

### President's Perspective

by Lee Lange



#### Stepping Up

I am honored to become your chapter's 55th president.

Many outstanding leaders have gone before me to help make the Arizona Chapter one of the best in MOAA's chapter system. I have big shoes to fill and will do my best.

As always, chapter membership is our biggest challenge. Any healthy organization must bring in new members constantly. This is an all hands effort. Many of us know people who are eligible to be chapter members among

our friends and contacts. Bring them to a chapter meeting and we will make them welcome.

Once in the door, many will see that our group is value-added to their lives. This type of face-to-face recruiting is our best source of new members.

I'll also be working with our new membership chair, Dave Price, to make sure we do everything we can to keep the members we have now, and then reach out to the MOAA members in our recruiting area as

identified to us by MOAA national.

#### Scholarship Program

Our April luncheon featured the rollout of our new chapter scholarship program, developed by our scholarship chair, Rob Welch.

Based on an idea from Dave Price, the chapter decided to offer scholarships to ROTC cadets and midshipmen at ASU. We offer them to non-scholarship students who are seniors or rising juniors. These students are nearly certain to obtain commissions, but many struggle to make ends meet in their final year of school.

This year we awarded \$2,000 scholarships to two outstanding Air Force cadets and a Navy midshipman. Each of them gave inspiring talks that confirmed with us they will be outstanding officers in their services. Thank you, Rob, for making this happen.

*Continued on page 2...*

#### Arizona Chapter Calendar

**Board of Directors** meets at 1030 hours the first Thursday of the month unless noted otherwise

**Location:** National Guard Regional Training Institute, 5636 E. McDowell Rd. Show ID for entry. Members welcome.

**Upcoming meetings:**

- May 12
- September 1

**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:**

- May 21
- September 17

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#### A Farewell Note from Dave Fleming

As much as we love Arizona and the local area, we have decided to relocate to Florida to be closer to family. We will miss the comradery, friendships and shared values of the Arizona Chapter members that we've come to know and admire over these past five years.

So, it is with a heavy heart that we say "see you later" and wish you all the very best as Wanda and I head off to new beginnings and adventures.

**Dave**

# Scholarship Awards Presented to ROTC Standouts

The chapter's first three \$2,000 scholarship awards were presented to Arizona State University ROTC students at our April luncheon.

Our program moved from high schools to ASU after chapter member Captain Dave Price, USN, then the C.O. of ASU's NROTC program, brought to our attention the sizable debt incurred by ROTC cadets who are contracted by the military to serve, but are not receiving an ROTC scholarship. The debt can run in excess of \$50,000.

Captain Price and Colonel Pat Dale, our primary fund raiser for our scholarship program, presented the awards. The awards were presented to the following cadets who have exhibited clearly outstanding leadership qualities and possess the desire to make the military a career.

Midshipman Chance Callister, USNR, is a six year Army veteran with two deployments, including one to Afghanistan. He is enrolled as an Earth and Environmental student. His two goals in the Navy are to become an aviator and then an astronaut.



Cadet Major Forrest Babbitt, USAFR, speaks Russian and has served twice overseas as a cadet in charge of all ROTC students studying Russian abroad in Georgia and in Kyrgyzstan. He is currently the Force Support Squadron Commander. His goals in the Air Force are to become a pilot or go into a field where he can use his Russian language skills.



Cadet Lieutenant Colonel Nicole Berg, USAFR, is fluent in Mandarin Chinese and serves as AFROTC Operations Group Commander. Among her numerous academic and athletic achievements and awards, she was the 2015 State Triathlete Champion in her division and the recipient of Academic Honors in 2013-14-15. Her goal is to become a Special Agent in the Office of Special Investigations (OSI).

## *President's Perspective...continued*

### **Golf Tourney a Success**

Our annual scholarship golf tournament was held April 21 at the Stonecreek Golf Club. This was the 11<sup>th</sup> year Pat Dale has organized the tournament.

We had 72 players tee off for a great day of golf. A number of our members sponsored holes this year. Thank you. More of you joined us for lunch after the golfers came in. We did very well, raising \$2,250 for the Scholarship Fund. Many thanks to Pat and Patti Dale and the Dale family for an outstanding event.

### **Join Us in May**

Our May luncheon program features our own CAPT Frank Hoak, USN Ret, who will talk about his visit last year to North Korea. This trip was on Frank's bucket list, and he worked hard to make it happen. The North Koreans knew he was a former naval intelligence officer, so he likely drew a lot of attention. Join us to hear his perspective on the last true communist dictatorship in the world.

### **Honors for Rob**

*Rob Welch, left, was presented MOAA's Leadership Award at the April luncheon for his service to the chapter and the veterans community. Dave Fleming made the presentation.*



### **Donations to Chapter Funds**

#### **Scholarship Fund**

- Lee Lange \$250
- John Brammer \$100
- Bill Roscher \$50
- Anonymous \$20
- April 50/50 Raffle \$140



Plan to attend our  
May 21, 2016, Program

## **"10 Days in North Korea 2015"** **Frank Hoak, CAPT, USN (Ret)**

*"The fabric of North Korea is woven by the indoctrination of the citizens from childhood into the power of weapons and how having them and showing them protects them from the outside world.*

*We'll look at censorship of visitors and the practical side of entering the country and behavior while there".*



Frank Hoak is an accomplished writer with published works in Naval History and over 40 years experience in operational intelligence including management and field work assignments in investigations, interrogations, survival training, evasion techniques, resistance, escape, photographic and human intelligence. He is a worldwide traveler and noted public speaker on travel (specializing in the Pacific Ocean areas) and United States Naval History.

Frank began his Naval career as an enlisted man in 1955 and was later commissioned in 1960. He was the Executive Officer of Naval Investigative Service Office Unit 0893, NAS Willow Grove, PA, and later served as the Commanding Officer of the Fleet Intelligence Rapid Support Team Europe & Atlantic 0593 which participated in background investigations of domestic and international personnel at the same Naval Station.

Frank retired as Captain (O-6) with 29 years of service in 1984.

Saturday May 21, 2016

McCormick Ranch Golf Club

REGISTRATION must be received by 4:00 p.m. Tuesday, May 17

\$22 per person includes lunch. Make check payable to: AZ Chapter MOAA

Send to: Charlie Bitner, 134 E. Northview Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85020

Or contact Charlie at 602-943-0028 or charles.bitner@gmail.com

# Another Fine Day for Golf

It was another fine Arizona spring day as the chapter's annual golf tournament and scholarship fundraiser was held April 21. With 72 players, the event raised \$2,250 for scholarships. A JROTC color guard from Sandra Day O'Connor High School greeted golfers as they arrived.



Susan Farrell takes her approach shot as Dick Minor stands by. Below, Jack Farley follows his putt's course toward the cup.



Tournament Director Pat Dale closed the festivities by awarding prizes after golfers and guests enjoyed lunch.





## Personal Affairs

By Lee Lange  
Personal Affairs Officer

### Retirement Living Options

Living in age-restricted communities was invented in Arizona with the building of Sun City. Now continuing-care retirement communities (CCRCs) take the 55-plus concept a step further to include skilled-nursing and assisted-living components, along with the independent-living component of 55-plus communities. There are more than 1,800 of these communities nationwide and Arizona has its share of them. The following article was adapted from an MOAA piece written by freelance author and MOAA life member LtCol John Folkeson, USAF Ret.

#### What is a continuing-care retirement community?

A CCRC is defined as a retirement community that offers its residents a continuum of care. They are designed to provide safe and comfortable aging in place by offering independent living, assisted living, and skilled nursing. Some communities offer additional health care services like memory care, rehabilitation, and hospice.

A person who moves to a CCRC is typically an active senior, healthy enough to live independently in an apartment or home on the property. As these seniors age and their needs change, higher levels of care are available at a discounted rate within the community in which they are accustomed to living. One of the great benefits of a CCRC is partners are able to remain together, even when the level of need is different for each. Residents can spend the rest of their lives in a CCRC, moving between levels of care, as needed. The inclusion of health care options in the CCRC concept is a significant characteristic.

It is important to note that, in most cases, new residents must be in good health when they enter a CCRC. That means new residents are capable of independent living and do not need assisted health care measures.

These communities exist in both for-profit and nonprofit forms. For-profit communities will often cost more, and nonprofit communities can carry more financial risk. However, excellent communities can be found readily in both forms. As a consumer of the community's services, you will need to look into the soundness of the financial practices and structure of the communities in which you are interested. Choosing the right community for you involves plenty of homework, including visits to the places that interest you. Most CCRC's are very

accommodating to prospective residents. After all, they need you to decide to live in their facility.

#### CCRCs differ by their service contracts

Four different categories of "life care" contracts are commonly in use within the industry. These four categories are not necessarily exhaustive, but can provide a useful structure for better understanding and comparing offerings of different CCRCs. Keep in mind that some providers might even offer different categories of contracts at the same facility in order to allow them to better match marketplace needs.

**Extensive (Type A) contracts**, or life care agreements, include housing, residential services, amenities and unlimited access to health care at budgeted monthly rates that will increase only with inflation rates and operating costs. Type A contracts typically have higher entrance fees, as they work like long term care insurance in that the consumer transfers risk of future health costs to the CCRC.

**Modified (Type B) contracts**, like Type A contracts, include housing, residential services and amenities but only include a specific number of health care services. For instance, the contract would specify a predetermined number of days per year in the health center over the patient's lifetime. With the limited number of health care services provided, this contract typically requires a lower entrance fee, and the consumer assumes the risk for future nursing home costs.

**Fee-for-service (Type C) contracts** include housing, residential services and amenities for a fee, not including health care services. The resident can enjoy priority access to health care services but will pay the established fee-for-service rates. This type of contract is attractive to those who might not be able to afford the expensive up-front costs of Type A and Type B contracts and who do not anticipate using skilled-nursing care in the near term.

**Rental agreement (Type D)** Residents rent their housing on a monthly or annual basis. A variation on these agreements might be available where residents actually buy their housing units, and their monthly fees cover common-area maintenance and amenities. But this contract does not guarantee access to health care services.

For additional information on CCRC types and CCRCs in general, visit [www.seniorliving.org/lifestyles/ccrc](http://www.seniorliving.org/lifestyles/ccrc).

### Welcome Our New Member

**Jim Totman, Lt Col USAF (Ret)**  
of Scottsdale

Please meet and greet our new member.



## National Legislative Update

by Lee Lange  
Legislation Chairman

### Storming the Hill 2016

Each year MOAA brings together council and chapter leaders in Washington to "Storm the Hill." This year our own member Ron Perkins, president of the Arizona Council of Chapters, made the trip to Washington April 11-14.

About 160 MOAA council and chapter presidents from across the United States, accompanied by members of the national board of directors and headquarters staff, plus members of MOAA's Currently Serving Advisory Council, Currently Serving Spouse Advisory Council, and Surviving Spouse Advisory Committee, stormed Capitol Hill and visited nearly all 535 senators and representatives in support of two legislative priorities.

MOAA stormers used specially prepared color brochures to urge their elected officials to address two issues: 1) protecting Survivor Benefit Plan-Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (SBP-DIC) benefits for military widows and widowers from the military "widows tax," and 2) rejecting disproportional TRICARE fee hikes and plan changes. Search "Storming the Hill 2016" on the MOAA website, moaa.org, for links to the excellent brochures and facts on the two issues.

**Reject disproportional TRICARE fee hikes  
Eliminate the SBP-DIC Offset**

Prior to meeting with congressional leaders, Hill-stormers gathered in Alexandria, Va., to learn more about the key issues and meet with their storming teams. Gen Charles Robertson Jr., USAF (Ret), MOAA board chairman, opened the briefing by saying how important Storming the Hill is to the association, calling it "the most important day of the year for what we do."

Col Steve Strobridge, USAF (Ret), MOAA's Director of Government Relations, and his team led preparations for the event. He conducted the briefing on TRICARE fee hikes and the SBP-DIC offset.

This year, MOAA used social media and a Thunderclap campaign to inspire those who could not be present at the Capitol to contact their elected officials. Thunderclap uses social media platforms like Twitter and Facebook to mass-share a message in order to raise additional awareness about a cause. Members "storming" from home were asked to contact their elected officials and ask them to oppose disproportional TRICARE fee hikes,

cosponsor H.R. 1594 or S. 979 in order to repeal the SBP-DIC offset, or cosponsor H.R. 4519 that would extend the Special Survivor Indemnity Allowance.

MOAA members sent nearly 15,000 messages to Capitol Hill, and many legislators and staffers referenced the messages during their meetings with the MOAA stormers.

The daylong Hill storming event culminated with a dinner for MOAA Council and Chapter leaders and spouses, featuring keynote speaker Rep. Joe Wilson (R-S.C.), chair of the House Armed Services Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities. The Congressman has been a longtime advocate for survivors and is the sponsor of legislation to repeal the SBP-DIC offset.

The success of Storming is generally measured in increased number of co-sponsors for MOAA supported bills. Results of the Storming the Hill effort are still being tabulated, but co-sponsorships of the bills discussed with legislators are up 15% from levels before Storming. That number is expected to increase over the next few weeks.

To learn more about this year's Storming the Hill events, check out: [www.moaa.org/storming](http://www.moaa.org/storming). I will ask Ron Perkins to give us a summary of his Storming the Hill experience at our May meeting.

## State Legislative Update

### Legislature Nearing End of Term

The state legislature remains in session near the end of April with major work on a new budget still pending. Still in play is SB1316, which proposes a new flex loan product charging up to 204 percent interest. After passing the House by a narrow margin, a conference committee is now considering the bill in the Senate. Faith-based, community-based and military organizations, including MOAA, are pushing back hard on this high interest loan product which drives people even further into debt. All Arizona citizens are potentially at risk, including a majority of veterans in the state.

To update you on several other bills of interest to military members, let's review where we are now.

### **HB2009, Veteran-owned Businesses; Procurement Preference**

Would require the Arizona Department of Administration to establish a goal of awarding 1.5% of state contracts (approximately \$180 million) to qualified veteran-owned businesses beginning January 1, 2017, and increasing 3% or more every year after the first year. Primary Sponsor: Rep. Mark Cardenas, D-Dist. 19.

**Continued on Page 7...**

**...Legislative Report, cont.**

Major Actions: Passed by the House Military Affairs and Public Safety (MAPS) Committee on February 11. Passed by the House on February 18. Transmitted to the Senate on February 19. No action currently pending.

**HB 2033 - Post-9/11 veteran education relief fund**

Would create a Post 9/11 Veteran Education Relief Fund made of "private donations, grants, bequests,

**May Luncheon**

**WHEN:** May 21, 2016  
11:00 a.m., Meet & Greet Social Hour  
11:45, Lunch

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

**COST:** \$22 Per Person

**DRESS:** Business Casual

**MENU:** Soup, Chicken Caesar Salad, Fudge  
Brownie Sundae.

**PROGRAM:** Chapter member Frank Hoak will give us a first-hand account of his trip inside North Korea, "the Hermit Kingdom."

and any other monies" to provide financial tuition assistance to qualified veterans whose tuition assistance under the Post 9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2008 has expired. Would create a committee appointed by the Governor to oversee the fund under the administrative control of the Arizona Department of Veterans' Services. Primary Sponsor: Rep. Sonny Borrelli, R-Dist. 5.

Major Actions: First read and assigned to House Military Affairs and Public Safety (MAPS) Committee and House Rules Committee in January. Passed the House and was transmitted to the Senate in February. Assigned to Senate Public Safety, Military and Technology (PSMT), Appropriations and Rules Committees in February. Given a "Do Pass" recommendation in PSMT and Appropriations. Pending a vote in the full Senate.

**HB 2621- Veterans state park appropriation**

Would appropriate \$800,000 to the Arizona State Parks Board to purchase land to establish a veteran's memorial state park near Luke AFB. Bill was amended to establish a study committee to determine whether a veterans' memorial state park should be established. Primary Sponsor: Rep. Jonathan Larkin, D-Dist. 30, et al.

Major Actions: first read and assigned to House MAPS, Appropriations and Rules Committees in February. Larkin floor amendment removing the \$800,000 appropriation and instead creating a study committee was adopted. Amended bill passed by the House and transmitted to the Senate in March. First read in the Senate and assigned to the PSMT and Rules Committees. Given a "Do Pass" recommendation in PSMT and Appropriations Committees in March. Awaiting a vote in the full Senate.

**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: **Charlie Bitner, 134 E. Northview Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85020, 602-943-0028, charles.bitner@gmail.com.**

**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/RESERVATION FORM**

Please reserve \_\_\_ meals for (name): \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (\$22.00/person) for the May 2016 luncheon

Make check payable to: **AZ Chapter MOAA**

Send check to: **Charlie Bitner, 134 E. Northview Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85020, 602-943-0028, charles.bitner@gmail.com**

**Member reservations or call-ins WILL NOT be accepted after May 17.**

**Cancellations after May 17 will be charged and not refunded.**

**ROTC Marks 100 Years in 2016**

Reserve Officers Training Corps celebrates 100 years of producing commissioned officers for the U.S. military in 2016. President Woodrow Wilson signed the National Defense Act of 1916, effective June 3 of that year, that established Army ROTC at the college level and JROTC in high schools. The programs were later extended to the other services.



**Don't Forget**  
 Mother's Day, May 8  
 Father's Day, June 19



**See You In September**

This is the last regular edition of *The Sentinel* until September, as we don't publish from June through August. Enjoy the summer

**The Arizona Chapter MOAA - 2016 Board of Directors and Committee Chairs**

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

Arizona Chapter  
 Military Officers Association of America  
 13819 N. 51st Street  
 Scottsdale, AZ 85254



azmoaa.org



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