



THE ARIZONA CHAPTER
Military Officers Association of America
Arizona's First Chapter



Minutes of the November 7, 2013 Board of Directors Meeting
Regional Training Institute, AZARNG, 5636 E. McDowell Rd, Phoenix AZ

Call to Order: President Rob Welch called the meeting to order at 1030 hours with the Pledge of Allegiance

Members Present: John Ady, Nancy Burt, Jim Cullison, Arlene Day, Mark Day, Jim Draper, Dave Fleming, Gary Fredricks, Ron Green, Frank Hoak, Leonore Hoak, Lee Lange, Bill Roscher, Rob Welch

President's Announcements:

- Melissa Weaver of the North Mountain Visitors Center, Phoenix has offered meeting space to the BOD as required without fee
- Chapter member Rob Welch was elected on November 2 as the Chairman of the Unified Arizona Veterans (UAV)
- The 2013/2014 winter edition of the Arizona Veterans Magazine has numerous articles of/by Chapter members – please read your personal copy for relevant items

OFFICER & COMMITTEE REPORTS

Secretary's Report: A motion was made by Jim Cullison and seconded by John Ady to waive reading last month's Minutes

Treasurer's Report: Bill Roscher reports current figures of \$9,954.65 in the General Fund, \$13,849.59 in the Scholarship Fund and \$100.00 Petty Cash for a Grand Total of \$23,904.24

Membership: Dave Fleming reports a current total of 229 members; 191 regular members and 38 auxiliary members. This is an increase of 27 members over the Chapter's 2012 numbers. Dave continues to clear up the roster and cross reference Chapter membership to that of National MOAA. Gary Fredricks mentions the funds that national MOAA offers to Chapters for member retention.

Arrangements: Arlene Day reports that plans for the November 9 General Meeting are set and the annual December Holiday Meeting (with entertainment) on December 14 has been finalized.

Council of Chapters: Ron Perkins reports from the island of Kauai; there will be a planning meeting on December 14 to add a Bullhead City/Kingman as a satellite affiliated with the No. AZ chapter.

ESGR: Chuck Schluter reports that the awards will be presented at the April 2014 meeting

JROTC: Terry Tassin is awaiting a new roster of participating schools for the 2013/14 year. Letters for this year's scholarships will be sent in January to the schools; all requests should be returned to the Chapter in March; decisions will be made by the third week in April and the awards presented at the May 2014 General Meeting.



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Legislative Affairs - Federal: Gary Fredricks suggests ongoing same old/same old battles. The FY2014 Defense Authorization Bill is stalled; the issue of Medicare/Tricare payments to doctors has severe reductions looming unless Congress acts prior to the December 31 deadline; a “continuing resolution” to fund our national government operations lasts only through January 15, 2014. For detailed information, please read Gary’s November Legislative Update in *The Sentinel*

Legislative Affairs – State: No report from Corey Harris at this time. Rob Welch notes that the State Legislature will be addressing the issue of tax relief on veterans pay; while not all will be exempt, the request is to double the current amount from \$2,500.00 to \$5,000.00. Also, UAV is considering backing a 100% exclusion of state taxes for disabled veterans.

Auxiliary & Wives: Nancy Burt and Leonore Hoak will address and mail this year’s holiday cards to all auxiliary members during the week of November 17. An invitation to attend the December Luncheon, compliments of the Chapter, will be enclosed with the cards.

MSVA/MANA House Liaison: Ron Green reports that he has delivered 795 cases of water (to date) for our local veterans. There is a current need for towels and toiletries, Ron is checking with several local hotels for donations. At this time the women’s veteran shelter has been closed and alternate housing has been found for those affected; Ron will check on the current status and/or dispersal of the \$500.00 Chapter donation.

Newsletter: Jim Cullison has no report at this time. Ed Balaban has announced his area departure in the near future, Jim is actively looking for a person to replace Ed and assume his duties as Editor of the award winning *Sentinel*. Please contact Jim Cullison for further information if interested.

Personal Affairs: Dan Conway has no report at this time. Dan has notified the Board that he will be retiring as Personal Affairs Officer effective December 31, 2013. Should anyone wish to follow in Dan’s footsteps, please contact Jim Cullison (cullison30@q.com)

Programs: John Ady has Retired Admiral Jim Symonds, who commanded the USS Ronald Reagan as our January speaker; February will be Retired Air Force Captain and motivational speaker, George Burk. Our December Holiday luncheon will not have a scheduled speaker. Future speaker possibilities are the Luke AFB F35 contingent and the Base Commander from Ft Huachuca Army Base. John is also seeking your ideas and input for interesting guest speakers

Public Affairs: Mark Day is currently working on plans for 2014 to increase the Chapter’s visibility. He will meet with Rob and Jim after the holidays to discuss options and get input.

Spotlight Speakers: Frank Hoak reports his current lineup of speakers – January/John Ady, February/Ron Perkins and March/Lee Lange. A request has been made for Gary Fredricks to speak at the April meeting (approval pending). Anyone wishing to join your Chapter members already “in the Spotlight”, please contact Frank (FHoak3@aol.com)

TOPS (Transition Center/Employment): No report from Jim Draper at this time



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Webmaster: Rob Welch has no report at this time

OLD BUSINESS

By-Laws: No report from Rob Welch this month

New Chapter Name Plates: Frank Hoak & Terry Tassin are working this on-going project. They hope to have new samples for review at the December BOD meeting

Toys For Tots: Terry Tassin is coordinating the Chapter program again this year. Please remember to bring your new, unwrapped toy to either the November or December meeting. There is a particular need for items for the 9 – 12 year age group. NO stuffed animals. Your participation is encouraged and greatly appreciated.

October Recruiting Drive Results: Dave Fleming reports 11 new Chapter members, 8 of which attended our October picnic.

December 7th Commemoration: Frank Hoak and Jim Draper will attend this year's ceremony as Chapter representatives and present the Chapter wreath.

NEW BUSINESS

2014 Golf Tournament: This year's tournament will be May 1 at the Rio Verde Country Club (just north of Fountain Hills). Pat Dale advises that he has signed the contract – so put the date on your calendar – this is the major scholarship fund raiser for the Chapter

Prescott Veterans Center: A request was made by the Prescott Chapter to support the naming of the new veteran center after a local doctor who has served and supported local veterans. This is a non-political issue; it honors a doctor for his service. The Chapter is asking support from all state service organizations. A motion was made by Bill Roscher, seconded by Jim Draper and passed by all present to send a letter of support.

MOAA COIN: The Board has voted NOT to purchase Chapter MOAA coins

2014 MOAA General Meetings: A motion was made by Arlene Day and seconded by Bill Roscher to amend the meeting dates to occur on the third Saturday of each month unless there is a holiday/schedule conflict. Motion passed by all present.
The 2014 dates will be January 18, February 15, March 15, April 12 (2nd Saturday due to Easter), May 17, September 20, October 18, November 15 and December 13 (2nd Saturday due to Christmas)

2013 Meritorious Service Awards: The awards will be presented at the December 14 meeting



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GOOD OF THE ORDER

- **AZ Veterans Magazine** – this free local publication is full of very good, useful information for veterans and their families. It exists solely on its advertising dollars. Frank Hoak has suggested that the Chapter consider taking an ad for 2014; perhaps as a recruiting tool. Mark Day has agreed to meet with Mark Fields, Publisher and Frank Hoak to discuss mutually beneficial options
- **Holiday Gift for Chinese Auction:** The BOD will again supply the gifts for the yearly auction. Please remember to bring your items to the December 14 luncheon
- **Superstition Chapter MOAA:** The Chapter is working on setting up a July 20th all chapter baseball game (Diamondbacks & Cubs). More info to follow
- **Spring Social Event:** John Ady suggests considering a spring training baseball game at Talking Stick as a possible Chapter social gathering. Last summer's trip to Chase Field for the Diamondbacks Salute to Veterans was well attended. More info to follow
- **Greeters:** November – Frank & Leonore Hoak; December – John & Sharon Ady
- **New Chapter Members:** A discussion was had on the importance of being inclusive, welcoming and talking to new members attending our Chapter events
- Auxiliary member Eleanor Pickett donated her husband's (Navy) Flight Poem plaque to the Chapter. A suggestion was made to donate the plaque to the Luke AFB Navy Chapter

Adjournment: 1220

Respectfully submitted,

Leonore Kenefic Hoak, Secretary