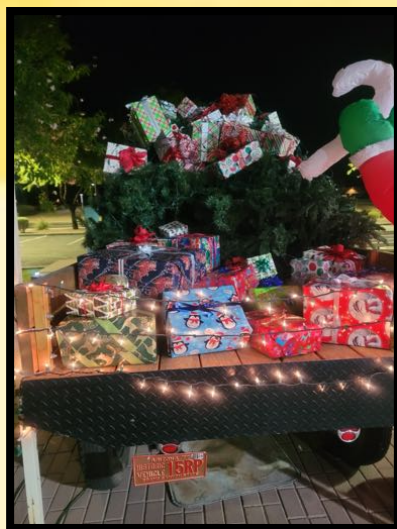


RUSTY NUTS

December 2023 Issue No. 101 Ellen Zacko - Editor

AUTOMOTIVE/RESTORATION CLUB OF SCW

Ray and Merrilee Peterson Revisited - story on page 4



Rusty Nuts is the Monthly Newsletter of the Automotive/Restoration Club of Sun City West, AZ

Deuce Coupe Corner

by Tom Jones, President



It will be a few short weeks until Christmas and a New Year. Hopefully each and every one of you will be able to spend time with family and friends. This past year has seen many milestones in the Club's history. I want to thank all the members who have been my support throughout the year. It takes everyone to make our club operate well and successfully. I will not single out anyone in particular as I might miss thanking one or more. If you have not volunteered in the club, consider the many opportunities you have during the year. Monitoring, selling raffle tickets, working the annual car show, getting donations from individuals and businesses, and helping members work on their projects. These are just a few of the ways you can contribute to making the Automotive/Restoration Club the best club in Sun City West.

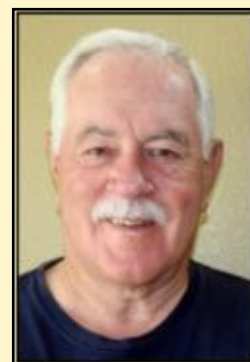
It is the end of the year, and I will again bring up the opportunity to donate to our 501(c)(3) charity. If you can use a tax deduction from your investments, please consider donating to ARC. As a past president says: "It only takes one check to pay off our building loan debt." I, too, echo that challenge. Many of the original donors who made the club a reality are no longer with us. The newer members need to step up and contribute, time, treasures and talents to keep this club alive and growing.

ARC General Meeting
Tuesday, December 5, 8:00 AM
Catered breakfast RH Johnson Social Hall

Founder's Focus A Column by Herb Clark

HoHoHo...Hope!

It is the end of another year! We all have created many more memories of things we have experienced in 2023. Since the worst part of the pandemic is over we have been able to travel about more freely. Hopefully you have gone somewhere in the last 12 months and it was a new, exciting fun trip!



Trips don't have to be a long distance! They can be to places just outside of your neighborhood. Think about it...what is around you that you have always wanted to do? If it is close maybe some of your friends would like to join you? In late March, ARC is planning a trip to northern Arizona to travel along the Historic Route 66. Arizona has some of the most famous and exciting spots along "The Mother Road." The plan is for a three-day trip starting in Lake Havasu, AZ and ending just across the New Mexico border in Gallup.

Have you watched the Disney movie "Cars"? Most people think it is about a race car that got stranded in "Radiator Springs." Actually the story is about the problems caused when so many Route 66 towns were bypassed when Route 66 was replaced by the Interstate Highway system. The town in the movie called "Radiator Springs" is actually the real town of Peach Springs, AZ. Route 66 scenery is beautiful, and the towns are great! Plan on joining your ARC friends. We will all get a chance to see the Painted Desert, Petrified Forest, and "Standing on the Corner in Winslow, AZ."

Locally I have been working on a "*Ride with Zane Day*." It is a day to remember Zane Childress, who passed this summer. Zane meant a lot to many of the original ARC members. To honor him we will have many of the clubs in the area offer rides to children. I hope to work with local hospitals to give rides to deserving young children in a classic car or sports car. The launch date is this spring.

I would like to remind all of you the end of the year is a good time to make a donation to ARC. ARC is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit. Your donation will help ARC continue to do great things for our community and help pay off our incredible building. Once it is paid off we can do even more for our neighbors! Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to all of you!

Herb Clark



Downshifting
Ray Petersen #68
by Ed Zacko

Back in 2019, BC (before Covid), Rusty Nuts featured Ray Petersen, an ARC member "who had a dream that he didn't know he had!" We don't usually do a double take on someone but this is a special case. When that piece was written, Ray was deep in the throes of giving birth to his new-found dream, a 1937 Cord replica. Now as 2023 draws to a close the car has been completed (are they ever?) and has been on the road for some time. It seems fitting to give members an update on Ray and the Cord.

Ray grew up in Taylor Falls, MN. He joined the Marines right out of high school, and served three years at various bases in the United States and one year in Okinawa. After being discharged, he went to work for Northwestern Bell as a lineman making \$2.00 an hour climbing poles. After 31 years he retired but continued doing training for a few years which took him to Indonesia for a year.

Ray's history with cars began with a 1952 Chevy Super Deluxe that he managed to wreck in his senior year of high school. He moved on to a '64 Buick Riviera with a huge 425 engine, and then a '68 Chevy Impala 348 convertible. "All of them huge "boats" that I drove from gas station to gas station."

Ray and his wife Merilee arrived in SCW in 2002. He spent most of his time in the Wood Club, eventually serving as president of that club for several years. Nowhere in Ray's history was there anything remotely resembling auto mechanics or building, tinkering with, racing, or dreaming about cars. "I didn't work on them, I simply drove them."

That all changed one morning while Ray was happily sitting at the doughnut table. Tom Jones sat down and said, "Have I got a deal for you!" Ray bought the '37 Cord, Craig Landers talked him into restoring it and correcting its problems, and he went to work.

Ray's lineman skills surfaced when he discovered the need to rewire the entire car but other than that, it was all, "Mostly elbow grease and learn as you go, under the direction and aid of the more experienced members.

It was a lot of work, but it turned out pretty cool."

To say that Ray's interest in cars began when he joined ARC is only partially correct. You see, Ray didn't merely join ARC, he is actually one of ARC's founding members, #65 of what we refer to as "ARC's Magnificent 75." These were the first 75 people to sign on, satisfying the RCSCW's 75-signature requirement for starting a club. Thirteen years later, he is completing his third year as second vice president of ARC in charge of training.

Ray's story is but one example of ARC in action. You don't have to be an engineer, mechanic or "gear head" to belong to ARC. All you really need is the desire to learn and participate, which is what a club is all about. Just beware of that doughnut table!





Meeting Molly by Mike Bell



Verda and I had a wonderful time visiting and making friends with David and Karen Witton. They are an English couple who shipped their 1930 Austin 7 (the father to our American Austin), from the UK to NYC, where they drove down Broadway and around downtown NYC. Then on to Chicago, where they drove on the Dan Ryan Expressway and Lake Shore Drive. After that they were off to follow Route 66 as much as possible. Old Route 66 basically follows I-55 from Chicago to St. Louis, then I-44 to Oklahoma City. We met up with them at the Flagstaff, AZ Amtrak station and gave each of them an ARC cap. Then we followed them the 33 miles to Williams, AZ on I-40. Four-way flashers were on the whole time at a top speed of 40 mph. There we had a wonderful late lunch with them.

It is customary in England to name their Austins. Molly is the one they brought over and is the one they've had the longest. David had the engine and suspension completely overhauled and installed new tires to get everything ready to go for the trip. The only mechanical problem they encountered along the way was a flat tire in St. Louis, MO. They own 12 Austin 7's and all are named starting with the letter "M". Karen's A7 is Matilda.

Since Route 66 is no longer considered an official highway, some parts are in great shape; some are in disrepair, are not in existence anymore, or are part of the Interstate system. They tried to keep off the Interstate as much as they could, but sometimes it's not possible

While staying in Winslow, AZ, David videotaped Karen driving down Main Street as he sang: "Sitting on the corner in Winslow, AZ, such a fine sight to see. There's a girl my heaven in an Austin 7 slowing down to take a look at me." A slight modification from the Eagles version.

They have American and British flags on their car as they travel. The American flag flew off the stick on the way to Williams. Not to worry though, they had about a half dozen more on hand for such an event. They took a day off driving to relax and ride the daily Grand Canyon Express train from Williams to the Canyon. Then on to Las Vegas to drive Molly down the Vegas strip and visit friends. After that they were on their way to Los Angeles and Santa Monica, CA with a few more side trips along the way. In Los Angeles, David and Karen will spend time with friends and then ship "Molly" back to the UK.

“It was well worth the time to drive from Sun City West to Flagstaff and Williams, AZ. We had several common friends from the Isle of Wight Austin Club we belong to and some of the other English Austin Clubs we have visited.” David and Karen were at the Austin Centennial Celebration last year where they met several Americans who belong to the AABC and ABS (the two American Austin/Bantam Clubs). “We have met many English Austin owners in our travels and found them all to be extremely friendly, a delight to be around, and all proud of their vehicles.”

They started their trip from NYC on September 13 and finished in Santa Monica November 2. It took 160 hours of driving time to travel 4,355.6 miles, with lots of truckers and cars honking and waving as they passed them by. Molly is ready for her journey home. She’s at the Long Beach, CA shipping docks to go back to the UK. I wonder, how many of us Yanks would be willing to drive our Classic Cars on a trip like this?

For a 93-year-old, Molly has traveled a lot. Other places they’ve driven Molly to, according to the stickers on their windshield, have been Kirchberg, Austria; Ieper (with a capital “I”) Belgium (also known as Ypres in the French language); the Normandy, France, 70th Anniversary; Amboise, France; and Pegasus, France.



Karen, Verda, Mike, and David in front of the Williams, AZ Motel

Photos explained clockwise

Places Molly visited (stickers on the windshield): Kirchberg, Austria; Ieper, Belgium; Normandy, France 70th Anniversary; Amboise, France; Pegasus, France

USA Trip: Route 66 stickers and placards on Molly

Driving I-40 Flagstaff to Williams:

Verda and Mike following them down I-40 at a hectic speed of 35-40 mph

The US and British flags on display at the end of trip in California



Synchronizers* Dean Lewellen #100

Dean was born in Oklahoma but grew up in Panhandle, Texas. He received a degree in Mechanical Engineering from Texas Tech, and worked forty years for Boeing in engineering-design management and director assignments.

As a full time "Sweatbird", Dean has served seven years on the ARC board (three as treasurer, two as vice president, and two as president).

Although he is two-plus years into Jaguar, he was a member of the Porsche Club of America for about forty-five years and was a certified PCA Concours Judge at national club events. (His son has his Porsche 911.)

He has restored and showed a 1976 Porsche 911 and a 1984 944 at National Concours. He does his own regular home maintenance on his cars but leaves the critical jobs to an expert. He has had a lot of favorite cars and two that slipped away, a 1966 Sunbeam Tiger and 1973 Porsche 911S.

Dean is proud to be a part of ARC's history and growth, from a dream in Herb Clark's mind to the "Crown Jewel" club of the RCSCW. He has known his wife Elaine since she was in his mother's third grade class. They have been married for over sixty-eight years, work on it every day and are thankful for each other, their family and their many friends here in SCW.



***People who keep the gears meshing allowing ARC to move forward.**



American Cancer Society Relay for Life Preparing for Event

Linda Victor and the American Cancer Society Relay for Life of the Sun Cities Committee are busy preparing for the 12th annual Relay event at Beardsley Park on Sunday, February 18, 2024. Relay is one of the charities that ARC supports and this is the 12th year we have had a team. Steve Victor is once again your Team Captain. The Victors will make a presentation and have a table at the January ARC meeting. Last year ARC was able to raise \$7,000. Donations of raffle prizes are welcome. ARC members are asked to display their cars at the event. **ARC has many survivors, but we have also lost too many members. Many of our members are fighting cancer right now.**

We are looking for survivors so that we may celebrate with you. The opening ceremony is at 4:00 with a Survivor Victory Lap. Sardella's Pizza & Wings is once again providing a survivor dinner around 5:00.

There are other ways that you can support this wonderful cause. A benefit concert featuring "Senior Moments" will perform at the Foundation on Sunday, January 21; Bowling for Cancer will take place at the Lakeview Lanes in Sun City on Saturday, January 13; and The Grand Softball Club will hold its annual Relay Fundraiser on Saturday, February 3. Information on all events can be found at www.relayforlife.org/suncitiesaz You can sign up for our team as a survivor or participant, make a donation, purchase a luminaria to honor someone who has lost, won or is fighting cancer, and find out information about the event. Check out the beautiful queen-size quilt that was donated by Rip 'N' Sew.

Why do we do this? Cancer has touched just about every one of us in some way. Some have personally fought the disease and others have seen family and friends taken away by the disease. There are more survivors now than ever before because of research. We need funds to promote this research as well as to help those individuals going through this dreaded disease. Hope keeps us going. Let's Celebrate-Remember-Fight Back together.

You may contact the Victors with questions or for concert tickets/bowling forms.
623-214-1090/slvc@comcast.net

**2024 Raffle Car
2016 Mustang Convertible
Tickets in the shop
1 for \$20.00/ 6 for \$100.00
Call Mike Liberatore - 815-263-8686 for tickets**



To date, we have sold 1500 tickets.
Our big show this month was *GoodGuys*.
We had a good location this year, but unfortunately
the heavy rain kept the spectators away.
We stuck it out all three days, sold
75 tickets, and saw some pretty cool cars.
Many thanks to Mike B, Fred, Dave M, Florence,
Mark, Tony G, and myself for being out there.

Raffle Car Ticket Sales in December

Friday, December 1 - Music on the Green - RH Johnson 4 to 6 PM

Saturday, December 9 - Mel Martin Toy Drive - 9 AM to 12 PM

(There is a drop off box in the shop for unwrapped toys. We only have four weeks
to donate enough toys to fill the Mustang for Nancy Perry.)

Sunday, December 10 - Dysart High School Car Show - 8:30 AM

Friday, December 15 - Golf at Pebblebrook - 4 to 6 PM

Saturday, December 16 - Christmas at Beardsley Park - 9 AM to 12 PM

Tuesday, December 19 - Christmas Show at Palm Ridge - 4 PM



The ARC Angels' Service Truck is ready for all the Christmas Events
If you look carefully on the back window of the truck there is a decal of Mike the Moose



**“E” IS FOR EXCELLENCE
AND EDUCATION ON THE RADIO**

**By
Dan Kuhl**

Studebaker is very famous for their saying, “Always Give a Little More Than You Promise.” Nothing demonstrates this more than the award they won in support of their WWII efforts. Studebaker was given the coveted Army-Navy “E” award for excellence in meeting production and quality goals. (Note: there was no separate Air Force until 1947.)

Their participation started before the US entered the war after Pearl Harbor. In the late 30’s Studebaker was already supplying K-Series trucks to European countries who were preparing to battle the onslaught of Nazism. These “Army Trucks”, as they were affectionally called, were so popular that Stalin copied them in the factories of Russia. With the new Champion automobile, they brought the most profit to the Studebaker corporation since 1929. The importance of this truck is also exemplified in its use in completing a major homeland security project, the building of the Alaskan Highway.

The list of contributions to the war effort goes on. Studebaker’s Weasel is famous for its ability to take soldiers into inaccessible war zones because of its tracked propulsion, and later for its use in amphibious situation and, of course, its reliable Champion engine.

In the late 20’s Studebaker built a test track west of South Bend. It was the first of its kind in all of automotive manufacturing. This track, with “Studebaker” spelled out using large pine trees that could be seen when flying overhead, was made available to all of the corporations developing vehicles for the war effort. Studebaker also assembled the Lockheed PV-1 medium twin engine bomber that the Navy used to menace Hitler’s U-boat fleet.

The Studebaker war project that garnishes the most notoriety was the Wright Cyclone R-1820 aircraft engine, which powered the B-17 Flying Fortress. The Cyclone engine was introduced in 1931. Constantly upgraded, it possessed 575 horsepower in 1820 cubic inches.

In 1942 Studebaker issued a radio listener’s atlas that sold for 10 cents. In the back of the atlas was an ad for the Cyclone engine previously mentioned, and in the front was this statement: “The Roadways of the World are Worn Deep with Studebaker Wheel Marks.” Many companies issued these atlases to help families follow the war effort on the radio and locate where family members were stationed during the war. Your author recently watched a 1949 movie, *The Big Wheel*, starring Mickey Rooney. Mickey plays a race car driver whose mother invites a friend into her home parlor to listen to the radio - no TV yet! Besides making me think about the importance of the radio in 1949, the lack of seatbelts and race car drivers driving in street clothes caught my attention. There were at least four racing accidents in the movie showing how the drivers escaped the race car after the crash, and one where the driver was trapped and burned in the crash. They believed until 1956 that cars were safer without seat

belts/harness so the driver could escape the too-often fiery crashes. In 1956 Ray Crawford walked away from a head-on Indianapolis 500 crash after wearing a seat belt/harness (Note: Studebaker made seat belts available in the their vehicles in 1956). This incident changed the no-seat belt standard. It should also be noted that racing suits were not used until the late 50's and these suits did not contain a fire retardant until the mid 60's. In closing, if you are thinking of watching this movie there are many old cars of the 40's and great historical photos of the Brickyard to enjoy.

Notes : The Indiana Historical Society indicated that there was no crash fire suppression equipment available in 1949. There was a first aid station however. The track and the museum at the Indianapolis 500 facility were also contacted. Neither knew of any fire fighting equipment in 1949. References:

Donnelly, Jim. (December 2005). South Bend Stalwarts, Detroit Goes to War (Part II). *Classic Car* pp.46-51.

Fox, Fred K. (December 1987). 1956 Studebaker Trucks, Dawn of the Transtar. *Turning Wheels*, Vol. 19, No. 12, pp 4-16.

Ludwig, Edward. (1949). *The Big Wheel*. United Artists.

Rouzaud, Brandon, Assistant Librarian. Indiana Historical Society. Office (317) 234-2357.



Checks, Checks, Checks



\$25,000 to the Rec Centers for our Building

Edward Jones provided pizza for the November ARC meeting. Many checks were distributed!



Reminder to volunteer and join in the fun!

ARC Car Show Judging To Go Casual in 2024

At a recent meeting of the 2024 ARC Car Show committee, the procedure of judging the entrants was discussed, with the goal of simplification. Ideas for making the process more efficient and easier for our judges, yet maintaining fairness for the entrants, were the basis for analysis and suggestions.

Previous shows provided a scoring sheet of four categories with points in each to be awarded by judges, the class winner being the high scorer. The system was thought a bit complicated, perhaps confusing, and time consuming.

So, for the upcoming show, ARC will try a simple “What do you like best” approach. Judges won’t need to calculate points for each vehicle. They’ll just select the three cars that were the most appealing to them.....no pre-established criteria or guessing how many points it ought to have.....just pick their #1, #2, and #3 in the class. Teams might think, “Of all I’ve looked at, I’d like THIS one in my garage.” It’s thought that this method will prove less confusing, faster, and easier for all our judges and in most cases the results will be the same. Fairness will be maintained and the process should be less mysterious. Remember, it’s not required that judges be ARC members so let’s invite friends and family to join us, have some fun, and support the club in this important event.

For Sale

ARC Logo Items

Caps

ARC flags and license plates

Breakaway lanyards

Come to the shop and have a look!



ARC Car Show - February 10, 2024

Gary Masak, Car Show Chairman

See Gary to volunteer for the Show

2024 Car Show meetings schedule:

All meetings are Tuesdays at 8:00 AM in the Sagebrush Room
at Beardsley (watch Group Works for any room change)

December 12

January 2, 9,

January 23, 30 (Agave Room)

February 6

Review - February 13



Car Show Fan



Trunk or Treat Friday, October 27

Many ARC members met in the Beardsley parking lot in costume with their historic cars. We caravanned to Riverview Elementary School where we parked, opened our trunks, filled them with candy, and prepared for five hundred goblins' arrival at 5:30. Led by Bob Janis, it was a fun evening for all of us.



Photos by Steve Victor

Welcome to "In For Repairs"!

Linda Victor

If you know anyone who needs a little cheering up or who is going through a difficult time, ARC wants to know. We are one big family, and we care about one another. Please contact me at stevelinda2004@earthlink.net or call 623-214-1090 with the information. I will be in contact with the individual by e-mail and also follow up with a card and special note from ARC.

We know that many of our members are facing some challenges right now but wish to remain private. We are thinking of all you and wishing you brighter days ahead. Don't forget to let me know if you hear of someone I should be in contact with.

Hope the Holidays are safe and healthy ones for all!



ARC Angels

The ARC Angels are a group of ARC members, led by Randy Robinson and Dan Kuhl, who quietly go around helping SCW residents who are in need. They don't ask or look for recognition or praise. Occasionally, someone who has been helped lets us know. Thank you to all of the ARC Angels for your continued service to the SCW community.

**Tickets will be available after January 1st 2024!!
From Ellen Zacko 623 374 3056 or at ARC desk**

**Tim Kliphuis and Jimmy Grant
GYPSY JAZZ DUETS
“In Conversation”**

Award-winning violin legend Tim Kliphuis (Holland) teams up with America’s rising star on gypsy jazz guitar Jimmy Grant (LA) to celebrate the music of famed musical duo, Stéphane Grappelli and Django Reinhardt.

Re-creating the 1930s in Paris, and drawing inspiration from current-day classical and folk music as well, they alternate moments of dazzling interplay with melancholy and sheer exhilaration, in an inspired conversational journey. This is an evening concert not to be missed!



Only two hundred tickets will be sold!!
Tuesday, February 20 7:00 P.M.
Sun City West Christian Church
20803 N 151st Ave, Sun City West, AZ 85375
Ticket Price \$20.00 - cash please

**L'ARC Breakfast
Thursday, December 21
9:00 A.M.**

**Hole 'nq One Cafe
No need to reply, just come
and enjoy fellowship
with other ladies of ARC
Remember no
fragrances please**



The inventory is lower than usual and the prices have been going up! This is a great time to sell your home or to buy a new one!

Please check us out on our website: www.ArvidKay.com. We can give you an estimate of what your home is worth today.

Arvid and Kay Peterson
623-308-2316 or 623-760-7367
arvidpeterson@awardrealty.com

ARC Members



Order Your Car Dash Display Plaque

New Display Plaques for your car, golf cart, or bike? It is good for you and fund raising for the club. Get rid of your old, torn, dog-eared displays! The new ones are made with champagne-beige color paper and are laminated with thicker, UV protection pouches.

Price: \$15 each... or \$20 for two if it has exactly the same content.

Obtain the order form(s) at the Monitor's Desk and pay ARC desk monitor

Get yours today!

Especially if you are in any of the many car shows!!



Car Dash Example



Every car needs a Car Dash Display

The team keeps growing.

Join us - write mikezackaroonie@gmail.com with your contribution or ideas.
The Rusty Nuts Team and Mike the Moose
thank you for all the contributions!



Deborah Ray - proofreader, Ellen Zacko - editor, Ed Zacko - assistant editor



Dan Kuhl
regular contributor / sends Mike fun ideas from the past / new feature-Synchronization

Paul Burrier

Jim Hensch



Always helping in the background



Steve Victor - ARC official photographer

Dean Lewellen - entertaining articles

ARC CLUB CONTACT INFORMATION

Shop Phone Number: 623-518-3226

ARCOFSCW@gmail.com

ARC Club

P.O Box 5034

Sun City West, AZ 85376-5034

Tom Jones, President

Ray Peterson, 1st VP

Gene Wojtyna 2nd VP

Kathy Swanson, Secretary

Ron Rada, 1st Treasurer

Ray Helt, 2nd Treasurer



ARC meets monthly the 3rd Tuesday, at 2:00 at RH Johnson Social Hall

(no meetings in June, July and August)

ARC WEBSITE <https://arcofscw.com>

ARC FACEBOOK Automotive/Restoration Club facebook

ARC EMAIL ARCOFSCW@gmail.com

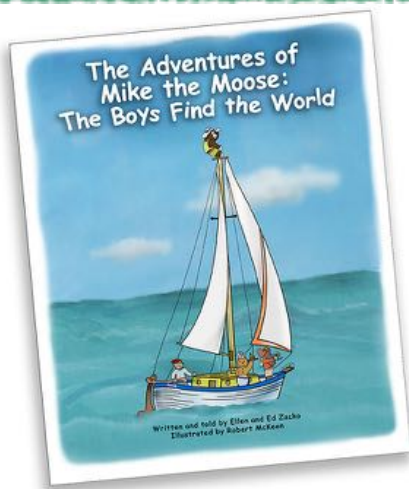
ARC Newsletter contact - mikezackaroonie@gmail.com

or Ellen Zacko 623 374 3056, to leave a message

Rusty Nuts is the Monthly Newsletter of the Automotive/Restoration Club of Sun City West, AZ

A Message from Mike the Moose

There's a difference between interest and commitment. When you're interested in doing something, you do it only when circumstances permit. When you're committed to something, you accept no excuses, only results. Art Turlock, performance coach and Mike the Moose



Mike's book is available at the PORA store on Camino Del Sol - stop in and shop for gifts made in Sun City West!!

Rusty Nuts is *your* newsletter. Thank you to all the member contributions. Keep them coming. Everyone has a story and yours is important to the membership. Send your contribution to: mikezackaroonie@gmail.com
Your stories make this newsletter!

Special thank you to Deborah Ray, my friend and proofreader.
I couldn't do this job without her special help.
Ellen Zacko - editor
Ed Zacko - assistant editor