

*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; 2020 – 5 Star; 2021 – 5 Star*

THE **OUTBACK**
NACMOAA
Established 1972

**JULY/AUG
2023**

**NACMOAA STAFF &
DIRECTORS FOR 2023**

Mrs. Sharon Douglas – President,
AZ Council of Chapters Surviving
Spouse Liaison & Coordinator for
Luncheons

LtCol Alex Torrance– Vice President,
Coordinator for Guest Speakers and
Awards, & Director

Col Steve Woods – Legislative
Affairs Officer

LtCol Bob Wallace – Personal
Affairs, Transition Liaison & Director

LtCol Dick Jonas – Immediate Past
President, Director & Treasurer

Col Jon Berry – Director

LCDR Spencer O'Neil - Membership &
PIO

LCDR Peter Jensen – Chaplain

Mrs. Mary Jonas – Surviving Spouse
Chapter Liaison

Mrs. Roberta Rice – Outback Editor
& Secretary



From the President

By: Sharon Douglas

For the past month I have been slowed by a compression back fracture. So far, it's all pain and no relief. Therefore, I will be making this message rather brief. Sitting at the computer is not a happy place for Mr. Back.

Organizational meetings for the Prescott Veterans Stand Down are underway. Once again, NAC will be participating and in charge of the registration table. There is a need for volunteers both days of the event 15-16 Sept. It will be held at the US Vets offices on Whipple Street in Prescott. Contact Michelle Brien at mbrien@usvets.org or 928-356-2771 for any questions or to receive a sign-up form.

As most of you know, we lost long time NAC member, Bill McCollum this past December. His memorial is scheduled for 15 July. Please see detailed information in this newsletter regarding the services. We send our thoughts and prayers to Bill's wife, Sandy, and family during this difficult time.

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*If you would prefer to receive The Outback via email, please make sure Spencer O'Neal has your correct email address.
H_Spencer_ONeal@yahoo.com*

Where to find things in this newsletter:

*Surviving Spouse Membership form: Page 13
Regular Membership form: Page 14
Lunch location and reservation form: Page 3*

(Continued from page 1)

Alex Torrance has arranged for another interesting speaker to address the membership at next month's luncheon. We will welcome Ms. Jenny Pederson, Education Manager for Sharlot Hall Museum. The topic of her presentation is "Early Prescott History from Founding to Statehood". Jenny Pederson is the Education Program Manager at the Sharlot Hall Museum. She has been in the position for six years and holds a Master's Degree in Public History from Loyola University Chicago. When not learning about sharing the history of our community, she enjoys reading, working on art projects and being outside.

Granite Gate is in the process of hiring a new head Chef - he is Chef Chad. He will be joining the team either this week or next. As soon as he is settled in, I will be meeting with him to plan the August menu. To see the entire menu, please see the luncheon section in this newsletter. I will also post it on Groupworks and send out an email to all the members.

We are having unseasonable heat in the Prescott area the past week and it is forecast to stay for a while. Please stay cool and hydrated. Check on friends and family. Don't forget to keep pets inside, if possible, especially in the heat of the day and with plenty of fresh water and shade.

I look forward to seeing everyone in August.

All the best.

Sharon Douglas,

Surviving Spouse, President NACMOAA Chapter



YAVAPAI COUNTY STAND DOWN

Friday, September 15 (8:00am-5:00pm)

Saturday, September 16 (8:00am- 12:00pm)

LOCATION: 1040 Whipple St., Prescott, AZ 86305

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



Event information / Veteran Pre-registration

Justin Price @928.379.1763 or jprice@usvets.org

Volunteer Inquiries / Service Providers:

Michelle Brien @928.356.2771 or mbrien@usvets.org

Like our Facebook page for updates and to share information: *Yavapai County Stand Down*



**VOLUNTEERS ARE
NEEDED - PLEASE
SIGN UP**

NEXT LUNCHEON: 2 AUGUST 2023 at Granite Gate

LOCATION: Granite Gate Senior Living 3850 North AZ-89, Prescott, AZ 86301

GATHERING TIME: 11:00 AM

PLACE: Granite Gate Dining Room

ANNOUNCEMENTS & INTRODUCTIONS: 11:30 AM BUFFET LUNCH: 12:00 PM

CELEBRATING AUGUST WITH A GREEK FEAST



FINAL MENU BEING PREPARED

Watch your email and/or

GROUPWORKS for details.

COST: The Buffet Lunch is \$30.00 per person. **The reservation deadline is 24 July.**

IF YOU HAVE DIETARY RESTRICTIONS, PLEASE ADVISE SHARON DOUGLAS

Sharon must have an accurate attendance count for the caterer by 24 July.

DIRECTIONS: As you approach the Granite Gate Entrance, watch for the flagpole with the Granite Gate flag because there are no street name signs. **FROM PRESCOTT:** Drive North on US Hwy 89 past Watson Lake to Boulder creek Lane. The Granite Gate entrance is on the West side of Hwy 89. Turn Left and go to the parking area in front of the large building. **FROM THE AIRPORT / PIONEER PARKWAY AREA:** Drive south on US Hwy 89 by the Phippen Museum past Three Sisters Consignment to Boulder Creek Lane. The Granite Gate entrance is on the West side of Hwy 89. Turn Right and go to the parking area in front of the large building. For additional information go to: www.GraniteGate.com or call (928)771-8200. Phone: 928-771-8200

Please cut on the line below and mail with your check to Sharon Douglas

TO RECEIVE NO LATER THAN – 24 July 2023

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

2 AUG Meeting: Please make checks payable to: NACMOA

All meals are \$30.00

My check for \$_____ is enclosed

Attendees: Members: Guest

Lunch - \$	_____
2023 Dues - \$	_____
Scholarship - \$	_____



Treasurer's Report: As of 2 JULY 2023



\$ 1,811.23	General Fund
\$ 1,102.81	Scholarship Fund
\$ 619.82	Honor Flight Fund
<u>\$ 458.50</u>	Events Fund
\$ 3,992.36	Total Funds Available

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR YOUR DIRECTORS & STAFF

Mrs. Sharon Douglas – President,

AZ Council of Chapters Surviving Spouse Liaison & Coordinator
for Luncheons sharon.douglas.nacmoass@gmail.com

LtCol Alex Torrance– Vice President, Coordinator for Guest
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Col Steve Woods – Legislative Affairs Officer

stevewoods54@outlook.com

LtCol Bob Wallace – Personal Affairs, Transition Liaison &
Director

wallacerm@cox.net

LtCol Dick Jonas – Immediate Past President, & Treasurer

az04nac@erosonic.com

LCDR Spencer O'Neil - Membership & PIO

h_spencer_oneal@yahoo.com

Col Jon Berry – Director

Membership Corner:

Happy July! I hope you all had a wonderful 4th of July Celebration. Of course, as members and spouses of the United States Armed Forces, the 4th of July takes on special meaning for us. On this day the fledgling Continental Congress affixed their names to a document that declared us to be our own country – independent from the rule and tyranny of forces inside and outside of our borders.

In the year prior to the signing of this “Declaration of Independence,” the Continental Congress had already established the Continental Army (14 June 1775), the Navy (13 Oct 1775) and the Marine Corps (10 November 1775). These Congressional actions were taken in response to requests for assistance from the Colonies of Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Connecticut, and Rhode Island whose citizen militias were already engaged in battle with British Regulars which began at Lexington and Concord on 19 April 1775.

Then, with redress of grievances spurned: “In Congress, July 4, 1776 - The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America, When in the Course of human events,...” The Second Continental Congress Declared Independence from Britain and under George Washington, commissioned Commander of all Continental Forces, We, Members of the United States Military, from all Colonies, answered the call to arms and united to throw off the bonds of tyranny and “to provide new Guards for their future security.” Thus, ensuring that this nation was free to form a self-governing Confederation and a Constitutional Republic.

My DD-214 says: Subject to Recall by the Secretary of the Navy. On this 4th of July, 2023, I yet stand ready to serve and am proud to be a member of the family known as the Northern Arizona Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America (NACMOAA).

Thank you all for being a part of our NACMOAA family. If you know any former, current, or retired officers who are not MOAA members or members of NACMOAA, please invite them to join us. We would love to meet them and welcome them aboard our chapter.

Public Information Officer:

As your still-new PIO I am in the process of learning the intricacies of maintaining our NACMOAA website: nacmoaa.org. I am also searching for new ways of advertising our chapter and meetings via local publications. If you have ideas for promulgation of such announcements or you are a website aficionado, please let me know! Currently our chapter’s activities appear regularly in two news publications, the Daily Courier newspaper including the online edition and in Coffee Talk, which you can see in most restaurants in the Prescott area.

*LCDR H. Spencer O’Neal, USN, (Ret)
Membership Chair/Public Information Officer, NACMOAA
H_Spencer_ONeal@yahoo.com
(760) 486-3855*



AUGUST GUEST SPEAKER - Jenny Pederson, Sharlot Hall Museum

With the theme of "Early Prescott History from Founding to Statehood", we are excited to welcome Jenny Pederson, Education Program Manager at the Sharlot Hall Museum. She has been in the position for six years and holds a Masters in Public History from Loyola University Chicago.

Ms. Pederson will speak on the early Prescott history, which is full of fascinating figures, exciting events, and unique places. Founded in the wilderness of Central Arizona, it started as a rugged settlement, welcomed the founding Governor's Party, was shaped by the military, and grew into a community supported by mining, ranching and small businesses. A place containing many stories, this presentation highlights the Territorial period of our community, and provides a foundation for understanding the Prescott of today.

Chaplain's Corner:

Members of NACMOAA may contact our Chaplain Pete Jensen anytime for prayer over the phone (928-830-3569), or to obtain confidential, Biblical counseling by phone or in person. No question you have is unimportant or "off limits". The Chaplain generously donates his time to our chapter members.



Ladies of NACMOAA

We gather at 11:30 AM, at Augie's Restaurant in Frontier Village, order off their menu and pay individually. Our lunches are over by 2:00 PM. We invite all ladies of NACMOAA to join us for this social event.

Our remaining lunch dates for 2023 will be: September 8th and November 10th.

These dates are all the 2nd Friday of odd numbered months.

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 mlqjonas.2012@gmail.com or call her at (928) 925-4674.

Legislative Affairs Update
BY
COL (Ret) Steve Woods, U.S. Army

Advocacy Action Items:

Here are the current advocacy action items as taken from the most recent "National MOAA Newsletters":

- **Latest COLA Projection Shows Much Smaller Raise for Military Retirees.** As inflation cools, so will the annual adjustment to many federal benefits. Here's what you need to know.
- **Star Act Focus Turns to Senate: Act Now to Help Support Combat-Injured Veterans.** Grassroots advocacy helped this bill move forward in the House, but more work is needed for a final push. This Act would support more than 50,300 combat-injured Veterans by allowing concurrent receipt of vested longevity pay and VA disability. These individuals, often seriously disabled, are subject to an offset where their retirement pay is reduced for every dollar of VA disability received. In some cases, their retirement pay is completely eliminated. The Star Act has cleared the House Armed Services Committee and will be a stand-alone bill on the floor. The Senate will introduce it as an amendment to the NDAA. Currently, both Arizona Senators have co-sponsored the bill, however Arizona Representatives Biggs, Crane, and Schweikart have not. Their support now could mean so much to making this bill a reality for thousands of combat wounded Veterans. (See pre-formed letters.)
- **Military Spouse Employment in the Spotlight at Modern Day Marine Expo.** Marine Corps Commandant Gen. David Berger joined the conversation at this year's event. (See pre-formed letter.)
- **NDAA Clears House and Senate Committees: What's In and What's Next?** Both bills address pay and housing-allowance concerns but the legislative process is far from over.
- **DoD Officials Offer Updates to Tenant Bill of Rights, Other Quality of Life Programs.** Find out the latest on many MOAA-supported initiatives to improve the health of the all-volunteer force. (See pre-formed letter.)
- **House Subcommittee Plan Would Boost Junior Servicemember Pay by 30%.** The move would address both retention and recruitment challenges. Here's where it stands on Capitol Hill. (See 2 pre-formed letters.)
- **Senate Bill Supports MOAA's Work To Restore Full Basic Allowance for Housing.** Ask your lawmakers in both chambers to co-sponsor this bipartisan, bicameral legislation today. (See 2 pre-formed letters)

How you can help:

- We need to let Congress know where beneficiaries stand on these issues. Look for updates in The MOAA Newsletter and on MOAA's Advocacy News page. With your Premium or Life membership to **National MOAA**, you can log in at www.MOAA.org and access the pre-formed advocacy letters found there to send to your Legislators. If you wish to see advocacy letters for this issue or to see what you can do for all action items, please follow the instructions below:
- 1. Click on [MOAA - MOAA Home Page](#)
- 2. Click on "ADVOCACY" at the top of the page

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- 3. Click on "**LEGISLATIVE ACTION CENTER**" in the left hand column. Note the specific blocks that will allow access to specific groups.
- 4. Click on "**WRITE**" to generate pre-formed letters to your Legislators on issues of importance.
- 5. Please feel free to write to your Legislators on any of these issues.

Thanks for your interest and action in addressing these legislative issues for the benefit of all who have served!



MOAA National Surviving Spouse Corner

Submitted by Sharon Douglas

Navigating the healthcare system and Tricare regulations is difficult. Below is information on how to educate yourself to receive the maximum benefits you have earned.

Getting a New Prescription? Check TRICARE Formulary Search Tool

By TRICARE Communications

FALLS CHURCH, Va. – You're at a medical appointment and you're getting a new prescription. Before your provider sends an electronic prescription or gives you a paper prescription, it may be helpful for you and your provider to look up the drug with the TRICARE Formulary Search Tool.

"The TRICARE Formulary Search Tool makes it easy to learn about your prescription," said Melanie Richardson, a pharmacist in the Pharmacy Operations Division at the Defense Health Agency. "You can see if your prescription is covered, where you can fill it, and if your provider needs to request pre-authorization. The tool updates in real time, so information is almost always current."

While you can use the tool any time you'd like, using it with your provider can be helpful if your provider wants to prescribe a drug you've never taken before. Here are some tips on how to use the search tool before you get a new prescription.

How To Use the TRICARE Formulary Search Tool:

The TRICARE pharmacy contractor, Express Scripts, hosts the TRICARE Formulary Search Tool. You don't need to log in to your Express Scripts account to use the tool, so you can use it on a computer or smartphone. Just go to www.express-scripts.com/tform to start a search.

For general information about a drug:

Type the drug name and strength in the medication search box.

Beneath the search box, choose your sex and age from the dropdown menus.

Click "Search" to see information about the drug.

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To filter results by drug strength, form, route, or type:

Click the “Advanced medication search” link.

Type the drug name and choose your sex and age from the dropdown menus.

Click “Next” to see a list of results.

Use the dropdown menus at the top to filter the results.

Click “Select” next to the drug you’d like to learn more about.

Information You Can Find:

Once you’ve looked up your drug, you can find detailed information, including:

General information about the drug, including what it’s used for, possible side effects, FAQs, and an image of the drug

The formulary status of the drug

Coverage details and limitations

Whether you can fill your prescription at military pharmacies, through home delivery, or at retail network pharmacies

Copayments

Remember, copayments apply if you aren’t an active duty service member, as outlined in the TRICARE Pharmacy Program Overview Fact Sheet. Copayments also vary based on where you get your prescription filled and if the drug is generic, brand name, or non-formulary.

Pre-Authorization (or Prior Authorization) and Medical Necessity

Depending on the drug you search for, you may see a link that says, “Coverage rules apply.” This often means your provider needs to request pre-authorization or submit proof of medical necessity to Express Scripts. This is often the case for brand-name drugs that have generic equivalents and non-formulary drugs. It can also apply if the drug has age limits. Click “Coverage rules apply” for more information and provider forms.

Other Drug Options

There may be times when you’ll want to see if there are drugs similar to the one you need but with lower out-of-pocket costs or different coverage rules. After you look up a drug, click “Other drug options” beneath the drug’s name to check for similar drugs. And if the drug is available as both a generic drug and a brand-name drug, you can toggle between “generic” and “brand-name” tabs to compare costs and coverage for each.

Using the TRICARE Formulary Search Tool helps you make the best decisions about filling your prescriptions. Check out TRICARE Pharmacy Program to learn more about your pharmacy benefit. Please feel free to contact me with your questions or concerns.

MEMORIAL SERVICES FOR COL BILL MCCOLLUM

Long time NAC MOAA member and friend to many, Colonel Bill McCollum passed away in December of 2022. Sandy, his wife, continues to be a member of our Chapter as a Surviving Spouse. A memorial is planned for Bill as follows:

**Saturday, 15 July @11 am
At the Skull Valley Bible Church**



SPECIAL ONLINE ACCESS INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS TO STAY CONNECTED

TAKE ACTION Page: <https://moaa.quorum.us/> or moaa.org/takeaction

Web Page for NACMOAA: nacmoaa.org

Facebook: NACMOAA

Northern Arizona Chapter MOAA Mission

NACMOAA's mission is to promote the purposes and objectives of the Military Officers Association of America; to foster fraternal relations among retired, active and former commissioned and warrant officers of the eight U.S. uniformed services, including the National Guard and Reserve Components; to protect the rights and interests of our members and all U.S. military veterans, their dependents and survivors; and to serve the community and the nation



Minutes of NAC MOAA Board Meetings

You may now request a copy of the NAC MOAA Board Meeting minutes from Roberta Rice, Secretary - rbdrice@verizon.net or find them available on groupworks.

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 an independent, nonprofit, politically nonpartisan organization.



NAC MOAA SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS - 2023

CDT Munoz, Ana A.



Cadet 2LT: MUNOZ, ANA, ARGELIA
Program/School: EMBRY-RIDDLE AERONAUTICAL UNIVERSITY
Home of Record: Avondale, AZ
High School: University High School Graduated with a GPA 3.5, received Leadership Awards for Contributions to the JROTC Wolverines
Bio: May 2023 in Global Security and Intelligence Cumulative GPA 3.3 with a minor in Spanish and Defense Studies. Cadet Munoz has selected Military Intelligence as her preferred branch in the Army. She comes from a family five. Two younger brothers, Alejandro and Diego. Cadet Munoz joined the Military to challenge herself and broaden her options.
Hobbies: Hiking, painting, reading
Army Goals: Continue to develop in her leadership abilities, in order to better support soldiers and the mission.
Personal Goals: To learn and explore opportunities outside of her comfort zone and to inspire others to better themselves.

Lumberjack Battalion

1



Cadet Captain Avery Borghoff, attends Prescott High School and currently serves as Cadet Corps Vice Commander of the AFJROTC. She is cited as very conscientious and hardworking as well as easy to work with and stands out among her peers. In the top 10% of her graduating class, Amy plans on attending college upon graduation

Additional Recipients for 2023

Cadet Colin Reed - Emery Riddle AFROTC: He is a junior cadet, currently majoring in Aerospace Science and excels both academically and in physical fitness assessments. He is described as a disciplined, professional and trustworthy cadet who has aspirations in aviation. He is currently training and commanding the flight of the second- year cadets. His determination and drive in performing at high standards has earned him this year's scholarship award.

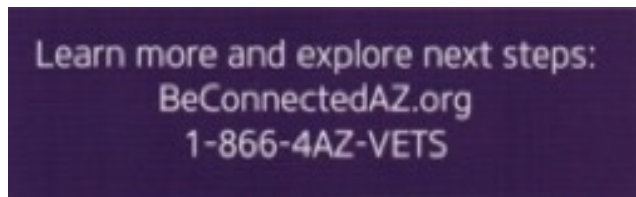
Cadet Catherine Ballare - Mohave High School AFJROTC: Catherine has served in a variety of positions in the Cadet Corps during her three years and will be returning for a fourth year. She is currently the Inspector General, in charge of all complaints and investigations. Catherine plans on enlisting in the Air Force upon graduation from high school and then using her GI Bill to pursue a degree in Criminal Justice.

Cadet Gavin Trusty - Bradshaw High School Army JROTC was this year's recipient.



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.

Veterans Suicide Prevention Line

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (now known as the **988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline**), and is now active across the United States. When people call, text or chat 988, they will be connected to trained counselors that are part of the existing Lifeline network. These trained counselors will listen, understand how their problems are affecting them, provide support, and connect them to resources if necessary.

The previous Lifeline phone number (1-800-273-8255) will always remain available to people in emotional distress or suicidal crisis.





NORTHERN ARIZONA CHAPTER ~ APPLICATION FOR

SURVIVING SPOUSE 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: _____

Surviving Spouse: Your deceased spouse Rank / First / Middle Initial / Last Name / MOAA Member #:

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

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT: _____ DATE _____



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
PO Box 1226
Chino Valley AZ 86323

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.

NAC MOAA JUNE SUMMER FESTIVAL LUNCHEON



*Guest Speaker COL Thomas Kirk (RET) gave an engaging overview of his career highlights including his POW experiences.
Clyde and Deborah Meade are returning to the Prescott area and were welcomed back to our membership by Mike McShea*



Colonel Kirk is thanked with several mementos by Dick Jonas, Treasurer and past president and Bob Wallace, Director on behalf of NAC MOAA.



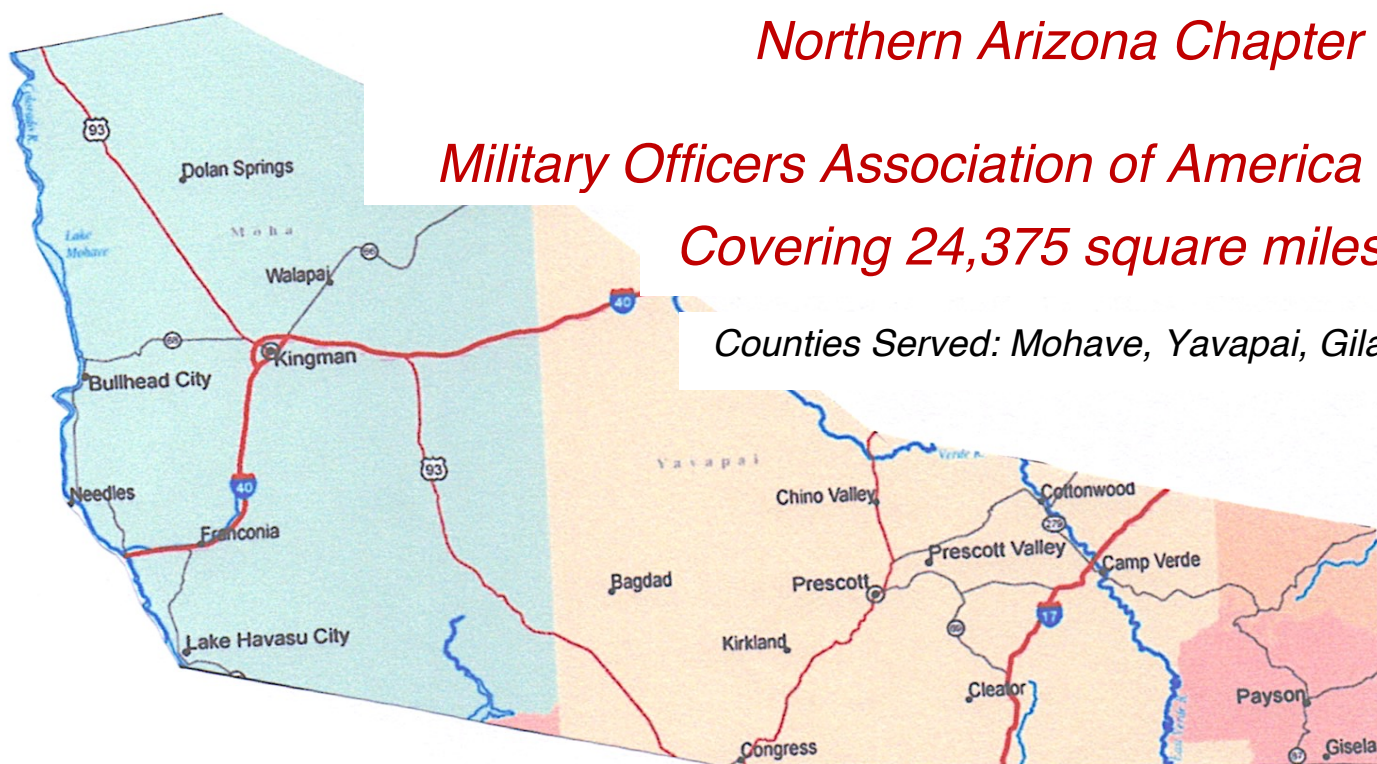
Peter Goff and Loraine Martin enjoying our summer food festival.

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
P O Box 1226
Chino Valley, AZ 86323

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