

VALLEY OF THE SUN PONTIACS May 15, 2024

I have asked former president of the Desert Renegades, Tom Knecht to represent me and read a short message to our membership. I am humbled and honored to have been elected to serve as President of our Club. Thank you for your faith and trust in me. Along with our new and veteran officers, Board of Directors, and all members we will continue to be a dynamic organization. Together we will not change things for the sake of change, however we will make improvements when necessary to make the club better and continue with all the fun we have experienced.

I am sorry I am not here tonight; however, Barb and I am in St Louis at Firebird Fest with our 69 and 91 Birds and 250+ other Birds. We registered over 6 months ago and at that time I didn't realize, plan, or consider being elected President. However, we will be coming back in July and I will call an Officers and Board of Directors Meeting and we will start planning for our 2024 – 2025 season to offer opportunities that will benefit and grow our Pontiac Club. We got to the point we are at by a lot of current and past Officers, Boards, and Members dedicating time, energy, and work for the benefit of past, current, and future members. We will continue that effort.

I joined the Desert Renegades and the Cactus GTOs in 2017 and remained as members of both until the merger. For our new members who are not aware Frank Gostyla and Bill Mc Coy were Co-Presidents of the Cactus GTO's and Tom Knecht was president of the Desert Renegades. Some re-organization was done around the COVID years and I was elected Vice-President of the Cactus GTO's in 2020. Efforts to merge the two clubs began and ultimately, we formed the Valley of the Sun Pontiacs. A handful of members from both clubs put hours and hours of time planning and organizing this new venture. One key member is our Past President, Frank Gostyla.

Frank has dedicated countless hours to the club, not only as President and serving as one of the point people to form our new club; he has also offered his monster garage twice a year for car clinics, we held many club meetings there, many of our annual Christmas Parties, he managed the MAG Auction affiliation with MAG and before that Silver Auctions, along with other very dedicated members of the club. Frank has been the point person, the guy you can count on for so many Club Activities. I would like all of us to recognize Frank with a standing ovation saying THANK YOU for all that he has done for this club. (lead the clapping Tom)!!!

Frank, although you have relinquished your role as President, we will utilize your experience and expertise in various ways. Frank will continue in a role with the MAG Auction, Car Clinics, and other club functions. I know he will help provide advice and guidance for us. The Officers and New Board will look forward to input and participation from the general membership as well as we are a Club, we are a Team and we should all look forward to doing whatever we can do to make our club prosper, fun, and successful. In the name of "*all things Pontiac*," I remain...

Sincerely

Paul Albinger Jr.