



The Sentinel

Arizona's First Chapter



The Arizona Chapter, 15403 E. Sunburst Drive, Fountain Hills, Arizona 85268

SEPTEMBER 2004 CHARTERED IN 1956 - OVER 48 YEARS OF SERVICE TO COUNTRY EDITOR: Terry Tassin



President's Message

Where does time go? This summer has just seemed to fly by. It seems like only last week that I was sitting down to write the last article before our summer break in June. We were personally fortunate to have some very enjoyable trips out of town during the past two months. I'm sure that's how time managed to fly by so quickly. Anyway, I hope you enjoyed the time as much as I did.

During our Chapter's summer break I note that National was still hard at work looking after our welfare. In particular there has been significant energy expended attempting to get the best possible language in the FY2005 Defense Authorization Bill on elimination of the age 62 SBP annuity reduction, immediate concurrent receipt of military retired pay and VA disability compensation for those with disabilities, and health care for the Selected Reserve. National is soliciting our help in gaining our legislator's support. You can make your voice heard by using the Action Alerts on MOAA's Web site (<http://capwiz.com/moaa/home/>). I also, just received in the mail from National a survey to be completed on Chapter/National relations. The last question is "What could the national leadership of MOAA do to make your job as a chapter leader easier?" I have some ideas, but would also like to hear some of your comments. If you have any, drop me an email at gfredricks@aol.com.

We think that we have an excellent and varied set of Chapter general membership meetings on tap for the rest of the year. At least for the present time, we will continue to alternate luncheon and dinner meetings. The next meeting will be a luncheon on September

18 at McCormick Ranch. We will have a speaker, and that will be the final guest speaker for this calendar year. We will then try something new and different for our October dinner. That will be at the Sunshine Hotel and will be an Oktoberfest theme complete with an authentic menu, entertainment and dancing if you choose. This would also be a great time to introduce potential new members to the Chapter. So, be thinking about whom you might induce to attend. November will be our annual business luncheon meeting for Chapter business reports and the election of officers for 2005 (Oh, by the way, any volunteers?) And finally, December will be our annual Silent Auction dinner, which is our chief fund raiser for our very important Scholarship Program.

Please don't take the "request for volunteers" lightly. In addition to some known committee chairperson losses, we need to plan to fill Board of Director (BOD) positions for next year. In this newsletter you will see the proposed changes to our bylaws that we hope will change the structure of the BOD and make it more flexible. Board positions now consist of a president, three vice-presidents (all with specific tasks), a secretary, a treasurer, an immediate past president and designated committee chairpersons. We hope to change this to a president, two vice presidents (nonspecific tasks), a secretary, a treasurer, an immediate past president and five directors. I would particularly invite some of our newer members to think seriously about this. I know that some of you I have met lately would be exceptional candidates.

— Gary Fredricks

Octoberfest Alert

by Ron Green

This is an alert to all members to our first ever Oktoberfest that will be held in conjunction with the October dinner at the Sunshine Hotel on **October 21st**. Please mark this date on your calendar so that you don't encounter a schedule conflict. We hope you bring guests (consisting of friends and/or relatives or prospective members) to this event. Live entertainment will be provided by the Arizona Button Accordion Band. A picture of some of the people that comprise the band is shown below along with a description of the instruments they play. I listened to them last year when they played at the Oktoberfest at my Church and if I shut my eyes I would have sworn I was in Germany. They also play at normal dance events so your input will be requested on repeat performances. A dance floor will be available and you may trip the "light fantastic" if you so desire. If you want a dance demonstrated, wives of the group will be along to provide an exhibition.



The Arizona Button Accordion Band plus a bass guitar and drummer is led by Bill Regina. The group specializes in playing waltzes, schottisches, fox-trots, polkas, plus swing and Latin tunes. The band members play Slovenian style instruments manufactured in and around Austria.

Arizona Chapter Calendar

- Sep 2**
 - BOD Meeting 1:30, American Legion 107
- Sep 18**
 - General luncheon Meeting
- Oct 7**
 - BOD Meeting 1:30, American Legion 107
- Oct 21**
 - General Dinner Meeting
- Oct 30**
 - Golf Tournament Rolling Hills GC

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

Chaplain's Corner

"Bless the Lord, for his guidance is good and we need to observe his word. Now, may He keep our minds clear and deliberate in our control in Iraq and Afghanistan and may the Iraq government achieve a just and fair settlement." Amen"

—Robert Rutherford, Chaplain

Fall Golf Tournament

by Bernie Conway

The Fall MOAA Golf Tournament will be held on Oct 30, 2004 at the Rolling Hills golf course. First tee time will be at 0800, with a \$30.00 entry fee. Reservation forms will be included in the Oct Sentinel. Save the date, and work on your game.

Raffle Winners

Congratulations to the following members who were winners in the "50/50" raffle held at the June meeting: Betty Green and Mike Gannon.

New Members

Welcome to new Chapter members since the last newsletter

CAPT Carol C. Culbertson USNR (Ret) and husband Claude

12241 N. 26th Way
Phoenix, AZ 85032-7910
Tele: (602) 943-7834

E-mail: carolculbertson@earthlink.net

CAPT John E. Vinson USN (Ret) and wife Marilyn

5538 W. Misty Willow Lane
Glendale, AZ 85310-3613
Tele: (623) 580-4944

E-mail: jvinson@rmin.riss.net

LTC Terry Cox USA (Ret) and wife Valen

7878 N. 16th St Suite 250, Phoenix, AZ 85020, 602-995-7700

E-mail: tcox@abrazohealth.com

Terry and Valen relocated from Tallahassee, FL. He is a retired Medical Service Corps officer and is still actively working in the medical administration field.

Please take the opportunity to meet our new members at the next meeting.

Membership

Currently the AZ Chapter has 183 members including, 45 auxiliary members and 11 new members for 2004.

September Luncheon Meeting

Saturday, 18 September -

McCormick Ranch Golf Club

The next Chapter meeting is set for Saturday, 18 September at McCormick Ranch Golf Club. Bring a friend to our meeting and introduce them to a great group of people. The meeting will start with a social time at 11:30 a.m., with lunch served at 12:00 Noon. The reservation form is located on page 7 of this newsletter. The deadline for reservations to reach Bill Johnson is 13 September. Come join us for good food and comradeship.

Some future Chapter meeting dates are listed here for your planning purposes. Please put them on your calendar as a reminder!

BOD Meeting - 7 Oct - Post 107

Dinner/Oktoberfest - 21 Oct - Sunshine Hotel

BOD Meeting - 4 Nov - Post 107

Lunch Meeting - 20 Nov-McCormick Ranch

BOD Meeting - 2 Dec - Post 107

Dinner - 16 Dec - Sunshine Hotel

Membership

by Ron Green

The Chapter membership has increased to 183 with 45 Auxiliary members. However, the Auxiliary members will be reduced to 44 on 3 September when Dolly Bleck moves to California. The Chapter is going to miss her and her punch bowl at each Chapter meeting when she would pressure us for Scholarship donations (her cookies and cake also will be missed at the Board of Directors Meetings). I want to remind you that you need to reserve October 21st on your calendar and come to the Chapter Dinner which this year will be an Oktoberfest. A very German sounding band - as noted in the Alert message elsewhere in this *Sentinel* is playing and I think you will like it. This will be a 2005 membership promotion night. Membership renewal forms will be in the October *Sentinel*.

Silent Auction

by Dan Conway

It is that time of year to start thinking

ALL VETERANS 'SUPPORT OUR TROOPS' RALLY

Saturday, October 23, 2004

9:00 a.m. - Noon

Wesley Bolin Plaza, 17th Avenue and Jefferson, Phoenix, AZ

Numerous veterans' organization representatives and dignitaries will address veterans in appreciation for their service to our country. Opening ceremonies will include a Parade of Colors. There will be a mass Posting of the Colors and the laying of wreaths at each Memorial with a special tribute to the Vietnam Veterans, speakers, music and a "fly-over".

The keynote speaker will be Lt. General Ricardo Sanchez, former commander of American troops in Iraq, and the highest ranking Hispanic officer in the Army. Representing Anthony Principi, Secretary of Veterans Affairs, Washington, DC, will be Deputy Secretary of Veterans Affairs, Gordon Macy. Dignitaries and representatives from Arizona will include Governor Janet Napolitano, Pat Chorpensing, Director of the Arizona Department of Veterans Services, and Peter Van Haren, Chairman of the Phoenix Military Veterans Commission.

For further information, call (602) 973-5004 or go to WWW.LULACVETERANS.COM

about our Silent Auction. I will be sending out requests by the end of September. I need your help in two ways:

First, be looking for suitable donations. It is important that we have high quality items to auction. If there is any question as to whether it is more suitable for a garage sale, assume that the garage sale is where it should go. For example, a set of golf clubs which you have been using for five years goes to the garage sale. A set which you used a few times before giving up the game would be appropriate. Please don't purchase new items, as the sales price will probably be less than what you paid.

Second, please provide me with new leads to ask for a contribution. If you purchased a new car this past year, let me know where and we can mention your name in the solicitation letter. If you play golf frequently at a specific course, let me

Newsletter Advertising

If you or a business/organization known to you wishes to place an ad in *The Sentinel* please contact the Editor for details. Advertisements will be priced according to size in multiples that approximate standard business card dimensions. Proceeds from advertisements help defray cost of preparing the newsletter. Advertising costs are:

<u>Size</u>	<u>Annual</u>	<u>Quarterly</u>	<u>Impact Ad</u>
Single Card	\$80	\$25	\$15
Double Card	\$160	\$50	\$30
Quadruple Card	\$320	\$100	\$60

**Army National Guard
Saint Barbara's Military Ball**

It's party time! Open to all ranks, all service branches, phone Doug Gray at 480-941-2510 if you are interested in this annual fun event.

Field Artillery Military Ball

**Friday December 10th
Chaparral Suites**

**5001 N. Scottsdale Road
Scottsdale, Arizona**

RSVP no later than 1 December

know and we can do the same. Consider your favorite restaurants and other places which you frequent.

Please get back to me with your suggestions and your items.

Dan Conway, 480-368-1427.

Chapter Legislative Committee

by Dan Conway

I hope that you are keeping up on the MOAA Weekly Legislative Update. You can pick it up at www.moaa.org, or be placed on the weekly email list at the same site.

What is happening now relative to Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) improvements is that both the House and Senate versions of the 2005 National Defense Authorization Bill include phase out of the age 62 reduction in benefits. The House version has a 3-1/2 year phase out while the Senate version has a 10 year phase out. MOAA is urging adoption of the House version. The conference work on these bills will begin after Labor Day - which is now.

It is important to get letters off to Senator McCain who is on the Senate Armed Services Committee and to Representative Trent Franks who is on the House Armed Services Committee asking them to work on getting agreement on the House version. Both are very supportive of this issue, but a little encouragement won't hurt.

They receive mail sooner if it is sent to their Arizona addresses which are:

Senator John McCain
2400 E. Arizona Biltmore Cir. Suite 1150
Phoenix, AZ 85016
Phone 620-952-2410

Representative Trent Franks
7121 W. Bell Road Suite 200
Glendale, AZ 85308
Phone 623-776-7911



Legislative Spotlight

[Source: The Affiliate September 04]

The Legislative Spotlight is prepared by MOAA's Government Relations

director. Spotlight items are coded in three ways:

INFO: Items of general interest and feedback.

DIS: Items to disseminate to chapter members for background and clarification on significant issues.

HILL: Items important enough for chapter members to immediately contact their legislators by letter, phone, or other means.

DoD Offers SBP "Alternatives" HILL

....Undeterred by votes in both the House and the Senate to phase out the military "widows tax" that cuts Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) annuities by one-third for survivors age 62 and older, DoD leaders are persisting in opposing that effort. Reportedly, a package of Pentagon "appeal documents" sent to the Senate Armed Services Committee July 7 proposed two watered-down alternatives. One would merely delay the annuity reduction until full retirement age — between 65 and 67, depending on the survivor's year of birth. Alternatively, the letter proposed lowering the SBP premium by an unspecified amount rather than eliminating the annuity reduction altogether.

In MOAA's view, both DoD proposals ignore the whole purpose of this important legislative effort. Changing the age for the benefit cut would be purely cosmetic, since the majority of survivors already are past full-retirement age. Changing the premium helps retirees, not survivors. A prospective change for retirees fails to address the basic problem — that the benefit for older widows is disproportionately small for the premiums retirees already have paid. Premiums already were reduced for retirees in 1991. Now, it's time to help the widows by eliminating the grossly unfair age 62 benefit cut — not just delaying it a few years for a few people.

The government provides every other category of federal survivors 50 percent or 55 percent of retired pay for life, with no benefit reduction at any age. MOAA thinks DoD leaders' continuing efforts to justify imposing this penalty on military widows are insensitive, to say the least.

We have a strong majority of support in both the House and the Senate to get rid of the widows tax. Defense leaders need to stop fighting this long-overdue effort to protect survivors' interests.

Your help is needed to press for a real SBP fix. Chapter members are asked to keep the pressure on Congress from now until the defense bill is passed. We need an avalanche of mail to show our elected representatives that the time has come for a real fix — not a watered-down alternative.

Fund Donations

One person's generous gift will help strengthen America's future through supporting the education of our youth. Since the last newsletter generous donations have been received for the

General Fund:

Chunhi Walters \$80

50th Anniversary Fund:

Ron and Bette Green \$10

Scholarship Fund:

June Bryan \$25

Our thanks to all contributors on behalf of all future beneficiaries of the Chapter Funds.

Air Force Imposes Rx Cuts - INFO

....A July 8 memo from the Air Force surgeon general's office announced the Air Force's intent to limit certain medications carried on the shelves of Air Force pharmacies, effective immediately.

Military health care officials are under a great deal of pressure to stick to their budgets, while pharmacy costs have risen 8 percent for many highly prescribed medications. Leadership has told local commanders there will be no supplemental funding this year to cover budgetary short falls, so they are trying to be as creative as possible in looking for ways to make ends meet. One area where local commanders can control costs is medications.

Unfortunately, this policy will have the effect of transferring costs to other areas of the DoD pharmacy program. When the formulary list is curtailed in Air Force facilities, beneficiaries either will have to switch drugs or turn to the more expensive TRICARE retail and mail order programs. Alternatively, in areas with multiple military pharmacies, beneficiaries will use other services' pharmacies. That might help the Air Force's bottom line, but it forces increased pharmacy spending elsewhere.

MOAA is concerned that this decision is motivated by cost alone. With this unilateral decision, the Air Force has bypassed the new congressionally mandated Uniform Formulary (UF) process. The UF uses clinical experts to determine which medications are safest and most cost effective for the entire TRICARE program. More important, the decision bypasses any input from the (also congressionally mandated) Beneficiary Advisory Panel — where beneficiary representatives have the opportunity to make public comment on pharmacy decisions.

Limiting the Air Force pharmacy formulary so soon before the UF is

announced only will increase hassles for beneficiaries. If drugs the Air Force picked don't match the preferred drugs soon to be identified by the DoD UF process, beneficiaries and providers will have to go through the hassle of changing prescriptions yet again.

Recently, MOAA and The Military Coalition (TMC) sent the Air Force surgeon general a letter expressing concern about the decision. TMC urged Pentagon leaders to seek supplemental funding from Congress to address immediate shortfalls in ways that don't have such a negative impact on beneficiaries.

CRSC Paying Unemployability - DIS

...Barring unforeseen problems, retirees receiving Combat-Related Special Compensation (CRSC) who are eligible for Individual Unemployability (IU) payments should have started receiving prospective IU payments in their August 2 paychecks. Retroactive payment of IU for months of previous eligibility (back to June 1, 2003) were to take a few weeks longer, but at press time, defense officials planned to deliver these lump-sum payments before the end of August.

Eligibility criteria dictate that a retiree must have a CRSC disability rating of 60 percent or greater to have IU included with CRSC compensation.

DoD hopes to begin payments for applicable dependent allowances in August. Special Monthly Compensation payments for special disability circumstances pose a greater challenge, but the Finance Center hopes to be able to make those payments by the end of September.

President Signs Defense Spending Bill - INFO

On July 22, the Senate voted 96-0 to approve the \$418 billion FY 2005 Defense Appropriations Act. The House quickly followed suit, approving the bill by a wide margin. President George W. Bush signed the bill into law August 5.

Each year, discussion of authorization bills and appropriations bills generates confusion, and it's worth reviewing the distinction.

The Defense Authorization Bill (which was passed earlier by the House and Senate and is pending action by its own, separate conference committee) authorizes troop levels, pay raises and benefit changes such as elimination of the age-62 Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) reduction. The Defense Appropriations Bill approves the funding to pay for the programs approved in the Defense Authorization Bill.

As reported previously, Congress will not finish work on the authorization bill for several more months. Although the

appropriations bill is important for many DoD programs, on issues such as SBP, concurrent receipt, and reserve health care, it's the authorization bill that drives the train.

Member Action Needed for Final SBP Push - HILL

...The House and Senate have only a few more weeks left in their annual August recess. This means most lawmakers should be out and about in your area through Labor Day weekend. During this time, they will be making personal appearances, hosting town meetings, and appearing on call-in shows to interact with constituents in their home state or district.

If possible, please try to contact them at these events, or make a visit to their district offices in support of ending the Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) "widows tax." Ask your representative or senator to back the faster, fairer SBP proposal in the House version of the 2005 National Defense Authorization Act. This is particularly important if your legislator is a member of either the House or Senate armed services committees, as conferees will be meeting shortly after their return to Washington, D.C., to hammer out the final version of the defense bill.

Also be on the lookout for the four postcards coming soon on the cover of the September issue of Military Officer. Take a few moments to sign and mail them, and ask all chapter members to do the same. Feel free to add a personal note to let your representative know how important this issue is to you. A strong grassroots effort at this critical juncture is vital to ensuring that this year's defense bill finally bring an end to the age-62 annuity reduction.

TMC Sends Defense Bill Input to Capitol Hill - DIS

...In a July 26 letter to the House and Senate armed services committees, The Military Coalition (TMC) weighed in with its viewpoints on personnel and compensation issues in the FY 2005 Defense Authorization Bill.

The letter highlights some of the top TMC priorities for House-Senate conference committee consideration, including: elimination of the Survivor Benefit Plan "widows tax," and an open-season provision that doesn't pose an excessive deterrent to new enrollees; authorization of cost-share access to TRICARE for drilling members of the Guard and Reserve; full immediate concurrent receipt for all retirees with 100 percent VA-rated disabilities; significant increases in end strength for the Army and Marine Corps; and permanent ID Card eligibility for all dependent spouses

and survivors age 70 and older.

Accompanying the letter was a matrix detailing dozens of personnel and compensation provisions on which conferees will have to resolve House and Senate differences, along with TMC's position and rationale.

The letter and a link to the matrix can be found on MOAA's Web Base at <http://www.moaa.org/legislative/tmcletter2005.pdf>.

MOAA Benefits Info Update August 2004

DIC Benefits Deadline Looming

Surviving spouses of Deceased veterans who remarried after age 57 have until December 15, 2004, to apply for reinstatement of Dependency and Indemnity compensation (DIC) benefits. On December 16, 2003 President Bush signed Public Law 108-183, the Veterans Benefits Act of 2003, which restores entitlement to DIC and related home loan and education benefits for surviving spouses who remarry on or after they reach age 57. These surviving spouses have one year from the date the new law was enacted to apply for restoration of benefits. If the VA receives the application later than December 15, 2004, restoration of DIC will be denied.

Generally, the VA pays DIC to the surviving spouse of military service members who dies while on active duty and to surviving spouses of veterans whose death resulted from service related causes. The basic monthly rate is \$967 and is increased if the surviving spouse had dependents, is housebound, or meets criteria common to those who need a home aide. There are additional payments for dependent children. Parents who were dependent upon the service member's income also may qualify for DIC.

Under previous law, surviving spouses who remarried were not eligible for DIC unless their marriages ended, at which time they could apply for reinstatement of benefits. Under the new law, surviving spouses who remarried after age 57 and before December 16, 2003, have one year to apply for restoration of DIC.

To apply, these surviving spouses should submit a written request for restoration of DIC along with a statement of dependence (VA form 21-686c). The form is available on the Web at www.vba.va.gov/pubs/forms/21-686c.pdf. Applications should be mailed to the nearest regional VA office. To find the nearest office, go to www.va.gov and click on Facility Locator.

For more information about restoration of DIC, call the VA at 800 827-1000 or

TDD 800 829-4833 or go to www.va.gov.

MOAA Legislative Update August 2004

Issue 1: Time Running Out to Press Legislators on Defense Bill

...The summer is rapidly drawing to a close and with it the window of opportunity for MOAA members and chapter leaders to make personal calls on their elected representatives before they return to Washington in early September. Bear in mind that the Republican National Convention will be held during the week of August 30th, so many legislators will only be in the home state/district for one more week.

If you haven't done so already, we would urge you to raise questions to your senators and representatives as they hold town hall meetings, appear on radio call-in shows, and make other public/campaign appearances in their states and districts. If you can't reach them at one of these events, a visit to their district offices can help drum up support for needed changes (see <http://capwiz.com/moaa/dbq/officials/> for more information).

Three top issues still to be resolved in House/Senate negotiations on the FY2005 Defense Authorization Bill are:

*Elimination of the age 62 SBP annuity reduction: MOAA strongly supports the House-passed version that would phase out this "military widows tax" in 3-1/2 years versus the Senate-proposed 10 year plan.

*Immediate concurrent receipt of military retired pay and VA disability compensation for those with disabilities rated at 100 percent: MOAA strongly supports this Senate-passed plan; there's no provision in the House bill.

*Health coverage for the Selected Reserve: MOAA strongly supports the Senate-passed plan to let drilling Guard/Reserve members participate in TRICARE if they pay a premium for coverage. The premium would stop upon mobilization, or give them the alternative of having the government pay the premium for their civilian plan upon mobilization so their families can retain continuity of care. The House bill would authorize TRICARE coverage only for the 20% of Selected Reservists who don't have coverage through a civilian employer and test it at a specific number of sites.

If these issues are important to you (and we certainly hope they are), we would urge to you to do everything you can to enlist your legislators' support. If you can't visit in person, please use the Action Alerts on MOAA's Web site (<http://capwiz.com/moaa/home/>) to make your voice heard.

Issue 2: Uniform Formulary Implementation Moves Forward

...In April, we reported on DOD's planned implementation of the TRICARE Uniform Formulary for military pharmacy programs. The most noticeable change will be the addition of a \$22 co-payment in the retail and mail-order programs for certain drugs that will be designated as "non-preferred" drugs under the new uniform formulary.

Today marked the first meeting of the Beneficiary Advisory Panel (BAP), comprised of representatives from military associations (including MOAA) and other organizations. Although today's meeting focused solely on administrative matters, it marks a good time to discuss the role that the panel will play as the uniform formulary plan goes forward.

The primary recommendations as to which drugs will be moved to the \$22 "non-preferred" formulary tier will be made by a DoD Pharmacy and Therapeutics (P&T) Committee, which will meet on a quarterly basis. In making their determinations, the P&T Committee will assess whether drugs within a therapeutic class have a "significant, clinically meaningful therapeutic advantage," or are not cost-effective relative to other drugs in a class--considering safety, effectiveness or outcome. Because of the volume of analysis required, it is expected that the P&T Committee will only evaluate a few categories of drugs in each meeting.

Once the P&T Committee announces a set of recommendations, the Beneficiary Panel will meet several days later to provide comments. The primary role of the BAP is to provide a beneficiary perspective in the process and to address the potential impacts of the P&T Committee's recommendations on beneficiaries' needs.

Ultimate decision-making authority lies with the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs, who will assess the reports from the BAP and P&T Committees before deciding on which drugs will be moved to the "non-preferred" \$22 co-payment tier. The effective date of the redesignation will be deferred up to 6 months after the formal decision. This will allow beneficiaries currently taking those medications to consult with their doctors about switching to a medication on the formulary or to allow time to file a request for continued use of the drug for medical necessity reasons. If the "medical necessity" request is approved, the beneficiary will only have to pay the \$9 copay.

Since the review process is only just beginning, it could still be some months before any recommendations are announced. With the delayed effective date plan, we expect it will be sometime in 2005 before changes are actually

implemented. We'll keep you posted as events progress.

Remember September 11, 2001



WHEN TOMORROW STARTS WITHOUT ME

When tomorrow starts without me
And I'm not there to see
If the sun should rise and find your eyes
All filled with tears for me.
I wish so much you wouldn't cry
The way you did today.
While thinking of the many things
We didn't get to say.
I know how much you love me
As much as I love you.
And each time that you think of me
I know you'll miss me too!
But when tomorrow starts without me
Please try to understand
That an angel came and called my name
And took me by the hand
And said my place was ready
In heaven far above
And that I'd have to leave behind
All those I dearly love
But when I walked through heaven's gates
I felt so much at home!
When God looked down and smiled at me
From His great golden throne
He said "This is eternity
And all I've promised you"
Today for life on earth is past
But here it starts anew
I promise no tomorrow
For today will always last
And since each day's the same way
There's no longing for the past
So when tomorrow starts without me
Don't think we're far apart
For every time you think of me
I'm right here in your heart

Author Unknown

This moment of silence message is dedicated to all the thousands of innocent people that died in the horrible incident that took place on Tuesday, September 11, 2001. Take a moment to reflect.



NOTICE OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO AZ CHAPTER MOAA BYLAWS

Submitted: 6/15/2004

Article VIII - Board of Directors

Section 1.

Present:

The board of directors shall be composed of the elected officers (president, 1st vice president, 2nd vice president, 3rd vice president, secretary, and treasurer), the immediate past president, and chairmen of the standing committees.

Proposed:

The board of directors shall be composed of the elected officers (president, 1st vice president, 2nd vice president, secretary, and treasurer), the immediate past president, and five elected directors.

This change conforms with the proposed change to Article IX eliminating the 3rd vice president discussed below and provides for elected directors in conformance with current proposed bylaws provided by MOAA National.

Article IX - Officers

Section 1.

Present:

The elected officers shall be a president, a 1st vice president who shall be chairman of the membership committee, a 2nd vice president who shall be chairman of the program committee, a 3rd vice president who shall be chairman of the arrangements committee, a secretary, and a treasurer, each of whom shall be a regular or auxiliary member of the Chapter or spouse of a regular member of the Chapter.

Proposed:

The elected officers shall be a president, a 1st vice president, a 2nd vice president, a secretary, and a treasurer, each of whom shall be a regular or auxiliary member of the Chapter or spouse of a regular member of the Chapter.

This change eliminates the specific duties of the 1st and 2nd vice presidents and eliminates the position of 3rd vice president. These changes make it possible to better implement succession planning and are in conformance with current proposed bylaws provided by MOAA National.

Section 4.

Present:

A vacancy in the office of the president shall be filled automatically by the 1st vice president. Vacancies in other offices shall be filled as the board of directors may decide.

Proposed:

The 1st vice president shall fill a vacancy in the office of the president automatically. The 2nd vice president shall fill a vacancy in the office of the 1st vice president automatically. Vacancies in other offices shall be filled as the board of directors may decide.

This change adds the 2nd vice president to the automatic succession plan in the event of vacancies. This is consistent with the changes made to Section 1 discussed above making it possible to better implement succession planning and is in conformance with current proposed bylaws provided by MOAA National.

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TAPS



If you know of a member or spouse who passes away, please notify one of the Chapter Officers.

**Advertise
In This Space**

Impact Ad	\$15.00
Quarterly	\$25.00
Annual	\$80.00

September Luncheon Meeting

WHEN: 18 September 2004
11:30 a.m. Social Period
12:00 Noon Lunch

WHERE: McCormick Ranch Golf Club
7505 McCormick Parkway
Scottsdale, Arizona

COST: \$17.00 - Per Person

DRESS: Casual

MENU: Chef's Choice

PROGRAM: Captain Thomas A. Mont AUS (Ret), Topic, "Useless Information". Tom coached at DePaul University and is a great speaker - funny to the max!

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

-- Jim Seidl, Programs



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Member SPIC, NASD

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 North 12th Place, Phoenix, AZ 85022-4944.**

Membership Renewal: \$ 20 Full Member: _____ \$10 Auxiliary Member: _____

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

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Please reserve _____ meals for (Name) _____

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____ (**\$17.00** per person) for **18 September 2004.**

Make check payable to: AZ Chapter MOAA **No Later Than: 13 September 2004**

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