



THE ARIZONA CHAPTER

Military Officers Association of America

Arizona's First Chapter



Call to Order: President Lee Lange called the meeting to order at the Regional Training Institute, AZRNG, 5636 E. McDowell Rd., Phoenix, Arizona on May 12, 2016, at 10:30 am.

Members Present: Lee Lange, Paul Schnur, Donna and Ron Bright, Charlie Bitner, Jim and Beth Cullison, and Rob Welch.

OFFICERS' REPORTS:

President's Announcements: Lee Lange reminded the Board of the plans for the members of the Chapter to attend a Diamondback game as a group. Jim Cullison set this up. He reported that he has guaranteed 24 persons and so far 6 have committed. The game will be July 17 and the opponent will be the Dodgers. The price of the tickets is \$29.

Secretary's Report: The minutes of the April 7, 2016 meeting have been circulated to the Board so President Lee Lange asked that the reading be waived and they be approved as published. A motion was made to waive the reading and accept the minutes. The motion was seconded and it passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Charlie Bitner reported that we presently have \$7,183.82 in the general fund, \$16,959.21 in the Scholarship Fund, \$200.00 in petty cash for a Grand Total of \$24,343.03.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Membership: Lee Lange reported that we currently have 111 regular members and 23 surviving spouses for a total of 134. Lee said that he has been in contact with Dave Price the new membership chairman. They are developing plans to increase the membership of the Chapter. One plan is to write to all national members in this area. Another plan is to make arrangements for members to pay their dues online using their credit card.

Programs: Programs Chairman Bruce Kosaveach was not present so Lee Lange gave his report. The next program will be Frank Hoak reporting on his recent visit to North Korea. The September program will be a speaker from the Scottsdale Police Department talking about the 911 program. Lee and Bruce will meet over the summer and set up all the programs for next year.

Scholarships: Chairman Rob Welch reported that the ASU ROTC programs were very pleased with the scholarships presented to the ASU cadets. The presentation was well done and the cadets and their instructors were very pleased and impressed with the



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reception they received at the meeting. The Board gave Rob Welch a round of applause for a job well done.

Arrangements: Donna Bright reported that our contract with McCormick Ranch Golf Club for our luncheon meeting has been signed and the price will stay at \$22.00 per lunch. The contract is for one year from May to May. She was also able to get the times that we want. The price to the members will remain the same but it was suggested by Treasurer Charlie Bitner that in the future we look at increasing the cost of the lunch to our members. We have to comp the lunch for the presenter and often a spouse.

The usual ramada was reserved by Donna Bright and John Ady for the October picnic meeting. The fee was \$82.00. The same caterer will be used. Donna is looking into entertainment. One option is the person who did the program last year. Doan Ellis, Arizona State Balladeer and Marshal Trimble, Arizona State Historian were also suggested. A recommendation was made that we look into getting the program funded by USAA and Lee Lange said that he would look into that.

Legislative Affairs: Lee Lange reported that for federal legislation the recent Storming the Hill, focused on two main issues; 1. Holding down TRICARE fees and 2. Improving Survivor's benefits. DoD wants to raise the fees but not increase the level of service. The Congress is opposed to increasing survivor benefits because of the cost. On the State side he reported that the Payday Loan bill was killed. These issues were well covered in the current newsletter.

Personal Affairs: Lee Lange reported in the News Letter that members need to look at the need for continuing care as they grow older.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

Surviving Spouses – Susan Farrell

Lee Lange reported that Susan is doing a good job reaching out to our surviving spouses and encouraging them to come to the meetings.

Transition Liaison Jobs – Jim Draper

No report

Council of Chapters – Ron Perkins

No report

Newsletter – The Sentinel received a 4 star award from National so Jim Cullison was given a round of applause. Beth asks members to not send in reports in the PDF format. for Sentinel input.



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Spotlight Speakers – On temporary hold for now. We may start in the fall. We still have some members that have not presented. The problem is it takes away time from the guest speaker

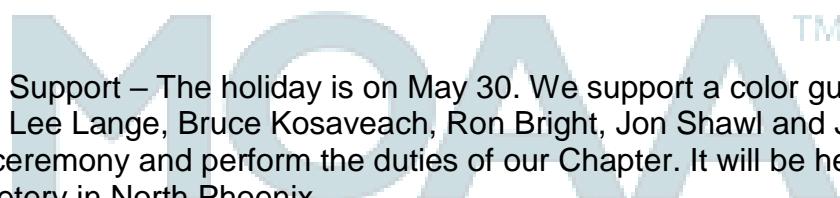
Webmaster – The Chapter's website won the 5 star award from National. Rob Welch reported on some changes that he has made to the site to upgrade it. He was given a round of applause for receiving the award. The question came up about Chapter Cross Feed. The cost is quite high and the interest is low so National is going to discontinue Chapter Cross Feed and those interested will be referred to the MOAA Blog.

JROTC Program – We had 15 Chapters to present awards too this year and all but one have been presented. MOAA National is planning to cut back on purchasing the medals and ask the local chapters to purchase them. Lee Lange does not know when this will happen but it may be a while as National purchased a large number of the medals before they decided to reduce the program. It was felt that even if National cuts back on their sponsorship we should continue the program.

MSVA/MANA House Liaison –A discussion was held concerning making a Chapter donation to this project. It was noted that Catholic Charities has taken over the facility so it was suggested that we not make a Chapter donation at this time. The Board was in agreement. A donation box will continue to be available at the Chapter luncheons so the members could make a donation directly.

OLD BUSINESS:

Golf Tournament Results. The event was held April 21st and it was an outstanding success. This tournament brought in the highest net income of any previous events. The final net income was \$2660.91. Pat Dale says that he will do the tournament again next year.



Memorial Day Support – The holiday is on May 30. We support a color guard and a wreath laying. Lee Lange, Bruce Kosaveach, Ron Bright, Jon Shawl and Janet Stultz will be at the ceremony and perform the duties of our Chapter. It will be held at the National Cemetery in North Phoenix.

Electronic Dues Payments Update. In the past we have talked about using the MOAA service to allow credit card payment of local dues. National MOAA will pick up the fees. If we adopt this service we may be able to decrease the high number of non-renewals of membership. Lee said that we will look into providing this service. There is a possibility that National might discontinue the program but if enough chapters sign up for the service National will continue it. The plan would be to use it in the fall. There was concern about National selling our members information. Lee said they will only give client information to MOAA related organizations but this will be checked out.



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NEW BUSINESS:

Chapter Recruiting. In the past several years there has been a significant decrease in our chapter membership. From 200+ to 130+ at present. Therefore, membership recruiting should be our number one issue. Dave Price has accepted the job of membership chairman and Lee is meeting with him next week. They will come up with a plan of action. Several possible activities were discussed. One idea is to get MOAA National to send letters or emails to National members who live in our area and do not have a local affiliation. Lee will assist Dave in putting together a Membership Committee.

Fundraising Committee Update. The committee met yesterday and discussed four plans. Members are Bruce Kosaveach, Jack Farley, and Lee Lange. Ron Bright and Beth Cullison. More money is needed for the scholarship program and the Golf Tournament is not sufficient to raise all the money needed. We need new sources of income. The first plan was a raffle and that has been put on hold. The second is an event at Paradise Bakery on Scottsdale Rd and Mayo Blvd. The committee will pass out flyers to the chapter and everyone that brings one in and orders dinner/other will earn us a percentage of their bill. The third idea is a rummage sale. There are problems with the amount of work needed for a rummage sale and the need for storage facilities. Discussion on their plans will continue. The fourth option would be a social gala with a silent auction. Discussion and plans will continue and the committee will report back.

MOWW Youth Leadership Camp Donation. This program has been in existence for a number of years. Dick Minor, a member of our chapter runs this program. This is leadership summer camp for youth from all over the state. It costs \$330 to send one student to the camp. We have contributed to this in the past and it was suggested that we continue. Lee Lange has a plan to get the money to cover this contribution and if the Board agrees he will pursue this plan. The Board agreed for Lee to investigate his lead for the donation. If he does not get the money from his source, he will bring issue back to Board.

Gold Bar Program. We have participated in this program in the past but not for the last several years. To participate in this program National MOAA buys the Gold Bars and our Chapter presents a set of Gold Bars to newly commissioned Second Lieutenants who have graduated from ROTC at ASU or one of the other local colleges such as Grand Canyon University, or are commissioned through the National Guard. We make the new graduates members of our Chapter. Most of these new graduates leave the area so do not continue as members. Some in the reserves or National Guard do remain in the area. This idea was referred to the Membership Committee.



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Sandra Day O'Connor HS Donation. JROTC students from this school help at our golf tournament and we provide them breakfast. Because of their significant help, a suggestion was made to donate \$200 to their support fund. A motion was made that we do so. The motion was seconded and passed.

Nominating Committee – 2017. By the September meeting we need a slate of officers for the Chapter for the following year. Chairman of this committee is usually the 2nd Vice-President. Since there has been a change in officers in mid-year Ron Bright who is now the 1st Vice-President volunteered to be the Chairman. The committee is then made up of another BOD member and an at-large member. Charlie Bitner volunteered to be the BOD member and the at-large member is to be determined.

May Meeting Greeters – Charlie Bitner and Donna and Ron Bright.

Other. Jim Cullison reported that our storage facility is increasing the rent on the facility so Jim is looking around for a better deal and closer to our meeting site. Jim rented it and is billed for the service and sends the bill to the Chapter.

AOB Jim Cullison will not be at the next Chapter luncheon and asked that someone take photos of the speaker and send them to him. Lee said that he would take care of that.

Next Chapter Meeting – May 21, 2016 - Duty Officer: Bruce Kosaveach

Adjournment: At 12:08 a motion was made to adjourn. It was seconded and passes. Next meeting of the Board will be September 1, 2016

Respectively submitted, Paul L. Schnur, MD, Secretary

Rev May 29, 2016
Sent to BOD

