



# The Sentinel

## Arizona's First Chapter



The Arizona Chapter

8213 E. Del Camino Dr.

Scottsdale, AZ

85258

MAY 2012

CHARTERED 1956 - 55+ YEARS OF SERVICE TO COUNTRY

EDITOR: JIM CULLISON

### President's Perspective

by John Ady



#### Greetings to all

As we start the month of May, we are close to our annual summer break for the chapter. So I thought it would be appropriate to discuss a few items that I believe you will find interesting.

At the April board meeting, the board thoroughly discussed recommendations of our Super Committee, which I appointed in February to review all aspects of chapter operations in hopes of making our chapter better and stronger. I am pleased to tell you that almost all of their recommendations were adopted as presented, and in some

cases were improved upon after further discussion.

The space provided for me in our newsletter does not allow me to discuss these great ideas. However, as you attend chapter luncheons, participate in other events and read *The Sentinel*, you will be able to see first hand the great work that came about from their efforts. Hats off to Marie Fredricks, Beth Cullison, Rance Farrell and Frank Hoak for their efforts to make our membership in the Arizona Chapter even more valuable to all of us.

Turning to other items, the May luncheon is

always one of our better attended functions as the program is devoted to awarding of JROTC scholarships.

The Scholarship Committee chaired by Rob Welch has done another tremendous job in managing the process, and I am pleased to announce that we will be awarding seven scholarships in varying amounts to some outstanding young people who are embarking on great careers as they move ahead with their lives. We hope you can be on hand for this last luncheon before our summer break.

Of special note, we are now awarding a top scholarship named after Col Ron Worthington (USAF), who passed away several months ago and for many years chaired our Scholarship Committee. Ron made many important improvements to how the committee functioned, and it is only fitting that your board took this action to pay tribute to his work on behalf of the chapter.

Continued on next page

#### Arizona Chapter Calendar

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

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

#### Upcoming meetings:

- May 3
- September 6

**Member Meetings/ Luncheons** are 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:

- May 19
- September 15

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### 3 X 1st Place in Communications

The Arizona Chapter scored a hat trick of sorts this year in the MOAA national communications awards program—three first place awards.

**The results:** First place for the chapter website, Rob Welch, webmaster; first place for *The Sentinel* newsletter, Jim Cullison, editor; and first place for the chapter recruiting brochure, Dan Conway and Terry Tassin, principal designers.

Of the 70 awards won by chapters and councils, only our chapter received three first place honors.

## April speaker

### Hospice of the Valley Offers 'SALUTES' to Veterans in its Care

As the largest not-for-profit hospice in the U.S., Hospice of the Valley serves 4,000 patients a day, many of them veterans.

Tom Fenner, community and military liaison at the hospice and a Navy veteran, described the facility's mission and its special program for veterans as guest speaker at the April luncheon.

He said many people think hospital when they hear the word hospice. Instead, he said, "Think of hospitality. Hospice is about comfort and living until the last breath.

"We'll do everything we can to bring comfort to patients," he said, adding it's just as important to provide comfort for patients' families.

He said the cost of care at Hospice of the Valley is "zero." As a non-profit, "We will never turn anyone away."

In 2010, the agency developed the SALUTES program to honor veterans who are patients. Each veteran is presented a lapel pin commemorating their service and a flag of the military branch in which they served. More than 500 veterans have been so honored since the program's inception.

Mr. Fenner recounted some of his visits with veterans to present the pin and flag and to hear them talk of their service. He said often it's the first time they have been personally recognized for serving in uniform.

Veterans honored include two Pearl Harbor survivors, a crewman on the USS Hornet who helped with the launch of Doolittle's raid on

Japan, six D-Day survivors, one who was in a covert group that entered France two days before D-Day and one who was on the USS Missouri at the Japanese surrender.

There are 387,000 veterans in Maricopa County over age 55, he said, including 159,000 from the Vietnam era, 102,000 from World War II, 67,00 from Korea and 59,000 from between wars.



*Tom Fenner*

## May Program

### Scholarship Presentations To Outstanding JROTC Cadets

*By Rob Welch, Scholarship Chairman*

At this month's luncheon we will present seven scholarships ranging from \$500 to \$2,000 to very deserving Valley JROTC Cadets. We are doing something very different this year, and I think you will enjoy it, so please attend the luncheon.

The candidates only know they are receiving a scholarship, not the amount of the award. We will start with the \$500 scholarships and work up to the final \$2,000 scholarship which is named after the late Colonel Ron Worthington, who was our Scholarship Chair for several years.

We received a total of 11 applications from the 17 high schools that we support. Of the seven scholarships to be awarded, three are going to Air Force cadets, two to Army cadets and two to Navy cadets. Four awardees are female and three are male. The awardees are from seven different schools.

### **Wear Your Uniform to the May Lunch**

As the May luncheon honors our JROTC scholarship winners, we have decided that we will make this a uniform optional event for the membership.

So dust off your uniform and try it on. If it still fits and is in good shape, wear it to the May luncheon. Or you may wear your miniature medals on your civilian suit or sports jacket. Either way, you'll make a connection with our scholarship winners.

## **President's Perspective...continued**

At this time, I can tell you that we are working on a summer social event, but ideas and details are still to be worked out. As soon as we have plans in place, we will inform the membership.

**In the meantime**, the "battle" in Congress still goes on with the DOD budget. Of special interest to all of us are the proposed TRICARE fee increases, which over time from 2012 to 2017 would rise dramatically. MOAA is working diligently to reverse these proposed increases, but your letters, card, e-mails and phone calls must keep coming if we have any hope of making meaningful changes to these proposals.

## Member's Spotlight

### A Pacesetter in Army Aviation Recalls a Midnight Surprise

COL Nancy Burt, USA (Ret), is an Army aviation pioneer, the ninth female officer to complete helicopter school in 1976, as women were first being enrolled as aviators.

Nancy recalled some of her experiences as an HU-1 Huey pilot and Maintenance Officer at her first assignment at Fort Carson, Colorado. She was assigned as a platoon leader, the first female in that position, which might have been a touchy situation for a woman in a new field. But as she recalled, they were short of platoon leaders, so they didn't care about gender. Plus, she said, a savvy NCO vowed to make it work, and did.

A military aviator's life can be full of surprises, and Nancy recounted one early in her career. She and her boss had to make a quick flight to Fort Riley, Kansas, for spare parts to meet their maintenance objective.

Thanks to a brisk tail wind, they made great time. Returning was a different story, as the same tail wind was now a head wind. "At one point, I looked down at I-70 below us, and the cars were going faster than we were," she said.

As a result, they ran short of fuel. They couldn't quite make it to Garden City, where they could refuel, and had to put down in a field at about midnight. There they were greeted by a husky fellow in overalls and a big hat – and a shotgun. It was his field.

Nancy's boss turned to her and said, "Get out and handle it."

"It was then I knew there was a role for women in the Army," she recalled with a laugh.

She was able to tactfully convince her greeter that she and her boss were friendly. At first he had thought their helicopter was a UFO, then he was afraid they were coming in for a midnight poaching raid on his fishing pond.

Nancy was able to get a fuel truck dispatched from Garden City, but the preflight inspection uncovered a problem that required a replacement helicopter to be sent. They got back to Fort Carson around dawn, in time for a scheduled visit by the Army Chief of Staff. Another day in the life of an Army aviator.



*Nancy Burt brought some of the tools of her trade to the May luncheon, including her flight helmet.*

#### What's New at the Arizona Chapter?

There's change afoot at the Arizona Chapter. Some of the recommendations of the president's Super Committee will be implemented over the next few months. Here's a sample:

**Free Lunch:** Yes, there is such a thing. Each month a member's name will be drawn, and that person will receive two free lunches at the following month's chapter luncheon. The first lucky winner, drawn at the April luncheon, was Michael Flanagan, CAPT, USPHS (Ret). Lunch is free for him and a guest in May.

**Summer Social:** A social event, as yet undetermined, will be planned to keep us connected during our summer break. Details will be forthcoming.

**Football Frenzy:** We'll gather at a sports bar for the Army-Air Force football game November 3. Navy, Marine and Coast Guard veterans are also welcome. Pick a side.

**Switcheroo:** The October picnic is still on, but this year it will be a social gathering, featuring musical entertainment along with that delicious barbecue food. The ESGR recognition of local employers will move to November, indoors, at McCormick Ranch Golf Club.

#### *Need a Ride?*

Board Member Jim Draper is the new Rideshare Coordinator. If you need a ride to a chapter meeting, give him a call in advance at 480-483-7769, and he'll find you a ride.

**Spring Tourney**

**Golf, Fun and Money for Scholars**

The weather was fine, the greens were true, and the fun just kept coming at the chapter spring golf tournament April 19.

A group of enthusiastic players and some generous sponsors helped raise more than \$1,500 for the Scholarship Fund as Tournament Chairman Pat Dale produced another successful event.



*Roger Schartzler, left, watches his ball roll toward the cup, while Frank Hoak, below left, uses a little body English to coax his on its way.*

*Pat Dale's brother Jim, below, came all the way from Colorado to play and won a handy prize for his effort. He accepted it in good humor. Other prizes were higher in value but no more useful.*



**Help! Information Needed**

Do you know any of our past chapter presidents? Of course you do. We need your help documenting their service and contributions to our nation, our community, and our chapter. We have biographies for only about half of our past chapter presidents, and half of those don't have a picture of the individual. Please take a look at our website page <http://azchaptermoaa.org/chapter-history/past-presidents/> and check the information we have, if any, for those you know.

If the president's name is in blue, we have no information regarding them. Those in red may have incomplete information such as missing pictures, military service information, or other personal information. If you have any information at all, anything, especially on those individuals with no information, please either call, mail or e-mail the information to me. If it is a photograph, I will copy it and send it back to you. Even the name of a surviving spouse or the president's birth date and place, or a death date and place would be helpful in tracking down additional information on a person.

Please e-mail the information to [webmaster@azchaptermoaa.org](mailto:webmaster@azchaptermoaa.org), or send the information to Rob Welch, 42420 N. Anthem Creek Dr., Anthem, AZ 85086, or call me at [623-533-3704](tel:623-533-3704), or simply give it to either me or Jim Cullison, *Sentinel* editor, at one of our monthly luncheons at McCormick Ranch. Thank you for your help.

**Donations to Chapter Funds**

**Scholarship Fund**

- \$290, Dan Germond  
In memory of his wife, Lynda Lee (1949-2012)
- \$200, Rob Welch
- \$25, Larry Wise
- \$25, Eleanor Pickett
- \$20 Anonymous

**TAPS**

We recently learned of the passing of one of our members:

**Aaron C. (Craig) Alldredge, Maj USAF (Ret)**  
July 21 1944-July 4, 2011  
*We extend heartfelt condolences to the family.*

**Arizona Centennial Trivia**

*From AAA Arizona High Roads Magazine*  
What Arizona venue was Frank Lloyd Wright's last public commission? (Answer on page 8)



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

### Stay Safe at Home

I expect that most of you aren't out looking for additional tasks, but possibly you should be. One of my friends many years ago told me that a fall isn't usually fatal, but can really goof up your quality of life. An electric shock or an electrical fire could do the same. Therefore, I thought that the following article which I found on the net might be worth sharing.

#### Home Safety Check-up for Older Adults

No matter how old you are, there's no place more important to keep safe than your home. Last year, more than one million people 65 years and older were treated in hospital emergency rooms for injuries associated with products in the home. Frequently, accidents occur because of lack of maintenance. As you get older, so too do the things around you. And just like you go in for regular check-ups, you need to give your home a safety check-up, too.

Take a walk through your home and use the checklist at right to spot possible safety hazards. If you spot a potential problem, take the appropriate action to fix it immediately.

### Don't Fall for This Scam

A letter is making the circuit purporting to be from the Defense Finance Accounting Service (DFAS) asking military members' fiancées to register in the system entitling them to benefits in the event of the member's death. All for only a \$350 fee.

This is not a genuine DFAS letter – it is a scam. The letter is a typical scam phishers use to try and obtain your personal information and, in this case, money. DFAS will never send unsolicited e-mail messages with attachments.

For more information on scams or financial issues, please visit: <http://www.military.com>. For more on this article, please go to: <http://www.military.com/military-report/beware-of-scam-letter>

- **Kitchen** – Make sure all your appliances bear the UL Mark. Check all electrical cords for fraying or cracking; step stools for splitting or cracking materials, and throw rugs for tripping hazards like bumps and turned-up corners.
- **Living room** – Check all rugs and runners, electrical cords, lamps and other lighting; inspect the fireplace and chimney for fire hazards, and make sure all passageways are clear.
- **Bathroom** – Make sure all small appliances bear the UL Mark. Check bathtub and shower, rugs and mats for slipping hazards, the water for possible burn hazard, and cabinets for safe storage of medications.
- **Bedrooms** – Check rugs and runners, electrical and telephone cords, and make sure the area around the bed is clear of items that could cause tripping.
- **Basement/garage/workshop** – Make sure all power tools bear the UL Mark. Check fuse and breaker boxes for possible malfunction and shock and fire hazards, cords on tools and extension cords, and lawn and garden tools and supplies. Check for proper ventilation and make sure flammable liquids are stored properly.
- **Stairs** – Check for proper lighting on and around stairways, handrails and steps for possible defects or weaknesses, and stair coverings for possible tripping hazards.

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

**Daniel M. Conway**

### Welcome Our Newest Members

**Edward Dillon, Maj Gen, USAF (Ret)**  
Scottsdale

**Richard S. Dobis, LtCol, USMC (Ret)**  
And his wife Juanita, Scottsdale

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



## **Legislative Update**

*by Gary Fredricks, Legislative Chair*

### **The Beat Goes On**

As we approach our annual MOAA Chapter summer break, legislative activity is still ongoing at both the state and federal levels. At the state level the legislative committee work is normally done by this time, but this year an extension in committee work was allowed, resulting in nine bills, resolutions or memorials that potentially touch on the military or veterans to be still in work. As I reported last month most of the bills the veteran community was pushing have been approved with the exception of anything that cost significant money.

I will compile a summary of state level legislative actions when they are complete and have it e-mailed to chapter members.

### **A Busy Week**

The week of April 15 was one of the busiest for MOAA in the year. It began with our spring MOAA Board of Directors meeting and followed with our annual recognition of significant supporters of our military and veterans community, our annual Storming the Hill session and concluded with the annual MOAA Council of Chapters President's Symposium. You can view film clips of most of these activities on the MOAA website at [www.MOAA.org](http://www.MOAA.org) if you wish.

### **MOAA's Strategy**

MOAA's strategy focuses on legislative advocacy, membership, member services and chapters. The foundation for success in all this is membership, both nationally and at the chapter level. Like all veteran service organizations, MOAA continues to be faced with significant membership challenges. Although we are doing well in comparison with other organizations, the staff and board are focusing on how to best improve our membership marketing and in particular how we can help draw more members into chapter participation.

This year, MOAA presented its Congressional Leadership award to Rep Buck McKeon (R-CA) for his leadership as Chairman of the House Armed Services Committee and its Meritorious

Service Award to Mr. Bob Simmons, Staff Director of the House Armed Services Committee. We also presented our Distinguished Service Award to CSX Corporation, a Florida company with exemplary employment practices for our Guard and Reserve and separating military personnel, and to Honor Fight, a non-profit organization.

### **Storming the Hill**

During our Storming the Hill day on April 18, nearly 150 MOAA members made a valiant effort to visit all our nation's congressmen. Our Arizona delegation visited with the offices of both senators and all seven sitting congressmen. It's always difficult to catch the congressmen in between committee meetings and floor votes. We did meet with key staffers on all occasions and actually met face to face with Senator Kyl, and Representatives Flake, Schweikert and Gosar. As I mentioned last month, our key messages for this year were keyed to the President's budget proposal and were to reject disproportional TRICARE fee hikes, protect against accelerated force cuts that would worsen "dwell time" between deployments and resist efforts to "fast track" military retirement changes.

### **MOAA Members Respond**

MOAA conducted a coordinated campaign with a full page ad in the Hill newspaper and an appeal to members for e-mail messages. Both were evident and acknowledged during our visits. In a couple of days MOAA members sent in more than 40,000 e-mails supporting our "Storming" agenda. We thank you for that. The offices we visited were all well versed on our issues, and we received positive feedback from all we visited. I would like to say we are now home free, but that is certainly not the case.

Almost all we visited were concerned that this year would be much like last year with any relevant decisions being delayed until after the elections – only this year there will be a lame duck Congress initially followed by a new one with who knows what composition. On top of that we will have sequestration, which resulted from the failure of the Super Committee to act last year and the Medicare/TRICARE payment to doctors issue coming into play at essentially the

*Continued on next page*

## Legislative Update...Continued

same time. Senator Kyl, a member of the Super Committee, was particularly concerned with sequestration, which would cost the DOD another \$500 Billion. He is working with Senator McCain on a bill which would kick the can down the road another year when maybe the elections won't be such a big factor. I guess we'll just have to stay alert and see how it all works out.

### May Luncheon Meeting

**WHEN:** May 19, 2012  
11:00 a.m. Social Hour  
12:00 Lunch

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

**COST:** \$20 Per Person

**DRESS:** Casual

**MENU** Chicken Marsala with Potatoes  
Fresh Vegetable Medley  
Tossed Salad  
Fresh Breads with Butter  
Chef's Choice of Dessert  
Regular & Decaf Coffee & Tea

**PROGRAM:** Scholarship presentations to seven outstanding JROTC cadets.

Reservations must be received by 4 p.m. on Tuesday, May 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 **May 19, 2012**

Make check payable to: **AZ Chapter MOAA** **Received No Later Than: May 15, 2012**

Send to: **Bill Roscher, 4337 E. Sands Dr., Phoenix, AZ 85050.** [wroscher@cox.net](mailto:wroscher@cox.net)

## Commemorate Memorial Day May 28

The annual Memorial Day salute to fallen warriors will take place on May 28 at the National Cemetery, 23029 N. Cave Creek Rd., Phoenix, beginning at 8 a.m. The Arizona Chapter will have a color guard marching in the event. Join us for this patriotic tribute.

**Trivia Answer:** Gammage Auditorium.

### The Arizona Chapter MOAA - 2012 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> COL Rob Welch, USA 623-533-3704	<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> Leonore Hoak 480-664-0047	<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
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	<b>AUXILIARY LIAISON</b> Vacant	<b>SHARE A RIDE</b> CDR Jim Draper USN 480-483-7769

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

Arizona Chapter  
Military Officers Association of America  
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Scottsdale, AZ 85254



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