club roster is rich.

In the last month I've had two opportunities, through chance meetings, to meet two GM retirees, (currently not members of our Club). It's become a "thing" I look forward to. When Al & I are out and about the Valley and our path happens to cross with someone in a parking lot, etc. who has a Michigan license plate, a MSU or U of M sticker, I jump on it as an opportunity to find out where they're from in Michigan. And if they're from anywhere ranging between Saginaw to Detroit, "bam!" I have the opportunity to inquire if they worked for GM and then tell them about our Club. In fact, I keep a note pad on-hand so I can give them our website. My next step is to start carrying copies of our glossy brochure in the glove box. If you're willing to do the same, pick-up a few copies at the January meeting and enjoy! It's so easy to talk about the Club and it feels great!

Our partnerships continue to grow. Most recently, a GM employee at the GM IT Innovation Center in Chandler (also known as the AIC) saw one of our window decals on the highway as he commuted to work. He took the initiative to check out our website and sent me an email. This relationship continues to evolve and has piqued the interest of GM HQ with the potential as we share experience and they share how technology continues to move GM into the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

We recently held a Board meeting at the AIC (Arizona Innovation Center) and learned they have 946 employees. Members of AIC leadership joined us and provided a presentation and tour. There are four GM IT Innovation Centers in the U.S., with the Phoenix area chosen based on a rich pool of IT talent. They have a large meeting area and on-site catering. We plan to hold a future Club meeting, tour the facility, and enjoy a GM speaker, later in 2018 or 2019. We've formed a committee and will continue to meet with our new IT friends to uncover opportunities. We'll have more to share at the January Club meeting, with details shared in future editions of the newsletter. In the interim, if you're interested to know more, or would like to get involved, please contact me at 810.280.1399.



As 2017 comes to a close and I reflect back on serving as your Club president, I am more than thankful. I have been truly blessed. You have enriched my life, and I've enjoyed feeling responsible to all of you. The Club is moving forward. In 2018, we will add new members and partnerships will continue to evolve, enriching our Club even more. Opportunities have arrived to move our Club into the 21<sup>st</sup> century, confirming that our future has great potential. We will continue to evaluate and select those that continue our momentum.

Merry Christmas to all, and all the best for a Happy New Year!

*Roxanne Steffe*, 2017 Club President

**2018 MEETING UPDATES**

The **January 17<sup>th</sup> Meeting** will feature a presentation by the **U.S. Border Patrol** – one of the most requested topics in last year's member survey. It will also take place at one of the venues most popular to our members – the East Valley Institute of Technology Culinary School (**EVIT**) in Mesa.

A U.S. Border Patrol agent from the Casa Grande Liaison Office will be speaking on "Border Patrol 101." This is an educational brief that is aimed at informing the public of the offices which make up the



U.S. Customs and Border Protection Agency. It will describe the function of each office and how each work together to attain the Agency's mission of securing our nation's borders. It will also provide an opportunity to get your questions answered about these important U.S. Government operations, which are currently hot topics in the daily news. A Registration Form can be found on page 8 and is **due by January 8<sup>th</sup>**.

A general tour of the EVIT Automotive Labs will also be available for those interested following the formal meeting. Please note your interest on the Registration Form to assure adequate tour guides are available to accommodate all those interested.

The **February 15<sup>th</sup> Meeting** features a presentation by the **McDowell Sonoran Conservancy** at the **Scottsdale Culinary Institute**. Scottsdale's McDowell Sonoran Preserve encompasses more than 31,000 acres of pristine Sonoran Desert. More than 180 miles of well-maintained trails allow you to explore the Preserve on foot, bike, or horse. The Preserve is open from sunrise to sunset. There is no charge for parking or access at any of their trailheads. So come join us for a presentation that will provide you with an overview of the McDowell



McDowell Sonoran  
Conservancy

Sonoran Conservancy program of Scottsdale, while experiencing "Culinary Excellence" delivered by the Culinary Arts program of Scottsdale Community College. The luncheon is **limited to 70 people**, and will therefore be limited to registration for **members only through January 2, 2018**. If space is still available at that time, the luncheon will be opened up to guests as well. Therefore, **get your registrations in early!** A Registration Form is available on page 9 and on the Club Website.



## 2018 MEETING UPDATES - CONTINUED



All who have **already committed** to the **March 14<sup>th</sup>** day-trip to **Kartchner Caverns and Trail Dust Town** will be receiving **further details** about the day's activities including detailed schedules, meal selections, and final payment instructions **in January**. *Watch your email for this communication.*



**Note: Two openings for this day trip have just become available.** If you are interested in joining the group for a great day of fun and adventure, **please contact Alan Steffe at 810-513-3367 or [alansteffe@yahoo.com](mailto:alansteffe@yahoo.com) for further reservation instructions ASAP. These two openings will be filled on a first-come first-served basis.**

This year we will end the program year on **April 3, 2018** with a new event with something fun for all in attendance. Everyone who enjoyed participating in last year's picnic should look forward to another fun-filled action event – an **Urban Cowboy Square Dance party** – held at Palmbrook Country Club in Sun City. Come in your fanciest western duds and be prepared for fun! We assume no one has been square dancing since the 8<sup>th</sup> grade, so our well respected throughout Maricopa County caller, Dick Callahan, will lead us through the basics. Dick is used to people who don't move as quickly as they used to. There is a lot of room for singles, partners, and even observers (we'll need a cheering section!). Guests are also welcome to join in the fun.



A meal of oven roasted chicken and bar-b-q ribs with all the fixin's and a complimentary drink will precede the square dancing. A cash bar will be available to help get everyone through the afternoon. All participants will also take home a gift with which to remember this year-ending fun event. Save the date and join in the fun! A registration form is available on the Club's website.

The Club's **Annual Golf Outing** will be held on **Thursday, April 5, 2018** at the Eagle's Nest Golf Club at PebbleCreek in Goodyear. Put the date on your calendar, and begin forming your foursome now. You won't want to miss the camaraderie, competition, and many stories that will be told about this fun event. More information and the event registration form can be found on the Club's Website.



Your timely reservations help us better plan the details of each meeting and event, including sufficient food and accommodations. Please indicate any dietary restrictions on the registration form, and we will make every effort to accommodate you. But if we cannot do so, we will contact you in advance. Please keep all registration deadlines in mind. Some deadlines may be earlier than you would like, but that becomes necessary based on the venue being used.

## MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME



**Membership Renewals are due by January 1 and become delinquent if not paid by February 1.**

- Membership Renewal Forms are available on page 10 of this newsletter and on the Club's Website.
- ***New for 2018 memberships and going forward***, current members in good standing who have reached the ***age of 90 by December 31*** of the preceding year will be granted ***free life memberships for the following years***. This means it is important for members to complete all items on the Membership Renewal Forms and submit the form with your renewal check.

**RENEW YOUR  
MEMBERSHIP**



## GMI (KETTERING) ALUMNI SPECIAL NOTICE

As reported previously, Robert McMahon, President of Kettering University (formerly GMI), will be coming to Phoenix on **January 18, 2018** for a luncheon reception with all Kettering (GMI) Alumni and guests at the Arizona Biltmore. Since many members of the GM Alumni Club of AZ are GMI Alumni, we want to make sure you are aware of this opportunity to meet and mix with other GMI alumni here in our own backyard and learn more about the exciting things happening at the University. Here are the event details as posted on the Kettering Alumni website with instructions on how to attend.

This will also be a great opportunity to help recruit new members to our Club. Make sure to have your GM Alumni Club window decal on your vehicle as you attend this function. We hope to see many of our alumni there.



## Arizona Alumni Luncheon

January 18, 2018 at 11:30 a.m.

**Arizona Biltmore, A Waldorf Astoria  
Resort**, 2400 East Missouri Ave., Phoenix, AZ  
85016

Join Kettering University President, Dr. Robert K. McMahan, and fellow Kettering/GMI alumni for a luncheon at the Arizona Biltmore. Dr. McMahan will provide a university update. All alumni and guests are welcome to attend. Cost to attend is \$10 per person. To RSVP please call the Alumni Office at 810.762.9883.



## NOVEMBER 7<sup>TH</sup> MEETING AT PALMBROOK

The 2017-2018 Program Year kicked off with an exceptional meeting and exceptional GM speaker at Palmbrook Country Club sponsored by Liberty Buick and GMC. 97 members and guests enjoyed a wonderful meal followed by a detailed presentation by Rob Peterson, Buick Marketing Manager, detailing the changes Buick has gone through in recent years and the direction it will be going in the future, as its sales continue to increase and its number of models fill more needs in the marketplace. Enjoy the following photos as a reminder of the event (or what you missed if you were not there).



Palmbrook Country Club



L-R: Bud Moore, Don VanRoekel, Verlys VanRoekel



Rob Peterson - Roxanne Steffe



L-R: Tim Carrasco – Liberty Buick Sales, Victoria Grant – Liberty GMC Sales, Rob Peterson, Joe Fetzner



Lora Tucker - Ruby Boechler



Bob Atkins -  
Making someone happy!



Roxanne Steffe – President

(Continued on page 7)



## NOVEMBER 7<sup>TH</sup> MEETING AT PALMBROOK – CONTINUED

(Continued from page 6)



Members & Guests Enjoying the Presentation



Rob Peterson – Buick  
Marketing Manager



Eleven Past Presidents & Current President Attend Together

### Front Row L-R:

Ken Iske (1993), Jim Smeets (1995),  
Bud Moore (1997), Joe Fetzer (2001),  
Stan Owens (2006)

### Back Row L-R:

Don VanRoekel (2007), John  
McAlpine (2008), Don Robins (2009),  
Jon Moss (2012), Larry Sessoms  
(2014), Hal Hubbard (2016), Roxanne  
Steffe (2017)

Additional photos can be found on the Club Website under [“Calendar – Previous Events & Photos”](#)

## NOVEMBER 7<sup>TH</sup> MEETING 50/50 WINNERS



Bill Todd - \$67



Janice Foldenaur - \$50



Joe Fetzer - \$30



Jim Hall - \$20

**Meeting Registration Form**  
**East Valley Institute of Technology – School of Culinary Arts**  
**Guest Speaker – U.S. Border Patrol**  
**Wednesday, January 17, 2018**

A U.S. Border Patrol agent from the Casa Grande Liaison Office will be speaking on "Border Patrol 101." This is an educational brief that is aimed at informing the public of the offices which make up the U.S. Customs and Border Protection. This presentation will describe the function of each office and how each work together to attain the Agency's mission of securing our nation's borders. It will also provide an opportunity to get your questions answered about these important U.S. Government operations.

**Note:** A tour of the EVIT Automotive Labs will be available for those interested after the meeting. It will be led by a GM retiree, Michael McAfee, Director of the Arizona Automotive Youth Education System. Check box below if interested in the tour to insure sufficient tour guides are available.

**Directions:**

The East Valley Institute of Technology - School of Culinary Arts is located at 1601 W. Main Street, Mesa, AZ. Take Hwy 101 to W. Main Street and travel east. The school is located halfway between S. Dobson Road and N. Alma School Road on the South side of W. Main Street.

**Time:** 10:30 AM – 11:00 AM Check-In  
 11:00 AM – 12:15 PM Guest Speaker Presentation  
 12:30 PM – 1:30 PM Lunch Is Served  
 1:30 PM – 2:00 PM Business Meeting

2:00 PM Tour Available  
for Those Interested

**Menu and Menu Options:**

The specific meal selection includes:

- **SALAD:** Mixed Greens – Spring Mix, Tomato, Carrot, English Cucumber, House Vinaigrette
- **ENTREE:** (Select One) **Roasted Chicken Breast** – Herb Pan Jus  
**Grilled Salmon** – Citrus Buerre Blanc
- **DESERT:** Carrot Cake – Citrus Cream Cheese Icing, Caramel Sauce

**Cost:** \$22.00 Per Member or Spouse/Significant Other & \$27.00 Per Guest

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**Meeting Registration Form**  
**East Valley Institute of Technology – School of Culinary Arts**  
**Guest Speaker – U.S. Border Patrol**  
**Wednesday, January 17, 2018**

Please return this portion of the form with your payment to: **GM Alumni Club of Arizona**  
**P.O. Box 7414**  
**Goodyear, AZ 85338**

The following will be attending the E. Valley Institute of Technology Culinary School Meeting:

Member _____	Cost \$22.00 – Amt Included \$ _____
Spouse/Significant Other _____	Cost \$22.00 – Amt Included \$ _____
Guest _____	Cost \$27.00 – Amt Included \$ _____
Guest _____	Cost \$27.00 – Amt Included \$ _____
<b>Total Amount Included \$ _____</b>	

Entrée Selection		EVIT Auto Lab Tour
Chicken	Salmon	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

If special dietary needs, please advise, and we will attempt to accommodate: \_\_\_\_\_

(Please make checks payable to: **GM Alumni Club of Arizona**)

**ALL CHECKS MUST BE RECEIVED BY JANUARY 8, 2018**

Any questions can be directed to Larry Sessoms (623-455-8616 H) or Ken Wechselberger (623-251-3684 H)

**Note:** Keep up to date by checking the Club Website frequently at [www.azgmalumni.com](http://www.azgmalumni.com).  
 Check out the "Calendar Tab" for details and Registration Forms for any and all events for the year.



**Meeting Registration Form  
Scottsdale Community College Culinary Arts  
Guest Speaker – McDowell Sonoran Conservancy  
Thursday, February 15, 2018**

Scottsdale's McDowell Sonoran Preserve encompasses more than 31,000 acres of pristine Sonoran Desert. More than 180 miles of well-maintained trails allow you to explore the Preserve on foot, bike or horse. The Preserve is open from sunrise to sunset. There is no charge for parking or access at any of our trailheads. So come join us for a presentation that will provide an overview of the McDowell Sonoran Conservancy program of Scottsdale, while experiencing "Culinary Excellence" delivered by the Culinary Arts program of Scottsdale Community College.

**Seating is limited to 70 attendees and, therefore, open only to members through January 2, 2018. If seating remains at that time, it will be opened up to guests as well.**

**Directions:**

Scottsdale Community College is located at 9000 E. Chaparral Road in Scottsdale. Exit AZ101 at Chaparral, and take Chaparral east to the 4<sup>th</sup> entrance to Scottsdale Community College (~0.5 miles from AZ101). Turn left and follow the drive north to Parking Lot H.

**Time:** 11:00 AM – 11:30 AM Check-In  
11:30 AM – 12:30 PM Lunch Is Served  
12:30 PM – 1:30 PM Club Meeting & Guest Speaker Presentation

**Menu and Menu Options:**

The specific meal selection includes:

- **STARTER:** House Salad & Rolls
- **ENTREE:** Poached Salmon & Heirloom Tomato on Pumpernickel – Angel Hair Pasta Salad  
(Select One) **Classic Monte Cristo** – Roasted Brussels Sprouts & Warm Bourbon Mustard Vinaigrette  
**Braised Shoulder of Lamb** – Fennel & Tomato Broth, Caramelized Onion Mascarpone Polenta
- **DESSERT:** Dessert Sampler

**Cost:** \$20.00 Per Member or Spouse/Significant Other



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**Meeting Registration Form  
Scottsdale Community College Culinary Arts  
Guest Speaker – McDowell Sonoran Conservancy  
Thursday, February 15, 2018**

Please return this portion of the form with your payment to: **GM Alumni Club of Arizona  
P.O. Box 7414  
Goodyear, AZ 85338**

The following will be attending the E. Valley Institute of Technology Culinary School Meeting:

Member \_\_\_\_\_ Cost \$20.00 – Amt Included \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse/Significant Other \_\_\_\_\_ Cost \$20.00 – Amt Included \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Amount Included \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

(Please make checks payable to: **GM Alumni Club of Arizona**)

**ALL CHECKS MUST BE RECEIVED BY FEBRUARY 8, 2018**

If special dietary needs, please enter number of each required: Gluten Free \_\_\_\_\_ Sugar Free \_\_\_\_\_ Vegan \_\_\_\_\_

Any questions can be directed to Larry Sessoms (623-455-8616 H) or Ken Wechselberger (623-251-3684 H)

**Note:** Keep up to date by checking the Club Website frequently at [www.azgmalumni.com](http://www.azgmalumni.com).

Check out the "Calendar Tab" for details and Registration Forms for any and all events for the year.

Entrée Selection		
Salmon	Monte Cristo	Lamb
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>





# GM Alumni Club of Arizona

## 2018 Membership Application/Renewal

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse/Significant Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Retired: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Birth Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

GM Division/Affiliate: \_\_\_\_\_

Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Length of Service: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Position Held: \_\_\_\_\_

**Arizona Address:** ☐ Permanent ☐ Seasonal **Alternate Address:** ☐ Permanent ☐ Seasonal

Street: \_\_\_\_\_ Street: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_ Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you interested in handling Club assignments? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

Special interests or hobbies? \_\_\_\_\_

☐ **New Member:** Annual Membership Fee is \$30.00☐ GM or GM Affiliate Salaried Retiree or Alumni or Surviving Spouse☐ Associate Member sponsored by \_\_\_\_\_  
(Member Name)**How did you hear about the Club?** \_\_\_\_\_*(All Members are encouraged to purchase the standard Club Name Badges for themselves and their spouses. Purchase forms are available at all meetings and on the Club Website.)*☐ **Member Renewal:** Renewal Membership Fee is \$30.00☐ **Member Renewal:** Life member (no cost) ☐ Age 90 by 12/31/2017☐ Pre 2011 Club President

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*( Make checks payable to: GM Alumni Club of Arizona )***Drop off completed application/renewal and check at the Welcome Table at any meeting, or mail to: GM Alumni Club of Arizona****P.O. Box 7414****Goodyear, AZ 85338**

Any questions can be directed to Larry Sessoms (623-455-8616 H) or Ken Wechslerberger (623-251-3684 H)

**Membership Renewals due by January 1, 2018, becoming delinquent if not paid by February 1, 2018.***Note: Above information will be used for Club purposes only and not sold. Your signature allows your picture to be used as part of Club Newsletters and promotions.***Keep up to date at our website: [www.azgmalumni.com](http://www.azgmalumni.com)**