



# The Sentinel

Arizona's First Chapter



The Arizona Chapter, 14435 N. 66th Place, Scottsdale, Arizona 85254

MAY 2005

CHARTERED IN 1956 - OVER 48 YEARS OF SERVICE TO COUNTRY

EDITOR: Terry Tassin



## President's Message

We should name May as "Awards Month" because that is what we will be doing during May.

First we have the MOAA JROTC Medal presentations at the 16 High Schools in our area with JROTC programs. This program is sponsored by MOAA National with our implementation. Outstanding juniors are selected by their JROTC instructors, the medals are provided by National, and our members make the presentations. Art Parker hasn't been able to get to meetings, but continues to do a great job in coordinating this activity. Attending these award presentations gives us a chance to see some outstanding high school students. The schedule of presentations is in another area in this Sentinel. If you are available some evening when a presentation is being made at a school near you, call the presenter and go along. You will enjoy the experience.

Next, we have our scholarship awards at our luncheon

meeting on Saturday, May 21<sup>st</sup>. The scholarship committee headed by Ron Worthington received 12 applications for the four \$1,000 scholarships authorized by the board of directors. The selection committee was able to pick the four most outstanding applicants who, with their parents and JROTC instructors, will be our luncheon guests and will be awarded their scholarships. Each recipient has been asked to make a short presentation.

Finally, we have a National Award for one of our own. It is for the "Best Electronic Newsletter" for Chapters from 75 to 199 members. It will be presented at our May luncheon to our Sentinel Editor, Terry Tassin. Congratulations Terry! Congrats also to Tom Houser for having won "1<sup>st</sup> runner-up" for our web site.

These activities are a significant part of our service to our community and to our members. Please make a special effort to attend this luncheon.

— Daniel M. Conway

## Notice!

Our meeting location has been changed and all general meetings will be luncheon meetings at McCormick Ranch Golf Club - at least through June 2005. The May meeting will be on Saturday, 21 May.

## Chapter 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary by Chet Baumer

The 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary is rapidly approaching and now ALL we have to do is raise the funds to underwrite the necessary costs to make it a first class event. How about a few generous "Angels"

contributing to the 50<sup>th</sup> fund? If you are interested - use the donation form on page 7 of this Sentinel.



The Chapter has again signed up for the Color Guard to participate in the Memorial Day ceremony beginning at 8:00 AM on Monday, May 30 at the National Cemetery on Cave Creek Road. The Arizona Council of Chapters will also be participating in the wreath ceremony. This is always a very nice ceremony paying tribute to those veterans who have died. All Chapter members are urged to attend.

## Editor Wanted

Editor for Arizona Chapter MOAA monthly newsletter - The Sentinel. Volunteers should be computer knowledgeable, willing to contribute several hours each month to newsletter preparation, printing, and mailing. Need more information - contact present Editor at 623-931-1546 or email: terrytassin@cox.net.

## Arizona Chapter Calendar

- May 5**
  - BOD Meeting 1:30, American Legion 107
- May 8**
  - Mother's Day
- May 6**
  - Golf Tournament Rolling Hills GC
- May 21**
  - General Dinner Meeting and Scholarship Presentations
- May 30**
  - Memorial Day - Color Guard
- June 2**
  - BOD Meeting 1:30, American Legion 107
- June 18**
  - General Dinner Meeting
- June 19**
  - Father's Day

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

**Chaplain's Corner**

"Life may not be the party we hoped for, but while we are here we might as well dance"  
 —*Robert Rutherford, Chaplain*

**May Luncheon Meeting  
 Saturday, 21 May  
 McCormick Ranch Golf Club**

The next Chapter meeting is set for Saturday, 21 May 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 17 May. Come join us for good food and comradeship.

**Spring Golf Tournament  
 by Bernie Conway**

The MOAA Spring golf tournament is scheduled for Friday, May 6 at Rolling Hills Golf Course. For any newcomers, this course is a PAR 62 located at 1415 N. Mill Avenue in Tempe AZ. Save the date. Reservations and fees are due to Bernie Conway not later than May 2.

**New Members**

Welcome to new Chapter members since the last newsletter

**RADM Stephen Fisher USN (Ret)  
 and wife Myra**

14000 N. 94th Street #3180  
 Scottsdale, AZ 85260  
 Email: tfisher@TriWest.com

**COL William Roscher USA (Ret)  
 and wife Jo Ann**

4337 E. Sands Drive  
 Phoenix, AZ 85050  
 Email: wroscher@cox.net

Please take the opportunity to meet our new members at the next meeting.

**Membership**

Currently the AZ Chapter has 169 members including, 38 auxiliary members and 5 new members for 2005.

Send them now so you don't forget. Make checks payable to **Bernie Conway**, and mail to 5737 N. 79<sup>th</sup> Way, Scottsdale, AZ 85250. See you there!

**2005 Chapter Scholarship Recipients**

The following students will be honored and presented their \$1000 scholarships at the May luncheon meeting. The student's parents and senior military instructors will also be present. Please come and meet and greet them and make them feel welcome. Student photos and essays are located elsewhere in The Sentinel.

Jesus Mendoza.....Alhambra AJROTC  
 Thomas Campbell.....Cactus AFJROTC  
 Jessica Sanchez.....Cortez NJROTC  
 Evan Rutherford... Thunderbird NJROTC

**Legislative Chairman's Notes  
 by Gary Friedrichs**

As I discussed last month, Chuck Schluter, MOAA Board of Directors, and I, as President of the Arizona Council of MOAA Chapters, joined representatives from all 50 states and Puerto Rico in attending the MOAA annual Council Presidents Seminar in Alexandria, Va., April 6-8. MOAA, the nation's largest association for military officers, with nearly 370,000 members, hosted its council and chapter leaders for three days, including briefings on key legislative issues and meetings on chapter activities.

We also visited legislators and staffers on Capital Hill to persuade them to cosponsor and enact legislation to eliminate the unfair offset of military Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) annuities, including eliminating the Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) offset to SBP,

**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 below members have made generous donations to the:

- General Fund:  
None
- 50th Anniversary Fund:  
None
- Scholarship Fund:  
**James Andrews \$10**

and the 2008 effective date for the paid-up SBP coverage.

Chuck and I were fortunate to be able to meet at length with Congressmen JD Hayworth, R-5<sup>th</sup> District, Raul Grijalva, D-7<sup>th</sup> District, and Jim Kolbe, R-8<sup>th</sup> District. We met with key legislative assistants for Congressmen Rick Renzie, R-1st District, Trent Franks, R-2<sup>nd</sup> District, Ed Pastor, D-4<sup>th</sup> District and Senator John Kyle as well as meeting briefly with Congressman Renzie. The appointment we had with Senator McCain's legislative assistant had to be cancelled at the last moment, but I had the opportunity of having a nice chat with him on the phone. In spite of trying through letters, faxes and phone calls, I was unable to receive a response from the offices of either Congressman John Shadegg, R-3<sup>rd</sup> District or Congressman Jeff Flake, R-6<sup>th</sup> District; maybe next year.

Our meetings were productive with

**Women's Auxiliary**

Members of the **Women's Auxiliary and Valley Wives Group** to meet for lunch at the Garden Court Café in the Scottsdale Plaza Resort, 7200 N. Scottsdale Road, on May 12 at 11:30AM. Members should call Jo Ann Thompson (480-990-0074) or Velma Birtciel (480-945-2824) to make reservations by May 8.

- - - **Jo Ann Thompson**

**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:

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

### Looking For A Few Good Men Or Women

Below are listed the members who have volunteered to represent our Chapter at JROTC awards ceremonies this year. If you have difficulties making your presentation date, immediately let Arthur Parker (602) 997-7913 know you will be unavailable.

As you can see we are still a "little" short of our goal of 16 presenters. This is a great opportunity to get out and see some wonderful young people at their best. Yes, you will need to give up a couple of hours of your time to make the presentation. Let us support these patriotic young men and women. If you can make a presentation let Arthur Parker (602) 997-7913 know you are available and which school.

School	Date	Time	Presenter
Sunnyslope HS	28-Apr-05	6:00 PM	D. Conway
Cortez HS	02-May-05	6:00 PM	T. Tassin
Apollo HS	03-May-05	7:00 PM	T. Tassin
Carl Hayden HS	04-May-05	6:30 PM	Vacant
North HS	04-May-05	6:00 PM	Vacant
Cactus HS	05-May-05	6:30 PM	C. Schluter
Camelback HS	05-May-05	6:30 PM	Vacant
Alhambra HS	06-May-05	6:30 PM	F. Birtciel
Central HS	07-May-05	7:00 PM	Vacant
South Mountain HS	10-May-05	6:00 PM	B. Conway
Shadow Mountain HS	10-May-05	6:00 PM	B. Adams
Greenway HS	10-May-05	7:00 PM	R. Deane
Deer Valley HS	11-May-05	7:00 PM	Vacant
Thunderbird HS	11-May-05	7:00 PM	R. Green
Glendale HS	12-May-05	7:00 PM	Vacant
Moon Valley HS	12-May-05	7:00 PM	Vacant

state MOAA Chapter leaders at our Spring Arizona Council of MOAA Chapters meeting hosted by the Yuma Chapter on April 20 and to pass on what we had learned in Washington. I was privileged to be able to also pass on to our Chapter President, Dan Conway, yet another recognition of our Chapter in taking home 2004 MOAA Communications Awards. Once again we congratulate Terry Tassin for having been awarded the "Winner" for electronic newsletters for our Chapter size category and to Tom Houser for having won "1<sup>st</sup> runner-up" for our web site. This was a truly significant event in that all chapters throughout the nation are ratcheting up their quality and no other chapter in Arizona was able to take home an award.

At the state level, we continue to work through the Unified Arizona Veterans (UAV), an affiliation of 34 veterans groups. The UAV was able to marshal enough veterans in early April at the state legislature to head off a miss-directed legislative bill. Recognizing that veteran's legislative initiatives are at the moment fragmented and disorganized, the UAV has sent a letter to the governor and to key state legislatures recommending a commission of veterans be established this year to organize veteran related legislative efforts into an omnibus bill that could be presented to the legislature for coordinated action early next year.

On April 14, I attended a meeting of the Arizona Department of Veterans Services (ADVS) Advisory commission. This group of nine commissioners advises the Governor and the ADVS on veteran's issues and seeks to promote public awareness and enhance the well-being of past and present Arizona service members and their families. At the meeting the commission rolled out a new strategic plan which, among other things, divides the state into four regions with dedicated commissioners in each region. Commissioners for the region in which Maricopa County resides are

#### LEGISLATIVE.....continued from page 2

the legislators we met with most appreciative of our visiting them, and eager to let us know they wanted to learn of the concerns of their constituents. In the process we learned of the extensive effort MOAA staff had already expended in educating our legislators on the issues. The big problem is obviously how to get funding for these worthwhile causes in the austere environment of the FY06 budget and the projected budget deficit years that follow. Some staffers were a little more vocal in expressing this fact than were others. MOAA, among others, is doing an outstanding job keeping the focus on veteran's issues and in continuously increasing corresponding priorities in the fight for available funding.

We also attended a reception on Capitol Hill to recognize distinguished leaders who have been strong supporters of national defense and the uniformed services community. Senator Mary Landrieu (D-La) and Representative Jeff Miller (R-1<sup>st</sup> FL) received the Col. Arthur T. Marix Congressional Achievement Award for spearheading legislation to phase out the SBP "widow tax" that reduces annuity payments to surviving military spouses by more

than one third when they reach age 62. Representative Bill Young (R-10thFL) received the Marix Award for his years of leadership in ensuring funding for military "people programs" as Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee.

MOAA also honored The Home Depot, Inc., headquartered in Atlanta, Ga., for its strong support of military people, especially Home Depot employees in the Guard and Reserve who have been deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan. Mr. Robert L. Nardelli, Home Depot's Chairman, President, and CEO accepted the award for his company. MOAA presented the Colonel Paul W. Arcani Meritorious Service Award to Mr. Michael Higgins and Ms. Debra Wada, professional staff members for the House Armed Services Committee, for their work on a wide range of issues that include pay equity, health care, and the SBP. This award was named for MOAA's former director of Government Relations who retired in 2001.

All in all it was an outstanding opportunity to reinforce MOAA goals with grassroots support as well as to receive extensive updates to issues and actions relevant to our local MOAA Chapters. Chuck and I were able to meet subsequently with our Arizona

## Board Meeting Notes

The Board of Directors met on 7 April 2005. The following items of interest were considered.

♦ **Legislative:** Chuck Schluter and Gary Fredricks are in Washington, D.C. participating in MOAA's "Storming the Hill" activity.

♦ **Treasurer's Report:** Indicated assets of: Checking: \$ 5,512.88  
50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary: \$ 2,422.00  
Scholarship: \$ 8,573.16  
Total Accounts: \$16,508.04

♦ **Membership:** The President sent out Chapter Membership Invitation letters to new and recently moved MOAA members off the list supplied by MOAA. He received two applications; Steven Todd Fisher, RADM USN (Ret); and William Glen Roscher, COL USA (Ret).

♦ **Scholarship:** 12 scholarship applications were received. The Selection Committee met and selected four scholarship recipients as follows:

Evan Scott Rutherford, Thunderbird High School NJROTC  
Jessica Mendoza Sanchez, Cortez High School NJROTC  
Jesus Daniel Mendoza, Alhambra High School AJROTC  
Thomas Harrington Campbell, Cactus High School AFJROTC

♦ **JROTC Medals:** The April 2005 issue of *The Sentinel* listed dates and times of high school award ceremonies where we can honor selected cadets in the JROTC Units. Art Parker will continue to coordinate members to represent the Chapter at these presentations.

♦ **50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary:** The committee has checked out three possible venues: Scottsdale Plaza Resort; Sheraton Crescent Hotel; and Chaparral Inn Suites. They will continue to investigate other venues. Luke Air force Base is still in contention.

♦ **Programs:** We will not have a speaker in May as we will award Scholarships. Program Chairman Jim Seidl is working on a speaker for the June Luncheon. We received a thank you letter from last month's speaker Gayle Martin.

♦ **Historian:** The Web Master has completed entering the 2004 history into the web site - check it out! <http://www.azchaptermoaa.org>

♦ **Open Positions:** *The Sentinel* editor is still looking for a replacement editor.

♦ **Status of 501(c) (3) Application:** By Laws have been published in the *Capital Times*; the next step is to make application to the IRS.

♦ **501(c) (3) Fund Raising:** See Dan Conway's Message in *The Sentinel*. The board reaffirmed its support of Dan's approach for fund raising.

♦ **Council of Chapters Meeting:** Dan Conway will attend the meeting in Yuma. Contact Dan with any ideas for him to bring up at the meeting.

♦ **Veteran's Plates:** Dan Conway read a letter from a Chapter member to MOAA urging them to support Veteran's license plates in those states that do not have them.

## LEGISLATIVE.....continued from page 3

Joan Sisco, Phoenix, and Robert Sigholtz, Paradise Valley. Each region is charged with the task of identifying military and veteran community issues and needs. To facilitate this process a meeting will be conducted in each region yearly. The first regional meeting is being conducted in Region 4 (Yuma) in May. I will be informed and will pass info on to you when our region is scheduled so you can attend..

## Personal Affairs

### Living Wills: A Matter of Life or Death

A living will is a legal document that expresses a person's personal health-care wishes in the event the individual is unable to make decisions, says Burton Brasher of the Fort Sam Houston legal assistance office. "If you're incapacitated, a living will provides the doctor with guidance for your continued treatment,". This guidance includes decisions related to extraordinary measures to sustain life. There is no federal standard for living wills; some states have a single document, while others use two; one is a directive to physicians expressing the patient's personal desires in advance, and the other designates an individual who would decide on the measures taken to preserve life at a later time. Military legal assistance offices can prepare living wills free of charge to active-duty service members, family members, retirees and reservists on active duty for 30 or more days. Go to [www.aq.state.az.us](http://www.aq.state.az.us).



## 2005 Arizona Chapter \$1000 Scholarship Recipients and Their Goal Statements



**Evan S. Rutherford**  
Thunderbird HS NJROTC

My interests have driven my education and career plans for after high school. My parents always encouraged me to follow my interests in order to be happier in life. I am a very hands-on kind of person and like to use tools

and work on things. With that in mind I decided that I wanted to be an engineer and since airplanes have always fascinated me I chose aeronautical engineering. Another fun outlet I found in high school was JROTC and decided to incorporate that in my future plans. When looking at schools, I found that the United States Naval Academy had one of the best engineering programs in the country. I then proceeded to apply and recently found out that I was offered a preparatory school scholarship through the Academy and once I completed that I would be accepted into the USNA.

Since I love flying so much my plan after college is to become a career naval aviator. However, once I get too old to fly for the Navy I would like to retire from active duty and then go into commercial flying. It would be then that I would be able to pay more attention to the family I began to build during my stay in the Navy. It would be then that I could also do the things with my offspring that I have always wanted to do.

In my head, I have a great life planned that should bring lots of rewards. I have every intention of taking every step necessary to accomplish the goals and standards I have set for myself.



**Jesus D. Mendoza**  
Alhambra HS AJROTC

Since childhood, I have been taught by my parents to never stop studying until I have reached a point where I can have a beneficial life. As a result of this, throughout my high school years I have not hesitated in taking honors

classes; among them being English, Math, Science, History, and Government. After I graduate from Alhambra High School, my goal is to graduate from Arizona State University with a Master's Degree in Electrical Engineering. Ever since I was young, I have been fascinated by electricity and its properties, and I now wish to make a career from this interest. I truly believe I can perform brilliantly for the United States if I study this field because I have the initiative and creativity that is required.

Even though I would love to receive scholarships to assure myself a college education, I look forward to a work-study program. I understand that accomplishing goals is not easy if money is not at hand, so this is why I wish to work while I study. I have to admit that my parents were not fortunate enough to attend college due to lack of finances, and they are trying their best to make college a sure thing for me.

After being in Army JROTC for two years, I have chosen to join the Army Reserve Officer Training Corps at ASU. Following my commissioning as a second lieutenant from ROTC, I intend to join the army. From there, I plan to attend Aviation School at Fort Rucker Alabama and become a helicopter pilot.

Finally, I would like to thank this committee for giving me the opportunity to apply for this amazing scholarship and providing this financial support to those who deserve it.





**Jessica M. Sanchez**  
**Cortez HS NJROTC**

My educational, college and career goals are very quite simple: to be successful and perform tenaciously and sedulously in every task I set my mind on completing. I would love to receive a B.S. (if possible a Masters) degree

in Mathematics (Statistics) and continue on to Corporate Law. I still haven't made a firm decision but I would like to pursue a career in the military (Navy or Air Force); hence, being active in the Arizona State University Air Force ROTC program. Currently, the NJROTC program has been very beneficial towards my character and future plans, and I would love to expand that success continuing the same path.

Out of all of my goals, the short-term goals have been the most strenuous and the long-term goals the most satisfying. All of my goals, in one way or another, have some type of connection. They either ameliorate and expedite my future or blazon my opportunities for my success. Some of these goals range from completing an assignment, to placing well in a very important competition. They are both important and help build my character and personality. There are three long-term goals that I intend on fulfilling: these goals are to be grandiose, meritorious, and triumphant with every obstacle and task that has been placed at my mercy; to make my family proud and be able to compensate them for their encouragement, efforts and how they always wished for me the best and for me to serve my duty as a good citizen to this stalwart country of ours.

In order to do so, I must push my character to accomplish to the best of my ability what comes my way and never give in to any adversity or breakdown that may cross my path. I have to develop a career on the basis of being honest, trustworthy, hardworking, and committed; for, when not done so, the individual does not satisfy the hunger of their soul. "Honor, Courage, and Commitment" aren't just the core values of the Navy, but also the values of those who succeed and reach their true desires.



**Thomas H. Campbell**  
**Cactus HS AFJROTC**

The United States of America is not just a country within North America; it is a beacon of hope, freedom, and justice for the entire world. Since I can remember, I have been privileged with the enumerable benefits that

bless all Americans. I have been granted rights that are not dreamed of in many nations. These rights have given me the ability to dream of raising a family and to also have children who will also receive these same rights. I have been fortunate enough to be educated and that education, which is afforded to all Americans, has allowed me to realize that I can achieve my dreams. I have known since I first began reading about the history of America I have wanted to serve my country, because service is what allows a country to grow and build upon its many great attributes.

Service can be almost anything; i.e. teaching, political work, fire fighters, doctors, and police officers serve the U.S. everyday. But I have decided I want to serve the U.S.A. as a soldier. To me the American military soldier has one of the most far reaching vocations a person can hold. The American soldier not only defends the United States and its Constitution, but acts as a peace keeper and liberator all over the world. I cannot see how America's blessings should be kept only in America. As a soldier, I would take part in spreading America's freedoms everywhere. I could enlist and serve with all of my heart, but I feel that if I was trained and educated I could learn and obtain the leadership requirements of a military officer.

The United States Service Academies sole purpose has been to produce the best military officers in the world. These amazing institutions train young men and women to be outstanding leaders that are physically and mentally superb. I have a strong desire to attend one of the academies, and develop myself into the best officer that I can be. I wish to serve the United States more than anything else. God Bless America!

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#### Offices located:

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## May Luncheon Meeting

**WHEN:** 21 May 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 JROTC Scholarship Awards Presentation.

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.*

### 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.**

**50th Anniversary Fund:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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

\* It is OK to identify me as a donor in the next newsletter. YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Donor : \_\_\_\_\_

### MEAL / MEETING RESERVATION FORM

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

Enclosed is my check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (\$17.00 per person) for **21 May 2005.**

Make check payable to: AZ Chapter MOAA **No Later Than: 17 May 2005**

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



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