

MOAA Military Officers Association of America

May 2018 Volume 40, Issue 11

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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



Welcome to the Superstition Mountain May newsletter. Again, I have to start with some sad news. We lost one of our members since our last meeting. Walter Herd, a longtime active member of our Chapter has passed. Walt and Joyce could always be counted on to be at our meetings and be active participants. Walt was a career Army pilot and spent most of his duty with the Arizona National Guard. We wish Joyce and her family well and let them know that we will help them with any needs they may have. And Joyce you know you

are welcome, as always, at any of our events. RIP Walt!

On a much more positive note, I am happy to announce that we were just notified by National that two of our Chapter members received high honors. Marlene Fox received the National 5 Star Communication Award for producing our Newsletter every month, and Ann Ferguson received the 4 Star Award for managing our website! Congratulations to both and well done!!

Summer is rapidly approaching, and with that we have one more Sunday evening dinner meeting and then we switch to our Sunday afternoon brunch for three months. As most of you know, this is a very casual event with lots of conversation, and bad words to say about our heat. This is the time of year we don't call our friends in the Midwest and brag about our weather!

This State Legislature is also winding down for the year. By the time you read this the legislature should have declared sine die. I mention this because there were several pieces of legislation that were working their way through system that would impact Veteran's. One that I believe will get the Governor's signature is to increase the tax deduction for military retired pay from \$2,500 today to \$10,000. by 2020. Another is a freezing of property taxes for seniors over 65, but there is an annual income level you can't exceed. I believe that amount is \$35,000.

Continued on next page



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 cw4allen@cox.net

480-759-1717 jabushko@earthlink.net

480- 759-1717 jdbushko@earthlink.net

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
Lt Col Sheryl Mauldin

President's message continued...

At our May Board meeting we will be finalizing some old business dealing with the issue of donating money for the "service dog training for a Veteran" program. This will be our last board meeting until September.

I hope all our members are doing well, and we look forward to seeing many more of you at our dinners and luncheons.

Best regards,

Dave Rataczak, MG (Ret) U.S. Army President, SMC MOAA







AUXILIARY NEWS: from Judy Bushko

The next meeting of the MOAA auxiliary will be on Friday, May 11th at Dobson Restaurant. I will not be there, and Peggy is not sure if she will be either. We were planning to do Hygiene Kits, but it may be best if you just socialize and have lunch, as it is a lot of stuff to pull out to put together the kits. I apologize but I won't be back in town until that day.

I do want to pass on some information: The Sunday School at St. Peter and Paul Orthodox Church put together between 80 and 100 Hygiene Kits. The final count is not in yet. The children would like to continue this project. This is the church John and I attend and when the Sunday School coordinator heard about our project she wanted to know if it was okay to adopt it for their Lenten project. The children were most enthusiastic, and the church supported them wholeheartedly.

We are planning to send out some Packages from Home this fall. We will keep you in the loop once details are finalized.

Thank you for all your support and dedication to our veterans.

April Dinner Meeting



Our guest speaker, fellow member Maj Jerry Gustafson, USA, Retired, shared some of his life stories with us.

Jerry served in World War II, Korea and Vietnam. He talked about his experience with the 442nd Regimental Combat Team during WWII. It was an interesting talk and we appreciate his sharing with us.











We had a great meal and an evening with friends. What more could we ask for? We did miss a few of our members that were ill. We wish them a speedy recovery and are looking forward to seeing them at our dinner meeting in May.





A big thanks to all who have hosted our monthly raffles!

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 cw4allen@cox.net. 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.







Superstition Mountain Chapter MOAA Auxiliary Luncheon at Dobson's Restaurant May 11, 2018

Lunch at 11:30am

Order lunch off the menu

No reservation needed



Come in out of the heat and join us for lunch this summer

June 9th, July 14th, and August 11th
Same place – Same time – Same wonderful people!

Superstition Mountain Chapter MOAA

Dinner Meeting May 20, 2018

4:00pm Social – 5:00pm Dinner

Dobson's Restaurant at the golf course 2155 S. Dobson Rd., Mesa, AZ

Guest Speaker

Lou Bates, EA. Speaking on new tax laws

Menu choices

Filet of Beef, Chicken Cordon Blu, or Fish & Chips

All meals include Green Salad, Vegetables, Dinner Rolls, Dessert & Coffee or Tea \$25.00 per person

Reservations by Wednesday 16th

to Arlan Alan

4201 W Luke Ave, Phoenix AZ 85019

602-283-5862 - cw4allen@cox.net

Central Arizona Satellite Chapter

Our next meeting will be Saturday, May 26th, 12:00pm, at the Robson Ranch in Eloy, AZ. Take Jimmie Kerr Rd, exit 198 off I-10. The chapter's person of contact is CWO4 Harold Fales, USN Ret. droamin@gmail.com (573) 308-8372 or CAS Membership Rep. Norm Poole at nrpoole1066@gmail.com - (520) 836-8456. The chapter meets on the last Saturday of each month. This is subject to change.













A Moment of Remembrance

Join us at our May Dinner as we take a few moments to remember our members who have passed.





Birthday Congratulations





Anniversary Congratulations



MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST
Al & Paula Anderer Fred & Ann Ferguson Karl & Joan Kohlhoff	Arlan & Peggy Allen Greg & Meredith Moore Duke & Lynda Moore Kenneth & Lois Morgan Norman & Sandra Poole Hubert & Zoe Sharp	Ted & Karen Kondferak Jim & Dana Knapp William & Connie Koch	Doug & Donner Conger Harold & Sharon Fales Joseph & Helen Goldblatt John & Magdalen Kwak Hal & Melody Peebles Gregory & Margaret Romas

CHAIRMAN REPORTS



Ist Vice President *Arlan Alan- Programs*

Many thanks to Major Jerry Gustafson, USA, Ret. for sharing his personal experiences and knowledge of the 442nd

Regimental Combat Team during WWII. His sharing of his personal experiences during this historic period of US history, was very moving. We are honored to have, as a member of the Chapter, an officer who served with the 442nd Infantry Regiment, the most decorated Unit in Army history! The Chapter salutes you Sir!

The May dinner meeting will be on the 20th. Social hour begins at 1600 with dinner served at 1700. Meal choices are Filet of Beef, Chicken Cordon Bleu, or Fish & Chips. Please have your reservations in by Wednesday, May 16th to 602-283-5862 (may leave a message) or cw4allen@cox.net. The guest speaker for this meeting will be our own Lou Bates, EA. Lou will be speaking on the new tax laws. If you have questions regarding the new tax laws, please bring them to the meeting and Lou will try to answer them. Please note: this will be the last dinner meeting until September 16th.

We start our summer luncheon schedule on June 10th. Please note, this is the 2nd Sunday in June. The June meeting was moved so as not to interfere with Father's Day. Summer lunches begin at 1200 for social hour with the meal served at 1300. Reservations should be made by Wednesday, June 6th, to 602-283-5862 (may leave a message) or cw4allen@cox.net

The July luncheon will be Sunday, July 15th. Reservations by July 11th.

The August luncheon will be Sunday August 19th. Reservations by August 15th.

The menu for June, July and August is: Cheeseburger with Fries; Rueben and Fries; Bacon, Lettuce, Tomato, Turkey & Avocado sandwich with Fries or Chef Salad.

If you are escaping the heat this summer, travel safely and we look forward to seeing you again in September. Those of you staying in the heat with us, we hope to see you at the summer luncheons.



2nd Vice President *John Bushko*

As we prepare for the summer months ahead don't forget to renew your chapter membership. We are just over 75 percent complete on our goal of 100 percent

retention. We look forward to seeing everyone at the next dinner meeting.

For those who will be traveling north to escape the valley heat please be safe and we will see you in the Fall.

480-759-1717 jabushko@earthlink.net



Treasurer

Tom Ralph 💖







The weather has definitely taken a turn for the hotter. We have one more dinner prior to the hot muggy days of the summer and

I hope you have plans for traveling to a cooler spot, hopefully up in the high country in the trees. Melanie and I usually are out of town during the summer, hanging out in Flagstaff and miss most of the summer luncheons. Taking care of the checkbook will be George Meegan for most of the summer. You may still send checks to my address for dues, etc and they will be processed. Have a terrific summer and try to keep cool.



Personal Affairs *Greg Moore*





Things to remember...

When a veteran dies these documents will be needed and should be kept on hand.

- Full name
- SS and/or service number
- Date and place of birth
- Retired rank
- Date of retirement
- Disability rating (military/VA)
- Circumstances surrounding the death
- Next of kin
- Copy of DD214
- Copy of Death Certificate



Transition Coordinator *James Austin*Need A Job?

NXP USA, Inc. has multiple openings for positions in Chandler, AZ for Technology

Solutions Analyst, Product Test Engineer, and RF Wireless Engineer. Related degree and/or experience and/or skills required for all positions and veterans are highly encouraged to apply online by visiting http://www.nxp.com and click on "careers." Continued

Data Scientists sought by Emailage Corporation in Chandler, AZ to parallelize algorithms and scale traditional offline models. Degreed, experienced with development and implementation of machine learning and data mining, etc. required. Interested veterans should send resumes to Brittney.cullen@emailage.com.

Deloitte & Touche LLP in Phoenix as well as across the country and its subsidiaries have recurring job openings in the fields of Computer Science, Information Technology, Engineering, CIS, and MIS or closely related disciplines and repeatedly have requested for veterans to contact www.deloitte.com/us/about or https://jobs2.deloitte.com/us/en/ for detailed description of type jobs available in their immediate area.

For those veterans interested in entering the teaching career field K-College, now is the time to contact their local school boards, districts, community or senior colleges for positions available in the 2018-2019 academic year and make arrangements for credential requirements including degrees, language ability, state certification as well as necessary FBI ID checks. Variance in requirements exist and the need to fill more vacated positions in the Greater Maricopa County Complex is evident. Veterans are highly encouraged to explore these challenging career opportunities within the educational community. Put your real-world knowledge and experience to use in a most challenging career pursuit!

ROTC/JROTC
Karl Pfitzer









We started our JROTC/ROTC awards presentations in April. At Arizona State University, a.medal was awarded to a cadet in each of the 4 uniformed branches at the school. Many of the cadets have received their commissions and will be entering active duty upon graduation in May. In addition to awarding the MOAA medal for their academic performance and leadership skills, we were very pleased to see the dedication the cadets demonstrated towards serving their country post-graduation.

During the month, members of our chapter also presented award packages to JROTC programs at our supported high schools. During May, Chapter members will present awards to the remaining high school programs. I want to again thank all the presenters, school sponsors, and Chapter members for their financial support and willingness to take time out of their schedules to personally present awards at the school ceremonies. Our program continues to receive praise from ASU and the high school instructors for our support of their cadets. I want to ensure that all Chapter members understand the appreciation they have for our continuing support and presence.

Karl Pfitzer, ROTC/JROTC Chairman 480-991-2463 pvkarl@cox.net

A note of thanks

On behalf of the Cadets at Casa Grande Union High School, MSgt. Hazzard and myself, I want to thank you and your respective organizations for the support and recognition you have given to the cadets. These young men and women work hard all year to make a difference and last night showed that someone cares. Please extend my appreciation to your organizations for all that they do, particularly in the recognition of the good things the young people of our country are doing every day. The representatives you send were courteous and professional and reflects on the character of your organizations.

Ooh-rah and Semper Fi, LTC Mark Blaydes



Legislative
Dave Rataczak



Legislative Action Center update from MOAA National – April 30, 2018

Take Action

End the pay reduction for medical retirees

These important issues require your immediate attention. Send your elected officials a MOAA-suggested message today

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

End the pay reduction for medical retirees

End the deduction of service-earned retirement pay to offset VA disability compensation for those servicemembers whose service-connected, non-combat related disability retirement under Chapter 61, 10 U.S.C. precluded them from serving at least 20 years.

<u>Compensation is Crucial to Recruitment and Retention</u>

The president has requested DoD commence with the 13th Quadrennial Review of Military Compensation (QRMC) to assess the adequacy of military compensation and, essentially, decide if a salary system would be more effective for recruiting and retention.

Key Bills

These are some of the important issues before Congress.

Federal - HR 1384

A bill to amend titles 5, 10, 37, and 38 of the United States Code to ensure that an order to serve on active duty under section 12304a and 12304b of title 10, United States Code, is treated the same as other orders to serve on active duty for determining the eligibility of members of the

uniformed services and veterans for certain benefits and for calculating the deadlines for certain benefits.

MOAA Supports

Federal - HR 92

A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to increase the maximum age for children eligible for medical care under the CHAMPVA program.

MOAA Supports

Federal - HR 102

A bill to expand the research and education on and delivery of complementary and alternative medicine to veterans, and for other purposes.

MOAA Supports

Federal - S 422

A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify presumptions relating to the exposure of certain veterans who served in the vicinity of the Republic of Vietnam, and for other purposes.

MOAA Supports

Federal - HR 299

A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify presumptions relating to the exposure of certain veterans who served in the vicinity of the Republic of Vietnam, and for other purposes.

MOAA Supports

Federal - HR 3897

Gold Star Family Support and Installation Access Act.

MOAA Supports

Federal - HR 846

A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to repeal the requirement for reduction of survivor annuities under the Survivor Benefit Plan for military surviving spouses to offset the receipt of veteran's dependency and indemnity compensation, and for other purposes.

MOAA Supports

Federal - HR 5125

A bill to improve and expand authorities, programs, services, and benefits for military spouses and military families, and for other purposes.

MOAA Supports

Federal - S 2541

A bill to amend the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act to authorize spouses of servicemembers to elect to use the same residences as the servicemembers, and for other purposes.

MOAA Supports

Federal - S 2457

A bill to provide a work opportunity tax credit for military spouses and to provide for flexible spending arrangements for childcare services for military families.

MOAA Supports

Federal - S 2379

A bill to improve and expand authorities, programs, services, and benefits for military spouses and military families, and for other purposes.

MOAA Supports

Federal - S 492

A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow members of the Ready Reserve of a reserve component of the Armed Forces to make elective deferrals on the basis of their service to the Ready Reserve and on the basis of their other employment.

MOAA Supports

Federal - S 2416

A bill to amend titles 5, 10, and 37, United States Code to ensure that an order to serve on active duty under section 12304b of title 10, United States Code, is treated the same as other orders to serve on active duty for determining the eligibility of members of the uniformed services for certain benefits.

MOAA Supports

Federal - S 2379

A bill to improve and expand authorities, programs, services, and benefits for military spouses and military families, and for other purposes.

MOAA Supports

Federal - S 2416

A bill to amend titles 5, 10, and 37, United States Code to ensure that an order to serve on active duty under section 12304b of title 10, United States Code, is treated the same as other orders to serve on active duty for determining the eligibility of members of the uniformed services for certain benefits.

MOAA Supports







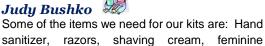
Happy Mother's Day
All of you wonderful ladies have a
great day!

Auxiliary Sponsored Programs



Hygiene Kits for Vets

Judy Bushko



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

products, deodorant, wash cloths, combs, white

up to help with all the other great projects the Auxiliary has undertaken over the years. Thanks for your continued support! Over 120 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 1250 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



Packages from Home



Operation Paperback





Hygiene Kits for Vets







In Memoriam CW4 Walter Herd US Army, Retired April 19, 2018





2018 Luncheons



June 10th, July 15th, August 19th

Dobson's Restaurant at the golf course
Noon Social Hour – 1:00pm Lunch – \$20.00 per person

Menu Choices

Cheeseburger with Fries; Rueben with Fries; Turkey & Avocado Sandwich or Chef Salad.

Reservations by Wednesday before each luncheon to Arlan Alan

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









Memorial Day, an American holiday observed on the last Monday of May, honors men and women who died while serving in the U.S. military. Originally known as Decoration Day, it originated in the years following the Civil War and became an official federal holiday in 1971.













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 Mo	untain Chapter Men	nbership Appli	cation	
Date	eMember Name & Initial				
	nch of ServiceRank				
Spo	use First Name Nation	al MOAA Number			-
Stre	et Address	City Sta	nteZIP		
Hor	ne Phone #Work or Cella	<u> </u>			
Plea	ase Circle: ARMYAIR FORCE-NAVYMARINE COR	PS- COAST GUARDN	IOAAPUBLIC	HEALT	H SVC
Circ	cle All That Apply: REGULAR-RESERVE-NATIONAL	GUARD-FORMER OFF	ICER-ACTIVE-F	(ETIRE	D-
MA	LE FEMALE WIDOW WIDOWER				
Mer	mber Date of Birth MM/DD/YYYY Spo	ise Date of Birth MM_	/DD/YYY	Y	_
Anr	niversary DateE-mail Address				
to parto at a Pl rescon parto	AA National membership for 2018 has 3 types to pick from the membership-fee is age dependent. As a BASIC Meanticipate in grassroots activism effort. You get Military Of the dependent our career fairs, networking events, and classes and the REMIUM Member you get full access to everything ources (one-on-one career counseling, résumé review products and travel, and access to all MOAA exclusional AA's staff of experts for financial and investment and the start of the benefits you receive at the BASIC derstition Mountain Chapter membership fee is \$25 per diliary luncheons and activities with no fee. Chapter by members of MOAA National. National dues, enclose check for: \$37.00 – Make child to: MOAA, Dept. 1488, Maryfield, VA 22116-982	mber you will receive elegicer Magazine via our notake advantage of value MOAA has to offer, in us, and interviewing active publications and not offer, college scholars Membership level. year. Spouses of curreaws require Chapter means were payable to MOAA eck payable to MOAA.	lectronic newslett mobile app. You'll able discounts on cluding our full lvice and critique ews updates. You ships for dependent members materials	ers and I also ha product spectrues), cou ou'll be dents, a	have opportunities we the opportunity is and services. As um of our career untless discounts a able to tap into and much more.
Enc	close check for: Chapter \$25.00 or Auxiliary (SSAC)	\$12.50 -			
Sup 204 For Nar	ke check payable to SMC of MOAA. Mail Chapter A terstition Mountain Chapter MOAA, Tom Ralph, Tr. 44 N 22 nd St, Phoenix, AZ 85024 - Phone 602-569-2 More Information Contact, Membership Committed the tags are durable hard plastic, white background place your order, please fill out the form below.	easurer 130 ee Chairman John Bus	shko:480-759-17 [.]		
	Print first and last name				etag type
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	1.			_	
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May Dinner Meeting Reservation

Sunday, May 20, 2018 - Dobson's Restaurant Social Hour 4:00pm Dinner 5:00pm

Meal Choices: Filet of Beef	Chicken Cordon Blu	_Fish & Chips
\$25.00 per meal – Name(s)		

Reservations must be in by Wednesday, May 16th

Make checks payable to: SMC of MOAA

	CLIP AND MAIL TO: ARLAN ALLEN: 4201 W Luke Ave, Phoenix AZ 85019
	2018 Chapter Dues Renewal Form
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 22 nd St, Phoenix, AZ 85024
	Check enclosed; renew my membership for 2018
Signed	My National MOAA Number
Address	
Phone number_	Email
Enclose	ROTC/JROTC Donations d 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 22nd St, Phoenix, AZ 85024
	• '
	Chapter Auxiliary Donations
	Enclosed is a donation of \$
S	This donation may be used for any Auxiliary projects pecifically, 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 nd 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
May 14 th -9am	May 10 th =11:30am	May 20 th - 4:00pm social-5:00pm dinner
June - No meeting	June 8 th - 11:30am	June10 th – 12 pm social – 1:00pm Lunch
July - No meeting	July 13 th -11:30am	July15 th - 12 pm social – 1:00pm Lunch
August - No meeting	August 10 th - 11:30am	August 19th - 12 pm social – 1:00pm Lunch
September 10 th – 9:00am	September 14 ^{th -} 11:30am	September 16 th - 4:00pm social – 5:00pm dinner
October 8 th – 9:00am	October 12 th - 11:30am	October 21st - 11:00am social – 12 noon picnic
November 12 th – 9:00am	November 9 th - 11:30am	November 18 th - 4:00pm social – 5:00pm dinner
December 10 th – 9:00am	December 14 th - 11:30am	December 16 th - 5:00pm social – 6:00pm dinner