

MOAA Military Officers Association of America

September 2018 Volume 41, Issue 1

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This newsletter is published monthly September - May.



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!



Chapter Members,

We are now entering into our fall schedule with Board of Director's meetings and evening dinners (except for our October picnic). Welcome back to all of you that left the State for the awhile, or even the summer!

We all know by now that Senator McCain has passed. We mourn the passing of a statesman and veteran.

As we begin our fall schedule, I think it is time to re-energize our initiatives to grow membership. This is an ongoing challenge that every chapter faces, but it is critically important if we are to have the power to persuade elected officials to support Bills for our military, and our Veterans. On the Federal side, Congress is working on the Military Appropriations Bill to fund the Authorization Bill. They expect to be finished by October. The DOD budget is one of the biggest in recent history!

We also have vacancies on our Board, so if anyone is interested, please contact any one of our Board members.

Lastly, look for improvements in our website. John Bushko is working with Ann Ferguson and a webmaster in Colorado to bring improvements. We look forward to this.

I hope we can see more of our members at our functions. Remember we exist to support our Veterans and military members.

Thank you

Best regards,

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



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

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
Capt. George Meegan
Lt Col Sheryl Mauldin









I hope everyone has had a nice summer and stayed as cool as possible. The auxiliary will meet on Friday September 24th at 11:00 at Dobson Ranch Restaurant. We will be stuffing pillows which will be presented to Lin Su Cooney at our chapter dinner meeting on Sunday, September 16th in memory of Jackie Oddo. Pillows were also given to Jackie's 3 children at her memorial service. Her Children said they thought she would be so honored to know this is what we are doing. Hope to see you at the luncheon

August Luncheon





















Judy Bushko hosted the raffle for us, donating one of her beautiful craft items. Peggy Alan once again, was checking everyone in.

What a nice duo to have at the door greeting us as we arrived. Thanks ladies for all you do for the chapter!

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.

September Congratulations





MEMBER BIRTHDAY SPOUSE BIRTHDAY **ANNIVERSARIES** Kenneth Bailey Donna Lee Conger Michael & Gail Dickson 7 19 26 Charles Eckert Charlotte Eckert Jeffery & Elena Foster 5 21 8 Laura Farmer-Wilson Tom & Kay Gaylor 16 Laura Ferguson 1 10 Ed Fox 18 Jovce Herd 26 **Dennis & Carol Languell** 23 Judy Gofas 4 Mary Ralph 9 Karl & Vickie Pfitze 2 Elna Lidman 4 Roberta Rawls 17

22

28



Marilyn Miles

Curtis Walker

Gerard Wittman



27

10

15



Mary Scott

Carolyn Wittman

Superstition Mountain Chapter MOAA **Auxiliary Luncheon** at Dobson's Restaurant

September 14, 2018

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

Please join us as at 11am to stuff pillows for Hospice of the Valley!





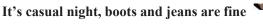
Dinner Meeting September 16, 2018 4:00pm Social – 5:00pm Dinner

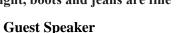
Dobson's Restaurant at the golf course 2155 S. Dobson Rd., Mesa, AZ

Traditional Country and 50's music performed by









Lin Su Cooney from Hospice of the Valley Menu choices

Filet of Beef, Chicken Cordon Bleu or Bourbon Shrimp All meals include Green Salad, Vegetables, Dinner Rolls, Dessert & Coffee or Tea **\$25.00** per person

> Reservations by Wednesday September 12th 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, September 29th, 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.











CHAIRMAN REPORTS



1st Vice President Arlan Alan- Programs

I hope everyone has had a great summer. Even though the temperature is still in triple digits, fall is right around the corner. Our

"kick off" to fall will be a western themed dinner on September 16th, with JR and Dianne playing for our listening and dancing pleasure. Leave your tie at home, put on your boots and jeans and join us for our western night! Social hour begins at 1600 with dinner at 1700. Meal choices are: Filet of Beef, Chicken Cordon Bleu or Bourbon Shrimp. Please have your reservations to Arlan Allen by Wednesday, September 12th. Email at cw4allen@cox.net or call 602-283-5862 (may leave a message).

Our Guest speaker will be Lin Sue Cooney of Hospice of the Valley. Lin Sue will be talking to us about the various programs of Hospice of the Valley.

Mark your calendars, our fall picnic is Saturday, October 20th!



2nd Vice President John Bushko

I hope everyone had a wonderful summer. As we get back into our normal routines it is also time to renew our memberships for 2019. Please take the time to complete

the renewal form in the newsletter and return it as soon as possible.

Also, take the new member form and keep it with you as you go about your daily activities. If you meet someone who is eligible to join, give them the form to complete and invite them to a meeting. It is everyone's duty to grow the chapter. If you know of someone that could be a potential member, but don't know what to say or how to approach them, contact me and I will contact the person.

Have a great month and I hope to see all at the September dinner meeting.

480-759-1717 jabushko@earthlink.net



Treasurer Tom Ralph 👀 👀







I hope everyone had an opportunity to get out of the valley during the summer, at least a time or two just to escape the heat.

It was (and still is) a very warm summer. Melanie and I took a road trip up through British Columbia and made it up to the Yukon. It's definitely a trip you should all consider.

Some of you are already sending me your 2019 dues. Please make some sort of note that it is for 2019 because I'm liable to assume you are trying to pay your 2018 dues again- and I'll send it back to you. Dues for 2019 are due before 1 Jan 2019. Thank you all for your support.



Personal Affairs **Greg Moore**







The June 2018 issue of the AARP Bulletin has an article by Jane Bryant Quinn on survivors' benefits under Social Security and strategies (page 28) to consider increasing benefits. Usually you must have been married at least 9 months unless your spouse died in an accident to get benefits. If the marriage lasted at least 10 years, exspouses and qualified children can also benefit, so says the article.

I will have copies for all at upcoming lunches/dinners.



Transition Coordinator James Austin Need A Job?

Sandra Watson, President, Arizona Commerce Authority states "the top

companies are the job-creators, risk-takers and entrepreneurs who are building amazing companies and a culture of innovation that is competing on a global scale. Industry leaders are taking notice and world-class companies continue to select Arizona as the ideal location

to grow their businesses." Recognizing exceptional companies promotes Arizona as a leader in great places to work according to Paula Hubbs Cohen in he Arizona Republic newspaper 2018 edition recognizing the Top 125 companies that share this distinction in Arizona.

As a veteran you may want to work for the best and can gain insight into the businesses that have achieved this rating in the Phoenix Metroplex. Suggest you pre-register at TOPCOMPANIESARIZONA.COM for the upcoming 2019 Arizona Republic publication listing of this potentially vital resource. Good Hunting!



ROTC/JROTC
Karl Pfitzer

We will be kicking off our ROTC/JROTC program next month. I am looking forward to working with all of you on this special program.

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











Legislative
Dave Rataczak



Legislative update from MOAA National "Take Action" August 30, 2018

Protect Servicemembers from Predatory Lenders Send the White House a letter urging the administration to reconsider proposals to relax enforcement of the Military Lending Act.

Act now to end the widows tax

Current federal law requires survivors of deceased military members to forfeit part or all of their Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) annuity when they are awarded VA Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC). This loss of any portion of the SBP annuity is known as the "widows tax."

• Thank a legislator: additional TRICARE fees are off the table.

A provision in the FY 2019 defense bill was set to raise TRICARE fees for millions of beneficiaries. Thanks to input from MOAA members such as yourself, this proposal was defeated. It will not be included in the final bill.

Be Cautious with Compensation Reform

In a 2015 report, the Military Compensation and Modernization Commission noted modernization might benefit individual compensation programs, but "the overall structure of the current compensation system is

fundamentally sound and does not require sweeping overhaul." The commission also recommended keeping the basic pay table in its current form and continuing the basic allowances for housing and subsistence (BAH and BAS).

Key Bills

The following are some of the important issues before Congress.

Federal - S 66

A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to permit certain retired members of the uniformed services who have a service-connected disability to receive both disability compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs for their disability and either retired pay by reason of their years of military service or Combat-Related Special Compensation, and for other purposes.

MOAA Supports

Federal - S 143

A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a credit against income tax for amounts paid by a spouse of a member of the Armed Forces for a new State license or certification required by reason of a permanent change in the duty station of such member to another State.

MOAA Supports

Federal - S 339

A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to repeal the requirement for reduction of survivor annuities under the Survivor Benefit Plan by veterans' dependency and indemnity compensation, and for other purposes.

MOAA Supports

Federal - HR 303

A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to permit additional retired members of the Armed Forces who have a service-connected disability to receive both disability compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs for their disability and either retired pay by reason of their years of military service or combat-related special compensation.

MOAA Monitoring

Federal - HR 333

A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to permit retired members of the Armed Forces who have a service-connected disability rated less than 50 percent to receive concurrent payment of both retired pay and veterans' disability compensation, to extend eligibility for concurrent receipt to chapter 61 disability retirees with less than 20 years of service, and for other purposes.

MOAA Supports

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 93

A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for increased access to Department of Veterans Affairs medical care for women veterans.

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 and 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 - 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 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

MOAA National Legislative Action items are available to you at http://www.moaa.org/. 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 120 kits made since we started last year!



Our Axillary ladies at work!



Operation Paperback Books Ann Ferauson



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.

Cell Phones for Soldiers /



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 Judy Bushko 480-759-1717 jdbushko@earthlink.net













Chapter Elections!

September always starts with our Nominating Committee identifying those members who have agreed to be a part of our SMC Board of Directors and the officers to lead the board. Our bylaws require at least 4 regular members and one auxiliary member be on this committee. Those members CANNOT be elected officers except for Past Presidents. So, I have invited Col Karl Pfitzer, CW4 Arlan Allen, Al Anderer and Ms. Lou Bates to serve with me on this committee. If you would like to serve on this committee, please contact me. We will meet at board meetings, dinner meetings and on email to finalize our list of officers and directors to serve next year.

If you would like to throw your hat in the ring, please contact one of us. By the way we will be contacting many of you. We are always looking for new members to get involved. Each term is specifically one year. Try it, you might like it. Don't wait to be called, give us a call.

Capt Ed Mangan, USAF (fmr); Chairman, Nomination Committee Past President

Chapter Office Positions

President
1st Vice President
2nd Vice President
Treasurer
Secretary
Vice President - Auxiliary

Director Positions

Programs
Membership
Newsletter Editor
Personal Affairs
ROTC/ Scholarship
Legislative
Transition Coordinator
Website
Director
Director



PHOENIX CHAPTER MOWW 54th ANNUAL



MASSING OF THE COLORS AND SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE. Sunday September 9, 2018 - 2:30 pm

B.P.O.E. Phoenix Elks Club Lodge # 335 located at 14424 N 32d ST. Phoenix, AZ 85302

The Coast Guard Auxiliary Band will provide a concert from 2-2:30 PM.



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

2018 Calendar of Events!

September 16th Dinner Meeting: Western night with music by JR & Dianne. Guest speaker Lin Su Cooney from Hospice of the Valley.

October 21st Annual fall picnic: This is a member appreciation picnic at Kiwanis Park in Tempe. No charge for this picnic, compliments of the chapter.

November 18th Annual Thanksgiving and Veterans Recognition Dinner Meeting: The POW/MIA Ceremony will be performed by one of the high school JROTC units and we will also be honoring representatives from all the services.

December 16th Annual Formal Military Ball: We will have music by JR & Dianne and then the election and installation of our chapters 2019 Officers and Board members.

Board meetings

The board meets at Dobson Ranch Restaurant in Mesa on the 2nd Monday of each month at 9am. As always, members are cordially invited to attend these meetings. Upcoming meetings: *September 10th*, *October 8th*, *and December 10th*.

Auxiliary Spouses Meetings

The Auxiliary meets on the 2nd Friday of each month at 11:30am. September's meeting is on the 14th at Dobson's Restaurant. We will meet at 11:00am to stuff pillows. Contact Judy Bushko for more information. **480-759-1717** jdbushko@earthlink.net

Labor Day September 3, 2018

Labor Day is always observed on the first Monday in September. On September 5th, 1882, the first ever Labor Day was celebrated in New York City. President Grover Cleveland signed the bill making this one of our national holidays. It is a creation of the labor movement and is dedicated to the social and economic achievements of American workers. It constitutes a yearly national tribute to the contributions workers have made to the strength, prosperity, and well-being of our country.

VETERANS INFORMATION

About Arizona State Veteran Home-Phoenix

General Information - https://www.skillednursingfacilities.org/directory/az/phoenix/arizona-state-veteran-home -

Legal Business Name: State Of Arizona State Dept Of Finance Ownership Type: Government - State **Changed Ownership In The Last 12 Months:** No First Accepted Medicare: January 8, 1996 (23 years) Capacity: 200 Residents: 153 **Percent Occupied: 77% Program Participation** Medicare And Medicaid Resident And Family Councils: Resident In Hospital

Arizona State Veteran Home-Phoenix was reviewed by Medicare to have a rating of 3 out of 5 stars. **☆☆☆**☆☆ Overall Rating **♠♠**♠♦♦♦



🏫 🏠 🌣 🏠 Quality Measures Rating







VOTING is a privilege, your right and yes, your duty!

Did you vote in the primary elections? Sometimes it's hard to get out to our respective polling places. Voting by mail is very convenient and a way to make sure you get that important vote in. If you are interested in requesting this or want to check to see if you are already on the permanent early voting list, go to the following website. https://recorder.maricopa.gov/earlyvotingballot/permanentevlistinfo.aspx

Permanent Early Voting List Information

All voters on the **Permanent Early Voting List** receive an early ballot by mail approximately 27 days prior to any election in which they are eligible to vote.

Getting a ballot early allows time to review the ballot, study the issues, research the candidates and vote conveniently.

All voted early ballots must be received in the office of the County Recorder, other officer in charge of elections, or deposited at any Ballot Center in the county no later than 7:00 p.m. on Election 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 Member	ship 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 GUARDNOAA-	PUBLIC HEALTH SVC
Circle All That Apply: REGULAR-RESERVE-NATIONAL GUARD-FORMER OFFICER-MALE_FEMALE_WIDOW-WIDOWER_	-ACTIVE-RETIRED-
Member Date of Birth MM/DD/YYYY Spouse Date of Birth MM/DD	/VVVV
Anniversary DateE-mail Address	
Aminversary Date	
MOAA National membership for 2019 has 3 types to pick from. 1. Basic–free-electronic of Life membership-fee is age dependent . As a BASIC Member you will receive electronic to participate in grassroots activism effort. You get <i>Military Officer Magazine</i> via our mobile to attend our career fairs, networking events, and classes and to take advantage of valuable dia PREMIUM Member you get full access to everything MOAA has to offer, including resources (one-on-one career counseling, résumé reviews, and interviewing advice a on products and travel, and access to all MOAA exclusive publications and news up MOAA's staff of experts for financial and investment advice, college scholarships. That's on top of all the benefits you receive at the BASIC Membership level. **Superstition Mountain Chapter** membership fee is \$25 per year. Spouses of current members.	nic newsletters and have opportunities app. You'll also have the opportunity iscounts on products and services. As any our full spectrum of our career and critiques), countless discounts updates. You'll be able to tap into for dependents, and much more.
luncheons and activities with no fee. Chapter bylaws require Chapter members and Chapter MOAA National.	Auxiliary members to be members of
For National dues, enclose check for: \$37.00 – Make check payable to MOAA N	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: SMC MOAA, Tom Ralph, Treasurer 20444 N 22 nd St, Phoenix, AZ 85024 - Phone 602-569-2130	
For More Information Contact, Membership Committee Chairman 480-759-1717 jabushko@earthlink.net	n John Bushko:
Name tags are durable hard plastic, white background with MOAA logo and your order, please fill out the form below.	our name engraved in black.
Print first and last name	Select nametag type
	pin on or magnetic
1	
2	

of

September Dinner Meeting Reservation

Sunday, September 16, 2018 - Dobson's Restaurant Social Hour 4:00pm Dinner 5:00pm

Meal Choices: Filet of Beef	Chicken Cordon Bleu	or Bourbon Shrimp
\$25.00 per meal – Name(s)		

Reservations must be in by Wednesday, September 12th

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: cw4allen@cox.net

602-283-5862 (can leave message) or email: <u>cw4allen@cox.net</u>				
	2018-2019 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				
N	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			
	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			
1	Mail to: Tom Ralph, Treasurer 20444 N 22 nd St, Phoenix, AZ 85024			
1	Tom Raiph, Treasurer 20444 R 22 St, Floomx, 712 05024			
	Chapter Auxiliary Donations			
	Enclosed is a donation of \$			
This donation may be used for any Auxiliary projects				
Please make check payable to SMC of MOAA Write <i>Auxiliary</i> in the memo line of the check				
N	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
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