

### April 2017 · www.greenvalleymoaa.org · Green Valley Chapter, an affiliate of MOAA

# President's Message

Did everyone not really enjoy our Mix and Mingle on March 21 at Quail Creek? I know that I did. We



need to thank your Vice President, Joe Longo, and his wife Diane for the extraordinary amount of effort they put into bringing the silent auction to such a successful conclusion. We can't forget that everyone involved did a superb job from Peggy McGee (who arranged for the piano player) to Barbara Brown (who ran the reservations and took payments at the door) and to Betty Atwater (who made the arrangements for the hors d'oeuvres and no-host bar). Also to Quail Creek for providing such a fine venue. But I'm saving the best compliment for all of our MOAA members who donated the many articles for the auction. Our chapter made approximately \$1,200 for our general fund, and we had fun doing it. Congratulations!

That said, you definitely need to make plans to attend our next meeting, the JROTC Scholarship Awards Dinner, which will be held at the Quail Creek Madera Clubhouse on April 18 at 5:00 p.m. Remember to get your reservations in to Barbara by April 11 so Quail Creek can plan their cooking requirements. By the way, the menu choices look superb, but the dessert is simply to die for. Plan on a slightly longer evening because we will have dinner in one of the Quail Creek dining rooms, and then we will adjourn to main lounge (where we had the Mix & Mingle) for the scholarship presentations. We felt everyone would be more comfortable in an easy chair or sofa. Thank you, Betty!

On the good news side, Richard Newman, our former president, is back from his worldwide travels and has again scored an impressive grant from NRA for funding rifles and a shooting range for Rio Rico JROTC. According to Dick his garage is full of NRA merchandise that came associated with the grant and the check has been turned over to Peggy, our Treasurer. All of the details of a presentation in Rio Rico, with suitable press cover-

age, are still forthcoming, but this promises to be a big event.

Tom Contreras has somehow managed the huge task of organizing eight scholarship applications from three ROTC Units and 12 MOAA Leadership medal/coin nominations for the Scholarship and Military Assistance Fund. From the 501(c)3 Fund, the Board will choose

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three students to award the scholarships to (one from each of the schools). The Board will have a busy month! Additionally, Tom is largely responsible for obtaining a large scholarship grant from the Veterans Golf Association at Quail Creek.

One of our members, CDR Joel Greenberg, has been chosen to present the Frederick B. Warder Award on April 26 at AZ NROTC Award Ceremonies from the Submarine Technology Symposium. Congratulations Joel! (Seems you have to have some submarine time under your belt.)

Joel Greenberg has also been busy organizing the visit of the USS Tucson's (SSN 770) personnel visit to Green Valley on March 14. We met them for a luncheon at Pub 1922 along with two NJROTC cadets, Brad Robertson, and several WWII submarine veterans – all arranged by Ben Buehler-Garcia, host of American Warrior Radio on FM 104.4 at noon every Sunday.



(President's Message continued...)

I would like to congratulate and welcome Robert Tomb, Major USAF (Ret.), our newest member, a self proclaimed snowbird from the great state of Wyoming.

And last but not least, Bettie Rundlett has taken on the position of Secretary for the Board of Directors. Thank you, Bettie! We still need volunteers for the Auxiliary director, the historian, and a computer literate volunteer to digitally store our historian records. We will provide the supplies you need. No monthly meetings to go to, no deadline to meet. Contact one of your board members, if you are interested or even thinking about it.

See you all at the scholarship dinner!

LCDR Jim Knox (USN, Ret) 2017 Chapter President

### **Special Message for Winter Residents**

As you head to cooler climes, we wish you safety in your travels, a glorious summer and then a safe return to our area in the fall.

Before you leave, we ask you to check your pantries to see if there are any nonperishable items that will expire before you return in the fall. If there are, please consider donating them to the Food Locker for the National Guard. You may bring items to the April 18 meeting and we will get them to the National Guard.

Items cannot be beyond the expiration date when you turn them in. However, if you do have non-perishable foods that have expired, the Green Valley Food Bank will accept canned goods that are within one year of the expiration date. Packaged goods (cereal, seasoning packets, dried fruit) must be within 6 months of the expiration date to be accepted. Items may be dropped off at the Food Bank at 250 E. Continental Rd, Mondays-Fridays. Store opens at 9 a.m. but they start accepting donations at 7 a.m. Drop-off location is at the rear of the store.

## Help Those Served by the VA

With summer temperatures rapidly approaching, we ask that you remember the homeless veterans residing in the Tucson area. At this time they especially need sunscreen, bottled water, foot powder for their shoes, Chapstick, moisturizer, hats, visors and light weight socks. Socks and underwear must be new. Razors, toothpaste, tooth brushes and floss, soap, and shampoo are needed throughout the year. Both regular and travel size grooming items will work.

The homeless veterans program office would also greatly appreciate snack items like granola bars, cheese crackers, individual sized snack packs, and peanut butter/cheese crackers. They can always use napkins and disposable cups, utensils, and plates at the homeless center—packages can be opened.

The hospitalized veterans would also appreciate playing cards, greeting cards, notepads and even 2017 calendars. If you are doing spring cleaning and wish to get rid of some books, especially those on military topics or westerns in both regular and large print, they would be very happy to receive them.

Just bring everything to the April 18 meeting at the Madera Clubhouse.

And if you will be traveling during the summer to beat the heat, start collecting those travel-sized toiletries. You can turn them in at our September meeting.



# April 18, 2017 · Social: 5:00pm · Dinner: 5:30pm Quail Creek Madera Clubhouse

# PLEASE MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS BY APRIL 11<sup>th</sup>! Please reserve places for me for dinner. Cost: \$ (\$26.00 per person) Select Entrée choice: (#1) Roast Sliced Sirloin w/Black Peppercorn Cabernet Sauce (#2) Chicken Cordon Bleu Meal includes: Mixed Green Salad and accompaniments. Sides: Garlic Mashed Potatoes, Mixed Seasonal Vegetables. Dessert: Chocolate Mousse with Whipped Cream & Wafer. Check # Mail your check and this reservation form to: MOA of Green Valley, PO Box 769, Green Valley, AZ 85622 Attn: Dinner Reservation Rank: Name: (please print) I am bringing guest(s) whose name(s) is/are: Entrée choice (#1, or #2): Guest 1 Guest 2 Guest 3 Guest 4 If you require a ride to the dinner, please check here: If you cannot get your reservation and check mailed timely, or if you have made a dinner reservation and find you cannot attend, please call Barbara Brown. Your Chapter is charged for all ordered meals even if they aren't served. Please bring a check or exact cash amount to the meeting. Thank you. Barbara Brown · 625-8066.

**HEARING AID ASSIST DEVICE AT QUAIL CREEK**If you are a member with hearing aids who still has difficulty hearing the speakers at the meal-plated meetings, Quail Creek does offer a Hearing Aid Assist Loop device. The hearing aid assist is a Loop system in the meeting room and can be turned on and individuals would wear a device around their neck which helps amplify the sound through their hearing aid.

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In order for this assist device to work the individual must have a Hearing Aid or Cochlear implants with TeleCoil (T-Coil) capability. This device only works with hearing aids with this capability and does not work on individuals who have no hearing aid at all.

If you or a guest would like to utilize this service at Quail Creek for future meetings, I ask that you notify us in advance so we can have it available for you. You can notify us by writing your request on your meeting registration form or contact: Barbara Brown (520-625-8066) · email barbara.brown3@cox.net.

### **GET TO KNOW YOUR MEMBERS**

# CWO3 USCG (RET) JAMES M. AND BETTIE RUNDLETT



Jim and Bettie Rundlett moved to Green Valley from Spokane, WA in the summer of 2015. First involved with MOAA in Carson City, NV, they had lived in places where MOAA meetings were held at inconvenient times and places so were pleased to find an active chapter in Green Valley.

All members are invited to attend the Chapter Board



meetings to learn more about the organization but the Rundlett's are one of the few who have actually accepted the invitation. In short order, Bettie became the Auxiliary liaison and soon after Jim accepted the vacant position as Director, Personal Affairs. When the previous

secretary finished his term at the end of 2016 and seeing that the vital position was vacant, Bettie again stepped up to the plate and became secretary.

Jim was born in 1940, and grew up travelling the world with his family. His father was a radio officer with the Coast and Geodetic Survey (NOAA) and obtained a Navy commission shortly before WWII. In the late 1940s, he designed the first police communications system for the island of Puerto Rico and was later employed, in sales, by Motorola. Note of interest – Jim graduated from high school in Saigon, Viet Nam, when things were quiet. His family lived in the Caribbean, the Middle East, and also up and down the eastern coast of the United States.

Bettie and Jim met in San Francisco, CA in 1966, where Jim was attending USN electronics school at Treasure Island, and Bettie was employed as an Executive Trainee at Macy's following graduation from Brigham Young University. They married in Long Beach, CA the following year. Bettie and Jim recently celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. They are parents to three children, and three grandchildren.

During the Viet Nam War, Jim served as an electronics technician aboard the destroyer USS Brush DD745.

Following the end of that conflict, he was assigned to a USN radio station at Dixon, CA. Foreseeing long deployments ahead, the family decided to not re-enlist. Following a short hiatus of civilian life, Jim joined the US Coast Guard in 1972, where he advanced to Chief and then CWO3. He served on the USCG cutter Resolute at Alameda, CA, at Base Ketchikan, Alaska, and had a tour at Coast Guard headquarters in Washington, DC. After obtaining his commission, Jim served as commanding Officer of the OMEGA station in LaMoure, ND, and then the Loran C station in Baudette, MN. Prior to his retirement in 1987, he was assigned to USCG 9<sup>th</sup> District Office, in Cleveland, OH.

Coast Guard Retirement brought a return to the West, and back home to Bettie's roots. Jim spent 12 years as a correctional counselor with the Nevada Department of Prisons before retiring from that second career in 2000. Bettie, in the meantime, had found her passion in rural health advocacy, working first for the University of Nevada School of Medicine, and later for Washington State University/University of Washington, both sites for Area Health Education Center offices. She retired after 25 years in the AHEC system, in 2011.

The lure of sunny winters, warm weather, and lots of access to lapidary supplies and workshops for Jim, brought them to Green Valley.

Opportunities also abound for pursuing Bettie's musical hobbies and serving others in a friendly community.



### **MOAA Mix & Mingle**

Thirty-five members of the Green Valley Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) and their guests met in the Madera Clubhouse lounge on March 21 for the second annual Mix & Mingle. They were greeted by piano sounds as Quail Creek resident Cyndy Gierada provided the musical entertainment for the evening. When Cyndy played the hymns of the various military services, there was competition among the attendees over who could sing the loudest as their hymn was played.

Highlight of the evening was a Silent Auction to raise funds for MOAA's various projects. Although bidding started out slowly, competition became more intense as Joe Longo began to call out how much time was left to bid. In the end, the group earned \$1125 to support its mission.

Our sincere thanks go out to all those who donated items for the Silent Auction as well as those who submitted the winning bids. We would not have raised as much money without your help.

The Chapter welcomed its newest member, Bob Tomb, who attended the event with his wife, Jeanne.

Pianist
Cyndy
Gierada
played a
variety of
patriotic
music
during the
event.



(Photo by Betty Atwater)



### Arizona Chapter MOAA Golf Tournament

A reminder that the Arizona Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America will be holding their Golf Tournament on Friday, April 21. They are looking forward to MOAA members and other guests to participate. The golf tournament is one of a limited number of methods used to raise funds for their Chapter Scholarship fund which helps ASU's Navy, Army and Air Force ROTC Cadets who will soon be seniors.

The AZ Chapter Golf Tournament will be held at **Starfire Golf Club** at 11500 N. Hayden in Scottsdale.

Check-in is 6:30-7:30 a.m. Shotgun starts at 8:00 a.m.

and covers everything including handouts all prizes including a \$1,000 Hole

handouts, all prizes including a \$1,000 Hole-In-One, golf cart, and a buffet luncheon (pulled pork, chicken and sides).

Fifty percent of the 50/50 drawing, 50% of the skins game collection, and 100% of the donations and hole sponsorship fees will go to the scholarship fund. Those eating lunch only and not playing golf pay \$15.

Additional information and the entry form may be found on our website: ww.greenvalleymoaa.org

Please submit the completed form and entry fees **NO LATER THAN Friday, April 14**.



### BLENDED RETIREMENT SYSTEM

### **Content courtesy of USAA**

On Jan. 1, 2018, the Department of Defense is replacing the current military retirement plan, the High-3, with the new Blended Retirement System (BRS).

To help those facing the retirement plan decision, we've provided an overview of the BRS and how this new plan affects you. Additional resources can be found at usaa.com/brs. The two systems are easy to compare based on whether or not you plan to retire from the military.



# How does this affect you? Verify your Date of Initial Entry to Military Service (DIEMS): Before 2018 ≥ 12 years of service (or earned 4,320 or more points for Guard/Reserve) Corearned less than 4,320 points for Guard/Reserve

You have a

choice of the old

or new system.

# Your situation: You plan to retire from the military

- Best Choice: High-3 (old system)
- Why: Your retirement benefit under the High-3 system includes a larger pension. However, if you separate without retiring, you'll leave without any government-provided retirement benefits. Keep in mind that you must retire from the military to receive the military pension. According to the DOD, only 19% serve long enough to qualify for retirement benefits under the High-3 system.

# Your situation: You plan to separate before reaching military retirement or are unsure if you will make it to a military retirement.

You'll be in the

new Blended

Retirement system.

Best Choice: BRS

You're under

the old system.

• Why: Under BRS, you can leave the military before 20 years and keep your vested DOD automatic and matching contributions. This is important since DOD reports that 81% of military members do not retire from the military and thus would not receive *any* retirement benefit under the High-3 system. If you serve long enough to retire from the military, the BRS still includes a pension for life.

#### Next: Consider how your military career goals will impact your retirement needs.

USAA has developed the Military Retirement Comparison Tool to help you compare the High-3 and BRS from a financial perspective based on your military career goals. The tool is available to the public, and you can find it at usaa.com/brs or the USAA Mobile App.

If you are considering the BRS, remember that you must contribute at least 5% of your basic pay to the TSP in order to receive the full benefit of the DOD match. **Visit: usaa.com/brs** where you can find tools and other resources to help you navigate the change to BRS.

## 2017 Events Schedule

**February 21** ::: Dinner meeting; Quail Creek Clubhouse. Registration 5-5:30pm. Dinner at 5:30pm. Program: Valor HospiceCare

March 21 ::: 4:30pm-6:30pm Quail Creek Clubhouse. "Mix & Mingle", Hors d'oeuvres. No Host Bar.

April 18 ::: Dinner meeting; Quail Creek Clubhouse. Registration 5-5:30pm. Program: JROTC Scholarship Dinner and Awards

**April 21** ::: **Arizona Chapter MOAA Golf Tournament:** Register by April 14.

More information and form are on the website.

May ::: No Meeting.
June ::: No Meeting.
July ::: No Meeting.
August ::: No Meeting.

**September 20** ::: Dinner meeting; Quail Creek Clubhouse. Registration 5-5:30pm; Dinner at 5:30. Program: TBA.

**October 18** ::: Dinner meeting; Quail Creek Clubhouse. Registration 5-5:30pm. Program: TBA.

November ::: No Meeting.

**December 6** ::: Dinner at Quail Creek Clubhouse. Registration 5-5:30pm. Christmas Dinner, no speaker, installation of officers.

BOARD MEETING ::: Board of Directors meeting is the 1st Wednesday of each month 8:30-10:00 a.m. at the Friends in Deed Building, Green Valley. Members are welcomed to attend... join us!

# 2017 Officers, Directors, & Chairs

President: LCDR James Knox, USN (Ret) 605-941-0335

First Vice-President and Membership: 1LT Joseph Longo USA (Fmr) 509-645-4993

Second Vice-President: CAPT Tom Contreras, USN (Ret) 520-207-8941

Secretary: Mrs. Bettie Rundlett 509-389-1696

Treasurer: COL Peggy McGee, USA (Ret) 520-207-6188

Immediate Past President, President, 501(c)(3): 1LT Richard Newman, USAR (Fmr) 520-399-3550

National MOAA Board Member, Past President, ESGR and Legislative Affairs:

CDR John Chernoski, USN, (Ret) 520-625-3909

**Director, Auxiliary Affairs:** (position vacant)

Director, Personal Affairs:

CWO3 James Rundlett, USCG (Ret) 509-389-4286

Past President & Chaplain:

COL Eugene Friesen, USA (Ret) 520-625-4231

Director/JROTC Liaison:

CAPT Tom Contreras, USN (Ret) 520-207-8941

**Historian:** (position vacant)

**Transition Liaison:** 

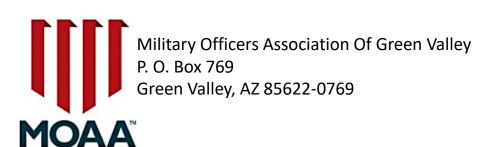
CAPT Kelly Galvin, USA, (Ret) 520-393-0037

**Public Relations Officer:** 

COL Peggy McGee, USA (Ret) 520-207-6188

Webmaster/Newsletter Editor:

Marianne Cobarrubias, Webmaster@womenqc.com



## **CONTRIBUTORS**

Betty Atwater, Barbara Brown, James Knox, Peggy McGee

**Editor: Marianne Cobarrubias** 

**SEPT ISSUE: Submissions due AUGUST 29** 

VISIT OUR WEBSITE: www.greenvalleymoaa.org

Membership: www.greenvalleymoaa.org/membership-info

#### **APRIL**

COL Lynda Linker Col Robert A. Nugent CDR Joel Greenberg

### **MAY**

LtCol Susan Singleton
1LT Richard G. Newman
COL James N. Anderson
LtCol Robert S. Atwater
Col Stephen L. Langenberg
CAPT Merilys P. Brown
Bettie R. Rundlett

### **JUNE**

MAJ Sandra H. Galvin COL Dietrich W. Geschke LT Walter Dow Col Stephen W. Zolomij CWO3 James M. Rundlett CWO4 Franklin E. Kreisher CPT Kelly J. Galvin LTC James E. Rusk LTJG Ted E. Schelenski

(Names are listed chronologically by birthdate)

### JULY

Lt Col Herbert J. Pahoresky LTC Richard Moll LCDR James D. Knox CAPT Kenneth J. Fleshman Maj Robert F. Kaiser

### **AUGUST**

Col Stephen W. Shambaugh 2LT Robert D. Kurtz CPT Joseph E. Sovis COL Jim Barr Lt Col Edward G. Brown, Jr.



