Superstition Mountain Express MOAA[®] Military Officers Association of America



Volume 43, Issue 5President's Message1-2Auxiliary Report2Luncheon pictures2-4Chapter Lunch Information5Auxiliary Lunch Information5Birthdays/Anniversaries6-8Auxiliary Projects82022 Officers and Directors9Membership Application10Donation information11	January 2022	
Auxiliary Report2Luncheon pictures2-4Chapter Lunch Information5Auxiliary Lunch Information5Birthdays/Anniversaries5Chair Reports6-8Auxiliary Projects82022 Officers and Directors9Membership Application10	Volume 43, Issue 5	
Luncheon pictures2-4Chapter Lunch Information5Auxiliary Lunch Information5Birthdays/Anniversaries6-8Chair Reports6-8Auxiliary Projects82022 Officers and Directors9Membership Application10	President's Message	1-2
Chapter Lunch Information5Auxiliary Lunch Information5Birthdays/Anniversaries5Chair Reports6-8Auxiliary Projects82022 Officers and Directors9Membership Application10	Auxiliary Report	2
Auxiliary Lunch Information5Birthdays/Anniversaries5Chair Reports6-8Auxiliary Projects82022 Officers and Directors9Membership Application10	Luncheon pictures	2-4
Birthdays/Anniversaries5Chair Reports6-8Auxiliary Projects82022 Officers and Directors9Membership Application10	Chapter Lunch Information	5
Chair Reports6-8Auxiliary Projects82022 Officers and Directors9Membership Application10	Auxiliary Lunch Information	5
Auxiliary Projects82022 Officers and Directors9Membership Application10	Birthdays/Anniversaries	5
2022 Officers and Directors9Membership Application10	Chair Reports	6-8
Membership Application 10	Auxiliary Projects	8
	2022 Officers and Directors	9
Donation information 11	Membership Application	10
	Donation information	11

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http://www.smcmoaa.org/

Please remember to share the newsletter with your spouse!



President's Comments



LTC John Bushko, USAF (Ret)

Happy New Year Everyone

I hope everyone had a Blessed and Merry Christmas and had a safe and joyous celebration for the New Year.

As we start 2022 it is a time to reflect on the past and look forward to the possibilities that lay ahead in the year to come. The start of the year also means we need to gather the information for our income taxes. As you probably know, the AZ legislature passed, as part of the budget bill, a full exemption from state income tax of uniformed services retirement payments. Also, Ms. Lou Bates, during the luncheon meeting, reminded us that we can make donations to numerous charities which result in a dollar-for-dollar reduction of our state income tax. Many of these donations can be made up to 15 Apr. So, get busy and collect all the information to get your taxes completed.

Additionally, don't forget to pay your dues to the chapter. If you are a basic or premium member to MOAA and wish to upgrade your membership I hope you did it before Jan 1st. The cost for premium and upgrading to a life membership increased on Jan 1st.

Continued on next page

202	2 OFFICERS	2022 CON	IMITTEE CHAIRS
President, Lt Col John Bushko	480-759-1717 jabushko@earthlink.net	Programs	CW4 Arlan Allen
1 st VP, CW4 Arlan Allen	602-283-5862 <u>cw4allen@cox.net</u>	Membership ROTC/JROTC	Maj Norm Poole
2 nd VP,Maj Norm Poole	520) 836-8456. nrpoole1066@gmail.com	Personal Affairs	Lt Gregory Moore
V/D Associations Mars Justic Duschlas		Legislative	COL Robert Grierson
VP Auxiliary, Mrs. Judy Bushko	480-759-1717 jdbushko@earthlink.net	Newsletter	Mrs. Marlene Fox
Secretary, Mrs. Peggy Allen		Website	Lt. Ann Ferguson
Treasurer, COL Thomas Ralph		Transition Coordinator	r
Treasurer, COL Thomas Naiph		Director	Maj. Austin Foote
Past President, MG Dave Rataczał	(Director	Mrs. Ann Schminke
		Director	Capt. George Meegan
		Director	COL Karl Pfitzer
		Director	Captain Al Anderer

President's message continued...

The slate of officers for 2022 were elected by acclamation during the membership meeting. The only changes to the board were Norm Poole taking over as 2nd Vice/Membership Chairman, and Robert Grierson as a Director and continuing as the chapter Legislative Liaison.

Wishing everyone a safe and productive new year.

John



The auxiliary will meet on Wednesday, January 12th at 11:00 at Goody's. We will be doing hygiene kits. Wishing everyone a joyous and blessed New Year. Hope to see you there.

Judy

Hygiene Kits	Toothbrushes Toothpaste- full size Toothbrush holders Disposable razors Bar of soap -regular size Deodorant White socks Wash cloths Backpacks	The veterans have voiced their appreciation for these kits. They are given one per month. That is why we ask for full sized items. Most of the veterans are given plastic grocery bags to carry their personal belongings in. In November we were able to take many backpacks for them to use in place of the plastic bags, but more are needed. All donations can be brought to any chapter function or call any chapter board member and we'll see if we can pick them up. Monetary donations are also appreciated! Thanks for your support!
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🎙 December Luncheon Meeting 🎙



Jan & Mike Ostermeyer



Ann Schminke & Ed Mangan



Tom & Melonie Ralph







Judy & John Bushko

David & Lynne Loss

Karl & Vickie Pfitzer



Greg & Meredith Moore



Jim & Barbara Austin



Jo & George Meegan



Peggy & Arlan Allen



Lou Bates & Ritt Schiano



Paula & Al Anderer



Marlene & Ed Fox

The December luncheon was festive and fun. After taking our annual pictures in front of the Christmas tree we enjoyed a delicious lunch. Then President John Bushko announced the 2022 Officers and Board.

The fun then began with a white elephant gift exchange. Everyone seemed to enjoy this with lots of smiles and laughter!



Happy New Year Friends!

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January Congratulations



MEMBER BIRTHDAY

SPOUSE BIRTHDAY



1

14

23

Lou Bates	1
Dorothy Eberle	20
James Grayson	9
Marie Shadden	24
James Symonds	6
William Wilson	19
James Woods	16

Mary Ann Cerhan
Jeannine Grayson
Vickie Pfitzer
Roddy Charlton

Jim & Barbara Austin
Fenwick & Linda Burch
William & June Wilson

A wedding anniversary is the celebration of love, trust, partnership, tolerance, and tenacity. The order varies for any given year!



Superstition Mountain Chapter MOAA Auxiliary Luncheon at Goody's Café 1862 W Baseline, Mesa AZ 85202

Wednesday January 12, 2022

Lunch at 11:00am Order lunch off the menu No reservation needed

Today we will work on Hygiene Kits for our veterans. Please come join us!





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> Superstition Mountain Chapter MOAA January Luncheon Meeting Saturday January 22, 2022 12 noon Social – 1:00pm Lunch

DoubleTree by Hilton 1011 West Holmes Ave., Mesa, AZ 85210

Guest Speaker

Capt. Pete Lumianski, USN, Retired. Director for the USS Phoenix SSN 702 Cold War Museum Monument Project.

Menu

Salisbury Steak, with salad, mashed potatoes, vegetables, dessert, coffee, or iced tea. \$30.00 per person

Reservations by Sunday, January 16th to Arlan Allen 4201 W Luke Ave, Phoenix AZ 85019 -602-283-5862 - <u>cw4allen@cox.net</u>

Chairman Reports



1st Vice President Arlan Allen - Programs

Happy New Year! Welcome to 2022! I hope and pray that 2022 will be better than 2020 and 2021!

The January luncheon will be on the 22nd at the DoubleTree Phoenix/Mesa 1011 W Holmes Ave., Mesa, AZ. The menu is Salisbury Steak, with salad, mashed potatoes, vegetables, dessert, coffee, or iced tea. Social hour begins at noon with buffet lunch at 1300. Please have your reservations to me by Sunday, January 16th.

Please note: the date for the January luncheon is a change from the third Saturday of the month to the fourth Saturday of the month due to a scheduling conflict at the hotel.

Our guest speaker for our January 22nd luncheon meeting will be Capt. Pete Lumianski, USN, Retired. Pete served 27 years as a Naval aviator, before moving to Phoenix. He established and managed the HR department for a local business (the Point, Point Tapatio and the Point South Mountain), with over 3000 employees. Currently, Pete is the Director for the USS Phoenix SSN 702 Cold War Museum Monument Project. This will be the first Cold War monument in the United States, a monument to honor all branches of service and service men and women who protected the United States during the Cold War. If you would like more information. please go to the website: www.ussphoenixmonument.org.

Hope to see you at the first luncheon of the New Year!!!

CW4 Arlan R Allen, USA, Retired



Treasurer Tom Ralph



Hope all of you had a wonderful holiday season and are looking forward to a much more pleasant 2022. Our chapter has once again survived the ups and downs of the past year and emerged in a very strong fiscal position.

We are starting our drive for JROTC sponsorship for 2022 and encourage you to support one of our most important programs. We are still anticipating support for around 20 schools so any help will be greatly appreciated. The cost to sponsor a school is \$130.00. You can pick a high school to sponsor or a donation to the JROTC general fund would be appreciated. A donation coupon is on page 11 of the newsletter.

Once again have a great new year, one in which we can look forward to getting back to normal.



Personal Affairs Greg Moore Dr.



Presentation of \$ 900.00 Toys for Tots check to marine SSgt Luna.

So proud of our chapter for stepping up and supporting this project!

Wishing you all a Happy New Year!



Legislative **Robert Grierson**



Happy New Year to the Superstition Mountain Chapter.

Federal

NDAA was just approved by the US Senate in Sen. Sinema has provided the Washington. following synopsis of the impact of the final bill on Arizonans as adopted:

Luke Air Force Base

- \$4.4 billion for F-35 Aircraft
- \$28 million for new Aircraft Maintenance Unit facility to support the 6th Squadron of F-35 Aircraft
- \$21 million for a new facility to support the operations of the 6th Squadron of F-35 Aircraft

Davis-Monthan Air Force Base

- Protects the A-10
- Secures \$270 million for state-of-the-art COMPASS CALL Aircraft
- Provides \$13.4 million in funding for South Wilmot Gate, creating a new entry point on the south side of Davis-Monthan

Fort Huachuca

- Secures \$50 million for Defense Community Infrastructure Program
- Secures \$150 million for Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration

MCAS Yuma

- Requires assessment of flight safety risks posed by the location of the Yuma County Fairgrounds in the flight path of MCAS Yuma, and the feasibility of relocating the fairground
- Provides \$29.3 million for Combat and Water Survival Training Tank training complex

Yuma Proving Ground

Declares support for the Extended Range Cannon being developed at Yuma Proving Ground

Barry M. Goldwater Range

Increases airspace for Barry M. Goldwater Range

Arizona National Guard

- Requires assessment on Air National Guard F-16 self-protection capabilities to help begin modernization
- Limits reductions in the Air Force refueling fleet, supporting Arizona Air National Guard, 161st Air Refueling Wing

Arizona Servicemembers

- Includes a 2.7% pay raise for servicemembers
- Includes the Servicemember Safety and Security Act-legislation ensuring coordination and communication between military units and outside law enforcement agencies in the event of missing servicemembers,

strengthening the safety and accountability of servicemembers

- Includes Alexander Lofgren VIP Actlegislation named in honor of an Arizona veteran allowing servicemembers, veterans, and Gold Star families to access National Parks and federal lands free of charge
- Increases occupational license portability for military spouses, helping improve military spouse unemployment
- Improves the Military Family Advocacy Program to prevent and stop child abuse
- Increases access to mental health care for servicemembers
- Includes provision to prioritize construction, renovation, and repair of schools on Arizona military installations
- Includes provision to modernize health
 measurements for servicemembers

Arizona Military Community

- Reauthorizing the Donation Acceptance Program, allowing public-private partnerships at U.S. Ports of Entry and CBP to accept donations of property and technology to better secure the border and process trade
- Provides support to Arizonans experiencing sickness from exposure to radiation in Mohave County
- Improves water resources management in Arizona, requiring the DOD to work with local stakeholders to ensure water stewardship in Southern Arizona
- Secures \$300 million for hypersonic technology research and development, fueling innovation at Arizona universities
- Improves Additive Manufacturing Research and Development, boosting manufacturing in Arizona
- Requires report on Tactically Responsive Space Launch Operations, helping Arizona aerospace industry
- Supports the Army's Improved Turbine Engine Program, developed in Mesa
- Provides \$494 million for the AH-64, manufactured in Mesa

Provides \$138 million for Tomahawk Missiles, manufactured in Tucson

State

The Arizona Governor's office issued their "Commitment to Breaking Down Barriers for Veterans," and here's a brief rundown of their 3 primary proposals for 2022:

Veteran Toolkit Program: The Arizona Department of Veterans' Services, Arizona Housing Coalition and ARIZONA@WORK partnered in 2017 to support unemployed veterans and help them get the items they need for the first day of work. Veterans often reported being ready to work but needed the simple things to get them prepared. The <u>Toolkit</u> assists veterans in obtaining transportation, clothing and other tools for success

Be Connected: <u>Be Connected</u> is a statewide effort to strengthen access to support and resources for Arizona's service members, veterans, families and helpers. The early intervention program assists veterans in the early days of their struggles with resource navigation, peer support, behavioral health services and more. The Career Navigation portion provides resume coaching, interview preparation and career counseling.

Arizona State Veteran Homes: Arizona is dedicated to providing veterans a safe place to live and enjoy a good quality of life. The state's two current veterans' homes in Phoenix and Tucson have a combined 320 beds. With two more homes under construction in Yuma and Flagstaff, the state's veterans will have expanded access to skilled nursing and rehabilitative care._

As a reminder - all military pay earned in 2021 on active or reserve duty, to include retired pay is not subject to STATE TAX in Arizona.

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

Auxiliary Sponsored Programs



Hygiene Kits for Vets Judy Bushko



Items we need for our kits are razors, wash cloths, combs, white socks, bars of soap, regular size toothpaste and toothbrushes. We have been asked for regular sized items

as the veterans are only allowed to receive one kit a month. Thanks for your continued support! **Over 540 kits made since we started this project**!



Last Call Blankets for VA Hospital

Blankets are used for covering our veterans who have passed in the room and are being moved. They are covered with these blankets and the blanket is then given to the family. Over 50 blankets donated since we started this project!



Patients at the VA hospital that have had heart surgery use these pillows to help in their recovery. Hospice of the Valley gives them to their patient's family members for comfort and they are greatly appreciated. Cell Phones for Soldiers /Helping Heroes Home. 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. Contact Judy Bushko 480- 759-1717 jdbushko@earthlink.net





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 11400 books taken to the VA Hospital and hundreds of paperbacks have been sent out to our troops.



Superstition Mountain Chapter MOAA 2022 Officers and Board of Directors Officers

Officers



President LT Col John Bushko US Air Force



1st VP / Programs CW4 Arlan Allen US Army



2nd VP /Membership Maj Norm Poole US Army



Auxiliary Mrs. Judy Bushko US Air Force Spouse





Treasurer Col Tom Ralph US Army



Secretary Mrs. Peggy Allen US Army Spouse



Website LT Ann Ferguson US Army



Personal Affairs Lt Greg Moore US Army



Newsletter Editor Mrs. Marlene Fox US Air Force Spouse



Past President MG Dave Rataczak US Army



Col Robert Grierson US Army



Director Capt George Meegan US Marines



Director Maj Austin Foote US Air Force



Director Mrs. Ann Schminke Auxiliary member



Capt Al Anderer US Air Force



Director Col Karl Pfitzer US Army



January 17th – Martin Luther King Day

The time is always right to do what is right!Martin Luther King





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

Date	ePı	rinted Mer	mber Name &	Initial						
Bra	nch of Service									
Spo	use First Name	National MOAA Number								
	et Address									
Hon	ne Phone #		Work	or Cell#						
Plea	se Circle: ARMYAIR F	ORCE-N.	AVYMARI	NE CORPS- COAS	T GUARE)NOAA	PUBLIC	HEALTH	H SVC	
Circ	le All That Apply: REGU	JLAR-RE	SERVE-NAT	IONAL GUARD-F	ORMER (OFFICER	-ACTIVE-	-RETIRE	D-	
MA	LEFEMALEWII)OW	WIDOWER							
Mer	nber Date of Birth MM	/DD	_/YYYY	Spouse Date of	Birth MM	I/DD)/YYY	ίΥ	_	
Ann	iversary Date		E-mail .	Address						
new app. disc our criti You dep <i>Sup</i> lunc MO For Ma	ife membership-fee is sletters and have opportur You'll also have the opp ounts on products and serv full spectrum of our car ques), countless discou i'll be able to tap into endents, and much mo <i>erstition Mountain Chapt</i> theons and activities with AA National. National dues, enclos il to: MOAA, Dept. 14	nities to p portunity to vices. As a eer resounts on pro- MOAA's re. That's ter member no fee. C e check f 488, Mar	participate in g o attend our ca a PREMIUM urces (one-or oducts and tra s staff of ex s on top of all ership fee is \$2 Chapter bylaws for: \$40.00 - ryfield, VA 2	grassroots activism of areer fairs, network Member you get for n-one career coun avel, and access to perts for financia I the benefits you S per year. Spouse a require Chapter mode - Make check pa 22116-9820	effort. You ing events ull access seling, ré o all MOA al and inv receive at es of curren embers and yable to I	a get <i>Milia</i> , and clas to every sumé rev A exclusi vestment t the BAS at member d Chapter	tary Office sees and to wiews, and ive publica advice, SIC Memb rs may parti Auxiliary	r Magazi take adva AA has to d intervie ations an college bership le icipate in	ine via our mo antage of value o offer, incluce ewing advice ad news upda scholarships evel. Chapter Auxil	bile able ling and tes. for iary
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-01	, , ,			ct, Membership C	ommittee	Chairm	an Norm I	Poole		
			520) 8	836-8456. nrpoole1066	@gmail.com					
	Name tags are durabl To place your order,				MOAA lo	go and y	our name	engrave	d in black.	
	Print first and last	name					Selec	t name	tag type	

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	January Luncheon Meeting Saturday January 22, 2022 – Double Tree by Hilton Social Hour - Noon Lunch – 1:00pm					
	Buffet Style					
	Salisbury Steak, with salad, mashed potatoes, vegetables, dessert, coffee, or iced tea.					
	\$30.00 per meal – Name(s)					
Reservations must be in by Sunday, January 16th 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: <u>cw4allen@cox.net</u>					
	Chapter Donations					
Ĭ	Enclosed is a donation of \$					
	This donation may be used for any Auxiliary projects or ROTC					
	Please make check payable to SMC of MOAA					
	Write <i>Auxiliary</i> or ROTC in the memo line of the check					
	Mail to: Tom Ralph, Treasurer 20444 N 22 nd St, Phoenix, AZ 85024					
	2022 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 2022					
	Please print name My National MOAA Number					
	Address					
	Phone number Email					



Marlene Fox

Newsletter Editor

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@gmail.com 1151 N Joshua Tree Ln, Gilbert AZ 85234 480-747-87-08

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



Chapter Board	Chapter Auxiliary	Chapter			
Meetings	Luncheons	Luncheon Meetings			
January 10 th – 9:30am	January 12 th – 11:00am	January 22 th - 12 noon social – 1:00pm Lunch			
February 14 th – 9:30am	February 9 th – 11:00am	February 19 th – 12 noon social – 1:00pm Lunch			
March 14 ^{th-} - – 9:30am	March 9 th – 11:00am	March 19 th - 12 noon social – 1:00pm Lunch			
April 11 th – 9:30am	April 13 th – 11:00am	April 16 th - 12 noon social – 1:00pm Lunch			
May 9 th – 9:30am	May 11 th – 11:00am	May 21 st - 12 noon social – 1:00pm Lunch			



Be Connected Website <u>https://beconnectedaz.org/</u> Visit the Be Connected website and explore the different features and other organizations in your area.