



# The Sentinel

## Arizona's First Chapter



The Arizona Chapter

8213 E. Del Camino Dr.

Scottsdale, AZ

85258

JANUARY 2012

CHARTERED 1956 - 55 YEARS OF SERVICE TO COUNTRY

EDITOR: JIM CULLISON

### President's Perspective

by John Ady



#### Happy New Year!

I am pleased to report that our chapter ended up in fine fashion for the past year, and we look to more success in the new year.

First, if you missed the annual holiday luncheon and Chinese Auction, it was another well-attended event, and "a good time was had by all." Thanks to everyone who brought a gift for the auction. By my count, we had over 30 gifts to choose from, including a gift with some linkage to Chinese food...who would have thought up that idea?

#### Bringing Value to You

As we move into 2012, your board is looking at virtually everything we do to make the chapter stronger and make your individual memberships even more valuable. We think the \$20 a year investment you make with your chapter dues is a good one, and we hope to make it even more valuable in the year ahead.

Speaking of membership

dues, they are indeed due, and you can assist your Board of Directors tremendously by locating the dues renewal form in this edition of *The Sentinel* and pay them now. The chapter has increased by almost 16% on a year-to-year basis, and we are now up to 220 members. Thus, the dues renewal collection process takes a great deal of time, so please help us with this annual administrative issue.

#### Challenges Ahead

The year 2012 is going to be a very difficult one for the Department of Defense in so many ways, in spite of the total drawdown of our troops in Iraq.

I don't have to remind you that DoD is leaving no stone unturned in regards to budget cuts, and therefore we must remain united in our strategy to keep members of Congress

informed of our wishes. Our MOAA national headquarters provided us with the very best support and has many staff members in Congressional offices every day that our elected senators and representatives are in Washington, but they need our help.

#### You Play a Vital Role

Whenever you receive an action alert that may come in the form of a self-addressed postcard in the *Military Officer* magazine to be dispatched back to your elected officials, or if you are requested to send an e-mail to them, please do so ASAP. It has a huge impact on how these decisions affecting active and retired military personnel and their families will be addressed.

That's it for now. I look forward to seeing you at our future chapter meetings, and I always enjoy hearing from you. So if you have thoughts and ideas on how we can make the chapter better, by all means contact me!

#### Arizona Chapter Calendar

**Board of Directors** meets at 1030 hours the first Thursday of the month at the National Guard Distance Learning Center, 5636 E. McDowell Rd. Show ID for entry. Members are invited to attend.

#### Upcoming meetings:

- January 5
- February 2

**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:

- January 21
- February 18
- March 17

#### In this Issue

##### Page 2

- January & February programs
- Lunch Reservation Deadline
- Help Wanted
- New Members
- Arizona Trivia

##### Page 3

- Scholarship News
- Donations
- Dues Form

##### Page 4

- Christmas Fun

##### Page 5

- Personal Affairs
- Arizona's Big Year

##### Page 6

- Legislative Update

##### Page 7

- Meal Reservation & Donation Forms

##### Page 8

- Did You Know?
- Chapter Staff

# HAPPY NEW YEAR

## January Speaker

### **Special Guest from MOAA HQ Headlines January Program**



We start the new year with a guest speaker from the MOAA national staff, Col Lee Lange, USMC (Ret), at our January 21 luncheon. Col Lange joined the MOAA staff in 2001 after a 30-year career in the Marines. He is currently Director of Council and Chapter Affairs, a position he has held since 2006.

*Col Lange*

Commissioned in 1971, he served in a wide range of operations, staff and command billets, including the evacuation of Vietnam and service with the 2nd Marine Division in the first Gulf War.

Don't miss this opportunity to get an update on MOAA issues from a national perspective.

The Arizona Chapter officers for 2012 also will be installed at the meeting.

## Coming in February

### **Learn about a Hidden Arizona Gem**

Arizona has a lot of fine museums, but one you might not be familiar with is the Arizona Military Museum.

That will change in February, when COL Joe Abodeely, USA (Ret), director of the museum, gives us the lowdown.

The museum, located at the National Guard Papago Military Reservation, spans Arizona's military history from the Spanish conquistadors of the 1500s through the Gulf Wars and Afghanistan.

Mark your calendar for this enlightening February 18 program.

## **Come to the Aid of Your Chapter**

Officers for 2012 are in place, but there are still ways you can help the Arizona Chapter.

Bob Rutherford, the chapter's longtime chaplain, has decided to retire from the position, and Kathy Upchurch has stepped down as Auxiliary Chair. If you would be willing to take one of those positions, or assist the chapter in any other way, give one of the chapter officers a call. No experience required.

## Special Notice

### **Early cutoff for lunch reservations**

Reservations for the January 21 luncheon must be received by Treasurer Bill Roscher by Tuesday evening January 17. That is our new cutoff date to inform the catering department at McCormick Ranch Golf Club. If checks can't be mailed for Bill to receive them by that time, call or e-mail him by that day. After the cutoff, we will not be able to take reservations.

### **January Menu**

Tossed Salad

Pan-Seared Salmon Filet

with Herb Butter and Steamed Potatoes

Fresh Breads

with Sweet Creamery Butter

Dessert of the Day

Decaf or Regular Coffee or Tea

## **Welcome Our Newest Members**

**Capt Irvin E. Hosie, USAF (Ret)**

And Wife Betty, Glendale

**LTC Luke M. Taylor, USA (Ret)**

And Wife Harriet, Scottsdale

**COL James R. Siket, USA (Ret)**

And Wife Nancy, Paradise Valley

**Please meet and greet our new members.**

## **Cell Phones for Soldiers**

Don't forget to bring your old cell phones to the January meeting. The Chapter will donate them to the non-profit Cell Phones for Soldiers, which receives a 100-minute calling card for a deployed service member for every phone that is donated.

Ask your kids, grandkids, neighbors and friends for their old phones for this worthy project.

## **Arizona Centennial Trivia**

*From Arizona AAA High Roads Magazine*

Which of Arizona's 5 Cs is not a tangible good?

Answer on Page 8.

**Scholarship News**

**Here's What's Coming Up**

*By Rob Welch  
Scholarship Chairman*

A special thank you to our wonderful members who stepped forward and donated money to our chapter's scholarship fund this past year. Because of your individual efforts, the efforts of Patricia and Pat Dale, who orchestrate our fund-raising golf tournaments, plus those of our corporate sponsors, especially TriWest, our fund is solid again for another year.

During January, letters will be sent to JROTC programs in the 17 schools we support, requesting their outstanding senior students to compete for one of our scholarships to help defray initial college expenses. In April, our Scholarship Committee will meet to select the winners of the competition. In May, the selectees will be invited to our business luncheon to receive their scholarships and provide us with a brief synopsis of their life's goals and objectives.

Normally we give out 4 or 5 scholarships. This year, in addition to the normal awards, we will select the "best of the best", the cadet who obtains the highest overall score, to receive the "Col Ron Worthington Scholarship". This honor is bestowed in memory of our late member under whose leadership our scholarship fund grew from an idea to one that

has helped 41 highly deserving cadets begin their college education. A list of past winners can be found on our website <http://azchaptermoaa.org/operations/jrtc-scholarships/>.

**Scholarship Fund Donors**

As year-end approached, many members and others made Scholarship Fund donations.

\$100, \$100, \$100, \$25, all Anonymous  
Leonore & Frank Hoak, \$50  
Phil Lowe, \$150  
Vicky & Joseph Manfreda, \$25  
Betty & Ron Perkins, \$50  
(and \$50 to the General Fund from Betty & Ron)  
Eleanor Pickett, \$20  
Chuck Schluter, \$50  
Kathy & John Simmons, \$100  
Carolyn Yost, \$25

Pinal County Sheriff Paul Babeu reserved a foursome for our fall golf tournament, but they were unable to attend. Rather than seek a refund, the entire \$268 in green fees was donated to the fund by the sheriff, who also is a Major in the Army National Guard.

**2012 Membership Renewal**

Annual membership renewals are due. 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 the address shown.

----- 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)

**Include 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**



## Christmas 2011

The December luncheon kept with chapter tradition of entertainment by the Dickens Carolers and a Chinese Auction where members bought chances to select a gift from the 30 provided by the Board of Directors — or steal one that had already been picked. Proceeds went to the Scholarship Fund.



The Dickens Carolers sang familiar Christmas songs during lunch, including a rousing rendition of Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer (top right), complete with red nose.



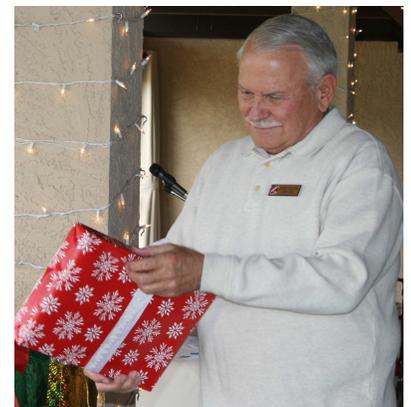
Above, Clare Gannon got to make the first selection, with help from gift selection emcee Bill Roscher. At right, Ron Perkins looks pleased with his steal. Below, for Beth Cullison it was a can of Chow Mein. After all, it was a Chinese Auction. It did come in a decorative box.



Susan Farrell, above, prepares to be surprised, while Gene Rafanelli's gift brings a smile, and Terry Tassin looks with anticipation as he prepares to open a festively wrapped gift.



## The Gift Table Awaits





**Personal Affairs**  
*by Dan Conway*  
**Personal Affairs Officer**

**GO TO THE DOCTOR!**

I am not a doctor. I didn't play a doctor on TV. I didn't play a doctor in the high school play. There was a doctor in the play, but it wasn't me. My expertise which allows me to make this statement is that, "I went to the doctor".

While several of you know of my recent experience, I would like to share it with all of you in the hope that maybe one or two of you could benefit from hearing about it.

**Just a Simple Sneeze. Then...**

It started with a sneeze. I was light headed for a few seconds, but didn't fall or feel that I had to sit down. The only remaining symptom was that I was short of breath with any effort. I was OK sitting down, but walking became work.

Not being as smart as you will be after reading this, I waited a day thinking that things would improve. They didn't, so I called my doctor. He referred me to the emergency room.

There were slight changes in the EKG and chest X-Ray, but nothing serious. Just enough to call for the CAT scan. That was followed by three IVs and five days in the hospital. The diagnosis was Pulmonary Embolisms, which in lay terms means blood clots in the lungs. The most severe and frequent possible outcome is a heart attack and sudden death. Five days in the hospital beats that. You can learn more about it on the web.

**The Importance of Listening**

The lesson is to listen to your body. My symptoms were not that severe. It would have been real easy to just wait and see. That could have been a big mistake.

Even though our medical expenses are minimal with Medicare and TriCare for Life, it still isn't painless to go to the doctor. None of us likes to be probed, bled, listened to, and hooked up to all of those machines. However, the alternative is much worse; if not for you, for your surviving spouse.

I was probably more lucky than prudent in that I waited an extra day before taking action. You

don't have to take that chance, and shouldn't. I won't delay the next time.

Please consider me as a personal affairs resource and don't hesitate to call with your questions and concerns at 480 368-1427.

**Daniel M. Conway**



**2012: Arizona's Momentous Year**

Arizona celebrates its 100th anniversary of statehood in 2012, on February 14 to be exact. It has been known as the Baby State because it was the last state admitted until Alaska in 1959, the Valentine State because of the date of entry into the union and now officially as the Grand Canyon State.

*The Sentinel* will help observe the milestone throughout 2012 with articles commemorating the exploits, enterprises and people that have made our state unique.

The state seal provides a capsule history of Arizona, featuring the sun rising over mountains, a dam and reservoir, irrigated fields and orchards, cattle and a miner with pick and shovel. The state motto, *Ditat Deus*, is Latin for God Enriches.



Like most states, ours has its own "official" list, which also is uniquely Arizona.

**The Official State:**

- Amphibian is the Arizona Tree Frog
- Bird is the Cactus Wren
- Butterfly is the Two-Tailed Swallowtail
- Fish is the Apache Trout
- Flower is the Saguaro Cactus Blossom
- Fossil is Petrified Wood
- Gemstone is Turquoise
- Mammal is the Ring-Tailed Cat
- Neckwear is the Bola (not bolo) Tie
- Reptile is the Arizona Ridge-Nosed Rattlesnake
- Tree is the Palo Verde

Arizona also has an official state firearm, the Colt Single-Action Army Revolver, which was so-designated by the Arizona Legislature in 2011. The Legislature also officially adopted "The Grand Canyon State" as the state nickname in 2011, although it had been a common moniker for many years.





## Legislative Update

by Gary Fredricks, Legislative Chair

### The Year Winds Down

As *The Sentinel* goes to press this month, the holiday season is upon us, and we wish you a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and a prosperous New Year.

**As we look back** over 2011 we see a year that on at least three occasions brought the federal government to the brink of shutdown and also pushed the Treasury to the cusp of a first-ever default.

In an 11th hour action just before Christmas, following a back and forth dance between the House and Senate, Congress passed a payroll tax extension bill that put off the 27% cut in Medicare/TRICARE payments to doctors for another two months. That mandatory cut was to take effect January 1, but now is delayed until March 1. Congressional leaders indicated they intend to take action on a longer term fix after returning from holiday break, but the forecast is unclear. The operative word for the year remains "Gridlock."

**December did see** some movement in Washington. Both the FY2012 Defense Authorization Act and an omnibus appropriations bill, that included the DOD appropriations for FY2012, were passed, thereby avoiding a December 16 government shutdown. MOAA reports that a Pentagon-proposed plan to implement the initial \$460 billion in DOD cuts (over the next 10 years) required by the August 2 Budget Control Act is sitting on the president's desk. Although it is reported to be heavy on people, compensation and health care program impacts, little is known of the details at this time.

**As has been the case** in the past with last minute bills, the final Defense Authorization Act did not contain many of the items advocated by MOAA including eliminating the DIC offset to SBP. However, several other initiatives were a part of the bill. They included authorizing a 1.6% military pay increase, limiting the percentage increase in TRICARE Prime enrollment fee in any year to the percentage growth in military retired pay and authorizing early retirement and

voluntary separation incentives to reduce the need for involuntary separations during the coming force reductions.

**A follow-on mandatory DOD cut** of \$600 billion over the same time period imposed by the August 2 Budget Control Act was triggered by the failure of the Deficit Reduction Committee (aka Super Committee). Its status is even less clear. These cuts are required to start a year from now, but congress could re-address the whole issue in coming months.

In last month's *Sentinel* we advised you on how you could get on distribution for MOAA's weekly legislative updates to help facilitate your help in the legislative process. Data recently reported by MOAA makes that even more important. Our MOAA staff in Washington does an outstanding job in fighting for our earned benefits and is nationally recognized as such. However, what sells the effort is the grassroots support we provide in the congressional districts. And, our chapters are the main source of that support.

**MOAA reports that this year** we have set an all time record by sending more than 1.3 million messages to our elected officials by media that MOAA can count. That included 820,000 e-mails (up from about 500,000 last year) sent through the MOAA website. However, only 67,000 of our 375,000 MOAA members actually sent all those e-mails. So, although MOAA is carrying the load for millions of military and retirees, about 80% of our members are also resting on the effort of the other 20%. If you are in the 80%, we urge you to get on board and join the other 20%. As MOAA reports, if you are not getting involved to defend what your service and sacrifice have earned, you are helping paint the target on your COLAs and health care and on the troops and their families as well as your own families well-being.

For your benefit, we repeat the information from the December *Sentinel* as follows. If you are not already getting MOAA's Weekly Legislative Update go to the MOAA website, [www.MOAA.org](http://www.MOAA.org). Under the "Take Action" tab you will find the "Weekly Legislative Update" section. Under that section you will be able to

**Continued on Next Page**

## Legislative Update

Continued from Previous Page

enter/update your e-mail address and subscribe to the Weekly Legislative Update. When action is needed, the request will be included in the legislative update with a link to a pre-written and pre-addressed e-mail form. All you have to do is enter your identification and hit send. By the way, when you are at the "Take Action" tab, you can also read the "As I See It" column authored by Steve Strobridge, MOAA's long standing Government Relations Director. If Steve doesn't get it right, nobody will.

### January Luncheon Meeting

**WHEN:** January 21, 2012  
11:00 a.m. Social Hour  
12:00 Lunch

**WHERE:** McCormick Ranch Golf Club  
Scottsdale, Arizona

**COST:** \$20 Per Person

**DRESS:** Business Casual

**MENU** See Page 2

**PROGRAM:** Col Lee Lange, USMC (Ret), MOAA Director of Council and Chapter Affairs, will be guest speaker.

Reservations must be received by **Tuesday, January 17**. Use the reservation form below. Cancellations must be received the same day to receive your money back.

# YOUR PRESCRIPTION. OUR MISSION.



**Taking command of your prescriptions  
may be the easiest order you ever followed.**

Get dinner brought to your door and you'll pay a delivery charge. Same way with groceries. But that scenario changes with the TRICARE Mail Order Pharmacy: You actually save money with Home Delivery on the cost of prescriptions you take regularly.

**You'll save on copayment costs by ordering fewer refills throughout the year. For the cost of only one copayment, you receive up to a 90-day supply\* of your medication with free shipping by standard mail.**

Get your prescription mail-order form at [www.express-scripts.com/TRICARE](http://www.express-scripts.com/TRICARE) or call toll-free 1.866.DOD.TMOP (1.866.363.8667) and start saving immediately.



**EXPRESS SCRIPTS®**



\*The DoD Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee may set quantity limits on some medications. Other benefit limitations may apply. For more information, go to [www.tricare.osd.mil/pharmacy/mop.cfm](http://www.tricare.osd.mil/pharmacy/mop.cfm).

© 2007 Express Scripts, Inc. All Rights Reserved DD007-40752

### 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 **January 21, 2012**

Make check payable to: **AZ Chapter MOAA** **Received No Later Than: January 17, 2012**

Send to: **Bill Roscher, 4337 E. Sands Dr., Phoenix, AZ 85050, 480-948-3609, wroscher@cox.net**

## Did you Know?

Old Oraibi, a Hopi Indian village in northern Arizona, is considered to be the nation's oldest continuously occupied community, dating back to around 1150 A.D.

Trivia answer: Climate  
The other 4? Cotton, Copper, Cattle, Citrus

### The Arizona Chapter MOAA - 2011 Board of Directors and Committee Chairs

<b>PRESIDENT</b> COL John Ady USAF 480-596-0780	<b>NEWSLETTER EDITOR</b> LTC Jim Cullison USAF 602-482-3838	<b>CHAPLAIN</b> Vacant
<b>FIRST VICE PRESIDENT</b> BG Gregg Maxon ARNG 480-990-3625	<b>ADVERTISING</b> LTC Jim Cullison USAF 602-482-3838	<b>PERSONAL AFFAIRS</b> CAPT Dan Conway USCGR 480-368-1427
<b>SECOND VICE PRESIDENT</b> Lt Col Jim Cullison, USAF 602-482-3838	<b>ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS</b> COL Ron Perkins, USAF 480-961-8632	<b>PROGRAMS</b> COL Charles Schluter, USA 480-563-8480
<b>SECRETARY</b> Beth Cullison 602-482-3838	<b>HISTORIAN / PHOTOGRAPHER</b> LTC Jim Cullison USAF 602-482-3838	<b>ARRANGEMENTS</b> Marie Fredricks 480-836-8419
<b>TREASURER</b> COL Bill Roscher USA 480-948-3609	<b>JROTC AWARDS</b> LCDR Terry Tassin USN 623-931-1546	<b>SCHOLARSHIPS</b> COL Rob Welch USA 623-533-3704
<b>IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT</b> Col Ron Perkins USAF 480-961-8632	<b>LEGISLATIVE</b> COL Gary Fredricks USAF 480-836-8419	<b>TOPS LIAISON</b> COL Charles Schluter, USA 480-563-8480
<b>DIRECTORS</b> CAPT Dan Conway USCGR, Lt Col Ron Green USAF, COL Rance Farrell USA, COL Rob Welch USA	<b>MEMBERSHIP</b> Col Ron Perkins USAF 480-961-8632	<b>WEBMASTER</b> COL Rob Welch, USA 623-533-3704
	<b>AUXILIARY LIAISON</b> Vacant	<b>SHARE A RIDE</b> COL Ron Perkins, USAF 480-961-8632

Access Arizona Chapter's Internet Web Site at: [www.azchaptermoaa.org](http://www.azchaptermoaa.org)

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



## Address Service Requested



Show Your Colors By Proudly Displaying The Arizona 'Veteran Plate' On Your Vehicle. Show How Veterans Help Veterans.