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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



Fellow Members

We are in an unprecedented time in recent history in our country. As a result of the need for social distancing as requested by the national authorities and the CDC, due to the COVID 19 pandemic, your board of directors made the decision to cancel all chapter activities until the end of April. During April we will reevaluate the situation based on national and state directives to determine our activities going forward.

I hope you are doing your best to maintain your health and doing all those things necessary to stay safe and healthy. With the majority of our membership in the highrisk category, you need to use all sources available to get your groceries and medications. Most of the grocery stores have the capability for you to order online and have the order delivered to you or have it delivered to your car, so you don't have to go in the store.

On a lighter note, we passed our 45th year as a chapter of MOAA and received a certificate from National MOAA to acknowledge the achievement. I will have that available at our next meeting for everyone to see. Please do all you can to stay safe and healthy.

Warmest Regards,

John Bushko



202) OFFICERS	2020 COM	MITTEE CHAIRS
2024 President, Lt Col John Bushko 1 st VP, CW4 Arlan Allen 2 nd VP, Col John Marsh VP Auxiliary, Mrs. Judy Bushko Secretary, Mrs. Peggy Allen Treasurer, Col Thomas Ralph Past President, MG Dave Rataczak	480-759-1717 jabushko@earthlink.net 602-283-5862 <u>cw4allen@cox.net</u> 480-2191020 <u>emarsh125@gmail.com</u> 480-759-1717 jdbushko@earthlink.net	2020 COM Programs Membership ROTC/JROTC Personal Affairs Legislative Newsletter Website Transition Coordinator Director Director Director Director Director	MITTEE CHAIRS CW4 Arlan Allen Col John Marsh Capt Ed Mangan Lt Gregory Moore MG Dave Rataczak Mrs. Marlene Fox Lt. Ann Ferguson Maj. Austin Foote Mrs. Ann Schminke Capt. George Meegan Lt Col Sheryl Mauldin
		Director	Col Karl Pfitzer
		Director	Captain AI Anderer
		CAS Membership	Maj Norm Poole



AUXILIARY NEWS: from Judy Bushko





I pray this finds all of you safe and healthy. There will be no auxiliary meetings until further notice. I am staying safe and self-distancing except for doctor appointments and the grocery store.

I have been passing the time by making masks for health care workers. I belong to a group and we make burial gowns for angels who do not come home after birth. We have changed our focus at this time and are making masks. We have had requests from across the valley by healthcare workers, airline flight attendants and others. Right now, our focus is front line health care workers. Please stay safe and we will continue to pray for the health, well-being and safety of all. Judy



Our group was small, but we enjoyed a good meal and great camaraderie. JR and Diane were there entertaining us with their beautiful music.

Corona Virus

Here's what some of our members are doing during this interesting change in our lives, as we all are trying to stay in our homes as much as possible. Hope it makes you smile!









We are more or less hunkered down at the house and getting bored to death. Doing some yard work and enjoying our dog Nelly. I'm including some pictures of her with Melanie where Melanie is instructing Nelly on proper behavior in the green house, teaching her how to cook, and Nelly checking to see if the foods ready yet. **Tom & Melanie Ralph**



Fred is watching the grass and weeds grow in our yard, while watching lots of TV. Every once in a while, he cleans out a box that has been stored for 20 years or so. I have been recovering from hip replacement surgery done on Valentine's Day, learning to walk again without pain. I am also doing a little quilting, working on income taxes and cleaning out some accumulated junk. We have lived in this house since 1979 and every closet and space is full of things we haven't seen or used in years. It is a blast from the past to go through the stuff, lots of memories and laughs as well. It definitely keeps me busy. **Ann & Fred Ferguson**



Arlan and I have finally caught up on some much needed rest. Since before he had the stroke, we have been on a marathon ride of life. Our goal is to have our "junk" room cleaned out and have a functioning office again. In addition, we are getting the "pool" room straightened up from all the "stuff" that has accumulated from his dad's house, so we can play some pool. In short, we have several goals! Hopefully they will all be accomplished. **Peggy & Arlan Allen**





Paula & I have been keeping busy, watching a lot of TV, & driving each other crazy. Lots of old movies, dog walks, & Hallmark Movies & Mysteries. We will miss the MOAA activities and look forward to their resumption.

This is Bowen, a Queensland healer. Don't let the smile fool you-he is "Bad to the Bowen." **AI & Paula Anderer**



I continue to watch old tv shows and my westerns. They remind me the world can get back to normal. My bride Jo, of 59 years as of the 22nd has carried on valiantly watching Hallmark movies and enduring my westerns. With good Lord watching over us we will overcome the disease. Our fabulous Congress continues to remind me of how they only think of themselves. Marine theme "We adapt and overcome. "Semper Fi. **Jo & George Meegan**





As per this photo, I am social distancing into a closer relationship with my overgrown mesquite tree and the rest of our yard! It gives me much relief from the shrill news of the media. Needs are few. But if you have a spare roll of TP....! The Superstition Chapter now has a new banner and easel plaque of our logo. If we only had a place to go and recruit new members! Marilyn and I are doing well and looking forward to seeing everyone in the near future. Hang in there and quit listening to the news. John & Marilyn Marsh



24 hours and what do we do? I'm reading a book titled "Sarum," a complete history of southern England. Ed is doing computer scanning--finding out about a winery 45 minutes north of Prescott. We dined this AM with McDonalds' take-out. Going through scads of memorabilia; scrapbooks, pictures. Fond memories. On March 23rd & 24th, our streets are being repaved. No cars allowed!!! Happy day to all!!! Ann Schminke & Ed Mangan



Meredith is going for walks and doing a line dancing class by video. I am doing 0700 tai chi classes on Monday and Friday and catching up on my reading and exercise. I drive to a park, park under a tree, walk a lap or two then read and get caffeinated. Presently working on "Conscience of a Conservative" by Jeff Flake and "1776" by David McCullough. Next will be "AUTOPSY of an Unwinnable War: VIETNAM by Col (Ret) Wm Haponski. Also try to go to a small cafe or diner a few times and get a takeout breakfast or lunch. Between us, I tip well because if not me, who? **Meredith & Greg Moore**



Last week my Doctor put me on hospice so a medical person could come to my house and monitor and give me my pain medication. But after a few days of that I could not even walk and I realized they were giving me to much medication, so I quit taking any at all. Now I am doing fine with just Advil. I don't get out much, so this "shut-in" hasn't affected me much.

My neighbors and all the houses on my street for about two blocks are going out to the end of their driveways at 5:00pm each day, waving to each other and singing songs. As long as someone is here to help me, I will go out and join them. **Mary Thomas**



The flower Shar Pei is named Bogie and the brown boy is a rescue called Wags. We've been doing work around the house, mostly gardening by Vickie and fence painting by the both of us. We've kept the travel to a minimum although I did travel up to the Verde Ranch this week to drop off supplies to our ranch manager. Other than that, fairly quiet. **Vickie & Karl Pfitzer**



Hope you are doing fine in these tough times. Lesley and I have been shut down in our DAR, SAR activities and meetings. Recently I had a zoom meeting for my SAR chapter that went very well. So good that we are planning to do a State SAR Officers Meeting in April. So we are learning new ways to communicate. I have been spending time doing SAR Supplementals and have finished 6 of them. The Patriots cover my mother's maiden name Silverthorn and her mother's maiden name Carroll. Two for each. I have been taking my dog Buster on walks in the evenings and sometimes to the dog park to see his friends. So, we look forward to getting

back to normal. I believe it will take longer than we think. We pray for our leaders and all the health care professionals putting themselves in harms way. Lesley & Bill Baran





Two week ago, Jan and I went to Sedona for a few days. I took in one day of snow skiing before Snowbowl closed. Last Monday through Wednesday, worked on the flower beds and got the pool ready for the summer. Thursday and Friday, I went into work. This Sunday, the office was closed down for deep cleaning and now I'm teleworking from home. **Jan & Mike Ostermeyer**



Since it is tax season, I'm pretty much glued to my desk. I have very few local clients so most of my clients mail/email their tax documents. Some of the locals have stopped by and/or emailed their stuff. I would love to send you a picture of my pet, but he died last year, and I have no pictures of him. I hope to get a replacement after tax season when I'll have more time for training, etc. Stay safe and well. **Lou Bates**



Hubbie Roddy has accepted the "Corona stay-at-home" challenge with a vengeance! He has already repaired the roof, chopped down a tree, and made front and back yards look beautiful. As I type, he's at Home Depot buying stucco mix, wood to repair the patio cover, and paint. In between times, he's doing an amazing job cleaning out the garage, so he can then start rebuilding his family 1968 Camaro. Wow!

I, on the other hand, have sorted thru hundreds of old greeting cards. I threw away some, and the rest are now nicely organized. I'm trying to send more cards to my Aunt Bernice in a nursing home in Pittsburgh. She can't use the phone, and currently "no visitors." I'm also pretending I'm on the TV show "Chopped," seeing what I can make from existing frig and pantry items. An opportunity and an adventure!

"Dates" and "outings" have taken on new meanings. To go to the Buckeye Dump with our dead trees, I fixed up my hair and put on make-up. Hey, we're going out! Fortunately, I had a mask, to keep the many flies off my face. Roddy suggested I get into the vehicle and enjoy the air conditioning. Thank-you Sweetie! Our other big adventure was checking out "Senior Hour" at Costco. Currently Costco is having Senior Hour every Tuesday & Thursday from 8-9am. We got there at 7:30. The parking lot was full and ugly, and in the double backed line we were # 477 and # 478. We did NOT stay. We then risked our lives getting out of the parking lot.

In summary, I remember my Dad's favorite saying: "Use it up, wear it out, make do, and do without." Roddy and I did some brainstorming...what if we were REALLY out of toilet paper, kleenex, paper towels, and paper napkins? I'd cut up and use old underwear, and Roddy would sacrifice old T-shirts. Can't flush them but can "bag and trash."

Stay Safe, Stay Well! Rebecca & Roddy Charlton-Schmidt



Ed and I are making some shelves for the Family/Sports room and getting our sports room decorated. My Dback bobble heads now have a home! We watch a movie and play cards in the evening, are enjoying putting puzzles together and taking the dogs for walks. Ed plays World of Warcraft and I am scanning and organizing old MOAA pictures and of course playing with the dogs. Working in the yard is giving us some time outside. Zureka is black & white and Keira is the white one. Sisters, they are one-year old Maltese Shih Tzu mix. Marlene & Ed Fox

America is a great country, this too shall pass!





Apríl Congratulations



MEMBER BIRTHDAY

Barbara Austin	11
Shirley Bohn	16
Larry Puci	1
Tom Ralph	15

SPOUSE BIRTHDAY

Melodie Fogelsanger	15
Karen Kondferak	3
Mary Woods	21



ANNIVERSARIES

George & Jo Meegan	22
Hal & Melody Peebles	15
Rebecca & Roddy Charlton/Schmidt	30
Joseph & Lori Sottile	27

CHAIRMAN REPORTS



Ist Vice President Arlan Allen- Programs

In compliance with Federal, State and Local guidelines, to combat the spread of the Covid 19 Virus, Superstition Mountain

Chapter, MOAA, has cancelled all activities for April 2020. We will reevaluate at the end of April and are hoping to resume normal dinner activities starting on May 17th.

Take care of yourselves and don't let "cabin fever" get to you...there's plenty of toilet paper to go around!

602-283-5862 - cw4allen@cox.net



Legislative Dave Rataczak



From March 18, AZCOC Legislative Update

So far support in the 2020 state legislature for veterans' issues remains mixed. Here's an update on two of the biggest issues being worked in this session.

Veterans Benefits Counselors (VBC's)

This year's efforts to increase the number of VBC's in Arizona continue to move forward in the legislature. SB1044, sponsored by Senator David Livingston, calls for six new VBC's. It was passed by the Senate on February 4 and sent to the House. The House Military and Veteran's Affairs Committee passed the bill March 2. A similar bill in the House, HB2139, sponsored by Representative Jay Lawrence, passed the House Appropriations Committee on February 12 and the full House on March 2 by a vote of 59-1. It was then sent to the Senate for further action. This initiative looks like it will get final approval in both Houses. Differences in the bills will be reconciled before the final version goes to the Governor for signature.

Tax Exemption on Military Retired Pay

Governor Ducey's call for full exemption of military retired pay from state taxes is facing strong opposition in the Arizona legislature. A major factor is the \$45M price tag which is proving to be a heavy lift for supporters. The Senate bill to do this, SB1237, sponsored by Senator David Gowan, failed in a vote before the full Senate on February 25th. Sen Gowan's motion to reconsider at a later date was approved. In the House, Representative Gail Griffin's HB 2676 narrowly passed the House Ways and Means Committee on February 19th. It has yet to be heard in the House Appropriations and Rules Committees. A recent Op-ed in the Arizona Republic, co-authored by three prominent veterans, makes a strong case for full exemption of military retired pay from state taxes. The key argument centers on the proposed tax break being a work force initiative to attract future military retirees to the state, bringing with them valuable skill sets and generating more revenue for the state in the long term. Governor Ducey's office has also released a video further making the case for approval of this proposal. Governor Ducey's continued support will be the key to getting something done on this initiative.

It's not clear when SB1237 will be reconsidered. You can help Senator Gowan by letting your state senators know now that you support SB1237 and Governor Ducey's initiative.

A bill in the Arizona Legislature proposes doubling the current gas tax in the state to help pay for the infrastructure maintenance on the state's roads and highways.

House Bill 2899 Would increase the existing gas tax of \$0.18 per gallon to \$0.36 over the course of three years, according to the text of the bill. The bill would add \$0.06 the the current \$0.18 a gallon effective on July 1st of this year and it would go up another\$0.18 a year through fiscal year 2022-23. The bill unanimously passed the House Transportation Committee. The bill was proposed by Rep Noel Campbell, R Prescott. As reported by Alexa D'Angelo in the Gilbert newspaper.



Survivor/ Spouse File

Your Birth Certificate, Marriage License and DD214 are three of the most important documents you need to have in this file.

The fourth item for your file deals with finances. As you are getting dividend/interest statements in preparation for your taxes, list each account with name, address, phone number, and account number on a separate sheet of paper. This will include checking and savings accounts, brokerage, mutual funds, and annuities. This will serve as a ready reference file for your heirs. And remember, you should have contacted all of these financial institutions previously to ensure that the account is titled so your survivors will have no problems accessing them.

The next item for your survivor's file is a copy of your Living Will and medical power of attorney (also known as Advanced Directives). Remember, this document has nothing to do with money, land, etc. It is your expression to your loved ones as to your medical wishes should you be unable to express yourself and allows you at appoint someone to speak for you for medical issues. All of your adult children should have a copy of this document.

- 1. Birth certificate
- 2. Marriage license
- 3. DD 214 (Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty)
- 4. Financial information.
- 5. Living will and medical power of attorney.





ROTC/JROTC

Due to the Corona Virus situation, all **ROTC/JROTC Awards Programs have been cancelled**. I am in the process of mailing all the awards to the schools, for the Instructors to present to the cadets when school reconvenes.

If you have agreed to sponsor a school, we still need your donation as we have already purchased all this year's awards.

If you have any questions, please call or email me. Emangan3@aol.com 602-501-0128

2020 SMC MOAA ROTC Awards Sponsors

#	School & Affiliation	Sponsor	School & Affiliation	Sponsor
1	ASU: USA, USN, USAF		Hamilton, USAF	John Scott
2	Apache Jct, USN	Rebecca Schmidt	Higley, USAF	Ed Mangan
3	Basha, USAF	Arlan Allen	Marcos De Niza, USA	
4	Campo Verde, USAF		Maricopa, USAF	
5	Casa Grande, USMC	George Meegan	Mesa, USAF	
6	Chandler, USAF	Ed Fox	Queen Creek USA	
7	Coolidge, USMC	George Meegan	Red Mountain, USA	
8	Desert Ridge, USAF		Skyline, USA	
9	Dobson, USAF		Vista Grande, USMC	George Meegan
10	Gilbert, USAF		Westwood, USAF	
11	Globe, USA	Ed Mangan		

March was Superstition Mountain Chapter TROAA/MOAA 45th Anniversary. Our Charter was given in 1975. Below is a blast from the past showing all our Chapter Presidents.

2/1975 -1/1976



Maj Robert Wright USMC

5/1<u>080 - 5/10</u>81



Capt Patrick Hussey USN



Col John Thomas USAF

5/<u>1981 - 5/19</u>82



Col John Thomas USAF





LTC Donald Costello USA

5/1982 - 5/1984



LTC Gale Glenny USAF





Maj Beverly Dunlap USA

5/1984 - 5/1985



LTC Robert Holoway USAF





LTC Ralph Jackson USAF





LTC Thomas Turner USAF



No Picture available

LTC Gerald Lyons USAF

5/1994 - 5/1996



LTC Dale Copsey USAF

5/2000 - 5/2001



Maj Bruce Thoreson USMC

5/2007 - 12/2008



CMDR Larry Rasmussen USN



CW4 Arlan Allen USA



Col William Moore USAF





Col Royce Brownfield USAF



Maj Robert Artuso USA



Mai Travis Wilson USAF

12/2013 - 12/2016



USAF

5/1990 - 5/1991



Maj Mary Pavilkey USAF

5/1997 - 5/1998



LTC Douglas Shannon USA

12/2002 - 5/2003



LTC Lowell "Ed" Fox USAF

5/1991 - 5/1992



BG George Woodard **U**SA

5/1998 - 5/1999



LTC Frank Robertson USAF

5/2003 - 5/2005



CW4 Robert Delker USA

7/2009 - 12/2009



CW4 Robert Delker USA

12/2016 - 12/2018



MG Dave Rataczak USA











Col Karl Pfitzer USA

12/2018 - 12/2020



LTC John Bushko USAF

These are the Officers that stepped up to lead our Chapter through the last 45 years! Next month I will share some memories from the past with pictures of our members from 1994 through 2020!

5/1992 - 5/1994



Col Martin Newland USAF





LTC Scott Gippert

USAF

5/2005 - 5/2007

Maj Travis Wilson

MOAA's Mission: The Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) is a non-profit veteran's association dedicated to maintaining a strong national defense and to preserving the earned entitlements of members of the uniformed services, their families, and survivors. National MOAA, it's Councils and Chapters are nonpartisan.

MOAA National & Superstition Mountain Chapter Membership Application

	ed Member Name & Initial			
Branch of Service	Rank	Number		
	National MOAA			
	City			
	Work or Cell#			
	CE-NAVYMARINE CORPS- COAS			
	AR-RESERVE-NATIONAL GUARD-F	ORMER OFFICE	R-ACTIVE-REI	IRED-
MALEFEMALEWIDOV			·	
	DD/YYYY Spouse Date of			
Anniversary Date	E-mail Address			
bur career resources (one-on-on- discounts on products and trav- ap into MOAA's staff of expen- nore. That's on top of all the b <i>Superstition Mountain Chapter</i> re- uncheons and activities with no fer MOAA National. For National dues, enclose classical statements of the second statement of the second statements of the s	Tember you get full access to everyth one career counseling, résumé revie vel, and access to all MOAA exclusi rts for financial and investment advi- benefits you receive at the BASIC Me membership fee is \$25 per year . Spouse fee. Chapter bylaws require Chapter me heck for: \$43.00 – Make check pa back for: \$43.00 – Make check pa	ews, and interview ive publications a ice, college schol embership level. es of current membe embers and Chapter	ving advice and and news updat larships for dep ers may participa r Auxiliary mem	l critiques), count tes. You'll be ab pendents, and n te in Chapter Auxi
-	\$25.00 or Auxiliary (SSAC) \$12.50			
	of MOAA. Write 2020 dues in the	e memo line		
Mail Chapter Application an				
SMC MOAA, Tom Ralph, T 20444 N 22 nd St. Phoenix, A7	reasurer Z 85024 - Phone 602-569-2130			
	Information Contact, Membership C	ommittee Chairm	oon John Marsh	··
	480-219-1020 <u>memarsh125@</u>	@gmail.com		
	ard plastic, white background with Nase fill out the form below.	MOAA logo and	your name eng	raved in black.
Print first and last nar	me		Select na Pin on	metag type magnetic
1				



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



2020 Chapter Activity schedule - (Dates and times are subject to change)

Chapter Board	Chapter Auxiliary	Chapter Dinner,
Meetings	Luncheons	Luncheon Meetings
May 11 th – 9:am	May 8 th – 11:30am	Sunday May 17 th – 4:00pm social – 5:00pm dinner
June – no meeting	June12th – 11:30am	Sunday June14 th – 12 pm social – 1:00pm Lunch
July – no meeting	July 10 th – 11:30am	Sunday July19 th – 12 pm social – 1:00pm Lunch
August – no meeting	August 14 th – 11:30am	Sunday August 16 th – 12 pm social – 1:00pm Lunch
September 14 th – 9:00am	September 11th - 11:30am	Sunday September 20 th – 4:00pm social – 5:00pm dinner
October 12 th – 9:00am	October 9 th – 11:30am	Sunday October 18 th - 4:00pm social – 5:00pm dinner
November 9 th – 9:00am	November 13 th – 11:30	Sunday November 15 th – 4:00pm social – 5:00pm dinner
December 14 th – 9:00	December 11 th – 11:00am	Sunday December 20 th – 4:00pm social – 5:00pm dinner

