



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



**Call to Order:** President Dave Fleming called the meeting to order on February 4, 2016 at 10:27 am and led the Board in the pledge of allegiance.

**Members Present:** Dave Fleming, Donna and Ron Bright, Charlie Bitner, Jim and Beth Cullison, Jim Draper, Bruce Kosaveach, Lee Lange, Ron Perkins, Paul Schnur, Janet Stultz and Rob Welch.

**OFFICERS' REPORTS:**

**Secretary's Report:** President Dave Fleming called for a reading of the minutes of the previous Board of Directors meeting. Beth Cullison moved the minutes be accepted as published. The motion was seconded by Bruce Kosaveach and passed unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Charlie Bitner reported that we presently have \$6603.83 in the general fund, \$19479.94 in the Scholarship Fund, \$200.00 in petty cash for a Grand Total of \$26282.77.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Membership:** Dave Fleming reported that we currently have 144 regular members, 28 Surviving Spouses for a total of 172 members. At the present time 58% of the members have not paid their dues for this year. Dave named several that had not paid their dues and asked board members to remind them.

**Programs:** Programs Chairman Bruce Kosaveach reported that Joan Fudala is set for the February meeting. Paul and Barbara Schnur will present the movie "Serving with Honor, Mayo Clinic and the Military" at the March meeting. For the May meeting the speaker will be from the Phoenix Police Department. Bruce asked Board members for input concerning the content of the speaker's presentation. It was the general consensus that the "911 Call Center" would be the best idea for a topic.

**Scholarships:** Scholarship Chairman Rob Welch reported that he was in the process of setting up a protocol for the scholarships to be presented to the ASU ROTC programs. He still needs to talk to the Air Force ROTC and promised to do so this month. He opined that four scholarships of \$2500.00 each could be given. This assumes the Marine Corps will be added to the other three. The Chapter currently has about \$20,000 in the fund and the by-laws state that one half of that amount can be given out each year. Dave Fleming commented that the ASU scholarship proposal process must be fully understood and approved by the board before it can be implemented.

There is genuine concern the scholarship fund will not continue to generate enough income to meet the needs of the Chapter's plan to give out meaningful amounts in the



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**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**  
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scholarships. This will be discussed further in the report from Ron Perkins concerning the status of the Scholarship fund.

Following the report of the Scholarship committee, an ad hoc report on the status of the financial records was presented by Ron Perkins. Treasurer Charlie Bitner asked Past-President Ron Perkins to review the 2015 financial records. Ron reviewed and compared the financial record of the Chapter for 2014 and 2015 and presented the following conclusions.

1. General Fund and Scholarship Fund records are kept accurate thru Quicken.
2. The chapter did end with \$1,276.10 less than what they started the year with. 1/1/2015 started with \$8,500.41 and ended 12/31/2015 with \$7,224.31. It is important to note that the preceding year the chapter ended the year \$1,929.25 less than they started the year. This is not a good trend.
3. It is noteworthy that the scholarship fund ended up \$1,077.50 more than they started with. 1/1/2015; \$18,161.95 and ended with \$19,239.45. (It was noted that we only gave out two scholarships that year)
4. Charlie has established a base line for income and expense categories that will enable him to compare yearly income and expense categories to help in planning a draft budget for the next year.
5. Recommend the chapter be cautious when awarding scholarships and setting an expectation for future scholarship awards.

**Arrangements:** Dave Fleming commented that Susan Farrell is trying to arrange a group of Surviving Spouses to attend the Feb Luncheon and that they would like to have a separate table. Donna Bright reported that would be arranged.

**Legislative Affairs:** Lee Lange urged all members of the BOD use the sample letters in the MOAA Magazine and send them in with a personal note to their legislators concerning the status of health care funding. He also reported that there were issues in the State Legislature that involved veteran affairs which needed to be carefully monitored.

**Personal Affairs:** Lee Lange reminded all members to sign up for Medicare when the time arrives or there would be problems if that was not done.

**SPECIAL COMMITTEES:**

**Surviving Spouses** – No report

**Transition (Jobs) Liaison**– No report

**AZ Council of Chapters** – No report



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**Newsletter:** Jim Cullison reported the Newsletter continues to keep members well informed. A discussion ensued about selling sponsorships in the newsletter for \$100 per year per business card size ad. Other chapters are doing this with success. Jim Cullison reported that we have done this in the past and he would review renewing this method of raising money. A question was raised as to whether this was addressed in the by-laws and President Dave Fleming said he would review the by-laws and report back next meeting.

**Spotlight Speakers:** Dave Fleming reported that they have been set up for the next two meetings.

**Webmaster:** Ron Welsh reported that the website is up to date and in contention for another communication award. He said another important aspect is to get on social media. This would help attract younger members. It was suggested that we get the website on Facebook and national YouTube. President Dave Fleming said that he has some experience with Facebook and would try to help implement this upgrade.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Communications Award: The application was due February 1<sup>st</sup> and was submitted January 17<sup>th</sup>.

LOE submission is due March 1<sup>st</sup>. This is in the process of being submitted.

AVHOF nomination for a chapter member due March 31<sup>st</sup>: Our chapter has quite a few members in the AVHOF. Last year, two of our members were inducted into the organization. It was felt that we should submit a member for this award. Ron Welsh is being submitted this year but not by the Chapter. The consensus was that Jim Cullison be nominated by the Chapter. One person needs to write up the nomination and Dave Fleming will look into getting one of our members to submit Jim Cullison's nomination.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Auction of Diamondback tickets for March 17. John Ady donated two tickets to the Diamondback – Chicago Cub baseball game on March 17 here in the Phoenix area. Dave Fleming has put them up for auction online and so far has received a high bid of \$100. They will go to the highest bidder at the next general meeting.

Dave Fleming has developed a friendly letter (with input from Ron Perkins) to send to members who make reservations for the meeting lunch and then do not show or cancel. The letter politely asks them to pay for the meal as the Chapter has had to pay for their meal.



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Induction of new officers in December versus January: It has been suggested the new Board and Officers be sworn in at the December meeting rather than the January meeting. If that is done the Officers and Board can begin their responsibility at the January meeting. There was no objection to the proposal but the by-laws need to be reviewed. Dave Fleming will check on this and report back at the next meeting.

Dave Fleming announced that the Chapter's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary will be celebrated at the picnic in October 2016. A cake will be purchased for the celebration.

The Chapter will soon be out of gifts for speakers. Dave Fleming reported that there is not much of a choice of gifts in the MOAA catalogue. Lee Lange volunteered to look into ideas for a speaker's gift and report back.

February Meeting Greeters. Ron Welch and Wanda Fleming will be greeters at the next meeting.

**Any Other Business (AOB)**

Rob Welch reminded Board members of the Gala event for the AVHOF Society on Apr 9th. He said that he would reserve tables for the members of our Chapter.

Jim Cullison said that he would look into setting up a summer event similar to the one last year where members of the chapter attended a Diamondback's baseball game.

A discussion was held regarding the status of the golf tournament. This is the major fund raising for the scholarship fund. Discussion followed that this may be the last year for the golf tournament. An alternative fund raising event needs to be identified to replace the golf tournament. Beth Cullison, Ron Bright and Bruch Kosaveach volunteered to staff a committee that would look into identifying a new event to raise scholarship income.

Duty Officer: Ron Bright will be the duty officer for the February 20<sup>th</sup> meeting and set up the tables.

Adjournment: At 11:40 am Dave Fleming moved to adjourn the meeting and it was seconded by Rob Welch. The next meeting will be February 20, 2016.

Respectively submitted, Paul L. Schnur, MD, Secretary.