

Retiree Newsletter

Invites you, your spouse and friend to our April Fun Event

President	Jim Harshman	Staff Factotum	Jim Smeets
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Secretary/Treasurer	Bill Von Kampen	Staff Record Keeper	Jim Irwin
Board Members	Don Van Roekel, John McAlpine, Don Robins, Mike Neaves		
Director Emeritus	Bud Moore, Joe Fetzer		
Sub Directors	John Riley, Ward Atkinson		

President's Message

It's great to be back from Australia and New Zealand...and in one piece. We were able to dodge the cyclones and earthquake...But unfortunately, not everyone was so lucky. We all need to remember those citizens of Christchurch, New Zealand who were killed or injured in our prayers.

Good news! On February 22, 2011 the Club Board of Directors met and has approved a number of exciting meetings for upcoming Club events. As mentioned in last months Retiree Newsletter, our April 5th meeting will be held at the beautiful Talking Stick Resort on Indian Bend Rd and 101 Hwy in Scottsdale. This will be a LEARNING EVENT which will offer Club Members the opportunity to learn about the history of the Tribe, benefits of the resort to the Tribe/State or local communities, the background of the Resorts road to completion of the Casino. As a "bonus" you will receive a crash course in "How To Play Black Jack." Don't tell anyone, but the food is to die for.

Now, for our October 18th Meeting, YOU DO NOT WANT TO MISS IT! Make your plans now to return to Arizona early. Our meeting theme will be "Border Wars"...Your Speaker will be a knowledgeable, "boots on the ground" law enforcement officer from Pinal County who will give you the latest Immigration update from the front lines. Absolutely "no spin" just the facts. So if your interested in immigration issues, drug trafficking, this will be the chance for you to get first hand information.

Our November 8th meeting will be a dealer sponsored event held at Sands Chevrolet. The topic of discussion will be the Chevrolet VOLT. You never know, we maybe able to arrange a "test drive" for a select few. It all depends on product availability. However, you will walk away with a good understanding of the electric/hybrid engine and what it means for future transportation.

On December 13th, we will finish up the year with a visit to the Dutton Theater in Mesa for a musical Christmas extravaganza.

And the good news keeps on coming...I am happy to announce the membership dues for next year will be reduced to \$25.00. See related article in newsletter.

In closing, I would like to thank Jon Moss for leading last months meeting in my absence and we should "tip our hats" to the Club Board of Directors for going all out to provide us with a first class calendar of events for the remainder of the year. There is more good news coming, so be looking for the October Newsletter in your mail some time mid-summer.

Annual Dues Reduction

Your club leadership works very hard to control the cost of operating our club. Whether we're negotiating meal prices at the Country Clubs or searching out the best price each month on newsletter printing costs, we always get the best value for our members. We raised dues several years ago because we were experiencing a new high cost for Audio/Visual equipment rental for our meeting presentations. It could cost us \$1200.00 to \$1400.00 per month but we felt if General Motors paid to send a Vice-President from Detroit, we needed to be sure the Power Point could be easily viewed by all members. After several years of these costs, Steve Mosshart of Straightline Investments Advisors donated a very nice Power Point Projector to our club. This immediately reduced our cost because if the Country Club had a large screen, we no longer needed to rent equipment and pay to have it set up. Also as presentation projectors became more compact, some GM presenters could bring their own equipment on the plane. We are going into our last meeting until fall with the best bank balance we can remember and the only increase we might see is the proposed Postage increase. So your Board has established a "rollback" to \$25.00 for annual dues starting with the 2011-2012 fall season. Your officers and Board will continue to be very frugal in spending Club dollars and we will continue to do everything we can to hold the line on meal costs. We will ask you to fill out a survey to see if members would consider a Buffet Style luncheon, if we could save money.

All American Car Show

Sands Chevrolet will host the All American Car Show at their Beautiful New Dealership off 303 at Wadell Rd in Surprise, AZ on March 20.2011 from 8:00AM to 2:00PM. They will be showing all makes of American Classic Collector Cars. The event is free to reviewers. For those wishing to show a car, there is a \$25.00 entry fee with all proceeds going to Phoenix Childrens Hospital. There will be prizes and awards for winners in various classes. For additional info visit their website at www.sandsurprise.com/phoenix-allamericancarshow.htm.

Sands Chevrolet has graciously offered to host our November Retiree Luncheon and hopes to have a "Volt" to show us along with all the 2012 Beautiful new Chevrolet Products.

GM posts 1st full-year since 2004

In an impressive comeback from bankruptcy, General Motors last year posted its first annual profit since 2004.

GM posted net income of \$4.7 billion last year, fueled by strong sales in China and the U.S. as the global auto market began to recover. It earned \$2.89 per share on revenue of \$135.6 billion.

It was the company's best performance since earning \$6 billion in 1999 during the height of the pickup truck and sport utility vehicle sales boom.

The performance, while beating Wall Street expectations, didn't help GM's stock price, which fell more than 3 percent to \$33.48 in midday trading.

GM's Opel to produce new convertible in Europe

General Motors Co.'s European unit Opel says it plans to produce a new convertible model starting in 2013 as part of its turnaround drive Opel said Friday that the new model will be produced at its Gliwice plant in Poland and is part of a euro11 billion (\$15 billion) plan to invest in future projects that was announced. The company says the name of the new car, as well as pricing and other details, will be announced closer to the launch.

GM nearly sold a majority stake in its European operations in 2009, but subsequently decided to hold onto and restructure Opel and sister brand Vauxhall. Its European business has yet to return to profitability.

Head of GM Brazil steps down

The head of General Motors' Brazil operations is stepping down.

According to a statement on the company's website, Denise Johnson is leaving GM's Brazil division for unspecified personal reasons.

The note is signed by Jaime Ardila, head of GM's South America operations.

He previously was the head of GM in Brazil and says that he will temporarily take Johnson's place until a replacement is found.

GM February Auto Sales

General Motors Co. said February U.S. auto sales rose 49 percent, with strong results across its model lineup.

BY THE NUMBERS: GM sold 207,028 vehicles in February, up from 138,849 in the year-earlier month.

TOP SELLERS: GM sold 31,728 of the Chevrolet Silverado-C/K pickup, up 60 percent from February 2010. It was the auto maker's most popular model during the month.**HOT MODELS:** Sales of the Cadillac CTS and Cadillac DTS each more than doubled.

About Chevrolet

Founded in Detroit in 1911, Chevrolet celebrates its centennial as a global automotive brand with annual sales of about 4.25 million vehicles in more than 130 countries. Chevrolet provides consumers with fuel-efficient, safe and reliable vehicles that deliver high quality, expressive design, spirited performance and value.

The Chevrolet portfolio includes iconic performance cars such as Corvette and Camaro; dependable, long-lasting pickups and SUVs such as Silverado and Suburban; and award-winning passenger cars and crossovers such as Spark, Cruze, Malibu, Equinox and Traverse. Chevrolet also offers "gas-friendly to gas-free" solutions including Cruze Eco and Volt. Cruze Eco offers 42 mpg highway while Volt offers 35 miles of electric, gasoline-free driving and an additional 344 miles of extended range.

Most new Chevrolet models offer OnStar safety, security and connected mobility services including OnStar Hands-Free.ling, Automatic Crash Response and Stolen Vehicle Slowdown.

WEBSITE NEWS

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For those of you who don't know our website address we will print here again. It is.....

www.gmretirees.clubofarizona.com

For General Motors, the listed website will take you to a multitude of GM locations about General Motors Co.

www.generalmotors.com

GM Delivers 8.39 Vehicles in 2010

General Motors reported that it delivered 8,389,769 vehicles globally in calendar year 2010, a 12.2 percent increase from 2009 deliveries of 7,477,178.

GM achieved double-digit increases in five of its top 10 markets, including a 28.8 percent increase in China, where GM and its partners were the first to top the 2 million sales mark in a single year, and an increase of 41.3 percent in Uzbekistan, which is now GM's tenth-largest market by volume.

Deliveries in the United States, GM's No. 2 market, rose 6.3 percent despite the phase-out or sale of four brands, while Brazil, GM's third-largest market, saw deliveries rise by 10.4 percent.