

Retiree Newsletter

Info for GM retirees in Arizona

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December, 2010

President's Message

Thank you for attending our October meeting. It was a very enlightening and informative presentation.

It appears that the Company has some excellent products in the market place, with more coming. The leadership appears to be focused on promoting growth, all good signs for the future.

Be sure not to miss our December meeting held at Pebble Creek this year. We now get to see and hear a local school perform their Christmas Program. I don't know who enjoys it more, the kids or all the Grandparents in attendance.

Again, be sure to let our sponsoring dealers know of our appreciation for their participation in our club meetings. Send them a Thank You Card or better yet, go buy a new car.

It's the time of year that we elect new officers for the coming year. Make sure that you let one of the current officers know if you have any interest. It's a great group of people to work with.

All though at the time of this writing it seems a little early but let me be one the first to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Healthy and happy New Year

Mike Neaves

Sec'y. Treasurers Report

Membership 223

Bill Von Kampen

New models propel GM sales increase

The ability of General Motors Co. to put more 2011 models and hot-selling vehicles in dealer showrooms helped stoke October sales.

Seventy-six percent of GM's 183,800 U.S. sales last month were 2011 models, said Don Johnson, the company's vice president of sales.

At month's end, 85 percent of the 515,400 vehicles that GM dealers had in inventory were 2011 models, vs. 49 percent of the newest models in inventory a year ago, he said.

That later-model mix is helping GM hold retail prices and cut incentive spending, Johnson said. Incentive spending per vehicle is down about \$6500 from a year ago to about \$3,250, he said.

October sales of GM's four core brands -- Chevrolet, Cadillac, Buick and GMC -- rose about 13 percent compared with the year-ago October.

Flint Assembly Plant

General Motors Co.'s Flint Assembly Plant is poised to add a third shift of production if customer demand continues for the Chevrolet and GMC pickups built there, plant and union officials said today.

The plant, which builds heavy-duty and light-duty Chevy Silverado and GMC Sierra pickups, has been on maximum overtime this month, said Amy Farmer, plant manager of Flint Assembly and its sister stamping operation, the Flint Metal Center.

A third shift would require adding about 600 to 700 workers to the current 1,800 hourly work force, Farmer said.

Chevy Volt

General Motors said it plans to send six Chevrolet Volts on a 3,400-mile cross-country tour to demonstrate the hybrid's extended-range capability and celebrate its public debut.

According to GM, the plug-in hybrid vehicle offers a 25- to 50-mile driving range on a single electric charge, with a 111 kW (roughly 150 hp) electric motor, capable of 0-to-60-mph acceleration in about nine seconds. When the Volt's battery runs out of power -- after the 25 to 50 miles -- the vehicle uses gasoline to generate more electricity keeping it going for "hundreds of miles." It also can be plugged in for a recharge.

2011 Dues Notice

If you haven't paid your 2011 Annual Dues and want to be included in our new roster, please pay by the end of December. We are holding the dues at \$30.00, the same rate for the pst two years even though the Postmaster is asking for an increase in postage. We will go to press on the new roster early in 2011. Thank you.

Camaro Named 'Hottest Car' in Inaugural SEMA Award

The Chevrolet Camaro has been named the "hottest car" at the 2010 SEMA Show in Las Vegas. The inaugural SEMA Award recognizes the most accessory-friendly new models, based on the number of vehicles exhibited at the show. It was clearly the hottest car of the show.

GM spends \$190 million to build small Cadillac

General Motors Co. plans to spend \$190 million in a Michigan plant to build a small sedan for Cadillac, according to published reports.

GM CEO Dan Akerson is scheduled to make the announcement tomorrow at the Lansing Grand River assembly plant.

The Cadillac ATS will be marketed below the CTS -- currently the smallest Cadillac model.

The ATS is expected to go on sale as early as the 2012 model year. Analysts say Cadillac may sell coupe and wagon versions of the ATS as well.

GM already builds the [Cadillac STS](#) sedan and CTS sedan, coupe and wagon at the Lansing factory.

The paper said city officials expect the investment and addition of the ATS sedan to create about 600 jobs at the plant.

Oshawa Plant to Expand

General Motors Co. today made good on a promise made in March to add a third shift at its Oshawa Assembly Plant in Ontario to bolster production of its hot-selling [Chevrolet Equinox](#) crossover.

The shift will add 600 workers to the plant beginning tonight, GM announced.

GM is using Oshawa to help its main Equinox plant, CAMI, keep up with consumer demand for the Equinox and its sister vehicle, the GMC Terrain.

In September, CAMI began using trucks to shuttle CAMI-built Equinox bodies to Oshawa, where they are painted and assembled.

Oshawa runs two assembly lines, producing [Chevrolet Impala](#) sedans and Equinox on one line and [Chevrolet Camaro](#) sports cars on the other.

Later this fall, GM will add another shift of 700 to the Camaro line to add a Camaro Convertible and Buick Regal to the mix. Production of those vehicles begins early next year, said GM spokesman Jason Easton.

At that time, all 1,100 workers laid off at Oshawa in recent months will have been recalled and about 200 new hires brought abroad, said Easton. Hourly workers are represented by the Canadian Auto Workers union.

GM Sales Up for the 12th Consecutive Month

GMC posted year-over-year sales increases in September for the 12th consecutive month. Driven by customer demand for the Sierra, Terrain and Acadia, retail sales increased 48 percent in September. Total sales are up 42 percent, compared to the same month a year ago.

The Sierra, Terrain and Acadia continue to post strong sales increases for GMC," said Brian Sweeney, U.S. vice president for Buick & GMC Sales and Service. "We are encouraged that September marked a year of consecutive year-over-year sales increases for the brand."

Academy Cadets, GM CEO Visit Middle School Students

Members of the boxing teams from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y., the Naval Academy in Annapolis, Md., and the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs shared their stories on life choices that took them to the prestigious academies with 6th-8th graders at Charles L. Spain Elementary-Middle School in Detroit on Friday.

"Boxing has taught me so much about life and about myself," said Nicholas Cataldo, an Air Force cadet who spoke at the assembly to about 200 students." Just like the Academy, boxing teaches you the value of hard work and discipline, how to deal with fear and doubt, and how to overcome any challenge."

Joining the cadets was General Motors Chief Executive Officer Dan Akerson, a Naval Academy graduate who donated \$10,000 for athletic programs in the public schools from his personal family foundation to the Detroit Public Schools Foundation.

The academy boxers are in Detroit hosted by the Detroit Athletic Club where they were scheduled to participate in the Chuck Davey Boxing Classic at the club. Proceeds from a black tie dinner for DAC members are donated to the academy boxing programs.

"I know my life was forever changed through my academy experience, and boxing was a part of that," Akerson said. "I am very proud of these midshipmen and cadets and want General Motors to help tomorrow's leaders develop into the best people they can be."

Neiman Marcus Edition Camaro Convertibles Sell-Out in Three Minutes

In just three minutes earlier today, customers claimed all 100 of the special edition 2011 Chevrolet Camaro Convertibles prepared exclusively for [the annual Neiman Marcus Christmas Book](#). These new owners claimed their Neiman Marcus Edition cars via a special telephone reservation process, a few hours after the car appeared on NBC's Today Show. Only 100 special edition convertibles will be built, each offering luxury appointments inspired by Neiman Marcus combined with the legendary performance of the Camaro SS. The new owners will take delivery of their special edition cars in the spring of 2011, shortly after [the new 2011 Chevrolet Camaro arrives](#) in dealerships.

The Neiman Marcus Edition is defined by its exclusive Deep Bordeaux exterior color, accented by subtle, "ghosted" rally stripes. The exterior color is complemented by a matching fabric top and windshield frame finished in matte silver, both also exclusive to the Neiman Marcus edition.

The Neiman Marcus Camaro Convertible has a retail price of \$75,000. All Neiman Marcus Edition Camaro Convertibles will be SS models with a 6.2-liter, V-8 engine. The 100 future owners who made reservations today chose between the 6-speed manual or 6-speed automatic transmission.