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

JULY/AUG 2021

NACMOAA STAFF & DIRECTORS FOR 2021

Mrs. Sharon Douglas – President & Coordinator for Luncheons

LtCol Alex Torrance– Vice President, Coordinator for Guest Speakers

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 well and enjoying the rains last week. Now, we just need to get all of these wildfires under control.

A quick recap of our June lunch at Mortimer Farms. We had 29 members in attendance. A great turn out for our first in person meeting in many months. Contributions to the Scholarship Fund totaled $150.00 and an additional $60.00 from the 50/50 Raffle. Contributions to The 100 Club of AZ in memory of the Phoenix Police Officer New, were approximately $650.00.

I have been in contact with Clarissa at Granite Gate regarding when we can resume our lunches. The issue will be taken up with the Director, and the corporate office. They are hoping to have an answer for us in the

[continued on page 2]

NACMOAA is back. We will have an "In Person" lunch August 6th at Goods From the Garden. RSVP to Sharon Douglas at 928-632-5939 by July 26th.

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

MOHAVE SATELLITE NEWS

Officers: President – LtCol Jerry Hietpas; 1st Vice President, Surviving Spouse Liaison, Substitute Secretary–Charlene (Char) Eastman; 2nd Vice President for Programs–CPT Joan McDermott

The Mohave satellite meets in Lake Havasu at the Eagles Aerie. They have no meetings in July, August or December. Their next meeting will be announced.

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]

near future. I am hopeful we will be back eating Josh's cooking in October.

Looking ahead to the August Luncheon, the date will be Friday the 6th. It was necessary to move the date in order to find an appropriate venue. I polled the membership, and this was the date that got the most votes as an alternate date.

We will be holding our luncheon at Goods From the Garden. They are centrally located at 3250 E. Gateway Blvd. Suite #516 at Gateway Mall, in the building where Macayo's Mexican Food used to be located on the Heritage Circle (roundabout).

Just like last time, I will need a head count prior to the luncheon as this will be a plated meal not a buffet. You may pay at the door BUT, I do need your RSVP AND your meal choice no later than 26 July.

Choice #1: Chicken with Artichoke Caper Sauce. Choice #2 Meat Lasagna. For complete menu information go to page 13 of this newsletter.

Please RSVP to me before 26 July. Email: Sharon.douglas.NACMOAA@gmail.com. Regular mail at P.O. Box 95, Dewey, AZ 86327. On GroupWorks or by phone at 928-632-5939. *If you have food allergies that need special accommodation, please let me know ASAP.

Clyde Meade and I attended the latest Stand Down information meeting on 01 July. The dates and times of 17 Sept. 0800-1700 and 18 Sept. 0800-1500 remain the same. A venue has been identified for the event. It will be held outside at the U.S. Vets facility at 1040 Whipple St. Prescott, AZ. There will be large tents covering the event.

Due to the setup of the venue and the low chance for recruiting new members. for NAC at this type of event, we have decided not to have a NAC information table. However, NAC is responsible for the registration table. Clyde Meade is in charge of the volunteers. Due to COVID-19 protocol, each individual volunteering for the event needs to fill out a form and return it to U.S. Vets. The form can be found online, or I can send

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From the President: [cont. from page 2]

you one.

Items of clothing for both male and female are still being collected. Contact Clyde Meade for more information. They will also be collecting new undergarments for the annual Sunday Undies Drive.

Another volunteer opportunity will be at the annual Healing Fields 911 Memorial on September 10-17, 2021. This will be the 10th year of this very moving display of patriotism located in Prescott Valley at the Prescott Valley Civic Center, Skoog Blvd, Civic Center Lawn, Prescott Valley, AZ 86314. This display of 3,000 U.S. flags creates an atmosphere of optimism and healing, which must be experienced to be truly appreciated, especially this year as we commemorate the 20th year anniversary of this tragedy. You can sign up to volunteer at: https://www.healingfieldpv.com/volunteer-opportunities.

Update on the legislation to exempt military retirement pay from Arizona state income tax. Years of diligent effort have finally paid off. On 30 June Gov. Doug Ducey signed the state budget into law exempting military retirement pay from Arizona state taxation. The exemption went into effect on 01 July and will be retroactive to January 2021. MOAA members played a big role in bringing this to fruition. Please see the expanded article in this newsletter.

Situation update for the Northern Arizona V.A. Healthcare system. As of 09 July, they are resuming normal operation hours.

New schedule for Surviving Spouse Virtual Chapter Meetings. The new protocol is a business meeting every other month and a "Happy Hour"- a less formal get-together the other months. Hopefully the variety in meeting times will allow more people to attend. The next meeting is a Happy Hour event on 18 Aug. I will send out an invitation the week prior.

If you are considering travel, don't forget to check out MOAA Vacations. They offer great prices and your local MOAA chapter will receive 1% commission for your travel. http://brennco.com/MOAAVACATIONS/ OR Toll-Free: 800-211-5107.

Please be mindful of the heat during this summer, it has been unusually hot this year. Please stay hydrated, take care of you pets and check on friends and family who may be at risk to make sure they are ok.

I look forward to seeing everyone on 06 Aug. at Goods From the Garden. If you have any questions, please contact me.

Take care,

Sharon Douglas, Surviving Spouse
President, Northern Arizona Chapter



Ladies of NACMOAA

We gather at 11:30 AM, at Augie's in Frontier Village, 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 remaining lunch dates for 2021 will be: 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.

06 August luncheon Guest Speaker: Ms. Kelly Boryca is a representative of Yavapai College OLLI program. This is a very popular program for adults with a large variety of subjects geared for adults looking for interesting subjects, not necessarily a degree. There are over 30 classes offered per semester from art classes and creative writing to hiking the Grand Canyon and they are always changing. Kelly will tell us how to get the classes we actually want to attend.

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 $6.00 each. There is no shipping fee if you pick up your nametag at one of our meetings.

Membership Updates:

Welcome to new members, LtCol Kevin Osterman, USAFR (Ret) and his wife, Karyn. LtCol Osterman is our newest Regular Member and is a Life member of National MOAA. Mrs. Osterman has joined the NACMOAA Auxiliary. This brings NAC plus the Mohave Satellite membership to 73, plus 19 Auxiliary members. We continue to make contact via letters and phone calls to all new prospects in our respective areas. With the Chapter & Satellite returning to in-person meetings, we feel the enthusiasm building for helping veterans in our area who need it. We encourage all members, both new and old, to share their time and talents with the NAC/Mohave staff. This is an election year for our Chapter and the Nominating Committee will be searching for people to fill working positions on the Executive Committee.

Public Information Officer (PIO)

We now have contact info and meeting announcements in the *Courier*, and in two smaller newspapers — *Coffee Talk* and *The Lonesome Valley Newspaper*.

The website is now public. You can see it online at www.nacmoaa.org. If you have any comments or recommendations regarding the website, please contact Dick Jonas at az04nac@erosonic.com. or you can call me at 928-636-2259.

2 More States Exempt Military Retirement Pay From State Income Tax

By: Amanda Dolasinski of MOAA National Weekly Newsletter

JULY 06, 2021

Military retirees in Arizona scored a victory June 30 when Gov. Doug Ducey signed the state's budget legislation into law, totally exempting military retirement from state income tax.

"MOAA across our state has been in the lead here," said Lt. Gen. John Regni, USAF (Ret), a member of MOAA's board of directors. "A huge success that will surely lure even more military retirees to Arizona for second careers and eventually retirement."

The exemption went into effect July 1 and is retroactive to Jan. 1.

Regni said MOAA members dialed up the pressure by meeting with lawmakers and the governor (and with then-Gov. Jan Brewer and her staff earlier in previous years) to discuss the legislation. He lauded several MOAA members who led efforts, including **Lt. Col. Darren Venters, USAF (Ret)**, who energized members to meet with lawmakers and persistently led efforts over the last decade, and **Col. Pete Kloeber, USAF (Ret)**, state MOAA chair, who organized chapter involvement.

Arizona first cut a break to military retirees – and first responders – on state income tax in 1989 by offering exemptions up to $2,500. In FY 2019, the exemption increased to $3,500.

The exemption was proposed in the state's 2020 budget but was not included in the final version of the budget.

Remarriage Rules Relaxed For Surviving Spouses Seeking VA Benefits

A little-noticed provision in Public Law 116-315, the National Defense Authorization Act of 2020, makes it easier for surviving spouses to continue receiving Department of Veterans Affairs benefits if they remarry.

The law made changes to the remarriage rules for Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC). Effective Jan. 5, 2021, a veteran's surviving spouse who remarries after the veteran's death will remain eligible for the benefit paid by the VA if the spouse is at least 55 years old. The remarriage must have occurred on or after that date.

Prior to this change in the law, surviving spouses who remarried before their 57th birthday lost eligibility for the benefit.

What Is Dependency and Indemnity Compensation?

DIC is a monthly benefit paid to eligible survivors of certain deceased veterans, including survivors of:

- Military members who died while on active duty
- Veterans whose death was the result of a service-related injury or disease
- Veterans whose death wasn't related to their service but who received VA disability compensation

The monthly tax-free benefit is currently more than $1,300.

To be eligible for DIC, the surviving spouse must have been married to a service member who died on active duty or married a veteran whose death was service-connected. There are other rules

[continued on page 6]

Remarriage Rules Relaxed For Surviving Spouses Seeking VA Benefits [cont. from page 5]

regarding when the marriage occurred, if there are children or if the marriage was terminated due to divorce.

If the spouse remarries after the veteran dies, they can remain eligible for the benefit if the date of remarriage is on or after Dec. 16, 2003, and they are at least 57 years old.

Effective Jan. 5, 2021, that age limit dropped to 55.

The surviving children of a qualifying veteran are also eligible for the DIC benefit if they are unmarried and under 18, or between the ages of 18 and 23 and attending school. Certain adult children who cannot provide for themselves due to physical or mental disabilities also can be entitled to DIC. Some surviving parents may be eligible for the benefit if they meet income limits.

Article written by Jim Absher
Submitted to the newsletter by Sharon Douglas, State Surviving Spouse Liaison



YAVAPAI COUNTY STAND DOWN

Friday, September 17 (8:00am-5:00pm)
Saturday, September 18 (8:00am- 3:00pm)

BRING A COPY OF YOUR DD-214 TO EXPEDITE REGISTRATION

The following services will be available to veterans:

- **Service Providers**
- **Food Service**
- **Yavapai County Health Services**
- **Job Fair** (Friday only)
- **Veterans Court** (Friday only. Pre-Registration required)
- **Clothing & Gear Distribution** (Saturday only)
- **Haircuts**

Sponsored by:

Additional information / Be a Service Provider / Veteran Pre-Registration
Kristen Gomes @ 928.583.7202 or kgomes@usvets.org
Volunteer: Michelle Brien @ 928.356.2771 or mbrien@usvets.org

2021 YAVAPAI COUNTY STAND DOWN
VOLUNTEER QUESTIONNAIRE

If you are interested in participating in the 2021 Stand Down Event as a volunteer, please complete the attached form and return to:

1. By email: mbrien@usvets.org
2. In person to U.S.VETS (1040 Whipple St., Bldg.400)
3. Via fax: (928) 778-0690

Name: _____ Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

What is your volunteering preference? (Please list at least 3, an effort will be made to place you in your preferred area (*if possible*)?

____ Set-up (Thursday 9/16) ____ Registration/Escorts/Information (9/17 & 9/18) ____Hygiene Kit/Clothing Distribution (9/18)

____ Break-Down/Clean Up (9/18) ____Food Servers (9/17 & 9/18) ____ Security (9/17 & 9/18)

What time frames are you available to help (Check all that apply)?

THURSDAY 9/16	FRIDAY 9/17	SATURDAY 9/18
____ 9am-2pm Set Up	____ 7am-12pm	____ 7am-12pm
	____ 12pm-4pm	____ 12pm-4pm
	_____ 4pm-6pm ____	____ 2pm-5pm

****Universal Precautions will be followed. At this time masks will not be required, but will be available. If the CDC recommendations change in the coming months, mask requirements are subject to change, and other precautions may be added.****

PHOTO RELEASE ***(I prefer to opt-out of the photo release)*** ☐

This photo release grants permission to *U.S.VETS - Prescott and its third party photographer ("photographer"),* its representatives and employees the right to take photographs of me and my property in connection with the above-identified subject. I authorize *U.S.VETS - Prescott, photographer,* its agents and transferees to copyright, use and publish the same in print and/or electronically. I have read the material written about me and I hereby waive any rights to inspect or approve the finished photographs or printed or electronic matter that may be used in conjunction with them now or in the future, whether that use is known to me or unknown, and I waive any right to royalties or other compensation arising from or related to the use of the photograph. I hereby agree to release, defend, and hold harmless *U.S.VETS - Prescott and photographer* including any firm publishing and/ or distributing the finished product in whole or in part, whether on paper or via electronic media, from and against any claims, damages or liability arising from or related to the use of the photographs and written materials. I agree that *U.S.VETS and its photographer* may use such photographs of me with or without my name and for any lawful purpose, including for example such purposes as publicity, illustration, advertising, and Web content. I grant permission to *U.S.VETS - Prescott and its photographers* to use photographs, videos, and material written about me for use in publications such as brochures, newsletters, and magazines; to use the photographs on display boards; to use such photographs in electronic versions of the same publications or on *U.S.VETS – Prescott 'and /or photographers* websites or other electronic form or media, and to offer them for use or distribution in other non-agency publications, electronic or otherwise, without my consent or notification to me.

CONSENT TO PARTICIPATE AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY

I understand that I am participating in activities by my own choice and that I may be volunteering my services to various social service organizations. I further understand that the nature of such volunteer activities may involve physical activity, contact with unidentified/unfamiliar persons, and other potential risks of injury. With full knowledge of the risks associated with such volunteer activities, I agree to release and hold harmless U.S.VETS - Prescott, the organizations at which or on behalf of I am volunteering, and each of their respective employees, officers, directors, volunteers, agents, agencies, and funding sources, from all liability and responsibility pertaining to any claims, demands, and actions resulting from my participation in such volunteer activities, including claims, demands, and actions resulting from illness or injuries (physical or mental) and/or property damage (including any injury or damage caused by negligence) during my participation, that are incurred by myself and/or arising either directly or indirectly from any cause whatsoever, whether caused by U.S.VETS – Prescott's active or passive negligence or otherwise. I understand this release extends to claims that I do not know or do not expect to exist at the time of the signing of this Agreement. I agree to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless U.S.VETS - Prescott for any liability that may arise as a result of my negligent, criminal, willful, or fraudulent acts or omissions that occur during my participation.

The undersigned affirms that he or she has read and understood these statements, and agrees that this is a waiver of all claims arising from participation in events sponsored by United States Veterans Initiative to the extent permitted by law.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

For questions or donations please contact: Michelle Brien via email at mbrien@usvets.org or via phone at (928) 356.2771

~Chaplain's Corner~ Please contact Chaplain 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>

Veterans Resource Team Presents: Lake Havasu City STAND DOWN
Saturday, October 2, 2021; 10:00 am — 2:00 PM For more information call: (626) 327-1077.
The complete flyer is posted on the NACMOAA page on GroupWorks.

The NACMOAA Board of Directors minutes for the June 02, 2021 meeting submitted by Secretary Col George E. Weil have been posted in their entirety on GroupWorks. If you would like a copy contact either Sharon Douglas or Mary Jonas and we can forward the document to you via email.



Just a reminder to stay safe and dry during this monsoon season. We need the rain, but we don't need you washing away in flooded streams.

Treasurer's Report: As of July 01, 2021

Cash on Hand	$11,054.03
Less Events Fund	-688.81
Less Reserve for Scholarships	-2,893.08
Less Reserve for Mohave Satellite	-1,341.91
Less Reserve Mohave Scholarship Fund	-600.00
Less NACMOAA Honor Flight	-2,909.75
Net General Funds	$2,605.48

Submitted by Heather G. Weil, Treasurer

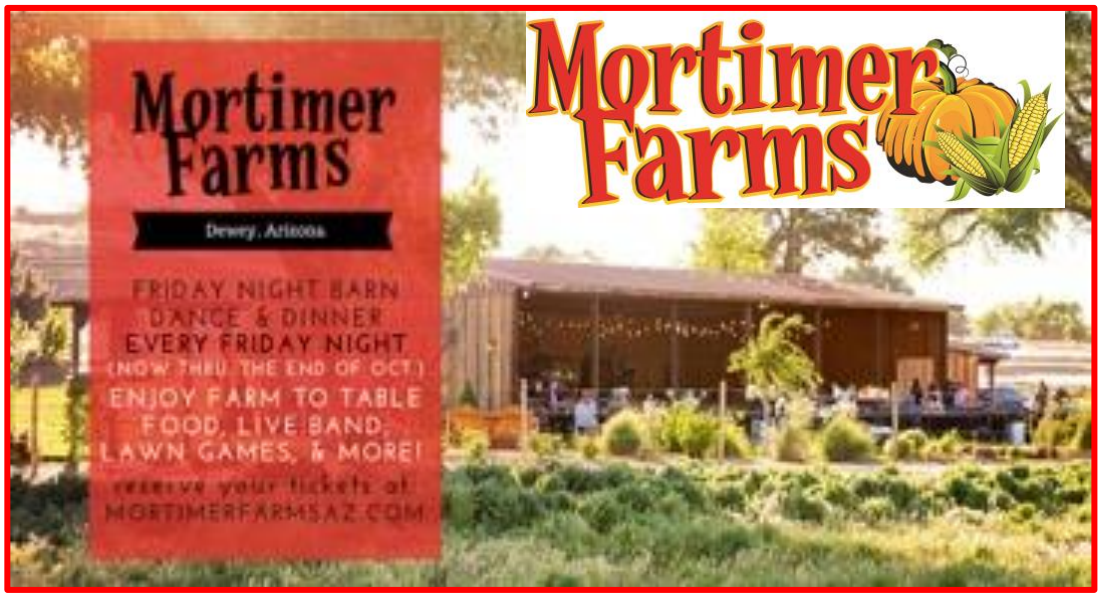
GRANITE GATE
SENIOR LIVING
FIVE STAR SENIOR LIVING

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



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.

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1-866-4AZ-VETS

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

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.

The NACMOAA website is back up at: https://nacmoaa.org

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.

NEXT LUNCHEON! 06 AUGUST 2021

LOCATION: Goods From the Garden
3250 E. Gateway Blvd Suite #516 Prescott AZ 86301 (just off Heritage Circle in the old Macayo's restaurant) Phone: 928-237-3214
GATHERING TIME: 11:00 PLACE: the old Macayo's @ Gateway Mall
ANNOUNCEMENTS & INTRODUCTIONS: 11:30 PLATED LUNCH: 12:00 PM
DIRECTIONS: Goods From the Garden is located in the old Macayo restaurant off Heritage circle near the roundabout. Parking on Heritage Circle can be a challenge but there is lots not too long a walk away. If you get lost or have questions, Sharon will have her cell phone with her. 928 899 6655.

COST: The Plated Lunch is $25.00 per person. The reservation deadline is July 26th.

Goods From the Garden Plated MENU:
SIDES: Chef's Choice Vegetable, Garlic Roll
ENTREES: #1 Chicken w/Artichoke Caper Sauce:
#2 Meat Lasagna
DESSERT: Desert on Clear Plate or individually wrapped w/ Meal or After Lunch is Bussed
BEVERAGE SERVICE: Iced Tea, Water, Coffee-Airpot and Condiments (Per Request)

IF YOU HAVE DIETARY RESTRICTIONS, PLEASE ADVISE SHARON DOUGLAS NO LATER THAN July 26th.

PROGRAM: Ms. Kelly Boryca, Yavapai College OLLI program.

Sharon must have an accurate attendance count for the caterer by July 26th.
Please cut on the line below and mail with your check to Sharon Douglas

---

TO RECEIVE NO LATER THAN – Monday July 26, 2021.
NACMOAA address is PO Box 95 Dewey, AZ 86327.
You may call Sharon at (928) 632-5939 to place a reservation if you prefer to pay at the door.

LATE NOTICE CANCELLATIONS CANNOT BE REFUNDED

August 6th Meeting: Please make checks payable to: NACMOAA

Reservation Request # _____ Chicken: # _____ Meat Lasagna

All meals are $25.00

My check for $_____is enclosed

Attendees: Members: Guests:

_____ _____

_____ _____

Lunch - $ _____

Scholarship - $ _____

Honor Flight - $ _____

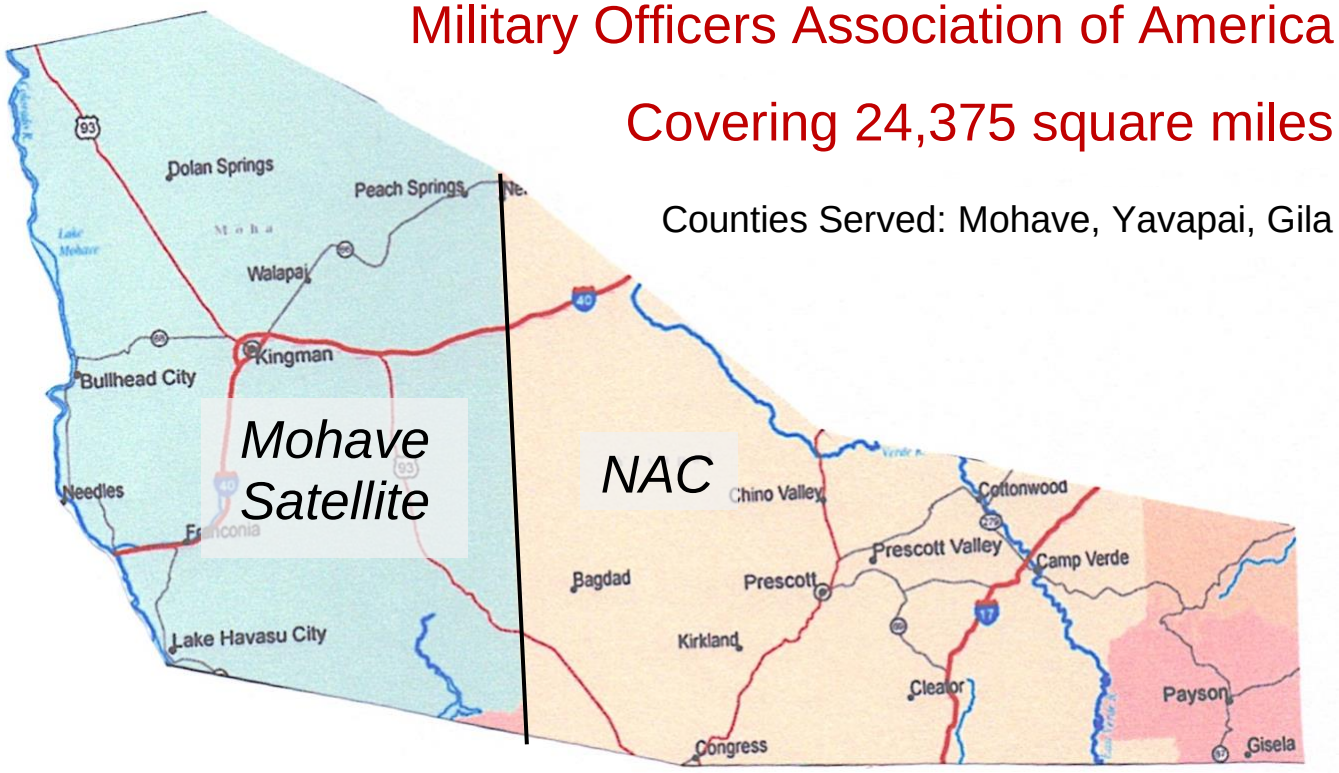
TOTAL - $ _____

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

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.