

President's Perspective

by Lee Lange



Don't Miss the October Picnic

Be sure to join us for our annual October picnic at McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park on October 21.

As always, this is a great time for members to get together and socialize, but it's also an excellent opportunity to recruit new members for our chapter. We need your help in bringing your fellow MOAA members and friends to the picnic.

If you bring a guest eligible for chapter membership, we'll buy their lunch. Then we'll introduce them to our members and make them feel right at home.

In the past, many of our guests have ended up as chapter members. So please plan on helping us build our membership. Be sure to let us know in advance who your guests are so we can plan for enough food and beverages.

This year's entertainment

is a special treat in noted local country and western singer Ted Newman. Don't miss it.

Chapter Leadership Needs

The Arizona Chapter has been named a 5 Star Level of Excellence Award winner by MOAA for 14 years in a row.

This happens because our members step up and volunteer to do the many jobs it takes to run a top chapter like ours.

This year, we have some very significant positions to fill going into 2018.

We currently are looking for a Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Newsletter Editor, Arrangements Chair and a Webmaster. These positions are now filled by Ron Bright,

Dave Price, Jim Cullison, Donna Bright and Rob Welch, respectively.

All of these members are ready and willing to do a complete turnover with you on what each position entails. None are too difficult but do take some time.

In the end we are a team working together to be successful. Each of our members expects the chapter to be well run. To do that we need your help.

Let me or Nomination Committee Chair, Dave Price, know if you are interested in any of these positions.

New Chaplain for the Chapter

Daniel Butler, COL USA (Ret), has agreed to be Chaplain for the Arizona Chapter.

The Chaplain position has been vacant since the late Bob Rutherford stepped down several years ago.

Dues Are Coming Due

Chapter membership renewals for 2018 are coming due. Look for information on Page 4, including our discount offer for early renewal. Why wait? Renew now to ensure your membership remains active for another year.

Arizona Chapter Calendar

Board of Directors meets at 1030 hours the first Thursday of the month unless noted otherwise

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

Upcoming meetings:

- October 5
- November 2

Member Meetings/ Luncheons are held on the third Saturday of the month, Social Hour at 1100, Luncheon at 1145, at McCormick Ranch Golf Club unless noted otherwise. See Page 3.

Upcoming meetings:

- October 21
- November 18

In this Issue

- Page 2**
 - Remembering Pearl Harbor
 - Important Message
- Page 3**
 - Picnic BBQ
- Page 4**
 - Membership and Dues Information
 - Railroad Park Map
- Page 5**
 - Personal Affairs
 - Military Service Birthdays
 - New Members
- Page 6**
 - Legislation Report
 - Donations
- Page 7**
 - Massing of the Colors
 - October Picnic/ Program Information
 - Meal/Donation Forms
- Page 8**
 - Baseball & the National Anthem
 - Chapter Leadership

September Speaker

Day of Infamy Survivor Recounts Wartime Experience

Jack Holder grew up on a farm in Texas, but at age 18 he decided farming was not for him, and he joined the Navy in 1940.

That enlistment took him to the Navy base at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, which is where he was on the morning of December 7, 1941, when the Japanese initiated their surprise aerial attack on the naval facilities there.

As the chapter's guest speaker in September, Jack recounted his experience during the attack and his wartime service that followed.

He was assigned to a PBY squadron, a unit that flew the Navy's Catalina "flying boat," on Ford Island in the harbor.

As the attack began and bombs started falling on the island, Jack and several other sailors ran to a ditch and clung to the sides while a Japanese plane strafed the area.

Following the attack, Jack and two others manned a machine gun pit for three days, fighting off mosquitoes and preparing for an expected second attack that never came.

Jack recounted the 1942 Doolittle raid on Tokyo, after which the Navy leadership rightly surmised there would be a retaliatory attack on U.S. forces. Midway Island was pinpointed as a possible target, and Jack's PBY squadron was sent to Midway to find the Japanese fleet.

He was an aircrew member, and his PBY spotted the fleet on successive days ahead of that battle, which proved to be a major victory for the Americans.

Next, he was off to New Caledonia, where his crew flew 48 patrol missions over Guadalcanal and the Solomon Islands.

In 1943 he was transferred to the European Theater, where his unit flew anti-submarine missions over the English Channel and the Bay of Biscay on the French coast.

Following the war, Jack served in stateside assignments and was honorably discharged in 1948. He worked in the aviation and oil industries and was an assistant golf pro. He retired from Allied Signal in 1991 and moved to Sun Lakes, where he still resides, to play golf.

► Important Notice ◀

About the October Luncheon

Treasurer Charlie Bitner will not be available for the October luncheon.

Jim Cullison has agreed to fill in, so for this month only, make reservations and payments with Jim. See his contact information below.

Also Note: Credit card payment will not be available for the October luncheon. Plan to pay by check or cash.

Jim Cullison

13819 N. 51st St.

Scottsdale, AZ 85254

602-482-3838

cullison30@q.com

Make checks payable to

AZ CHAPTER MOAA

Reservations are required, including guests
Reservation deadline is **Tuesday, October 17**

The Sentinel newsletter is published by the Arizona Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA).

MOAA and its affiliate chapters and councils are non-partisan.



Jack Holder, right, shares a pleasant moment with Bruce Kosaveach, program chairman, prior to Jack's talk at the September luncheon.



OCTOBER 21, 2017 MOAA BBQ PICNIC

Ted Newman

Ted grew up in South Dakota. He came from a musical family, has recorded four records, had two appearances on Dick Clark's Bandstand and opened for Johnny Cash. He has written over 400 tunes.



REGISTRATION must be received by 4:00 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 17th. \$22 per person includes lunch. Make check payable to: AZ Chapter MOAA or mail to: [Jim Cullison, 13819 N. 51st St., Scottsdale, AZ 85254, 602-482-3838, cullison30@q.com.](mailto:Jim.Cullison@13819.N.51st.St.,Scottsdale,AZ)

Annual MOAA
Arizona Chapter
BBQ/Picnic

11AM-2PM

Bring a
prospective
member

**McCormick-Stillman
Park**

**Indian Bend &
Scottsdale Roads
Stillman Ramada**

map on Page 4

Your 2 Missions: Be a Recruiter, Re-up for 2018

*By Dave Price
Membership Chairman*

Happy October! Summer is finally over and, based on all the folks we are seeing at garden centers and nurseries, we are starting our eight month long spring.

Don't you just love Arizona?! This is a great time of year to recruit new members into the chapter, and you all are really our best recruiters.

Over the past year we've had 18 new members join us. Our president, Lee Lange, has led the new member referral count over the past year, with Jon Shawl, Paul Schnur and Ron Bright close on his heels.

I'll bet each of us knows at least one or more potential members we can personally invite to join the chapter. Bring them as your guest to one of our luncheons this fall or winter. Even if only a small percentage of those join our ranks, we will be much better positioned to continue having a positive impact on veteran issues in our state.

Don't Forget Membership Dues

We've also got a good start on our annual chapter membership renewal drive with about 13% of our 142 chapter members already renewed for next year.

Your dues are important and go into the chapter's general fund to pay for chapter operations.

Just like last year, the cost of 2018 chapter dues is discounted to \$18 for regular members and \$9 for surviving spouses if paid before the end of 2017. After **December 31**, dues return to the normal \$20 and \$10, respectively.

You can pay by check at our upcoming 21 October picnic or by mail to our Chapter Treasurer, Charlie Bitner, 134 E. Northview Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85020. Make your check payable to **AZ Chapter MOAA**.

Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns about membership or corrections to our records. Thanks for your dedicated support of the Arizona Chapter!

Railroad Park Map

The map at right shows the location of McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park, at the southeast corner of Scottsdale and Indian Bend Roads.

The Stillman Ramada, where the chapter's picnic barbecue will be held, is circled at the lower right area of the map.

Parking is on the south side of Indian Bend.





Personal Affairs

By Lee Lange
Personal Affairs Officer

Preventing Identity Theft

Most of us understand the importance of guarding against identity theft in today's environment. But it never hurts to review the basics for protecting yourself against hackers and scammers.

Practical Steps You Can Take Now to Reduce Your Exposure to Identity Theft

- Pick up your mail promptly and deposit outgoing mail at the post office or in a post office collection box. Review all bills and statements promptly and notify banks and creditors of transactions you do not recognize.
- Review your credit report annually. You can receive a free credit report each year from the three national credit bureaus. For more information go to:
www.annualcreditreport.com
- Guard your Social Security Number. Do not print it on your checks. If it is on your driver's license, contact your DMV to ask about other options.
- Do not sign the backs of credit cards. Instead write "PHOTO ID REQUIRED."
- Destroy documents with personal information that you do not need. A cross-cut shredder works best.

Home Computer Tips

- Install anti-virus software to prevent a worm or virus from compromising your computer files. Password protect both your hard drive and sensitive files. If you dispose of your computer, use a good software utility to "wipe" clean the hard drive. Then take out the hard and retain it or physically destroy with some good hammer blows using protective eye wear. Do not simply erase files or reformat your hard drive.
- When registering at a web site, provide minimal information. Never provide your Social Security Number. If you do not understand why certain information is required, then do not provide it.

- Do not download files sent to you by strangers or click on links in e-mails from people you do not know.

Travel Tips

- Stop the delivery of mail, newspapers and other items received on a regular basis. Make your home appear to be lived in by setting lights on variable timers and arrange for someone to mow your lawn.
- Put your work address on your luggage tags and use your first initial instead of first name. Use a money belt or neck pouch to carry important items. Do not take personal checks. Take only the credit cards you need. If traveling alone, take two cards to avoid any inconvenience if one card is lost or stolen. If traveling with your spouse, insure that each brings a different card. Take an ATM or debit card for extra cash. Memorize your PIN.

Lee Lange

Belated Happy Birthday, Air Force

The U.S. Air Force marked a significant milestone on September 18 — the 70th anniversary of its designation as a separate service in 1947. Up to that point it had been a branch of the Army.

Next Up: Both the U.S. Navy and U.S. Marine Corps celebrate their 242nd birthday this year, the Navy on October 13 and the Marines on November 10.

Earlier this year, the U.S. Army also celebrated its 242nd birthday on June 14. All three services were established in 1775.

The U.S. Coast Guard had its 227th birthday celebration on August 4, marking its creation in 1790.

Welcome Our New Members

Stephen B. Kirby, LTC USA (Ret)
And his wife Tracy of Apache Juncehon

Ralph T. Vatalaro, LT USN (Frm)
Of Tempe

Please meet and greet our new members



National Legislative Update

by Lee Lange
Legislation Chairman

Continuing Resolution - Again

With time running out for action before the October 1 start of a new fiscal year, Congress and the White House agreed for a ninth straight year to have the government operate under a continuing resolution, or CR. This one lasts until Dec. 8, freezing spending at fiscal 2017 levels and delaying new program starts for 10 weeks into FY 2018.

Military members likely won't learn until December what their January pay raise will be, whether pharmacy copayments through mail order and retail outlets will rise sharply, or whether working-age retirees will see TRICARE fees jump next year.

Also, servicemembers with children and who are married to other servicemembers won't know for a few more months whether their combined Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) will drop significantly as soon as they are reassigned.

To top it off, 69,000 surviving spouses impacted by the SBP/DIC (Survivor Benefit Plan/Dependency and Indemnity Compensation) offset won't know until December whether the partial relief they enjoy from a monthly Special Survivor Indemnity Allowance will expire after May 2018 or become a permanent payment at \$310 a month, plus annual adjustments to keep pace with inflation.

Defense Authorization Bill Conference to Convene

The fate of these key elements of compensation is uncertain because the Senate and the House treat them differently in separate versions of the fiscal 2018 National Defense Authorization Act (H.R. 2810) bill.

The Senate passed its bill September 18. The House approved theirs earlier this summer.

A House-Senate conference committee will get to work immediately to shape a final defense bill, but conferees can't finish until lawmakers reach a budget deal to set topline funding levels for defense and all other federal departments. Catch 22.

That deal could cut billions of dollars from the final defense bill. Even deeper cuts could occur if no deal is reached and Congress allows automatic cost-cutting across government under the 2011 Budget Control Act (BCA). This is the so called Sequestration tool with its salami slice cuts to the Defense budget that are so damaging. In recent years, lawmakers have worked around the sequestration threat with late hour agreements.

This year, defense bills assume topline increases sharply higher than BCA allows. The Senate-passed bill would exceed the BCA cap by \$91 billion, making deep, late-hour cuts much more likely.

Budget Uncertainty Is A Major Problem, Says SECDEF

Defense Secretary Jim Mattis said September 20 that continued fiscal uncertainty has left the military unable to prepare for the future fight, which he warned is a serious threat to national security.

"If we don't get budgetary predictability, if we don't remove the defense caps, then we're questioning whether or not America has the ability to survive," Mattis said at the Air Force Association's Air, Space & Cyber Conference outside Washington. "It's that simple."

Congress must pass the president's budget, Secretary Mattis said, and lift defense-spending cuts. "Nothing has done more damage to military readiness of our armed forces than the continuing resolutions that stop us from taking initiative [or] the lack of budgetary predictability," Mattis said.

Share your concerns with your members of Congress here:

<http://www.moaa.org/takeaction/>

Donations to Chapter Funds

General Fund

Roger Schartzer \$50

Lee Lange \$100

Scholarship Fund

Roger Schartzer \$50

Massing of the Colors

Simone Meiner of Girl Scout Troop 1395, below, carried the Arizona Chapter flag in the annual Massing of the Colors and Service of Remembrance September 10 at Shadow Mountain High School in Phoenix.

This year marked the 53rd anniversary of the event sponsored by the Military Order of the World Wars. Boy Scouts, Girls Scouts and AFJROTC cadets from Shadow Mountain carried the flags of the participating groups and

all 50 states and the five U.S. territories during the ceremony.

The Coast Guard Auxiliary Band played patriotic music, the senior members of the Shadow Mountain Choir sang the National Anthem, and JROTC cadets posted the colors and performed the POW/MIA remembrance ceremony.



October Luncheon

WHEN: October 21, 2017
11:00 a.m., Meet & Greet Social Hour
11:45, Lunch

WHERE: McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park,
Scottsdale

COST: \$22 Per Person

DRESS: Picnic Casual

MENU: Yummy barbecue meal from Famous Dave's Bar-B-Que, beverages, dessert.

PROGRAM: Annual picnic barbecue and new member drive. Entertainment by balladeer Ted Newman.

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: **Charlie Bitner, 134 E. Northview Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85020, 602-943-0028, charles.bitner@gmail.com.**

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/RESERVATION FORM

Please reserve ___ meals for (name): _____

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____ (\$22.00/person) for the October 2017 luncheon

Make check payable to: **AZ Chapter MOAA**

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

**Member reservations or call-ins WILL NOT be accepted after October 17.
Cancellations after October 17 will be charged and not refunded.**

Baseball & 'The Star Spangled Banner'

Playing the National Anthem is a tradition at baseball games and other sporting events, a tradition that began during the 1918 World Series between the Boston Red Sox and Chicago Cubs.

To honor our troops fighting in Europe in World War I, a band played "The Star Spangled Banner" during the 7th inning stretch of the first game. The crowd responded with enthusiasm, and a tradition was born.



Happy Halloween

The Arizona Chapter MOAA - 2016 Board of Directors and Committee Chairs

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IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT Lt Col Jim Cullison, USAF 602-482-3838	LEGISLATION Col Lee Lange, USMC 703-232-3609	TRANSITION LIAISON CDR Jim Draper USN 480-483-7769
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Access Arizona Chapter's Internet Web Site at: azmoaa.org

Arizona Chapter
Military Officers Association of America
13819 N. 51st Street
Scottsdale, AZ 85254



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