Level of Excellence Award Winner: 2011 – 4 Star; 2012 – 5 Star 2013 – 5 Star; 2014 – 5 Star; 2015 — 5 Star; 2016 – 5 Star; 2017 – 5 Star; 2018 – 5 Star; 2019 – 5 Star

THE OUTBACK

NACMOAA

Established 1972

MAR/APR 2021

NACMOAA STAFF & DIRECTORS FOR 2020

Mrs. Sharon Douglas – President

LtCol Alex Torrance– Vice President, Coordinator for Guest Speakers & Luncheons

LtCol Gerald Hietpas – Mohave Satellite President

Col George Weil – Secretary & Legislative Affairs Officer

Mrs. Heather Weil – Treasurer

LCDR Clyde Meade –Awards

LtCol Bob Wallace – Personal Affairs, Transition Liaison & Director

Col Jim Muehleisen – Director

LtCol Dick Jonas – Membership & Director

Col Jon Berry – Director

LCDR Peter Jensen – Chaplain

Mrs. Mary Jonas – Outback Editor & Surviving Spouse Liaison



From the President

By: Sharon Douglas

I hope this finds you all safe and well after a cold and windy winter. I have always enjoyed Spring, but I can't think of another year when I have looked more forward to warmer weather and getting outside.

Hopefully with the vaccination program well underway, this is the beginning of getting back to our more normal routines. We are looking at trying to go back to in person meetings/luncheons later this year if our membership supports it. We are hopeful many of the activities that support our local veterans, like the annual Stand Down in September, will be back this year. More information will be provided as it becomes available.

NACMOAA held a board meeting on 04 March. Below are a few things that were

[continued on page 2]

Due to the uncertainty of the Coronavirus and out of an abundance of caution, NACMOAA will not gather for our April meeting/luncheon.

"Join with your fellow Officers and continue to make a difference!"

MOHAVE SATELLITE NEWS

Officers: President – LtCol Jerry Hietpas; 1st Vice President –Charlene (Char) Eastman; Vice President for Programs –CPT Joan McDermott; Secretary – Maj Bob Roberts

After a hiatus of one year, the Mohave Satellite held a meeting on March 13, 2021, at the Eagles Aerie. Because the date could not be assured with enough time to arrange for a speaker, it was a meeting of mild celebration and an expression of gratitude that the pandemic is hopefully over. We did cover dues requirements for 2021 and discussed the scholarship fund effort.

Char Eastman has finally received closure of one spousal effort concerning the VA. The other is still proceeding, we hope, as we await action from the VA.

For additional information about the Mohave Satellite activities contact Jerry Hietpas at gjhiet@gmail.com or by phone at 928-715-6628.

LtCol Jerry Hietpas, USAF, Ret.
President Mohave Satellite
Contact Information: Phone: 928-715-6628
Email: gjhiet@gmail.com

From the President: [cont. from page 1]

addressed:

-There has been a name change to MOAA' annual Storming the Hill Campaign. It is now called Advocacy in Action. It will take place in May as usual but will be virtual this year. Col George Weil will be representing NACMOAA in presenting MOAA' advocacy action items to the Arizona legislative members.

-Our new website is moving ahead and will be in the preliminary design phase later this month. Hopefully it will be up and running sometime in April.

-Honor Flights to Washington D.C. are still on hold at least through June 2021. NACMOAA continues to collect funds to send one of our members on this once in a lifetime trip. If you have anyone you think would be a candidate, please send me their information.

-I recently sent out an email to get the membership reaction to holding an in person meeting/luncheon on 03 June. If you have not already done so, please email me with your thoughts on attending. Let me know if you are willing to meet at an inside venue or if you prefer an outside or patio location and if you are available for the June date.

Telephone scams are on the rise. Please watch out for gift card, APS, IRS and COVID-19 vaccination scams. If it doesn't sound legitimate, check it out before you give any confidential information out. Remember, NO government agency will ask you to pay with a gift card.

[continued on page 3]

From the President: [cont. from page 2]

I am happy to report that NACMOAA and the Arizona MOAA Chapter have joined together to sponsor our local ERAU AROTC cadets in the 2021 Memorial Bataan March. This year the march will be virtual. The upside of this is the march will be here in Prescott. The five cadets are starting the march at Prescott Peavine Recreational Trail North at 0700 on 17 April. They're doing various distances between 5 and 26.2 miles. The 13.1 mile turn-around point is on Sundog Ranch Road near the county animal shelter. Our V.P. Alex Torrance is planning to be there to represent NACMOAA. He would like to invite members and family to join him at this event. Any show of support along the trail would certainly be appreciated by the cadets. Please contact either Alex or myself, for the specific location.

And finally, a couple of tax notes.

-The AARP Foundation, Tax-Aide Service is offering in person as well as low-contact and contact-free tax preparation. For information call 888-227-7669 or go to <aarpfoundation.org/taxaide>.

-Property tax relief is available to seniors, widows and widowers, and totally disabled persons. The type and amount of relief differ from county to county in Arizona. Check with your county assessor's office for up to date information.

Looking forward to seeing everyone in person in the near future.

Happy Spring, Happy Easter, Happy Tax Season.

Sharon Douglas, Surviving Spouse
President, Northern Arizona Chapter

arizona coalition for military families
Building Support for All Who Serve

News Release

For Immediate Release
Contact: Amy Bolton
602-753-8802
Amy@ArizonaCoalition.org

Arizona MOAA Council and Chapters Commit to Partnership Supporting Arizona Veterans

Arizona MOAA Council and Chapters Earn 'Be Connected Partner' Designation

Phoenix, Ariz. (Feb. 09, 2021) – The Arizona Coalition for Military Families, a nationally recognized Arizona- based nonprofit providing resources, support, and advocacy for Arizona's servicemembers, veterans, and their families, is proud to announce a partnership with the Arizona Council of Chapters and its nine chapters of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA).

The partnership establishes an avenue for both organizations to expand

[continued on page 6]



Ladies of NACMOAA

Five ladies gathered for our March 12th lunch at Augie's. We had a good time and talked about all kinds of things.

We gather at 11:30 AM, order off their menu and pay individually. Our lunches are usually over by 2:00 PM. We encourage all ladies of NACMOAA to join us for this social event.

Our lunch dates for 2021 will be: May 14th; July 9th; September 10th and November 12th.

If you know of any of our Ladies who have moved or have health issues we should be aware of, please forward that information to Mary Jonas at mlgjonas.2012@gmail.com or call her at (928) 636-2259. You can also share wishes for prayer or spiritual questions with our Chaplain, Peter Jensen, at (323) 928-9918.

Membership Corner: Please forward any Membership Changes and/or Updates to Dick Jonas at <az04nac@erosonic.com> or call him at (928) 636-2259. Dick has the responsibility of maintaining our membership roster so inputs help to keep it current.

If you are in need of a NACMOAA nametag, Dick is the man to contact. The name tags cost $5.82 each. There is no shipping fee if you pick up your nametag at one of our meetings.

Membership Updates:

The prospect list is beginning to grow somewhat. This is the list sent to the chapters each month by national. For the past several months, there has been only about two per month. However, this month there were eight on the NAC list and six on the Mohave Satellite list. We have sent letters of invitation with a membership application in each. We'll wait 10 days to two weeks and then try the phones. Every person on the list except one listed a phone number. I think that will be helpful. Fingers crossed!

We've added one regular member. Maj (Fmr) Helen Kipp, a former Air Force nurse, signed up in January. She also joined national as a Basic member. We've lost three, two at personal request, and one moved away. Our count is 76 Regular and Surviving Spouses, and 18 in the Auxiliary.

As a reminder, dues for Regular Members are now $25 per year, which also applies to Regular Chapter members who hold Basic memberships in National MOAA. All Surviving Spouses and Auxiliary Members pay $5.00 per year. Make your checks to NACMOAA and note on the Memo line that this is a dues payment. Mail them to:

NACMOAA
4839 N. Viewpoint Dr. Apt. A
Prescott Valley, AZ 86314

~Chaplain's Corner~ Please contact Chaplin Peter Jensen for prayer requests, solace regarding family and friends, or spiritual guidance. He can be reached by phone: (323) 982-9918 or by email: <chcpetercjensen@gmail.com>

Surviving Spouse Corner: How to Become an Effective Advocate

By: Dr. Vivianne Wersel **FEBRUARY 26, 2021**

It can be very frustrating to find yourself in a position when legislation needs to be changed, but you are unsure where to start.

My nearly 16 years' experience in legislation as an advocate affords me the opportunity to share with you how you can become more involved in improving military survivor benefits. Many surviving spouses already are seasoned advocates, thanks to MOAA and other veterans service organizations. However, for those who are new to this frontier, the following guidance can help you learn to advocate and navigate the process with confidence.

Find your passion. Choose an issue that directly affects you. This will have more of an impact when telling your story.

Gather information. Find fact sheets from MOAA's Surviving Spouses and Friends Facebook page, MOAA.org, your local MOAA chapter (legislative committee), and the Surviving Spouses Virtual Chapter. Construct a simple blog regarding how this issue impacts you as a military surviving spouse. Be yourself. It is important you feel comfortable discussing the issue, even if you do not have all the details. Information can be sent later.

Determine whether the issue is local, state, or federal. Some examples include:

•Federal: Improve VA Dependency and Indemnity Compensation, remarriage law
•State: Professional licensure, property tax exemption, benefits of military surviving spouses
•Local (City/County): Noise abatements, zoning ordinance

- **Cultivate relationships with staffers.** This is important because staffers are the ones who will make a difference to move the effort forward. Again, tell your story (brief). Prepare a short bio to help connect you with a staffer and or member when setting up a meeting.

- **Establish a meeting.** During COVID-19, meetings will be held via a virtual platform. There are some advantages, such as no parking issues or inclement weather restrictions. If you do not feel comfortable with a virtual meeting, call the elected official's office and asked for a phone conference appointment with the appropriate staffer or ask to leave a message on staffer's phone. Even though you did not virtually meet with the staffer or member, what is important is you raised awareness about your issue. Remember, the elected official and staffer — whether it is federal, state or local — work for you. You are their constituent.

A future webinar is being planned to provide specifics on Advocacy in Action, MOAA's signature spring advocacy event.

Submitted By: Sharon Douglas; Surviving Spouse

‘Be Connected Partner’ Designation [cont. from page 3]

their services and support of Arizona’s servicemembers, veterans, and their families. One example of this support is the Grants + program. MOAA national and the Arizona chapters offer grants to help servicemembers, veterans, and families facing hardship. Through this new partnership, MOAA grant recipients will also be referred to the Coalition’s Be Connected program to provide support, services, and solutions to address the underlying issues causing hardship.

Col Peter Kloeber, USAF (Ret), president of the MOAA Arizona Council of Chapters, also serves on the national MOAA board of directors. He says he’s delighted to provide this new avenue of support to veterans and families in Arizona.

“We are so proud to partner with MOAA’s Arizona Council of Chapters and its nine chapters to ensure Arizona’s bravest have the support they need from the day they take their oath on through their retirement,” says Thomas Winkel, founder and director of the Arizona Coalition for Military Families. “Now there is a seamless bridge of support that veterans and families can access between MOAA’s Arizona affiliates and our Be Connected program.”

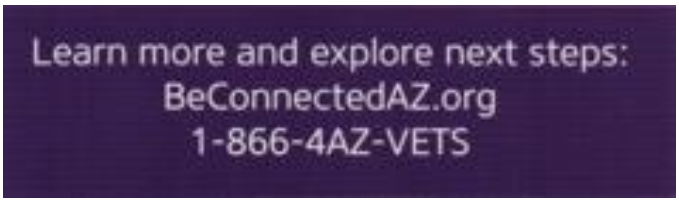
Kloeber championed the partnership chapter by chapter for more than 12 months because he has seen firsthand the value of providing access to this no-cost program to the Arizona MOAA membership. “This new statewide partnership is another way to extend help to our veterans and families for just about anything including employment, financial support, mental health services, medical needs, benefits, and housing.”

The Arizona Coalition for Military Families offers statewide resources and services — at no cost — to Arizona’s servicemembers, veterans, and families through the ongoing support from the Arizona Department of Veterans’ Services, the Governor’s Office of Youth, Faith and Family, and the VA.

“If you want to help a veteran or family and you don’t know where to turn, call Be Connected,” says Kloeber.

For more information on the programs and services offered through the Be Connected program, visit www.BeConnectedAZ.org or call (866) 4AZ-VETS (429-8387). To join the statewide network of support for veterans and military families, complete the application at http://bit.ly/BCPartner21.





MOAA NOW OFFERS TWO METHODS TO PAY CHAPTER DUES FOR 2021

MAIL: Please make check payable to NAC-MOAA and send it to:
Heather Weil, NAC Treasurer
4839 N. Viewpoint Dr. Apt. A
Prescott Valley, AZ 86314

ONLINE: Go to the following link: http://www.moaa.org/Content/Chapters-and-Councils/Chapters-and-Councils.aspx#Chapter-Dues

Click on **"Join or Renew your Chapter dues**" in the blue box (middle of page)

You will see the following three Questions with pull-down options:

Do you want to join or renew? – Select **"Renew"**

State? – Select **"Arizona"**

Chapter? – Select **"Northern Arizona Chapter"**

Then click on **"Next"**

Fill out the requested information. You will need your MOAA member number.

Click **"Next"**

Select the **"Renewal Term"** from the pull-down options.

You can pay for 1, 2 or 3years.

Click **"Next"**

Optional Donation – You will see the following wording: **"You may donate up to $100.00 as a tax-free donation to this chapter. Donations will go to the Scholarship Fund unless instructed otherwise"**

Payment and Billing Information – fill in the requested information.

Click **"Finish"** You will receive a **"Payment Confirmation"** that you can print if desired.



Treasurer's Report: As of March 04, 2021

Cash on Hand	$13,972.57
Less Events Fund	-918.81
Less Reserve for Scholarships	-3,940.58
Less Reserve for Mohave Satellite	-961.91
Less Reserve Mohave Scholarship Fund	-1,100.00
Less NACMOAA Honor Flight	-2,443.50
Net General Funds	$4,607.77

Submitted by Heather Weil, Treasurer



GRANITE GATE
SENIOR LIVING
FIVE STAR SENIOR LIVING

The Northern Arizona Chapter of MOAA wishes to express our thanks to the staff of Granite Gate Senior Living for their continued efforts on the behalf of their residents. We hope they are all staying safe and well during this pandemic. We hope to be back with them in 2021.

Help Prevent Suicide
Learn how to be there for the Veteran or Service Member in your life.
VeteransCrisisLine.net

Veterans Crisis Line
1-800-273-8255 PRESS 1

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Marine Corps League

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE COPPER STATE

Copper State Detachment #906
P.O. Box 1775
Prescott, AZ
86302-1775

Once a Marine...Always a Marine

Meetings on 4th Wednesday of each month 1900 hours at the VFW Post 10227, 2375 N. 5th St., Prescott Valley, AZ 86314
(928) 445-3393 www.copperstate906mcl.org
An organization of Marines for Marines, by Act of Congress

The Marine Corps League gives you the opportunity to get involved and make a difference in your community, to help those less fortunate and to participate in an organization that gets things done.

The VA Hospital
Bingo Night
Special Volunteers
Sports Outings
Fund Drives
Visitation

Marines Helping Marines
Wounded Marines Program
Veteran Family Programs
Holiday Visitations
Raffles & Fund Drives

The Young Marines
Scholarships
Training
Mentoring
Leadership

Toys for Tots
Toy Collection
Special Deliveries
Provide Joy
Christmas Spirit

Community Involvement
Rodeo
Court House Events
Special Events

Honor Guard
Parades
Funerals
Sports Events
Patriotism

The Outback Newsletter is published by the Northern Arizona Chapter, which is an affiliate of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA). MOAA and its affiliated chapters and councils are nonpartisan.

MOAA MISSION: To advocate for our military community and connect it to the nation we serve.
MOAA VISION: To promote and protect a strong national defense and lead our nation to honor its commitments to all who serve.

Thank You Businesses for your support of NACMOAA.
If you would like to place an AD in this newsletter, contact any Board Member.



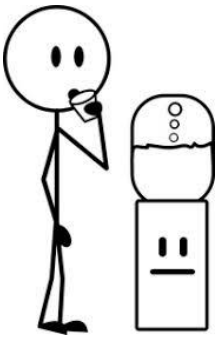




The advertisements that appear in this publication do not reflect an endorsement by MOAA or this Chapter.



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What is scuttlebutt? What is its nautical origin?

ANSWERS: "Scuttlebutt" in slang usage means rumor or gossip, deriving from the nautical term for the cask used to serve water. The term corresponds to the colloquial concept of a water cooler in an office setting, which at times becomes the focus of congregation and casual discussion.

ORIGIN: Ship's rumors usually spread from around the communal water barrel. Water for immediate consumption on a sailing ship was conventionally stored in a scuttled butt: a butt (cask) which had been scuttled by making a hole in it so the water could be withdrawn. Since sailors exchanged gossip when they gathered at the "scuttled butt" for a drink of water, scuttlebutt became Navy slang for gossip or rumors.

Membership Changes: **Effective January 2019** All Surviving Spouse and Auxiliary Members will pay $5.00 per year. This will help us keep more accurate information for our membership roster.
What this means for Surviving Spouse and Auxiliary Members, after completing the form below, is that we can now vote on Chapter issues and hold office [effective January 2019].

MOAA™
Military Officers Association of America

NORTHERN ARIZONA CHAPTER ~ APPLICATION FOR
SURVIVING SPOUSE/AUXILIARY MEMBERSHIP

Must be completed for you to have a vote on Chapter Issues or to hold elected office.

NAME: FIRST _____ MIDDLE _____ LAST _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

TELEPHONE: _(_____)_____ ALTERNATE PHONE: _(_____)_____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

MEMBERSHIP TYPE:

Spouse (Auxiliary): Your regular member spouse Rank / First / M Int / Last Name / MOAA Member #

_____

Surviving Spouse: Your deceased spouse Rank / First / M Int / Last Name / MOAA Member #:

_____

AMOUNT ENCLOSED: $_____ (Make check payable to NACMOAA)

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT: _____ DATE _____

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 2019 Surviving Spouse/Auxiliary dues are $5.00 per year.
Send this application to NACMOAA Treasurer 4839 N Viewpoint Dr Apt A,
Prescott Valley, AZ 86314

New Regular Membership Application Northern Arizona Chapter

Name _____ MI _____ Last _____

Rank _____ Service _____ Component _____

Status: Active Retired Former Reserve NG DOB (optional):

Address_____

City_____ ST_____ Zip _____

Home phone _____Cel _____

EMail _____

Spouse Name: First_____ Last _____

Member of National MOAA: Yes No (circle one). You do not have to be a National member to join our chapter. If you are, circle membership type: Basic Premium Life and provide your National MOAA Membership # _____

Dues (choose the one which applies to you):

New Regular member who signs up in the 1st qtr - $25; 2nd qtr - $20; 3rd qtr - $15. If you sign up in the 4th qtr it's $25, but that covers your 4th qtr in the current year, plus dues for the entire follow-on year.

Amt enclosed: $ _____ (make check payable to NACMOAA)

Signature _____ Date _____

Mail check and application to:

NACMOAA Treasurer
4839 N Viewpoint Dr. Apt. A
Prescott Valley, AZ 86314

See MOAA on the web at www.moaa.org

All Chapter members are encouraged to be members of national Military Officers Association of America.

Any person who has ever held a commission or a warrant in any of the eight uniformed services is eligible for membership in the Military Officers Association of America.

THERE WILL NOT BE AN APRIL LUNCHEON!

Please cut on the line below and mail with your check for 2021 dues &/or donations to: Heather Weil, Treasurer

---

NACMOAA Treasurer's address is 4839 N. Viewpoint Dr. Apt. A, Prescott Valley, AZ 86314.

Member Name: _____

Spouse /Aux Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

2021 Dues - $ _____ Member $25.00 Spouse/Aux $5.00

Scholarship - $ _____

Honor Flight - $ _____

TOTAL - $ _____

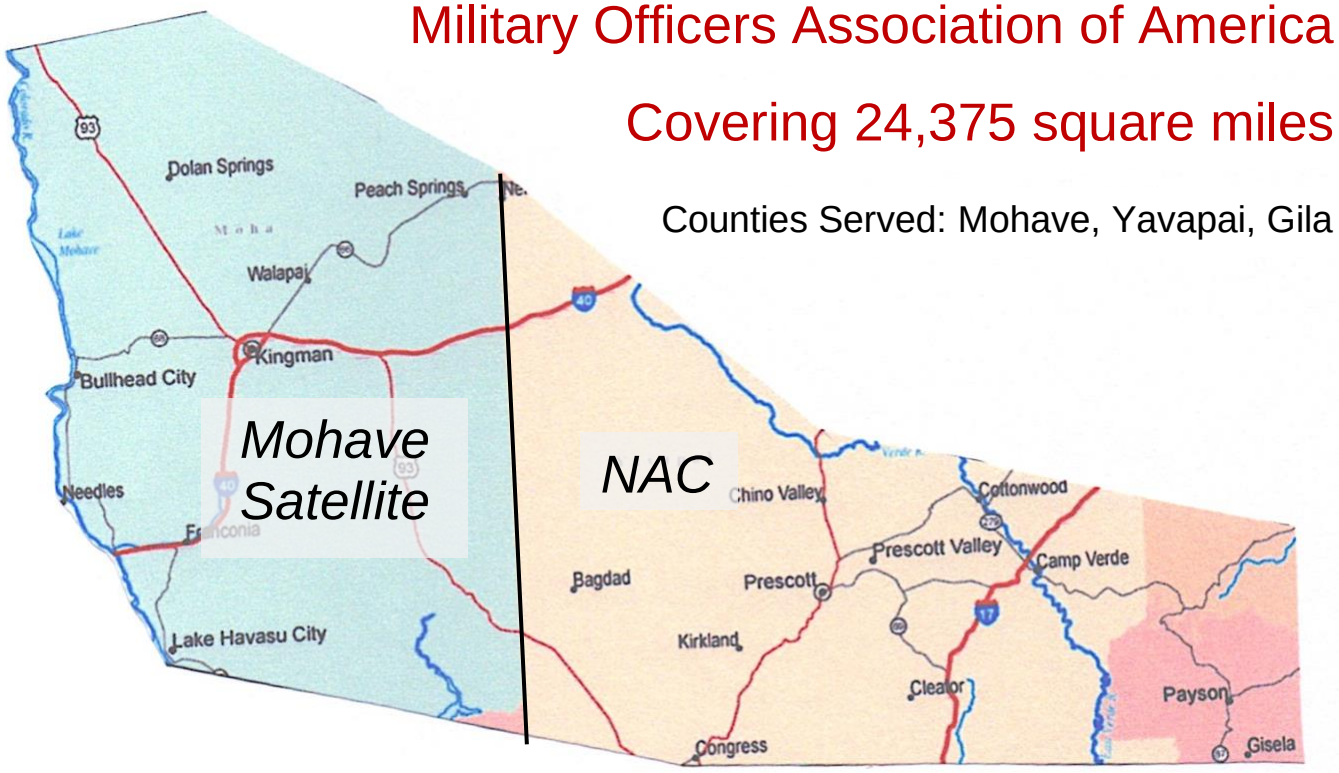
Chapter dues need to be paid by the end of March 2021.

Northern Arizona Chapter

Military Officers Association of America

Covering 24,375 square miles

Counties Served: Mohave, Yavapai, Gila



From: NAC MOAA
The Outback
Mrs. Mary G. Jonas, Editor
P O Box 1226
Chino Valley, AZ 86323

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