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[greenvalleymoaa.org](http://greenvalleymoaa.org)

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- DoD Pauses Plan to Send TRICARE Beneficiaries Away from Military Facilities

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



There have been two primary challenges facing our Green Valley Chapter this fall. First, of course, is the effect of Covid-19 on our normal membership functions. Consideration had to be given to occupancy limits and social distancing. We have had to change venues due to aforementioned restrictions at Quail Creek.

We did manage to schedule a well-attended luncheon at the Longhorn Grill in Amado. Our guest speaker, Kelly Galvin, spoke about his unusual military career in his newly published book "My Iraq War Logs".

On Thursday Oct 22nd we hosted our annual Mix and Mingle event at the Elks Club in Green Valley. More on this in our next newsletter.

Our Membership Dinner will be held on November 11th (Veterans Day) at Dominick's Restaurant in Green Valley, formerly Lavender. Our Christmas Meeting is scheduled to be held at the Grill on the Green in Green Valley, to include our annual Christmas drawings for gifts.

Our second Chapter Challenge is determining a slate of officers for the Board of Directors (BOD) for the coming year. I strongly invite anyone who might be interested in service to the club to contact me or any BOD member. A number of the present BOD members are performing dual functions and a positive response to our plea for volunteers would be greatly appreciated.

Of particular note is the change in the annual "Turkeys for Troops" program for the 162nd Fighter Wing of the AANG. Due to Covid-19, we were unable to reserve the required number of turkeys from the local commissary as well as various commercial stores. Instead we will be supplying the 162nd 30 gift cards to enable selected needy service personnel to purchase their own Thanksgiving holiday necessities.

(continued, next page...)

# Military Officers Association of America

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Covid-19 masks originated by BOD Secretary Jadine Hilt are still available. For more information please call (414) 350-7821.

Finally, just a reminder that 2021 Chapter dues are now due and a membership form is included in this newsletter.

In these trying times, stay safe. We hope to see you at our next event.

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



## Slate of Officers for 2021



**President:** 1LT Joseph Longo USA (Fmr)  
**First Vice-President and Membership:** 1LT Elliott Jones USA (Fmr)  
**Second Vice-President and Programs:** COL Peggy McGee, USA (Ret)  
**Secretary:** Jadine Hilt  
**Treasurer:** Vacant  
**Immediate Past President, President, 501(c)(3):** LCDR James Knox, USN (Ret)  
**Legislative Affairs:** CDR John Chernoski, USN (Ret)  
**ESGR Representative:** Lt Col Dick Kosnick, USAF (Ret)  
**Surviving Spouse Liaison:** Betty Eby-Deardorff  
**Director, Personal Affairs:** CWO3 James Rundlett, USCG (Ret)  
**Chaplain:** CDR Myra McCune, USN (Ret)  
**Director/JROTC Liaison:** COL Marianne Rogers Faust, USAF (Ret)  
**Historian:** COL Marianne Rogers Faust, USAF (Ret)  
**Transition Liaison:** CAPT Jeff McCune, USN (Ret)  
**Public Relations Officer:** COL Peggy McGee, USA (Ret)  
**Webmaster/Newsletter:** Marianne Cobarrubias

## A Taste of Italy for November Dinner

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

We are continuing our quest for a perfect venue—or as close to perfection as we can get—for our meetings until things return to post-COVID normal. Our November meeting will take us to Dominick’s Restaurant, 77 E. Paseo de Golf, right off Abrego. It is the site of what was formerly Lavender Restaurant. The date will be November 11, an ideal date for a club composed of veterans.



The social period will begin at 5 p.m. followed by dinner at 5:30. The price is \$28 per person, all-inclusive. The menu offerings are listed on the Reservation Form which can be found on the next page of this newsletter. There will be no speaker but rather a time for conversation after the election of new officers. The evening will be special since it will be a time when we focus on children and the upcoming holidays.

This year we are asking members to consider bringing an unwrapped toy for the children of honorably discharged female veterans who are part of the Women Warriors program to our November meeting. Women Warriors is a Tucson-based 501(c)3 charity that strives to get homeless female veterans off the street and into housing. In addition to providing housing, the organization gives classes on budgeting, job search and resume writing assistance. The 11 children include:



Conner- 13

Raynie- 12

Elizabeth- 8

Oliver- 5

Melanie- 6 months

Kyra- 12

William- 11

Noah- 7

Melina- 2

Omari & Sekani (twin boys)- 16 months

For those who don't like to shop or who are not ready to hit the malls in person but still want to help, you can write a check payable to MOAA S&MA fund and put "Toys" in the memo line. You will receive a written acknowledgment of your gift for tax purposes. With the monetary donations in hand, a couple MOAA elves will go shopping to ensure that each child gets at least one gift.

Thanks for considering the less fortunate at this time of year.

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**November 11, 2020 · Social: 5 PM Dinner: 5:30 PM**

**Dominick's Italian Restaurant · 77 Paseo de Golf (Green Valley)**

**Please make your reservations by November 4th**

**PLEASE RESERVE** \_\_\_\_\_ places

**COST:** \$\_\_\_\_\_ (\$28 per person, all inclusive)

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

**#1 - PENNE PRIMAVERA CON PESTO:** Roasted red peppers, artichoke hearts, zucchini, yellow squash, mushrooms in a basil pesto cream sauce and tossed with penne pasta

**#2 - CHICKEN PICCATATA:** Sautéed with lemon, capers, white wine butter sauce, served over pasta

**#3 - DOMINICK'S LASAGNA:** Tender pasta layered with Italian sausage, beef, ricotta, mozzarella, Pecorino Romano cheese, herbs and marinara

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 Peggy McGee at 520-207-6188 (leave a message if no answer). 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. There is a limit of 26 persons to allow for social distancing.



## Dues Are Coming Due

Elliott Jones, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President/Membership

Contributor: Peggy McGee, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President/Programs; Public Relations Officer

It is that time of year again to renew your membership in the MOAA Green Valley Chapter. Despite COVID-19, your Chapter has managed to hold five of the six scheduled meetings; awarded \$4500 in scholarships to JROTC cadets; helped homeless veterans at the VA hospital and Women Warriors, to include preparing layettes for two babies born to female veterans in both programs; provided food and monetary donations for the Food Pantry at the 162<sup>nd</sup> Fighter Wing, Air National Guard during the summer and will be giving 30 airmen \$50 gift cards for this year's *Turkeys for the Troops* program at Thanksgiving time.

While about 75% of the numeric rating of the 10 criteria to be eligible for a Level of Excellence (LOE) award falls on the elected officers, the remaining 25% is member dependent. With your help, your Chapter has worked hard to maintain its 5-Star rating for the past 10 years in a row. [Click here for more information](#). And we need your help to continue to earn that award. Those who renew their dues in a timely manner help us get a 15-point start on our score, with 100 points being our goal. Besides the requirement to pay 2021 dues by the end of 2020 to keep us competitive, some of the other requirements for the prestigious 5-star award require that all Board officers be members not only of the Chapter but also National MOAA and to earn the maximum points for the award, 95% of

members must also be members of National. We are quite successful in that area right now since 1LT Elliott Jones enrolls all new members into the basic membership when they join the Chapter.

Another very important component of the LOE application process is a narrative on how we stay active in the community, what we do to encourage other officers to join our Chapter, whether we have representation at community events (when they can be held), whether we contact elected officials on issues being pursued by MOAA National. See article beginning on page 10 of this newsletter regarding TRICARE and burial in Arlington National Cemetery.

Your Officers and Board members wish to thank you for your continued support of MOAA of Green Valley. Dues remain \$25 for military members and \$15 for the auxiliary. You can renew at any one of our upcoming events or they can be mailed using the Membership Form on the next page of this newsletter. Even if you pay your dues in person, we ask that you complete the Membership form so we can ensure that our records are up-to-date. If you have not yet done so, we ask that you consider renewing your membership NOW so we can continue our support to our community. Your dues will carry you through as a member in good standing until December 31, 2021.

# 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.**

## Holiday Masks

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

The holidays are just around the corner and Jadine's sewing machine has been whirring as she whipped up some masks just in time to acknowledge the season. And we should add that the masks make excellent stocking stuffers and are oh so lightweight to mail.



There's something for everyone including patriotic Christmas, Christmas Cowboy boots, gingerbread for the cookie baker, and traditional poinsettias or holly. Some of the designs are very limited editions so make sure to order yours early for the best selection. For those who ordered one of her earlier masks, you will see that the holiday masks have a new and improved design which includes stronger nose bars and adjustable elastic bands.



While Jadine does not charge Chapter members for the masks, it really makes her smile if members make a donation to the Scholarship and Military Assistance Fund to show their appreciation.

## Grants Make Chapter Donations Possible

Peggy McGee, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President/Programs; Public Relations Officer  
Contributor: Dick Newman, Past President

Dick Newman had a busy summer writing grant requests to help support your Chapter's philanthropic endeavors. It was more of a challenge this year since organizations that have traditionally awarded us grants have been impacted by COVID too. But the John F. Long Foundation came through with a \$1400 grant that is enabling us to continue our *Turkeys for Troops* program with a twist. We usually give 30 junior airmen from the 162<sup>nd</sup> Fighter Wing, Arizona Air National Guard a turkey and a gift card at Thanksgiving time. But this year the Commissary as well as local grocery stores would not allow us to reserve turkeys so the selected airmen will each receive a \$50 commissary gift card to buy a turkey and the trimmings of their choice.

Dick, who has a superb track record for obtaining grants, is currently working on a proposal to support two scholarships for Hispanic JROTC cadets in 2021. His focus is on Santa Cruz County which has the second highest unemployment rate in Arizona. If Dick is successful in his efforts, two \$1500 scholarships, one to each school, will be awarded to students from the Air Force JROTC unit at Nogales High School and the Army JROTC unit at Rio Rico High School.

# Military Officers Association of America

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## Request for Help for Homeless Veterans

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



The VA is once again accepting donations of gently used clothing for men. Especially needed are men's slacks in size 34, long-sleeved shirts in all sizes, shoes, fall and winter weight sweaters, jackets, hats, gloves, backpacks. New socks and boxer shorts (especially in sizes medium and large) are high on their wish list. They are accepting both travel and full-size unopened toiletries and dental products.

All donations may be brought to the dinner on November 11 or taken to the McGee's house at 1908 E. Longspur Place in Quail Creek. Because they are using telemedicine for most outpatient services, the VA is not accepting calendars at this time.

## Sponsors

A special "thank you" to our sponsors who support MOAA of Green Valley with a sponsor ad.

**POWERPOINT RANGER**

*Novel by*  
Capt. Kelly Galvin, USA (Ret)

MEMBER OF GREEN VALLEY  
MOAA CHAPTER

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**ARCHIVED NEWSLETTERS**  
[greenvalleymoaa.org/news-events](http://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: Green Valley Elks Lodge

**November 11** – Dinner Meeting: Social: 5pm · Dinner: 5:30pm. Location: Dominick’s Restaurant, Green Valley

**December 9** – Holiday Luncheon: Social: 11:30am · Lunch: 12noon. Location: Grill On The Green, Green Valley

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. All meetings will be via Zoom until further notice.

## 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

### **ACT NOW: Don't Let Arlington Cemetery Changes Move Forward Without Your Voice**

The public comment period on the Federal Register to address dramatic reductions for eligibility to Arlington National Cemetery (ANC) opened Sept. 15 and will close Nov. 16. As of mid-October, there were roughly 700 comments made with less than a month left to address proposed changes that are discriminatory in nature.

Some members of Congress are watching the volume of comments to gauge interest, making it even more important to make your voice heard.

ANC is running out of room for interments, and [the proposed eligibility changes](#) for interment and inurnment at ANC are designed to extend the life of the cemetery. Unfortunately, if the eligibility changes are approved, many who had planned for an in-ground burial at ANC will have to change plans.

ANC staff are eager to point out that VA cemeteries are available. However, full military honors with caisson are not available at most VA cemeteries.

The fiscal 2019 National Defense Authorization Act directed the Army secretary to establish revised eligibility criteria to keep the cemetery functioning as an active burial ground for 150 years. The proposed changes to eligibility are service- and mission-discriminatory and do not account for all-important military honors for those who would be forced to use a different cemetery.

Non-contiguous federal land is available for expansion of the cemetery, and continuation of military honors as noted above will matter intensely to families who maintain the rare propensity to serve.

The nature of ANC eligibility changes is a matter of national conscience. This challenge is more than a math and geography problem, and it's bigger than the Army. In a financial environment where DoD seeks to prioritize modernization over legacy systems, it is not surprising that the Army would choose a course of action to push more of the memorial mission to the VA. The greater problem is that a national cemetery is an enduring mission that will require non-contiguous expansion; expansion of ANC to other federal property will require funding from Congress ... and your engagement.

MOAA will continue to encourage our members and others to comment. [Click this link](#) to go directly to the comment page, or you can read the full proposed rule [at this link](#) and make your comments there by clicking the "SUBMIT A FORMAL COMMENT" button in the upper right corner.

(continued, next page...)

It is important for your comments to be yours alone, not the product of mass mailings. Use your own words – if applicable, explain what the changes will mean to you or to your family's future plans.

## What Is Next?

When the Federal Register public comment closes, it will take over a year to reconcile and resolve legal challenges before approval. Existing ANC standards will remain in effect during that time.

Intervention from elected officials may be required to change course for reduced eligibility for our national cemetery. Congressional staff members have already indicated It is not too early to [reach out to your elected officials](#) and voice your concerns.

## DoD Pauses Plan to Send TRICARE Beneficiaries Away from Military Facilities

The COVID-19 pandemic has put on hold the Defense Health Agency's effort to reboot its ambitious reform of the military health system, even as it prepares for the complicated distribution and administration of novel coronavirus vaccines -- once they are approved.

"Some outpatient physicians' offices have either downsized or closed themselves," putting in doubt the agency's goal of sending about 190,000 [TRICARE](#) beneficiaries into the private sector to seek care, said Army Lt. Gen. Ronald Place, the DHA director.

"[In addition], some hospitals across America have either downsized or closed," Place said in an Oct. 8 call with reporters organized by the Defense Writers Group. "[Data the DHA had gathered] to make recommendations to the [Defense Department] about where the capability may exist in the civilian community to effectively provide access to safe, high-quality care for some of these beneficiaries -- that information may no longer be true."

As a result, the DHA has also put on hold a plan to cut as many as 18,000 medical billets from the military health system, Place said, adding that he doesn't expect to make recommendations to the DoD on either plan until at least early 2021.

Instead, the intention is to reassess what is available in the private sector, "bring all that information back to the secretary of defense" and "help determine a way forward," he said.

Place also spoke to the challenges the DHA will face once COVID-19 vaccines are approved by the Food and Drug Administration and the DoD learns where the military stands in the priority for getting access.

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The FDA currently has six vaccine candidates from different companies in the final trial stages.

Last month, the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine issued a draft plan suggesting that health care workers and first responders would get priority when vaccines become available.

Place said vaccines under consideration by the FDA offer particular challenges. As opposed to the single-shot flu immunization, the coronavirus vaccines may require two doses.

"We have to be able to figure out not just how we transport, how do we hold it, how we inject it, but how does it fit in the system with six different makers?" Place said, noting that some of the vaccine candidates will require freezing at extreme temperatures. "If you get one [shot], how do we make sure that the second dose that you get is from the same maker?"

Once the shots are administered, "we would then have to manage and track each of our beneficiaries," he added.

The DoD has a requirement to monitor recipients of vaccines for up to two years after the shots are administered, he said.

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## Holiday Luncheon: December 9<sup>th</sup>

*Grill On The Green (Green Valley)*



### CONTRIBUTORS FOR THIS ISSUE

Jadine Hilt, Elliott Jones, Joe Longo, Dick Newman, Peggy McGee