



The Sentinel

Arizona's First Chapter



The Arizona Chapter

13819 N. 51st Street

Scottsdale, AZ 85254

APRIL 2014

CHARTERED 1956

57½ YEARS OF SERVICE TO COUNTRY

EDITOR: JIM CULLISON

President's Perspective

by Jim Cullison



job for two weeks of training every year. During much of my time in the Guard, I worked for an employer who provided full pay and benefits during my time away from work. That was important to me, and I respected the company for that benefit.

I encourage you to come to the luncheon and help honor these patriotic employers and their Guard and Reserve employees. Support on the home front is vital to morale on the battlefield. These employers deserve our thanks for that support.

Important: Read This

As you make plans to attend the luncheon, keep this in mind. The date is **April 12**, the second Saturday rather than the usual third Saturday. The chapter board changed the date so not to conflict with the Easter weekend.

In planning for the luncheon, here's another important note: Now that you've gotten used to making reservations with Marie Fredricks in Treasurer Bill Roscher's

absence, there's another change. Make your reservations with my wife Beth this month. By mail: Beth Cullison, 13819 North 51st Street, Scottsdale, AZ 85254. By phone: 602-482-3838. By e-mail: cullison30@q.com.

Don't try to make reservations with Marie or Bill. Your only point of contact is Beth. And don't delay. The deadline for reservations is Tuesday, April 8, and it will be here in no time.

A Word About Golf

Speaking of ideal weather, it's ideal for golf, too. So you know what I'm going to talk about now. Right. Our May 1 Scholarship Fundraiser Golf Tournament. Pat Dale has a new venue for us this year, the scenic Rio Verde Golf Club near Fountain Hills. All the details you need for signing up are found on Page 4.

And if, like me, you don't play golf, you can still support the Fund by sponsoring a hole or coming for lunch or both. That information is on Page 4, too.

I'll be there. I hope to see many of you as well.

Arizona Chapter Calendar

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

Location: National Guard Regional Training Institute, 5636 E. McDowell Rd. Show ID for entry. Members welcome.

Upcoming meetings:

- April 3
- May 2

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:

- April 12
- May 17

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Savor the Moment
This is a great time of year. The weather is about as close to ideal as it can get, March Madness is at its peak and about to give way to baseball, while Easter and Passover approach. Enjoy it.

Honor Local Employers

Our April luncheon will give recognition to local employers who respect the sacrifice of their employees who are called to active duty by offering support in varying ways to their citizen-soldier employees and their families. These employers were nominated by Reservists and National Guard members who work for them and were selected by the Employee Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) to be honored.

This event is one that is close to me. Much of my service was spent in the Air National Guard. While I was never deployed to active duty, as so many of today's Reserve forces have been, I did require time off from my civilian

Innovation Program Brings the EDGE to the Front Lines

When talented minds from diverse disciplines come together for a common purpose, good things will result.

That's what is happening at the EDGE Innovation Network at General Dynamics in Mesa, a program headed by Pete Palmer, BG USA (Ret).

Pete was guest speaker at the March luncheon, where he described the work being done on projects aimed at improving the tools and systems used by battlefield commanders and first responders.

EDGE focuses on C-4 systems — command, control, computer and communications — which in combination are necessary for success in fast moving, high stress situations.

The program brings in representatives from government, industry, education and business services to develop and improve C-4 systems.

The program now has 450 entities in 14 centers working to that end.

Member's Spotlight

Desert Storm at Ground Level



Lee Lange, Col USMC (Ret), took us to the front lines of the First Gulf War battlefield as our spotlight speaker in March.

Lee was the Weapons Employment Officer with the 2nd Marine Division when it was deployed following Iraq's invasion of Kuwait in 1990.

"I wasn't looking for war, but it found me," he said.

Lee described the obstacles the friendly forces faced — minefields, burning oil wells and Iraqi forces — and how they overcame them. He outlined the troop movement tactics when the ground assault began in February 1991 following the air war, and how they led to the liberation of Kuwait.

The 2nd Division had minimal casualties and equipment losses while destroying nearly 1,000 Iraqi tanks, artillery and other heavy weapons and taking 14,000 prisoners.

"We were there to do a job — drive Iraq out of Kuwait," he said. "That's what we did."

"The question is how can we put together a collaborative, open network so everyone can advance their capabilities," he



said. "I call it a technology or capability dating service.

"The challenge is to get the right groups so we can actually move and accelerate the capabilities of technology."

Pete also described other challenges such as slow moving bureaucracies, finding the right participants and training users on new systems. "It's a major shift to go from regular telephone systems to digital smartphone technology," he said as an example of the training challenges.

Sometimes the right participants don't have the familiar names but do have the pieces that contribute to solutions. "I love small companies," he said. "They can really turn technology."

Well Done, JROTC Award Presenters!

*By Terry Tassin
JROTC Awards Chairman*

Many thanks to the members listed below who have volunteered to represent the Arizona Chapter at JROTC awards ceremonies this year.

If you have any difficulty making your presentation date, immediately let Terry Tassin, 623-931-1546, know that you will be unavailable.

<u>School</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Presenter</u>
Alhambra	April 30	Gene Rafanelli
Apollo	May 20	John Ady
Cactus	April 25	Ole Griffin
Camelback	May 5	Paul Schnur
Carl Hayden	May 8	Gene Rafanelli
Central	April 9	Jim Cullison
Cortez	May 1	Rance Farrell
Deer Valley	May 9.	Ron Perkins
Glendale	April 30	Ole Griffin
Greenway	May 8	Bernie Conway
Moon Valley	April 25	Frank Hoak
North	April 22	Rance Farrell
Sandra Day O'Connor	May 5	Rob Welch
Shadow Mountain	May 6	Paul Schnur
South Mountain	April 10	Gene Rafanelli
Sunnyslope	April 17	Ron Gawlitta
Thunderbird	May 14	Ron Green



Personal Affairs

By Lee Lange
Personal Affairs Officer

Meet Our New Personal Affairs Officer

This is my first column as your new chapter Personal Affairs Officer. I am following in the footsteps of Dan Conway, who did an outstanding job helping members for more than six years – thank you, Dan. Dan left some big shoes to fill, so that will be my challenge.

By way of background, my wife, Janet, and I joined the chapter last year after moving to Anthem from Virginia. My military career was with the Marine Corps, including nine years as a manpower planner at Marine Corps headquarters. I then spent 12 years working for MOAA, first as a part of the Government Relations team focusing on survivor issues and later heading up MOAA's chapter system.

What's It All About?

Personal Affairs is about providing information on military benefits and helping members understand what needs to be done in case of the loss of a member or spouse. For many years one of the benefits of belonging to a MOAA chapter has been the strong personal affairs programs many chapters offer. This is really about taking care of each other.

I have made contact with the personal affairs experts in MOAA's new Transition Center. MOAA's staff includes some of the most knowledgeable personal affairs experts anywhere, including DoD. They are backed by a world class set of publications that are

available free to MOAA members. More on that in a future column

3 Guiding Objectives

Dan Conway set three objectives for this job which are spot on -- and my starting point. They are: First, keep up to date on military benefits and inform the membership. Second, help members keep current on their own personal affairs matters so they will know what to do in case of the loss or disability of a member or spouse. Third, be available to provide individual assistance to members and spouses in time of need. I serve as a resource for you. My phone number is 703-232-3609. Please contact me with any questions you may have or see me at our monthly meetings.

Welcome Our New Member

Jeanne Blaes, COL, ARNG (Ret)
Scottsdale

Kenneth Bowman, Maj, USAF (Ret)
and his wife Andrea, Phoenix

David Price, CAPT, USN (Act)
Scottsdale

Thomas DeCaro, CAPT, USPHS (Ret)
and his wife Jackie, Phoenix

Phyllis Witt, Auxiliary
Sun City

Sandra Moses, Auxiliary
Scottsdale

Please meet and greet our new members.

Membership Update

So sorry to see you go ...

By Dave Fleming
Membership Chairman

We had a good year in membership in 2013, gaining more than 30 new members. We even hosted a membership incentive to entice early renewals, and that proved effective as well. Unfortunately, more than 40 members have yet to renew, and by the end of March, we will be forced to drop them from our rolls. We had hoped they would reconsider, renew their dues and remain active in our chapter.



TAPS



We recently learned of the passing
of a member.

Irene L. Doto, CAPT, USPHS (Ret)
May 7, 1922-March 16, 2014
Arizona Chapter President, 1991

*We extend heartfelt condolences to Irene's
friends and family.*

Spring is in the Air and So Is Golf

The Arizona Chapter Spring Golf Tournament will be held Thursday, May 1, at Rio Verde Country Club, 18731 E. 4 Peaks Blvd., Rio Verde, Arizona.

This is a really fun event, and we would like to have as many MOAA members and friends as possible participate. The tournament is a major activity for raising funds for the chapter's scholarship program, which helps graduating high school JROTC students attend college.

Rio Verde Country Club is nestled in the High Sonoran Desert just east of Scottsdale and north of Fountain Hills. Rio Verde is known for its spectacular mountain views and its outstanding service and amenities, including two Tom Lehman designed traditional style golf courses.

Here are the details:

When: Thursday, May 1. Check-in from 6:30 to 7:30 a.m. Shotgun start at 8.

Where: Rio Verde Country Club, 18731 E. 4 Peaks Blvd, Rio Verde, Arizona, phone 480-471-9420.

Cost: \$70, which includes cart fee, green fees, range balls and hamburger buffet luncheon.

Dress Code: collared shirts, soft spikes on golf shoes, sneakers are permitted.

What: Registration and green **fees must be receive by April 21**. Use the form below.

Special Rules: The event will be a single division 20 place prizes for those with established USGA handicaps. Others will play the Peoria System where six played holes are randomly selected beforehand to establish handicaps based on scores on those holes. Skill prizes will be awarded on all holes — closest to pin on all par 3s and longest putt on all par 4 and 5s. There's also a \$1,000 hole-in-one prize.

You're Not a Golfer? You can still support the tournament and scholarship fund by sponsoring a hole or joining the players for lunch and prize awards, which is a rousing event in itself. Use the form below.

Send checks, made out to **AZ Chapter MOAA**, for entry fees, hole sponsor or lunch to:
Pat Dale, Tournament Chairman
12633 E. Kalil Dr.
Scottsdale, AZ 85259
Questions? Contact Pat at:
Phone: 480-661-5204, E-mail: golf@azmoaa.org

----- Clip and Mail with Check -----

Arizona Chapter MOAA Golf Tournament
HERE IS MY REGISTRATION SLIP AND ENTRY FEE.

Name: _____

Phone No: _____

E-mail Address: _____
(Please Print)

USGA Index _____

I would like to be partnered with [names and official USGA Index if they have one. Others will play the Peoria System of handicapping]: _____

Check for \$ _____ included for _____ players (\$70 each).

I can't play, but I want to sponsor a hole and/or have lunch

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____ (\$25 per hole, \$15 for lunch)

For donations of \$25 or more your name and/or organization will be posted on a golf hole sponsor sign

Things To Do in Fountain Hills While Your Spouses Play Golf

If your husband or wife is playing golf at the chapter tournament May 1, you don't need to be left out.

A variety of activities and sights are found in and around Fountain Hills. You could spend the morning enjoying the Fountain Hills scene, then join your spouse for lunch when the tournament is over around noon.

Here are some examples:

The **Alan Cruikshank River of Time Museum** at 12901 N. La Montana Blvd. has exhibits recalling the ancient people, explorers, prospectors and soldiers who made an impact on the area. You also can learn how "the dam that never was" brought about the development of Fountain Hills.

The **Fountain Hills Public Art Collection** consists of sculptures, water features and other artworks, more than 105 of them, that can be seen on downtown streets, plazas, parks, in the Community Center, Town Hall and other public places.

Fountain Hills Public Library has a used book store with hard cover and paperback books ranging in price from 50 cents to \$2. A sculpture garden outside has bench seating and a great view of the fountain. Get a cup of coffee, enjoy the art and read a book until lunchtime.

For the more adventuresome, **McDowell Mountain Regional Park**, four miles north of town, has many hiking trails that wind through scenic desert landscapes, some less than a mile long and others ranging 1-2 miles and longer. Wildlife sightings are common, and many bird species are found around the three ponds in the park.

If you're feeling lucky, **Fort McDowell Casino** is close by with gaming machines, table games and other diversions.

And don't forget **The Fountain**, which shoots a water spout up more than 300 feet at the top of the hour beginning at 9 a.m. daily.

Start with breakfast. A couple of suggestions are Flapjacks in the Basha's Center on La Montana Blvd. and DJ's Bagels — real New York bagels and everything that goes with them — on N. Fountain Hills Blvd.

(Thanks to Leonore Hoak for these suggestions.)

JROTC SCHOLARSHIP NEWS

by Rob Welch
Scholarship Chairman

Scholarships Will Honor Up and Coming Leaders

Next month, we will award our chapter's college scholarships to deserving high school seniors. These hard-working seniors are the cream of the crop and desire to follow in our footsteps as military officers.

Support Our Fund and Take a Tax Deduction

Please consider making a donation to our scholarship fund. Remember, it's tax deductible if you itemize deductions. If you don't itemize, well, it's still a wonderful thing to help out our aspiring future military leaders. Make the check out to AZ-MOAA Scholarship Fund and either mail it to Bill Roscher, or give it to him at our April meeting. Thanks for your help.

March Luncheon Has Bonus Raffle



Mark Day had a surprise at the March luncheon. He donated model kits left over from his working days at Raytheon., and they were raffled after the 50-50 drawing. The models included the F-15 Strike Eagle Mark holds at left, an F-14 Tomcat, a NATO Tornado and a model of a fighter pilot completely outfitted for combat.

Donations to Scholarship Fund

Arizona Chapter \$50
In Memory of Irene Doto

Jim Seidl \$100

Lee Lange \$50

Rob Welch \$44

Dab Germond \$29

Anonymous \$50

Chapter Luncheon Raffle \$88



Legislative Update

by Gary Fredricks
Legislative Chair

'Storming' Priorities Set

MOAA's national Board of Directors met by telephone on March 17 and approved the following "Storming the Hill" issues:

- Sustain military pay and benefits and avoid repeating past mistakes that destabilized the all-volunteer force
- Reject disproportional TRICARE fee increases which shift costs onto beneficiaries while reducing access
- Eliminate catastrophic sequestration cuts which threaten national security
- And address remaining inequities for disabled retirees, survivors and Guard and Reserve personnel

We recognize that the Pentagon is in a tight pinch with sequestration that will only get worse in subsequent years, but we believe some of the personnel cost savings proposed by DOD in the President's annual budget request undo Congress's past decade of work to rebalance military compensation with the extraordinary demands and sacrifices of a military career. The currently requested piecemeal changes by DOD are especially inappropriate since the Military Compensation and Retirement Reform Commission is required to offer an even broader set of proposals early next year.

Preparing to Storm the Hill

We will be "Storming the Hill" on April 9 along with representatives from all 50 states and Puerto Rico. I will be teamed with Al Rossow, President of the Arizona Council of Chapters from Sierra Vista, and John Chernoski, a new MOAA national board member from Green Valley. Al is currently in the process of establishing appointments with the offices of all our Arizona Senators and Congressmen. We are not always able to meet with the principals due to schedule issues, but are always able to deliver our messages to their key staffers.

I hope you took the opportunity of supporting our effort by sending in the MOAA-suggested email messages contained in our periodic Legislative Updates. All these messages count

and help to raise awareness of our issues with our congressional representatives. If you are not receiving these important MOAA messages, go to www.moaa.org under the "Take Action" tab and you can find easy ways of signing up to get them.

Progress with State Budget

As *The Sentinel* goes to press this month the state legislature seems to be making unusually fast progress with a budget for the coming fiscal year. Traditionally, this is the long pole in the state legislative tent with various other bills falling in line quickly after the budget is settled.

There have been some 48 bills, resolutions and memorials affecting the Arizona veteran/military community that merited tracking by the Arizona Department of Veterans Services (ADVS). As you will recall, the bills are required to meet several review/approval milestones in order to remain active and progress through the legislative process.

Some Losses on Veteran-Related Bills

As of late March, only 20 seem to have survived thus far. Of particular note the two bills dealing with tax exemption of retired military pay, HB 2308 and HB 2402, dropped out early on. HB 2147 that would have provided a tax credit to businesses hiring veterans, HB 2177 that would have provided ADVS with funding to support veterans supported campuses, and HB 2475 that would have incentivized giving a proportion of state contracts to disabled veteran-owned businesses also fell by the wayside.

But Hope Remains for Others

Of the remaining bills HB 2457 is the most important and is doing well. The bill would authorize the presiding judge of each county superior court to establish a regional veteran's court. These are important to provide better opportunity for veterans to receive treatment rather than simply jail time for selected offenses. Among the other bills in work are SB 1312 that would formalize March 29 as Vietnam Veteran's Day (not a legal holiday), SB 1401 that would authorize the building of a memorial dedicated to U.S. submarine veterans and HB 2135 that would continue the Military Affairs Commission.

Read Carefully

Beth Cullison takes a turn this month filling in for Treasurer Bill Roscher. Make your luncheon reservations with Beth rather than Bill. Her contact information is shown on the reservation form below. **Reservation deadline is April 8.**

April Meeting

WHEN: April 12, 2014
11:00 a.m., Meet & Greet Social
Hour; 11:45, Lunch

WHERE: McCormick Ranch Golf Club
Scottsdale

COST: \$22 Per Person

DRESS: Business Casual

MENU: Tossed salad, bread and butter, pan-seared Mahi Mahi with pineapple salsa, seasonal vegetables, fudge brownie sundae.

Anyone with dietary restrictions or allergies are asked to contact Arlene Day (arlenebday@gmail.com preferred) one week prior so alternate food selections can be arranged.

PROGRAM: Our annual Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve luncheon will honor local employers who have given exceptional support to employees deployed for active duty.

Reservations must be received by 4 p.m. on Tuesday, April 8. 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: **Beth Cullison, 13819 N. 51st St., Scottsdale, AZ 85254.**

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 \$ _____ (**\$22.00 per person**) for **April 12, 2014**

Make check payable to: **AZ Chapter MOAA** **Received No Later Than April 8, 2014**

Send to: **Beth Cullison, 13819 N. 51st St., Scottsdale, AZ 85254, cullison30@q.com, 602-482-3838**

Are You Ready for Some Baseball?

Last year, many of us had a great time at a group outing for a Diamondbacks game at Chase Field.

This year, the Superstition Chapter is planning a group outing for all area MOAA chapters. The date is Sunday afternoon, July 20, against the Chicago Cubs. Details are in the works, so watch for more information.

The Arizona Chapter MOAA - 2014 Board of Directors and Committee Chairs

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Arizona Chapter
Military Officers Association of America
13819 N. 51st Street
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