



# The Sentinel

Arizona's First Chapter



The Arizona Chapter, 14435 N. 66th Place, Scottsdale, Arizona 85254

NOVEMBER 2005 CHARTERED IN 1956 - OVER 49 YEARS OF SERVICE TO COUNTRY EDITOR: John Gerometta



## President's Message

the pumps wouldn't run without power. How much more preferable it would have been if there had been some service group which could have been able to help.

serious consideration.

Meanwhile, we have Chapter activities with our Monthly meeting and election of officers for next year. I hope to see you all there.

Sincerely— *Daniel M. Conway*

In November, we celebrate Thanksgiving Day which gives us a chance to count our blessings whether good health, family, friends, or whatever else. It also gives us an opportunity to help others who are in the same situation that many of us were in at some time in the past.

We can be part of that service group for today's guard and Reserve families through participation in the ARNG Family Assistance Fund. The Arizona National Guard operates the fund with Guard personnel at no cost to the fund.

The opportunity is to contribute to the ARNG Family Assistance Program.

This is a program set up by the Arizona National Guard to provide emergency assistance to families left behind by those Guard and Reservists who have been called to active duty. They help the spouse with getting his/her car repaired, getting the water heater replaced, repairing storm damage, and all those type of things that the Guard or Reservists would have been able to handle if they had been home.

On a personal note, when hurricane Carol hit Boston in 1954, Joyce was abandoned by her Coast Guard husband with a 9 month old baby with no electricity for 8 days. Our friends in the Newton police and the milkman came to her rescue with milk being delivered every other day with ice. People were waiting in line for hours for ice. There was no gasoline because

I urge that you consider a generous contribution to the fund. Just remember the benefits which those of who are retired and those who will someday be retired have recently been awarded in large part to the efforts of MOAA. TRICARE for LIFE results in a savings of over \$150/ month/ person. What a difference that amount could make to a Guard or Reserve family when problems develop.

The MOAA effort in soliciting funds in Arizona is being coordinated by the Superstition Mountain Chapter with credit given to each participant and to each Chapter. Please send your donations to: Carol Winkler, Treasurer, 425 Marigold Lane, Tempe, AZ 85281. Write out your check to "Superstition Mountain Chapter MOAA" and write on your check "ARNG Fund, AZ Chapter". You and the Chapter will get credit.

Please give this fund your

## Personal Affairs by *Bernie Conway*

When is the last time you reviewed your paperwork, such as wills, Living Wills, survivor checklist, and living trust? We had our living trust prepared in 1998. We were sure we were in good shape, but went to the free seminar on living trusts presented by one of the Sentinel advertisers, Morris, Hall, & Kinghorn. It seems that there were several legislative actions that took place in 2002 that makes an update required for our living will. I think this is part of the lawyers protective association. Lawyers sell the living trust, and other lawyers make changes, so the lawyers selling the trust can sell an update!

Putting my love of lawyers aside, I would suggest you sit through one of the free seminars presented by Morris, Hall & Kinghorn, or get in touch with your financial planner, etc. and see how your paperwork stands up. I am not selling any product for any company. I am trying to sell peace of mind to you, the few people that will take the time to read this article, and do something about it. I have

## Arizona Chapter Calendar

**Nov 3**  
• BOD Meeting 1:30, American Legion 107

**Nov 19**  
• General Luncheon Meeting

**Dec 1**  
• BOD Meeting 1:30, American Legion 107

**Dec 17**  
• General Luncheon Meeting

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

**Chaplain's Corner**

"Lord we request your wisdom and your thoughts are always with us. Forgive our trespasses and guide us out transgressions that we may walk in the light of your way. Blessed be your name. Amen"

—Robert Rutherford, Chaplain

always believed you can lead a horse to water, but you can't make him drink.

Here is the water. Do you want a drink?

**New Members**

Welcome to new Chapter members since the last newsletter

**LTC John McCombs USARNG and wife Robin**

2603 W Languid Lane  
Phoenix, AZ 85086  
Tele: 623-476-7411

E-mail: john.r.mcombs@us.army.mil

**CAPT Davalee G Norton USCG (RET) and her husband Tom**

10400 N. 75th Street  
Scottsdale, AZ 85258  
480-275-5086

E-mail: deenorton@cox.net

**Vincent E Johnson Col USAF (RET) and his wife Pat**

4638 E Williams Drive  
Phoenix, AZ 85050

E-mail: vj2121@cox.net

**Capt Barry D Halpern USAF (FMR) and his wife Cindy**

116 W Orangewood Ave  
Phoenix, AZ 85021  
602-943-3384

E-mail: Chalpern1@cox.net

**MAJ Rosanne E Trujillo, USA (RET)**

1082 N 87th Way  
Scottsdale AZ 85257  
480-947-8799

**LTC John A Finical, USA (RET) and his wife Gerda**

11837E Juan Tabo Rd  
Scottsdale, AZ 85255  
480-473-1966

E-mail: j0930f@aol.com

**Maj Sharon M Burns USAF (RET)**

22430 N 53rd St  
Phoenix, AZ 85054

E-mail: majburns4@cox.net

**CAPT Joseph F Manfreda USCGR (RET) and his wife Vicky**

233 E Wacker Dr #1203  
Chicago, IL 60601  
312-540-9901

E-mail: jfmanfreda2@yahoo.com

Please take the opportunity to meet our new members.

**November Luncheon Meeting  
Saturday, 19 November  
McCormick Ranch Golf Club**

The next Chapter meeting is set for Saturday, 19 November at McCormick Ranch Golf Club. Bring a friend to our meeting and introduce them to a great group of people. The meeting will start with a social hour at 11:00 a.m., with lunch served at 12:00 Noon. The reservation form is located on page 9 of this newsletter. The deadline for reservations to reach Bill Johnson is 15 November. Come join us for good food and comradeship.



**Legislative Update**

[Source: MOAA Legislative Update]

by Gary Fredricks

Earlier this year it became apparent to the various veterans groups in Arizona that state level veteran's affairs were being treated haphazardly at best, particularly within the state legislature. At the urging of these groups, Governor Napolitano created an Arizona Veterans Task Force in June of this year.

The Task Force has 11 members and is chaired by the Director of Arizona Department of Veteran's Services. The Task Force is charged with analyzing and evaluating existing state services and benefits provided to Arizona veterans, identifying and comparing Arizona state services and benefits available to veterans who reside in other states and developing a plan to educate Arizona state and local leaders about issues of importance to Arizona veterans. Recommendations and a final report are due to the Governor, Senate President and Speaker of the House by the first week in January 2006.

Three open hearings have been held by the Task Force to date. Subjects reported at the last Unified Arizona Veteran's meeting to have been discussed

**Fund Donations**

One person's generous gift will help strengthen America's future through supporting the education of our youth. Since the last newsletter the members below have made generous donations to the:

General Fund:

**Mike Gannon \$2**

50th Anniversary Fund:

**Mike Gannon \$202**

Scholarship Fund:

**Mike Gannon \$2**

by the Task Force include the need for more veterans benefit counselors, funding for a new state veteran's cemetery and the need for a veteran's home in Tucson.

Three more open hearings are scheduled. They are scheduled at 1300 hours on Nov 2, Nov 30 and Dec 15 in the Governor's Conference Room, Executive towers, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, 1700 W. Washington. The MOAA Arizona Council of Chapters Vice President and I plan to attend remaining hearings, and I will attempt to keep you informed as issues develop. If you would also like to attend, please do so.

On the National level, a statement in the MOAA Legislative Update for Oct 21 very well sums up the situation. The statement is, "It was hard to tell what and who to believe this week as House and Senate leaders put out conflicting signals on how budget cuts may affect the defense budget and Medicare payments to doctors (which also affect patient access)."

Rather than trying to make sense in this short space out of what seems to be irrational behavior by some of our nation's legislative leadership on the Hill, let me simply advise you to go to MOAA's web site and:

*Continue on page 3*

**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:

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

Legislate Update.....continued from page 2

- a. Click on the "Don't Cut Defense for Katrina" link at <http://capwiz.com/moaa/home/>.
- b. Senate Defense Bill: Click on the " Pass Defense Authorization Bill Now" link at the same link.
- c. Reversing Medicare/TRICARE payment cuts: Visit <http://capwiz.com/moaa/issues/bills/>, scroll down to "Health Care Issues" and click on S. 1081 and H.R. 2356 to send messages to your senators and representatives, respectively.

**Auxiliary Comments**  
*by Jo Ann Thompson*

*By Guest Columnist Violet Smith, MOAA's Auxiliary Advisory Committee*

What do we mean by "auxiliary"? MOAA uses the term to identify the surviving spouse of a deceased member. Of these survivors, 99 percent are women. In the St. Petersburg (Fla.) Chapter of MOAA we refer to auxiliaries as "special members." Regardless of what we are called, we are the surviving spouses of MOAA members and hopefully play an important role.

Now that our spouses are no longer with us, we must remember to look to MOAA for help, guidance, and support just as our spouses did. They believed in MOAA, and perhaps your loved one made it possible for you to continue a life membership or annual membership. MOAA at the national level is there to help you, and so are the officers of your local chapter. Please remember that, and call on them when you need answers. At the chapter level, we want special members to feel as much a part of the chapter as the regular members. We would like you to actively participate. I know you all have talent and skills, so come forward and share them with us. We need you to know that we want you to be an active part of a chapter and to know that MOAA is for you as well. If you have thoughts or concerns, feel free to bring them to a local board member so that they can be addressed. You can always call national MOAA with questions; in most cases they can find an answer or solution for you. They are there for you. Please become involved, and do come to our monthly meetings. You are a vital part of our membership.

**Staff Nominations for 2006**

I am pleased to submit the following nominations as candidates for office of the Arizona Chapter of MOAA for the year 2006:

- President: Daniel Conway
- 1st VP Terry Tassin
- 2nd VP Ron Worthington
- Secretary: John Gerometta
- Treasurer: William Johnson
- Past President: Gary Fredricks
- Directors: Charles Schluter  
James Seidl  
Chester Baumer  
Ronald Green  
Jo Ann Thompson

The election will be held at the November 19th luncheon. We will also, as proper, request nominee's from the floor. Installation of new officers will take place at the January 2006 meeting.

Submitted:

*Gary Fredricks COL USAF (RET)*  
*Chair Nominating Committee*

**5<sup>th</sup> Annual All Veterans Picnic**

**Steele Indian School Park, 3<sup>rd</sup> Street and Indian School Rd  
6 November 2005 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM**

- Infinity Broadcast/ KOOL 94.5 will be this year's Media Sponsors**
- Veteran organization booths (bring your table and umbrella)**
- Selling of your organization items (non-profit only)**
- Recruit new members into your organization**
- Show the communities we are unified**
- Static displays**
- See old friends, make new friends**
- Media coverage**
- APS will have various activities for kids i.e. climbing wall, jumpers, face painting, games, and Clowns, Clowns and Clowns!**

**Arizona Veteran's Hall of Fame Inductees**



**Michael G Gannon**



**Richard Minor**

## **AZ Chapter MOAA Membership Renewal Notice**

Thank you for your AZ Chapter support during 2005. Your support for our chapter has helped provide the base for our scholarship program for outstanding Phoenix area JROTC students, for our efforts to represent you on state and local legislative issues, for our actions, including our award winning **Sentinel**, to keep you involved and informed on these and broader issues affecting our military and retired community and for our schedule of activities promoting camaraderie and friendship.

For most members, this serves as your notice that AZ Chapter dues for 2006 are due on January 1, 2006, and are delinquent 60 days thereafter. Our records show that the following have already paid their 2006 dues:

M Arnold, D Carpenter, P Chorpenning, J Clinton, Y Cid, P Fein, A Feuling, J Finical, D Gray,  
B Huddleston R. Kruse, J McCombs, N. Miller, L Obitz, D Norton, M Seltzer, C Walters,  
R Weidenfeld, G Woodard, M Ziernicki,

If you disagree, please let us know. For those of you who are not listed above, we sincerely hope that we have earned your support for another year and that you will renew your membership with us at this time.

----- CUT HERE AND MAIL RENEWAL FORM WITH YOUR CHECK -----

### **Arizona Chapter 2006 Membership Renewal Form**

\*Member Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Membership Renewal: \$20 Full member \_\_\_\_\_

\*Membership Renewal: \$10 Auxiliary member \_\_\_\_\_

\*I wish to receive the Chapter Newsletter (*The Sentinel*) by {select one}:

\_\_\_\_\_ E-mail (in full color) or \_\_\_\_\_ U.S. Mail (hard copy b&w) or \_\_\_\_\_ Both

\*E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to: **AZ Chapter MOAA**

Mail renewal application and check to:

AZ CHAPTER MOAA  
C/O John Gerometta  
8555 E Camelback Road  
Scottsdale, AZ 85251

Note: If you wish to pay in advance, you may do so at the above rates per calendar year. Please annotate your check accordingly.

**Board Meeting Notes**

The Board of Directors met on 6 October, 2005. The following items of interest were considered.

**Officer/Committee Reports:**

**Legislative:** (See **Gary Fredricks'** column in this month's *The Sentinel* for an up-to-date report on this matter.)

**Treasurer's Report:** **Bill Johnson** indicated the following status of fund accounts:

Checking:	\$ 4,774.35
50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary:	\$ 2,988.00
Scholarship:	\$ <u>4,720.10</u>
Total Accounts:	\$12,482.45

**Membership:** **Dan Conway** reported that **Carol Culbertson** has assumed the duties of Chairman of the Membership Committee. We will participate in MOAA's "Give Me 10" campaign where the goal is to increase MOAA membership by the end of the year. Currently we are working with three printouts provided by MOAA. One printout provides names of active and retired officers that are not members of MOAA, the second printout provides former members of MOAA and the third printout provides MOAA members that are not chapter members. We have been working with the last printout and have gained at least 10 new chapter members.

**Scholarship:** Ron Worthington thanked Dan Conway and Gary Fredricks for filling in for him while he was undergoing treatment in California earlier in the year. He will begin working on the program beginning in November.

**Programs:** **Jim Seidl** reports that for November he is pursuing Kent Dana who will speak after the Chapter elections. He has contacted the Music Director of Trevor Brown High School to provide choir music to the December Christmas Party. He has not received a confirmation from the school, but plans to check with the music director next week.

**Newsletter:** **John Gerometta** has stepped forward to replace **Terry Tassin** as editor. John is prepared to produce the November newsletter.

**Historian:** **Frank Birtciel** reports that the webmaster is working to bring the web site up-to-date.

**50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary:** **Terry Tassin** will contact one of the JROTC schools for a color guard. **John Gerometta** has contacted Mrs. Beverly Poague (5718 N 72<sup>nd</sup> Pl., Scottsdale, AZ 85250 480-998-2389) to sing the National Anthem. **Chuck Schluter** will continue to ask Senator John McCain to be our speaker. **Velma Birtciel** has engaged a musical trio at a cost of \$1,200 for entertainment. **Chuck Schluter** will continue to investigate the cost of souvenir wine glasses.

**Auxiliary:** See **Jo Ann Thompson's** column on page 3 of this month's *The Sentinel*

**Old Business:**

**Veterans Hall of Fame:** **Chuck Schluter** reported both **Michael Gannon** and **Richard Minor** are inviting their families to attend. At least six members of the Board of Directors will attend.

**New Business:**

**Report of the Nominating Committee:** **Gary Fredricks** reported that the committee recommends the following slate of officers and directors: (See Page 3 of this month's *The Sentinel* for the listing) A motion was made, seconded and approved to waive the requirement of the Secretary to notify the membership 20 days in advance of the Annual Meeting since the meeting is on November 19<sup>th</sup> and *The Sentinel* will be mailed at the end of October.

**Good of the Order, Roundtable.** **Terry Tassin** reporting for **Pat Dale** on the results of the Golf Tournament.

Income:	\$1143
Expenses	(\$975)
Donations	\$107
Net	\$275 to the Scholarship Fund

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:15PM.

# Past Presidents Place

## **.LtCol Ron Green USAF (President 2001 - 2003)**

Ron was born in Aberdeen, SD and then had short moves to Wyoming and Nebraska. While in Nebraska he lived under a final approach to the runway there. This was a "top off" base that had bombers and fighters that flew each day. Ron looked up at the airplanes in the sky in 1942 and set a goal of becoming a Fighter Pilot.

This goal was realized in 1960 when he earned his wings and became a Fighter Pilot in the F-100. Although he took time off from the cockpit to obtain a Masters Degree from ASU in 1973 and served in the Pentagon from '74-'78, he stayed a Fighter Pilot until retiring in 1980. During this time he flew for 3150 hours in the F-100 and obtained 900 hours in the F-4.

He flew out of or over most countries of the world. This included 3 tours in Vietnam and totaled 292 Combat Missions (232 in the F-100 and 60 in the F-4) without sustaining a single hit. Although one day he remembers a missile going by the canopy so close that he could see the access panels needed a blade screw driver. On his 4th mission he also Winchestered (depleted the gun ammo) of a MIG-17. 37mm guns blink while 23mm guns put out a steady stream of fire and yes you can see the bullets go by! Later he was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for Heroism during aerial flight.

Ron had many ocean deployments that used the KB-50s and KC-135s. He remembers these as hours of boredom interspersed with short periods of extreme fright. The most memorable refuelings involved chasing a KB-50 down by following the exhaust in the clouds and using the F-4s radar for join up in the clouds behind a KC-135 over Thailand. In both cases there was no abort base available. The longest deployment lasted for 10 1/2 hours and required 5 aerial refuelings.

He retired from the Air Force in 1980 and went to work at McDonnell Aircraft in St. Louis, MO. While there he flew thousands of hours in the domed simulators and became the Chief Threat Pilot in current and hypothesized future MIG Aircraft. His involvement in two projects there resulted in his being awarded the Presidents Award twice. As he said, "Too bad the awards were not money instead of certificates and plaques."

Health problems finally resulted in forcing him to really retire in 1994. He moved to the valley and became involved with the Arizona Chapter of MOAA. After a year of Chapter inactivity he agreed to be the 1st Vice President for 3 years and then became the president from 2001 -2003. He figures that he will be involved in MOAA and veterans affairs as long as he can get around!



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# Attend this FREE SEMINAR on Living Trusts



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Tuesday, Nov. 8th, 7-9 pm  
Arrowhead Country Club  
19888 North 73rd Avenue  
Glendale

Tuesday, Nov. 8th, 7-9 pm  
Camelback Inn  
5402 East Lincoln Drive  
Scottsdale

Wednesday, Nov. 9th, 7-9 pm  
JW Marriott Desert Ridge  
5350 East Marriott Drive  
Phoenix

Wednesday, Nov. 9th, 7-9 pm  
El Pedregal at The Boulders  
34505 North Scottsdale Road  
Scottsdale

Thursday, Nov. 10th, 7-9 pm  
Hilton Scottsdale Resort  
6333 North Scottsdale Road  
Scottsdale

Thursday, Nov. 10th, 7-9 pm  
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3300 NORTH CENTRAL AVENUE, SUITE 920, PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85012-2506

## November Luncheon Meeting

**WHEN:** 19 November 2005  
11:00 a.m. Social Period  
12:00 Noon Lunch

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

**COST:** \$17.00 - Per Person

**DRESS:** Casual

**MENU:** Chef's Choice

**PROGRAM:** Mr. Dave Bender, crew member of the B-17 Flying fortress "Sentimental Journey" of the Commemorative Air force, Arizona Wing.

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

-- Jim Seidl, Programs



## TAPS



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

### CHAPTER FINANCIAL PARTICIPATION

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

**50th Anniversary Fund:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Scholarship Fund:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**General 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 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (\$17.00 per person) for **19 November 2005.**

Make check payable to: AZ Chapter MOAA

**No Later Than: 15 November 2005**

**Send to:** Bill Johnson, 13410 North 12th Place, Phoenix, AZ 85022-4944. Phone 602-690-1012

## Need a Copy of Your Discharge Papers?

To request a copy of a DD 214 either call the National Archives and Records Administration in St. Louis at 1-866-272-6272 or access their web site at: <http://www.archives.gov>

The web site walks you through the process and tells you what information you need to provide for your request.



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### The Arizona Chapter - MOAA - 2005 Board of Directors and Committee Chairmen

<b>PRESIDENT</b> CAPT Dan Conway USCGR 480-368-1427	<b>ADVERTISING</b> CDR John Gerometta USCG 480-947-5371	<b>PERSONAL AFFAIRS</b> LtCol Bernie Conway USAF 480-994-0440
<b>FIRST VICE PRESIDENT</b> LCDR Terry Tassin USN 623-931-1546	<b>CHAPLIN</b> LTC Bob Rutherford USA 602-944-4224	<b>NEWSLETTER EDITOR</b> CDR John Gerometta USCG 480-947-5371
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<b>SECRETARY</b> CDR John Gerometta USCG 480-947-5371	<b>HISTORIAN / PHOTOGRAPHER</b> LtCol Frank Birtciel USAF 480-945-2824	<b>SCHOLARSHIPS</b> Col Ron Worthington USAF 480-945-4015
<b>TREASURER</b> Maj Bill Johnson USAF 602-690-1012	<b>JROTC AWARDS</b> MAJ Arthur Parker USA 602-997-7913	<b>TOPS LIAISON</b> COL Charles Schluter, USA 480-563-8480
<b>PAST PRESIDENT</b> Col Gary Fredricks USAF 480-836-8419	<b>LEGISLATIVE</b> Col Gary Fredricks USAF 480-836-8419	<b>50TH ANNIVERSARY</b> LtCol Chet Baumer, USAF 623-582-8595
<b>DIRECTORS</b> Charles Schluter; James Seidl; Chester Baumer; Ronald Green; Jo Ann Thompson	<b>MEMBERSHIP</b> CAPT Carol Culbertson USNR 602-943-7834	<b>WEB MASTER</b> Capt Tom Houser, USAF 480-595-2041

Access Arizona Chapter's Internet Web Site at: <http://www.azchaptermoaa.org>

**Arizona Chapter**  
Military Officers Association of America  
14435 N. 66th Place  
Scottsdale, AZ 85254



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