



MAY 2022
Volume 43, Issue 9

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This newsletter is published
monthly September - May.



*Please remember to share the Newsletter with
your spouse!*

President's Comments
LTC John Bushko, USAF (Ret)

Greetings all!

As I write this, the weather prognosticators are forecasting the first triple-digit temps for the year. Brace yourselves for the heat of the summer in the near future.

As I have mentioned, we are looking for members to step forward to take a leadership position and guide the chapter into the future. If you are interested in the position of a Board Officer, Chairman, or Board Member At-Large, please contact me and I will discuss the responsibilities with you. All of you have been in leadership positions during your commissioned service and civilian careers, and this is much easier.

MOAA's Advocacy in Action is ongoing now. I participated in a virtual meeting with Congressman Stanton's legislative assistant and an in-person meeting with Congressman Biggs. Both meetings were positive and they agreed to review the legislation to determine their level of support.

President's message continued on the next page...

(continued)

I urge each of you to visit the MOAA website and after you log in, scroll down to [Visit MOAA's Legislative Action Center](#). Under **"Active Legislative Campaigns"**, Select [Ask Your Lawmakers to Support MOAA's Advocacy in Action Campaign](#) and then click the **"Write"** button. Fill out the form and click on **Submit** at the bottom of the page. Then you will be taken to a page that says in red **"Act Now!"** You will notice that your representatives' names have been selected to receive your letter. Under the names, click on the banner across the page which says, **"Submit Selected Letters."** After you have clicked on the submit banner, you will then be able to scroll down and view the letter which was sent under your signature. We thank you in advance for your participation.

John



AUXILIARY NEWS from Judy

Happy Mother's Day to all of our MOAA Mothers!

Beginning in June, we will happily be back to Auxiliary and serving our vets. Sadly, Goody's closed permanently without notice, leaving us temporarily with no place to meet.

You can't keep the SMC Auxiliary down for long! Our vets are waiting for their hygiene kits. We'll be right back at it in June, and we welcome all who would like to contribute to the well-being of homeless vets. Our hygiene kits are one of their favorites! Please join us!

Judy

Remember these?



Below are depictions of some of the items which have been suggested for the residents of the Veteran's Home for their entertainment and pleasure. Anything that you do to support of our veterans is much appreciated by them. They especially appreciate the Krispy Kreme and Dunkin Donuts cards!





TREASURER

Thomas Ralph

Thanks to all of you who have contributed to our programs this year. We've once again had sufficient contributions to fund all our programs.

Hopefully all of you will do some travel or something fun this summer as we adjourn until September. Hope to see you one more time in May for a great luncheon.

It's been a tough past couple of years but we are slowly climbing back toward whatever "normal" is these days. Try to have some fun and keep cool if at all possible!

Col. Tom Ralph

MEMORIAL DAY - MAY 30, 2022

...Submitted by Arlan Allen



THIS GARDEN OF STONE.

This garden of stone grows not from water, and seed, and
loam.

It grows from tears, and blood, and heart, and bone.

This garden of memories, and holder of souls,
was built by these warriors, both young, and old.

They have no race, religion, or creed.
They just gave their all, with a simple deed.

They fought, and burned, and bled, and died,
while their brothers held them, buried them, and cried.

Do not dare walk, by this garden of stone,
with no remorse, nor sadness shown.

Do not ignore, each father, brother, or son.
Whose time is past, whose life is done.

You cannot pay them back, for what you owe.
This country, this freedom, this life we own.

But pay those fighting, those living, those coming home.
Pay them with honor, and respect, not said, but shown.

And never forget.

THIS GARDEN OF STONE.

Colonel Ben D. Qualls

**SUPERSTITION MOUNTAIN CHAPTER, MOAA
2022 OFFICERS, COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND DIRECTORS**

OFFICERS:

President	LTC John Bushko	480-759-1717	jabushko@earthlink.net
1 st Vice President	CW4 Arlan Allen	602-283-5862	cw4allen@cox.net
2 nd Vice President	Capt Norm Poole	520-858-4202	nrpoole1066@gmail.com
VP Auxiliary	Mrs. Judy Bushko	614-204-0412	jdbushko@earthlink.net
Treasurer	COL Thomas Ralph	602-616-1653	tomralph@cox.net
Secretary	Mrs. Peggy Allen	602-283-5862	arapla@cox.net
Past President	MG David Rataczak	480-353-6261	drataczak@cox.net

COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

Programs	CW4 Arlan Allen	602-283-5862	cw4allen@cox.net
Membership	Capt Norm Poole	520-858-4202	nrpoole1066@gmail.com
Personal Affairs	1Lt Greg Moore	480-814-0580	glmoore24@yahoo.com
Legislative	Col Robert Grierson	563-580-7125	B206flyer@gmail.com
JROTC/Scholarship	Capt Al Anderer	480-227-1022	al_anderer@cox.net
Newsletter	Mrs. Paula Anderer	480-298-6242	paula_anderer@cox.net
Website	Mrs. Ann Ferguson	480-961-9634	vfergusonfnp@netscape.net
Transition Coordinator			

DIRECTORS:

Maj Austin Foote	480-329-4806	oldfoote@yahoo.com
Capt George Meegan	480-897-8835	captaingeorgemeegan@gmail.com
COL Karl Pfitzer	490-991-2463	pvkarl@cox.net
Ann Schminke	480-893-8263	daannz@aol.com

Revised 04/28/2022



April Luncheon Meeting

We had a small but friendly group at the luncheon in April, and I hope we have a larger group in May. The luncheon in May will be the last until September. Your Board decided to forego luncheons for June thru August.

We are in search of a new location for our Board and Aux meetings, Goody's Cafe closed in early April without notice. We have several leads right now but no firm commitment. If you know of any location that can support a group of 15-18 people, please contact me and I will speak to the individual to make the arrangements.

I want to wish all of our MOAA Mothers a **Happy Mother's Day**. Additionally, please remember Military Spouse Day on May 6th, Armed Forces Day on May 21st, and of course, everyone please remember those who gave the ultimate sacrifice in defense of our country on Memorial Day, May 30th.

John

April Luncheon Attendees Photos

*(Please excuse the lack of photos from the April Luncheon.
I'm growing into this job and it won't happen again!)*

Paula

May Congratulations!



MEMBER

SPOUSE

ANNIVERSARY

Kevin M Abreu	1	Linda Burch	2	Karl E and Joan Kohlhoff	19
Mary Dawn Sandlin	8	Betty Schrader	15	Ritt and Patricia Schiano	23
Ward Fogelsanger	15	Mary M Woods	21	Al and Paula Anderer	28
George B Meegan	20	Claudia Horak	28	Fred and Ann Ferguson	30
Al Anderer	22	Connie Koch	29		
Charles McCorkle	24	Georgia Pullen	27		
Hal Peebles	27				



Tidbits

Please give a warm welcome to our newest Members:

- Kevin M and Cindy Abreu
- Steve and Kate Sweeney
- Milton E and Shirley Brown

Welcome!

Do you have any tidbits to share for the good of the Chapter? Send them to
paula_anderer@cox.net

**Luncheon
Superstition Mountain Chapter MOAA Auxiliary**

We have found a suitable place to meet, but not until June!

Wednesday, June 8, 2002

Lunch at 11:00am

Denny's

Order lunch off the menu

Route 60 and Rural Rd.

No reservation needed

Join Us



Help us help our Vets!

**Luncheon Meeting
Superstition Mountain Chapter MOAA**

Saturday - May 21, 2022 (Last luncheon until September!)

12 Noon Social - 1:00 pm Lunch

DoubleTree by Hilton

1011 West Holmes Ave., Mesa, AZ 85210

Menu

**Chicken Fajitas with all condiments, rice and beans, dessert,
coffee, or iced tea.**

\$30.00 per person

Reservations by Sunday, May 15th

to Arlan Allen

4201 W Luke Ave, Phoenix AZ 85019

602-283-5862 - cw4allen@cox.net

Chairman Reports



1st Vice President
Arlan Allen - Programs

Here we are in May, the month of many celebrations. Beginning with the May Day celebration --- how many of you remember decorating the May Pole, followed by Cinco de Mayo, Mother's Day, V-E Day, Armed Forces Day and ending with Memorial Day, a day to remember our Fallen Heroes!

Our May luncheon will be held on May 21st, with social hour beginning at noon and the buffet lunch served at 1300. The menu will be Chicken Fajitas with rice and beans and all condiments served with fajitas along with dessert, coffee and tea. The cost is \$30.00 per person, and I must have your reservations by Sunday the 15th. You can RSVP by email cw4allen@cox.net or phone 602-283-5862 (leave a message). The final numbers are turned in to the hotel on Monday, May 16th. The location of the meeting will be the DoubleTree by Hilton, Phoenix/Mesa; 1011 W Holmes Ave., Mesa.

The guest speaker for May will be our own LTC Dr. Jim Austin, USAF, Retired. The topic of discussion: The "lighter, more jovial" side of Jim, or **"How Being in the Wrong Line Led to a Successful Career"**. I'm sure you will find Jim's perspective to be entertaining. Hope to see you at the May meeting.

IMPORTANT NOTE: May 21st will be our last meeting before starting the summer break. There will be no meetings in June, July or August. The first luncheon meeting after summer break will be September 17th.

CW4 Arlan Allen, USA, Ret



Legislative
Bob Grierson



May greetings to the Superstition Mountain Chapter.

Your MOAA leadership and the SMC chapter have been very busy on your behalf. Earlier this year, the MOAA Board set 3 primary federal legislative priorities for this congress. They are:

The Major Richard Star Act (H.R. 1282/S. 344) would provide concurrent receipt of retired pay and disability pay for combat-injured veteran

This bill already has 205 co-sponsors in the House - adding 54 since January - and 56 in the Senate. Both Sens Kelly and Sinema have told me they are cosponsors.

The Stop Copay Overpay Act (H.R. 4824) would overturn the doubling of TRICARE copays for mental health care for uniformed services families and retirees.

Ensuring a 4.6% military pay raise as a minimum across all ranks would keep faith with members of all eight uniformed services, maintaining the link to the Employment Cost Index (ECI) established by statute.

Throughout our state as well as the US, MOAA members like you are reaching out to our representatives to get these bills approved. In AZ alone, every representative and senator has had in person or virtual meetings with Chapter leadership. Ours included. Now we need your help in contacting those legislators too. Go to this site and fill out your information <https://moaa.quorum.us/campaign/39513/> MOAA will get your letter of support into their hands. Or call their local or DC offices and be sure to refer to the bill numbers when speaking to the staff. On the State side, this current Session was scheduled to end April 23. MOAA has been told that it may remain in session until the end of May. Surprisingly, 90 members of the legislature appear to have many different ideas about the budget. It will take 16 members of the Senate and 31 members of the House to agree on a plan before they will have a Budget.

As the session continues, here are the bills recently passed by the legislature:

- HB 2223 emergency; military affairs; National Guard Makes various changes relating to the administration of the Arizona National Guard. Provides tuition reimbursement for spouses and dependents of national guardsmen and for Department of Emergency and Military Affairs employees. Signed by the Governor 18 April 2022
- HB 2062 military; purple heart; VLT exemptions · Exempts a veteran who is a bona fide purple heart recipient who has been honorably discharged, from a VLT or registration fee for a personally owned vehicle; and · States that the exemption only applies to one vehicle. Passed Senate Third Read by a vote of 26-1-3-0. Transmitted to the House. Transmitted to the Governor
- HB 2823 tuition waiver; veterans; felonies; eligibility By way of background, current statute stipulates that a person who is a member or former member of the United States armed forces who received a Purple Heart citation, was a resident of the State of Arizona or was stationed in Arizona at the time of the injury that resulted in the Purple Heart citation and has a disability rating of 50% or more may receive a tuition waiver scholarship except they are ineligible for a tuition waiver scholarship if that person has been convicted of a felony. HB2823 Stipulates that an otherwise

Chairman Grierson's remarks continued on the next page...

(continued)

qualified member or former member of the United States armed forces is ineligible for a tuition waiver scholarship if convicted of a class 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 felony, providing eligibility to those convicted of a Class 6 felony. 14 Apr 2022- Signed by Governor.

Bob Grierson



Personal Affairs
Gregory Moore

Greetings and good health to all!

There are three items this month:

1. Medicare- It's scam time again!

Remember that the Federal Government **will never ask you** by e-mail or phone to give them your number for billing, ID, etc.

2. As we age (who, me?)

As we approach the time at which we may all welcome/require more care than our current caregiver can provide, the rescue may be the **VA**. The **VA** can give information, or provide resources, regarding long term care, assisted living or the care of a disabled spouse.

Contact the **SW Dept.** at the downtown **VAMC**, or your team **SW** at your clinic.

Visit www.VA.gov/geriatrics

3. Protect your assets.

You may recall that a few years ago, we had a speaker, named Sheri Scott, who spoke on **Social Security strategies**. Her husband, Charles Scott, AIF, CDP is a contact of mine. He is a licensed fiduciary who is paid by the hour, works for the client and receives no commission. Charles has co-written a book entitled **Protecting Your Assets with Tax-Free Long-Term Care**. If you request the book by calling **480-513-1830**, or by visiting the website **chatwithcharlesscott.com**, you will be able to enjoy a private, in-person consultation with Charles, and receive a **"Long Term Care Roadmap"** at no cost or obligation.

Chairman Moore's remarks continued on the next page...

(continued)

To quote a letter which was included with my copy of Charles' book, **"My mission is to help people live their golden years with dignity, independence, and without financial stress."**

Greg Moore

Disclaimer: I offer the above information as Chairman of Personal Affairs, SMC Chapter. This is not a recommendation of the professional abilities of Charles Scott, or the accuracy of his advice. I have consulted with Charles at his company, Pelleton Capital Management, at which time I paid his full hourly fee. I do not have a monetary relationship with Charles or Sheri Scott, and do not anticipate establishing one within the next 30 days. The SMC BOD has no collective relationship with Pelleton Capital Management. - **Greg Moore**.



ROTC/JROTC
Al Anderer

So far, George Meegan, Arlan Allen, Mike Ostermeyer, Gregory Moore, Ritt Schiano and Adm. Richard Ridenour have volunteered to attend Awards Presentations at the high schools listed below. John Bushko made the ROTC presentation at ASU.

MAY 2022 - PRESENTATIONS:

- 5/2 Chandler HS**
- 5/3 Campo Verde HS (Ritt Schiano)**
- 5/3 Apache Junction HS (Gregory Moore)**
- 5/5 Poston Butte HS**
- 5/6 Skyline HS (Gregory Moore)**
- 5/6 Gilbert HS (Adm. Richard Ridenour)**
- 5/10 Westwood HS (Gregory Moore)**
- 5/12 Hamilton HS (Gregory Moore)**
- 5/13 Basha HS (Arlan Allen)**

Thank you for your support!

Al Anderer

al_anderer@cox.net 480-219-3533

AUXILIARY ACTIVITIES



Working for Vets
Judy Bushko

Hygiene Kits for Vets

Items we need for our kits are razors, wash cloths, combs, white socks, bars of soap, deodorant, 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!



Heart Shaped pillows for VA Hospital and Hospice of the Valley

Patients at the VA hospital, who 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!**

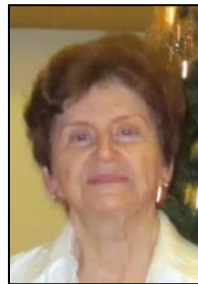
When you upgrade your phone, don't throw those old phones away. Bring them to us. We'll send them in to get phone time for our troops overseas. **Phones don't need to work!**

Contact Judy Bushko **480-759-1717** or
e-mail: jdbushko@earthlink.net



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 blankets are then given to the family. Over 50 blankets donated since we started this project!



Operation Paperback Books
Ann Ferguson

We send paperbacks to the troops and hard cover books are taken to the VA Hospital. Since 2012, over 11,400 books taken to the VA Hospital and hundreds of paperbacks have been sent out to our troops.

Bring your books to any chapter function or contact Ann Ferguson **480-961-9634**
or e-mail: vfergusonfnp@cox.net

"Sleep is good, he said, books are better."

- George R.R. Martin





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 _____ Printed Member Name & Initial _____
Branch of Service _____ Rank _____
Spouse First Name _____ National MOAA Number _____
Street Address _____ City _____ State _____ ZIP _____ - _____
Home Phone # _____ Work or Cell# _____
Please Circle: ARMY--AIR FORCE--NAVY--MARINE CORPS- COAST GUARD--NOAA--PUBLIC HEALTH SVC
Circle All That Apply: REGULAR-RESERVE-NATIONAL GUARD-FORMER OFFICER-ACTIVE-RETIRED-
MALE___ FEMALE___ WIDOW-___ WIDOWER___
Member Date of Birth MM___/DD___/YYYY___ Spouse Date of Birth MM___/DD___/YYYY___
Anniversary Date _____ E-mail Address _____

MOAA National membership for 2022 has 3 types to pick from. **1. Basic--free-electronic only.** **2. Premium- \$40.00 a year.** **3. Life membership-fee is age dependent** (can be as much as \$700.00) As a **BASIC Member** you will receive electronic newsletters and have opportunities to participate in grassroots activism effort. You get *Military Officer Magazine* via our mobile app. You'll also have the opportunity to attend our career fairs, networking events, and classes and to take advantage of valuable discounts on products and services. As a **PREMIUM Member** you get full access to everything MOAA has to offer, including our full spectrum of our career resources (one-on-one career counseling, résumé reviews, and interviewing advice and critiques), countless discounts on products and travel, and access to all MOAA exclusive publications and news updates. You'll be able to tap into MOAA's staff of experts for financial and investment advice, college scholarships for dependents, and much more. 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 may participate in Chapter Auxiliary luncheons and activities with no fee. Chapter bylaws require Chapter members and Chapter Auxiliary members to be members of MOAA National.

For National dues, enclose check for: \$40.00 – Make check payable to MOAA National

Mail to: MOAA, Dept. 1488, Maryfield, VA 22116-9820

Enclose check for: Chapter \$25.00 or Auxiliary (SSAC) \$12.50

Make check payable to SMC of MOAA. Write 2022 dues in the memo line

Mail Chapter Application and Check to: SMC MOAA, Tom Ralph, Treasurer

20444 N 22nd St, Phoenix, AZ 85024 - Phone 602-569-2130

For More Information Contact, Membership Committee Chairman Norm Poole

520) 836-8456. nrpoole1066@gmail.com

Name tags are durable hard plastic, white background with MOAA logo and your name engraved in black. To place your order, please fill out the form below.

Print first and last name	Select nametag type	
	Pin on	magnetic
1. _____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____



May Luncheon Meeting
Saturday, May 21, 2022 - Double Tree by Hilton
Social Hour - Noon Lunch - 1:00pm
BUFFET

Chicken Fajitas with condiments, rice and beans, dessert, coffee, or iced tea.

\$30.00 per meal - Name(s) _____

Reservations must be in by Sunday, April 15th

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

Chapter Donations

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 *AUXILIARY* or *ROTC* in the memo line of the check

Mail to: **TOM RALPH, Treasurer:** 20444 N 22nd 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 22nd St, Phoenix, AZ 85024

Check enclosed; renew my membership for 2022

Please print name _____ My National MOAA
Number _____



2022 Chapter Activity Schedule - (Dates and times are subject to change.)

Chapter Board	Chapter Auxiliary	Chapter Member/Guest
Meetings	Luncheons	Luncheon Meetings
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 23 rd - 12 Noon Social 1:00pm Lunch
May 9 th - 9:30am	May 11, 2022	May 21 st - 12 Noon Social 1:00pm Lunch



“Life is not fair. Get over it!”

...Life-long adage of Marlene Fox

*In loving Memory of Marlene Fox,
our long-time Newsletter Editor.*

*In lieu of flowers, the SMC Board has moved to make a donation to **Ryan House** in memory of Marlene Fox. That was her express request.*

Hospice of the Valley partners with Ryan House to provide hospice care for both children and adults. This unique multi-generational facility is located near the campus of St. Joseph’s Hospital and Medical Center in midtown Phoenix. Adults are cared for on the second level, while children are nurtured on the first floor. This children’s wonderland was built just for kids, with eight colorfully-themed bedrooms, and

a fully-accessible playground. There are rooms for art, computers, sensory stimulation, and hydrotherapy. Ryan House also gives families a break from their 24-hr. caregiving. Nursing staff give around the clock care, while parents and siblings stay in a nearby suite. Or, if they wish, they can go home for a while.

Ryan House opened in 2010. It is supported by private and nonprofit community organizations, and **Hospice of the Valley**. Call [\(602\) 234-6750](tel:6022346750) for information.

110 W. Muhammad Ali Way, 1st Floor, Phoenix, AZ 85013



Newsletter Contact: paula_anderer@cox.net

Superstition Mountain Chapter
Military Officers Association of America

RESOURCES

Newsletter: paula_anderer@cox.net

MOAA Home Page: <https://moaa.org>

MOAA SMC Chapter Website: <https://smcmoaa.org>

 **beconnected**: <https://beconnectedaz.org>
service members • veterans • families • communities



Visit the websites and explore the different features
and other organizations in your area.