



A luncheon meeting of the General Membership was held on November 12, 2011, at the McCormick Ranch Golf Club. President John Ady called the meeting to order at 1200 hours and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by an invocation.

Members Present: John Ady welcomed all and began with introductions. Total people present: 34 members and spouses including new member George Cherpelis and wife Carol.

Minutes: Dispensed with reading minutes from the prior meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Bill Roscher reported: General Fund \$8,658.42 plus \$50 Petty Cash, Scholarship Fund \$11,198.48 for a total of \$19,906.90.

Scholarship Fund: Bill Roscher proceeded to raffle two tickets to the November 19 ASU-UA football game donated by Doug Gray. Ron Perkins won the raffle for \$55 which will go to our scholarship fund.

Military Donations: Bill Roscher presented information on two opportunities to donate to good causes and get a tax break. The Arizona Military Family Relief Fund provides a state tax credit up to \$200 for individual & \$400 for joint returns, and a deduction for Federal itemized returns. (See attached form.) Make your donation now as per law, tax credits are capped at \$1 million dollars per year. The Arizona Veterans' Donation Fund, (3839 North Third Street, Suite 200, Phoenix, AZ 85012, 602-255-3373), is another worthy cause, although not a tax credit it is tax-deductible, and can only be used to benefit the veterans of the State of Arizona. Bill also stressed the low administrative expense for both funds.

Arrangements: Marie Fredricks said arrangements have been made to have the Dickens Carolers perform at our December 17 luncheon meeting followed by the annual Chinese auction of numerous great gifts. The December meeting is always lots of fun so Marie encouraged everyone to get their reservations in early. Details will be provided in *The Sentinel* newsletter.

Auxiliary & Wives Activities: Beth Cullison once again made a plea for a new auxiliary chair since Kathy Upchurch stepped down earlier this year. We are committed to continue bingo at the Veterans Home the first Thursday of every month through the end of the year. Anyone interested in helping out can contact Beth on 602-482-3838.

Legislative Affairs: Gary Fredricks was away on other MOAA business but submitted a brief report which John Ady read. Gary indicated the November newsletter provides a current summary of issues and activities. The Super Committee report on tackling the deficit is due November 23 and will go to Congress. The Senate has passed a bill to benefit veteran unemployment including tax incentives and education. Gary announced the governor's office gave verbal notice that Ron Perkins, former chapter president, has been selected for a three-year term on the Arizona Veterans Service Advisory Commission. This is the commission that Gary is currently serving in his sixth and final year. This is an honor and Ron Perkins should be commended.

Membership: Ron Perkins reintroduced George Cherpelis and wife Carol and announced two additional new members: Dave Fleming and Dick Weiss. Dave and Dick both joined via our chapter website and Ron encourages members to take a few minutes to explore our award winning website developed by Rob Welch. Our chapter currently has 218 members in good standing. Ron

also stressed the importance of following through on sending the prepared e-mails to Congress through the National MOAA website and *Just in Time* newsletter action items. He sends from himself and a second one from his wife. If enough letters are sent, it makes a difference.

Personal Affairs: Dan Conway talked about the recent Personal Affairs Workshop which included a presentation from the state attorney general's office focusing on senior citizen scams and elder abuse, estate planning including wills & trusts, forms for establishing a living will, and instruction on completing a MOAA workbook. He brought several publications for those unable to attend the workshop. Dan announced Bob Rutherford is stepping down as chaplain because he is no longer able to attend our meetings. He also asked us to remember families of former members who have passed including Ron Worthington and Fred Iacobelli.

Programs: John Ady said Colonel Lee Lange, MOAA VP Chapter Affairs, is scheduled as the keynote speaker for our January 2012 meeting. Chuck Schluter is working on a first-rate line-up for February through March 2012.

Golf Outing: John Ady stated Pat Dale estimates approximately \$1,000 to \$1,200 was raised for the scholarship fund from Thursday's golf tournament. Pat has asked for feedback from those that participated November 10 so he can continue to improve the event.

USMC Birthday: John Ady announced November 10 was the U.S. Marine Corps birthday, established in 1775.

BOD Meeting Location: John Ady announced the Board approved moving the monthly chapter board meetings to the National Guard headquarters located on the Papago Military Reservation, located near the military sales store, 5640 E. McDowell Road in Phoenix.

TAPS: John Ady repeated the recent passing of former chapter president and life member, LCDR USN Rocco (Fred) Iacobelli. In keeping with our policy, \$50 will be transferred from our general fund to the scholarship fund in his name.

Scholarship Fund: John Ady said the Board approved the future top scholarship recipient each year will be awarded the *Colonel Ron Worthington Scholarship* in honor of Ron, who was our scholarship chair for six years. The recipient may receive a slightly larger monetary sum which would be determined by the Board in the coming months.

The Affiliate Article: John Ady announced *The Affiliate*, a National MOAA newsletter, highlighted our chapter ESGR recognition including a picture taken by Jim Cullison and quote from Chuck Schluter. It was a very positive article and good publicity for our chapter.

Armed Forces Career Day: John Ady indicated our chapter is participating in the upcoming AUSA annual Armed Forces Career Day with a donation of \$200.

MOAA: John Ady said MOAA is alive and well with a growing National membership and 55% life members but fewer chapters. For the fifth year in a row, *The Hill* congressional newspaper named MOAA the number one lobbyist in the country. MOAA is extremely effective in Washington, D.C.

LUNCH: John Ady shared a very funny joke and lunch was served.

2012 Officers: John presented the slate of officer candidates and board members for 2012.

President: COL John Ady

Immediate Past President: Col Ron Perkins

First Vice President: COL Rob Welch

Second Vice President: Lt Col Jim Cullison
Treasurer: COL Bill Roscher
Secretary: Carol Winkler
Directors:

COL Rance Farrell
Lt Col Ron Green
COL Nancy Burt
CAPT Frank Hoak
CDR Jim Draper

John asked for additional nominations from the floor. There were no additional nominations. Ron Green made a motion seconded by Terry Tassin that the slate of officers and directors as presented be approved. The motion carried unanimously.

5 Star Level of Excellence Award: John Ady announced our chapter earned the 5 Star Level of Excellence Award for the seventh consecutive year. He presented the award to Ron Perkins, 2010 Chapter President and Rob Welch.

Meritorious Service Awards: John Ady presented the AZ Chapter Meritorious Service Awards to members who have contributed their time and talent to support our chapter. He announced each award with a brief description of the recipient's specific contributions to our chapter and whether they had received previous awards. He was assisted by Betty Perkins.

Daniel Conway – 5th Award
Jim Cullison – 3rd Award
Beth Cullison – 2nd Award
Pat Dale – 6th Award
Gary Fredricks – 7th Award
Marie Fredricks – 5th Award
Ron Perkins – 4th Award
Bill Roscher – 3rd Award
Paul Schnur – 1st Award
Chuck Schluter – 7th Award
Terry Tassin – 7th Award
Rob Welch – 2nd Award

TOYS FOR TOTS: Terry Tassin thanked those that donated unwrapped toys for the annual *Marine Toys for Tots Foundation*. He said additional toy donations can still be made at Toys R Us stores.

Chapter 50/50 Raffle: Frank Hoak coordinated the raffle awarding three prizes: one \$10, one \$15, and one \$25 for a total of \$50 awarded.

Closing: John Ady shared a story about Benjamin Warner's knapsack from the Revolutionary War. Benjamin bequeathed his knapsack to his oldest son with instructions that as long as one thread of it remained to never surrender your liberties to a foreign invader. These words continue to inspire us today.

Next Board of Director's Meeting: December 1 at Papago National Guard headquarters.

Next Chapter Luncheon Meeting: December 17 with Dickens Carolers and Chinese Auction.

Benediction provided by John Ady

Adjournment: 1336 hours

Respectfully submitted: Beth Cullison, Secretary