

Look for 'Best Show Ever' at Coming EyesOn Design

by Gerald Scott
News Dept.

To say that organizers of the 2012 EyesOn Design car show have gone out of their way to create a memorable event here on its 25th anniversary would be an understatement.

But still. "It's going to be the best show ever," declared Dr. Philip Hesburg, president of the Detroit Institute of Ophthalmology (DIO), the organizing charity behind EyesOn Design.

"We'll have a record 270 vehicles, all invited, and we'll have a big circle of silver cars, including a group of Corvettes as well as 1932 Fords.

"We're in our 25th year and it's still a celebration of international design: the past, the present, and the future.

"We've gone from pretty much nothing when we started to one of the most prestigious car shows in the U.S.," he said.

"Also, the SRT Viper will be making its Michigan debut at our show. Chrysler's Ralph Gilles will be here with that car."

The EyesOn Design car show comes to the Edsel & Eleanor Ford House on Father's Day, Sunday, June 17.

Indeed, it was the Big Three design staffs that helped launch the event back in 1987, all so the car design industry had a show it could focus awards and attention on.

The theme for this year's show is "Celebration of Design." This exhibition provides an excellent opportunity to celebrate the rare, significant and iconic designs of the past, present and future; thus, evolving the automobile from just transportation to rolling sculptural objects of desire.

One of the things that makes EyesOn Design unique among car shows is that it celebrates design in all vehicle categories, from pre-war classics, sports cars and exotic foreign makes to muscle cars, hot rods, customs and motorcycles.

The show is also unique in featuring an award by the DIO



PHOTO: GERALD SCOTT

Dr. Philip C. Hesburg, founder and president of the Detroit Institute of Ophthalmology, will host thousands at the 2012 EyesOn Design car show at the Edsel Ford House on Father's Day, June 17.

Visionaries – visually impaired and blind men and women who wear white gloves and select, strictly by touch, a winner in one vehicle category.

The rest of the judged categories, including the one judged by the Visionaries, are judged by designers from both domestic and foreign design departments of the Big Three, independent and foreign automobile manufacturers.

"We also have judges from the media and design schools from California and Michigan," said Hesburg.

All EyesOn Design events provide financial support and raise awareness for aid to the visually impaired through the work of the Detroit Institute of Ophthalmology (DIO).

"It's grown by leaps and bounds," said Hesburg. "It's gone from a one-day car show



This 1954 Styling Corvette, from the Lingenfelter Collection in Brighton, will be on display at the 2012 EyesOn Design car show at the Edsel Ford House on Father's Day.

on Father's Day to a week of various EyesOn Design activities around town in the days leading up to the show."

Highlights include the "Vision Honored" black-tie event

on Friday, June 15, at the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club; the Garage Crawl at Stahl's Automotive Foundation on Saturday, June 16, and the show itself on Sunday, June 17.

Some Retired Salaried Employees Have Until July 20 to Decide on GM Lump-Sum, Monthly Payments

DETROIT – General Motors Co. has announced that it will provide select U.S. salaried retirees a lump-sum payment offer and other retirees with a continued monthly pension payment securely administered and paid by The Prudential Insurance Company of America, a Prudential Financial, Inc. company.

The retirement plan actions will result in an expected \$26 billion reduction of GM's U.S. salaried pension obligation.

Approximately 42,000 salaried retirees and surviving beneficiaries will be eligible to receive a voluntary single lump-sum payment option.

GM plans to purchase a group annuity contract from Prudential under which Prudential will pay and administer future benefit payments to most of the remaining U.S. salaried retirees.

The transactions are expected to be completed by the end of 2012, following completion of regulatory review. Prudential would then assume responsibility for the benefits covered by the agreement and begin making the benefit payments in January 2013.

"We appreciate the contributions our retirees have made to the company and we have taken great care in ensuring the security of their retirement benefits," said Cindy Brinkley, GM vice president of global human resources.

"Many of our retirees will now have more flexibility to manage their retirement funds and we are confident that Prudential will provide outstanding service to those receiving a monthly payment."

Approximately 118,000 U.S. salaried retirees are impacted by these changes in different ways, depending on retirement date and eligibility.

Salaried retirees eligible for the lump-sum payment will have until July 20, 2012, to make a decision on their payment options.

options for the majority of retirees are:

- Those retired from GM on or after Oct. 1, 1997, and before Dec. 1, 2011, have three choices:

- 1-One-time, single lump-sum payment.

- 2-Continue with current monthly benefit, payable by Prudential.

- 3-New form of monthly benefit (based on marital status) – single life annuity or joint and survivor monthly benefit, payable by Prudential.

- Those retired from GM before Oct. 1, 1997, will continue with current monthly benefit, payable by Prudential.

- Most active salaried employees and retirees who started receiving their pension benefits on or after Dec. 1, 2011, are moved into a new GM pension plan with same benefits and a lump-sum payment or monthly pension benefit available at retirement, payable by GM.

GM's anticipated cash contribution to its U.S. salaried pension plans to effect these actions will be in the range of \$3.5 to \$4.5 billion. These funds will go toward the purchase of the group annuity contract and to improve the funded status of the pension plan for active salaried employees.

The final amount will be determined at the closing of the transactions.

"These actions represent a major step toward our objective of de-risking our pension plans and will further strengthen our balance sheet and give us more financial flexibility going forward," said Dan Ammann, senior vice president and CFO.

These pension changes do not affect GM salaried retirees' eligibility for post-retirement health care, life insurance and a vehicle discount.

GM will terminate the current salaried pension plan. There is no impact on hourly retirees.



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