



The Sentinel

Arizona's First Chapter



The Arizona Chapter, 15403 E. Sunburst Drive, Fountain Hills, Arizona 85268

FEBRUARY 2004

CHARTERED IN 1956 - OVER 47 YEARS OF SERVICE TO COUNTRY

PAGE 1



President's Message

In January we held the first Chapter General Membership meeting for 2004 at McCormick Ranch.

For those of you who couldn't join us, you missed another excellent luncheon and an opportunity to socialize a bit with old and new friends. The January meeting marked the installation of a new Chapter Board of Directors (BOD). Joining me on the BOD are Paul Fein - 1st VP; Tom Houser - 2nd VP; Frank Birtciel - 3rd VP; Terry Tassin - Secretary; Bill Johnson - Treasurer; and Ron Green - Past President. We are committed to serve your interests as best as we know them, to keep you informed on developing legislative issues and actions and to continue to make the Chapter an enjoyable experience for its members.

Along those lines, at the January BOD meeting, the board unanimously chose a new location for our bimonthly dinner General Membership meetings. We are scheduling these meetings for alternate 3rd Thursdays of the month at the Sunshine Hotel beginning with 19 February. For those of you who made it to the December meeting at the Sunshine Hotel, we hope you agree that the facility, food and service were all first class. The location is fairly central to our diversely located Chapter members and the price is right. Please make reservations and come join us on 19 February. Besides the camaraderie you will enjoy, the speaker for the evening has a timely and fascinating topic to share with us.

If you haven't already done so, please get out your January copy of the Military Officer Magazine, remove the four form letters

addressed to the chairmen of the House and Senate Budget and Armed Services Committees, sign them, stamp them and mail them. There is still a little time left before the expected budget actions in March. Once again highlighting the inequity of the Survival Benefit Plan annuity cut at age 62 for our military widows is well worth the little time and effort it will take you to do so. If enough of us do this, it will work.

Finally, if you haven't already done so, please renew your Chapter membership for 2004. At last count we had already welcomed several new members for 2004, but also still had a significant number of the membership that had not yet renewed. I know it is a pain to remember to do these types of administrative chores, so we will continue to follow-up with reminders and queries. We have every intention of earning every nickel of your dues. If you don't think we are, we want to know that too. How else can we continue to get better?

— Gary Fredricks

Membership Renewal

If you have an *03 behind your name on the newsletter mailing label, we are looking for your renewal. Please use the renewal form included in this Sentinel or the cut-out slip on page 7 of this bulletin. An *04 or greater on your label means you are paid up through that year. For electronic Sentinel recipients, you should have previously received an informational email with your membership expiration year listed.

Arizona Chapter Roster

An updated Address/Email Telephone Roster has been published. I have made partial distribution by hand at the last meeting and by e-mail. Anyone

not already having a copy and desiring one can call or e-mail me and I will see that you immediately receive it. I can be reached at (623) 931-1546 or e-mail: terrytassin@cox.net.

February Dinner Meeting Thursday, 19 February at the Sunshine Hotel & Suites

The next Chapter meeting is set for Thursday, 19 February at the Sunshine Hotel & Suites.

The hotel is located at 3600 N. 2nd Ave in Phoenix on the corner of 2nd Ave and Osborn Road. The main entrance to the hotel is located on 2nd Ave. Parking is in a covered parking garage just adjacent to and north of the hotel.

Bring a friend or two to our meeting and introduce them to a great group of people. The meeting will start with a half-hour social time at 6:30 p.m., with dinner served at 7:00 p.m. The reservation form is located on page 7 of this newsletter along with a description of the meal. The deadline for reservations to reach Bill Johnson is 13 February. Come join us for good food and comradeship.

Some future Chapter meeting dates are listed here for your planning purposes. Please put them on your calendar as a reminder!

BOD Meeting - 4 Mar - Post 107
Lunch - 20 Mar-McCormick Ranch
BOD Meeting - 1 Apr - Post 107
Dinner - 15 Apr - Sunshine Hotel

Voices Take Flight

by Ron Green

Now is the last chance to participate in the "Voices Take Flight" program. I have to return tickets that have not been purchased to the ticket office in Tempe on 16 February. I plan on driving down there on 13 February; therefore, you must buy your tickets before that date.

Voices Take Flight is a musical

Arizona Chapter Calendar

February 05

- BOD Meeting 1:30, American Legion 107

Feb 19

- General Dinner Meeting 6:30 p.m

March 4

- BOD Meeting 1:30

March 20

- General Luncheon Meeting 11:30 a.m.

May 15

- BOD Meeting 1:30

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

Chaplain's Corner

I asked the Lord to bless you
 as I prayed for you today.
 To guide you and protect you
 as you go along your way.
 His love is always with you,
 His promises are true,
 and when we give Him all our cares
 you know He will see us through.
 So when the road you're traveling on
 seems difficult at best,
 just remember I'm here praying,
 and God will do the rest.

—*Robert Rutherford, Chaplain*

performance that is composed of three choirs: the ASU Concert Choir, the Military Academy "West Point" Cadet Glee Club and the Xavier Preparatory Honor Club. This is an Annual affair and many dignitaries are associated with it. These include Ross Perot, the U.S. Surgeon General, Miss Arizona of 1998, Anthony Principi and Curt Schilling. I don't know who all will attend the concert, but that same evening there is a dinner at \$195.00 a plate. At the dinner you may also bid on a T-38 jet aircraft and a Huey helicopter - just what you need. Tickets to the dinner may be obtained through the Internet at www.VTF.org.

The concert will be on 6 March 2004 at the Phoenix First Assembly Church at 13613 North Cave Creek Road from 2:00 to 4:00 PM. Tickets are \$10.00, but if purchased through me the Chapter will receive \$5.00 of the price. If you desire to attend please send a check made out to "Arizona Chapter, MOAA" to Ron Green, 6303 E. Mesquite Road, Cave Creek, AZ 85331. Also, please call me at (480) 595-8693 so that I can have the tickets ready to send to you.

Past performances have been to support ALS research, but word is that they will expand to MS and Parkinson's disease this year.

I have 42 tickets left for the concert, so jump on the band wagon. I'm sure you will enjoy it and it helps many worth while causes!

Legislative

by Dan Conway

Federal

The major legislative effort by MOAA for this year is SPB (Survivor Benefit Plan) improvements. The most important

Membership

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 * Currently the AZ Chapter has 207
 * members including, 49 auxiliary
 * members and 5 new members for
 * 2004.
 *
 *

Looking For A Few Good Men Or Women

The letters are out notifying sixteen JROTC Units that the Arizona Chapter, Military Officers Association of America is again awarding medals, ribbons and certificates to selected cadets in their Junior Year for outstanding leadership and achievement in the JROTC program. These award presentations will take place on the dates shown at the school's JROTC award ceremony. It is desired that the presentation be made by members of our Chapter as has been the practice in previous years. The schools involved and their award night dates are listed below.

The members who have volunteered to date to represent our chapter at the awards ceremonies this year are also shown. As you can see we are a "little" short of our goal of 16 presenters. This is a great opportunity to get out and see some wonderful young people at their best. Yes, you will need to give up a couple of hours of your time to make the presentation. However, what would you use the time for if you do not help out - watching TV? Let us support these patriotic young men and women. If you can make a presentation let Arthur Parker (602) 997-7913 know you are available and which school.

School	Date	Time	Presenter
North HS	28 Apr	6:00 PM	
Sunnyslope HS	22 Apr	7:00 PM	(Dinner at 6 PM)
South Mountain HS	05 May	6:00 PM	
Carl Hayden HS	28 Apr	6:30 PM	
Cactus HS	06 May	6:30 PM	
Moon Valley HS	06 May	7:00 AM	
Alhambra HS	07-May	6:30 PM	
Central HS	01 May	7:00 PM	
Apollo HS	04 May	7:00 PM	Terry Tassin
Glendale HS	11 May	7:00 PM	
Camelback HS	12 May	7:00 PM	
Cortez HS	06 May	6:00 PM	
Deer Valley HS	11 May	7:00 PM	
Greenway HS	05 May	7:00 PM	Raymond Deane
Shadow Mountain	11 May	6:00 PM	
Thunderbird HS	12 May	7:00 PM	

thing that you can do right now in this effort is to tear out the letters after page 24 and after page 72 in the January Military Officer, sign them, stamp them, and mail them. A short note would also help. We will keep you advised of progress in this effort.

State

Major state efforts are for funding for a new veterans' home in Tucson, and a new veterans' cemetery in Northern Arizona. Several hundred veterans including about 10 Arizona Chapter MOAA members attended a Veterans' Recognition day activity at the State Capital on 19 January. Speakers included Pat Chorpenning and Governor Napalitano. A large number of state legislators attended and were informed as to the veterans' need and programs.

Military Blood Program Seeks Donors

The Armed Services Blood Program

Office urges eligible donors to give blood to ensure supplies are available to treat service members, retirees and their families. At this time of the year, military services' and civilian blood collection centers experience a drop in blood collection. Air Force Lt. Col. Ruth Sylvester, ASBPO director, said: "It is a busy time of year, many people take vacations and some regular donors may have a cold or the flu, making them temporarily unable to donate."

In addition, the program is faced with a temporary deferral of donations from troops deployed in the Middle East and returning troops who are ineligible to donate for one year after their return due to potential exposure to malaria and a disease spread by sand flies. Blood donor locations can be found at http://www.tricare.osd.mil/asbpo/donor_inf/donor_centers.htm.

[Source: Armed Forces News: Dec 26, 2003]

Newsletter Advertising

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

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

Chapter Spring Golf Tournament

The MOAA Spring golf tournament is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, 8 May at Rolling Hills Golf Course. Details such as cost, format, etc. will be provided in upcoming issues of the Sentinel. Reserve the date, and get your game in shape.

Bud Day Says 'Keep Our Promises'

Retired Air Force Col. George "Bud" Day, a Medal of Honor holder, says the Keep Our Promises to America's Military Retiree Act is a "rifle shot." The bill, HR-3474, would waive Medicare Part B premiums for retirees who entered service before 7 June 1956, and would allow retirees and their dependents to participate in the Federal Employees Health Benefits program. It also would provide reimbursement for drug payments at TRICARE network rates for those without access to a pharmacy in the TRICARE retail network. Day said that the bill had more than 100 cosponsors by early January, and he expects to see a companion bill introduced in the Senate. 7 June 1956 is the date that lifetime medical care for retirees and dependents converted from a promise to space available. [Source: Armed Forces News 23 Jan 2004]

Non-Availability Statements To End - Conditionally

On 28 December, TRICARE Standard beneficiaries who live within a 40-mile radius of a Military Treatment Facility will no longer need a non-availability statement from the MTF before receiving inpatient care (except for inpatient mental health care). The Secretary of Defense, however, can always waive this cancellation in any of three circumstances: (1) if he can demonstrate that significant costs would be avoided by performing specific procedures at the affected MTF or facilities; (2) if he determines that a specific procedure must be provided at the affected MTF or MTFs to ensure satisfactory proficiency levels of the providers at the facility or facilities; or (3) if he determines that the lack of non-availability statement data would significantly affect the interface with TRICARE contract administration. Sources within DoD assert that there is little possibility of such waivers. [Source: Armed Forces News: 26 Dec 2003]

"Some people spend an entire lifetime wondering if they made a difference. The Marines don't have that problem."

--Ronald Reagan

Need a Copy of Your Discharge Papers?

Army	314-538-4132
Marines	314-538-3155
Navy	314-538-4200
Air Force	314-538-4218
Coast Guard (Fax Only)	314-538-4175

Your Pharmacy Copayments Are Safe - For Now

On Dec. 16, 2003, the Pentagon comptroller issued a draft budget decision paper proposing large pharmacy copayment increases for military retirees. The paper recommended raising retiree copayments from \$3 (generic) and \$9 (brand name) to \$10 and \$20, respectively. It also urged imposing the same copayments on retirees using pharmacies at military hospitals and clinics (currently, military pharmacies have no copayments for any eligible patron). Copayments for non-network pharmacies would rise from \$20 or 20 percent of the prescription cost to \$30 or 20 percent, respectively.

Given only two days to respond, all armed services reportedly objected to the plan. Our sources indicate this initiative didn't start in the Pentagon, but was directed by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) - the budget arm of the White House. DoD leaders urged the White House to defer any FY 2005 copayment increase in favor of a study of the issue, with any recommended adjustments to be implemented in FY 2006.

To put it bluntly, this is a grossly insensitive and wrongheaded proposal. It was only 30 months ago that Congress authorized the TRICARE Senior Pharmacy Program and DoD established the \$3 and \$9 copayments. The Pentagon already has changed the rules once, announcing plans to raise the copayment (for all beneficiaries, not just retirees) to \$22 for non-formulary drugs at some point in 2004. We expect a battle over that later this year, when the Pentagon likely will seek to designate many drugs as non-formulary to save money.

The new OMB-directed proposal asserted that raising copayments to \$10/\$20 would align DoD cost shares with those of the VA system. That bogus assertion indicates the extent of beancounters' detachment from reality - unless the Bush Administration also plans to triple VA copayments. Currently, the VA doesn't charge any copayment for medications covering service-connected conditions. The cost share for all others is \$7.

Thankfully, resistance from DoD and strong objections from MOAA and other military associations caused OMB to

Fund Donations

One person's generous gift will help strengthen America's future through supporting the education of our youth. Since the last newsletter generous donations have been received for the **50th Anniversary Fund**: Faye Fahy \$20, Dolly Blecick \$35, John Newell \$10. **Scholarship Fund**: Bill McCollum \$25 Our thanks to all contributors on behalf of all future beneficiaries of the Chapter Funds.

shelve the proposal. In return, the Pentagon has agreed to study the copayment issue, and then make any recommendations on this subject next year after the presidential election.

Sadly, executive branch leaders never seem to understand or agree that they have a special employer responsibility to those who have completed careers covering decades of arduous service and sacrifice in uniform. Multiple administrations have tried to impose copayments in military medical facilities, and Congress has rejected that every time. Congress has had to override Bush administration objections in enacting TRICARE For Life, concurrent receipt, reserve health coverage, permanent military pay comparability provisions, and a variety of other "people program" initiatives.

MOAA will continue to oppose increasing retiree cost shares that only recently were established. If the Bush administration doesn't back off, we'll turn to Congress to prevent it. And we think Congress will do just that. [Source: The Affiliate Feb 2004]

Get Your Past Pay Records Online

Use The Defense Finance and Accounting Service's Web site to find out what you were paid 'back in the day'.

Have you ever needed to tell a lending agency or some other financial institution about your past earnings history and can't remember or find proof of how much you were paid as a second lieutenant in 1965? Or maybe you just want to impress your grandkids with how little you earned in comparison to their current weekly allowances.

Well, there now is an easy way to find this information. The Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) has pay information dating back to the 1949 pay tables. As some of you might remember, in those days, pay raises did not occur every year. Thus, you will see new pay tables as raises were enacted.

To learn more, go to the DFAS's Web site, www.dfas.mil/money/milpay, and

"I have little interest in streamlining government or in making it more efficient, for I mean to reduce its size. I do not undertake to promote welfare, for I propose to extend freedom. My aim is not to pass laws, but to repeal them. It is not to inaugurate new programs, but to cancel old ones that do violence to the Constitution, or that have failed in their purpose, or that impose on the people an unwarranted financial burden. I will not attempt to discover whether legislation is 'needed' before I have first determined whether it is constitutionally permissible. And if I should later be attacked for neglecting my constituents' interests, I shall reply that I was informed their main interest is liberty and that in that cause I am doing the very best I can." ---Barry Goldwater

select Prior Years' Rates under the Pay Rates heading. Many of the tables include housing allowance and other useful information.
[Source: The Affiliate Feb 2004]

Upgrading Reserve Retirement

When established in 1948, the reserve retirement system was intended to supplement a normal civilian career retirement program. But over the past dozen years, reserve call-ups have averaged a 13-fold increase over any comparable period during the entire span of the Cold War. Since Sept. 11, 2001, more than 325,000 reserve component servicemembers have been called up to extended active duty tours. Recent DoD assertions that it sees no need for additional active duty or reserve component manpower for the foreseeable future mean that reservists can expect multiple, lengthy mobilizations during the course of a reserve career. Inevitably, these policies will cut into citizen-soldiers' private-sector retirement plans.

MOAA has monitored this situation very closely in recent years, and we supported Congress' decision last year to task DoD and the General Accounting Office (GAO) for input on updating the reserve compensation and retirement system. We expected these studies would seriously examine the factors that, in the long term, will encourage reserve participation and retention. But the DoD study only called for further study, and the GAO's recent report on reserve financial issues and health care deferred action to a second study, now just begun.

MOAA maintains that reserve career retention inevitably will suffer unless action is taken soon to address these problems. With no end in sight to the

reliance on the reserve forces, it's time to match the reserve retirement system with the realities of 21st century reserve service.

MOAA supports enactment of legislation to allow National Guard and Reserve career servicemembers the option of receiving their full reserve retired pay and benefits at age 55.

Rep. Jim Saxton's (R-N.J.) H.R. 742 and Sen. Jon Corzine's (D-N.J.) S. 1035 are posted on the MOAA Web site at <http://capwiz.com/moaa/issues/bills>. Please encourage your chapter members to send messages of support for this important legislation. [Source: The Affiliate Feb 2004]

MOAA 2003 Wrap-Up

By any standard, 2003 was a truly memorable year in MOAA's history. The FY 2004 Defense bill brought us a significant expansion of last year's limited concurrent receipt provision, an average 4.15 percent active duty pay raise, increased requirements for DoD oversight of TRICARE Standard, and a one-year test of cost-share TRICARE access for the Guard and Reserve.

Beyond that, we also were successful in passing long-overdue tax relief legislation for military homeowners, drilling reservists, and survivors.

The December Medicare bill carried a number of other improvements, even though TRICARE beneficiaries are not affected by the Medicare prescription drug component. In future years, MOAA members will take advantage of higher provider reimbursement rates, exemption from Part B late enrollment penalties, and a temporary halt to Medicare therapy caps.

In addition to that, we have a host of other improvements from key veterans bills and the Iraq Supplemental Appropriations Act. These victories would not be possible without the work of many MOAA members across the country, and we are grateful to all of you for your support.

Let's hope we can keep the pressure on for another great year in 2004. [Source: The Affiliate Feb 2004]

Do We Have Your E-Mail Address?

Once again, I stress the importance of providing the AZ Chapter your e-mail address. You miss out on important current information that we send out to the members from time to time.

The Arizona Chapter of MOAA would like to make sure we have your e-mail address on file if you would like us to communicate with you via e-mail. So, come aboard and enter the cyberspace world of our Chapter.

There are a few options: 1) we can

"It is not the critic who counts, not the man who points out how the strong man stumbled, or where the doer of deeds could have done better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena; whose face is marred by the dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs and comes short again and again; who knows the great enthusiasms, the great devotions and spends himself in a worthy course; who at the best, knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who, at worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly; so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who know neither victory or defeat."
--Theodore Roosevelt

have your e-mail address on file to contact you specifically about National MOAA items of interest; 2) you can be included in an email list to receive communication about a variety of subjects including those nice to read fun or informative emails that some of you like so much. 3) you can elect to receive your *Sentinel* newsletter via email rather than USPS thereby saving the Chapter the cost of postage, printing, folding, labeling, etc.

If you are interested, please email me at terrytassin@cox.net and let me know your intentions.

MOAA Name Tags

Many members are ordering new nametags sporting the new MOAA logo. If you would like a new Name Tag, order forms are 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.

"Terror is not a new weapon. Throughout history it has been used by those who could not prevail, either by persuasion or example. But inevitably they fail, either because men are not afraid to die for a life worth living, or because the terrorists themselves came to realize that free men cannot be frightened by threats and that aggression would meet its own response. And it is in the light of that history that every nation today should know, be he friend or foe, that the United States has both the will and the weapons to join free men in standing up to their responsibilities."
--John F. Kennedy 1961

A Classic Opportunity Awaits Us!

by *Chuck Schluter*

Did you ever meet a **nice guy** who had a **nice garage**, and somehow over the years, he simply picked up "this and that" – and rarely got rid of anything? Imagine what the result would be if he'd been doing that most of his life? And then, imagine what would



be in that garage if he also had a taste for **nice automobiles**. Well, our members now have a **nice opportunity** to meet Barry Briskman and his lovely wife Sharon because we've been invited to wander through their eclectic collection of rolling history on Armed Forces Day 2004.

On Saturday, May 15, 2004 the Arizona Chapter of MOAA will conduct its Luncheon at the McCormick Ranch – just like we always do. This year that day just happens to be **Armed Forces**



Day – and our Chapter members have been invited to tour Barry's garage prior to heading off to the Luncheon. More details will be provided in the days ahead, but for now, if you are fond of classic chrome, beautiful coachwork, or automobiles that reflect the evolution of society – then plan to join us. We can start at 10 AM, and that should provide ample time to enjoy Barry and Sharon's company, meander through the garage, and still get to the Luncheon, which is located just a short distance away.

Barry's garage is also his workshop, his office and a sitting area for friends. He repairs and restores automobiles – but not just "any" automobile. I've seen all kinds of unforgettable cars in the shop, and in recent months, original Woody station wagons have been very popular. Barry owns a rare Packard Woody himself.... the license plate simply reads, "Sliver". He has also earned quite a reputation in certain circles too, so although to the local guys he's just "one of us", he has also been a judge at the famous Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance in CA. Not much of a surprise, because coincidentally, his exceptional and very rare 1937 MG SA "Charlesworth" Tourer has also been to Pebble Beach too, and it rolled away with top honors too. But the best part, no matter what – Barry simply continues to be a quiet, candid artisan who is most comfortable amongst a few timeless automobiles and a bunch regular folks.

The eclectic collection includes signs, hood ornaments, books, model automobiles and loads of memorabilia. But the cars are the stars. My favorites include an extremely rare 1952 Betone bodied Arnolt MG TD, a very large and gorgeous 1935 Packard Opera Coupe, and a 1927 LaSalle phaeton. More than a dozen cars are gathered, some are family treasures (his dad's 56' Buick), another is a beautiful Packard with custom coachwork by Brunn (serial number 2, chassis number 1, or vice versa) that is nearing completion. A recent addition is a graceful Lagonda that promises to be a lot of fun for Barry and Sharon. Classy Cars and Classy folks – mark your calendar and I'll join you there! Heck, assuming the chapter will spring for coffee and a few Krispy Kremes; we'll relax on the patio before we head off to lunch too!

Salty Talk

Rarely is it possible to determine the origin of a word or phrase in common usage with precision. Usually, we must be content with tracing it back through time as evidenced in extant writings. Often, the trace is not linear, but instead branches to multiple possibilities and renders likely letters to the editors of publications of "word columns" touting a preferred origin.

In 338 BC, the expanding city-state of Rome was in the process of yet again enlarging its territory. In that year, a battle was fought with the galley fleet of the people of Antium. The outcome was, of course, a victory for the Romans. To commemorate the victory, the bronze beaks used for ramming were removed from the captured Antean vessels and installed as decorations in a wall surrounding a raised platform. It was an impressive sight, and the victorious Roman leader decided that the platform would make an excellent place from which to declaim his victory.

War memorials have been sites of

oratory ever since, and a new word was coined – or brought ashore. The Latin word for the beak-rams was derived from *rodere*, meaning "to gnaw." They were called "rostra." When the Antean beaks were installed around the raised platform, it became known as the rostra, too, or the "place of beaks."

In the 18th century, the word was brought into the English language in its singular form, "rostrum," meaning a platform for public speaking. It is not the first time a navy has supported a politician.

Eyes of the Ship

Most of the early ships had heads of mythological monsters or patrons carved in the bow; hence, the terms "figure head," "the heads" and the term "eyes of the ship" followed from the eyes of the figures placed there. Large "eyes" are still painted on the bows of Chinese junks.

Sailors also believe that these "eyes" help them and their ship through a storm by magically seeing the right of way. One particular Sailor's tale says that on the day before he was to sail, he bought his wife two beautiful, green emeralds for earrings. He

was heartbroken when she did not like them, so instead he used them as the eyes of the female "figure head" on the bow of his ship.

His wife had a change of heart that night, and unbeknownst to her husband, removed the emeralds from the wooden figure. She planned to wear them upon his return, but he never did. One day after sailing, his ship steered right into a typhoon and sank. Some say it was because the ship could not "see" as his wife had stolen the ship's "eyes." When the wife heard the news, she cried for days until she fell asleep. When she awoke, she was blind...and the two beautiful emeralds had disappeared.

"To Be Three Sheets in the Wind"

In the days of sailing ships, this is a phrase which refers to the lines used to control the sails of sailing vessels. When these sheets are cast to the wind (let go), it would cause the old sailing ships to shudder and stagger. The resulting track would be the same as that of a drunken Sailor, out of control, and hence "three sheets in the wind."

Arizona Chapter MOAA Activities Calendar 2004

Date	Event
Jan 08	Board of Directors Meeting (American Legion Post #107)
Jan 17	Luncheon McCormick Ranch Note 1
Feb 05	Board of Directors Meeting (American Legion Post #107)
Feb 19	Dinner Sunshine Hotel & Suites Note 2
Mar 01	Newsletter Awards Submission Date (MOAA Recognition Program)
Mar 04	Board of Directors Meeting (American Legion Post #107)
Mar 20	Luncheon McCormick Ranch Note 1
Apr	Begin end of year JROTC Recognition Medal Award presentations.
Apr 01	Board of Directors Meeting (American Legion Post #107) (<i>Scholarship Selection Committee Meeting</i>)
Apr 15	Dinner Sunshine Hotel & Suites Note 2
May (TBA)	National MOAA Chapter Recognition Award Matrix Submission (to reach HQ prior 1 June)
May 06	Board of Directors Meeting (American Legion Post #107)
May 08	AZ Chapter Spring Golf Outing at Rolling Hills Golf Course.
May 15	Luncheon McCormick Ranch (<i>Present Scholarship Awards!!</i>) Note 1 <i>Tour Classic Car Collection prior to lunch.</i>
May 31	Memorial Day Observed/Chapter Participation
June 03	Board of Directors Meeting (American Legion Post #107)
Jun 14	Flag Day
Jun 17	Dinner Sunshine Hotel & Suites Note 2
Jul/Aug	Calendar is open for summer break. Newsletter - <i>The Sentinel</i> - also on vacation.
Sep 02	Board of Directors Meeting (American Legion Post #107)
Sep 11	9/11 Remembrance!
Sep 18	Luncheon McCormick Ranch Note 1
Oct 07	Board of Directors Meeting (American Legion Post #107) (<i>Chapter Meritorious Service Award Review Committee Meeting</i>)
Oct 21	Dinner Sunshine Hotel & Suites Note 2 (<i>Staff Nominating Committee Report</i>)
Nov 04	Board of Directors Meeting (American Legion Post #107)
Nov 11	Armistice Day/Veterans Day Observed
Nov 20	Luncheon McCormick Ranch (<i>Annual Business Meeting</i>) (<i>Chapter Meritorious Service Award Presentation</i>). Note 1
Nov (TBA)	AZ Chapter Fall Golf Outing. Golf Course TBA
Dec 02	Board of Directors Meeting (American Legion Post #107)
Dec 07	Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day (USS Arizona Memorial/Activity TBA)
Dec 16	Dinner Sunshine Hotel and Resort <i>Annual Chapter Christmas Dinner & Silent Auction</i> Note 2
Jan 06	Board of Directors Meeting (American Legion Post #107)
Jan 15	Luncheon McCormick Ranch Note 1

[Note 1](#) - Luncheon Social Hour begins at 11:30AM with lunch at Noon.

[Note 2](#) - Dinner Social Hour begins at 6:30PM with dinner at 7:00 PM.

[Note 3](#) - The deadline for submitting items to be published in *The Sentinel* is the 25th of each month for the following month.

The Unified Arizona Veterans Committee meets on the 1st Saturday of each month except August and September.

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TAPS

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

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February Dinner Meeting

WHEN: 19 February 2004
6:30 p.m. Social Period
7:00 p.m. Dinner

WHERE: Sunshine Hotel & Suites
3600 N. 2nd Ave *(Corner of 2nd Ave and Osborn Rd)*
Phoenix, Arizona

COST: \$16.00 - Per Person

MENU: Garden Salad with Dressing
Sliced Roast Beef
Garlic Mashed Potatoes & Gravy
Vegetable du Jour
Fresh Rolls & Butter
Dessert
Coffee & Iced Tea

PROGRAM: Major Douglas Patt USA (Ret) will speak on "Gulf War to Afghanistan—the Army Transformation".

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

-- Jim Seidl, Programs

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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: \$ _____

Scholarship Fund: \$ _____ **General 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 _____ meals for (Name) _____

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____ (**\$16.00** per person) for **19 February 2004.**

Make check payable to: AZ Chapter MOAA **No Later Than: 13 February 2004**

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

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