



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



**Membership Meeting Agenda – Saturday, January 20, 2024**

*11:00 a.m., McCormick Ranch Golf Club, Scottsdale, Arizona*

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** Bruce led the group in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

**INVOCATION** The invocation was given by the Chaplain Miriam Rosa-Cummo.

**PRESIDENT'S WELCOME**

Bruce reminded everyone about timely RSVPs for the Member's Luncheon and the availability of paying for the luncheon via our MOAA website. Additionally, Bruce mentioned that this past December CDR Jim Draper USN, a chapter member, passed away. He asked the audience if anyone knew of service that were being held for him.

Bruce announced that member Ralph Vatalaro was recently married and asked that he introduce his wife, Linda.

Bruce asked for the members to look at the Committee List sheets placed at each table, asking members to volunteer for an opportunity to work with the AZ MOAA. The end goal is a more active and involved AZ MOAA!

**NEW MEMBERS & GUESTS RECOGNITION**

Three new guests were welcomed.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Charlie reported the general fund balance of \$ 7,734.57; scholarship fund balance of \$ 20,313.81.

**FUNDRAISING**

From the third football (NCAA) pool sponsored with the SW Veterans Chamber Tom Sheet presented Charlie with a \$365 check for the Scholarship Fund. General Crawford and Ron Perkins were both football pool winners. Gen Crawford donated his winnings to the Scholarship Funds.

**LUNCH SERVED**

**INTRODUCTION OF GUEST SPEAKER**

Mik Milem is an experienced executive with a demonstrated history of working in the non-profit sector. Prior to joining Soldiers Best Friend, he was the Chief Operations Officer for the Arizona Burn Foundation. He also served as the Dean of Students at Grand Canyon University and as a school administrator here in the Valley. Mik is passionate about helping veterans in their healing journey and is excited to lead the SBF



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team. Mik has a Bachelor's Degree from Oral Roberts University and a Master's Degree from Methodist Theological School in Ohio. In his spare time. Soldiers Best Friend is an Arizona-based 501( c)3 nonprofit dedicated to pairing and training service dogs with eligible veterans at no cost to the veteran. They source their dogs from rescue groups, thereby touching – and often saving-two lives.

Presented Mik with a check of \$500 as part of our quarterly goal to assist deserving veteran run non-profit organizations. Additionally he presented Mik with a challenge coin and a pen.

### **RAFFLE DRAWING**

Today the scholarship raffle had two award winners of \$40 each.

### **GOOD OF THE ORDER ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

#### February 29<sup>th</sup> Happy Hour:

Feb 29<sup>th</sup> has been selected as the fun event in between membership meetings, held once a quarter and at a different time after work! Standby for place and time information.

#### Super Bowl fundraising event:

Tom discussed the Super Bowl Football Pool and how to buy some squares.

#### Cubs Spring Training Game ticket auction heads-up 3/19:

Bruce gave everyone a heads up for the auctioning of the Cubs tickets that John Ady donates.

### **NEXT MEETING**

February 17, 2024 McCormick Ranch

February Duty Officer: Bob Fiegl

### **ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectively submitted,

Carole Litten, Secretary