



Arizona Territorial Chapter AUSA – June 2013 Newsletter

Association of the United States Army (AUSA)

Voice for the Army - Support for the Soldier

SUMMER/June 2013

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**Membership:
Numbers Count!**



Chapter President's Message



COL (Ret) Gene Rafanelli
AZ Territorial Chapter 7202
Chapter President

Thanks to all who supported the Task Force Smith Golf Tournament. You can read Ray Boucher's report on the event in this edition of the newsletter; however, I would be remiss if I didn't thank the participants for playing, bringing friends, donating prizes and purchasing a lot of raffle tickets. The Chapter wouldn't be able to conduct its programs without the generous support of our golfers. Once again, the cadets from LTC Roberts' ASU Army ROTC program did an exemplary job of running almost every aspect of the tournament. It was inspiring to work with these great future leaders of the Army. Check out the photos posted on the Chapter website.

Our delegation just returned from the 24-27 April, 7th Region Conference in Colorado Springs. The Pikes Peak Chapter did a great job of organizing and hosting the event which included a full day of events at Fort Carson.

The Chapter is honored to be a participating member of the Phoenix Recruiting Battalion's Grass Roots

Advisory Board. Also, our thanks to LTC McAfee for including us and for hosting an absolutely spectacular day of drag racing at Firebird Raceway on 23 February. Tony Schumacher, driver of the ARMY's top fuel dragster, gave a great motivational speech on achieving excellence and then went on to win first place honors in the race.

AUSA and all the other service organizations in the Valley did a great job on the 8-10 March Arizona Veterans Stand Down at the Fairgrounds. It was once again a huge success with a record of more than 1500 homeless veterans served. The event conveniently coincided with the opening of the women's wing at Madison Street Vets' MANA House. Accordingly, female Stand Down clients needing housing, were able to move right in.

As we transition to June and the warm weather season we will host our annual Army Birthday Luncheon. This year, the Army celebrates its 238th year of service in the defense of freedom. Join us for this great celebration on June 9th at the McCormick Ranch Golf Club in Scottsdale. We have a great program planned which will include: singing by former Air Force Band member, Joe Hegstad; posting and retiring of the Colors by the Continental Army Color Guard of the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR); and a presentation by

invited guest speaker, Dr. A. Rudy Byrd on Revolutionary War Battlefield medicine. See the attached flyer for details and sign up.

Programmed across-the-board cut-backs in defense spending and large fee increases for our earned benefits remain in the plans of our political masters. Take advantage of the links in all the AUSA publications you receive to correspond with prepared letters or edit and send them to our elected officials to express your concern. It's important to keep up the barrage to influence their support on issues which affect us directly.

The Chapter Executive Committee/Board of Directors meet at 1300 hours on the first Tuesday of each month. All members are invited and encouraged to attend this meeting. It is held at the Papago Park Military Reservation (PPMR) located at 52nd Street and McDowell Road. Enter the reservation on the North side of McDowell at the first gate east of 52nd Street. The meeting is held in the Distance Learning Center which is co-located in the same building as the Clothing Sales Store. Ask the gate guard for directions. If you get lost, call me (Gene) on my cell at (408) 896-7616. Occasionally, the meeting will be hosted off site. When that occurs, the information will be conveyed ahead of time in the agenda.





High Scoring & Best (Only) Women's Golf Team: Kathy Sales, Angie Boucher, Pat Sands & Susan Farrell



Team West Point Class of '66: John Burger, Jerry Sands, Rance Farrell & Rex Nichols

Membership:
**Together we are
Stronger!**

*Thanks to all of our
Corporate Sponsors!*



Annual Task Force Smith Golf Tournament

Our annual Chapter Task Force Smith Golf Tournament was held on Friday, 29 March 2013, at the Luke Air Force Base Falcon Dunes Golf Course in Glendale. Although the number of teams was less than we have had in previous years, it was deemed a success by all who participated. Twenty-five teams participated and more than half the teams qualified for prizes based upon their competition scores. Raffle Prizes donated by Gainey Ranch, McCormick Ranch, Paradise Valley Golf Club, Falcon Dunes Golf Club, Credit Union West, Phoenix Wines, Curt Uptadel, Gene Rafanelli, Greg Gillham, Derek Deegan and CSM Van Dam along with signs purchased by our members and Corporate sponsors, helped raise over \$10,000 dollars in donations for our Chapter to use the remainder of the year. Thanks to all who participated! More photos can be viewed on our Chapter website.

"HELP WANTED": Your Chapter Needs You

The Chapter's Board is in need of some support from its members. Here are some of the job openings and a short description of what we need. Most all of these tasks can be done at home with a telephone and internet accessible computer to handle e-mails and search websites. We'll assign a mentor to help you get started and answer any questions. Attendance at our monthly meeting is not required but you would be welcome. A few of the areas we need help with are:

MEDIA: We have 4 major activities during the year where we need to contact the media: Awards Luncheon, Armed Forces Career Officer Day, Annual Golf Tournament Fund Raiser and Army Birthday/Flag Day. This job would entail contacting the media (TV, Newspaper, Radio, etc) to establish contacts and provide information about our activity and enlist their interest ... in other words, Public Relations.

MEMBERSHIP: Each month we receive a list of our members whose membership is coming up for renewal or have let their AUSA membership lapse. We need to put together a Membership Committee to support Rob Welch, our Membership Chair/team leader in contacting those members, monthly, to see if they will renew their membership. If they de-

cline, we need to capture why they choose to not renew. All of the membership contact information is available on the AUSA National website and your mentor will walk you through the membership process for renewal. Major reasons for not renewing are #1 Forgot, #2 Nobody contacted me.

RESEARCH: We need someone to do a web search for companies in our area that we would like to have become Corporate Members. Primarily, but not necessarily, we are looking for companies that have a military connection and/or are supporters of the military. Your mentor will describe the types of corporate memberships AUSA has and the process, benefits, and amenities of what our Chapter can provide them (opportunities for networking, advertisements, etc.).

ARMY RESERVE: We need a person to contact the major U.S. Army Reserve units in our area and establish a point of contact with their public affairs personnel and unit commanders. Your mentor will give you a list of the reserve components in our area and known contacts. Your purpose will be to introduce the unit to the Chapter and its activities and describe how we can assist the unit during deployments, major events, etc.

Membership: Numbers Count!

General Sullivan is fighting a critical battle on Capitol Hill to prevent enactment of proposals that break faith with Service Members by significantly raising fees for health care and prescription drugs while reducing earned benefits for future retirees and pay raises for active forces. Other proposals would bring the military back to pre-WWII levels of readiness by some estimates. What can we as AUSA members do to prevent this from happening? First and foremost, maintain your membership in AUSA. When General Sullivan "goes to the Hill" to persuade lawmakers, he represents the strength of the organization that stands behind him. Therefore, he can better serve all of us if the membership rolls are robust. Do your part by re-newing your membership on time and while you're at it, bring an Army buddy into the Chapter. Contact Membership Chair Rob Welch at (480) 292-5822 or Chapter President Gene Rafanelli (480) 896-7616, and we may be able to sign first time members up for free!



2013 CHAPTER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 9 June, Army Birthday/Flag Day Luncheon
- 26 November, 25th AFCOD

For federal and state Legislation affecting our Veterans/Active Military go to AUSA's <http://capwiz.com/ausa/home/> or AZ's <http://www.azleg.gov/bills.asp>

Army Birthday/Flag Day Luncheon

Our Chapter's Army Birthday/Flag Day luncheon will be held on the 9th of June at the McCormick Ranch Golf Club in Scottsdale. We will be celebrating the 238th birthday of the United States Army in addition to Flag Day. The invited speaker is Dr. A. Rudy Byrd, M.D. whose presentation is on Revolutionary War battlefield Medicine. To attend, fill out the event flyer attached to this Newsletter and mail it to Ray Boucher or go to the Chapter website to pay by credit card through PayPal. Mark your calendar now for this great event.

Other Notable 2013 Events

- * Our Chapter will help sponsor and participate in the 17-18 May 2013 **National Guard Association of Arizona's (NGAAZ) 64th Annual Conference** at the Sheraton Wild Horse Pass Resort and Spa in Chandler. There will be activities for the whole family to include: shopping, hiking, casino gambling and nearby golf. If your organization would like to participate in this event, contact LTC (Ret) Mike Krouse at (602) 275-8305 or CW5 John Vitt at (602) 267-2714. Go to the NGAAZ website at <http://www.ngaaz.org/> for more information.
- * There will be a **Memorial Day Service** at the National Memorial Cemetery of Arizona on Monday May 27th. Participants should be at the Cemetery by 0700. Our Territorial Chapter will be presenting and laying a wreath during the ceremony.
- * In conjunction with the Tucson-Goyette and Fort Huachuca/Sierra Vista Chapters, our Chapter will sponsor a **2013 Wounded Warrior Weekend** this fall at the DD Gamble Guest Ranch in Portal, AZ. A **fundraiser meal** for the event will be prepared by Le Cordon Bleu Chefs of Scottsdale on 17 August at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Sierra Vista. The date of the Wounded Warrior Week-End will be published as soon as it is set.
- * Our **2013 AUSA Annual Meeting & Exposition** will be held 21-23 October 2013 at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center in Washington, DC

25th Armed Forces Career Officers Day

On 26 November 2013, our Chapter's 25th Armed Forces Career Officers' Day Luncheon will be held at the McCormick Ranch Golf Club. Last year's event included more than 200 cadets from 36 high schools. We're ready to take on the challenge of getting even more schools to participate, making this anniversary event the biggest and best ever! We hope to have several of the founding sponsors in attendance at this event.

Where Does Your Chapter's \$Money\$ Go?

Since the beginning of 2013 our Chapter has contributed in support of the following:

Banners and cakes were bought for deploying/returning Arizona Army National Guard units: 363 Ordnance Co (EOD), 819 Engineer Co (Sapper), and HHD 850 Military Police Bn.

Both volunteers and funds were provided to the March 2013 Arizona StandDown, which served 1,392 homeless veterans and 132 homeless families.

Funds were given to the Madison Street Veterans Association, an organization that houses qualifying veterans and provides them access to government (both local, state and federal) agencies to help them obtain the ser-

vices they need to return to normal living.

We also contributed to other activities that supported veterans and their families, such as the Memorial Day Committee, which organizes the Memorial Day activities at the National Cemetery; the MOAA Scholarship fund; the ASU Foundation that supplies show tickets to Active Duty, National Guard, and Reserve units and their families; and the Air Force Association Fund Raiser Golf Tournament.

Funds have been set aside for our Chapter to participate in the Wounded Warrior Weekend project scheduled for later this year. Provided by: Ray Boucher, Treasurer

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Arizona Territorial Chapter 7202 AUSA

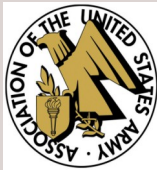
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We are the Arizona Territorial Chapter of AUSA, dedicated to assisting and supporting our troops and cadets in any way we can. Our local Phoenix Recruiting Battalion is our only active duty unit and they do a fabulous job of providing our Army with quality soldiers. We also work closely with the Phoenix based Headquarters of the Arizona Army National Guard, as well as, U.S. Army Reserve units, and all JROTC/ROTC programs located in our Chapter area. We show our support for our troops by being there for them and their families during deployments, through the presentation of awards and recognizing our outstanding cadets and soldiers, in addition to promoting the recruiting mission. We are proud of all of these activities, which we are able to sustain by holding our annual Golf Tournament fund-drive. All who are interested in helping us to support our Army, we encourage you to join our Chapter ~ whether you have an Army or military background, or not. *We are looking for people who care!*



Come join us ... we're on the web!

<http://www3.ausa.org/chapweb/atc/index.html>

Voice for the Army - Support for the Soldier

Association of the United States Army Arizona Territorial Chapter

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