



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



Minutes of the March 7, 2013 Board of Directors Meeting, Arizona Chapter MOAA, AZNG HQ, RTI-Classroom 5, 5636 E. McDowell Rd, Phoenix, Arizona 85008

Call to Order: President Rob Welch called the meeting to order at 1030 hours, Thursday, March 7, 2013 at the AZNG Regional Training Institute, 5636 E. McDowell Road, Phoenix, AZ with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members Present: John Ady, Jim Cullison, Arlene Day, Rance Farrell, Dave Fleming, Gary Fredricks, Frank Hoak, Leonore Hoak, Bill Roscher, Rob Welch.

Installation to Board of Directors: Gary Fredricks installed Dave Fleming as the newest member of the AZ Chapter MOAA Board of Directors.

OFFICER & COMMITTEE REPORTS

Secretary's Report: A motion was made by Frank Hoak and seconded by John Ady to waive reading the minutes of the last meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Bill Roscher reported the current figures to be: General Fund of \$10,578.62; Scholarship Fund of \$15,754.85; Petty Cash \$50.00 for a Grand Total of \$26,383.47.

Ron Perkins reviewed and corrected the Year End Financial Report for 2012; Ending Balance of \$14,504.53 is in agreement with the Chapter's bank statement.

Bill requests that Petty Cash be renamed Cash Exchange and increased to \$100.00 from \$50.00. A motion was made by John Ady and seconded by Arlene Day to accept report, rename account to Cash Exchange and increase amount to \$100.00.

Bill contacted other MOAA Treasurer's for their ideas on collecting membership dues. He asks that the Board consider new options to encourage timely payment of dues – sending out an actual Membership bill in October, offer a discount for early payment, perhaps a late fee. Bill requests that BOD consider these and other options to assist the Chapter with dues collection and that the By-Laws be checked for compliance.

Bill has transferred three \$50 donations from the General Fund to the Scholarship Fund in memory of deceased Chapter members; Helen Derouin, John Newell and JoAnne Thompson.

Arrangements: Arlene Day reported the March 16 Meeting is set with traditional St Patrick's Day fare. The April Meeting has been changed to a breakfast venue to accommodate both the Guest Speaker and McCormick Ranch; a plated breakfast will be served @ \$15.00 per person. Arlene continues to request ideas for a summer venue; current ideas are a Diamondback baseball game and a return to the Pizza/Pipe Organ restaurant.



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Auxiliary & Wives: Nancy Burt reported no new activity this month. She will make follow up phone calls for Auxiliary membership dues.

Chaplain: This position is currently vacant and looking to be filled.

ESGR: Chuck Schluter has nothing to report this month.

Historian: Jim Cullison has nothing to report this month.

JROTC Awards: Terry Tassin reports that he now has all 17 of our schools covered by members for award night JROTC presentations. Two members are doing more than one school; Gene Rafanelli is presenting at 3 schools and Rob Welch is presenting at 2 schools. For the first time an Auxiliary member will be presenting; Kathy Upchurch will present award(s) at Glendale High School.

So far Terry has no requests from AUSA, Luke MOAA, Phoenix MOAA or West Valley MOAA to present their awards at schools we both sponsor but there may requests prior to award nights. Terry is currently preparing award packets and will hand deliver them to the schools; each school will have their awards and our presenters will only need to appear and make the presentations. Due to time constraints we have been requested NOT to make any remarks.

JROTC Scholarships: Rob Welch reports that to date no applications have been received but he has verbal commitments from three cadets. Reminders will go out over the weekend of March 9-10 to our 17 schools. The cutoff date for applications is the 3rd Thursday in March (March 21st). The Scholarship Review Board will meet between the weekends of the 23rd or 30th of March.

Legislative Affairs: Gary Fredricks reports that things remain a mess in Washington; the government faces a shut down unless a budget is reached by March 27. A House bill may move the budget vote to the end of September until the end of the fiscal year. Some good news on the horizon is that the DOD will have more flexibility in their actions and that a AZ Senate Bill has passed raising military pay exemptions from \$2500.00 to \$5000.00 and was sent to the House. Please see *The Sentinel* for more information.

Membership: Ron Perkins reports that current Chapter Membership is at 222; 183 Regular Members and 39 Auxiliary Members; there are 47 expiring memberships. The Membership Committee of Ron Perkins, Rob Welch and Bill Roscher will continue to discuss membership dues/renewal issues.



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Newsletter: Jim Cullison reports no issues and continues to produce our award winning *The Sentinel*. In his absence at the March 16 General Meeting, Jim requests alternate report and photography coverage.

Personal Affairs: Dan Conway has nothing to report this month.

Programs: John Ady advises that the speaker for our March 16 Meeting will be Joey Strickland, Director, AZ Dept. of Veterans' Services. Director Strickland is the first Native American to hold the post and been selected by the White House as a "Champion for Change" for his work within the veteran community.

Spotlight Speakers: Frank Hoak reports that members are set to speak through our November General Meeting; March/Dan Conway; April/Terry Tassin; May/Arlene Day; September/Dave Fleming; November/John Ady. The October and December meetings will not have a Spotlight speaker.

TOPS: Frank Hoak has nothing to report this month.

Webmaster: Rob Welch has nothing to report this month.

OLD BUSINESS

AZ StandDown, March 8-10, 2013: Please email Rob Welch of your day(s) and hours worked.

Board Vacancies: There are currently 2 Board vacancies; Chaplain and Public Information Officer (PIO – see below). Please contact Rob Welch at president@azmoaa.org should you be interested or know of anyone interested in volunteering for either position.

Public Information Officer (PIO): Rob Welch reports that the search for this new Chapter position continues. So far, two members have expressed an interest. Rob has met with one of the members and will be meeting with the other on Monday, March 11.

AZ NG Conference May 17-18, 2013: Rob Welch reports that he has been in contact with Arlan Allen, President of the Superstition Chapter about coverage for this event on Saturday morning during our General Business Meeting. Arlan indicated that he hopes to cover it and will let Rob know as soon as he firms things up. Rob will cover on Friday evening and again on Saturday afternoon/evening.



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Water for Homeless Vets: Ron Green is out with the flu but reports that he has taken another 40 cases of water to the Homeless Vets. He has also talked to his church and they have agreed to contribute again this year. Ron is also working on getting the Sheppard of the Hills Lutheran Church to join in his efforts this year.

Rob Welch reminded everyone that the Board decided to hold off on making a monetary donation to the StandDown while Ron Green comes up with a proposal for the Chapter. The Chapter will support either this effort and/or a similar effort to an organization that supports Veterans in the Valley. Ron will submit his proposal at the April Board of Directors Meeting.

To show our Chapter's support of Ron and his valiant efforts to supply local homeless veterans with water, Rob Welch will provide a donation box at future Chapter Meetings for those wishing to donate to the cause.

National Memorial Cemetery Donation & Sign-in (Wreath & Color Guard): Rob is working on it and will have information shortly.

National Memorial Cemetery: Committee Chair John Ady has been researching the Chapter's sponsorship of a golf cart to assist disabled veterans and their families to travel to memorial sites with the cemetery. John reports the cost of a new cart to be in the \$10,000 - \$11,000.00 range; the cost of a rebuilt cart to be approx. \$5,000.00; the cost of a solar cart as required by the cemetery to be much more. He has spoken to his contact Jerry Rainey at the cemetery and has been advised that a cart might not be allowed – they are unable to accept donations over \$3,000.00 each. An alternate idea is to give a smaller donation of to help with the chronic need to replace cement benches within the cemetery @ \$1,000.00 each. John continues to investigate and will give a future report.

By-Laws: Rob Welch has asked the Board to consider for future discussion the current By-Laws concerning composition of the BOD which have not been changed since 1999. Specific attention is to the issue of Committee Chairs who actually run the day-to-day operations of the Chapter, yet they currently have no vote in matters that affect what they do. In reviewing the by-laws this past month, it was noted that several areas of our by-laws will be impacted by this change. Consequently, Rob has appointed the following committee to assist him in developing the by-laws revision draft; Ron Perkins, John Ady and Jim Cullison.

Summer Group Outing: Jim Cullison submitted the info/rates on a possible group trip to support our local Diamondback baseball team last month. A minimum of 30 tickets are required for the group rates to apply. More info to follow.



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Name Plates for Chapter: Rob Welch & Terry Tassin have come up with a design that is 1.5" x 3" (1/2" larger than our current pin). This will allow for a larger first name for ease of visibility. It is similar to those worn by the MOAA Superstition Chapter and the AZ VHOF Society. Amazing Awards, our current nameplate maker, does not carry this style of nameplate but is searching for a supplier. Rob & Terry will contact other vendors for availability. The new nameplates will be optional not mandatory to our members.

NEW BUSINESS

Scholarship Fund Donation: Jim Cullison presented a check for \$105.00 from the Newcomer's Club of Scottsdale to the Chapter Scholarship Fund. This is the second year the Club has given the Chapter this generous gift. Club member Beth Cullison should be commended for her input and promotion of scholarship funding.

Complimentary Luncheons for Guest Speakers & Guest: A motion was presented by Frank Hoak and seconded by John Ady to make it a Chapter policy to offer the monthly guest speaker and a guest of their choice to be given a free lunch.

\$125.00 Hole Sponsorship – AUSA Golf Tournament: Rance Farrell requested that the Chapter consider sponsoring a hole at the Luke AFB March 29 AUSA golf outing. A motion was made by John Ady; seconded by Nancy Burt to sponsor a \$125.00 hole.

MOAA Travel Monies – General Fund vs Scholarship Fund: The idea was tabled for future discussion.

PIO: Mark Day is a possible contender to become the Chapter's first PIO. Mark has an extensive background in public relations and could help promote the Chapter within our home communities.

Free Chapter Memberships to Active Duty Officers: The idea of offering free annual membership up to age 35 for 2nd LT's from the MOAA Gold Bar Program was discussed. Participation in the Gold Bar Program nets our chapter \$250 annually from National. Our expense would be \$1.00 per person annually to the State Council for these officers. Rob Welch will propose to the State Council that they waive dues for serving officers under 35 enrolled in MOAA's Basic Membership Program.

October Picnic: A suggestion was made to try promoting the informal picnic setting to our new younger members. Possibly naming the event "2nd LT Day" to get new attendees and spreading interest in MOAA at the local level.

March Greeters: Frank & Leonore Hoak



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GOOD OF THE ORDER

Phoenix Women's Commission at ASU: Nancy Burt will be addressing the group and giving her much expanded Member Spotlight presentation on her most interesting military career.

Princess Cruise Veteran Credit: Princess Cruises has instituted an onboard credit for military active duty or veterans. Amount is \$50.00 - \$200.00 per cabin based on duration of cruise. Remember to ask your booking agent or Princess for this credit. Princess is also promoting U S Military donations with a matching funds campaign on certain designated cruises.

Next Meeting: Saturday, March 17, 2013 at McCormick Ranch Golf Club
With guest Speaker Joey Strickland, Director, AZ Dept. of Veterans' Services

Monies Obligated During Meeting: \$125.00 to the AUSA Golf Tournament

Adjournment: 1208 hours

Respectfully submitted,

Leonore Kenefic Hoak, Secretary