



**MILITARY OFFICERS
ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA
Arizona Council of Chapters**

0830 Hours, Friday, 6 May 2022

The Meeting was held at The Colonnade, Surprise, AZ

IN ATTENDANCE:

Arizona Council of Chapters:

President and National MOAA BOD:

Col Peter Kloeber

Vice President & Newsletter Editor:

Lt Col Nicholas Knight

Secretary and Membership: Mrs. Pam Wojtas

Treasurer: Col Charles Bitner

Immediate Past President and Chapter

Development: Lt Col Dick Jonas

Past Council President and Chapter

Development: Col Ron Perkins

Personal Affairs, Transition and ESGR:

CDR John Chernoski

Arizona Chapter:

President: Col Tom Sheets

Coronado Chapter:

President: LCDR Jim Clenney

Grand Canyon Chapter:

President: LTC Steve Jarvis

Assistant Membership Chair:

Lt Col Joyce Kloeber

Green Valley Chapter

President: 1LT Elliot Jones

1st Vice President: CW03 Jack Bundy

Luke Chapter:

President: LTC Dennis DeFrain

Incoming President: MAJ Gene Wikle

Secretary: Col Mike Kramer

Director at Large: COL Jerry Wojtas

Northern Arizona Chapter:

Newsletter Editor: Mrs. Mary Jonas

Superstition Mountain Chapter:

President: Lt Col John Bushko

Vice President, Surviving Spouse Liaison:

Mrs. Judy Bushko

Tucson Chapter:

President: Col Bill Wojciechowski

Catalina Mountains Satellite:

President: CAPT Chuck Vaughan

Administration

Call to Order: Col Peter Kloeber called the meeting to order at 0832.

Pledge of Allegiance: Mrs. Pam Wojtas led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Invocation: The invocation was given by LCDR Jim Clenney for Chaplain (COL) Thomas Day.

President's Opening Comments / Into of Guests – Col Pete Kloeber

- Col Kloeber welcomed everyone and thanked them for coming. He also thanked everyone for attending the social/dinner on Thursday evening. Col Kloeber said he hoped everyone enjoyed hearing the presentation from Mr. Steve Sample on the Veteran Administration Assets and Infrastructure (AIR) Commission inputs/status for Arizona.
- Col Kloeber asked if there was anyone attending for the first time. Those attending for the first time were Col Tom Sheets, MAJ Gene Wikle and CW03 Jack Bundy. Col Kloeber welcomed them and said he hoped they left feeling it was worth their time.
- Col Kloeber stated that there would be two votes today. He reminded everyone that voting members are the Council Officers, Chapter Presidents, Immediate Past Council President and other Past Council Presidents at the discretion of the elected Council Officers.

Lt Gen Dana Atkins (Ret) MOAA President / CEO – Col Pete Kloeber

- Col Kloeber stated that Lt Gen Atkins would be retiring at the end of this year. His last affiliate visit will be attending the AZCOC meeting on 3 and 4 November 2022.

Awards – Col Pete Kloeber

MOAA's President Award – Col Pete Kloeber

- Col Kloeber presented LTC Dennis DeFrain with the MOAA President's Award for his Exceptional Leadership und Meritorious Service as President of Luke Chapter for many years.

MOAA Col Marvin J. Harris Communications Awards for 2021

Col Kloeber stated that our chapters who received awards should be proud of receiving the award because the grading was much tougher this year.

Col Kloeber then presented the awards to the chapter leaders (see list below).

MOAA – Wide

- 139 Affiliates ↑12 (11 Councils, 127 Chapters and 1 Virtual Chapter)
- 100 Websites
 - 5-Star = 83 ↓15 (Council = 8; Chapter = 74; Virtual Chapter = 1)

- 4-Star = 17 ↑15 (Council = 2; Chapter = 15)
- 120 Print Newsletters ↑15
 - 5-Star = 93 ↓16 (Council = 5; Chapter = 87; Virtual Chapter = 1)
 - 4-Star = 27 ↑22 (Council = 1; Chapter = 26)
- 3 E-Newsletters
 - 5-Star = 3 (Council = 1; Chapter = 2)

Arizona

- 6 Websites
 - Council *Col (R) Ron Perkins (Jill Shepherd)*
 - Arizona *Carl Ulbrich*
 - Coronado *MAJ (R) Angela Hoistion*
 - Luke *Lt Col (R) Robert Nelson*
 - Superstition Mountain *2LT (R) Virginia Ferguson*
 - Green Valley *Marianne Cobarrubias*
- 8 Newsletters
 - Council *Lt Col (R) Nicholas Knight*
 - Arizona *Janet Lange*
 - Coronado *Harry Mallory*
 - Grand Canyon *Col (R) Rebecca Seegar*
 - Luke *Lt Col (R) W. Scott Phillips*
 - Superstition Mountain *Marlene Fox (Posthumous)*
 - Green Valley *Peggy McGee*
 - Northern Arizona *Mary Jonas*

Legend: 5-Star Award 4-Star Award

Reports of Officers

Secretary – Mrs. Pam Wojtas

- Attendance Roster and Roster Update – Mrs. Wojtas passed around the sign-in sheet to record the attendance at the meeting. She also passed around the latest AZCOC Chapter Officer Roster and asked for the attendees to check to make sure all information was correct. For those chapters not present at the meeting, Mrs. Wojtas emailed the chapter presidents their section of the master roster for corrections/additions. She stated that any updates noted on the roster would be corrected/added and a new master roster would be distributed once all the corrections/additions were made.
- Minutes of Meeting – 5 November 2021 (**Vote #1**) – Mrs. Wojtas stated that she received no corrections or additions to the minutes and asked for a motion to approve the minutes as written. Motion was made by LTC Dennis DeFrain to approve the minutes and seconded by Lt Col John Bushko. Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer – Col Charlie Bitner

- Col Bitner presented the AZCOC Financial Summary as of 6 May 2022. Slide included with minutes and included with presentations emailed to council officers and staff, chapter presidents, satellite president, past council presidents and other attendees.
- Col Bitner stated that the Council gave \$500 to the UAV in support of Fisher House which was not budgeted. He also stated that \$200 was given to Jill Shepherd for her website support.
- Col Bitner stated that Col Kloeber renewed the Zoom account for the Council.

President – Col Pete Kloeber

Prior to giving his presentation, Col Kloeber stated that some of the slides might look familiar, but that they had been updated with current information.

Col Kloeber reminded chapters to share information with their chapter leaders and chapter members.

He stated that the Council is here to help and support chapters. Let him know if you need anything.

Col Kloeber asked chapters to try to get their members who are not National MOAA members to join MOAA and to encourage any new member who is not already a member of MOAA to join.

MOAA Councils

- **Lead and coordinate** efforts in **state legislative advocacy**
- **Support** National **MOAA legislative** objectives
- Identify / negotiate **chapter** geographical **boundaries**
- Help form new chapters or satellites
- **Help chapters** become **stronger / more effective**
- **Help** revitalize **ailing chapters**
- **Disseminate** items of interest / importance to member chapters
- **Provide forum** for exchange of **ideas** among member chapters
- Conduct / sponsor **state conventions**
- **Consolidated communication** link with National **MOAA**
- Represent a **consensus** of member chapters
- **Lead...not direct member chapters**

AZ Chapters – Membership

- Chart included with minutes and included with presentations emailed to council officers and staff, chapter presidents and satellite president, past council presidents and other attendees.

AZ Chapters – MOAA Membership

- Chart included with minutes and included with presentations emailed to council officers and staff, chapter presidents and satellite president, past council presidents and other attendees.

AZ Chapters – Metrics

- Charts included with minutes and included with presentations emailed to council officers and staff, chapter presidents and satellite president, past council presidents and other attendees.

MOAA Incentives 2021

- Chart included with minutes and included with presentations emailed to council officers and staff, chapter presidents and satellite president, past council presidents and other attendees.

MOAA Community Outreach Grants – 2022

- Arizona received 3 of 33 awarded grants (40 applications)

Arizona	\$5,000
Grand Canyon	\$2,500
Luke	<u>\$5,000</u>
Total	\$12,500

Info / Reminders

- MOAA Chapter Recruiting Program Guide and Recruitment Tracker (downloads)
 - <https://www.moaa.org/content/chapters-and-councils/chapters-and-councils/council-and-chapter-recruiting-and-membership>
- Near Real Time (NRT) Recruitment List – new each month
 - CM: “Details for xxxxx Chapter”, “Monthly Recruiting List”
 - Reason: (1) New to MOAA; (2) moved to catchment area; (3) opted in for emails
- Recruitment Incentives
 - \$15 for every incentive-qualified PREMIUM member (new or upgrade)
 - \$30 for every incentive-qualified LIFE member (new or upgrade)
 - Incentive-qualified: NOT MOAA member preceding three years (except upgrades)
- Veteran Crisis Line – change to 988 effective NLT 16 Jul 2022
- MOAA Roundtables – monthly last Thursday 7 pm (ET)
- “Pay Chapter Dues Online” –
 - <https://chapterdues.moaa.org/ChapterTools/default.aspx>
 - “Council and Chapter Recruiting and Membership”
 - Online Chapter Membership Dues (Join and Renewal)

- Send newsletters to MOAA (blaird@moaa.org)
- Opt-in TMN – just enter email
 - https://moaa.highroadsolution.com/moaa_preference_page/EmailSearch.aspx
- MOAA Visits – Request online
 - <https://www.moaa.org/content/chapters-and-councils/council-and-chapter-management/initial-chapter-visit-request>
- Col Kloeber stated that the Veteran Crisis Line phone number will be changing NLT 16 July 2022 from an 800 number to 988

Opted-In for Communications

- Chart included with minutes and included with presentations emailed to council officers and staff, chapter presidents and satellite president, past council presidents and other attendees.

Council Communications

- Semi-annual Meetings
- Website – <https://www.azcouncilofchapters.org>
- Facebook – <https://www.facebook.com/AZCOCMOAA>
 - Chapter self-posting
- Newsletter – Semi-annual... following Council meetings
- Emails – Only when beneficial...
- Roundtables – 3rd Fridays @ 1000 hrs. (Renewed Council Zoom)
- Chapter Newsletters – sharing

MOAA / Board Perspective

Status of MOAA Chapters

- | | |
|-----------|-----------|
| • Healthy | 212 (57%) |
| • Stable | 71 (19%) |
| • Ailing | 73 (20%) |
| • Dormant | 13 (4%) |
| • Total | 369 |

Councils and Chapters Strategic Goals

- Increase overall **chapter membership**, emphasizing **younger members**.
- Strengthen and grow our **virtual chapters**.
- **HQ support** for revenue generation, advocacy tools, recruiting / retention, leader succession, comms, admin and tech assistance, leadership development.
- **Share best practices** across affiliate network.
- Strengthen affiliate **legislative advocacy** to maintain legislative influence in **every state**.
 - Legislative Consortium = 38 states and 100 members.

Councils and Chapters Strategic Metrics

- Three-year trend – Number of councils and chapters (410)
- Three-year trend – Members of geographic, satellite, virtual chapters (~39K)
 - Down ~6K (15%) since 2019
- Three-year trend – Chapter members who are national members (~88%)
- Three-year trend – MOAA National members who belong to a chapter (~11%)
- Percentage of Board members who are chapter members (~72%)

Advocacy in Action Update (AiA)

- 2022 wrap-up
 - Contacted 505 congressional offices (AZ = 11)
 - Over 6,800 messages sent (AZ = 415); 200 meetings held (AZ = 11)
 - Continuing the efforts on AiA topics
 - Military Pay Raise
 - Major Richard Star Act – HR 1282 / S 344
 - Stop the Copay Overpay Act – HR 4824
- 2023 ahead
 - Assess current priorities and shift to second session
 - Committee to scope MOAA's next spring fling early in 2023 to align "topics" w/President's budget
 - In person vs. virtual TBD

Key Dates

- May 25 Council Presidents virtual meeting
- May 26 Monthly Roundtable: Media Exposure / October *Military Officer*
- May 31 Mercer Ad Program Ends
- Jun 30 Monthly Roundtable: Recruiting
- Jul 1 Input due for October *Military Officer*
- Jul 28 Monthly Roundtable: Event Planning
- Aug 25 Monthly Roundtable: Improving Chapter Health
- Sep 29 Monthly Roundtable: Branding
- Oct 27 Monthly Roundtable: Transition Services
- Nov 17 Monthly Roundtable: Retention
- Dec 29 Monthly Roundtable: End of Year Review

MOAA Council & Chapter Affairs Team

800-234-MOAA (6622)

- CAPT Erin Stone, USN (Ret)
 - Senior Director, ext. 108; erins@moaa.org
- CAPT Frank Michael, USN (Ret)

- Program Director, ext. 818; frankm@moaa.org
- Victoria Twyne
 - Program Manager, ext. 118; victoriat@moaa.org
- Candice Young
 - Chapter Affairs Specialist, ext. 120; candicey@moaa.org
 - (Chapter visits and awards)
- Jonathan Woodruff
 - Chapter Affairs Specialist, ext. 168; jonw@moaa.org
 - (Organizational Analysis, CM)

MOAA Finances

- Chart included with minutes and included with presentations emailed to council officers and staff, chapter presidents and satellite president, past council presidents and other attendees.

Action Item #1 – Mrs. Wojtas to email copies of all presentations. Completed prior to the distribution of the minutes.

Reports of Staff/Committees

Legislative Update – Federal / State – Lt Col Darren Venters ((Lt Col Venters was not able to be present so he prerecorded his presentation.))

AZCOC Legislative Update

- Advocacy in Action
- MOAA Key Advocacy Goals 2022
- Arizona 55th Legislature (2nd Regular Session)
- Going Forward 2022

Advocacy in Action 2022

- MOAA’s annual cornerstone event
 - April 11th thru 22nd
 - Meet with 535 Members of Congress
 - Three Key Subjects
 - Active Duty
 - Retirees
 - Military Community
- Arizona
 - Eleven Legislators
 - 415 Letters sent to AZ Delegation
- Major Richard Star Act: H.R.1282/S.344 – The Star Act will support 50,300 combat-injured Veterans and is a concurrent receipt issue

- Stop Copay Overpay Act: H.R.4824 – Military health system (MHS) reforms have more than doubled TRICARE mental health copays over the last few years
- 4.6% Military Pay Raise – Keeping our servicemembers’ wages competitive shows our nation’s commitment to the all-volunteer force. Based on current Department of Labor assessments, and reflecting the rising costs of employment, the FY 2023 NDAA should include a pay raise of 4.6%.

Arizona AiA Campaign Status (as of 03 May)

- Sen Sinema 04 Apr @ 9:00 AM (virtual w/staff)
- Sen Kelly 21 Apr @ 4:15 PM (virtual w/staff)
- Rep Lesko 19 Apr @ 2:00 PM (in-person w/member)
- Rep Stanton 04 Apr @ 10:00 AM (virtual w/staff)
- Rep Gallego 03 May @ 10:00 AM (virtual w/staff)
- Rep Biggs 20 Apr @ 10:30 AM (in-person w/member)
- Rep Schweikert 19 Apr @ 10:00 AM (in-person w/staff)
- Rep Grijalva Contacted multiple times – no response
- Rep Gosar 05 Apr @ 2:00 PM (virtual w/staff)
- Rep O’Halloran 11 Apr @ 9:30 AM (in-person w/member)
- Rep Kirkpatrick 21 Apr @ 12:00 PM (virtual w/member)

Key Goals for 2022

- Sustain pay raises and adequate BAH for the troops and COLA raises for retirees
- Ensure the Coast Guard, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and Public Health Service continue to receive pay during a government shutdown
- Protect the value of the military health care benefit
- Protect the Military Health System pharmacy benefit and achieve flexibility in TRICARE pharmacy copays
- Address barriers to accessing care within the MHS, including TRICARE coverage gaps and mental health care access challenges
- Protect family support programs, and ensure military-provided services (housing, PCS, childcare, youth programs, financial counseling) are readily available and meet standards for quality and costs
- Achieve equity of benefits, protections, and administrative support for Guard/Reserve members consistent with their active-duty counterparts
- Sustain Veterans Health Administration (VHA) foundational missions and services
- Reform the presumptive process to support Veterans claiming service-connected disabilities for toxic exposures
- Achieve concurrent receipt of service-earned retirement pay and VA disability pay
- Protect full military honors and burial at Arlington National Cemetery for those currently eligible
- Improve survivors’ benefits
- Support a quality transition experience from active duty to Veteran status for all servicemembers

- Recognize the pandemic continues to affect the lives of our servicemembers

Arizona 55th Legislature (2nd Regular Session)

- Signed by Governor Ducey
 - SB1115 In-state Student Status, Veterans
 - SB1212 Continuation of Veterans Services Department & Veterans Commission
 - SB1406 Excused Military Absences; High Education
 - SB1468 Occupational Therapy Licensure
 - HB2062 Military; Purple Heart; VLT Exemptions
 - HB2823 Tuition Waiver, Veterans
- Military Related Bills Still Alive
 - SB1095 Property Tax Exemptions; Statutory Conformity
 - SB1170 G&F; Tags; Permits; Voter Registration
 - SB1607 State Guard Volunteers
 - SCR1011 Constitutional Property Tax Exemptions
 - SB1249 HB2010 Flags; Homeowners' Association
 - HB2320 Veterans' Organization; Leased Property; Classification
 - HB2354 Tuition, Family, PTSD Suicide
 - HB2665 Veterans, Disability, Exemption Property Tax
 - HB2741 State Licensing Fee Waiver
 - HCR2017 Constitutional Property Tax Exemption, Consolidation
 - HCR2027 Corresponding HCR with HB2665

Going Forward

- 2023 State Legislative Session
 - Convenes January 9, 2023
 - Veterans Caucus Meeting April 25, 2022
 - Co-Chairs Rep. Andrade and Rep. Blackman
 - Plan to reintroduce bills that failed in 2022
 - Ask for priorities
 - Wish list discussion
 - Fisher House in Phoenix
 - What's on your list?
 - AZCOC and UAV
 - Income tax parity for UPHS and NOAA
 - Is that one of your priorities?
 - Disabled Veterans' property tax exemption
 - May be on November Ballot
 - Know **your** Representative's
 - Redistricting every 10 years
 - Have a face-to-face meeting
 - Get their cell phone---use sparingly
 - RTS "request to speak" used to follow bills

U.S. Congressional Districts & Assigned Chapters

- Chart included with minutes and included with presentations emailed to council officers and staff, chapter presidents and satellite president, past council presidents and other attendees.

U.S. Senators & Assigned Chapters

- Chart included with minutes and included with presentations emailed to council officers and staff, chapter presidents and satellite president, past council presidents and other attendees.

Redistricting is Required Every Ten Years (Results of 2020 Census)

- Maps included with minutes and included with presentations emailed to council officers and staff, chapter presidents and satellite president, past council presidents and other attendees.

Arizona Legislative Districts (Current)

- Maps included with minutes and included with presentations emailed to council officers and staff, chapter presidents and satellite president, past council presidents and other attendees.

State Legislators & Assigned Chapters

- Charts included with minutes and included with presentations emailed to council officers and staff, chapter presidents and satellite president, past council presidents and other attendees.

Arizona Legislative Districts (As of 1 Jan 2023)

- Maps included with minutes and included with presentations emailed to council officers and staff, chapter presidents and satellite president, past council presidents and other attendees.

Special Thanks

- Senator David Gowan
- Jennifer Harris – AZ Dept of Veteran Services
- CDR Merle Kilpatrick – Coronado Chapter
- CDR John Chernoski – Researcher Extraordinary

Lt Col Venters asked in his recorded presentation what is on your wish list? Is it the Fisher House? Is it income tax parity for UPHS and NOAA? Let him know. Col Kloeber asked if the Council should fight for income tax parity? A motion was made by Col Jerry Wojtas and

seconded by LTC Steve Jarvis to have the Council support the income tax parity. Motion passed.

Action Item #2 – Have Lt Col Darren Venters, on behalf of the Arizona Council of Chapters, continue the fight for income tax parity for USPHS and NOAA.

Col Kloeber commented that you can register for “request to speak”. He stated that Lt Col Venters can make that happen and will do it for you. Just let him know.

CDR Chernoski stated that you can also write a request, but it is limited to 150 words.

Surviving Spouse – Mrs. Sharon Douglas (Mrs. Douglas was not able to be present so she prerecorded her presentation.)

Surviving Spouse Virtual Chapter

- Membership still growing, with 177 members from 35 states
- The chapter meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month
- Every other month is a business meeting with a speaker and the other months are an informal social gathering to exchange information and ideas
- Former SSAC member Micki Costello is president with Gail Joyce as vice president of the virtual chapter
- For more information, visit the Surviving Spouse section of MOAA.org

Surviving Spouse Virtual Chapter Newsletter

- In April of 2022, the Surviving Spouse Virtual Chapter started a quarterly online newsletter
- We invite our members to get involved by sending information that you would like shared with our group
- Please send an email to MSSVC02@gmail.com address; be sure to note “NEWSLETTER” in the Subject Line

2022 Surviving Spouse Liaison Excellence Award

- Every year MOAA recognizes an outstanding Surviving Spouse Liaison with an award to show they have gone above and beyond the duty of their position
- Surviving Spouse Liaisons work at the Council and Chapter level to ensure fellow survivors remain connected to the military family and participate in local and national programs and advocacy efforts
- If you know a Surviving Spouse Liaison who goes above and beyond, please nominate them; you can download the 2022 nomination form and instructions from the MOAA website
- The nomination deadline is 1 June 2022

Caring for Survivors Act of 2021

- This important legislation would raise DIC to the same levels as other federal survivor programs
- It would boost DIC to 55% of the compensation of a 100% disabled Veteran, up from the current 43%
- The bill would also reform the so-called “10-year rule”, which prohibits survivors from receiving DIC if a 100% disabled service member dies of a non-service-connected injury less than 10 years after receiving that disability rating
- The law allows beneficiaries to receive a portion of DIC beginning at the five-year mark, with that amount gradually increasing until reaching full compensation at 10 years
- Securing passage of the bill is the #1 goal for The Military Coalition’s Survivor Programs Committee, which represents nearly 5.5M members of the uniformed services community
- Unfortunately, the unofficial cost estimate for this legislation is very high – roughly \$20 billion over the next 10 years
- This means MOAA needs your dedicated advocacy to help build a majority of co-sponsors for S.976 and H.R.3402
- Send a letter to your legislators or consider using MOAA’s toll-free line to the U.S. Capitol switchboard – 866-272-6622 (MOAA) – to connect with your legislators’ offices

The Making Advances in Mammography and Medical Options (MAMMO) for Veterans Act

- This act would improve mammography services for Veterans by requiring the VA to develop a strategic plan for breast imaging services and establishing a tele-mammography pilot program in states without VA mammography services and in locations where the provision of such services is not feasible
- It would also require upgrading all mammography equipment to 3D imaging and studies into breast cancer gene testing
- These requirements, in addition to studies and increased partnerships with designated providers within the National Cancer Institute network and DoD, should help improve access to high-quality breast cancer care for all women Veterans

The MAMMO for Veterans Act VA Breast Care Data

- VA’s most recent budget summary, fewer than half of VA’s women patients received gender-specific care in fiscal year 2020 – these numbers are particularly low (13%) for senior women Veterans who are at the highest risk of certain gender-specific cancers, including breast cancer
- Only about 79% of VA’s medical centers had a full or part-time breast health coordinator, which can hamper access to community mammography services
- These findings suggest the need for a much more strenuous breast health effort in VA
- Please urge your elected officials to support H.R.4794/S.2533

MOAA Surviving Spouse Publications

- These publications are available at MOAA.org to view online or to order in print copies to distribute to your members
 - Legislative Action Guide
 - Survivor's Planning Guide
 - Survivor's Checklist: First Steps for Moving On
 - Your Guide to Military Burials

MOAA Surviving Spouses and Friends Facebook Group

- MOAA Surviving Spouses and Friends Facebook Group currently has over 600 members
- It provides updated information on important surviving spouse issues, especially the Surviving Benefit Plan / Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (SBC-DIC) offset

Luke Chapter Surviving Spouse Program Webpage

- I invite everyone involved with or interested in the Surviving Spouse Program to visit Luke Chapter's exceptional Surviving Spouse webpage:
 - <http://lukemoaa.org/Surviving-Spouse-Program>
- Linda Wolverton, Luke Chapter's Surviving Spouse Liaison, has done a wonderful job of providing a directory full of Surviving Spouse resources

TAPS 24/7 Assistance for Survivors

T*A*P*S – Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors

- The American people have steadfastly honored those who have made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom. We have draped their caskets with our nation's flag and laid them to rest in the hallowed grounds of cemeteries around the world.
- The Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (TAPS) is the organization caring for the families of America's fallen heroes. We come together to heal our hearts, honor our heroes, and celebrate lives lived in selfless service to America.
- TAPS is available 24/7 at 800-959-TAPS (8277) and online at TAPS.org with compassionate care and critical resources.

Conclusion

- If you have any questions or comments, please contact me at Sharon.douglas.NACMOAA@gmail.com or 928-632-5939
- Thank you for your time and attention

Personal Affairs / Transition / ESGR – CDR John Chernoski

Personal Affairs (PA)

- Historically important service by MOAA

- AZCOC comprehensive PA website
 - <https://www.azcouncilofchapters.org/personal-affairs>
- Deceased members
- AZ “Be Connected” Program
 - www.BeConnectedAZ.org
 - 1-866-4AZ-VETS (429-8387)

Transition Services (formerly TOPS)

- Chapter members/potential members – “already transitioned”
- MOAA well regards for Engagement and Transition Services
 - Not necessary to be member of MOAA
 - MOAA membership required for full range of webinars & publications
- Chapter Transition Liaison
 - Stay current – review MOAA website
 - <https://www.moaa.org/content/benefits-and-discounts/transition-and-careers/transition-and-career>

Employee Support of Guard and Reserve (ESGR)

- DoD program – established 1972
 - Cooperation/understanding – Reserve Component and Civilian Employees
 - Primarily volunteers
 - <https://www.esgr.mil>
- MOAA and ESGR MOU
 - Carried forward at state level
 - Chapter opportunities
 - Speakers
 - Potential Members

Chapter Development – Lt Col Dick Jonas

Chapter Development – How to do it

- Goal – form new chapters
 - New satellite chapter must be initiated by a host chapter in the catchment area
- Prospective satellite needs strong nucleus of energetic and dedicated people
 - Grand Canyon Chapter – classic example
 - Catalina Mountains Satellite – another good example
- Support and nurturing for new Satellites
- Recovering from the pandemic
 - In-person meetings
 - Recouping meeting attendance
 - Recruiting new members
 - NRT
 - Word of mouth by members

- MOAA Affiliate Operational Matrix
 - <https://www.moaa.org/content/search-results/?keyword=matrix>

Status of Satellite Chapters

- Catalina Mountains Satellite (Tucson Chapter)
 - 58 Members
 - Strong leadership, good meeting attendance, energetic/active
 - Ready to advance...IF and WHEN leadership and members decide
- Mohave Satellite (Northern Arizona Chapter)
 - **Inactivated/closed 31 Dec 2021**
- Central Arizona Satellite (Superstition Mountain Chapter)
 - **Inactivated/closed 1 Jan 2022**

MOAA Affiliate Operational Matrix

- Charts included with minutes and included with presentations emailed to council officers and staff, chapter presidents and satellite president, past council presidents and other attendees.

Old Business – Col Pete Kloeber

MOAA Membership by Age Category

- **1. ISSUE / QUESTION:** The Tucson Chapter asked if it is possible to see a breakout of MOAA National membership by age. **Overall = 67.4** (Officer 65.6, SSP 87.7)
- Chart included with minutes and included with presentations emailed to council officers and staff, chapter presidents and satellite president, past council presidents and other attendees.

MOAA Online Dues Payment System

- **2. ISSUE / QUESTION:** During our state meeting, two chapters (Tucson and Yuma) said they were not receiving information concerning their members paying chapters dues using the MOAA online dues payment.
ACTION / ANSWER: Online Dues Payment System is set up to automatically send a notice of payment to the member making the online payment and the primary contact for the chapter (default is the treasurer). My experience with over 200 such payments for my home chapter is that such notifications always happen as soon as the online payment is made.
Tucson and Yuma Chapters should follow-up to ensure you have properly identified your Primary Contact in order to receive the transaction confirmations.

Electronic Funds Transfers to Chapters

- **3. ISSUE / QUESTION:** During our meeting, a couple of chapters mentioned their treasurers are not receiving description / reasons for funds transfers from MOAA – previously received similar concerns.

ACTION / ANSWER: Discussed this with MOAA Council and Chapter Affairs – explained this issue has come up several times. MOAA said they will find a solution that will provide chapters with explanations for funds transfers. Chapters can **identify primary contacts**. In Progress

- **4. ISSUE / QUESTION:** One chapter asked when chapters can expect to receive funds from MOAA Electronic Funds Transfers?

ACTION / ANSWER: Confirmed that Electronic Funds Transfers are processed on the **5th of each month**.

MOAA Recruitment Incentives

- **5. ISSUE / QUESTION:** Are the \$15 and \$30 incentives for recruiting PREMIUM or LIFE members respectively only for new or upgraded MOAA members OR do the incentives also apply to existing MOAA members with a paid membership, but new to a chapter?

ACTION / ANSWER: From the 2022 Chapter Recruiting Program Guide: “Chapters will earn \$15 for every incentive-qualified PREMIUM member, and \$30 for every incentive-qualified LIFE member who is new or upgrades membership level during the calendar year. Incentives will be paid by EFT in January of 2023.” **An incentive-qualified member is one who has NOT been a National MOAA member in the preceding three years (except in the case of upgrades).**

Chapter Officer / Leader Training

- **ISSUE / QUESTION:** During the discussion on the Old Business item concerning the initiative for “Chapter Officer / Leader Training, the Council VP, Lt Col Nicholas Knight suggested it might be good to include lessons learned from outgoing chapter officers and leaders – sort of an *Exit Interview*.

ACTION / ANSWER: Sent the developed “Exit Interview” to all chapters 15 Dec 2021.

Chapter Officer / Leader Training – Col Pete Kloeber

Chapter Officer / Leader Training

- Source Documents / Familiarization
 - MOAA Policies and Procedures Guide
 - MOAA Leaders Workbook
 - AZCOC Chapter Position Responsibilities Guide
 - Governance
 - Corporation Commission / Articles of Inc.
 - Bylaws
 - Operations Plans
 - Strategic Plans

MOAA SW Regional Leaders Workshop

- Chart included with minutes and included with presentations emailed to council officers and staff, chapter presidents and satellite president, past council presidents and other attendees.

Chapter Officer / Leader Training

- Council or Chapter SMEs
 - President
 - Continuity, Governance docs, programs, LOE, CM, P&P Guide, Position Responsibilities
 - Treasurer
 - Budgets, reports, IRS (990, 990-N), ACC Annual Reports
 - Membership
 - CM, NRT
 - Secretary
 - Minutes, records
 - Directors
 - Continuity, Governance, P&P Guide
 - Legislative
 - Surviving Spouse
 - Chaplain
 - Programs
 - Scholarships, Speakers, Grants (MOAA, ADVS, etc.)

New Chapter Leaders

- President – 5
 - COR, GV, CMSC + LUK, GCC
- Treasurer – 2
 - GV, CMSC
- Membership – 4
 - COR, GV, LUK, SMC

#1 Challenge

- Filling Board / Leader Positions 7
- Recruiting Younger Members 2
- Keeping Members Engaged 1

Recruitment

Community

Members

Chapter

Advocacy

Desired Training

- Recruit / Retain (young mbrs) 4
- Surviving Spouse

- Social 2
- Fundraising 2
- Community Engagement
- Public Relations
- Grants
- Programs
- Personal Affairs
- Workshops for New Presidents
- Committee Module
- Treasurer / Financial Awareness
- MOAA info to Leaders / Members
- Deal with State / Fed Legislators

Recruitment

Community

Members

Chapter

Advocacy

Single Topic – Council Meeting

- Recruiting Younger Members – 3
- Increased Active-Duty Engagement (MOAA National effort)
- Market MOAA – statewide campaign
- Programs
- Member Engagement
- Surveys
- Fundraising
- How to be Successful Chapter
 - moaa.org / Council and Chapter Administration / Self Evaluation Checklist

Recruitment

Community

Members

Chapter

Advocacy

Committee Module Reminders

- ALL “Eligible” members MUST be shown as a “Member” (ONLY once)
- DO NOT show “Ineligible” members as a “Member”
 - Only show for leader position
- Non-MOAA Members
 - “View All” then click on “Membership” – puts all “Blanks” at top
- Duplicate Records
 - “View All” then click on “Last/First Name” – sorts by name
- DO NOT
 - Include “End Date” for “Member” unless deceased or removed from Chapter
- If submit Common Join Form for new member / or member joins online
 - Still need to add to CM
- <https://www.moaa.org/content/chapters-and-councils/committee-module>
- Transition to new Automated Management System (AMS) – Late 2022?

Chapter Governance

- Ensure the Future
- Ensure the Mission
- Ensure Effective Operations
- Ensure Effective Governance
 - State and IRS Founding Documents

- Bylaws
- Vision and Mission Statements
- Strategic Plan
- Operations Plan / Manual

Chapter Governance – Col Mike Kramer

MOAA Chapter Compliance – 101

Disclaimer

- Information in this briefing was gained from the University of Hard Knocks, in my role as Compliance Officer and Corporate Secretary of Luke Chapter MOAA. I am not an Arizona licensed attorney. If you need legal advice, consult your Arizona licensed attorney and a good accountant.

Compliance – 101 By AZCOC Chapter Organizations

- What is ‘compliance’? Who is responsible?
- Fiduciary and legal duties of directors and officers
- Selection of organization type
- Articles and Bylaws, and enforcement
- Registration for fund-raising activities
- Annual reports to AZ Corporation Commission
- Income tax returns
- Luke Chapter’s Structural Evolution
- Liability Insurance Policies

What is Compliance?

- “Compliance” means awareness and adherence to applicable laws and regulations, establishing procedures and systems to comply with significant legal and governance obligations, training individuals adequately, engaging in continuous education to stay current, and periodic audit of performance.
- The Board of Directors and officers of the corporation are legally responsible for compliance.
- Compliance duties can be performed by the President, Secretary and Treasurer, and/or by a Compliance Officer.
- The duty of compliance may be delegated, but responsibility may never be removed from the Board.

Formation of the Organization---Selection of Organization Type

- Why does the form of the entity matter?
- Issue is about personal liability of directors/officers and members
- Non-profit unincorporated association

- A form of legal partnership
- Potentially, all are personally liable for the legal acts, contracts and torts of any director/officer (“joint and several liability”)
- Association is the simplest form; reduced filing requirements; tax neutral
- Non-profit corporation
 - “Limited liability” is restricted to assets of entity; personal net-worth safe
 - Generally same governance rules as apply to ‘for profit’ corporations
 - In addition, special state codes apply to non-profit corporations
- “Non-profit” does not mean exempt from income tax! IRS rules control!

Set the Stage – AZCOC Chapters by Organization Type

- Seven of nine chapters are AZ non-profit corporations
 - Yuma is not incorporated, is an ‘association’
- Seven of nine are tax exempt as IRS Section 501(c)(19) ‘Veterans organizations’
 - Tucson is a tax-exempt Section 501(c)(4) ‘social welfare organization’
- Four of nine have separate and parallel 501(c)(3) ‘public charity’ organizations permitting tax-deductible donations
 - These are ‘brother/sister’ related organizations per IRS
 - Luke Chapter is the parent of a single-member corporate subsidiary 501(c)(3) ‘public charity’; related organizations

Governing Documents

- **Articles of Incorporation: Review the Major Clauses**
 - Purpose clause-consistent with goals and entity tax status?
 - Public record, so put our ‘best face forward’ w/’noble mission’
 - Name up-to-date? Same as IRS recorded name per the EIN?
 - Director/officer limitations of liability and indemnification?
 - Tax compliance provisions; no private inurement, no lobby, dissolution
 - Authority to amend bylaws in the Board of Directors? Fiscal year?
- **Bylaws: Details of Corporate/Governance/Procedure**
 - Not a public document (but should be on chapter webpage)
 - MOAA’s updated model bylaws are generic; tailor them to your tax status
 - Review chapter bylaws periodically (annually)
- **Operating Manual Details the Duties and Procedures of Officers**

What is the Director’s/Officer’s ‘Fiduciary Obligations’?

- Directors and officers are ‘fiduciaries’ who stand in a position of trust and responsibility toward members
- Duties of loyalty and care (due diligence)
- Due Care Statute: director/officers are tasked to discharge duties:
 - (1) in good faith,
 - (2) with the care of an ordinarily prudent person in a like position under similar circumstances, and

- (3) with responsible belief acting in the best interests of the corporation

Duty of Care (Due Diligence)

- Be familiar with articles, bylaws, ops manual and programs of the chapter
 - Are the bylaws on notice, quorum, voting process, minutes, etc. followed?
- Attend board meetings and participate in deliberations
- Be prepared for the agenda and the business discussion
 - Require reasonable board packet in advance
 - Make informed decisions
- Understand and control the financial status of chapter
 - Expenses reasonable? Accounting records adequate and retained? Budget compliance? Investments? Insurance? Audit? Contract risk?
- May exercise reasonable reliance on ‘experts’, but w/o rubber-stamping
- Chapters with two corporations, each must comply in good faith
 - Must maintain separate corporate identities, governance, records, books-of-account, etc.

Duty of Loyalty

- Expressed in the requirement of acting in good faith with belief in the best interests of the chapter; is transaction a ‘fair’ deal?
 - This requires avoidance of ‘conflict of interest’ between role as a director/officer and personal interests as an individual
 - Examples: contract for goods/services; decisions on scholarship or relief grants; unreasonable reimbursements
- Bylaws should establish a procedure to deal with potential conflicts of interest
 - Disqualification from decision-making and fairness of transaction
- Same rules apply both to appointed directors and to directors of parallel/subsidiary boards

Potential Consequences for Breach of Fiduciary Duties?

- Failure to follow corporate bylaws, rules and norms? Third parties may “pierce the corporate veil” if it gets sloppy
 - Personal assets can be reached
- Directors may forfeit indemnification and limitation of liability
- Failure to pay taxes, file tax reports accurately, follow IRS restrictions that apply to tax-exempt status?
 - IRS may revoke tax-exempt status; donations not deductible
 - Fines and penalties, esp. for cognizant tax officer
 - Members who deduct donations may lose past deductions
- Members can raise the issue of embarrassing derelictions

Arizona VCO Fund-raising and Registration

- Must keep good books and records of account on methods and amounts of fund-raising for IRS tax returns
- Most states have extensive statutes and licensing for non-profit fund-raising; Arizona does not generally regulate most charities
- But Arizona requires “Veteran’s charitable organizations” which “solicit money or support” to file a registration statement with Secretary of State; a class 3 misdemeanor for failure to file
 - <https://azsos.gov/business/veterans-charities-organizations>
 - Sign it with notary; must amend when information changes
 - Name, date of formation, business address, president, primary POC, enclose prior-year tax return, etc.

Arizona Annual Corporate Report

- Arizona Corporation Commission
 - Information on formation, process, rules, amendments to articles, due dates, good standing, FAQs, etc.
 - Page gives address, corporate history, documents, directors/officers, etc.
 - Webpage: <https://ecorp.azcc.gov/AzAccount>
- All corporations must file an annual report, revolving every 12 months after date of incorporation; filed electronically
 - Update names of directors and primary officers
 - Update place of business and agent-for-process
 - Questions about prior bankruptcies and fraud convictions; compliance?
- If fail to file, lose “in good standing”; if 120 days late, the corporation is dissolved; lose tax exemptions, limited liability

Income-Tax --- The Basics

- Arizona: Non-profit entities are not required to file a tax return in Arizona, if a federal tax return filed and tax-exempt per IRS
 - Arizona recognizes the tax-exempt status granted by the IRS
- Most non-profit entities (corporate or association) that are tax-exempt must file an information federal tax return based upon annual gross receipts (not net income)
 - “Gross receipts are the total amounts the organization received from all sources during its annual accounting period, without subtracting any costs or expenses.”
 - IRS Exempt Organizations: <https://www.irs.gov/charities-and-nonprofits>
 - Complete information on application for exemption, annual return, thresholds, tax forms, instructions, etc.
- Federal tax forms; due five and one-half months post FY/CY
 - Form 990-N: Gross receipts are \$50K or less (easy-peasy)
 - Form 990-EZ: Greater than \$50K and not more than \$200K; and assets are less than \$500K (not too onerous)

- Form 990 (long form): (1) Revenue \$200K or more, or assets are \$500K or more; OR (2) ENTITIES ARE ‘RELATED ENTITIES’ regardless of revenue amount (“Nightmare on Elm Street”)
- 3 AZ Chapters: to get deductible donations, apply on Form 1023-EZ
 - Receipts \$50K or less annually, and assets of \$250K or less
- Five AZCOC Chapters with 501(c)(19) and (c)(3) may be ‘related’ orgs
 - If so, long form is required for both entities! Plus Schedules A, B, I, O, R, etc.
- Don’t forget ‘unrelated business income’ exceeding \$1,000 on Form 990-T
 - E.g., advertising income from organization newsletters
 - Form 990, Question 34: “Was the entity related to any tax-exempt or taxable entity? If answer is “yes”, long Form 990 is required for both entities, per our CPA
 - Don’t take my word for it; get competent accounting advisor and ask!
- Recommendation: Hire a CPA for a reasonable fee to file these returns!
 - Financial accounting is required for five prior (rolling) years
 - IRS now requires electronic filing; IRS will no longer accept paper returns; software required; if you file on paper, and it is returned, you are late!
 - The instructions for Form 990 are from ‘Texas Chain Saw Massacre’
 - CPA cost in FY 2020 – 21 for Luke Chapter was \$525 per return
 - Audit risk is low with professionally-prepared, electronically-filed return

Rules for 501(c)(19) Veterans’ Organization

- 7/9 AZ Chapters are tax-exempt under (c)(19) as qualified Veterans’ organizations; requirements to maintain:
 - Must promote social welfare of community, Veterans, active duty, patriotism, social and recreational activities, etc.
 - 75% of members must be ‘Veterans’ or active duty for income tax exemption; 97.5% of all members must be active, Veterans, spouses/widows of Veterans, or cadets
 - 90% of members must be ‘War Veterans’ or spouses/widows of ‘War Veterans’ for deductibility of donations
 - IRS letter granting exemption requires a report to IRS if fail to qualify at any time; is anyone keeping track?
- No part of revenue may benefit an individual, director, officer, etc. (no private inurement)
- Legislative lobbying is allowed; but not participation or support for campaigns for political office
- MOAA General Counsel (2014): A roster with dates of service and compilation of Veteran status is required to qualify for deductibility (DD-214s for each Veteran)
 - Most chapters do not maintain comprehensive data, and/or otherwise fail the ratios to qualify for deductible donations
 - Concern raised regarding ‘tax letters’ issued routinely

Rules for 501(c)(3) Public Charities

- MOAA GC and Council/Chapters recommended 501(c)(3) for deductible donations
 - Outside donors and businesses favor donations to public charities
 - Scant guidance from MOAA on how entities are formed and tax issues

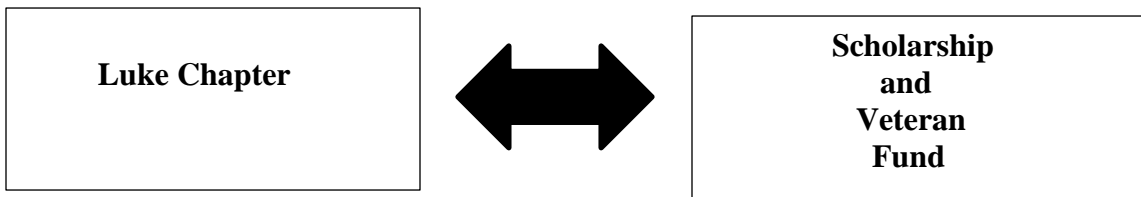
- See “Compliance Guide for 501(c)(3) Public Charities”, Pub 4221 and “Tax-Exempt Status for Your Organization”, Pub 557; and www.irs.gov/charities-non-profits
- Council & Chapters Policy and Procedure Guide; <https://www.moaa.org/content/publications-and-media/moaa-publications/council-and-chapters-policy-and-procedure-guide-details/>
- Organizational test: To further public “religious, charitable, educational, scientific and literary and [other charitable] purposes”
- “Excess benefit transactions” prohibited; unreasonable compensation, asset transfer or other benefits given to insiders (called ‘private inurement’)
- Engagement in political campaigns for election to officers is prohibited; no campaign donations, or involvement with campaign staff
 - Nonpartisan, unbiased voter registration or education programs okay
 - Issue advocacy is allowed so long as not favoring a campaign or candidate for office; can give both sides to an issue
- Public charity cannot be involved in ‘substantial legislative activities’, i.e., ‘lobbying’ on issues or potential legislation
 - Detailed IRS rules on what is ‘substantial part’ or ‘substantial expenditure’ (revenue-based formula); accounting required
- Best compliance practice is simply to avoid all political activities and campaigns by the (c)(3)
 - Use the (c)(19) board/officers for MOAA encouraged legislative liaison
- Must comply with donor acknowledgement letter rules

Luke Chapter Evolves Its Compliance Structure

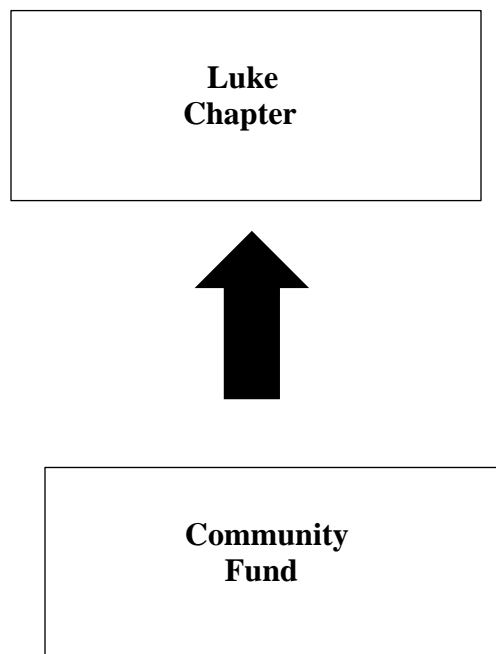
- The Luke Scholarship Fund (c)(3) was formed in 2015
 - Structure ‘mirrored’ the (c)(19) entity
 - Same/similar Articles, Bylaws, board members, and same Members; separate board meetings/minutes
 - Held a joint member meeting in April for both
 - These were ‘brother/sister’ entities and ‘related organizations’ per IRS
- Compliance concerns: “Alter ego”? Lose exemption?
- If challenged, how can we show compliance with different tax rules, different mission, but the same board members/actors, bylaws, in order to distinguish the actions of one from the other?
- How does National MOAA do it?
 - MOAA declined to advise or dialogue
 - We studied the organization/bylaws of National MOAA, and its subsidiary Community Foundation and Scholarship Fund
 - We mimicked MOAA’s organizational philosophy
 - If we go down, we go down with MOAA
- Merger into a single (c)(3) entity not desired; MOAA requires legislative lobbying and includes this in LOE grading
- MOAA has parent/subsidiary corporate relationships with ‘single member’ Community Fund and single member Scholarship Fund; appoints the boards
 - Structure reflects a degree of independence in subsidiaries

- Different board members, with a majority of subsidiary directors not on parent MOAA board
- Is overlap among the directors, but boards not identical
- Different bylaw text; missions clearly different
- Demonstrate separate members, staff, missions, text, meetings, minutes, agendas, bank accounts, financials, etc.
- Revised and Restated Articles of Incorporation filed in April 2020; created “Luke Chapter MOAA Community Fund, Inc.”
 - Mission statement is tri-partite: Scholarships, Veteran relief grants, and JROTC
 - Separate fund pools for each
 - Luke Chapter Board appoints directors/officers of Community Fund Board
 - Community Fund bylaws no longer the same as Luke Chapter bylaws
 - Community Fund mission includes fund-raising responsibility
 - Community Fund President is different than Luke Chapter
 - Up to Community Fund Board to decide how to spend designated funds for Veteran’s relief, checks issued separate from Luke Chapter
 - But the Community Fund can supplement Luke Chapter Veterans grant fund, by transfer or by direct payouts to Veterans (latter is preferred)
- The two organizations are complimentary and mutually reinforcing
- Community Fund Board a good training experience for new members

Before



After



Comprehensive General Liability Insurance

- Chapter liability insurance is strongly encouraged as a ‘best practice’ by MOAA board
- Liability insurance is required to obtain MOAA Community Outreach grants
 - Grant funds held in Luke Chapter, not the Community Fund
- Foreseeable risks are in Luke Chapter, not Community Fund
- Mercer policy insures third party tort claims up to \$1M per occurrence, \$2M aggregate
- We do not carry director or officer liability coverage
- Luke Chapter is the ‘named insured’ for its activities, to hold down premium; about \$3.00/member or \$585/year currently
 - Can request ‘additional insured’ rider for Community Fund meetings
- Insurance is part of our compliance program and ‘due diligence’

Summary

- Say what you do and do what you say
- Understand the rules applicable to each entity
- Understand the mission and activities of each entity
- Obey the rules
- Monitor, Educate, Train and Audit --- trust but verify
- Luke Chapter Compliance Officer ‘duty manual’ available

Action Item #3 – Mrs. Pam Wojtas send to everyone attending meeting Col Mike Kramer’s “Director of Compliance Duties”. Sent to everyone prior to minutes being distributed.

New Business – Col Pete Kloeber

Round Table / Items from Floor

- Lt Col John Bushko reported that his MyPay account at DFAS got hacked. The first time an attempt was made, the hacker got stopped because they did not know the answers to his security questions. Apparently a second attempt worked because his allotments changed to Summit Bank in Ohio. DFAS was able to stop all but \$500. The Fraud Department at DFAS is looking into what happened and how. Lt Col Bushko did state that Summit Bank is not getting back to the Fraud Department. Lt Col Bushko advised everyone present to check their MyPay account.
- Lt Col Bushko said his chapter had a speaker from the Cold War Monument Foundation speak on raising funds to build a memorial honoring those who served on submarines. They have the sail dive tail from the USS Phoenix. The memorial would be erected behind the Arizona Phoenix home.
- Col Tom Sheets passed out a flyer on an upcoming auction being hosted by the Southwest Veterans Chamber of Commerce, Southwest Veterans Foundation and Arizona Chapter MOAA. The auction benefits Veterans and their families. Col Sheets said that they have about 100 items for the auction. LTC DeFrain asked where they get items to auction and Col Sheets stated they beg, beg and beg. He also said a lot of the

items are gift cards. Col Sheets commented that they use dojiggy for the auction and they are very reasonable if anyone is looking for someone to do an auction.

- Mrs. Judy Bushko told everyone that the editor of their newsletter and awardee of the 5-Star Col Marvin J. Harris Communications Award has passed away.
- Lt Col Nicholas Knight congratulated the council and chapters on receiving the communication awards. He commented that he would like to have a standardized list of those wishing to receive the Council and Yuma Chapter newsletters.
- **Action Item #4** – Lt Col Knight will send out an email asking who would like to receive the Council and the Yuma Chapter newsletters.
- There was much discussion on how MOAA can attract members. LTC Steve Jarvis said they should talk about Advocacy in Action, community service, what they stand for, the good they do for active duty and retirees. LCDR Jim Clenney stated he would like to have an elevator pitch he can make to potential members; something they will remember. Mrs. Judy Bushko asked a young lady at the SW Leadership Workshop how to attract younger people and the lady said have more family activities so children can see what the chapter does. MAJ Gene Wikle stated he joined MOAA because he was transitioning out of the military but still wanted to work. He said they were a great help. Col Pete Kloeber stated that he has talked with Kathy Partin at MOAA about putting something in writing of “why to join MOAA”. Make it short, hard-hitting and simple.
- Another topic of much discussion was attracting former officers and what MOAA does for former officers. MAJ Gene Wikle stated that most of what MOAA does is for retirees. He asked where in the *Military Officer* magazine does it say anything about helping former officers. That the magazine talks about helping families, active, guard and reserves. Lt Col Nicholas Knight said his chapter lost two former officers due to health issues, but they had stated they never felt like MOAA cared about former officers. Lt Col Knight asked if the *Military Officer* magazine ever highlighted former officers. MAJ Wikle suggested MOAA form a focus group on how to better engage former officers. 1LT Elliott Jones, a former officer, stated he joined MOAA and his chapter to give back to the Veterans community. Col Tom Sheets stated that there are bad feelings, resentment about the tax exemption on retiree military pay by former officers. Col Pete Kloeber said appeal to former officers to give back to the military community. Col Tom Sheets said to ask former officers what they miss most about being out of the service and most will say the camaraderie. He said then say to them, join MOAA and a local chapter. Col Kloeber requested chapter presidents send him ideas on how MOAA can address former officers and get them to join and he will take the ideas back to MOAA. He mentioned that MOAA is aggressively addressing how to better engage with active duty/currently serving officers.
- **Action Item #5** – Col Kloeber will request MOAA address former officers and work to find/understand their needs concerning MOAA.
- Lt Col Nicholas Knight mentioned that if you don’t have your own Operations Manual you should look at the AZCOC Chapter Position Responsibilities Guide. He stated Version 6 is on the Council website.

Future Council Meetings

- [Fall 2022 \(Nov 3rd & 4th\)](#)
 - Planned Venue is the Colonnade (Surprise, AZ)

- Guest Speaker: Lt Gen Atkins (last affiliate visit)
- Coordinators
 - Council VP
 - Council IPP

Wrap Up / Good of the Order

- Col Pete Kloeber again thanked everyone for attending today's meeting.
- Col Pete Kloeber thanked Lt Col Nicholas Knight for bringing all his equipment enabling the Council to project the slide presentations for all to see.
- Col Pete Kloeber stated that MOAA is a class act and he really feels more that way since joining the BOD. He stated he has been very impressed with Lt Gen Dana Atkins and the MOAA staff. He said the staff has this can-do attitude. The staff numbers 84.

Adjourn (Vote #2)

- A motion to adjourn was made by Lt Col John Bushko and seconded by LTC Dennis DeFrain. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 1515.

Respectfully submitted.

Pam Wojtas
AZCOC Secretary
Phone Number: 623-544-4477
Email: jp7wojtas@gmail.com

NEXT AZCOC MEETING – 4 November 2022 (The Colonnade in Surprise, AZ). Social or Dinner prior evening – 3 November 2022.

Addendum A

Guest Speaker – Thursday, 5 May: Mr. Steve Sample, Associate Director – Northern Arizona VA. Also attending the dinner was Mr. Clifford Baser, Public Affairs Officer – Southern Arizona VA.

Mr. Sample started his presentation by stating that in health care it is very hard to get highly qualified staff and support staff right now. He said the VA is working hard in this area so as to give the care needed to our Veterans.

Mr. Sample stated that the VA must invest in highly qualified staff and also invest in the infrastructure to continue to be a leader in providing health care to Veterans.

Mr. Sample stated that much of the VA's health care infrastructure was built in the 1940s and 1950s to meet the need of World War II Veterans. He stated that the Veteran population has evolved over time and the VA needs to evolve with it.

Mr. Sample stated that on March 14, 2022, the VA published recommendations for the Asset and Infrastructure (AIR) Commission's consideration. He said that the AIR Commission is a bipartisan, presidentially appointed and congressionally approved commission who will review the VA's recommendations and determine if they will be accepted. Then the recommendations, with any changes made by the AIR Commission, will be provided to the President and then Congress for approval. Mr. Sample stated that in the near-term, the recommendations will have no major impact. Any potential changes to the infrastructure are years away, and in some cases, 10 or 20 years.

Mr. Sample stated that his presentation will provide an overview of the proposals to address the increasing Veteran population and needs for more and improved facilities.

Mr. Sample's presentation follows.

Asset and Infrastructure Review Process

Our VA

- Staff are our most important resource in providing high-quality care to Veterans.
- Our system has served Veterans for decades by providing high-quality health care, training most practicing physicians and other clinicians in the country, spurring innovation and medical discoveries, and serving as the backstop for the U.S. health care system.
- We must invest in staff and invest in the infrastructure we need to continue to be a leader.

National Challenges to Overcome

- **Aged Infrastructure:** Much of VA's health care infrastructure was built in the 1940s and 1950s to meet the needs of World War II Veterans.

- **Changing Needs of Veterans:** The Veteran population has evolved over time, and VA needs to evolve with it.
- **Changes to Health Care:** VA operates in a health care environment that is rapidly changing.

How We Will Continue to be a Leader in Healthcare

The MISSION Act required an Asset and Infrastructure Review (AIR) – an initiative to study the current and future health care needs of Veterans, and to evaluate VA’s health care infrastructure to ensure VA is ready and able to continue to provide Veterans with world-class access and outcomes.

The process is designed to modernize and realign VA’s aging health care infrastructure in order to:

- Build a health care network with the right facilities, in the right places, to provide the right care.
- Leverage and continue our partnerships with federal, academic, and community providers.
- Continue our world-class academic training affiliations and research partnerships.
- Position VA’s direct care system on a sustainable path, ensuring that we remain the primary, world-class provider and coordinator of Veterans health care for generations to come.

Our Path Forward

- On March 14, 2022, VA published recommendations for the AIR Commission’s consideration.
- The AIR Commission, a bipartisan, presidentially appointed and congressionally approved commission, will review VA’s recommendations and determine if they will be accepted. The recommendations, with any changes made by the AIR Commission, will be provided to the President and then Congress for approval.
- Throughout 2022, the Commission will hold public hearings, visit VA facilities, meet with partners, and listen to Veterans.
- In the near-term, the recommendations will have no major impact. Any potential changes to our infrastructure are years away – and, in some cases, 10 to 20 years away.

How the Recommendations Were Developed

- **Extensive Data Validated Across VA:** VA assembled comprehensive Data Discovery & Findings books based on 150 disparate data sets with information in the following domains: Geography and Demographics, Demand, Supply, Access, Quality and Satisfaction, Facilities, Mission, and Cost. Data was validated by key VISN and facility leadership prior to analysis.

- **Interviews with every VISN and VAMC Leadership Team Across the Country:** VA conducted more than 1,800 interviews with leaders at every VISN office and VAMC across the country.
- **Incorporation of Input from Veterans and Other Stakeholders:** VA held 50 public virtual listening sessions with stakeholders across the country.
- **Extensive Reviews by VA Leadership:** Draft recommendations were reviewed by senior VA leadership, including VISN Directors and the Under Secretary for Health, prior to reviews by the Secretary. Draft recommendations were updated as needed based on the outcomes of these reviews.

Criteria That Are Met for All Recommendations

The MISSION Act requires that VA establish a standard set of criteria that all recommendations must meet. VA consulted with Veterans Service Organizations to develop the criteria, and each market recommendation being submitted to the AIR Commission meets those criteria.

- **Demand:** The recommendation aligns VA’s high performing integrated network resources to effectively meet the future health care demand of the Veteran and enrollee population with the capacity in the Market.
- **Access:** The recommendation maintains or improves Veteran access to care.
- **Impact on Mission:** The recommendation provides for VAs second, third, and fourth health related statutory missions of education, research, and emergency preparedness.
- **Quality:** The recommendation considers the quality and delivery of health care services available to Veterans, including the experience, safety, and appropriateness of care.
- **Cost Effectiveness:** The recommendation provides a cost-effective means by which to provide Veterans with modern health care.
- **Sustainability:** The recommendation creates a sustainable health care delivery system for Veterans.

Things to Know About the Recommendations

- Secretary McDonough instructed us to brief our VSOs and key partners on the recommendations before they were shared with the Commission and Congress.
- All three Arizona VAs conducted combined briefings to stakeholders.
- While these are the recommendations that went to the AIR Commission, they represent the start of the process and not the end of it. We do not yet know what the Commission, President, or Congress will approve.

Key Points

- Veterans will ALWAYS be at the center of what we do. VA employees will understand they are VA’s #1 asset, and VA will continue to invest in them.
- The AIR Commission is an opportunity to redesign VA healthcare to maximize access and outcomes for current and future generations of Veterans.
- We must maintain VAs critical role as a backstop to the U.S. healthcare system and foremost leader in healthcare training and research.

- We will continue investing in VAs most important resource-STAFF (the VA workforce).

Preview of the Recommendations That Were Submitted to the AIR Commission

VISN 22 – Phoenix Market – Current State Map

- Map included with minutes and included with presentations emailed to council officers and staff, chapter presidents, satellite president, past council presidents and other attendees.

Asset and Infrastructure Review: Recommendations – Phoenix Market

Key Market Statistics

- **Total 2019 Enrollee Population: 134,404**
 - Top Counties by Enrollee Population
 - Maricopa, AZ – 113,173
 - Pinal, AZ – 14,763
 - Navajo, AZ – 3,808
 - Total Enrollees: 22nd of 95 Markets
 - Estimated 10-Year Enrollee Change – 6.6%
 - 24 of 95 Markets
- **Total 2017 Eligible Veteran Population – 204,219**
 - -11.0% Estimated 10-Year Eligible Veteran Population Change
- **2019 Core Uniques: *87,962**
- **VAMC**
 - (V22) (644) Phoenix, AZ

*Core uniques exclude uniques who have only used telephone triage, pharmacy, and lab.

VISN 22 – Phoenix (22-1) – Current State

- **Geography:** South Central Arizona area
- **Facilities:** 1 VAMC (Phoenix VAMC); 2 MS CBOCs (Southeast Gilbert and Phoenix 32nd Street); 8 CBOs (Northwest Surprise, Show Low, Southwest Phoenix, Thunderbird, Globe, Northeast Phoenix, Phoenix Midtown); 2 OOSs (Payson, Phoenix East Thomas Road).
- **# Of Enrollees (FY19):** 134,404 (22 out of 95 markets); **# of Core Uniques (FY19):** 87,962.
- **Projected Enrollee Growth (FY19-FY29):** 6.6%
- **% Rural (FY19):** 18.6%
- **Demand:** Demand in the market for acute inpatient medical and surgical (med/surg) services is projected to increase by 5.1% and demand for inpatient mental health services is projected to increase by 10.2% between FY19 and FY29. Demand for long-term care is projected to increase by 81.5%. Demand for all outpatient services (primary care, mental health, specialty care, dental, rehabilitation therapies) is projected to increase.

- **Enrollees within 30 Minutes of VA Primary Care (FY18):** 91.7% vs. national average of 76.8%.
- **Enrollees within 60 Minutes of VA Secondary Care (FY18):** 92.8% vs. national average of 67.4%.
- **Phoenix VAMC:**
 - **Demand:** The Phoenix VAMC offers inpatient med/surg, inpatient mental health, RRTP, long-term care, and outpatient services. The Phoenix VAMC has 117 inpatient med/surg beds, 48 inpatient mental health beds, 24 Residential Rehabilitation Treatment Program (RRTP) beds, and 46 CLC beds. In FY19, the Phoenix VAMC had an inpatient med/surg ADC of 68.3, an inpatient mental health ADC of 28.8, and RRTP ADC of 20.4, and a CLC ADC of 29.1.
 - **Infrastructure:** The Phoenix VAMC was built in 1952* on a 37.0-acre campus; 0 acres are available for additional development. The VAMC last underwent major renovations in 1999. Major infrastructure challenges include failing or at capacity site and building utilities, an outdated hospital design, and campus parking and traffic circulation deficiencies. Facilities conditions assessment (FCA) deficiencies are \$137.5M and annual operations and maintenance costs are \$16.9M.

*Beginning in the late 1970's, modern healthcare design principles began to emerge and become more standard (e.g., floor-to-floor heights, corridor widths, columns spacing, and utility infrastructure requirements). While some buildings prior to this era can be in good condition, they may not be conducive/ideal for the delivery of modern healthcare.

VISN 22 – Phoenix Market – Future State and Justification

Modernize and Realign the Phoenix VAMC by:

- **Constructing a new VAMC with inpatient medical and surgical, inpatient mental health, emergency department, outpatient specialty care, outpatient surgical, and women's health services in the vicinity of Phoenix, Arizona.**
 - The main patient care facility was constructed in 1952, with no available acres for expansion. Shared medical and surgical patient rooms with shared bathrooms limit efficiency and impact patient experience.
 - The operating rooms need renovation and lack adequate sterilized processing services (SPS). The CLC is currently at reduced capacity due to an unrepairable sanitary system.
 - Attempts to resolve these infrastructure limitations have been curtailed by an inability to create and execute a feasible master plan on the land-locked campus. Overall, the existing facility requires significant investment and is not equipped to meet current and future demand.
- **Relocating CLC and RRTP services provided at the Phoenix VAMC to future VA facilities and discontinuing these services at the Phoenix VAMC.**
 - The proposed new Anthem (area) VAMC will specialize in geriatrics, subacute, and extended care to meet the needs of an aging enrollee population offering CLC services with 110 beds, long-term care, behavioral (geropsychiatry/dementia), hospice, and short-term rehabilitation (skilled nursing) services.

- The subacute focused 121-bed RRTP will offer programs focused on subacute rehabilitation, substance use disorder, serious mental illness, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), and homelessness.
- **Modernize and Realign Outpatient Facilities in the Market.**
 - Following implementation of the recommendation, the number of Veterans within 30 minutes of primary care and 60 minutes of specialty care available through the VA facilities and community providers is projected to be maintained.
 - Relocate and expand the Northeast Phoenix CBOC.
 - Relocate and expand the NW Phoenix CBOC to a new sight, establishing a medical surgical CBOC.
 - Relocate services from the Midtown CBOC to the Phoenix 32nd Street CBOC.
 - Relocate services and close the Globe CBOC.
 - Realign Anthem CBOC to the Phoenix Market.

VISN 22 – Phoenix Market – Future State Map

- Map included with minutes and included with presentations emailed to council officers and staff, chapter presidents, satellite president, past council presidents and other attendees.

Description of Changes

Administrative Realignments

- Anthem CBOC from NAVAHCS

New Sites

- VAMC with CLC and RRTP, Anthem, AZ

Relocation of Current Sites

- Modernize and Realign Phoenix VAMC (644)
- Expanding Northeast – Phoenix CBOC
- Expanding Northwest – Surprise CBOC
 - Expand the size/scope of the current CBOCs into Health Care Center, which may require movement of those locations to accommodate larger spaces.

Modifications to Current Sites

- Expand Staff Sergeant Alexander W. Conrad VA Health Care Clinic.

Deactivation/Divestment of Sites

- Relocating all services to 32nd Street MS CBOC and closing Midtown CBOC.
- Closing of Globe CBOC

New Inpatient Partnerships*

- NA

*Inpatient Partnership: A partnership where VA providers or space are embedded in a non-VA inpatient facility. This includes opportunities to credential VA providers and explore inpatient partnership opportunities.

Asset and Infrastructure Review: Recommendations – Tucson Market

Key Market Statistics

- **Total 2019 Enrollee Population: 65,840**
 - Top Counties by Enrollee Population
 - Pima, AZ – 45,316
 - Cochise, AZ – 11,419
 - Yuma, AZ – 7,058
 - Total Enrollees: 57rd of 95 Markets
 - Estimated 10-Year Enrollee Change – 0.7%
 - 24 of 95 Markets
- **Total 2019 Eligible Veteran Population – 90,108**
 - -5.8% Estimated 10-Year Eligible Veteran Population Change
- **2019 Core Uniques: *44,862**
- **VAMC**
 - (V22) (678) Tucson, AZ

VISN 22 – Tucson (22-g) – Current State

- **Geography:** Southern Arizona area
- **Facilities:** 1 VAMC (Tucson); 5 MS CBOCs (Sierra Vista, Yuma, Casa Grande, Northwest Tucson, Southeast Tucson); 1 CBOC (Safford); 3 OOSs (Green Valley, Cochise County, Pinal County).
- **# Of Enrollees (FY19):** 65,840 (57 out of 95 markets); **# of Core Uniques (FY19):** 44,862.
- **Projected Enrollee Growth (FY19-FY29):** 0.7%
- **% Rural (FY19):** 25.5%
- **Demand:** Demand in the market for acute inpatient medical and surgical (med/surg) services is projected to increase by 17.1% and demand for inpatient mental health services is projected to decrease by 4.1% between FY19 and FY29. Demand for long-term care is projected to increase by 9.3%. Demand for all outpatient services (primary care, mental health, specialty care, dental, rehabilitation therapies) is projected to increase.
- **Enrollees within 30 Minutes of VA Primary Care (FY18):** 91.0% vs. national average of 76.8%.
- **Enrollees within 60 Minutes of VA Secondary Care (FY18):** 70.9% vs. national average of 67.4%.

- **Tucson VAMC:**
 - **Demand:** The Tucson VAMC offers inpatient med/surg, inpatient mental health, Residential Rehabilitation Treatment Program RRTP, long-term care, blind rehabilitation, and outpatient services. The Tucson VAMC has 120 inpatient med/surg beds, 31 inpatient mental health beds, 25 RRTP beds, 92 CLC beds, and 31 blind rehabilitation beds. In FY19, the Tucson VAMC had an inpatient med/surg ADC of 85.4, an inpatient mental health ADC of 19.4, an RRTP ADC of 19.6, a CLC ADC of 69.5, and a blind rehabilitation ADC of 21.3.
 - **Infrastructure:** The Tucson VAMC was built in 1928* on a 107.0-acre campus; 0 acres are available for additional development. The last major renovation was in 1962. Significant infrastructure challenges include aged plumbing systems, as well as underground water and sewer systems. Facilities conditions assessment (FCA) deficiencies are \$36.8M and annual operations and maintenance costs are \$11.9M.

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VISN 22 – Tucson Market – Future State and Justification

Modernize and Realign the Southern Arizona Health Care System by:

- **Tucson VAMC**
 - Construct replacement inpatient med/surg bed tower (planning in progress)
 - Modernize and expand the ED (design in progress)
 - Modernize inpatient mental health beds (in progress)
 - Modernize CLC beds
 - Modernize RRTP services beds
- **Yuma CBOC**
 - Expand services in a VA-staffed/leased site (in progress)
 - Enrollees in Yuma County projected to increase 17.8% between FY19-FY29
- **Sierra Vista CBOC**
 - Expand services in a new VA-staffed/leased site (in progress)
 - Enrollees in Pinal County projected to increase 7.6% between FY19-SY29
 - Catchment area shared by Phoenix VA
- **Casa Grande CBOC**
 - Expand services in a new VA-staffed/leased site (in progress)
 - Enrollees in Pinal County projected to increase 24.8% between FY19-FY29
 - Catchment area shared by Phoenix VA
- **Southeast Tucson CBOC**
 - Expand services in a new VA-staffed/leased site (planned)
 - Demand for outpatient services is projected to increase across the market
- **Deactivation/Divestment of Sites**
 - Cochise County OOS (RHCC) (planned)

VISN 22 – Tucson Market – Future State Map

- Map included with minutes and included with presentations emailed to council officers and staff, chapter presidents, satellite president, past council presidents and other attendees.

Description of Changes

Administrative Realignments

- NA

New Sites

- NA

Relocation of Current Sites

- NA

Modifications to Current Sites

- **Tucson VAMC (678)**
 - Construct replacement inpatient med/surg bed tower
 - Modernize and expand the ED (in progress)
 - Modernize and maintain inpatient mental health and CLC beds
 - Expand RRTP services
- **Yuma MS CBOC (678GB)**
 - Expand services in a VA-staffed/leased site
- **Sierra Vista MS CBOC (678GA)**
 - Expand services in a new VA-staffed/leased site
- **Casa Grande MS CBOC (78GG)**
 - Expand services in a new VA-staffed/leased site
- **Southeast Tucson MS CBOC (78GG)**
 - Expand services in a new VA-staffed/leased site

Deactivation/Divestment of Sites

- Cochise County OOS (678QA)

New Inpatient Partnerships*

- NA

*Inpatient Partnership: A partnership where VA providers or space are embedded in a non-VA inpatient facility. This includes opportunities to credential VA providers and explore inpatient partnership opportunities.

Asset and Infrastructure Review: Recommendations – Prescott (NAVAHCS) Market

- Map included with minutes and included with presentations emailed to council officers and staff, chapter presidents, satellite president, past council presidents and other attendees.

VISN 22 – Prescott Market (NAVAHCS) – Current State

- **Geography:** The Prescott Market serves Veterans in North Central Arizona.
- **Facilities:** The market has one VAMC (Prescott), five BCOCs (Kingman, Flagstaff, Lake Havasu City, Anthem, Cottonwood), and six other outpatient services (OOS) sites (Chinle, Holbrook, Page, Tuba City, Polacca, Kayenta).
- **# Of Enrollees (FY19):** 32,586; **# of Core Uniques (FY18):** 24,912.
- **Projected Enrollee Growth (FY19-FY29):** The market had 32,586 enrollees and is projected to experience a 2.12% decrease in enrolled Veterans by FY2029. The largest enrollee populations are in the counties of Yavapai, Mohave, and Coconino, Arizona.
- **% Rural (FY19):** 58.1%; national average 32.5%.
- **Demand:** Demand in the market for inpatient medical and surgical services is projected to increase by 1.5% and demand for inpatient mental health services is projected to increase by 1.6% between FY2019 and FY2029. Demand for long-term care is projected to increase by 17.4%. Demand for all outpatient services, including primary care, mental health, specialty care, dental, rehabilitation therapies is projected to increase.
- **Enrollees within 30 Minutes of VA Primary Care (FY18):** 79.1% vs. national average of 76.8%.
- **Enrollees within 60 Minutes of VA Secondary Care (FY18):** 39.7% vs. national average of 67.4%.
- **NAVAHCS VAMC:**
 - **Demand:** The Prescott VAMC is located in Prescott, Arizona, and offers inpatient medical, RRTP, CLC, and outpatient services. In FY2019, the Prescott VAMC had an inpatient medical average daily census (ADC) of 7.1, and RRTP ADC of 85.1, and a CLC ADC of 47.5.
 - **Infrastructure:** The Prescott VAMC was established in 1903*, and the main patient care facility was built in 1937. On the 170.0-acre campus, 20 acres are available for additional development. The historic designation of the Prescott VAMC campus is a challenge for new construction projects. The facility was most recently renovated in 2010. Facility condition assessment (FCA) deficiencies are approximately \$39.9M, and annual operations and maintenance costs are an estimated \$6.7M.

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VISN 22 – NAVAHCS – Future State and Justification

Modernize and Realign NAVAHCS by:

- **Realign Apache County, Arizona, from the VISN 22 Albuquerque Market to the Prescott Market**
 - Veterans living in Apache County most frequently use points of care in the current Phoenix and Prescott markets. In addition, realignment of Apache County to the Prescott Market will allow better integration of care for Native American Veterans using Indian Health Service (HIS) and VA resources.
- **Realign Navajo County, Arizona, from the VISN 22 Phoenix Market to the VISN 22 Prescott Market**
 - Realignment of Navajo County to the VISN 22 Prescott Market will allow the market to operate as a contiguous market.
- **Realign the Anthem CBOC from the Prescott VAMC to the Phoenix VAMC in the VISN 22 Phoenix Market**
 - The Anthem CBOC is an estimated 34-minutes (29.9 miles) from the Phoenix VAMC, and estimated 78-minutes (68.0 miles) from the Prescott VAMC. Maricopa County, where the Anthem CBOC is located, is aligned to the Phoenix Market. The Anthem CBOC will continue providing outpatient services to the area while the proposed new Anthem VAMC will provide subacute services. Having the Anthem CBOC and the Anthem VAMC aligned to the same market allows for optimized resource planning between the points of care.
- **Realign the Kingman CBOC and the proposed expanded Lake Havasu City CBOC to the North Las Vegas VAMC in the VISN 21 Southern Nevada Market**
 - Realignment of the Kingman CBOC and the Lake Havasu City CBOC to the North Las Vegas VAMC will allow the North Las Vegas VAMC to better project demand and plan for resource needs for users of the medical center.
- **Realign Mohave County, Arizona, from the VISN 22 Prescott Market to the VISN 21 Southern Nevada Market**
 - Realignment of Mohave County to the VISN 21 Southern Nevada Market will allow the North Las Vegas VAMC to optimize resource planning between the three points of care in Mohave County.

VISN 22 – NAVAHCS – Future State and Justification

Modernize and Realign NAVAHCS by:

- Relocating the Flagstaff CBOC to a new, larger site in the vicinity of Flagstaff, Arizona, and closing the existing Flagstaff CBOC.
- Increase availability of the following specialties across the Prescott Market to address the potential lack of high-quality specialists
 - Dermatology
 - Gastroenterology
 - Hematology/Oncology Neurology
 - Pain Medicine
 - Ophthalmology
 - Neurosurgery

- Orthopedic Surgery
- Urology

VISN 22 – NAVAHCS – Future State Map

- Map included with minutes and included with presentations emailed to council officers and staff, chapter presidents, satellite president, past council presidents and other attendees.

Description of Changes

Administrative Realignments

- Realignment of the Anthem CBOC to the Phoenix VAMC
- Realignment of Kingman and the Lake Havasu CBOCs to the North Las Vegas VAMC (VISN 21)
- Realign Apache County to the Prescott Market

New Sites

- NA

Relocation of Current Sites

- Flagstaff
 - Expand the size/scope of the current CBOC into a larger space for continued growth

Modifications to Current Sites

- NA

Deactivation/Divestment of Sites

- NA

New Inpatient Partnerships*

- NA

*Inpatient Partnership: A partnership where VA providers or space are embedded in a non-VA inpatient facility. This includes opportunities to credential VA providers and explore inpatient partnership opportunities.

How the Future State Benefits Veterans

- More accessible care for Veterans
- Modern, safe, and well-placed facilities
- Strengthened partnerships with high-quality providers
- Stronger emphasis on outpatient care
- Improved collaboration with DoD
- Major facility renovations

Next Steps

- Following approval from the AIR Commission, the President, and Congress in 2023, work will begin on more detailed planning in advance of implementation of any recommendations.
- Potential changes to infrastructure are years away – in some cases, 10-to-20 years away.
- Secretary McDonough has pledged transparency throughout this multi-year process.
- We will ensure that you remain informed throughout the process.