

CHAPTER "99" NEWSLETTER
ASC-CA-NORTH



Membership Meeting

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

NO MEETING IN JANUARY

Economy Issues



American Express announced that it will eliminate 5,400 jobs and take a \$400 million restructuring charge in the fourth quarter.

American Express said it plans to reduce its workforce, currently at 63,500, by 4 to 6 percent by the end of 2013.

Along with a number of other costs, the charges will halve the company's fourth-quarter net income to 56 cents a share.

Excluding these items, American Express earned \$1.2 billion, or \$1.09 a share, on revenue of \$8.1 billion. For the year ago period, net income was \$1.2 billion, or \$1.01 per share.

Analysts had expected \$1.06 a share on revenue \$8.12 billion, according to Thomson Reuters.

"We've delivered strong results since coming out of the recession and have been consistently gaining share in a very competitive U.S. industry," CEO Kenneth Chenault said in an interview.

American Express also said card-member spending rose 8 percent, "despite a brief dip in late October/early November" reflecting the impact of Hurricane Sandy on consumers and businesses in the northeastern United States.

Economics Quotes

"Government's view of the economy could be summed up in a few short phrases: If it moves, tax it. If it keeps moving, regulate it. And if it stops moving, subsidize it" ~~~ Ronald Reagan

"Inflation is when you pay fifteen dollars for the ten-dollar haircut you used to get for five dollars when you had hair." ~~~ Sam Ewing

"Economy is the method by which we prepare today to afford the improvements of tomorrow" ~~~ Calvin Coolidge

"Economic depression cannot be cured by legislative action or executive pronouncement. Economic wounds must be healed by the action of the cells of the economic body - the producers and consumers themselves." ~~~ Herbert Hoover

"In economics, the majority is always wrong." ~~~John Kenneth Galbraith

UAW trust pushing for possible IPO for Chrysler

By Bloomberg

Chrysler Group said its minority shareholder demanded a registration for its holdings in a step toward a possible public stock offering.

Chrysler, majority owned by Fiat S.p.A., will comply with the demand by the UAW Retiree Medical Benefits Trust, which owns 41.5 percent of the automaker, according to a statement today.

The trust, which is a voluntary employee beneficiary association, or VEBA, wants to register 16.6 percent of the shares in Chrysler, the company said.

"Registration is a first step in preparing to sell those interests through a public offering of stock," Chrysler said in a statement. "Chrysler Group will make reasonable best efforts to register those shares as requested. Registration does not mean there will be an IPO."

Sergio Marchionne, CEO of both Fiat and Chrysler, plans to merge the two companies by 2015 after striking an initial alliance through the U.S. automaker's bankruptcy more than three years ago.

Fiat, mired in the Europe auto market's slump, faces restrictions in accessing Chrysler's cash as part of conditions set by the U.S. government's rescue.

Fiat owns 58.5 percent of Chrysler.

The Italian automaker is in a legal dispute with the UAW trust over the price it must pay to exercise an initial call option that would boost its ownership stake to almost 62 percent.

The UAW trust said in a November court filing that it's owed \$342 million, more than double the \$139.7 million that Fiat has said the shares should be worth. Fiat said Jan. 3 that it plans to exercise a second call option that would increase its stake to about 65 percent.

'Clearer price'

"This will provide a clearer price for what Fiat will need to pay to pick up the remaining shares beyond the call options," Richard Hilgert, an analyst for Morningstar Equity Research in Chicago, said Wednesday in a telephone interview. "It's more probable that Fiat will wind up buying the shares before it goes to an IPO, and this gives VEBA a bit of negotiating leverage to say here's what the market would pay for this chunk of stock right now."

HEALTH ISSUES

I regret to inform you that Margaret, my wife, has been diagnosed with ALS, Lou Gehrig's disease. She has declined considerably in the last couple of months. We are scheduled to go to the Lou Gehrig's Disease Center in San Francisco next week to get more complete information on what to expect and how to proceed with treatment. There is no cure at this time, but maybe we can slow down its advance. I will keep everyone informed as we get more news. Keep us in your prayers.

Only in America!!!!

Stella Awards

It's time again for the annual 'Stella Awards'! For those unfamiliar with these awards, they are named after 81-year-old Stella Liebeck who spilled hot coffee on herself and successfully sued the McDonald's in New Mexico, where she purchased coffee. You remember, she took the lid off the coffee and put it between her knees while she was driving. Who would ever think one could get burned doing that, right? That's right; these are awards for the most outlandish lawsuits and verdicts in the US. You know, the kinds of cases that make you scratch your head — So keep your head scratcher handy.

Here are the Stellas for the past year:

SEVENTH PLACE

Kathleen Robertson of Austin, Texas was awarded \$80,000 by a jury of her peers after breaking her ankle tripping over a toddler who was running inside a furniture store. The store owners were understandably surprised by the verdict, considering the running toddler was her own son. Start scratching!

* SIXTH PLACE *

Carl Truman, 19, of Los Angeles, California won \$74,000 plus medical expenses when his neighbor ran over his hand with a Honda Accord. Truman apparently didn't notice there was someone at the wheel of the car when he was trying to steal his neighbor's hubcaps. Scratch some more...

* FIFTH PLACE *

Terrence Dickson, of Bristol, Pennsylvania, who was leaving a house he had just burglarized by way of the garage. Unfortunately for Dickson, the automatic garage door opener malfunctioned and he could not get the garage door to open. Worse, he couldn't re-enter the house because the door connecting the garage to the house locked when Dickson pulled it shut. Forced to sit for eight, count 'em, EIGHT days and survive on a case of Pepsi and a large bag of dry dog food, he sued the homeowner's insurance company claiming undue mental Anguish. Amazingly, the jury said the insurance company must pay Dickson \$500,000 for his anguish. We should all have this kind of anguish. Keep scratching. There are more..... Double hand scratching after this one..

FOURTH PLACE

Jerry Williams, of Little Rock, Arkansas, garnered 4th Place in the Stella's when he was awarded \$14,500 plus medical expenses after being bitten on the butt by his next door neighbor's beagle - even though the beagle was on a chain in its owner's fenced yard. Williams did not get as much as he asked for because the jury believed the beagle might have been provoked at the time of the butt bite because Williams had climbed over the fence into the yard and repeatedly shot the dog with a pellet gun. Pick a new spot to scratch, you're getting a bald spot..

* THIRD PLACE *

Amber Carson of Lancaster, Pennsylvania because a jury ordered a Philadelphia restaurant to pay her \$113,500 after she slipped on a spilled soft drink and broke her tailbone. The reason the soft drink was on the floor: Ms. Carson had thrown it at her boyfriend 30 seconds earlier during an argument. What ever happened to people being responsible for their own actions?

Only two more so ease up on the scratching....

SECOND PLACE

Kara Walton, of Claymont, Delaware sued the owner of a night club in a nearby city because she fell from the bathroom window to the floor, knocking out her two front teeth. Even though Ms. Walton was trying to sneak through the ladies room window to avoid paying the \$3.50 cover charge, the jury said the night club had to pay her \$12,000.... oh, yeah, plus dental expenses. Go figure. Ok. Here we go!!

* FIRST PLACE *

This year's runaway First Place Stella Award winner was: Mrs. Merv Grazinski, of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, who purchased new 32-foot Winnebago motor home. On her first trip home, from an OU football game, having driven on to the freeway, she set the cruise control at 70 mph and calmly left the driver's seat to go to the back of the Winnebago to make herself a sandwich. Not surprisingly, the motor home left the freeway, crashed and overturned. Also not surprisingly, Mrs. Grazinski sued Winnebago for not putting in the owner's manual that she couldn't actually leave the driver's seat while the cruise control was set. The Oklahoma jury awarded her, are you sitting down? \$1,750,000 PLUS a new motor home. Winnebago actually changed their manuals as a result of this suit, just in case Mrs. Grazinski has any relatives who might also buy a motor home.

CODE of ETHICS

1. To promote good will between the motorist and the industry.
2. To have a sense of personal obligation to each individual customer.
3. To perform high quality repair service at a fair and just price.
4. To employ the best skilled personnel obtainable.
5. To use only proven merchandise of high quality distributed by reputable firms.
6. To itemize all parts and adjustments in the price charged for service rendered.
7. To retain all parts replaced for customer inspection, if so requested.
8. To uphold the high standards of our profession and always seek to correct any and all abuses within the automotive industry.
9. To uphold the integrity of all members.
10. To refrain from advertisement which is false or misleading or likely to confuse or deceive the customer.

REGULAR MEMBERSHIP

(Updated 10/12)

ADVANCED AUTOMOTIVE	
Cody Morelock.....	244-4423
ALL WHEEL ALIGNMENT	
Rob Pitari.....	241-1010
ALTERNATIVE AUTO	
Mitch Early.....	223-1288
BRYANT AUTOMOTIVE, INC.	
Tom Bryant.....	222-3313
CA AUTO REPAIR & SMOG	
Barbara White.....	246-9277
CLASSIC IMPORT SERVICES, INC.	
Angelo & Faith Aristo.....	221-3653
DOUBLE "S" AUTOMOTIVE	
Jim & Susan Staggs.....	336-5905
RETIRED but ACTIVE	
Dale Drinnin.....	549-3305
EUREKA BRAKE & AUTOMOTIVE	
Steve Cunningham.....	707-443-2122
FINWALL'S DIAG. & REPAIR	
Richard Finwall.....	842-3435
HARTNELL TRANSMISSION	
Tom Crean.....	223-0113
J&H PERFORMANCE	
Harvey Grant/Joel Gooch.....	245-0176
KEITH'S AUTO REPAIR	
Ken Breshears.....	222-2572
MARTON'S REPAIR	
Marton Smith.....	357-4189
METRIC MOTORS	
Ed & Lisa Burris.....	365-3326
PERRY'S AUTOMOTIVE, INC.	
Glenn McNeely.....	241-8544
JT'S PRO SMOG	
John Thompson.....	243-2278
REDDING ONE-STOP AUTO	
Roger Vines.....	221-2646
REDDING RADIATOR	
Lance Phillips.....	226-9834
STEVE'S AUTO REPAIR	
Walter Davis.....	365-1265
Betty Lustig.....	365-7107
UNDERHOOD AUTOMOTIVE	
Jamie Jacobsen.....	223-3489

Board of Directors

- Ken Breshears**—President
- Glenn McNeely—Vice President
- Roger Vines —Treasurer
- Dale Drinnin**—Chapter Rep.
- Tom Bryant—Newsletter
- Angelo Aristo—Board
- Rob Pitari—Board
- Jerimy McNeely—Board

BRANCH MEMBERS

- BATTERY SYSTEMS**
 Jay Pepperdine.....(530)244-4420
NAPA AUTO CENTER
 Jerry Ross(530)365-9141
HEARTLAND PAYMENT SYSTEMS
 Louise Cogan.....(530)515-2344
O'Rielly Auto Parts
 Charlie Holt(530)722-7392

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

- SHASTA HIGH SCHOOL**
 Jim Merkle (Honorary).....244-3593
SHASTA COLLEGE
 Raleigh Ross (Edu).....242-2211
SHASTA ROP
 Ed Milazzo (Edu).....246-6069

Support the Following



NAPA AUTO & TRUCK PARTS
 Jerry Ross Jr.
 Owner
 (530) 343-1141 Automobile Accessories Co.
 Fax (530) 243-9064 1914 California Street
 Angels@jerryross.com Redding, CA 96001
 (530) 234-8888 PhyFax 19142 Shasta Dr.
 (530) 243-1882 Redding, CA 96001

Lee Equipment
 DAVID LEE
 Automotive Diagnostic & Service Equip.
 History Life ASE
 Winworks 11-Measurements
 ESP Bar-91 ASE
 Yokogawa ASE
 Infrared Scopes ASE
 RTI AC Recycle ASE
 Van Norman ASE
 Mega-Mark ASE

Heartland PAYMENT SYSTEMS
 Louise Cogan
 Relationship Manager
 loulou.cogan@heartland.com
 (530) 515-2344
 (530) 515-2344
 (530) 515-2344
 (530) 515-2344
 1914 Woodbrook Way, Redding, CA 96001
 Heartland Payment Systems is an Equal Opportunity Employer
 123 Forestry • 248 Business • 1234567890 • 1234567890

O'Reilly AUTO PARTS
 Charlie Holt
 Territory Sales Manager
 ASE
 FIRST PATH
 1100 State St.
 Redding, CA 96002
 Wash. House: (530) 243-7392
 www.oreilly.com

ALLDATA
 REPAIR MANAGE MARKET
 Don Eldridge
 Sales Representative
 9002 W. Lake Street #100
 P.O. Box 100, CA 96150
 www.alldata.com
 (916) 291-1111
 (916) 291-1111
 (916) 291-1111
 www.ALLDATA.com