



Presidents Thoughts

02/2026

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Most people make New Year’s resolutions, and by the time January is well underway, many of them are already broken or forgotten. That’s simply part of our human nature. I know this firsthand—I’ve made resolutions myself, only to fall short more times than I can count.

A few years ago, shortly before my mother passed away, I visited her in her home—my childhood home. I sat quietly with her in her room while she napped. It wasn’t much of a visit in terms of conversation, but being there with her, peacefully resting, was a gift. The quiet of the room was a welcome contrast to the outside world with all its movement, noise, congestion, and constant static.

When she woke, she smiled at me as she always did, grateful simply for my presence. My mother sacrificed so much for my father and all five of us children, never asking for anything for herself. I quietly asked her, “Mom, what is it I can do for you right now?” She replied simply, “Be happy.”

So what’s the point of this story? This year, let’s resolve to *be happy*. Be happy with our lives—where we live, who we are, and the circumstances we find ourselves in. Spend time with people who make you happy, and make an effort to bring happiness to them as well. Fix that car you’ve always wanted to fix, or just go out for a pure joy ride.

Maybe what this world needs is a few more people who choose to be happy.

Wishing you all the best, **Paul**



Saturday, April 11th, 2026 9am - 2pm

2026 CRUIZ’N TO THE HILLS CAR SHOW

ALL CARS WELCOME!

Estrella Mountain Car Club
ESTRELLA FOOTHILLS HIGH SCHOOL

SATURDAY APRIL 11

ESTRELLA FOOTHILLS HIGH SCHOOL
13033 S. Estrella Parkway, Goodyear, AZ 85338

MUSIC FOOD TRUCKS VENDOR BOOTHS

~ SPECTATORS FREE ~

9am - 2pm presentation at 1pm custom awards and dash plaques
\$20 registration fee \$25 after March 20

register online at www.estrellamountaincarclub.com

Register now!!

SEARS
WestUSA

DANIEL'S
TOTAL CAR CARE

PAPA
JOHNS

NANCY PERKINS
PROFESSIONAL

Efficient Air
HVAC & ENERGY SOLUTIONS

DANNY'S
SHINE PARLOR

ESTRELLA

MOUNTAIN RANCH
DENTISTRY

Osborne Jewelers

PRE-REGISTRATION — NOW IS THE TIME This is not something to put off!

The Estrella Mountain Car Club is proud to host the **3rd Annual Cruiz’n to the Hills Car Show** this **April 2026**, and we are putting a **strong push** out to our members to **pre-register immediately**.

You do **not** want to find yourself at the end of the registration line for one of EMCC’s signature events. Pre-registering now secures your place and helps ensure the smooth, professional experience our club is known for.

As an EMCC member, you are in an honored position — not only to showcase your pride and joy, but to represent the causes we support and the commitment we make to our community and to the families who attend this event. This show is a reflection of **who we are, what we stand for, and why EMCC exists**.

Member registrations right now are critical. Early registration allows us to gather the information needed to order **event T-shirts early**, ensuring we have the correct sizes and quantities available. It also demonstrates strong club unity and leadership by example. **“Click Live Link Below”**

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfOwQorX4xMrthOXPPFz7IHLAf7Sf9zYVICB38-bqn7LUyUOg/viewform?usp=sharing&ouid=107880028351494817439>

SPONSORSHIP UPDATE

We are well on our way to reaching our sponsorship goals, with **10 companies contributing a total of \$1,850.00** so far. This is a strong start, and we truly appreciate the efforts already made. Members can continue to support the show by reaching out to local businesses and sharing information about sponsorship opportunities. **Every contribution helps** make this event better for both participants and spectators.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED — DAY OF SHOW

- Setup
- Cleanup
- Judging

If you are interested, please contact **Bob Ness at (630) 479-7972**.

This event does not succeed by accident — it succeeds because our members step up, participate early, and support one another. We all know the **2026 Cruiz’n to the Hills Car Show** will be one of our best events yet.

New Years Resolutions for Gear Heads

The number of times I’ve heard someone say “my New Year’s resolution is to drive my project car this year” for at least two or three consecutive years turns what can be a positive motivator into a joke at best, and a reminder of previous failures at worst. Often, the problem is not the person but instead a resolution that’s too ambitious or difficult to follow through.

That’s not to say the bar for resolutions should be set so low as “put one tool back in the drawer after using it,” but instead that many car enthusiasts can get stuck in a rut of resolutions. Break free by embracing one of these six options, or your own personal variation of them.

Go to a new car show/event



We all have our comfort spots when it comes to driving. Some prefer the ease of use that comes with power-assist everything, or could never imagine driving a convertible on a road trip. With the seemingly endless types of cars out there, a good resolution is to get behind the wheel of something you have never driven—even if it is just to confirm that it is not for you.

Some love their American air-cooled flat six, but have just never been captured by German engines of the same type. A few years ago, I talked my way into the driver’s seat of a vintage 911, and while it didn’t do much to change my mind, I did better understand those who are so faithful to the Porsche marque. It was a great way to interact with a new part of the car culture.



Drive a car outside your comfort zone



New Years Resolutions for Gear Heads

Fix something yourself



Not everyone is a “Do It Yourself” of enthusiast, and that is perfectly fine, but there are a lot of small projects and tasks on vintage cars that can be done by even the most entry-level enthusiast. Taking these on can foster a stronger bond between driver and car, and having even just a little DIY experience can also make a driver more appreciative of a good mechanic and might help make sense of those labor rates the next time you visit the shop. Of course, things could swing the other way after you discover DIY work wasn’t nearly as intimidating as you thought, and pretty soon you’re only phoning the shop for big jobs. Either way, tackling just one DIY project is a perfect resolution for a lot of drivers.

Take someone new for a drive



Getting new people interested in the vintage car hobby is critical to keeping the events and venues we love open and operating. Just exposing people to old cars to show what fun these machines can be, and how engaging and different they are compared to new cars, can be a huge step for someone else’s passion. We need people of all ages in the hobby, so next time you are out with your car and someone strikes up a conversation, consider taking them for a spin, or at least letting them sit inside. Being strictly hands-off about a car is sometimes warranted, but a lot of our cars are made to be driven and won’t be damaged by a respectful passenger.

Volunteer or Donate



A huge portion of the events we love only happen thanks to volunteers. Consider donating your time to a museum or event in an effort to keep these locations and gatherings healthy for the long term. Many hands make light work, and every event or show I’ve participated in could’ve had a few more volunteers to keep things organized and moving steadily. If time is something difficult to spare, consider even a small monetary donation. Many museums or educational programs are non-profits, so your donation may be tax-deductible as well. Who doesn’t love a win/win for the museum and yourself?

Studies show that most New Year’s resolutions fail in short order, but these six might be just what any gearhead needs to thrive in the new year. Whether you have a resolution or not, enjoy yourself with happy and safe driving in 2026.

Valued Members Attendance to January Events



Our recent EMCC Italian luncheon at Bella Luna arranged by Douglas & Pam Bryson, was a wonderful success. Thirty-four members gathered to enjoy great food, lively conversation, and the kind of camaraderie that makes our club special. Bella Luna provided an excellent setting and went the extra mile by offering customized menu selections for our group, ensuring everyone felt well taken care of. Between the warm atmosphere, attentive service, and memorable discussions around the table, this is certainly a location EMCC looks forward to returning to again.

Valued Members Attendance to January Events

The Wickenburg Fly-In and Classic Car

This early in the “New Year”, Jim Leader put together a special last-minute cruise that turned into a truly memorable EMCC experience for the 15 of us. Members were invited to dive deeper into the rich history of aviation and classic cars, learning about the development of aviation in Arizona and its lasting impact on our local communities. The stories behind the stunning classic cars on display added another layer of appreciation, each vehicle showcasing its own unique history and charm.

Knowledgeable volunteers were on hand throughout the morning, sharing fascinating insights that engaged both young and old. EMCC attendees enjoyed a variety of interactive exhibits and workshops exploring car restoration and the mechanics of flight. Adding to the atmosphere was the irresistible aroma of breakfast delights, with local vendors offering delicious food that perfectly complemented the festive setting.

To top off an already outstanding morning, the luncheon reserved by Paul Masla at Los Caballeros Grill was simply off the hook. All in all, it was an excellent cruise paired with an exceptional event, one that truly captured the spirit of EMCC.



Martin Auto Museum



EMCC members recently enjoyed a memorable visit to the Martin Auto Museum, paired with an impressive Show & Shine hosted by Nancy Perry that drew more than 200 stunning vehicles. The event showcased not only remarkable cars, but also the passion and dedication behind Arizona’s vibrant automotive community.

Founded by Ron Martin, the collection began as a private endeavor in 2005 and officially became the Martin Auto Museum in 2008. Originally housed in a modest building along I-17 in north Phoenix, the museum relocated in early 2022 to a much larger facility at 43rd Avenue and Thunderbird Road. The new location now features over 175 vehicles and a full-size event center.

The museum’s diverse collection spans pre-1950 vintage automobiles, post-1950s classics, low-mileage special-interest cars, and unique automotive memorabilia, including a vintage carousel. Each vehicle is thoughtfully displayed with detailed information, making the experience both educational and enjoyable.

It was a fantastic setting, a great turnout, and another reminder of why EMCC visited events continue to bring members together around our shared love of automobiles.

Valued Members Attendance to January Events



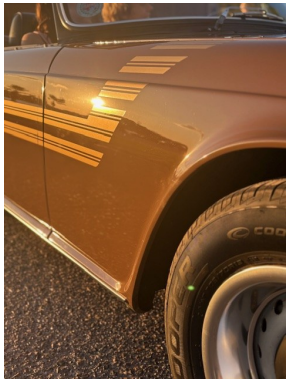
BUCKEYE, AZ — EMCC members enjoyed a fantastic time as Buckeye brought the Wild West to life during **Buckeye Days** on Saturday the 24th in Downtown Buckeye. This weekend-long celebration featured the Cattle Drive Parade with stunning collector cars on display, Dr. Buck’s Wild West Show, the Helzapoppin’ PRCA Rodeo, and live entertainment for the entire family.

From trick roping, six-gun spinning, bullwhip cracking, and a fiery whip finale to pie-eating contests for kids and adults, there was never a dull moment. Attendees also enjoyed the Chuckwagon Cookout hosted by the Buckeye Historical Society, learned about local history at the Buckeye Valley Museum, and watched families take in kids’ activities, a petting zoo, and more.

All in all, it was a great event, great company, and a great time had by everyone. Who joined in the fun!

Cars & Coffee January 2026

Estrella Mountain Car Club (EMCC) hosts its Cars & Coffee on the fourth Saturday of each month, giving members and guests a chance to reconnect, share build tips, talk maintenance, compare notes on upcoming events, and enjoy some good old-fashioned conversation among car-loving guys and gals. This past weekend was no different even with a number of members attending Buckeye Days—thank you to all our members and friends who came out and made the 1st. Cars and Coffee Event in 2026 such a success. It is hard to schedule attendance during the last 2 months yet many of you make this ever so popular each and every month.... For that we all thank you !



Future Events Coming up

- ♦ 2/14 Club Business meeting 9:00am to 10:00am EM Golf Course Grill
- ♦ 2/15 Mint Car Show @ Waddell's 1629 N. 195th Ave, Buckeye 9:00am to 2:00pm
- ♦ 2/18 EMCC Luncheon @ Fiesta Mexicana 1733 N. Dysart Ave, Goodyear 12:00pm Reservations
- ♦ 2/22 Ciens Car Show @ Dysart and E. Western Ave. 10:00am to 2:00pm
- ♦ 2/28 Cars and Coffee @ Safeway Parking Lot 8:00am to 10:00am
- ♦ 2/28 Veterans Car Show Desert Diamond Casino 9431 W. Northern 9:00am to 2:20pm

Please Note: Event Details Maybe Listed on EMCC Web Site; <https://estrellamountaincarclub.com/>



Together, we don't just attend events—we shape them. Every member brings something valuable to the table, and when we share our time, ideas, and talents, the results are richer friendships, stronger events, and a club we're all proud of.

It is with hope we see you at our up coming events!



EMCC members get ready for Central Mexico cuisine.. February..



Address: 1733 N. Dysart Rd, Goodyear, AZ

When: Wednesday 2/18/2026 RSVP by 2/15 on EMCC web site
Meeting at Safeway Parking lot, leaving at 11:45



February Member’s Birthdays



The following members and significant others are celebrating birthdays this month.

Members Names

- 2/1 Carol Means
- 2/3 Bob Barnes
- 2/5 Rick Goble
- 2/8 Tim Elder
- 2/9 John McMillin
- 2/11 Ron Lorenzo
- 2/12 Steven Redding
- 2/14 Tom Stitz
- 2/16 Eric Vigneron
- 2/19 Marlene Goble
- 2/20 Julie Smith
- 2/25 Bill Owen

The provided information is sourced from the club's roster. Kindly inform us of any errors or omissions so that we can rectify them promptly.

Birthdays are special because they celebrate a person’s existence, mark personal milestones, and bring people together to acknowledge growth, love, and belonging. While celebrations can feel private, the tradition itself is often a communal act that affirms the individual’s value among family and friends. Nearly every culture in the world marks birthdays, but the customs and meanings vary greatly—from birthday bumps in India to ear-pulling in Spain and Mexico’s piñata celebrations—showing that honoring the passage of time is a global, not just American, tradition.

Why Birthdays Feel Special

- ◆ Birthdays are seen as a recognition of someone’s journey, achievements, and uniqueness.
- ◆ They allow individuals to feel appreciated, loved, and validated by their community.
- ◆ Celebrating helps break the monotony of routine life, boosts emotional well-being, and fosters joyful memories.

*** **DUES ARE DUE** ***

EMCC, like all nonprofit organizations, reviews and updates its membership dues each year. This year is no different—it's time for our annual dues to be submitted. We ask you head over to the Web Site and up date your registration when possible.

This is a friendly reminder to ensure your membership remains active so you can continue to participate in all club activities and support of our important mission moving into the **2026 year**. <https://square.link/u/C1IkNA04>

About Your EMCC Newsletter

We want the E Newsletter to be a two-way street. If you have news, stories, photos, or anything else you'd like to share, we'd love to feature it. This is your platform to connect, inspire, and celebrate our shared love of cars and community.

“Whether you enjoy planning, lending a hand on event day, sharing ideas, or simply encouraging others, there's a role for everyone—big or small. Together, we can make the newsletter a true reflection of the fun, friendships, and horsepower that fuel EMCC.”

“At EMCC we proudly celebrate both tribes: The Coupe crowd who love clean lines and quiet cabins, and the Convertible crew who believe a little sun, wind, and bugs build character. Different likes, different dislikes — same love for great cars and great people.”

Enjoy your February, Bill

[Right Click here to view list of Officers & Directors](#)

Estrella Mountain Car Club Foundation
Po. Box 5583, Goodyear, AZ 85338

