

Minutes of the January 2010 Board of Director's Meeting, Arizona Chapter MOAA

Call to Order: President Ron Perkins called the meeting to order at 1033 hours, Thursday, January 7, 2010 at the State Veteran's Home on North Third Street in Phoenix with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members Present: John Ady, Beth Cullison, Jim Cullison, Gary Fredricks, Marie Fredricks, Ron Green, Gregg Maxon, Ron Perkins, Bill Roscher, Terry Tassin, and Kathy Upchurch.

Minutes: The previously promulgated Minutes of the last Board of Director's meeting (December) were approved.

Officer/Committee Reports:

Treasurer's Report: Bill Roscher presented a year-end financial report for 2009. The chapter's General Fund beginning balance was \$7,356.84 with total income of \$28,656.87 and expenses of \$28,804.67 leaving an ending balance of \$7,209.04. The scholarship fund currently stands at \$11,897.43. The report was reviewed and discussed. The board agreed the golf tournaments are very successful and provide substantial income for the chapter. There is a definite desire to continue both tournaments but it has been a major undertaking with virtually all the work performed by Pat and Patricia Dale. We should look to the membership to offload the Dales. Kathy Upchurch indicated she knows someone who may be able to obtain some prizes and provide some support. However, we need one or more members to step up to take on some of the tasks involved in planning and coordinating the events.

Auxiliary: Kathy Upchurch discussed the possibility of planning a luncheon directed towards the auxiliary members and also agreed to request auxiliary members to become greeters at the monthly general meetings. Kathy will let Ron know who will be greeters for February and March. Kathy provided information on Survivor Outreach Services for OIF and OEF. They currently support all service branches and will meet with any survivor's spouse, parents, siblings, and even friends. She invited anyone interested in a *Valentines Day Remembering our Loved Ones* by Gold Star Wives of America, to celebrate at the Broadway Palm Dinner Theater's showing of *The Unsinkable Molly Brown* on February 14th. Cost for dinner and show is \$28.00. The focus is to remember loved ones lost due to military service.

Give Me Ten: Ron Perkins talked about the *Give Me Ten* campaign to recruit new members for National MOAA. Our chapter gets credit for anyone we get to join MOAA and we will give them a free first year annual membership to our chapter. National sends updates listing members who do not belong to a local chapter or have let their national membership lapse so we can recruit them. Currently only about 17% of National MOAA members belong to a chapter.

Historian: Jim Cullison has been developing some write-ups to provide Tom Houser for the website.

JROTC Medals: Terry Tassin has been updating his contact list as he receives responses from e-mailing schools to select JROTC winners. Most of the board members have volunteered to present and Terry will provide a final schedule and request additional volunteers as needed. Ron Perkins asked that every presenter take a camera and have someone take a picture of the medal presentation for our chapter records and possible publication.

Legislative: Gary Fredricks provided a brief summary of state and national issues. Arizona's budget is a major factor. Upcoming bills deal with providing a free license plate to Gold Star families, military installation fund, expanding the military family relief fund, and designating a Cold War Victory Day. There is also an effort underway to establish a state lottery special fund for Veterans. Gary encouraged everyone to view the moaa.org website for a summary of the issues being addressed at the federal level including sustaining the defense budget, health care, and addressing inequities in the Survivor Benefit Plan. Bills recently passed include the Wounded Warriors Caregiver bill to improve care for returning war-wounded military and their families and a 60-day delay implementing a 21% cut in TRICARE payments. Kathy Upchurch informed the board that DIC recipients and their surviving spouses qualify for an Arizona auto license tax exemption if the veteran is certified by the Department of Veterans Affairs to be 100% disabled.

Membership:

Recruiting Strategy: Chapter membership fell below 200 in 2009. John Ady shared plans for a more proactive approach to recruit new members with a goal to achieve and exceed 200 members by year end.

Give Me Ten Campaign: Our chapter added four new members, including one life member in 2009. Ron Perkins will submit an article for *The Sentinel* outlining the benefits of becoming a life member. Ron asked that when recruiting new members, use the *Give Me 10* application so our chapter receives credit from National. He also reminded us there is an incentive to join our chapter early in the year because annual dues are not charged until the following year.

Membership Renewal: Beth Cullison reported 40% (78) of our 195 members have already renewed. Beth will contact Dan Conway to coordinate sending an e-mail reminder to those that have not yet renewed.

Newsletter: Jim Cullison already published January's edition and mentioned he overlooked covering the upcoming installation of new officers. Terry Tassin agreed to do the swearing in. Jim noted that our chapter received two mentions in the MOAA Affiliate publication from National covering the October ESGR presentations and the Veterans Home TV purchase.

Personal Affairs: Ron Perkins announced Steve Abel volunteered to become the Personal Affairs contact for MOAA's State Council. Ron also indicated Vern Pall will be sending out updates and information to Dan Conway.

Arrangements: Marie Fredricks discussed plans for 2010. She has negotiated with McCormick Ranch for no meal price increases in 2010 and the contract must be signed by January 10th. The Boeing tour in February is approximately two hours and limited to 30 visitors. Names must be provided to Boeing in advance. John Ady made a motion, seconded by Ron Green, to schedule the Boeing tour for February 16th from 0900 to 1100 hours and delay the luncheon meeting at McCormick Ranch to 1130 hours. The motion was carried. Ron Perkins will have a sign-up sheet at our January luncheon to be filled on a first come basis. The board agreed to continue meeting at McCormick Ranch through 2010 with the exception of our fall picnic.

Scholarships: Letters are being sent to the schools this month.

Share-a-Ride Program: Ron Perkins had nothing new to report.

Web Master: Ron Perkins said Tom Houser has been updating our chapter website and ensuring all links work properly. Ron will be submitting it for award consideration and asked that all updates be provided to Tom immediately.

Old Business:

AZ StandDown: Ron Perkins indicated about 15 members have signed up as volunteers for the event.

Luncheon Greeters: January - **John & Sharon Ady**

February & March - **Kathy Upchurch will identify auxiliary members**

January General Meeting: Ron Perkins talked about our January speaker, Neville Cramer, author of *Immigration Chaos*, a book outlining problems with immigration and possible solutions. Mr. Cramer is a retired Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) Special Agent who served more than 26 years as a law enforcement officer with the INS. The January meeting should be both informative and interesting.

New Business:

Communications Awards NLT 1 Feb 2010: Ron Perkins is submitting *The Sentinel*, the chapter recruiting brochure, and our website to compete for one or more communications awards.

Installation of 2010 Staff: Ron Perkins reminded the board that pictures will be taken at the January meeting.

Arizona Council of Chapters Dues: Ron Perkins will send an e-mail to Bill Roscher with instructions on paying our Council dues which are calculated at 50 cents per regular chapter member. There is no charge for auxiliary members.

Good of the Order, Roundtable:

AZ StandDown: Ron Green suggested hotel soaps, shampoos, etc. would be excellent donations for the event. Kathy Upchurch reminded everyone that they are asking for new or slightly used clothing, hiking shoes rather than tennis shoes, windbreakers, sweats, sweatshirts, socks and new men's underwear.

Next BOD Meeting: 16 Jan 2010

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1230 hours.

Respectfully submitted,
Beth Cullison, Secretary