



The Sentinel

Arizona's First Chapter



The Arizona Chapter

8213 E. Del Camino Dr.

Scottsdale, AZ

85258

APRIL 2011

CHARTERED 1956 - 54 YEARS OF SERVICE TO COUNTRY

EDITOR: JIM CULLISON

President's Perspective

by Jon Ady



Rites of Spring

Greetings! It is hard to believe, but Spring is actually here and we are already one quarter through the year. As much as I enjoy having the Cactus League teams out here, especially my Chicago Cubs, it is nice that we can once again find places to park and get reservations at restaurants after the teams complete their March routines to get ready for the regular season.

Don't get me wrong as I appreciate the \$350 million positive impact the league has on our local economy, but it is also nice that we Valley folks more or less have things back to normal for awhile.

A Pat for Pat

As I write this article, I am reminded of all the good members we have and all the fine things we are doing within the chapter as well as outside of it. For example, this month, Pat Dale will lead us in another great chapter semiannual golf

tournament on April 8, with the profits going to our Junior ROTC Scholarship Fund. Did you know that approximately 50% of the revenue that goes to the fund comes from these events? So the next time you see Pat, why not give him a pat on the back and a big thank you for all of his efforts.

Council to Meet

In May, we will be honored to host the Arizona Council of MOAA Chapters for their semiannual meeting to be held on Friday, May 20, at the Fountain Hills Holiday Inn. A great group of MOAA members from throughout the state will be on hand, and we have extended an invitation to them to join us on the following day for our regular chapter luncheon.



I was privileged to attend the last council meeting along with Ron Perkins, and a lot of great ideas come forth from the group to improve our individual operations. We have a great committee working on this event that includes Marie Fredricks, Ron Perkins and Jim Cullison.

Let's Hear from You

In the meantime, as we look forward to the rest of the year, we can never have enough good ideas or suggestions from our individual members. Therefore, PLEASE contact me or any other member of the board with your ideas on how we can possibly make your MOAA chapter even better. We want Arizona Chapter MOAA to remain as a 5 Star Level of Excellence Chapter, so keep those suggestions coming.

That's it for now. I hope to see you at the April chapter luncheon on the 16th as we have another great speaker thanks to Chuck Schluter, our Program Chair, details of which are enclosed in this edition of *The Sentinel* newsletter.

Arizona Chapter Calendar

Board of Directors meets at 1030 hours, Rm. A107, in the Arizona Veterans Home, 3rd Street and Indian School Road. Members are invited to attend.

Upcoming meetings:
• April 7
• May 5

Member Meetings/Luncheons are normally held on the third Saturday of the month, Social Hour at 1100, Luncheon at 1200, at McCormick Ranch Golf Club, unless noted otherwise.

Upcoming meetings:
• April 16
• May 21

In this Issue

Page 2
• 161st ARW Multiple Missions
• Scholarship News

Page 3
• April Program
• Webmaster News
• Auxiliary News

Page 4
• Arizona Broadway Theater Outing

Page 5
• Personal Affairs
• Keep Us Informed

Page 6
• Legislative Update
• Donations

Page 7
• Free Tax Help
• Meal Reservation & Donation Forms

Page 8
• Need a Ride?
• Chapter Staff

161st ARW Spans the Globe To Carry Out Multiple Missions

Most of us might think the job of the Arizona Air National Guard's 161st Air Refueling Wing is to provide aerial refueling for Air Force aircraft.

They do that, lots of it. And lots more.

Lt. Col. Hoyt Slocum, guest speaker at the March luncheon, described the unit's wide range of capabilities and the role it has played since its inception in 1946, with then Capt. Barry Goldwater as one of its founders.

Flying the KC-135R, the Air Force's newest version of the dependable refueling tanker, the 161st flew 653 missions in FY 2010, amassing nearly 2,300 flying hours and offloading 6.3 million pounds of fuel.

The 161st, known as the Copperheads, was originally designated the 197th Fighter Squadron and utilized such aircraft as the F-51, F-86 and F-104 before transitioning to the refueling mission with the KC-97 and later the KC-135.

Lt. Col. Slocum, the 161st Standardization Evaluation Chief, noted that unit personnel have supported nearly every U.S. military operation since the Korean War, including most lately the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. He said the unit has moved from a strategic reserve to an operational reserve status and can interchange seamlessly with the active duty forces.

In addition to serving as primary refueling support in the Southwest, the 836 men and women of the 161st provide rapid mobility for worldwide deployment, including airlift and medical evacuation. As an example of the diverse missions, Lt. Col. Slocum described how the unit's aircraft are configured for medical evacuation in Afghanistan to provide fast transport of wounded soldiers to medical facilities. Casualties can be moved to Walter Reed Medical Hospital in the states in 24 hours.

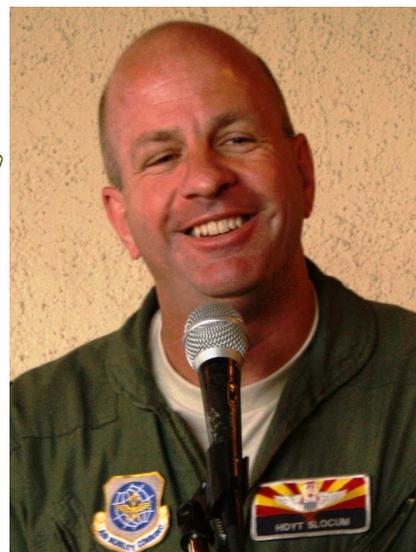
"The payoff is the highest survival rate of any conflict in the last 100 years," he said.

The unit also has a state mission and has provided security personnel, civil engineers, maintenance technicians and heavy equipment for such relief efforts as Hurricane Katrina, the massive Rodeo-Chediski forest fire and for the Operation Jump Start border security mission.

"We're always busy," he said.



Lt Col Hoyt Slocum described the 161st ARW's many activities, anchored by its 8 KC-135R refueling tankers.



JROTC SCHOLARSHIP NEWS

*by Rob Welch
Scholarship Chairman*

As of the writing of this article, we have received eight applications for scholarships from JROTC Cadets attending the 17 high schools our chapter supports.

By the time you read this article, your Scholarship Committee will have met on Monday, March 28, and selected up to \$6,000 worth of college scholarships to be considered by our Board of Directors.

Members of the Scholarship Committee were Bill Roscher, Ron Green, Ron Worthington and Rob Welch.

April Luncheon

History Will Come to Life with Story of the WWII WASPs

Our April 16 luncheon gives us a rare opportunity to see and hear from one of the unsung heroes of World War II, Betty "Tack" Blake.

During World War II, a select group of young women pilots became pioneers, heroes and role models. They were the Women Air Force Service Pilots, WASPs, the first women in history trained to fly and transport American military aircraft under the direction of the United States Army Air Forces during World War II. Betty Blake was one of those pilots.

Betty was flying in Hawaii at age 14. By 1941, she flew "Island Hops" and had earned her

instructor rating. On Sunday, December 14, 1941, her passenger canceled, thank God! She watched the attack from home on a hill overlooking Pearl Harbor.

Betty joined the first class of WAFs 43-1 (later named W.A.S.P.s) and spent all 4 years of WWII as a transport pilot ferrying 36 different type aircraft across the continent, including: L-5, L-19, BT-13 and 15, PT-19 and 22, AT-6 and 11, C-45 and 47, B-17, 24 and 25, P-38, 39, 40, 47 and the venerable P-51 Mustang...lots and lots of Mustangs!

Women Air Force Service Pilots from World War II and representatives of deceased WASPs were honored with a Congressional Gold Medal during a ceremony in the United States Capitol on March 10, 2010.

Betty will recall a unique chapter in aviation history and her role in it.

Don't miss this exceptional program. Make your reservations using the form on Page 7.



Auxiliary Corner *by Kathy Upchurch, Auxiliary Liaison*

After the March luncheon, several of us just wanted to continue with Bingo at the Veterans Home through the summer and revisit the program in September.

The dates for 2011 are April 7, May 5, June 2, August 4, September 1, October 6, November 3 and December 1. Sign-in is 1:45 p.m., then go to Room D-2 to help set up. Bingo is from 2:15 to 3:15.

Let me know which days you can work and if you want to take the short training to become a recognized volunteer at the home. I can be reached at 602-799-0240 or ksupchur@cox.net.



You may already have found a new feature on our website called "Personal Security". It is located under the Newsroom tab on the heading bar. The safety and security of ourselves and our families is of paramount importance to each one of us.

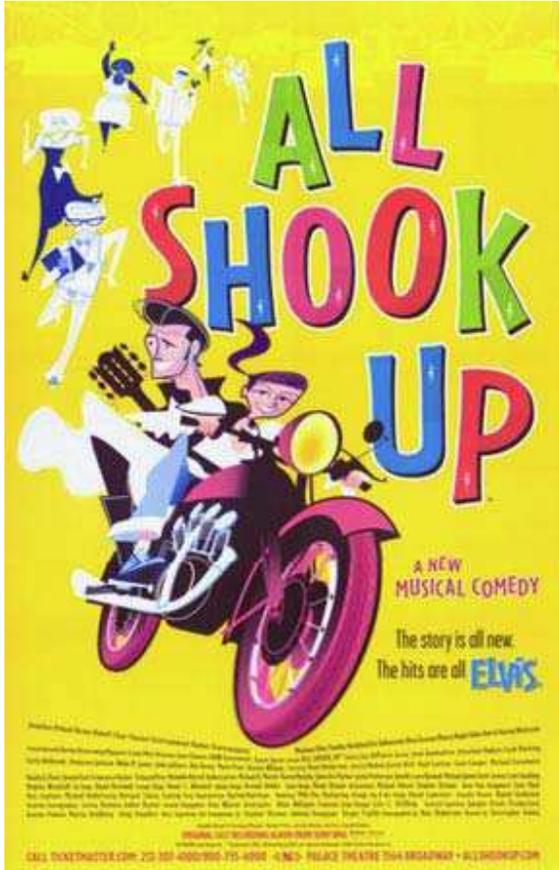
The rapid fire advances of technology today, coupled with our inbred need to communicate with others and extend our spears of influence, creates an environment which sometimes outpaces our ability to keep personal information about ourselves secure. In other words, sometimes identifying information about us is inadvertently published for all to see without our knowledge.

From time to time information is published that can help us protect ourselves, and we will pass that information along to you on this webpage. Please visit this page from time to time, and review any new information. I'll put anything new on top.

Please visit our website at
www.azchaptermoaa.org.

Arizona Broadway Theater Outing 25 June 2011

Arizona Chapter's 25 June Outing
At the Arizona Broadway Theater in Peoria
12:00 Noon, Socialize; Lunch at 12:30
Then Get "All Shook Up"



It's the summer of 1955, in a small Midwest town, when a young girl with big dreams falls for a motorcycle-riding stud who charges into town, and suddenly the laws of attraction are turned on their head. *All Shook Up* is built around the songs made famous by the one and only Elvis Presley. *Heartbreak Hotel*, *Love Me Tender*, *Hound Dog*, *It's Now or Never*, *Don't Be Cruel*, *Jailhouse Rock*, and many others are the iconic hits that create the perfect backdrop for finding love in the unlikeliest of places.

**\$50.25 Per Ticket Includes
Lunch, iced tea, coffee, water, gratuity.
Other drinks and dessert are not included.**

Theater location: 7701 W. Paradise Lane, Peoria

RSVP no later than **June 1**

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

Mail along with the form below to:

Marie Fredricks, 15403 E. Sunburst Dr., Fountain Hills, AZ 85268

Phone: 480-836-8419

E-mail: garymarie@cox.net

----- Clip Here -----

Name (Please Print): _____

Number of Tickets: _____

Amount Enclosed (# tickets x \$50.25): _____



Personal Affairs
by Dan Conway
Personal Affairs Officer

Planning Ahead: Advance Directives

By [Angela Morrow, RN](#)

Advance directives are a way to make your wishes about end-of-life care known and bring you one step closer to "a good death."

There's a lot of talk in our society lately about a "good death." A good death may look differently to each individual, taking into account their personal wishes and priorities. I've seen a number of "good deaths" working in hospice, deaths where the patient's and family's wishes are honored, and they are at peace with the decisions they've made.

I've also seen a number of bad deaths. These deaths are usually ones where the patient is subjected to futile treatments that prolong death, rather than life. Most often, these patients are unable to make their wishes known and their health care decisions are left to scared and unsure family members. By taking a few simple steps, you can make your wishes known and take the guess work away from your loved ones.

[Advance directives](#) are a way for you to make decisions regarding health care in advance. This document allows people to plan their health care before they become incapacitated or unable to make sound decisions for themselves. Advance directives consist of two documents.

Living Will

The first is a [living will](#). This document allows you to make your wishes known about the care you would like to receive at the end of life. It includes your wishes regarding:

- medical procedures you would want to receive
- procedures you would like to avoid
- life support
- being kept alive versus comfort care only

These aren't decisions that are always easy to make. For that reason, it's beneficial to consider them well in advance of a life-limiting illness or injury. Many people become unable to

make these types of decisions as they approach the end of life, so it's a good idea to complete a living will as early as possible.

Durable Power of Attorney for Health Care

The second document contained in an advance directive is a health care proxy, also known as a [durable power of attorney for health care \(DPOA\)](#). In this document, you appoint someone to make decisions on your behalf if you should be unable to do so. It's important to choose someone whom you can trust to make decisions that honor your wishes. You may also want to appoint a second DPOA to step in if your first choice is unable to make decisions for you.

Honoring Advance Directives: Because you can't rely on a piece of paper alone to make your wishes known, it is vital that you speak with your appointed health care proxy, or DPOA, about them in detail. Having this conversation is a step that can't be skipped. You may have wishes for your care that your DPOA isn't comfortable honoring based on their own values.

Discuss in Advance

Discussing this in detail can avoid distress down the road. It's also important to make sure everyone involved in your care has a copy of the advance directive. This may include your physician, hospital, nursing home, and home health or hospice agency. Keep the original in a safe but easily accessible place and have copies readily available in case of an emergency.

I believe that the above article provides very important information. In Arizona, the required forms and instructions are available at www.azag.gov.

Please consider me as a resource and don't hesitate to call with your questions and concerns at 480 368-1427.

Daniel M. Conway

Keep Us Informed

Please let the Chapter Secretary know when you change your address, phone number and/or e-mail address.



Legislative Update

by Gary Fredricks, Legislative Chair

Budget Game Continues

In last month's *Sentinel* I reported on the milestones and status of the FY2012 federal budget. The FY2012 President's budget request and accompanying proposal for the Defense Authorization Bill was submitted on schedule on February 14. It did not contain significant budget cuts recommended in the Deficit Reduction Committee report of December 2010 as was expected. The one issue that MOAA National picked up for debate was how the Government might index future TRICARE fees. That is currently a topic for MOAA advocacy during our April Storming the Hill session.

The next substantial effort toward an FY2012 federal budget is the ongoing activity of the House and Senate Budget Committees. Given what we see going on with the lingering FY2011 appropriations activity in Congress, we are sure to see some significant budget issues arise. We just don't know the specifics of those yet.

And that brings us to what has consumed Congress over the last few weeks, the FY2011 Appropriations Bill. Without money appropriated the federal government pretty much must shut down except for emergency services. We are currently on our third edition of a concurrent resolution that allows spending to continue at last year's rate pending approval of an FY2011 bill. That concurrent resolution expires April 8.

While we have had close calls, the last government shutdown for this issue was in FY1996. Given the deep disagreements on how much needs to be cut from the FY2011 bill to get consensus on passing it, MOAA has provided some guidance as to what might be expected if it doesn't pass and the government is forced to shut down. That MOAA National guidance from the March 25, 2011, MOAA Legislative Update follows:

- *Social Security checks* for current eligibles will continue, but processing of new applications will be likely suspended.
- *Military and federal civilian retired pay, survivor annuities*: DFAS and the Office of

Personnel Management won't give specific answers, but we believe checks to current beneficiaries will continue. The Social Security answer raises at least some question whether new retired pay and survivor accounts would be started.

- *VA disability compensation and survivor benefits*: The VA isn't talking on the subject, but a 2008 Congressional Research Service report said during previous shutdowns "multiple services (for veterans) were curtailed ranging from health and welfare to finance and travel."
- *Pay for active duty military and drilling Guard/Reserve members*: Again, DFAS won't give a straight answer. We know the troops will still be on duty. But some media reports have indicated they won't be paid if the shutdown encompasses a payday. When MOAA contacted DOD for confirmation, we were told an official release has not been issued by the Secretary of Defense.
- *Government services*: During the 1996 shutdown, national parks were closed, passport applications weren't processed, toxic waste cleanups were stopped and many federal contractors weren't paid, among other things.
- *One more thing*: after previous shutdowns, pay was approved retroactively for the furloughed employees.

MOAA thinks it is indefensible that government agencies refuse to tell worried employees and citizens what will happen to federal compensation and other programs in the event of a shutdown.

We'll let you draw your own conclusions whether budget brinkmanship politics make it convenient to give the impression that consequences might be even more severe than many expect.

Donations to Chapter Funds

Scholarship Fund

\$100, Anonymous

General Fund

\$210 From MOAA National

For Give Me Ten Recruitment in 2010

Consider a donation to our funds using the Financial Contributions Form on Page 7.

Free Tax Help for Veterans

The Phoenix School of Law, in conjunction with its Veterans Legal Clinic, will offer free tax preparation and advice for veterans from 9 to 1 on Saturday, April 2, at the school, 4041 N. Central Ave., Phoenix. The tax clinic is operated by law students who have Volunteer Income Tax Assistance certification.

Call 602-464-7830 for an appointment and information on what to bring.

April Luncheon Meeting

WHEN: April 16, 2011
11:00 a.m. Social Hour
12:00 Lunch

WHERE: McCormick Ranch Golf Club
Scottsdale, Arizona

COST: \$20 Per Person

DRESS: Business Casual

MENU Chef's Choice

PROGRAM: Betty "Tack" Blake, World War II Women's Air Service Pilot..

Reservations must be received by 4 p.m. on Thursday, April 14. Cancellations need to be received the same day to receive your money back. Use the reservation form below.

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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 with the appropriate fund and mail to: **Bill Roscher, 4337 E. Sands Dr., Phoenix, AZ 85050.**

General Fund: \$ _____

Scholarship Fund: \$ _____ [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 \$ _____ (**\$20.00 per person**) for **April 16, 2011**

Make check payable to: **AZ Chapter MOAA** Received No Later Than: **April 14, 2011**

Send to: **Bill Roscher, 4337 E. Sands Dr., Phoenix, AZ 85050; 480-948-3609; e-mail wroscher@cox.net**

**Need a Ride
To a Chapter Luncheon?**

Don't miss a chapter luncheon for lack of transportation. If you need a ride, just call Ron Perkins, 480-961-8632, in advance. He will arrange for a chapter member to give you a ride to and from the meeting.




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