

EMCC E-NEWS LETTER

“Welcome to the best little car club in Arizona”



Presidents Thoughts

03/2026

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One of life’s simple pleasures for me is when my wife Louise makes her wonderful chocolate chip cookies or Tollhouse chocolate chip cookie bars. She usually saves them for special occasions like my birthday or Father’s Day. There’s just something about them—the warm chocolate chips, rich butter, brown sugar, and pecans—all coming together into one delicious treat. And when they’re fresh out of the oven, there’s truly nothing better. I savor every bite and every flavor. It simply can’t be beat.

The other night, I had a thought—how terrible it would be to lose my sense of taste and not be able to enjoy those cookies. To have something so wonderful right in front of me, and not be able to experience the joy of it. “In many ways, I feel the same about our Car Club.”

What a shame it would be to belong to the best little car club in Arizona and not fully enjoy everything it offers. We have so many opportunities to share our passion—the Cars & Coffee gatherings, car shows, cruises, charity events, parades, and the simple pleasure of showing our cars to people who admire them with awe and appreciation. These moments are like those fresh cookies—something special meant to be enjoyed and shared.

I encourage each of you to take part in the activities we have planned. Bring your pride and joy to Cars & Coffee. Join us at events. Participate in our charity work. Come out to the car show in April. Share your enthusiasm and help make our club even stronger.

Most importantly, enjoy being a member. Enjoy the friendships, the events, and the experiences—just like enjoying a warm chocolate chip cookie fresh out of the oven.

Because it’s each of you who adds the flavor that makes our club so special.

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
ROEBUCK & CO.
WESTUSA

DANIEL'S
TOTAL CAR CARE

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JOHNS

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PRODUCTIONS

Efficient Air
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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.

Auto History of Robert Duvall

Robert Duvall, Everyone’s Favorite NASCAR Crew Chief and Consigliere, Has Died

“He didn’t slam into you, he didn’t bump you, he didn’t nudge you, he *rubbed* you. And he *rubbin you son, is racing*.” With the delivery of that line—especially the last part—in *Days of Thunder*, actor Robert Duvall created an American racing mantra and became the quintessential image of a NASCAR crew chief. Duvall died on February 16 at 95.

Duvall had, of course, already established himself as a brilliant actor before taking on the role of Harry Hogge in the 1990 NASCAR-themed movie. His first big role came alongside Gregory Peck in 1962’s *To Kill a Mockingbird*, playing Boo Radley. He then went on to star as Tom Hagen in *The Godfather*, and Lieutenant Colonel Kilgore in *Apocalypse Now* (“I love the smell of napalm in the morning...”) plus many other hits; his career was as prolific as it was memorable. [IMDb.com](#) shows 145 acting credits to Duvall’s name.

Among those, fans of car movies and (movies with interesting cars) remember him from a few titles. He played a cab driver in *Bullitt* named Weissberg, who shared some key information with Bullitt as he drove Steve McQueen’s character around San Francisco. It might seem like a small bit in retrospect, but even after his strong presence in *To Kill a Mockingbird*, Duvall was a TV regular (including three episodes of *Route 66*) who hadn’t fully made the step to the big screen.



Not long after *Bullitt*, Duvall hit his stride and secured an Oscar nomination for supporting actor for his role in *The Godfather*. Just before that mob classic, though, came his lead role in a film of a decidedly different genre: George Lucas’ directorial debut, *THX 1138*. In a dystopian future in which human behavior is tightly monitored and controlled, Duvall’s character rebels. He ultimately steals a Lola T70 police cruiser that sounds like a fighter jet. The car was a real T70—Lucas secured two for the film—originally owned by James Garner, and it saw competition in Can Am, the 12 Hours of Sebring, and 24 Hours of Daytona prior to becoming a movie car.



Auto History of Robert Duvall



It'd be more than a decade till *Days of Thunder*, but in the meantime, Duvall took home an Oscar for Best Actor in 1983's *Tender Mercies*, played reporter Max Mercy in one of our favorites, *The Natural*, and undertook what he said was his favorite role ever, Gus McCrae from the miniseries *Lonesome Dove*.

After Harry Hogge gave us memorable lines about rubbin', eating ice cream, and hitting the pace car, *Gone in 60 Seconds* featured Duvall in another mentorship role, this time as Otto Halliwell. Hard to believe he was considered an old-timer 26 years ago, but Duvall's character coached Nicolas Cage's Memphis Raines and his team as he attempted to boost 50 cars in three days.



Finally, *Jayne Mansfield's Car* might not be remembered directly alongside some of Duvall's other films, but an impressive cast including Billy Bob Thornton (who also directed), Kevin Bacon, Tippi Hedren, and John Hurt, as well as a host of beautiful—and occasionally mangled—'50s and '60s cars has us bookmarking this movie for our to-watch list. Duvall plays a southern family patriarch who's obsessed with car wreck forensics and finds himself in the thick of sorting out some deep-rooted family conflicts.

Duvall passed at his farm in Middleburg, Virginia, with his wife of 26 years, Luciana Padraza, at his side. After a life on screen, counseling the Cosa Nostra, ushering a brash Cole Trickle to stock-car success, and serving as a fount of familial wisdom, Duvall will be missed.

Writer:
Eddy Echart



Valued Members Attendance in February Events



Janet Marvin Rachfal & Mike Rachfal have achieved an extraordinary back-to-back honor, earning the **Best 1964–1969 Mustang Award** at the **ARC Car Show** in Sun City West—one of the West Valley's premier automotive events. This recognition was richly deserved and a testament to their dedication and exceptional vehicle.

Remarkably, the very next day, they collected yet another award at the Mint Car Show at Waddell's Corral, proving once again the outstanding quality of their Mustang and their unwavering commitment to excellence.

Congratulations to Janet and Mike. Your passion, energy, and devotion to the collector car community in Goodyear set a standard few can match. EMCC is not only proud—but truly in awe—of both of you. You represent the very best of what it means to be collector car enthusiasts.

EMCC proudly congratulates Janet and Duane Fujimoto for showcasing their beautiful Toyota Crown at the **De Elegance Car Show on February 15 in Fountain Hills**.

This impressive event featured more than 500 vehicles of all makes and models from across the region, displayed around the full one-mile perimeter of Fountain Park. Janet and Duane's participation reflected their passion, pride, and dedication to the collector car hobby.

We commend them for representing EMCC with such distinction and enthusiasm. We are proud to have them as part of us....



Valued Members Attendance in February Events

Our recent EMCC Mexican luncheon, thoughtfully arranged by Douglas and Pam Bryson, proved to be one of our most enjoyable gatherings of the year. Thirty members came together at The Mexican Fiesta Restaurant to enjoy delicious south-of-the-border cuisine, lively conversation, and the warm camaraderie that makes our club so special.

Mexican Fiesta provided an excellent setting, offering both a welcoming atmosphere and exceptional service. The staff went above and beyond by preparing customized menu selections and graciously accommodating additional members, ensuring that everyone felt comfortable and well cared for.

Gathered around four tables, members shared stories, laughter, and their shared enthusiasm for EMCC. It was a wonderful reminder that while our cars bring us together, it is the friendships and shared experiences that truly define our club.

This memorable afternoon, combined with outstanding food and service, has made Mexican Fiesta a location EMCC looks forward to visiting again in the future. Our sincere thanks to Douglas and Pam for organizing such a successful and enjoyable event.

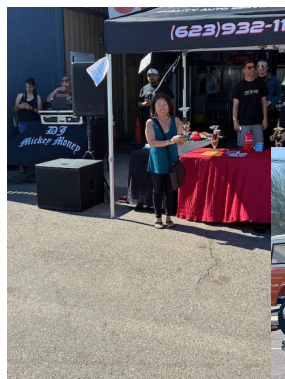


EMCC Brings Home the Hardware at Cien Car Show

The 6th Annual Cien Car Show, held February 22 at Cien Motor Werks in Avondale, delivered a fantastic display of classic, muscle, modern, exotic, domestic, and foreign vehicles — and EMCC showed up strong.

With 11 members in attendance, our club proudly took home **awards** with Bob Paduano, & Janet Fujimoto winning two—proving once again that when EMCC rolls in, we roll in right.

Beyond the trophies, it was a great day of camaraderie, community spirit, and supporting a valued local business and charitable efforts.



20th Annual Veterans Car Show – Desert Diamond Casino

The 20th Annual Veterans Car Show at Desert Diamond Casino was a tremendous success, drawing more than 500 incredible vehicles from across the region. One of Nancy Perry's premier events of the year did not disappoint — and EMCC showed up in true style.

Fourteen of our club cars rolled in strong, representing EMCC with pride and presence. With that level of competition, you might think awards would be hard to come by — but not for this group. EMCC proudly brought home multiple honors, including special awards earned by the Fogey family and Ron Lorenzo. Outstanding work all around.

Most importantly, we extend our appreciation to our EMCC veterans who attended and represented both our club and our country with distinction. Your continued involvement means more than words can express.

A fantastic showing, a great display of club spirit, and another memorable day for EMCC.

Valued Members Attendance to February Events

20th Annual Veterans Car Show – Desert Diamond Casino



Cars & Coffee February 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.



Cars & Coffee

ESTRELLA MOUNTAIN CAR CLUB
Proudly Hosting • 4th Saturday of Every Month

Join us for a relaxed Arizona morning of great cars and even better company.
Bring your pride and joy — or just bring your coffee and enjoy the view.
All makes and models welcome.

📍 Estrella Mountain Safeway Parking Lot
9890 S. Estrella Pkwy, Goodyear, AZ

📅 4th Saturday of Every Month
8:00 AM – 10:00 AM

 Where Estrella Enthusiasts Gather.

Future Events Coming up

- ◆ 3/06 Hot Rod Nights Every Friday Night 5:00PM to 8:00pm American Furniture Warehouse 16600 W Waddell Rd. Surprise
- ◆ 3/07 Mels Diner Saturday Cruise for Lunch, 1747 Grand Ave. Phoenix, AZ 85007
- ◆ 3/11 Robson Reserve Car Show, 15833 West Clubhouse Drive, Goodyear, AZ 85395
- ◆ 3/14 Club Business meeting 9:00am to 10:00am EM Golf Course Grill
- ◆ 3/18 EMCC Luncheon @ Time Square Italian Club, 13760 W. camelback Rd. 12:00pm Reservations
- ◆ 3/28 Cars and Coffee @ Safeway Parking Lot 8:00am to 10:00am

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

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!

There's a diner sitting quietly along Grand Avenue that feels like it's been waiting for you since the 1970s. Chrome stools. Neon lights. Coffee mugs that never seem to empty. And a sign that reads "Mel's Diner." But this isn't just any diner – it's the one made famous by the hit TV show "Alice", where waitresses dished out sass as often as they served pie. The show's most iconic line – "Kiss my grits!" – still echoes in the hearts of fans. Here in Phoenix, though, Mel's still "serves meals to no one" – while offering hearty plates to anyone craving a taste of vintage Americana.

Join Jim Leader and the gang on a cruise to one of a number of iconic locations in Phoenix for a bite..

Get your reservations in early as it will be a great blast into the past for a number of folks.



WVC's Hot Rod Nights at AFW
Every Friday 5-8pm (beginning 10/3/25)
16600 W. Waddell Rd. Surprise, Az
All Makes, Models, Years Welcomed



Location: American Furniture Warehouse

Let's Cruise To **TIME SQUARE ITALIAN** FOR LUNCH

Join us for an afternoon of Italian flavors,
great conversation, and EMCC fellowship.

Destination:
Time Square Italian
13760 W. Camelback Rd #70
Litchfield Park, AZ 85340

DATE:
Wednesday, March 18, 2026

MEET-UP LOCATION:
Safeway Parking Lot

DEPARTURE TIME:
11:30 AM Sharp

RSVP by March 16
on the EMCC Website

Event Leaders:
Doug & Pam Bryson
971-533-5158

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971-533-5158



March Member’s Birthdays



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

Members Names

- 3/2 Steve Calhoon
- 3/3 Johnny Perez
- 3/6 Jan Polansky
- 3/8 Robin Dodd
- 3/12 Oralia McMillin
- 3/13 Kim Morgan
- 3/15 Kerry Morris
- 3/17 Patrick Young
- 3/20 Hermelita Young
- 3/23 John Burlini
- 3/23 Cindy Smith
- 3/25 Matt Peart
- 3/27 Jan Calhoon
- 3/27 Don Lombardo

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.

Why Birthdays Feel Special to folks

- ◆ 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.

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, comradery 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 “Coupes say convertibles are drafty... convertibles say coupes are just afraid of the Sun & Rain. Either way, if it’s got wheels, personality, and brings a smile, it belongs at EMCC.”

Enjoy your March,

Editor: Bill Owen

<https://calendar.google.com/calendar/u/0?cid=ZXN0cmVsbGFtb3VudGFpbnNhcmNsdWJAZ21haWwuY29t>

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

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

