



# The Sentinel

## Arizona's First Chapter



The Arizona Chapter

4333 W. Echo Lane

Glendale Arizona

85302

FEBRUARY 2008    CHARTERED 1956 - 51 YEARS OF SERVICE TO COUNTRY    EDITOR: TERRY TASSIN

**DUES!!      DUES!!      DUES!!      DUES!!      DUES!!**  
The push is on for you to renew your membership in the Arizona Chapter. Use the form on page 5



### President's Perspective by Terry Tassin

This is my first *Sentinel* message since being sworn-in for a second year as your Chapter president. Last year it was truly a great honor serving and I want to thank every one for your support.

This year I see two of our biggest challenges as maintaining or increasing membership and participation by more members in our Chapter activities. I really would like to see more of you come to our luncheon meetings on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month. The food is excellent, the speakers entertaining, and I try to keep the business portion of the meetings as short as possible. In an effort to increase attendance at luncheons, Director Ron Drew [602-493-8806] has stepped up to be the coordinator of transportation for those wishing to attend the luncheons but not having

a means of transportation. If you are unable to drive yourself or just need a ride, please give Ron a call and let him attempt to arrange a ride for you. If you receive a call from Ron requesting your assistance in providing a ride for a member in need - just say YES!

I'm still hoping to find a community service project that we can sink our teeth into. We are all so blessed - surely, in this New Year, there is more that we can do for others. If you have an idea that you would like to share contact me.

This month we begin the JROTC awards and scholarship ceremony season. Again this year we will present JROTC medal awards at 17 high schools in the valley. If you can help present these awards, please either call me at 623-931-1546 or email me at [terrytassin@cox.net](mailto:terrytassin@cox.net) and let me know your school preference. In this

newsletter there is a listing of schools and their awards ceremony date. Our 1<sup>st</sup> VP Ron Worthington is mailing out his scholarship program invitations to our supported high schools inviting them to nominate deserving students from their JROTC units to apply for scholarship consideration. Cash scholarships are normally presented to students selected for this honor. You can help JROTC cadets become military officers by supporting the AZ Chapter Scholarship Fund. Remember, contributions are tax deductible as our fund is exempt under IRS Code Section 501(c)(3). Just send your donation to our Treasurer and mark it for the Scholarship Fund.

February 14<sup>th</sup> is Valentine's Day so remember that special someone in your life. Until next time stay safe and I hope to see you at the February luncheon.

### Arizona Chapter Calendar

- February 7**
  - BOD Meeting 1:30, AZ Veteran's Home, Room A107
- February 16**
  - Christmas General Luncheon Meeting, McCormick Ranch Golf Club
- March 6**
  - BOD Meeting 1:30, AZ Veteran's Home, Room A107
- March 15**
  - General Luncheon Meeting, McCormick Ranch Golf Club

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**SUPPORT OUR TROOPS — REMEMBER OUR FALLEN COMRADES — FLY YOUR FLAG**

## Chapter JROTC Award Presentations

*by Terry Tassin*

The presentation of the MOAA JROTC medal is one way the Arizona Chapter fosters a positive military image among the youth of the community. By supporting JROTC units, chapter members are providing access to the educational and leadership skills for cadets to become successful members of the military and society in general.

Every year at each school, the Arizona Chapter awards an MOAA medal, ribbon and certificate to a cadet who displays outstanding potential for military leadership. These awards are highly cherished by the recipients. The selection of those to receive the award is done by the student's JROTC instructor. This is the first call for Arizona Chapter members to volunteer to be a presenter at a school awards ceremony. It's fun and you will feel better for doing it!

**Contact Terry Tassin at either 623-931-1546 or email: [terrytassin@cox.net](mailto:terrytassin@cox.net) and volunteer to present medals at one of our supported schools.** Below are our schools and their award night dates.

School	Address	Day	Date	Time	Location
Alhambra HS	3839 W. Camelback Rd.	Thursday	01-May-08	6:00 PM	Auditorium
Apollo HS	8045 N. 47th Avenue	Tuesday	06-May-08	7:00 PM	Auditorium
Cactus HS	6330 W. Greenway Road	Friday	02-May-08	6:00 PM	Cafeteria
Camelback HS	4612 N. 28th Street	Tuesday	06-May-08	6:00 PM	Auditorium
Carl Hayden HS	3333 W. Roosevelt Street	Friday	02-May-08	6:00 PM	Auditorium
Central HS	4525 N. Central Avenue	Saturday	03-May-08	6:00 PM	Auditorium
Cortez HS	8828 N. 31st Avenue	Thursday	01-May-08	6:00 PM	Auditorium
Deer Valley HS	18424 N. 51st Avenue	Friday	02-May-08	6:00 PM	Auditorium
Glendale HS	6216 W. Glendale Ave.	Tuesday	13-May-08	7:00 PM	Auditorium
Greenway HS	3930 W. Greenway Road	Thursday	01-May-08	7:00 PM	Auditorium
Moon Valley HS	3625 W. Cactus Road	Friday	09-May-08	6:00 PM	Auditorium
North HS	1101 E. Thomas Road	Wednesday	23-Apr-08	6:30 PM	Cafeteria
Sandra Day O'Connor	25250 N. 35th Ave	Thursday	15-May-08	6:30 AM	Auditorium
Shadow Mountain HS	2902 E. Shea Boulevard	Tuesday	06-May-08	6:00 PM	Auditorium
South Mountain HS	5607 S. 7th Street	Thursday	08-May-08	6:30 PM	Pod 68
Sunnyslope HS	35 W. Dunlap Avenue	Thursday	24-Apr-08	6:00 PM	Cafeteria
Thunderbird HS	1750 W. Thunderbird Road	Wednesday	14-May-08	7:00 PM	Auditorium

### New Members

#### **LtCol Paul Schildgen USAF (Ret) & wife Norma**

7132 N. 29th Dr  
Phoenix, AZ 85051  
Tele: 602-995-1363  
Email: [pschildgen@cox.net](mailto:pschildgen@cox.net)

#### **COL Robert Welch USA (Ret) & wife Veronica**

4841 E. Wagoner Road  
Scottsdale, AZ 85254  
Tele: 602-234-9552  
Email: [celticop@cox.net](mailto:celticop@cox.net)

Please make an opportunity to meet our new members.

### Luncheon Meeting Saturday, February 16 McCormick Ranch Golf Club

The next Chapter meeting is set for Saturday, **February 16** at McCormick Ranch Golf Club. Bring a friend to our meeting and introduce them to a great group of people. The meeting will start with a social hour at 11:00 a.m. with lunch served at 12:00 Noon. The reservation form is located on page 7 of this newsletter. The deadline for reservations to reach Bill Johnson is **Thursday, February 14**. Come join us for good food and comradeship.

### Fund Donations

One person's generous gift will help strengthen America's future through supporting the education of our youth and the troops of our country. Since the last newsletter many thanks to the members below for their donations to the:

#### General Fund (\$0)

None

#### Scholarship Fund (\$212)

Dan and Lynda Germond \$200  
Mike and Clare Gannon \$12



## Board Meeting Notes Summary

by Ron Perkins, Secretary

The Board of Directors met on January 3, 2008.

### Officer/Committee Reports:

**Treasurer's Report:** Bill Johnson gave a review of the 2007 income and expenses and reported the present status of fund accounts:

General Checking: \$5358.23      Scholarship: \$7972.39      Total Accounts: \$13,330.62

Motioned & Seconded that the Chapter purchase the software - "Quick Books" for \$199.99 to be used in maintaining the Chapter's financial books. Motion passed unanimously. The Treasurer is also looking for a volunteer to be his assistant at keeping the Chapter's books. If interested contact Terry Tassin 623-931-1546

**Auxiliary:** Concern expressed Auxiliaries not attending luncheon possibly due to transportation problems. Article will be included in the February Sentinel offering assistance and transportation to those in need. Those needing transportation can contact Ron Drew for assistance 602-493-8806.

**Historian:** Volunteer needed to take over the Historian duties. If interested contact Terry Tassin 623-931-1546.

**JROTC Medals:** Letters sent out to the schools. Volunteers for presentations at JROTC award ceremonies needed. Interested, contact Terry Tassin 623-931-1546.

**Membership:** Dues reminder letters to be mailed after the 19 January 2008 luncheon. Chuck Schluter suggested that we check into attending the AZ National Guard Annual Meeting in conjunction with the National MOAA representative for recruiting potential new members.

**Legislative:** Federal and State Legislatures will be returning to work in January. Concern expressed over the Medicare/Tricare potential payment cuts to doctors. Instead of a 9.9% payment cut in January, Medicare and TRICARE doctors will see a 1% increase – for 6 months. However, if Congress doesn't find the money to extend the fix during the first half of next year, an 11% payment cut will kick in on July 1.

**Programs:** February program, Jean McFarland, a prominent local Business Woman and member of the National Speakers Association, will discuss, "*Bullies in the Work Place*". The board is also considering working with the ESGR and recognizing civilian employers at the September luncheon. Chuck Schluter will research and report back to the board on the feasibility of doing this.

**Arrangements:** Marie Fredricks reported on costs for having an evening function vice the luncheon for special events next year. Due to the large increase in costs per meal, motion made and passed to cancel the previous motion of two evening functions next year. Marie also reported the Chapter is set for the AZ Broadway Theater on July 12, 2008 to see the "*Music Man*". Tickets will cost \$47 per person.

**January Guest Speaker Luncheon costs of guest:** Motion to pay for the guest speaker and his guests was passed unanimously.

**Communication Awards submission:** Suspense is early February. Terry Tassin, Chuck Schluter, Gary Fredricks and Tom Houser will coordinate on the submission package.

**AZ Council of Chapter Dues:** Bill Johnson reported that he had sent in the Chapter's dues.

## General Luncheon Meeting Notes

### January 19 General Luncheon Meeting Notes

**Treasurer's Report:** General Fund \$5858.23; Scholarship Fund \$7976.76; Total \$13,834.99

**Relief for Chapter positions-Historian & Newsletter Editor:** Volunteers are needed to fill the two positions, if interested contact Terry Tassin at 623-931-1546

**Meeting Transportation:** Anyone needing transportation to the luncheon should contact Ron Drew at 602-493-8806

**Legislative Report: Federal:** Gary Fredrick's reported that President Bush had OK'd a \$3.7 billion emergency supplemental bill which would go toward VA health care and other needs. He also said that the House had passed the Defense Appropriations Bill again and the Senate was expected to do the same very soon and it was hoped the President would sign the bill. There is talk of a possible federal tax rebate to help stimulate the economy. **State:** The state budget for 2008 is projected to have a \$1 billion shortfall. Thus, every state agency probably will be expected to take some level of a cut.

**Speaker:** 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Frank Helton, Arizona Rangers.

**President:** Immediate Past President Dan Conway administered the oath of office to the new 2008 board members:

President: Terry Tassin      1<sup>st</sup> Vice President: Ron Worthington (Absent)

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President/Secretary: Ron Perkins      Treasurer: Bill Johnson (Absent)

Directors: Charles Schluter, Chet Baumer, Ron Green, Gary Fredricks, Ron Drew (Absent)

## Coming Attractions

By Chuck Schluter



**February 16:** Jean McFarland, a prominent local Business Woman and member of the National Speakers Association, will discuss *Bullies in the Work Place*. Not working anymore? - think about those who we love who are still out there! This is a very provocative topic.

**March 15:** BG Wayne Hoffman is our National MOAA Chaplain and also a member of the Board of Directors. His topic is entitled "*Facing the Future without Fret or Fear*". When you were active, you were "*Ready - Willing and Able*", but today it could be "*Here I come, Ready or Not*". Are your affairs in order?

**April 19:** Matt Chitwood is the grandson of a Battle of the Bulge veteran and Purple Heart recipient. Matt's personal research and on the ground tour of Bastogne and the surrounding areas adds flavor to his grandfathers post war meeting with the German soldier who may have caused his wounds.

**May 17:** If there is one thing that we do, and do well, it's that we support local JROTC programs with both medals and scholarships. Quite frankly we expend a lot of effort on this program, and your attendance at this luncheon means a lot to your staff. Our military legacy demands that we look to the future military leaders, and that's exactly what we are doing. Join us as we present our Scholarship awards and hear testimony from the recipients – these young men and women have been fantastic!

## Auxiliary Corner

If you are the survivor of a military officer, then you have a Uniformed Services Identification Card. This card is the ticket to your continued health care coverage and ensures easy access to military installations, including use of base exchanges and commissaries. But remember, your I.D. card does expire and must be renewed every four years until you reach age 75, when you can obtain a permanent card.

Check the expiration date on your I.D. card now. Save yourself and others a lot of trouble by keeping your card current. And be sure to mark your calendar each year to remind yourself of that very important date.



## TOPS Tips

by Chuck Schluter, TOPS Chair

TOPS Tips are compliments of [www.moaa.org](http://www.moaa.org), and the plan is to re-publish Common Résumé Mistakes over a period of time in the Sentinel, as room allows.

### Common Résumé Mistakes

Many job hunters make the same mistakes over and over again in their résumés. A résumé will not get you a job, but a poorly written résumé can keep you from getting an interview that might lead to a job. Résumés don't have a perfect format, and everyone has an opinion on how to write one. So don't spend too much time trying to write the perfect résumé. More importantly, never pay anyone to write your résumé. You must write your own résumé because you will be the only one at the interview to defend it. Be careful to avoid the common résumé mistakes. These mistakes could make the difference between getting an interview -- and a new job - or having your résumé pitched into the trash can. Continuing our series of résumé writing articles, here is:

**Mistake No. 3:** You fail to state the appropriate level of education needed for the job. You must state any education or certifications that apply to a particular career field. In today's highly technical careers, it may be far more important to have a current certification in your field of interest than a 10-year-old undergraduate liberal arts degree. The positions above entry-level in many career fields require professional-level certifications. Find out what they are, and if they are a prerequisite for employment, include them on the first page of your résumé near the top. In some cases, without requisite certifications, you may not get past the 10-second look, regardless of your experience.



## Legislative Update

by Gary Fredricks, Legislative Chair

In spite of some year-end knee jerks, it looks like 2007 turned out to be a pretty good year for us all in all. On the national scene the President signed legislation in January 2008 that released \$3.7B of emergency supplemental funding to the Veteran's Administration. This needed funding had been tied to an omnibus FY2008 Appropriations Bill that had been sent to the President last December. This money was over and above what was actually in the President's FY2008 budget request but is sorely needed to fulfill all the commitments of the VA.

Also, as the Sentinel goes to press the U.S. House of Representatives had re-passed the FY2008 Defense Authorization Bill that the President vetoed in December. The President's veto was triggered by a clause attached to the bill that would have allowed law suits against the old Iraq regime of Saddam Hussein at a very inappropriate time in the struggles there. The House removed the offensive clause and the Senate is expected to do the same. That means we will get all the improvements from the original bill, albeit somewhat later than expected.

At the state level, the next half-year or so will be a busy one for the Legislature and the Governor. State law requires the state to operate under a balanced budget. That means that the state will have to reduce a budget shortfall estimated at about \$1B for fiscal year 2008, which began on January 1, while putting together the FY2009 budget that is expected to have even less revenues. The Governor has submitted to the Legislature her plan for tackling both years. The Legislature, which just came back into session in January, is just beginning to do their work. There remains a lot of work to do, and we will track the progress toward an eventual compromise that will allow the state to continue to move forward.

The first order of business is the FY2008 budget issue since the year has in fact already begun. With respect to the veteran's part of the budget, we know that the Governor has proposed to reduce the FY2008 Arizona Department of Veterans Services (ADVS) budget by \$430K as their part of the cut back. That would represent a

reduction of \$200K for Veterans Benefit Counselors (VBCs) in effect reducing by 3 or 4 the 19 new positions that had been authorized. It would also reduce spending at the Veterans Home by \$150K by deferring some funded Home renovation and by \$80K by deferring purchase of computer upgrades. The initial position of the Joint Legislative Appropriations Committee would reduce the ADVS budget for this year by \$928K by in effect withdrawing the authorization to hire all new VBCs this year. The first would probably be acceptable, but the later would be pretty hard to do.

Unified Arizona Veterans, MOAA and others have taken action through letters and emails to our legislators and Governor to express our concerns over cutting veterans funding at this critical time in history. I thank those of you who helped in this effort by sending along emails to your legislators as provided for in an earlier electronic Sentinel. We have been informed by members of the Joint Appropriations Committee that these were received by them, and they now at least know we are concerned.

### February Luncheon Meeting

**WHEN:** February 16, 2008  
11:00 a.m. Social Hour  
12:00 Noon Lunch

**WHERE:** McCormick Ranch Golf Club  
7505 McCormick Parkway  
Scottsdale, Arizona

**COST:** \$19.00 - Per Person

**DRESS:** Casual

**MENU:** Chef's Choice

**PROGRAM:** Jean McFarland, a prominent local Business Woman and member of the National Speakers Association, will discuss *Bullies in the Work Place*.

Reservations need to be received by 4:00 p.m. on the Thursday prior to the luncheon date. Cancellations of reservations need to be received by that same Thursday in order to receive your money back or not be charged for lunch. Please make your reservations early and send your check to Bill Johnson using the Meal / Meeting Reservation Form on page 7.



**Personal Affairs**  
by Dan Conway, Personal Affairs Officer

Many of us are retired and prudently preparing for future unplanned events, and it is those members that I have been addressing lately. Not that these columns aren't also important to our younger members, but I understand that

there are competing interests for many of those members such as working toward their future financial independence. MOAA does not ignore this need with its publication: **"Principles of Financial Planning"**

**THE NEED FOR FINANCIAL PLANNING.** There are no "secret formulas" locked behind the doors of financially successful individuals. Most of them attribute their success to hard work and financial planning. Planning which established certain goals and planning they followed to achieve those goals. They did not start with thousands of dollars to invest. In fact, many financially successful people start with nothing more than a plan - A Financial Plan!

Financial planning does not require a college degree; you do not have to be a financial wizard; and it does not require a bevy of lawyers, accountants, or professional advisors to get started. What you need is a willingness to devote a little time and effort to develop a plan, combined with a true desire to make it work.

Financial planning can help you build a sizable estate. It can help fight inflation and higher taxes. It can provide for financial security and peace of mind in knowing your family is protected in the event of your premature death or an unfortunate disability.

**HOW TO START A FINANCIAL PLAN.** One of the most difficult aspects of financial planning is getting started. Unlike death and taxes, financial planning is not a hard fact of life and it is easy to "put it off until tomorrow." However, death and taxes are two of the most important reasons why you should not delay starting your plan.

Aside from the paper work, there are two difficult aspects of financial planning. The first is honesty - you must be honest with yourself. Since this will be your plan, you fool only yourself by being overly optimistic or exceedingly pessimistic.

Second, you must realize that a financial plan is not a magic cure-all; you will not get rich overnight and you will have to adjust your plan from time to time as future uncertainties turn into realities.

Once you accept these facts, you are ready to get down to the nitty-gritty of financial planning. The publication "Principles of Financial Planning" provides a step-by-step process to allow you to develop your financial plan.

This 103 page publication is available at no cost to members at the MOAA web site which is [www.moaa.org](http://www.moaa.org). To obtain a copy (with or without email), call MOAA at 1-800-234-6622. Have your Membership Number available, and the publication will be on the way.

Please consider me as an asset, and don't hesitate to call if I can be of assistance in any Personal Affairs matter. Phone 480 368 1427

**SUMMER IS ON THE WAY - MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW!**

We have a limited number of tickets to the Arizona Broadway Theatre on July 12, 2008 to attend the afternoon performance of *the Music Man*. The price of the ticket is \$47 each which includes the performance and lunch (except drinks & dessert) plus the gratuity. You can reserve your seat now by filling out the reservation form, enclose a check and mail to Marie Fredricks.

**JULY 12, 2008**

**"the Music Man"**



The Music Man is a charming tribute to a bygone era in Smalltown, U.S.A. Follow fast-talking traveling salesman Harold Hill as he cons the people of River City, Iowa into buying instruments and uniforms for a boys' band he vows to organize – despite his not knowing a trombone from a treble clef. Meredith Wilson's *the Music Man* is family entertainment at its best.

**Reservation Request for the Arizona Broadway Theatre**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Number of tickets \_\_\_\_\_

Amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Marie Fredricks  
15403 E. Sunburst Dr  
Fountain Hills, AZ 85268



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**CHAPTER FINANCIAL PARTICIPATION**

If you would like to make a donation to one or more of the AZ Chapter Funds, include your check identified as the appropriate fund and mail to: **Bill Johnson, 13410 N. 12th Place, Phoenix, AZ 85022-4944.**

**General Fund: \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**Scholarship Fund: \$** \_\_\_\_\_ **[now a 501(c)(3) charitable fund]**

Name of Donor : \_\_\_\_\_ Identify me as a donor in the next newsletter. YES \_\_\_ NO \_\_\_

**MEAL / MEETING RESERVATION FORM**

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ meals for (Name) \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (**\$19.00** per person) for **16 February 2008**

Make check payable to: **AZ Chapter MOAA** **No Later Than: 14 February 2008**

Send to: **Bill Johnson, 13410 North 12th Place, Phoenix, AZ 85022-4944. Phone 602-690-1012**

The Arizona Chapter solicits advertisements for the purpose of defraying the cost of publication of the newsletter. The Chapter has not made any investigation as to the products and services advertised herein and makes no representation or warranties as to the advertisements in the newsletter. The Arizona Chapter is an affiliate of the Military Officers Association of America.

**The Arizona Chapter - MOAA - 2008 Board of Directors and Committee Chairmen**

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	<b>AUXILIARY LIASION</b> Sheila George 623-242-6579	<b>SHARE A RIDE</b> Maj Ronald Drew, USAF 602-493-8806

**Access Arizona Chapter's Internet Web Site at: <http://www.azchaptermoaa.org>**

**Arizona Chapter  
Military Officers Association of America  
4333 W. Echo Lane  
Glendale, AZ 85302**



Show Your Colors By Proudly Displaying The Arizona 'Veteran Plate' On Your Vehicle. Show How Veterans Help Veterans.