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HELIOGRAM

THE MILITARY OFFICERS
ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

Inside

PRESIDENT'S NOTES — Page 3

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS — Page 3

PERSONAL AFFAIRS — Page 5

TRANSITION LIAISON — Page 7

SCHOLARSHIP NOTES — Page 7

MARCH 2016

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The Heliogram is published nine times per year by the Coronado Chapter, MOAA (an affiliate of Military Officers Association of America), Post Office Box 1685, Sierra Vista AZ 85636-1685. The Coronado Chapter, is a not-for-profit 501(c) (19) Arizona Corporation and all donations may be tax deductible. See your tax consultant for further information., MOAA and its affiliated chapters and councils are nonpartisan. Visit our new website: www.moacoronado.org Visit the MOAA Legislative website to "Take Action" and Legislative updates: <http://www1.MOAA.org/Legislative>.
Volume 43 Number 3 March 2016

FUTURE MEETING DATES

BOD MEETING 11:30 Mar 16, 2016
LANDMARK CAFÉ
Dinner Meeting March 17, 2016
Pueblo Del Sol Country Club
2770 South St Andrews Drive
Social Hour — 1800 Dinner — 1830

MENU: Salad, Iceberg lettuce, bacon, tomatoes, cucumber, cheddar cheese, and red onion with Southwestern dressing

Marinated Sirloin with Espanola sauce

Loaded Baked Potatoes

Chef's Vegetables

Chocolate Dipped Cheese Cake

Rolls and butter

Water, Ice Tea, coffee

PROGRAM; Annual Recognition of Scholarship Winners

BOD MEETING 11:30 Apr 20, 2016
LANDMARK CAFÉ
Dinner Meeting April 21, 2016
Pueblo Del Sol Country Club
2770 South St Andrews Drive
Social Hour — 1800 Dinner— 1830

MENU: Salad, Iceberg Lettuce, Romaine Lettuce, Sliced Roma Tomatoes, Mozzarella, and Italian Vinaigrette

Chicken Marsala w/ Wild Mushrooms

Orzo Pasta

Fresh Sautéed Vegetables

Amaretto Cheese Cake

Dinner Rolls and butter

Water, Ice Tea, Coffee

PROGRAM: Our Webmaster, Bill Frobe will demonstrate our website



CORONADO CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

WWW.MOAA-CORONADO.ORG

This is the official electronic monthly newsletter of the Coronado Chapter, MOAA, and may be duplicated in part or in its entirety provided written credit is given to the Heliogram. The opinions expressed herein and advertisements that appear are those of the contributors and do not necessarily reflect an endorsement by MOAA or this affiliate.



PRESIDENT'S NOTES by President Bob Covalucci, COL, USA (Ret.)

Dr. Randy Groth, Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army (CASA) for the state of Arizona gave us his insight in to the complexities and challenges of today's Army. Dr. Groth pointed out that budget reductions and the accompanying reductions in troop strength have placed extraordinary stress on both our military forces and their civilian leadership. He identified that what is most important is to continually ask the question, "Why do we maintain our Army?" The answer, "Because of love our country, to maintain our free democratic way of life and to provide for the safety of our families." Dr. Groth continues to be an effective and inspiring representative of Arizona, the men and women of our Army and our community. Thank you for your willingness to serve us! We know WHY you do it!

We are often asked to write or Email our legislative representatives on matters that directly impact Active Duty members and Veterans and their families on a variety of issues. Recently we commented on Predatory Lending Legislation in Arizona. And while we respond very aggressively to legislation that has been proposed, has anyone asked YOU what Veteran or Active Duty legislation YOU want to see proposed in the Arizona State Legislature?

Well I am ASKING!! Over the years I have heard discussions on free vehicle plates for veterans or an increase from the current \$2,500 state income tax exemption to some greater number all the way to 100%. Perhaps YOU have an issue that you think should be addressed in the state legislature. Well here is a chance to make your voice heard.

(cont on Page 4)



VETERANS LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS by Gene Fenstermacher, Col, USAF (Ret)

Let's take a look at some State Veterans Legislation. Below is a sampling of the 19 Senate and 24 House Bills currently on the table related to Veterans. **Notations in Red represent latest or new information since the last Update or final action.** To see all of the Veteran Related Bills and receive periodic updates, contact Dave Hampton, Arizona Department of Veterans' Services (ADVS), at: dhampton@azdvs.gov and ask to be added to his ADVS State Veterans/Military Legislation Update Email list.

Senate Bills

SB 1114- 'appropriations; veterans' services; veterans' home' would appropriate \$10-million in Fiscal Year 2016-2017 to the Arizona Department of Veterans' Services for the State's 35% share of a veterans' home in Flagstaff. **The Primary Sponsor** is Sen. Sylvia Allen, R-Dist. 6.

Major Actions: 14 January 16-First Read and assigned to Senate Appropriations Committee, Senate Public Safety, Military and Technology (PSMT) Committee, and Senate Rules Committee. 10 Feb 2016-Given a "Do Pass" recommendation in Senate PSMT Committee, 5-0-1 not voting. Amendment will be introduced to clarify bill. 16 Feb 2016-Hearing scheduled in Senate Appropriations Committee, 2 pm, SHR 109.

SB 1232- 'purple heart special plate parking' would allow the State and local jurisdictions to create specially marked public parking places exclusively for Purple Heart plated vehicles. **The Primary Sponsor** is Sen. Catherine Miranda, D-Dist. 27.

Major Actions: 21 Jan 2016-First Read and assigned to the Senate Transportation Committee and Senate Rules Committee. Tues, 26 Jan 2016-Hearing scheduled in Senate Transportation Committee, 2 pm, SHR 1. 26 Jan 2016-Given a "Do Pass" recommendation in the Senate Transportation Committee 6-0-2 absent. 9 Feb 2016-Held in Senate Majority Caucus.

VETERANS LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS (cont)

SB 1431-‘property tax; disabled veterans' residences’ would classify a primary residence up to 40 acres of a qualifying veteran of the uniformed services with a 100 % service-connected disability as rated by the VA and as verified by the VA or the Arizona Department of Veterans’ Services and owned by the veteran and/or spouse as class nine property for property tax purposes. This would have the same effect as fully exempting the property and reducing the property tax liability to zero. **The Primary Sponsor** is Sen. Gail Griffin, R-Dist. 14. **Major Actions: 1 February 2016-First Read and assigned to the Senate Finance Committee and Senate Rules Committee.**

House Bills

HCM 2006-‘toxic exposure; urging Congress’ is a concurrent memorial urging the United States Congress adopt legislation that would establish in the United States Department of Veterans Affairs a national center for research on the diagnosis and treatment of health conditions of the descendants of veterans exposed to toxic substances during service in the armed forces of the United States that are related to that exposure. **The Primary Sponsor** is Rep. Richard Andrade, D-Dist. 29

Major Actions: 26 Jan 2015-First Read and assigned to House Military Affairs and Public Safety (MAPS) Committee and House Rules Committee. 4 Feb 2016-Borrelli technical amendment adopted and given a “Do Pass Amended” recommendation in House (MAPS) Committee 8-0. 15 Feb 2016-Hearing scheduled in House Rules Committee, 1pm, HHR 4.

HCR 2025-‘purple heart state; day’ would declare Arizona a “Purple Heart State” and proclaim December 7, 2016 as Purple Heart Day in Arizona. **The Primary Sponsor** is Rep. Bob Thorpe, R-Dist. 6

Major Actions: 19 January 2016-First Read and assigned to House Military Affairs and Public Safety (MAPS) Committee and House Rules Committee. Thursday, 28 Jan 2016-Hearing scheduled in House (MAPS) Committee, 9 am, HHR 5. 28 Jan 2016-Given a “Do Pass” recommendation in the House MAPS Committee, 7-0-1 absent. 9 Feb 2016-Out of Caucus.

PRESIDENT’S NOTES (cont.)

I would like the Coronado Chapter to establish annual Goals for Arizona State Veterans issues the same way MOAA National has established its 10 Goals for 2016. Here are the MOAA goals:

MOAA'S TOP 10 LEGISLATIVE GOALS FOR 2016

1. Ensure any TRICARE reform sustains top-quality care.
2. Prevent disproportional TRICARE fee increases
3. Sustain military pay comparability with the private sector.
4. Block erosion of compensation and commissary benefits
5. Protect military retirement/COLAs
6. Sustain wounded-warrior programs and expand caregiver support
7. End disabled/survivor financial penalties
8. Fix Guard/Reserve retirement.
9. Improve spouse and family support
10. Assure timely access to the VA, and eliminate the VA claims backlog

If you have questions or concerns about MOAA's legislative goals please call the Member Service Center at 1-800-234-6622 or email legis@moaa.org.

- See more at: <http://www.moaa.org/Content/Take-Action/Top-Issues/Currently-Serving/MOAA-s-Top-10-Legislative-Goals-for-2016.aspx#sthash.KCwG7UDX.dpuf>

So, if you have some ideas for GOALS that should be considered in 2016 by the Coronado Chapter, please submit them to me and with the help of our Board of Directors we will put together a list for our Chapter. YOUR participation in this effort is both encouraged and necessary if we are to continue to make a positive contribution to improving treatment for service members, veterans and their families in Arizona.

I have discussed using Email ONLY for the Helioqram. Well, we plan to start Email ONLY with the September 2016 issue.

(cont on Page 8)



**PERSONNEL AFFAIRS by
Terrie Gent, Col, USAF Ret**

A WEALTH OF INFORMATION

Military organizations succeed because they are a group of persons dedicated to the mission and dedicated to each other. And that is precisely why MOAA is such a successful advocate for you and for those who wouldn't otherwise have a voice on Capitol Hill.

From time to time, I like to urge folks to go to the MOAA HQ website and see all the good things that are there. It's one of the best websites I've seen. There is a ton of information on all sorts of things from an explanation of what MOAA is doing on Capitol Hill, to all your TriCare benefits, how to get VA benefits, and all the discounts MOAA members get at various businesses. It's amazing what MOAA does for the entire military, retired, and veteran community.

If you are not already a life member, please consider joining. You'll save a bunch of money, and you get valuable benefits like free copies of certain publications. And while I'm a pretty tech savvy person, I still like have a paper copy of some materials.

Here's an example of how MOAA keeps you informed: the MOAA website gives an excellent overview of recent changes in co-pays for drugs under Tri-care. MOAA HQ says that,

Beginning February 1, TRICARE beneficiaries must pay the generic co-pay for over-the-counter (OTC) drugs. OTC coverage is now a permanent part of the TRICARE pharmacy program. Beneficiaries still need a prescription from their doctor for the OTC medication. Additionally, pharmacy co-pays also went up on February 1.

You can learn more about this by going to <http://www.moaa.org/Content/Publications-and-Media/Features-and-Columns/Health-Features/TRICARE-Pharmacy-Changes.aspx#sthash.62GsjWo3.dpuf>. Check it out!



**CHAPLAIN'S NOTES by
COL Tom Day, Chapter
Chaplain**

SFC Sidney Dean Cochran, USA, Retired, veteran of WWII and Korea, was laid to rest in Sierra Vista, on February 9th, 2016. I received an

email from CW5 Erin O'Hara encouraging people to attend his graveside, since he had no family members who could be there to honor his life and service. When I arrived, I was totally surprised by the more than 300 people who came to pay their respect for this American hero. The word had gotten out; in fact, the veteran standing beside me told me he had heard about SFC Cochran's graveside service from his son in Afghanistan! While serving at Fort Riley during the "surge" in 2007 and 2008, I was picked up by a rental car agency when I rented a car. Another gentleman was in the car, and seeing I was a Soldier, he told me he could never serve because he was not willing to die for someone else. I thought to myself, I am glad he is not serving! But, my experiences at SFC Cochran's graveside and at Fort Riley when we sent thousands of brave Soldiers off to war, serve to heartedly remind me we live in a grand country. America is full of selfless people who, like SFC Cochran and those joining the military after 9/11, have answered the call to serve to keep our nation free and great. All of our MOAA members have also answered that call and I thank you for the freedom and opportunity we have today because of your great service. Thank you Sierra Vista for making sure "no one was left behind" and we properly honored a hero! May God Bless America, our military and veterans who have served, and many given their lives, to keep us free, with liberty and justice for all!

FROM THE CHAPTER HISTORIAN

By LTC Tom Fail, USA, (Ret)

This Italian, first name Achilles, was born in 1849 into a wealthy bourgeois family in Cerignola, in the province of Foggia. His parents were Catholics who had their son baptized the day he was born. The young Achilles showed an independent streak, impatient with the strict Catholic education imposed by the family. In 1863, at age 14 he entered the Conservatory of Naples and decided to make music his life's occupation. He graduated at his third year with a diploma certifying him a professor of music and cornet soloist. During his study he became a talented musician as well as a gifted composer and one of the leading cornetists of his time. After graduating in 1866 he accepted odd jobs for several years before joining the Italian Army as a member of the Band of the 16th Infantry Regiment and served until the end of the Italian Revolutionary War in 1870.

After the war he traveled to Switzerland continuing to study and practice music, having success leading musical ensembles. Then in 1875 he worked as band director for a year in Batavia, India. He then moved to Trieste, Austria becoming director of the "Gang of Veterans Austrians."

In 1878, Achille made acquaintance with a Mr. K. Schreimer of Hamburg who hired him with a two-fold purpose: one, as a ship-board musician aboard the Hamburg Line and two, as an entertainer at the grand opening of the Long Beach Hotel, Long Island, New York. The grand opening of the hotel was successful, and he stayed on as entertainer until the end of the tourist season, when he moved to New York City. Armed with solid talent and a thirst for success, Achille soon began to move among the leading musical circles in New York City, and having had profitable ventures in America, Achille decided to settle in the New World-but not without a wife.

He returned to Trieste where he met Irene Luzzato Coen, age 21. She was a descendent of two prominent Jewish-Italian families, each having a long line of distinguished progenitors including military heroes, civil servants, university professors and a Prime Minister of Italy before World War 1. Irene's social status, poise and schooling were quite attractive to Achille. Although Jewish by religion, she was Italian in culture, and spoke her native Italian, some Hebrew, and German. Irene, likewise, was taken by her suitor's good looks, sophisticated worldly charm, and by the prospects of life in America. They were married by the mayor of Trieste, on June 3, 1880 and left that day for America to live in Greenwich Village where their first two children were born.

Despite his acknowledged musical talent, Achille did not work steadily for any orchestra, instead accepting occasional commitments, sometimes as prestigious as that of cornet soloist in the Seventh Regiment Band conducted by Carlo Alberto Cappa.

In March on 1885, the family visited Itene's family in Europe. That June, Achille left his wife and children in Trieste and returned to the United States to find work. In September of 1885, he enlisted in the US Army as director of the band of the 11th Infantry. He was first assigned to the garrison at Fort Sully, Dakota Territory where he sent word for his family to join him. In 1887 he was reassigned to Madison Barracks in Watertown, New York. He became popular in Watertown where he assembled a local band made up of town's people, taught numerous private lessons, and the Army orchestra offered free public concerts under his baton.

His next assignments included two places in Arizona, **Fort Huachuca** and Fort Whipple in 1890 and in 1892. In all those places he received awards and had a reputation of being a fine musician, teacher and composer. In 1898, at the outbreak of the Spanish-American War, the Guard was sent to Tampa, Florida, where he was struck by malaria and a serious food poisoning. When he recovered enough of his strength, he returned to Ft. Whipple where he was given a medical discharge on August 22, 1898 and received a pension of \$8.00 per month.

Unable to continue with musical activity Achille decided to return with his family in Trieste, where he started a thriving business, however rudely interrupted by death from a sudden heart attack in 1904. He was buried in the cemetery of the Anglican Trieste with Masonic symbols.

You have probably guessed, Achille and Irene were the parents of the 99th Mayor of New York City, Fiorello La Guardia



TRANSITION LIAISON(Formerly TOPS):by CW3 Harry Bowen, USA Ret, Director for TOPS/ESGR (Formerly TOPS): Job Postings:

This past 30 days, there were 34 new jobs posted. All of these positions were in Mesa, Bull Head City, Sun City, Thatcher, Phoenix, Chandler, Tempe, Glendale, Scottsdale, Parker, Gilbert, Glendale, Rio Verde, Flagstaff, and Humboldt areas.

I got with the local Work Force One personnel and obtained a link whereby I will be able to access all job openings. Will get this implemented and start scrubbing those jobs, both for Cochise County but also for Fort Huachuca area

Job Fairs:
There were 15 job fairs posted this past period; 2 were for Sierra Vista, 1 at Fort Huachuca, 9 in Phoenix, 2 in Mesa, 1 in Tempe, and 1 in Rearview.

Employer Support to the Guard and Reserves (ESGR)

Continued to support the Fort Huachuca Soldier for Life (SFL) Transition Assistance Program (TAP) office for the purpose of supporting them at their transition processing sessions as well as instruction for their National Guard Annual Training with one presentation. We have one training session scheduled for 20 February for an anticipated 100+ National Guard and Army Reserve personnel. At his session, we will provide information on ESGR, what services ESGR provides, and define for them their rights, benefits and responsibilities as governed under the United Services Employment and Reemployment Act (USERRA) enacted in 1994.

Cochise Serving Veterans

The Cochise Serving Veterans Meeting was convened on 10 February.

At the meeting, the positions for the upcoming CSV Resource Fair Management Team membership was solidified and the planning will commence starting the end of this month on 24 February.

CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP	
Regular Members	199
Associate Members	12
Auxiliary	21



SCHOLARSHIP REPORT by COL John Black, USA Ret

Based on your generous donations, the Chapter Board of Directors

agreed on a full slate of nine \$1000 scholarships for the 2015-2016 school year. Last fall all local High Schools were notified of our Scholarship Requirements and Timelines. Applications were due on 19 February 2016. As of the deadline, I received applications from ten highly qualified students. The Scholarship Selection Committee will conduct interviews on Friday 26 February and we will present the winners to you at the March dinner meeting, on 17 March 2016. Please try to attend the March dinner meeting so you can help welcome our Scholarship winners.

For your review our chapter scholarships are offered to high school graduating seniors for use at a community college, a university or four-year college, or a service academy.

Two scholarships will be awarded to the best-qualified Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) students from Buena High School and/or Tombstone High School.

Seven additional scholarships will be awarded to the best-qualified students whose parents, grandparents, or legal guardians are on active duty, in an active reservist in a drill status, in the National Guard, or retired from the uniformed services. Students attending schools in the following areas can apply: Benson, Bisbee, Bowie, Douglas, Patagonia, San Simon, Sierra Vista, St. David, Tombstone, Valley Union, or Willcox
Thanks again for our outstanding support to our Chapter Scholarship Program.



Dr Randy Groth, Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army, addresses our February meeting

PRESIDENTS NOTES (cont)

If you must have a hard copy of the Heliogram and you have not submitted a request, please let us know so we can make arrangements to get you a hard copy for each issue.

SHOUT OUTS::

According to the Treasure's Records, 6 members purchased Dinner for ALL meetings in 2015; Bob Bobar, Gene Fenstermacher, Jim Hanke, Allen Rossow, Sam Rumore and Lori Wysong. Thank you for your support and we hope to see this list expanded in 2016.

Special recognition and a THANK YOU to Frances Kosinski you won the 50/50 raffle for the second month in a row and once again donated her winnings to our Scholarship fund.

Finally, I have asked the editor to have a magnificent poem "Old Glory" published in this issue. If you have or have not read it before, it will tug at your heart, brighten your day and make you even prouder to be an AMERICAN.

Hope to talk with you at our next meeting! Remember it is our Student Scholarship Recognition Dinner Meeting. Come and congratulate our winners and their families! Without your amazing generosity this program would not be possible.

BOB



President Covalucci presents Dr. Groth with a chapter challenge coin

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Your new chapters Board of Directors being sworn in.
 (Due to Editor error these were left out of last months Heliogram)



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Lori Wysong



OLD GLORY

I Am the Flag

I am the flag of the United States of America.

My name is Old Glory.

I fly atop the world's tallest buildings.

I stand watch in America's halls of justice.

I fly majestically over institutions of learning.

I stand guard with power in the world.

Look up and see me.

I stand for peace, honor, truth and justice.

I stand for freedom. I am confident.

I am arrogant. I am proud.

When I am flown with my fellow banners,

My head is a little higher,

My colors a little truer.

I bow to no one!

I am recognized all over the world.

I am worshipped - I am saluted.

I am loved - I am revered.

I am respected - I am feared.

I have fought in every battle of every war for more than 200 years.

I was flown at Valley Forge, Gettysburg, Shiloh and Appomattox

I was there at San Juan Hill, the trenches of France, in the Argonne Forest,
Anzio Rome and the beaches of Normandy.

Guam, Okinawa, Korea and KheSan, Saigon, Vietnam know me.

I was there. I led my troops.

I was dirty, battleworn and tired,

but my soldiers cheered me and I was proud.

I have been burned, torn and trampled on the streets of countries

I have helped set free. It does not hurt for I am invincible.

I have been soiled upon, burned, torn and trampled in the streets of my country.

And when it's done by those whom I've served in battle - it hurts.

But I shall overcome - for I am strong.

I have slipped the bonds of earth and

stood watch over the uncharted frontiers of space from my vantage point on the moon.

I have born silent witness to all of America's finest hours.

But my finest hours are yet to come.

When I am torn into strips and used as bandages for my wounded comrades on the battle field,

when I am flown at halfmast to honor my soldier,

or when I lie in the trembling arms of a grieving parent at the grave of their fallen son or daughter,

I am proud.

I am the flag of the United States of America.

Originally entitled, *My Name is Old Glory* by Howard Schnauber

© 1994 the author [Mr. Schnauber has given permission to the public to use this poem for program or publishing purposes.

Please [credit the Fort Collins Public Library](#) Local History Archive, Oral History Interview of Mr. Howard Schnauber, the author.]

THURSDAY, MARCH 17, 2016 DINNER RESERVATION FORM

Pueblo Del Sol Country Club, 2770 South St Andrews Drive, Sierra Vista
Social Hour 1800 — Dinner 1830

My Name _____ Guest Name(s) _____

Check Information

Amount for meal @ \$25 each _____

Amount for Operating Fund _____

Amount for Scholarship Fund _____

Check total _____

RESERVATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED by MARCH 7, 2016

(result of post office mail handling changes)

Make check payable to Coronado Chapter, MOAA and mail to: **Reservations, Coronado Chapter, MOAA , P. O. Box 1685, Sierra Vista, AZ. 85636-1685** (Note on envelope “Dinner Reservation”)

Please change the following information for me: Address _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Contact person for reservations is Tom Hessler, phone 459-0093, email: tjhessler@cox.net



CORONADO CHAPTER

2016 CHAPTER RENEWAL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



Rank _____ Last Name _____ First _____ Initial _____

Spouse's First Name _____ National MOAA Number _____

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Please circle all that apply: REGULAR— RESERVE— NATIONAL GUARD— FORMER OFFICER—ACTIVE— RETIRED—

MALE ___ FEMALE ___ WIDOW ___ WIDOWER ___

Member Date of Birth: MM ___ / DD ___ / YYYY ___ Spouse Date of Birth: MM ___ / DD ___ / YYYY ___

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

I am currently a member in good standing with MOAA._____,
Renewal Membership is (Reg) \$ 15.00; (Aux) is \$ 10.00

Mail to: Coronado Chapter, MOAA
PO Box 1685
Sierra Vista, AZ 85636-1685

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For further Membership questions, contact LTC George Kirmse, 378-2670, email : kirmsegm@cox.net