



Military Officers Association of America Desert Duster
35 YEARS

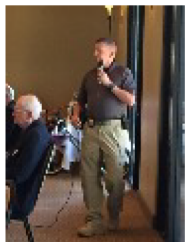
DECEMBER 2015 • www.greenvalleymoaa.org • Green Valley Chapter, an affiliate of MOAA

The President's Message



Several years ago at a chapter meeting, the guest speakers were from the FBI. Not only was the presentation very interesting, but the agents brought along some of the equipment they used. It was very well received by the chapter members. However that display paled in comparison to the “display” we had on Sunday. Our guest speakers, Trooper/Paramedics Neil Williamson and Chris Hecht came with one of the tools of their trade; a Bell Helicopter, 407 masterfully piloted by retired CWO4 Jon Jonas. Arranged for by Rev. Vernon Harms and

Ron Darrah of the Robson Organization, the aircraft landed right behind the Madera Clubhouse. It was truly a sight to see. The static display was the culmination of one of the most interesting presentation of the year.



Trooper/Paramedic Armstrong presented a through overview of the “air arm” or aviation unit of DPS. One may think that the primary mission of the aviation unit is rescuing wayward hikers. Neil told us that was just a segment of the mission. The aviation unit is the state’s airline; it is a cargo carrying unit utilizing two helicopters provided by the US Government. These “flying” boxcars were originally purchased by the CIA for \$14,000,000 each. When the CIA determined they were no longer needed, the State of Arizona was able to get them for a bargain price! Free less some relatively minor costs and the promise to keep them in shape.

The unit is equipped with a wide variety of aircraft. The most “visible” is the 2nd Generation, Jet Ranger 407. Those familiar with Army Aviation remember its predecessor, the 206 Jet Ranger or the OH 58.

The widely used helicopters, which can carry a crew of 10, will rescue from land or water: will land near you or above you and bring you up during the daylight or at night. They will transport you to a medical facility or go get the medicine you need when it is not locally available.

Add to those duties assisting the Highway Patrol and being strategically located from Kingman to Tucson, this unit is a real asset to our citizens, especially in the life saving roll.

In process now is the consolidation of four segments of state government that possess aircraft. They are the DPS Aviation unit, ADOT, Department of Agriculture and Fish & Game. Costs have been reduced by consolidation and better use of existing assets.

The presentation was very well done and our members asked some thoughtful questions. The only limitation was the rather tight schedule with the 407 having to depart by 1430, lest there be a revolt by local golfers. Thank you: Neil, Chris and Jon for a very interesting program.



A Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year to all. See you all at the Christmas celebration on December 10th.

Turkeys for Troops

On November 10th our Green Valley MOAA Military Assistance Charity delivered 30 turkeys and 30 Commissary gift cards to the Tucson Air National Guard. These turkeys and gift cards will be distributed to the needy and deserving families of the ANG.

Major Paul Jefferson, 162nd Force Support Squadron Commander, Barb Gavre, Director of the ANG Airmen and Family Readiness unit and MSgt Trevor Harvey,



Chaplains Assistant were there to receive our donations (see Photo). They were all very thankful and grateful for our donations and said

they would go to needy families who might not have been able to afford a Thanksgiving meal otherwise.

This is just one of the many things our Charity supports and we thank you, our Chapter members, for your donations to our Charity. Your donations allow our small chapter to contribute to the local military communities in a very large way.

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2016 Chapter Dues Renewal

Here is form to submit your Green Valley MOAA chapter dues for 2016. Please detach the statement and return it with your check to the address shown on the form. *Please verify your address and make any changes required including your ZIP code and please provide your e-mail address so you can receive notices of meeting changes and updates.*

If you are able to do so, you may also send a tax-deductible contribution to the **Green Valley MOAA Scholarship and Military Assistance Fund**. Your contribution to the Fund will provide scholarships to outstanding JROTC cadets from Sahuarita, Rio Rico and Nogales High Schools who will be attending college. The Fund also provides assistance to service personnel and veterans and their families who are in need and distress.

If you desire to contribute to the Fund please send a separate check made out to the Green Valley MOAA Scholarship and Military Assistance Fund and return it with your dues check to the address listed. Thank you. *(Contributions to the Fund are tax deductible for state and federal tax purposes.)*



Military Officers Association of Green Valley
P.O. Box 769
Green Valley, AZ 85622-0769

2016 Chapter Dues Renewal

Dues for 2016:
(Regular-\$20; Auxiliary-\$10)

2016 Membership Dues \$ _____
Make check payable to: **Military Officers Association of Green Valley or GV MOAA.**

Scholarship & Military Assistance Fund
\$ _____ Donation.
Make check payable to: **Green Valley MOAA Scholarship and Military Assistance Fund or GV MOAA Scholarship or GV MOAA Military Assistance.**

TO INSURE PROPER CREDIT, PROVIDE
THE INFORMATION BELOW:

Name: _____

Rank: _____ Branch of Service: _____

Address: _____

City, _____ State, _____

Zip _____

DOB _____
Month/Day/Year

Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Renew your CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP



ON THE ROAD TO RETIREMENT, IT'S IMPORTANT TO HAVE GOOD DIRECTIONS.

Your goals. Our guidance.

The end of the year is a good time to take a look at where your investments are heading. We can help you keep them on track and moving forward. Consider an IRA from USAA to help plan for what's ahead. Call us for guidance on building a strategy for your needs.



GET STARTED TODAY. 800-IRA-USAA | usaa.com/investments



Investments/Insurance: Not FDIC Insured • Not Bank Issued, Guaranteed or Underwritten • May Lose Value

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MOA-GV President, Dick Newman prepares to lay MOAA's wreath during Veteran's Day Ceremonies.



Veterans were appreciated and remembered at Green Valley Mortuary & Cemetery on November 11, 2015 under blue skies. The event was hosted by Green Valley Branch 77, Inc. Fleet Reserve Assoc. with Color Guards from Sahuarita HS Navy Jr. ROTC, American Legion Auxiliary, Knights of Columbus, and GV Fire Dept. The guest speaker was Jerry Raley, Mobile Riverene Force, USN, and attendees were treated to a poignant reading of "Pin Drop" by Harry Lyons, Chief Petty Officer, USN (Ret) FRA Branch 77. The Bavarian Brass Band provided patriotic music and its buglers provided a very moving presentation of "Taps"; a fitting end to all things military.

----- Cut Here -----

Christmas Dinner - Quail Creek - Thursday December 10

Social time 5:30 - Dinner 6:00

Please reserve ____ places for me for LUNCH. I am sending a check in the amount of \$ ____
(\$22.00 per meal), payable to MOA of Green Valley, P.O. Box 769, Green Valley, AZ 85622-0769.

This request must be mailed to arrive no later than December 4, 2015

I am bringing a guest whose name(s) is/are: _____

Check Number _____

Rank and Name (please print): _____

Check meal selection and indicate number of each meal: Mixed Green Salad w/ accompaniments at the table. ____ Sliced Sirloin Steak /w Mushroom Demi Glaze or ____ Chicken Marsala or ____ Salmon w/ Beurre Blanc Served w/ Roasted Red Potatoes and Seasoned Vegetables.

Dessert - Chocolate Mousse / Whipped Cream

NOTE: If you cannot get your reservation and check mailed timely, please call Barbara Brown at 625-8066 to make your reservation. Please bring a check or exact cash amount to the meeting. If you require a ride to the Dinner, please check here _____

Get To Know Your Members

Lt Col Richard Johnston USAF (ret)



Lt Col Dick Johnston began his career with the US Army in 1954. Commissioned through ROTC at the University of Missouri, Columbia where he also received a BS degree in Theater/Radio/TV production. Subsequent to Commissioning Col Johnston attended Officers Basic in Field Artillery at Fort Sill, OK. It was there in the Old Post Chapel that he and his wife Pat were married. Shipped Germany, Lt Col Johnston joined an 8" Howitzer Battalion. This unit had an atomic capability and it was Lt Col Johnston's misfortune to have been in the field along the East-West German border most of the time for three and a half year's. Learning from this Lt Col Johnston transferred to Military Intelligence Branch. This garnered him two years in Viet Nam, three more tours to Europe in The Netherlands, Belgium, and another tour to Germany. Three tours to Fort Hood, TX for a total of nine years finished off the active career.

Upon retirement in 1984, Lt Col Johnston joined Martin Marietta Astronautics in Denver, CO where he worked as a Manager for Program Security. After 15 years he retired from what had become Lockheed Martin Astronautics and he and Pat moved to The Colony, TX. He signed on with the Federal Disaster Management Agency (FEMA) where he served as a Disaster Assistance employee. His final retirement was in 2005 but he was immediately swept up with MOAA. He served as the 1st VP for the North Dallas Chapter followed by three years as the Chapter President. The By-Laws prevented tours of more than three years in the job and he thankfully passed the baton to another "volunteer".

Pat and Dick split their time between their homes in Esparanza Estates here in Green Valley and a home in Gleneagle across from the AF Academy in Colorado Springs. Surprisingly the Johnstons have survived living in such close proximity to an Air Force facility!

CDR John Chernoski receives the Chapter's Award

CDR John Chernoski receives the Green Valley Chapter's 2014 Level of Excellence 5 Star award from MOAA Board Chair, Gen. Charles T. Robertson, Jr., USAF (Ret) at the MOAA Annual Meeting on October 31 in Orlando.



TOYS FOR TOTS

The Green Valley MOAA Chapter held its annual Toys For Tots donation drive on Nov. 22nd. In addition to the many toys and two bicycles, we collected \$215.00 in monetary contributions! Thanks to the generosity of our members, we have been told by the Fire Department that it will be able to sponsor 30 families in the Green Valley area this Christmas Season! As a chapter, we can be very proud of what we do for our community. Thank you to all of our members and Happy Holidays!!

2015 SCHEDULE

DECEMBER

Thursday, December 3, Sahuarita High School Pearl Harbor Day observance.

Thursday, December 10, Christmas Dinner , Quail Creek Clubhouse, Social 5:30 ,
Dinner 6:00 - Raffle prizes and installations of Officers for 2016.

2016 SCHEDULE

January 2016.... no meeting

February 16, 2016 (third Tuesday) - Dinner Meeting, QC Clubhouse, No host bar 5:00-5:30,
Dinner to follow. Speaker, Representative of the MOWW - Military Order of World Wars.

March 10, 2016 (Thursday) - Meet and Mingle, QC Clubhouse, 4:30-6:30 No host bar and
hors-oeuvres

April 2016 ... no meeting

May 18, 2016 (Wednesday)- JROTC Dinner and Scholarship Awards, QC Clubhouse, No host
bar 5:00-5:30, Dinner to follow.

June 2016 ... no meeting

July 2016 ... no meeting and no field trip.

August 2016 ... no meeting

September 20, 2016 (third Tuesday) - Dinner Meeting, QC Clubhouse, No host bar 5:00-5:30,
Dinner to follow. Speaker is Kelly Laurich, Tucson VA Fisher House

October 2016... no meeting

November 15, 2016 (third Tuesday) - Dinner Meeting, QC Clubhouse, No host bar 5:00-5:30,
Dinner to follow. Business meeting.

December 8, 2016 (Thursday) Christmas Dinner/Installation of Officers, QC Clubhouse, No
host bar 5-00-5;30, Dinner to follow.

MOAA Board of Directors, Green Valley Chapter, meets the first Wednesday of each month from
September through May at 8:30 a.m. at Friends In Deed, 301 W. Camino Casa Verde in Green
Valley. All members are welcome and encouraged to attend. Please join us!



Military Officers Association
Of Green Valley
P. O. Box 769
Green Valley, AZ 85622-0769



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DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Lt Col John Bashaw (31) - LTC Barry Blum (11) -
Jackie Dow (22) - Lt Col Richard Kosnick (11) -
Maj Tony Simon (25)

HAVE A HAPPY A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR