

## THE CLUB REPORTER

AUGUST 2018



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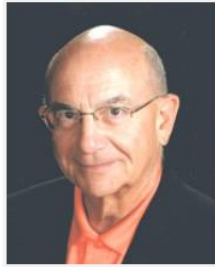
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## EDITOR'S WELCOME



Hello Alumni!

I hope you are all enjoying your summer wherever you may be – in the warmer temperatures of the Phoenix area, in some cooler northern climate, or taking time to travel our beautiful country or some foreign lands. As I look at my calendar, I see that summer is moving very fast, and fall will soon be here. And with fall comes another program year for our GM Alumni Club.

Therefore, it is time to open our calendars and make sure the dates of the Club's November and December meetings are prominently displayed. We will open the new program year with Retired Admiral Vern Clark presenting *"United States' Current Challenges"*. With all the U.S. challenges we hear about daily, it will be very interesting to get his perspectives after a 37-year Naval Career and retiring as the U.S. Chief of Naval Operations. Do not miss this meeting on November 6, 2018. More detailed information can be found later on page 3 and on the Club website.

Our December meeting will again be a matinee dinner theater at the Arizona Broadway Theatre in Peoria on December 6, 2018. This year's theatrical production will be *Miracle on 34<sup>th</sup> Street* – a heart-warming musical that is a must see for the holiday season. More detailed information can be found later on page 3 and on the Club website.

As you continue to enjoy your summer, remember to periodically check the Club website – [www.azgmalumni.com](http://www.azgmalumni.com) – to keep up with any new calendar information on upcoming events. I look forward to seeing everyone again in several months at our November 6<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Enjoy!

*Alan Steffe*

Editor &amp; Publisher, The Club Reporter

[alansteffe@yahoo.com](mailto:alansteffe@yahoo.com)

## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- President's Message
- November & December Meetings
- William Luffman Obituary
- Mary Lou Phillips Obituary

## Please Notice This



Remember that we are **Changing the Address for the Club mailings** this summer. Be aware that all future Meeting or Event Registrations and Memberships are to be sent to the new Club mailing address at:

**GM Alumni Club of Arizona  
c/o Hal Hubbard  
26921 W. Wahalla Lane  
Buckeye, AZ 85396**

The current Club P.O. Box will be discontinued by October. We welcome Hal Hubbard as he now takes on this task. Hal's willingness to receive the mail at his home as a full-time AZ resident will improve the efficiency of our registrations and eliminate some of the difficulties we had previously experienced with the P.O. Box.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

**2018  
*Board of Directors******President***

**Dennis Powers**  
(480) 883-6994

***Vice-President***

**Roxanne Steffe**  
(810) 280-1399

***Secretary/Treasurer***

**Alan Steffe**  
(810) 513-3367

***Directors***

**Larry Sessoms**  
(623) 455-8616

**Bob Goebel**  
(248) 410-2759

**Hal Hubbard**  
(623) 256-8938

**Jon Moss**  
(586) 484-3731



As we count down the last few weeks of Summer, Pam and I are looking forward to getting together with everyone in the Club. Why? Because you enrich our lives. Every Club member brings a unique point-of-view, humor, and connection to the Club with a common background, i.e. GM -- one of the largest manufacturers in the world. Let there be no mistake, GM achieved this status through the talent of their people. People like us who gave our best and gained so much more.

Our roots are diverse. About two-thirds of our members reside full-time in AZ. But most settled here later in life. Only one third of our members reside in AZ seasonally. Our members possess leadership experience, 95% with General Motors. Regardless of whether you worked in HR, engineering, manufacturing, sales, etc. the business decisions you made impacted others. Weighing those decisions on a daily basis afforded us a remarkable lens on the bigger picture, far beyond ourselves.

Over the summer we lost a couple of members and gained new members. The losses were devastating. Memories of our Club friends make an indelible mark on our lives. And new members are a fresh source of joy and friendship. If seats are available, I encourage you to sit with members you don't know at a future meeting. That's how I acquired some useful insight on river cruising, a future treat for Pam and I. We'll continue to include photos and background on new members in our newsletters and special introductions at future meetings.

GM is undeniably a member of automotive nobility. It's the keystone of our employment pride today, fortified by their move toward electrified products for the 21st century. Our GM Alumni Club is one of only a few in the nation that enjoys a visit from GM Public Policy Group in Washington D.C., and GM product executives from GM World Headquarters. Why do they spend their limited resources on us?

We take an active approach in staying informed on important topics and actively support growth of General Motors in the marketplace. Our Club meetings are rich with informative presentations on topics trending in the news. And our 2018-2019 program year is filled with exceptional meetings you will want to attend. Our meetings are carefully planned for member enjoyment vs. events planned for a public audience. In fact, Pam and I make a habit of marking our calendar with the dates and times of Club meetings as soon as they are announced. We've learned from past experience that when we don't, we miss out on rare presentations.

Read-on to learn more about the details of our coming year and have your calendars ready to mark each date. Applications for our November and December events are attached to this newsletter. Don't wait to send yours in. It helps us prepare and cover the details in advance for your enjoyment. And as always, feel free to give me a call if there's anything you'd like to share to improve our Club.

Call me anytime,

***Dennis Powers***

2018 Club President  
480.883.6994



## FALL &amp; WINTER SCHEDULE - 2018 - 2019 PROGRAM YEAR

Tuesday

November 6, 2018

Ret. Admiral Clark  
"United States'  
Current  
Challenges"



Admiral Clark completed a distinguished 37-year Navy career in 2005 beginning in the late 1960's through 2005. His Navy experience spans his beginning days in destroyers, early command of a Patrol Gunboat as a Lieutenant, and concluding in the halls of the Pentagon as the Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) and a member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Admiral Clark became the CNO just before the Global War on Terrorism became a reality with the attack on USS COLE and 9/11. Ultimately he became the second longest serving CNO in history, and is the only Chief of any Service to be extended in office under the current legislation established by the Goldwater-Nichols Act in 1986. His number one priority was to "win the battle for the people," while leading the Navy forward into the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

He has an exceptional background to be able to share his thoughts on the "United States' Current Challenges," and from the daily news, we all know there are plenty of challenges. That should make it a **must attend** meeting!

The meeting is at Pebble Creek Eagle's Nest Ballroom, with registration beginning at 10:00 am and an open bar at 11:00 am. Cost is \$25.00 per member and spouse/significant other and \$30.00 per non-member for the meal and presentation. **Registration is due by October 30, 2018.** Additional information can be found on the Club's website, and a Registration Form can be found on page 5 of this newsletter.

Thursday

December 6, 2018

Arizona Broadway  
Theatre  
"Miracle on 34<sup>th</sup>  
Street



Our Club's Christmas event this year will again be held at the Arizona Broadway Theatre – a five star musical theatre featuring professional Broadway productions with restaurant style dining. Please join us for this production based on the beloved classical film "Miracle on 34<sup>th</sup> Street."

It tells the tale of last-minute Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade Santa-replacement, Kris Kringle, who may or may not be THE Santa Claus, and the people who take him in. Filled with humor, spectacle, and treasured songs such as *My Wish*, *Expect Things to Happen*, and *It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas*, this festive, heart-warming musical is a **must-see** for the family this holiday season.

Check-in is 11:45 am with lunch at 12:15 pm and the show at 2:00 pm. Cost is \$65.00 per member and spouse/significant other and \$70.00 per non-member for the meal and show. **Registration is due by November 1, 2018.** Additional information can be found on the Club's website, and a Registration Form can be found on page 6 of this newsletter.

**MARSHA HALL-JENKINS' RETIREMENT**

On August 1<sup>st</sup>, one of the Club's long time and staunchest supporters retired from General Motors to partake of the life all of us retirees have enjoyed for years. Our Club owes many thanks to Marsha, as she has been very instrumental in supporting the Club and providing outstanding GM speakers for many of our meetings. We wish her well in her retirement and would encourage her to come join us in AZ whenever possible. The official GM announcement states it well...



"It is with mixed emotions that we announce the intention of Marsha Hall-Jenkins to retire from General Motors after 41 years of dedicated service, effective August 1. Marsha has made a tremendous impact in her role leading Retiree Communications. Her relationship building with this influential audience of approximately 500,000 former employees has enhanced the company's reputation, strengthened vehicle sales and generated advocacy for legislative initiatives. Marsha's regular touchpoints with retirees have made all the difference – from hosted events to website and newsletter outreach to thoughtful responses to thousands of letters, emails and calls over the years. Marsha's colleagues have always appreciated her strong focus on doing the right thing for retirees.

"Marsha joined GM in March 1977 as a co-op student attending General Motors Institute, now Kettering University. She earned her MBA from the University of Detroit Mercy in 1987. Marsha spent 16 years at Willow Run Assembly, mostly in Human Resources / Labor Relations. She transitioned to Communications, serving in a wide range of roles over the past 25 years supporting Manufacturing, Engineering, Executive and Corporate Communications."

**OBITUARY FOR WILLAM EDWIN LUFFMAN (1933 - 2018)**

Long time Club member, William "Bill" Luffman, passed away February 8, 2018 in Arizona. He was born April 30, 1933 in Lyons, NY and grew up in Waterloo, NY. He served in the U.S. Navy during the Korean War, and later worked for 30 years at GM Truck in Michigan as an engineer.

After many years of visiting Arizona to escape the cold Midwest winters, Bill and his wife Patt decided to retire to Sun Lakes, AZ where they have lived for the past 30 years.

During the early years in Arizona they were both very active in the Sun Lakes Country Dance Club. In his spare time, Bill enjoyed hiking, tennis, pool (billiards), and golfing. His true passion was hiking, whether it be at the local park, the trails of South Mountain in Phoenix, or the depths of the Grand Canyon. He was the hike coordinator for the Sun Lakes hiking club for 10-years and later hiked with the Retreads. Bill was a loving husband, dad, and grandfather. And as stated so well by one of his fellow hikers, "Bill was a warm, caring and gentle soul". Bill is survived by his wife Patt of 59 ½ years, two daughters and five grandchildren.

**OBITUARY FOR MARY LOU COOLEY PHILLIPS (1938 - 2018)**

Memorial Services were held June 14, 2018 for long time and very active Club member Mary Lou Phillips, who passed away unexpectedly on May 28, 2018. Mary Lou was born in Phoenix and became very involved in sports throughout high school and later in life, especially fast-pitch softball.

She began working in the accounting and credit department for GMAC in Fresno, CA, where she worked for 11 years. She was very involved in numerous community organizations and a family sponsored foreign student exchange program. Mary Lou enjoyed traveling abroad, taking various cruises, and several cross country road trips...going from state to state visiting museums and art galleries. In April, she returned from a long awaited trip to Mexico to view the Mayan Ruins.

Mary Lou represents a life that is extraordinary and significant, and largely dedicated to others. She is survived by four children, eight grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren. She has been laid to rest with her husband at the National Memorial Cemetery of Arizona.

Her complete obituary can be found at: <https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/phoenix-az/mary-lou-cooley-phillips-7864146>.

**Meeting Registration Form  
Pebble Creek Eagle's Nest Ballroom  
Guest Speaker – Admiral Vern Clark, Retired  
Tuesday, November 6, 2018**

Retired Admiral Vern Clark, U.S. Chief of Naval Operations 2000 – 2005, will be speaking on the ***"United States' Current Challenges."*** Admiral Clark will be drawing from his extensive 37-year Navy experience and recent experiences on many educational and industrial boards. Since his "official" retirement, he is now routinely engaged in consulting in the national security arena and frequently lectures regarding our military and the principles of leadership. This should be a very interesting presentation and discussion given today's world political environment. You will not want to miss this meeting!

**Directions:**

The Pebble Creek Eagle's Nest Ballroom is located at 3645 Clubhouse Drive, in Goodyear, AZ. Take Interstate 10 west from Phoenix to North Pebble Creek Parkway and turn north to Clubhouse Drive. Turn right and follow to the Eagle's Nest Golf Club.

**Time:** 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM    Check-In  
11:00 AM – 1:00 PM    Cash Bar  
11:30 AM – 12:00 PM    Business Meeting  
12:00 PM – 1:00 PM    Luncheon  
1:00 PM – 2:00 PM    Speaker with Q&A

**Menu and Menu Options:**

The specific meal selection includes:

- **SOUP:** Tomato Bisque
- **ENTREE:** Chicken Piccata – Sautéed breast of chicken topped with a lemon caper and white wine cream sauce, with Haricot Vert sautéed with bacon and red onion and Wild Rice Pilaf
- **DESERT:** Peach Pie
- **Cost:** \$25.00 Per Member or Spouse/Significant Other & \$30.00 Per Guest

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**Meeting Registration Form  
Pebble Creek Eagle's Nest Ballroom  
Guest Speaker – Admiral Vern Clark, Retired  
Tuesday, November 6, 2018**

Please **return this portion** of the form with your payment to:

(Please make checks payable to: **GM Alumni Club of Arizona**)

**ALL CHECKS MUST BE RECEIVED BY OCTOBER 30, 2018**

**GM Alumni Club of Arizona  
c/o Hal Hubbard  
26921 W. Waballa Lane  
Buckeye, AZ 85396**

The following will be attending the November 6, 2018 Meeting at Pebble Creek:

Member _____	Cost \$25.00 – Amt Included \$ _____
Spouse/Significant Other _____	Cost \$25.00 – Amt Included \$ _____
Guest _____	Cost \$30.00 – Amt Included \$ _____
Guest _____	Cost \$30.00 – Amt Included \$ _____
<b>Total Amount Included \$ _____</b>	

If **special dietary needs**, please advise, and we will attempt to accommodate: \_\_\_\_\_

Any questions can be directed to Ken Wechselberger (623-251-3684 H)

**Note:** Keep up to date by checking the Club Website frequently at [www.azgmalumni.com](http://www.azgmalumni.com).  
Check out the "Calendar Tab" for details and Registration Forms for any and all events for the year.

**Event Registration Form  
Arizona Broadway Theatre  
"Miracle on 34<sup>th</sup> Street"  
Thursday, December 6, 2018 – Matinee**

Our Club's Christmas event this year will again be held at a five-star musical theatre featuring professional Broadway productions with restaurant style dining. Please join us for **Miracle on 34<sup>th</sup> Street**, telling the tale of last-minute Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade Santa-replacement Kris Kringle, who may or may not be THE Santa Claus, and the people who take him in. It is filled with humor, spectacle, and treasured songs such as *It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas*. This festive, heart-warming musical is a must-see this holiday season. An outstanding three course meal will be served prior to the musical.

**Directions:**

The Arizona Broadway Theatre is located at 7701 W. Paradise Lane, Peoria AZ. (623) 776-8400. Take the West 101 Loop to Bell Road and turn East. Travel on Bell Road to N. 77th Ave. and turn right (South). Take N. 77th Ave. and go across W. Paradise Lane (at the light) and the theater is ahead on the right.

**Time:**

11:45AM -- 12:15PM	Check-In Theatre Lobby (Bar Open)
12:15AM -- 1:15PM	Lunch Is Served
2:00PM	Show Time

**Menu:**

Lunch will be individually selected from the Theatre Menu. You can preview the menu at [www.azbroadway.org](http://www.azbroadway.org). Alcohol and desserts are extra and will be billed separately. Tips are not in the cost of the ticket and would be greatly appreciated. Alternate meals, such as gluten free and vegetarian, are available from the menu and can be ordered on that date.

**Cost:** \$65.00 Per Member or Spouse/Sig. Other – Includes Musical Admission and a three course meal.  
\$70.00 Per Guest

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**Event Registration Form  
Arizona Broadway Theatre - "Miracle on 34<sup>th</sup> Street"  
Thursday, December 6, 2018 – Matinee**

Please **return this portion** of the form with your payment to:

(Please make checks payable to: **GM Alumni Club of Arizona**)

**ALL CHECKS MUST BE RECEIVED BY November 1, 2018**

**GM Alumni Club of Arizona  
c/o Hal Hubbard  
26921 W. Wahalla Lane  
Buckeye, AZ 85396**

The following will be attending the Arizona Broadway Theatre Christmas Event:

Member _____	Cost \$65.00 – Amount Included \$ _____
Spouse/Significant Other _____	Cost \$65.00 – Amount Included \$ _____
Guest _____	Cost \$70.00 – Amount Included \$ _____
Guest _____	Cost \$70.00 – Amount Included \$ _____
<b>Total Amount Included \$ _____</b>	

**Note:** If you wish to be seated with someone specific, please advise who: \_\_\_\_\_

Any questions can be directed to Hal Hubbard at 623-256-8938.

**Note:** Keep up to date by checking the Club Website frequently at [www.azgmalumni.com](http://www.azgmalumni.com).  
Check out the "Calendar Tab" for details and Registration Forms for any and all events for the year.