



### *Notes from Rance*

Folks, these are very exciting times for our chapter. We had a great last year highlighted by the very successful 7<sup>th</sup> Region Conference we hosted in June. Vic Conner did an outstanding job as president and passed on the chapter to me in great shape so that we are planning to do even more this year. We are going to make a great deal more use of our [Chapter Web Site](#), now being maintained by Mary Vetrano, so please check it out. Note that you can now track our upcoming events and even pay for them or make contributions there via Pay Pal, using your credit card. All the activities you will see below come at a price, both financially and man-power wise. Your contributions will help with the former. But we also ask that you all be recruiters: tell your friends and business acquaintances about the great things our chapter is doing for the soldiers and their families and get them to sign up as new members or corporate sponsors. We really need the new blood!

### *Support to Reserve and National Guard Units*

We are very actively engaged in supporting Reserve and National Guard units as they deploy to Iraq and Afghanistan, and really need your support in this effort. Our goal is to have a company or organization “adopt” each deploying unit, providing support to the deployed soldiers and their families during this difficult period. The first units we supported were the deploying 855<sup>th</sup> MP Company (AZARNG) and the returning 301<sup>st</sup> MI Battalion (USAR) in September and we will continue with the departing 653d RSG in October. If you want to participate in this wonderful activity please let me or COL (R) Jeanne Blaes know.

### *JROTC Career Officers’ Day Luncheon, 24 November 2009*

Our next big event is the annual luncheon we host each year on behalf of all the Armed Services to encourage young men and women towards a career as an officer serving our country. Last year’s event was the biggest and best ever, and we are working hard to get even more schools involved and an even bigger turnout. This means we will need even more sponsors! The attached letter and flyer provides the details and we ask you to sign up and support us by encouraging these cadets towards service to their country.

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Gene Rafenelli and wife Judy Rafenelli (not shown) manned the table at the Prescott Veterans’ Appreciation Day Event.



### ***2010 Awards Luncheon***

We are going to continue holding this luncheon in February when we will recognize the outstanding NG and Recruiting Command soldiers as well as Cadets from our four ROTC units. This year we hope to include outstanding USAR soldiers too – the Reserve is so spread out that they frequently get overlooked and we are working hard to get them support too. We have invited GEN (R) John Abazaid, past CENTCOM commander and will schedule the event on a Saturday in February based on his availability. Once he confirms we will let everyone know by email and newsletter.

We are also going to make this luncheon a recognition of our great corporate sponsors. These sponsors are the backbone of our Chapter and enable us to accomplish our mission. Unfortunately they are too often overlooked. Please look at the list of them on our web site and when you visit them, thank them for their support.

### ***Chapter Officers and monthly meeting***

We meet normally on 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of month at 1400 at Pettygrew Armory at 5425 E. McDowell. All chapter members are welcome to attend. Please notify me if you have a special interest or issue you want to discuss and we will arrange for you to present it.

### ***Golf Tournament***

Our Annual **Task Force Smith Golf Tournament** will be held on Good Friday, 2 April at Luke AFB Falcon Dunes GC. This is our major fund raiser each year and allows us to support the activities I've been describing. We were almost completely full last year so please sign up early, and continue the wonderful contributions! Watch for more details on our website and by flyer as we get closer.

### ***Upcoming 7th Region Conference***

Next year's conference will be held at a hotel in Barstow CA near Ft Irwin and the National Training Center from 11 – 13 March. This should really be an exciting conference with lots of interesting military activities. There will be a day trip out to Fort Irwin to observe training in one or more of the Arab villages that has been added to the Fort Irwin training scenarios to teach the customs & culture of the Arabs while executing the Army's missions to include dealing with IEDs and the corresponding attacks. In addition, the Fort Irwin and 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment Museum will be a likely visit, plus some equipment displays. Put this on your calendar now and as we get closer more information will follow. If there is sufficient interest we will charter a bus to get there.



Top: 855th Formation Left: 855<sup>th</sup> Banner Signing

## ***AZ Territorial Chapter EXCOM***

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1st Vice Pres & ROTC/JROTC	<a href="#">Gene Rafanelli</a> COL (R) 480 272-8302
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Ass't Sec'y	<a href="#">Susan Farrell</a> 602 993-8556
Membership:	
VP General Mbrs	<a href="#">Dean Campbell</a> CPT (R) 480 921-2682
VP Corporate Mbrs:	<a href="#">Pete Palmer</a> BG (R) 757-814-6652
VP Veterans Affairs:	<a href="#">Jerry Sands</a> LTC (R) 602 866-7412
VP NG/Reserve Affairs:	<a href="#">Jeanne Blaes</a> COL (R) 602-267-2830
Ass't VP NG	<a href="#">Joe Murdock</a> CPT AZARNG 602-267-2500
VP Recruiting Issues:	<a href="#">Adam Ennis</a> MAJ USAREC 602 254-1765
VP Enlisted Affairs:	<a href="#">Charles Daniels</a> 1SGT (R) USA 602 237-2726
VP ASU Support	<a href="#">Dave McAleer</a> MAJ ASU ROTC 480) 335-9115
VP General Activities	<a href="#">Rick Goodin</a> 623 764-2244
VP Web & Communications	<a href="#">Mary Vetrano</a> 480-981-4674

## ***Board of Directors***

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## ***Clothing Help Requested***

The Kuwait Chapter of AUSA sponsors a clothing locker for Service Members (SMs) in theater who pass through Kuwait on their way home R&R or emergency leave. In many cases, due to the notification and the actual departure for the states, many of them don't arrive with civilian clothing. The Kuwait Chapter has established a clothing center to make civilian clothing available to soldiers who need it for travel. They try to keep a wide variety of styles and sizes for SMs to choose from and for those for whom a particular size does not exist, they provide a \$50.00 voucher for the AM to use for clothing purchase at AAFES.

### ***Clothing Help Requested Continued...***

They are looking for clothing and financial donations and would like to offer the other chapters to support this important effort. Here's what is needed:

- Slacks/pants and shirts with collars (No Tees, shorts, shoes or underwear)
- Clothing must be new or like new
- Jeans are acceptable if they have a nice appearance and not in need of repair
- For women, no short skirts or sleeveless blouses
- Clothing is preferred but monetary donations may be made as well. Send your donation to AZ Territorial Chapter, 14637 N 10th St, Phoenix AZ 85022 and indicate "for Kuwait" or "for Qatar" (a similar activity in Qatar is seeking similar assistance).

Clothing should be sent to:

#### **For Kuwait**

Commander  
Theater Gateway  
Attn: Clothing Locker  
APO AE 09815

#### **For Qatar**

R&R OIC/NCOIC  
ASG-QA, RRPP  
Unit 514  
APO AE 09898

### ***Military Family Ticket Fund***

Our AUSA Chapter is also supporting this wonderful fund. This newly created program at Arizona State University was designed to send the spouses and children of soldiers deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan to Arizona State University's Gammage Auditorium to attend a Broadway Series show. The idea was conceived by ASU Gammage and is being conducted by Peter Means, Director of Development for ASU Gammage, and Chuck Van Dam, retired Army Sergeant Major. We realize that these are tough economic times, but times are a little tougher for those families whose soldier is away. If you can find some room in your budget to help these families realize a couple of hours of happiness and freedom from worry, they and we would appreciate it. Checks should be made out to ASU Foundation/Gammage a separate 501c(3). A receipt and acknowledgement will be mailed back to you. The contact information is listed below. We encourage all members to support this program.

Contact Information:

Peter Means  
Director of Development  
Arizona State University  
PO Box 870205  
Tempe, AZ 85287-0205  
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***Arizona Family Military Relief Fund***

For those of us who are Arizona taxpayers, a dollar for dollar tax credit is available from the State of Arizona of up to \$200 dollars for individual filers and up to \$400 for married filing jointly by contributing to the AZ Military Family Relief Fund. Simply make out a check to MFRF and send it to AZ Military Family Relief Fund, 3839 N. 3rd St, Ste 209, Phoenix, AZ 85012. To qualify you must make your donation before 31 December 2009.

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