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# HELIOGRAM

THE MILITARY OFFICERS  
ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

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September 2009

**OFFICERS**

- President** COL Allen Rossow, USA, (Ret.)  
alrossow@cox.net.....439-4144
- 1ST Vice President** Capt. Carl Bromund, USCG (Ret.)  
cbromund@powerc.net..... 366-0502
- 2nd Vice President** LTC Ernest Montagne, USA (Ret.)  
ernie.montagne@cox.net.....378-4601
- Secretary** COL Ronald Pfilpsen, USA (Ret.)  
pflip1@mac.com .....417-0175
- Treasurer** COL Robert Abney, USA (Ret.)  
ROAbney@cox.net.....378-0131
- Past President.** CW3 Joe Gill, USA (Ret.)  
joegill1@cox.net.....458-4099
- Chaplain** COL Thomas L Day, USA  
tom.day@US.army.mil.....533-4748

**DIRECTORS:**

- Mrs. Joan Connor, Aux Member-Chapter Affairs  
jconnor@cox.net..... 378-3615
- COL Gene Fenstermacher, USAF (Ret.)-Legislative Affairs  
fensteg@cox.net.....378-1471
- CPT Phil Cerami, USA, (Ret)  
connectdiver@cox.net.....459-5170

**DIRECTORS (cont)**

- CW3 Harry Bowen, USA, (Ret)  
harrybowen@aol.com.....459-1058
- COL Robert D White, USMC (Ret.)-Personal Affairs  
kurnlbob@gmail.com.....803-8333
- COL John Black, USA (Ret.)-Scholarship  
johnandjoan@cox.net.....378-0209
- COL Terrie M. Gent, USAF (Ret.)-Bylaws  
TerrieGent@aol.com.....378 -2915

**DEPUTY DIRECTORS**

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brabec@cox.net.....378-2732
- CAPT Bill Colberg, USA (Ret.)-Webmaster  
colbergw@cox.net .....439-3960
- LTC Earl Devine, USA (Ret.)-Community Liaison  
edevine1@cox.net.....458-5224
- LTC Paul Puttkammer, USA (Ret.)-Heliogram Editor  
pputt@earthlink.net.....803-0255
- LTC John Trombley, USA (Ret.)-JROTC  
john.trombley@svps.K12.az.us.....378-0021

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**FUTURE MEETING DATES**


**BOD MEETING — 11:30 September 16th**

**BOD MEETING — 11:30 October 14th**

**SEPTEMBER 17 — Dinner Meeting**

**OCTOBER 15 — Dinner Meeting**

**MENU: TBA**



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## CORONADO CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 36 NUMBER 7

September 2009

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**PRESIDENTS NOTES**  
by  
**President Allen Rossow**



**LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS**  
by  
**Gene Fenstermacher, Colonel USAF (Ret)**

In a 10 August memo from VADM Ryan he states in part that one of MOAA's (**quote**)

“primary focus is on the aspects of the draft health care legislation [currently **HR 3200**] that will affect you and the military community - military and VA health care, TRICARE, Medicare, and TRICARE For Life.

“Our research and advocacy efforts on national health care reform are targeted at six primary goals:

1. Safeguarding military and VA beneficiaries' health benefits;
2. Ensuring military and VA beneficiaries can choose other insurance;
3. Ensuring military and VA beneficiaries aren't taxed on the value of those health benefits;
4. Preserving and improving military and VA beneficiaries' access to providers of quality health care;
5. Ensuring long-term sustainment of Medicare (and TRICARE For Life) - and a fix for the broken Medicare payment formula that now poses annual threats of significant cuts that would erode providers' willingness to see Medicare and TRICARE beneficiaries; and
6. Keeping our members apprised of how pending legislation could affect them and encouraging grassroots communications to their elected representatives to protect their interests.

“We've sent a [Military Coalition letter](#) to every member of Congress, and thus far MOAA members have generated over 35,000 e-mails to their legislators using our alert. Every indication we've received

## MOAA CORONADO CHAPTER SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS



Colonel (Retired) Allen Rossow, President Coronado Chapter, Military Officers Association of America (MOAA). Shannon Moore attending Arizona State University. Natasha Bobke attending the University of Washington. Cadet LTC Amanda Wheat, JROTC Cadet Battalion Commander 2009/2010, winner of the MOAA Medal. Ariana Dildine attending Cedarville University. Brittany Vowell attending Northern Arizona University. Colonel (Retired) John Black, Scholarship Chairman, Not shown: Sarah Brierly attending the University of Texas.

The **Southern Arizona VA Health Care System** including the **Sierra Vista Community Clinic** needs your help. Try and arrive 15 minutes before your appointment so you have an opportunity to update your personal data.

Always call to cancel or reschedule your appointment if you are unable to keep it. This will allow the facility of offer that appointment to another veteran. To make, cancel, or reschedule an appointment call 520-792-1450 or 1-800-470-8262 and follow the prompts.

### NOTES FROM FT HUACHUCA RETIREMENT SERVICES

The Annual Retirement Appreciation Day (RAD) is scheduled for August 29, 2009. Registration and social hour begins at 0800 and the program starts at 0900. Buffet lunch will be served from 1200—1300. Cost is \$13.00. The RAD is open to retirees from all branches of service. Seating is limited so please RSVP by August 14th.

Social Security numbers will not longer be printed on ID Cards. Changes to ID cards will take place when expired cards are renewed. Retirees with “indefinite” expirations dates who wish to replace your ID card may do so at the earliest in January 2010.

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## LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS (cont from page 3)

from the Administration and congressional leaders of both political parties is that they share the goals listed above (read MOAA's [Aug. 7 legislative update](#) for the latest specifics).

"But there's a long way to go in the legislative process, and hard experience tells us severe budget pressures can undermine the best intentions.

**"The bottom line:** The entire MOAA staff and I are here to serve you. We will continue communicating with you, so we can let you know what we are working on and you can tell us what your concerns are." **(Unquote)**

The Legislative updates that I process every week have and will continue to address these issues among other Active Duty, Guard & Reserve, Retiree, Survivor and other Veteran issues. They providing opportunities for us to easily contact our Legislators through draft (and editable if desired) Email or letters urging them to support or oppose various aspects of the health care legislation, currently HR 3200. If you aren't on my Legislative Update list, and would like to try the process out, send me an Email at [fensteg@cox.net](mailto:fensteg@cox.net) and ask to be added to my list.

Below is a link that should enable you to view the 1017 page 1.8 Mb text of **HR 3200**. As you are probably aware, there are some questionable interpretations of various sections of the Bill usually referencing a specific page or section in the Bill. While the text is sometime difficult to fully comprehend without access to the various sections of current law that are referenced in the text, you might want to save a copy of the 1.8 Mb file to refer to when you see a specific comment that perks your interest or concern.

**Government Printing Office (GPO) HR 3200 link where you can view the 1017 page Bill and save it to a location of choice on you computer for referral when desired:**

[http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=111\\_cong\\_bills&docid=f:h3200ih.txt.pdf](http://frwebgate.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/getdoc.cgi?dbname=111_cong_bills&docid=f:h3200ih.txt.pdf)

**Have a great Labor Day and fly your flag on 9-11.**



## MEMBERSHIP NEWS by Captain Carl Bromund, USCG, (Ret)

Recruiting Results	2009 (Year to date)	2008
Chapter	13	20
National (Give Me 10 program)	10	17

We will be holding outreach events at the Spouses Club Membership Fair on August 19th and at Retiree Appreciation Day on August 29th. If you would like more information on membership, please contact me at 366-0502 or via email [Cbromund@powerc.net](mailto:Cbromund@powerc.net)



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## VETERANS RECEIVE THE FIRST DIGITAL TALKING BOOKS

The Arizona Braille and Talking Book Library, a division of the Arizona State Library, has been providing audio books and magazines to Arizonans for more than 35 years. Anyone who is having difficulty reading because of vision loss, or a physical impairment that makes it hard to hold a book, qualifies for free loan of audio books through the mail.

The Arizona State Library makes these, and locally produced audio books, available through the mail to anyone in Arizona who meets the eligibility criteria. The library provides a great alternative, "a different way of reading" through audio books.

Veterans are the first of the more than 9,000 Talking Book Library patrons in Arizona to receive the new digital players. By federal law veterans have always received first preference in talking book services provided by NLS and the network libraries.

The library staff is very excited about the transition to a digital format because it will be easier to use, will have better sound quality and will be much more durable than the current cassette books. Cassettes will be replaced by digital flash cartridges. Using the player will be easy to learn because just by touching a button the player announces the button's function. Just as with the cassette books the new digital books and players will be sent to patrons by free matter mail and just as with any public library there are no charges for use of the materials. As patrons mail books back to the library more are automatically sent to replace them. With over 60,000 titles to choose from, and the number growing every year, there are books to satisfy all types of readers.

Contact the AZ Braille and Talking Book Library, phone 602-255-5578, or [www.lib.az.us/braille](http://www.lib.az.us/braille).



## MOAA Birthdays by Joan Connor

We want to say Happy Birthday to our members. They say it is O. K. to get older, but don't get "old".

**SEPTEMBER:** 2: Terri Leclair; 4: Patricia Meares; 6: Linda Molynealux, Violet Powers; 7: Catherine Newell; 8: Camille Nelson, Ramiro Ross; 9: Harold Hinkley, Richard Mortensen; 10: Ronald Pflipsen, John Thompsc; 11: Ronald Faulkner; 13: Erna Meyer; 14: John Marti; 15: Thomas Stuckey; 16: Susan Lawrence, Francis Gregory, Robert Abney; 17: Joanne Anderson; 19: Maria Waldmann, Victoria DeFrances, Barbara Hays; 22: Carl Frieders; 23: Randall Groth, Sue Walters, Diane Lemley; 24: Lloyd Hill; 25: James Burke; 26: William Petty; 28: Maggie Mahlik; 29: Jan Marholz; 30: Alfred Nelson, David Patterson.

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**Thunder Mountain Activity Center — Social Hour 1800 — Dinner 1900**

My Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Guest Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Check Information

Amount for meal @ \$25 each \_\_\_\_\_  
Amount for Operating Fund \_\_\_\_\_  
Amount for Scholarship Fund \_\_\_\_\_

Check total \_\_\_\_\_

**Please mail your check prior to September 1, 2009**

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

**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](mailto:alrossow@cox.net) for details

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Rank \_\_\_\_\_ Service \_\_\_\_\_ National MOAA Number \_\_\_\_\_

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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---

MALE--- FEMALE---WIDOW\_\_\_ WIDOWER \_\_\_

Member Date of Birth: MM \_\_\_\_ / DD \_\_\_\_ / YYYY \_\_\_\_ Spouse Date of Birth: MM \_\_\_\_ / DD \_\_\_\_ / YYYY \_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

I am currently a member in good standing with MOAA.

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