



The Sentinel

Arizona's First Chapter



The Arizona Chapter

4333 W. Echo Lane

Glendale Arizona

85302

OCTOBER 2007 CHARTERED 1956 - 50 YEARS OF SERVICE TO COUNTRY EDITOR: TERRY TASSIN



President's Perspective by Terry Tassin

Fall is finally here! The end of September ushered in the beginning of cooler days for those of us who live in the Valley of the Sun full time. Now we should start seeing the return of our members who live out of Arizona during the summer months, and hopefully we will see an increase in participation at our monthly luncheon meetings.

The arrival of October not only brings us cooler weather, but the opportunity for a brief history lesson as well. On October 13, 1775, the Continental Navy was established. The Continental Congress authorized construction and administration of the first American naval force—the precursor of the modern United States Navy.

Since the outbreak of open hostilities with the British in April 1775, little consideration had been given to protection by sea until Congress received news that a British naval fleet was on its way. In November, the Continental Navy was formally organized, and in December Esek Hopkins was appointed the first commander-in-chief of the Continental Navy. His first fleet consisted of seven ships: two 24-gun frigates, the *Alfred* and the *Columbus*; two 14-gun brigs, the *Andrea Doria* and the *Cabot*; and three schooners, the *Hornet*, the *Wasp*, and the *Fly*.

During the American Revolution, the Continental Navy successfully preyed on British merchant shipping and won several victories over British warships. Even back in the early days of

our country lessons learned the hard way through war and battles were not heeded. After being disbanded for several years after the war, the United States Navy was again formally established with the creation of the Department of the Navy in April 1798.

In keeping with this Navy theme, we will host a special guest speaker at our October 20th luncheon meeting. A special thank you is extended to our own Carol Culbertson for introducing us to LCDR Lee Marona USN (Ret).

LCDR Lee Marona lives in Phoenix, drives himself (*for some of us this is a feat*), and is a survivor of the Battle of Midway. Lee also witnessed the Jimmie Doolittle raid when B-25 Mitchell bombers were launched from the *USS HORNET* to strike Tokyo

Arizona Chapter Calendar

- Oct 4**
 - BOD Meeting 1:30, AZ Veteran's Home, Room A107
- Oct 20**
 - General Luncheon Meeting, McCormick Ranch Golf Club
- Oct 26**
 - AZ VHOF Induction
- Oct 27**
 - AZ Council of Chapters meeting & Tucson Chapter 50th

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HELP WANTED!

Editor for Arizona Chapter MOAA monthly newsletter - *The Sentinel*. Need more information - contact Terry Tassin at 623-931-1546 or email: terrytassin@cox.net.
It's FUN - Try it you'll like it!!

Happy Halloween



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

Quick report on Fall Golf Tournament

Tentative profits for the Scholarship Fund from the tournament are \$730. We had 44 players and for the Spring event we hope to have 55!

Please note: Tentatively, the Spring Golf Tournament will be held on May 2, 2008 - put it on your calendar now!

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 donations to the:

Scholarship Fund

The Young's \$100

Memorial Cemetery Carillon Fund

\$100 donations received for the Chapter's Memorial Cemetery Carillon Fund from the Birtciel's, Tassin's, Fredrick's, Schluter's, Seidl's, Perkins', Pfordte's, and Joanne Thompson. Additionally, \$10 received from the Bartyzel's and William Johnson's, and \$50 from the Green's.

New Members

CWO4 Walter T. McCoy USAF(Ret) & wife Marjorie

15115 E. Vermillion Dr
Fountain Hills, AZ 85268
Tele: 480-836-9326
Email: mcmarj@cox.net

Please make an opportunity to meet our new members.

Luncheon Meeting Saturday, October 20 McCormick Ranch Golf Club

The next Chapter meeting is set for Saturday, **October 20** 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 7 of this newsletter. The deadline for reservations to reach Bill Johnson is **Thursday, October 18**. Come join us for good food and comradeship.

President's Perspective.....continued from page 1

in April 1942.

ENSIGN George Gay, a pilot in Torpedo Squadron EIGHT aboard *USS HORNET*, was shot out of the sky, landed in the ocean, and witnessed the Battle of Midway while treading water, and was the sole surviving pilot of Torpedo Squadron EIGHT. During this period in history Lee Marona was ENS Gay's plane captain. Lee was enlisted at the time and stayed on in the Navy after WWII, becoming a Naval Aviator himself. VT-8 was reconstituted during the Battle for Guadalcanal months after the Battle of Midway. Lee will be accompanied by Bill McGee, a veteran of that episode in VT-8's history.

This should be a very interesting presentation and I hope many of you will join me in welcoming Lee and Bill to the Arizona Chapter.



232nd U. S. Navy Ball

The 232nd U.S. Navy Ball, a Navy tradition, will be held on Saturday, October 13, 2007 at Luke Air Force Base, Club Thunderbolt, Social Hour at 6:00 p.m.- Dinner at 7:00 p.m. Dinner choices are: Prime Rib, Chicken Almondine, or Fettucini Alfredo. Dinner cost for military and their guests is: \$25.00 per person for E-1 to E-4, \$30 per person for E-5 to E-6, \$40 per person for E-7 to O-3, and \$50 per person for O-4 and above. Dinner cost for non-military is \$50 per person. Arizona sailors and Marines back from deployment overseas will be honored. U.S. veterans of foreign wars and peacetime are invited to attend and be recognized. Dance music will be provided by the Higher Power Band. Uniform for military is Dinner Dress Blue Jacket or Service equivalent. Formal civilian attire is authorized for all personnel. To attend the Navy Ball, contact Registrar Jenny Callan at: jcallan4@cox.net, telephone (480) 584-3611; or CAPT Carol Culbertson at: carolculbertson@earthlink.net, telephone (602) 943-7834.

Board Meeting Notes

The Board of Directors met on 6 September, 2007. The following items of interest were considered.

- ♦ **Treasurer's Report:** Indicated assets of:

Checking:	\$ 5654.28
<u>Scholarship:</u>	<u>\$ 6795.35</u>
Total Accounts:	\$12449.63
- ♦ **Legislative: National** - The House-passed version of the Children's Health and Medicare Protection Act of 2007 (SCHIP) (H.R. 3162) in addition to increasing coverage of lower-income children under Medicare, would reverse the 9.9% cut in Medicare and TRICARE payments to providers that is scheduled to take effect on January 1, 2008. The Senate passed SCHIP bill did not include the Medicare/TRICARE payment fix. **State** - Funding has been approved for twenty more VA counselors and for the Arizona Veteran's Home
- ♦ **Membership:** Dan Conway reported that he had sent out 230 letters to current and past members supporting the "Give Me Ten" program. Terry Tassin reported the chapter has 209 members as of September 6 with 27 new members since the first of the year.
- ♦ **Personal Affairs:** Bernie Conway has resigned as personal affairs officer thus leaving the position open. Anyone interested in serving in this position should contact Terry Tassin.
- ♦ **Programs:** Ideas for the Christmas Program in December were solicited. Final decision will be made at a later BOD meeting.
- ♦ **Historian:** Frank Birtciel reported that the club's history on the web site is up to date.
- ♦ **Level of Excellence Award:** Terry Tassin reported that the chapter had received a five star Level of Excellence Award from the MOAA's Council and Chapter Affairs Committee. The chapter was recognized for its exemplary performance. The Five Star Streamer will be presented to the Chapter by VADM Ryan at the Tucson Chapter's 50th Anniversary celebration on October 27.
- ♦ **BOD Meeting Location:** Future BOD meetings will be held at the State Veteran's Home on N. 3rd Street in Phoenix.
- ♦ **Chapter Meritorious Service Award:** Ron Perkins reported for Ron Worthington (chair) that several nominations were received and that the awards committee would present those names to be considered by the board at the next BOD meeting in October.
- ♦ **Nominating Committee for 2008 Officer Candidates:** Chuck Schulter (Chairman) reported that letters would be sent out to all members soliciting their interest in any chapter staff position. A motion was made to provide funding to pay for the postage. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Coming Attractions

By Chuck Schluter

October: LCDR Lee Marona is a WWII USN veteran, Pacific Theater. While assigned to Torpedo Squadron Eight (VT-8), and aboard the USS Hornet (CV-8) he bore witness to the Doolittle Raid in April 1942, and two months later, the Battle of Midway. He has a unique, historical "close and personal" story to share with us.

November: Annual Chapter Business Meeting - Chapter Meritorious Service Awards, Annual Elections, and Administrative Updates. It's your Chapter - be there!

December: Annual Christmas Meeting. Details to be announced. Holiday entertainment is being planned, and your Board is also considering a back drop of either a community, military or local charitable venue.

January: (Tentative) Matt Chitwood is the grandson of a Battle of the Bulge veteran. His personal research and on the ground tour of Bastogne and the surrounding areas adds flavor to the story of his grandfathers return to the battlefield, a post war meeting with the German soldier responsible for wounding him, and a Purple Heart.

February: Jean McFarland, a prominent local Business Woman and member of the National Speakers Association will discuss *Bullies in the Work Place*. Not working anymore? - think about those who we love, who still are out there! This is a provocative topic.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO AZ CHAPTER MOAA BYLAWS Submitted: 10/1/2007

The following are changes to be voted on at the October General membership meeting. Recommended changes are **underlined** with proposed deletions ~~lined through~~. Notice is hereby given that a motion will be made at the October general membership meeting to modify the Chapter bylaws as follows:

Article XI - Amendments, provides for Chapter bylaws to be amended as follows:

Section 1. The bylaws may be amended, repealed, or altered in whole or in part by a two-thirds vote of the membership present at any duly organized meeting of the Chapter, providing that a copy of any amendment proposed for consideration has been mailed to each member qualified to vote at least 15 days before the meeting.

ARTICLE VII - MEETINGS

Section 1. There shall be an annual meeting of the Chapter during the month of November for the receipt of annual reports, the determination of annual dues for the next calendar year, the election of officers and directors, and the transaction of other business. Notice of the meeting shall be **provided** to each member at least **15** days in advance and must conform to any notice requirements of relevant state laws.

Section 2. Regular meetings of the Chapter shall be held during the months of **September through May** unless otherwise decided by the board of directors. **Meeting format will be as determined by the membership.** Notice of each such meeting shall be **provided** to each member at least 15 days in advance.

Section 3. Special meetings may be called by the president with the consent of the board of directors, or at the request of five or more members. All members shall be notified in writing at least ten days prior to any special meeting stating the date, time, place and purpose.

ARTICLE VIII - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 4. The board of directors **is not** authorized to adopt **positions regarding local or national politics, legislative agendas, nor otherwise adopt** resolutions in the name of the Chapter.

ARTICLE X - COMMITTEES

Section 2. The standing committees of the Chapter shall include membership, programs, scholarship, **ROTC awards**, arrangements, legislative, and personal affairs. The membership committee shall secure new members to strengthen the organization. The program committee shall be responsible for suitable programs for all meetings. **The scholarship committee shall be responsible for the Chapter's Scholarship Program. The ROTC Awards committee shall be responsible for the ROTC Medals program.** The arrangements committee shall be responsible for making proper arrangements for all meetings. The legislative committee shall protect the rights and privileges of members by maintaining close contact with current and proposed legislative actions, will advise members accordingly, and will recommend action. The personal affairs committee will advise members and families of deceased members when in need as to their rights and privileges, and will assist members in securing veterans' and other benefits. Special committee assignments shall consist of a chaplain, a historian, a photographer, and a newsletter editor in addition to other assignments which might be advisable.

Section 3. At least 60 days before the annual meeting, the board of directors shall appoint a nominating committee of five regular members to nominate candidates for the elective offices. The committee shall notify the secretary in writing, **no later than the October board of directors meeting**, ~~at least 30 days before the annual meeting~~, of its proposed slate of officers and directors for the next calendar year. The secretary shall list in the chapter's **November** newsletter the nominated candidates for the elected offices. ~~or mail a copy thereof to each regular member at least 15 days before the annual meeting.~~

Legislative Update

Between the normal August national legislative recess and the lack of significant senate activity leading up to the Iraq status report from General Petraeus, little federal legislative action has been completed, some progress appears to have been made, and much work remains to be done. Although fiscal year 2007 is concluding, as we went to press all 13 FY2008 Appropriations bills needed to fund the federal departments for the coming year and the important FY2008 Defense Authorization bill which authorizes specific tasks remained works in process.

It looks like we are in for another cliff hanger win with respect to heading off mandated cuts to Medicare and TRICARE physicians that threaten each year to cut further into the population of physicians who are willing to accept Medicare/TRICARE patients. The House passed legislation (H.R. 3162) which would reverse the 9.9% cut in provider payments scheduled to take place in January. However, they attached the bill to the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) which would primarily expand health coverage for lower-income children. The Senate-passed bill for SCHIP did not include the Medicare/TRICARE fix. It remains to be seen how this will finally be resolved, but it is a good bet that the reversal will hold in some fashion or another.

Most of the other actions and issues we have been tracking are tied to the FY2008 Defense Authorization bill. If past history is a precedent, we are likely to see this one and many of the Appropriations bills drag on through the rest of the calendar year with stop-gap interim funding bills used to keep the federal government moving. Although we can not be certain of the outcome until it is over, the most likely one still includes the following. We expect to have the DOD proposed TRICARE and pharmacy increases put off completely for at least another year with any subsequent increase being much smaller than those currently proposed. We are likely to get a token, hopefully precedent setting, improvement in the SBP/DIC offset issue, and the active

military is likely to get the 3.5% pay raise we have been advocating. Beyond that, your guess is as good as mine on the nearly 200 other amendments to the bill that remain to be dealt with

One other item of good news has surfaced. MOAA has been advised that the Pentagon plans to drop the Social Security Number from ID cards. The current thinking is to have no more than the last four numbers showing with the whole number electronically encrypted. This is going to take several years to fully implement given the number of ID cards that are out there and the large amount of hardware and software that the military must modify. However, it will ultimately improve significantly on any potential for identity theft.

October Luncheon Meeting

WHEN: October 20, 2007
11:00 a.m. Social Hour
12:00 Noon Lunch

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

COST: \$19.00 - Per Person

DRESS: Casual

MENU: Chef's Choice

PROGRAM: LCDR Lee Marona USN
(Ret): "Midway to Guadalcanal"

Reservations need to be received by 4:00 p.m. on the Thursday prior to the luncheon date. Cancellations for reservations made need to be received by that same Thursday in order to receive your money back or not be charged for lunch. Please make your reservations early and send your check to Bill Johnson using the Meal / Meeting Reservation Form on page 7.

Items of Interest

Membership Matters

Fall is here and with that Dee Norton has begun the mail out to the new list of prospective members for our Chapter. She will do about 100 a month and see what type of interest we get. If anyone has any person interested in Chapter membership, please let Dee know their name and contact information and she will make sure that they get a membership packet.

Carillon Fund Donation

A big thank-you goes out to our Chapter members who donated to the Carillon Fund. Enough money was donated by the northern Arizona MOAA Chapters to ensure MOAA is memorialized on the Carillon Tower to be erected at the Phoenix Veterans National Cemetery. A letter of congratulation was received from the President of the AZ Council of Chapters. It reads:

"I wish to thank you and all of your members for their outstanding donation to the Phoenix Veterans National Cemetery Carillon Fund. All of the Arizona Chapter membership are to be congratulated. As always MOAA members can be counted on to step up to the plate when it comes to donating to such a worthy cause. Our name will be placed on the plaque for all to see for as long as the Carillon stands. It will read "THE MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA". Again, please pass on to all Arizona Chapter members my deepest appreciation for their great service and dedication to MOAA. It is occasions like this that make us so great.

Sincerely,
CW4 Robert F. Delker, USA (Ret)
President, AZ Council of Chapters, MOAA"

Luke Retiree Appreciation Day

Word has been received that the annual Luke Retiree Appreciation Day will be held on Saturday, November 17th. As always, everyone wants to know if flu shots will be available. As of right now, no word has been received regarding flu shots. As information is available, I'll try to get it to each of you.

Tops in Blue

Many of you are familiar with the Air Force entertainment group called **Tops In Blue**. Word has been received that they will be appearing on November 15th at the Peoria Sports Complex. That's all the information available to date. As more information about this show becomes available, the word will be passed.

2008 Staff Nominating Committee

Our annual Chapter election of officers will occur during our November General Membership Luncheon. In accordance with Chapter by-laws **Charles (Chuck) Schluter** has been appointed Chairman of the committee and is looking for volunteers to fill staff positions for next year. You may view the current slate of officers for 2007 on the last page of *The Sentinel*. All positions in the box labeled 2007 Board of Directors and Committee Chairman are crucial to the continued successful operation of your chapter. However, the only ones the Nominating Committee specifically addresses are the ones in the left column from President through Directors. The committee is also attempting to get volunteers to serve in the various chairman positions utilized by the Chapter. Please contact the chairman, Chuck Schluter at (480)563-8480 and offer your services. We really need your help - especially in the **Editor** position.

Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame

The 7th Annual Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony will take place on Friday October 26, 2007 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the El Zaribah Shrine Auditorium located at 552 North 40th Street Phoenix, AZ 85008.

Doors open at 10:30 a.m. and lunch is included with admission. Cost is \$25 per person or a table of eight (8) for \$200. Proceeds benefit the Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame in its mission to build the Arizona State Veterans Museum.

To register now or for more information about the Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame please visit www.AVHOF.org or call **Donna Adams** at **(602) 234-8436**. There is limited seating, so reserve your seats today for this once-in-a-lifetime event!



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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.**

General Fund: \$ _____

Scholarship Fund: \$ _____ [now a 501(c)(3) charitable 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 \$ _____ (**\$19.00** per person) for **20 October 2007**

Make check payable to: **AZ Chapter MOAA** **No Later Than: 18 October 2007**

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

The Arizona Chapter solicits advertisements for the purpose of defraying the cost of publication of the newsletter. The Chapter has not made any investigation as to the products and services advertised herein and makes no representation or warranties as to the advertisements in the newsletter. The Arizona Chapter is an affiliate of the Military Officers Association of America.

The Arizona Chapter - MOAA - 2007 Board of Directors and Committee Chairmen

PRESIDENT LCDR Terry Tassin USN 623-931-1546	NEWSLETTER EDITOR LCDR Terry Tassin USN 623-931-1546	CHAPLAIN LTC Bob Rutherford USA 602-944-4224
FIRST VICE PRESIDENT Col Ron Worthington USAF 480-945-4015	ADVERTISING LCDR Terry Tassin USN 623-931-1546	PERSONAL AFFAIRS Vacant
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SECRETARY Col Ronald Perkins USAF 480-961-8632	HISTORIAN / PHOTOGRAPHER LtCol Frank Birtciel USAF 480-945-2824	ARRANGEMENTS Marie Fredricks 480-836-8419
TREASURER Maj Bill Johnson USAF 602-690-1012	JROTC AWARDS LCDR Terry Tassin USN 623-931-1546	SCHOLARSHIPS Col Ron Worthington USAF 480-945-4015
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DIRECTORS Charles Schluter; James Seidl; Chester Baumer; Ronald Green; Jo Ann Thompson	MEMBERSHIP CAPT Dee Norton USCG 480-275-5089	WEB MASTER Capt Tom Houser, USAF 602-697-3123

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

Arizona Chapter
Military Officers Association of America
4333 W. Echo Lane
Glendale, AZ 85302



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