



# The Sentinel

Arizona's First Chapter

THE ARIZONA CHAPTER, P.O. Box 7644, Cave Creek, AZ 85327



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CHARTERED IN 1956 - OVER 40 YEARS OF SERVICE TO COUNTRY

DECEMBER 2002

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Before I report on the events of the last month, let me thank all of you for your "get well wishes". I am feeling much better and hope to be more on top of things this month.



The Council of Chapters meeting and AZ Chapter dinner meeting were held on October 25. We enjoyed an excellent presentation from Captain Bud Schneeweis USCG (Ret) from TROA National. All those attending found it very informative.

On November 7 I attended the Arizona Veteran's Hall of Fame Induction ceremony and luncheon. Twenty people were inducted into the Class of 2002. Three of those inducted were members of our Chapter. They were State Senator Tom Smith, Terry Tassin, and Bill Toy. Bill Thompson was inducted into the Class of 2001, which makes our Chapter well represented in the Hall of Fame. Tom, Terry, Bill and Jo Anne Thompson (representing her husband Bill, deceased) were at our November luncheon and a photo was taken which you will find in this newsletter.

The Chapter Board of Director's meeting was then held on November 8. Of prime importance at the Board meeting was preparation for the Silent Auction on December 19. Dan Conway stated that we had over \$2500 dollars worth of items donated already and that a table would be set up at the November luncheon to display several items. This was done and I'll have to admit that my eye is on the Radio Controlled Helicopter.

Our Chapter luncheon was held on November 16. Chapter Meritorious Service Medals (MSM) were awarded to eleven individuals. These were Chet Baumer, Velma Birtceil, Bernie Conway, Dan Conway, Raymond Deane, Helen Derouin accepting for her husband Norman (deceased) and Ron Green. Chuck Schluter read the citations with Jim Seidl making the presentations. After the luncheon several

Chapter members went to Ray Hitzel's house where the MSM was awarded Ray. He was unable to attend the general meeting because of health problems. Three other recipients couldn't attend but will be at the December dinner to accept their MSMs – Ron Drew, Pete Magadan, and June Bryan accepting for her husband John (deceased).

As of this writing three individuals have volunteered to form a committee and take over the role of Scholarship and JROTC awards committeemen. The three are Mike Gannon, Richard Horn and Art Parker. Chuck Schluter, assisted by Raymond Deane, will be in charge of the Chapter Meritorious Service Medals. Committee membership is being expanded to lighten the workload of each person. We are also looking for someone to assist Dan Conway with the Silent Auction since the auctions are becoming too big for one person to coordinate. Still available, the very important position of 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President. You will see several advertisements and articles other places in this newsletter explaining the importance of this position and requesting volunteers. As will be pointed out, any member, spouse or auxiliary member can fill any one of these positions. **PLEASE VOLUNTEER!**

Last but not least, it is that time of year again for Chapter membership renewal. As National TROA has said many times, Chapter members are the "Pointy End of the Spear". National may do the main coordination, but it is Chapter letters and e-mails that get issues passed. We've made some progress in the last two years with TRICARE For Life and now limited Concurrent Receipt; however, there is still a long way to go. You are urged to join us in this fight by renewing your Chapter membership. If you haven't sent in a membership renewal already, remember that you do not have to be present to win in the big raffle. Last year's Grand Prize winner had a conflict and couldn't be at the dinner. If you have not renewed – **RENEW NOW!**

Ronald R. Green  
LtCol USAF (Ret), President, Arizona Chapter of TROA

## Arizona Chapter Calendar

- Dec 7**  
Pearl Harbor Day
- Dec 16**  
Battle of the Bulge began-1944
- Dec 19**  
Dinner Meeting/  
Silent Auction
- Dec 25**  
Christmas
- Jan 2**  
BOD Meeting

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**SUPPORT OUR TROOPS — REMEMBER OUR FALLEN COMRADES — FLY YOUR FLAG**

### Scholarship

Effective immediately, or sooner if possible, there are new people running the scholarship programs for the chapter. After a grueling breakfast meeting at Bill Johnsons Big Apple Restaurant on 18 November, Michael Gannon, Richard Horn and Arthur Parker (listed here alphabetically so as not to imply favoritism) stepped forward to assume the responsibility for the total program.

Arthur Parker will be responsible for the Medal Awards program for our 16 high schools while Michael Gannon and Richard Horn are going to deal with the Scholarship Awards program. Collectively these three volunteers are the scholarship committee.

Please offer all the support you can - and - send money!!

### Membership

We now stand at 165 regular, and 50 auxiliary members. Since 1 January 2002 we have taken 77 new members into our ranks. We still have a few days left in the calendar year and we could conceivably reach 100 new members. If you know of someone who fits our member profile who is not a member, pass the information along to the membership committee. If you have an 02 behind your name on the newsletter mailing label, an Early Bird insert with a quick and easy renewal slip is included in this issue. An 03 or greater on your label means you are paid up through that year.

Name tags sporting the new MOAA logo are now available and can be ordered from the "Name Tag" person at the next meeting. Cost is \$5.00 - in advance please - and your name tag should be ready by the next meeting. No telephone orders unless you can figure some way to squeeze a \$5.00 bill through the telephone wire.

### Chapter By-Laws Changes

The previously promulgated changes to bring the name of our Chapter in line with the name change for the national TROA organization and to change the term of office for chapter officers to one year was passed unanimously at the November General Meeting. The proper wording will be incorporated into the next revision of the Chapter By-Laws. Beginning 1 January 2003 our chapter's official name will be "Arizona Chapter, Military Officers Association of America".

### New Members

Welcome to new Chapter members since the last newsletter:

- Col Richard L. Chance USAF (Ret) and wife June
- CDR Phillip D. Cogan USN (Ret) and wife Sandra
- LtCol Ronald Gawlitta USAF (Ret) and wife Judy
- CPT Warren F. Gilbertson USA (Ret) and wife Sue
- Maj Fred S. Hickernell USAF (Ret) and wife Thresa
- Mary M. Hutchinson Auxiliary
- Roma F. Melner Auxiliary
- Col Raymond G. Rottas USAF (Ret) and wife Barbara
- Renate I. Weidenfeld Auxiliary

### Chaplain's Corner

"Put away perversity from your mouth; keep corrupt talk from your lips. Let your eyes look straight ahead, fix your gaze directly before you. Make level paths for your feet and take only ways that are firm. Do not swerve to the right or the left; keep your foot from evil."  
Robert Rutherford, Chaplain

### Electronic Newsletters

If you would like to read an electronic copy of *The Sentinel* newsletter you may access the newsletter through our National TROA web site or, by clicking on the Chapter's new local web site at:  
<http://home.earthlink.net~thousersprint0/TROA/>

### Arizona Veteran's Hall of Fame

At the November luncheon meeting the four Arizona Chapter members that have been inducted into the Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame were all together and a photo opportunity presented itself.



Shown from left to right are Class of 2002 - Terry Fassin and Bill Toy. Class of 2001 Jo Ann Thompson representing her deceased husband Bill Thompson, and Class of 2002, State Senator Tom Smith.

### JROTC Drill Competition

Do you like to watch precision exhibition drill by color guards, armed drill teams and unarmed drill teams? If the answer is yes, you are invited to come out and watch many of the best Junior ROTC drill teams in the State compete in the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual "Blue & Gold" Exhibition Drill Meet being held at Apollo High School, 8045 N. 47<sup>th</sup> Ave, Glendale, AZ beginning at 9:00AM and lasting until about noon on Saturday, 7 December. Most of the schools we support with scholarships and medals will be competing. This event is FREE and a great way to see some wonderful young Americans in action. Come on out and enjoy the day!

### Mailing Addresses

Just a reminder to please keep the membership chairman and the newsletter editor updated on your current mailing address, e-mail address, and telephone number.

## Silent Auction

There is still time to go through your treasures to see what might make a nice contribution to the silent auction. Please call Dan Conway at 480-368-1427 and let him know what you would like to donate. This is what we have so far. Many more businesses are also expected to participate.

		<u>Estimated Value</u>
Raymond and Lee Dean	5.5-INCH TV	\$35
	Casio Tape Calculator	\$25
	Executive Decision Maker (8-Ball)	\$10
	55 # Draw Compound Bow	\$75
	8 foot Sabot w/sail	\$250
Dan and Joyce Conway	TROA Hat, Mark 1, Mod 1 (CLASSIC!)	\$9
	World Series Replica Ring	\$20
	Dewars Tool	\$5
	Wine with Gift Bag	\$20
	Black Hat	\$10
Frank and Velma Birtciel	Popcorn Wreath	\$12
	Cookbook, Seafood Recipes	\$20
	Cookbook, Provence Cooking	\$20
	Glassware, 6 Items	\$12
	Peanut Butter Fudge	\$10
	Christmas Stockings, 4 Items	\$20
Irene Doto	Wire Container, Cinnamon-Applesauce	\$10
	Kaiser Porcelain Collector Plates	\$80
Doug Gray	Video, "The Spirit of the Game, Golf"	\$15
Bernie and Judy Conway	Jalepeno Jelly	\$20
Terry Tassin	Radio Control Model Helicopter	\$300
Jim Seidl	Christmas Tree Ornaments from Cairo	\$60
Chuck Schluter	TROA CLASSIC Merchandise	\$80
Ron and Bette Green	Leather Billfold	\$50
	Garden Tools	\$50
	Golf Balls, 2 dozen	\$30
	Sake Set	\$10
Lexus (W. Region)	Lexus Shirts	\$200
Scottsdale Laminating	Jack Bazel Prints (set of 4)	\$200
Scottsdale Laminating	3 Jack Bazel Prints	\$200
David Drake, Photographer	2 Photos	\$100
Arizona Rattlers	Game Ticket Certificate, 4 tickets	\$120
Arizona Cardinals	Autographed Football, Thomas Jones	\$60
Arizona Diamondbacks	Autographed Photo, Danny Bautista	\$30
Cellular One Ice Den	Autographed Photo, Brian Boucher	\$30
Continental Golf Course	Foursome Round of Golf W/carts	\$140
Gainey Ranch Golf Course	Foursome Round of Golf	\$140
Heard Museum	4 Adult Admissions	\$28
Out of Africa	6 Adult Admissions	\$90
Phoenix Mercury	Game Ticket Certificate, 4 tickets	\$80
Taliesin West	2 Adult Admissions	<u>\$90</u>
	TOTAL	<u>\$2,566</u>

### In My Opinion

When the Chapter dues bill arrives, we all have to make the decision as to whether or not Chapter membership is worth the dues. Some of us think that it is.

We first look at the purposes of the Chapter, and determine if our Chapter is meeting those purposes which are as follows:

The purposes of the Chapter shall be to promote the purposes and objectives of the Retired Officers Association; stimulate love of our country and the flag; defend the honor, integrity, and supremacy of our National Government and the Constitution of the United States; advocate military forces adequate to the defense of our country; foster fraternal relations among retired, active, and former officers of the uniformed Services and their National Guard or reserve components; protect the rights and interests of active duty, retired, reserve, and National Guard personnel of the uniformed Services and their dependents and survivors; provide useful services for members and their dependents and survivors; and serve the community and the nation.

Being a member of National TROA can support most of these objectives. Those of us who attend our monthly meetings know that the National purposes can be supported at a higher level by belonging to a Chapter. For example, the National legislative efforts would not be nearly as effective without the Chapter support. It wasn't National sending in 8,000 emails an hour to get TRICARE For Life passed - it was the Chapter members who did that. It isn't National fostering fraternal relations among retired, active, and former officers of the uniformed Services and their National Guard or reserve components - it is at the Chapter level where this is done. It isn't National which keeps you informed on local issues - it is at the Chapter level where this is done.

If you haven't attended one of our monthly meetings, please do so before dropping your Chapter membership. We believe that you will be pleased. Daniel M. Conway

### Early Bird Membership Drive and Big Prize Raffle

????? Sign me up for membership for 2003 **and** include me in the raffle \$ \_\_\_\_\_

[Dues are \$20.00 for Full Member and \$10.00 Auxiliary, so \$40.00 or \$30.00 respectively]

????? **Only** sign me up for 2003 membership \$ \_\_\_\_\_

[Dues are \$20.00 for Full Member and \$10.00 Auxiliary, so \$20.00 and \$10.00 respectively]

????? I am a multi-year member and paid up through or past 2003, but want to

participate in the raffle (\$20.00) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

????? I want to purchase \_\_\_\_\_ extra tickets at \$10.00 each \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total remitted** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

????? I am already a multi-year member past year 2002 and do not want to participate in the raffle \_\_\_\_\_.

**Please fill out the following and return as we are trying to expand our database to allow printing Anniversaries and Birthdays in *The Sentinel* along with other items of general interest.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Birth date \_\_\_\_\_  
(mm / dd only)

Spouse Name \_\_\_\_\_ Birth date \_\_\_\_\_  
(mm / dd only)

Wedding Anniversary Date \_\_\_\_\_

Hobbies \_\_\_\_\_

Passions \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Put your check in the mail right now, made out to "AZ Chapter TROA", annotated to show "For 2003 Dues and Raffle", and ship the whole thing off to:**

**Bill Johnson, 13410 N. 12<sup>th</sup> Place, Phoenix, AZ 85022-4944**

**Profit (the other half) will go for Chapter administration and the Scholarship fund.**

**Well...What are you waiting for??**



## Chapter Meritorious Service Medals (MSM)

At the luncheon meeting on 16 November, Chapter MSMs were awarded to eleven members of the Arizona Chapter for sustained superior service to the Chapter and it's members.



Recipients were, Norman Derouin (deceased) - accepting for Norman was his widow Helen, Dan Conway, Raymond Deane, Chet Baumer, Ron Green, Velma Birtciel, and Bernie Conway. Due to health problems Ray Hitzel is not shown in the photo and his medal was presented at his home. Also not shown in the photo are Jack Bryan (deceased), Ron Drew, and Pete Magadan who will have their medals presented at the December meeting.

## Reward

We have all heard that Reward is proportional to Effort. I believe that we have all also experienced that Reward is proportional to Effort. We need a few members to step forward with a Little Effort, which is guaranteed to produce Great Rewards.

The situation which the Chapter is facing is that Raymond Deane has submitted his resignation from the positions he holds with the Chapter to be effective December 31, 2002. We need a few good men or a few good women to step forward to fill these positions.

Arthur Parker, Richard Horn, and Mike Gannon have already stepped forward to take over the Scholarship and JROTC Medal responsibilities. This leaves openings for the 1<sup>st</sup> vice president and membership committee positions.

There isn't too much work in being the 1<sup>st</sup> vice president other than being ready to advance to the position of president after the next election, which means taking office as of January 1, 2004. That will give you lots of time to be ready to step up. With the support of the committee chairman, the office of president is not really that onerous. Lets say Moderate Effort for one year, More Effort for one year and Great Rewards for two years.

The membership committee has several duties including sending letters to new TROA National members in our service area, maintaining contact with new members, keeping a roster and mailing list, notifying National of

deaths (TAPS), and ordering name tags. These duties could be divided up among several members. Raymond has these tasks really under control, so you won't be faced with starting over. For these positions, lets say Moderate consistent Effort and Great Rewards.

Who is eligible to serve? The Chapter bylaws provide for regular members, auxiliary members and spouses of regular members to serve as officers and committee chairmen (or chairwomen to be politically correct). Computer capability is very important in making the duties manageable.

Who should serve? Reward seekers. Go back to the first paragraph. All of us who are members believe in the goals of TROA and the Chapter efforts in attaining these goals. Those of you who are or have been officers and committee chairmen know the rewards that come from these efforts. Please think it over and give Ron Green or Chuck Schluter a call. If you get a call asking you to consider one of these positions, please give it a fair evaluation. Dan Conway

## Promotion, Back Pay for Navy & Marine WWII POWs

The Floyd D. Spence National Defense Authorization Act of 2001 directed the Department of the Navy to award back pay and promotions to eligible sailors and Marines who were prisoners of war during WWII. The measure also authorizes payment to the surviving spouse of the deceased former member. Only Navy and Marine Corps POWs during WWII, Dec. 7, 1941 to Dec. 31, 1946, or surviving spouse are entitled to the back pay. If the former member or surviving spouse is no longer living, by law no claim will be paid. It does not include Wake Island, Cavite, or Guam civilians. Nor does it include Army, Army Air Corps, or Merchant Marine civilians.

The law specifically states that back pay will be determined using the amount the member would have been paid. This calculation is at the WWII pay rates and is not adjusted for inflation.

Navy POW applications should be sent to:

**Navy** Personnel Command, 5720 Integrity Drive, PERS-62W, Millington, TN 38055-6210; (901) 874-4311 or (800) 762-8567.

**Marine** POWs should send their application to:

Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps, 2 Navy Annex, RFL-F7, Washington, DC 20380-1775; (703) 614-4981 or (866) 472-7139.

The process of determining promotion eligibility and the computation of the amount to be paid will require individually researching each request, including obtaining and reviewing the member's archived personnel and pay records.

Applicants should provide what information they have available from personal files. Applicants should not request information from the National Personnel Records Center to complete the application, as that will only delay processing when the Navy tries to locate the veteran's personnel record for verification.

DAV Magazine, March/April 2002

### **Call for Website Suggestions and Content**

Embracing today's technology is vital to attracting today's active duty personnel to our rosters. I encourage all of our web-enabled members--especially Board members--to participate in the evolution of our website. This is the Arizona Chapter's portal into cyberspace. This is a powerful medium with global reach yet incredibly efficient as most military members and families have ready access. The only constraint to the functionality and usefulness of this medium is our imagination and action. Please look and imagine. Great ideas captured in plain text and low-resolution digital photos are all I need. Updating is fast and easy with well-organized content. If you have some thoughts, comments, or suggestions on how our web site may be improved, please contact Tom Houser at [thomas.houser@ins.com](mailto:thomas.houser@ins.com), or 480-595-2041 Tom Houser, Web Master

### **Identity Theft Victim Action**

If you become a victim of identity theft, there are ways to recover your good credit rating. First, report the identity theft to Social Security's Fraud Hotline at 1-800-269-0271. Then, report it to the Federal Trade Commission's ID Theft Hotline, 1-877-IDTHEFT. Contact the three major credit bureaus, tell them you're an identity theft victim and ask them to place a fraud alert on your records. The credit bureaus are:

- Equifax: 1-800-525-6285 or [www.equifax.com](http://www.equifax.com)
- Trans Union: 1-800-680-7289 or [www.tuc.com](http://www.tuc.com)
- Experian: 1-888-397-3742 or [www.experian.com](http://www.experian.com)

Write your creditors and ask them to contact you before opening any new accounts in your name or changing existing accounts or credit limits. For more information on identity theft, visit the Social Security identity theft page at <http://www.ssa.gov/pubs/idtheft.htm>. It is important to be aware of the threat of identity theft. For example, some Courts are considering or may have put recorded documents on line to make them accessible through the Internet. This could provide anyone unlimited and uncontrolled access to recorded documents to steal another person's identity.

[Source: NAUS Leg Up for July 26, 2002]

### **Space-A On Medevac Planes**

Banned since November 2001, Space Available travel aboard C-9 medical evacuation aircraft has been re-authorized. Due to post-September 11 concerns, Space-A flights aboard medical evacuation planes marked with a Red Cross had been restricted. According to the Geneva Convention, only patients and other specified noncombatants can fly in aircraft marked with the Red Cross insignia. To gain more versatility in aircraft use, the Air Force removed the red crosses from the tails of all but one of its C-9 fleet, allowing the aircraft to be used as general-purpose transports. Any C-9 without the Red Cross can still be designated as a medical flight and receive the protection afforded by the Geneva Convention. The Air Force routinely flies C-9s from Germany, Spain, Italy, Sicily, Crete and England. For more information visit:

<https://amcpublic.scott.af.mil/SPACEA/spacea.htm> .  
[Source: Armed Forces News Issue: Fri, June 14, 2002]

### **MEDICARE Part B Payment Assistance**

More than 16 million people with low incomes who may need help paying their Medicare Part B (medical insurance) premiums and other medical costs can expect a letter in the mail telling them how to qualify for the Medicare Savings Programs. People with income and assets below certain limits can save as much as \$600 a year as explained in the letter to be sent jointly by Social Security and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. The letter gives the phone numbers of the state agencies people can contact to see if they qualify. The mailings are staggered, and will be completed by December 21, 2002. For more information about the Medicare Savings Programs, visit the Medicare site [www.cms.hhs.gov](http://www.cms.hhs.gov) [Source: NAUS Update for 21 June 2002]

### **Worldwide Lodging Information Available**

The Retiree Activities Office (RAO) at Luke AFB has information on all CONUS military installations that are in operation. The office can provide you with the latest information on lodging locations and availability. For more information call 623-856-3923/6827, or stop by the RAO, room 1057, Bldg. 1150. The office is open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday through Friday. For worldwide lodging at military installations call the following numbers. Air Force-1-888-235-6343 ([www-r.afsv.af.mil](http://www-r.afsv.af.mil)). Army-1-800-462-7691 ([www.offdutytravel.com](http://www.offdutytravel.com)). Navy-1-800-628-9466 ([www.navy-nex.com](http://www.navy-nex.com)). [RAN Luke AFB Oct 2002]

### **THEMS**

The TRICARE Help E-mail Service (THEMS) is where to go for quick answers to TRICARE questions. Clinical issues should be referred to your primary care provider. The US Army Medical Command in San Antonio, Texas operates the service. Their e-mail address is: [Tricare\\_help@amedd.army.mil](mailto:Tricare_help@amedd.army.mil).

There is also a THEMS newsletter available online at: <ftp://thems:newsletter@139.232.17.15/>  
[Source: ROA letter Volume 1, 12 Nov 2002]

### **Pearl Harbor Day**

The Arizona Department of Veterans' Services and the Pearl Harbor Survivors Association cordially invite you to attend the 61st Commemorative Service for Pearl Harbor Day on Saturday, December 7, 2002 at the Wesley Bolin Memorial Plaza, 1700 W. Washington, Phoenix. The program will begin promptly at 10:55 a.m. Dan Conway, on behalf of the Arizona Council of Chapters of TROA, will present a wreath. If you would like to be a part of the presentation, please call Dan at 480-368-1427. The uniform will be Blue Blazer, White Shirt, tie, and TROA Cap if you have one. Dan Conway

### **Concurrent Receipt Provision "Disappointing" But Establishes Important Beachhead For Future**

Congress has passed the FY 2003 National Defense Authorization Act, closing this year's struggle by military and veterans' associations to change a century-old law that makes disabled retirees forfeit earned retired pay for disability compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs

The Act establishes a new form of "special compensation"

for certain disabled retirees who have at least 20 years of active duty and certain kinds of combat or operations related disabilities. The amount of special compensation will equal the amount of retired pay offset caused by the qualifying disability.

Any qualifying retiree with a disability rating of 10% or higher that is associated with award of a Purple Heart will be eligible for the new special compensation. Another, more complicated, eligibility rule covers retirees awarded ratings of 60% or higher for other disabilities attributable to combat situations, combat-oriented training, hazardous duty (e.g., flight or parachute duty), or instrumentalities of war (e.g., accidents involving combat vehicles, ordnance, gases, etc).

The Secretary of Defense is tasked with prescribing procedures for eligible retirees to apply for this special compensation, with payments expected to start in May 2003 (six months after enactment of the law).

TROA and many other veterans' organizations are deeply disappointed at not having been able to win broader provisions more in line with those previously endorsed by

**TAPS**

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

Captain Albert W. "Bud" Newhall US Navy Retired  
June 25, 1917 - October 29, 2002

He is survived by his wife Penny. Captain Newhall served as Chapter President 1992 - 1993.

Our heart felt condolences are extended to the family.

If you know of any member or member's spouse who enters the hospital or passes away, please notify one of the Chapter Officers.

**December Dinner Meeting**

**WHEN:** 19 December 2002  
6:30PM Social Hour — 7:00PM Dinner

**WHERE:** Best Western Executive Park Hotel  
1100 N. Central Avenue  
Phoenix, Arizona

**COST:** \$19.00 Per Person

**MENU:** Fresh Green Salad  
Prime Rib Au Jus  
Baked Potato with Sour Cream & Chives  
Green Bean Almondine  
Apple Pie Ala Mode  
Warm Rolls with Butter  
Coffee & Iced Tea

**PROGRAM:** Silent Auction and Prize Raffle.

Please make your reservations early and send your check to Bill Johnson using the Meal/Meeting Reservation Form in this newsletter.  
Jim Seidl, Programs

the House and Senate. But, TROA agrees with Armed Services Committee leaders that the provision developed is preferable to the alternative of getting no defense bill this year, and no concurrent receipt relief at all.

"This falls well short of what TROA believes is fair, and still leaves many, many thousands of disabled retirees having to pay for their own disability compensation," said TROA President, VADM Norb Ryan, Jr. USN (Ret). "We intend to track implementation of the new plan closely to ensure the rules are interpreted reasonably, and certainly will continue the fight to expand eligibility."

"For more than a century, the law has unfairly forced disabled retirees to fund their own disability compensation from their earned retired pay," said Ryan. "Thanks to persistent efforts by our concurrent receipt champions, Congressman Mike Bilirakis (R-Fl.) and Senator Harry Reid (D-NV), and by Armed Services Committee leaders Senators Carl Levin (D-MI) and John Warner (R-VA), and

**CHAPTER FINANCIAL PARTICIPATION**

If you would like to make a donation to one or more of the AZ Chapter Funds or renew your chapter membership, include your check identified as the appropriate fund and mail to: Bill Johnson, 13410 N. 12th Place, Phoenix, AZ 85022-4944.

Membership Renewal: \$ 20 Full Member: \_\_\_\_\_ \$10 Auxiliary Member: \_\_\_\_\_

50th Anniversary Fund: \$ \_\_\_\_\_, General Fund: \$ \_\_\_\_\_, Scholarship Fund: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\* It is OK to identify me as a donor in the next newsletter. YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

Name Full Member: \_\_\_\_\_ Auxiliary Member: \_\_\_\_\_

**MEAL/MEETING RESERVATION FORM**

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

Enclosed is my check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (**\$19.00** per person) for **19 December 2002**

Make check payable to: AZ Chapter TROA **No Later Than: 13 December 2002**

Send to Bill Johnson, 13410 N. 12th Place, Phoenix, AZ 85022-4944. Phone 602-689-5379

Congressmen Bob Stump (R-AZ), Duncan Hunter (R-CA), and Ike Skelton (D-MO), we've established a key beachhead for future action. Now, we have finally begun to address the inequity in a substantive way." TROA News Release 13 Nov 02

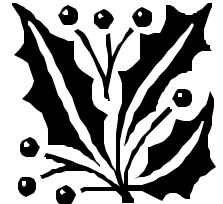
# HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

As you know, our membership community changes regularly. New members join our ranks monthly. Our new chapter mates may not have received all the information that the more senior members have been receiving through *The Sentinel* and other sources. To that end there may sometimes seem to be repeat information about various subjects of interest to retirees and active duty personnel. We have to make every attempt to cover the entire spectrum of benefits and entitlements to our entire readership, so please bear with us.

Because this will be the last edition of *The Sentinel* for 2002, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a joyous, healthy and prosperous holiday season.

**Terry Tassin, Editor**

<b>The Arizona Chapter TROA - 2002 Officers and Committee Chairmen</b>	
President, LtCol Ron Green, USAF	480-595-8693
1st Vice President, LtCol Raymond Deane, USAF	623-939-8517
2nd Vice President, LT Jim Seidl, USCG	602-841-6026
3rd Vice President, LtCol Chet Baumer, USAF	623-582-8595
Secretary, LCDR Terry Tassin, USN	623-931-1546
Treasurer, Maj Bill Johnson, USAF	602-689-5379
Past President, Col Charles Schluter, USA	480-563-8480
<b>Appointed Directors at Large / Committee Chairmen</b>	
Membership, LtCol Raymond Deane, USAF	623-939-8517
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