



# The Sentinel

Arizona's First Chapter



The Arizona Chapter

4333 W. Echo Lane

Glendale Arizona

85302

DECEMBER 2007

CHARTERED 1956 - 50 YEARS OF SERVICE TO COUNTRY

EDITOR: TERRY TASSIN

## Annual Membership Renewal Drive Kick-Off !!!!



### President's Perspective by Terry Tassin

Happy Holidays and welcome to the fun month of December. I really like the month of December. Not only is it a time when we finally leave the heat of the Arizona summer behind us, but it is also a time for gathering our families and loved ones around us for the holidays.

But, not all Arizonans can be home for Christmas. Some do not even have a home - or enough food to eat - or extra money for toys at Christmas. We should all remember those who cannot be home and enjoying the wonderful comforts of family and friends. Several ways we can do our part in remembering and helping others are listed below. During this season we can all do good deeds for our fellow man by taking part in one or more worthwhile giving programs.

Some holiday endeavors you might wish to consider are:

\* *Lets Say Thanks in Support of Our Troops.* Here's a program sponsored by Xerox to send cards free to our troops. This web site gives you the opportunity to

send a free printed postcard to U.S. Military Personnel stationed overseas showing your support and appreciation for their service to our country. Just go to the Xerox web site at [www.LetsSayThanks.com](http://www.LetsSayThanks.com) and follow the easy steps to send cards. On the web site you'll also find messages from the troops thanking people for writing a post card. I hope you find as much inspiration in the cards as I did.

\* *Arizona National Guard Emergency Relief Fund.* The AERFund was established to provide emergency financial assistance to Arizona Army National Guard families in the form of loans or grants. Your contributions to the AERFund are tax deductible as gifts to a charitable organization. You will be sent a receipt for your donation. Send donations to: AERFund, 5636 E. McDowell Road, P.O. Box 300, Phoenix, AZ 85008.

\* *Toys for Tots.* An annual program sponsored by the U. S. Marine Corps Reserve. All toys must be new toys, unwrapped and still in original boxes. There are many drop

locations around the valley; however, my favorite is the Arizona Broadway Theatre in Peoria because I can combine attending a great stage performance and dinner with dropping off toys for the Toys for Tots program. Just for your information one of the hardest age groups to get toys for is the 10 to 12 year group. If you want to bring a toy to our December luncheon, I will personally deliver it to the Arizona Broadway Theatre for you.

\* *Westside/St. Mary's Food Bank Alliance.* There has been a shortage of food out there this year. Buy an extra bag of groceries when you shop and deliver it to the Food Bank; volunteer to serve food; or send a check at your earliest convenience.

These are just a few of the ways to share the Christmas Spirit with those in need. There are many others as well. Pick one or two and if we all do our part, our community, our state, and our world will be a better place.

Fran and I wish you all the best this holiday season.

*Terry Tassin*

### Arizona Chapter Calendar

- Dec 6**
  - BOD Meeting 1:30, AZ Veteran's Home, Room A107
- Dec 15**
  - Christmas General Luncheon Meeting, McCormick Ranch Golf Club
- Jan 3**
  - BOD Meeting 1:30, AZ Veteran's Home, Room A107
- Jan 19**
  - General Luncheon Meeting, McCormick Ranch Golf Club

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

### Fund Donations

One person's generous gift will help strengthen America's future through supporting the education of our youth ;and the troops of our country. Since the last newsletter many thanks to the members below for their donations to the:

#### General Fund (\$50)

The Retz's \$50

#### Scholarship Fund (\$45)

The Birtciel's \$20

The Retz's \$25

#### AER Fund (\$585)

The Adam's \$50	The Byrne's \$35
The D. Conway's \$150	The Grady's \$50
The Green's \$100	The Perkins' \$100
The Retz's \$50	The Tassin's \$50

### New Members

#### **LCDR Ron Klaphake USN (Ret) & wife Penny**

8101 W. Carlota Lane

Peoria, AZ 85383

Tele: 623-792-7194

Email: rlk@azbroadwaytheatre.com

Please make an opportunity to meet our new members.

### **Luncheon Meeting Saturday, December 15 McCormick Ranch Golf Club**

The next Chapter meeting is set for Saturday, **December 15** 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 **Thursday, December 13**. Come join us for good food and comradeship.

### Happy Birthday National Guard

Happy Birthday to the National Guard which was founded on 13 Dec 1636.

The National Guard is the oldest component of the armed forces and traces its roots to state militias set up 365 years ago during the colonial period.

The Guard has fought in every major war this century. The National Guard made up 40% of American combat divisions in France and National Guard units were among the first to deploy overseas during World War II.



### 2007 Meritorious Service Awards



At the November 2007 Chapter luncheon meeting, eight members of the Arizona Chapter MOAA were awarded the Arizona Chapter Meritorious Service Award for sustained superior service to the Chapter and its members. Recipients left to right:

Col Pat Dale USAFR(Ret), Maj William Johnson USAF(Ret). Col Ron Worthington USAFR(Ret), Mrs. Marie Fredricks, Col Ron Perkins USAF(Ret), Col Gary Fredricks USAF(Ret), and LCDR Terry Tassin USN(Ret). Col Charles H. Schluter USA(Ret) - not shown.

## November Board Meeting Notes

The Board of Directors met on 1 November, 2007.

**Treasurer's Report:** Terry Tassin reported the present status of fund accounts:

General Checking:	\$ 4564.57
Scholarship:	\$ 7630.63
Total Accounts:	\$ 12,195.20

**Legislative: State:** Gary Fredricks reported that there is concern about the State's budget woe's that could impact funding support for the Arizona Veteran's Association.

**Personal Affairs:** Dan Conway is expecting to receive several copies of the MOAA Survivor's Packet. These will be available and distributed to surviving spouses as needed.

**Programs:** Chuck Schluter reported the program for December will be the Dickens Carolers and for January will be Matt Chitwood who is the grandson of a Battle of the Bulge veteran.

### New Business:

**AZ National Guard Family Assistance Program:** A motion was made by Gary Fredricks to donate \$100 to the program. The motion was seconded by Chuck Schluter and was passed unanimously.

**AVHOF Induction Ceremony:** Terry Tassin solicited comments for improving the ceremony. Several minor recommendations were made to Gary Fredricks, President of the UAV.

## November General Meeting Notes

**Legislative Report: National:** The Defense Authorization Bill is still in the works and is not expected to be passed and signed until after the first of the year. Everyone is encouraged to check out the MOAA website and use the Legislative Action tab for contacting your representative to vote for House Bill 3038: Medicare Physician Payment Reform Act 2007.

**Personal Affairs Report:** Dan Conway presented several of the useful information booklets that can be easily acquired through the MOAA website for free. Ron Green presented information on how veteran's who are 100 % service related disabled can get discounted Arizona license plates. For more information contact Ron at 480-595-8693

**President:** Terry Tassin briefed on several items from the last board meeting.

a. Vice Admiral Ryan presented the Chapter's Five Star Streamer to the Chapter at the Tucson Chapter's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Banquet.

b. Christmas Luncheon Program will be the "Dickens Caroler's during lunch

c. Chapter name tags are available through Dee Norton. The cost is only \$5. Everyone is encouraged to wear their name tags at the luncheons.

d. Membership Renewal Drive for 2008 begins in December and everyone is encouraged to pay their dues early. The renewal form can be found in the December Sentinel.

### **Program:**

a. Chapter Meritorious Service Awards were presented to: Pat Dale, Gary Fredricks, Marie Fredricks, Bill Johnson, Ron Perkins, Chuck Schluter (absent), Terry Tassin, and Ron Worthington.

b. The nominees for 2008 elected Staff positions were voted on and unanimously approved by the attendees. The 2008 staff is as follows: President Terry Tassin, 1st VP Ron Worthington, 2nd VP Ron Perkins, Secretary Ron Perkins, Treasurer Bill Johnson, Directors: Chet Baumer, Ron Drew, Gary Fredricks, Ron Green, and Chuck Schluter.

## **Coming Attractions**

*By Chuck Schluter*

**December:** Annual Christmas Meeting. Holiday entertainment will be the Dickens Carolers Quartet.

**January:** Installation of 2008 Officers. Guest speaker, Matt Chitwood, who is the grandson of a Battle of the Bulge veteran. His personal research and on the ground tour of Bastogne and the surrounding areas adds flavor to the story of his grandfathers return to the battlefield, a post war meeting with the German soldier responsible for wounding him, and a Purple Heart.

**February:** Jean McFarland, a prominent local Business Woman and member of the National Speakers Association will discuss *Bullies in the Work Place*. Not working anymore? - think about those who we love, who still are out there! This is a provocative topic.

## Personal Affairs

*by Dan Conway*

### ENROLLMENT IN TRICARE FOR LIFE

If you are approaching age 65, you should be aware of procedures required to enroll in TRICARE FOR LIFE. A wonderful source for information is the MOAA publication "Aging into Medicare". It is free to members either as a download or as a hard copy.

A few important points are that you must be enrolled in Medicare Part B to receive TRICARE FOR LIFE benefits. Medicare starts at age 65, even though full Social Security Benefits don't begin until a later date. You can delay enrollment in Medicare part B and Tricare for life without penalty if you are still working and covered by an employer medical plan.

Social Security procedures provide for automatic enrollment in TRICARE FOR LIFE if you are retired Military, and are current in DEERS. However, this is not known by those who will be signing you up for social security benefits and enrolling you in Medicare Part B. To ensure that you are covered, it is best to call DEERS at 1-800-538-9552. When you receive medical treatment, you then provide both your Medicare card and your Military ID Card.

Please don't take this information as all inclusive. It is intended only to show that certain action is required to ensure that you are correctly enrolled in TRICARE FOR LIFE. There is much more information in the publication referenced above. You can request a copy by phone at 1-800-234-6622 or at the MOAA web site which is [www.moaa.org](http://www.moaa.org). You will need your MOAA membership number.

### TOPS Tips

*by Chuck Schluter, TOPS Chair*

TOPS Tips are compliments of [www.moaa.org](http://www.moaa.org), and the plan is to re-publish Five Common Résumé Mistakes over a period of time in the Sentinel, as room allows.

### Five Common Résumé Mistakes

Many job hunters make the same mistakes over and over again in their résumés. A résumé will not get you a job, but a poorly written résumé can keep you from getting an interview that might lead to a job. Résumés don't have a perfect format, and everyone has an opinion on how to write one. So don't spend too much time trying to write the perfect résumé. More importantly, never pay anyone to write your résumé. You must write your own résumé because you will be the only one at the interview to defend it. Be careful to avoid the common résumé mistakes people make, which are listed below. These mistakes could make the difference between getting an interview -- and a new job - or having your résumé pitched into the trash can.

**Mistake No. 1:** Your résumé lacks a clear objective. Many people don't put an objective on their résumé because they are not sure what they want to do. They write fluff words that have very little meaning and try to be all things to all people. Your objective should be the most focused statement on your résumé. You cannot write, much less execute, an operations order if you don't know the mission. That's what an objective statement is -- your personal mission statement. Employers are not going to take the time to read your entire résumé and figure out what you want to do. You must tell them. Just like the military, employers have specific positions to fill by "grade" and skill level. Employers are trying to find a round peg that will fit into a round hole. You can help by telling them exactly what hole you will fit into by stating your objective clearly. You did not go into the military as a colonel or captain, so don't expect to go into a new organization as the chief executive officer or chief operating officer. Be realistic when you write your objective. If you have the job description or announcement, make sure your objective statement includes or restates the job announcement title. For example, "seeking a position in marketing and public relations" would be a great one-line objective statement for a business development opportunity position.

Watch for more mistakes in résumé writing over the next few months.

## Legislative Update

by Gary Fredricks, Legislative Chair

As the holiday season begins our federal legislators are on Thanksgiving recess, scheduled to return to work the first week of December. They will have a lot to do in the short time before they will again depart for their Christmas break.

The 2008 Defense Appropriations bill, which provides the necessary funding for the current fiscal year, is a done deal. The good news is that it contains the funding to support a good many of the requirements we have been working on during the year. For instance, the money is there to support a 3.5% pay increase for our troops in lieu of the 3% raise the DOD had requested. The money is also there to avoid the steep increases in TRICARE and pharmacy co-payments that the administration envisioned in their budget request.

Also, in the good news category is the 2008 Appropriations bill for the VA. Although it still has not been sent to the President for signature, it is pretty much agreed upon within the House and Senate and contains some \$6 billion more than last year and \$3.7 billion more than the administration asked for. That will go a long way toward starting to fix some of the problems that have surfaced with respect to veteran's care over the last year.

On the bad news side, the 2008 Defense Authorization bill, which provides much of the legal authorization to expend funds made available in the corresponding appropriations bill, is still a work in progress with the House and Senate still trying to agree on all the items that would make up the joint bill. MOAA expects the authorization bill to be taken up again the first week of December. So, with some luck, we should have the word by the end of the year.

Still in limbo is legislation that would stop the roughly 10% decrease mandated by current law for Medicare and TRICARE payments to physicians. With many physicians not accepting Medicare coverage now, further cuts in their payments under the system would make it even more difficult to find a doctor of choice to serve

us. Congress has passed last minute legislation the last two or three years to prevent the annual decreases required by the law, but efforts so far this year have been unsuccessful for a number of different and sometimes unrelated reasons. I urge all of you to visit the newly formatted MOAA website at [www.moaa.org](http://www.moaa.org) to express your concern. Click on the Legislative section and go to "Take action". Find H.R. 3038, The Medicare Physician Payment Reform Act of 2007, and send the easy email to your congressman urging his or her support of this bill.

### December Luncheon Meeting

**WHEN:** December 15, 2007  
11:00 a.m. Social Hour  
12:00 Noon Lunch

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

**COST:** \$19.00 - Per Person

**DRESS:** Casual

**MENU:** Chef's Choice

**PROGRAM:** Christmas program features the *Dickens Carolers*. They will be in costume and will entertain us with Christmas music during our luncheon hour. Let's fill the room with members and guests at the McCormick Ranch Golf Club to celebrate this wonderful time of the year!

Reservations need to be received by 4:00 p.m. on the Thursday prior to the luncheon date. Cancellations of reservations need to be received by that same Thursday in order to receive your money back or not be charged for lunch. Please make your reservations early and send your check to Bill Johnson using the Meal / Meeting Reservation Form on page 7.

**AZ Chapter MOAA Membership Renewal Notice**

Thank you for your AZ Chapter support during 2007. Your support for our chapter has helped provide the basis for our scholarship program for outstanding valley area JROTC students; for our efforts to represent you on state and local legislative issues; for our actions - including our award winning **Sentinel** - to keep you involved and informed on these and broader issues affecting our military and retired community; and for our schedule of activities promoting camaraderie and friendship.

For most members, this serves as your notice that AZ Chapter dues for 2008 are due on January 1, 2008, and are delinquent 60 days thereafter. Here's how you can tell if you owe dues.. Look on the mailing label if you received your Sentinel by USPS. After your last name is a number – if it is **07**, your dues are due for 2008. A higher number indicates you have paid your dues in advance. Members that only receive the Sentinel by e-mail will receive an electronic notification soon. If you disagree, please let us know.

**ATTENTION AUXILIARY MEMBERS**

A reminder to all auxiliary members that it is time to renew your annual dues of \$10. It is very important that you continue your membership in order to stay abreast of legislative issues that affect all of us. We as auxiliary members continue to enjoy benefits, such as Tricare for Life and the phasing out of the Survivors Benefit Plan age-62 annuity reduction. We are grateful to all who made that possible.

*Jo Anne Thompson, Auxiliary Liaison*

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

**Arizona Chapter 2008 Membership Renewal Form**

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

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

\*Membership Renewal: **\$10** Auxiliary member \_\_\_\_\_ (surviving spouse)

\*I wish to receive the Chapter Newsletter (*The Sentinel*) by {select one}:  
\_\_\_\_\_ **E-mail (in full color)** or \_\_\_\_\_ U.S. Mail (hard copy black & white)

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

**(Please consider receiving the Sentinel by email ONLY to help reduce production cost)**

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

Mail renewal application and check to:

**AZ CHAPTER MOAA  
C/O Terry Tassin  
4333 W. Echo Lane**



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**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.**

**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 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (**\$19.00** per person) for **15 December 2007**

Make check payable to: **AZ Chapter MOAA** **No Later Than: 13 December 2007**

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



**And On the  
Last Day of  
2007 Your  
Editor  
Rested!**

**The Arizona Chapter - MOAA - 2007 Board of Directors and Committee Chairmen**

<b>PRESIDENT</b> LCDR Terry Tassin USN 623-931-1546	<b>NEWSLETTER EDITOR</b> LCDR Terry Tassin USN 623-931-1546	<b>CHAPLAIN</b> LTC Bob Rutherford USA 602-944-4224
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**Access Arizona Chapter's Internet Web Site at: <http://www.azchaptermoaa.org>**

**Arizona Chapter  
Military Officers Association of America  
4333 W. Echo Lane  
Glendale, AZ 85302**



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