



The Sentinel

Arizona's First Chapter



The Arizona Chapter

6393 W. Dublin Lane

Chandler, Arizona

85226

MARCH 2009

CHARTERED 1956 - 52 YEARS OF SERVICE TO COUNTRY

EDITOR: JIM CULLISON



President's Perspective by Ron Perkins

Wow! Two months of 2009 have passed by and spring is just around the corner. The month of March brings many events such as daylight savings time begins for other states, St. Patrick's Day, Spring Training, and March Madness. I thought now would be a good time to list several goals for this year, albeit most mirror those of past years, but they are worth repeating. They all are equally important.

Goal: One of our primary goals will be to continue our strong membership program and increase it to over 200 members. This goal includes providing a warm welcome to newcomers and making them feel at home when they attend any chapter functions. Additionally, we need to have greeters at all of our functions and sponsors for new members.

Goal: We have a duty

to our members to make this an enjoyable association. That means we will continue the monthly luncheons with speakers on interesting subjects, but a special effort will be made to add an occasional fun gathering such as a group outing to the Arizona Broadway Theatre or a picnic in a nearby park.

Goal: Continue to support MOAA National's objectives by emphasizing the letters, postcards and e-mails that National puts out and encouraging the submittal of letters to our elected officials to support the issues that National has identified.

Goal: Continue to support our current Chapter programs:

- Scholarship Program. (Financial Scholarships to deserving cadets)
- Junior ROTC Programs. (MOAA medal awards to students from each of the 17 Arizona

Chapter supported JROTC programs)

- Personal Affairs. (Host a Personal Affairs Workshop)
- TOPS Program
- Support Memorial Day programs at the National Cemetery

Goal: Host a combined meeting with another chapter.

Goal: Submit application and be awarded the Chapter Five Star Award, the Communication Award for printed and electronic newsletters and the Website Award for the current award period.

Goal: Decrease mailing costs of the monthly newsletter *The Sentinel* by encouraging members to accept e-mail copies rather than requesting USPS hard copies.

Accomplishing these goals will not be easy. They will require a large volunteer effort from you, the members. The chapter is one of the best in MOAA because of you volunteers and what you have done in the past. We need your continued

Continued on Page 2

Arizona Chapter Calendar

March 5

- BOD Meeting AZ Veteran's Home, 1100 hours

March 21

- Luncheon Meeting, McCormick Ranch Golf Club, 1100 hours

April 2

- BOD Meeting, AZ Veteran's Home, 1100 hours

April 18

- Luncheon Meeting, McCormick Ranch Golf Club, 1130 hours

May 1

- Spring Golf, Painted Mountain G. C., Mesa, 0730

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Last Call for 2009 Dues Renewal — See Page 2

President's Perspective.....continued

support to keep us on top.

Speaking of volunteers, we need a secretary now. If you might be interested, give me a call at 480-961-8632 or send me an e-mail at rbperkins@cox.net.

April Luncheon

U.S. Rep Harry Mitchell To Address Chapter

U.S. Representative Harry Mitchell, who represents Arizona's 5th Congressional District, will be guest speaker at the April 18 luncheon/meeting.

His District includes Scottsdale, Fountain Hills, Cave Creek, Chandler and Tempe. His committee memberships include Veterans Affairs, Transportation and Infrastructure, and Science and Technology, plus several subcommittees.



To accommodate Rep. Mitchell's schedule, the meeting start time will change: social hour at 11:30, luncheon at 12:30 and speaker at 1:30.

Why Pay Dues?

Your dues support Chapter programs that recognize outstanding students. They keep you abreast of state and local legislation that affects your veterans and survivor benefits. They provide valuable personal affairs information to improve your well-being. And much more. It's a sound investment. If you haven't renewed, do so now. Deadline is March 31.

March Luncheon

Scottsdale PD Chief To Provide Department Overview



Scottsdale Police Chief Alan Rodbell, guest speaker at the March 21 general meeting/luncheon, will discuss current events and the direction he is taking the Police Department.

Chief Rodell joined the Department in 2002 as Deputy Chief of the Investigative Bureau. He came to the city from Montgomery County, Maryland, where he was Deputy Chief.

Need a Ride? Give Us a Call

No one has to miss a meeting because of lack of transportation. Anyone requiring a ride to a MOAA luncheon can contact Ron Drew at 602-493-8806. Ron will try to have someone pick you up at your residence and return you home when the luncheon is over, and it is free!

The further in advance you call, the better. Please, don't wait until the last minute, as we may not be able to provide a ride without sufficient notice.

Chapter 2009 Membership Renewal Form

Member Full Name: _____

Membership Renewal: **\$20** Full member, **\$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** No later than March 31

Mail renewal application and check to:

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

A Few Good Men & Women

by Terry Tassin, JROTC Awards

Many thanks to the below listed Chapter members who have volunteered to represent the Arizona Chapter at JROTC awards ceremonies this year. If you have any difficulty making your presentation date, immediately let Terry Tassin (623-931-1546) know you will be unavailable.

School	Date	Time	Presenter
North HS	17 Apr	6:30 PM	Harry Farenga
Sunnyslope HS	23-Apr	6:00 PM	Bill Adams
Central HS	29-Apr	6:00 PM	Bill Adams
Alhambra HS	30-Apr	6:00 PM	Jim Cullison
Greenway HS	30-Apr	6:00 PM	Ron Drew
Carl Hayden HS	1 May	6:00 PM	Chuck Schluter
Cactus HS	1-May	6:00 PM	Ron Perkins
Cortez HS	4-May	6:00 PM	Carol Culbertson
Apollo HS	5-May	7:00 PM	Terry Tassin
Shadow Mountain HS	5-May	6:00 PM	Harry Farenga
Camelback HS	5-May	6:30 PM	Gary Fredricks
Sandra Day O'Connor HS	6-May	6:30 PM	Pat Dale
South Mountain HS	7-May	6:00 PM	Gregg Maxon
Moon Valley HS	8-May	6:00 PM	Ron Perkins
Deer Valley HS	8-May	6:00 PM	James Andrews
Glendale HS	13-May	7:00 PM	Ron Worthington
Thunderbird HS	13-May	7:00 PM	Ron Green

Alternates: Bernie Conway, Frank Birtciel, Carl Schneider, John Ady

‘Put on a Happy Face’ and Have Fun at the Theatre

Plan now for an enjoyable afternoon out of the July heat.

The Chapter has 40 tickets reserved at The Arizona Broadway Theatre in Peoria
Sunday, July 12, at 12 Noon for the energetic Broadway musical

Bye Bye Birdie

\$55 per ticket includes:

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

Don't wait. 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: _____ Amount enclosed: _____

Send this form and check made out to **AZ Chapter MOAA** no later than June 25 to:

Fran Tassin
4333 W. Echo Lane
Glendale, AZ 85302

Phone 623-931-1546

Meeting Summaries

by Ron Perkins, Secretary

Board of Directors, February 5, 2009

Present: Terry Tassin, Gary Fredricks, Ron Perkins, Ron Green, Dan Conway, Ron Worthington, Gregg Maxon, Rob Welch, Bill Roscher, Chuck Schluter, Jim Cullison.

Treasurer's Report: Bill Roscher reminded that receipts are needed in order to be reimbursed for expenses incurred for the chapter. Checks made out for chapter events should be made payable to AZ Chapter MOAA. A check made out to a member should be endorsed over to AZ Chapter MOAA for the Treasurer to deposit.

JROTC Medals: Terry Tassin reported that he has all the required medals and volunteers for all the presentations.

JROTC Scholarships: Ron Worthington will chair the committee with members Terry Tassin, Dan Conway, Rob Welch and Jim Cullison.

Membership: Dan Conway is sending follow-up reminder letters to members who have not renewed their memberships. Dan is reviewing a large new list of potential members sent to the chapter by MOAA.

Legislative: Gary Fredricks reported that the state Veterans budget will be cut approximately 5% for 2009.

Two \$50 donations will be made in memory of LTC Michael Kilgore and LTC William Roley.

AZ Veterans Hall of Fame nominations are due by March 5.

General Meeting, February 21, 2009

Present: 55 members and guests.

Membership: 79% of members had renewed as of February 21.

Treasury: General Fund, \$8,798.52; Scholarship Fund, \$10,814.30; petty cash, 50; Total, \$19,662.82.

JROTC: Ron Perkins thanked members who volunteered to present medals and those who volunteered to be backup presenters.

Personal Affairs: Dan Conway reported the Luke AFB clinic has ample shingles vaccine. He also reported there will be a Personal Affairs workshop in April or May with more information to come.

Legislative: Gary Fredricks reemphasized MOAA's top 3 priorities: retain the DOD budget level, prevent Tricare fee increases, reduce the inequities of survivor benefits. Doug Gray reported on a state bill to allow sale of lottery-like tickets by organizations that have bingo permits.

Guest Speaker: Vicki Mullens gave an outstanding presentation on her "I Want You To Know Me" book series. She emphasized the importance of establishing a lasting legacy for your children and grandchildren. She also donated two of her books to the 50/50 raffle.

Arrangements/luncheons: March speaker will be Scottsdale Police Chief Alan Rodbell. April speaker will be Arizona Congressman Harry Mitchell. The Superstition Chapter is invited to join us. April start time will change to accommodate Rep. Mitchell's schedule: social hour at 11:30, lunch at 12:30, speaker at 1:30. Tickets at \$55 each are available for the July 12 production of Bye Bye Birdie.

50/50 raffle: \$60 was paid out and \$67 entered into the Scholarship Fund. Winners: \$20 each to Jim Draper and Bob Lamparter, \$10 to John Ady, \$5 to Velma Birtciel and Richard Peay, one of guest speaker Vicki Mullins' donated books each to Bernie Conway and Betty Baumer.

Coming Attractions

By Chuck Schluter

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.

April 18: Our guest speaker will be U.S. Representative Harry Mitchell of Arizona's 5th Congressional District. Rep. Mitchell is a former mayor of Tempe and state legislator who now serves on several Congressional committees that are important to residents of Arizona.

March Luncheon Meeting

WHEN: March 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 Police
Chief Alan Rodbell

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 7.



Legislative Update

by Gary Fredricks, Legislative Chair

Budget Debate Still Rules

The legislative agendas at both the federal and state levels are still currently dominated by the economic impact on the budgets. At the federal level the Democratic administration/legislature proposes and the Republican minority opposes. At the state level the Republican administration/legislature proposes and the Democratic minority opposes. It seems to me that it would benefit us all if they would learn to propose together. Oh well, enough of that.

TFL Looks Safe for Now

At the federal level, we are not likely to get good insight into the details of the administration budget proposal for FY 2010 until April when it is expected to be released. I did read an interesting response from Senator Lieberman, a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, on the series of e-mails, blogs, etc. claiming the administration intended to cut TRICARE for Life. He reiterated what we have been saying for some time. The foundation for these rumors is nothing new. It is simply part of an annual assessment by the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office listing among other things some 115 possible options for reducing federal spending on health care. We will continue to watch for developments, but right now, as Senator Lieberman suggests, there is no apparent support for such a move.

3 'Storming the Hill' Themes

I just received in the mail my read-ahead material for our coming "Storming the Hill" event scheduled for April 22. I will be teamed with our Arizona Council of Chapters President, Vern Pall from our Tucson Chapter, and Mrs. Lisa Field, a member of MOAA's Currently Serving Spouse Advisory Committee in visiting our Arizona legislators. Our three themes will be: Sustain Defense Budget to Fund Both People and Weapons, Bar Disproportional Military Health Fee Increases, and Eliminate Financial Penalties for Military Caused Disabilities and Deaths. The last one includes both the Concurrent Receipt and the SBP-DIC Offset issues.

Some Good State Bills, Some Bad

In Arizona the period for introducing new bills for the FY 2010 budget period expired on February 9. There were 20 bills introduced in the Senate and 10 in the House that have potential impact on military/veteran issues. The Senate has barred any committee consideration of their bills until the FY 2010 budget is in hand while the House has conducted several committee meetings already. About one third of the bills, most noteworthy on the Senate side, are currently grammatical technical changes to existing bills that are potentially "vehicle bills." This type of vehicle bill is so-named because it has frequently been used in the past to get around the deadline on submitting new bills. The sponsor merely changes the whole content of the bill to fit his/her new intent while leaving the title essentially intact. These will bear watching.

Our initial assessment of the bills shows a couple which will probably get supported by our veteran community, a couple which won't and a lot in between.

On the good side are bills to expand use of the Military Family Relief Fund to include care giving parents, the National Guard and Arizona based active duty personnel and to allow "pull tabs" as a funding source for veterans service organizations.

On the bad side of well-intended but seemingly inappropriate actions are bills which would authorize a state level "Medal Of Honor" and which would recommend including Agent Orange as a criteria for award of the Purple Heart. I will provide further information on these bills as the process begins to move forward.



TAPS



We regret to inform you of the passing of two of our members:

Lt. Col. Michael C. Kilgore, USA (Ret)
August 15, 1953—February 2, 2009

Joyce R. Greene, Auxiliary
November 2, 1926—February 2009

Our heartfelt condolences are extended to the families.



Personal Affairs

by Dan Conway, Personal Affairs Officer

Auxiliary Checklist

Among the many MOAA publications are two small pamphlets which could be very valuable in dealing with the loss of a loved one. They are the "Auxiliary Checklist" and the "Survivors Checklist." Either one is a supplement to the Personal Affairs Workbook from the publication "Helping Your Survivors Now," which I hope that you have prepared

While not exhaustive, these lists are intended as reminders for family members and surviving spouses about the many subjects that need attention at the time of death of a MOAA member.

The lists provide space to write in contact information for:

- Associations that offer spouse assistance to their members
- Veterans Affairs
- Lawyer/Estate Executor
- Life Insurance
- Civil Service
- Thrift Savings Plan
- Social Security
- Private Pensions
- Investments
- Credit card companies or other charge accounts
- Accountant/CPA or tax preparer
- Other insurance companies
- State Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV)
- City, County, and State property offices
- Any fraternal or professional organizations
- Automobile leasing agent

To obtain these publications, call MOAA at 1-800-234-6622. Have your Membership Number available, and the publications will be on the way.

Personal Affairs Workshop

We are making preparations for a Personal Affairs Workshop in April or May. Additional details will be forthcoming.

Again, consider me as a resource and don't hesitate to call with your questions and concerns.

Daniel M. Conway



Your Chapter Needs You!

The Chapter needs a Secretary.

Ron Perkins, Chapter President, has also been filling the Secretary post, which he held previously, because no one stepped forward to help with this important position.

It's important, but it isn't difficult or time-consuming. Once-a-month board meetings and general member meetings to record the Chapter's official actions, plus a few other occasional tasks. No meetings July through August. And you get to work with some really fabulous board members.

Out of our 200-plus members there is surely someone who could raise a hand and relieve Ron from double duty. Even a spouse could volunteer.

If you're that wonderful person, give Ron a call at 480-961-8632 or send an e-mail to rbperkins@cox.net.

Our Chapter will benefit from your good will.

Recent Donations

Several members made donations to Chapter funds over the last month. These donations help keep our Chapter financially strong and support our worthy programs.

Chuck Schluter \$50

Clare Gannon \$25

Anonymous \$25

Bob Rutherford \$15

Raphael Baumann \$10

Edward Waldmann \$10

Kathy Upchurch \$10

Many thanks to these and all members who contribute to our chapter funds.

Welcome to New Chapter Members

**Col. William A. Randall, USAF (RET)
And Wife Linda**
3781 N. Via de la Luna
Tucson, AZ 85749
Tele. 520-749-1689
E-mail: randall.bill@comcast.net

Lt. John Tymczyszyn, USN (FRM)
1001 E. Playa del Norte
Tempe, AZ 85281
Tele. 480-650-5035
E-mail: john.tymczyszyn@gmail.com

**Lt. Lyman V. Root, USCG (FRM)
And Wife Sandra**
5818 E. Restin Rd.
Cave Creek, AZ 85331
Tele. 480-595-2441
E-mail: valroot@cox.net

**Lt. Col. Gary R. Provost, USAF (RET)
And Wife Kathryn**
21499 N. 77th Pl.
Scottsdale, AZ 85255
Tele. 480-502-4372
E-mail: gprovost@cox.net

Jean B. Hilding, Auxiliary
5603 N. Echo Canyon Dr.
Phoenix, AZ 85018
Tele. 602-952-9816

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*The DoD Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee may set quantity limits on some medications. Other benefit limitations may apply. For more information, go to www.tricare.osd.mil/pharmacy/mop.cfm.

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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 March 2009**

Make check payable to: **AZ Chapter MOAA** **No Later Than: 19 March 2009**

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



Erin Go Bragh

The Arizona Chapter - MOAA - 2009 Board of Directors and Committee Chairmen

PRESIDENT COL Ron Perkins USAF 480-961-8632	NEWSLETTER EDITOR LTC Jim Cullison USAF 602-482-3838	CHAPLAIN LTC Bob Rutherford USA 602-944-4224
FIRST VICE PRESIDENT COL Ron Worthington USAF 623-935-6685	ADVERTISING LTC Jim Cullison USAF 602-482-3838	PERSONAL AFFAIRS CAPT Dan Conway USCGR 480-368-1427
SECOND VICE PRESIDENT COL Bill Roscher USA 480-948-3609	ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS COL Ron Perkins USAF 480-961-8632	PROGRAMS COL Charles Schluter, USA 480-563-8480
SECRETARY COL Ron Perkins USAF 480-961-8632	HISTORIAN / PHOTOGRAPHER LTC Jim Cullison USAF 602-482-3838	ARRANGEMENTS Marie Fredricks 480-836-8419
TREASURER COL Bill Roscher USA 480-948-3609	JROTC AWARDS LCDR Terry Tassin USN 623-931-1546	SCHOLARSHIPS COL Ron Worthington USAF 480-945-4015
IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT LCDR Terry Tassin USN 623-931-1546	LEGISLATIVE COL Gary Fredricks USAF 480-836-8419	TOPS LIAISON COL Charles Schluter, USA 480-563-8480
DIRECTORS COL John Ady, MAJ Ron Drew, LTC Ron Green, BG Gregg Maxon, COL Rob Welch	MEMBERSHIP CAPT Dee Norton USCG 480-275-5089	WEBMASTER CAPT Tom Houser, USAF 602-697-3123
	AUXILIARY LIAISON Sheila George 623-242-6579	SHARE A RIDE 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
13819 N. 51st Street
Scottsdale, AZ 85254**



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