



THE ARIZONA CHAPTER
Military Officers Association of America
Arizona's First Chapter



Minutes of November 17, 2012 General Meeting, Arizona Chapter MOAA

A luncheon meeting of the General Membership was held on Saturday, November 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: President John Ady welcomed all present and invited guests and new members to give a brief personal introduction. Total people present: 46.

Annual Chapter Meritorious Service Awards: Jim Cullison, Nominating Committee Chair, introduced the 2012 Award recipients. Third Award Recipients: Col Rob Welch – Webmaster and incoming Chapter President; Ltc Ron Green – Advocate, homeless veteran projects and Past President; Beth Cullison – former Secretary, Board Member and Super Committee member. First Award Recipients: Col Nancy Burt – Board Member, Auxiliary and National Memorial Ladies liaison; Capt Frank Hoak – Board Member, TOPS representative, incoming Second Vice President; Leonore Hoak – current Chapter Secretary and Auxiliary support; JoAnn Roscher – a tireless worker in charge of selling tickets for the 50/50 raffle to aid the Chapter's Scholarship Fund and assist the Treasurer at meetings.

MOAA 5 Star of Excellence Award: President John Ady proudly announced receiving the Chapter's eighth 5 Star of Excellence Award.

Treasurer's Report: Bill Roscher reported \$8,874.34 in the General Fund, \$12,880.25 in the Scholarship Fund and \$50.00 in Petty Cash for a total of \$21,804.59.

Auxiliary Member Update: Nancy Burt reports that Auxiliary members will be invited to our December Holiday Party and treated to a complimentary luncheon. This measure was introduced and passed unanimously by the Board. Happy Thanksgiving cards will also be mailed to Auxiliary members as a way to "keep in touch". The National Memorial Ladies are still looking for volunteers to assist at veteran funerals at Cave Creek Veteran Cemetery; we continue to support this group in its efforts.

Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day: Frank Hoak, a Pearl Harbor survivor at 4 years of age, announced this year's ceremony will take place at Wesley Bolin Plaza, Phoenix on the morning of December 7. Participants are asked to arrive no later than 10:00. The State of Arizona will have a gun from the USS ARIZONA (start of WWII) and a gun from the USS MISSOURI (end of WWII) eventually on display at the Plaza – a great memorial to those who have served!

Scholarship Fund: The end-of-year tax deduction cut-off is rapidly approaching. If you can afford to, please consider a donation to your Chapter's scholarship fund. Please do not use the envelopes that come in the MOAA magazine as that money goes to the national fund. Rob Welch has provided some stamped pre-addressed envelopes on the raffle table, please pick one up and mail in your donation.

Website: We have a new, easier to remember and type, website address: www.azmoaa.org. Please visit it often to view timely information regarding your Chapter.



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If you have a question or need help, please contact Rob Welch via email at webmaster@azmoaa.org or phone 623-533-3704.

Personal Affairs: Dan Conway will represent the Chapter at the installation of the new MOAA Chapter in Flagstaff.

President's Report: John Ady presents key updates

Membership is currently at 221.

Nominations for the 2013 Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame will be accepted until April 2013. Please contact Ron Perkins for additional information.

Toys For Tots are being collected at both the November and December General Meetings.

The Arizona Veteran Stand Down will be held March 8/9/10, 2013. Please see *The Sentinel* for additional information and volunteer opportunities.

December Holiday Party – plans are set for our annual holiday luncheon on December 15. Please see *The Sentinel* for details. Hope you will all join in the celebration.

Member's Spotlight: Jim Draper, USN, attended OCS in Newport RI in 1958. Out of 526 graduates, Jim was the only one to receive first orders to “proceed on liberty”! He was assigned to a “ghost” ship, the USS TEQUESTA, a tug/salvage vessel doing calibration of undersea cables on the West Coast. Their ability to “listen in” was extensive – up to and including hearing a washing machine in service on a Russian submarine!

One of Jim's most memorable trips was facing and surviving a “Perfect Storm” in 65 foot waves. Many Army and Air Force members present remembered why they hadn't joined the Navy!!

Introduction of Speaker: Chuck Schluter introduces the day's speaker, Brigadier General Al Gonzalez, Assistant Adjutant General and full time Director of the Arizona National Guard.

Speaker: Brigadier General Gonzalez, an Arizona native from Tucson, received his commission in 1987 through the AROTC at the University of Arizona; served on active duty in both the infantry and military intelligence field with a wide range of duties before transferring to the AZ National Guard in 1998. The General served in Operations Desert Shield, Desert Storm, Enduring Freedom in Iraq and Afghanistan as well as Operation Provide Comfort in Saudi Arabia. He led 600 of the famous Arizona 1-158th BushMasters for 15 months in Afghanistan. As a member of the AZ National Guard his current military assignments include Rear Area Operations Officer, Civil Support Team Deputy Commander, State Mobilization and Readiness Officer, State Training Officer, Director of Military Support, Commander 1-158th Infantry Battalion, Deputy Chief of Staff – Operations, Commander – 215th Regional Training Institute and Chief of Staff, AZ Army National Guard. The General continues to serve with Arizona's Citizen Soldiers, providing security for both state and country.

MOAA AZ Chapter ESGR Awards: Chuck Schluter pays special tribute to the Arizona employers for their time and support of the brave men and women serving in the National Guard



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and Reserve. Without the support of these employer patriots, our nation would be severely hampered in achieving and fulfilling our national security objectives.

Employers attending today's presentation were selected to receive the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Patriot Award, the Seven Seals Award and the 2012 Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Finalist Award; awards designed to recognize employers who have gone above and beyond the legal requirements in support of Guard and Reserve members and their families. MOAA AZ Chapter is proud to present the following awards:

The Patriot Award – Presented to the American Express Co, nominated by SGT Carlos Muniz, accepted by Ms Julie Tomich, VP Telephone Service Center

Seven Seals Award – Presented to the Salt River Project, Mr Bruce Redford, nominated by Technical Sergeant Fernando Canez, accepted by SGT Canez for Bruce Redford

Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Finalist Award – Presented to Centerline Mechanical LLC of Cave Creek – Arlene and Todd Hobbs, nominated by Technical Sergeant Steven Cesare, accepted by Tracy Todd

Photos of awards, award recipients and presenters will be in next month's *Sentinel*.

Monthly Luncheon Drawing: Mary Kay Worthington was the winner and recipient of a complimentary luncheon at the December meeting

50/50 Raffle: \$55.00 was awarded by Bill Roscher

Reminder: Next Board of Director Meeting is Thursday, December 6, 2012
Next Chapter Meeting is the Holiday Luncheon, Saturday, December 15, 2012

Adjournment: 1430

Respectfully submitted,

Leonore K. Hoak
Secretary