



Superstition Mountain Express

Military Officers Association of America



Please remember to share the newsletter with your spouse!

Presidents Comments

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I would like to take credit for the large turnout we had at our September's meeting, but I have to step back and give the credit to our guest speaker, Sheriff Joe Arpaio. He is a great speaker and held everyone's interest. Also, everyone I talked to said the meals were outstanding.

This month we have a problem with Kiwanis Park, because construction is still underway throughout the park, we have elected to move to another location for this falls' picnic. The new location will be at the Dobson Ranch Park, just one exit south on Dobson Road from the Ranch House Restaurant/Golf Course. There is a fairly large parking lot on the same side of the road as the golf course and the picnic area is about a long block from the parking lot in the back of the Park. I do suggest bringing a folding chair, beach towel or something to sit on. Our Picnic menu this fall is hamburgers, brats and hot dogs with potato salad, beer and wine and the usual good stuff. Cost is \$15.00 per person. Also everyone is asked to bring a desert for four people (We all like sweets). The Picnic starts at 11 am and lunch will be served at noon.

The November meeting is still coming together, but not quite as successful as I had hoped. Most other organizations have elected to hold their individual meeting; those members that wish are welcome to join in with us. If this idea is to be successful, we must have a stellar meeting so that those members can take back to their respective Chapters and talk favorably about. I had hoped that as Chapters get smaller the idea of joint Chapter meetings would gather over one hundred attending. We will have to see what happens.

Bob Delker, Chapter President

September 2009
Volume 36, Issue 1

In This Issue:

President's Message	1
Birthdays	2
Raffle Results	3
Meetings & Dates	3
News You Can Use	3
Announcements	4
Personal Affairs	4
Auxiliary	4
Editorial Comments	4
Program Agenda	4
Dinner Reservations	5
Dues Mail-in Form	6
Grant Donations Form	6
Surviving Spouse Info	7

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

Printed by :

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

October Congratulations!

Birthdays

Anniversaries

Members

Royce Brownfield	1
Jerry Eades	1
William Koch	22
Edmund Mangan	13
Gregory Moore	30
William Murray	24
Franklin Nickerson	1
Cleo parker	13
LeMar Peterson	21
Rosemary Roberts	16
George Sauer	29
Billie Stephens	9
Kenneth Swaithes	18
Wilma Walker	13
Thomas Walmsley	20
Clyde Williams	20
John Woerner	23

Spouses/Auxiliary

Karika Bridgeers	15
Mildred Coots	13
Martha Frazee	1
Casey Phillabaum	29
Martha Sauer	27
Traute Wickerhan	3
Peggy Woerner	26

Glen & Joanne Aden	1
Warren & Betty Jean Black	4
Keith & Mary Cerhan	25
Ben & Dora Chavez	17
Robert & Joanne Moscarello	6
Reggie & Arlene O'Connor	16
Howard & Mary Rubin	17
Robert & Leslie Ridenour	7
Frank & Andrea Schmuck	6
Richard & Mary Spickerrman	14
Billie & Lisa Stephens	8

Raffle Results

September: Hosted by Reggie & Arlene O'Connor
Black Oak Vin wine - Ed Mangan
Beringer White Zin Wine- Ann Schminke
Smoking Loon chardoney - Ann Ferguson
Indian Springs Mascoto wine - Peggy Allen
Cook Book Dinner for Two - Jodene Ferguson
Desk Set - Peggy Allen
Large Candle - Karl Pfitzer
Dinner Napkins- Gerry Copsey
Yellow Crystal Dish - Reggie O'Conner
Cup & Coaster - Ed Mangan
Crystal 3-part Divided Dish - DeLone Wood
Fruit Bowl – Dale Copse
Beringer Wine – Ann Schminke

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.

October 17- Picnic – Dobson Ranch Park: 11:00 AM, food served at noon.

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

PERSONAL & PERSONNEL AFFAIRS

Auxiliary Report—Ann Ferguson

Monthly luncheon meetings continue on the 2nd Friday of each month. The last meeting was October 9, 2009 at noon at Denny's in Gilbert. We hope to see you at our next luncheon meeting where we will continue working on ways to support veteran related community projects and increase membership and participation in our MOAA chapter. Please call Ann Ferguson at 480-961-9634 to confirm your attendance at the meeting by no later than the Thursday before.

The Auxiliary has collected and mailed **30 boxes** to our troops as part of the Packages From Home Project. We need donations of non-perishable snack foods (beef jerky, cookies, candy, drink mixes, etc), hygiene products, CDs, pens, pencils, small size laundry products, etc. Please bring items for donation to any MOAA meeting.

Your Auxiliary also supports our local Family Assistance Program and has collected \$150 in donations for this worthy cause. If you want to donate items to one of these projects and can't get to the meetings please call Ann Ferguson or Shirley Delker and we will make arrangements to get your donations.

Ann

Editorial Comments (pun intended)

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

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.

Meeting (Picnic) 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



October Reservations

Saturday, October 17, 2009 – Dobson Ranch Park

Social 11 am – Lunchr noon

Name (please print)

Lunch Menu

Hamburgers, brats and hot dogs with potato salad, beer and wine and the usual good stuff.

\$15 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



2009 Chapter Dues Renewal Form

Annual Dues: \$25 Regular Members \$12.50 Auxiliary Members
Please make check payable to Superstition Mountain Chapter, MOAA
- - - Write *MOAA Chapter Dues* on Memo line of check
Mail to: Austin L. Foote, Treasurer 3554 E. Camino Circle Mesa, AZ 85213-7033
Check enclosed; renew my membership for 2009.
My national MOAA number _____

Signed _____

Address _____

Phone number _____ Email _____



Chapter Community Grant Donation

Enclosed is our donation of \$ _____ for this program

The Chapter MAY ___ MAY NOT ___ publish our names in the newsletter

Signed _____

Please make check payable to **Superstition Mountain Chapter, MOAA**
Mail to Austin L. Foote, Treasurer
3554 E. Camino Circle Mesa, AZ 85213-7033



Family Assistance Fund Donation

Enclosed is our tax-deductible donation of \$ _____

Signed _____

Please make check payable to **AZ National Guard Family Assistance Fund**
Mail to Austin L. Foote, Treasurer
3554 E. Camino Circle Mesa, AZ 85213-7033

Ann Ferguson passed out a copy of a memorandum from the Auxiliary Committee of MOAA at the last meeting, alerting members, especially the Surviving Spouses of MOAA, that Congress has recently reconvened with two highly important issues before them.

While health-care reform legislation is the national topic of interest, it is the fiscal year (FY) 2010 National Defense Authorization Bill (NDAA) taking top priority right now. This legislation contains issues of extreme importance to military survivors, notably health care and finances.

Hill staff members are now preparing for conference committee where the House and Senate will each bring their version of the FY 2010 NDAA (S. 1390/H.R. 2647) to the table and conferees will iron out the differences resulting in one version of the FY 2010 NDAA. The compromised version will then be sent back to the House and Senate for a vote; a bill cannot become actual law until it has been approved in identical form by both Houses of Congress.

While the 2010 fiscal year begins on October 1, 2009, it is doubtful the conferees will have reached an agreement by then, which gives us a little more time to really push our advocacy efforts; this is not the time to let up! We are asking that you strongly encourage your auxiliary members, and all of your chapter membership to contact your Senators and Representatives and let them know what survivor issues are important to you and the military survivor community as a whole (see key survivor issues supported by MOAA below).

The easiest way to reach your legislators on Capitol Hill is by telephone. MOAA has a toll-free number to the Capitol switchboard, 1-866-272-6622. Just ask the operator to connect you with the office of your Representative or Senator.

If you want to write, send your letters to the district congressional offices since it can take mail up to six weeks to reach the White House or Capitol Hill due to post-September 11 security measures. You can also contact Congress quickly via fax if that option is available to you. Legislators' mailing addresses and fax numbers for both their district offices and their office in Washington can be found on the Contact Congress portion of the MOAA website, for elected officials.

If you call your legislators' office, ask to speak with the staff member who handles military legislative issues. Be sure to identify yourself by name and location, tell them you are a military widow, and explain what you are calling about (state the issue or ask your question). To find out where your legislators stand on particular key bills, go to MOAA's Legislative Action Center, <http://capwiz.com/moaa/issues/bills/>.

Key Survivor Issues supported by MOAA are:

1. HR-775: would eliminate the SBP/DIC offset.
2. HR-2243 (Surviving Spouses Benefit Improvement Act of 2009) would eliminate the SBP/DIC offset and provide for an increase in the amount of DIC paid (equal to 55% of the rate payable for a 100% BA disability).
3. S-535: would eliminate the SBP/DIC offset.

For more information go to: www.moaa.org/survivors THANKS ANN

SUPERSTITION MOUNTAIN EXPRESS

Superstition Mountain Chapter
Military Officers Association of
America
1151 N. Joshua Tree Lane
Gilbert, AZ 85234

stamp

Address label

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: Second Friday of each month—see inside, page 4.

