



The Sentinel

Arizona's First Chapter



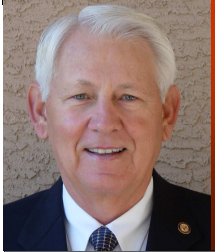
The Arizona Chapter

6393 W. Dublin Lane

Chandler, Arizona

85226

SEPTEMBER 2010 CHARTERED 1956 - 54 YEARS OF SERVICE TO COUNTRY EDITOR: JIM CULLISON



President's Perspective by Ron Perkins

Summer Break News

"Hmm", perhaps the word "break" is the wrong description. The chapter has been very busy in spite of no scheduled general meetings in June, July and August.

After our May 15 luncheon three chapter members, Dan Conway, Gary Fredricks and I, participated in the Arizona Council of Chapters Bi-Annual meeting held in Sierra Vista 20-21 May. Then on 21 and 22 May, Gregg Maxon, Pat Dale, Jim Cullison, Rob Welch, John Ady and I hosted a recruiting table at the Arizona National Guard Conference. We were able to recruit 13 new members. Way to go, team.

On 31 May at the Memorial Day Ceremonies at the National Cemetery, Rob Welch, John Ady, Jim Cullison and Paul Fein provided a color guard. In June Chuck Schluter and I attended the 2010 Governor's Freedom

Award Recognition Luncheon.

Finally, over 20 members attended

the Broadway Theater outing to see the musical "Footloose" on July 17.

While these activities were occurring, the 2010 Officer Nomination Committee made up of Chairman Rob Welch, John Ady, Ron Green, Jim Cullison and Gary Fredricks worked very hard to come up with an excellent slate of nominated officers for next year.

In late July I received outstanding news from National MOAA Headquarters. Our chapter was once again awarded the "Five Star of Excellence Award," which makes it the seventh year in a row. The special "Five Star Streamer" will be presented at the National MOAA's Annual Meeting in Arlington, Virginia, in mid-November.

Congratulations to all those who have contributed so much

time and effort to the chapter's success.

In August, I was notified that two of our chapter members, Gary Fredricks and Webb Ellis, were selected to be in the Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame Class of 2010. Congratulations to both members for a well deserved recognition.

The Induction Ceremony will take place on October 29 at the El Zaribah Shrine Auditorium. Please go to the Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame website for more information and to register for the ceremony. Make sure you note you are there to support Gary and Webb. It is important so we can sit together as chapter members.

Our September 18 luncheon meeting will have Eric Landau, speaking on "9/11 Remembered". Eric was a half-mile away when the Twin Towers fell and spent time that day at the Ground Zero site assisting the FEMA triage center. I am sure it is a presentation you won't want to miss. I look forward to seeing you on September 18.

Ron Perkins

Arizona Chapter Calendar

Board of Directors
The Board meets at 1030 hours, Rm.A107, in the Arizona Veterans Home. Members are invited to attend.

- Upcoming meetings:**
- September 2
 - October 7
 - November 4

Member Meetings/Luncheons are held on the third Saturday of the month, Social Hour at 1100, Luncheon at 1200, at McCormick Ranch Golf Club, unless noted otherwise.

- Upcoming meetings:**
- September 18
 - October 16
 - November 20

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September Meeting

Hear Eric Landau, Eyewitness At Ground Zero on 9/11

Eric Landau is a native New Yorker, having spent half a century living on Long Island and working there and in New York City before retiring early and moving to Arizona in 1998.

Nine years ago, Eric returned to New York City on personal business but instead inadvertently became Arizona's initial 9/11 first responder.

He was half-mile away when the Twin Towers fell, and spent time that day at the Ground Zero site before becoming the ad hoc communication officer for a FEMA triage center.

After it closed due to lack of patients, he worked on the command logistics staff at the New York City Emergency Operations Center.



This is a rare opportunity to hear a first-hand account of the tragic events of that day. Use the form on Page 7 to reserve your place for the Sept. 18 meeting.

AZ CHAPTER MOAA FALL GOLF TOURNAMENT

Interested in a super day of fun and fellowship?

When: Friday, November 12. Shotgun Start at 7:30 a.m. Please check-in between 6:15 -7:00.

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

Cost: \$63, which includes cart fee, green fees, buffet lunch, prizes and money for 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 JROTC 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 \$63 fee must be received by **October 29** 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.

Special Rules: Handicaps will be determined using the Calloway system. Use of a Mulligan is not allowed on Longest Putt, Closest to Pin, \$1,000 Hole in One or Longest Drive. Additional rules and prize information will be available at check-in, if necessary.

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: _____
(Please Print)

Phone No: _____

E-mail Address: _____

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 (\$63 each).



2010 Scholarship Winners Honored at May Meeting

The Chapter presented scholarships of \$1,000 each to these seven outstanding JROTC students at the May luncheon. Joining Chapter President Ron Perkins, left, are Air Force cadets Peyton Sullivan and Jaryd Kayle Burt, both from Sandra Day O'Connor High School, and Kyle Gabrielson, Cactus HS; Navy cadet Michael Meyer, Cortez HS; and Army cadets Anthony Rios-Gurrola, North HS, Feather Rain Alcantar, Alhambra HS, and Jacob Hernandez, South Mountain HS. At right is Mark Babbitt, Senior Vice President of TriWest Healthcare Alliance, which donated the scholarship presented to cadet Meyer.

Nominations Sought for Chapter Meritorious Service Awards

It is time for each of us to consider nominating deserving Chapter members for Meritorious Service Awards (MSA). Please review what each member has contributed to the chapter in the past year and if you think someone is deserving of an MSA, submit his or her name to MSA Committee Chairman Gary Fredricks no later than September 9, 2009.

Our outstanding Chapter members deserve recognition. A good way to do that is to submit a name for a Meritorious Service Award. If you submit a nominee, we will be glad to help draft the citation to accompany the award. Just submit your nomination to Gary. You can name a member, spouse or auxiliary member for this award.

The committee would like to get the nominee names as soon as possible so we can complete the task by late September for presentation at the November meeting. We need your input ASAP so we can get started in honoring our deserving members!

To submit a nomination contact Gary Fredricks:

E-mail: gfredricks@aol.com

Phone: 480-836-8419

U.S. Mail: 15403 E. Sunburst Dr.
Fountain Hills, AZ 85268

Army Flag History

The Army flag was dedicated and unfurled to the general public on 14 June 1956 at Independence Hall, Philadelphia, on the 181st anniversary of the establishment of the U.S. Army by the Continental Congress in 1775. Measuring 4 feet 4 inches by 5 feet 6 inches, the flag is of white silk with a blue embroidered central design of the original War Office seal. "United States Army" is inscribed in white letters on a scarlet scroll, with the year "1775" in blue numerals below.



New Member Initiative

It's Been a Very Good Year

*By John Ady
Membership Chairman*

The membership drive is going well with 35 members recruited since the first of the year. Our total membership now stands at 217 with 3 to 4 more in "the pipeline."

According to MOAA headquarters, we have one of the best recruiting records among all chapters, so thanks to everyone who has lent a hand. We are still encouraging all members to "Bring In A Buddy." If you have any questions about how to recruit them please call me at 480 596-0780 (home) or 480 363-8080 (cell).

You Can Help

Cell Phones for Soldiers

Donate your old cell phones and help a soldier stay in touch with family.

More than 150,000 troops are serving in combat zones overseas. Cell Phones for Soldiers, a nationwide non-profit group, is calling on us to support the troops by donating old cell phones this year. Proceeds will be used to purchase calling cards for our troops so they can stay connected with their families.

Please bring any discarded cell phones to the September 18 luncheon, and Pat Dale will collect them for this program.

Call Pat with any questions at 480-661-5204 or e-mail at patrickdale1@cox.net.

Welcome Our Chapter's Newest Members

Simon Amavisca, Capt, ANG (ACT)
And Wife Elena, Phoenix

Malina R. Botkin-Dubbs, CPT, ARNG (ACT)
And Husband Jason Dubbs, Mesa

Mark C. Daniels, COL, USAR (RET)
And Wife Lois, Chandler

Neil Dietz, CPT, ARNG (ACT)
And Wife Brigitte, Maricopa

Patricia A. Elton, Auxiliary
Scottsdale

Norman P. Erickson, CW2, ARNG (ACT)
And wife Melanie, Flagstaff

Krista K. Fawley, WO1, ARNG (ACT)
Chandler

David Foulke, Capt, ANG (ACT)
And Wife Angela, Peoria

Mike L. Hinrichsen, CPT, ARNG (ACT)
And Wife Laurel, Phoenix

Robert W. Kimberlin, LTC, ARNG (ACT)
And Wife Stacy, Scottsdale

Harold J. (Hal) Kunnen, Maj, USAF (RET)
And Wife Wendy Rogers, Tempe

Ben Lucero, CPT, ARNG (ACT)
And Wife Roseanne, Mesa

Charles S. Maves, 2LT, ARNG (ACT)
And Wife Amanda, Gilbert

Quincy J. Milan, 1LT, ARNG (ACT)
Scottsdale

Roy Miller, Col, USAF (RET)
And Wife Mary, Phoenix

Charles C. Moses, COL, USA (RET)
And Wife Sandy, Scottsdale

Brian J. Murphy, LTC, ARNG (ACT)
And Wife Marie, Chandler

Monicia A. Porter, 2LT, ARNG, (ACT)
And Husband Stan, Phoenix

Gene H. Rafanelli, COL, USA (RET)
And Wife Judie, Scottsdale

Raymond K. (Ray) Ragan III, 1LT, USAR (ACT)
And Wife, Helena, Phoenix

Gilbert J. Regan, BG, USAR (RET)
And Wife Vangie, Scottsdale

Jeff D. Robertson, 1st Lt, ANG (ACT)
And Wife Jacqueline, Gilbert

Wendy Rogers, Lt Col, USAF (RET)
And Husband Hal Kunnen, Tempe

Darren T. Ronsick, CPT, ARNG, (ACT)
And Wife Vicki, Waddell

David A. Sinks, 2LT, ARNG (ACT)
Tempe

Stephen L. Tremblay, LTC, ARNG, (ACT)
And Wife Janyl, Scottsdale

George R. Wade III, WO1, ARNG, (ACT)
And Wife Rebecca, Chandler

Masayo Walker, LtCol, USMC, (RET)
And Wife Royal, Phoenix



Personal Affairs
by *Dan Conway*
Personal Affairs Officer

As I start my fourth year in writing this column, I have looked back at my prior messages and find that they have covered quite a wide range of subjects, but for the most part they were concerned with financial planning and end of life planning. By now, I am confident that all or most of our long-term members have filled out the worksheets in "Help Your Survivors Now: A Guide to Planning Ahead" and have put together some type of financial plan. For the benefit of our new members, I will use this opportunity to introduce myself and encourage you to get started.

My Three Responsibilities

In this assignment, I have taken on three principal responsibilities. The first is to keep current on Veteran benefits and to keep our membership informed as well. The second is to encourage our members to keep their military and personal affairs current so that in the event of the death or disability of a member or spouse, our families will know what to do. The third is to provide individual assistance to members and spouses in time of need. Please consider me a resource in these areas. My phone is 480-368-1427

To start, I would like to call your attention to numerous resources available to MOAA members from MOAA National. There are numerous publications available, either as downloads or as hard copies. The MOAA website is www.moaa.org.


For those without e-mail, here is a list of the available publications:

- Aging Into Medicare
- Aging into Medicare and TRICARE For Life Checklist
- **Financial Planning Guide**
- Your Personal Financial Expert
- Focus on You: a Career Handbook for Spouses
- Marketing Yourself for a Second Career: A Guide for a Successful Transition
- Seven Steps to a Better Military Retirement


- Survivor Benefit Plan; Security for your Survivors
- SPB Made Easy: Active Duty Guide to the Survivor Benefit Plan
- Security on Call: Survivor Benefits for Guard & Reserve
- Military Entitlements: Benefits for Guard & Reserve
- **Help Your Survivors Now: A Guide to Planning Ahead**
- Survivors Checklist: First Steps for Moving On
- Auxiliary Checklist
- Turning the Corner: Surviving the Loss of a Loved One
- MOAA's Tricare Pharmacy Guide

The two publication shown in bold type are especially important. To obtain any of these publications (with or without e-mail), call MOAA at 1-800-234-6622. Have your Membership Number available, and the publications will be on the way.

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



TAPS



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

COL Richard A. Colson, USA (RET)
December 11, 1931—June 7, 2010

Lt Col Bernard N. Katz, USAF (RET)
October 9, 1919—July 24, 2010

Col Addison W. Stone, USAF (RET)
April 13, 1921—August 8, 2010

Maj Charles H. Retz, USAF (RET)
October 29, 1918—August 11, 2010

Our heartfelt condolences are extended to the families.

If you know of a member or spouse who passes away, please notify one of the Chapter Officers listed on the last page.



Legislative Update

by Gary Fredricks, Legislative Chair

As the summer in Phoenix draws to a close, we hope you all had a cool, enjoyable and productive one. As we left the legislative scene last May, there were a couple of ongoing actions and a looming deficit issue left unfinished.

No Doctor Payment Cuts, for Now

With some strong encouragement from MOAA members (over 17,000 legislative contacts), our veterans' community and others, the U.S. Congress finally acted in late June to reverse the 21% cut to Medicare/TRICARE doctor payments that took effect on June 1. However, they once again kicked the can rather than give it a permanent fix. The new deadline to implement yet another fix is now December 1.

Concurrent Receipt, Getting Closer

We came close to fixing the concurrent receipt issue, but once again lost out at the finish line. In late July Congress stripped all amendments, including the one that would have fixed concurrent receipt inequities, from the American Jobs and Closing Tax Loopholes Act during last minute negotiations to secure necessary votes in the Senate. In that the fix was initially included in the President's budget request, MOAA is working with congressional leaders toward including it as an amendment to the 2011 defense authorization bill expected to be taken up by the Senate in September.

Federal Deficit Still Looms

The really big issue remains the federal deficit. As predicted, the budget cutters from all corners are proposing numerous fixes in advance of the National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform report due out December 1, 2010. In July the Defense Business Board task force issued an interim report recommending to the Secretary of Defense a reduction of 111,000 DoD civilian workers, drastic reduction in command staffing, hiring freezes and elimination of organizational duplication in addition to laying the groundwork for potential future recommendations to cut spending on military retirement, health care, family support and other programs. These other recommendations are expected in October.

Panel Eyes Benefits Reform

In August the Senate Armed Services Committee heard testimony from the Quadrennial Defense Review Independent Panel. The good news was that the panel recommended an increase in defense spending. The bad news was that it said that "while the volunteer military has been an unqualified success, there are trends that threaten its sustainability." The panel recommends establishing a National Commission on Military Personnel similar to the 1970 Gates Commission, which proposed the all-volunteer force, to map out compensation and retirement benefit reforms.

'No Sacred Cows'

Now we have Secretary Gates announcing a \$100 billion reallocation of the defense budget over the next five years. During a resultant news conference Gates described his initiative as just the beginning, insisting every aspect of the defense budget will be reviewed to include increases in retiree health fees and stating, "There are no sacred cows." None of this should really be a surprise. Personnel costs, including retiree benefits, are always the first things to be challenged.

MOAA has been hard at work defending our rights and benefits and in correcting what has become a continuing misuse and misapplication of financial data by those intent on showing abnormal cost growth. As an example, in hearings conducted by the National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform in July, MOAA was the only military association invited to testify, and our representatives did a commendable job of making sure all the facts were correctly on the table. Our MOAA President also has written several articles to the press in response to stories published and allegations made.

What to Expect

Expect more of the same as Congress moves through its annual August recess, elections loom ahead in November and the deficit commission December report deadline nears. At the state level the legislature is out of session, but the administration is already stating that any initiatives requiring additional money will not be favorably received.



Honoring Fallen Warriors

Paul Fein, John Ady, Jim Cullison and Rob Welch compriseded the Chapter's Color Guard at the Memorial Day observance at the National Veterans Cemetery in Phoenix in May.

May Luncheon Meeting

WHEN: September 18, 2010
11:00 a.m. Social Hour, 12:00 Lunch

WHERE: McCormick Ranch Golf Club
Scottsdale, Arizona

COST: \$19 Per Person

DRESS: Business Casual

MENU Chef's Choice

PROGRAM: Eric Landau will recount his experience assisting the recovery efforts at Ground Zero when the Twin Towers fell on September 11, 2001.

Reservations must be received by 4 p.m. on Thursday, September 16. Cancellations need to be received the same day in order to receive your money back. Use the reservation form below.

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Get your prescription mail-order form at www.express-scripts.com/TRICARE or call toll-free 1.866.DOD.TMOP (1.866.363.8667) and start saving immediately.



*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/pharmacytmop.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 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 **18 September 2010**

Make check payable to: **AZ Chapter MOAA** Received No Later Than: **16 September 2010**

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

TriCare Feature Stores Health Data

A new feature on TRICARE Online now allows users to save their personal health data such as medication and allergy profiles, demographic information and a personal health summary to a Portable Document Format (PDF) file on their computer. This feature is called the Blue Button. Get more information at www.tricareonline.com.

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

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Scottsdale, AZ 85254



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