



## Arizona Council of Chapters

Spring 2020

About Us

President's Message

Legislative Affairs Chairman

Treasurer

Secretary

Surviving Spouse Liaison

Chapter Development

Personal Affairs Officer

Transition Liaison

ESGR Liaison

Topics of Interest

AZCOC Meeting Info

Photo Gallery

Helpful Links

Sponsor(s)

Council Member Directory

# About Us *Page 1 of 2*

Who We Are. The Arizona Council of Chapters (AZCOC), an affiliate of The Military Officers Association of America (MOAA), is a dynamic organization of more than 1,200 active, retired, and former officers of the uniformed services of the United States, and the surviving spouses thereof. The AZCOC was chartered on 6 Jun 1975 and later incorporated in the state of Arizona on 30 Sep 1992. It is comprised of nine chapters and four Satellite Chapters.

Mission. To provide a unified voice and support for all MOAA members and chapters in Arizona in promoting and supporting national MOAA's >>>

*MOAA National, State Councils, and Chapters are independent, nonprofit, politically nonpartisan organizations.*



# *About Us* Page 2 of 2

goals, objectives, and advocacy for the rights and benefits of—and service to—active duty, retired, and former members of the uniformed services and their families.

Vision. MOAA is recognized as Arizona’s most committed and effective advocate for the rights and benefits of—and service to—active duty, retired, and former members of the uniformed services and their families.



# *President's Message* Page 1 of 4

Our recent Spring AZCOC meeting was indeed different than any previous meeting. The Coronado Chapter was originally scheduled to host the meeting and had everything planned, coordinated, and ready but the COVID-19 Pandemic and related guidelines on social distancing forced us to cancel the meeting. Rather than not meet at all, we decided to conduct a virtual meeting. With the support of the council staff and chapter presidents, we conducted the virtual AZCOC meeting on 1 May with a total of 23 participants including CAPT Erin Stone, Program Director of MOAA Council and Chapter Affairs as our guest speaker. Judging by the numerous comments from participants, the meeting was a complete success; and it exceeded my own expectations. I would like to personally thank all the participants for hanging in for the four-hour meeting. As I stated in our last eNewsletter, I realize most of the target audience of this eNewsletter attended the AZCOC meeting, but I also know many of you will share/forward this eNewsletter to your chapter members. With that in mind, I >>>



# *President's Message* Page 2 of 4

thought I would again share some of the meeting's key take-aways in the Topics of Interest section.

I want to highlight two items from our recent AZCOC meeting. First, the council voted to change from chapter hosted semiannual AZCOC meetings to centralized meetings with consistent venues for socials, lodging, and meetings. The council will be coordinating and managing the meetings. You will hear more on this in the coming months. Second, I urge you to visit our AZCOC Website if you have not done so lately. We recently made several changes to the site to ensure its content is current, informative, and instructional. It contains lots of great stuff for our chapter leaders. I recently reviewed websites of ten other councils and I can assure you our website is the most helpful and informative of all. Check it out for yourself at <http://azcouncilofchapters.org>.

As always, a recurring theme from our AZCOC meetings and chapter updates is the challenge of recruitment and retention. I can tell you that >>>



# President's Message Page 3 of 4

“you” have been doing better in both areas. For 2019 results, MOAA paid recruitment bonuses to eight of our chapters and Retention Bonuses to eight chapters. But the encouraging news is you have all said you want to do even better! I suggest you review MOAA’s 2020 Chapter Recruiting Program Guide <https://www.moaa.org/content/chapters-and-councils/chapter-recruiting/> and contact the other Arizona chapters to see what has worked.

I know I am repeating myself...but I continue to be honored to represent you and MOAA as our State Council President. I really look forward to – and enjoy – the semiannual updates from our chapters. I am always amazed at what our nine chapters and three satellite chapters are doing for their members, communities, students, and most importantly our veterans. For example, “you” are supporting 14 ROTC and 54 JROTC programs and are donating over \$61,000 in scholarships. Plus, more chapters are working with the Arizona “Be Connected” program to provide assistance to veterans in their catchment areas. One thing I ask of you is to please send us stories >>>



# *President's Message* Page 4 of 4

and photos of your noteworthy activities so we can share them with others by posting them on our website.

Thank you again for constantly exemplifying MOAA's motto of "Never Stop Serving."

*Peter Kloeber*  
*AZCOC President*



# *Legislative Chairman* Page 1 of 5

- Arizona State Legislature Ends Session – Or Not?
  - After passing a \$11.8B 2021 budget, the Senate adjourned on May 8. But the House remained in session and is now considering legislation related to the COVID-19 pandemic.
  - What will happen next is unknown, but legislation passed by the House will need the Senate in session to act on it before it can go to the Governor for signature.
  - While all this plays out, what we do know is that the important veteran’s issues for this year did not move forward.
- Veterans Benefits Counselors (VBC’s): Supporters had hoped to see at least six new VBC’s funded this year to meet a pressing need in the state. But this initiative did not get into the budget passed on March 23, so the issue is very much in doubt.
- Tax Exemption on Military Retired Pay
  - Governor Ducey’s call for full exemption of military retired pay from >>>



# *Legislative Chairman* Page 2 of 5

state taxes did not get traction in the Arizona legislature. A major factor is the \$45M price tag which is proving to be a heavy lift for supporters. This initiative is now stalled while the legislature turns its attention to countering impacts to the state economy from COVID-19.

- Fair Lending Ballot Initiative Fails Legal Hurdle
  - The Arizona Fair Lending Act was a ballot initiative planned for 2020 that would limit interest rates to 36% on car title loans in Arizona. This would match what is in federal lending law now for active military members. Currently, title loans in Arizona can go as high as 204% and potentially affect thousands of veterans in Arizona not on active duty or in a drilling reserve status.
  - The ballot initiative would have allowed Arizonans to vote on the issue and if passed, would become law. The Arizona Council backed the initiative, led by various community and veterans' organizations. But a legal challenge by the group to onerous state laws on ballot >>>



# Legislative Chairman *Page 3 of 5*

initiatives failed and forced supporters to call off the effort. The group is now looking at alternatives to achieve the original goal.

- Virtual Storming Up to Us Now
  - As briefed at the May 1 Council meeting held via Zoom, MOAA canceled the annual Storming the Hill signature event, previously set for March 21-26 in Washington, D.C. While the ongoing pandemic forced the cancellation of in-person events connected to Storming the Hill 2020, MOAA will continue its advocacy mission with a Virtual Storm. To do that MOAA asked council and chapter members to take the lead.
  - The one issue MOAA is asking us to take to our legislators is the need to protect the military health care benefit by stopping [DoD's planned 18K billet reductions](#) and downsizing of 48 Military treatment Facilities (MTF's). Seven of Arizona's nine chapters have responsibility for selected members of Arizona's congressional delegation (briefed at Council meeting). Chapters were asked to arrange video or phone >>>



# Legislative Chairman Page 4 of 5

conferences with member offices during May to urge support for MOAA's position on medical billets.

- See MOAA's link at <https://www.moaa.org/moaastorms> and click on the Issue Paper for health care. While chapters have specific responsibility for selected U.S. Representatives, every chapter member can help by sending messages to your U.S. Representative and Senators.
- Ask your members of Congress to join the fight to halt the 18K billet reductions and end military treatment facility downsizing amid COVID 19 uncertainty. You can do this by calling their Arizona district or Washington offices or by sending them a message formatted by MOAA online. Click on the link you want on the site above for MOAA help in contacting your U.S Representative and U.S. Senators. Contact all three to get the most impact.
- MOAA State Legislative Consortium
  - In late 2019, MOAA's Government Relations Team launched a State >>>



# *Legislative Chairman* Page 5 of 5

Legislative Consortium to provide a forum for councils and chapters to share best practices on state level advocacy. Two chapter leaders have stepped up to lead the effort. They are:

- Col Tom Robillard USAF Ret (SC) [thomas.robillard47@gmail.com](mailto:thomas.robillard47@gmail.com)
- LTC Don Wolfinger USA Ret (MO) [don17609@yahoo.com](mailto:don17609@yahoo.com)
- The Council recommends chapter participation in the consortium. You can sign up by sending the two leaders above your Name, Chapter, Email Address, and Phone Number
- There have been three online meetings since the forming of the consortium. The next meeting will be in July 2020, details TBA soon.

*Lee Lange*

*AZCOC Legislative Affairs Chairman*



# *Treasurer*

As reported during the virtual meeting on 1 May, the council's finances are in excellent shape. For the record however, our unusually high balance may be somewhat deceiving owing to the quarantine period which stopped travel and visits by the president as well as our having to conduct a virtual spring semiannual meeting. But if we look to see where we'd actually be today had none of the COVID-19 restrictions been in place during this period, and all normal activities had occurred, the council's balance would be in line with what Lee Lange projected in the budget presented in November 2019.

And thanks to all chapters for having paid their dues; everyone is current.

*Charlie Bitner*  
*AZCOC Treasurer*



# *Secretary* Page 1 of 2

Have you ever wondered about the history of your Arizona Council of Chapters? Like everyone else, I've had time on my hands so I decided to go through old files. Here's a bit of what I found:

The Arizona Council of Chapters of The Retired Officers Association (TROA) was chartered on 6 Jun 1975 and later incorporated on 30 Sept 1992 as the Arizona Council of Chapters

When National changed from TROA to MOAA, the Council had to file Articles of Amendment with the Arizona Corporation Commission to officially change the name. The paperwork was filed on 20 May 2002 and adopted on 16 Jan 2003. I don't know how many of you have ever dealt with the Commission, but it's not easy; I know, I've dealt with them. Paperwork back and forth shows that the Commission did not approve the new name until 4 Apr 2005

I found a program for the 5th Biennial State Convention (29 Sept to 1 Oct 1991) hosted by the Sun City Chapter at the Hotel Westcourt in Phoenix >>>



# *Secretary* Page 2 of 2

and those chapters in attendance were: Arizona, Colorado River, Coronado, Green Valley, Northern Arizona, Phoenix, Superstition Mountain, Sun City, Sun City West, Tucson, and Yuma

I also found paperwork that showed only ten chapters in Dec 1992. Phoenix Chapter was missing; don't know what happened to it

We lost a chapter – the Colorado River Chapter closed in April 2008.

The first satellite chapter was the Grand Canyon Chapter which became a satellite in Sept 2011. They became a chapter on 6 Nov 2012

Congratulations to the Arizona Council of Chapters which will celebrate their 45th anniversary on 6 Jun 2020

*Pam Wojtas*  
*AZCOC Secretary*



# *Surviving Spouse Liaison* Page 1 of 6

- Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP): Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) Offset Phased Elimination News From DFAS
  - Based on the NDAA, Spouse SBP annuitants who are subject to the DIC offset may see the first change in the SBP payment they receive on February 1, 2021. You do not need to notify us that your SBP payment is affected by this change in the law.
  - The most important action SBP annuitants can take at this time is to ensure your annuity account information is up-to-date and includes your correct mailing address so we can contact you, if needed.
  - Also, if you're not using MyPay, set up a profile now and add your email address. Please note: only annuitants who are currently receiving an SPB or SSIA payment from DFAS can access MyPay.
- SBP/DIC Offset Phased Elimination Timeline
  - Section 622 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 phases in the elimination of the SBP – DIC offset in the >>>



# *Surviving Spouse Liaison* Page 2 of 6

following way:

- In 2020, surviving spouses will continue to have their SBP offset by the full amount of Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) they receive from the Department of Veterans Affairs
- In 2021, SBP will be reduced by no more than two-thirds of the amount of DIC rather than by the entire amount of DIC, even though eligible surviving spouses will continue to receive the full amount of DIC
- In 2022, SBP will be reduced by no more than one-third of the amount of DIC received
- In 2023, the SBP – DIC offset will be eliminated in total, so that surviving spouses eligible for both programs will receive both SBP and DIC in full, effective January 1 (paid as of February 1)
- Eligible survivors will start receiving Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) payments in full, without offset, beginning with their January 2023 entitlement, which will be paid on February 1, 2023



# *Surviving Spouse Liaison* Page 3 of 6

- Surviving Spouse Virtual Chapter
  - The latest Virtual Chapter teleconference was held on April 21st
  - Topics included: Remarriage Penalty, Educational Opportunities, Bermuda Cruise, and Surviving Spouse Excellence Award
  - Minutes will be posted and shared with chapter representatives in one to two weeks
  - Next meeting: July 21st 2020
  - An application can be found at the following link, it's found under Surviving Spouse Community tab
  - <https://www.moaa.org/Content/Personas/Family/Surviving-Spouses.aspx>
- Facebook Page
  - Another way to stay up-to-date with the latest Surviving Spouse information is to visit our website. There are over 200 members
  - Join us at – Surviving Spouses of MOAA



# *Surviving Spouse Liaison* Page 4 of 6

- T\*A\*P\*S® - Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors
  - The Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (TAPS) is the national nonprofit organization providing compassionate care for the families of America's fallen military heroes
  - TAPS provides peer-based emotional support, grief and trauma resources, grief seminars and retreats for adults; Good Grief Camps for children; and casework assistance, connections to community-based care, online and in-person support groups, and a 24/7 resource and information helpline for all who have been affected by a death in the Armed Forces
  - During this time of social distancing, TAPS is offering a number of additional online amenities for keeping in touch and finding help
  - They are offering several online chat rooms to connect directly with others in the group
  - Services are provided free of charge; for more info, please visit [TAPS.org](https://www.taps.org)



# *Surviving Spouse Liaison* Page 5 of 6

- TAPS Magazine
  - TAPS Magazine is dedicated to America's fallen heroes and their surviving families and friends
  - This quarterly magazine is sent free of charge to anyone interested in receiving it, including survivors, service members, supporters, and grief professionals. [Subscribe to the TAPS Magazine](#)
  - The articles in each edition are written by military survivors, grief professionals, and TAPS staff. Find inspiration, comfort, support, resources, and a sense of belonging within these pages
- Summation
  - I hope you found some of this information helpful. I tried to include items of support as well as ways to get involved and promote MOAA and our Surviving Spouse Community
  - I send out an information update / newsletter approximately four times a year. I email the information to each chapters' Surviving Spouse >>>



# *Surviving Spouse Liaison* Page 6 of 6

representative and to those members who have an email on file

- If you would like to be added to the email list, please let me know
- Also, if you have any ideas, comments, or something to add to future Surviving Spouse Newsletters, please let me know
- My Contact Information
  - [Sharon.Douglas.NACMOAA@gmail.com](mailto:Sharon.Douglas.NACMOAA@gmail.com)
  - 928-632-5939

*Sharon Douglas*

*AZCOC Surviving Spouse Liaison*



# Chapter Development

- Membership
  - Catalina Mountains: 42 Regular Members / 2 Surviving Spouse Members
  - Central Arizona: 10 Regular Members / 2 Surviving Spouse Members
  - Mohave: 11 Regular Members / 5 Surviving Spouse Members
  - Show Low: 7 Regular Members / 1 Surviving Spouse Members
- Recruitment
  - Catalina Mountains: 0 Regular Members / 0 Surviving Spouse Members
  - Central Arizona: 0 Regular Members / 0 Surviving Spouse Members
  - Mohave: 1 Regular Members / 0 Surviving Spouse Members
  - Show Low: 0 Regular Members / 0 Surviving Spouse Members
- Retention
  - Catalina Mountains: No Change
  - Central Arizona: No Change
  - Mohave: Lost 1 Regular Member and 2 Surviving Spouse Members
  - Show Low: Lost 1 Surviving Spouse Member



# *Personal Affairs Officer* Page 1 of 2

One of our responsibilities as council and chapter leaders is to serve our members and our current situation provides an excellent opportunity to actively serve our chapter members through “buddy checks.”

I recently received a phone call from the membership chair of a local political party club that I belong to. The caller noted that I hadn’t attended many meetings in the recent past, asked how I was doing, requested that I recruit members, and advised that the club continued to “meet” via YouTube. Further, we talked “politics” for a while.

After the call, I thought what a great idea. In the current environment there is a likelihood that someone will actually pick up the phone and perhaps appreciate the phone call. My local American Legion Post and Knights of Columbus are doing their version of a buddy check.

A chapter buddy check can accomplish a few items: to ascertain if our chapter members are OK, do they need anything, and to seek delinquent members to rejoin. It helps if the caller has the gift of gab. Depending >>>



# *Personal Affairs Officer* Page 2 of 2

on the size of the chapter it can be one person or a team making the calls.

I “attended” Easter Mass via YouTube. Depending on the IT talent in the chapter this approach may be viable for your chapter.

Going forward, AZ MOAA should seek ways to meet the challenges confronting us now and in the future. Consider them as opportunities.

*John Chernoski*

*AZCOC Personal Affairs Officer*



# *Transition Liaison* Page 1 of 3

- What is a Transition Liaison (TL)?
  - Transition Liaison (TL) is the follow-on to the former The Officer Placement Service or TOPS.
  - This program was established to provide all MOAA members and their Spouses with another venue for job research and placement.
  - The mission of MOAA TL is to compile, publicize, and disseminate job opportunities via its network of industry, MOAA Chapters, military leaders, veteran service organizations, and other MOAA stakeholders.
  - In Summary, the MOAA TL mission is to provide Professional Guidance and Support for MOAA Members & Spouses in Job Transition
- What is the AZ TL?
  - The Arizona TL Organization is comprised of nearly 40 Business and Industry Executives along with other professionals who routinely provide notices of job opportunities in their areas for posting to the FORMER MOAA TOPS1 database.



# *Transition Liaison* Page 2 of 3

- MOAA TL AZ is an arm of National MOAA that serves the AZ community.
- MOAA AZ operates a website at “moaatopsaz.org” for the purpose of posting information of interest to our stakeholders.
- If you have information you want to share, send that information to me and I will have it posted on the website
- Services Provided
  - Provide local networking contacts for MOAA members and spouses in job/career transition
  - Each Chapter is viewed as a primary career and geographic resource
  - Each Chapter provides needed “sponsor” assistance
  - Provide Job Listings on the website for access to the membership
  - Provide career related links and information for the membership in transitioning to civilian workforce as well as pertinent military and retired changes in benefits
  - Provide Career Fair Listings



# *Transition Liaison* Page 3 of 3

- Serve the membership with Networking Contacts
- Resources Available
  - National:
    - MOAA
    - Career Center Website: [www.moaa.org/careers](http://www.moaa.org/careers)
    - Linked In (Join MOAA Career Networking Group)
  - Arizona:
    - Council and Chapter Policies and Procedures Guide
    - Arizona MOAA Website: [moaatopsaz.org](http://moaatopsaz.org)
- AZCOC TL Contact Information
  - [harrybowen@aol.com](mailto:harrybowen@aol.com)
  - Cell: 520-508-2685 / Home: 520-458-1058

*Harry Bowen*

*AZCOC Transition Liaison*



# *ESGR Liaison* Page 1 of 4

- Employer Support of Guard and Reserve (ESGR) ... What's in it for the Servicemember?
  - Employer Outreach - Promote a culture where all employers support and value military service through education, recognition, and mediation
  - Military Outreach - Make Service members aware of their rights and responsibilities under the law and the value of employer support and recognition
  - Employment - Increase career opportunities through strategic relationships with employers, state and Federal partners, and professional associations
  - Ombudsman Services - Provide informal, neutral mediation for issues or conflicts between employers and Service members before they escalate
- What Are The Associated Responsibilities?
  - Service Member Responsibilities
    - Provide advanced notice to employer (verbal or written)



# *ESGR Liaison* Page 2 of 4

- Leave a civilian job for fulfillment of military obligations
- If on extended active duty, receive a qualifying military separation (served honorably)
- Serve for no more than five cumulative years away from the workplace, excluding exceptions
- Notify employer of intent to return to work in accordance with USERRA guidelines
- Employer Responsibilities
  - Allow military leave of absence
  - Reinstatement employee promptly
  - Restore employee seniority
  - Reinstatement employment benefits
  - Provide training or refreshing of skills
  - Do not discriminate or retaliate



# *ESGR Liaison* Page 3 of 4

- What Protections Do Servicemembers Have?
  - The Uniformed Services Employment & Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA) is a Federal statute that protects Service members' and veterans' civilian employment rights.
  - An employer must not deny initial employment, reemployment, retention in employment, promotion, or any benefit of employment to an individual on the basis of his or her membership, application for membership, performance of service, application for service, or obligation for service in the uniformed Services.
- Among other things, under certain conditions, USERRA...
  - Requires employers to put individuals back to work in their civilian jobs after military service.
  - Restores employees who engage in military service to the same level of seniority, status, and pay ordinarily attained if they were not called up for military service.



# *ESGR Liaison* Page 4 of 4

- Protects Service members from discrimination in the workplace based on their military service or affiliation.
- ESGR Employer Awards
  - [Patriot Award](#)
  - [Spouse Patriot Award](#)
  - [Seven Seals Award](#)
  - [Above and Beyond Award](#)
  - [Pro Patria Award](#)
  - [Extraordinary Employer Support Award](#)
  - [Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award](#)

*Ed Mangan*  
*ESGR Liaison*



# Topics of Interest *Page 1 of 4*

- Recruiting Chapter Members. Getting a new or existing MOAA member in your local area interested in joining your chapter often comes down to your ability to answer “Why should I join?” Unfortunately, the answer to that question can be as varied as the number of prospective new chapter members you approach. Fortunately, MOAA has compiled a list of seven overarching reasons that will give you a fighting chance at homing in on one or more that your prospect will find compelling. So, if you’re looking for a simple, yet effective addition to your chapter’s recruiting toolbox, you need look no further than [“7 Good Reasons to Join Your Local MOAA Chapter”](#) which expounds on the following seven key fundamentals of MOAA’s chapter system: Make Yourself Heard; Give Back to the Community; Value Added to Chapter Members’ Lives; Networking with Fellow Officers; Staying informed; Influencing State Legislation; and Camaraderie with a Purpose.
- Communication Awards for 2019. We recognized the following chapters as 5-Star winners in the Website and Print Newsletter Categories: >>>



# Topics of Interest *Page 2 of 4*

- Website: Arizona, Coronado, Luke, and Superstition Mountain Chapters
- Print Newsletter: Arizona, Coronado, Grand Canyon, Luke, Northern Arizona, and Superstition Mountain Chapters
- Recruitment Bonuses for 2019. Arizona, Coronado, Grand Canyon, Green Valley, Luke, Northern Arizona, Tucson, and Yuma Chapters.
- Retention Bonuses for 2019. Arizona, Grand Canyon, Green Valley, Luke, Northern Arizona, Superstition Mountain, Tucson, and Yuma Chapters.
- Recruitment for 2020. The Council won 1st place in its size category for the first quarter.
- MOAA Membership. All nine chapters are above the 95% threshold for members belonging to national MOAA. The total for all chapters is 98%. Especially noteworthy is that two chapters (Grand Canyon and Green Valley) and all three satellite chapters are at 100%. As a reminder any chapter with 100% of its members belong to national MOAA as of 1 Jun 2020 will receive a \$50 bonus.



# Topics of Interest *Page 3 of 4*

- MOAA Virtual Storming the Hill. In lieu of its “physical” Storming the Hill which was cancelled due to the COVID-19, MOAA has initiated a “Virtual” Storming during the month of May. You can read more about this initiative in our Legislative Affairs Chairman’s section of this eNewsletter.
- Chapter Development. The Northern Arizona Chapter with the lead of Lt Col Dick Jonas is working on the possibility of establishing a new satellite chapter in the Show Low area.
- Council Website. Thanks to Ron Perkins, our Website is better than ever – it includes a lot of new and informative items focused on chapter leadership, management, and achievements.
- Old Business – Centralized Meetings. At the Fall 2019 meeting, the Council voted research the feasibility of centralizing semiannual council meetings rather than chapters rotate hosting of the meetings. Lt Col Steve Jarvis took the lead. After his presentation and participant discussion, the Council voted (13 to 2) to change to a centralized venue for meetings >>>



# Topics of Interest *Page 4 of 4*

and associated lodging and socials.

- Council Bylaws. The Council approved an amendment to the bylaws. The most notable changes included (1) Using the Committee Module as of 31 Dec to determine number of chapter members for the purpose of Council dues; (2) Changing the commencement of terms of office for Council officers to 1 Jan following the election at the Fall meeting; and (3) establishing an Audit Committee.
- Chapter Updates. The presidents of all nine chapters and the president of the Catalina Mountain Mountains Satellite Chapter presented outstanding updates on their respective chapter leadership, membership, successes, challenges, program and legislative activities, and goals.



# *AZCOC Meeting Information*

- Fall 2020: AZCOC is currently transitioning from chapter sponsored meetings in their respective geographic areas to council sponsored meetings in the general Phoenix area. Details will be provided to chapter presidents when the meeting arrangements are finalized.
- Spring 2021: TBD
- Fall 2021: TBD

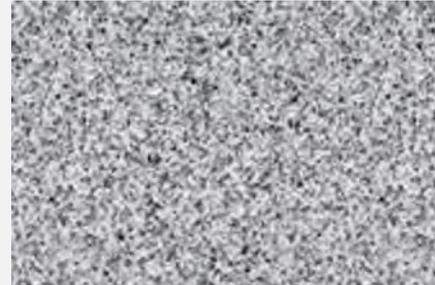


# Photo Gallery

*Photo Gallery images provided by Mary Jonas, Rebecca Seeger, and Nicholas Knight*



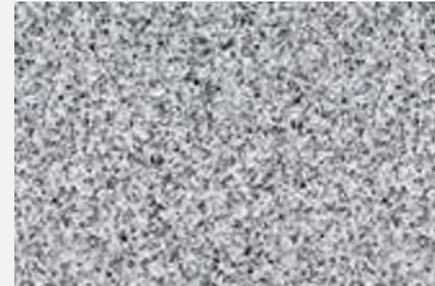
**AZCOC Meeting  
8 Nov 2019**



**Pending**



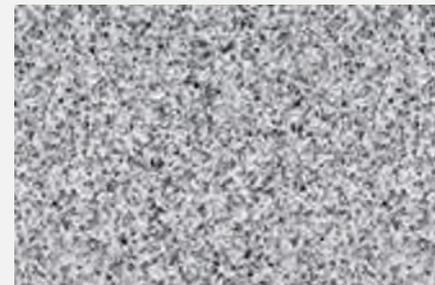
**Arizona State  
Veterans Home  
(Yuma)**



**Pending**



**AZCOC Meeting  
3 May 2019**



**Pending**



# Helpful Links *Page 1 of 2*

- [AZCOC Chapter Position Responsibilities Guide](#)
- [Take Action](#) - *MOAA Advocacy Information*
- [MOAA National Homepage](#)
- [MOAA Council and Chapters Policy and Procedures Guide](#)
- [MOAA Publications](#)
- [MOAA Councils and Chapters](#)
- [MOAA TOPS Arizona](#)
- [Arizona Department of Veterans Services \(AZDVS\)](#)
- [Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame Society \(AVHOFS\)](#)
  - [AVHOFS Copper Sword / Copper Eagle Nomination Criteria and Forms](#)
- [Unified Arizona Veterans \(UAV\)](#)
- [Veterans Administration Regional Office - Phoenix](#)
- [VA Medical Center – Phoenix](#)
- [State Veterans Home - Tucson](#)
- [State Veterans Home - Phoenix](#)



# *Helpful Links* Page 2 of 2

- [Southern Arizona VA Healthcare System \(Tucson VA Medical Center\)](#)
- [Northern Arizona VA Healthcare System \(Prescott VA Hospital\)](#)
- [Arizona Military Family Relief Fund](#)
- [VA Benefits Administration Links](#)
- [How to obtain a copy of DD-214 on the Internet](#)
- [Veterans Asbestos and Mesothelioma](#)



*Sponsor(s)*

Now and Always  
We'll be There.



90228

1-800-247-2192 • [www.moaainsurance.com](http://www.moaainsurance.com)

*MOAA National, State Councils, and Chapters are independent, nonprofit, politically nonpartisan organizations.*



# Council Member Directory *Page 1 of 2*

- **President**

Peter Kloeber, Col, USAF, Ret.  
2651 Mary Colter, Flagstaff, AZ 86005  
[pkloeber@earthlink.net](mailto:pkloeber@earthlink.net) / 928-525-0585

- **Vice President**

Tom Owens, Col., USAFR, Ret.  
10599 E Sonoran Vista Trail, Tucson, AZ 85749  
[owensttt@gmail.com](mailto:owensttt@gmail.com) / 520-760-3476

- **Membership Chairman**

Pam Wojtas  
19065 N Mira Bello Rd, Surprise, AZ 85374  
[jp7wojtas@gmail.com](mailto:jp7wojtas@gmail.com) / 623-544-4477

- **Legislative Affairs Officer**

Lee Lange, Col, USMC, Ret.  
41122 N Majesty Way, Anthem, AZ 85086  
[lflange48@gmail.com](mailto:lflange48@gmail.com) / 703-232-3609

- **Treasurer**

Charles Bitner, Col, USAF, Ret.  
134 E. Northview Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85020  
[charles@bitner36.com](mailto:charles@bitner36.com) / 602-943-0028

- **Secretary**

Pam Wojtas  
19065 N Mira Bello Rd, Surprise, AZ 85374  
[jp7wojtas@gmail.com](mailto:jp7wojtas@gmail.com) / 623-544-4477

- **Surviving Spouse Liaison**

Sharon Douglas  
P. O. Box 95, Dewey, AZ 86327  
[Sharon.Douglas.NACMOAA@gmail.com](mailto:Sharon.Douglas.NACMOAA@gmail.com) /  
928-899-6655

- **Chapter/Satellite Development Cochairmen**

Ronald Perkins, Col, USAF, Ret.  
6393 W. Dublin Lane, Chandler, AZ 85226  
[rbperkins@cox.net](mailto:rbperkins@cox.net) / 480-961-863 / 602-295-3880  
Richard Jonas, Lt Col, USAF, Ret.  
P.O. Box 1226, Chino Valley, AZ 86323  
[az04nac@erosonic.com](mailto:az04nac@erosonic.com) / 928-636-2259

- **Personal Affairs Officer**

John Chernoski, CDR, USN, Ret.  
2009 East Oak Hill Place, Green Valley, AZ 85614  
[jchernoski@cox.net](mailto:jchernoski@cox.net) / 520-625-3909



# Council Member Directory *Page 2 of 2*

- **Transition Liaison**

Harry Bowen, CW3, USA, Ret.  
1950 Cottonwood Drive, Sierra Vista, 85635  
[harrybowen@aol.com](mailto:harrybowen@aol.com) / 520-458-1058

- **ESGR Liaison**

Ed Mangan, CAPT, USAF, Frm.  
4537 E. Shomi Street, Phoenix, AZ 85044  
[emangan3@aol.com](mailto:emangan3@aol.com) / 602-501-0128

- **Immediate Past President**

Richard Jonas, Lt Col, USAF, Ret.  
P.O. Box 1226, Chino Valley, AZ 86323  
[az04nac@erosonic.com](mailto:az04nac@erosonic.com) / 928-636-2259

- **Newsletter Editor**

Nicholas Knight, LtCol, USMC, Ret.  
8469 E Topeka Pl, Yuma, AZ 85365  
[knightnl@live.com](mailto:knightnl@live.com) / 928-287-9915

- **Webmaster**

Ronald Perkins, Col, USAF, Ret.  
6393 W. Dublin Lane, Chandler, AZ 85226  
[rbperkins@cox.net](mailto:rbperkins@cox.net) / 480-961-863 / 602-295-3880

- **National MOAA BOD Member**

John Chernoski, CDR, USN, Ret.  
2009 East Oak Hill Place, Green Valley, AZ 85614  
[jchernoski@cox.net](mailto:jchernoski@cox.net) / 520-625-3909

