



Arizona Territorial Chapter AUSA – January 2013 Newsletter

Association of the United States Army (AUSA)

SPRING/January 2013

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Voice for the Army - Support for the Soldier

Chapter President's Message



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

I hope everyone had a great Christmas and New Year and I wish you all the best for 2013.

We had another record setting 2012 Armed Forces Career Officers Day (AFCOD) in November with cadets from 38 high schools participating. Thank you to all that supported this great event.

Once again we are staring down the barrel of sequestration and other national legislation that will diminish the quality of the lives of the military community. I encourage you use the AUSA Government Affairs Directorate's weekly electronic newsletter to keep you up to date on all of the Congressional/legislative news and the "Contact Congress" feature at <http://capwiz.com/ausa/home/> to electronically send formatted letters to our political leaders and let them know that we stand united in opposition to these measures that show disregard for Service Mem-

bers' sacrifices in defense of our country.

All major service organizations are struggling to keep their membership numbers up. It appears to be a sign of the times. AUSA is no exception. The strength of our organization is in its numbers. That factor is extremely important when GEN Sullivan meets with political leaders on the Hill. They know how many members are standing behind him. Your responsibility in that regard is to keep your AUSA membership current and participate at your level in the process as I mentioned above. If your most current email address is not in our membership records, please send it with your name and mailing address to Dave Sale at dave-sale64@yahoo.com. You'll know that we don't have your email address if this newsletter is delivered to you by the Post Office.

I hope to see you on 10 February at the McCormick Ranch Golf Club for our 2013 Annual Awards Luncheon where we will honor our outstanding soldiers and ROTC cadets and show our appreciation for our Corporate Sponsors (see the flyer attached).

The latest roster of our Chapter Executive Commit-

tee and Board of Directors is located on the last page of this newsletter. These folks are committed to serving our great members and are at your service. Do not hesitate to contact them for any AUSA issues.

The Chapter Executive Committee and Board of Directors normally meet at 1:00 P.M. on the first Tuesday of each month. Occasionally, there may be a deviation in the date due to a holiday or special event; however, it will always be posted ahead of time in the agenda. Members are invited and encouraged to attend the meeting as a means of becoming actively involved in the Chapter. The meeting is commonly held on 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 in the Distance Learning Center which is co-located in the same building with the Military Clothing Sales Store. Ask the gate guard for directions. If you get lost, give me a call on my cell at (408) 896-7616.



Membership:
Together we are
Stronger!



Chapter President, COL (R) Rafanelli talks with JROTC students at AFCOD 2012



Membership Begins with "ME"

Your family, friends, neighbors, and yes, even that old Army buddy is important to your Chapter. Please consider telling our story to any one who listen and encourage them to join us. Over the past couple of years our Chapter has lost almost 200 members as some of our older members have moved or passed on.

We need the combined numbers of all of us so that AUSA can remain a strong and forceful voice in Washington, protecting the benefits we earned with our service to the Nation, and promised to us by our politicians. So, please talk to your family, friends, old military buddies, work mates and neighbors and provide them with AUSA pamphlets and information on how to join our AZ Territorial Chapter. You can even refer them to talk with our Membership Chair. Together we are stronger. Remember, MEMbership begins with "ME" and that means YOU!

Arizona StandDown — Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed to assist at the AZ StandDown for Homeless Veterans March 8-10, 2013. This event will be held in the Veteran's Memorial Coliseum at the State Fair Grounds in Phoenix. If you want to volunteer, you must do so in advance. Go online at <http://www.arizonastanddown.org> to sign up. Volunteers can select a shift of four (4) hours or longer.

Approximately 1500 homeless or at-risk veterans are expected to visit the StandDown site during the three day event. Project Connect provides a guest guide for each of the veterans. Volunteers serve in the role of guest guide and insure the veterans have an opportunity to use the services that are being provided.

Services include more than 70 housing, healthcare and support services. Major service providers include the VA, Social Security Administration, Motor Vehicle Division, and Municipal and Superior Court Systems. Clothing, meals, showers, haircuts and housing placement services are provided.

Not only is this the largest StandDown in the state of Arizona, it is the largest and most successful StandDown in the United States. Please be a part of it and volunteer online. If you are not able to volunteer to be a guest guide, you can go to the StandDown website and make a financial donation.

Ask about the "Red Shirt Friday" T-Shirt Sales
Art Slone 480-688-0066

Junior ROTC Armed Forces Career Officers Day (AFCOD)

On 20 November 2012 our Territorial Chapter held its 24th Armed Forces Career Officers Day (AFCOD) at the McCormick Ranch Golf Club. This event saw a record number of participating high schools, including Kofa High School, a first year USMC JROTC program from Yuma. The cadets received information on commissioning opportunities from recruiters from 20 institutions and heard presentations on commissioned service from two combat veterans, both Captains from the Army and USMC.

This year will be the 25th anniversary of this great event and we will pay special tribute to the founders who have left us a wonderful legacy. Plan to be there on 19 November 2013 and sponsor a table for these future military leaders!

Arizona Territorial Chapter Website <http://www3.ausa.org/chapweb/atc/>

All of our members and friends are encouraged to make use of our outstanding Arizona Territorial Chapter Website. It contains details of Chapter upcoming events, as well as, payment options and procedures for those events. The names and contact information for the Chapter Officers are listed, along with

links to many resources such as other service organizations and discounts offered to veterans by selected merchants.

To access the website, go to the address listed above and check it out!

2013 CHAPTER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 10 February, Chapter Awards Luncheon
- 29 March, Task Force Smith Golf Tournament
- 9 June, Army Birthday/Flag Day Luncheon
- 19 November, 25th AFCOD

**McCormick Ranch
Golf Club**
7505 McCormick Pkwy
Scottsdale, AZ 85258
(480) 998-3800

**Annual Chapter Awards Luncheon**

Our next event is the Chapter's Awards Luncheon which will be held on 10 February 2013 at the McCormick Ranch Golf Club in Scottsdale (see attached flyer). In addition to awarding our outstanding soldiers and cadets for their exemplary performance, we will also recognize our great corporate sponsors for their many contributions to the Chapter. Award recipients, corporate sponsors and their guests will participate with the compliments of the AUSA Chapter.

Our featured speaker will be Major General (Ret) David Rataczak, the former State Adjutant General. Support this great event by either by registering on-line or completing the form attached to the flyer and returning it to the Chapter Treasurer, Ray Boucher, by 4 February.

Task Force Smith Golf Tournament

The annual Task Force Smith Golf Tournament is coming your way on March 29th. The tournament is scheduled for Friday, 29 March 2013, at the Luke Air Force Base Falcon Dunes Golf Course in Glendale. Players will be limited to 144, and reservations will be accepted in the order in which they are received. We encourage all of our members, friends and corporate sponsors to participate as this is our only fund raiser during the year and all the proceeds go toward our contributions to the active, reserve and national guard soldiers and their families, as well as, the ROTC and JROTC units at the four major universities and high schools in Arizona.

Put the Task Force Smith Golf Tournament on your calendar and come on out and enjoy the sun at one of the best courses in the Valley: Falcon Dunes. You'll be getting a flyer in the mail and a reminder by email. We'll also post the same on our website in mid-February after the Awards Luncheon ... OR, before you forget it, you can contact Rance Farrell at 602-993-8556 or email to hfarrell@cox.net to sign up on line at our as soon as possible. Remember, we need your support to help us so we can help others.

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 sign-up form and detailed information will be in the Summer 2013 Newsletter. Mark your calendar now for this great event.

Other Notable 2013 Events

- * The Annual Copper Sword/Copper Shield dinner will be held 13 February at the Tempe Royal Palm Hotel. Recipients this year are Dr. Crow, President of ASU and the Honorable Heather Carter, Arizona House of Representatives, for their work supporting our military and veterans. The MC is Martha McSally USAF, our first female combat pilot. Go to avhof.org to register.
- * The 7th Region Conference will be hosted by the Pike's Peak Chapter at the Cheyenne Mountain Resort from 24 - 27 April in Colorado Springs. MG Joe Anderson, CG 4th ID, is supporting it fully with a day at Ft. Carson. So, please make every effort to attend!
- * The Arizona Territorial Chapter will be a participant and sponsor 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 help sponsor 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.

Arizona Territorial Chapter 7202 AUSA

Chapter President

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We are the Arizona Chapter of the AUSA Association working always to help and support our troops in any way we can. Our local Phoenix Recruiting Battalion is our only active duty unit and they are doing a fabulous job of supporting our Army with quality soldiers. The Arizona Army National Guard is headquartered in Phoenix. We also work closely with USAR units. We help all these units by supporting them and their families on deployments, by awards to outstanding soldiers and by helping in the recruiting mission. We are proud of all these activities, which we support by our annual fund drive golf tournament. We encourage all who are interested in support our Army to join, whether they have an Army or military background or not. We're looking for good people!

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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VP ROTC Support Alex Bowman	CPT (480) 965-7614
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VP USAR Issues Jim Caryl	LTC (Ret) (480) 209-6406

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