

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

**Call to Order:** President Ron Perkins called the meeting to order at 1032 hours, Thursday, September 2, 2010, at the State Veteran's Home on North Third Street in Phoenix with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Members Present:** John Ady, Dan Conway, Beth Cullison, Jim Cullison, Gary Fredricks, Marie Fredricks, Ron Green, Ron Perkins, Terry Tassin, Rob Welch and Ron Worthington.

**Minutes:** The previously promulgated Minutes of the last Board of Directors' meeting (May) were approved.

**US Veterans Chamber of Commerce:** Rob Welch reported the United States Veterans Chamber of Commerce is opening a chapter in Phoenix. It will be led by Ray Ragan who recently joined our chapter, and Gregg Maxon is on their Board of Directors. Rob Welch attended the first meeting along with 25 other attendees. The purpose of the organization is to offer business support for U.S. military veterans, helping veterans to establish their own small businesses. The mission statement: "Veterans helping Veterans develop, manage, and create business opportunities." Rob indicated the meeting was well attended with a wide spectrum of participants including representation from the Attorney General's Office, Congressman Mitchell's office, and many others.

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

**Treasurer's Report:** Bill Roscher was not available for today's meeting but provided the update to Ron Perkins. The chapter accounts stand at: \$10,471.46 plus \$50 petty cash in the general fund, \$8,110.16 in the scholarship fund for a total of \$18,631.62.

**Auxiliary:** There was a brief discussion on how to jumpstart the auxiliary group. Ron Perkins has heard from other chapters that do a variety of activities to support our troops such as sending care packages and making quilts. We need someone to chair a committee to brainstorm ideas and help our chapter get involved in auxiliary activities.

**Memorial Day 31 May Service:** Rob Welch needed to leave for an appointment but wanted to report on the success of the Memorial Day observance at the Phoenix National Veterans Cemetery in May. This is the third year of involvement and four chapter members comprised the Chapter's Color Guard at the service. A picture is displayed in the September issue of *The Sentinel*.

**Projector:** The Board briefly digressed from the agenda to discuss the frequent need for a projector at our monthly meetings. Rob Welch is borrowing one for the next luncheon meeting but knows someone who may be willing to donate one to our chapter. Rob will pursue that possibility.

**Nominating Committee Selection:** Ron Perkins quickly reviewed the slate. Tom Houser, our webmaster, moved to Virginia which creates a major need for the Chapter. Rob Welch plans to get with Tom and will transition to this role on an interim basis.

**Tax Filing:** Dan Conway raised the question of whether a tax filing was completed for both our MOAA chapter and scholarship fund since October is the final deadline. Ron Perkins felt confident this was completed but will follow up with Bill Roscher to confirm two separate filings were completed.

**Historian:** Jim Cullison has information to add to our chapter website but will wait until a new webmaster is on board and work with that person to post the additions. There are also a number of updates needed on the website such as the date for this fall's Golf Tournament, which is November 12<sup>th</sup>.

**Legislative:** Ron Perkins said National MOAA put out a summary of key issues and is asking the liaisons to review with their representatives. Ron didn't know if anyone had contacted their representatives recently. Gary Fredricks provided an excellent summary of current issues in *The Sentinel*. Gary indicated our governor has stated anything that costs money will not be well received. Fall elections are nearing; there will be much debate and attention to the deficit reduction committee recommendations. There was some discussion on health insurance/health reform and concern that many people do not understand the potential implications. A group of doctors is now forming to become more involved in the issue.

**Chapter Roster Update:** Beth Cullison reported our chapter membership has increased to 217 members.

**Membership Recruiting:** Ron Perkins and John Ady talked about recent successes in signing up new members including those from the National Guard. Ron indicated a new list of potential chapter members was recently sent by National but many were duplicate names sent previously. Gary Fredricks asked whether National sent notification of National members moving into our chapter area. We have not been receiving that information. Ron asked several board members to meet later for further discussion and plans for recruiting.

**Newsletter:** Jim Cullison distributed the September issue of *The Sentinel* on Tuesday, August 31<sup>st</sup>. He was commended for another excellent edition. Jim mentioned he continues to include National in his distribution list and also sent a photo of our chapter volunteers at the StandDown for homeless veterans which was published in the August Military Officer Magazine. Dan Conway shared that Mark Babbitt, Senior Vice President of TriWest, was very impressed with our chapter and *The Sentinel* and suggested his company may donate more than \$1,000 for the next round of JROTC scholarship awards. Jim will send Ron Worthington a picture of Mark Babbitt presenting a scholarship award at the May chapter meeting and Ron will frame and present to Mr. Babbitt.

**Personal Affairs:** Dan Conway has sent condolences along with *Turning the Corner: Surviving the Loss of a Loved One* brochures to families of recently deceased members. The chapter also donates \$50 to the scholarship fund as a memorial for any member that passes. Ron Perkins will follow up with Bill Roscher to transfer money from the general fund to the scholarship fund and send a letter to the widows.

**Arrangements:** Marie Fredricks has negotiated with Dave's BBQ for our October picnic meeting. The meeting will be held at McCormick Ranch RR Park but at a different ramada. Marie has made a flyer to provide details which will be displayed at the September luncheon meeting and also in *The Sentinel's* next issue. A discussion on the possibility of providing beer at the picnic ensued but due to potential liability issues it was agreed to limit drinks to water and soft drinks. Marie reported that 20 people attended "Footloose" at the Arizona Broadway Theater in July. After reviewing upcoming plays for 2011, Saturday June 25, 2011, was selected for next year's outing to see "All Shook Up". Marie will reserve and hold 30 seats. Marie & Gary will miss our September luncheon meeting, but Marie has all the arrangements handled.

**Scholarships:** Ron Worthington made reference to the treasurer's report to emphasize the significance of the scholarships, which account for almost 50% of our funds. Ron will be transitioning the scholarship committee to Rob Welch, who has agreed to move into the slot. Ron noted our chapter has been able to award more and more scholarships to quality individuals. He has established positive relationships with 17 JROTC advisors and will work towards a smooth transition, beginning the cycle in December with the preparation of letters to be sent to high schools after the first of the year.

#### **Old Business:**

**AZ Council of Chapters Meeting in Sierra Vista:** Ron Perkins reported on the meeting held last May. Each president was asked to send in a report including current membership status, accomplishments, activities, etc. He learned which chapters were receiving the Five Star awards and how they could help other chapters. Bylaws changes were also approved. The fall meeting will be hosted by the Green Valley chapter rather than our chapter because Green Valley will be celebrating their 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Our chapter will host the spring meeting. Plans for the meeting were then discussed, and May 20<sup>th</sup> was selected as the Council meeting with an invitation for chapter representatives to attend our regularly scheduled luncheon meeting the following day. Several speakers were suggested for the Council meeting, and Ron Perkins agreed to finalize plans.

**AVHOF (Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame) Induction:** Two of our chapter members, Gary Fredricks and Web Ellis, were selected to be in the Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame. Ron Perkins encouraged attendance at the Induction Ceremony October 29<sup>th</sup> at the El Zaribah Shrine Auditorium. More information and registration for the event is available on the Veterans Hall of Fame website. When registering to attend, it is important to identify your support for Gary & Webb in order to be seated with fellow chapter members.

**2010 AZ State National Guard Conference:** Ron shared a handout that he and Jim Cullison developed. Recruiting was very successful with the addition of 14 new members.

**Five Star of Excellence Award:** Arizona chapters did very well as our chapter was recognized along with Luke, Tucson, Coronado, and Green Valley chapters. Four Star Awards were also given to the Superstition and Yuma chapters.

**Messenger Mortuaries Cell Phones for Troops:** Ron Perkins said Pat Dale will bring a box to the September luncheon for members to turn in used cell phones which will be exchanged for calling cards for service members stationed overseas. An article was included in this month's *The Sentinel* entitled, "You Can Help, Cell Phones for Soldiers."

**New Business:**

**Chapter By-Laws Review:** Rob Welch has made several suggestions to revise the by-laws. Terry Tassin suggested each committee chair review their section and present any recommendations. Ron Perkins volunteered to send out an e-mail to board members with assignments to review specific sections. The board will then meet as a group to evaluate suggestions and consider possible changes.

**AZ Council of Chapters Meeting in Green Valley:** The upcoming meeting was discussed earlier. Ron Perkins, John Ady and Gary Fredricks have committed to participate.

**Donations to the Scholarship Fund in Memory of Addison Stone & Bernie Katz:** Ron Perkins will ask Bill Roscher to complete the donations.

**AZ StandDown 2011:** Ron Green spoke about the MANA House, standing for Marines, Army, Navy, Air Force. MANA House is a transitional shelter to help homeless veterans get on their feet. It is located in downtown Phoenix on the second floor of the YWCA building on Willetta and Seventh Street. Some great furniture has been donated. It now houses over 50 homeless Vets and is being managed by a homeless veteran. Ron encouraged everyone to stop by for a tour. Art Sloan will attend our October 7<sup>th</sup> BOD meeting to discuss plans for the 2011 StandDown event.

**Fall Golf Tournament:** All agreed Pat Dale does an outstanding job on the golf tournaments, which bring in good money for our scholarship fund. The fall tournament will be held Friday, November 12, at the Painted Mountain Golf Club in Mesa. *The Sentinel* includes the registration form.

**Luncheon meeting greeters:** There was a brief discussion on the importance of welcoming new members and acting as good hosts. Ron would like new members to be assigned specific tables to encourage their participation and make them feel comfortable.

**September greeters** –Kathy Upchurch, Jim & Beth Cullison

**Good of the Order, Roundtable:**

**Scams:** Dan Conway plans to bring some brochures to the September luncheon meeting as information on ways to protect yourself against potential scams.

**Next BOD Meeting:** 7 October 2010

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1235 hours.

Respectfully submitted,  
Beth Cullison, Secretary