



Minutes of the January 2012 Board of Directors' Meeting, Arizona Chapter MOAA



Call to Order: President John Ady called the meeting to order at 1030 hours, Thursday, January 5, 2012, at the National Guard Distance Learning Center, 5636 E. McDowell Road, with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members Present: John Ady, Nancy Burt, Beth Cullison, Jim Cullison, Jim Draper, Rance Farrell, Gary Fredricks, Marie Fredricks, Ron Green, Frank Hoak, Ron Perkins, Bill Roscher, and Rob Welch.

Officer/Committee Reports:

Treasurer's Report: Bill Roscher reported the General Fund balance is \$9,387.88; Scholarship Fund is \$13,582.41 and \$50 in Petty Cash for a grand total of \$23,020.29. Bill presented a year end financial report for 2011 he completed which shows the books are in excellent order. Ron Perkins agreed to review Bill's report.

Legislative: Gary Fredricks explained the Department of Defense and appropriations bill was passed in December. Once again the TriCare changes were delayed. Congress will reconvene later this month and the President will present his budget request in mid February. Initial plans call for the \$460 billion budget cut and Congress will then work on the budget. Gary pointed out that the deficit was not addressed last year and being an election year, it may be overlooked for now but eventually it will hit. The Super Committee's failure triggered additional defense cuts. The State Legislature reconvenes next Monday which should include several military bills. There was some discussion about the Military Family Relief Fund and other issues. Gary explained the state conducts an audit of all departments every 10 years. The Department of Veterans Affairs audit occurred last year. Currently limits are placed on how much the DOD is allowed to charge for administering estates which often does not cover the actual costs incurred. Those limits may be raised this year. There was a discussion about the embezzlement from the National Guard Fund which recently came to light.

Arrangements: Marie Fredricks reviewed the luncheon meeting dates that have been firmed up for 2012: January 21, February 18, March 17, April 21, May 19, September 15, November 10 & December 15. It is too early to reserve our space for the October meeting at the McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park. Marie has signed the contract with McCormick Ranch Golf Club. The reservation date had to be moved up to the Tuesday prior to the luncheon and was covered in *The Sentinel*. Marie has obtained a menu list and will now choose the menu for each luncheon while staying within the budget. She also asked to continue using the Pavilion for our December meeting which allows more room to spread out. There was a concern raised about the level of noise from table discussions while the Dickens Carolers were performing. Once lunch is served, socializing is expected but if we have entertainment at future meetings, when introduced the president may ask members to lower their voices so others may hear.

Programs: John Ady said Chuck Schluter confirmed Colonel Lee Lange, MOAA VP Chapter Affairs, is our keynote speaker for the January luncheon meeting. The February keynote speaker will be a retired Colonel from the Arizona National Guard who now runs the National Guard History Museum. This promises to be an interesting and informative presentation. Gary Fredricks raised the on-going concern of low attendance for the November meeting which is our annual business meeting and awarding of Meritorious Service Awards. We discussed structuring the meeting differently to make it more interesting and appealing to our members. A decision will also be needed on whether the Dickens Carolers will be hired again for the December meeting.

Website: Rob Welch is about 85% complete in correcting problems caused when Go Daddy changed their software. Otherwise the website is current. John Ady mentioned the cutoff date for submitting award entries to National is February 1. Our chapter's website, electronic newsletter and recruiting brochure will be submitted.

Chapter Secretary 2012: John Ady had a discussion with Carol Winkler resulting in Carol agreeing if a replacement is available, to not become the chapter secretary. John called Leonore Hoak who had previously volunteered and Leonore agreed to become the new secretary. Bill Roscher made a motion seconded by Ron Perkins to elect Leonore to the secretary position. The motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Scholarship Fund: Rob Welch sent a solicitation letter to all chapter members requesting donations for the scholarship fund. Rob collected over \$800 in contributions excluding about \$400 in anonymous donations. Rob has also prepared letters and application forms for mailing to the 17 schools we support. Bill Roscher mentioned he had sat with a number of cadets at a recent career day event. None of the cadets were aware of our scholarship opportunity. Apparently the information mailed to the school had not filtered down to the cadets. Rob is now sending separate personalized e-mails to each school encouraging participation. John Ady will be appointing the scholarship selection committee during the March Board of Directors meeting. Rob will be on the committee along with three others. Rob mentioned we traditionally award \$1,000 scholarships but we could award scholarships in any amount as long as we do not award more than 50% of the scholarship fund. The scholarship committee will make recommendations on the scholarship recipients as well as the amounts to award.

AZ StandDown: John Ady sent an e-mail to chapter board members about volunteering for this year's event. John asked that anyone volunteering from our chapter to notify John so he can track our chapter's involvement. Ron Perkins shared his experience volunteering at the event. Typically you work one-on-one with the Vet acting as their guide to the various stations, e.g., dental, medical, etc. Ron indicated there are other stations to work as well and it is a very rewarding experience.

President's Absence: John Ady will not be available for the January luncheon but Rob Welch has agreed to chair the January luncheon and the February board meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Gift for COL Lee Lange: John Ady explained it is customary to present our luncheon speaker with MOAA glasses as a thank you from the chapter. After some discussion, Frank Hoak volunteered to pick up an XL Arizona hooded sweatshirt from Costco for presentation to Colonel Lange at our January luncheon, since he probably has MOAA memorabilia.

Installation of Officers & Board Members: Gary Fredricks suggested we ask Colonel Lange to conduct the installation of officers and all agreed that was a good idea.

5 Minute Speakers – February & March: Previously we had agreed to have members present an interesting experience from their military life. Frank Hoak will present in January, Ron Green in February, and Nancy Burt volunteered for March.

Greeters:

February – Ron & Betty Perkins
March – Jim & Beth Cullison

President's Activities Committee: John Ady established a new committee to brainstorm ideas primarily to improve the luncheon meetings but also other ideas outside the luncheons. John asked Marie Fredricks, Beth Cullison, Frank Hoak and Rance Farrell to meet and bring ideas back to the March board meeting.

November & December Meetings: Ron Perkins asked about issues related to the November and December meetings. All agreed to table the discussion until May.

MSA Awards: John Ady talked about awarding stars rather than the oak leaf clusters for the Meritorious Service Awards. Bill Roscher will research the cost of star pins available at Luke BX.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Membership: Ron Perkins reported total chapter membership is 221; 177 regular members and 44 auxiliary members. Annual membership renewals are now due. All are encouraged to renew soon to save time and money for the chapter. 54% of National MOAA members are Life members. Ron has queried National to determine how many of our chapter members are National Life members.

Chaplain: Ron Green is trying to recruit a new chaplain and asked for space to be available in *The Sentinel* for the chaplain to include a monthly writing. Ron said the potential chaplain has a ministry in Chandler and would not be able to attend chapter meetings.

USA Today: Frank Hoak said there was an article in *USA Today* earlier this week about the treatment of Gold Star widows and encouraged all to read. Frank will bring the article to the next board meeting.

Obama & Panetta Speech: Nancy Burt said Leon Panetta and President Obama are giving a speech today addressing military downsizing and other plans for the military.

MOAA Membership: Gary Fredricks said he is looking for ideas to bring back to National MOAA to help chapter membership. Gary will be attending a brainstorming session in Washington D.C., and would welcome any ideas for increasing chapter membership and national membership. Ideally every National MOAA member would join a chapter, but many do not.

Personal Affairs Article: Kris Hegle, *Military Officer Magazine*, contacted Jim Cullison for input to an article she is writing about our chapter's recent personal affairs workshop. She said she had also spoken to Dan Conway. Jim completed the interview and is expecting to see our chapter featured in an upcoming issue.

New Members: Bill Roscher talked about a couple of new and potential new members that plan to attend our January meeting.

Honoring Our History World War I: Nancy Burt said the national tour honoring the men and women who served in World War I will be on display January 18 at Falcon Field. Nancy provided the attached flyer which gives details for attendance.

Next Chapter Meeting: Saturday, 21 January 2012

Next BOD Meeting: Thursday, 3 February 2012

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1200 hours.

Respectfully submitted
Beth Cullison, Secretary