



The Sentinel

Arizona's First Chapter



The Arizona Chapter

8213 E. Del Camino Dr.

Scottsdale, AZ

85258

DECEMBER 2011

CHARTERED 1956 - 55 YEARS OF SERVICE TO COUNTRY

EDITOR: JIM CULLISON

President's Perspective

by John Ady



Season's Greetings

Hello everyone and the best of this great season and its holidays to you and your entire family.

It's hard to believe that my first year as your president is about over, but it has been a fast-paced and interesting experience, and we look forward to more great events and opportunities for the chapter in 2012.

Well-Deserved Thanks

I would be remiss if I did not take the opportunity to thank three outstanding board members who will be leaving the aboard at the end of the month. First, Dan Conway, who has served our chapter and the Arizona Council of Chapters in so many ways that there is not enough space to review all his contributions. In addition, Beth Cullison has been a superb secretary for the chapter and has put in many hours of volunteer work with our monthly bingo project at the Arizona Veterans Home to

make that project a success. Gregg Maxon has not only guided us with answers to legal questions, but has always filled in very well as First Vice President when I needed to be away. Thanks to all of them. In addition, a fourth board member, Ron Worthington, left us due to his passing recently. I cannot say enough about his "can do" spirit and the contributions he made as our Scholarship Program Chair.

Give Us Your Ideas

As we approach the new year, I encourage all of our members to contact any board member or me with your comments, questions and suggestions on how we can become better at

what we do. I personally have a few ideas that I will be presenting in the next few board meetings. However, I am confident that some of our best ideas come from our chapter members, so we want to hear from you.

Don't Miss the Fun

The annual Christmas luncheon will take place on Saturday, December 17, the details of which can be found elsewhere in the newsletter. I encourage you to make your reservations early, as we normally are filled to capacity. It will be a fun-filled event, with great entertainment and the "Chinese Auction" that seems to always be popular with everyone, so I hope to see you at the McCormick Ranch Golf Club.

Enjoy the season with your families and thank you for your support to me over the past year.

Need a ride to the Christmas luncheon?

Don't miss it for lack of transportation. Just call Ron Perkins, 480-961-8632. He will arrange for a chapter member to give you a ride to and from the meeting. Be sure to give him advance notice so he has time to make arrangements with another member.

Arizona Chapter Calendar

Board of Directors meets at 1030 hours the first Thursday of the month.

New location: National Guard Distance Learning Center, 5636 E. McDowell Rd. Show ID for entry. Members are invited to attend.

Upcoming meetings:
• December 1
• January 5

Member Meetings/ Luncheons are normally held on the third Saturday of the month, Social Hour at 1100, Luncheon at 1200, at McCormick Ranch Golf Club, unless noted otherwise.

Upcoming meetings:
• December 17
• January 21

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2012 Chapter Officers Prepare to Lead

Arizona Chapter officers for 2012 were elected at the November members' meeting.

Leading the chapter for next year are:

- COL John Ady, President
- Col Ron Perkins, Immediate Past President
- COL Rob Welch, First Vice President
- Lt Col Jim Cullison, Second Vice President
- COL Bill Roscher, Treasurer
- Carol Winkler, Secretary
- COL Nancy Burt, CDR Jim Draper, COL Rance Farrell, Lt Col Ron Green and CAPT Frank Hoak, Directors.

These officers will be sworn in at the January members' meeting.




TAPS

We regret to inform you of the passing of one of our members:

Rocco F. (Fred) Iacobelli, LCDR, USN (Ret)
 January 28, 1923-November 2, 2011
Arizona Chapter President, 1967-68

We extend heartfelt condolences to the family.





Online With The Arizona Chapter
by Rob Welch, Webmaster

What was that website address? Where should I look for answers for issues affecting the military and their families? Please check out this new feature on our website page <http://azchaptermoaa.org/board-members-committee-chairs/links/>. Or, go to our main page <http://azchaptermoaa.org/> and click on **WEB LINKS** under **CONTACT US** on the menu bar.

The major categories are Benefits & Pay, Education, Health, Jobs, Military, Military Associations, News – Local, News – Military, Phoenix metro-area businesses, Shopping, State of Arizona – Government, Travel & Recreation, and Veteran Support.

If you know of a website that isn't listed, but would be of interest to the military, please send me an e-mail at: webmaster@azchaptermoaa.org.



Hall of Famers. Rance Farrell, above left, and Gregg Maxon are the latest chapter members to be inducted into the Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame. They joined 15 other outstanding Class of 2011 veterans so honored October 28.

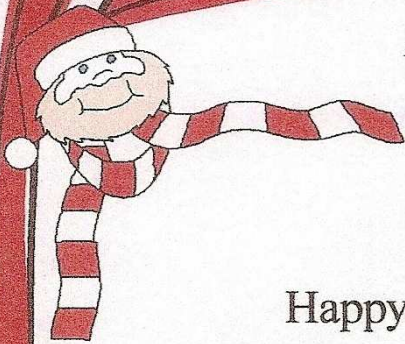


A Great Day for Golf

Frank Hoak lines up a putt against a scenic backdrop as partners John O'Connor and Ben Budzowski observe. The fall golf tournament netted \$846 for the Scholarship Fund.

Chapter Webmaster and skilled bagpiper Rob Welch set a festive mood as he piped a timely tune to start the event.





Arizona Chapter MOAA

Christmas Luncheon

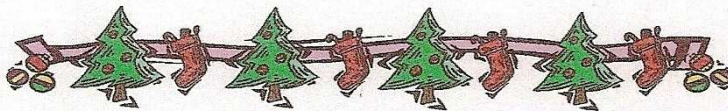
December 17, 2011

McCormick Golf Ranch

Happy Hour: 11 am Lunch: 12 Noon

*THE DICKENS CAROLERS WILL ONCE AGAIN
ENTERTAIN US DURING LUNCH*

The Dickens Carolers were established in 1983 and is a unique holiday season entertainment company providing professional Christmas caroling quartets for any venue or occasion throughout the Metropolitan Phoenix area.. The quartets consist of two women and two men dressed in authentic Victorian era attire created exclusively for the Dickens Carolers



FOLLOWING LUNCH WE WILL HAVE OUR

ANNUAL EXCITING CHINESE AUCTION

If your raffle ticket number is selected you will be able to select from the many gifts that the board has arranged for.

**ALL THE PROCEEDS FROM THE SALE OF
TICKETS WILL GO TO THE SCHOLARSHIP
FUND.**

Be sure to send your reservations and check to:

BILL ROSCHER

4337 E SANDS DR PHOENIX 85050

480-948-3609



Congratulations!



Five Stars of Excellence — Again

ADM Steve Abbot, MOAA Chairman of the Board, presented Arizona Chapter President John Ady with the 5-Star Level of Excellence streamer at the MOAA annual meeting in San Antonio October 27-29. Five stars are the highest level given annually to MOAA's best chapters. Arizona Chapter has earned the honor seven consecutive years.



Meritorious Members. Chapter President John Ady, second from left, presented Meritorious Service Medal awards at the November luncheon to the members who performed exceptional service to the chapter in 2011. From left, Ron Perkins, John Ady, Bill Roscher, Paul Schnur, Beth Cullison, Marie Fredricks, Rob Welch, Terry Tassin, Dan Conway and Jim Cullison. Also earning the award but unable to attend were Gary Fredricks, Pat Dale and Chuck Schluter.

JROTC SCHOLARSHIP NEWS by Rob Welch Scholarship Chairman

Worthwhile Tax Deduction

Your generous gift to your own MOAA chapter's MOAA Scholarship Fund can lower the taxes you pay to state and federal governments.

Why not take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to help youths right here at home while you support your own chapter Scholarship Fund and reduce your own tax obligation.

This is a winner all around. If you decide to give \$250 or more, IRS requires a receipt, which we will provide for you. Please mail your check to Bill Roscher, 4337 E. Sands Dr., Phoenix, AZ 85050-8812. Thank you for your generosity.

Donations to Chapter Funds

Scholarship Fund

\$100, Anonymous

\$100, Ronnie & Rob Welch
In memory of MG John "Fritz" Freund, 1918-2001

\$50, Ron and Bette Green
In memory of Col Ron Worthington

\$50, Gary and Marie Fredricks
In memory of Col Ron Worthington
(The Green & Fredricks donations were listed last month, but the memorials were inadvertently omitted)



Personal Affairs
by Dan Conway
Personal Affairs Officer

New Year's Resolution

It's that time of year to think about New Year's Resolutions. A resolution is defined as "A resolve or determination; to make a firm resolution to do something".

The one that I am thinking about is not painful. It is not temporary. It is not something that you will quit before the end of the month. It is to fill out the Personal Affairs Workbook in the MOAA publication "Help Your Survivors Now".

You don't have to die to make that a valuable effort. Of course, if it turns out that this is your year to leave this earth, it is especially valuable to your surviving family. It is also valuable as ongoing financial planning document. The section which asks for listing of your bank and

investment accounts allows you to evaluate your financial situation. I would add your liabilities as well.

A good target date to have your work completed is April 15 when you file your income taxes. You will have all of the annual statements readily at hand at that time to make this part much easier. That doesn't mean that you should wait until then to start; that is a good completion target.

I will have copies of "Help Your Survivors Now" at the December lunch. If you are unable to attend the lunch, MOAA national will send you a copy. Simply have your membership number available and call MOAA at 1-800-234-6622. It will be good idea to request a copy of the publication "Estate Planning" at the same time.

Please consider me as a Personal Affairs asset. My phone number is 480-368-1427.

Daniel Conway

Time for 2012 Chapter Membership Renewal

Annual membership renewals are due by December 31 and can be submitted with the renewal form below. Dues for 2012 remain \$20 for regular members and \$10 for Auxiliary members. Fill out the form below and send it with your check to Bill Roscher at the address shown.

Toys For Tots - - EXTRA

Terry Tassin found a location that will accept *Toys For Tots* donations through December 20. If anyone has new, unwrapped toys for delivery to the USMC Reserve Center for their Christmas *Toys For Tots* program, bring them to the December 17 meeting. There will be a collection box set up in the corner. Terry will deliver the toys following the meeting.

----- CUT HERE AND MAIL RENEWAL FORM WITH YOUR CHECK -----

[Arizona Chapter 2012 Membership Renewal Form](#)

Member Full Name: _____

Membership Renewal: **\$20** Regular member _____

Membership Renewal: **\$10** Auxiliary member _____ (surviving spouse)

Any Changes in your address, phone number, e-mail, etc:

Make check payable to: **AZ Chapter MOAA**

Mail renewal application and check to:

**AZ Chapter MOAA
C/O Bill Roscher
4337 E. Sands Drive
Phoenix, AZ 85050**



Legislative Update

by Gary Fredricks, Legislative Chair

We Live in Interesting Times

So far it has been an interesting if non-productive month for Congress, with two significant missed deadlines. The first deadline was November 18. That was the date that Congress needed to take action on about nine FY2012 Appropriations Bills that fund government activity, including one for defense, and the FY2012 Defense Authorization Bill. As you will recall, that date came from Congress passing an interim "continuing resolution" that was needed to fund the government beyond the October 1 start of the fiscal year and avoid a government shutdown. Also, the November 23 deadline imposed by the August 2 Budget Control Act for the Congressional Joint Select Committee on Deficit Reduction, aka "Super Committee," to report has also come and gone.

So, where are we now? On November 17, one day before the continuing resolution on FY2012 expenditures was to expire; Congress extended its affectivity until December 16, thereby again temporarily avoiding a government shutdown. Recall that by law imposed by the August 2 Budget Control Act, the FY2012 budget actions must begin the process of reducing the federal deficit by about \$900 million over the next decade, and about half of that must be absorbed by the Defense Department. In gross terms these cuts are reported to be agreed upon in principal. However, the details and timing of the cuts are not readily apparent. When Congress returns from their Thanksgiving break, they are expected to continue work on the numerous Appropriations Bills still outstanding for FY2012 and the Defense Authorization Bill.

Although a further continuation of the current fiscal year budget delay is possible, it now appears there is a reasonable chance of Congress putting FY2012 actions behind us by mid-December. Accordingly, MOAA has requested our help in sending e-mails to our Congressmen in support of several important amendments that we know are under consideration with the Defense Authorization

Bill, including ones that affect the SBP/DIC offset inequity, concurrent receipt inequities, flexible spending accounts for actively serving service members, mitigation to adverse effects on coming force drawdown actions and acknowledgement of our earned healthcare benefits. I hope you helped us with this requested grass roots support of these bills by sending the recommended e-mails to your Congressmen through the MOAA website, www.MOAA.org. Further, watch for more requests for support from MOAA as we learn more about what the FY2012 bills propose and what other potential amendments are likely to surface.

The failure of the "Super Committee" to submit a viable report by the November 23 deadline on how to decrease the federal deficit by at least another \$1.2 trillion over the next decade now opens a new set of doors imposed by the August 2 Budget Control Act. In accordance with that act, a sequester now kicks in that imposes \$1.2 trillion in across-the-board cuts over the next decade beginning in January 2013, with half of that total coming from the Defense Department. While VA health care and retirement programs are protected from sequestration, other military care programs including TRICARE are not. You can draw your own conclusions as to what that may mean for us.

Currently there are numerous members of the Administration and Congress stating that the defense budget cannot sustain such cuts and remain viable. There are others who are prepared to let the law take effect. In particular, since 2012 is a major election year, it is always possible that Congress will find some way to kick the can down the road a little farther. However, eventually something will have to be done to cut spending or increase revenue or both. Most economists say that the \$1.2 trillion number needs to be more like \$4 trillion to avoid going the way of Greece and Italy. Also, with the failure of the "Super Committee" the January 1 deadline, currently imposed by law, to deal with the 27% cut to Medicare/TRICARE payment to doctors issue is still looming.

If we are to protect our earned benefits that most of us spent over 20 years earning, it's vitally

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Legislative Update

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important that we all contribute to MOAA's "One Powerful Voice." If you are not already getting MOAA's Weekly Legislative Updates that guide us in how to do this, here is how to join in. Go to the MOAA website at www.MOAA.org. Under the "Take Action" tab you will find the "Weekly Legislative Update" section. Under that section you will see the phrase "Subscribe to our weekly legislative update." Click on it to open the page where you will be able to enter/update your e-mail address and subscribe to the Weekly Legislative Update in addition to other reports and stay up-to-the-minute informed.

December Luncheon Meeting

WHEN: December 17, 2011
11:00 a.m. Social Hour
12:00 Lunch

WHERE: McCormick Ranch Golf Club
Scottsdale, Arizona

COST: \$20 Per Person

DRESS: Casual

MENU Chef's Choice

PROGRAM: The Dickens Carolers will perform traditional Christmas carols during lunch, followed by a fun-filled Chinese auction..

Reservations must be received by 4 p.m. on Thursday, December 15. Use the reservation form below. Cancellations must be received the same day to receive your money back.

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CHAPTER FINANCIAL PARTICIPATION

If you would like to make a donation to one or more of the AZ Chapter Funds, include your check identified with the appropriate fund and mail to: **Bill Roscher, 4337 E. Sands Dr., Phoenix, AZ 85050.**

General Fund: \$ _____

Scholarship Fund: \$ _____ **[a 501(c)(3) charitable fund]**

Name of Donor : _____ Identify me as a donor in the next newsletter. YES ___ NO ___

MEAL / MEETING RESERVATION FORM

Please reserve _____ meals for (Name) _____

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____ (**\$20.00 per person**) for **December 17, 2011**

Make check payable to: **AZ Chapter MOAA** **Received No Later Than: December 15, 2011**

Send to: **Bill Roscher, 4337 E. Sands Dr., Phoenix, AZ 85050.** wroscher@cox.net

Welcome Our Newest Members

George Cherpelis, Capt, USAF (Ret)
And Wife Carol, Scottsdale

Dave Fleming, Col, USAF (Ret)
And Wife Wanda, Scottsdale

Please meet and greet our new members.

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Phoenix, AZ 85042

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FIRST VICE PRESIDENT BG Gregg Maxon ARNG 480-990-3625	ADVERTISING LTC Jim Cullison USAF 602-482-3838	PERSONAL AFFAIRS CAPT Dan Conway USCGR 480-368-1427
SECOND VICE PRESIDENT Lt Col Jim Cullison, USAF 602-482-3838	ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS COL Ron Perkins, USAF 480-961-8632	PROGRAMS COL Charles Schluter, USA 480-563-8480
SECRETARY Beth Cullison 602-482-3838	HISTORIAN / PHOTOGRAPHER LTC Jim Cullison USAF 602-482-3838	ARRANGEMENTS Marie Fredricks 480-836-8419
TREASURER COL Bill Roscher USA 480-948-3609	JROTC AWARDS LCDR Terry Tassin USN 623-931-1546	SCHOLARSHIPS COL Rob Welch USA 623-533-3704
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	AUXILIARY LIAISON Vacant	SHARE A RIDE COL Ron Perkins, USAF 480-961-8632

Access Arizona Chapter's Internet Web Site at: www.azchaptermoaa.org

Arizona Chapter
Military Officers Association of America
13819 N. 51st Street
Scottsdale, AZ 85254



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