



# The Sentinel

Arizona's First Chapter



The Arizona Chapter, 14435 N. 66th Place, Scottsdale, Arizona 85254

FEBRUARY 2006 CHARTERED IN 1956 - OVER 49 YEARS OF SERVICE TO COUNTRY EDITOR: John Gerometta



## President's Message

What a nice lunch in January. We had great attendance, a nice lunch, installation of officers, presentation of Meritorious Service Awards, and a great speaker. If you were not there, you missed a very nice experience. We hope to see you in February. Jim Seidl has arranged another interesting speaker. You should plan to attend.

We had a message from Bill Toy. He is still under medical care and can't attend the meetings, but wishes his best. We wish our best to him.

We still have some open positions, but are making our way. Dues are coming in after our last mailing. If you haven't responded, this is the time.

We had a great report from Chet Baumer, the chairman of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary committee. He announced that the cost will be \$75 each. The cost did not deter the attendees who were almost unanimous in their intent to attend. We realize that \$75 is a little expensive for a night out, but this is a once in a lifetime opportunity

to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our Chapter. I hope that all of you will support this event. Think of the savings in supplemental medical coverage with TRICARE for Life. For me, the savings is \$300 per month. I feel that I can afford 2 weeks savings to attend the anniversary celebration recognizing the impact of MOAA and of the Arizona Chapter in getting this legislation passed.

We have our Scholarship Program under control in the able hands of Ron Worthington, and our JROTC medal program under control in the hands of Terry Tassin. Please make yourself available to these chairmen to ensure the success of these programs.

We continue to make one of our highest priorities the success of our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. Please make yourself a part of it.

I hope to see you at our February Luncheon meeting.

Sincerely,

*Daniel M. Conway*

## NAVY LOG Special from the U.S. Navy Memorial

WASHINGTON (NNS) -- Now through the end of July 2006, all members and veterans of the Sea Services - active duty and reservists - are able to enroll in the U.S. Navy Memorial's Navy Log without charge and without any obligation.

The U.S. Navy Memorial, located on Pennsylvania Avenue in Washington, D.C., is a national memorial that honors those who served, and are serving, in America's Sea Services - Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and Merchant Marine..

"The Navy Log is the heart and soul of the Navy Memorial because it represents people not hardware." said Retired Master Chief Navy Counselor (SW) David Michael, the director of the Navy Log. "They are the backbone of the Navy. The Navy is people, not ships and aircraft."

The Navy Log is the permanent public registry where Sea Service members and veterans can record their service information - name, duty stations, awards, photos and memories. Family members and friends can record service information for veterans who are deceased or those who are unable to record their own information.

*Continue on page 2*

## Arizona Chapter Calendar

- Feb 2**
  - BOD Meeting 1:30, American Legion 107
- Feb 18**
  - General Luncheon Meeting
- Mar 2**
  - BOD Meeting 1:30, American Legion 107
- Mar 18**
  - General Luncheon Meeting
- Apr 5**
  - BOD Meeting 1:30, American Legion 107

## In this Issue

- Page 2**
  - Chaplain's Corner
  - Navy Log continued
  - Fund Donations
  - Feb Luncheon Meeting
  - Legislative Update
- Page 3**
  - Legislative Update continued
  - Personal Affairs
  - Editor's Notebook
  - New Members
- Page 4**
  - AZ Chapter Membership Renewal Form
- Page 5**
  - December General Luncheon Pictures
- Page 6**
  - Presentation of Meritorious Service awards
- Page 7**
  - TAPS
  - Meeting Menu
  - Forms
- Page 8**
  - Staff 2006

**Chaplain's Corner**

"From Glory to Glory let us go forth, hymning in our hearts to Thee the Saviour of our souls. Glory be to the Father, to the son, and to the Holy Ghost. We praise Thee the Savior of our souls. Amen"

—*Robert Rutherford, Chaplain*

**Navy Log** from page 1

Information.

The Navy Log may be viewed at the U.S. Navy Memorial, or via the Internet at <http://www.lonesailor.org/>. The goal of the Memorial is to record the service history of all eligible uniformed individuals and veterans. "The real reason to enroll in the Navy Log is to show Navy pride and to record your service for history," said Michael.

To enroll your information or to enroll family members simply enter the appropriate information at <http://www.lonesailor.org/>. If you have any questions, please contact the Navy Log Department of the U.S. Navy Memorial, at 1-800-NAVY LOG (1-800-628-9564).

Contributed by YNCS Don Harribine, USN (RET)

**February Luncheon Meeting  
Saturday, 18 February  
McCormick Ranch Golf Club**

The next Chapter meeting is set for Saturday, 18 February 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 hour at 11:00 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 14 February. Come join us for good food and comradeship.



**Legislative Update**

*by Gary Fredricks*

As the Sentinel went to press last month the Arizona Veteran's Affairs Task Force effort was just concluding and the FY2006 Defense Appropriations Bill was still emerging from a joint session of congress. So we spent our effort updating you on the efforts at the state level. This month we'll look at the national level.

Our national legislators finally finished work on the FY2006 Defense Bill in late December. Unfortunately, as MOAA has pointed out, the legislative glass for the year ended half full at best. The Senate failed to convince the House to correct the Survivor Benefit Program issues we had been fighting for all year (Eliminating the DIC offset to SBP payments and advancing the implementation date for 30-year paid up SBP from 2008), so we have work to do again in 2006 on those items.

On the brighter side several Guard/ Reserve issues we were working on were improved upon as were active duty pay, end strength and death benefits. An agreement was in hand to cap Medicare/TRICARE payments at 2005 levels rather than being reduced by 4.4% as the previous legislation required. Also, the VA received \$1.5B in additional funding and several initiatives to raise fees were headed off. For a one-page list of Legislative Gains for 2005 please refer to [www.moaa.org](http://www.moaa.org), Legislative Action Center.

You may view a corresponding list, Selected Legislative Goals for 2006, at the same site. Associated with those goals, one set of issues is already getting significant attention. The Department of Defense, supported by the Joint Chiefs of Staff, will propose in the FY2007

**Fund Donations**

One person's generous gift will help strengthen America's future through supporting the education of our youth. Since the last newsletter the members below have made generous donations to the:

General Fund:

**Irene Doto \$50**

50th Anniversary Fund:

**Irene Doto \$75, Mike Gannon \$6, John Gerometta \$50, William Roscher \$16,**

Scholarship Fund:

**Irene Doto \$75, Don Mitchell \$15,**

President's Budget that TRICARE fees for those military retirees under 65 be raised in some cases to double or triple what they now are. A corresponding proposal to increase pharmacy fees would affect not only Medicare-eligible military retirees, but also active duty/Guard/Reserve families as well. The exact details of the budget proposals will not be known until possibly early February when the President submits his budget to congress, and this may well just be the tip of the iceberg.

The Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs), Dr W. Winkenwerder, has already met with MOAA and other members of The Military Coalition on the subject. According to the government officials, retiree medical care costs, as well as other personnel costs, are keeping them from buying hardware, and the situation is becoming a readiness issue. We have been down this road before. Expect this to be a real "hot button" over the weeks ahead.

You may and should go to the MOAA web site under legislative "Action Alert", "Oppose Military Health Fee

*Continue on page 3*

**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

Legislate Update.....continued from page 2

Hikes”, and join the more than 17,000 fellow veterans who have sent emails to their congressmen showing strong disagreement with the proposed fee increases. Also, when you get them, look in the February issue of “Military Officer” for related tear-out letters to the HASC and SASC leaders and in the March issue for similar letters to your senators and representatives. The year 2006 promises to be interesting and controversial, and we will need concerted effort from the veteran community to make it a successful one.

\*\*\*\*\*

**New Members**  
 Welcome to new Chapter members since the last newsletter  
**Ms Sheila W. George**  
**Auxiliary**  
**17440 N. Tatum Blvd #241**  
**Phoenix, AZ 85032**  
**Tele: 602-923-1689**  
**E-mail:**  
**sheilawgeorge2msn.com**

Please take the opportunity to meet our new members.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Membership**

**Currently the AZ Chapter has 187 members including, 43 auxiliary members and 2 new members for 2006.**

**Editor's Notebook**

**Just a reminder to please keep the Chapter Secretary and the newsletter Editor updated on your current mailing address, e-mail address, and telephone number.**

**Personal Affairs**  
*by Bernie Conway*

When was the last time you drove for 20-60 minutes to Luke, burned up a couple gallons of \$2.20-3.00 gas, sat in the pharmacy waiting room for 30-60 minutes, and when you finally got up to the window, found out they no longer carry the medicine you were trying to get? You then leave and stop at Walgreen's or CVS, and pay \$3.00, \$9.00 or \$22.00 for a 30 day supply.

**YOU DON'T HAVE TO TAKE THIS ANYMORE!!**

You can now order medicine from the comfort of your home, and usually have it in 2-3 days by utilizing the TRICARE Mail Order Pharmacy (TMOP) .You can fill your new prescriptions by mail, and can order refills by mail, phone, or via the computer, and you can order a 90 day supply for the same co-pay of a 30 day supply at a retail pharmacy, and I have not found a medicine they do not have, or will clear a suitable substitute with your doctor. This system is only worthwhile for ongoing medication usually written with a 90 day supply with 3 refills. With one time prescriptions for a toothache or a virus, you are better off fighting the pharmacy, or going right to the local drug store  
Co-pay for a 90 day supply is \$3.00 for generic drugs, \$9.00 for non-generic drugs, and \$22.00 for what are called non-formulary drugs. Examples of these are Nexium, Teveten, and Teveten HCT and Viagra. These are drugs that DOD feels a less expensive suitable substitute is available. Your doctor can submit evidence of medical necessity for the specific drug, and if approved, it will still be the \$9.00 co-pay.

**DO I HAVE YOUR ATTENTION YET?**

To get started with this program, you can log on EXPRESS-SCRIPTS.com, or call Express-Scripts at 866-363-8667, play push button tag to get the correct option, and they will mail you an order form, or pick up a form at the Luke pharmacy. You can also write to Express Scripts, P.O. Box 52150, Phoenix, AZ 85072 to get the form, but that is the old fashioned way, takes longer, and costs \$.37. There are 13 pages of information on the Express-Scripts.com website that may tell you more than you really want to know about this program. Maybe I have already told you more than you want to know about this program!  
If you need this info, and are not comfortable with the computer world, give me a call at 480-994-0440, and I will make a copy of the instructions and will get them to you. It is best to get the paperwork you picked up at the Pharmacy, or requested by phone or mail submitted to the system prior to needing the medicine. They supply you with a postage paid envelope with their application form and information pack. It will make the turn around time for your first prescription much shorter.

**NEWS YOU CAN USE**  
Thanks to *Carol Culbertson*

**DOD Restricts On-Base Cell Phone Use**

Defense Department installations have begun implementing new cell phone restrictions for drivers on military bases. The regulation states that anyone driving a motor vehicle on a DOD installation cannot use a cell phone unless the vehicle is safely parked or the driver is using a hands-free device. Many installations have already implemented the new restrictions, and the rest will implement the rules on their own schedule. This regulation is a minimum requirement, and installation commanders still have the authority to put stricter rules in place. Each installation will determine the punishment for violation of the rules.

**AZ Chapter MOAA Membership Renewal Notice**

For most members, this serves as your notice that AZ Chapter dues for 2006 are due on January 1, 2006, and are delinquent 60 days thereafter. Our records show that the following have already paid their 2006 dues in **January**:

J. Andrews, Sr.	B Crawford	F. Fahy	B. Katz	J. Nelson	K. Russell
S. Baca	E. Crosby	J. Gallo	L. King	J. Newell III	R. Rutherford
S. Beck	C. Culbertson	R. Gawlitta	M. Kinnally	W. Noll	T. Smith
J. Bickham	K. Davis	J. Greene	R. Lamparter	A. Pfordte	J. Stenquist
E. Bracken	W. Dietz	F. Hartzel	P. Magadan	J. Pierce	W. Toy
S. Burns	I. Doto	F. Hickernell	J. Markbreiter	L. Pritchard	M. Umhofer
F. Byrne	J. Draper	R. Hoover	N. Miller	F. Rast	C. Yost
C. Case	R. Drew	R. Horn	D. Mitchell	C. Retz	S. Zimtbaum
B. Conway	S. Etchells	M. Hutchinson	C Molloy	W. Roley	

If you disagree, please let us know. For those of you who are not listed above, we sincerely hope that we have earned your support for another year and that you will renew your membership with us at this time. **If you are unsure about your need to renew and you get this newsletter by U.S. Mail, check your mailing label— next to your last name is a number that indicates the year the dues are current, if it is "05" then your dues are paid through 2005.**

----- **CUT HERE AND MAIL RENEWAL FORM WITH YOUR CHECK** -----

**Arizona Chapter 2006 Membership Renewal Form**

\*Member Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Membership Renewal: \$20 Full member \_\_\_\_\_

\*Membership Renewal: \$10 Auxiliary member \_\_\_\_\_

\*I wish to receive the Chapter Newsletter (*The Sentinel*) by {select one}:

\_\_\_\_\_ E-mail (in full color) or \_\_\_\_\_ U.S. Mail (hard copy b&w) or \_\_\_\_\_ Both

\*E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Mail renewal application and check to:  
 AZ CHAPTER MOAA  
 C/O John Gerometta  
 8555 E Camelback Road  
 Scottsdale, AZ 85251-1801

Note: If you wish to pay in advance, you may do so at the above rates per calendar year. Please annotate your check accordingly.

## JANUARY LUNCHEON



**Pictures from the January Luncheon from left to right.  
Luncheon crowd, Gary Fredricks (courtesy Terry Tassin).  
Speaker Kevin Osterman (2) and Installation of Officers and Directors  
( courtesy Frank Birtciel )**

## Presentation of Meritorious Service Awards


(Photos Courtesy Frank Birtciel)



(from left to right)  
JoAnn Thompson, John Gerometta  
Bill Johnson, Velma Birtciel,  
Terry Tassin, Gary Fredricks

**PROTECT YOUR LEGACY FOR THOSE YOU LOVE**

**Attend this FREE SEMINAR on Living Trusts**



**MHK**  
MORRIS, HALL & KINGHORN, P.L.L.C.  
Arizona's Premier Estate Planning Law Firm

- The Nuts and Bolts of Living Trusts, How Wills and Living Trusts differ
- How Living Trusts prepared in another state are treated under Arizona law
- How a Living Trust can protect your heirs from creditors, divorce and lawsuits

Reservations required **CALL NOW** 24-hr reservation line

Tuesday, Feb. 7, 7-9 pm Hilton Scottsdale Resort 6333 North Scottsdale Road <b>Scottsdale</b>	Wednesday, Feb. 8, 7-9 pm Arrowhead Country Club 19888 North 73rd Avenue <b>Glendale</b>
Wednesday, Feb. 8, 7-9 pm Camelback Inn 5402 East Lincoln Drive <b>Scottsdale</b>	Thursday, Feb. 9, 9-11 am El Pedregal at The Boulders 34505 North Scottsdale Road <b>Scottsdale</b>
Thursday, Feb. 9, 7-9 pm Hampton Inn at Anthem 42415 North 41st Drive <b>Anthem</b>	Saturday, Feb. 11, 9-11 am Pointe Hilton Squaw Peak 7677 North 16th Street <b>Phoenix</b>

**602-748-2333**  
Or register online at [www.morristrust.com](http://www.morristrust.com)  
**MORRIS, HALL & KINGHORN, P.L.L.C.**  
ARIZONA'S PREMIER ESTATE PLANNING LAW FIRM  
3300 NORTH CENTRAL AVENUE, SUITE 900, PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85012

**February Luncheon Meeting**

**WHEN:** 18 February 2006  
11:00 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:** Mr. Larry Williams, Director National Memorial Cemetery of Arizona. Up-to-date information about the Cemetery.

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

-- Jim Seidl, Programs

**TAPS**



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

**CHAPTER FINANCIAL PARTICIPATION**

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

**50th Anniversary Fund:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_ **General Fund:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_,

**Scholarship Fund:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_ **(now a 501 (c) 3 charitable fund)**

Name of Donor : \_\_\_\_\_ Identify me as a donor in the next newsletter. YES \_\_\_ NO \_\_\_

**MEAL / MEETING RESERVATION FORM**

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

Enclosed is my check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (**\$17.00** per person) for **18 February 2006.**

Make check payable to: AZ Chapter MOAA **No Later Than: 14 February 2006**

**Send to:** Bill Johnson, 13410 North 12th Place, Phoenix, AZ 85022-4944. Phone 602-690-1012

The Arizona Chapter solicits advertisements for the purpose of defraying the cost of publication of the newsletter. The Chapter has not made any investigation as to the products and services advertised herein and makes no representation or warranties as to the advertisements in the newsletter.

ReddyICE Distributor

**BEN'S**  
FIRE & ICE CO.  
(602) 437-3139

Cubes Blocks  
7lb. - 10lb  
20lb.

Mixed  
Firewood

Benson H. Huddleston  
General Manager/Owner

7246 S. 41st Street  
Phoenix, AZ 85042

**The Arizona Chapter - MOAA - 2006 Board of Directors and Committee Chairmen**

<b>PRESIDENT</b> CAPT Dan Conway USCGR 480-368-1427	<b>ADVERTISING</b> CDR John Gerometta USCG 480-947-5371	<b>PERSONAL AFFAIRS</b> LtCol Bernie Conway USAF 480-994-0440
<b>FIRST VICE PRESIDENT</b> LCDR Terry Tassin USN 623-931-1546	<b>CHAPLAIN</b> LTC Bob Rutherford USA 602-944-4224	<b>NEWSLETTER EDITOR</b> CDR John Gerometta USCG 480-947-5371
<b>SECOND VICE PRESIDENT</b> Col Ron Worthington USAF 480-945-4015	<b>ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS</b> CDR John Gerometta USCG 480-947-5371	<b>PROGRAMS / ARRANGEMENTS</b> LT Jim Seidl USCG 602-841-6026
<b>SECRETARY</b> CDR John Gerometta USCG 480-947-5371	<b>HISTORIAN / PHOTOGRAPHER</b> LtCol Frank Birtciel USAF 480-945-2824	<b>SCHOLARSHIPS</b> Col Ron Worthington USAF 480-945-4015
<b>TREASURER</b> Maj Bill Johnson USAF 602-690-1012	<b>JROTC AWARDS</b> LCDR Terry Tassin USN 623-931-1546	<b>TOPS LIAISON</b> COL Charles Schluter, USA 480-563-8480
<b>PAST PRESIDENT</b> Col Gary Fredricks USAF 480-836-8419	<b>LEGISLATIVE</b> Col Gary Fredricks USAF 480-836-8419	<b>50TH ANNIVERSARY</b> LtCol Chet Baumer, USAF 623-582-8595
<b>DIRECTORS</b> Charles Schluter; James Seidl; Chester Baumer; Ronald Green; Jo Ann Thompson	<b>MEMBERSHIP</b> Vacant	<b>WEB MASTER</b> Capt Tom Houser, USAF 602-697-3123

Access Arizona Chapter's Internet Web Site at: <http://www.azchaptermoaa.org>

**Arizona Chapter**  
**Military Officers Association of America**  
14435 N. 66th Place  
Scottsdale, AZ 85254



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