

Minutes of the November 2010 General Meeting, Arizona Chapter MOAA

A luncheon meeting of the General Membership was held on November 20, 2010 at the McCormick Ranch Golf Club. President Ron Perkins called the meeting to order at 1200 hours and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by an invocation.

Members Present: Ron Perkins welcomed everyone and introduced new members: Buddy Sims, Gene and Judy Rafanelli, and Al and Millie Coots. Total people present: 36 members including spouses.

Ron Perkins gave a belated birthday greeting to the U.S. Marine Corps celebrating their 235th birthday on the 10th of Nov. He also talked about the importance of Veteran's Day for everyone to honor and remember the courageous men and women who have fought and continue to fight for our nation.

Minutes: Ron Perkins dispensed with reading the prior meeting minutes.

Reports:

Treasurer's Report: Bill Roscher reported as of November 20, 2010 the General Fund is at \$9,141.03 plus \$50 petty cash and the Scholarship Fund is at \$8,700.31 for a total of \$17,891.34. Bill also announced \$95 was collected for today's raffle with \$50 going to the scholarship fund and \$45 awarded.

National MOAA "A Capital Event": Ron and Betty Perkins attended the event in Arlington, VA. General Richard Neal, USMC (Ret) Chairman of the Board presented Ron the *Five Star Level of Excellence Award* for the 6th straight year. Five other Arizona chapters were present to receive either the Five Star or Four Star of Excellence award. Ron also briefed that National MOAA is introducing a new organization "Voices for America's Troops" to increase support for of a strong national defense. There will be more information about this in the weeks and months to come. VA Secretary, retired U.S. Army General Eric Shinseki was the key note speaker for the Chairman's Dinner. Secretary Shinseki laid out three broad priorities for the VA; 1. Increase access to VA benefits and service; 2. Eliminate the disability claims backlog that frustrates all of us; 2. End veteran homelessness.

2011 Dues: The chapter board members voted at the Nov board meeting to keep the dues at the current level of \$20 for regular members and \$10 for Auxiliary members.

Fall Golf Tournament Report: Pat Dale reported that there were a total of 75 players and a total of \$1578 was made through green fees collected and individual donations to the JROTC Scholarship fund.

Cell Phones for Soldiers: Pat Dale reminded everyone that the chapter is collecting old cell phones. Every old cell phone we turn in provides a 100 minute calling card for a deployed soldier. He brought a box for collection of old cell phones and will have the box available at future chapter meetings.

Toy for Tots: Terry Tassin announced that the chapter was supporting "Toys for Tots" again this year and would be collecting donations at the December meeting. He encouraged everyone to bring in at least one toy for this worthy program. Stuffed animals are not desired.

Personal Affairs: Dan Conway noted that many people are receiving numerous letters and flyers in their mail boxes addressing new and supplemental health insurance program. Fortunately, for those military retirees 65 and over are on Medicare and Tri-Care for Life. However, there is the issue of the proposed 23% pay cut to doctors and hospitals accepting Medicare patients.

Legislative Report: Gary Fredricks reemphasized the major dilemma facing our congressional leaders who are facing tough times ahead as pressures to reduce the Nation's spending grow. On one side there are proponents who want to keep going as we are and not cut taxes and continue spending. The other side who says we need to cut spending or how do you plan to pay for it. In any case, national MOAA will continue to advocate for a strong national defense and to sustain and improve quality of life programs for all members of America's uniformed services-past, present and future- and their families and survivors.

Arrangements: Marie Fredricks briefed that the December meeting we would have the Dickens Carolers performing during lunch. After lunch there would be a Chinese auction where all the raffle ticket proceeds would go to the JROTC Scholarship Fund.

Lunch was served and enjoyed by all.

Vote on By-Law changes: Gray Fredricks motioned that the proposed By-Law changes be approved as written. Terry Tassin seconded the motion and there was no request for discussion. The proposed changes were approved unanimously.

Election for 2011 Officers: The following people were elected as officers and board members for 2011. President: John Ady; 1st VP: Gregg Maxon; 2nd VP: Jim Cullison; Secretary: Beth Cullison; Treasure: Bill Roscher; Directors: Ron Green, Dan Conway, Rance Ferrell, Rob Welch, and Ron Worthington.

Presentations of Meritorious Service Awards (MSA): The following people received a MSA; John Ady (2nd Award); Beth Cullison (1st Award); Jim Cullison (2nd Award); Dan Conway (4th Award); Pat Dale (5th Award); Patricia Dale (3rd Award); Gary Fredricks (6th Award); Marie Fredricks (4th Award); William Roscher (2nd Award); Terry Tassin (6th Award); Rob Welch (1st Award); Ron Worthington (4th Award) and Ron Perkins (2nd Award)

Closing: Ron Perkins invited all to attend the next board meeting on Dec 2nd at the Veterans Home on N. S. Herrera Way in Phoenix.

Benediction provided by Ron Perkins

Adjournment: 1:45 PM

Respectfully submitted:
Ron Perkins for
Beth Cullison, Secretary