

RUSTY NUTS

October 2024 Issue No. 108 Ellen Zacko - Editor

AUTOMOTIVE/RESTORATION CLUB OF SCW

**John White (#1274)
with his latest Long Roof**



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

The Hot Rod Deuce Monthly

by Craig Landers, President

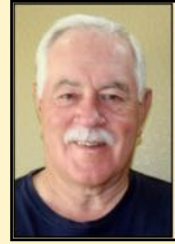


Welcome October and nicer weather. We have had several snow birds return already and thankfully some of them have been volunteering at the club, which is much appreciated. Remember we are an ALL volunteer club, which means we cannot keep the shop open if we have no volunteers. The people in the club working are paying good money to be there so if you can, PLEASE help out.

Upcoming events are the Payson Car Club show on October 11 and 12; a few of us are going up there with our cars. John Kunch is taking the T-bird raffle car. If anyone wants to see a very nice car show with good weather I do recommend taking a short two-hour drive up there. As always, the third Friday of the month is Western State Bank's little car show...FREE pizza and drinks...can't beat that. The last Saturday of the month we are doing something a little different with our Cars 'N Coffee. Gary and Shelley are putting on a pancake breakfast for the car people that come to the Cars 'N Coffee. We are asking a donation of \$7 each. Half of the proceeds will go to our club and the other half will go to our SCW Posse. I know Nancy Perry has a couple of car shows at Westgate in Glendale in October...check her Facebook page for the dates. Besides that, the shop and club have been going well, busy with a lot of project vehicles and regular maintenance. Hope to see all of the birds back in the club soon...ENJOY!

ARC General Meeting
Tuesday, October 15, 2 p.m.
RH Johnson Social Hall

Founder's Focus A Column by Herb Clark



Mel Martin... A Legend in Classics

In the very early days of ARC, one man helped ARC in many ways. The John S. Cheney ARC Building had just opened its doors in 2016. It was January in the Phoenix area, when many car auctions were taking place. My wife Pat and I were at a Russo and Steele auction in a VIP box thanks to our friends at Coker Tire Company. We spent the evening chatting with Wayne Carini (*Chasing Classic Cars*). What could make a more perfect evening?

At the end of the evening we were walking down the stairs heading to our car in the parking lot. As we reached the ground level I heard a loud voice calling out "Herb, Herb!" I looked up and it was Mel Martin. He surprisingly gave me a big hug and said, "I have been watching what is happening at ARC and I want to help!" Still in shock, I said "OK. What do I need to do?" With a great big smile, he said, "I want you to come over to my museum and pick out a car. I will give it to ARC for a raffle or auction to help your group keep the momentum going." Still in shock, I accepted. My wife and I were grinning from ear to ear! We had both been to Mel's auto museum many times and admired his fine collection. Then my normally shy wife Pat said, "Can we have the Shelby Cobra?" Mel smiled and said "No." The Cobra only had eight miles on it and was a treasure! Just like Mel Martin is a treasure for classic car lovers. He has moved his museum and now it is bigger and better than ever. ARC and the classic car community need to THANK Mel for his incredible support and dedication to classic cars!

On Monday, I told several ARC members about the offer and a couple of members volunteered to go with me to pick out the car. We set up a time with Mel and went to the museum. Once there we looked at all the cars. We each had our favorite, but didn't agree on a car. Finally we all compromised on a 1936 Ford Phaeton. The car (we believe) was once owned by "Rochester", Jack Benny's sidekick back in the 30's, 40's and 50's. Mel had the car delivered to ARC and we decided to auction it off to members and friends of ARC. First, several of ARC's talented members went through the car and made it a GREAT CAR! Then we announced the auction "call in" details. Once the auction began we received a few reasonable bids. As expected, the bids near the end got higher and higher. The winning bid was from Don Kloth, former ARC Member. Don bought the car for his wife, Linda. (Don liked it too!) And he paid more than he actually bid...thanks, Don!

Don bought an enclosed trailer, and I hauled the Phaeton back to Don's farm in southern Illinois. Don has a very nice building that he calls his "Shed." Linda called it the "Garage Mahal." It is nice! Shortly after, Linda passed away and the car just sat in the building. A friend of mine, Don, & ARC, named Jim Denny made a deal with Don and took ownership of the car recently. Jim is a PERFECTIONIST! He, with some elbow grease from his wife Sandi, has taken this car to a totally new level! When driving, it now it sounds so quiet it reminds me of a soft-sounding, smooth sewing machine. It is beautiful in EVERY WAY! I have met thousands of incredible car people over the years, but Jim has got to be one of the biggest perfectionists I have met. His work is incredible! The future of the car will be in a promising new home. Jim will be offering it for sale, now in like-showroom condition. It all started with an incredible man named **Mel Martin!**

In my journey into the classic car world, I have been blessed to have met so many wonderful people! Thanks to all for keeping the classics alive!

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

Mel is hosting a Free Open House for Seniors on November 21



1936 Ford Phaeton at Mel Martin's museum



Linda Kloth admiring her new classic!



Don Kloth admiring his new purchase at ARC



The Shelby Cobra that Pat asked for!



1936 Ford Phaeton now owned by Jim and Sandi Denny



Downshifting John White (#1274) by Ed Zacko

John White grew up in the LA suburb of Arcadia, CA. At the age of ten he could name all of the standard American cars on the road by make, name and model. His first car was a 1955 4-door, Chevy hard top. Due to some wiring issues he was never able get it started. He gave up and sold the car. "It was just as well because I was too young for a California driver's license and would have driven the car without it. After cajoling my father to his limit, he finally gave in and bought me a motorcycle."

His new ride to work as a bus boy in Pasadena was a purple Honda S90. It sported a tuck and roll seat, and was rumored to have been in a Bob Hope/Phyllis Diller movie. "I was never pulled over by the police, I guess because the helmet hid my youth!"

John's foray into engine building began with the tearing down of a Ford Y-Block 312 from a 1956 metallic green station wagon with a black leather interior and Moon Discs for hub caps. "My only tools were a Sears basic 3/8" socket set. It came complete in a small orange, plastic, rectangular box and included a spark plug socket. I had to use a 6' lead pipe over the ratchet handle to loosen the head bolts and had to rent a torque wrench and a cherry picker to reassemble and install the engine. The engine didn't need rebuilding, I simply wanted to do it and see what I could learn. A lot of mistakes were made but nothing that money could not solve. In the end, it ran great! This car began a long infatuation with "Long Roofs" (station wagons)."

Upon graduating high school in 1971, John entered the Army. "I helped end the Cold War serving on the Czechoslovak Border with the Hawk Missile System mobile unit." Upon his discharge, John pursued higher education through the GI Bill. "Thank you! It was a fair trade!"

In addition to motorcycles, he had two favorite cars along the way. First was the 1969 Renault (Reno) R-10. "It was an interesting car with a rear-mounted, 4-cylinder overhead cam engine coupled to a transaxle. The engine, rebuilt by me, had sleeved cylinders, 4-speed transmission and 4-wheel brakes. "Like a go-cart after a bit of work." Next came the 2003 Anniversary C5 Corvette. "I loved the 51/49 weight ratio.....kinda like when I put weight in the front trunk of the Reno." John describes his career as a "paper pusher" for a "nondescript multinational claims adjusting firm based in Atlanta, GA."

On one assignment to Santa Barbara he met Phyllis Mlynek and her Alaska Blue BMW R100s, which sported a San Jose hop-up kit. "I was first attracted to her bike and later captivated by her riding ability. When I realized that she understood counter-steering, I was lost! We were married in 1990."

Phyllis and John arrived in Sun City West and ARC in 2018, first as snow birds and finally becoming full-time residents two and a half years ago. John's current project is completely rewiring a red and white, 1956 Ford Parklane station wagon. Again, another "long roof!"

When not spending endless "days on end" lying on his back under the dash, John can be found either serving as desk monitor for ARC or looking for another tool to finish his project.

When asked about ARC he smiles and says: "There is yet a tool I haven't found!"



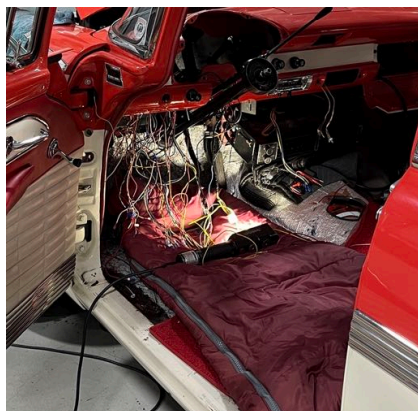
Phyllis and John



His and Hers Bikes



50th Anniversary Corvette



That's a lot of wires there!



Not for the faint of heart



Where did they all go? Is that a sleeping bag?

Cars 'N Coffee
Saturday, October 26
Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser
Proceeds for our local Posse
Cost: \$7 per person
Menu: Pancakes, sausage and coffee
Time: 7 a.m. in the ARC building
The cooks need to know how many attendees so
please buy your reservation tickets:
available at the ARC
September and October General Meeting



Celebrated On The
1st Sunday Of October.
2024 Date-October 6th

It's easy to celebrate.
Just Get Out N Drive!! Grab your
family or friends & hit the road!
Find out ways to celebrate [HERE](#).

[Sign Up Now](#)

The logo for National Get Out N Drive Day 2024 is circular with a black border. Inside the circle, there's a stylized road with a dashed yellow center line and solid yellow edges. The word "NATIONAL" is at the top, "DAY" is at the bottom, and "GET OUT N DRIVE" is in the center. The date "OCT 6 2024" is written vertically on the left and right sides of the circle.

2024 Beeline Cruise-in Car Show October 11-12, 2024

The Rim Country Classic Auto Club will be celebrating our 31st annual Cruise-in Car Show October 12th at the beautiful Green Valley Park off of Main Street in the Town of Payson. We are continuing with our tradition of **Classic Cars, Trucks and Rat Rods 1999 or older**. The Town of Payson will be assisting with food trucks and vendor booths, Yard Games, entertainment, and much more! The event will conclude with a fireworks display, weather and firerestrictions permitting.

The weekend's activities start on Friday, Oct 11th at Rumsey Park, to include a classic car cruise around part of town from 3:30-4:30 pm followed by our annual "Burger Burn" cookout (for registrants only). The main show will be on Saturday at Green Valley Park, with parking for the participating cars starting at 7 am.

October is a busy car show month for Barrett Jackson



Barrett Jackson Car Show - Friday

Westworld of Scottsdale

FRI, 11 OCT



Important Club Information

Attention Members of Automotive/Restoration Club of Sun City West

The **Nominations of Officers** for the next year is rapidly approaching. The task of the Nominating Committee is to present a **Slate of Nominees** to the Membership at the October General meeting for voting on at the November General meeting. Nominations will remain open until 30 days prior to the election of Officers in November. All candidate nominated, either by the Nominating Committee or from the Membership, will sign the **SCW AUTOMOTIVE/RESTORATION CLUB – AGREEMENT TO SERVE IF ELECTED Form**, stating that they agree to serve in the position for which they were nominated, to be accepted on the **Slate of Nominees**.

A **Signup Sheet** and the **Agreement To Serve If Elected Form** will be posted at the ARC Building until one day prior to the October General meeting. One that date the document will be collected.

You may email, Tom Jones at arcofscw@gmail.com, or Dean Lewellen at deanlinaz@gmail.com, if you have any questions or are interested in being nominated for a position on the ARC Board of Directors.

Here are the six Officer positions and the Nominees for the ARC Board of Directors:

President – Craig Landers (inc)
1st Vice President – Gene Wojtyna (inc)
2nd Vice President – Ron Rada
Secretary – Lynette Saylor (inc)
Treasurer – Ray Helt (inc)
Asst Treasurer – Dave Dunbar

These positions are open to all members in good standing with the Club and the Sun City West Recreation Center. If there is more than one nominee for any position, we will conduct a ballot vote at the November General meeting. A quorum of 10% of the active membership is required to certify the election. Please click on arcofscw.com/bylaws to review the job descriptions for each Board position.

Sincerely,

Tom Jones and Dean Lewellen, ARC Nominating Committee

**A Closer Look at the Early
Years of Studebaker
By
Dan Kuhl**

This article is being written to inform Club members why Studebaker is an important part of our American automotive history. The history is often unknown or forgotten when comparing cars at a car show or at the ARC shop.

In 1852 the five Studebaker brothers moved to South Bend, IN from Ashland, OH. In South Bend two of the brothers, Clement and Henry, opened a blacksmith shop to craft wagons. In 1853 their brother John headed West to seek his riches in the gold fields of California. By 1858 he returned from California with his pockets full of money and a new nickname, Johnny Wheelbarrow, because he made his fortune selling wheelbarrows to the miners. John bought out Henry, who wanted to be a farmer, and staked the new company. In 1868 the Studebaker Brothers Manufacturing Company was formed. At this time, a fourth brother, Peter, was added as secretary of the new company, and in 1875 the fifth brother, Jacob, was added to the company roster. It was at this time the company developed a kiln technique for drying large quantities of wagon wood to complete government contracts. The new method helped the brothers' company become the largest of its kind in the world.

At the turn of the 20th century three of the brothers had already passed; a fourth soon thereafter, thus leaving John the sole owner and operator of the company. While the country was looking at the automobile as a new plaything for the rich and the citizenry were riding bicycles everywhere, Studebaker was making wagons and would do so until 1920. It was at this time that John's daughter married a lawyer, Frederick Fish, who convinced John to take Studebaker into the automobile manufacturing business. Later Mr. Fish would become president and chairman of the board at Studebaker.

In the early 1900's Studebaker began by manufacturing electric and gas powered automobiles after buying out the Garford Corporation located near Cleveland, OH. A few years later the company decided to go head to head with Ford in the low price field by buying the Everitt-Metzger-Flanders (EMF) Corporation located in Detroit. It would appear this was the right move because before too long, Studebaker was second only to Ford in annual automobile production.

The Great War began in 1914. The Allies, United Kingdom, France and Russia, were still using "horse" power to wage war. It is estimated that six million horses were involved in WWI. Studebaker, as the world's largest horse-drawn vehicle manufacturer, was the only auto maker that could provide the material for the war effort. In September of 1914, Studebaker received its first order of 3,000 transport wagons, that was filled within 60 days. As the war dragged on it was impossible for all of the orders be filled, so Studebaker convinced 50 other smaller companies to help fill the orders.

In 1917 John passed away and the United States joined the Allies in the war effort. With the U.S. entering the war automobile manufacturers began producing other needed war material. With much consternation the Detroit Studebaker plants were affected. Studebaker automobile production dropped precipitously in 1917 and 1918. In 1920 the wagon/harness business was sold and auto manufacturing was moved to South Bend where it stayed until the factory closed in 1963, before moving to Hamilton, ON.

My final thought is that this article is not meant to be a history lesson but is meant to help the reader gain an appreciation for the Studebaker marque. With this thought in mind, in 1952 Studebaker celebrated its 100th Anniversary while other car companies were only celebrating their 50th. Some Studebakers are recognized by the Classic Car Club of America. The Club has classified the Studebaker Presidents from 1928-1934 as classics. (If you have never seen a 1931 President Four Season Roadster you are missing quite a treat.) Over the years Studebaker has had business dealings with many reputable companies including Pierce Arrow, Packard, Porsche, and Mercedes-Benz. In 1951 Studebaker debuted its overhead valve V8 engine ahead of Ford, Chevrolet, Dodge, Plymouth, and Packard. It was the same engine that took the Avanti to 200 mph in 1963 on the Bonneville Salt Flats. Wouldn't you say, "What a colorful story Studebaker has woven for us to appreciate"?

References:

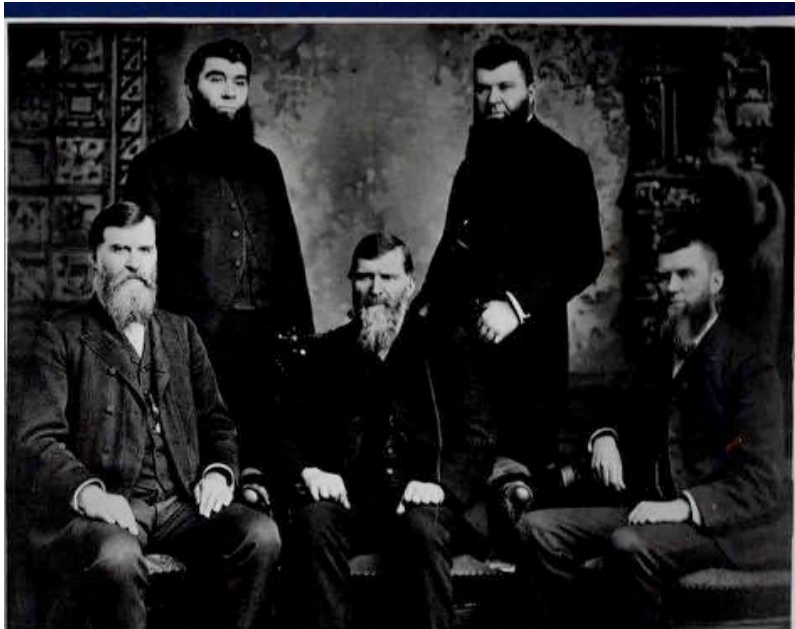
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Fox, Fred K. (August 1996). A Year by Year Look at the Studebaker-Garford. *Turning Wheels*, Vol. 28, No. 8, pp 8-21.

Fox, Fred K. (September 1996). Studebaker-Garfords 1904-1911, Part 2. *Turning Wheels*, Vol. 28, No. 9, pp 6-22.

Fox, Fred K. (March 2003). The E-M-F and Flanders Story, Studebaker Takes on Detroit . *Turning Wheels*, Vol. 35, No. 3, pp 6-15.

Fox, Fred K. (April 2024). Studebaker War Material Production for the Allied Powers During WW1. *Turning Wheels*, Vol. 56, No. 4, pp 20-29.





It's Party Time

During the OCTOBER ARC General Meeting

180 tickets will be sold for the

Holiday Party

December 23

\$10 BYOB

held in the Foundation Room by the Posse building

Catered by Olive Garden

With the band "Still Above Ground"



WANTED

Editor for the Rusty Nuts!!!!

The ideal situation is a team of two people - one who loves to come into ARC to see what is going on and take a few photos. He gives this to his slightly technical partner who puts it together like a jig-saw puzzle, filling in the gaps and making sense of the club events. It is actually a fun job and we will miss it - but for at least three years we have to give up this commitment. In December the new team needs to start to gather the info for the January edition. We are anxiously waiting for someone to step up.

call Ellen and Ed Zacko for more info:

623 374 3056 - don't be shy!!!!

We will help get you going!! There is a team that will work with you in the background!!

Enjoy the coming of winter



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.

PASS by Joel Piaskowski

The Automotive/Restoration Club (ARC) of Sun City West expanded their mission of supporting charities and the community. At the September club membership meeting, President Craig Landers presented a check for \$500 to a non-profit organization called PASS. Accepting the check was ARC club member Joel Piaskowski, who also is on the Board of PASS.

PASS (Programs for After School Success) is a robust tennis, education and life skills program for under-resourced middle and high school students in Phoenix, designed to improve their lives and prepare them for the future. PASS is a 501(c)(3) non-profit funded by community and philanthropic giving, and performed by a passionate group of professional volunteers. PASS encourages personal responsibility, a healthy lifestyle and a positive growth mindset for young adults. More information is available at www.passkids.org



PLEASE Volunteer to Monitor!



ACCESSING SIGN UP GENIUS

In your browser, (GOOGLE?), type ARCOFSCW.COM to access our website
Place cursor on *ABOUT US*, menu opens.....then click on *Building Operations*
That page opens, click on *SIGN UP GENIUS* (in RED left side of page)
Sign Up Genius opens.....click on green button (top right) *CREATE A SIGN UP*
New page opens;
➤ enter name, email, password, box for 'I'm not Robot', click *REGISTER NOW*
Click button *SIGN UP NOW* and click/open appropriate month of sign up slots.

John Donily's Passing

Some of us might not have known John Donily but I am sure we all knew his beautiful car. It was often parked outside ARC. As written in Rusty Nuts in 2020 after the Rock Around the Block Car Show: **Ed remarked that his car was beautiful. He said "No, it's different. You see, I like big cars with large fins. I like different!"**

Last month at the Rock Around the Block / Surprise car show, John's Imperial won the trophy for "Best In Show!" Congratulations, John!

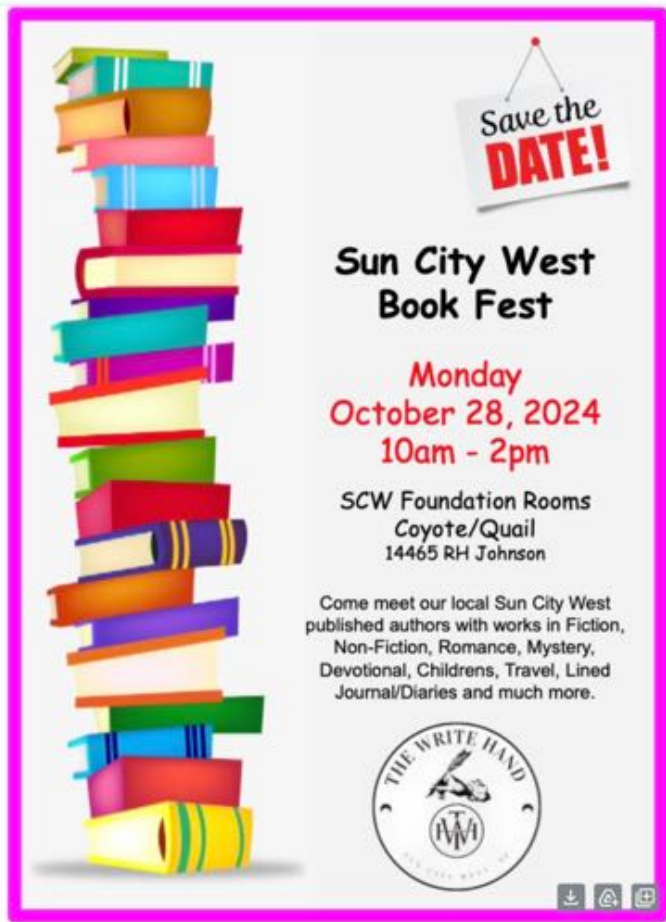
We will all miss John - May he rest in peace.



**2025 Raffle Car Update
John Kunch - organizer
623 tickets sold as of 9/20/24**

The 2025 Raffle Car is a 2004 Ford Thunderbird, Ice Blue Metallic with tan interior and 60,000 miles on the odometer. The color, Ice Blue Metallic, was only offered in 2004 and only around 100 were ordered with the Sand Interior Package, so the color combination is rather rare. It comes with all the normal options along with a power soft top and the optional hard top with the factory storage rack.






Save the DATE!

Sun City West Book Fest

Monday
October 28, 2024
10am - 2pm

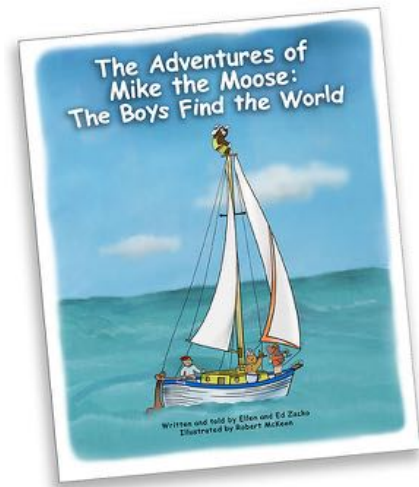
SCW Foundation Rooms
Coyote/Quail
14465 RH Johnson

Come meet our local Sun City West published authors with works in Fiction, Non-Fiction, Romance, Mystery, Devotional, Childrens, Travel, Lined Journal/Diaries and much more.



THE WRITE HAND
MAY 1982

It is time to get your own copy of Mike's book!!!



For Sale
ARC Logo Items
Caps
ARC flags and license plates
Breakaway lanyards
Come to the shop and have a look!



Welcome to "In For Repairs"!

Linda Victor

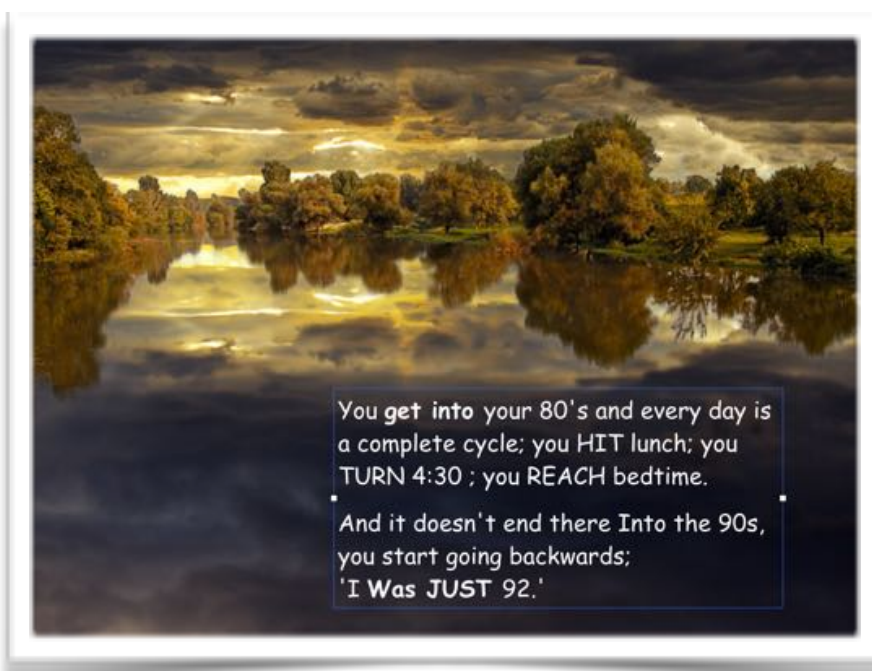
If you know anyone who needs a little cheering up or who is going through a difficult time, ARC wants to know. We are one big family, and we care about one another. Please contact me at stvelinda2004@earthlink.net or call 623-214-1090 with the information. I will be in contact with the individual by e-mail, and will follow up with a card and special note from ARC.

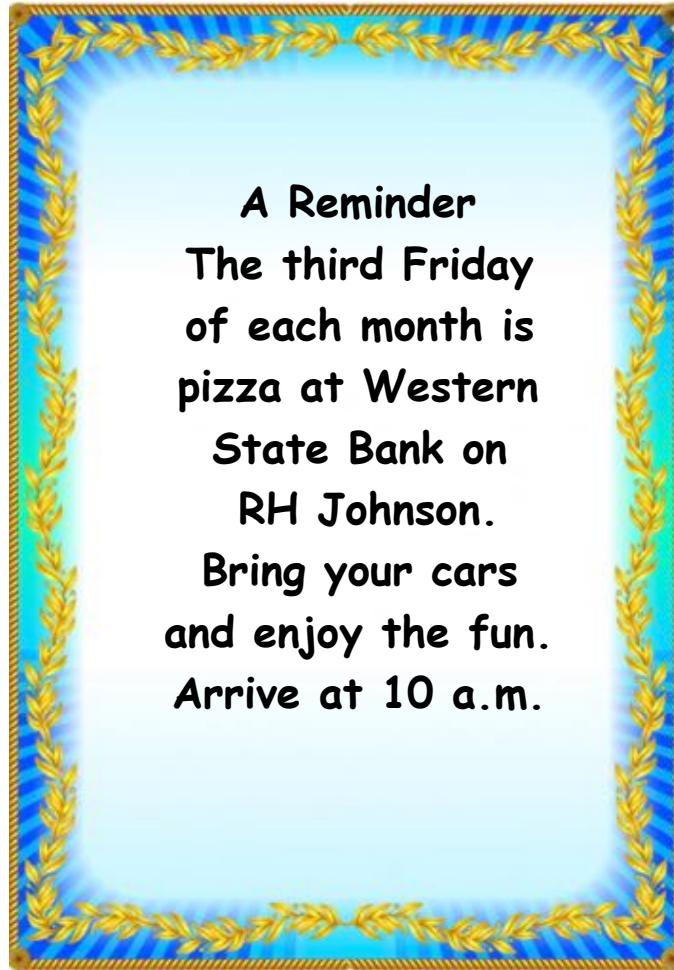
We know that many of our members are facing some challenges right now but wish to remain private. We are thinking of all of you and wishing you brighter days ahead. Don't forget to let me know if you hear of someone I should be in contact with.

Chuck Willkom (#574) We are thinking of Chuck as he goes through many health issues and operations. He hopes to return sometime later in October, if he can do therapy down here. Keep up that positive attitude, Chuck. We wish you many feel-better days ahead.

In Memoriam:

John Donily (#1019) We are saddened at the loss of John. He was a regular at the shop before he became ill. Our thoughts and prayers are with his wife, family and friends at this difficult time. You will be missed, John. (More on page 15.)







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
thanks you for all the contributions!



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



Dan Kuhl
regular contributor



Paul Burrier
sends Mike fun ideas from the past



Jim Hensch
extra photos of events



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

Craig Landers, President

Ray Peterson, 1st VP

Gene Wojtyna 2nd VP

Lynnette Saylor, Secretary

Ron Rada, 1st Treasurer

Ray Helt, 2nd Treasurer



**ARC meets monthly the 3rd Tuesday, at 2 p.m. at RH Johnson Social Hall
(no meetings in June, July and August)**

ARC WEBSITE <https://arcofscw.com>

ARC FACEBOOK Automotive/Restoration Club Facebook

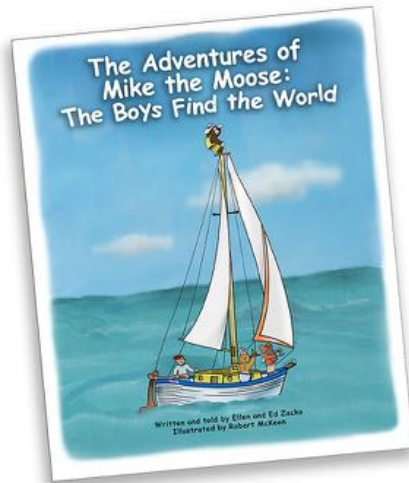
ARC EMAIL ARCOFSCW@gmail.com

ARC Newsletter contact - mikezackaroonie@gmail.com

or Ellen Zacko 623-374-3056, to leave a message

A Message from Mike the Moose

When you stop comparing what is right here
and now, with what you wish were,
you can begin to enjoy what is.
Cheri Huber, Zen teacher 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 for 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