



# 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

JANUARY 2003

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

It does not seem possible that I am writing the last President's Message for this year. I think I'm ready for May! Maybe I'll catch up in 2003.

The Chapter dinner and Silent Auction for December turned out to be a huge success. Over \$2000 was raised for the scholarship fund. Those that couldn't make it missed out on bidding on some great items. As usual we had a very good time with the competitive bidding process. I think that this is the high point of the year!



Many of you know that I am currently subbing as the membership chairman. I have reviewed the numbers and found that 54% have renewed or are multi year members for the year 2003 or beyond. This means that approximately 98 members are still to renew their chapter membership. Since a new Congress takes office shortly after the New Year, your voice as an MOAA member will be needed to express your opinion on important matters at hand. If you have a 02 after your name on the newsletter label, I strongly urge you to renew your membership today.

If you think I have made an error, please let me know so that I can correct the number - call me at (480) 595-8693. When it comes to Congressional matters, remember that the squeaky wheel is the one that gets the grease. If we don't get involved by sending letters or E-mails, we will lose those issues that we have recently gained ground on and military members (active and retired) will not receive the fair treatment they deserve.

As of this writing, we are still looking for volunteers for the positions of 1st Vice President and Membership Chairman. If you have any questions on what these positions entail, please refer to your December Sentinel or give me a call at (480) 595-8693. If you are the least bit interested, please give me a call so that we can at least discuss it. Also, if you would like to serve on the membership

committee but are not interested in the chairman position, call me so that we can discuss that. **PLEASE VOLUNTEER-YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!**

You will receive this January edition of the Sentinel just after the New Year begins and the busy Holiday Season comes to a close. I want to express my wish that you all had a great holiday season and wish each and every one of you - **"A Very Happy New Year!"**

God Bless America and God Bless Each of You.

## Ronald R. Green

*LtCol USAF (Ret), President, Arizona Chapter, MOAA*

## Scholarship Committee

Most of you are aware that our scholarship program is concentrated in two areas of recognition. We work with 16 local area high school JROTC units to provide recognition to students who have shown exceptional leadership qualities. At last check, our chapter supports twice the number of schools of either of the other two chapters in the valley. That support would not be possible without the strong backing of our members. This past year we awarded 15 JROTC medals to 3rd year students in our area high schools.

The second portion of the program offers cash scholarships to graduating seniors who are planning to go on to higher education. We just completed a very successful year in the High School Scholastic Recognition business. We awarded \$1000 scholarships to two deserving students from area high schools.

Now, the Scholarship Committee would like to suggest a way to give to our high school youth in the year 2003. Arizona allows tax payers to give up to \$250 per family to a school activity of your choosing. You might consider making your donation to one of our high school JROTC units for their use in sending students to youth leadership conferences and a wealth of other activities. Your donation to that activity becomes a credit against your Arizona State tax. Since Arizona seems to be having some fiscal trouble, discretion suggests you

## *Arizona Chapter Calendar*

Jan 2
BOD Meeting
Jan 8
Operation Cedar Falls 1967
Jan 17
Operation Desert Storm 1991
Jan 18
Luncheon Meeting
Jan 20
Battle of Khe Sanh 1968
Jan 27
Vietnam Peace Accord Signed 1973
Jan 30
Tet Offensive 1968

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Officers / Staff

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

hold off on this donation for a few months, but work it into your planning. When you are ready, we can provide you with the names and addresses of our JROTC units.

## Membership

As of the change of the year we had 166 members of which 50 were Auxiliary members. That's the good news. The bad news is that 98 of our 2002 members have not yet renewed for the year 2003. Undoubtedly, some of those members have simply forgotten or overlooked the fact that dues are now payable. We won't take any drastic action, like drumming you out of the corps, for 30 days anyway. The Chapter Bylaws stipulate that a member is delinquent if dues are not paid by 60 days after due (1 March) and the individual will be dropped from the rolls after 90 days (1 April). We do not want to drop anyone! But, we would like for everyone to square their account. How do you know if your dues are not paid? Check the mailing label and if it says 02 after your name—you are delinquent! If you have an 02 behind your name on the newsletter mailing label, 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. We have been known to make the occasional mistake, and if you feel we have made a mistake in your status—call. The first place to call is the Treasurer—Bill Johnson. If he says he got your check we will correct the mistake.

If you know of someone who is not a member but fits our member profile, pass the information along to the membership chairman.

## Chapter Name Change

Just a reminder that as of 1 January our chapter is officially The Arizona Chapter, Military Officers Association of America (MOAA). The masthead on the newsletter will not change until the September issue.

## New MOAA Name Tags

Many people ordered new nametags sporting the new MOAA logo at the December dinner. If you would like a new Name Tag, order forms will be available at each Chapter meeting. It is requested that you pay for them (\$5) when ordering so if something prevents you from attending the next meeting, they can be mailed to you.

## Nautical Trivia

**Bamboozle.** In today's Navy, when you intentionally deceive someone, usually as a joke, you are said to have bamboozled them. The word was used in the days of sail also, but the intent was not hilarity. Bamboozle meant to deceive a passing vessel as to your ship's origin or nationality by flying an ensign other than your own -- a common practice of pirates.

**Manning the Rails.** This custom evolved from the centuries old practice of "manning the yards." Men aboard

\*\*\*\*\*  
★ **New Members** ★  
★ Welcome to new Chapter members since the last newsletter: ★  
★ Major John S. Poulson USAF (Ret) and wife Elizabeth ★  
★  
\*\*\*\*\*

## Chaplain's Corner

"Jesus, still lead on, till our rest be won; and although the way be cheerless, we will follow, calm and fearless. Guide us by thy hand to our fatherland. We are looking forward to the day of thy birth, for one day we know you will return in person to so guide us, in thy name. Amen"

**Robert Rutherford, Chaplain**

sailing ships stood evenly spaced on all the yards and gave three cheers to honor a distinguished person. Now men and women are stationed along the rails of a ship when honors are rendered to the President, the heads of a foreign state, or a member of a reigning royal family. Men and women so stationed do not salute. Navy ships will often man the rails when entering a port, or when returning to the ship's homeport at the end of a deployment.

## Meritorious Service Medals

At the Christmas dinner meeting on 19 December, three members of the Arizona Chapter were awarded the Arizona Chapter Meritorious Service Medal for sustained superior service to the Chapter and its members. This is an annual affair, and we look forward to next year when a new group (with the possibility of some repeats) is selected for this honor. Start your list of people you think deserve extra credit now, and step forward next October with nominations.



\*\*\*\*\*

President Ron Green presented medals to Ron Drew, Pete Magadan, and Jack Bryan (deceased). Accepting for Pete and Jack were wives Chris Magadan and June Bryan.

## Silent Auction

Thanks to our members and corporate donors, the Silent Auction was a great success bringing in over \$2,000 in sales, \$100 in member donations, and a donation of \$1,500 from Lexus Western Region; a total of over \$3,600. The following is a list of donors. Be sure to thank our member donors, and be sure to remember our corporate donors during the coming year. Also, special thanks are due Velma Birtciel and Dolly Bleick for helping to set up.



Members enjoying the ambiance of the dinner & auction.

#### Member Contributors

Aino Bauder	Bernie and Judy Conway
Bill and Angela Toy	Bob and Margo Rutherford
Chet and Betty Baumer	Dan and Joyce Conway
Dolly Bleick	Doug Gray
Frank and Velma Birtciel	Irene Doto
Jim and Toni Seidl	Kathryn Good
Paul and Renate Alix	Raymond and Lee Deane
Richard and Nancy Horn	Ron and Bette Green
Terry and Frances Tassin	

#### Business Contributors

Arizona Cardinals	Arizona Diamondbacks
Arizona Rattlers	Bank One NA
Continental Golf Course	Coulter Cadillac
David Drake, Photographer	Executive Park Hotel
Gainey Ranch Golf Course	Heard Museum
Lexus Western Region	Lund Cadillac
Marie Callender's	Out of Africa Wildlife Park
Phoenix Coyotes	Phoenix Mercury
Phoenix Suns	Pinnacle Infiniti
P. F. Chang's	Scottsdale Laminating
Stonecreek Golf Course	Taliesin West
Harkins Theaters	

#### Early Bird Raffle Winners

1<sup>st</sup> Prize: Paul Alix \$185  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: Charles Finch \$92.50  
 3<sup>rd</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> Prizes: Ron Green, Mike Gannon, Bill McCollum, George Love, Gerald Lovett, and Theron Taylor.

#### **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**

#### **Newsletter Advertising**

If you or a business/organization known to you wishes to place an ad in *The Sentinel* please contact the Editor – Terry Tassin for details. Advertisements will be priced according to size in multiples that approximate standard business card dimensions. Proceeds from advertisements will help defray the costs of preparing the newsletter. Ad costs are:

<b>Size</b>	<b>Annual</b>	<b>Quarterly</b>	<b>Impact Ad</b>
Single Card	\$80	\$25	\$15
Double Card	\$160	\$50	\$30
Quadruple Card	\$320	\$100	\$60

#### **VA Agent Orange Claims Retroactive**

A federal appeals court in San Francisco has ruled that Vietnam vets who contracted prostate cancer and diabetes related to Agent Orange exposure should receive retroactive disability benefits dated to the time they first filed a claim with the VA. The ruling of the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals sets a legal precedent that could extend to a wide range of illnesses associated with herbicides. The appeals court decision let stand a lower court ruling that held the VA incorrectly interpreted regulations to deny retroactive payments to vets who filed claims after early 1994.

A December 1999 U.S. District Court ruling held that all Vietnam veteran prostate cancer claimants and their survivors are entitled to retroactive benefits to the date of their first filing of their claim for service connection or survivor's benefits (as long as the prostate claim was not final before 25 SEP 1985). Also upheld by the appeals court was a provision in a 2000 ruling by U.S. District Judge Thelton Henderson, ordering the VA to provide retroactive payments to the estates of veterans who died before the VA paid the money they were owed. In addition to the prostate cancer, the appeals ruling also affects veterans who filed for adult-onset, or Type 2, diabetes which was added to the list in 2000. The VA still has the right to further appeal this decision. [Source: DAV Magazine May/JUN 2002]

#### **Scholarship Fund**

One person's generous gift will help strengthen America's future through supporting the education of our youth. Since the last newsletter generous Scholarship Fund donations have been received from **William Toy** and **Domenic Varricchio**

Our thanks are offered to contributors on behalf of all future beneficiaries of the Scholarship Fund.

### 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 Military Officers Association of America (MOAA); 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 MOAA 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**

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### Membership Renewal

- Sign me up for AZ Chapter, MOAA membership for 2003 \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
[Dues are \$20.00 for Full Member and \$10.00 Auxiliary]

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

**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)

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

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Hobbies \_\_\_\_\_

Passions \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

**Well...What are you waiting for—renew now!**

## Electronic Newsletters

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

## 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.

### TAPS

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

**Colonel John Tucker USAF Retired**

January 16, 1920 - October 30, 2002

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.

## January Luncheon Meeting

WHEN: 18 January 2003  
 11:30AM Social Period  
 12:00 Noon Lunch

WHERE: McCormick Ranch Golf Club  
 7505 McCormick Parkway  
 Scottsdale, Arizona

COST: \$14.00 Per Person  
 MENU: Garden Salad  
 Veal Parmesan  
 Fettucini  
 Kahlua Mousse  
 Warm Rolls with Butter  
 Coffee & Iced Tea

PROGRAM: **Mr. Jim Sourbriette will talk on—"My View of Home Security"**

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

**Jim Seidl, Programs**



**RON DREW**

REALTOR/PROPERTY MANAGER  
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## 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 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (\$14.00 per person) for **18 January 2003**

Make check payable to: AZ Chapter MOAA      **No Later Than: 13 January 2003**

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

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Access Arizona Chapter's Internet Web Site at: <http://home.earthlink.net/~thousersprint0/TROA/>

Arizona Chapter  
Military Officers Association of America  
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