

IMPALA INFO



Vol. 2, Num. 2

Phoenix Chapter of the National Impala Association

February, 2003

GM to open Proving Grounds March 9 50th anniversary celebration to feature generations of GM classics

Arizona Impalas—along with local classic car clubs for other General Motors models—will have a rare opportunity to tour the GM Desert Proving Grounds at its 50th anniversary celebration Sunday, March 9. We have been invited to bring our cars to display around the facility.

Each participant will receive four tickets to the event, which includes a tour of the Proving Grounds, classic concept vehicle displays, driving demonstrations, and more. Since GM is planning to move its hot-weather testing facility to Mexico, this is a once-in-a-lifetime chance

to go behind the scenes at the Proving Grounds.

If you want to show your Impala, contact Karl and Cindy Becker at 623-582-3572 or kbc-b-impala-ss@att.net with your car info and license plate number. We have to turn in our list to GM by February 3.

Each club is limited to 25 cars; so far, 11 members have signed up.

If you can't bring your car, but still want to attend, you may be able to ride with members who aren't using all four of their tickets (every person must have a ticket *continued on page 3*)

2nd annual club show set for April 12

Arizona Impalas will host its second annual All-Chevy Show from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, April 12, at Impala Bob's, 4753 E. Falcon Dr. at Falcon Field Airport in Mesa. You can download a flyer and entry form at the club Web site. Registration is \$15.00 before March 15 and \$20.00 after. We'll have the same great DJ we had last year, plus a *continued on page 2*

Lehr's Caprice brings home trophies



Jerry Lehr and his son Jerry show off the First Place plaque for their '66 Caprice at the fall Impala Bob's show November 9.

Jerry Lehr and his loaded '66 Caprice coupe took home trophies at two recent car shows. At Impala Bob's

Fall Chevys Only Car Show and Open House November 9, Jerry won first place in the 65-76 full-size division. He also

took home a Top 10 Award at the Toyz for Totz benefit cruise and show in Wickenburg December 1. There were more than 100 classic cars of all makes at the Wickenburg show, making Jerry's win all the more impressive.

Of course, his lemon-wood yellow Caprice is pretty impressive, too. A former "Brass Hat" car built especially for a GM executive, it's loaded with options, including a big-block 396/325-hp V-8, TurboHydraMatic *continued on page 2*

Visit our Web site at www.arizonaimpalas.com

See a classic Impala? Recruit a new member!

You don't have to go to a car show or the Pavilions on Saturday night to see classic Impalas driving around the Valley. The next time you see one, you can invite its owner to join Arizona Impalas with our new recruiting card.

There's space to include your name and information about our next club event. You can also include a picture of your car on the back side. Cards come 10 to a sheet; contact Gary Dulude at gdwriter@aol.com or 480-786-5772 to order.

NICE CAR!

Hi, I'm _____, and I noticed your classic Chevy. I'm a member of Arizona Impalas, dedicated to the preservation and enjoyment of full-size Chevrolets from 1958-72. We take road trips, go to car shows, and our next event is: _____



For more information, visit www.arizonaimpalas.com. Call 623-875-1676 or call me at: _____.

2003 officers elected

Officers for 2003 were elected via online voting and at the December 7 meeting.

Relected were President Daryl Wimer, Treasurer Gary Dulude, and At-Large Member Ron Trainer. Vic Zavarella was elected Vice President, and Karl and Cindy Becker will serve as secretary. Thanks to Mel Cofman and George Stebbins for their service in 2001 and 2002.

Meet NIA president at March 16 cruise-in

National Impala Association Dennis Naasz and his wife Byrdi are coming to Phoenix, and we'll have the chance to meet them at

our March meeting. Our second cruise-in to Ed Debevic's will begin at 4 p.m. Sunday, March 16. Ed's is located at 2102 E. Highland Ave., 1/2

mile south of Camelback Rd., and 1/2 mile east of the Squaw Peak Parkway (AZ51) in Phoenix. You can download a map at the club Web site.

Second club car show set for April 12

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50/50, raffle prizes, dash plaques, a hot dog lunch, and people's choice trophies.

Several members have already volunteered to solicit raffle prizes from local businesses, as well

as help out with show registration, parking, and other functions. See the meeting minutes from January 11, available at the club Web site, for details.

If you'd like to help out as well, contact Bob Kohler at 602-978-1232

or impala67@cox.net. We'll continue with planning for the show at our next meeting, 3:30 p.m. February 22 at the home of Vic and Gerri Zavarella, 5831 W. Crocus Dr. in Glendale. You can download a map to their house at the club Web site.

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Daryl Wimer	President	623-875-1676	azwhip56@aol.com
Vic Zavarella	Vice President	602-938-0294	gaznogo@aol.com
Karl & Cindy Becker	Secretary	623-582-3572	kbc-b-impala-ss@att.net
Gary Dulude	Treasurer	480-786-5772	gdwriter@aol.com
Ron Trainor	Board Member at Large	602-278-8671	ronwendyt@cs.com

Lehr Caprice wins twice at fall shows

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400 transmission, Positraction, AM/FM multiplex stereo, power windows, steering, brakes, Comfortron air conditioning, vinyl roof, deluxe seat belts, Strato bucket seats with console, gauge package, and more.

Member spotlight — Gary & Samantha Dulude's '64 Impala Sport Sedan

If you've come to just about any club event, you've probably seen Betty, Gary and Samantha Dulude's '64 Impala Sport Sedan. Betty is one of more than 220,000 Impala four-door hardtops built in 1964.

Betty is equipped with a 327/250-hp V-8, Powerglide, power steering and brakes, factory air, push-button AM radio, and rare wire wheel covers with spinners. And everything works—including the electric clock.

Betty has been a gradual restoration project. Gary and Samantha had her painted in 1999, rebuilt



the engine with a lot of help from George Stebbins in 2000, and replaced the upholstery, carpet, and headliner in 2002. Still to come are new door panels and power windows.

Gary and Samantha drive Betty frequently. Beyond car shows, they've taken her on road trips throughout Arizona and to Southern California. She's been very reliable and is a great highway cruiser.

Plus, since Gary and George installed a rear stabilizer bar, there's much less body lean. So Betty handles very well, even on the twists and turns of Highway 89 south of Prescott, where this picture was taken.

Welcome new members

Thanks and welcome to our newest members:

Jack and Marion McKee, '62 Impala SS

It's not too late to renew your membership!

Thanks to all the members who have renewed for 2003. If you haven't yet sent in your \$36.00 dues, you can still get your club patch when

you renew. We have some extra patches as well for \$10.00 each. Send your dues and patch orders to Arizona Impalas, 1150 W. Gary

Ct., Chandler, AZ 85224-8675. We'll put your patch in the mail, or you can get yours at an upcoming club event.

Classics invited to GM Proving Grounds 50th

continued from page 1 to enter). Check with Karl and Cindy to see who's driving their cars.

Gates open for the clubs at 9:30 a.m. to allow participants time to complete the road system

tour and get their cars staged in the show area. The gates open at 11 a.m. for other guests.

So we can enter the Proving Grounds as a club, we will meet up beginning at 8:45 a.m. at

Starbucks Coffee, 1939 S. Val Vista Dr., in Mesa. This is just south of the Superstition Freeway (U.S. 60), on the east side of Val Vista before the light at Baseline Rd. You can download a map

if needed from the club Web site. We'll leave Starbucks at 9:15 a.m.

Don't miss this unique event—and the chance to include your Impala in a bit of GM history.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Saturday,
February 15:** Wickenburg Gold Rush Days parade and old car rally at Calamity Canyon in Wickenburg. Contact Daryl Wimer at 623-875-1676 with a description of your car for the parade announcer.
- Sunday,
February 16:** 10th Annual Sweetheart Car Show at Brown & Brown Chevrolet, Mesa. Information, call Gil Fidler at 480-892-8439.
- Saturday,
February 22:** Deer Valley Skyhawk Band Car Show, 18424 N. 51st Ave., just south of Union Hills Rd. Information, call Terry Dempsey at 623-376-8323.
- Peoria Fan Fest 2003, Peoria Sports Complex, 83rd Ave. and Bell Rd. Information, call Fred at 623-937-1171 or Jack at 602-595-5389 or carjac43@cox.net.
- Club meeting at the home of Vic & Gerri Zavarella, 5831 W. Crocus Dr., Glendale. Meeting will begin at 3:30 p.m. after the shows in Peoria and Glendale.
- Sunday,
March 9:** GM Desert Proving Grounds 50th Anniversary, Mesa. RSVP by January 31 to Karl and Cindy Becker at 623-582-3572 or kcbcb-impala-ss@att.net. Meet up at 8:45 a.m. at Starbucks, 1939 S. Val Vista Dr., Mesa, just south of U.S. 60.
- Sunday,
March 9:** Cruise-in at Ed Debevic's, 2102 E. Highland St., Phoenix. Meet National Impala Association President Dennis Naasz and his wife Byrdi.
- Saturday,
April 12:** Arizona Impalas' 2nd Annual All-Chevy Show at Impala Bob's, 4753 E. Falcon Dr., Falcon Field Airport, Mesa. A portion of the proceeds will benefit Horses Help.



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Address Correction Requested