



Military Officers Association of America Desert Duster
34 YEARS

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

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As I was putting together the final report to the ASBMA Star Foundation detailing how the grant monies were spent, I reflected on what a rather small chapter had accomplished over the last six month period. Let me review what the Chapter has given to the military community. Let's start with the youngest group; the JROTC cadets at the three high schools. Using our status as a 501 c (3) corporation, we were able to obtain funding for one \$1,500 scholarship. Add to this the generosity of FICO [the pecan growers]; HudBay Minerals – Rosemont Project and the Quail Creek Veterans Golf Association and three more JROTC cadets will enter college this fall with our support. In addition, three \$500 grants were provided to each of the JROTC units. These funds were used for leadership training, field trips and funding the expenses for competitive meets of JROTC units.

Next consider what the chapter was able to contribute to some of the other components of the military family. Using funds from the ASBMA grant, a generous cash gift was presented to the non-perishable food bank of the 162nd Fighter Wing of the Arizona Air National Guard. As a result of our support of the 162nd, the chapter was the recipient of the "Volunteer of the Year" Award in a ceremony held in April.

The popular "Turkeys for Troops" program was reinstituted with each of

thirty families becoming the recipients of a turkey and a commissary gift card to round out the holiday meal. Many thanks go to Steve Abel for his efforts on making this a successful event.

Add to the list of accomplishments the donation of \$1,650 in support of the "Stand Down" held for homeless veterans conducted by Tucson Veterans Serving Veterans (TVSV) held in January.

Praise goes to Thelma Hendricks and Betty Atwater for their efforts in support of the Fisher House fund... Starting with a grant from "our charity" of \$1,000, their luncheon raised an additional \$2,025 for this important project.

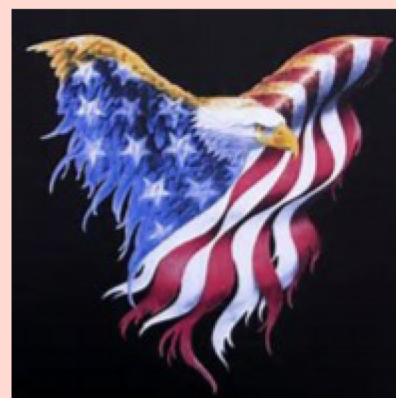
The efforts of the Knitwits with their twice a month knitting sessions provided blankets for the VA and scarves for Operation Gratitude and were greatly appreciated. The efforts of our auxiliary members working with Sahuarita Middle School students whose parent (s) were deployed reflected great credit on the Chapter.

Our support of the Honor Flight, allowing a veteran of WW II, to visit the memorials erected by a grateful nation, was a worthy act by our chapter. Not only did the chapter provide the funding, but also the required escort; our chapter member Herb Pahoresky.

Thanks also go to several organizations at Quail Creek, including the Women of Quail Creek and the Lady Putters as well as the Veterans Golf Association for their continuing support of the chapter.

For a chapter of less than 100 members, this is really an outstanding record of accomplishments.

Dick Newman, President



In memoriam

**ALLEN
HORACE
BALCH**

1927-2015



CAPT Allen Horace Balch passed away on May 5, 2015 in Green Valley, AZ. Al was born in Abilene, TX on March 10, 1927.

Al was appointed to the Naval Academy in 1945 and graduated with distinction in June 1949.

He earned his wings at Corpus Christi, TX. He served in Korea and Vietnam.

Al served as Senator John Tower's Press Secretary and also worked on the campaign to elect Ross Perot.

CAPT Balch will be buried with full military honors at a latter date. Donations may be made to the Wounded Warrior Project.

2015 OFFICERS, DIRECTORS & CHAIRS

PRESIDENT:

1LT Richard Newman, USA (Former)
(520) 399-3550, rnewman514@aol.com

FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT, JROTC LIAISON & MEMBERSHIP:

LCDR James Knox, USN (Ret)
(520) 625-8371, jdkomaha@msn.com

SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT & PROGRAMS:

Mrs. Betty Atwater
(520) 399-3261, bettpet@gmail.com

SECRETARY:

1Lt Joseph Longo, USA (Former)
(509) 945-4993 longojv5@gmail.com

TREASURER & STATUTORY AGENT:

LtCol Robert Atwater, USAF (Ret)
(541) 390-9969, batwater@gmail.com

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT, PRESIDENT of 501.C-3 & DIRECTOR:

LtCol John McGee, USMC (Ret)
(520) 207-6188, jcmcgee@cox.net

PAST PRESIDENT, DIRECTOR, PERSONAL AFFAIRS & CO-WEBMASTER:

**Arizona MOAA Council of Chapters
Vice President**

Maj Steven Abel, USAF (Ret)
(520) 648-2172, stevenabel8@msn.com

DIRECTOR, AUXILIARY LIAISON

LTC Thelma Hendricks, USA (Ret)
(520) 399-0425 arugula65@cox.net

PAST OFFICER, DIRECTOR:

Mrs. Barbara Brown
(520) 625-8066, barbarabrown3@cox.net

PAST PRESIDENT, DIRECTOR & CHAPLAIN:

COL Eugene Friesen, USA (Ret)
(520) 625-4231, efriesen1@msn.com

PAST PRESIDENT, DIRECTOR, ESGR/LEGISLATIVE

AFFAIRS:

CDR John Chernoski, USN (Ret)
(520) 625-3909, jchernoski@cox.net

TRANSITION LIAISON & CO-WEBMASTER:

CPT Kelly Galvin, USA (Ret)
(520) 393-0037, galvinpublic@cox.net

NEWSLETTER EDITOR:

Maj F. Robert Kaiser, USMC (Former)
(520) 399-0660, nanbobbk@earthlink.net

PAST PRESIDENT & HISTORIAN:

COL Lynda Linker, USA (Ret)

CHAPTER at the JUNCTION

Over the past three months the chapter members attending the monthly meetings have heard me ask for help in filling vital positions on the Board of Directors. We will be losing three key members by December. The silence to these “cries for help” has been truly deafening, to say the least.

As time goes by, we are reaching a proverbial junction. With the loss of three board members with no replacements in sight, the board will be down to five or six members who will be doing 95+ percent of the work associated with chapter operation. That comes down to five or six pulling the wagon with 90+ on board.

This ratio of workers to observers is not sustainable, given all the activities carried on by the chapter in support of the military and their families. For the past nine years we have displayed the coveted five star level of excellence banner on our flag. This award is not given for counting heads going to lunch once a month. It is the result of a great deal of hard work and long hours by a few dedicated people. Look at the Board composition and, for the most part, it is the same faces, year after year. However with the upcoming losses, we face three possible options, namely:

1. Try to continue with a smaller board. This means relying on the same small group to do all the work with 90+% of the members as “observers”.
2. Become a satellite to the Tucson or Sierra Vista.
3. Chapter becomes “inactive”; a nice term for saying the Green Valley chapter disappears into the sunset.

What are the consequences of each option? If we continue, it may mean fewer meeting per year. This will also lead to fewer activities in the community, loss of community support and slipping further into the “mold” of the luncheon club. Eventually, it translates into to a slower demise of the organization. The workers will soon tire of the load and become as apathetic as the majority of current members. No apathy? Look around on any given Sunday! Count the number of members attending a meeting and rarely does it exceed 25% of our membership.

The second option is apparent. Stay home rather than go to a meeting. . If you think our attendance at monthly meetings is small now, close your eyes and see how many will travel over twenty miles to attend a meeting.

Option three is the most devastating as the real losers are the victims of “collateral damage”. Who are these victims? Let’s see: JROTC cadets who would get scholarships; JROTC units who lose dollar support; troops who get Turkeys; Food banks who get our support; VA hospitals who get knitted products and personal care items and the recipients of the efforts of our Auxiliary with the special programs they initiate, support and staff. . These are the real losers and they pay the price for the apathy in this chapter.

Also, add the loss of credibility with the community who supports our efforts with food drives, contributions and coupons to support military families and veterans.

My question to you is simple. As a chapter member, are you going to let us take the road to extinction? The decision is in the hands of the chapter members. Volunteer or ignore the problem.

GET TO KNOW YOUR MEMBERS

COL Peggy McGee joined the Women's Army Corps (WAC) in 1966 after her graduation from Mount Saint Agnes College in Baltimore with a BA in Psychology. Her first assignment was in personnel at the WAC Training Center in Fort McClellan, AL. She was then transferred to the Defense Language Institute in Monterey, CA where she was director of Administrative Services. It was in Monterey that she met a Marine Corps Captain, John McGee. Her final assignment on active duty was at the Fort Rosecrans Liaison Office in San Diego. Her primary duties there were death notification and survivor assistance officer during the Vietnam era. She was one of the first women ever assigned to that duty. She also issued ID cards and managed the Army Emergency Relief program for active duty members and their families as well as for retirees. After her release from active duty in 1970, COL McGee joined the Army Reserve. She served in a variety of assignments in the personnel and administrative fields in active reserve units as well as in Individual Mobilization Augmentee (IMA) positions both in the USA and overseas. She was called to active duty for 6 months as an IMA for Operation Desert Storm where she was assigned to HQ, Army Community & Family Support Center. At the time of her retirement in 1996, COL McGee was serving as Director, Military Postal Service Agency. During her time in the USAR, she saw a lot of changes in the role of women in the military.

Her military education includes the WAC Officer Basic Course, a variety of personnel courses, Adjutant General, Military Intelligence, and Civil Affairs Advance courses, Army Command and General Staff College and the Army War College resident course. She earned a Master of Science degree in Community Services from Michigan State University in 1984.

In her civilian jobs, Peggy worked as a Public Affairs Officer for the Army Air Force Exchange Service, at the Air Force Family Support Center in Okinawa, for the Department of the Army and Immigration and Naturalization Service. Her last assignment was Director of Communications for the National Cemetery Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

She and John both retired on April 1, 2005 and moved from the DC Beltway to Quail Creek (QC) 3 weeks later. She immediately became involved with activities in the community. Not knowing how to say "No", she was elected Secretary of The Women of Quail Creek (TWOQC) and later President, a role that she has filled for the past 6 years. She worked to change the character of Quail Creek's largest chartered club with 335 members from a purely social organization to one that also reaches out to help others. Under her leadership, the club began what are now annual clothing drives for homeless veterans in the Tucson region, an annual baby shower for National Guard soldiers and

spouses, two food drives each year for the local Food Bank. The Food Bank received over \$10K from TWOQC's cookbook project and is currently selling a second cookbook to benefit Genesis House for Victims of Domestic Abuse in the Green Valley area. For the 6th year in a row TWOQC has collected Food for the Troops drive as part of QC's 4th of July celebration.

Outside of QC, Peggy can be found working as a Financial Educator/Budget Counselor for Valley Assistance Services, as a volunteer tax preparer for AARP, and in several ministries at San Martin de Porres parish.

In her retirement, she enjoys travelling and vegetable gardening when the javalinas and other critters don't get there first!

Peggy and John, married 46 years, have two children, Rob and Kym and one grandson, Alex, all of whom live in Fairfax, VA.

When asked what she does in her spare time, she asks, "What spare time?"



SUMMER OUTING

The annual summer outing will be on Thursday, July 23rd featuring a private tour of the Pima County Emergency Communications and Operations Center (PECOC) in Tucson.

The PECOC is located at 3434 E. 22nd Street, east of Country Club and just west of Alvernon Way. It is opposite the elephant exhibit at the Reid Park Zoo. While traveling east on 22nd St, turn right on Jones Rd. then left into the PECOC parking lot.



This is a secure facility so we will have to send an advance list of all attendees, with first and last name and telephone number. All attendees will have to be signed-in and badged before the tour starts at 10:00 a.m. Allow 45 minutes for the drive there.

If you wish to attend please email John McGee (jcmcgee@cox.net) by July 17th. Family and guests of MOAA members are welcomed. After the one hour tour you could enjoy a visit to the Zoo and/or lunch at a local restaurant, so plan an informative and enjoyable day. What's there of interest to us?

- The 9-1-1 call center.
- Dispatch operations of the Pima County Sheriff's Department and local fire districts, including Green Valley.
- Pima County Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security Emergency Operations Center.
- Backup dispatch facilities for the City of Tucson Police and Fire Department.

The 63,000-square-foot facility contains the most state-of-the-art technology and security features including radio communications equipment and telecommunications infrastructure. PECOC also includes high security fencing, a controlled access system, seismic bracing to prevent earthquake damage, and a number of redundant features and backup generators so that the facility never loses power.





MOAA - D'BACKS DAY



The Arizona Diamondbacks in conjunction with the Superstition Mountain Chapter (AZ) will once again present the Color Guard and AZ MOAA Chapter Flags at the opening Ceremony of the September 13th, 2015 Arizona Diamond Backs/ L.A. Dodgers game.

The Ballgame will start at 1 pm and I realize this date is a long way off, but since the D-Backs will be reserving seats for the MOAA attendees. Ed Mangan (Superstition Mountain Chapter President) would like an RSVP/ASAP so he can get a count of members and their guest planning to attend.

MOAA attendees and guests will be seated on the second level section 217. Tickets will cost \$20.00 each. Second level seating area is limit to only persons with second level seating tickets. Food and beverages can be ordered and brought right to your seats.

If an afternoon at a D-Backs game sounds like something you would be interested in, this would be a great way to show your MOAA support. Please notify Ed Mangan at emangan3@aol.com or 602-501-0128 if you are interested ASAP with your name and those of any guests you might have.

He will be keeping a list of individuals who would like to attend (so he can notify the D-Backs of how many seats to reserve) and he will also be the person to collect your money which won't be due until August 15th, 2015. Checks should be made out to Superstition Mountain Chapter (write Ballgame in memo section) and mailed to ED Mangan, 4537 E. Shomi St. Phoenix, AZ 85044 to arrive prior to this August 15th deadline.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact Ed Mangan or you can contact me at stevenabel8@msn.com or 520-648-2172.

Maj Steven Abel, USAF, Ret.
GV MOAA BOD

ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS DINNER

On May 20th, our chapter held its annual scholarship awards dinner in the Quail Creek Madera Ballroom. The chapter supports Junior ROTC units in three local high schools, Sahuarita, Rio Rico and Nogales. We provide funds for JROTC activities and scholarships to outstanding cadets.

Last year, and again this year, the Quail Creek Veterans Golf Association funded one of those scholarships. Throughout the year, the QCVGA raises money for its charity fund by organizing golf tournaments and other events. For the second year in a row, working with the our chapter, the QCVGA used part of those funds to award a scholarship to a local high school student.

Receiving scholarships that night were twin sisters, Luisa and Monica Bautista, cadets in the Air Force JROTC unit at Nogales High School. The sisters, raised by a single mother, achieved outstanding school records, including many hours of public service to their community. Continuing their strong belief in service to others, the sisters plan to pursue medical careers. Both will attend the University of Arizona where Luisa will study nursing and Monica pre-med.

Tom Contreras, VGA President and GVMOA chapter member awarded the QCVGA scholarship to Luisa Bautista. Tom served a distinguished medical career with the US Navy, so he was especially pleased to help Luisa begin her nursing studies. Monica's scholarship was funded by HudBay Minerals/Rosemont Project. The Rosemont Project has generously supported our scholarship program for the past 4 years. Presenting the scholarship was Jerry Bustamante, Community Relations Manager.

Dick Newman surprised a previous scholarship award winner, Jacob Miller, by presenting him a scholarship to help fund his third college year. Formerly an outstanding cadet with the Rio Rico JROTC, Jacob received a GVMOA scholarship in 2011. We held onto the funds until Jacob, a devote Mormon, completed a two year mission. The 2011 scholarship was then used for Jacob's 2013 academic year. He requested additional financial help in 2014 and based on his superior academic performance we awarded a second scholarship. We continued to follow his college progress as he studied aerospace engineering at New Mexico State University. This is the first time the chapter has awarded a third year scholarship. The scholarship was funded by FICO, another generous and consistent sponsor.

After the presentations, dinner attendees enjoyed musical entertainment by *Classix Minus 2*.



Shown in the photo from left to right: John McGee; Jacob Miller; Tom Contreras; the Bautista twins, Monica and Luisa, (Luisa is wearing high heels); Jerry Bustamante; and Don Belche, Nogales High School JROTC Senior Instructor.

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GREEN VALLEY MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY—YES, MOAA WAS THERE!

As in past years, Green Valley MOAA participated in the Memorial Day Ceremony at the Green Valley Cemetery. The event was different this year in two ways: First, there was no guest speaker; Second: the master of ceremonies forgot to



call upon MOAA to place our wreath. The first difference was planned and welcomed. While there were excellent speakers in past years, this year's ceremony without a speaker was refreshingly shorter. Also, the invocation was excellent, reminding everyone what the day was all about—remembering and honoring all those who gave their lives in past wars.

The second difference this year was unintentional. Our President, Dick Newman was there with the MOAA wreath, but there was a long list of other organizations. When reading the list, the master of ceremonies simply made a mistake, omitting MOAA. He was very embarrassed and apologetic when Dick

pointed this out to him after the ceremony, so maybe we'll get top billing next year. Anyway, Dick does look a bit disappointed in the accompanying photo.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



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

Name: _____
Last First MI

Mailing Address: _____
Street or P.O. Box

City State Zip

Date of Birth: _____ (M/D/Yr) **Phone #:** _____

E-Mail _____ **MOAA #** _____

Type of Membership desired (check one)

Regular: _____ **Auxiliary:** _____
(\$20 annual dues) (Spouse of active member or surviving spouse \$10 annual dues)

Regular members, please complete below

Rank: _____ **Spouse's First Name:** _____

Branch of Service:

Check one: USA _____ USMC _____ USN _____ USAF _____ USCG _____ USPHS _____ NOAA _____

Status (check one): Retired _____ Active Duty _____ Reserve/Guard _____ Former officer _____

All Members, please check all that apply:

_____ I am interested in receiving the Chapter monthly newsletter by e-mail

_____ I am not a National MOAA member, but I desire to become a National member

_____ I desire to become active in chapter affairs (Board member, Committee chair, Volunteer, etc.)

Please mail check made out to MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF GREEN VALLEY to the above address

2015 SCHEDULE

Saturday January 17, Massing of the Colors, Sahuarita High School Auditorium

Sunday, January 18, Meeting, Quail Creek, Speaker TBD (Ron Barber Invited).

Sunday, February 15, Meeting, Quail Creek, Speaker TBD, Soldier' Best Friend – pairing of a Vet and a Shelter Dog.

Sunday, March 15, Meeting, Quail Creek, Speaker Bruce De Wald, Pima Air & Space Museum, US Aviation in Antarctica.

Sunday, April 19, Meeting, Quail Creek, Speaker Bill Mc Creary, CASA Community Services, overview of resources it provides to the community.

April, Nogales High JrROTC awards. (TBD)

Wednesday, April 29, Sahuarita High JrROTC awards. Dinner 1700, Awards 1800.

May, Rio Rico High JrROTC awards. (TBD)

Wednesday, May 20, 5 PM Quail Creek Clubhouse JROTC Scholarship Awards and entertainment by the Classix.

Thursday, May 21, 9 AM, AZ Council of Chapters meeting, The Grill on the Green, Green Valley Chapter hosting.

Monday, May 25, Memorial Day wreath laying.

JUNE – JULY – AUGUST no meetings - Summer Outing - July 23rd
Sunday, June 14, Flag Day celebration at Elks.

Saturday July 4, Various celebrations.

July, Summer Outing, (T B D)

Friday, September 11, Various celebrations.

Sunday, September 20, Quail Creek, Lt Col Myron Donald, "Tales from the Hanoi Hilton"

October Thursday, October 15, Annual Inspection and Pass in Review, Sahuarita High Football Stadium.

Sunday, October 18, Quail Creek, (TBD).

Wednesday - Saturday, October 28-31 National MOAA Convention, Orlando, FL.

October (TBD) White Elephant Parade.

Wednesday, November 11, Veterans Day wreath laying.

Friday, November 13 Arizona Council of Chapters Meeting, Phoenix.

Sunday, November 15, Annual Business Meeting, elections, Quail Creek, Speaker (TBD)

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.



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



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(520) 625-9696
Fax: (520) 625-1022
Toll Free: 1-877-625-9696
Cell (520) 331-3765

mike@busybeegv.com

JUNE, JULY AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

COL Jim Barr - Lt Col Edward Brown - LT Walter Dow - CAPT Kenneth Fleshman - CPT Kelly Glavin - MAJ Sandra Galvin - COL Dietrich Geschke - Lt Col Richard Griffin - Maj Robert Kaiser - LCDR James Knox - CWO4 Franklin Kreisher - 2LT Robert Kurtz - LT William Leech - CWO4 Harold Lindamood - 1LT Joseph Longo - LTG Richard Moll - Lt Col Herbert Pahoresky - LTC James Rusk - Lt Col John Rychener - LTC John Sackman - LTJG Ted Schelenski - COL Stephen Shambaugh - CPT Joseph Sovis - Betty Wagner - Lt Col Janelle Ward - Lt Col Richard Williams - Col Stephen Zolomij