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Green Valley Chapter of MOAA Celebrates 40th Anniversary



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Today, September 3, 2020 marks the 40th Anniversary of the Green Valley Chapter, Military Officers Association. Although we had hoped to have a celebration, that will not happen any time soon because of COVID-19.

Our Chapter came into existence on September 3, 1980 when it became affiliated with the national The Retired Officers Association (TROA). TROA members included officers from the five military services, Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force and Coast Guard as well as officers from the US Public Health Service and National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration. TROA began in 1929 with the mission to counsel and render assistance to all officers in matters related to their retired status. Through the years, the association broadened its objectives to work on behalf of the entire uniformed service community. After a membership vote in September, 2002, the association changed its name from TROA to MOAA on January 1, 2003.

In conjunction with the Chapter anniversary, I believe this to be a good time to announce that the Green Valley Chapter has once again attained the highest of Chapter awards from MOAA in 2019. That is the 2019 Level of Excellence (LOE) Award. Hats off to the volunteer work of the Chapter Board of Directors and many members who helped obtain this lofty recognition.

Just a word regarding the possible events our Chapter is attempting to undertake pending CDC and State approvals. The Mix and Mingle Cocktail Reception is still scheduled for October.

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Military Officers Association of America

Green Valley Chapter · Desert Duster Newsletter · September/October 2020 Issue



The garage sale in November is tentatively scheduled. We are working on the feasibility of our annual Christmas Dinner. These functions are pending approval by various facilities and we will keep you informed of the details.

I happily announce that our first Chapter function will be held in September at the Longhorn Grill and Saloon in Amado. For reservations please see page 5. Our guest speaker will be Chapter member and former webmaster Captain Kelly Gavin. Kelly will speak about his newly published book, "Power Point Ranger: My Iraq War Logs". This book is now available for purchase on Amazon and Kelly has graciously donated a signed copy to the Chapter to be used as a door prize. There will also be signed copies at the luncheon for purchase. Further program details can be found on pages 4 and 9.

After this long and trying summer I am sure that most of us would like to bring back some resemblance of normalcy. Please consider this luncheon as a way to re-energize the camaraderie with your friends at the Green Valley Chapter.

The final note... I would once again like to thank Jadine Hilt for her outstanding work in producing facemasks, the proceeds of which were donated to this Chapter.

Hopefully we can continue getting together. In the meantime, stay healthy and be safe.

Joseph Longo 1st LT USA (Former)
2019-2020 Chapter President
Green Valley Chapter, MOAA



Green Valley MOAA Chapter Turns 40!

Peggy McGee, 2nd Vice President/Programs, Public Relations Officer



Happy anniversary to us! Forty years ago today, we officially came into existence

when we received a [Charter of Affiliation](#) from The Retired Officers Association (TROA), the forerunner of MOAA. Actually, the Chapter held its first meeting to introduce military officers to the Chapter on June 7, 1980. The luncheon, held at the Green Valley Country Club, cost \$5 - 40 years later and only \$20 for a luncheon is not too bad!

The purpose of the first meeting was to establish the By-laws which have changed slightly over the years to adjust to changing times, procedures, and objectives. Dues were \$10 but members and spouses had to purchase their name tags. Now the name tags are included with the payment of dues. The first president was retired Army LTC Myron P. Smith. There were three Vice Presidents, Host & Facilities, Personal Affairs, and Programs; two Secretaries, Corresponding and Recording; and a Treasurer.

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Other officers on the Board performed such duties as Historian, Newsletter Editor, Dental Care Coordinator, Legislative Liaison, Public Relations, and Chaplain. There were 130 charter members in the Chapter.

The first newsletter, done on a non-electric typewriter was two pages long, no photos. We have come a long way since 1980 but many of the same duties and responsibilities are performed by far fewer volunteers. Of course, technology has made some of the jobs easier. We hope that some of our newer and younger members will consider taking on some of these jobs to keep the Chapter running smoothly. If you want more information about any of the key board positions, all of which are coming vacant at the end of the year unless the incumbent re-ups, please contact any one of the officers. You will find a listing of officers with their contact information on page 14 of this newsletter.

For the benefit of new members and as a refresher for those who have been members for a while, here are some of the things that your Chapter has done over the past year or so:

Supported the effort to increase the amount of military retired pay exempt from AZ taxes for all veterans.

Philanthropic efforts

Awarded three scholarships to JROTC cadets from Sahuarita and Walden Grove (Navy), Rio Rico (Army) and Nogales (Air Force) High Schools. This is possible because of grants and member donations.

Jadine Hilt, Chapter Secretary, and seamstress extraordinaire made **“military pride” and patriotic masks** for Chapter members. To date, the masks have raised over \$2,800 to be used for JROTC scholarships for the upcoming school year.

Food for the Troops collection over the 4th of July period to obtain groceries as well cash to support the young airmen from the 162nd Fighter Wing, Air National Guard. Donations came from members and residents of Quail Creek where most of our meetings are held.

Turkeys for the Troops: Chapter buys 30 turkeys plus gift cards to enable families to buy the trimmings for a Thanksgiving meal for the 162nd. Money for the program comes from member donations, periodic 50-50 raffles, and grants.

Women Warriors & VA Hospital Homeless Veterans Program: When we learn that a homeless veteran is expecting a new baby, through the efforts of the Knitwits, Auxiliary members who knit blankets and sew bibs and burp cloths, and monetary contributions, we assemble a basket for the baby and a bag of goodies plus a handmade afghan for the new mom.

Homeless and Hospitalized veterans: Items are collected and delivered to the Tucson VA Hospital to support homeless and hospitalized veterans at each meeting.

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The Chapter generally holds six meetings per year, three dinners, two luncheons and a Mix & Mingle Cocktail gathering. The next event is the luncheon on September 23. Other 2020 events will include a Mix & Mingle in October, and dinners in November and December. All events for the remainder of 2020 are, of course, dependent on the number of COVID-19 cases in AZ continuing to decrease. Except for the holiday dinner and the Mix & Mingle, there is generally a speaker on a topic of local interest.

MOAA Luncheon Moved to a New Location

Peggy McGee, 2nd Vice President/Programs; Public Relations Officer



The Green Valley Chapter Military Officers Association's first event since the COVID-19 outbreak began will take place on Wednesday, September 23rd. Because of the need to open facilities incrementally, Quail Creek announced that outside groups would not be allowed to host events in the Madera Clubhouse Ballroom for the remainder of 2020. Therefore, the Chapter will be moving to temporary locations for the remainder of the year.

The September luncheon will take place at the Longhorn Grill and Saloon, 28851 S Nogales Hwy, in Amado, beginning at 11:30. The menu will include a choice of a Tumacacori Salad with Chicken (mixed greens, Pollo Asada Chicken, strawberries, grapes, Feta cheese, raisins and pecans with Honey Balsamic dressing); Tri-tip Bowl (rice, Campfire Beans, cheese, roasted red peppers, green chilies, avocado, Poblano Crema); or Amado Tri-tip sandwich served on a Hoagie roll and topped with caramelized onions and garlic aioli. Coffee, soda or ice tea and dessert are included in the cost. Adult beverages will be available for purchase. Cost for the meal will be \$20 with checks payable to GV MOAA.

Chapter member CPT Kelly Galvin will be the guest speaker. At age 52, after he had been off active duty for 13 years, Kelly was recalled to active duty for a tour of duty in Iraq. He will recount his experiences while serving, many of which are addressed in his recently published novel, *PowerPoint Ranger: My Iraq War Logs*. See article on page 9 for further details about CPT Galvin. Kelly will be donating an autographed copy of his book to be raffled at the luncheon.

Please mail your completed reservation form (on the next page) and check to GV MOAA, Box 1535, Green Valley, AZ 85622-1535 to arrive by September 17. Reservations for the luncheon can also be made by contacting Phil Lamb at 520-771-6098 or 503-730-3664. **Deadline is September 17.**

Military Pride masks will be available at the meeting and we will also be taking orders for one of Jadine's unique holiday masks.



Membership in MOAA is opened to commissioned and warrant officers, active duty, reserve, National Guard, former and retired. Spouses of deceased officers are also invited to join the Green Valley Chapter. Dues are \$25 per year for military members and \$15 for spouses.

Military Officers Association of America

Green Valley Chapter · Desert Duster Newsletter · September/October 2020 Issue



September 23, 2020 · Luncheon 11:30AM

(NEW LOCATION!) Longhorn Grill and Saloon – Amado, AZ (NEW LOCATION!)

Please make your reservations by September 17th

Please reserve _____ places

Cost: \$_____ (\$20 per person)

MENU CHOICES: (Coffee, soda or ice tea and dessert are included in the cost.)

#1 - Tumacacori Salad with Chicken (mixed greens, Pollo Asada Chicken, strawberries, grapes, Feta cheese, raisins and pecans with Honey Balsamic dressing)

#2 - Tri-tip Bowl (rice, Campfire Beans, cheese, roasted red peppers, green chilies, avocado, Poblano Crema)

#3 - Amado Tri-tip sandwich served on a Hoagie roll and topped with caramelized onions and garlic aioli.

Check # _____ Attn: GV MOAA Reservation
--

Mail check and reservation form to:
MOAA of Green Valley
PO Box 1535 · Green Valley, AZ 85622-1535

Rank: _____

Name: _____
(please print)

I am bringing guest(s) whose name(s) is/are:

Menu choice (#1, #2, #3):

Guest 1	_____
Guest 2	_____
Guest 3	_____
Guest 4	_____

If you require a ride to a meeting, program or event, please check here:

✂ ----- CUT HERE -----

If you cannot get your reservation and check mailed timely, or **if you have made a reservation and find you cannot attend PLEASE CALL Phil Lamb at 520-771-6098 or 503-730-3664. Your chapter is charged for all ordered meals even if they aren't served.** Please bring a check or exact cash amount to the meeting.

Mix and Mingle Coming in October – Finally!

Peggy McGee, 2nd Vice President/Programs; Public Relations Officer

Our annual Mix and Mingle that was initially scheduled for March 18 is back on the calendar, this time on Thursday, October 22 from 4:30-6:30 p.m. We are still working on a new location while we are unable to use the facilities at Quail Creek. We hope to be able to keep the cost at \$15 with your Chapter paying the remainder of the bill. Once a location is finalized, we will send out an email message and the reservation form.



Wherever we hold the event, it will still include a Trivia game in which attendees will form teams to determine who can recall facts learned in the past most quickly. Prizes will be awarded.

If any of your neighbors or friends is an officer, active, reserve, National Guard or former please invite them to join us on October 22. Spouses of deceased officers are also invited to join our Chapter.

Membership Dues Campaign Begins This Month

Elliott Jones, 1st Vice President/Membership

Your membership is very important to the MOAA Green Valley Chapter as well as to the national organization. The Military Officers Association of America is the nation's largest and most influential association of military officers. Each member adds to MOAA's voice, speaking for a strong national defense and presenting the interests of military officers at every stage of their careers. Our Chapter continues to grow with new members.

Despite COVID-19, our Green Valley Chapter provided scholarships to outstanding JROTC students from local high schools. We also have a Military Assistance Fund to help the families of Arizona National and Air Guard personnel. The SM&A fund provided "Food for Troops" this summer.

In addition, we also provide support to the following:

- Food for Families
- Turkeys for Troops
- Toys for Tots
- VA Hospital
- Women Warriors Sponsor
- Honor Flight sponsor
- Tucson Veterans Serving Veterans sponsor
- Santa Cruz Serving Veterans member

Your Officers and Board members wish to thank you for your continued support of MOAA of Green Valley. The early renewal year membership year runs between October 1 and 31 December. If you renew during this period, your dues will be paid until the end of the following year. Once again, we have no increase in dues. They remain at \$25 for military members and \$15 for auxiliary. You can renew at any one of our upcoming events to include the luncheon on September 23rd and still be paid in full through December 31, 2021. The membership renewal form can be found on the next page of this newsletter.

Your dues allow us to continue our support to the community and all our veterans. We ask that you consider renewing your membership so we can continue our support to our community and the great organizations that we support.

Military Officers Association of America

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Military Officers Association of America
Green Valley, Arizona Chapter
P.O. Box 1535
Green Valley, AZ 85622-1535

2021 Chapter Membership Dues

Chapter Dues: (Regular-\$25; Auxiliary-\$15)

Membership Dues \$_____ Make check payable to: Military Officers Association of Green Valley (or GV MOAA).

PLEASE PROVIDE THE INFORMATION BELOW:

Name: _____ New _____ Renewal _____

Rank: _____ Branch of Service: _____ National # _____

Auxiliary _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip _____

DOB (Month/Day/Year): _____

Phone: () _____ E-Mail: _____

Scholarship & Military Assistance Fund \$_____ Donation.

Make check payable to Green Valley MOAA Scholarship and Military Assistance Fund or GV MOAA S&MA Fund. **Dues may be paid at any meeting or mailed to Military Officers Association of America, Green Valley, Arizona Chapter, P.O. Box 1535, Green Valley, AZ 85622-1535.**

Introducing New Member: CW3 Maurice H.J. (Jack) Bundy

Peggy McGee, 2nd Vice President/Programs; Public Relations Officer

We welcome new member CW3 Maurice H. J. Bundy better known as Jack who joined our Chapter just as things started grinding to a halt. Hailing from Indianapolis, Jack majored in English, with a minor in American Studies from Indiana University. He worked for several years in Pharmaceutical and Surgical Instrument Sales after graduating from college.



At age 28, he joined the Army to “see the world” and have a more interesting and adventurous life. He became a Voice Intercept Operator, Intel in the German Language. After 8 years of enlisted service he became a Warrant Officer. He went to the Defense Language Institute (DLI) in Monterey, California for Basic and Advanced German Language. There he met his wife, Barbara to whom he’s been married almost 43 years. Like Jack, Barbara joined the Army after graduating from the College of St Benedict in Minnesota and working as an elementary school teacher for two years.

Their first assignment was at the US Army Field Station, Berlin, where they worked strategic signals intelligence. After 4 years, Barbara got out of the Army and went back to teaching. Jack spent 6 years at the 104th MI BN, Ft. Carson, Colorado working tactical signals intelligence. He returned to DLI, this time as a Military instructor teaching the Basic German Course. He then spent 6 years as the US Liaison Officer with a British Intelligence Unit in Germany. He later became course manager for two tactical intelligence courses at the US Army Intelligence Center and School, Ft. Huachuca. His final assignment was as Command Language Program Manager and Chief, SIGINT WO at USAREUR HQ, ODOSINT, Heidelberg, Germany where he managed the Army’s deployment of Interpreter/Translators in the Balkans.

Jack retired from the Army and moved to the DC area, where he worked as International Program Manager for 16 years for the Northrop Grumman Corporation in Fairfax, Virginia. In this position he managed programs in Hungary, all the countries in the Balkans, Germany, Italy, Greece, and other European countries. This job rewarded him with lots of European Travel.

During his Army career and thereafter, Barbara taught all grades in elementary schools, taught English as a Second Language, and finally, for the several years, was a Reading Specialist in Loudoun County, Virginia, working in staff development, instructing teachers within the county on the County’s Reading Program.

They both retired in 2014 and moved from northern Virginia to Temecula, California to be closer to their daughter who lives in Redondo Beach. After 5 years in California, they decided to move to Green Valley and Quail Creek, which had been their first choice in 2014. Here, they are active in the Episcopal Church, where, prior to COVID-19, Jack sang in the choir. He also sang in the Green Valley Community Chorus.

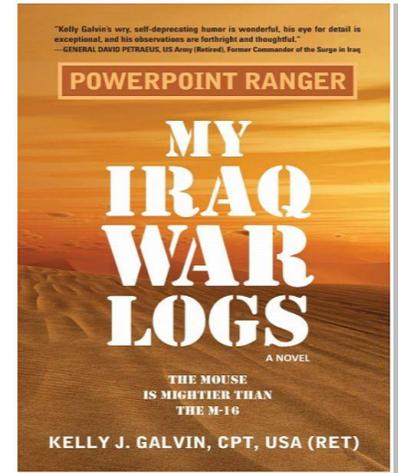
Being a native of Indianapolis, Jack is an avid Indy Car fan, going usually to 6-7 races a year. Barbara volunteers to teach English in Nogales, Sonora to folks waiting for their documentation to move into the US. She also loves to swim and is an avid knitter. They both love to travel, going to Europe usually at least twice a year and also love to go cruising on Viking. Hopefully, those days will come back soon.

Chapter Member Writes Book About His Experiences in Iraq

Peggy McGee, 2nd Vice President/Programs; Public Relations Officer

CPT Kelly Galvin, USA (Ret) who initially joined our Chapter in 2005 has written a novel based on his “retiree recall” to active duty and deployment to Iraq in 2009. Kelly was 52-years old and had been out of uniform for 13 years when he deployed.

Published by Koehler Books on August 31, 2020, *PowerPoint Ranger: My Iraq War Logs* provides an emotional behind-the-scenes look at how the Army recalls a 52-year old Army captain, Matt Jerome, to active duty and deploys him to Baghdad as part of the ‘surge of forces’ strategy. Jerome trades his peaceful life of woodworking and volunteerism in Arizona retirement for a non-stop, front-row seat, observing, documenting and reporting the most horrific actions of the insurgent war.



Kelly served the Green Valley Chapter for many years, creating our first website which acquired several awards from MOAA National over time. Kelly also served as our Chapter and Arizona Council of Chapters TOPS representative (now Transition Assistance) for several years until family medical issues prevented his and his wife Sandy’s more active participation.

His wife Sandy is also a Chapter member and served one year as board secretary. Sandy also served on the Green Valley Fire District Board until her stroke in 2014.

Kelly’s book received powerful reviews and endorsements from three general officers, including General David Petraeus, US Army (Ret), former Commander of the Surge in Iraq, US Central Command, and Coalition Forces in Afghanistan, and former Director of the CIA.

The novel is available on Amazon or Barnes & Noble (ISBN: 9781646630875). Kelly will be the guest speaker at our September 23 luncheon. See article on page 4 for more information.

Book details are available on two websites:

[PUBLISHER SITE](https://www.koehlerbooks.com/book/powerpoint-ranger-my-iraq-war-logs) (or <https://www.koehlerbooks.com/book/powerpoint-ranger-my-iraq-war-logs>)

[AUTHOR SITE](https://powerpoint-ranger.com) (or <https://powerpoint-ranger.com>)

Scholarship Program Got a Real Boost

Marianne Rogers Faust, Director/JROTC Liaison; Historian

As many of you probably know, our Chapter gave three \$1,500 scholarships to deserving JROTC cadets in May. Unfortunately, we were not able to have our annual awards banquet because of the virus, but the students were very grateful for this economic assistance.

Not too many positive things have happened since the start of the COVID-19 crisis. However, when our Chapter Secretary, Jadine Hilt, started creating very colorful military and patriotic masks, she had a very positive impact on our scholarship fund. The "mask donations" received so far have totaled \$2,876. Jadine's efforts have paid for almost two \$1,500 scholarships for the next academic cycle. We are truly grateful to Jadine for her time and for using her impressive talents to help us offer scholarships to JROTC cadets! And, a very sincere thanks to all of you who made those donations!

Don't have a mask yet? They will be available at the September luncheon and October Mix & Mingle.

Scholarship Winners Send Thanks...

Cadet Olea

Cadet/Colonel Diego Olea, a 2020 graduate from Nogales High School where he was a member of the AFJROTC for 4 years, expressed his appreciation for selecting him for one of the Chapter's Scholarship winners. Diego received a \$1500 scholarship.



July 25, 2020

TO: Green Valley Military Officers of America Association

Dear Members,

I am deeply honored to be the recipient of the Military officers of America Association Scholarship. I am writing this letter in order to thank you for your generosity, which will help me immensely as I continue at the University of Arizona. I appreciate the recognition of my efforts and hard work throughout High School.

I plan to Major in Business Management and minor in military science. I hope to accomplish several wonderful things over the years. I want to be able to continue my father's business and give him incentive into modern business techniques and serve in our nations' military. I would do my very best to understand and apply my knowledge in future in my educational career. This financial award will allow me to spend more time in academics and not worry about future debts. Thank you for your support, I am grateful for this opportunity.

*Sincerely,
Diego Olea*

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Cadet Yanez

It isn't often that we receive a follow-up letter from one of the cadets to whom we have awarded a scholarship so we wanted to share a letter we received from Cadet Merial Yanez, a 2019 Rio Rico High School graduate.

Cadet Yanez addressed her letter to COL Marianne Rogers Faust, the Chapter's liaison with the high school JROTC program but it's really to all of our members who so generously support our scholarship program year after year.

May 14, 2020

Dear Marianne and MOAA Green Valley Chapter,

Last year when I received my scholarship, someone told me that I should write a letter to recap my year. A year later, here I am. After I graduated from Rio Rico High School last year, my journey at Northern Arizona University began. I finally decided to study Psychology with a minor in social work, and just a couple of months ago I added Spanish. During this year, I learned a lot more about myself. I learned that not every day will be perfect, deadlines are more important now than ever, and my planner became my best friend. I also got my first job on campus as a video transcriber for students with disabilities, and next fall I will begin a new job as a peer mentor. I also learned two things, I am not great at intramural basketball, but trying a new sport is always fun, and 8 A.M classes are not really my friends in college. A major thing I learned as the year closed was, faith, hope, and trust are really what helped me get through the tough patches.

College as a first-generation student is not as bad as I thought it would be. There are large amounts of resources, help, and support groups to help me make sure I am going the right way and that help me be a good student. I also made great friends that have helped me a lot on this journey, we eat together, we played basketball together, and we even study together. Even though my first year was cut short, I still enjoyed it and made lots of memories as a first-year college student.

Finally, I would like to take a moment once again, and thank you for being a part of the reason going to college was possible and making it one for the books. Thank you for helping support me in my education and helping me get one step closer to my dreams. This year, I ended up with a 3.4 GPA and one step closer to pursuing my dream job. Once again thank you for helping make this possible.

Sincerely,

Merial N. Yanez

Your Support is Needed

Peggy McGee, 2nd Vice President/Programs; Public Relations Officer



Like many organizations, two of the causes your Chapter supports, Homeless & Hospitalized veterans and Women Warriors, could use some help.

If you will be attending one of our events in September or October, please consider bringing a canned good, especially one with a flip top which is great for those veterans who do not have housing or some other kind of non-perishable food. Especially popular with homeless veterans are Vienna sausages and tuna packs and other canned fish, sardines, Kippers and Jerky. Individual snack items like dried fruit, cheese and crackers and granola bars are also on their wish list. Both groups would appreciate unopened packages of TP, paper towels, napkins, paper plates, disposable utensils.

Also needed are new, unopened packages of underwear and socks. For men the most popular sizes are small and medium while the women need sizes 9 & 10.

For the hospitalized veterans, the VA is eager to get puzzle books, especially while patients are unable to have visitors because of the coronavirus. Also needed are non-prescription reading glasses, 2021 calendars in both wall and pocket styles, and greeting cards.

The VA is not accepting donations of any used clothing at this time. Women Warriors will accept fall and winter weight clothing, and would especially appreciate career type clothing, shoes and accessories as they get their clients ready to return to the working world. Receipts for tax purposes will be available.

All donations will be promptly delivered to the VA.

Chapter Helps Women Warriors Times Two



In late July we had two requests for help from Women Warriors, a Tucson-based 501(c)3 whose mission is to help homeless, unemployed and underemployed female veterans with housing, clothing, counseling and referral services.

First there was the arrival of a baby boy. Our Charity Liaison, Peggy McGee, went through the stash of baby items that were stored in their garage and then quickly shopped for a large laundry basket, a practical gift for the new mom and filled it with clothing she had collected from the White Elephant before it closed, hand-knitted and fleece blankets and burp cloths lovingly made by the Knit Wits, Chapter members who are adept with knitting needles, handmade beaded jewelry and a hand knitted hat and booties set donated by two The Women of Quail Creek members.

(continued, next page...)

And, of course, there were diapers, wipes and baby shampoo plus some grooming items for the new mom.

Next, we were notified that two homeless moms who had just moved into housing needed some non-perishable foods to tide them over until the SNAP (Food Stamp) benefits kicked in. Using funds provided by member donations to the Scholarship and Military Assistance Fund, and armed with coupons, Peggy purchased not only foods but also some paper and cleaning supplies to help the families.



Karen Kuciver marveled at the generosity of our Chapter to help others during these trying times.

Photos: Gifts for the new baby and his Mom. (L-R) Karen Kuciver surveys the truck-load of groceries in Peggy McGee's trunk.

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Joe Longo

Facilitating Your Housing Dreams

PHOTO GALLERY

Photos and video clips may be accessed in the Photo Gallery via a link in the website sidebar:

greenvalleymoaa.org

ARCHIVED NEWSLETTERS

Looking for back issues of the chapter's newsletter? Go to the News & Events page on the website:

greenvalleymoaa.org/news-events

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THESE 2020 LUNCHEON AND DINNER MEETING DATES

January 15 – Luncheon Meeting: 11:30am Social · 12:00pm. Location: Quail Creek Clubhouse Ballroom #1.

March 18 – “Mix & Mingle”: 4:30pm. Location: Quail Creek Clubhouse Ballroom. **(Moved to October)**

April 28 – JROTC Scholarship Dinner: Social: 5pm · Dinner: 5:30pm. Location: Quail Creek Clubhouse Ballroom 1 & 2. **(Postponed)**

NEW DATE! September 23 – Luncheon Meeting: 11:30am **NEW Location: Longhorn Grill and Saloon (Amado)**

NEW DATE! October 22 – Mix & Mingle: Social: 5pm · Dinner: 5:30pm. · Location: (to be determined)

November 9 – Dinner Meeting: Social: 5pm · Dinner: 5:30pm. Location: (to be determined)

December 9 – Holiday Dinner: Social: 5pm · Dinner: 5:30pm. Location: (to be determined)

The Board of Directors meeting is the 1st Wednesday of each month 8:30-10am at the Friends in Deed Building, Green Valley. Members are welcomed to attend... join us! There will be no Board meetings in June, July or August.

2020 OFFICERS, DIRECTORS & CHAIRS

(Area code is 520 unless otherwise indicated)

President: 1LT Joseph Longo USA (Fmr) 509-645-4993

First Vice-President and Membership:
1LT Elliott Jones USA (Fmr) (847) 366-6466

Second Vice-President and Programs:
COL Peggy McGee, USA (Ret) 207-6188

Secretary: Jadine Hilt (414) 350-7821

Treasurer: COL Peggy McGee, USA (Ret) 207-6188

Immediate Past President, President, 501(c)(3):
LCDR James Knox, USN (Ret) 605-941-0335

National MOAA Board Member, Past President, Legislative Affairs:
CDR John Chernoski, USN, (Ret) 625-3909

ESGR Representative:
Lt Col Dick Kosnick, USAF, (Ret) 867-8999

Surviving Spouse Liaison: Betty Eby-Deardorff 625-3545

Director, Personal Affairs:
CWO3 James Rundlett, USCG (Ret) 509-389-4286

Chaplain: Linda Kosnick 867-8999

Director/JROTC Liaison:
COL Marianne Rogers Faust, USAF (Ret) 210-861-9440

Historian: COL Marianne Rogers Faust, USAF (Ret) 210-861-9440

Transition Liaison:
(OPEN)

Public Relations Officer:
COL Peggy McGee, USA (Ret) 207-6188

Webmaster/Newsletter:
Marianne Cobarrubias, webmaster@greenvalleymoaa.org

MOAA NATIONAL NEWS

Senate Passes NDAA Amendment to Cover Additional Agent Orange Presumptives

The Senate passed an amendment to its version of the FY 2021 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) on Wednesday that would add three medical conditions to [the list of Agent Orange presumptives](https://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/agentorange/conditions/) (<https://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/agentorange/conditions/>), a MOAA-supported move that would expand benefits to tens of thousands of Vietnam veterans.

The amendment, introduced by Sen. Tester (D-Mont.) would add bladder cancer, hypothyroidism, and Parkinson's-like symptoms to the list. It passed overwhelmingly by a vote of 94-6.

The 32 military and veterans organizations in support of this amendment [sent a letter in July](#) to Senate and House leadership voicing the need to care for these veterans. These organizations were supported by MOAA's grassroots efforts, which included thousands of messages sent in support.

Attention now turns back to the House, where an identical amendment was proposed in a bipartisan fashion by Reps. Josh Harder (D-Calif.) and Pete Stauber (R-Minn.), along with 15 other cosponsors. That measure did not make it out of the House Rules Committee, as it did not meet certain technical criteria for a floor vote. However, with the provision included in the Senate's version, the House Rules Committee requirements are no longer applicable, and there is another opportunity to include this provision in the final bill. With the House version of the NDAA recently passed and the Senate's final vote imminent, the next step is for the chambers to work out differences in the NDAA conference.

File Your Taxes ... Even If You Can't Pay

July 15 was Tax Day 2020. As we all know, it was extended from the usual April 15 deadline because of the pandemic. Unfortunately, a not-so-small number of us let the deadline pass without taking any action at all. I get it — you know you owe money that you can't pay, so rather than file and face the ugly truth, you evade it by not filing at all. But here's the problem: If you don't file, there's a late-filing penalty. It's usually a monstrous 5% of the taxes owed for each month (or part of a month) that your return is late, up to five months. If your return is over 60 days late, the minimum penalty is the smaller of \$435 or 100% of the tax owed. The maximum penalty is 25% of the unpaid tax. Compare that to the less costly late payment penalty, which is only .5% of the taxes owed for each month (or part of a month) that return is late.

(continued, next page...)

The rate increases to 1% after the IRS issues a final notice of intent to levy or seize property. The maximum penalty is 25% of the unpaid tax.

Say you owe \$2,000 and you file and pay four months out. You'll owe \$435 for *filing* late, but you'll only owe \$40 for *paying* late (plus interest). The definite takeaway is to file as soon as possible, even if you can't pay. Don't let incomplete information keep you from filing — you can always file an amended return. If you wait too long, the IRS will file a substitute return for you and send you a tax bill, which is usually higher than if you had prepared your taxes yourself.

Interest on the amount due will be charged until you pay (rates vary over time), and it's rarely waived. Servicemembers may qualify for an extension to file and pay based on their military status. You must notify the IRS that your ability to pay has been materially affected by your military service. Don't forget to take into account the penalties associated with not filing or paying your state-level taxes. Sure you're due a refund? No late filing penalties apply, so take your time, but not too much. You have three years from the due date to file.

October 22nd is Mix and Mingle Night.

Location will be announced as we get closer to that date.

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