



CORONADO CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

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November 2008

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PRESIDENTS NOTES by President Allen Rossow

Again this year, our Chapter proudly congratulates two distinguished members who have been selected into the Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame. LTC (R) Gene Manring and COL (R) Tom Finnegan were selected from a much larger field this year for their extraordinary public service contributions to our community and will be inducted on 24 October in Phoenix. They join an ever-growing list of Chapter members that have been recognized and we offer our Thanks and congratulations.

As this is being written, Lucinda and I are preparing to attend Adm Ryan's President's Symposium in Lake Tahoe. This year's focus is on the Year of the Chapter and a Personal Affairs Workshop. Will include reports in next month's Heliogram.

Your Board of Director's this month reviewed and voted on a wide variety of luncheon menus for our meetings. We will be asking for your opinions and views as you taste and experience new selections.

VA will be giving flu shots and November 6th, from 0800 to 1500 hrs, and again on November 12th, from 1300 to 1500 hrs. Get yours and take a friend.

Our nominating committee this year still has opportunities for members who have the commitment to be active participants in the direction of our Chapter. There are Director position's that are open for new ideas and energies. Contact Joe Gill or any member of the Board.



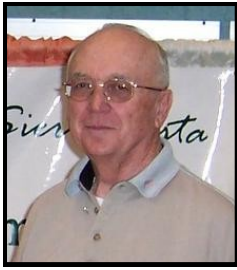
What does a member of Governor Napolitano's Military Affairs Commission (MAC), a board member of Sulphur Springs Valley Electric Cooperative (SSVEC) and a prominent Tombstone citizen have in common? Not much...until they are selected for membership into the Arizona Veterans' Hall of Fame Society.

Annually, it honors veterans who not only have served with distinction in uniform but who have gone on to perform deeds and accomplishments for the betterment of their communities and all Americans. Recognized by the Office of the Governor, the Hall of Fame is sponsored by Unified Arizona Veterans, supported by the Arizona Department of Veterans' Services and the Arizona Veterans' Hall of Fame Society.

Who are they? Gene Manring, a SSVEC board member and past president, Tom Finnegan, MAC co-chair, both from Sierra Vista and Bill Pakinkis of Tombstone will be inducted into the Hall on Friday, October 24 at 11:30a.m., at the El Zaribah Shrine Auditorium, 552 N. 40th St. in Phoenix.



Lieutenant Colonel Donald "Gene" Manring, USA (Ret.) was elected to SSVEC's board in 2000 and has served as director, treasurer, secretary, and president. A strong volunteer in the community, he has helped many organizations, including serving for the past 14 years in the board of the Sierra Vista Regional Health Center Foundation; for 3 of those as chairman. He is a former MOAA Coronado Chapter board member and is a current member of The Huachucans, an organization dedicated to rendering services, such as youth activities, to the local community. He retired from the military as Troop Commander at Fort Huachuca in 1975. (continued on Page 5)



LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS
Gene Fenstermacher,
Colonel USAF (Ret)

Prop 200: "Payday Loan Reform Act" Reminder

Don't be misled by that title - it's not the 'reform' that's implied: 390% APR on a 14 day loan, 780% on a 7 day loan, and 1095% on a 5 day loan. Affects separated wounded warrior families, Guard & Reserve when not on active duty, other vets, retirees, seniors and all too many others. This is a non partisan issue and "Vote No on Prop 200" has the backing of the Arizona Ecu-
 menical Council, AARP, the Arizona Credit Union League, and many others. Please share this information with friends, your bridge clubs, and other social or professional groups that you may be members of, and Vote No on Prop 200 by Early Ballot, or on 4 November. If you have any questions about this or would like to have a copy of my 'Fact Sheet on Prop 200' to send to friends and acquaintances urging their support for a **Vote No on Prop 200**, send me an Email at fensteg@cox.net or give me a call at 378-1471.

Paid up SBP: Beginning with the 1 November retiree checks or bank deposits, for those who have reached age 70 or more and have paid into SBP for 30 years or more, the checks or deposits will no longer have SBP premiums deducted.

Special Survivor Indemnity Allowance (SSIA): Survivors receiving SBP with a DIC offset will begin receiving an additional monthly check or deposit for \$50 beginning with your 1 November payment. It will not be included with your SBP payment. It is a separate payment. You will also receive this new SSIA payment if you are receiving only DIC, because DIC exceeds the amount of the SBP that you were entitled to. These new monthly \$50 SSIA payments will be taxable for those subject to state and federal income taxation.

A 5.8% COLA increase will appear in 1 Jan 2009 checks for military and federal civilian retirees, and for SBP and Social Security recipients. It's the biggest increase since 1982. Annual adjustments in veterans' disability pay and dependency and indemnity compensation (DIC) for survivors of deceased

service members and veterans are not automatic, but Congress usually passes legislation guaranteeing veterans' benefits will increase by the same rate as Social Security.

FLU SHOTS FLU SHOTS

Sierra Vista VA Clinic is now giving flu shots. Dates are October 23 & 30, 2008 and November 16, 2008, from 1:00 PM to 3:PM, also November 6, 2008, 8:00 AM to 3: 00 PM. You can also receive the flu shot any other day that you are in for an appointment.

Also, if you are in the Tucson area, the VA Hospital is operating a "Drive Thru Clinic" from October 21 -31, 2008. Bring your VA identification card. Enter the Ajo gate and follow the signs. Clinic is open 0800— 1600 Monday thru Friday and Saturday Oc-

CARILLON DONATIONS — \$333.00
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Current Membership (as of September 20, 2008)

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Colonel Thomas M. Finnegan, USA (Ret.) currently serves the best interests of Arizona veterans in his role as co-chairman of the Governor's Military Affairs Commission. He served in the defense industry for thirteen years and is the former president of the Fort Huachuca 50, which was a major supporter of Fort Huachuca during the last Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) process. In uniform, he held the position of Deputy Chief of Personnel for the U. S, Army Information Systems Command, and the forerunner to today's U. S. Army Network Engineering Technology Command/9th Signal Command.

Gunnery Sergeant William F. Pakinkis, USMC (Ret.), know as Bronco Bill in Tombstone, has established two Marine Corps League detachments, one in Yuma and one in Tombstone. Both detachments hold public events and perform charitable work for their communities. Last spring, he oversaw and was the master of ceremonies for the Memorial Day Remembrance held at the Southern Arizona Veterans Memorial Cemetery.



Bill Pakinkis, Memorial Day 2008 Master of Ceremonies, looks on as Joe Larson, Administrator of the Southern Arizona Veterans Memorial Cemetery welcomes the guests to the ceremony. From left to right, City of Sierra Vista Mayor Bob Strain, Wounded Warrior, U.S. Army Captain Blazek, Joe Larson, Bill Pakinkis, Major General John Custer and U.S. Representative Gabrielle Giffords.

The accomplishments of these three veterans fill pages and they are three among twenty in this year's class to join 164 veterans -- in a state of more than 600,000 veterans -- who have been inducted into the hall since its inauguration in 2001. Of the 164, ninety-three are alive today, including five Medal of Honor recipients.

The other members of this year's class are: William Hal Anders: Avondale, Lewis R. Bradley: Chandler, Bruce A. MacDonald, Jack I. Nemerov and Harold E. Stern: Sun City, Ralph "Tom" Browning: Scottsdale, Tris S. Castle and Robert F. Delker: Tempe, Arthur G. Sloane and Carmine C. Iosue: Sun Lakes, Edwin G. Spruce: Scottsdale, Paul G. Swietek: Gilbert, Bernard Kaplan and Rollin H. Kohrs: Phoenix, William Valenzuela: Tucson, William H. Wallace: Mesa, and Lloyd "Dick" Darnell, deceased.

The Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame annually recognizes and honors Arizona veterans who have honorably served their country and who continue to serve and inspire others with deeds and accomplishments. Congratulations to all of the selectees.

Written by Paul Weishaupt, Director, Chapter Public Affairs.

Fabulous Pasta *Premier Pizza*

DELIO'S

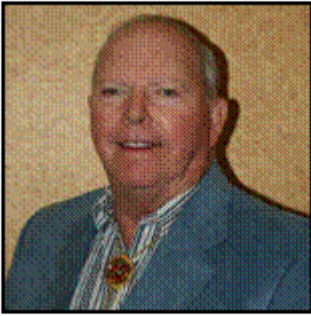


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MORE ON ID CARDS

By Col Bob White USMC (Ret) Personal Affairs Director



Eligible family members and survivors who are 75 years and older may obtain permanent ID cards. Beneficiaries with a valid ID card should get a permanent card within 90 days of their card's expiration.

If the card is not due to expire for at least another year, do not apply for a new card until the card is within 90 days of expiring. When applicable, it is the retired member's responsibility to register family members in DEERS and provide updates due to any changes in status such as marriage, divorce, birth, or adoption.

Family members may continue to receive benefits after reaching the age of 21 if incapacitated. The incapacitation of family members must have occurred before reaching age 21; however, the determination of benefits can occur after age 21. Contact your nearest ID card issuing site if assistance is required.

OUR WEBSITE IS UP AND RUNNING. INFORMATION IS A LITTLE SPARSE, BUT WE WILL BE FILLING IN THE BLANKS AS TIME GOES ON.

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MOAA Birthdays by Joan Connor



On birthdays I am reminded of Eleanor Roosevelt who said, "I could not, at any age, be content to take my place by the fireside and simply look on. Life was meant to be lived. Curiosity must

be kept alive. One must never, for whatever reason, turn his back on life." Here are our friends who this month continue to live life to the fullest:

NOVEMBER: 1: Donna Isler, Elizabeth Munroe; 3: Douglas Case; 4: Pat Nist; 5: Marie Carolan, Jane Davis; 7: Joe Flynn, Julie March; 9: Tomoko Gillette, June Coe, Courtney Nyles; 10: Robert Knobloch, Ronald Pflipsen, Bernard Stalman; 11: Phillip Wralstad, Betty Wigner, Darlene Gill; 12: Jeffery Puttkammer, Doris Caldwell; 14: Edward Holcomb, Carl Keim; 17: Elizabeth Patton; 18: Thomas Yancey; 20: David Howe, Helen Wege; 23: William Davis, Duane Marholz; 24: John Kenny, Gretchen Lamberth; 25: Mary Ellen Kope, Maurice Westmoreland; 26: Gene Walters, Chad White; 27: Charles Wentzel; 30: Truda Fail, John Puttkammer.

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Ground Breaking Ceremony for Historical Soldiers Relocation Project

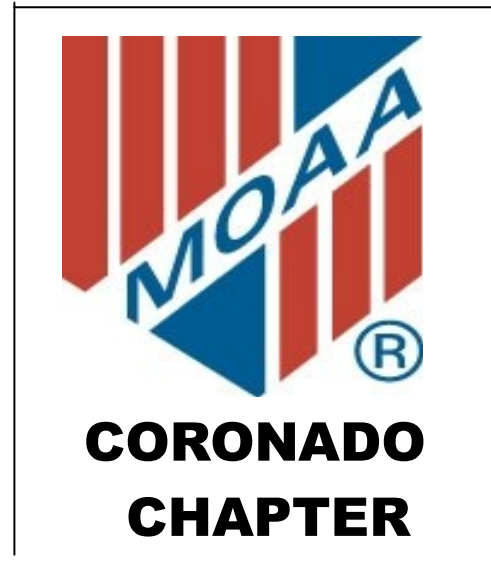


Photo Courtesy of SAVMC

On October 1, Arizona Governor Janet Napolitano and dignitaries broke ground at the Southern Arizona Memorial Veterans Cemetery (SAVMC) in Sierra Vista for the Historical Soldiers Relocation Project which in the Spring of 2009 will move the remains of over 60 soldiers and scouts from an abandoned Camp Lowell military cemetery in Tucson to SAVMC.

From left to right: Larry Kim, Pres. of the SAVMC Foundation welcomes guests to the ground breaking; Joe Larson, Administrator for SAVMC; Col. Joey Strickland, USA (Ret.), Director Department of Veterans Services for Arizona; Governor Janet Napolitano; Mike Rutherford, Pres. Southern AZ Builders Association; Father Greg Adolf; Major Gen. John Custer, Commanding Gen Ft Huachuca and USAIC; Bob Strain, Mayor City of Sierra Vista; Phil Vega, Editor of the Sierra Vista Herald; and, Life Scout Jacob Lovorn, Boy Scouts of America.”

**Historical Soldiers Relocation Project
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NOVEMBER 20, 2009 DINNER RESERVATION FORM
Thunder Mountain Activity Center — Cocktail hour 1800, Dinner 1900

My Name _____
Guest Name(s) _____

Check Information

Amount for meal @ \$25 each _____
Amount for Operating Fund _____
Amount for Scholarship Fund _____
Amount donated for AMVETS Memorial Carillon Project _____

Check total _____

Reservations MUST be received no later than November 5, 2008

Contact person for reservations is Helen Patterson, phone 458-2032, email: hdpatterson.2006@yahoo.com

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 or Luncheon Reservation)

NOTICE

Should the chapter go to all evening monthly dinner meetings? **Please circle one of the following:** Continue alternating monthly evening dinners and luncheon meetings or Go to all monthly evening meetings

CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

1. First fill out the form below.
2. If you already belong to National MOAA, then **your first calendar year of chapter membership is free.**
Regular members - \$15.00 per year after the 1st year
Associate members - \$10.00 per year
3. If you do not belong to National MOAA or have any questions, contact Allen Rossow at 439-4144 or alrossow@cox.net for details

Last Name _____ First Name _____ MI _____ Spouse First Name _____
Rank _____ Service _____ National MOAA Number _____
Street Address _____ City _____ State ____ Zip _____ - _____
Home Phone Number _____ Work Phone Number _____
Please circle as appropriate: ARMY---AIR FORCE---NAVY---MARINE CORPS---COAST GUARD---NOAA---PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE
Please circle all that apply: REGULAR--- RESERVE--- NATIONAL GUARD--- FORMER OFFICER---ACTIVE--- RETIRED---
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I am currently a member in good standing with MOAA.
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FUTURE MEETING DATES

BOD MEETING — 11:30 Nov 19

NOVEMBER 20th — DINNER MEETING

MENU: Beef Burgundy w/bowtie pasta, Green beans almondine, salad, desert


PROGRAM: Ms Toni Leiboff, Motivational Speaker, Will encourage us to “Tap Into Your Power”

BOD MEETING — 11:30 Dec 18

DECEMBER 18th — DINNER MEETING


MENU: Marsala chicken, baby carrots, oven roasted potatoes, salad, chef’s choice dessert

PROGRAM: Community Chorus presents the Annual Christmas Program.



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