



# The Sentinel



Arizona's First Chapter

THE ARIZONA CHAPTER, P.O. Box 7644, Cave Creek, AZ 85327

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CHARTERED IN 1956 - OVER 40 YEARS OF SERVICE TO COUNTRY

APRIL 2002

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The tour of the Champlin Fighter Aircraft Museum turned out to be very enjoyable and I learned several things. What comes to mind first is how to counter the effects of Castor Oil with Plum Brandy! The second lesson was that there was no way to do the tour of the Museum justice in just one day. I will have to go back again to look at all the pictures and read all the accompanying words. As it was, I had circuit overload when I left around 3:00 PM. All I can say is that I'm sad to see the Museum leave the Valley.



Mark your calendars early for a change of the meeting night in October. When I returned from California there was a call waiting from the Luke Retiree Activities Office. It turns out that Luke is sponsoring the Retiree Appreciation Day on October 26<sup>th</sup> and they are getting a TROA representative to be their featured speaker. By changing our meeting date he can speak at the Luke Chapter's meeting the 24<sup>th</sup>, our meeting the 25<sup>th</sup>, and at the retirement meeting on the 26<sup>th</sup>. During this time frame our chapter is to be the organizer of the fall Council of Chapters meeting. If he is not already overwhelmed, I have suggested that we hold the Council of Chapters meeting on the 25<sup>th</sup> and invite the TROA representative to address the Council. Plans are being made for that schedule.

I had planned to write an article on patriotism and proper flag etiquette, however, I did not get the time to do the required research. Right now my plans are to write the article and do an insert for the May Sentinel. One of the biggest violations I have seen is a United States flag folded around the spare tire on an SUV. We have all seen the flags flying from all locations on vehicles. From what I have read, there are special brackets for the front fenders and that is the only proper place for them to be displayed on a vehicle. As I said, this will take some research and coordination. Good intentions

may not always be proper etiquette.

It is hoped that we will have a good turnout at the April meeting. Our speaker, Brigadier General Connolly and I were stationed together four different times while we were in the Air Force. He is now over all the AF Retirement Affairs Offices (RAO) for the AF bases in Arizona and New Mexico. There are many stories that we can tell about the good times that we had together, but that is probably better left to private conversations.

It appears that we have gotten our foot in the door, as some funding is being proposed for the 2003 Budget for Concurrent Receipt. I checked and if you haven't sent the cards in that were attached to your last TROA magazine - please do so with your added postscript. Dan Conway will include the latest word on this issue in his legislative affairs coverage. Please read the complete Sentinel so that you don't miss the status of this very important issue.

*Ronald R. Green*

LtCol (Ret) USAF  
President, Arizona Chapter TROA

## Membership

We have just finished finalizing the chapter roster, and the end result is included as an insert in this Sentinel. Each of you should check to make sure the information concerning your data is correct. If there are changes, bring them to my attention at: rddeane@aol.com or via telephone: 623-939-8517. *Raymond Deane, Membership*

## Scholarship

In case you wonder how our scholarships to JROTC cadets are utilized, please read the below correspondence from one of last year's recipients from the Apollo High School NJROTC program.

*"Dear LtCol Deane:*

*Last year, you and the Arizona Chapter of The Retired Officers Association honored me with a scholarship along with three other students. I wanted to again convey my thanks and give you an update on my education. This fall, I attended Northwestern Preparatory School in*

## Arizona Chapter Calendar

**April 4**  
Board of Directors Meeting

**April 6**  
US Entry WWI  
1917

**April 7**  
Daylight Savings  
Time Begins

**April 18**  
Dinner Meeting

**April 30**  
US Army  
Founded 1789

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SUPPORT OUR TROOPS — REMEMBER OUR FALLEN COMRADES — FLY YOUR FLAG

California with the help of your scholarship and a Falcon Foundation Scholarship. My goal was to improve my SAT scores and make myself more competitive for an appointment to the U.S. Air Force Academy. I am happy to say that I was successful at both. My latest SAT score was 630-Verbal and 800-Math and I just received an appointment to the U.S. Air Force Academy Class of 2006.

I will be joining my classmates in Colorado Springs on June 27, 2002 to begin the most exciting challenge of my life. The Scholarship you awarded to me was instrumental in helping me achieve this goal and I sincerely appreciate your assistance and your faith in me.

Thank you again for the opportunity. I hope to make you very proud of me in the future as I serve my country as an Air Force Officer.

Sincerely, Eric A. Ross"

Please note that it is not too late to volunteer to be a presenter at one of the fifteen awards ceremonies scheduled in April and May of this year. Contact me via telephone, Raymond Deane - 623-939-8517 and we can discuss where you would like to participate.

Raymond Deane, Scholarship

### TAPS

We regret to inform you of the passing of one of our fellow members:

**Auxiliary Member Violet L. Tallent**  
October 5, 1927 – September 20, 2001

Our heart felt condolences are extended to the family. If you know of any member or member's spouse who enters the hospital or passes away, please notify any of the Chapter Officers so we may take the appropriate action.

### Legislation

In the week ending March 22nd, the House Budget Committee made history by including over half-a-billion dollars in its FY 2003 Budget Resolution, as an initial down payment toward eventually ending the dollar-for-dollar offset of military retired pay for VA disability compensation. On Wednesday, the full House passed its version of the Budget Resolution, which included partial funding.

On Thursday, the Senate Budget Committee drafted its own version of the Budget Resolution, and followed the House's lead on the concurrent receipt funding. The committee's action, on top of that already taken by the House, virtually assures that some real progress will be made in FY 2003.

In discussions with TROA National, it was learned that current legislation is directed toward the 70% and greater disabled, with elimination of the current 4-year limit. This looks like real progress. We will be calling on all of you for your letters, post cards, calls and emails to make this happen.

Dan Conway, Legislative

## Unified Arizona Veterans (UAV)

At the March 2nd UAV meeting, a Coast Guard Flag was presented to the Arizona Department of Veterans Services by the Arizona Chapter to fly over the State Capital on Coast Guard Day, which is August 4th. Coast Guard veterans Jim Seidl, Dan Conway, and John Gerometta plus USAF veteran Frank Birtciel paid for the flag. Frank claims that we were never on Ocean Station position, but despite this he was able to get to Spain with our inaccurate fixes. He contributed to the flag anyway.

It was announced that day care for veterans will be available at the Veterans Home starting April 15th at a cost of \$8.00 per hour or \$50.00 per day for those veterans who need such care. This could be a real break for caregivers who would like a day off. Please share this information with those you know in such circumstances.

Dan Conway

### NOTICE OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO BYLAWS

**Article XI - Amendments**, provides for Chapter bylaws to be amended as follows:

**Section 1.** The bylaws may be amended, repealed, or altered in whole or in part by a two-thirds vote of the membership present at any duly organized meeting of the Chapter, providing that a copy of any amendment proposed for consideration has been mailed to each member qualified to vote at least 15 days before the meeting.

Notice is hereby given that a motion will be made at the April membership meeting to amend **Article X - Committees**, to add a scholarship committee to standing committees by adding the words shown in **bold type** to **Section 2.** as follows:

The standing committees of the Chapter shall include membership, programs, **scholarship**, arrangements, legislative, and personal affairs. The membership committee shall secure new members to strengthen the organization. The program committee shall be responsible for suitable programs for all meetings. **The scholarship committee shall be responsible for the TROA ROTC Medals program, and the Chapter's Scholarship Program.** The arrangements committee shall be responsible for making proper arrangements for all meetings. The legislative committee shall protect the rights and privileges of members by maintaining close contact with current and proposed legislative actions, will advise members accordingly, and will recommend action. The personal affairs committee will advise members and families of deceased members when in need as to their rights and privileges, and will assist members in securing veterans' and other benefits. Special committee assignments shall consist of a chaplain, historian, photographer, and newsletter editor in addition to other assignments, which might be advisable.

Dan Conway

### Chaplain's Corner

Heavenly Father, Thou canst strengthen me for every experience; I am resolved to rely upon Thee, to believe even where I cannot see, to say, " Thy will be done", and in that prayer to be content. Amen

Robert Rutherford, Chaplain

### April Dinner Meeting

WHEN: 6:30PM – 18 April 2002  
 WHERE: Best Western Executive Park Hotel  
 1100 N. Central Avenue  
 Phoenix, Arizona  
 COST: \$17.00 Per Person  
 MENU: Italian Salad  
 Chicken Parmesan  
 Bowtie Pasta  
 Sautéed Zucchini & Mushrooms  
 Bread Sticks  
 Carrot Cake  
 Coffee & Iced Tea  
 Wine by the bottle available, \$14

PROGRAM: BG Keith B. Connolly USA (Ret),  
 Retiree Offices, State of Arizona

Please make your reservations early and send your check to Bill Johnson using the Meal/Meeting Reservation Form in this newsletter.

*Jim Seidl, Programs*

### Dinner Guest Speaker

General Connolly entered the Air Force in 1956 when he entered Aviation Cadets. He was assigned to a multitude of fighter pilot assignments and flew the F-86, F-100, F-4, F-15 and F-16. He also took time to pull duty stints as a Forward Air Controller with the Army and spent a tour on the Joint Chief's of Staff in Washington, D.C.

General Connolly is now retired and lives in Tucson, Arizona. He is the District Representative for Area 3 and as such is over all the Air Force Retiree Activity Offices (RAO) in the states of Arizona and New Mexico. He will

be talking about the involvement of the RAOs in retiree activities, TRICARE for Life and other issues of interest to our members.

### Spring Golf Tournament

The "Spring TROA Weekend Golf Tournament" will be held at the Rolling Hills Golf Course, 1415 N. Mill Avenue, Tempe, Arizona on Saturday, 27 April for members of the Arizona Chapter of TROA and their guests. First tee off at 0900. Please send Entry Form and \$25 to tournament director, Bernie Conway, 5737 N. 79th Way, Scottsdale, AZ 85250 to arrive no later than 22 April 2002. Fee will cover \$23 for 'walking green fees', and \$2.00 for the prize fund. Carts will be available at \$10.00 per person, payable at the golf course. Make checks payable to Bernie Conway. My credit union will not cash checks made out to TROA. Let me know if you are a Tempe resident and I will have a few more dollars available for the prize fund because Tempe residents get a discount on this golf course.

The timing of this notice should give Ron Green plenty of time to get his clubs dusted off, and Dan Conway time to get "THE HAT" out of the locked trophy case, in hopes someone else may guard it for the next six months.

*Bernie Conway, Morale Officer*

### Survivor Benefits Program Inquiry

I am a member of the AFA, a recent widow and am now under the military Survivor Benefits Program (SBP). I would like to talk to other widows or widowers that have been living under the SBP and could share with me their likes or dislikes or changes they would like to see. Please contact me. Jacqueline Querns, (480)832-3260 or email [SkyjacqueQ1@aol.com](mailto:SkyjacqueQ1@aol.com).

### CHAPTER FINANCIAL PARTICIPATION

If you would like to make a donation to one or more of the AZ Chapter Funds or renew your chapter membership, include your check identified as the appropriate fund and mail to: Bill Johnson, 13410 N. 12th Place, Phoenix, AZ 85022-4944.

Membership Renewal: \$ 20 Full Member \_\_\_\_\_ \$10 Auxiliary Member \_\_\_\_\_ 50th Anniversary Fund: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 General Fund : \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Scholarship Fund: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\* It is OK to identify me as a donor in the next newsletter. YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

Name Full Member: \_\_\_\_\_ Auxiliary Member: \_\_\_\_\_

### SPRING GOLF TOURNAMENT ENTRY FORM

This is your entry form for the Spring Golf Tmx which will be held on **Saturday, 27 April 2002** at the Rolling Hills Golf Course. First Tee Time is 0900. Entry fee is \$25 (walking). Electric Carts available at course for \$10 per person. Make checks payable to: Bernie Conway and mail to reach Bernie **NLT 22 April. Mail to: Bernie Conway, 5737 N. 79th Way, Scottsdale, AZ 85250.**

Name Member: \_\_\_\_\_ Name Guest(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tempe Resident(s): YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_ Total Fees Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

### MEAL/MEETING RESERVATION FORM

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ spaces for (Name) \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ \$17.00 per person for **18 April 2002**

Make check payable to: **AZ Chapter TROA** No Later Than: **15 April 2002**

Send to Bill Johnson, 13410 12th Place, Phoenix, AZ 85022-4944. Phone 602-689-5379 (Office)  
 Phone 602-942-4549 (Home)

## The Dignity Memorial Vietnam Wall

19 – 21 April 2002

Green Acres Mortuary and Cemetery, located at 401 N. Hayden Rd. Scottsdale, AZ has been selected as one of 23 sites across the nation to showcase a 240-foot, three-quarter sized replica of the Vietnam Wall in Washington, D.C.

The Wall contains more than 58,000 names and is dedicated to all Americans who served in Vietnam. It also honors all Veterans of the United States Armed Forces.

### Objectives:

This project was developed in an effort to give all Americans an opportunity to have The Vietnam Wall Experience, even though they may not have the chance to visit the original memorial in Washington, D.C.

One of the primary objectives is to increase awareness in the community. The Wall is our gift to help heal a nation.

To insure that the spirit and intent of The Wall Experience be carefully orchestrated to project a sincere, sensitive, and caring attitude to the Vietnam heroes, their families, and the general public,

The purpose of bringing The Wall to Arizona is simple. This replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall is intended to provide opportunities for people to share their unforgettable experiences of remembering, learning, healing, pride and honor.

### The Arizona Chapter TROA - 2002 Officers and Committee Chairmen

President, LtCol Ron Green, USAF	480-595-8693
1st Vice President, LtCol Raymond Deane USAF	623-939-8517
2nd Vice President, LT Jim Seidl, USCG	602-841-6026
3rd Vice President, LtCol Chet Baumer, USAF	623-582-8595
Secretary, LCDR Terry Tassin, USN	623-931-1546
Treasurer, Maj Bill Johnson, USAF	602-942-4549
Past President, Col Charles Schluter, USA	480-563-8480

### Appointed Directors at Large / Committee Chairmen

Membership, LtCol Raymond Deane, USAF	623-939-8517
Legislative, CAPT Dan Conway, USCGR	480-368-1427
Programs, LT Jim Seidl, USCG	602-841-6026
Sentinel Editor, LCDR Terry Tassin, USN	623-931-1546
Web Master, Maj Ron Drew, USAF	602-493-8806
TOPS Liaison, LtCol Bernie Conway, USAF	480-994-0440
Chaplin/Pers Affairs, LTC Bob Rutherford, USA	602-944-4224
Historian/Photographer, LtCol Bill Adams, USAF	480-483-3180
Morale, LtCol Bernie Conway, USAF	480-994-0440
50th Anniversary, LtCol Chet Baumer, USAF	623-582-8595
Scholarships, LtCol Raymond Deane, USAF	623-939-8517
Advertising, Col Charles Schluter, USA	480-563-8480
Electronic Communications, LtCol R. Deane	623-939-8517

This will be the ONLY showing of The Wall in the State of Arizona

Additional Information can be found at:

[www.vietnamwallexperience.com](http://www.vietnamwallexperience.com)

Phone: (480) 945-2654

Fax: (480) 945-4308

The Retired Officers Association  
Arizona Chapter  
P.O. Box 7644  
Cave Creek, AZ 85327



Show Your Colors By  
Proudly Displaying The  
Arizona 'Veteran Plate'  
On Your Vehicle.  
Show How Veterans  
Help Veterans.