

# 2003 Events

## January 2003

TROA is no more. MOAA Military Officers Association of America is now the name and we start the year with Ron Green and crew who did such a fine job last year. And, we are now responsible for 16 high schools for Medals and JROTC Scholarships.

The January Luncheon Meeting was held at McCormick Ranch and the speaker was Mr. Jim Sourbriette speaking on My view of Home Security.

## February 2003

The Sentinel is loaded with good information on membership, newsletter advertising, spring golf, current legislation in the mill, air travel rights if bumped and a form for the Arizona Veterans Registry. Hope every vet has filled this one out and sent it in. There is power in numbers.

Col Gary Fredricks USAF Ret. (pictured right) stepped up to fill the vacancy of 1st VP with the resignation of Raymond Deane. Thank you Gary and a well done to Raymond.

The February dinner meet speaker was CWO Jody Reidenhour from the Arizona National Guard and her topic was 'My Administrative Duties.' I can vouch for her efficiency with new ID Cards and her office at 56 street and McDowell is a lot closer than Luke AFB.



Col Gary Fredricks USAF Ret.

## March 2003

Dan Conway and Chuck Schluter joined others in Washington DC on March 27 to meet the Arizona Congressional Delegation to stress Survivor Benefits. This is called "Storming the Hill".



Dan Conway, Congressman Jim Kolbe, and Chuck Schluter



Above is Dan Conway, Congressman Jeff Flake, Chuck Schluter and Susan Kachouroff (Legislative Assistant)



To the right, Dan Conway, Congressman John Shadegg, and Chuck Schluter

Art Parker and Dick Horn presented the high school schedule for presentations that needed filling and promptly got his volunteers. If you haven't tried this, you should, but you need to volunteer early.

The March luncheon speaker was Mr. Craig Wilson and his topic was Hydrogen Fuel. ASU has a hydrogen car operating and was available in the meeting parking lot for our inspection. Hydrogen is a clean non-polluting fuel. Unlike the GM electric car that was leased and used a set of batteries with a replacement cost of \$6,000, hydrogen is electronically separated from water, but does need recharging with hydrogen and that means fueling stops that are not available at this time.

## April 2003

Bill Adams is spending more time in Flagstaff and is short of storage space so as his helper I volunteered to take over the position (isn't that a nice word) of historian and try to get it to Tom Houser for the web site. It is a challenge.

Paul Fein stepped up and volunteered to take over the Membership Chairman position. Really great to have individuals that will volunteer to take on the various jobs that keep the Chapter running. Thanks Paul.

Our President Ron Green has a F-4 training classmate that didn't do too shabby in his career. He is General Ronald R. Fogelman USAF Ret., former USAF Chief of Staff United States Air Force.



*Gen Fogelman, our guest speaker at April 3, 2003 Gen Meeting. His topic was "Military Transformation in Transistion"*

Thanks Ron and thanks to Jim Seidl who does this one meeting after another as well as the meeting place and the menu. Next time you see Jim, tell him you appreciate his efforts.

And, Ron, where you and I when they passed out information on "Moving UP".



*Chuck, Ron and Ron at April 3, 2003 General Meeting*

## May 2003

The spring golf tournament was played at Falcon Dunes and the Callaway Scoring System was initiated to try leveling the playing field. It didn't work as Roy Anderson did it again. Past President Chuck Schluter won the Hat so he has an oak leaf cluster to the Hat. This year brought \$165.00 for the Scholarship Fund. Thanks to Bernie Conway who does it all for us and does it with style.

Dan Conway as President of the Council had a place on the grandstand.

Our Chapter Color Guard commanded by Terry Tassin and consisting of Bill Johnson, Ron Green, and Tom Houser did a fine job as well. For all of our guys "Well Done".



***Chuck, Terry, Bill, Ron, Tom and Dan***

Memorial Day was a grand celebration honoring our veterans. Shuck Schluter as Vice President of the Arizona Council of Chapters presented the Memorial Wreath on behalf of all the State's MOAA Chapters.



Kudos for our Scholarship Committee for medals to 16 high schools and five Scholarships awarded to the following individuals in the amount of \$1,000 each: Luke Ortega, Robert Paffinbarger, Liana Moody, Joe Roe, and Benjamin Martin.



## September 2003

Our September General Meeting quest speaker Jack Cole with Ron Green.



Also, our new MOAA Chapter flag was debuted



Our Past President, Chuck Schluter presented his [AZ Chapter, MOAA/Centennial of Flight Recognition.](#)

Frank informed Chuck that in addition to flight starting in 1903 so did the ice cream cone and that he didn't know which had the biggest impact.



Many thanks to Chris & Peter Magadan. They have been caring for the flags for a long time, putting them up and taking them down for each meeting.

November 2003

## The Military Family Tax Relief Act of 2003 signed into law



The November luncheon was held November 22, 2003 at McCormick Ranch Golf Club. Ten members received Meritorious Service Awards for superior service to the Chapter. Recipients shown above were: Back row Chester Baumer, Richard Horn, James Seidl, Frank Birtciel, Thomas Houser, Terry Tassin, Front row, Dolly Blecick, Chris Magadan, Charles Schluter, and Ron Green.



President George W. Bush signs H.R. 3365, The Military Family Tax Relief Act of 2003 in the Oval Office on Veterans Day, Nov. 11, 2003. The legislation provides tax-relief for military and Foreign Service personnel with the President are, from left: John Brieden, American Legion National Commander; Congressman McGovern, R-Mass.; Congressman Rick Renzi, R-Ariz.; Secretary of Veterans Affairs Anthony Principi; Veterans of Foreign Wars, Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief, and Admiral Norb Ryan, Military Officers America. White House photo by Eric Draper.

The election of Chapter Officers was held as follows:: President, Gary Fredricks Col USAF, 1st VP, Paul Fein CWO3 USN, 2nd VP, Tom Houser Capt USAF, 3rd VP, Frank Birtciel LtCol USAF, Secretary, Terry Tassin LCDR USN, Treasurer, William Johnson Maj USAF. All remaining Chapter Committee Chairpersons have agreed to serve on in their current positions.



Chris Magadan, Fran Tassin, Vaunda Farenga, Doris Lee Deane, Raymond Deane, and Harry Farenga.



Left Clockwise - Rene Weidenfeld, Dr. Sharon Clark, Bill Adams, Carol Adams, Peter Magadan, and Chris Magadan.





L to R: Doug Gray, Chuck Schluter, and A. Park Shaw



Ain Baudu, Toni Seidl, Jim Seidl, Dolly Blecick, Velma Birtciel, Frank Birtciel, and Chet Baumer



Ctr then CW: Bernie Conway, Marie Fredricks, Gary Fredricks, Ron Green, Betty Green, Dan Conway, and Joyce Conway



L to R: Betty Baumer, Jim Seidl, and Frank Birtciel



L to R: Irene Doto, Terry Tassin, and Fran Tassin



L then CW: Dick Albrecht, Karen Albrecht, Vince Messina, Mary Lou Messina, Tom Smith, and Paul Alex

## December 2003

The December 18, 2003 meeting and silent auction wound up activities of the MOAA Chapter for the year. It was held in the Sunshine Hotel and Resort, our first time at that location. The spacious room was well decorated in red and green with two highly decorated trees and plenty of room for the auction items. The food was good, the service excellent and a good time was had by all. A few of the auction items are shown here and the silent auction went on through the dinner hour and netted a good profit for the Scholarship Fund. You will note the fruit basket (fruit of the vine that is), Cardinal football, pies and other baked goods, crystal ware, fax machine, TV and many, many more.

Thanks to Terry Tassin we have pictures of some of those in attendance.



Not to be left out is Dolly Blecick's mistletoe fixture that we see Clare and Mike Gannon under. Dolly made good use of the mistletoe. The fixture and mistletoe sold as well.



Peter & Chris Magadan, Dolly Blecick & Velma Birtciel



Vera & Al Pasley, Sombra McKinney, Clint Laubabh, Gordon Drake, Mary Lou Hudson, Nina & Bill Johnson



Dick & Debbie Minor, Vince & Mary Lou Schluter, Marie & Chuck Schluter, and A. L. Shipley & Joan



Lucy and Mick Hendrick, Nancy Horn, Art Parker, Paul Fein & not identified



Toni & Jim Seidl, Harry & Vaunda Farenga



Frank Birtciel, Ron Worthington, Gary & Marie Fredricks, & Carol Adams



Dolores & Gerald Lovett



Dick Horn, Chuck Schluter, & Velma Birtciel  
setting up items for the auction