



The Sentinel

Arizona's First Chapter



The Arizona Chapter

6393 W. Dublin Lane

Chandler, Arizona

85226

FEBRUARY 2010 CHARTERED 1956 - 53 YEARS OF SERVICE TO COUNTRY EDITOR: JIM CULLISON



President's Perspective by Ron Perkins

We had a terrific luncheon meeting in January, with excellent attendance, a nice meal, installation of officers and an outstanding speaker.

If you were not there, you missed a very good presentation by Neville Cramer on the nation's immigration problems and possible solutions. He was an Immigration and Naturalization Service Special Agent for over 26 years with experience in every facet of managing immigration.

As a side benefit, Mr. Cramer gave us some insight into the problems in Yemen, a hot bed for terrorists. He returned from Yemen the day before the Christmas Day underwear bomber tried to blow up an airplane.

This month, Chuck Schluter has arranged for a tour of the Boeing Plant in Mesa, which produces the Apache Attack Helicopter. The tour is scheduled for the 20th

from 9 to 11 a.m.

The Boeing people need to have names of visitors in advance. If you would like to attend and have not signed up, please contact me at rbperkins@cox.net or give me a call at 480-961-8632 (home) or 602-295-3880 (cell). We still plan on lunch at McCormick Ranch Golf Club but the start time will be 11:30 with lunch served at 12:30. This will allow those attending the tour to get back and join those who didn't attend the tour for lunch.

We have our JROTC Scholarship Program

under control by Ron Worthington and our JROTC medal program under control by Terry Tassin. Both programs are well on their way. Special thanks go out to those who have volunteered to be medal presenters this year. It is a very rewarding experience.

Finally, if you haven't already renewed your Chapter membership for 2010, please do so with the form included in this Sentinel. I urge each of you to become active in Chapter activities, which will give you individual satisfaction as well as further the goals of the Chapter. Working together we can have a very successful and satisfying year.

Ronald J. Perkins



2010 Officers were sworn in last month by Terry Tassin, Immediate Past President, left. Serving for 2010 are, from left, Ron Perkins, Gregg Maxon, John Ady, Beth Cullison, Bill Roscher, Ron Worthington, Ron Green, Rob Welch, Dan Conway and Kathy Upchurch.

Arizona Chapter Calendar

February 4

- . BOD Meeting, AZ Veterans Home, 1030 Hours

February 20

- . Boeing Plant Tour, 0900-1100 hours
- . General Meeting/ Luncheon; McCormick Ranch Golf Club, Social Hour 1130, Lunch 1230 Hours

March 4

- . BOD Meeting, AZ Veterans Home, 1030 Hours

March 20

- . General Meeting/ Luncheon; Guest Marshall Trimble, Arizona State Historian; McCormick Ranch Golf Club, Social Hour 1100, Lunch 1200 Hours

In this Issue

Page 2

- . Recruiting Drive
- . 2010 Goals
- . JROTC Awards

Page 3

- . Boeing Tour

Page 4

- . Spring Golf
- . Dues Renewal

Page 5

- . Personal Affairs

Page 6

- . Legislative Update
- . Historic Month

Page 7

- . Upcoming Meetings
- . February Luncheon
- . Meal Reservation & Donation Forms

Page 8

- . Presidents Day
- . Chapter Staff

Bring in a Buddy, Help Our Chapter Grow

Our recruitment efforts this year will be an “All Hands” operation. The idea is for each member to recruit a new member; either Chapter, National or both. Recruitment materials will be available at our monthly luncheon meetings for you to pick up and discuss with your friends and acquaintances.

For Chapter membership, we have a very professional brochure and offer free membership for the balance of the calendar year. You know the benefits including the Sentinel, Personal Affairs support, interesting programs and fellowship with those of similar backgrounds. However, they first have to be National members.

For National membership, there are two options. For Active Duty Officers or Drilling Reservists, National offers a one-year free membership. For Retired or former Officers, National offers a two-year membership for the price of one. As an additional incentive, each recruiter earns an entry in a random end-of-year drawing for a prize of \$1,000.

If you want recruitment materials, either pick them up at a meeting, or call John Ady at 480-596-0780 or Dan Conway at 480-368-1427.

Our Goals for 2010

The Arizona Chapter's Goals for this year are:

1. Increase Chapter membership to 200 plus.
2. Support National with postcards, e-mails and letters on vital issues.
3. Make the Chapter an enjoyable association through meetings, projects and other events.
4. Support Chapter programs like JROTC awards, personal affairs guidance and taking part in community events.
5. Reduce newsletter expense by promoting delivery by e-mail.

JROTC Awards

Found: A Few Good Men & Women

by Terry Tassin

Many thanks to the Chapter members listed below who have volunteered to represent the Arizona Chapter at JROTC award ceremonies this year. If you have any difficulty making your presentation date, immediately let Terry Tassin, 623-931-1546, know you will be unavailable. If any one else is willing to be listed as a back-up presenter, give Terry a call.

School	Date	Time	Presenter
North HS	21 April	6:30 PM	Harry Farenga
Sunnyslope HS	22 April	6:00 PM	Kathy Upchurch
Sandra Day O'Connor	27 April	6:30 PM	Rob Welch
Central HS	28 April	6:00 PM	Bill Adams
Alhambra HS	29 April	6:00 PM	Pat Dale
Greenway HS	29 April	6:00 PM	Kathy Upchurch
Cortez HS	29 April	6:00 PM	Carol Culbertson
Cactus HS	30 April	6:00 PM	Ron Perkins
Apollo HS	04 May	7:00 PM	Terry Tassin
Shadow Mountain	04 May	6:00 PM	John Ady
Camelback HS	04 May	6:30 PM	Gary Fredricks
Carl Hayden HS	06 May	6:00 PM	Chuck Schluter
South Mountain HS	06 May	5:00 PM	Gregg Maxon
Glendale HS	11 May	7:00 PM	Ron Worthington
Thunderbird HS	12 May	7:00 PM	Ron Green
Moon Valley HS	14 May	6:00 PM	Ron Perkins
Deer Valley HS	14 May	6:00 PM	Ron Drew



Boeing Helicopter Plant Tour

20 February 2010

Lunch to follow at McCormick Ranch



Highly maneuverable and heavily armed, the combat-proven Apache helicopter is today the backbone of the U.S. Army's all-weather, ground-support capability. The AH-64D Apache Longbow, which first flew as a prototype on May 14, 1992, provides a quantum leap in capability over the AH-64A. The Apache Longbow's fire-control radar and advanced avionics suite give combat pilots the ability to rapidly detect, classify, prioritize and engage stationary or moving enemy targets at standoff ranges in nearly all weather conditions.

Boeing Helicopter Plant

A Chanen joint venture designed and built this \$107 million facility with fast-track construction, permitting completion and move-in within 19 months and saving \$10 million. The design-build, 1.3 million sq.-ft. expansion project consisted of office, laboratory and assembly facilities. Included were an assembly building, central plant, flight test facility, warehouse and a paint hangar.

The two-story, 340,000 sq.-ft. Advanced Development Center was built to serve as a giant laboratory for development of new rotocraft programs and advanced versions of the Apache AH-64 and Model 500 Series helicopters. The facility includes a 225,000 sq.-ft. engineering center, a three-story, 270,000 sq.-ft. corporate headquarters, a 17,000 sq.-ft. computer room, a 200-seat auditorium and a cafeteria. A 250,000 sq.-ft. material center contains a quality-assurance laboratory and warehouse.

This plant makes the AH-64 helicopters that were used in the Gulf War and Desert Storm.



Boeing Tour	9:00 to 11:00	Boeing Plant, Mesa
Social Hour	11:30 to 12:30	McCormick Ranch
Lunch	12:30 to 13:30	McCormick Ranch

****Must sign up with Ron Perkins to attend Tour****

AZ CHAPTER MOAA SPRING GOLF TOURNAMENT

Interested in a super day of fun and fellowship?

When: Friday, April 9. Shotgun Start at 8 a.m. Please check-in between 6:45 -7:30.

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

Cost: \$60, which includes cart fee, green fees, buffet lunch and a few bucks left over for prizes and the Scholarship Fund. Proceeds from Mulligan sales (*2 for \$5 - max of two Mulligans allowed - unused Mulligans are not refundable*) go directly into the Chapter's Scholarship Fund.

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

Dress Code: Collared shirts are required. Soft spikes on golf shoes – you may wear sneakers.

What: Reservations and \$60 fee must be received by **March 27** if possible. Please mail fees and the form below to **Pat Dale**; phone 480-661-5204 or e-mail Pat at patrickdale1@cox.net if you have questions.

This is a very friendly, fun event. You don't have to be a good golfer to play and have fun with this group.

----- 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: _____

E-mail Address: _____

(Please Print)

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

* Mail entry slip and check made out to **AZ Chapter MOAA** to:
Pat Dale, 12633 E. Kalil Dr., Scottsdale, AZ 85259

Check for \$_____ included for _____ players (\$60 each).

Time's Running Out to Renew Your 2010 Chapter Dues

Don't forget that Chapter membership renewal for 2010 was due on January 1.

Your financial support of our chapter through dues and donations helps us continue worthwhile programs and activities, like support for veterans and military-related organizations, representation on issues affecting the military and retirees and promoting camaraderie among members.

----- CUT HERE AND MAIL RENEWAL FORM WITH YOUR CHECK -----

Arizona Chapter 2010 Membership Renewal Form

Member Full Name: _____

Membership Renewal: **\$20** Full member _____ **\$10** Auxiliary Member _____ (surviving spouse)

Any Changes in your address, phone number, e-mail, etc: _____

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

Mail renewal application and check to:

**AZ CHAPTER MOAA
C/O Bill Roscher
4337 E. Sands Drive**



Personal Affairs
by Dan Conway
Personal Affairs Officer

Donate Air Miles

In response to a request from one of our members, I have researched opportunities for the donation of air miles for the use of service members and their families. I have discovered two opportunities as discussed below:

Soldiers' Angels

Soldiers' Angels is an international volunteer-led 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization providing aid and comfort to the men and women of the United States Army, Marines, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, and their families. With over 30 different teams and projects, its nearly 200,000 volunteers assist veterans, wounded and deployed personnel and their families in a variety of unique and effective ways. One way is to provide flights to soldiers on leave or in emergency situations, and to their families wanting to be with them upon return from overseas.

With Soldiers' Angels, the donor keeps title to the miles and makes the reservations for the approved traveler. All of the required information is at <http://soldiersangels.org>. Click on "Donate" in the Main Menu and go to "Airmiles".

Hero Miles

The non-profit Fisher House Foundation administers the "Hero Miles" program for the

Department of Defense. The program is comprised of individual airlines whose passengers donate their frequent flyer miles to assist service members and their families. Specifically, Fisher House Foundation provides free airline tickets to military men and women who are undergoing treatment at a military or VA medical center incident to their service in Iraq or Afghanistan, and their families.

There are two categories of eligible recipients:

1. Service men and women with an approved leave of five or more days may be given a free round trip airline ticket for travel from the medical center to their home and return if they are not eligible for government funded airfare.
2. Qualifying service men and women may be given free round trip airline tickets to enable their family or close friends to visit them while they are being treated at the medical center.

The request for tickets will ordinarily originate with the service member and be forwarded to Fisher House Foundation by the social work staff or family assistance center at a medical center, or through service casualty offices. Only under exceptional circumstances should family members contact Fisher House Foundation directly. With Hero Miles, the air miles from most of the airlines can be donated directly to Fisher House. Fisher House Foundation has written agreements with individual airlines that contain specific criteria for the use of the miles donated to the "Hero Miles" program. It is for this reason that the Foundation must ensure the

Participating Airlines Are:

Airline	Frequent Flyer Program	Charity Program	Airline Permits Passengers to Donate Miles
Air Tran Airways	A+ Rewards		Yes
Alaska Airlines	Mileage Plus	Charity Miles	Yes
American Airlines	AAdvantage		Yes
Continental	OnePass		No
Frontier Airlines	Early Returns		Yes
Midwest Airlines	Midwest Miles	Miracle Miles	Yes
Northwest Airlines	WorldPerks	AirCares	Yes
United Airlines	Mileage Plus	Charity Miles	Yes
US Airways	Dividend Miles	Miles of Hope	Yes

miles are used only for service members whose hospitalization is the result of service in Afghanistan or Iraq.

For more information, go to www.fisherhouse.org/programs/hero_miles or call toll-free (888) 294-8560.

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## Legislative Update

by Gary Fredricks, Legislative Chair

### State Budget—Familiar Story

As calendar year 2010 begins, Arizona begins the second half of its FY2010, which ends June 30. The Arizona Legislature is dominated by two factors: the budget, for which there is no apparent solution, and elections, which seem to provide little motivation for agreement on a solution. The latest round of budget cuts for FY2010 still leave a state deficit of over \$1 billion for the current fiscal year. FY2011, on which the legislature is supposed to be working, is even worse. So, don't expect any new state initiatives that cost money to surface for quite awhile.

The Arizona Department of Veteran's Services (ADVS) absorbed general fund budget cuts of \$600,000 for FY2010 so far. ADVS has absorbed this cut by delaying projects without significantly reducing services. The FY2011 budget proposal submitted by the Governor in January did not contain any more significant cuts for ADVS. However, the budget contained several factors, including a sales tax increase, that there does not appear to be any consensus on. Any further cuts for ADVS will surely result in some personnel reductions. The Director has gone on record indicating that Veteran Benefit Counselors, whose job it is to help veterans through the red tape of the VA process, will be the absolute last to be affected. We certainly hope that holds true.

The Arizona legislature began its FY2011 session on Monday, January 11. As *The Sentinel* goes to press there have been 34 bills introduced, eight in the Senate and 26 in the House, which have some impact on veterans, the military or their families. This compares to 28 we were tracking last year, of which about half a dozen actually got approved. A quick review of this year's list shows none that involve much money, several that are administrative in nature and several revived from last year's list. As the process continues we will begin to see which ones have promise for enactment this year and which ones we may wish to lend our support to.

### Meanwhile, at the National Level

On the national side we see similar budget and election year issues. MOAA has a well orchestrated set of goals identified depending upon how circumstances begin to play out. You can view the list at [www.MOAA.org](http://www.MOAA.org) or read a discussion on them in the January edition of the MOAA magazine. The next major event on the national legislative agenda, which will help MOAA prioritize actions, is the issuance of the President's FY2011 Defense Authorization budget, which is expected in early February. Last year, the big surprise was the absence of a continuing DOD proposal to significantly increase health care and pharmacy fees and co-pays. This year it remains to be seen.

### Medicare/Tricare Fees Still in Play

In the meantime, the most pressing issue for most of us is the pending Medicare/TRICARE doctor payment cap problem that we have been discussing for about four years now. Without further action by Congress and the President an existing, flawed law will result in a 21% Medicare/TRICARE pay cut to doctors on March 1. This is a really big deal in that it will most assuredly result in many more doctors refusing to care for Medicare/TRICARE recipients. Also, it is a \$250 billion problem for the Congress to deal with. We believe that Congress had planned to address this as a part of the national health reform. However, with that now in limbo, separate action now appears vital on this Medicare/TRICARE payment to doctors issue. You can voice your concern to our legislators by sending a prewritten e-mail through the legislative section of [www.MOAA.org](http://www.MOAA.org).

### February: A Historic Month for Arizona

February figures prominently in our state's history. While Arizona became the 48th state on February 14, 1912, that wasn't the only time February 14 figured in the state's history. Jefferson Davis, president of the Confederacy, proclaimed Arizona as the Confederate Territory of Arizona on that date in 1861. President Abraham Lincoln trumped that action when he signed a law establishing the Arizona Territory on February 24, 1863. Thus it remained until 1912.

## Upcoming Meetings

**February 20:** Boeing tour at 9:00 for those who sign-up in advance (see President's Perspective and page 3), followed by social hour at 11:30 and luncheon at 12:30, McCormick Ranch Golf Club. Those signed up for the tour will receive more information ahead of time.

**March 20:** Whether you're an Arizona native, longtime resident or newcomer, you will learn more about the state than you could imagine when Marshall Trimble, Arizona's official state historian, is our guest speaker. You won't want to miss this exciting and informative program.

### February Luncheon Meeting

**WHEN:** February 20, 2010  
11:30 a.m. Social Hour, 12:30 Lunch

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

**COST:** \$19 Per Person

**DRESS:** Business Casual

**MENU** Chef's Choice

**PROGRAM:** You can attend the luncheon, even if you don't go on the Boeing tour. Note the later start time for social hour and luncheon, this month only.

Reservations must be received by 4 p.m. on Thursday, February 18. Cancellations need to be received by the same day in order to receive your money back. Use the reservation form below.

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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 with 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 \_\_\_

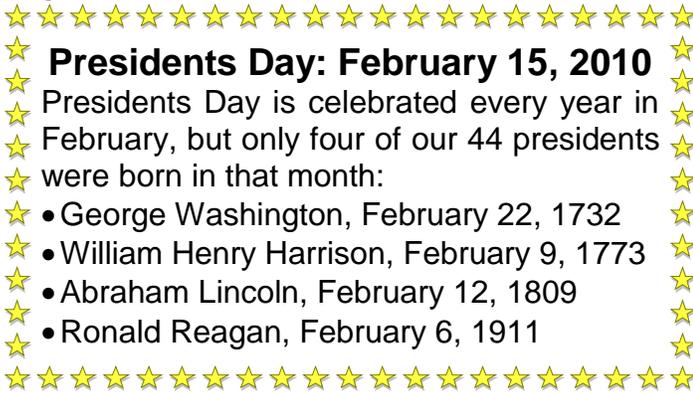
### MEAL / MEETING RESERVATION FORM

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

Enclosed is my check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (**\$19.00** per person) for **20 February 2010**

Make check payable to: **AZ Chapter MOAA** Received No Later Than: **18 February 2010**

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



**Presidents Day: February 15, 2010**

Presidents Day is celebrated every year in February, but only four of our 44 presidents were born in that month:

- George Washington, February 22, 1732
- William Henry Harrison, February 9, 1773
- Abraham Lincoln, February 12, 1809
- Ronald Reagan, February 6, 1911

**The Arizona Chapter MOAA - 2010 Board of Directors and Committee Chairs**

|                                                                                                                                            |                                                                          |                                                                  |
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**Access Arizona Chapter's Internet Web Site at: [www.azchaptermoaa.org](http://www.azchaptermoaa.org)**

**Arizona Chapter  
Military Officers Association of America  
13819 N. 51st Street  
Scottsdale, AZ 85254**



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