



LIMITED EDITION JUNE 2022

This newsletter is published
monthly September - May.



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

Please share the Newsletter with your spouse!

Greetings all!

I hope everyone who attended the May meeting enjoyed Jim Austin's recap of his career. He had a very diverse and unusual Air Force life.

We are taking a pause in our board and membership meetings until September. The ladies in the Auxiliary group decided to meet thru the summer, so they will be meeting at the Denny's restaurant at Rural Rd and US 60.

I hope everyone has a safe and pleasant summer. I look forward to seeing everyone in September.

Don't forget, we will be asking for volunteers to take leadership in the new year.

John



AUXILIARY NEWS
from Judy

Unbelievably, it's almost June!

Out of school and into the pool!
Watch the little ones around the water.

Summer heat can be challenging!
Vacation or Staycation, please take
care.



We will see some of you on June 8th at Denny's,
and we look forward to being with all of you again
on September 17th at the Chapter Luncheon!

Judy



May Luncheon Meeting



Jim Austin

Thank you to our friend and member, Jim Austin, who regaled us with his humorous explanation of how he wound up in the Air Force when he meant to join the Army! Everyone enjoyed his presentation.

Having a father who served as a "Mule Skinner" in WW I and WW II and retired as a Master Sergeant E8, Jim was an "Army Brat." He attended Texas A&M with every intention of joining the US Army. However, upon graduation, Jim somehow found himself in the line of the United States Air Force, with his left, not right, hand in the air! This serendipity led to a long and successful Air Force career.

Jim had an interesting and challenging Air Force career. He served in the Office of Special Investigations, as a "plain clothes" agent with the Secret Service during the Lyndon Johnson administration, and saw combat in Vietnam, which resulted in his being awarded a "Purple Heart."

Following Vietnam, Jim continued his education, earning a PHD. Jim retired as a Lieutenant Colonel from the Air Force, but he didn't retire from life! He pursued a new career and became a college professor.

Jim served for many years as the Transition Coordinator for the Superstition Mountain Chapter, MOAA. Thank you for your service, Jim!

May Luncheon Attendees Photos

Ed Fox



Judy Bushko

Fred and Ann Ferguson



Barb Austin

Greg Moore



Milton Brown

Lou Bates



Tom and Melanie Ralph



Arlan Allen



Bill and Lesley Baran



Ann Schminke



Ed Mangen

Mike and Jan Ostermeyer



June Congratulations!



MEMBER

John Marsh

12

SPOUSE

Meredith Moore

3

Lesley Baran

22



ANNIVERSARY

Arlan and Peggy Allen

19

Greg and Meredith Moore

28

Robert and Dawn Grierson

9



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!

Visit the website to
register!

<https://wheelchairgames.org>

July 7-12, 2022
Tempe, AZ

A poster for the National Veterans Wheelchair Games. The background is dark blue with a textured, grainy appearance. On the left, there is a circular logo with a stylized figure in a wheelchair, colored in blue, red, and yellow. Below the logo, the text "NATIONAL VETERANS WHEELCHAIR GAMES" is written in white. Further down, a yellow banner with a red border contains the text "JULY 7-12, 2022" and "TEMPE, ARIZONA". Below the banner, a list of bullet points reads: "• 500+ Athletes", "• 22 Events", and "• 6 Days". At the bottom right, the text "CO-PRESENTED BY:" is followed by three logos: the VA logo (U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs), the PVA logo (Paralyzed Veterans of America), and the PVA logo (Paralyzed Veterans of America). At the bottom left, the text "WheelchairGames.org • #WheelchairGames" is displayed.

**NATIONAL VETERANS
WHEELCHAIR
GAMES**

**JULY 7-12, 2022
TEMPE, ARIZONA**

- 500+ Athletes
- 22 Events
- 6 Days

CO-PRESENTED BY:

WheelchairGames.org • #WheelchairGames

VA U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

PVA Paralyzed Veterans of America



Historical Tidbits

*"Tell me a fact, and I'll learn. Tell me a truth, and I'll believe.
But tell me a story, and it will live in my heart forever." – Steve Sabol, NFL Films*

6/14/1775 –

The Formation of The American Continental Army

On April 19, 1775, British soldiers came to Lexington, Massachusetts looking for the Patriots' guns and leaders, Samuel Adams. John Hancock and Dr. Warren. There was a tense standoff between the British and the militias which had assembled. Suddenly a British soldier discharged his gun. That was "the shot heard 'round the world" and it rang out for all to hear. The American Revolution had begun! Until that moment, the true purpose of the Patriots' actions in Boston, which led to the Boston Massacre, were not entirely clear to the British. But now, the Patriots' secret desire for independence was laid bare for all to see. England would surely retaliate!

On June 14, 1775, the Second Continental Congress met in Philadelphia and agreed that they could no longer depend on militias, but needed a standing army to defend the colonies. Congress authorized 10 companies of "expert riflemen" as soldiers to serve as light infantry in the siege of Boston which was already underway. **The American Continental Army** was established! George Washington made an appearance before Congress during the session, dressed in a military uniform, signaling that he was ready for war, although not seeking a leadership role himself.

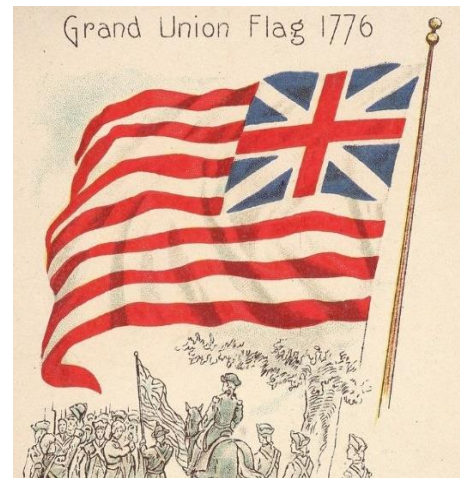
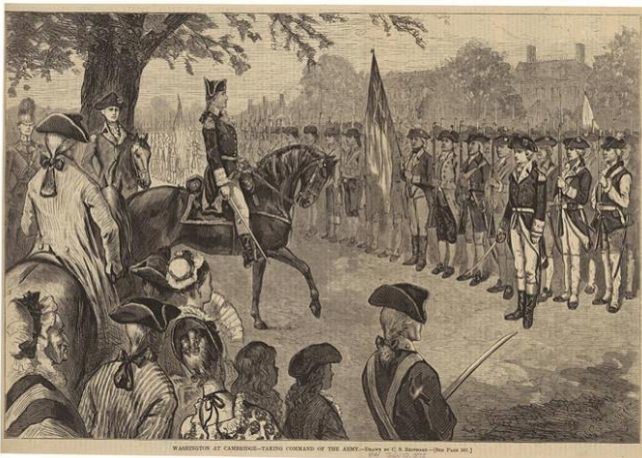
On June 15, 1775, John Adams nominated George Washington to lead the army. Based solely on the prestige of his character, integrity and experience, Congress unanimously appointed Washington to be General and Commander-in-Chief of all continental forces. He addressed the Congress, giving a self-deprecating acceptance speech. Nevertheless, he thanked them for their trust in him and accepted the appointment, with the understanding that he would receive no salary during the war, only reimbursement for expenses.

Superstition Mountain Express

On June 17, 1775, Washington received his official commission. (The Patriots in Boston received intelligence that the British were planning to take the high ground around Boston. As Washington was receiving his commission, valiant Patriots were fighting the British on Breed's Hill outside Boston at Charlestown. At the approach of the enemy, Col. William Prescott bellowed to his troops, "Don't fire until you see the whites of their eyes!" Original plans were to fortify Bunker Hill, but Breed's Hill was closer to Boston and the harbor and lower for a better vantage point. The Bunker Hill memorial marker was installed on Breed's Hill because that is where the most fighting occurred. Nearly half of the attacking British soldiers and marines died in the battle. The Patriots didn't win that battle, but they showed that they had the grit to keep fighting and win their war for independence.

On June 18, 1775, Washington informed his wife, Martha, by mail from Philadelphia that he had reluctantly accepted the position and changed his will.

On July 3, 1775, at Cambridge Common, Washington rode out in front of his army on his horse and drew his sword under an ancient Elm tree, signaling that he was formally taking charge of the Continental Army. The rest is history!



Cambridge Common, Massachusetts 7/3/1775

First flag flown by the Continental Army

[April 19, 1775 - Minute Man National Historical Park \(U.S. National Park Service\) \(nps.gov\)](https://www.nps.gov/minute-man/history/1775/04/19/index.htm)

[George Washington appointed head of Continental Army, On This Day, June 15, 1775 \(revolutionary-war-and-beyond.com\)](https://revolutionary-war-and-beyond.com/george-washington-appointed-head-of-continental-army-on-this-day-june-15-1775/);

[Who Said, "Don't Fire Till You See the Whites of Their Eyes"? - Journal of the American Revolution \(allthingsliberty.com\)](https://allthingsliberty.com/who-said-dont-fire-till-you-see-the-whites-of-their-eyes/)

https://todayinhistory.blog/2017/07/03/july-3-1775-washingtons-sword;

https://www.united-states-flag.com

**Luncheon
Superstition Mountain Chapter MOAA Auxiliary**

Wednesday, June 8, 2002

Lunch at 11:00am

Denny's
Route 60 and Rural Rd.

Order lunch off the menu
No reservation needed

Join Us



Help us help our Vets!

**Luncheon Meeting
Superstition Mountain Chapter MOAA**



Be back by September 17th!

Chairman Reports



Legislative
Bob Grierson



June greetings to the Superstition Mountain Chapter!

Over the past several months, I've discussed a number of state legislative proposals. Regretfully, many have died in committee. And in fairness, the legislature is operating in overtime and they still have not passed a budget as of the time of my writing. So, I have very low expectations of any meaningful legislation benefiting MOAA members in the state going forward. But one bill is not yet dead and could use your help in getting the House members to vote yes. Although I think it's on life support:

SCR 1011 constitutional property tax exemptions

Subject to voter approval, amends the Constitution of Arizona to repeal sections relating to property tax exemptions and replaces the sections with one consolidated property tax exemption section and allows the Legislature to exempt the following:

- Property of an educational, charitable or religious association or institution that is not used or held for profit;
- Personal property that is used in a trade or business or for agricultural purposes;
- Cemeteries that are set apart and used to inter deceased human beings;
- The property of a widow or widower who is an Arizona resident;
- Property of an Arizona resident who is at least 18 years-old and has a medically certified total and permanent disability; and
- The property of an honorably discharged veteran who is an Arizona resident with a service or non-service-related disability as determined by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

Primary Sponsor(s): Sen. JD Mesnard, R-Dist. 17 Major Actions: 10 Jan 2022- First Read and assigned to the Senate Finance and Rules Committees. 26 Jan 2022- Received a "Do Pass" recommendation from Senate Finance Committee by a vote of 7-3-0-0. 31 Jan 2022- Deemed Proper for Consideration by Senate Rules Committee. 01 Feb 2022- Passed Senate Democrat and Republican Caucus. 09 Feb 2022- Passed Senate Third Read with a vote of 17-12-1-0. Transmitted to the House. 23 Feb 2022- First Read and assigned to the House Ways & Means and Rules Committees. 02 Mar 2022- Received a "Do Pass" recommendation from the House Ways & Means Committee by a vote of 9-1-0-0.

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To confirm who your state legislators are, you can go to <https://www.azleg.gov/findmylegislator/>

On the federal side, MOAA has completed its nationwide Advocacy in Action campaign which I covered last month. Of the 3 primary legislative requests, The Major Richard Star Act (H.R. 1282/S. 344), the Stop Copay Overpay Act (H.R. 4824), and ensuring a 4.6% military pay increase, I believe only the Major Star act will be approved. The pay raise will probably be approved as part of the overall budget, but it will be competing with overall troop levels, weapons systems, and ship and aircraft acquisitions. We all have seen the impact inflation has had on our own lives, we need to do better for our troops as a Nation.

The MOAA website has really great information with up-to-date legislative action on all MOAA priorities. It gives you the bill number, name, status, number of sponsors, and date of last action: <https://moaa.quorum.us/bills/>

Another area in the MOAA website gives you the ability to reach out to your legislators with the click of a button. And they (the legislators) do respond quickly. Especially in an election year. Here's the MOAA link for your use: <https://moaa.quorum.us/>

Since this is an election year, you may have the opportunity to interact with a candidate or two. Let them know that you support the MOAA campaign and ask them to support our endeavors. Be respectful, but firm. They ostensibly work on our behalf.

Bob Grierson





ROTC/JROTC
Al Anderer

This Spring, SMC provided MOAA medals to the four ROTC services at ASU, and MOAA awards to the twenty JROTC high schools supported by SMC. I would personally like to thank Greg Moore, Ritt Schiano, George Meegan, Arlan Allen, Mike Ostermeyer, ADM Richard Ridenour and John Bushko for presenting these awards.

Unfortunately, this year, we were only able to schedule presenters for half of the supported high schools. In those instances, we missed an opportunity to demonstrate our Chapter's individual support. Next year, we will begin earlier to recruit Chapter representatives to personally present these awards to the deserving young men and women of the ROTC/JROTC. These, after all, are the future leaders of our services.

Al Anderer

al_anderer@cox.net

480-219-3533





FALL MEMBER LUNCHEON MEETING

September 2022 Luncheon Meeting

Saturday, Sept. 17, 2022 - Double Tree by Hilton

Social Hour - Noon

Lunch - 1:00pm

BUFFET

(TBD)

\$30.00 per meal - Name(s) _____

Reservations must be in by Sunday, September 11th

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

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

Chapter Board	Chapter Auxiliary	Chapter Member/Guest
Meetings	Luncheons	Luncheon Meetings
	June 8th - 11:00am Denny' Route 60/Rural Rd.	N/A
N/A		N/A
N/A		N/A

Editor's Page



Dedicated to the memory of Marlene Fox, our long-time Newsletter Editor.



"Life is not fair. Get over it!"

Marlene has been posthumously awarded the MOAA 5-Star Col. Marvin J. Harris Communications Award for the SMC Newsletter! What a fitting and wonderful tribute to her tireless efforts.

Those who knew her realized that Marlene Fox was 5-Star Everything!



**Wherever you go, whatever you do,
have a wonderful time and enjoy it!**

We'll see you in September!

Superstition Mountain Chapter
Military Officers Association of America

RESOURCES

Newsletter: paula_anderer@cox.net

MOAA Home Page: <https://www.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.