



The Sentinel

Arizona's First Chapter



The Arizona Chapter

19507 N 73rd Lane

Glendale, AZ 85308

January 2019

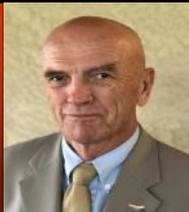
CHARTERED 1956

62 YEARS OF SERVICE TO COUNTRY

EDITOR: JANET LANGE

President's Perspective

by Mike Rogers



The Start of a New Year 2019

It is quite an honor to be elected to the President position of AZMOAA. I have learned from Lee Lange and Ron Bright throughout 2017 and 2018 and I feel prepared to serve the chapter. Of course, with an organization of our size, it takes a team of people to make things work. I am very happy to have a Board of Directors and committee leaders with such depth of knowledge to help in finding ways to have our chapter grow and prosper. When working with the National MOAA component at the November Convention, I found a wealth of information to further my knowledge of the way MOAA operates which will be helpful in 2019.

New Social Opportunities

The 2018 Board of Directors has been reviewing key issues within the Arizona Chapter. A major concern is attracting new members and keeping our current members. When reviewing activities through-out the year, Dave Price proposed a Happy Hour. This would allow members who cannot attend

our Saturday meeting and social event another option for participation. It also provides an opportunity to welcome potential members into our chapter. A list is being developed to identify additional opportunities for more social functions in 2019. The first Happy Hour is scheduled for January 24, 2019 from 5-7pm at the Scottsdale Thunderbird Suites Aviation Bar, 7515 E Butherus Dr., Scottsdale, AZ. We hope to fill the place with MOAA members and their guests. We are hopeful it will be a success and are already looking at a February Happy Hour. Increasing membership in today's environment is well stated in a recent article "the industry brims with theories on what makes millennials tick." We need to find something that will draw Millennials to AZMOAA. They are the next largest group after the Baby Boomers. Also, the majority of our members are in the central and east valley; mainly Scottsdale. The west valley has only eight members with most in Glendale. We need a small committee to develop ideas that would help attract

Millennials and increase members from the west valley. We encourage any members who would like to step forward and help in this endeavor.

New Budget

With the start of a new year comes the start of a new budget. I appreciate Charlie Bitner starting to build a working budget to cover all activities and expenses to help our planning. The budget will be developed by Charlie with a few people helping as there are many factors to consider. The net gain from a budget will be a smooth year in our finances.

New Volunteers

We experienced a very happy surprise at our December general meeting. With no secretary for 2019, Sherry Kosaveach volunteered to handle the secretarial duties at the general meetings. Later, Judith Brooks volunteered to take the Board of Directors secretary responsibilities. Those volunteers made a great early Christmas present! My thanks to both ladies!

I invite all members to join us at the January 19 meeting to help kick off 2019. I am wishing you a

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Arizona Chapter Calendar

Board of Directors meets at 1030 hours 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:
 • January 3
 • February 7

Member Meetings/ Luncheons are held on the third Saturday of the month, Social Hour at 1100, Luncheon at 1145, McCormick Ranch Golf Club unless noted otherwise.

Upcoming meetings:
 • Jan 19 Luncheon
 • Feb 16 Luncheon

In this Issue

Page 2
 • Welcome New Members
 • Membership by Dave

Page 3
 • Holiday Party and
 • Officer Inductions

Page 4
 • Jan Speaker Laura Tohe
 Navajo Code Talkers

Page 5
 • National Legislation
 • **MANA House** by Mike Rogers & Ron Green

Page 6
 • Personal Affairs
 • TAPS

Page 7
 • January Menu
 • Calendar of Events
 • Donations
 • Donation & Reservation Forms

Page 8
 • Treasurer's Article
 • Directory

Attachment: **HAPPY HOUR** Flyer

Welcome New Members

COL John A Repogle, USA (Ret)
and wife, Marianne Buettner
Virginia Diggs, Surviving Spouse

Membership Update

by Dave Price, Membership Chair

Happy 2019! I hope you all had a winning finish in 2018. I completed a very rewarding semester in December with my engineering students at the community college. They all demonstrated huge potential for very bright futures in science and engineering and ... they all passed! We often hear about this “snowflake” generation but my experience is that, on the whole, they can rise to a challenge just like our generations did. Yes, there was some whining about how much homework I assign and everyone knows that math sucks (a student-favorite Jimmy Buffett song), but they got through it just like we did. I challenged my second-year students with an all-new rocket design project. They used our CAD lab and 3D-printed them in the machine shop, including one that passed all aerodynamic stability and safety requirements and flew to a neck-craning apogee of 400 feet. Ground control to Major Tom!

Speaking of challenges, I challenged our chapter members to pay their annual dues early or on time this year and just over half have done so as this edition of the Sentinel goes to press. For the rest, please maneuver to the objective! Dues for 2019 were officially due on January 1. We all came up in the “on and on” standard of the military (on altitude, on air-speed, on heading, on target and ... on time). If you’re not sure you’ve paid or haven’t received an e-mail from me verifying that you’ve paid through 2019, please feel free to query me on your status at daveandsusanprice@cox.net. When Charlie Bitner receives dues payments, he informs me and I update our chapter database. Of course, it’s possible for me to miss something or fat-finger a mistake into the database. Some updates and reminders on membership and dues:

- * Our chapter by-laws require membership in both National MOAA and in the chapter. Please make sure prospective members understand this. We’ve got a few new folks in the chapter who

aren’t National MOAA members. Their membership does not count toward 5-Star Award consideration.

- * Regular membership in National MOAA is separate from the chapter and requires its own annual dues payment.
- * Those who are Life members in National MOAA have already paid their National MOAA dues up front, but are still required to pay annual dues for membership in the Arizona Chapter. Again, the memberships are related but separate.
- * Annual dues in the chapter can be paid by check, in person at the monthly meetings or by credit card online. Online payments can be for up to three years! Doing this has the added benefit of not receiving my routine and annoying spam dues reminders this time of year. Instructions and the payment link are at: <http://azmoaa.org/membership/renew-your-membership/>
- * In 2018 we were still collecting dues from some of our more delinquent members well into the summer. Yep, that’s not a typo. At the end of the year we had about twenty who lapsed on their local membership. This makes our current active membership right at 145 as we begin 2019.
- * Coincidentally, we had 20 new members join the chapter in 2018. Thanks for your recruiting efforts!

Finally, as we head into this new year, If you aren’t getting the Sentinel via e-mail, it’s probably because I don’t have your e-mail address in our roster/database or I have an old one or a mistaken one. I currently have 19 members in the chapter without an e-mail address. This results in much costlier snail-mail delivery of the Sentinel each month; a cost paid for by all of you via your membership dues. As we’ll be discussing more and more this year, our very well-volunteer-managed general fund and operating expenses are a balancing act. Getting rid of the snail mail costs of the Sentinel will make a big difference in keeping us in the black.

Ok, enough from me. My daughter-in-law and I like movie references, so I’ll finish with, “Focker out!”
Dave



Pictured Above are **2019 Officers**: President Mike Rogers, 1st VP Pete Berger, 2nd VP Tom Sheets, Treas. Charlie Bitner, Directors: Jack Farley, Bob Hinton, Jon Shawl, Judy Brooks, Bruce Kosaveach.



Above: 2019 President, Mike Rogers getting "pinned" by outgoing 2018 President, Ron Bright.

Mike Rogers left active duty in the Navy and joined the Reserve Navy in April 1980. He entered the civilian work force at Sprint as a computer systems manager until 1987. Next he went to work for United Airlines, in maintenance manpower, developing plans to maximize efficiencies of the labor force doing major aircraft overhauls. November 1999, found Mike at AAA in San Francisco in business system requirements for computer systems. In June 2006, Mike married Diane Wolfe of East Meadows, New York. AAA moved the IT department to Glendale, Arizona, in July 2006. With the move, Mike was reassigned to a two-man team performing root cause analysis for computer system outages and failures. Mike retired in July 2010 to lower his golf handicap. He has a daughter, Ashley, from his previous marriage who is now 31 years old, married and working in Silicon valley. There are no grandchildren yet.

Our Holiday Party



"Our *Chinese Auction*" ... Look at all those wonderful gifts!



Gina Vesco may have had the most "stolen" gifts until she finally opened a fabulous box of cookies!



Above Left: Bob Hinton "steals" a gift from Gina Vesco and Above: Jim Draper finds the bottle of his choice.



Left: Sherry Clark shows off her prize collection of goodies.



January 19, 2019



The Marine Corps recruited Navajo Code Talkers in 1941 and 1942. After the Navajo code was developed, the Marine Corps established a Code Talking school. As WWII progressed, more than 400 Navajos were eventually recruited as Code Talkers. The training was intense. Following their basic training, the Code Talkers completed extensive training in communications and memorizing the code. The Navajo Code Talkers developed their own code dictionary. This dictionary was kept secret for many years and was only made public in 1968. They served proudly, with honor and distinction. Their actions proved critical in several important campaigns, and they are credited with saving thousands of American and allies' lives.



LAURA TOHE is Diné. She is Sleepy Rock clan born for the Bitter Water clan and the daughter of a Navajo Code Talker. She holds a Ph.D. in Indigenous American Literature. A librettist and an award-winning poet, her books include *No Parole Today*, *Making Friends with Water* (chapbook), *Sister Nations* (edited), *Tséyi*, *Deep in the Rock*, and *Code Talker Stories* (oral history). She wrote a commissioned libretto, *Enemy Slayer, A Navajo Oratorio*, for the Phoenix Symphony. Currently she is writing a libretto for an opera to be produced in Europe in 2019. She is Professor with Distinction in Indigenous Literature at Arizona State University and is the Navajo Nation Poet Laureate for 2015-2019.

She will be speaking to us on:
NAVAJO CODE TALKERS

Saturday January 19th, 2019
McCormick Ranch Golf Club

REGISTRATION/RESERVATION must be received by 4:00 p.m. Tuesday, January 15th

\$25 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



National Legislative Update

by Lee Lange
Legislative Chair

MOAA Sets Key Goals for 2019

MOAA's top legislative goals for 2019 will be featured in the January issue of Military Officer magazine. Here's a preview of one key issue that affects you and ways you can make your voice heard.

Prevent Disproportional TRICARE Fee Increases

Background: The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) recently introduced, as a potential option, TRICARE for Life enrollment fees and minimum out-of-pocket requirements as ways the federal budget could escape red ink. Independent of the CBO report, DoD and Congress have stated retiree health care costs are spiraling out of control, and beneficiaries do not pay enough for their health care. Based on DoD's own data, MOAA knows this is not true - the real problem is attributable to rising institutional and readiness costs on the DoD side. Despite that, the report and the ongoing budget pressure have turned TRICARE for Life into a potential target for fee increases to offset readiness or other programs.

MOAA's Position: Military retirees, through their service and sacrifice, have paid in full for their TRICARE for Life benefits. Congress - not DoD - should determine appropriate TRICARE fees.

Actions: Reverse or significantly decrease the 2018 TRICARE Prime copayment increases for grandfathered/Group-A beneficiaries. Modify fee structure to reduce out-of-pocket costs for successive specialty appointments, such as physical therapy or mental health care. Protect TRICARE for Life as a second payer to Medicare Part B.

What can you do to help? Click on this link takeaction.moaa.org to send your legislators a message. Once MOAA's Legislative Action Center page comes up, select an issue, fill in your information and click on "Submit" to see the text of the message. Edit as desired and click on "Submit" again. The message will go to both U.S. Senators from AZ and your U.S. Representative. These messages work so do your part and send them. Don't forget to send a separate message from your spouse using the same steps as above.

Christmas 2018 at MANA House

by Mike Rogers and Ron Green

Unexpected presents provided by our AZMOAA membership brought smiles to the homeless Veterans staying at MANA (Marine/Army/Navy/Air Force) House. Thirty-two gift bags handed out by Chuck Ashby, the Coordinator for MANA House, brought happiness and warmth. Thanks to our members who helped in filling 35 bags with assortments of hygiene, socks and snack products, our gift-bag drive was a tremendous success! Three bags had 50 sets of toothbrushes, toothpaste and other items to be distributed as needed over 2019. Ron Green has been instrumental over several years in his efforts helping MANA House as well as a source of initial input to this event. He began by taking H2O to the Vets at MANA House eight years ago. He was sent to work with the Outreach Center (OC) which soon needed 84-bottle pallets which requiring heavy duty truck springs. Since Jack Chase was the only one with those springs, he became Ron's assistant. In addition, he expanded the OC where a doctor, dentist and hair specialist now help out.

Unfortunately, both Jack and Ron developed health issues at the same time and, although Jack stays involved, Ron decided to retire at the end of the year. So, **there is a now a need for a 2019 volunteer to take Ron Green's place.** Chuck Ashby is the contact for getting through the volunteer process at MANA House and he can be reached on his cell at 602-754-5443.



MANA House 2018 Holiday Packages



Personal Affairs

by Lee Lange, Personal Affairs Officer

FEDVIP Sign-up Extended Three Months

Sign-ups for the Federal Employees Dental and Vision Insurance Program (FEDVIP) have officially been extended for three months, officials at the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) have informed MOAA.

Open Season ended Dec. 10, but OPM has granted a "belated enrollment phase" for potential beneficiaries who missed the first deadline. Sign-ups should be allowed until about mid-March. The MOAA influenced OPM to grant more time for beneficiaries.

FEDVIP provides 10 choices for dental coverage. As of early Dec. 13, about 639,00 beneficiaries had signed up for dental coverage. The OPM goal is at least 800,000 signups. Vision coverage is also offered, through four carriers. FEDVIP vision plans help pay for routine vision appointments and frames, lens and contacts. As of Dec. 13, about 300,000 people had signed up for vision.

To enroll online visit BENEFEDS.com or call, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. Eastern, at 1-877-888-3337.

Beware of Scam

This scam was brought to our attention by one of our members, Dan Conway. Just when you thought you'd heard it all. The following is a recounting of an incident from a victim:

The scam starts with a phone call from someone saying that he was from "Express Couriers," (the name could be any courier company). He asked if I was going to be home because there was a package for me that required a signature.

The caller said that the delivery would arrive at my home in roughly an hour. Sure enough, about an hour later, a uniformed delivery man turned up with a beautiful basket of flowers and a bottle of wine. I was very surprised since there was no special occasion or holiday. I inquired as to who the sender was. The courier replied, "I don't know. I'm only delivering the package. Apparently, a greeting card was being sent separately (the card has never arrived).

He then went on to explain that because the gift contained alcohol, there was a \$3.50 "delivery/verification charge," providing proof that he had actually delivered the package to an adult (of legal drinking age), and not just left it on the doorstep where it could be stolen or taken by anyone, especially a minor.

This sounded logical and I offered to pay him cash. He then said that the delivery company required payment to be by credit or debit card only, so that everything is properly accounted for, and this would help in keeping a legal record of the transaction. He added, "Couriers don't carry cash to avoid loss or likely targets for robbery."

My husband, who by this time was standing beside me, pulled out his credit card, and the "delivery man," asked him to swipe the card on a small mobile card machine with a small screen and keypad. My husband was asked to enter his PIN number and a receipt was printed out. He was given a copy of the transaction. The guy said everything was in order and wished us good day.

To our horrible surprise, between Thursday and the following Monday, \$4,000 had been charged/withdrawn from our credit/debit account at various ATM machines. Apparently the "mobile credit card machine," which the deliveryman carried, now had all the information necessary to create a "dummy" card with all of our card details including the PIN number.

Upon finding out about the illegal transactions on our card, we immediately notified the bank which issued us a new card and our credit/debit account was closed.

WARNING: Be wary of accepting any "surprise gift or package," which you neither expected nor personally ordered, especially if it involves any kind of payment as a condition of receiving the gift or package. Also, never accept anything if you do not personally know the sender or there is no proper identification of the sender.

Above all, the only time you should give out any personal credit/debit card information is when you, yourself, initiate the purchase or transaction.



TAPS



*It is with great sadness that we inform you of
the passing of our good friend
and chapter member*

***CAPT Frank M Hoak III, USN (Ret)**
October 12, 1937–December 30, 2018*

Beloved Husband of Leonore Hoak

*We extend our heartfelt condolences to
Leonore and family*

January Luncheon

WHEN: January 19, 2019
 11:00 am Meet & Greet Social Hour
 11:45 am Lunch

WHERE: McCormick Ranch Golf Club
 Scottsdale

COST: \$25 Per Person reservation by
 4 PM on 1/15/2019

DRESS: Business Casual

MENU: Herb Roasted Chicken over Parmesan
 Polenta with Sherry Chicken jus,
 McCormick Signature Salad, and
 Triple-Layer Fudge Cake

PROGRAM: Laura Tohe, Ph.D will speak to us on
The Navajo Code Talkers

Arizona Chapter 2019 Schedule

January 2019:
 * Board Meeting on the 3rd
 * Luncheon on the 19th

February 2019:
 * Board Meeting on the 7th
 * Luncheon on the 16th

March 2019:
 * Board Meeting on the 7th
 * Luncheon on the 16th

Donations to Chapter Funds Scholarship Fund

**Robert and Lynne Swaine \$200
 in memory of Larry Kay Rasmussen**

G. Hadley	\$100
Raymond E. Boucher	\$100
Jeanne Blaes	\$100
Frank J. Johnson	\$100
Charlie Bitner	\$100
John E. Brammer II	\$100
Kathy S. Upchurch	\$75
Mike Rogers	\$50
Roger L. Schartzer	\$50
Albert B Crawford	\$25
Charles H. Schluter	\$25

Donations to Chapter Funds General Fund

Richard E. Minor	\$100
Robert Hinton	\$50
Charles H. Schluter	\$50
Virginia A. Vesco	\$25

CHAPTER FINANCIAL PARTICIPATION

If you would like to **make a donation** to one or more of the **AZ Chapter Funds**, include a separate 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: _____

LUNCHEON RESERVATION FORM

Please reserve _____ meals for (name(s): _____

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____ (\$25.00/person) for the **January 19, 2019 Luncheon**. Your check payable to: **AZ Chapter MOAA** at the luncheon or mail check to: **Charlie Bitner, 134 E. Northview Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85020, 602-943-0028, charles.bitner@gmail.com** by January 15. Credit Cards will be accepted at the luncheon.

**Member reservations or call-ins WILL NOT be accepted after January 15
 Cancellations after January 15 will be charged and not refunded.**

Treasurer Article - Jan 2019

If you wish to donate to either the Scholarship Fund or the General Fund, please submit a **separate check for each** as they are **separate charitable corporations**. Your lunch reservation should also be a separate check from your donations. However, you may continue to mail your lunch reservation check in the same envelope with separate checks for the General or Scholarship Funds if you wish. Separate checks are gratefully appreciated for your records as well as AZMOAA's. Thanks for your assistance with this! Charlie Bitner, Treasurer



The Arizona Chapter MOAA - 2018 Board of Directors and Committee Chairs

PRESIDENT CDR Mike Rogers, USN 925-360-4052	NEWSLETTER EDITOR Janet Lange, USMC Spouse 571-722-4348	CHAPLAIN COL Daniel Butler, USA 480-352-2682
FIRST VICE PRESIDENT Maj Pete Berger, USAF 602-739-0586	ADVERTISING Janet Lange, USMC Spouse 571-722-4348	PERSONAL AFFAIRS Col Lee Lange, USMC 703-232-3609
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SECRETARY Sherry Kosaveach, USAF Spouse 602-501-9876 CAPT Judy Brooks, USN 623-810-5790	HISTORIAN / PHOTOGRAPHER Lt Col Jim Cullison, USAF 602-482-3838	ARRANGEMENTS Col Lee Lange, USMC 703-232-3609
TREASURER Col Charles Bitner, USAF 602-943-0028	JROTC AWARDS Lt Col John Simmons, USAF 623-326-5352	SCHOLARSHIPS CAPT Phil Roos, USN Ret 928-420-2130
IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT COL Ron Bright, USA 480-614-9463	LEGISLATION Col Lee Lange, USMC 703-232-3609	TRANSITION LIAISON CDR Jim Draper USN 480-483-7769
DIRECTORS: CAPT Judy Brooks, USN; CDR Jack Farley, USN; LT Bob Hinton, USN; CAPT Bruce Kosaveach, USN; CAPT Jon Shawl, USN.	MEMBERSHIP CAPT David Price, USN 831-233-8131	WEBMASTER Vacant
	SURVIVING SPOUSES Susan Farrell, Surviving Spouse 602-993-8556	SHARE A RIDE Vacant

Access Arizona Chapter's Internet Web Site at: azmoaa.org

Arizona Chapter
Military Officers Association of America
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