



# The Sentinel

## Arizona's First Chapter



The Arizona Chapter

8213 E. Del Camino Dr.

Scottsdale, AZ

85258

NOVEMBER 2012

CHARTERED 1956 - 56 YEARS OF SERVICE TO COUNTRY

EDITOR: JIM CULLISON

### President's Perspective

by John Ady



#### A Look Ahead

Hi, everyone. Over the last several weeks, I have had the opportunity to attend two national MOAA leadership events as well as the fall meeting of the Arizona Council of MOAA Chapters.

#### Future Priorities

From these sessions it became evident that two intertwined topics are at the forefront of our future priorities. They are: increasing chapter membership and succession planning, with emphasis on bringing new

#### November Dates of Note

**Nov. 3,** Air Force v. Army. Be good sports, join the cheering; see Page 2.

**Nov. 6,** Election Day. Be sure to cast your vote.

**Nov 10,** Marine Corps 237th Birthday. Semper Par!

**Nov. 11,** Veterans Day. Fly your flag, take pride in your service, thank a vet.

**Nov 17,** Arizona Chapter luncheon. Be there.

**Nov. 22,** Thanksgiving. Give thanks for our good fortune to be living in the USA. Eat hearty.

chapter members and leaders to replace those wishing to retire from active roles. There will be more information on those topics in the months ahead, but it's important that all of us realize that we need to continue to increase membership with quality new members. I might add that the more we can find recently retired officers to add to our chapter roles the better, as the future ultimately will rest with these younger members.

#### Recruiting Opportunity

With that in mind, may I again suggest we have great opportunities to introduce prospective members with a host of activities between now and year-end. One example will be our first ever no host party at the Nimbus American Bistro in Scottsdale, featuring the Army-Air Force football game on Saturday, November 3. Details are on Page 2. So "Bring a Buddy" to the party and let's have

some fun. And believe me, we will have the membership applications on hand!

#### Consider a Donation

Turning to another important matter, it's that time of the year when we start thinking about those final charitable checks we all tend to write. May I suggest, your chapter scholarship fund can use some of those dollars. Granting scholarships is one of our most important activities. Funding for the scholarships needs additional donations each year. Some of our former sources of cash no longer exist or have been curtailed for various reasons, so if you are able, please consider a year-end gift and send a check to our Treasurer, Bill Roscher. Even better, just bring it to our next luncheon. Thank you for all your previous generous donations.

In closing, as we enter the holiday season, I wish you and your families great times together and also look forward to seeing you at our last two luncheons of the year, plus the Army-Air Force football event.

#### Arizona Chapter Calendar

**Board of Directors** meets at 1030 hours the first Thursday of the month.

**Location:** National Guard Distance Learning Center, 5636 E. McDowell Rd. Show ID for entry. Members are invited to attend.

#### Upcoming meetings:

- November 1
- December 6

**Member Meetings/ Luncheons** are 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:

- November 17
- December 15

#### In this Issue

##### Page 2

- 2013 Officers
- November Program
- Scholarship News
- Army-Air Force Game

##### Page 3

- October Guest
- Member's Spotlight

##### Page 4

- 1st Chapter President
- December Program
- Hall of Fame Inductee
- Website News
- Donations

##### Page 5

- Personal Affairs
- Centennial Trivia

##### Page 6

- Legislative Update

##### Page 7

- Meal Reservation & Donation Forms

##### Page 8

- Veterans Day Deals
- Chapter Staff

## Officers/Directors Elected to Lead Chapter in 2013

Officers and Directors for 2013 were elected unanimously by members at the October picnic luncheon. Leading the Chapter next year will be:

**President:** COL Rob Welch, USA

**Immediate Past President:** COL John Ady, USA

**First Vice President:** Lt Col Jim Cullison, USAF

**Second Vice President:** CAPT Frank Hoak, USN

**Secretary:** Leonore Hoak, Spouse

**Treasurer:** COL Bill Roscher, USA

**Directors:** COL Nancy Burt, USA; CDR Jim Draper, USN; COL Rance Farrell, USA; Lt Col Ron Green, USAF and COL Dave Sale, USA.

The new officers will be sworn-in at the January luncheon meeting.

### JROTC SCHOLARSHIP NEWS

*by Rob Welch*  
*Scholarship Chairman*

#### TriWest Is Going Away

With the loss of the TriCare medical contract, TriWest, located in Phoenix, is expected to scale back their operations here. The loss of TriWest, by far the largest contributor to our Scholarship Fund, will have a huge negative impact on the solvency of the Fund.

If you have any contacts in another Metro Phoenix based company that you feel might be willing to support our Fund, please get in contact with me at [scholarship@azmoaa.org](mailto:scholarship@azmoaa.org).

#### You're a Difference-Maker

As the tax year closes, please consider a donation to your Scholarship Fund. If each of our members gave just \$10, we would be able to give one \$2,000 scholarship to a city youth aspiring to become a military officer and follow in our footsteps.

I hope you will consider giving more, but please consider giving whatever you can afford. Remember, it's tax deductible.

*Rob*

## November Program

### Honors to Employers, Members

Join us at the November 17 luncheon to honor local employers who have gone above and beyond to support National Guard and Reserve employees who have been deployed.

This annual recognition event hosted by our Chapter is a way of saying thanks to civilian supervisors who recognize the importance of their citizen-soldier employees and the vital service they provide to our country. The companies and agencies to be honored were nominated by their Guard and Reserve employees through the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Program.

#### Meritorious Service Awards

The November program also will feature the presentation of Meritorious Service Awards to chapter members who performed exceptional service to the Chapter. Their dedication and contributions helped the Chapter earn eight consecutive 5-Star Awards from MOAA.

Make your reservations and help us honor and say thanks to these outstanding employers and employees.



#### Who Will Win This Football Rivalry?

Who will be masters of the gridiron on November 3 — the Air Force Academy Falcons or the Military Academy Black Knights?

Join fellow Chapter members Saturday to find out while you cheer on your favorite team at our first no host tailgate party. The gathering begins at 10:30 a.m. at Nimbus American Grill Bistro and Brewery, on the northeast corner of Indian Bend and Scottsdale Roads.

The game is played in the East and actually starts at 9 local time, before Nimbus opens. But the folks at Nimbus have agreed to open earlier than the usual time to accommodate us. You can watch the first quarter at home and then assemble at Nimbus to see the outcome. No reservations required; just show up. It's OK to take sides. And "Bring a Buddy."

# October Picnic: a Blend of Barbecue, Ballads and Bagpipes

## Guest Performer

### Dick Sings the Warrior's Tunes

The Chapter's annual picnic meeting October 20 was a great day for fine food, hearty music and pleasant fall weather.

Our special guest this year was Lt Col Dick Jonas, USAF (Ret), former fighter pilot and Vietnam veteran, current song writer and balladeer, and president of the Northern Arizona Chapter of MOAA in Prescott.

With technical assistance from his wife, Mary, Dick sang a variety of warrior tunes. Some were humorous, such as "Throw a Nickel on the Grass," "Itazuke Tower," an airman's version of the old Hank Snow ballad "I've Been Everywhere" and a tribute to the Air Force F-16 Fighting Falcon. Others were more poignant, such as one he wrote as a tribute to Vietnam warriors while based in Thailand in 1968, "Will There Be a Tomorrow?"

The entertainment received a hearty round of applause as Dick closed his program.



*The food was flavorful and plentiful as members filled their plates and chowed down to prepare for a relaxing afternoon of musical entertainment at McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park.*

## Member's Spotlight

### Rob Plays the Piper's Tunes

Rob Welch is well-known as our award-winning chapter webmaster, scholarship chairman and now our incoming president. Add to that 20 years' experience playing the bagpipes.

Rob gave members a bit of history of the bagpipe, recounted how he got started playing it, and piped a few familiar tunes at the October picnic.

"People always ask me two questions," he said. "What do you wear under your kilt? (He's not telling) and why did you learn to play the bagpipes?"

So how did he get started? One of his men approached him one day and said they'd like to start a pipe band, and he thought to himself, "I'd like to do that." And he's been doing it for two decades. Rob now plays at military events, funerals and other venues.

Bagpipes go back many centuries, he said, with an early bagpipe being found in a mummy's tomb in Egypt. It is thought that the conquering Roman legions spread the instrument to Europe, and many countries have their own version of the bagpipe. The Musical Instrument Museum in north Phoenix displays many examples from around the world. It's most closely associated with Scotland, Rob said, because the Scots played it to lead troops into battle.

Asked what his neighbors think of his practicing, he said they don't mind. The neighbor to the north lives in Canada and only spends part of the time in the U.S., and Rob's home is on a slope, so the music drifts over the top of his neighbor to the south. No problem.

Rob concluded his program by piping "America the Beautiful," "It's a Grand Old Flag," "God Bless America" and the Marine Corps Hymn.



## Meet Our Presidents

### Our First Leader Sets the Standard

*(Editor's note: This is the first in a series of periodic features highlighting the Arizona Chapter's past presidents. It starts with our very first president, Maj Charles Powell.)*

Here's when it all began – 1956.

That's the year the Arizona Chapter was chartered as the state's first chapter in The Retired Officers Association, predecessor to MOAA.

The new chapter needed a leader, and that's where Major Charles E. Powell, USA (Ret), stepped forward to become our first president.

Major Powell was an Indiana native, born in 1884, and a veteran of both World War I and II. Beyond his military service, he also worked in civilian life as a railroad section foreman in Nevada and general office foreman in Texas, and as an inspector with the U.S. Border Patrol in Nogales, Arizona.

His pioneering leadership laid the foundation for the 51 Chapter presidents who have followed him.

He was living in Wittmann, Arizona, when he passed away in 1965, survived by his wife, Eudorah, three daughters, six sons and two brothers. He and his wife, who died in 1974, are buried in Glendale's Resthaven Park Cemetery .



### Hall of Fame Welcomes Ron Perkins

Col Ron Perkins, USAF (Ret), became the 19th Chapter member inducted into the Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame. He is flanked by Arizona Secretary of State Ken Bennett, left, and Joey Strickland, Arizona Department of Veterans Affairs Director, who presented the award at a ceremony October 26. Ron is a past chapter president, former JROTC instructor, VP of the Arizona Council of Chapters and Vietnam veteran.



### New Web Address

We have simplified our website address and moved it to [www.azmoaa.org](http://www.azmoaa.org), so please change your "favorite locations" on your computer. For a short period of time, you will automatically be directed to the new website when you use the old website address. With any move, there will be some minor glitches, so if you notice any problems, please bring them to my attention by e-mailing [webmaster@azmoaa.org](mailto:webmaster@azmoaa.org).

### I Need Old Rosters and Sentinels

Check your files and storage for old copies of *The Sentinel* and old chapter rosters. We are looking for *Sentinel* issues from the year 2001 and before. We will copy and return them if you wish. We are looking for chapter rosters prior to 2000. If you have any, please contact me at [webmaster@azmoaa.org](mailto:webmaster@azmoaa.org) or at [623-533-3704](tel:623-533-3704).

### Plan for Fun, Gifts in December

It's not too soon to make plans for the holiday luncheon on December 15. Our year-end event will feature good food, entertainment and the Chinese Auction of gifts donated by the Board of Directors. Mark it down.

### Donations to Scholarship Fund

Sharon Ady \$20

Contributions to our Funds support higher education opportunities for our community's young people and help keep the Chapter financially strong.

Please consider a donation to our Scholarship Fund or General Fund, using the Financial Participation Form on Page 7.



**Personal Affairs**  
by Dan Conway  
Personal Affairs Officer

### Important Health Care Documents

In the September *Sentinel*, I discussed Living Wills and also listed several other important documents which you should have in place relative to health care and end-of-life planning. I will now discuss the durable health care power of attorney, the durable mental health care power of attorney, and the HIPAA release.

#### Durable Health Care Power of Attorney

One the most important legal documents addressing health care is a durable health care power of attorney. This document authorizes a person, called the health care agent, to make medical decisions for you if you cannot, including the measures that should or should not be taken to prolong or terminate life support. You should appoint someone who is capable of negotiating and coordinating medical services. A health care proxy adds flexibility to the medical decision-making process, since not even the most comprehensive living will can anticipate every situation that might arise.

#### Durable Mental Health Care Power of Attorney

This document is similar to the durable health care power of attorney, but applies to mental health care decisions.

#### HIPAA Release

The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) was created to protect private health information. But the law can also make it difficult for someone to access your health records even if that is desired. As a result, many people sign a HIPAA release, which gives a trusted family member or friend, called a HIPAA representative, access to their medical records.

Why might you sign a HIPAA release? Because not every medical situation requires giving decision-making authority to a health care agent under your durable health care power of attorney. Let's say you're in the hospital for elective surgery, requiring a week of recuperation. You often experience severe migraines that can last for days. It might be

helpful for a close friend to assist you in monitoring your medical records if decisions have to be made before or after your surgery and a severe migraine makes it difficult for you to absorb the details. This can be done under a HIPAA release without ceding control to a health care agent under your durable health care power of attorney.

#### Forms Are Available

Forms for the Living Will, Durable Health Care Power of Attorney and Durable Mental Health Care Power of Attorney which include the required HIPAA Release are available from the Office of the Arizona Attorney General.

All of these documents need to be coordinated to avoid conflicts in carrying out your wishes. Signing a legal document and then filing it away is a mistake; you should review these documents at least every three years in light of your current health status and other documents you have signed. If you have a major health change, you may need to review the documents well before three years. Even the most astute lawyer will not be able to help you communicate important medical decisions without guidance from you about your health status. The guidance you give should be based on discussions you have with your neurologist and other medical providers.

#### Two Additional items

1. If you are interested in attending a Personal Affairs Workshop in early 2013, please contact me.

2. if you would like to write a Personal Affairs article for the *Sentinel*, please contact me.

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

**Daniel M. Conway**

### Break Out Your Uniform

Does your uniform still fit? Put it on, or just wear your medals, for the November meeting to support the Reserve and National Guard members who will attend to honor their employers with ESGR awards.

#### Arizona Centennial Trivia

From *The Arizona Trivia Book* by James E. Cook  
What was Lake Pleasant's original name?  
(Answer on Page 8)



## Legislative Update

by Gary Fredricks, Legislative Chair

### Where Do Things Stand?

With Congress having been on recess for elections since early October, nothing significant has happened legislatively in Washington since our last report. So, it seems like a good opportunity to stop and review basically where we are and what is on the horizon.

With Election Day set for November 6, I sincerely hope that you have either already voted or still intend to do so. No matter how frustrating things can get at times, voting is still the best way for us individually to try to help move the country forward.

So, we will soon see the results of the elections and you can decide whether or not you think we will be any better off. Of course, the new Congress and maybe a new Administration will not actually be seated until mid to late January 2013. In the meantime, the old "lame duck" Congress will be convening on November 13. That gives them less than two months, interspersed with some rather significant holidays, to begin facing some rather significant issues. So, what are some of those issues?

### FY 2012 Appropriations and Defense Authorization Bills

**At the very end of September**, before departing on their fall election year recess, Congress passed a six-month continuing resolution. That kept the government operating at the previous year's funding levels and kept paying our troops until April 1, 2013, without further congressional action.

**Consequently**, it left action on this year's appropriations bills and defense authorization bill still on the table. The House passed their version of a budget bill and defense authorization bill, but the Senate only accomplished getting a version of the defense authorization bill through committee. There are substantial differences between the House and Senate versions which ultimately must be worked out. The precedent is that the authorization bill will receive very limited debate and opportunity for amendment given how late

in the year it is getting to be.

**Probably the most significant issue** for us is how to head off a significant increase in TRICARE pharmacy costs of two to three times what they now are that was proposed by the Administration. The House found a way of doing this while the Senate committee did not. We really need to make sure the House version gets into the final bill.

### Fiscal Cliff and Medicare/TRICARE Payments to Doctors

**On January 2**, without further action by Congress and the President, we reach what has been called the "Fiscal Cliff." On that date the Bush tax cuts and the cut in Social Security tax withholding expire and "Sequestration" kicks in. A half trillion dollar reduction in defense spending over the next decade is already included in planning while Sequestration would double that, with the first increment mandated in FY2013. That has been deemed a disaster for defense and a probable push back into recession for the country.

**Also on January 2**, Medicare and TRICARE payments to doctors would be slashed by law by about 27% unless Congress acts once again to intervene. Try to find a doctor willing to treat you if that happens. The possible light at the end of the tunnel for these January 2 events is an apparent willingness to kick the can a little further down the road and push any action to the new Congress.

### Actions for the New Congress

**It's a good bet** that most of the above will still be unresolved when the new Congress is seated in January. The hope is that the lame duck session will have at least moved the suspense dates out a little to provide some time for the new folks to work the issues.

**Then, of course**, planning for the following year, FY2014, is supposed to start with a budget proposal by the President in February (March with a new Administration) although work on the current fiscal year, FY2013, may well still be pending.

**Finally**, I believe we reach the country's debt limit at about the same time, and we haven't even mentioned how to deal with the country's growing debt burden.

*Continued on next page*

**Legislative Update...Continued**

Our MOAA staff in Washington is currently working these issues with congressional staffers and working with The Military Coalition to support our position on the issues. They will continue to do so during the coming weeks and months ahead. We need to continue to stand with our Washington MOAA staff if we are to hope to have any success in defending what we all worked so hard to earn.

**November Luncheon Meeting**

**WHEN:** November 17, 2012  
11:00 a.m. Social Hour  
12:00 Lunch

**WHERE:** McCormick Ranch Golf Club  
Scottsdale, Arizona

**COST:** \$20 Per Person

**DRESS:** Business Casual

**MENU:** Roast turkey breast with sage stuffing, whipped potatoes, tossed salad, vegetables, fresh bread and butter, dessert, coffee and tea

**PROGRAM:** Recognition of local employers who support their employees in the National Guard and Reserves. Presentation of Meritorious Service Awards to chapter members.

Reservations must be received by 4 p.m. on Tuesday, November 13. Use the reservation form below. Cancellations must be received the same day to receive your money back.

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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 **November 17, 2012**

Make check payable to: **AZ Chapter MOAA** Received No Later Than: **November 13, 2012**

Send to: **Bill Roscher, 4337 E. Sands Dr., Phoenix, AZ 85050.** [wroscher@cox.net](mailto:wroscher@cox.net)

## Free Offers for Veterans Day

Veterans Day brings a number of deals for veterans and active members with valid ID.

A variety of restaurants will give free meals to veterans and active military, including Chili's, Olive Garden and Applebee's on the 11th, and Golden Corral and Denny's on the 12th. There's also free entry to national parks on Nov. 10-12 and to the Phoenix Zoo Nov. 9-12.

Go to [www.themilitarywallet.com](http://www.themilitarywallet.com) for more information and other offers.

**Trivia Answer: Frog Tanks.**

### The Arizona Chapter MOAA - 2012 Board of Directors and Committee Chairs

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Access Arizona Chapter's Internet Web Site at: [www.azchaptermoaa.org](http://www.azchaptermoaa.org)

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