



A luncheon meeting of the General Membership was held on September 17, 2011, at the McCormick Ranch Golf Club. President John Ady called the meeting to order at 1200 hours and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a few moments of silence to remember that combat ended in the Pacific Theater on September 2, 1945 with Japan formally surrendering aboard the battleship USS Missouri after the sacrifice of so many American lives. Also to remember all the victims of our terrible 9/11 tragedy 10 years ago.

Members Present: John Ady welcomed all and began with introductions. There were 7 guests and a total of 45 attendees present.

Treasurer's Report: Beth Cullison read Treasurer Bill Roscher's report from this month's board meeting: General Fund \$10,743.35 plus \$50 Petty Cash, Scholarship Fund \$10,462.51 for a total of \$21,255.86.

Arrangements: Marie Fredricks reminded all to attend next month's annual chapter picnic. Our chapter and *ESGR* (Employer Support for the Guard and Reserve), will be honoring companies for their support of the Guard and Reserve employees. The picnic will be held at the McCormick Stillman Railroad Park, Stillman Ramada, October 15 at 11:00 AM.

Programs: Chuck Schluter recapped upcoming programs and indicated he hopes to invite a speaker from national MOAA to present in 2012.

Legislative Report: Gary Fredricks talked about recent changes to the timing for distributing military retirement payments. He again emphasized the importance of each person emailing the MOAA letters, available on the National MOAA website, to Congress. Approximately 250,000 emails have already been sent concerning the deficit with only about 10,000 going directly to members of the deficit super committee. MOAA is developing a new letter for all MOAA members with congressmen on the super committee, expressing concerns to the deficit committee. Recommendations will be made in October which could have direct impacts to active and retired military. Other letters address pharmacy issues for filling prescriptions including a bill reducing co-pays on routine prescriptions filled via mail order.

Auxiliary & Wives Activities: Beth Cullison said Bingo at the Veterans Home continued through the summer months. She invited anyone interested to please join in helping with bingo held the first Thursday of every month. The veterans truly enjoy and appreciate it.

Other Announcements: John Ady reminded members they can order a chapter name tag from Terry Tassin for only \$5.

Carl Hayden JROTC: John Ady introduced Sergeant First Class Cliff Brumels, Senior Army Instructor, and Alan Rodriguez, Cadet Battalion Commander, Carl Hayden High School JROTC. Both Cliff and Alan thanked our chapter for our donation to support their JROTC's trip to South Dakota for a flag ceremony at Mount Rushmore. Cliff explained they currently have about 195 cadets in their JROTC program and are working to get a third instructor. Alan provided a fairly detailed summary of their road trip to Mount Rushmore including camping highlights along the way. They saw hundreds of buffalo, took many pictures, learned about the history and meaning behind Mount Rushmore, and experienced a very special moment when lowering the flag at Mount

Rushmore. They are now planning a return to Mount Rushmore to include white water rafting and would certainly appreciate donations to fund the trip.

Fall Golf Tournament: Pat Dale provided details about the November 10 golf outing to have fun and earn money for our scholarship fund. Golf participation only costs \$67 and there are many awards and a great lunch. Non golfers can still join in by sponsoring a tee for \$25 and/or enjoying the lunch for \$12. Further details are available in *The Sentinel* or on our website <http://azchaptermoaa.org/> under the “Action Programs” tab, “Golf Tournament Scholarship Fundraiser”.

Cell Phones for Troops: Pat Dale is collecting old cell phones and accessories for our chapter. Every old cell phone we turn in provides 60 free minutes of calling for our troops stationed overseas. Simply bring your old cell phones to a chapter meeting or turn in to any one of our officers.

Pat Dale National MOAA Recognition Award: John Ady presented Pat Dale the MOAA Leadership Award and letter from Admiral Ryan. Pat’s performance merits special recognition, particularly for his hard work raising money for the scholarship fund through the annual golf tournaments. Pat has increased participation, plans, coordinates and executes a flawless tournament time after time. The chapter owes Pat a huge debt of gratitude for his outstanding contribution.

Chapter Polo Shirt: Rob Welch has arranged with Antigua Company to produce a polo shirt with our new chapter logo. These shirts would normally retail for about \$60 but members can order one for about \$25. Contact Rob Welch at celticop@cox.net or call 623-533-3704 to order.

Rob Welch Communications Award: John Ady presented Rob Welch the National MOAA 2010 Communications Award for the chapter’s website. After our previous webmaster unexpectedly moved to Virginia, Rob took over and built a new chapter website. National MOAA recognized the website as the best chapter website in the country for chapters our size.

Gold Bar Program – AZ ARNG: John Ady explained National MOAA introduced a new program for local chapters to present gold bars to newly commissioned officers to welcome them into the officer corps. In addition, recipients are given a one-year membership to National MOAA and the chapter. Our chapter presented gold bars to six newly commissioned National Guard Second Lieutenants from the Arizona National Guard 215th Regiment OCS program.

Personal Affairs Workshop: Dan Conway will be heading a Personal Affairs Workshop October 22 at the Scottsdale Senior Center. Program and registration details are available in *The Sentinel*.

Arizona StandDown: The StandDown event helps over 1,000 homeless Veterans. John Ady explained in order to keep operating costs down for the upcoming Arizona StandDown event, the state has worked out an arrangement with the AZ State Fair. For every state fair volunteer hour starting mid October through early November, approximately \$10.50 is earned to offset the cost of supplies and using the coliseum for the AZ StandDown event. Sign up today at www.arizonastanddown.org and review all the opportunities available and indicate you are from our chapter. John will announce opportunities to volunteer at the actual StandDown after the first of the year.

Chapter Secretary: John Ady requested a volunteer to fill the soon to be vacant chapter secretary position. Please let any one of the officers know if you are interested in learning more about the position and offering your services.

Lunch was served and enjoyed by all.

Sheriff Paul Babeu: Chuck Schluter introduced Paul Babeu, Sheriff of Pinal County, Arizona. He made history as the first and only Republican elected to county-wide office since the county was established in 1875. He is also a Major in the Arizona Army National Guard, having served a tour in Iraq and 16 months deployed in Arizona on Operation Jump Start, Southwest Border Mission. Sheriff Babeu gave a very informative and interesting presentation providing specifics on border patrol and drug cartel activity near the border. He shared statistics and specific strategies for securing our border. The close of his presentation brought a standing ovation.

Reminder: The next board meeting is Thursday, October 6 and the BBQ luncheon meeting is Saturday, October 15.

Chapter 50/50 Raffle: \$50 was awarded: one \$10, one \$15 and one \$25 prize.

Benediction provided by John Ady

Adjournment: 1355 hours

Respectfully submitted:

Beth Cullison, Secretary