



The Sentinel

Arizona's First Chapter

The Military Officer's Association of America



The Arizona Chapter Scottsdale, AZ 85250

MARCH 2022 CHARTERED Oct 1956 65 YEARS OF SERVICE TO COUNTRY JANET LANGE, EDITOR

In this Issue

- Page 1 Tom Sheets
President's Perspective
- Page 2 Membership Article
Member Dues Renewal Form
- Page 3 President's Perspective Continued
Welcome New Members!
March 26 Reservation Form
- Page 4 March 26 Surviving Spouse
Program
- Page 5 March 26 Menu
- Page 6 Personal Affairs
H.B. 3402 Caring for Survivors Act
- Page 7 Federal and State Legislative
Update
- Page 8 Who Can Join MOAA?
AZ Chapter Calendar
- Page 9 February Crime Prevention
- Page 10 New Member Application
- Page 11 Patriotic Awards Luncheon
- Page 12 AZ MOAA Officers, Directors and
Chairpersons

President's Perspective by Tom Sheets



It was great seeing so many of you at our February luncheon and meeting our new members. Hopefully, we can increase our participation even more in March.

March is a busy month: The Ides of March, Saint Patrick's Day, the first day of Spring and maybe even Spring Training baseball games! Hopefully, you can also include our monthly luncheon in your March schedule of events. Please note, if you are not already aware, that **our March luncheon will be on the fourth Saturday, March 26, not the normal third Saturday.** This is because of a scheduling conflict with McCormick Ranch during our contract negotiations.

I want to reinforce Charlie Bitner's guidance regarding luncheon reservations. It is not only important but also critical, that we receive your luncheon reservations by the cutoff date/time published each month in our **Sentinel**. We must provide the meal count to McCormick Ranch the Wednesday before our luncheon. We know that truth of John Lennon's words who said, "Life is what happens while you are busy planning your future," but please do your best to meet these reservation requirements. If something comes up, please give Charlie a call or email.

Continued on Page 3



FEBRUARY 23,
1929

US ARMY
JUNE 14 1775

US NAVY
OCT 13 1775

US MARINE
CORPS
NOV 10, 1775

US COAST
GUARD
AUG 14 1790

US PUBLIC
HEALTH
SERVICE
JAN 4 1889

US AIR FORCE
SEP 18 1947

NATIONAL
OCEANIC AND
ATMOSPHERIC
ADMINISTRATION
OCT 3 1970

US SPACE
FORCE
DEC 20 2019

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Bob Fiegl
AZ Chapter
1st Vice President and
Membership Chair

Dear members,

I'm delighted to report to you that our membership numbers are increasing nicely since December. We now have 167 people on our AZ Chapter roster. For all of you who have been recruiting people to check us out and attend one of our monthly membership meetings, I say 'thank you.' I'd like to see our membership grow to about 200 and that will take a bit of work by all of us. Having said that, if even 25% of our members are able to recruit one person this year, that will put us over the top by Christmas.

When I read the MOAA monthly magazine and receive the MOAA weekly email news- letter, it makes me realize how much excellent work our organization is continually doing for us. Whether it's for TRICARE medical matters, surviving spouse benefits and assistance, burial needs, education scholarships, cost of living increases for retirees ... the list is long, good people are working long hours in Washington, DC and elsewhere to advocate for us. Please stop and reflect

on what we would not have if it weren't for the MOAA team over the years. That's why it's so important to keep your membership current, both for your national MOAA and chapter. Please remember to pay your local chapter dues (\$20 for everyone but surviving spouses whose dues are \$10 annually). Dues payments for 2022 should be paid now. Look elsewhere in this edition of the Sentinel for how to pay your dues, please. Check with me at fielgr869@gmail.com if you have questions about your status/currency.

I'll be looking forward to seeing you at our next membership meeting on Saturday March 26th. Please note, this is on the 4th Saturday of March vice the 3rd Saturday – just this month!

Your Board of Directors is working to revitalize our chapter's web site <https://www.azmoaa.org/>. Chapter updates can also be found on our Facebook site <https://www.facebook.com/MOAA-Arizona-Chapter-447512835442939>, We're always looking for member suggestions on ways to improve things. Feel free to write to any of our Board members or officers with your suggestions!

Until the next time,
Warm Regards,
Bob



Arizona Chapter MOAA Membership DUES RENEWAL FORM

2022 DUES are payable on JANUARY 1. Dues become DELINQUENT on March 1, 2022.

If you become delinquent, you can still pay your Past Dues by completing your information below and send it with your check — **\$20/year for a Regular Member** or **\$10/year for a Surviving Spouse Member** payable to "AZ Chapter MOAA" and mail to: **Charlie Bitner, 134 E. Northview Ave, Phoenix, AZ 85020.**

Dues for **2021** \$ _____ Dues for **2022** \$ _____

Member OR Surviving Spouse Member _____

Spouse Name _____

Please make any CHANGES to your Contact Information below:

Address: _____

Phone number: _____ Email: _____

**President's Perspective Continued from
Page 1**

We only have three more luncheons before our summer break. In March we have a great program addressing Surviving Spouse issues. Our Surviving Spouse presentation will be valuable information for all.

The Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame Patriotic Awards Luncheon where awards are presented to all who support Veterans will be held on Friday, April 1, 2022. Information on Page 11 of this Sentinel.

April is also our traditional ROTC Scholarship Awards and it is always great seeing our Scholarship Fund dollars at work supporting our military leaders of the future. We look forward to a large turnout for both.

Thanks to everyone who has contributed to our recent recruiting successes. Let's continue our momentum right through our next three months and continue building our Chapter rolls.

Honored and humbled to serve.

Tom Sheets, President
AZ Chapter Military Officers Association
of America



MARCH 26 Member Luncheon Meeting Reservation Form

Please reserve _____ meals for name(s): _____

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____ (\$30.00/person) for the **March 26** Member Luncheon Meeting payable to: **AZ Chapter MOAA** and mailed to arrive by **March 22, 2022** to: **Charles Bitner, 134 E. Northview Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85020**, or contact: **Charles@Bitner36.com, 602-943-0028**. Credit cards will not be accepted.

**Member reservations or call-ins WILL NOT be accepted after
March 22, 2022 @ 4pm**

Cancellations after March 22, 2022 at 4 pm will be charged and not refunded.



March 26th, 2022 (please note the date)

“Forward to the Future, We are Prepared”

Linda Wolverton

Chair of the Luke Chapter MOAA Surviving Spouse Program



Our speaker for March has amassed an amazing amount on information on casualty assistance for all services when a military spouse passes. This is material we all should have in our files ready when the time comes. She will be sharing this with us so please plan to attend.

Linda Wolverton, Surviving Spouse, is the Chair of the Luke Chapter MOAA Surviving Spouse Program in Goodyear, AZ, and developed the new Surviving Spouse Program for Luke Chapter MOAA. She graduated from the University of Alabama with a focus on clinical care and Pepperdine where she focused on Healthcare Law. She is retired as Chief Compliance Officer from TeamHealth, one of Fortune's "World's Most Admired Companies."

Linda worked in the Healthcare field for 54 years. Her talents range from Corporate Compliance, Health Information technology, Case Management, Health Care Risk Management, and Medical Audit (now called Performance Improvement), to Federal, State, and Medical Research Compliance.

Because of her family members' military service (Army, Navy, and Air Force), she has moved 63 times throughout the nation, beginning in Annapolis and ending in Fort Huachuca, AZ. Linda married LTC Phillip Hukill and followed his career until his retirement and death in 2015.

Phillip is interred in Arlington National Cemetery.



March 26th, 2022 – meeting date

McCormick Ranch Golf Club

Luncheon \$30 – Please RSVP by March 22nd with check to Charlie Bitner 134 E. Northview Ave. Phoenix 85020

by email: Charles@bitner36.com

Or contact Charlie at 602-943-0028

March 26 Luncheon/Meeting

- DATE:** March 26, 2022
11:00-11:45 am Meet & Greet Social Hour
11:45 am-12:00 pm Pledge, Invocation, Announcements
12:00-2:00pm Lunch and Program
- PLACE:** McCormick Ranch Golf Club
7505 E McCormick Pkwy, Scottsdale, AZ 85258
- COST:** \$30 Per Person
Reservations by 4 PM 3.22.2022
- DRESS:** Business Casual
- MENU:** Beef Stir-fry with Shaved Vegetable, Ginger Sticky Rice,
McCormick Signature Salad, Strawberry Cheese Cake
- PROGRAM:** Linda Wolverton, Chair of the Luke Chapter MOAA Surviving Spouse Program
"Forward to the Future, We are Prepared"



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Personal Affairs

By Lee Lange



End of Life Documents – What Does That Mean?

Barbara Bowman, a member of MOAA's Spouse Advisory Council describes important documents we all need now. Most people would list among end-of-life documents a will, a trust, an advance health care directive, a DNR (do not resuscitate) order, and a durable power of attorney. But the list of documents that deal with end-of-life issues is much longer. Deeds to real property, beneficiary declaration for life insurance and investments, and the signature cards to bank accounts are all end-of-life documents. They determine who gets what and through which legal procedure when someone dies.

Fortunately, MOAA has created an informative guide to help create an end-of-life plan. It's called [Help Your Survivors Now: A Guide to Planning Ahead](#). It is available online on MOAA's website for Premium and Life members.

Look over this publication and use the included checklist as a guide. Gather legal documents you already have, including will, trust documents, health care directives, powers of attorney, beneficiary designations, asset inventory, deeds, military papers, instructions to access digital accounts and contact information for family.

Consult professionals — your lawyer (estate planner), accountant, insurance agent, financial advisor — to help put together the plan, and then review, update, redraft, and re-execute documents, lists, and paperwork when needed. Make sure your spouse takes part in this process.

At least once a year, review and update the plan. Have circumstances changed? Do the documents do what they are intended to do? Have state or federal laws affecting any of these documents changed? Have state or federal

laws affecting any of these documents changed? Are lists of assets current? Are titles to real estate, bank accounts and vehicles, correct? Are beneficiary designations still good?

Discuss your plan with your spouse or those who hold your health care proxy, powers of attorney, and other authority over your person and property. Put documents in a safe place, but accessible by those in whom you have placed your trust.

Be proactive, initiate talking. End-of-life documents are, in reality, life's documents. Deal with them now. Join us at our March 26 Arizona Chapter, MOAA meeting where our speaker, Linda Wolverton, a surviving spouse, will have more to say on these important matters.

H.R. 3402—Caring for Survivors Act of 2021 —

Is a companion bill, introduced in the House by Representatives Jahana Hayes (CT) and Lois Frankel (FL). This bipartisan legislation would ease the eligibility criteria for Dependency Indemnity Compensation (DIC) to allow additional survivors to receive the benefit and would increase the monthly amount to match benefits provided by other federal survivor programs. Specifically, the measure would:

- increase the amount of DIC to 55% of the rate of monthly compensation received by a totally disabled veteran; and
- Expand eligibility for DIC by replacing the 10-year rule with a graduated scale of benefits that begins at five years for initial eligibility at 50% and gradually reaches the full benefit at 10 years after determination of disability. For example, if a veteran is rated as totally disabled for five years and dies of a nonservice-connected cause, their survivor would be entitled to 50% of the DIC benefit.

This can be accessed from the MOAA.org website in the "Take Action Center." You may also call your Senators and ask them to consider becoming a co-sponsor:

Senator Sinema: 1.602.598.7327

Senator Kelly: 1.502-475-5171



Federal Legislative Update

by Lee Lange, Legislative Chair

Federal Budget Delay Means Disaster for Servicemembers and Military Families

Last month I wrote about the negative impacts of funding the Federal budget with Continuing Resolutions (CR). On Sept. 30, 2021, the president signed into law a CR to finance the government in FY 2022 at the previous year's levels, but only through December 3, 2021. With controversial politics and polarizing issues distracting Congress, many on Capitol Hill knew this was not enough time for both sides to see a way forward.

On December 3, Congress faced the deadline again. Congress pushed the same CR solution through to the president, who signed just in time to again extend funding, this time to midnight February 18, 2022.

And here we are again.

On February 8, the House passed their third CR. The Senate did the same on February 17 and the president signed it on February 18, extending government funding to March 11. The signals from Capitol Hill and the media still indicate a long-term solution is no closer than before – even including talks about a possible CR to extend through the rest of this fiscal year. This failure of legislators is crazy in a dangerous world with the troops paying most of the price of inaction. The time to pass an actual budget is now.

Please contact your elected officials using MOAA's toll-free congressional hotline, 1-866-272-6622, to share this important message – pass a full year budget now. Or use [this link to our Legislative Action Center](#) to send a letter to their offices.

State Legislature Continues Work

The Arizona state legislature has been at work since January 13, 2022 and there are several bills of interest affecting veterans in Arizona.

HB 2344 Military Affairs Commission Continuation:

Continues the Governor's Military Affairs for 8 years for the purposes of monitoring military issues in this state, including matters affecting the military installations. Primary Sponsor: Rep. Kevin Payne, R-Dist. 21. Major Actions: Jan 20, 2022- First Read and assigned to the House Military Affairs & Public Safety and Rules Committees. Passed by committees on Jan 31 and Feb 7, respectively. Passed by House on Feb 19 and transmitted to senate.

SB 1249 homeowners' associations/uniformed service flag:

Prohibits a planned community or condominium homeowners' associations from banning the display of a flag of the uniformed services by the unit or homeowner on that owner's property. Current statute allows the display of the United States Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps or Coast Guard. SB1249 replaces the enumeration with "flags of the uniformed services." Primary Sponsor: Sen. David Gowan, R-Dist. 14. Major Actions: 20 Jan 2022- First Read and assigned to the Senate Government and Rules Committees. Passed by committees on Feb 3 and Feb 8, respectively. Passed by Senate Feb 10 and sent to House.

SB1406 excused military absences, higher education:

Provides protection for students, in public or private institutions, from incurring unexcused absences due to military duty. Allows for withdrawals, if necessary, without penalty. Primary Sponsor: Sen. David Gowan, R-Dist. 14. Major Actions: 27 Jan 2022 - First Read and assigned to the Senate Education and Rules Committees. Amended and passed by Education Committee Feb 15. Approved by Rules Committee Feb 21. Awaiting Senate floor action.



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Who Can Join MOAA?

Men and women who are or have been federally-commissioned in one of the seven U.S. uniformed services:

- Army
- Navy
- Air Force
- Marine Corps
- Coast Guard
- Space Force
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
- Public Health Services
- The National Guard
- or other Reserve Components of those services

Widows and widowers of deceased individuals who would, if living, be eligible for regular membership in accordance with the above.

ARIZONA CHAPTER

Military Officers Association of America

CALENDAR

Board of Directors Meetings

First Thursday of each month

March 3, 2022

the American Legion Post 44
7145 E 2nd Street
Scottsdale, AZ 85251

Member Luncheon/Meetings

Third Saturday of each month

Unless it's the FOURTH Saturday in March:

March 26, 2022

McCormick Ranch Golf Club
7505 E McCormick Pkwy
Scottsdale, AZ 85258

Reservations Required



February Speakers

Alessandra Sheets and Brian Hartman
 (Scottsdale Police Department)
 On "How to Protect Yourself and Your Home from Crime"

Our February speakers were Alessandra Sachs and Brian Hartman from the Scottsdale Police Department presenting information on "How to Protect Yourself and Your Home from Crime".

They gave us many tips for preventing burglaries from our automobiles and made the point that most preventative measures are common sense, but we must think about them and take action.

Residential burglaries were presented as usually being random and crimes of opportunity. We should always be on the lookout in our neighborhoods for "suspicious activity" by people and/or vehicles casing our homes. Package theft is one of the most common crimes in our neighborhoods. Alessandra and Brian discussed ways of preventing package theft such as checking your package delivery status and shipping the package to another location.

Identity theft and pickpocket theft were also discussed with countermeasures that can be taken.



Alessandra Sachs (SPD), Tom Sheets (President of AZ MOAA) and Brian Hartman (SPD)

Arizona Chapter MOAA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

ELIGIBILITY: Men and women who are or have been federally commissioned in one of the seven U.S. uniformed services (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard), or NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration) or U.S. Public Health Services, the National Guard or other Reserve Components of those services, and Surviving Spouses of deceased individuals who would, if living, be eligible for regular membership as defined above.

Full Name: _____

Spouse Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone #: _____ E-Mail address: _____

Branch of Service: _____ Rank: _____

Service Status: Active (includes Reserve/National Guard) Retired
 Former Officer Warrant Officer
 Surviving spouse of deceased MOAA member OR eligible individual

Date of Birth _____

Are you a Member of National MOAA: Yes _____ No _____ Your MOAA Number is: _____

If you are not currently a member of National MOAA, you may request membership at moaa.org

_____ Or you may request the AZ Chapter Membership Chairperson, Bob Fiegl, to enroll you

for a no-cost Basic Membership for 3 Years.

Chapter Dues are \$20.00 per year for a Regular Member and \$10 for a Surviving Spouse.

Dues for new members joining: Jan 1–Jun 30 = **\$20**. Jul 1 – Dec 31 = **\$20** (includes following year paid in full).

Amount enclosed: \$ _____ Please mail check payable to AZMOAA with completed application to:

Treasurer Charlie Bitner, 134 E. Northview Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85020

How did you learn about the Arizona Chapter? AZ MOAA Website *The Sentinel* Newsletter
 AZMOAA Member Membership Chairman Other (_____)

Applicant Signature _____ Date _____



The Patriotic Awards Luncheon celebrates the recognition of non-military individuals and private institutions whose actions have contributed significantly to the benefit and well-being of our military, our veterans, their families, and survivors. Arizona high school seniors and veteran students will be presented scholarships acknowledging their academic achievements, patriotism and service to their country and community.

2022 HONOREES

- Copper Sword:** Debra Lee – America’s Mighty Warriors
- Copper Eagle:** Ability Center of Phoenix
- Copper Shield:** Senator J.D. Mesnard
- Copper Star:** Jen Miles, Mayor, Kingman, AZ
- Scholarships:** Veterans and Veterans Heritage Project

Friday, April 1, 2022

Doubletree Resort by Hilton Hotel Paradise Valley – Scottsdale 5401
 North Scottsdale Road Scottsdale, Arizona 85205

Room Registration Call 1-866-866-8107; AZV is the Group code
 Use this link to register under the room block: [RESERVATIONS](#)
 (Room Rate of \$159.00 plus tax per night/Double Occupancy)

Reception 11 AM, Lunch and Program 12 PM – 2 PM

Convenient Self-Parking or Complimentary Valet * No-host Bar * Event Photographer on Site
 Standard Meal is Chicken. Vegetarian Meal available upon request - All meals include salad, vegetables, dessert.

Early Bird Registration Prices Through March 10th AVHOFS Member & One Guest \$45 each / Non-Members \$55 each	Absolutely No Purchases at the Door * No Refunds after March 25 *
Last-Chance Registration Prices March 11- March 25 AVHOFS Member & One Guest \$55 each / Non-Members \$65 each	

Note: Attendee acknowledges the risks of Covid-19 transmission/infection, and by purchase of ticket and/or attendance of event agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the AVHOFS, agents or assigns.

[Register for event online](#) OR complete this form and mail with your check to
 Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame Society, 4980 S. Alma School Road, Ste. A2-619, Chandler AZ 85248

Contact Name: _____ **AVHOF Member** **Yes** **No**
Address: _____
City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip Code:** _____
Email: _____ **Phone:** _____

Your name and name(s)of guests who you would like to sit with	Meal Choice		ADA or Mobility Seating needed?	
	Standard	Vegetarian	YES	NO
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Special Dietary Needs or Food Allergies? _____

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