

## **MOAA** Military Officers Association of America

March 2018 Volume 40, Issue 7

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The Superstition Mountain Chapter, Military Officers Association of America Inc., is a non-profit organization, IRS tax ID# 23-7430856

http://www.smcmoaa.org/

Please remember to share the newsletter with your spouse!

President's Comments



Greetings from your president! I hope everyone is doing well and enjoying the cool weather. We all know what is coming in a few short months! We recently held our February dinner meeting, and those of you that weren't in attendance missed an opportunity to hear our guest speaker, Mr. Louis Robinson. Louis was a dog handler in the Air Force and was deployed to Afghanistan and Iraq with his dog. He is a civilian now and his business is working with disabled Veteran's in training "Assist" dogs. The presentation was entertaining and very

informative. It is amazing to me what dogs can be trained to do to help in our society! We gave Mr. Robinson a donation to help with his work with Veterans, and we will be discussing at our Board Meetings what more we can do to help our Veterans in this area.

I have previously mentioned the House and Senate Bills that are in our State legislature that are working to help reduce the tax burden on retired Veterans. At last count, 33 States do not tax Veterans retired pay. We continue to watch these Bills and provide our input when possible.

Next month we take a break from our traditional evening dinner meeting and have our semiannual picnic. This is a very casual event with lots of socializing. If you haven't been to one of our picnics, come out and enjoy the camaraderie with Veterans like yourself.

Our Chapter is doing some good things, some of which you will read about in the following articles. Come out and enjoy our dinners, or picnics, and learn how you can help Veterans who have a need.

Thank you for your service.

Best regards,

Dave Rataczak, MG (Ret) U.S. Army President, SMC MOAA drataczak@cox.net



#### 2018 OFFICERS

President, MG Dave Rataczak

1st VP, CW4 Arlan Allen

2nd VP, Lt Col John Bushko

VP Auxiliary, Mrs. Judy Bushko

Secretary, Mrs. Peggy Allen

Treasurer, Col Thomas Ralph

Past President, Capt Ed Mangan

480-353-6261 <u>dratadzak@cox.net</u> 602-283-5862 <u>cw4allen@cox.net</u>

480-759-1717 jabushko@earthlink.net

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#### **2018 COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

Programs
Membership
Personal Affairs
Legislative
Newsletter
Website
Transition Coordinator
Director
Director
Director
Director

CW4 Arlan Allen
Lt Col John Bushko
Lt Gregory Moore
MG Dave Rataczak
Mrs. Marlene Fox
Lt. Ann Ferguson
Lt Col James Austin
Maj. Austin Foote
Mrs. Jackie Oddo
Capt. George Meegan

or Lt Col Sheryl Mauldin







#### AUXILIARY NEWS: from Judy Bushko

The auxiliary will meet on Friday, March 9<sup>th</sup> at Dobson Restaurant at 11:30am. Lou Bates will be educating us on the updated tax laws for 2018 as they stand now. Please feel free to invite your spouse and friends so they too may be enlightened.

Our April meeting will be relaxing with Barb Austin and Yoga Nidra. For those of you who have not tried it there is no twisting or stretching and can be done sitting in a chair.

At our last meeting we made up 39 Hygiene Kits and delivered them to the Veterans Center. Thank you for your continued support and participation.

# February Dinner Meeting















Our guest speaker Louis Robinson, spoke to us about Service Dogs. His company, Robinson Dog Training has come up with a way for people to get their service dogs for \$2,000 to \$3,000.

They also have a non-profit program for Veterans to get their dogs free. For more information check the website <a href="http://www.robinsondogtraining.co">http://www.robinsondogtraining.co</a> m/dogtrainerbio.html







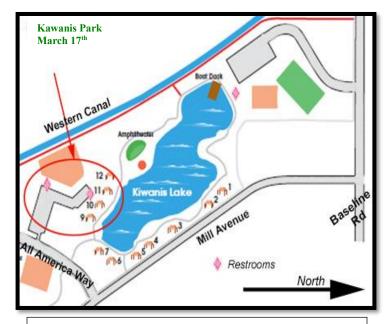




Pictured above, Auxiliary Vice President Judy Bushko gave Louis Robinson some scarves made for the service dogs. Next, President David Rataczak presented Louis with a donation from the Chapter and a Chapter Coin.

#### Thanks Greg and Meredith Moore for hosting our raffle!

We need volunteers to host our monthly raffles. If you would like to host one of the months or donate an item for the raffle, please contact Arlan Allen at 602-283-5862 <a href="mailto:cw4allen@cox.net">cw4allen@cox.net</a> We need Five or six items, each worth at least \$20.00. If you are willing to host, we will try and help you get the items. You will be compensated for the cost of the items.



From Baseline Rd, go south on Mill Ave to All American Way, turn right (west), then turn into the first parking lot on the north side. Ramada 10











#### **Superstition Mountain Chapter MOAA**



**Spring Picnic** 



Saturday March 17, 2018

Tempe Kawanis Park

11am Social - Noon Lunch

Meal includes

Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, and Brats, Potato Salad, condiments –Water & Soft Drinks

Cost: \$15.00 per person

Please bring a dessert for four, a salad, or beans

Reservations by Wednesday March 14<sup>th</sup> to to Arlan Alan

4201 W Luke Ave, Phoenix AZ 85019

**602-283-5862 -** <u>cw4allen@cox.net</u>



Kawanis Park is a beautiful place to spend an afternoon. The Ramada's are very nice, with restrooms close by and shade in case it rains or is too hot. Our Chef, Tom Ralph, does a great job cooking. We always have a good time. Please come join us.







Superstition Mountain Chapter MOAA
Auxiliary Luncheon
at Dobson's Restaurant

March 9, 2018

Lunch at 11:30am
Order lunch off the menu
No reservation needed

Please join us at 11:30 for some great tax information from Lou Bates



# Central Arizona Satellite Chapter Luncheon At Robson Ranch Elov AZ

March 31, 2018 Lunch at 12:00

#### No reservations necessary

Take Jimmie Kerr Rd, exit 198 off I-10. The chapter's person of contact is CWO4 Harold Fales, USN Ret. The chapter meets on the last Saturday of each month. This is subject to change.

For additional information: please contact CAS POC Harold Fales at <a href="mailto:droamin@gmail.com">droamin@gmail.com</a> - (573) 308-8372 or CAS Membership Rep. Norm Poole at <a href="mailto:nrpoole1066@gmail.com">nrpoole1066@gmail.com</a> - (520) 836-8456.















#### MEMBER BIRTHDAY

#### SPOUSE BIRTHDAY

#### **ANNIVERSARIES**

Douglas Conger	19	Betsy Andersen	15
Joseph Edgstrom	19	Judy Bushko	29
John Horak	7	Lee Sharp	21
Laverne Holaway	7	Carol Languell	8
Ted Konfererak	13	Lori Sottile	15
Mary Thomas	15	Cindy Wood	16

#### James & Jeannie Grayson 10 Lucian & Laura Ferguson 12 Leonard & Mary Ann Fuchs 27

#### CHAIRMAN REPORTS



**Ist Vice President** *Arlan Alan- Programs* 

Thanks to everyone for a good turnout at our February dinner. I believe we were all impressed with the efforts Louis Robinson is putting forth to help our less fortunate

veterans.

March 17<sup>th</sup> will be our annual Spring Picnic, so work on your best Irish brogue, and join us for Hamburgers and Brats. The fee will be \$15.00 per person. The location is Kiwanis Park, Ramada 10. Social hour begins at 1100 with lunch at noon. If you are planning on attending, please bring a dessert or salad for four. The Chapter will provide all the "fixings" for the picnic. Water, soft drinks and ice will also be provided. Alcohol will not be provided, but you are more than welcome to bring your own. **Please, no glass** 

**containers!** Please have your reservations to me no later than March 14<sup>th</sup>.

**4201 W Luke Ave, Phoenix AZ 85019 - 602-283-5862 -** cw4allen@cox.net



#### 2nd Vice President John Bushko

It was good to see everyone who attended the February dinner meeting and hope to see more of you at the picnic in March. To date 50 members have renewed for 2018.

We need those renewals in as soon as possible.

Continued on next page

Please welcome our newest members; Michael Ostermeyer and James Faull. We also would like to welcome a former member, John Follett back to chapter. If you know of any other former members who, for whatever reason, dropped their membership, please contact them and invite them back to the chapter. If you cannot contact them send me an email and I will contact them.

Have a great month and celebrate safely on St. Patrick's Day when everyone finds some relationship to the Irish!

480-759-1717 jabushko@earthlink.net



Treasurer Tom Ralph







I hope all of you are surviving tax season. Hopefully next year will be easier. Thanks to all of you who paid your dues and

contributed to our various programs, we are doing well in our collections. I would like to note, however, that some of you are a bit careless in writing checks. So far, the bank has been very flexible and has accepted all the various names you have given us, but I'm sure they don't have to do so. To make it easy, because our name is awkward and long, simply make your checks payable to:

**SMC of MOAA.** Thanks for your help.

Please remember to pay your 2018 Chapter dues. There is a form on page 11 of the newsletter.



**Transition Coordinator** James Austin Need A Job?

Intel is one of the most aggressive firms in the country in hiring veterans and their job

satisfaction rate among employees is commendable.

Intel Corporation, Intel Mobile Communications North America Inc. and Intel Federal, LLC have openings in Chandler, AZ with a combination of education/experience accepted in some positions in lieu of degree. To apply interested veterans need to email resume to Chandler at jobs@intel.com and reference the Job number obtained through Intel's HR Department or online in advance. Brief job description/requirements can also be obtained through veteran's contact by calling 1-888-262-2149 or EMAIL to PHOENIXJOBS@GANNETT.COM. Applications will be accepted through 4/9/18. Intel Corporation positions include: Analog Engineer, Applications Developer, Applications Engineer, Component Design Engineer, Data Scientist, Engineering Manager, Failure Analysis Engineer, Firmware Engineer, Packaging Engineer (Electrical), Packaging Engineer (Materials), Packaging

Engineer (Mechanical), Process Engineer, Product Engineer,, Product Marketing Engineer, Research Scientist, Software Engineer, Software Quality Engineer, Software Systems Architect, Strategic Planner, Systems Engineer (Platform), Technical Marketing Engineer, Test Research and Design Engineer. Intel Federal, LLC positions are also available including Packaging Engineer (Electrical). Packaging Engineering (Materials) and Packaging Engineering (Mechanical). In general positions require Bachelor's, Master's, PhD's or combination of applicable experience to offset respective degree.

Personal Affairs Greg Moore







There is apparently a new Medicare scam going around that all should know about. Presently your

Medicare number is your Social Security number with a letter. Starting April 1st of this year, Medicare will start a yearlong project to replace all current Medicare cards with alphanumeric (letters and numbers) identifiers.

The new cards will come to you in the mail. No need to make a request. The scam is that you may receive a telephone call from a "Medicare Representative "telling you that you will need a temporary card and the cost is \$5-\$50) and they will need some personal information DOB, bank numbers etc. to process your request". No No No No and No!!!!! Medicare will never call you unless you ask them to. They will always use the mail.

SCAM ALERT!!! If they say, "I work with Medicare", hang ID theft prevention; NEVER give out personal information on the phone unless you called them first and they are whom you are trying to reach. Be safe out there in cyberspace!



ROTC/JROTC Karl Pfitzer

The latest chart showing the status of our JROTC awards program is included in this newsletter. As you can see we have only three schools that need a chapter presenter:

Gilbert, Hamilton, Queen Creek, and Mesa High Schools. We just added Queen Creek as one of the schools we sponsor. I've delivered Awards Packages to most of the presenters and will get the remaining out shortly. I expect to get ceremony dates from most of the remaining schools by the end of this month. We have had several date/time conflicts with the schools so hopefully we can get these resolved by the end of March. If you are interested in presenting our awards at any of these schools, please contact me and I will get you on the list.

Thank you all for your continuing support of our JROTC schools and their outstanding cadets.

Karl Pfitzer, ROTC/JROTC Chairman 480-991-2463 <a href="mailto:pvkarl@cox.net">pvkarl@cox.net</a>









#### 2017-2018 ROTC / JROTC Awards Ceremony Sponsors & Presenters

#	School &	Date/Time	Presenter	Sponsor	Sr ROTC/JROTC
	Affiliation				Instructor
1	ASU: USA, USN, USAF	Th/4-19/0600	Rataczak/Pfitzer *	K Pfitzer	CAPT Philip Roos
2	Apache Jct, USN	We/5-9/1800	Rebecca Schmidt *	Rebecca Schmidt	SR Chief Patti
3	Basha, USAF	Fr/5-11/1500	Arlan Allen *	Arlan Allen	COL Cliff Stansell
4	Campo Verde, USAF		Steve Wood	Steve Wood	LTC Steve Wood
5	Casa Grande, USMC	We/4-25/1600	George Megan *	George Megan	LTC Mark Blaydes
6	Chandler, USAF		Ed Mangan *	Ed Mangan	MSGT Scott Goodsen
7	Coolidge, USMC		George Megan *	George Megan	1SGT David Ramierez
8	Desert Ridge, USAF	Mo/4-30/1900	Ed Fox *	Ed Fox	MAJ David Malinowski
9	Dobson, USAF		Ed Mangan	Ed Mangan	SMSgt Williams
10	Gilbert, USAF			Jim Austin	MAJ Bob Heim
11	Globe, USA	Sa/4-28/1300	Mangan/Schminke*	Mangan/Schminke	1SGT Raymond Dakos
12	Hamilton, USAF				LTC Greg Franklin
13	Higley, USAF	Tu/4-24/1800	Ed Mangan	Jim Austin	SMSGT Danny Alltop
14	Marcos De Niza, USA	Fr/4-20/1900	George Meegan *	Jerry Gustafson	SFC Peter McBroom
15	Maricopa, USAF	Sa/5-19/1800	Harold Fales		LTC Allen Kirksey
16	Mesa, USAF	Fr/4-20/1800			MSGT Vern Newton
17	Queen Creek USA	Mo/4-16			LTC Robert Kiermayr
18	Red Mountain, USA	Fr/4-20/1800	Greg Moore *	Greg Moore	MAJ Olga Cortez
19	Skyline, USA		Greg Moore *	Greg Moore	COL Geoff Stevens
20	Vista Grande, USMC		Harold Fales *	Doug Conger	GySGT Jesus Flores
21	Westwood, USAF	We/4-25/1830	Greg Moore *	Greg Moore	CMSGT Brian Shaffer



Legislative Dave Rataczak



From http://www.moaa.org/2018Goals/

Protecting Your Pay and Benefits:

#### MOAA's 2018 Advocacy Mission

MOAA's advocacy team is gearing up to protect your health care and retirement benefits, military pay, force levels, wounded warriors, and caregivers.

After an unpredictable 2017, the coming year likely will hold even more surprises on Capitol Hill. Midterm elections are coming in November, and the turnover in Congress could be significant. With partisanship on the rise, the political transition likely will pose interesting challenges.

Our uniformed servicemembers and their families have now endured 16 years of war. Overshadowing the challenges is the constant competition for fewer dollars, as budget caps dominate discussions at every level.

These growing budget pressures prompt efforts to erode service-earned benefits through reduced pay raises,

significant changes to housing allowances, and increased health care fees. While MOAA has successfully deflected some of those challenges, we must remain vigilant. Of paramount concern is the proven impact these reductions have on retention and readiness. We're resolved to ensure any reduction to career incentives - essential to the all-volunteer force - is approached with great care.

#### **TEN MOAA goals**

#### ONE

**Action item:** Ensure any TRICARE reform sustains access to top-quality care and avoids disproportional TRICARE fee increases.

Who is affected? All military beneficiaries, including active duty troops and retirees and their family members and others entitled to DoD's health care

The issue: Reforms to the Military Health System must sustain an operationally ready force with a ready medical force. MOAA strongly agrees the military's health care system needs to evolve beyond what it is today into a modern, high-performing, integrated system. However, this interdependent relationship between health care and the readiness-laden infrastructure must not lose sight of

either imperative. The health care benefit is a commitment our nation makes to servicemembers and their families, military retirees, and survivors for their years of service. Any reform of TRICARE must take into account the decades of service that constitute a prepaid, in-kind premium worthy of a top-tier health benefit. Over 80 percent of those in Congress have not served in uniform and likely do not understand the toll service has on individuals and military families.

The remedy: Personal stories from constituents have a lot of impact on Capitol Hill. MOAA's members, councils, and chapters are a great source of grassroots support. Remind congressional legislators that any TRICARE reform not only must serve to strengthen the interdependent relationships between health care and readiness but also take into account that veterans prepaid for their health benefits through decades of service and sacrifice.

#### **TWO**

**Action item:** Sustain military pay comparability with the private sector.

Who is affected? All active duty currently serving uniformed personnel and their families

The issue: Budget pressures might tempt Congress to reduce military pay raises, widening the gap between military pay and civilian-sector pay and hurting recruiting and retention.

**The remedy:** We must work to ensure annual military pay raises approved by Congress remain tied to the Employment Cost Index.

#### **THREE**

**Action item**: Block erosion of compensation and non-pay and quality-of-life benefits.

Who is affected? All currently serving uniformed personnel and their family members

The issue: Future proposals likely will reduce the value of compensation, to include non-pay and quality-of-life benefits such as the Basic Allowance for Housing, Special Incentive Pays, and commissary, exchange, and morale, welfare, and recreation benefits, harming recruiting and retention.

**The remedy:** MOAA will continue to oppose proposals to reduce the value of compensation or undermine long-term retention.

#### **FOUR**

**Action item:** Protect military retirement and COLAs.

Who is affected? All new entrants into military service after Jan. 1, as well as those with less than 12 years of active military service who choose to opt in to the new blended retirement system (BRS)

**The issue:** Budget constraints might lead to further reductions in the value of the military retirement benefit earned after 20 years of service.

**The remedy:** Extend the period of government matching funds beyond 26 years to actual retirement. Oppose any efforts to reduce or eliminate the mandatory 12-years-of-service bonus in the BRS. Continue to seek

comprehensive implementation of legislation authorizing concurrent receipt of uniformed service retired pay and VA disability compensation, to include a heightened focus on Chapter 61 retirees (those medically retired with less than 20 years of service).

#### FIVE

**Action item:** Sustain wounded warrior programs and expand caregiver support.

Who is affected? More than 52,000 servicemembers who were wounded in action, 1,000 battle-injured with major limb amputations, 327,000 traumatic brain injuries, and hundreds of thousands of individuals with service-connected conditions acquired since Sept. 11, 2001

The issue: While DoD, the VA, and the military services continue to maintain programs to care and support our most vulnerable servicemembers, MOAA has seen reductions in resources and funding for these programs. Protecting Your Pay and Benefits: MOAA's 2018 Advocacy Mission

The remedy: MOAA is committed to moving DoD and the VA to establish a more unified and integrated system of care and benefits that will provide comprehensive, wrap-around services to facilitate the health and well-being of the nation's wounded, ill, and injured. The Military and Veteran Caregiver Services Act of 2017, sponsored by Sen. Patty Murray (D-Wash.) and Rep. James Langevin (D-R.I.), is one step in that direction.

#### SIX

**Action item:** End financial penalties to disabled servicemembers.

Who is affected? Veterans with service-connected injuries

**The issue:** Veterans forced into disability retirements before completing a full career (also known as Chapter 61 retirees) are prohibited from receiving military retired pay concurrently with VA disability compensation.

**The remedy:** Sen. Dean Heller (R-Nev.) and Rep. Sanford Bishop (D-Ga.) have introduced legislation - S. 66 and H.R. 333, respectively - to expand concurrent receipt for disabled retirees.

#### **SEVEN**

**Action item:** End financial penalties to disabled servicemembers.

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#### **EIGHT**

Action item: Ensure the Guard and Reserve system adequately supports requirements for an operational reserve.. Continued on next page

Who is affected? Members of the reserve components and their families

The issue: Members of the Guard and Reserve community have proven their mettle many times over during the past 16 years of armed conflict. Meanwhile, the paradigm for reserve component usage has changed from a strategic reserve to a combat-ready warfighting element incorporated into current and future war planning. As the demands on Guard and Reserve troops have evolved, so has the need for benefits comparable to their active duty counterparts.

The remedy: MOAA will continue to work with Congress to generate and support legislation strengthening legal protections for Guard and Reserve members in their civilian employment and in consumer contracts.

#### **NINE**

**The issue:** Recruiting and retention of an all-volunteer force require alignment of spouse and family support programs.

Who is affected? Every servicemember who has or will have a family

The issue: The decision to remain in service often is made around the kitchen table and considers the evolving needs of the entire family, including the employment, educational, and health care needs of non-serving family members; access to child care; and the frequency of relocations.

The remedy: Decrease the military spouse unemployment rate, which remains four to six times higher than the national rate. Increase the synergy between family support and health care systems, along with initiatives to address schools lacking appropriate resources to keep mobile military children on track.

#### TEN

**Action item:** Ensure timely access to VA health care and preserve veterans' earned benefits.

**Who is affected?** There are 21 million veterans in the U.S., with 6.7 million receiving care from the Veterans Health Administration.

**The issue:** The demand for VA health care and benefits continues to grow, even as the agency has received insufficient funding from Congress and faced frequent proposals for budget cuts.

The remedy: MOAA continues to press for VA health care and benefit system transformation, including investments in technology, financial systems, and infrastructure

MOAA National Legislative Action items are available to you at <a href="http://www.moaa.org/">http://www.moaa.org/</a>. Click on 'Take Action' at the top of the page.

## **Auxiliary Sponsored Programs**



#### **Hygiene Kits for Vets**

Judy Bushko



Some of the items we need for our kits are: hand sanitizer, razors, shaving cream, feminine products, deodorant, wash cloths, combs, white

socks, small bars of soap, Tissues (small pkg). All of these items are travel size. Please join in and help, just as you have all stepped

up to help with all the other great projects the Auxiliary has undertaken over the years. Thanks for your continued support! Over 159 kits made since we started last year!





# **Operation Paperback Books** *Ann Ferguson*



We send paperbacks to the troops and hard cover books are taken to the VA Hospital. Bring

your books to any chapter function, or contact Ann Ferguson. 480-961-9634 or email vfergusonfnp@cox.net

Since 2012, Over 1275 books taken to the VA Hospital and hundreds of paperbacks have been sent out to our troops.



#### Packages from Home Ann Ferguson

We will be sending boxes to our troops every few months. Thanks for your support. Bring your donations to any chapter function. Monetary donations are always appreciated.

480-961-9634 - vfergusonfnp@cox.net



Cell Phones for Soldiers / Helping Heroes Home

Jackie Oddo

Calling for old phones!



When you upgrade your phone, don't throw those old phones away. Bring them to us. We'll send them in to get phone time for our troops overseas. Phones don't need to work.

For more information contact Jackie Oddo 480-753-4253

#### **FOR Your Information!**

Taken from The MOAA Newsletter | March 01, 2018

By: MOAA Staff

MOAA will present its annual awards to six people who have made outstanding contributions in support of the military community. The awards will be presented at an April event on Capitol Hill.

2018 Arthur T. Marix Congressional Leadership Award U.S. Reps. Martha McSally (R) and Kyrsten Sinema (D), both of Arizona, will receive MOAA's 2018 Arthur T. Marix Congressional Leadership Award for their strong leadership advocacy to sustain our nation's all-volunteer force. McSally is a member of the House Committee on Armed Services, and Sinema is a member of the House Financial Services Committee. The Marix Award is named for the retired Marine Corps colonel who founded MOAA in 1929. It is presented annually to members of Congress who distinguish themselves in protecting the rights and interests of uniformed services members, their families, and survivors.

"We selected Representatives McSally and Sinema because of their committee contributions in support of military servicemembers, veterans, and their families in the past and what we hope to see more of in the future," said Col. Mike Barron, USA (Ret), MOAA's government relations director for currently serving and retired affairs.

#### 2018 Distinguished Service Award

Tim Barone, president and CEO of Arizona-based Vantage Mobility International, and Kevin Johnson, president and CEO of Starbucks Coffee Company, will receive MOAA's Distinguished Service Award. Barone will receive the award for Vantage Mobility International's work helping thousands of disabled veterans achieve independence and mobility, while Johnson's award recognizes Starbucks Coffee Company's continued support in the hiring of veterans and military spouses. The award recognizes organizations or individuals not in Congress who have greatly aided people who served in the U.S. armed forces.

"Tim Barone and Vantage Mobility International are helping wounded service members reclaim independence," said MOAA President and CEO Lt. Gen. Dana Atkins, USAF (Ret). "That impacts every aspect of their lives."

Veteran unemployment is always on MOAA's radar, Atkins said. "Starbucks Coffee Company is taking a stand where it can, in the way it can, to help with that. I am proud to honor Kevin Johnson and Starbucks with the 2018 Distinguished Service Award."

## 2018 Colonel Paul W. Arcari Meritorious Service Award

Jorge Rueda, formerly with the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee, and Samantha Gonzalez, with the House Veterans' Affairs Committee, will receive MOAA's 2018 Colonel Paul W. Arcari Meritorious Service Award. Rueda is being recognized for his advocacy on veterans' issues, and Gonzalez is being recognized for her advocacy to sustain veterans' health care. The Arcari award, which honors congressional staff members who have made significant contributions to the uniformed services community, is named for the retired officer who led MOAA's Government Relations Department from 1990 until 2001.

"Veterans issues - health care, employment, earned benefits, retirement - are among MOAA's top goals," said MOAA Vice President of Government Relations Col. Dan Merry, USAF (Ret). "We cannot overlook the efforts of those who are working with us to achieve those goals."

MOAA has awarded the Marix and Distinguished Service awards since 1997. Past recipients of the Marix Award include Sens. Lindsay Graham, John McCain, and Jim Webb; past recipients of the Distinguished Service Award include Tom Brokaw, Toby Keith, and retired Army Gen. Colin Powell. The Arcari award recognizing congressional staff members was first awarded in 2000.



# NEW SLETTER EDITOR Marlene Fox

As the Newsletter Editor, I strive to minimize errors. There will be times that mistakes occur. If you notice any errors, please let me know. I would appreciate any input on articles you might think would be appropriate for the newsletter. It would also be helpful if all address changes, corrections, or email changes were sent to me, so I can insure you receive the newsletter without delay.

marlenekfox@cox.net -1151 N Joshua Tree Lane, Gilbert, AZ 85234, 480-854-9473



Happy \$\mathbb{H}\$
St. Patricks Day





**MOAA's Mission**: The Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) is a non-profit veterans' association dedicated to maintaining a strong national defense and to preserving the earned entitlements of members of the uniformed services and their families and survivors.

MOAA National & Superstition Mountain Chapter Membership Application
DateMember Name & Initial
Branch of Service Rank
Spouse First Name National MOAA Number
Street Address         City         State
Home Phone #Work or Cell#
Please Circle: ARMYAIR FORCE-NAVYMARINE CORPS- COAST GUARDNOAAPUBLIC HEALTH SVC
Circle All That Apply: REGULAR-RESERVE-NATIONAL GUARD-FORMER OFFICER-ACTIVE-RETIRED-
MALE FEMALE WIDOW WIDOWER
Member Date of Birth MM/DD/YYYY Spouse Date of Birth MM/DD/YYYY
Anniversary DateE-mail Address
to participate in grassroots activism effort. You get <i>Military Officer Magazine</i> via our mobile app. You'll also have the opportunit to attend our career fairs, networking events, and classes and to take advantage of valuable discounts on products and services. As a <b>PREMIUM Member</b> you get full access to everything MOAA has to offer, including our full spectrum of our career resources (one-on-one career counseling, résumé review and interviewing advice and critiques), countless discount on products and travel, and access to all MOAA exclusi publications and news updates. You'll be able to tap into MOAA's staff of experts for financial and investment accesses, college scholarships for dependents, and much more That's on top of all the benefits you receive at the BASIC invembership level.  **Superstition Mountain Chapter** membership fee is \$25 per year. Spouses of current members may participate in Chapter Auxiliar luncheons and activities with no fee. Chapter bylaws require Chapter members and Chapter Auxiliary members to be members of MOAA National.  **Even National** Provided and investment of take advantage of valuable discounts on products and services. As a product of take advantage of valuable discounts on products and services. As a product of take advantage of valuable discounts on products and services. As a product of take advantage of valuable discounts on products and services. As a product of take advantage of valuable discounts on products and services. As a product of take advantage of valuable discounts on products and services. As a product of take advantage of valuable discounts on products and services. As a product of take advantage of valuable discounts on products and services. As a product of take advantage of valuable discounts on products and services. As a product of take advantage of valuable discounts on products and services. As a product of take advantage of valuable discounts on products and services. As a product of take advantage of valuable discounts on products and services.
For National dues, enclose check for: \$37.00 – Make check payable to MOAA National Mail to: MOAA, Dept. 1488, Maryfield, VA 22116-9820
Enclose check for: Chapter \$25.00 or Auxiliary (SSAC) \$12.50 —  Make check payable to SMC of MOAA.  Mail Chapter Application and Check to:  Superstition Mountain Chapter MOAA, Tom Ralph, Treasurer  20444 N 22 <sup>nd</sup> St, Phoenix, AZ 85024 - Phone 602-569-2130
For More Information Contact, Membership Committee Chairman John Bushko: 480-759-1717 jabushko@earthlink.net
Name tags are durable hard plastic, white background with MOAA logo and your name engraved in black. To place your order, please fill out the form below.
Print first and last name  Select nametag type pin on or magnetic  1
2.



#### CLIP AND MAIL

#### **March Picnic Reservation**

Saturday, March 17, 2018 – Kawanis Park Social Hour 11:00pm Lunch 12:00pm

Meal Choices: Hamburgers \_\_\_\_\_ Hot Dogs\_\_\_\_\_ or Brats\_\_\_\_ \$15.00 per meal – Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

#### Reservations must be in by Wednesday, March 14th

Make checks payable to: SMC of MOAA

CLIP AND MAIL TO: **ARLAN ALLEN:** 4201 W Luke Ave, Phoenix AZ 85019 602-283-5862 (can leave message) or email: <a href="mailto:cw4allen@cox.net">cw4allen@cox.net</a>

# Annual Dues: \$25 Regular Members \$12.50 Auxiliary (SSAC) Members Please make check payable to SMC of MOAA --- Write MOAA Chapter Dues on Memo line of the check Mail to: Tom Ralph, Treasurer 20444 N 22nd St, Phoenix, AZ 85024 Check enclosed; renew my membership for 2018 Printed Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ My National MOAA Number\_\_\_\_\_\_ Address\_\_\_\_\_\_ Phone number\_\_\_\_\_\_ Email\_\_\_\_\_\_



#### **Chapter Auxiliary Donations**

Enclosed is a donation of \$

This donation may be used for any Auxiliary projects \_\_\_\_\_\_ specifically, for Packages from Home Hygiene Kits for Vets

Please make check payable to SMC of MOAA Write *Auxiliary* in the memo line of the check

Mail to: Tom Ralph, Treasurer 20444 N 22<sup>nd</sup> St, Phoenix, AZ 85024



#### **ROTC/JROTC Donations**

Enclosed is a donation of \$ School Awards Sponsor \$130.00

Please make check payable to SMC of MOAA Write *JROTC* in the memo line of the check

Mail to: Tom Ralph, Treasurer 20444 N 22<sup>nd</sup> St, Phoenix, AZ 85024

Superstition Mountain Chapter Military Officers Association of America 1151 N Joshua Tree Lane Gilbert, AZ 85234



## 2018 Chapter Activity schedule - (Dates and times are subject to change)

Chapter Board Meetings	Chapter Auxiliary Luncheons	Chapter Dinner/Picnic Meetings
March 12 <sup>th</sup> - 9am	March 9 <sup>th</sup> - 11:30am	March 17 <sup>th</sup> – 12:00 pm social – 1:00pm picnic
April 9 <sup>th</sup> - 9am	April 13 <sup>th</sup> - 11:30am	April 15 <sup>th</sup> – 4:00pm social-5:00pm dinner
May 14th -9am	May 10 <sup>th</sup> =11:30am	May 20 <sup>th</sup> - 4:00pm social-5:00pm dinner
June - No meeting	June 8 <sup>th</sup> - 11:30am	June10 <sup>th</sup> – 12 pm social – 1:00pm Lunch
July - No meeting	July 13 <sup>th</sup> -11:30am	July15 <sup>th</sup> - 12 pm social – 1:00pm Lunch
August - No meeting	August 10 <sup>th</sup> - 11:30am	August 19 <sup>th</sup> - 12 pm social – 1:00pm Lunch
September 10 <sup>th</sup> – 9:00am	September 14 <sup>th -</sup> 11:30am	September 16 <sup>th</sup> - 4:00pm social – 5:00pm dinner
October 8 <sup>th</sup> – 9:00am	October 12 <sup>th</sup> - 11:30am	October 21 <sup>st</sup> - 11:00am social – 12 noon picnic
November 12 <sup>th</sup> – 9:00am	November 9 <sup>th</sup> - 11:30am	November 18 <sup>th</sup> - 4:00pm social – 5:00pm dinner
December 10 <sup>th</sup> - 9:00am	December 14 <sup>th</sup> - 11:30am	December 16 <sup>th</sup> - 5:00pm social – 6:00pm dinner