

Minutes of the January General Meeting, Arizona Chapter TROA.....18 January 2003

A Luncheon Meeting of the General Membership was held on 18 January 2003 at the McCormick Ranch Golf Club. President **Ron Green** called the meeting to order at 12:00PM. **Robert Rutherford** gave the Invocation and **Ron Green** led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members Present: Officers, General Members, and Guests. Total people present: **62**. New members and guests were introduced

Minutes of the last General meeting were read and approved.

Treasurer's Report was made by **Bill Johnson**:

Checking account	= \$ 3428.30
Anniversary account	= \$ 651.02
Scholarship account	= \$10428.67
ACCOUNTS TOTAL	= \$14507.99

Lunch was served and enjoyed by all.

Old Business included reports from various committee chairmen:

Legislative (Dan Conway) - stated that during the year 2003, MOAA would be trying to get an improved version of the Survivor Benefit Plan through Congress. Efforts will be made to increase SBP from 35% to 55%.

Mr. Conway advised that Patrick F. Chorpenning, AZ Director of Veterans Services, would address the new legislature with an overview of issues facing Arizona Veterans at the first session with the new legislature on January 27th at 1:30 p.m. in House Hearing Room 5. Veterans were asked to attend this session wearing their organizational hats. One of the Director's main focuses this legislative session will be to emphasize the veteran community as an economic development issue.

Membership (Ron Green) - reported that the chapter has a total of 134 paid members. Seventy-nine (79) of last year's members have not renewed their membership to date.

Guest Speaker - The president introduced the honored speaker, Mr. James W. Soudriette, who spoke on "My Views on Home Security". During his presentation he covered the Asian influence in U. S. business today, especially in the electronics area. As a member of FEMA, Mr. Soudriette discussed FEMA natural disaster scenarios and their possible consequences. President Ron Green presented a TROA flag desk set to the speaker as a memento of his presentation to the members of the Chapter.

New Business included a **Programs Report** by **Jim Seidl** in which he told members the next general meeting, on 20 February, would be a Honey Mustard Chicken dinner meeting where the guest speaker will be CWO Jody Reidenhour of the AZ National Guard who will speak on her National Guard Administrative Duties.

AZ Council of Chapters (Dan Conway) – Mr. Conway briefed the membership on the AZ Council of Chapters MOAA Convention. Plans call for the convention to run from 9 to 11 November 2003 in Sedona, AZ, at the Radisson Resort. Anticipated cost for the whole package including golf, rooms, meals and registration should be about \$800 per couple.

Mr. Conway stated a request has been received by each state to provide \$10,000 for a Bob Hope Tribute to be located in San Diego, in honor of Mr. Hope's service to veterans through all conflicts including and since WWII. Each veteran's organization in the state will solicit the support of their members, and Chapter donations will be channeled through the Arizona Veterans Donation Fund managed by the Unified Arizona Veterans, Inc. The Arizona Chapter members were asked to donate at least \$5 each to this worthy cause.

Mr. Conway encouraged all veterans to fill out and return the Arizona Veteran's Registry form that will be included in the February newsletter.

Finally, Mr. Conway noted that the "Voices Take Flight" fundraiser event to support the ALS Association is scheduled for 1 March.

TRICARE Information Theft (Ron Green) - reported on the recent TRICARE record thefts in Phoenix. It is believed that all the records were for people under 65 years of age, but he cautioned everybody to watch their charge accounts for irregular charges.

The **Chapter 50/50 raffle** was held with \$75 being paid out and \$76 entered into the Scholarship account. Winners were: Velma Birtciel, Betty Baumer, Pete Magadan, Gerald Lovett, and Vicky Monroe.

BOB RUTHERFORD gave the Benediction.

Motion to adjourn was made and seconded. The meeting adjourned at 2:45PM.

Submitted: Terry Tassin, Chapter Secretary