



# The Sentinel

## Arizona's First Chapter



The Arizona Chapter

4333 W. Echo Lane

Glendale Arizona

85302

MARCH 2008

CHARTERED 1956 - 51 YEARS OF SERVICE TO COUNTRY

EDITOR: TERRY TASSIN

**DUES!! DUES!! DUES!! DUES!! DUES!!**

**Please renew your membership in the Arizona Chapter before March 31.**



### President's Perspective by Terry Tassin

A new month is upon us and with it comes many things to celebrate. March brings the warmth of Spring, the laughter of St. Patrick's Day, the joy of Easter and a visit from the Easter Bunny. I look forward to a full month of celebration.

I want to take a moment to express my gratitude to Gary Fredricks. His kind words at our February luncheon touched me. His words touched others as well. Where earlier notices for editorial help failed to produce a volunteer, after Gary spoke a member stepped forward and offered his services. I'm happy to announce that we will soon be seeing a new name at the top of The Sentinel, as Jim Cullison takes over as the new Editor of the newsletter effective with the May issue. After nearly seven years as your Editor this will provide me with a much

needed rest.

Speaking of our February luncheon; we had 45 in attendance and we all enjoyed good food, conversation and an interesting talk by Dr. Jean McFarland who spoke on *Bullying in the Work Place*. Personally, I was amazed by the magnitude of this problem and judging by the number of questions from those present, it appears many others were unaware of the problem.

Over recent months I have noticed several faces missing from our monthly luncheons. I would like to institute a new program I will call - "Each One Touch One"! If you notice someone missing from the group give them a call and invite them to attend the next meeting. If they need transportation either provide it or call Ron Drew and he will find a ride for them.

Remember - EACH ONE TOUCH ONE!

One last call for those members who have not renewed their Chapter membership for this year to please act quickly and get your dues in to me before the end of March. The strength of our collective voice in matters that affect our military community is much greater when we have a great number of voices speaking.

May the Luck of the Irish Be With You,

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

## Happy Easter!



### Arizona Chapter Calendar

#### March 6

- BOD Meeting 1:30, AZ Veteran's Home, Room A107

#### March 15

- General Luncheon Meeting, McCormick Ranch Golf Club

#### April 3

- BOD Meeting 1:30, AZ Veteran's Home, Room A107

#### April 19

- General Luncheon Meeting, McCormick Ranch Golf Club

#### April 26

- AZ Council of Chapters meeting - Prescott

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**SUPPORT OUR TROOPS — REMEMBER OUR FALLEN COMRADES — FLY YOUR FLAG**

## JROTC Award Presentations for 2008

*by Terry Tassin*

Many thanks to the below listed Chapter members who have volunteered to represent the Arizona Chapter at JROTC awards ceremonies this year. If you have any difficulty making your presentation date, please let Terry Tassin (623) 931-1546 know you will be unavailable.

School	Day	Date	Time	Location	Presenter
Alhambra HS	Thursday	01-May-08	6:00 PM	Auditorium	Doug Gray
Apollo HS	Tuesday	06-May-08	7:00 PM	Auditorium	Terry Tassin
Cactus HS	Friday	02-May-08	6:00 PM	Cafeteria	Ron Perkins
Camelback HS	Tuesday	06-May-08	6:00 PM	Auditorium	Gary Fredricks
Carl Hayden HS	Friday	02-May-08	6:00 PM	Auditorium	James Andrews
Central HS	Saturday	03-May-08	6:00 PM	Auditorium	Frank Birtceil
Cortez HS	Thursday	01-May-08	6:00 PM	Auditorium	Ron Worthington
Deer Valley HS	Friday	02-May-08	6:00 PM	Auditorium	Ron Drew
Glendale HS	Tuesday	13-May-08	7:00 PM	Auditorium	Jim Cullison
Greenway HS	Thursday	01-May-08	7:00 PM	Auditorium	Ron Drew
Moon Valley HS	Friday	09-May-08	6:00 PM	Auditorium	Ron Perkins
North HS	Wednesday	23-Apr-08	6:30 PM	Cafeteria	Bill Adams
Sandra Day O'Connor	Thursday	15-May-08	6:30 AM	Auditorium	Pat Dale
Shadow Mountain HS	Tuesday	06-May-08	6:00 PM	Auditorium	Bill Johnson
South Mountain HS	Thursday	08-May-08	6:30 PM	Pod 68	Bernie Conway
Sunnyslope HS	Thursday	24-Apr-08	6:00 PM	Cafeteria	Bill Adams
Thunderbird HS	Wednesday	14-May-08	7:00 PM	Auditorium	Ron Green

### Welcome to New Chapter Members

**LtCol Stephen R Miller USAF (Ret)  
and wife Sana**

16016 N 33rd Ave  
Phoenix, AZ 85053  
Tele: 602-993-0693  
Email: [srm4678@qwest.net](mailto:srm4678@qwest.net)

**Auxiliary Member**

**Mrs. M. Eleanor Pickett**  
2401 W. Southern Ave Lot 237  
Tempe, AZ 85282-4322  
Tele: 602-438-4437  
Email None

**Please make an opportunity to meet our new members.**

### Luncheon Meeting Saturday, March 15 McCormick Ranch Golf Club

The next Chapter meeting is set for Saturday, **March 15** at McCormick Ranch Golf Club. Bring a friend to our meeting and introduce them to a great group of people. The meeting will start with a social hour at 11:00 a.m. with lunch served at 12:00 Noon. The reservation form is located on page 7 of this newsletter. The deadline for reservations to reach Bill Johnson is the Thursday before the luncheon. Come join us for good food and comradeship.

#### Fund Donations

One person's generous gift will help strengthen America's future through supporting the education of our youth and the troops of our country. Since the last newsletter many thanks to the members below for their donations to the:

**General Fund (\$50)**  
The Germond's \$50

**Scholarship Fund (\$192)**

Jean T. Gallo \$25  
The Gannon's \$12,  
The Birtciel's \$25  
Trula Halpern \$25  
The Tassin's \$25  
Anonymous \$80



## **Board Meeting Summary**

by Ron Perkins, Secretary

The Board of Directors met on February 7, 2008

**Guest Speaker:** CDR Katherine O'Neill Tracy USNR, Deputy Director, Benefits Information, National MOAA, spoke in detail on benefits information of concern to all members of MOAA.

### **Officer/Committee Reports:**

**Treasurer's Report:** Bill Johnson provided a proposed budget for 2008 which was accepted as presented. He also reported the present status of fund accounts: \_General Checking: \$6829.89 Scholarship: \$8250.76  
Total Accounts: \$15080.65

The Treasurer is still looking for a volunteer to be his assistant in keeping the Chapter's financial books. If interested contact Terry Tassin 623-931-1546

**JROTC Medals:** Volunteers have stepped up for presentations at annual JROTC award ceremonies.

**Membership:** 154 of 212 members have paid their 2008 dues as of February 7. Dan Conway has completed the first mail-out of dues reminder letters. The second mail notice will take place after the February general meeting, to be followed up if necessary by phone calls. Dan Conway will concentrate his Give Me 10 recruiting efforts this year on Guard and Reserve personnel.

**Taps:** Notice received of the passing of Auxiliary member Lorraine Pritchard. Memorial donation to be made in her name to the AZ Veterans Home.

**Legislative:** Gary Fredricks reported that the Governor has replied to his effort as UAV President to raise awareness of veterans' concerns regarding the budget shortfall and the possible impact on Arizona veterans. In her letter, the Governor stated "In my plan, spending for veterans' services is among the critical services exempted from reductions." This is construed to be a positive response from the Governor.

**Newsletter Advertising:** Express Scripts and Morris, Hall, Kinghorn have agreed to again run their full page ads in The Sentinel for 2008. This will help offset the production costs of the newsletter.

**Scholarships:** Notification letters mailed to schools. Due to a down turn in the economy, Courtesy Chevrolet may only be able to donate \$1000 to the scholarship fund this year. Additional sources of funding are being sought.

### **Old Business:**

**AZ Tax Exemption of Military Retired Pay:** Rob Welch gave an excellent Power Point presentation on a proposal to stimulate Arizona's economy by eliminating the State Income Tax on the military pensions of veterans. A committee made up of, Committee Chair Dan Conway, Rob Welch, and Chuck Schluter will pursue this matter further.

**ESGR presentations:** Chuck Schluter is the "lead" officer on this matter. Presentations will take place at either the September or November general meeting.

### **New Business:**

**Chapter Outreach Project:** It was recommended the Chapter support an outreach project where volunteers would be used at the Arizona State Veteran Home in their "Adopt-A-Vet" program. This program matches volunteers in the community with a veteran living in their nursing home. Volunteers come in to visit, play a game of checkers or take them for a stroll in the park next door. There are three levels of commitment depending upon your availability. Details to be provided by email and newsletter.

### **Good of the Order:**

**Voices Take Flight program** location has been changed from the Sun Dome to the Phoenix First Assembly, 13613 N. Cave Creek Road, Phoenix, AZ on Saturday March 8, 2008 from 2:00 to 4:30 PM.

**Spring Golf Tournament** is scheduled for Friday, 25 April at Rolling Hills Golf Course.

**Phoenix Suns Tickets** will be auctioned off at the March luncheon meeting. These are Ron Drew's season tickets and are excellent seats.

## **Coming Attractions**

By Chuck Schluter



**March 15:** BG Wayne Hoffman is our National MOAA Chaplain and also a member of the Board of Directors. His topic is entitled "*Facing the Future without Fret or Fear*". When you were active, you were "*Ready - Willing and Able*", but today it could be "*Here I come, Ready or Not*". Are your affairs in order?

**April 19:** Matt Chitwood is the grandson of a Battle of the Bulge veteran and Purple Heart recipient. Matt's personal research and on the ground tour of Bastogne and the surrounding areas adds flavor to his grandfathers post war meeting with the German soldier who may have caused his wounds.

**May 17:** If there is one thing that we do, and do well, it's that we support local JROTC programs with both medals and scholarships. Quite frankly we expend a lot of effort on this program, and your attendance at this luncheon means a lot to your staff. Our military legacy demands that we look to the future military leaders, and that's exactly what we are doing. Join us as we present our Scholarship awards and hear testimony from the recipients – these young men and women have been fantastic!

### **Auction, Auction, Auction - Shaq Attack!**

Two Arizona Chapter Members have donated highly desirable Tickets for Sports Events which will be auctioned off during the March Luncheon meeting at McCormick Ranch. Bid early, bid often and join in the fun. All proceeds benefit the AZ Chapter Scholarship Fund.

- Basketball - Suns vs. Dallas mavericks, Sunday April 6th @ 12:30 PM (2 Tickets).
- Basketball - Suns vs. Portland Trailblazers, Wednesday April 16th @ 7:00 PM (2 Tickets).

Suns Tickets are for Section 124, Row 15, Seats 5 & 6. Both sets of tickets include Season Ticket Parking Passes (Jefferson Street Garage) and have a face value in excess of \$175 per pair. The Auction Reserve Price for a pair of Suns tickets is \$100.

- Ice Hockey - Two Phoenix Roadrunners (<http://www.phxroadrunners.com/tickets/>) Tickets - Dates remaining for the year - March 18 & 20, April 1 & 3. Ticket value is \$23.75 per seat (2) No Reserve - so join in the bidding and take a kid to the game (even if the kid is married to you).

Email bids will be accepted by our Treasurer, Bill Johnson at [lexij@uswest.net](mailto:lexij@uswest.net) until noon of the Friday prior to the Luncheon. (Questions - call Bill at 602-690-1012 or Terry at 623-931-1546). No email - that's OK, join us at the Luncheon and the guest speaker, BG Wayne Hoffman, our National MOAA Chaplain may put in a good word for you if you bid high enough!

The Board of Directors thank both Jo Ann Thompson and Ron Drew for their generosity.

### **MOAA On Wheels!**

If anyone requires transportation to an MOAA Luncheon contact Ron Drew at 602-319-4990. Ron will try to have someone pick you up at your residence and return you back home when the luncheon is over and it is free! Ron is often in and out of town so the further in advance you call him to make arrangements the better. Please, don't wait until the last minute to

request this support as we may not be able to provide a ride without sufficient notice.

### **Scholarship Info**

The Arizona Chapter MOAA Scholarship Fund awards scholarships each year to several graduating JROTC cadets from applicants from seventeen competing high schools. With these scholarships, we hope to further the education of students who have maintained a scholastic position in the upper half of his or her class and who demonstrate qualities of leadership, good moral character and concern for his or her fellow men and women through service to others.

Last year the Scholarship Fund awarded \$1,000 scholarships to college or university bound cadets from Alhambra, Apollo and Cactus High Schools. One of those cadets is now a freshman ROTC Cadet at the University of North Dakota majoring in Aviation. He plans on becoming an Army helicopter pilot and is using his scholarship to help pay for tuition.

This year's letters requesting nominations went to the Senior Military Science Instructors at the seventeen high schools on January 2nd. Applications will be accepted until March 25th and scholarships awarded by the Scholarship Committee after that. The amount of the scholarship and number of recipients will depend on the number of qualified candidates and the amount of money available in the Scholarship Fund. Since we do not want qualified candidates rejected because of a lack of funds, donations to the Scholarship fund are greatly appreciated.



### **MOAA Name Tags**

For anyone needing an Arizona Chapter Name Tag, order forms will be available at each Chapter meeting or you can call Dee Norton at 480-275-5089 to place your order. It is requested that you pay for them (\$5) when ordering so if something prevents you from attending the next meeting, they can be mailed to you.



## Legislative Update

by Gary Fredricks, Legislative Chair

As you no doubt know from press reports, the Arizona revenue shortfall continues to be an issue and is in fact growing. In early February we received a very positive written response from Governor Napolitano to our concerns that were expressed through letters from the Unified Arizona Veterans (UAV) to the Governor, the President of the Arizona Senate and the Speaker of the Arizona House over possible adverse fiscal impacts to veterans programs caused by the revenue shortfall. Governor Napolitano also attended the February meeting of UAV in order to personally address the issue. Whereas she stressed that there is a significant revenue funding shortfall for FY2008 and FY2009 (both are under review during the current legislative session), her plan is that "spending for veterans' services is among the critical services exempt from reductions."

In addition to her encouraging words regarding her support during the current fiscal years, her message was that we need to help convince the legislature of that, and that if the revenue problem continues into FY2010; all bets are pretty much off. We are particularly interested in preserving the veterans' initiatives resulting from the Veterans' Task Force created in 2005 under executive Order 2005-15 that were enacted and funded during the last two years. The Final Report of the Veterans' Task Force was submitted in January 2006 and included among other things specific recommendations for additional veteran benefit counselors, state level contribution to funding for a new veterans' home in southern Arizona, replenishment of the state cemetery fund and an expanded veteran's outreach effort.

In a follow-on effort to the Veterans' Task Force, Executive Order 2007-08 in January 2007 created a Veterans' Research Council to assess and report on other veterans' issues which were identified but could not be completely studied during the period of the original Task Force. The final report of the Research Council was submitted in January 2008 and can be viewed at [www.AZDVS.org](http://www.AZDVS.org). This report discusses the

remaining open items from the earlier Task Force effort; makes specific recommendations regarding homeless veterans, women veterans, rural veterans, disabled veterans and Guard and Reserve issues and offers a prioritized list of the recommendations that have a fiscal impact. I invite you to read this document. It may or may not include your favorite topics, but will probably provide a set of benchmarks and a roadmap against which prospective Arizona veterans' legislative and administrative initiatives will be assessed and prioritized for the near future.

### February Luncheon Meeting

**WHEN:** March 15, 2008  
11:00 a.m. Social Hour  
12:00 Noon Lunch

**WHERE:** McCormick Ranch Golf Club  
7505 McCormick Parkway  
Scottsdale, Arizona

**COST:** \$19.00 - Per Person

**DRESS:** Casual

**MENU:** Chef's Choice

**PROGRAM:** BG Wayne Hoffman our National MOAA Chaplain and also a member of the Board of Directors. His topic is entitled "*Facing the Future without Fret or Fear*". When you were active, you were "*Ready - Willing and Able*", but today it could be "*Here I come, Ready or Not*". Are your affairs in order?

Reservations need to be received by 4:00 p.m. on the Thursday prior to the luncheon date. Cancellations of reservations need to be received by that same Thursday in order to receive your money back or not be charged for lunch. Please make your reservations early and send your check to Bill Johnson using the Meal / Meeting Reservation Form on page 7.



**Personal Affairs**  
by Dan Conway, Personal Affairs Officer

**"Estate Planning"**

Developing a coherent estate plan for the orderly distribution of your assets, the protection of minor children, planning for potential incapacity, and avoiding unnecessary (and costly) probate fees and estate taxes are key components of financial planning. However, some legal experts estimate that nearly 70 percent of Americans do not have a valid will and other critical documents, such as Living Wills and Healthcare Power of Attorney.

People fail to plan for a variety of reasons: Facing the inevitability of one's own mortality (one powerful urban myth is that you will "jinx" yourself to die if you prepare a will), busy lives and procrastination/inertia are all reasons cited for failing to craft, or update an estate plan.

**Warning!** Although there are all manner of "do-it-yourself" estate-planning kits available in bookstores and online, a small mistake or improper wording can be very costly. Therefore, the help of a competent estate-planning attorney is often critical to ensuring a valid and effective plan.

Everyone - whether married or single, with minor children or without minor children, multi-millionaires and those of more modest means - should have at least a basic estate plan drafted by a skilled estate-planning attorney. Once in place, the plan should be reviewed periodically (at least every five years) or anytime a major life event occurs, including:

- \* Marriage/Divorce/Remarriage
- \* Substantial change in financial assets
- \* Retirement
- \* Birth of a child
- \* Moving to a new state

Proper estate planning also requires reviewing all your assets and being aware of the appropriateness of your insurance needs, (life and long-term care), IRAs, Roth IRAs 401K plans, and 529 plans. Depending on your particular needs and the size of your estate, an estate-planning team involves an insurance agent, a financial advisor, an accountant and a lawyer.

A new MOAA publication "Estate Planning" provides valuable information on the Estate Planning process.

This publication is available at no cost to members at the MOAA web site which is [www.moaa.org](http://www.moaa.org). To obtain a copy (with or without email), call MOAA at 1-800-234-6622. Have your Membership Number available, and the publication will be on the way.

Please consider me as an asset, and don't hesitate to call if I can be of assistance in any Personal Affairs matter. Phone 480-368-1427.

**SUMMER IS ON THE WAY - MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW!**

We have a limited number of tickets to the Arizona Broadway Theatre on July 12, 2008 to attend the afternoon performance of *the Music Man*. The price of the ticket is \$47 each which includes the performance and lunch (except drinks & dessert) plus the gratuity. You can reserve your seat now by filling out the reservation form,

enclose a check and mail to Marie Fredricks.



The Music Man is a charming tribute to a bygone era in Smalltown, U.S.A. Follow fast-talking traveling salesman Harold Hill as he cons the people of River City, Iowa into buying instruments and uniforms for a boys' band he vows to organize – despite his not knowing a trombone from a treble clef. Meredith Wilson's *the Music Man* is family entertainment at its best.

**JULY 12, 2008**  
**"the Music Man"**

**Reservation Request for the Arizona Broadway Theatre**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Number of tickets \_\_\_\_\_

Amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

**Make Check to: AZ Chapter MOAA**

Mail to: Marie Fredricks  
15403 E. Sunburst Dr  
Fountain Hills, AZ 85268



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**Receive a complimentary one-hour consultation with one of our attorneys to create or review your current estate plan - a \$300 value!**

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**CHAPTER FINANCIAL PARTICIPATION**

If you would like to make a donation to one or more of the AZ Chapter Funds, include your check identified as the appropriate fund and mail to: **Bill Johnson, 13410 N. 12th Place, Phoenix, AZ 85022-4944.**

**General Fund: \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**Scholarship Fund: \$** \_\_\_\_\_ **[now a 501(c)(3) charitable fund]**

Name of Donor : \_\_\_\_\_ Identify me as a donor in the next newsletter. YES \_\_\_ NO \_\_\_

**MEAL / MEETING RESERVATION FORM**

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ meals for (Name) \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (**\$19.00** per person) for **15 March 2008**

Make check payable to: **AZ Chapter MOAA** **No Later Than: 13 March 2008**

Send to: **Bill Johnson, 13410 North 12th Place, Phoenix, AZ 85022-4944. Phone 602-690-1012**

**TAPS**

We regret to inform you of the passing of one of our members:

**LTC William K. Toy USA (Ret)**  
 October 8, 1921 - February 24, 2008

*Our heart felt condolences are extended to the family.*



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	<b>AUXILIARY LIASION</b> Sheila George 623-242-6579	<b>SHARE A RIDE</b> Maj Ronald Drew, USAF 602-493-8806

**Access Arizona Chapter's Internet Web Site at: <http://www.azchaptermoaa.org>**

**Arizona Chapter  
 Military Officers Association of America  
 4333 W. Echo Lane  
 Glendale, AZ 85302**



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