



OCT 2024
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The Superstition Mountain Chapter, Military Officers Association of America Inc., is a non-profit organization.

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<http://www.smcmoaa.org/>
(MOAA and its Superstition Mountain Chapter are both nonpartisan.)



President’s Comments
Gregory L. Moore, 1Lt. USA (Ret.)

Greetings all:

Those of you who were unable to attend Saturday’s luncheon not only missed a good meal, selected by John Bushko, but also a “feel good” experience. John and Judy emptied their garage (ha!) and brought in boxes of supplies. We then put together Hygiene Kits for veterans who may be unhoused/homeless. How many times do we get to do something for someone that will actually impact them in a positive manner? Something as simple as having a washcloth to wash your face, a toothbrush, and a clean pair of socks to wear makes a big difference to them. The Hygiene Kits are the item most requested at the Veterans Service Center. That is something that is special about SMC. Together we can make a difference.

If you are able to identify another matter from other organizations to which you belong, which effects military veterans and their families, please let your Board know.

As always, keep safe, stay cool, check on your older neighbors and VOTE.

Greg



VP Auxiliary/Surviving Spouse
Judy Bushko

Hello!

I am so proud of all of you who did such a great job to help our Vets at the last Luncheon. I hope that you enjoyed it as much as I did! I know, first-hand, the value of the Hygiene Kits to our Vets. Our Kits provide our Vets dignity in a world of indignity. Who wants to greet the world every day with a dirty face and mussed hair?

You are blessed when you give; just look at all the happy faces in these photos!

Judy





September Luncheon Photos

Greg and Meredith Moore



John and Judy Bushko



Bill and Lesley Baran



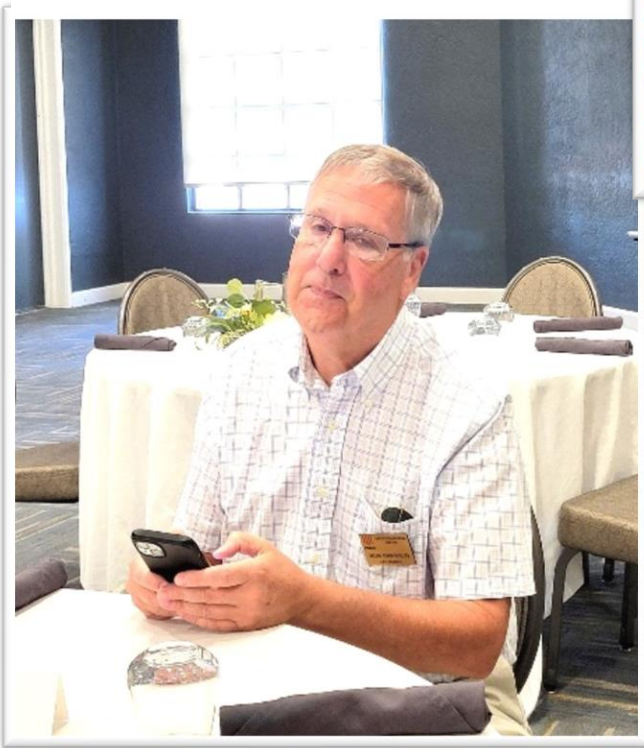
Jan and Mike Ostermeyer



Welcome back to Lynne and David Loss!



Bob Grierson



Fred and Ann Ferguson



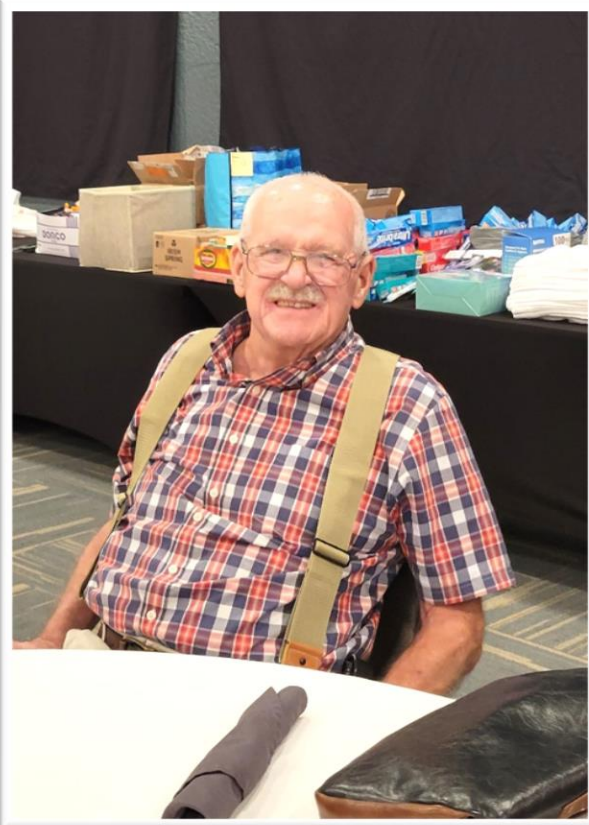
Peggy and Arlan Allen



Peggy Allen and Lou Bates



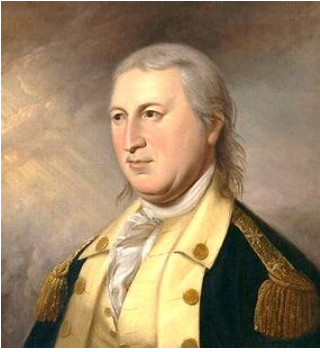
Mark Walker



This is where Melanie and Tom Ralph should have appeared. My sincere apologies for not getting a photo of you two this time. Forgive me.

Peggy





Gen. Horatio Gates

The Conspiracy of October 1777

In 1777, the Battle of Saratoga was fought on the fields of upstate New York, nine miles to the south of the town of Saratoga. British General John Burgoyne had arrived from Canada with an army of 7,200 troops at his command. He was attempting to isolate New England from the rest of the colonies as the British had planned, and hoped to dominate New York. However, General Horatio Gates, with his 9,000 soldiers and 2,000 arriving later, met Burgoyne in New York to oppose him.

There were two encounters during the Battle of Saratoga. The first was when Gen. Burgoyne attacked the entrenched Patriots at Freeman's Farm on September 19th. They managed to overrun the Americans, killing almost 600. However, Burgoyne suffered twice the American losses. Having waited as long as he could for reinforcements, Burgoyne attacked again on October 7th. This time the Americans defeated Burgoyne's army and regained lost ground. Dispirited and defeated, Burgoyne and his men marched to Saratoga and entrenched themselves. Within two weeks, Gates' army surrounded them and forced a surrender. The great victory secured for the revolution the aid of the French, as well as the Spanish and the Dutch, who were delighted for an opportunity to weaken their British rival.

General Horatio Gates became very popular because of his success in the defeat of General Burgoyne and his army. Soon his friends began to say that he was more qualified to lead the Continental Army than General George Washington. The "Conway Cabal" conspiracy began when General Thomas Conway praised Gates for saving the Revolution, thus disparaging Washington. His words were, "Heaven has been determined to save your Country; or a weak General and bad Counsellors would have ruined it." Only the drunken words of an officer, Colonel James Wilkinson, prematurely revealed the plot. With strong backing from important men in the Army and Congress, Washington was able to stop the conspiracy and maintain his command. He went on to force a surrender by British General Cornwallis in Yorktown in 1781.

General Gates offered his apologies to General Washington. Perhaps Gates could have benefitted from the old adage which cautions to beware when all men are speaking well of you. Fortunately, his pride was all that was lost.

[*mountvernon.org](http://mountvernon.org)
(Battle of Saratoga)

October Congratulations!



MEMBER

David Loss 13

Dr. James S. Austin 19

John Pickering 25

Gregory L. Moore 30

SPOUSE



ANNIVERSARY

SUPERSTITION MOUNTAIN CHAPTER, MOAA

**Luncheon Meeting
Superstition Mountain Chapter MOAA**

Saturday, October 19, 2024

12:00 Noon Social – 1:00 pm Lunch

DoubleTree by Hilton

1011 West Holmes Ave., Mesa, AZ 85210

Menu

Parmesan Chicken, Buttered Pasta, Roasted Italian Vegetables,
Rolls and Butter

Iced Tea and Coffee – Tiramisu Mini-Cakes for Dessert

\$30.00 per person

Reservations by Sunday, October 13, 2024

to **John Bushko**

TEXT 614-204-0413, Call 480-759-1717, or email jabushko@earthlink.net.

Chair Report



1st Vice President/Programs

LTC John Bushko, USAF (Ret)

Greetings Everyone!

We are looking forward to the October Luncheon, Saturday, October 19th.
Our Speaker will be Frank Michael, from MOAA.

The Luncheon menu will be Chicken Parmesan, Caesar salad, buttered pasta, roasted Italian vegetables, rolls and butter, with mini-Tiramisu cakes for dessert. Be sure to make your reservations on or before October 13th.

See you all there,

John

The logo for MOAA Insurance Plans, featuring the letters "MOAA" in a large, bold, sans-serif font, with "INSURANCE PLANS" in a smaller font below it. The logo is set against a blue background.

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Legislative

Bob Grierson

Fall Greetings to the Superstition Mountain Chapter.

Just a quick note, I will be out up through December without access to most US legislative info. So, I invite you to use the links here to stay abreast of most legislative action. National bills supported by MOAA <https://moaa.quorum.us/bills> and State of Arizona legislation <https://dvs.az.gov/about/legislative-updates> Did you know that MOAA has a series of video updates on legislation free to its members? Take a look at what is available for you. https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLZJJ2z1-x_q3tfOALHMIkAR_pVTjEhk86 Currently, the Arizona State Legislature is in recess and US Congress are back in DC. So, at the state level, there's very little activity to report. However, the state has a new Department of Veterans Services Director. His name is John Scott, and he served in the USMC as an NCO. His bio can be found at <https://dvs.az.gov/about/leadership/john-scott> As I mentioned last month, MOAA asks that you take the opportunity to seek action on a number of bills currently stalled in Congress. You have seen these before in previous updates, but this request comes from MOAA National.

- Junior Enlisted Pay Raise: Competitive pay remains critical to the health of the all-volunteer force, and both the House and the Senate seek to address this issue in the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). The House NDAA calls for servicemembers E-1 to E-4 to receive a 15% pay raise beyond the 4.5% earmarked for all in uniform. While the Senate version calls for an additional 1% increase for servicemembers E-1 to E-3 (beyond the 4.5% raise).
- Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) Restoration: Access to quality housing and promoting financial wellness is important to sustaining the all-volunteer force. Restoring BAH addresses both issues. The House version of the NDAA would restore BAH to 100% for FY 2025 – a move toward MOAA's goal of full repeal of the BAH reduction, but not a permanent fix. Unfortunately, the Senate version does not address the issue.
- Major Richard Star Act: Tens of thousands of combat-injured veterans lose a dollar of earned DoD retirement pay for every dollar of VA disability compensation. For three years in a row, over two-thirds of Congress has supported the Star Act, which would end that unjust financial offset. Despite this vast support, neither version of the NDAA includes the bill. However, it is critical lawmakers continue to hear about this important issue, especially as we approach the start of the 119th Congress.

How important is your involvement? Last week the Department of Veterans Affairs nearly defaulted on payments to disabled Veterans. Groups like MOAA ensured that did not happen, but the fix was only a 3 month continuing resolution. So, we have another fight looming after the election.

You may find the email links for your representatives and the committee members at: <https://www.azleg.gov/MemberRoster/>

Bob



Luncheon Meeting
Saturday, October 19, 2024 - DoubleTree by Hilton
Social Hour - Noon Lunch - 1:00pm

Menu

Parmesan Chicken, Buttered Pasta, Roasted Italian Vegetables, Rolls and Butter
 Iced Tea and Coffee - Tiramisu Mini-Cakes for Dessert

\$30.00 per meal - Name(s) _____

Reservations must be in by October 13, 2024

Make checks payable to: SMC of MOAA

CONTACT: **JOHN BUSHKO**

TEXT 614-204-0413, Call 480-759-1717, or email jabushko@earthlink.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



2024 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 2024

Please print name _____

My National MOAA Number _____



2024 Chapter Activity Schedule - (Dates and times are subject to change.)

Chapter Board	Chapter Auxiliary	Chapter Member/Guest
Meeting - CHOMPIE'S	-	Luncheon Meetings
Oct. 8, 2024- 9:30am	-	Oct. 19, 2024- Noon Social. 1:00pm Lunch

Thank you to our Farmers!



It's Harvest Time.



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, its 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 2024 has three 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 will 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 will be able to tap into MOAA's staff of experts for financial and investment advice, college scholarships for dependents, and much more. That is 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 2024 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 Chair Norm Poole

520) 836-8456. nrpoo1066@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. _____



“Life is not fair.
Get over it!”

...Life-long adage of Marlene Fox

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



Newsletter Editors

Peggy Allen and Paula Anderer

Newsletter Contact: paulaanderer10@gmail.com

4201 W. Luke Ave.
Phoenix, AZ 85019

Superstition Mountain Chapter
Military Officers Association of America



RESOURCES

Newsletter: paulaanderer10@gmail.com

MOAA Home Page: <https://moaa.org> (Visit the [Take Action Center](#))

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.