



# Superstition Mountain Express

Military Officers Association of America



*Please remember to share the newsletter with your spouse!*

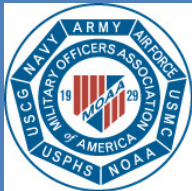
September 2009

Volume 35, Issue 1

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<http://www.smcmoaa.org/>

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**Hope**

## Presidents Comments

I would like to take this opportunity to thank each of you for your support in these most difficult times. Travis and I were close friends, enough so that we could disagree at times, but not always. He will be truly missed by all.

Now we are faced with the task of moving the Chapter forward and onward. As your Interim President, with concurrence of the Board of Directors, I will strive to do my very best to serve your needs until the end of this year when a new slate is elected on 1 January 2010. The programs are mostly in place for the remainder of the year, September 27th (summer attire), November, and December we will meet at the Dobson Inn. We will have a Picnic at Kiwanis Park in October.

To all Board of Directors members and anyone else wanting to attend, The Board of Directors will meet at Friendship village on Monday, September 14th at 09:00 am.

Our August meeting at "Pier D' Orleans" was very successful. We had a large group, enjoyable music and a good dinner. Doris Hussy was the winner of the 50/50 drawing.

Our Chapter had a great year in 2008 and earned the MOAA Levels of Excellence "Four Star Banner" Award and hopefully this year we can rise to the occasion and go for the "Five Star Award". One of the goals I would like to establish is going back to "Arizona National Guard Family Assistance Program". The struggle in Afghanistan and Iraq is far from over and the Army and Air National Guard have a large number of our soldiers and airmen/women deployed in harm's way. We kind of stumbled last year when for the most part I was out ill and the program went somewhat by the wayside. Also we need to renew our efforts in recruiting, so I would like to have each and every one of you think of yourselves as Chapter Membership Recruiters. If you do not have anyone that is interested in signing up, invite a friend to our meeting. It is no surprise that the key to Chapter health is membership. Most recently, MOAA National has started using age as a yardstick of Chapter health and well being, so we should be making every effort to continue to encourage younger members. It is with the greatest pleasure that Shirley and I are looking forward to serving you for the remainder of this year. We are very open to all suggestions that you may have.

Bob Delker, Chapter President

<b>Officers</b>		<b>Directors</b>	<b>Committee Chairs</b>	
President	CWO4 Robert Delker	LTC Lowell "Ed" Fox	Program	Vacant
1 <sup>st</sup> VP	TBD	LTC Marilyn Holmlund	Membership	Vacant
2 <sup>nd</sup> VP	MAJ Fred Ferguson	LTC Kay McBee	Personal Affairs	1LT Gregory Moore
VP Auxiliary	Ann Ferguson	COL Karl Pfitzer	Legislative	CWO4 Robert Delker
Secretary	Ann Gippert	COL Tom Ralph	Community Grant Program	Vacant
Treasurer	MAJ Austin Foote		Outstanding Member Nom	COL Al Page
			JROTC/Scholarship	Vacant
			Newsletter	LTC Lowell "Ed" Fox

## September Congratulations!

<b>Members</b>		<b>Spouses/Auxiliary</b>		<b>Anniversaries</b>	
Reginald O'Connor	3	Laura Ferguson	1	Karl & Vicki Pfitzer	1
Judy Gofas	4	Dora Chavez	3	Michael & Gail Dickson	7
Elna Lidman	4	Maria Costello	3	Richard & Carol Froncek	9
Charles Eckert	5	Shirley Gertsen	5	Thomas & Lucy Murch	9
Ronald Gruchy	5	Paulette Goodenough	14	Tom & Carolyn Gaylor	10
Joanne Woodruff	12	Laura Wilson	16	Dennis & Carol Languell	23
'Ed' Fox	18	Roberta Rawls	17	Ronald & Bobbie Gruchy	30
Martha Pearce	26	Margaret Romas	17		
John Davis	27	Jan Clark	19		
Jean Gesell	27	Charlotte Eckert	21		
Colin Ricketts	20	Kathryn Schminke	23		
		Virginia Butler	26		
		Donna Lee Conger	26		
		Doris Hussey	26		
		Patricia Schiano	27		
		Mary Ralph	30		

## Raffle Results

**JULY** – Hosted by Travis & Laura Wilson

Mens Toiletries - Skip Oddo  
Silverplate Tray - Ann Gippert  
Silverplate Butter Dish - Martha Pearce  
Plate Clock - Jodene Ferguson  
Bottle of Wine - Melanie Ralph  
Luggage Tags - Arlene O'Connor  
Earrings - Peggy Allen  
Dipping Dishes - Mary Thomas  
Crystal Photograph Holder - Charlotte Eckert  
DeLuxe Note Card Set - Terry Thorpe  
Tote Bag - Gerry Copsey

**AUGUST** - Hosted by Shirly Delker

Doris Hussey won the 50-50 drawing

## Meeting Schedules

### Board Meetings

The Board meets on second Mondays at 9 am at Friendship Village in Tempe. As always members are cordially invited to attend these meetings.

This years meeting dates: September 14, October 12, November 9, and December 14.

### Auxiliary Spouses Meetings

We meet on the second Friday of each month. at Dennys Restaurant, located at 1368 N.Cooper Rd, in Gilbert.. Call Ann Ferguson at 480-961-9634 to confirm attendance by the Thursday prior.

## NEWS YOU CAN USE

### Applying For VA Health Care Services

With the recent Priority Group 8 Enrollment Relaxation, and other ongoing evaluation and changes by VA, you may now be eligible to enroll with VA for health care services. You can apply for care by completing [VA Form 10-10EZ, Application for Health Benefits](#), and VA will let you know what health care benefits you may qualify for. You can find more information at [Applying for Care](#).

If you need more assistance, you may call VA toll free at 1-877-222-VETS (8387), Monday through Friday, between 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m., eastern time.

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

### Note:

If you have any suggestions for locations that could handle our group of about 50 people for dinner please let President Robert Delker know.

### September 27 Dinner Meeting - Dobson Inn

Social hour begins at 6 pm and dinner at 7 pm.

### October 17- Picnic – Kiwanis Park: 11:00 AM

### November 15- Dinner Meeting – Dobson Inn

Social hour begins at 6 pm and dinner at 7 pm

### December 20- Military Ball – Dobson Inn

Social hour begins at 6 pm and dinner at 7 pm

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## PERSONAL & PERSONNEL AFFAIRS

### In Memoriam

We regret to inform you that MAJ Carl Travis Wilson passed away on Aug 1, 2009

### Auxiliary Report—Ann Ferguson

The next monthly Auxiliary luncheon meeting will be on Friday, Sept 11, 2009 at noon at Denny's Restaurant in Gilbert. Call Ann Ferguson at 480-961-9634 to confirm attendance by the Thursday prior.

We are pleased to announce that our Home Packages to the Troops is now at 29—wahoo!

Please continue to bring donations to our Packages from Home project. Thus far we have mail 28 boxes this year. All of you who have contributed should be very proud of your efforts.

Ann

### EDitorial Comments (pun intended)

Well, the transition of the news letter to me (Ed Fox) is well underway with this being my first edition. If the good Lord's willing and the creek don't rise, I'll get a few more out before the membership lynches me. Watch for some minor changes in formatting as the months roll by. I hereby declare open season for venting to the editor on any topic—as long as it is fit to print...Call: 480-854-9473 or email: [dr.lefox@cox.net](mailto:dr.lefox@cox.net)

Now for a serious and unsolicited comment; MOAA owes a huge salute to Robert Delker for stepping up to be our chapter president in our hour of sorrow and need. What a selfless act by both Robert and Shirley.

## PROGRAM FOR UPCOMING SEPTEMBER DINNER MEETING

Sheriff Joe Arpaio will be our speaker for the September 27, 2009 dinner meeting. Love him or not, his presentation should keep our interest

# Meeting (Dinner) Reservations

**Make checks payable to**  
Superstition Mountain Chapter, MOAA,  
\$22/person

**CLIP AND MAIL:**  
Robert Delker  
1304 E. Northshore Dr.  
Tempe, AZ 85283-2159

**CALL or EMAIL:**  
Shirley Delker  
480-838-3718

[bobdelker@juno.com](mailto:bobdelker@juno.com)



**September Reservations**  
*Sunday, September 27, 2009 – Anzio Landing*

*Social hour 6 pm – Dinner 7 pm*

*Name (please print)*

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*Dinner Menu*  
*Choices (circle one): Ham, Prime Rib, or Salmon*

\$22 per person --- Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ places

## SPECIAL MENTION OF AZ VETERANS HALL OF FAME DINNER

The AZVHOF Luncheon is on Friday, 30th October 2009. Reservations can be made through Jesse Gersten, 4980 South Alma School Road, Suite A-2-619, Chandler, AZ 85248. Early registration is before 30 September is \$30.00 per person, from 1 October to the cutoff 17 October the price is \$40.00 per person. Bob Delker will try to arrange the seating so that the Chapter is all together, if you'd please let him know you are attending. Thanks Bob

*SUPERSTITION MOUNTAIN EXPRESS*

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Military Officers Association of  
America  
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Chandler, AZ 85225

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*2009 Schedule of Events*

Chapter Meetings	
Sunday September 27	Chapter Dinner Meeting at Dobson Inn—Social 6 pm, Dinner 7 pm
Saturday October 17	Chapter Picnic Meeting at Kiwanis Park—11 am
Sunday November 15	Chapter Dinner Meeting at Dobson Inn—Social 6 pm, Dinner 7 pm
Sunday December 20	Chapter Meeting & Military Ball at Dobson Inn—Social 6 pm, Dinner 7 pm

Auxiliary Lunch Meeting  
Meet at noon. Please notify Ann Ferguson the Thursday before the meeting if you plan to attend.  
Next meeting is September 24 at Pier de Orleans, 61 E. University Dr., Mesa

