



Military Officers Association of America Desert Duster

35 YEARS

NOVEMBER 2016 • www.greenvalleymoaa.org • Green Valley Chapter an affiliate of MOAA

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



As I was out of town on September 20th, Jim Knox took over chairing our meeting and provided me with the information below on our speaker. Seems I missed an outstanding presentation. Thank you. Jim.

Kelly Laurich, the Arizona Fisher House (AZFH) Manager, located at the Tucson VA Hospital Campus, presented a very informative talk on the new Fisher House. Obviously enthusiastic with her challenging new position, and the brand new Fisher House (the only Fisher House in Arizona), she described her new work load and the challenges it brought, from after the finished construction, outfitting and décor, stocking consumable supplies, managing the small workforce, establishing and following rules for admittance. Most of her talk was responding to the many questions asked by the audience, concerning 'Who' could use the Fisher House, 'How' to contact Fisher House for people that needed a place to stay while veterans were in the VA Hospital, 'What' could we, as MOAA, do for donations and help, and 'What' did they need in the future. In closing, she passed out pamphlets on the AZ Fisher House, lapel buttons, and presented the GV MOAA with a Fisher House coin (Commander's Coin). Her talk was very warmly accepted and appreciated by the Chapter members, and generated a great deal of discussion for future donations and volunteer work.

Now that I am back, I have a good deal of information to convey to you. Please get your reservations in early for the November meeting as it will be a busy evening. First item: We received notice from the ASMA Star Foundation that their board of Directors approved our

request and will fund \$3,500 grant for the Scholarship & Military Assistance fund this year. Second Item: We still have three additional requests out. They include the Raytheon Foundation, USAA Foundation and the NRA Foundation. The NRA foundation request is for Rio Rico High Schools' Rifle Team. In addition, I will be sending out a number of funding requests this month and also in November.

The November meeting is also our annual toy drive. Please read John McGee's article on the Adopt-a - Family Drive. I concur with John's observations and hope our members are generous with their support of this local effort. In addition, November is the meeting where we elect officers and board members for 2017. We have not filled all the nominations yet, but thus far we have the following candidates: Jim Knox – Chapter President; First Vice President - Joe Longo; Second Vice President- Tom Contreras; Treasurer- Peggy McGee; S&MA Fund President – Dick Newman; Auxillary Chair Bettie Rundlett; Legislative Liaison - John Chernosk. We are "working" on filing other positions. These include Secretary and Personal Affairs Officer.

In addition, after doing an outstanding job as Newsletter editor, Bob Kaiser will step aside at the end of the year. A well-deserved "Thank You" goes to Bob. Marianne Cobarrubias, our Webmaster, will take over as editor. Welcome aboard, Marianne.

Last, but not least, read page 42 of the October issue of the Military Officer magazine. Thanks, Peggy McGee for your great effort in making this campaign a success.

Dick Newman

Happy Thanksgiving

ANNUAL TOY DRIVE NOVEMBER 15TH



For the past few years our members have generously contributed toys and cash at our annual November meeting. Each year, as the meeting ends, Green Valley Firefighters come to happily collect the donations for the Department's "Adopt-a-Family" drive. Green Valley Firefighter Amy Helland, who chairs the program, sent the following information about this year's drive [I added the bracketed entries for clarity]:

"You are correct about collecting as early as possible. In fact, we just had our chili Fundraiser at the [Quail Creek] clubhouse on Friday [September 23rd]. The Annual Chili Cook-off is the largest fundraising event we host to raise money for our program. We also have AZ Family day where the GVFD staff wait tables working for tips and a stuff-the-truck event at Walmart."

Our program is called Adopt-A-Family which is different from toys for tots. We actually partner up with the Salvation Army who has the resources for screening the families. Every year we receive about 40 families with anywhere from 3-6 kids in a family. We receive ages and sizes allowing us to get a new shirt, pants, shoes, and two toys for every child. We also get several requests directly at the fire stations as well as other local organizations who may need assistance such as the local women's shelter and/or fostering agencies."

To me, as a former Marine, the fact that our donations are going to Adopt-a-Family rather than Toys-for-Tots is immaterial. The key point is helping the children of local needy families. With this in mind, please start shopping for the November 15th meeting, or be generous with your cash/check donations. Toys must be unwrapped. Make checks payable to "GVMOA Assistance Fund" with a note for "Toy Drive". Your donation will be tax deductible and we will consolidate the donations for GVFD Adopt-a-Family. We will send you an acknowledgement letter.

Thank you.

John McGee

President, GVMOA Scholarship and Military Assistance Fund

Get to Meet Your Members

Diane M. Russell, Colonel, USAF (Ret.)

My first time wearing Air Force blue was at the age of 14 as a Civil Air Patrol (CAP) Cadet in Chicago. The CAP experience was instrumental in my decision to join the Air Force after college. I took my first flight in a CAP aircraft and was hooked on flying, getting my Private Pilot license before my driver's license! Unfortunately, my dream of being an Air Force pilot was not possible because that career field wasn't open to women when I graduated Officer's Training School (OTS) in 1971.

Since my undergraduate degree was in Aeronautical Engineering, I was assigned to Wright-Patterson AFB in Ohio where I had the opportunity to work on the selection of an ejection seat for the A-X aircraft, which eventually became the A-10, and also on a fix to beef-up the wing spars on T-37 aircraft.



In 1973, my personal situation changed and the military began a significant drawdown of personnel following the Vietnam War. I took a civilian job as an engineer with Sikorsky Aircraft in Connecticut. While working on Black Hawk and H-53 helicopters, I continued my service with the Air Force Reserve. Initially, I was in the Individual Mobilization Augmentee (IMA) program and had various assignments including Reserve Assistance Officer with the Connecticut Wing of CAP and Assistant QA Chief with the Defense Contract Administration Services (DCAS) in Chicago, while also training with the 439th Field Maintenance Squadron (FMS) at Westover AFB in

Massachusetts. In 1987, I transferred from the IMA program to the 439th FMS as Executive Officer, completed Maintenance Officer training on C-5 aircraft and, in 1995, became the Commander of the largest Aircraft Maintenance Squadron in the Air Force Reserve. We were activated for Desert Storm for six-months of 24/7 duty as Westover became the last gas-stop for aircraft heading to Southwest Asia. After promotion to Colonel, I was assigned as Inspector General (IG) for the 439th Airlift Wing. Three years later, I retired after 30 years of combined Active and Reserve duty.

During my career, I was honored to receive the AF Commendation Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal, and the Legion of Merit. My husband of 21 years, John, supported my many numerous absences over the years! We retired to Green Valley in 2006 with our cat, Shadow.

Veterans Appreciation Week Happenings

The local area is so appreciative of the many contributions that veterans have made to our country that they will be hosting a series of events from November 5-11. Unless indicated otherwise, all events are free of charge,

November 5: The Women of Quail Creek and the Sahuarita Educational Enrichment Foundation will be sponsoring a benefit concert. The event will start at 4 p.m. and will feature the *Gatekeepers* from the Ironwood Hills Church in Tucson. The multi-talented vocalists and musicians will perform traditional and contemporary patriotic songs.

The fund raiser will be held in the SUSD auditorium, 350 W Sahuarita Rd. There is plenty of free parking.

Tickets are \$10 each or \$20 for families. There will also be a silent auction featuring golf, meals, spa days and other attractions. Tickets can be purchased from Mac Chernoski, at 520-204-3903/machernoski@gmail.com. They can also be ordered online at <https://sites.google.com/a/sahuarita.net/seef/home>.

November 5: Military Appreciation Night sponsored by the Roadrunners, a new AHL hockey team. Games held at 175 W. Broadway Blvd., Tucson. Tickets can be ordered at <http://www.tucsonroadrunners.com>. Single ticket and group rates available.

November 10: The Continental School District's Builders Club will be leading a ceremony in honor of Veteran's Day. The ceremony will take place shortly after 8:00 a.m. at the school's flagpole located just behind the district office at 1991 E. White House Canyon Rd. The Builder's Club is a group of students sponsored in conjunction with the Kiwanis. Builder's Club students are focusing on becoming community leaders.

November 10: Sahuarita Intermediate School (SIS) will present a Tribute to Veterans at 8:00 a.m. in the SIS Gym, 350 W Sahuarita Rd. All U.S military personnel, veterans, and the local community are invited.

November 10: Basketball game at Sahuarita High School starting at 6 p.m. The game will pit the students from Sahuarita and Walden Grove high schools against faculty members from both schools. Tickets are \$3 for active and retired military and seniors over 65; \$5 for

those under 65; \$10.00 for families. Food will be available for purchase prior to the game and during intermission. Veterans salute at half-time.

Tickets for both the concert and basketball game can be ordered from Pat Neel, 625-4476 or Mac Chernoski, 520-204-3903 / machernoski@gmail.com. They are also available online at sites.google.com/a/sahuarita.net/seef/home. Tickets may be purchased at the door too.

Proceeds for both events will be used for scholarships for students from both Sahuarita and Walden Grove high schools and other school needs.

November 11: Wreath laying ceremony at 9:30 a.m. at the **Green Valley Mortuary and Cemetery**, 18751 S La Canada Drive, Sahuarita. A great opportunity to pay tribute to all veterans, both living and deceased.

November 11: For those wanting to travel out of the greater Green Valley area, there will be two festive parades, one in Nogales, the other in Tucson.

The Nogales parade starts at 10 a.m. in downtown Nogales at Morley and Grand.

The Tucson parade starts at 11 a.m. at 330 W. Franklin.

However you spend Veterans Day, please pause to remember the sacrifices made by our military, both living and dead.



VA and Walgreens Team Up to Provide Flu Vaccinations to Veterans

The cold and flu season is upon us and the Department of Veterans Affairs has once again teamed up with Walgreens Pharmacies nationwide to allow all veterans who are currently enrolled in the VA healthcare system to be able walk into any of the over 8000 Walgreens nationally (and the Duane Reade pharmacies in the New York metropolitan area) to receive a vaccination ***at no cost***. Vaccinations will be available through March 31, 2017.

Veterans wishing to receive the no cost vaccination simply need to present a Veterans Identification Card and a photo ID, at any participating Walgreens to receive the vaccination.

In addition, after the Walgreens pharmacist administers the vaccine Walgreens will transmit that information securely to VA where it becomes part of the patient's electronic medical record.

VA is committed to keeping Veteran patients healthy, and during this flu season, vaccination is the best way to prevent the spread of flu. No matter where you live, visit your local VA clinic or Walgreens to get a free flu shot.

- To find your local VA, visit va.gov/directory/guide/home.asp.
- To locate a Walgreens store near you, call 800-WALGREENs (800-925-4733), or go to com/findastore.
- To learn more about the partnership, call 1-877-771-8537 or visit ehealth.va.gov/Immunization.asp.
- To get more information on flu and flu vaccine, visit publichealth.va.gov/flu or www.cdc.gov/flu.

Fisher House Manager Explained the Project

Kelly Laurich, manager of the Arizona Fisher House, was the guest speaker at the September dinner meeting. The facility located on the VA campus in Tucson earned the title, *Arizona Fisher House*, because it was the first one built in Arizona.

The Fisher House program is a unique private-public partnership between the Fisher House Foundation, the VA and DoD that supports America's military in their time of need. The local community raises a portion of the construction costs and then the Foundation builds, furnishes and donates these "comfort homes" located on major military bases or VA medical centers.

Ground was broken for the Arizona Fisher House in 2015. When it was completed in 2016, the house immediately began to provide temporary lodging at no cost for family members of veterans as well as active duty personnel. For those who stay there, it offers a home away from home and provides a sense of comfort while a loved one is undergoing medical treatment.

To be eligible to stay at Fisher house, family members must reside at least 50 miles away from the medical facility.

Although the Arizona Fisher House is paid for, there is an ongoing need for expendable supplies. Members will be asked to bring items for Fisher House residents to the meeting on December 8. A complete list of needs will be in the December newsletter.

The Auxiliary will make a special effort to collect items on the Fisher House "wish list." Auxiliary liaison Betty Atwater will be sharing the needs with all the Auxiliary members.

November Meeting Tuesday November 15

QUAIL CREEK

Social Time 5:00 - Dinner 5:30

Guest Speaker - Tim Campbell, Project Mgr., FICO Co.

**Please reserve ____ places for me for DINNER. I am sending a check in the amount of \$_____
(\$26.00 per meal), payable to MOA of Green Valley, P.O. Box 769, Green Valley, AZ 85622-0769.
ATTN: Dinner Reservation**

This request must be mailed to arrive no later than November 9, 2016

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.

_____**Pork Loin with Raisin Demi glaze or**

_____**Roasted Turkey Roulade with Spinach and Pine Nuts**

Sides: Garlic Mashed Potatoes and sage Gravy, Green Beans with Bacon and Onions

Dessert: Pumpkin Pie with whipped Cream sprinkled with Nutmeg

NOTE: If you cannot get your reservation and check mailed timely, please call Barbara Brown at 520-625-8066 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 _____

If you require a Hearing Aid Assist, please contact Barbara Brown at 520 625 8066 or email barbara.brown3@cox.net

----- cut here -----

Tim Campbell – FICO - Biography



Tim Campbell is the project manager for the Sahuarita Farms Land and River Master Plan, which is a long term master land use and development plan for FICO's properties in the Santa Cruz River Valley. Tim manages the planning, entitlement and permitting processes in the Town of Sahuarita and Pima County, as well as the development and promotion of the project. Tim has over 30 years of experience in real estate development, urban planning and consulting, and has completed master plans and projects that range from large scale master planned communities to urban infill developments, such as Desert Ridge in Phoenix and Sierra Morado in Tucson. Tim is presently on the Green Valley/Sahuarita Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and is a Board member of the Continental Elementary School District Educational Foundation and the Sahuarita School District Educational Enrichment Foundation. He is also a member of the Valle Verde Rotary Club. Tim is a graduate of the University of Idaho and Texas A&M University, and is a near-Arizona native having lived in the state for over 29 years.

2016 OFFICERS, DIRECTORS & CHAIR

PRESIDENT:

ILT Richard G. Newman USAR (Former)
(520) 399-3550, RNewman514@aol.com

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT, JROTC LIAISON & MEMBERSHIP:

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

SECOND VICE- PRESIDENT & PROGRAMS:

CAPT Tom Contreras, USN (Ret)
(520) 207-8941, tomcontreras67@hotmail.com

SECETARY:

1LT Joseph Longo, USAR (Former)
(509) 945-4995, longojv5@gmail.com

TREASURER & STATUTORY AGENT:

COL Peggy McGee, USA (Ret)
(520) 207-6188, pjmcgee@cox.net

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT, PRESIDENT OF THE 501 c (3) CORPORATION & DIRECTOR:

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

DIRECTOR, SURVIVING SPOUSE & AUXILIARY LIAISON:

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

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, jcchernoski@cox.net

TRANSITION LIAISON & WEB CO-MASTER:

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

PAST PRESIDENT & HISTORIAN:

COL Lynda Linker, USA (Ret)
520 648-6812, lyndietrich@aol.com

NEWSLETTER EDITOR:

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

2016 EVENT SCHEDULE

October 29, 2016 (Saturday)-

White Elephant Parade. This years theme is "The Magic of Giving."

November 15, 2016 (third Tuesday)

Dinner Meeting, QC Clubhouse, No host bar 5:00-5:30, Dinner to follow. Business Meeting. Speaker is Tom Campbell, FICO Corp. - Project Manager - Sahuarita Farms Land/River Project.

December 8, 2016 (Thursday) Christmas

Dinner/Installation of Officers, QC Clubhouse, No host bar 5:00-5:30, Dinner to follow.

2017 Event Schedue

Tuesday, February 21 5:00 Social 5:30 Dinner

Tuesday, March 21 Mix & Mingle 4:30-6:30

Wednesday, April 19 JROTC Dinner 5:00 Social 5:30 Dinner

Wednesday, September 20 5:00 Social 5:30 Dinner

Wednesday, October 18 5:00 Social 5:30 Dinner

Wednesday, December 6 5:00 Social 5:30 Dinner

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



**BUSY BEE
PRINTERS**



*Printing • Laminating
Engineering Copies
Color Copies • Fax Services
Design Services*

Mike Morales
Owner

231-A W. Esperanza Blvd.
Green Valley, AZ 85614

(520) 625-9696

Fax: (520) 625-1022

Toll Free: 1-877-625-9696

Cell (520) 331-3765

mike@busybeegv.com

Congratulations: The Green Valley Chapter of MOAA has been selected to receive a grant in the amount of \$1350.00 from USAA to Support Turkeys for Troops.

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

U.S. Marine Corps - Nancy Blanton - COL William Bond - Lt Col Richard Casey -
Gloria Contreras - Col Vernon Harms - Lt Col Thelma Hendricks - Ruth Link - Lt Col
Howard richey - LTC Fredic Roeming - LTC Ronnie St. Clair - 2LT Raymon Stafford