



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



BOARD OF DIRECTORY MEETING – Thursday, Sept. 1, 2016

Regional Training Institute, AZARNG, 5636 E. McDowell Rd. Phoenix, AZ

Call to Order: President Lee Lange called the meeting to order on September 1, 2016, at 10:32 am.

Members Present: Lee Lange, Paul Schnur, Donna and Ron Bright, Jim and Beth Cullison, Bruce Kosaveach, Jim Draper, Ron Perkins, Janet Stultz and Susan Farrell

OFFICERS' REPORTS:

President's Announcements: Two of the chapter members, Rob Welch and Jeanne Blaise, were chosen for induction into the Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame this year. The ceremony will be held at the Double Tree Resort in Scottsdale on October 28, 2016.

The Arizona Chapter of MOAA won a 5-star banner for the 13th consecutive year. Jim Cullison received a hand of applause for all the work he did in bringing this award to the chapter. Jim and Beth Cullison will attend the MOAA annual meeting this year in Washington D.C. and receive the award.

Two communication awards were also received for the newsletter and the website. Again Jim Cullison played a large role in bringing the newsletter award to the chapter as editor and Rob Welch, our webmaster, for bringing the website award to the chapter. The awards will be presented at the September meeting.

During the summer the chapter sponsored attendance at a Diamondbacks baseball game. This event was well attended (40) and the home team won. A fundraiser for the scholarship fund was also held at Paradise Bakery and about \$300 was raised from the event. The chapter provided a color guard and presented a ceremonial wreath for the Memorial Day ceremony at the Phoenix National Cemetery.

Secretary's Report: The minutes of the May 12, 2016 meeting have been circulated to the Board so President Lee Lange asked that the reading be waived and the minutes be approved as published. A motion was made to waive the reading and accept the minutes. The motion was seconded and it passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Charlie Bitner could not be at the meeting so the report was presented by Lee Lange. We presently have \$7,080.90 in the general fund, \$17,520.11 in the Scholarship Fund, \$200.00 in petty cash for a Grand Total of \$24,802.01.



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SPECIAL REPORTS:

Arizona Council of Chapters: The MOAA Western Region Symposium will be held in Las Vegas September 22-24. The annual MOAA meeting will be held this year in Washington D.C at the Sheraton Hotel. On November 15 there will be a semi-annual Council meeting hosted by the Superstition Chapter at the Embassy Suites, Tempe.. Several MOAA members in conjunction with the UAV are trying to draft a bill for the state legislature to increase veterans pension exemption.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Membership: Since Dave Price, membership chairman, was not present at the meeting Lee Lange gave the report. This past year our chapter recruited only 4 new members. The rest of the state chapters did not do much better. At the present time our membership has 114 regular members, 24 auxiliary members for a total of 138 members. To help increase membership notices have been sent to all the members that did not renew in the past year requesting that they renew. In addition, national MOAA will send out information to all national members living in our area via email on how to join our chapter. Last year we acquired several members from this message.

Programs: The September program is all planned. It will be presented by Officer Jennifer Eastman a member of the Phoenix Police Department. She will talk about the Phoenix Police 9-1-1 Communication Bureau. The October meeting is the picnic and Marshal Trimble will be the entertainment. The program at the November meeting will be on the origin of the Unknown Soldier Memorial. December will be the Christmas party and change of command.

Scholarships: Jon Shaw will take over the Chairmanship of the Scholarship Committee from Ron Welch in January.

Arrangements: Donna Bright reported that the catering for the annual picnic is all set. She is anticipating the negotiation of the lunch contract with McCormack Ranch Golf Club. She is also thinking about the need to increase the cost of the lunch to our members for the meetings. She will meet with representatives from the facility including the chef to discuss future menus.

Legislative Affairs: Lee Lange reported that there is a complete report of Legislative activities in the September Sentinel. The main concern is the steady erosion of benefits for all military members, past and present. Of special interest at the present time is a movement to retain the 2.1 percent pay raise for the troops. Second is the decrease in housing allowance and finally the disproportional TRICARE fee increase. On the state side is the movement to increase the amount of the military pension exemption for state taxes.



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Personal Affairs: Lee Lange reported in the News Letter that members can avail themselves of Space A. This is an opportunity to fly space available on military transportation. He details this in the September Sentinel.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

Surviving Spouses – Susan Farrell reported that she is in contact with the spouses and invites them to the luncheon. Most of them have other commitments.

Transition Liaison Jobs – Jim Draper

No report

Newsletter - The five-star award was discussed in the President's report.

Spotlight Speakers – On temporary hold for now.

Webmaster – The award was discussed in the President's report.

JROTC Program – Our members presented 18 awards at awards ceremonies last year.

MSVA/MANA House Liaison – Ron Green continues to collect money for water that he takes to the facility. MOAA also continues to provide \$50 a month for snacks for the members of the Phoenix Veterans Home. Susan Farrell facilitates that program.

OLD BUSINESS:

Electronic Dues Payments Update. We have signed up for this program and are working to get it online. The program is not functional at the present time and needs more work before it becomes operational.

NEW BUSINESS:

Chapter Recruiting. This was discussed in the Membership Committee report. In addition it was suggested that we work the Arizona National Guard Convention to try to identify new members.

Fundraising Committee Update. The committee has been active and is working on several projects. Their goal is to raise \$10,000 to cover the scholarships for this year. The projects are;

1. Golf Tournament
2. Donations at the meetings.
3. June Paradise Bakery event that raised \$300.
4. Habit Burger Grill event September 20, 2016
5. New signs at the meetings requesting donations.
6. Plan for a wine tasting and auction event in November at Jon Shawl house in Paradise Valley.



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Nominating Committee - Ron Bright reported that this is a work in progress. Because of the resignation of our President this year the chain of command has had to be re-configured. Bruce Kosaveach, who became second vice-president has taken a full time job so he is stepping down from this position in January 2017. The committee is still working on a position for a second vice-president and a new board member.

May Meeting Greeters – Janet Stultz.

Other - In October our chapter will celebrate its 60th anniversary. Lee Lange has ordered a certificate and a letter from the President of MOAA. This will be presented at the September or October meeting.

We need a committee to identify members to choose the Meritorious Awards Metals for our members. Lee Lange appointed the committee to include Ron Perkins, Jim Cullison and Lee Langue.

A Junior ROTC program at Apollo asked for financial support of \$250 to buy shoe polish. This message was sent to the membership. Lee Lang suggested we let the members support the program as individuals.

Ron Perkins reported that the CEO of MOAA will visit the valley in November 5th for a fundraising event to raise money for the Viet Nam Memorial Wall in Gilbert. The General will be one of the speakers at the luncheon. This will be included in our newsletter.

Next Chapter Meeting – September 17, 2016 - Duty Officer: Jim Cullison.

Adjournment: At 12:02 a motion was made to adjourn. It was seconded and passed. Next meeting of the Board will be October 6, 2016

Respectively submitted, Paul L. Schnur, MD, Secretary

Rev Oct 1, 2016, Final Minutes, sent to all the BOD.