

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; 2024 – 5 Star; 2025 – 5 Star

THE OUTBACK

NACMOAA
ESTABLISHED 1972



May/June 2026

NACMOAA STAFF & DIRECTORS FOR 2026

COL Steve Woods –

President/Director/Legislative Affairs Officer

Lt. Col. Alex Torrance – Director

CPT Ray Jordon – Vice President/

Coordinator for Awards/Director

Mrs. Sharon Douglas – NAC Surviving Spouse

Liaison/Treasurer/Director

Lt. Col. Bob Wallace – Personal Affairs,

Transition Liaison, & Chairman, Director

LCDR Spencer O'Neal – Membership & PIO

LCDR Peter Jensen – Chaplain

Mrs. Roberta Rice – Secretary

Mrs. Mary Jonas – Ladies Lunch Coordinator

& Photographer

Mrs. Kara Woods – Outback Editor

FROM THE PRESIDENT



COL Steve Woods, U.S. Army (Ret)

I'm writing this hoping that you and your family enjoyed the recent 250th anniversary of America independence festivities on July 4th as much as our family did. It was a special day. As we all know, this great day wouldn't have been possible if not for those, like yourselves, willing to stand up and establish and then defend that liberty, freedom and independence for all of those 250 years. American News Reporter Elmer Davis famously summed it up during W.W.II writing, "This nation will remain the land of the free only as long as it is the home of the brave."

From May 28-30, I was privileged to attend the MOAA Western Region Council and Chapter Leaders Workshop in San Diego. It was a great opportunity to be familiarized with many best practices for Chapter management, legislative advocacy, and recruiting from both formal workshop sessions and from peers from throughout the western United States. Additionally, MOAA President and CEO, Lt Gen Brian Kelly, USAF (Ret), and MOAA's Vice Presidents for every major area were present to provide outstanding updates of where MOAA is at on numerous topics and to solicit from the field ways to improve how MOAA can support chapters.

As you'll see in a separate announcement in this newsletter, our next Chapter luncheon and meeting will be on August 12, 2026, at the Prescott Centennial Center at Antelope Hills Golf Course, 989 Wineglass Dr., Prescott, AZ 86301. As always, doors will open at 11:15am. Our speaker will be former Prescott Mayor, Phil Goode. He was scheduled to speak to our Chapter at our April meeting but fell seriously ill. I am very thankful that Phil was both able to overcome this illness and has agreed to speak to our Chapter on the subject of the Prescott area's history.

THE OUTBACK

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America (MOAA). MOAA
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www.nacmoaa.org

We have also been notified by national MOAA that they have accepted our invitation to visit our Chapter in October. As a result, CAPT Frank Michael, USN (Ret), MOAA's Senior Director for Affiliated Councils and Chapters will be the featured speaker of our Chapter's October meeting/luncheon on Wednesday, October 7, 2026. Frank will provide an update for our members on the status of MOAA and what we can do to help MOAA accomplish its mission.

I invite you to the legislative affairs update provided in this newsletter. Major federal and state legislative updates on current MOAA legislative advocacy priorities, the Take Care of America's Veterans Act, and Arizona Veterans property tax exemption are all explained in detail.

You should also be aware of a significant increase in our area of private VA Claims Consultants or "Claim Sharks" preying on Veterans, at significant expense to the Veteran, to assist with filing for Veterans benefits. This is a service that the Arizona Department of Veterans Services and numerous Veteran Service Organizations (VSOs) provide for free! MOAA is supporting the GUARD VA Benefits Act in our legislative advocacy campaign which will protect Veterans from these predators, and the Act is making significant progress.

Summer is an incredible time of year in Northern Arizona. Enjoy the season and our beautiful weather, and I hope to see many of you at our upcoming August 12 meeting.

MOAA WESTERN REGION COUNCIL & CHAPTER LEADERS WORKSHOP



MOAA President and CEO Lt Gen Brian Kelly, USAF (Ret) and NACMOAA President COL Steve Woods, USA (Ret)



MOAA Senior Director, Affiliated Councils & Chapters CAPT Frank Michael, USN (Ret) and NACMOAA President COL Steve Woods, USA (Ret)



BGen David Hyman, USMC, Mrs Kara Woods, NACMOAA President COL Steve Woods, USA (Ret)

May 28 Keynote Speaker, Commanding General Recruit Depot and Western Recruiting Region, BGen David Hyman, USMC



JOIN US AT OUR AUGUST LUNCHEON: PRESCOTT CENTENNIAL CENTER

12 August 2026 – WEDNESDAY

GATHERING TIME: 11:15 AM

PLACE: 989 Wineglass Dr. Prescott, AZ 86301

ANNOUNCEMENTS & INTRODUCTIONS: 11:30 AM

BUFFET LUNCH: 12:00 PM

COST: The Buffet Lunch is \$30.00 per person. The reservation deadline is 4 August.

IF YOU HAVE DIETARY RESTRICTIONS, PLEASE ADVISE Steve Woods!

Steve must have an accurate attendance count for the caterer by 4 August.

DIRECTIONS: (From Prescott/Prescott Valley) Take exit 317 (off 89A) for AZ-89 toward I-40/Prescott/Chino Valley. Keep right at the fork, follow signs for Airport/Chino Valley. Merge onto AZ-89 N. At the traffic circle, take the 1st exit onto Perkins Dr. Turn left onto Wineglass Dr. The building is on your right. (From Chino Valley) Head south on 89 S towards Private Rd. At the traffic circle, take the 2nd exit and stay on 89 S. Exit the traffic circle onto 89 S. At the traffic circle, take the first exit onto AZ-89. At the traffic circle, take the 2nd exit and stay on AZ-89. Turn left onto Mac Curdy Drive. Turn right onto Clubhouse Drive. The center will be on your left.

✂ ————— Please cut on the line below and mail with your check to NACMOAA —————

TO RECEIVE NO LATER THAN 4 AUGUST

NACMOAA address is PO Box 95 Dewey, AZ 86327

You may call Steve at 928-227-2776 (leave a message) to place a reservation if you prefer to pay at the door.

LATE NOTICE CANCELLATIONS CANNOT BE REFUNDED

12 August Meeting: Please make checks payable to: NACMOA – All meals are \$30.00

My check for \$ _____ is enclosed

Members: _____ Guest: _____

Lunch	\$
2026 Dues (\$30.00)	\$
Scholarship	\$
Total	\$



LUNCHEON SPEAKER

Phil Goode was born and raised in Sacramento, California. After graduation from high school he enlisted in the U.S. Army in May 1970 and served a full combat tour with the 101st Airborne Division in Vietnam. He received the Combat Infantry Badge, Bronze Star Medal, Air Medal (for over 60 helicopter combat assaults), Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with palm, Vietnam Campaign Medal w/two bronze stars, and many others. After separation from active duty from the Army in 1972 (and five additional years of reserve duty) he received his honorable discharge in 1977. He earned a Bachelor's degree in Biological Sciences from California State University, Sacramento graduating Magna Cum Laude in 1976. He had a 35-year career in the healthcare industry reaching Vice President positions with Medline Industries and Careview Communications and held management positions with Medivac Industries, Kinetic Concepts Inc. and Applied Medical.

Phil is a 35-year member of the American Legion (serving as past Judge Advocate for Post 6, Prescott) and a life member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (serving as past Sr. Vice Commander for Post 541, Prescott). He was the Co-Chairman of the Veterans Memorial Plaque Committee which in June, 2016 rededicated a bronze memorial on the Yavapai County courthouse grounds to the fallen Yavapai County veterans that lost their lives serving the United States in all of the nation's wars beginning with WWI. Phil was nominated as an Arizona Veteran of Distinction by Arizona U.S. Senator Martha McSally in 2019. He was elected to the board of directors of the Central Yavapai Hospital District in 2016 protecting the taxpayer's assets for Yavapai Regional Medical Center and its ancillary facilities. He has served as a Commissioner on the City of Prescott's Planning and Zoning Commission and was the Co-Chairman of Mayor Oberg's Ad Hoc Committee on Sober Living Rehab Homes. He serves on the board of directors of the Yavapai Republican Men's Forum and served as the Vice Chairman of the Yavapai County Republican Committee from 2016-2018. A big supporter of improving education, he's served on the Yavapai County Teacher of the Year panel and as a member of the Prescott BASIS School Advisory Council. Very interested in water resource management, he was the former Chairman of the Northern Arizona Municipal Water Users Association and a member of the Public Policy committee for the Citizens Water Advocacy Group. Phil was elected to the Prescott City Council in 2016 and was first elected as Mayor of Prescott in 2021 and reelected in 2023.

Phil has a deep interest in American History. He is a member of the Prescott Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution. His ancestor Robert Goode served during the revolution with the Virginia militia rising to the rank of colonel and was named a judge by Virginia governor Patrick Henry. An avid golfer, he was the champion of the 1996 Ralph's Senior PGA Pro-Am Classic Tournament. Phil also appeared on the TV game show Jeopardy and was a four-time champion on the TV game show Tic-Tac-Dough in the 80s. Phil is married to his wife Toby, and they have four adult children.

Members of NACMOAA may contact our Chaplain, Pete Jensen, anytime for prayer over the phone at (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.

You may now request a copy of the NACMOAA Board Meeting minutes and/or current Treasurer's Report available through the secretary.

We had a fun year trying all types of restaurants around the Prescott area. We have settled on **Gabby's Grill** in Prescott Valley for the foreseeable future. Our gathering dates will continue to be the 2nd Friday of odd-numbered months as follows:

Our meeting times continue to be 11:30 AM.
We will order off the menu and pay individually as always. All ladies of NAC MOAA are welcome to join us for a social time.

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) 925-4674.

mathczar86@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP & PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER CORNER

Membership / Public Information Officer – Corner

250 Years ago, July 4th, 1776, the Declaration of Independence was signed. However, our country was already engulfed in battle and striving to throw off British rule prior to that formal declaration. The Revolutionary War began in April 1775 with the Battles of Lexington and Concord. Since that time approximately 45,000,000 people have serviced in the United States Armed Forces. Approximately 1,500,000 of those service personnel were wounded in battle, and 1,400,000 service members have died in defense of our nation.

We, as MOAA Members have either served or are now serving – or harder still – have waited and prayed for our deployed loved ones. ‘We’ understand the sacrifice, and ‘we’ band together as Veterans because of that understanding, regardless of where our service commitments have taken us. We rarely discuss it, but just ‘being present’ in a group such as ours, brings us into contact with others who ‘know.’ Just knowing is enough. It also brings us into continuity with, and helps us recognize that, we are counted among those 45,000,000 service members who have fought to gain and preserve the ‘Idea’ that is The United States of America for the past 250+ years. Let us pray that those who follow us can maintain that ‘Bright and Shining Idea’ well into the future. Please keep all of our service personnel, especially those currently deployed, and their families, in your thoughts and prayers. God Bless America!

NOTICE! If there is anyone who is well versed in “Word Press” web development systems who would like to take on the role of Public Information Officer and manage our Chapter Website nacmoaa.org, please let me know. I can keep most of the website up to date, but not to the extent needed to attain the standards desired by national MOAA. Please let me know if you have such skills and are willing to take on the job and be of service to our Chapter.

Thank you!

Please Donate to our Scholarship and Event funds and to the few of you who have yet to pay your 2026 Chapter Dues:

Please mail your donations by mail to:

NACMOAA

P.O. Box 95

Dewey, AZ 86327

(Make checks payable to: “NACMOAA”).

Also, please RSVP soonest for our August membership luncheon. See elsewhere in this newsletter for details. We’re looking forward to seeing you there! Thank you!

As your Public Information Officer, I am continually looking for ways to let others know of our Chapter’s activities and events and to locate prospective new members. Please invite any eligible prospective member to join our organization. Also, if you see someone you don’t know at our luncheon, please introduce yourself and help make them feel comfortable, appreciated, and welcomed.

Thank you.

LCDR H. Spencer O’Neal, USN, (Ret)

Membership Chair/Public Information Officer, NACMOAA

H_Spencer_ONeal@yahoo.com (760) 486-3855



LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS UPDATE

by COL Steve Woods, U.S. Army (Ret)



NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE ACTION: Make Your Voice Heard

The Fiscal Year 2027 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) has officially passed both the House and the Senate! It will now head to the reconciliation process before reaching the President's desk for signature.

As the summer heats up, MOAA is launching its focused Summer Advocacy in Action (AiA) campaign. This summer, we are concentrating on three critical legislative priorities:

- The Major Richard Star Act: This vital bill aims to end the unjust dollar-for-dollar offset that forces combat-injured, medically retired veterans to give up a dollar of earned retirement pay for every dollar of VA disability compensation they receive.
- The Work Opportunity Tax Credit: Reauthorizing and expanding this expired incentive will encourage employers to hire military spouses, directly tackling their persistently high unemployment rates.
- Restoring GLP-1 Coverage for TRICARE For Life: In August 2025, TRICARE eliminated coverage of these medications for obesity-related conditions, leaving thousands of retirees with steep out-of-pocket costs or forcing them to stop treatment entirely. This campaign fights to reinstate that critical coverage.

For maximum impact, consider adding a personal touch by calling our Arizona congressional representatives directly at their Washington, D.C., or local offices:

- Senator Mark Kelly – kelly.senate.gov | (202) 224-2235 | Phoenix: (602) 671-7901
- Senator Ruben Gallego – gallego.senate.gov | (202) 224-4521 | Phoenix: (602)256-0551
- Representative Eli Crane – crane.house.gov | (202) 225-3361 | Prescott: (928)286-5338

The Take Care of America's Veterans Act (TCAVA)

As MOAA members, you should have received an open letter email from MOAA President and CEO, Lt. Gen. Brian T. Kelly, USAF (Ret), on June 26 on the Take Care of America's Veterans Act (TCAVA). If you missed it, The TCAVA is a sweeping landmark legislative package sponsored by both the Senate and House Veterans' Affairs Committees. The TCAVA bundles more than 60 individual bicameral and bipartisan provisions addressing veterans' benefits, health care, education, transition assistance, caregiver support, and survivor benefits. Among these are 23 pieces of MOAA supported legislation to include the Major Richard Star Act to support combat-wounded veterans and the Veteran Caregiver Reeducation, Reemployment and Retirement (3R) Act for family caregivers who sacrifice careers and retirement security to care for severely wounded veterans. The package also included 20 additional bills MOAA has supported individually. Funding for the TCAVA is provided by a direct funding mechanism from savings created by VA rating schedule changes for sleep apnea and tinnitus. These changes would apply only to future claims and future requests for revised ratings, veterans currently receiving compensation for these two conditions would see no reduction in their existing rating. Finally, even if the TCAVA does not pass, VA has been directed to explore schedule changes for sleep apnea and tinnitus. If the rating changes are executed without the TCAVA, the funding saved from these changes wouldn't be directed by the TCAVA to fund additional veterans benefits approved in the Act, and would revert to the U.S. Treasury which would be a net loss for Veteran benefits spending.

In an ideal world, MOAA would not entertain supporting legislation that threatened earned benefits. But unfortunately, we do not live in an ideal world. Given the realities, the choice before Congress is not whether the two VA ratings will be changed but whether the resulting savings are reinvested in veterans, caregivers, survivors, and families or simply revert back to the U.S. Treasury. Lt. Gen. Kelly sums up MOAA's decision to back the passage of the TCAVA stating, "Having weighed the package in full, our judgement is that it represents a net expansion of benefits and support to veterans, survivors, caregivers, and military families, and that the opportunity to secure long-sought-after bipartisan priorities such as the Richard Star Act and the Veteran Caregiver 3R Act outweighs the legitimate concerns raised about the rating schedule offset. This is also a unique opportunity that might not present itself again and might become even more difficult to achieve in the coming months and years." He then concluded, " ... MOAA believes action for our Veterans – and particularly for those wounded in combat – is long overdue, and we therefore support the uncertain but unique opportunity that TCAVA presents."

A vote on the TCAVA in the House scheduled for Friday, June 26, was delayed, and is now anticipated later in the year. Please consider conveying support for this Act to our Arizona congressional representatives listed above.

Finally, thank you for your unmatched dedication to defending our earned benefits. Your voice drives our mission forward!

ARIZONA LEGISLATIVE ACTION: Veterans Property Tax Exemption

Recent legislative sessions brought major changes to Arizona's Veterans Property Tax Exemption rules, raising many questions about who qualifies and how the system works. While these laws are passed at the state level, they are managed entirely by individual county assessors. Because each county office can interpret administrative guidelines and paperwork requirements slightly differently, you must apply directly through your local assessor's office. The standard application window traditionally opens on the first Monday in January and closes on March 1, so it is highly recommended to contact your local assessor now to confirm the exact timeline and requirements for the upcoming 2027 tax year.

First, a law passed as HB 2792 tackled homeownership rules. Starting in the 2026 tax year, it clarified that any veteran with a 100% service-connected disability rating from the VA qualifies for a full property tax exemption on their primary home. It also fixed a common loophole regarding marriage: if a home is jointly owned by the veteran and their spouse, the state treats it as if the veteran owns the home entirely so they don't lose out on the benefit.

The next hurdle was the household income cap. For a long time, many disabled veterans were locked out of these tax breaks simply because their household made too much money. Critics argued this was unfair, as a veteran's tax relief should be based on their service and disability, not on their ability to earn a living after leaving the military. To fix this, the legislature passed HB 4168. Starting with the 2027 tax year, this law completely removes the income limits for disabled veterans and their surviving spouses. While income caps will stay in place for other categories (like widows, widowers, and citizens with non-service permanent disabilities), disabled veterans and their surviving spouses are now completely exempt from those income rules. In plain English: you no longer have to worry about making "too much money" to qualify for your disability-based property tax relief.

How the Math Breaks Down

This law does not mean every single disabled veteran automatically pays zero property tax. Unless you have a 100% service-connected disability rating, the amount of tax relief you get is tied directly to your specific VA rating percentage. For example, if the standard base exemption amount is set at \$4,873 and you have an 80% disability rating, the math works like this: $\$4,873 \times 80\% = \$3,898.40$. It is important to understand that this

\$3,898.40 is not a cash check from the state, nor is it a direct discount on your final bill. Instead, it reduces your home's assessed value (the taxable dollar amount the county uses to calculate what you owe) before your local tax rates are even applied. Because of this, your actual cash savings will depend entirely on the combined local tax rates where you live. For example, if your local school district, city, and county taxes add up to a rate of \$10 per \$100 of assessed value, an exemption of \$3,898.40 saves you about \$389.84 on your actual tax bill: $(\$3,898.40/100) \times \$10 = \$389.84$ in true tax savings.

Because every city, school district, and fire district charges different rates, two veterans with the exact same disability rating could save different amounts of cash depending on what side of the county line they live on.

Crucial Next Steps for Veterans

The bottom line is that Arizona is removing income as a roadblock to veteran tax relief. However, this tax break will never happen automatically. Property tax exemptions are strictly managed at the local level. You must proactively apply through your specific County Assessor's office to receive the benefit. Furthermore, because state tax statutes can be complex, individual county assessors may interpret and apply these rules differently. One county may have slightly different paperwork requirements, stricter verification steps, or unique processing timelines than its neighbor. To protect your benefits, do not guess or assume. Contact your specific County Assessor's office directly. Ask them for their exact filing deadlines, confirm their specific documentation checklist, and be prepared to provide official proof of your VA disability rating, homeownership, and primary residency.

U.S Representatives

- Senator Ruben Gallego -- www.gallego.senate.gov -- (202) 224-4521
- Senator Mark Kelly -- www.kelly.senate.gov -- (202) 224-2235
- Representative Eli Crane -- www.crane.house.gov/ -- (202) 225-3361 CD2 (Yavapai County/Payson Areas)
- Representative Paul Gosar -- www.gosar.house.gov/ -- (202) 225-2315 CD9 (Lake Havasu City/Kingman Areas)



Freedom 250 VA Expo

JUNE 26, 2026 - Northern AZ VA proudly hosted a jam-packed Freedom 250 VA Expo, bringing Veterans, staff, volunteers, and community partners together to honor the history and spirit of the United States. The event featured Veteran resource tables, educational activities, exciting giveaways, great food, and special musical performances that helped bring the celebration to life.

NACMOAA SURVIVING SPOUSE LIAISON

By Sharon Douglas



Legislative Issues

Newly proposed bill to give military survivors additional time for financial decisions.

H.R.9489 — 119th Congress (2025-2026)

June 26, 2026

Today, Rep. Mike Thompson (CA-04) introduced the Granting Rollover Access and Contribution Extensions (GRACE) for Military Survivors Act, legislation to extend the time period in which surviving family members of a military service member can make important financial decisions about their survivor benefits. Reps. Greg Steube (FL-17), Juan Vargas (CA-52), and Jack Bergman (MI-01) co-lead the bill.

BACKGROUND

When a service member dies in the line of duty, surviving families are forced to navigate immense grief while also making important financial decisions under compressed timelines. Current law allows surviving spouses and children to roll over military death gratuities and Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance (SGLI) benefits into certain tax-advantaged savings accounts, but only within one year of receiving the benefits. This legislation would provide surviving military families with additional flexibility and time to make thoughtful long-term financial decisions.

The bill would:

Extend from one year to three years the period in which military death gratuities and SGLI payments may be contributed to Roth IRAs and Coverdell Education Savings Accounts without penalty. Ensure military families are not penalized while grieving and adjusting to life after the loss of a service member.

The bill is non-partisan, and requires no government spending or tax payer dollars. It simply removes an arbitrary time constraint that punishes the survivors. This time of grief should give families the compassion and respect they deserve.

GLP 1 TFL Coverage

By: Karen Ruedisueli

June 24, 2026

A nationwide Medicare program designed to expand access to GLP-1 medications will make the drugs available at a steep discount to eligible beneficiaries – which will not include the vast majority of TRICARE For Life (TFL) users.

The Medicare GLP-1 Bridge Program is set to launch July 1 and run through the end of 2027. Participants will have a \$50 copay for covered GLP-1 medications, but only those with Medicare Part D (pharmacy) coverage are eligible to participate. Most TFL participants get their drug coverage via the TRICARE Pharmacy program rather than a Part D plan, so they will not be eligible.

TFL beneficiaries have been understandably frustrated about being left out of efforts to improve access to GLP-1s and the health of Medicare-eligible patients. This move comes less than a year after an Aug. 31, 2025, decision to revoke GLP-1 coverage for TFL beneficiaries except for those who meet pre-authorization criteria for GLP-1s approved to control Type 2 diabetes. TRICARE Prime and Select beneficiaries remain eligible for GLP-1 coverage for weight-related medical conditions.

Protecting Your Coverage

Even before the August decision took effect, MOAA began its efforts to restore this coverage – not only to allow these beneficiaries to continue their effective, doctor-prescribed treatment plans without unexpected costs, but to ensure the TRICARE pharmacy program does not become a two-tracked system, with separate formularies for TRICARE and TFL users.

This coverage decision appears even more out of step when compared with the Medicare Bridge program and another upcoming Medicare initiative -- the BALANCE Model, which stands for Better Approaches to Lifestyle and Nutrition for Comprehensive hEalth, aims to increase access to select GLP-1 medications and healthy lifestyle interventions to help people with Medicare and Medicaid improve their health.

Under BALANCE, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) will negotiate directly with GLP-1 manufacturers on behalf of state Medicaid agencies and Medicare Part D plans to lower the cost of these drugs, making them more accessible to people with Medicare and Medicaid. Participation in BALANCE is voluntary for manufacturers, state Medicaid agencies, and Part D plans. As CMS is still working to implement the BALANCE program, it is unclear whether any TFL participants would be eligible based on Part D requirements or other factors.

Stay Involved With MOAA

Protecting the value of the uniformed services health care benefit remains a keystone of MOAA's advocacy mission. Expect more news in the coming weeks on this issue. In the meantime:

-Share Your Story: Hundreds of beneficiaries have reached out to MOAA with their GLP-1 coverage challenges. These messages make a difference in our work on Capitol Hill.

-Add Your Voice: Ask your lawmakers to reverse the 2025 coverage change and restore the full TRICARE pharmacy benefit to TFL users.

-Stay Informed: Bookmark MOAA's advocacy news page for the latest on this issue and others, and be sure you've registered at our Legislative Action Center

Online Platform for ID Card Renewal and Information Updates Change later this year

By: Keven Lilley June 24, 2026

Military members and retirees, along with their families and survivors, will need to verify their identity online using a new system before requesting an online identification card renewal, updating their contact information, or performing certain other tasks using the Pentagon's ID Card Office Online

The platform recently moved from the DS Logon system, which will sunset by the end of the fiscal year, to the myAuth system, which will be used across multiple applications in the coming months, including TRICARE platforms.

Visitors to the ID Card Office Online who click to request a service requiring myAuth login will be prompted to create a myAuth account if they haven't already done so. Full instructions for setting up an account are available via the myAuth website; users of the DS Logon system can confirm their identity for a new myAuth account using their DS Logon name and password. A Common Access Card (CAC) also can be used to confirm identity.

Some beneficiaries may need to create a DS Logon account before creating a myAuth account.

Most functions on the ID Card Office Online site require myAuth login, including online Uniformed Services Identification Card (USID) renewal and requesting a family member ID card. However, users can still find a nearby ID card office and schedule an appointment without logging in.

TRICARE and TRICARE For Life beneficiary portals, the TRICARE Pharmacy Program portal, and the MHS GENESIS Patient Portal all will shift from DS Logon to myAuth in the coming months. Links to those official websites, along with more details on the changeover, can be found on the TRICARE website.

DIC Increase Update

July 21, 2026

12:00 PM to 1:00 PM EDT

Please join us to hear more about TAPS advocacy to strengthen Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) for surviving spouses, in parity with all other federal programs. We will discuss two separate bills advancing through Congress that will increase DIC. Learn how you can help move these bills forward!

For more information or to register visit :

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_0vsGTb_pSWaZLZDJGXCZWA#/registration

This webinar is presented by the TAPS (Tragedy Assistance Program)

Institute for Hope and Healing®. All programs are taped and may be accessed at a later time.

Congratulations to Col. Tom Waddell 2025 winner Col. Steve Stonebridge Legislative Liaison Winner.

Tom Waddell retired from active duty in the Air Force in 2000. He spent time with the Air Force Office of the Inspector General, retiring in 2014.

But his service never stopped. In 2016, he became involved in the Grand Canyon (Ariz.) Chapter of MOAA, where he now serves as both president and legislative liaison. He has also served three years as legislative chair for the Arizona Council of Chapters. His approach to advocacy and grassroots organizing has earned him national recognition. He recently was named the 2025 council-level recipient of the Col. Steve Strobridge Legislative Chair/Liaison Award.

Tom, thank you for all of your hard work for Arizona veterans and their survivors. Job well done. Congratulations.

Monsoon season is upon us, and it looks like a bad wildfire year. Please take all the usual precautions so a spark doesn't turn to devastation. Inspect and prepare your defensible space, have a GO BAG packed and ready and always remember Turn Around Don't Drown.

I hope to see all of you at the 12 August NAC Luncheon.

Let me know if you have any questions.

All the best;

Sharon

UPCOMING EVENTS

July 15, 5pm Veterans Virtual Town Hall (online event)

- The Northern Arizona VA Health Care System (NAVAHCS) is pleased to host a Veterans Virtual Town Hall for Veterans across Northern Arizona
To join, call 833-490-0775 or click access.live/NAVAHCS July 15, 1pm
AI for Small Business Workshop
- Veterans Connection Hub, 2825 N. Glassford Hill Rd, Suite A, Prescott Valley, AZ 86314

July 21, 2pm Coping with Change Workshop

- Designed for Veterans and their families. Navigate life's frustrations with confidence and resilience. You'll learn the emotional cycle of change, manage uncertainty, and build habits that support your well-being and readiness for what comes next
- Veterans Connection Hub, 2825 N. Glassford Hill Rd, Suite A, Prescott Valley, AZ 86314

July 22, 2pm Coffee, Cards & Camaraderie

- Join fellow Veterans for coffee, cards, and great conversation.
- Veterans Connection Hub, 2825 N. Glassford Hill Rd, Suite A, Prescott Valley, AZ 86314

September 11, 9am-2pm Williams Stand Down

- The Williams Stand Down is an annual event aimed at supporting veterans, particularly those facing homelessness, by connecting them with essential services and resources
- Williams Recreation Center, 300 Railroad Ave, Williams, AZ

September 25, 9am-2pm Yavapai County Stand Down

- The Yavapai County Stand Down in Prescott, Az, is an annual event aimed at supporting veterans, particularly those facing homelessness, by connecting them with essential services and resources
- U.S.VETS Liberty Point Campus, 1040 Whipple St, Prescott, AZ

September 26, 8am-12pm 2026 Luke AFB Retiree Appreciation Day

- Honors, supports, and celebrates our military retirees, veterans, and their families. Retirees of ALL services are welcome. Connect with an array of organizations offering services, resources, benefits, and community support
- The Naval Reserve Center, Bldg. 300, 14160 Marauder St, Luke AFB, AZ

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Your donation helps provide critical services for our veterans

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Call: 928-308-0069
Link: www.usvets.org/donate/prescott

3 Ways to donate

**U.S. VETS
PRESCOTT**

The graphic features a background collage of a calculator, a clock, a calendar, and a 1040 tax form. A large yellow star with the U.S. VETS Prescott logo is positioned in the bottom right corner of the graphic.

AZ Tax Credit has INCREASED!
You can donate to U.S. VETS - Prescott until April 15, 2026.. Your contributions make a positive impact on the lives of the veterans we serve! U.S. VETS is a qualifying nonprofit for the AZ Tax Credit, which means you can donate up to \$841 for a joint return...and it may be deducted from your Arizona State Tax bill.
*Consult your tax professional and the AZ Dept of Revenue Guidelines. Please make check payable to U.S. VETS - Prescott, 1040 Whipple St. #400, Prescott, AZ 86305, or call 928 583 7199. U.S. VETS - Prescott's assigned tax credit code is 20136.



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Office of Information and Technology
Product Delivery Service

VETERANS SUICIDE PREVENTION LINE

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (now known as the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline) is now active across the United States. When people call or text 988, they will be connected to trained counselors who 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.

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

HELPFUL INFORMATION & NOTICES

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

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

Veterans Handbook – <https://www.va.gov/welcome-kit/>

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

All NACMOAA Chapter members are encouraged to be members of the National Military Officers Association of America.

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.



**Standing with you
at every stage.**

1-800-247-2192
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service members • veterans • families • communities

Be a part of connecting
Arizona's 600,000
service members, veterans & their
families to support and resources



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 phone _____ Cel _____

E-Mail _____

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 # _____

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: First _____ Middle _____ Last _____

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

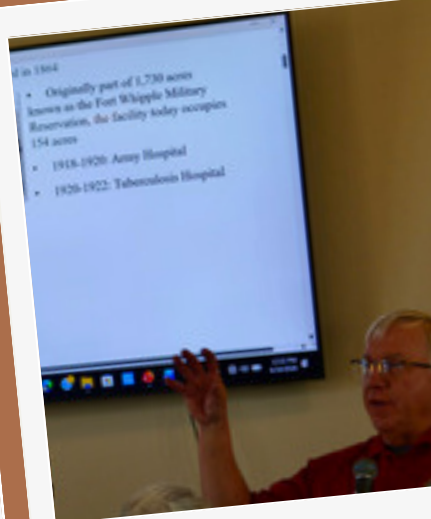
Amount enclosed: \$ _____ (Make check payable to NACMOAA)

Signature _____ Date _____

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



June Luncheon



in 1864

- Originally part of 1,730 acres known as the Fort Whipple Military Reservation, the facility today occupies 154 acres
- 1918-1920: Army Hospital
- 1920-1922: Tuberculosis Hospital

