

The Sentinel

Arizona's First Chapter





The Arizona Chapter,

14435 N. 66th Place, Scottsdale, Arizona

DECEMBER 2005

CHARTERED IN 1956 - OVER 49 YEARS OF SERVICE TO COUNTRY

EDITOR: John Gerometta



President's Message

It has been a good year. We have plenty of accomplishments for our 2005 award submission.

Not necessarily in order, we have to thank John Gerometta for serving as Secretary and taking over the Sentinel. We have to thank Gary Fredricks for his service at the state level and for keeping us involved and informed in the legislative area. We have to thank Jim Seidl for the interesting programs through the year. We have to thank Bill Johnson for keeping the books and doing the 50-50 at our meetings. We have to Tom Houser for thank keeping us on the web. We have to thank Terry Tassin for his doing the Sentinel and now stepping up to do the MOAA Medal program. We have to thank Frank Birtciel for keeping our history up to date. We have to thank Chet 50th Baumer for our anniversarv planning. We thank Conway for keeping us aware of the need keeping our affairs in order and on paper. We have to thank Chuck Schluter for his

service at the national level and for keeping us up to date on doings in Washington. We have to thank all of you for coming to our meetings and participating in our programs.

With all of this support, I'm pleased and humbled that you have chosen me to be your president for another year. We will look at our 2006 plans in January, but for now, it is time to take a eniov break and holidays. The best way to do this is to plan on our December attending luncheon. I'm sure that the singing group will get you into the holiday spirit. We will have a mini silent Sunday auction with а brunch, a football, various tickets, etc. available, It should be a fun meeting.

Thanks again for making this a great year.

Sincerely—- Daniel M. Conway

Membership

Daniel M. Conway

We have participated in the national "Give Me Ten" membership campaign with some level of success so far. Our first 50 letters have resulted in five new national members and three new chapter members. We have

sent out an additional 200 letters and hope for similar results. We will receive \$10.00 for each new national member and a bonus of \$100.00 if we meet or exceed ten new national members. We are half way there and hope that we can meet the ten goal.

The campaign provides for years of national membership for \$24.00; a savings of \$24.00. If you have any friends who are not now national members and qualify for national membership, please send their Name and Address to Dan Conway, and he will get an application form out to them. This campaign ends December 31st.

MOAA'S Legislative Alert, 11/23/05

Last week the House passed the Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2005 (S. 1234), which authorizes a 4.1% cost-of-living increase for those who collect disability and survivors' benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs. The bill is now on its way to the White House for signature. Unlike military retired pay and survivor annuities, Congress must authorize annual VA COLA increases each vear. The increase will take effect Dec. 1, 2005 and will be reflected in the Jan. 2, 2006 checks.

Arizona Chapter Calendar

Dec

• BOD Meeting 1:30, American Legion 107

Dec 17

- General Luncheon
 Meeting
- Christmas Party

Ian 5

 BOD Meeting 1:30, American Legion 107

Jan 21

- General Luncheon
- Meeting
- Installation of Officers

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. Staff 2005

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

Chaplain's Corner

"Lord heal us with your love. Allow it to envelop us and radiate from us making us whole and in harmony with others. May the power of your concern give us strength to grow beyond our mistakes and misjudgments. Amen "

-Robert Rutherford, Chaplain

December Luncheon Meeting Saturday, 17 December McCormick Ranch Golf Club

The next Chapter meeting is set for Saturday, 17 December 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 13 December. Come join us for good food and comradeship.

Welcome to new Chapter members since the last newsletter

LTC Arthur J Carbonell, Jr.

11849 E Gold Dust Ave Scottsdale, AZ 85259 Tele: 480-452-7753

E-mail: speeddemb@msn.com

Mrs. Ellen "Sully" Truesdell

Auxiliary 8732 E Via de Dorado Scottsdale, AZ 85258 Tele: 480-948-0079

Please take the opportunity to meet our new members.

Currently the AZ Chapter has 186 members including, 42 auxiliary members and 22 new members for 2005.



Legislative Update

by Gary Fredricks

By Executive Order 2005-15, Governor Napolitano established the Arizona Veterans Task Force in June 2005. The Task Force consists of appointed members and is chaired by the Director of the Arizona Department of Veteran Services, Mr. Pat Chorpenning. order recognized that approximately 565,000 Arizona veterans not only dedicated their lives to service but also contribute an estimated \$5 billion annually to the Arizona econ-The Governor charged the task force to evaluate existing state services and benefits provided to veterans in Arizona, compare those services with those of other states and develop a plan to educate Arizona state and local leaders about issues important to Arizona veterans. The Task Force was required to issue recommendations and a final report to the Governor, Senate President, and Speaker of the House by the first week of January 2006.

Task Force meetings open to the public were scheduled for September 9, October 5, November 2, November 30 and December 15 in the Executive Tower, 2nd floor conference room, 1700 West Washington, Phoenix, AZ. The format for the first three meetings provided for formal briefings and public comments (based on time constraints).

The September meeting included presentations on defining the veteran, veterans in our society/

Fund Donations

One person's generous gift will help strengthen America's future through supporting the education of our youth. Since the last newsletter the members below have made generous donations to the:

General Fund:
Mike Gannon \$2, Anonymous \$25

50th Anniversary Fund:

Anonymous \$15, Chet Baumer \$50, Gary Fredricks \$17, Mike Gannon \$2, Trula Halpern \$16, bob Lamparter \$16. Rosanne Trujillo \$20

Scholarship Fund:
Mike Gannon \$2, Bill McCollum \$20

population trend, economic impact and education. The October meeting included presentations on the veteran homes in Phoenix and Tucson (proposed), VA Medical Center - Tucson, Veterans Benefit Counselors (VBC) and the need to increase their numbers, and an overview of state veteran cemeteries. The November 3 meeting included briefings on the Arizona National Guard and Reserves, a discussion of veteran's services shortfalls with respect to our Native American population, and a state veterans benefits comparison.

The November 30 meeting is scheduled to review issues and actions to date and to prioritize recommendations. It is anticipated that the Governor will be invited to the December meeting to review draft recommendations intended to set in motion implementation and change. The Executive Order, Task Force Plan and a record of presentations and meeting minutes may be found at

Continue on page 3

Newsletter Advertising

If you or a business/organization known to you wishes to place an ad in *The Sentinel* please contact the Editor for details. Advertisements will be priced according to size in multiples that approximate standard business card dimensions. Proceeds from advertisements help defray cost of preparing the newsletter. Advertising costs are:

| Size | <u>Annual</u> | <u>Quarterly</u> | Impact Ad |
|----------------|---------------|------------------|-----------|
| Single Card | \$80 | \$25 | \$15 |
| Double Card | \$160 | \$50 | \$30 |
| Quadruple Card | \$320 | \$100 | \$60 |

Legislate Update.....continued from page 2

<u>www.azdvs.gov</u> under Veteran's Task Force.

The MOAA Arizona Council of Chapters Vice President, Bob Delker, and I (Council President -Gary Fredricks) both attended the November 3 meeting of the Task Force. The presentations were informative and members of the Task Force appeared interested and eager to understand the issues. The Chairman, Mr. Chorpenning was extremely well informed and ran an organized and professional meeting. The presentation by MG Maxon, AZ Army National Guard, focused on the increased use of Guard/Reserve forces in missions formerly performed exclusively by active duty forces and the attendant instituproblems the Guard/ tional Reserve has with re-assimilating troops returning from extended deployment in combat. The need for more and a better distribution of VBCs across the state was a specific need.

The Arizona Native American population suffers from similar problems with ready access to VBCs non-existent and access to veteran's facilities, in particular medical clinics, much more difficult than for other Arizona veter-Cultural differences also ans. cause difficulties in accessing earned veteran's benefits. Due to the unique issues identified, the Chairman indicated that he would pull together a specific task force on Native American veterans' issues within the AZ DVS.

The comparison of Arizona veteran's benefits with those of other states confirmed the need for a Task Force such as the current one.

Staff Elections for 2006

The following candidates for office of the Arizona Chapter of MOAA for the year 2006 were elected by the membership at the November General Meeting

President:

1st VP

Terry Tassin

2nd VP

Secretary:

Treasurer:

Past President:

Directors:

Daniel Conway

Terry Tassin

Ron Worthington

John Gerometta

William Johnson

Gary Fredricks

Charles Schluter

James Seidl Chester Baumer Ronald Green Jo Ann Thompson

Installation of new officers will take place at the January 14, 2006 meeting.

Submitted: Gary Fredricks COL USAF (RET)

Arizona Veteran's Hall of Fame

The Arizona MOAA Council of Chapters is pleased to share with you that on 28 Oct 2005, 8 MOAA members representing 5 separate Chapters were among the 17 veterans inducted into the Arizona Military Hall of Fame this year.

In 2001 Arizona became the second State to create a Hall of Fame specifically to recognize veterans' contributions to society above and beyond their military service. Typically, those inducted have volunteered countless hours to local communities and youth programs. They have brought home Leadership, Professionalism and a code of ethics and values representative of the military legacy.

The inaugural induction ceremony of the Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame was conducted in 2001 and included 26 Medal of Honor recipients and 24 other distinguished Arizona veterans. With the induction of the class of 2005, membership now totals only 125 members.

From the very beginning, Arizona Chapters embraced the opportunity to sustain the Arizona Hall of Fame and each year has nominated several MOAA members for consideration. In 2002 the Arizona Council of Chapters donated the ceremonial service flags representative of each branch of the Military, and recently, the leadership of the Unified Arizona Veterans (UAV), a coalition of veterans associations, has again acknowledged its appreciation for continued Arizona MOAA participation.

This year, the induction ceremony was attended by over 600 persons who included local dignitaries, veteran's organizations, families and friends. The Arizona MOAA Chapters were prominently visible and enjoyed the opportunity to recognize the contributions of, and to honor our most recent inductees. The MOAA members inducted this year included Col Duane Brofer; LTC Lowell Fox; Maj Michael Gannon; MG Gerd Grombacher; LT James Lay; Col Dick Minor; Col Albert Rodriguez and Maj John Tapia. These men served in WWII, Korea and Vietnam, and importantly after their military service, they continued to serve their communities, our service members, other veterans, and the citizens of our grateful nation.

By their personal participation and leadership, these MOAA members have continued to serve. They have brought special credit to themselves and have enhanced the tremendous legacy and distinct honor of military membership and service to all.

Submitted:

Charles Schluter COL USA (RET)

AZ Chapter MOAA Membership Renewal Notice

Thank you for your AZ Chapter support during 2005. Your support for our chapter has helped provide the base for our scholarship program for outstanding Phoenix area JROTC students, for our efforts to represent you on state and local legislative issues, for our actions, including our award winning **Sentinel**, to keep you involved and informed on these and broader issues affecting our military and retired community and for our schedule of activities promoting camaraderie and friendship.

For most members, this serves as your notice that AZ Chapter dues for 2006 are due on January 1, 2006, and are delinquent 60 days thereafter. Our records show that the following have already paid their 2006 dues in the past month:

D. Albrecht, A. Baudu, C. Baumer, F. Birtciel, V. Copley, M. Daniels, R. Deane, W. Ellis, G. Fredricks M. Gannon, J. Gerometta, T. Halpern, T. Houser, B. Johnson, M Loos F. Ludwig, W. McCollum, J. Manfreda, V. Phillips, W. Roscher, R. Rottas, A. Shaw, T. Tassin, J. Taylor, R. Trujillo, R. Utterback, D. Varricchio, E. Waldmann, J. Young, E. Truesdell

If you disagree, please let us know. For those of you who are not listed above, we sincerely hope that we have earned your support for another year and that you will renew your membership with us at this time.

| | Arizona Chapter 2006 Membership Renewal Form |
|---------|--|
| *Member | Full Name: |
| | *Membership Renewal: \$20 Full member |
| | *Membership Renewal: \$10 Auxiliary member |
| * | wish to receive the Chapter Newsletter (The Sentinel) by {select one}: |
| | E-mail (in full color) or U.S. Mail (hard copy b&w) or Both |

Mail renewal application and check to:
AZ CHAPTER MOAA
C/O John Gerometta
8555 E Camelback Road
Scottsdale, AZ 85251

Note: If you wish to pay in advance, you may do so at the above rates per calendar year. Please annotate your check accordingly.

Arizona Chapter MOAA

Activities Calendar 2006

| Date | Event | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|
| Jan 2006 Jan 2006 Jan 01 Jan 05 Jan 21 | Contact JROTC Programs on Scholarships and Medals Begin 2006 JROTC Scholarship & Awards process Chapter dues payable (delinquent in 60 days) Board of Directors (BOD) Meeting (American Legion Post #107) Note 1 Luncheon McCormick Ranch (Install 2006 Officers) Note 2 | | | |
| Feb 01 Feb 02 Feb 18 | Newsletter Awards Submission Date (MOAA Recognition Program) BOD Meeting (Post #107) Note 1 Luncheon McCormick Ranch (Speaker) Note 2 | | | |
| Mar 02 Mar 18 Mar 27 | BOD Meeting (Post #107) Note 1 Luncheon McCormick Ranch (Speaker) Note 2 JROTC Scholarship Applications due | | | |
| Apr Apr 06 Apr 15 | Begin JROTC Recognition Medal Award presentations. BOD Meeting <i>(Scholarship Selections)</i> (Post #107) Note 1 Luncheon McCormick Ranch (Speaker) Note 2 | | | |
| May 04 May 5 May 20 May 29 | BOD Meeting (Post #107) Note 1 AZ Chapter Spring Golf Outing. El Caro Golf Club Luncheon McCormick Ranch (Present Scholarship Awards!!) Note 2 Memorial Day Observed/Chapter Participation | | | |
| Jun 01 Jun 01 Jun 14 Jun 17 | Chapter Levels of Excellence Awards Submission Due at MOAA National (NLT) BOD Meeting (Post #107) Note 1 Flag Day Luncheon McCormick Ranch (Speaker) Note 2 | | | |
| Jul/Aug Calendar is open for summer break. Newsletter, The Sentinel, on vacation. | | | | |
| Sep 07 Sep 16 Sep (TBA) | BOD Meeting (Establish Nomination & Awards Committees) (Post #107) Note 1 Luncheon McCormick Ranch (Speaker) Note 2 AZ Chapter Fall Golf Outing. Golf Course TBA | | | |
| Oct 05 Oct 21 Oct 24 | BOD Meeting (Nominating & Awards Committee Reports) (Post #107) Note 1 Dinner 50 th Anniversary Dinner/Dance Nominating Committee Notice Due for November Sentinel | | | |
| Nov 02 Nov 11 Nov 18 | BOD Meeting (Post #107) Note 1 Armistice Day/Veterans Day Observed Luncheon McCormick Ranch (Annual Business Meeting) (Chapter Elections & MSA Presentations). Note 2 | | | |
| Dec Dec 07 Dec 16 | Membership Renewal Kick-Off (Notice in Sentinel) BOD Meeting (Post #107) Note 1 Luncheon McCormick Ranch (Speaker) Note 2 | | | |
| Jan 04, 2007 Jan 20 | BOD Meeting (American Legion Post #107) Note 1 Luncheon McCormick Ranch Note 2 | | | |
| | 11 | | | |

Note 1 – Informal Lunch at 12:45 AM with meeting starting at 1:30 PM Note 2 - Luncheon Social Hour begins at 11:00AM with lunch at Noon.

Note 3 - The deadline for submitting items to be published in *The Sentinel* is the 25th of each month for the following month. The Unified Arizona Veterans Committee meets on the 1st Saturday of each month except August and September.

Past Presidents Place

.COL Charles H. Schluter ARNG (President 1998 –2001)

Colonel Chuck Schluter began his career in the United States Navy and served as a Petty Officer from 1965 through 1969 in Pacific and Southeast Asia waters during the Vietnam War. He later transferred to a United States Army (Hercules) (Air Defense Artillery) guided missile base. He subsequently attended Officer Candidate School. An enjoyable and rewarding career concluded with his assignment as the Director of Personnel, G-1, for the Headquarters, Connecticut Army National Guard.

His awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal; Army Commendation Medal (3); Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal (6); National Defense Service Medal(2); Armed Forces Reserve Medal; Humanitarian Service Medal; Vietnam Service Medal; Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal; Connecticut Emergency Service Ribbon (6); and the Connecticut Medal of Merit; Connecticut Long Service Award (25 Years).

Chuck volunteered to serve as the President of the Arizona Chapter of the Retired Officers Association when no one else would in 1998. Through his leadership, ideas, enthusiasm and personality became the spark plug that led to the rejuvenation of this Chapter. He believes in and practices the motto of the United States Army Corps of Engineers "ESSAYONS", ("WE WILL TRY") in all he does. He has remained active in all Chapter and National affairs.

He has served as Vice President of the Council of Chapters and was elected to the National Board of Directors of the Military Officers Association of America in January of 2003 (Formerly TROA) and is currently serving on the Board of Directors

He is Past President of the National Guard Association Connecticut (NGACT), Life Member Connecticut National Association (NGACT), Life Member National Guard Association (NGAUS), and Life Member Arizona National Guard Association.



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NEWS YOU CAN USE

By Terry Tassin

Did you know you can pay all of your 2005 taxes to the State - OR - contribute up to \$300 to a local public high school - AND - reduce your state income tax liability dollar-for-dollar by the amount of your contribution. The Choice is Yours! The Arizona Department of Revenue has issued guidelines which allow an individual income tax credit of up to \$200 for any fees contributed by an individual taxpayer (or \$300 for married couples filing jointly) to a public school for the support of extra curricular activities. (ARS S43-1089) It is not a requirement that the taxpayer have a child enrolled in a public school. Your contribution must be dated by December 31 of the taxable year for which the credit is claimed. REMEMBER...A tax credit is a full refund of your money!!

Contact me for more information at 623-931-1546

Attention All Members:

Our group has always been very generous in funding our scholarship program and that is commendable.

Now we have a great need to fund our 50th Anniversary celebration on 21 October 2006 and we only have about \$2,000.00 available in that fund and our current need is around \$5,000.00 to cover miscellaneous expenses.

How about a \$50.00 donation from each member for the 50th Anniversary celebration? I've done it and that's only \$1.00 for each prior year. Let's have an unforgettable affair!

Sincerely, Chet Baumer, Chairman 50th Anniversary Committee

December Luncheon Meeting

WHEN: 17 December 2005

11:00 a.m. Social Period

12:00 Noon Lunch

WHERE: McCormick Ranch Golf Club

7505 McCormick Parkway

Scottsdale, Arizona

COST: \$17.00 - Per Person

DRESS: Casual

MENU: Chef's Choice

Program: Annual Christmas Party: Trevor Brown Glee Club will entertain. 10 item silent auction to benefit the Scholarship Fund.

Please make your reservations early and send your check to Bill Johnson using the Meal / Meeting Reservation Form.

-- Jim Seidl, Programs



TAPS



If you know of a member or spouse who enters the hospital or passes away, please notify one of the Chapter Officers.

| | INANCIAL PARTICIPATION e AZ Chapter Funds, include your check identified as the appropriate fund hoenix, AZ 85022-4944. | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|
| 50th Anniversary Fund: \$ | | | | |
| Scholarship Fund: \$ | General Fund: \$, | | | |
| Name of Donor : | Identify me as a donor in the next newsletter. YES NO | | | |
| MEAL / MEE | ETING RESERVATION FORM | | | |
| Please reserve meals for (Name) | | | | |
| Enclosed is my check for \$ | (\$17.00 per person) for 17 December 2005. | | | |
| Make check payable to: AZ Chapter MOAA | No Later Than: 13 December 2005 | | | |
| Send to: Bill Johnson, 13410 North 12th Place, Ph | oenix, AZ 85022-4944. Phone 602-690-1012 | | | |

Need a Copy of Your Discharge Papers?

To request a copy of a DD 214 either call the National Archives and Records Administration in St. Louis at 1-866-272-6272 or access their web site at: http://www.archives.gov

The web site walks you through the process and tells you what information you need to provide for your request.

Access Arizona Chapter's Internet Web Site at:



http://www.azchaptermoaa.org

| The Arizona Chapter - MOAA - 2005 Board of Directors and Committee Chairmen | | | | | | | | |
|---|--------------|--|-------------------|--|--------------|--|--|--|
| PRESIDENT CAPT Dan Conway USCGR | 480-368-1427 | ADVERTISING CDR John Gerometta USCG | 480-947-5371 | PERSONAL AFFAIRS LtCol Bernie Conway USAF | 480-994-0440 | | | |
| FIRST VICE PRESIDENT LCDR Terry Tassin USN | 623-931-1546 | CHAPLAIN LTC Bob Rutherford USA | 602-944-4224 | NEWSLETTER EDITOR CDR John Gerometta USCG | 480-947-5371 | | | |
| SECOND VICE PRESIDENT Vacant | | ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS CDR John Gerometta USCG 480-947-5371 | | PROGRAMS / ARRANGEMENTS LT Jim Seidl USCG 602-841-6026 | | | | |
| SECRETARY CDR John Gerometta USCG | 480-947-5371 | HISTORIAN / PHOTOGRAPHE LtCol Frank Birtciel USAF | R 480-945-2824 | SCHOLARSHIPS Col Ron Worthington USAF | 480-945-4015 | | | |
| TREASURER Maj Bill Johnson USAF | 602-690-1012 | JROTC AWARDS LCDR Terry Tassin USN | 623-931-1546 | TOPS LIAISON COL Charles Schluter, USA | 480-563-8480 | | | |
| PAST PRESIDENT Col Gary Fredricks USAF | 480-836-8419 | LEGISLATIVE Col Gary Fredricks USAF | 480-836-8419 | 50TH ANNIVERSARY LtCol Chet Baumer, USAF | 623-582-8595 | | | |
| DIRECTORS Charles Schluter; James Seidl; C Ronald Green; Jo Ann Th | , | MEMBERSHIP CAPT Carol Culbertson USNR | | WEB MASTER Capt Tom Houser, USAF | 602-697-3123 | | | |

Arizona Chapter Military Officers Association of America 14435 N. 66th Place Scottsdale, AZ 85254

