



# THE ARIZONA CHAPTER

Military Officers Association of America  
*Arizona's First Chapter*



## MINUTES MARCH 17, 2012 GENERAL MEETING, ARIZONA CHAPTER MOAA

A luncheon meeting of the General Membership was held on Saturday, March 17, 2012 at the McCormick Ranch Golf Club. President John Ady called the meeting to order at 1200 hours and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by an Invocation.

**Members Present:** John Ady welcomed all and began with the introduction of guests and new members. Total people present: 40 members, spouses, guests and new members. Introduced guests: Sherrie Robinson - USA Nurse/Retired, Tom Smith - USMC & Veteran Hall of Fame Member, Dr and Mrs Vaughn Cy - AZ Retired Thoracic-Cardio Surgeon, Sue Gilbertson - USA/Auxiliary Member and Dick Weiss - USMC World War II Veteran.

**Treasurer's Report:** Bill Roscher reported: General Fund \$10,267.43, Petty Cash \$50.00, Scholarship Fund \$14,179.03 - total of \$23,649.29. Bill received another \$55.00 for the Scholarship Fund at today's meeting from the 50/50 raffle (\$90.00) and from a special donation (\$50.00) bringing the Scholarship total to \$14,284.03.

**Legislative Affairs:** Gary Fredricks was unable to attend; John Ady provided current highlights and updates. MOAA continues to monitor all ongoing legislative actions. With the looming 13 billion dollar proposed shift of medical costs to veterans, it is more important than ever for members to support MOAA by sending the pre-printed postcards (found in the MOAA magazine) or clicking the "Take Action" tab on the MOAA website and submitting them to Congress to keep the pressure on.

**Membership:** Ron Perkins reported there are 56 members who need to send their membership renewal and dues. A mailing with return envelope is being sent to those members. You may also contact Bill Roscher ([wroscher@cox.net](mailto:wroscher@cox.net)) prior to the end of March renewal deadline.

**MOAA AZ Chapter Award:** Certificate of Merit presented to immediate Past Secretary Beth Cullison by John Ady. Beth was acknowledged by the Board of Directors and Membership for her exemplary work performance on behalf of the Chapter.

**Additional Items:** Chuck Schluter offered a toast to the health and generosity of the Chapter - a far cry from his days as President with \$50.00 in the treasury.

**April 19 Spring Chapter Golf Tournament:** This is the prime source of income for the Scholarship Fund. Please join us at the Starfire Golf Course for this worthy event – if you're not a golfer you can still join in for the luncheon to show your support. Please RSVP to Pat Dale ([patrickdale1@cox.net](mailto:patrickdale1@cox.net)).

**Lunch** was served and enjoyed by all.

**TALES OF MEMBERS:** Dick Weiss, USMC World War II Veteran, was this month's volunteer to share a bit of his military history. Dick was one of 430 volunteers to attend and complete 11 weeks of Special Forces training/classes at the Special Officer Candidate School created at Camp Lejeune, NC. This select group were the only Officers to ever be commissioned there; SOCS was disbanded after their graduation. Their first combat assignment was at Iwo Jima and Okinawa; many continued their service in Korea and Vietnam. The SOCS Marines received over 265 Purple Hearts and 61 battle citations – including 6 Navy Crosses during their many years of service as "the finest class of second lieutenants that the Marine Corps has ever produced" (LtGen Victor H. Krulak, USMC). It was a well-done and inspiring presentation, appreciated by all.

**Introduction of Guest Speaker:** Chuck Schluter introduced the month's speaker, Robert Barnes – Deputy Director, AZ Department of Veterans' Services.

**Speaker:** A native Arizonian, Bob Barnes served 20 years in the USAF and retired as a Senior NCO. During his career he had the "honor to serve at Andrews AFB" as a flight mechanic with the 89<sup>th</sup> Military Airlift Squadron, the elite unit servicing Air Force One. Bob's played poker with Tip O'Neill, taken First Ladies shopping, gone around the world with Warren Burger, flown with Presidents Carter and Reagan as well as Mohammad Ali!!

Bob's current position is as full time working advocate for Arizona's veterans'. He works a vast initiative project providing transitional housing for veterans and their families, supportive services addressing the prevention of homelessness, the high unemployment rate for returning vets, and the Maricopa County Veterans' Court. Bob is also working with ASU through the Tillman Center on a program to transition vets upon their return from service as well as a suicide prevention outreach program.

**Reminder:** The next BOD meeting is Thursday, April 5, 2012 and the next Chapter meeting is Saturday, April 21, 2012

**Chapter 50/50 Raffle:** Total of \$45.00 awarded by Bill Roscher

**Adjournment:** 1400 hours

Respectfully submitted (with Aloha from the Hale Koa/Honolulu)

Leonore Kenefic Hoak, Secretary

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