



MOAA



Military Officers Association of America Desert Duster

35 YEARS

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

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

On Sunday, September 20th, the forty five attendees were treated to some very rare and honest insights as to what goes on in Washington. Appearing before the members was Congresswoman Martha McSally, the recently elected representative representing Congressional District 2. Serving on the Armed Services Committee as well as Homeland Security, Martha McSally is probably the most qualified person on Armed Services. A retired Colonel with an outstanding record of 26 years of service, her focus has



been on looking at saving several Air Force programs. Her initial attack has been saving the A10 "warthog" aircraft. There are few who have her experience on this aircraft and therefore understand what that aircraft means to those

on the ground who need close air support. Who is better qualified to really understand the need than those who have met that need?

Her efforts to save this program as well as the E2 aircraft have been herculean in that she has done her "homework". In gathering support, she has gotten honest answers as to missions and the best qualified systems to perform those missions. She discarded the platitudes and "fuzzy" responses as to alternatives. It is amazing how facts beat fantasy. Her presentation then moved on to more of a macro discussion of the defense budget. Here she pointed out how realities of housing cost, pensions for military and TriCare copays seem to subjugated to "warm fuzzy and vague" programs

In the latter portion of her presentation, we got some real insights as to "how things work" in Washington. Her comment about Washington being a "fact free zone"

brought laughter from the audience. While humorous, the comment struck home with the listeners. She described the "process" of getting something done. One has only to listen to the complexity of the process, the presence of individual agendas coupled with the desire to place faith in those things that do not exist and one comes away shaking your head. How does anything get done? I can only admire her tenacity and determination to perform the job. I kept thinking this convoluted process with all its interests and intrigues requires an elected official with overriding determination to do a real and honest job. Martha McSally illustrated that she has the "right stuff" to do the job. She commented on MOAA and the national office and the degree of help offered as well as the respected position that organization has in Washington

The final segment of her presentation, prior to a question period was that her job was to represent the people in her district and her office was staffed to help us. Her staff handles a wide range of interactions with other governmental agencies. As residents of the district, feel free take advantage of offers to help.

The Chapter thanks her for taking the time from her busy schedule to talk to us. While driving home, I reflected on the old saw about draining the swamp when you are up to your \$%& in alligators. Keep up the good fight, Martha.

Dick Newman



Significant October Dates

Oct. 7, 2001 - Operation Enduring Freedom begins in Afghanistan -

Oct. 12 - Columbus Day

Oct. 13, 1775 - US Navy established -



Oct. 24 - United Nations Day

Oct. 31 - Halloween (White Elephant Parade)



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MOAA Guest Speaker - Congresswomen Martha McSally



November Guest Speaker - Lt Col Myron Donald Tales from the Hanoi Hilton

REMEMBERING HISTORY, MY STORY

COMMANDER JOEL M. GREENBERG, SUPPLY CORPS, USN (RET.)

"Those who forget history are doomed to repeat it." This saying appears in many different forms, but the earliest version is probably that of the poet and philosopher George Santayana: "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it." (Source: Wikipedia.) A modern philosopher said that "we will at least rhyme with the past".

Another great philosopher, Yogi Berra, said: "When you come to a fork in the road, take it." A great baseball catcher or not, this is still a very prescient statement. Every decision in life is a fork in the road (Engineers call this Pert Chart and Decision Tree Analysis). Even standing still is a fork -- staying or moving forward. Why have I brought this up? It is all about the Forks in the road that happened to get me (and I suspect all of us) here --- the past.

In 1935 Donald Dericks joined the Navy. He worked his way up the ranks and retired from the Navy as a LIEUTENANT. Following the bombing of Pearl Harbor, his close cousin Lee joined the Navy because Donald was a sailor. Lee spent the war on active duty and four more years in the Naval Reserve. Right up to the end (at age 91) he continued to think fondly of the Navy and said he often regretted not staying for a career. This positive Navy view led Lee's son to join the Navy during Vietnam and stay for a career. I am Lee's son.

I am also a Diesel Submariner. Note that I did not say I was a Diesel Submariner. That time spent was so significant to my life that I certainly would not be where I am today if it were not for the three boats in which I served. I pushed for Diesel Submarines because as a kid I read all the books about Submarine exploits in WW II. It was the end of the era and the recruiters and the OCS staff said I could not go to Diesel Boats. I was persistent, so I got there. They were right. I put two of my three boats out of commission. I stayed in the Navy and eventually ended up in the Supply Corps. My Dolphins opened many a door and those Keepers of the Doors knew I sailed in Diesel Boats. My Diesel Boat experience continues to this day to make life better.

This story begins in 1967, at the height of the Vietnam conflict, when I graduated from San Fernando Valley State College (now Cal State, Northridge) in Los Angeles, California. Due to my pending military status of going in the Armed Service and, perhaps being sent to Vietnam, only Sears, Roebuck and Company would hire me. I was placed in the Pico Blvd. Store in Los Angeles in its Retail Management Training Program. Living in the north end of the San Fernando Valley was quite a ways away from the store. To be closer to work I moved into an apartment off of Santa Monica Blvd. I was in the Delayed Entry Program and had six months before reporting for duty. Guess who lived next door to me? Michelle Beck, my future wife. Over the six months we got to know each other and were married after my I completed Officer Candidate School and was commissioned as an ENSIGN in the Naval Reserve.

I was Commissioned out of Navy OCS, Newport RI in May 1968. I was the SEA FOX Decommissioning Supply Officer. It was my qualification boat. You can read about some of the stuff we did in *Blind Man's Bluff*. I also served on the USS SEGUNDO (SS-398), stashed awaiting Submarine school to convene. After SEA FOX I went to the USS CATFISH as its Decommissioning Weapons Officer. Following that I went through Supply Corps School (where I became a Supply Corps Officer and was commissioned into the Regular Navy) and to the USS FRANCIS HAMMOND (DE-1067) as Supply Department head. While I had some Vietnam service on the SEA FOX, I spent many months over two deployments on the Gun-Line aboard the HAMMOND (affectionately known as the "Franny Maru") supporting our Marines from Da Nang north and chasing Carriers on Yankee Station.

My shore duties were: OCS (where I was a student DI), Submarine School, Supply Corps School (where I was a Company Commander and the Base Newspaper Editor), Supervisor of Shipbuilding Office at the Naval Shipyard, Long Beach, CA.; The University of Virginia attached to the NROTC pursuing a Navy sponsored Graduate Degree; Inventory and Material Director, Supply Depot, Yokosuka, Japan; Assistant Program Manager at the Deep Submergence Project; and as Executive Assistant & Aide-DE-Camp to a Supply Corps REAR ADMIRAL on Navy Secretary John Lehman's staff. I retired on 20 years as a Supply Corps COMMANDER. Since joining the Supply Corps I had always planned to retire on 20 years and stuck to my plan.

I did. But I also discovered, early on, that promises made to us Retirees were not being kept, so I got involved with lots of Veterans' issues.

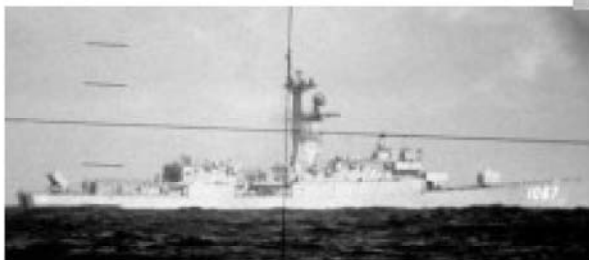
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In civilian life I was a Washington Rep for a defense contractor, worked for two California Defense firms, had my own business and taught Undergraduate and Graduate courses at both Chapman College and the University of Phoenix. And, stuck to part B of my plan which was to have enough money coming in to be able to tell people where they could go. And I did. But I also discovered, early on, that promises made to us Retirees were not being kept, so I got involved with lots of Veterans' issues.

I joined the Jewish War Veterans while I was in Vietnam service. I joined MOAA, USNL, and NSL while stationed in Washington, D.C. in the 80s. I became a member of the FRA, USSVI, WW II Sub Vets (associate member), VFW, DAV and the Legion in California in the early 90s. I served on the Boards of many. I have also been a member of the USS SEA FOX Association from right after its formation. I served on the joint Veterans Burial Ceremony Team, the WW II 50 Year Commemoration Committee, and on the Veterans Building House Oversight Committee as well in California. I served as Founding and three-term President (six years) of the Naval Submarine League's Northern California Chapter. I also was Vice-Chair of the Northern California Council of Military & Veterans Organizations and one of eight El Dorado County, CA Veterans Affairs Commissioners.

Here in Green Valley I have been President of our MOAA Green Valley Chapter, four-term President of our FRA Green Valley Br77, and and I am in my second year as Commander of Tucson Base, U.S. Submarine Veterans. And, I have been a long-term board member of these. I was Newsletter Editor for our MOAA Chapter for eight years and am currently Newsletter Editor for The USS SEA FOX (SS-402) Association. I hosted our 2011 SEA FOX Reunion here and am going to have our 2016 Reunion here again. And, I am a member of the Naval Order.

Michelle and I have two grown daughters and three grandchildren. One daughter, Kim, on Broadway (yes, that Broadway), the other a Newspaper Feature Writer and Columnist called "The Minivan Mama". Our Son-In-Law is a Desert Storm Veteran and Chemist. We have been retired in Green Valley, AZ since 2003. We came here owing to the FRA running in the University of Arizona's Annual USS ARIZONA Memorial Ceremony every December. We have never looked back. That is my history. Thanks cousin Donald for the road you took.



Myron L. Donald

Rank, Service

Lieutenant Colonel O-5, U.S. Air Force

Veteran of:

U.S. Air Force Academy 1961-1965

U.S. Air Force 1965-1986

Cold War 1961-1986

Vietnam War 1967-1973 (POW)

Tribute:

Myron Donald was born in Auburn, New York, in 1943. He entered the U.S. Air Force Academy in June 1961, and was commissioned a 2d Lt in the U.S. Air Force on June 9, 1965. Lt Donald next completed Undergraduate Pilot Training and was awarded his pilot wings at Craig AFB, Alabama, in October 1966, followed by F-4 Phantom II Combat Crew Training from October 1966 to February 1967. His first assignment was as an F-4 pilot with the 476th Tactical Fighter Squadron at George AFB, California, from February to September 1967, and then with the 497th Tactical Fighter Squadron at Ubon Royal Thai AFB, Thailand, from September 1967 until he was forced to eject over North Vietnam and was taken as a Prisoner of War on February 23, 1968. After spending 1,847 days in captivity, Capt Donald was released during Operation Homecoming on March 14, 1973. He was briefly hospitalized to recover from his injuries at March AFB, California, and then received an Air Force Institute of Technology assignment to complete his master's degree at the University of Arizona from August 1973 to August 1975. His next assignment was as Information Officer for the Military Aircraft Storage and Disposition Center at Davis-Monthan AFB, Arizona, from August 1975 to June 1978, followed by service as Deputy Chief of the Information Division at Davis-Monthan from June 1978 to April 1979. LtCol Donald served as Editor of Airscoop with Headquarters U.S. Air Forces in Europe at Ramstein AB, West Germany, from April 1979 to July 1983, and then as Chief of the Public Affairs Division with the 416th Bomb Wing at Griffiss AFB, New York, from July 1983 until his retirement from the Air Force on September 1, 1986.

His Legion of Merit Citation reads:

For the period February 1968 to February 1971: This officer distinguished himself by exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services to the United States as a Prisoner of War in North Vietnam during the above period. His ceaseless efforts, by a continuous showing of resistance to an enemy who ignored all international agreements on treatment of prisoners of war, in the extremely adverse conditions of the communist prisons of North Vietnam, demonstrated his professional competence, unwavering devotion, and loyalty to his country. Despite the harsh treatment through his long years of incarceration, this individual continued to perform his duties in a clearly exceptional manner which reflected great credit upon himself and the United States Air Force.



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.

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.



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October Meeting Sunday October 18 QUAIL CREEK

Social Time 12:00 - LUNCHEON 12:30

Guest Speaker - Lt Col Myron Donald - Tales from the Hanoi Hilton (see bio pg. 6)

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 Oct. 13, 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.
_____ Tilapia w/ Lemon Sauce finished w/ diced Pimentos- Creamy Wild Rice Blend & Mixed Vegetables or
_____ Beef Stroganoff w/ Thick Noodles & finished w/ Sour Cream & Chives.

Dessert - Peach Cobbler W/ Vanilla Bean Ice 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 Luncheon, please check here _____

If you require a Hearing Aid Assist, please contact Steve Abel (648-2172) or stevenabel8@msn.com

Or place a check mark here _____

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

Clothing & Households Goods Drive for Homeless Veterans

Mark Saturday, October 31, on the calendar. That's the date the annual clothing and household goods drive to benefit homeless veterans in the Tucson area will take place at Quail Creek. Volunteers will be in the front parking lot of the Madera clubhouse from 9:00 till 11:00 A.M. to collect donations.

If you are sorting out those closets, please consider setting aside items to donate to those who have served our country. As the days and nights turn chilly, veterans will need warm clothing such as hoodies, sweatshirts and knitted scarfs and hats. New and gently used clothing will be accepted if used items are clean and in good condition. Socks and underwear **must be new**. Backpacks are always appreciated. In addition to warm clothing for both men and women, donations of unused travel sized toiletries will be accepted. Hospitalized veterans love to get notepads, greeting cards and calendars.

According to VA officials, there are 2,437 homeless veterans in southern Arizona. Of these, 385 have served in either Iraq or Afghanistan. Of the total homeless, 243 are female.

HUD-VASH places homeless veterans in transitional housing until they can find jobs and move into more permanent quarters. HUD-VASH is a joint program between the U.S. Departments of Housing Urban Development and Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing. Suggested items for contributions that will help supplement this program include small household goods, paper products, cleaning supplies, towels and washcloths, laundry detergent, and queen sized or smaller bed linens. Monetary contributions will be used to help furnish the apartments. Bicycles have been requested to be used by veterans that have recently moved into housing and need transportation for travel to and from work or to job interviews.

Questions about the project should be directed to COL Peggy McGee at pjmcgee@cox.net or 207-6188.

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, **Thursday, July 23**

SEPTEMBER

Friday, September 11, Various celebrations.

Sunday, September 20, Quail Creek, CD 2 Congresswomen Martha McSally

OCTOBER

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

Sunday, October 18, Quail Creek, Lt Col Myron Donald "Tales from the Hanoi Hilton"

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

Saturday October 31 White Elephant Parade.

NOVEMBER

Wednesday, November 11, Veterans Day wreath laying.

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

Sunday, November 22, Annual Business Meeting, elections, Quail Creek, Speaker - DPS Air Rescue

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.



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OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

**Betty Eby-Deardorff - Judy Knox - CDR Richard Pollard -
Col Richard Scharp - Col Hayward Summer**

