



The Sentinel

Arizona's First Chapter



The Arizona Chapter

6393 W. Dublin Lane

Chandler, Arizona

85226

FEBRUARY 2009

CHARTERED 1956 -

52 YEARS OF SERVICE TO COUNTRY

EDITOR: JIM CULLISON

DUES!!

DUES!!

DUES!!

DUES!!

DUES!!

Please renew your membership in the Arizona Chapter before March 31.



President's Perspective by Ron Perkins

As I accept the reins of president from Terry Tassin, I want to take this opportunity once again to thank him for his outstanding contribution to the multitude of successes the chapter achieved during his two years as president. He carried the load in many different ways. The 2009 board members, staff and I will continue to strive at making Arizona Chapter MOAA the best in all our endeavors.

We started the New Year off with our January luncheon, which was an outstanding success with great attendance, some excellent food as always, installation of officers, Meritorious Service Award presentations and a great speaker, Dr. William Wolf, World War II aviation historian. If you were not there, you missed a very nice experience. We are committed to serve your

interests as best we can, to keep you informed on developing legislative issues and actions, and make the chapter events very enjoyable experiences for members. We hope to see you in February. Chuck Schluter has arranged another interesting speaker, Vicki Mullins, author of the series of books titled "I Want You To Know Me".

We have several

important issues coming up during the next two to three months. We would like to see members step up and help out whenever and wherever they can.

First is renewing your chapter membership for 2009. If you haven't already done so, please submit your dues to Terry Tassin via the renewal form found on page 3.

Second is the JROTC Scholarship Program directed by

Continued on Page 2



Personal Affairs Workshop

Are You Interested?

The Chapter is thinking about hosting a Personal Affairs Workshop for members. Topics may include: Help Your Survivor Now, Personal Affairs Workbook, Aging into Medicare & Tricare for Life, Power of Attorney, MOAA Estate Planning, Just Give Me the Answers, Pay on Death, and Personnel Officer Experiences.

If there's enough interest, the workshop will be held in April, with the date, time and place to be determined. To know whether to proceed, we ask interested members to contact Dan Conway no later than February 15 at 480-368-1427 or e-mail him at arizconway@msn.com.

Arizona Chapter Calendar

February 5

- BOD Meeting AZ Veteran's Home

February 21

- General Luncheon Meeting, McCormick Ranch Golf Club

March 5

- BOD Meeting, AZ Veteran's Home

March 21

- General Luncheon Meeting,

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President's Perspective.....continued

Ron Worthington. He will be looking for volunteers to assist him with reviewing cadet scholarship applications.

Third is the JROTC medal program directed by Terry Tassin. See the article by Terry on page 3 to see the schools we support and volunteer to be one of the presenters. It is a very rewarding experience. If you haven't done it, you should give it a try.

Fourth is the possibility of our chapter hosting a personal affairs workshop sometime this spring, as described on page 1. If you are the slightest bit interested, be sure to let Dan Conway know. The number of responses will determine if we hold one.

Finally, I am still looking for someone to take over the secretary position. It is not a difficult job and one I think anyone would enjoy doing. It is a great way to know the members and the workings of the chapter. If you are interested, please give me a call at 480-961-8632.

February 14 is Valentine's Day, so remember that special someone in your life.

Ron Perkins 



Changing of the Guard

Outgoing President Terry Tassin, left, congratulates Ron Perkins on assuming the reins as Arizona Chapter President for 2009-10. New Chapter officers and directors were sworn in at the January luncheon/meeting. Terry takes on the role of Immediate Past President.



Meritorious Service Awards

The Arizona Chapter's 2008 Meritorious Service Award recipients are: front row from left, Marie Fredricks, Patricia Dale, Nina Johnson (accepting for her late husband, Bill), Fran Tassin; back row from left, Gary Fredricks, Pat Dale, Chuck Schluter, Ron Perkins, Terry Tassin, Ron Worthington.

February Program: Leave a Lasting Family Legacy

Do your children and grandchildren know what makes them a unique part of you?

Our February 21 luncheon speaker will be Scottsdale author Vickie Mullins. Her **I Want You To Know Me** series are the ultimate family show and tell books that can make memories, create connections and leave a lasting legacy to your family. They ask and answer curious questions that our children and grandchildren probably don't know about us.

I Want You to Know Me ... Love, Me makes it possible for every family member, including stepmothers, stepfathers, aunts, uncles, brothers, sisters or cousins to create a connection with loved ones that will last forever.

You won't want to miss this special program.

Special Speaker for April

Congressman Harry Mitchell's office is making arrangements for the Congressman to be guest speaker at our April 18 luncheon. His district includes Scottsdale, Tempe, Fountain Hills and Cave Creek. More details next month.

JROTC Award Presentations

by Terry Tassin

Presentation of the MOAA JROTC medal is one way our Chapter fosters a positive military image among the youth of the community. By supporting JROTC units, chapter members enhance the educational and leadership skills cadets need 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 recipients is done by the student's JROTC instructor.

Arizona Chapter members volunteer to be a presenter at a school awards ceremony. It's fun and you feel better for doing it! Contact Terry Tassin at 623-931-1546 or email: terrytassin@cox.net to volunteer to present medals at one of our supported schools. Below are our schools, their award nights and volunteers to date. Schools with no presenter listed are still available.

SCHOOL	ADDRESS	DATE	TIME	LOCATION	PRESENTER
Alhambra HS	3839 W. Camelback Rd.	30-Apr-09	6:00 PM	Auditorium	
Apollo HS	8045 N. 47th Avenue	05-May-09	7:00 PM	Auditorium	T. Tassin
Cactus HS	6330 W. Greenway Road	01-May-09	6:00 PM	Cafeteria	R. Perkins
Camelback HS	4612 N. 28th Street	05-May-09	6:30 PM	Auditorium	G. Fredricks
Carl Hayden HS	3333 W. Roosevelt Street	01-May-09	6:00 PM	Auditorium	B. Adams
Central HS	4525 N. Central Avenue	29-Apr-09	6:00 PM	Cafeteria	
Cortez HS	8828 N. 31st Avenue	04-May-09	6:00 PM	Auditorium	
Deer Valley HS	18424 N. 51st Avenue	01-May-09	6:00 PM	Auditorium	
Glendale HS	6216 W. Glendale Ave.	13-May-09	7:00 PM	Auditorium	
Greenway HS	3930 W. Greenway Road	30-Apr-09	6:00 PM	Auditorium	R. Drew
Moon Valley HS	3625 W. Cactus Road	08-May-09	6:00 PM	Auditorium	R. Perkins
North HS	1101 E. Thomas Road	17-Apr-09	6:30 PM	Auditorium	H. Farenga
Sandra Day O'Connor	25250 N. 35th Ave	06-May-09	6:30 PM	Auditorium	P. Dale
Shadow Mountain HS	2902 E. Shea Boulevard	05-May-09	6:00 PM	Auditorium	H. Farenga
South Mountain HS	5607 S. 7th Street	07-May-09	6:00 PM	Cafeteria	
Sunnyslope HS	35 W. Dunlap Avenue	23-Apr-09	6:00 PM	Cafeteria	B. Adams
Thunderbird HS	1750 W. Thunderbird Road	13-May-09	7:00 PM	Auditorium	R. Green

Fun at the Theatre

July will be here before you know it!

We have 40 tickets reserved at
The Arizona Broadway Theatre in Peoria
Sunday, July 12, 2009, for

Bye Bye Birdie

\$55 per ticket includes

Brunch, iced tea, coffee, water, gratuity
Other drinks and dessert are not included.

Use the form below to send checks and reservations now so you don't miss out!

Reservations for The Arizona Broadway Theatre

Name: _____

Number of tickets @ \$55 each: _____

Send this form to:

Fran Tassin, 4333 W. Echo Lane
Glendale, AZ 85302
Phone 623-931-1546



Chapter 2009 Membership Renewal Form

*Member Full Name: _____

Membership Renewal: **\$20** Full member _____

*Membership Renewal: **\$10** Auxiliary _____

*I wish to receive the Chapter Newsletter by {select one}:
_____ **E-mail (in full color)** or _____ U.S. Mail (hard
copy black & white)

*E-Mail Address: _____

Receiving the Sentinel by e-mail reduces production cost)

Any Changes in your address, phone number, etc:

Make check payable to: **AZ Chapter MOAA**

Mail renewal application and check to:

**AZ CHAPTER MOAA
C/O Terry Tassin
4333 W. Echo Lane
Glendale, AZ 85302**

Meeting Summaries

by Ron Perkins, Secretary

Board of Directors, January 8, 2009

Present: Terry Tassin, Gary & Marie Fredricks, Ron Perkins, Ron Green, Dan Conway and Jim Cullison.

Treasurer's Report: General Checking: \$7,365.84; Scholarship: \$10,637.23; Petty Cash \$50.00; Total Accounts \$18,073.07

JROTC Medals: Terry reported he has all the medals and has the letters ready to send to the schools.

Membership: Terry reported that 52% of the 200 members have paid 2009 dues. Dan Conway reported the chapter finished the year with 11 "Give Me Ten" new members. Terry reported we received 16 names from the national recruiting program and signed up six of them.

Legislative: Gary Fredricks encouraged everyone to review the latest Legislative News in the December edition of the *Military Officer*, which had six pages of very important issues that affect retirees and active duty personnel.

Personal Affairs: Dan proposed a Personal Affairs Workshop be held for interested members. The February *Sentinel* will query the membership to find out if there is enough interest to hold the workshop.

Programs: The February 21 luncheon will have as guest speaker "Vicki Mullins" author of the "*I Want You to Know Me*" book series.

Communication Awards: Terry submitted the awards package on January 2 and received confirmation that MOAA received it.

AZ Council of Chapter Dues: Bill Roscher will send a check for \$78.50 to the AZ Council for our dues.

General Meeting, January 17, 2009

Present: 68 members and guests.

Membership Renewals: 2009 membership renewals are due; 121 out of 199 members had renewed as of January 17.

Legislative: Gary Fredricks discussed a couple of MOAA's successes for 2008 which were the enhancing of the GI Bill and keeping Tricare costs from increasing. He suggested that the top three 2009 priorities for MOAA will be: retaining the DOD budget level, preventing Tricare fee increases, and reducing survivor benefit inequities. He asked everyone to watch for the mail-in post cards to your Congressmen or Senator in the February edition of the *Military Officer* magazine; sign them and send them in.

Guest Speaker: Dr. Bill Wolf gave an outstanding presentation on his collection of WW II Aviation History.

Meritorious Service Awards: MSAs were presented to: Pat Dale 3rd OLC, Patricia Dale 1st award, and Bill Johnson's (deceased) 4th OLC mounted in a shadow box was presented to his wife Nina.

Induction of 2009 Officers: Terry Tassin swore in the following officers: President, Ron Perkins; 1st Vice President, Ron Worthington; 2nd Vice President, Bill Roscher; Secretary, Ron Perkins; Treasurer, Bill Roscher, and Directors, Gregg Maxon, Rob Welch, Ron Drew, Ron Green and John Ady (absent).

50/50 raffle: \$70 was paid out and \$80 entered into the Scholarship account. Winners were: \$10 prize each to Marie Schluter, Bob Lamparter and Roger Schartzter, \$20 each to Gary Fredricks and Betty Baumer

Coming Attractions

By Chuck Schluter

February 21: Our guest speaker will be Vickie Mullins, author of the "I Want You to Know Me" series. She'll tell how every Mom, Dad, Grandma and Grandpa can create a powerful family legacy by creating the priceless gift of yourself to your loved ones.

March 21: Our guest speaker will be Scottsdale Police Chief Alan Rodbell. Chief Rodbell is a distinguished law enforcement officer whose background and experiences will provide a provocative presentation.

February Luncheon Meeting

WHEN: February 21, 2009
11 a.m. Social Hour
12 Noon Lunch

WHERE: McCormick Ranch
Golf Club
7505 McCormick
Parkway,
Scottsdale

COST: \$19.00 Per Person

DRESS: Casual

MENU: Chef's Choice

PROGRAM: Scottsdale author and speaker Vickie Mullins.

Reservations must be received by 4 p.m. on the Thursday prior to the luncheon. Cancellations need to be received by the same Thursday in order to receive your money back. Send your check to Bill Roscher using the Meal/Meeting reservation form on page 8.



Legislative Update

by Gary Fredricks, Legislative Chair

Budget Challenges Lie Ahead

Last month I suggested that we were starting 2009 with a far different set of circumstances than we have seen for awhile. In addition to other factors, at both the federal and state levels, the reality is that we have an economic crisis. We also have a new administration and a new Congress. It appears that at both levels of government, the new administration and Congress have managed to hit the ground running, whether or not you agree with the direction they are going.

Federal Package Includes Tax Benefit

At the federal level we expect to have a massive economic stimulus package approved before the scheduled mid-February President's Day break. Much has to be done yet to get agreement between the House and Senate, but there appears to be a small tax benefit that we will be able to personally take advantage of. Both House and Senate proposed payroll tax reductions that are the same. Both would reduce income tax withholding and liability by \$500 for singles and \$1,000 for married couples. However, these reductions would only apply to people who are currently employed. The Senate proposed package, but not the House, has a separate provision that would provide a onetime \$300 payment to Social Security annuitants and recipients of VA disability compensation. We will have to see how the final bill turns out.

MOAA Focuses on Veterans Bills

Meanwhile, the normal course of congressional action goes on, albeit in the background. With the seating of the new Congress, all bills originated by the old Congress are no longer on the books. These are the bills that we lobby each year to get included in the FY Defense Authorization Bills to correct what we believe are inequities. With the new 111th Congress now underway, the MOAA Government Relations team in Washington is working with past and potential bill sponsors to reintroduce all of our priority bills that expired at the end of the last Congress. Through an Arizona Department of Veteran's Services database we are already tracking 42 federal bills which are potentially related to veterans' issues.

State Shortfall Occupies Our Legislature

Our state government is on an equally fast track to deal with the state's own economic crisis. We are already more than half way through the current fiscal year with no action having been taken to fix the

reported \$1.2 billion or so fiscal shortfall. Given that the current state legislature is really supposed to be working on the next fiscal year budget now, you can begin to see the need for some immediate action. The difficulty is in keeping up with what is going on.

Veterans' Groups Poised to Respond

Our various state level veterans' groups received a very short notice of a scheduled meeting to be conducted the last week of January by the Arizona Senate Committee on Veterans and Military Affairs. Purpose was to review options by the Joint Legislative Budget Committee to cut the budget of the Arizona Department of Veteran's Services. Some of the options were catastrophic, and we were beginning to organize veterans to attend the meeting. However, within hours, the meeting was cancelled. It was reported that Senate President Bob Burns had cancelled all Senate committee hearings to put a "full-court press" on budget negotiations. The intent was to have a package of FY09 budget bills out of the Senate before the end of the month. In a corresponding effort, the House planned a similar schedule with the goal of both Senate and House to get \$1.6 billion in spending cuts on the Governor's desk before February.

But Here's Some Good News

To get out of the crisis mode for a moment, let me close with some good news about MOAA. We ended 2008 with 375,672 members, surpassing the year's goal by more than 5,000 members. Life members comprise 43.6% of membership. Three of 10 complimentary members renew – an excellent rate by industry standards. We have seen strong growth among the currently serving since 2004, when 10.3% of our members were currently-serving officers. Today, 17.2% of our membership falls in this range, and 65% of all retired officers are MOAA members. Membership is crucial to being able to continue our strong legislative track record, and we are doing well.



One Powerful Voice.®

Happy 80th!

Raise a toast to the Military Officers Association of America on February 23, the 80th anniversary of the organization's founding.



Personal Affairs
by *Dan Conway, Personal Affairs Officer*

Shingles Vaccination

I am not a doctor. I can't give you medical advice, but I can advise you to contact your doctor for advice which could be very important to you. One of our friends has just seen too many doctors and has seen them too often. She had shingles. As if that wasn't enough, she has had several complications and her full recovery is still many months away.

You should be aware of the risk of shingles and what you can do about it. If you've had chickenpox, you're at risk for shingles.

Shingles is caused by the same virus that causes chickenpox. Once a person has had chickenpox, the virus can live, but remains inactive in your body. If it becomes active again, usually later in life, it can cause shingles.

The Risk Increases

As we get older, our immune system weakens and the risk for shingles increases. The first signs include itching, tingling and burning. A few days later, a blistering rash appears. The rash can be very painful, lasting up to 30 days. For most, the pain lessens as the rash heals. For others, the effects can be felt for months or years.

There is help. It is the shingles vaccination. It is recommended for all over 60 who have had chickenpox. For additional information, go to www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vdp-vac/shingles.

The cost of the vaccination is not covered by Medicare part B. (It is covered by Medicare part D, but for those of us on Medicare and Tricare for Life, we don't have part D.) The cost ranges from \$360 (Mayo) to \$210 (Mollen Clinic). After deductibles and maximum allowances, Tricare for Life will pay about \$25 of this cost.

However, with a prescription from your doctor, the hospitals at Luke and Davis-Monthan will administer the vaccination for free. The problem now is that Luke is out of the vaccine, so it might be some time before you can get your shot. In the meantime, it is recommended that you discuss the vaccine with your doctor and obtain the required prescription. Then call the Luke

hospital at 623-856-7420 to make an appointment. They will advise you as to the availability of the vaccine. The Davis Monthan hospital number is 520-228-1536 if you would enjoy a trip to Tucson.

If your doctor recommends that you don't wait, at least you can take some satisfaction that you aren't paying for the supplement which we no longer need with Tricare for Life.

If you have questions, please don't hesitate to call me at 480-368-1427.

Welcome to New Chapter Members

Lt. Col. John (Marty) T. Gendron, USA (Ret)

9085 E. Captain Dreyfus Ave.
Scottsdale, AZ 85260
Tele: 480-314-0920
E-mail: martypax@cox.net

Maj. William F. Conner, USAFR (Active)

4533 N. 22nd St. Unit 114
Phoenix, AZ 85016
Tele: 602-956-9111
E-mail: William.conner@cox.net

Lt. Cdr. Karl W. Lehrman, USCG (Ret)

And Wife Nati

6972 W. Villa Hermosa
Glendale, AZ 85310
Tele: 623-572-9663
E-mail: nakiwika@qwest.net

Capt. David P. Guy, USA (Ret)

And Wife Karen

18223 N. 63rd Ave.
Glendale, AZ 85308
Tele: 602-942-1372
E-mail: dguypt@cox.net

Please meet and welcome our new member.

Recent Donations

Scholarship Fund

Ron Worthington \$25
Ellen Truesdell \$19
Anonymous \$20
Raffle \$110

General Fund

Bernie Katz \$10
Gregg Maxon \$10

AZ CHAPTER MOAA FALL GOLF TOURNAMENT

INTERESTED IN A SUPER DAY OF FUN AND FELLOWSHIP?

WHEN: Friday, May 1, 2009. Shotgun Start at 7:30 a.m. Check-in between 6:15 - 7:15 a.m.

WHERE: Painted Mountain Golf Club, 6210 E. McKellips Road, Mesa.

COST: \$57, includes cart fee, green fees, delicious buffet lunch and a few bucks left over for prizes and the Scholarship Fund. Remember, the proceeds from Mulligan sales (*2 for \$5 unlimited number allowed - unused Mulligans are not refundable*) go directly into the Chapter's Scholarship Fund, so buy lots of Mulligans when you check-in. You might need them, and even if you don't, the money is for a good cause!

WHO: Members, guests and anyone else wishing to support the youth of the Valley of the Sun.

DRESS CODE: No special dress code other than you must keep your clothes on; however, collared shirts are recommended. Soft spikes on golf shoes. You may wear sneakers.

WHAT: Reservations and \$57 fee must be received by **April 22 if possible**. Please mail fees and the form below to **Pat Dale**; phone 480-661-5204 or email Pat at patrickdale1@cox.net if you have questions.

SPECIAL RULES: Handicaps will be determined using the Calloway system. Use of a Mulligan is not allowed on Longest Putt, Closest to Pin or Longest Drive holes. (i.e., must use first drive for Closest to the Pin or Longest Drive, and first putt for Longest Putt). Additional rules and prize information will be available at check-in, if necessary.

This is a very friendly, fun tournament. You do not have to be a good golfer to play and have fun with this group. We do have a couple of "good" golfers, but they just have to put up with the rest of us.

----- **CUT HERE AND MAIL WITH CHECK** -----

AZ CHAPTER MOAA GOLF TOURNAMENT

**I WANT TO SUPPORT THE SCHOLARSHIP FUND - COUNT ME IN!
HERE IS MY REGISTRATION SLIP AND ENTRY FEE.**

Name: _____

Phone No: _____

Email Address: _____

(Please Print)

I would like to be partnered with: [names] _____

* Mail entry slip and fees to:

Pat Dale
12633 E. Kalil Dr
Scottsdale, AZ 85259

* Make checks out to: **Patrick Dale**

Check for \$ _____ included for _____ players (\$57 each).

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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 Roscher, 4337 E. Sands Dr., Phoenix, AZ 85050.**

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 **21 February 2009**

Make check payable to: **AZ Chapter MOAA**

No Later Than: 19 February 2009

Send to: **Bill Roscher, 4337 E. Sands Dr., Phoenix, AZ 85050 Phone: 480-948-3609 E-mail: wroscher@cox.net**

TAPS

We regret to inform you of the passing of one of our regular members:

Lt. Col. William Roley, USMC (Ret)
March 19, 1920—September 21, 2008

Our heartfelt condolences are extended to the family.



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Arizona Chapter
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Scottsdale, AZ 85254



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