



## **LIMITED EDITION JULY 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!

Please join Judy and me in congratulating Ann Ferguson and Austin Foote! They have been awarded the MOAA 5-Star Col. Marvin J. Harris Communications Award for our Superstition Mountain Chapter Website. Congratulations!

**John and Judy**





This month, we again remember that freedom is not free! Lives and fortunes were lost to establish our country as a free and independent nation.

As we enjoy our Independence Day celebration with cook-outs, and the thrill of the fireworks display at our nation's Capital, let us bow our heads and think about those who have paid the ultimate price for our freedom. Also, remember those who lost limbs and their health for the cause. Their lives are forever changed.

Our forever-a-Marine member, George Meegan, related a personal encounter with a double amputee in the gym which caused him to pause and reflect. For the good of the Chapter, the Newsletter would like to share his reflection.

We are all aware of our personal bodies, daily, and the messages which we receive that tell us that something is just not working well. Sore knees, elbows, fingers, etc. A nagging stiff neck, or a bad bruise. A "hitch in our git along", so to speak.

George was at the gym, thinking of his sore knees, when he noticed a man near his own age who had only half of his left arm and half of his left leg. The amputee was working out with vigor. He was not a vet. He was a civilian who nearly lost his life in a motorcycle accident. Whatever his motivation, this person reminded George of the Marine Corps philosophy - "Suck it up and continue to march!"

George acknowledges that we all have our physical difficulties and challenges. However, he would like everyone to be encouraged, as was he, by an 80-year-old with half an arm and half a leg who is not giving up or feeling sorry for himself. He is sucking it up and continuing to march in his own way!

Thank you, George, for inspiring all of us to look beyond ourselves and be thankful for our blessings!

## July Congratulations!



### MEMBER

### SPOUSE

### ANNIVERSARY

Alan Ashmore	1	Linda T. Hayball	12	Ted and Karen Kondferak	1
Ann Schminke	15	Royetta Dooley	14	William G. Koch	3
Sheryl Mauldin	17	Paula Anderer	17	James Faull	20
Michael A. Dickson	19	Lynne Loss	28		
Hubert Sharp	20	Pamela Banachowski	31		
Karl E. Kohlhoff	28				
Bob Dulong	29				



**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!**

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register!

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July 7-12, 2022  
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VA U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

PVA Paralyzed Veterans of America





# Historical Tidbits

7/4/1776 ~

IN CONGRESS, JULY 4, 1776.

## The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America.

When in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation. — We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. — That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, — That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all reference hath hitherto been to past wrongs, not to future injuries. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object evinces a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future security. — Such has been the patient Sufferance of these Colonies, and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their former Systems of Government. The history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States. To prove this, let Facts be submitted to a candid world. — He has refused his Assent to Laws, the most wholesome and necessary for the public good. — He has forbidden his Governors to pass Laws of immediate and pressing importance, unless suspended in their operation, till his Assent should be obtained; and when so suspended, he has utterly neglected to attend to them. — He has refused to pass other Laws for the accommodation of large districts of People, unless those People would relinquish the right of Representation in the Legislature, a right inestimable to them and formidable to tyrants only. — He has called together legislative bodies at places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the depository of their public Records, for the sole purpose of obstructing them from complying with the measure. — He has dissolved Representative Houses repeatedly, for opposing with manly firmness his invasions on the rights of the People. — He has refused for a long time, after such dissolutions, to cause others to be elected; whereby the Legislative Powers, incapable of Annihilation, have returned to the People at large for their exercise; the State remaining in the mean time exposed to all the dangers of Invasion from without, and confusions within. — He has endeavored to prevent the Population of these States; for that purpose obstructing the Law for Naturalization of Foreigners; refusing to pass others to encourage their migrations hither, and raising the conditions of new Appropriations of Lands. — He has obstructed the Administration of Justice, by refusing his Assent to Laws for establishing Judiciary Powers. — He has made Judges dependent on his Will alone, for the tenure of their Offices, and the amount and payment of their salaries. — He has created a multitude of new Offices, and sent hither swarms of Officers to harass our People, and eat out their Substances. — He has kept among us, in times of Peace, Standing Armies without the Consent of our Legislature. — He has affected to render the Military independent of and superior to the Civil power. — He has combined with others to subject us to a Jurisdiction foreign to our Constitution, and unacknowledged by our Laws; giving his Assent to their Acts of pretended Legislation: — For quartering large bodies of armed troops among us: — For protecting them, by a mock Trial, from Punishment for any Murders which they should commit on the Inhabitants of these States: — For cutting off our Trade with all parts of the world: — For imposing Taxes on us without our Consent: — For depriving us in many cases, of the benefits of Trial by Jury: — For transporting us beyond Seas to be tried for pretended offences: — For abolishing the free System of English Laws in a neighboring Province, establishing therein an arbitrary government, and enlarging its Boundaries so as to render it at once an example and fit instrument for introducing the same absolute rule into these Colonies: — For taking away our Charters, abolishing our most valuable Laws, and altering fundamentally the Forms of our Governments: — For suspending our own Legislatures, and declaring themselves invested with powers to legislate for us in all cases whatsoever. — He has abdicated Government here, by declaring us out of his Protection and waging War against us. — He has plundered our seas, ravaged our Coasts, burnt our towns, and destroyed the lives of our People. — He is at this time transporting large Armies of foreign Mercenaries to compleat the works of death, desolation and tyranny, already begun with circumstances of Cruelty & perfidy scarcely paralleled in the most barbarous ages, and totally unworthy the Head of a civilized nation. — He has constrained our fellow Citizens taken Captive on the high Seas to bear Arms against their Country, to become the executioners of their friends and Brethren, or to fall themselves by their Hands. — He has excited domestic insurrections amongst us, and has endeavored to bring on the Inhabitants of one Province, the merciless Slaves of another, whose known rule of warfare, is an undistinguished destruction of all ages, sexes and conditions. In every stage of these Oppressions We have Petitioned for Redress in the most humble terms: Our repeated Petitions have been answered by repeated injury. A Prince, whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a Tyrant, is unfit to be the ruler of a free People. — Nor have We been wanting in attention to our British brethren. We have warned them from time to time of attempts by their Legislatures to extend an unwarrantable Jurisdiction over us. We have reminded them of the circumstances of our emigration and settlement here. We have appealed to their native justice and magnanimity, and we have conjured them by the ties of our common kindred to disavow these usurpations, which would inevitably interrupt our connections and correspondence. They too have been deaf to the voice of justice and of consanguinity. We must, therefore, acquiesce in the necessity, which denounces our separation, and hold them, as we hold the rest of mankind, Enemies in War, in Peace Friends. — We, therefore, the Representatives of the united States of America, in General Congress, Assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the Name, and by Authority of the good People of these Colonies, solemnly publish and declare, That these United Colonies are, and of Right ought to be, Free and Independent States; that they are absolved from all Allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain, is and ought to be totally dissolved; and that as Free and Independent States, they have full Power to levy War, conclude Peace, contract Alliances, establish Commerce, and to do all other Acts and Things which Independent States may of right do. — And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the Protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our sacred Honor.

Wm. Hooper  
Joseph Bevier  
John Penn  
Boston, Gwinnett  
Lyman Hall  
Geo. Walton

Edward Rutledge Jr.

Thos. Heyward Jr.  
Thomas Lynch Jr.  
Arthur Middleton

Samuel Chase  
Wm. Paca  
Thos. M'Kean  
Charles Carroll of Carrollton

George Wythe  
Richard Henry Lee  
Thos. Jefferson  
Benjamin Harrison  
Thos. Nelson Jr.  
Charles Braxton

John Hancock  
Robt Morris  
Burgess  
Benjamin Franklin  
John Morton

James Wilson  
Gt. Prop  
Carrington  
Thos. M'Kean

John Adams  
Samuel Adams  
John Adams  
Samuel Adams

John Adams  
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John Adams  
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Samuel Adams

John Adams  
Samuel Adams  
John Adams  
Samuel Adams

Thomas Jefferson attended The College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, VA. When he enrolled in 1760 at age 16, he was already proficient in the classics and could read the Latin and Greek authors in the original language. He did so for all of the rest of his life. Jefferson was influenced by the Enlightenment and the philosophy of John Locke, and incorporated some of those ideas in the Declaration. His greatest influences, however, were Dr. William Small of Scotland and George Wythe, the first Law Professor at William and Mary. Dr. Small was his Mathematics professor who was skilled in all the sciences and very eager to communicate all he knew to Jefferson. Jefferson read law under George Wythe for five years. He was a "man for all seasons." He visited the Governor's House as a young man with his mentors and even played the violin and cello there for entertainment.

On June 11, 1776, Thomas Jefferson was appointed to a 5-man committee which was tasked with drafting a formal document which would justify the colonies' break with Great Britain. He was 33 years-old, had a beautiful handwriting style with quill and ink. He was the obvious choice to draft such an important document. The other members of the committee were John Adams-MA, Benjamin Franklin-PA, Robert Livingston-NY and Roger Sherman-CT. Jefferson was given 17 days to draw up the document, due to the fact that the Congress was so busy. The draft included corrections by John Adams and Benjamin Franklin. Although the Declaration was considered the collective work of the Continental Congress; however, in the 1790's Jefferson was recognized as its principal author.

The Declaration was approved on July 4, 1776, but not signed until nearly a month later because they did not have the approval of all 13 colonies until July 9. The founding fathers knew very well what fate awaited them if they signed the document. King George III and the British Parliament would surely see it as treason. Nevertheless, they primarily signed their names on August 2, 1776, in the Pennsylvania State House, now known as Independence Hall. Others signed later. The iconic Liberty Bell resides there.

The last sentence of the Declaration is a promise, one to another, "We mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes, and our Sacred Honor." Some did lose their lives and their fortunes for the sake of the independence of our country. To them we all owe a great debt. It took uncommon courage to sign our Declaration of Independence.

As if to punctuate the importance of the date, both John Adams and Thomas Jefferson died on July 4, 1826, while the country celebrated Independence Day. They were the last two "revolutionaries" alive. Adams' last words were, "Thomas Jefferson still survives." However, Jefferson had died at Monticello five hours earlier.

<https://www.federalflags.com/declaration/independence>  
[findanyanswer.com/what-did-the-signers-of-the-declaration-pledge-to-each-other](http://findanyanswer.com/what-did-the-signers-of-the-declaration-pledge-to-each-other)



Luncheon  
Superstition Mountain Chapter MOAA Auxiliary

**Wednesday, July 13, 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 17<sup>th</sup>!**

## **Chairman's Report**



**Legislative**  
**Bob Grierson**



Independence Day greetings to the Superstition Mountain Chapter!

The State of Arizona has just wrapped up its legislative session. I've been covering the bills of interest since January, and we've had some successes. Here's a few more successes since last month. Approved Bills:

SB 1095 property tax exemptions: statutory conformity. **24 Jun 2022- Transmitted to the Governor**

SCR 1011 constitutional property tax exemptions. **24 Jun 2022- Transmitted to the Secretary of State.**

HB 2701 NOW: veterans; hunting licenses. **Transmitted to the Governor**

HB 2741 state licensing fee; waiver. **Transmitted to Governor**

SB 1346 state employees; vacation inquiries prohibited. **23 June 2022 Transmitted to Governor**

SB1170 G&F; tags; permits; voter registration. **07 June 2022 Signed by the Governor**

HB 2010 Flags: homeowner's associations. **06 June 2022 Signed by the Governor**

HB2320 veterans' organization; leased property; classification. **27 May 2022 Signed by the Governor**

To confirm the names of your state legislators, visit <https://www.azleg.gov/findmylegislator/>

On the federal side:

On 16 June 2022, the Senate voted 84-14 to pass a revised version of the Honoring Our Pact Act (H.R. 3967). Now it goes to the House for a re-vote.

NDAA Update: House Tackles Pay Raise, End Strength, Medical Billets, and More. The annual legislation is taking shape. Find out the latest on issues of importance to your pay and benefits.

Go online and click on [TAKE ACTION: Tell Congress to Protect Our All-Volunteer Force and Maintain Our Professional Advantage] to go to the Legislative Advocacy Center (LAC) to create your letters. NOTE: LAC requires your complete address or PO Box, city, and state in the address line, but NOT the ZIP code. (continued on next page)



(continued)

The Military Coalition Continues the Fight for Affordable Mental Health Care. The Stop Copay Overpay Act has gained steam in Congress and would fix an unfair TRICARE policy. Here's how you can help.

Go online and click on [TAKE ACTION: Help Support Military Family Access to Mental Health Care]; [TAKE ACTION: Urge Your Legislators to Ensure Uniformed Services Pay Keeps Up With Inflation]; [RELATED: Ask Your Lawmakers to Support the Military Hunger Prevention Act] to go to the Legislative Advocacy Center (LAC) to create your letters. NOTE: LAC requires your complete address or PO Box, city, and state in the address line, but NOT the ZIP code.

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 since this is 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 you support the MOAA campaign, ask them to support our endeavors. Be respectful, but firm. They ostensibly work on our behalf.



## 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

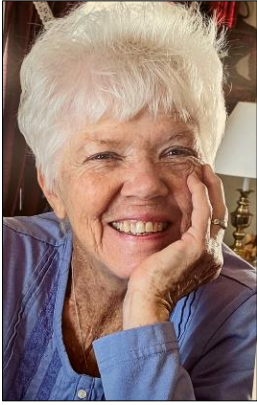
CLIP AND MAIL TO: **ARLAN ALLEN:** 4201 W Luke Ave, Phoenix AZ 85019  
602-283-5862 (can leave message) or email: [cw4allen@cox.net](mailto:cw4allen@cox.net)

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

Chapter Board	Chapter Auxiliary	Chapter Member/Guest
Meetings	Luncheons	Luncheon Meetings
	July 13 - 11:00am Denny's Route 60/Rural Rd.	N/A
N/A	Aug.17- 11:00am Denny's Route 60/Rural Rd.	N/A



## Editor's Page



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

*"Life is not fair. Get over it!"*



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*Belated congratulations to Ann Ferguson and Austin Foote for being awarded the MOAA 5-Star Col. Marvin J. Harris Communications Award for the SMC Website. Way to go! We are very proud of you both.*



*My sincere apology for not congratulating you two in the last Newsletter. I obviously wasn't recovering from surgery as quickly as I imagined. - Paula Anderer*





**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>

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