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; 2022 - 5 Star; 2023- 5 Star



Established 1972

MAY/JUNE 2024

NACMOAA STAFF & **DIRECTORS FOR 2024** CDR Clyde Meade - President & Director <u>Mrs. Sharon Douglas</u> – Immediate Past President, Director & AZ Council of Chapters Surviving Spouse Liaison CPT Ray Jordon- Vice President, Coordinator for Awards & Director <u>Col Steve Woods</u> – Legislative Affairs Officer <u>LtCol Bob Wallace</u> – Personal Affairs, Transition Liaison & Chairman, Board of Director LtCol Dick Jonas - Director & Treasurer LCDR Spencer O'Neil - Membership & PIO <u>LCDR Peter Jensen</u> – Chaplain <u>Mrs. Mary Jonas</u> – Surviving Spouse Chapter Liaison Mrs. Roberta Rice – Outback Editor & Secretary <u>LtCol Alex Torrance</u> - Director



From the President By: Clyde Meade

Welcome to Spring/Summer, I hope! Watching the weather over the last couple of months, trying to decide if I can put my winter clothing away or keep it out just in case. Let's hope for a gentle Spring and a not too hot Summer, wishful thinking.

This month we honor Memorial Day. As we honor our fallen, remember those who are no longer with us.

Chapter members: As a chapter, our membership is made up of mostly senior members, note I didn't say senile (must have a sense of humor). For those that can, let's give thoughts to what we might be able to assist those that are having challenges. Simple things, small fit-it projects, occasional meals due to illness or grief, transportation to appointments, visits to encourage, listen or inspire or providing help contacting agencies for bigger needs. Let's take care of our own.

Congratulations to all the recipients of the ROTC/JROTC awards this month. Both Ray Jordan and I enjoyed presenting the awards to some of the outstanding cadets at these schools:

[Continued on page 2)

Where to find things in this newsletter:

Regular & Surviving Spouse Membership form: Page 13 Lunch location and reservation form: Page 3 (Continued from page 1)

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University (Army/Air Force), Bradshaw High School, Prescott High School, and Mohave High School. Well, done to all.

For the last eight years Granite Grate has been gracious enough to allow us to hold our bi-monthly luncheons at their facility. Unfortunately, due to staffing issues and costs they/we have decided that our relationship has ended. Our June Luncheon will be our last at Granite Gate. We are trying to find another location for our chapter, if any chapter member has an idea, please share. Will keep the chapter aware as we move forward.

"Nothing in the world can take the place of persistence. Talent will not; nothing is more common than unsuccessful men talent. Genius will not; unrewarded genius is almost a proverb. Education will not; the world is full of educated derelicts. The slogan 'Press on' has solved and always will solve the problem of the human race." - Calvin Coolidge

Semper Fortis,

Clyde Meade President, NACMOAA Chapter



CONGRATULATIONS - NAC MOAA CHAPTER

Once again, our chapter has been awarded the prestigious **FIVE STAR LOE** award for 2023. This recent news highlights the NAC Chapter's continued commitment to its members and to the community. Many thanks to Sharon Douglas for her work in gathering and submitting the extensive documentation required with assistance from Alex Torrance.

Additionally, our newsletter **THE OUTBACK** was awarded the five star communications award. Always a team effort - congratulations are extended to newsletter editor - Roberta Rice, photographer -Mary Jonas; Dick and Mary are also the go to proof readers - a valuable contribution for any written means of communication.

NEXT LUNCHEON: At Granite Gate - 5 JUNE 2024

LOCATION: Granite Gate Senior Living 3850 North AZ-89, Prescott, AZ 86301GATHERING TIME: 11:00 AMPLACE: Granite Gate Dining Room

ANNOUNCEMENTS & INTRODUCTIONS: 11:30 AM <u>BUFFET LUNCH</u>: 12:00 PM



Welcome Table

Assorted fruit and vegetable tray

Main Buffet

Assorted deli meats & cheeses - make your own sandwich; Fried Chicken

ACCOMPANIED BY

Potato Salad, Cole Slaw and Macaroni Salad

And Desserts

Strawberry Shortcake and Cookies

COST: The Buffet Lunch is \$30.00 per person. **The reservation deadline is 31 MAY.**

IF YOU HAVE DIETARY RESTRICTIONS, PLEASE ADVISE CLYDE MEADE

Clyde must have an accurate attendance count for the caterer by 31 MAY.

<u>DIRECTIONS</u>: As you approach the Granite Gate Entrance, watch for the flagpole with the Granite Gate flag because there are no street name signs. <u>FROM PRESCOTT</u>: 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. <u>FROM THE AIRPORT / PIONEER PARKWAY AREA</u>: 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 the granite Gate entrance is on the West Side of the granite Gate entrance is on the West Side of 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: <u>wwwGraniteGate.com</u> or call (928)771-8200.

Please cut on the line below and mail with your check to CLYDE MEADE

TO RECEIVE NO LATER THAN – 31 MAY 2024

NACMOAA address is PO Box 95 Dewey, AZ 86327

You may call Clyde at 602 592 4636 to place a reservation if you prefer to pay at the door. LATE NOTICE CANCELLATIONS CANNOT BE REFUNDED

<u>5</u>June Meeting: Please make checks payable to: NACMOA All meals are \$30.00

My check for \$_____is enclosed Attendees: Members: Guest

Lunch - \$
2024 Dues \$30.00 - \$
Scholarship - \$

Scholarship Awards Information

Ray Jordan, Vice President

On April 16 I went to Embry-Riddle University for its Army ROTC award ceremony. Cadet Liam Kerley was presented with a medal, an award certificate and a check for \$1,000.

On April 17 I went to Bradshaw Mountain High School for its Junior Army ROTC award ceremony. Cadet Evelyn Gomez was presented with a medal, an award certificate and a check for \$200.00. I was particularly impressed with the cadets' appearance for the ceremony. They were dressed in Army Dress Blue uniforms.

On April 24 Clyde Meade went to the Embry-Riddle Air Force ROTC ceremony and presented cadet Kelly McFarlane with a medal, an award certificate and a check for \$1,000. (photo below)

On the same day I went to Prescott High School for the Junior Air Force ROTC award ceremony. I presented cadet Heidi Steinke with a medal, an award certificate and check for \$200.

Northern Arizona Chapter of MOAA is the key player in the ROTC award ceremonies. There is always a loud cheer of appreciation from the audience .



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.

<u> Membership & PIO Corner:</u>

As we celebrate the coming of our warm Arizona Summer let us pause for a moment to give thanks to our Creator, and to our fellow Service Members, who preserve our ability to observe our beautiful Arizona sunsets as a free people. Let us reflect on our service, and those who came before us, who gained and passed on that freedom to us, as we pass it forward now. And, lest we forget, MOAA's motto is "Never Stop Serving." For the sake of those to come, let's not.

Dues! Thank you to those of you who have responded and promptly paid your dues. Thank You! I know that some of you have had issues arise and paying dues isn't at the top of your priority list now. That's okay. We understand. If that's the case, please call or send me an email and let me know if there is anything we can do to help. Our annual dues are \$30 for Members and \$5 for Surviving Spouses.

Our Chapter also provides Scholarships to three JROTC, and two ROTC Cadets. Please consider a generous donation to this fund to help our Chapter recognize these fine young future leaders of our country. All scholarship contributions go to scholarships and the more we receive, the larger the scholarships. Thank you for your generosity.

Dues and contributions can be made in one of three ways:

* In person at our bi-monthly Luncheons; or

* Mailed to: NACMOAA

P.O. Box 95

Dewey, AZ 86327

(Make checks payable to: "NACMOAA" & write "Dues / Scholarship Fund" in the memo line).; or Dues and/or Contributions may now be paid Online through our National MOAA organization's website: <u>www.moaa.org</u> ("Councils and Chapters" page "Fast Access, Chapter Members, Pay Dues Online."). You may also consider paying dues for multiple years in advance.

Public Information Officer:

As your Public Information Officer, I am continually looking for ways to let others know of our Chapter's activities and events. Also, we are always looking for new members. If you know of, or meet any eligible officers, please invite them to join us. We would love to get to know them and welcome fellow officers to our ranks. Please help us in reaching new prospective members.

Thank you.

LCDR H. Spencer O'Neal, USN, (Ret) Membership Chair/Public Information Officer, NACMOAA <u>H Spencer_ONeal@yahoo.com</u> (760) 486-3855



JUNE GUEST SPEAKER - BRYAN CAMPBELL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, U.S. VETS

Bryan Campbell, the new Executive Director of U. S. VETS Prescott is a Retired United States Marine Corps Veteran spanning a 20-year career with multiple tours of duty in Afghanistan, Iraq, and the Marine Expeditionary Unit.

In 1997 Bryan joined the Marine Corps from a small town in Arkansas. After basic training he began his pipeline of training towards his military occupational specialty as a UH-1 helicopter crew chief. In 2009, the Marine Corps presented Bryan with the prestigious Danny L. Radish award as the enlisted "Aircrewman of the Year" and in 2010, he was Combat Meritoriously promoted to the rank of Gunnery Sergeant. Bryan also served as a Drill Instructor (DI), preparing those young recruits with the solemn duty of Honor, Courage, and Commitment. Bryan received numerus awards during his meritorious service to our country to include the Air Medal with combat "V" and 22 strike flight numerals. First Sergeant Campbell retired in 2018 and sent his wife Trisha out to find a place to move to.

Prescott became the obvious choice. In 2022, Bryan joined U.S. VETS as a Program Manager and in typical Marine Corps fashion, as an integral part of a 39-member professional team expanded housing services in a way that seemed inconceivable years earlier. In 2023, he was recognized and presented with the "Outstanding Site Leadership Award". Not having any thought of climbing the executive ladder, he still felt "he had a sense that this was where I need to be". "I want to cultivate a culture-one team, one fight, we're all here to chip in for the greater good; and I'm not afraid to roll up my sleeves."

When Carole Benedict the Executive Director of U.S. VETS was appointed to National Director of Executive Leadership, she hand-picked Bryan as her successor. Bryan Campbell in December was appointed as the new Executive Director of U.S. VETS - Prescott. As he stepped into the roll, he brings "the best of everything". As he carries the mantel forward into a future of innovation and growth, Bryan's leadership and deep commitment to the core values, will be instrumental in U.S. VETS' success.





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.



LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS UPDATE by COL (RET) Steve Woods, U.S. Army

Each spring, MOAA Council and Chapters, with support from the National HQs, bring specific, high priority legislative action to every member of Congress. This year MOAA's Advocacy in Action (AiA) campaign took place in Washington, DC, on 17 April 2024. The Arizona contingent was led by Colonel Pete Kloeber, USAF (Ret). The priorities for this year are passing the Richard Star Act (H.R. 1282/S. 344), restoring full BAH (H.R. 2537/S. 1823) and protecting TRICARE for Life.

Protecting TRICARE for Life has no required legislation; however, in recent years the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) has made recommendations for cost reductions by suggesting increases for beneficiaries to include enrollment fees and increased co-pays. MOAA's goal is to remind Congress to keep their promise made to all TRICARE beneficiaries that TRICARE for Life is an earned benefit.

The Richard Star Act continues to receive opposition from members who are concerned about the costs associated with the passage of the act. MOAA believes that cost should not be a factor when it comes to military members who have been injured in the line of duty while serving this great nation.

I'm asking you to immediately go to the Legislative Action Center and send letters to our Senators and Representatives using the links in the center. You may want to personalize the opening paragraph with an explanation of your service and that you are an active voter.

Here are the links you will need for the Action Center:

Richard Star Act: https://moaa.guorum.us/campaign/43784/

BAH Restoration: https://moaa.guorum.us/campaign/46553/

Protect TRICARE for Life: <u>https://moaa.quorum.us/campaign/56719/</u> (this link asks you to provide your own narrative on how important TRICARE for Life is to you personally. Provide a short personal narrative.)

AiA is one of the most important legislative campaigns of the year. Please take time to visit the Action Center and reinforce the message MOAA members presented as they visited the hill on 17 April. I don't need to remind you that grassroots advocacy works.... but only if you get involved! Thanks for all your support on these important issues!

To contact our Congressional members on these or any other issues of importance to you personally or to MOAA, you can use the MOAA Action Center to send emails or you can visit the members' websites to send a message. You can also call their offices direct.

Senator Kyrsten Sinema -- <u>www.sinema.senate.gov</u> – (202) 224-4521 Senator Mark Kelly -- <u>www.kelly.senate.gov</u> – (202) 224-2235 Representative Eli Crane -- <u>crane.house.gov/</u> -- (202)225-3361



MOAA National Surviving Spouse Corner Submitted by Sharon Douglas

Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs Legislative Hearing on Pending Legislation

•Subcommittees: Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs

•On Wednesday, April 10, 2024 at 1:30 pm EST, the Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs held a legislative hearing on "H.R. 1083, Caring for Survivors Act of 2023; H.R. 2911.

•Fairness for Service members and their Families Act of 2023; H.R. 3651,

•Love Lives On Act of 2023; H.R. 7100,

•Prioritizing Veterans' Survivors Act; H.R. 7150,

•Survivor Benefits Delivery Improvement Act of 2024; H.R. 7777,

•Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2024;

•H.R. 7793, Veterans Appeals Options Expansion Act of 2024;

•H.R. 7816, Clear Communication for Veterans Claims Act;

Miscellaneous Information:

-TRICARE Pharmacy Change

Effective 01 March, 2024 you can now fill your speciality drugs through TRICARE Home Delivery. You will start to receive expanded specialty pharmacy services from from Accredo Health Group, Inc.

-H.R. 7777 and S. 4047, the Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) Act of 2024. This bill would increase VA compensation benefit rates for veterans and those in receipt of Dependents Indemnity Compensation (DIC).

Without annual COLAs, many disabled veterans, who sacrificed their own health and family life for the good of our nation, may not be able to maintain the quality of life they deserve. We must ensure that veterans' benefits keep pace for the many veterans and survivors who are on fixed incomes and largely rely on their compensation payments for basic necessities.

Please contact your Senators and Representative and urge them to co-sponsor and support the Veterans' Compensation COLA Act of 2024. Thank you for supporting a cost-of-living increase for our nation's service- disabled veterans, their families and survivors.

-Urge your lawmakers to protect TRICARE for LIFE

Nearly a decade has passed since the Department of Defense (DoD) proposed – and MOAA defeated – TRICARE for Life (TFL) enrollment fees in five consecutive administration budget requests from FY2013 to FY2017. The recently released FY2025 DoD budget request makes no mention of new TFL fees – so why are MOAA advocates taking this issue to Capitol Hill?

TFL is a top priority issue for MOAA members. Aside from military retired pay, it is the most valued part of the military retirement package. It not only ensures access to affordable preventive and routine medical care, but it protects uniformed services retirees and their dependents and survivors from financial risk associated with unexpected costs for serious and unexpected illness or injury.

(continued on page 10)

(continued from page 9)

Although there are currently no active proposals for TFL fee increases, credible threats to the benefit loom on the horizon. The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) has consistently included TFL fees in its Options for Reducing the Deficit <u>report</u> released at the beginning of each new Congress.

The Caring for Survivors Act S414/HR1083

Latest Action:

House - 03/20/2023 Referred to the Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs – UPDATE: Hearing Date 04-10-24
These bills would increase Dependency and Indemnity Compensation paid by the Veteran's Administration to surviving spouses from 43% of 100% disability compensation to 55% to equal other survivor programs.

Surviving Spouse and Veterans Discounts:

Veterans Affairs Life Insurance (VALife) provides low-cost coverage to
 Veterans with service-connected disabilities. VA Life Insurance Center
 at <u>800-669-8477</u>
 IDme- offering discounts to active duty, veterans, and their families on travel electronics, appeal,

•**IDme**- offering discounts to active duty, veterans, and their families on travel electronics, appeal, appliances and more. Sign up once online. <u>Https://www.id.me</u>

•**MOAA Vacations**-good prices, concierge service, travel with MOAA members. Bonus benefit- a 1% commission is paid to your local chapter.

•Clear Captions Phone 1-800-799-3566 or 1-866-209-1412

•Arizona Property Tax Exemptions for Disabled Veterans and Surviving

Spouses: The property of a resident disabled Veteran, or their Surviving Spouse may be exempt from taxation **up to \$4,375** of the assessed value. Contact your County Assessor for details.

2023 Surviving Spouse Liaison Excellence Award Winner at the Chapter Level

The Surviving Spouse Liaison Excellence Award is presented to individuals who have demonstrated superior leadership and service at the Council or Chapter level assisting surviving spouses and members in times of loss.

The 2023 winner is Luke Chapter Surviving Spouse Liaison, Mrs. Linda Wolverton. Your efforts to Educate, Encourage and Engage surviving spouses and family members as well as the military and veteran community is noteworthy. Congratulations, Linda!

See MOAA on the web at www.moaa.org See NACMOAA on the web at www.nacmoaa.org

HELPFUL INFORMATION & NOTICES

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

<u>Minutes of NAC MOAA Board Meetings & Treasurer's Report</u> You may now request a copy of the NAC MOAA Board Meeting minutes and/or current Treasurer's Report from Roberta Rice, Secretary rbdrice@verizon.net or find them available on groupworks.





Arizona's 600,000 service members, veterans & their families to support and resources



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.



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Veterans Suicide Prevention Line

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (now known as the <u>988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline</u>), 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.



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



Regular Membership Application Northern Arizona Chapter MOAA

Name MI Last
Rank Service Component
Status: Active Retired Former Reserve NG DOB(optional):
Address
City ST Zip
Home phoneCel
EMail
Spouse Name: First Last
Member of National MOAA: Yes No (circle one). You do not have to be a National member to join ou
chapter. If you are, circle membership type: Basic Premium Life
and provide your National MOAA Membership #
If you're not a National member, can we enroll you in a National Basic (no cost) Membership
Dues (choose the one which applies to you):
New Regular member who signs up in the 1st qtr - \$30; 2nd qtr - \$25; 3rd qtr - \$20. If you sign up in the
4th qtr it's \$30, 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
SURVIVING SPOUSE MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
Name: FirstMiddleLast
Address:
City: State: ZIP:
Telephone: () CEL ()
E-mail address:
Your deceased spouse Rank / First / M Int / Last Name / MOAA Member #
Dues for Surviving Spouse is \$5/yr
Amount enclosed: \$ (Make check payable to NACMOAA)
Signature Date

Mail check and application to: NACMOAA Treasurer, PO Box 95, Dewey AZ 86327

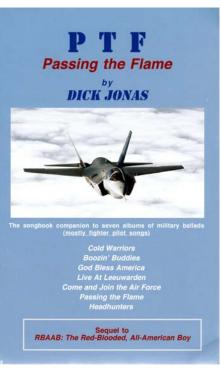




Book 4 of a Philosophical Memoir by Dick Jonas The Light In The Window

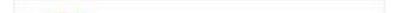


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<u>The Outback</u> Newsletter is published by the Northern Arizona Chapter, which is an affiliate of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA). MOAA and its affiliated chapters and councils are an independent, nonprofit, politically nonpartisan organization.





Connection Matters!

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For additional information Contact Tina Boden-Blake 928-830-2283 Andy Calin 928-978-1922

Open Monday -Friday 8am-5pm

<u>BRUNCH FOR</u> <u>LUNCH IN</u>









Presentation by Michelle DiMuro



Clyde Meade thanks the Speaker



Michelle and Heritage Project Participants



Left: Chaplain Pete Jensen opens with the invocation.

Right: Steve Woods presents update on Legislative Affairs Information







Spotlight on NAC MOAA MEMBER

Col. (Dr.) Stanford Paul Sadick

I was born in Seattle, Washington in1930. Grew up in the mid-west graduating from Washington College in 1951 with a B.S. Major – Chemistry/

Minor-Biology. Continuing with my studies, I graduated in 1956 with a degree in Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine. Detroit Osteopathic Hospital, Interned, Surgical Residency and Chief Surgical Resident 1956-1960. Hand Fellowship in Paris, France with Professor Marc Iselin, the first to head a unit devoted only to hand surgery. Returned to the United States and Practiced General and Hand Surgery in Detroit, Michigan. Substantial change in 1972, I joined the United States Naval Reserve as a Naval Flight Surgeon. Senior Medical Officer at Broadhead Naval Armory, Miramar Naval Air Station, and Chief of Surgery United States Naval Hospital – Long Beach. Also, I was a member and President of Board of Osteopathic Examiners State of California.

Another momentous change in 1984, I did an interservice transfer to the United States Air Force. With duties as Chief of Surgery and Chief of Staff, Commander Medical Group and Chief of Surgery at Elmendorf AFB, Maxwell AFB, Misawa AFB, to Luke AFB where I retired as a Colonel in 1997.

After active service I joined Northern Arizona Veterans Administration as Chief of Surgery until I retired, however I was still a consultant in Surgery to the VA. From 2003 to 2010 I was an Adjunct Professor at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University Teaching Human Factors in Flight Safety.

I am an aviation enthusiast, my first flight was at the age of 11 in a Stearman Bi-Plane N25-3, Earned my private Pilot License in1952 and with over 3276 hours and 912 hrs. Co-Pilot military, I have been flying ever since. Oh yes feel free to ask me about the time I had to declare an air emergency (private plane) and had to land at a military Airfield. Had a "very warm Welcome"!

My name is Col. (Dr.) Stanford Paul Sadick, USAF, Ret. Donna, my wife, and I, love, and call Prescott our home.

All NACMOAA Chapter members are encouraged to be members of

national Military Officers Association of America.

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



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