

## Minutes of the January 2011 General Meeting, Arizona Chapter MOAA

A luncheon meeting of the General Membership was held on January 15 at the McCormick Ranch Golf Club. President Ron Perkins called the meeting to order at 1200 hours and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by an invocation.

**Members Present:** Ron Perkins welcomed all and introduced guests at each table including new members Nancy Burt and Ole Griffith. Total people present: **67** including 63 members/spouses, 4 guests.

**Treasurer's Report:** Due to Bill Roscher's absence, January's board meeting minutes were referred to, which showed the Scholarship fund is \$10,894.68; General Fund is \$10,245.24 plus \$50 in Petty Cash for a total of \$21,189.92. Ron Perkins reminded members to renew their membership by paying their annual dues of \$20 regular members or \$10 for auxiliary members. He requested everyone mail their check to our treasurer, Bill Roscher ASAP.

**2011 Arizona StandDown:** Ron Perkins indicated he had sent an e-mail with information on this year's StandDown event. Volunteers are needed for February 4, 5, & 6. Members can volunteer to work a shift by signing up through the internet at [www.arizonastanddown.org](http://www.arizonastanddown.org).

**JROTC Medals:** Terry Tassin thanked all those who volunteered to present at one of the schools and indicated all schools are now covered. Terry indicated we should all be proud of the job these young people do and it is a rewarding experience to present at any of the schools.

**Membership:** John Ady announced National is offering another Give Me Ten drive and invited all those present to take one of the sign up forms and recruit friends, neighbors, family, etc. Active duty can sign up for a free National membership along with our initial free chapter membership.

**Arrangements:** Marie Fredricks provided information on our June outing to the Broadway Theater. A reservation form will be in The Sentinel and she urged all to make your reservation soon as space is limited.

**Website:** Rob Welch recommended everyone view the new website which is now up and running. Rob is open for suggestions for improvements. Ron Perkins indicated he will be submitting our new website along with the newsletter and recruiting brochure for National communications award.

**Programs:** Chuck Schluter thanked Billy Walker for joining us today as our guest speaker. February's speaker will be LTC Hoyt Slocum, Ops Officer 161<sup>st</sup> AZANG Air Refueling Wing. The following month Col Jill Nelson, who now commands all Border Security units and the Counter Drug Interdiction units of the Arizona National Guard, will present. Ron Perkins asked the membership to contact Chuck with suggestions for speakers and/or topics.

**Legislative Report:** Gary Fredricks gave a brief rundown on several current issues including the Defense Authorization Bill, upcoming State of the Union Address and the soon to-be-announced Federal budget. At a state level, the Governor announced this year's budget which includes a reduction for health care. He also referred to a flyer on each table to encourage members attend the annual Copper Shield/Copper Sword awards dinner on February 11. Many of us have met Scott Essex at one of our October picnic meetings recognizing Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve. Although never actually serving in the military, Scott is being honored for all he has done to support all branches of service. Senator Frank Antenori, District 30, will also be honored for his support of issues impacting veterans and military. He has sponsored or co-sponsored 14 or 15 bills related to veterans' issues and is a member of the Senate Committee on Veterans and Military Affairs.

**Auxiliary:** Kathy Upchurch indicated auxiliary and member spouses enjoyed doing Bingo November 4 and December 2 so a commitment has been made to conduct a Bingo session at the AZ State Veterans' home on the first Thursday of February, March, and April. If you have not already signed up for one or more sessions, please contact Kathy to let her know your availability. Volunteers need not be present each month but she does need to know when you plan to help so enough people will be available to support this fun-filled effort.

**Scholarships:** Rob Welch announced letters have been mailed to 17 schools requesting nominations. In addition, Rob has sent about six letters to various companies asking for donations to our scholarship fund.

**Treasurer Assistant:** Ron Perkins indicated Bill Roscher, Treasurer, is asking for an assistant. See Ron or John Ady if you are able to help Bill.

**Cell Phones for Troops:** Ron Perkins again reminded everyone to turn in old cell phones in the box available at every meeting. Each phone collected provides a 100-minute phone card for troops overseas. Ron suggested we reach out to others such as friends, grandchildren, neighbors, etc. to dispose of their old, no longer used cell phones to help out those stationed overseas.

**Lunch** was served and enjoyed by all.

**Captain Billy Walker:** Ron Perkins asked General Carl Schneider to introduce Captain Walker as General Schneider nominated Captain Walker to the Arizona Aviation Hall of Fame. Captain Walker is a retired senior airline pilot/test pilot with multiple aviation ratings from Commercial Hot Air Balloons to the large Airbus 1-320 and numerous FAA certifications. He was awarded the *Wright Brothers Master Pilot Award* by the FAA in May 2008 recognizing pilots who have conducted 50 or more consecutive years of safe flight operations. On March 26, 2011, Billy will be inducted into the Arizona Aviation Hall of Fame. He provided an interesting presentation complete with many pictures covering his experiences and adventures over many years of flying. He was born into an aviation family and soloed on his 16<sup>th</sup> birthday. His airline career began in 1967 with Frontier Airlines, where he spent two decades. Walker currently flies a WWII Boeing model 75 "Stearman" as a member of the Arizona Antique Aircraft Association. He flies both Lead and Wingman. The squadron flies in airshows around Arizona, Nevada, and California.

**Induction of 2011 Officers:** Ron Perkins installed the officers for the 2011 term:  
President – John Ady, 1<sup>st</sup> VP – Gregg Maxon, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP – Jim Cullison, Secretary – Beth Cullison,  
Treasurer – Bill Roscher (unavailable for the meeting)

Directors: Ron Green, Dan Conway, Rance Farrell, Rob Welch, & Ron Worthington

**Chapter 50/50 Raffle** collected \$172 with \$87 going to the scholarship fund. John Ady conducted the raffle with assistance from Kathy Upchurch. Five prizes were awarded: one \$5, two \$8, one \$24 and one \$40 for a total of \$85 awarded.

**Benediction** provided by John Ady

**Adjournment:** 2:10 PM

Respectfully submitted:  
Beth Cullison, Secretary