



AUSA Territorial Chapter 7202
 Association of the United States Army
 Phoenix, Arizona



Spring Newsletter 2009

AUSA 7th Region Conference



*Atrium of the Biltmore Embassy Suites
 Site of the 7th Regional Conference*

Our Chapter is hosting this year's conference from 3-6 June at the Biltmore Embassy Suites on Camelback Road. We have put together an exciting and interesting program including speakers from National and our region, including Mayor Gordon, MG Salazar, leaders of Fts Irwin, Huachuca, and Carson. Experts from service organizations will tell us how better to support soldiers, their families and our veterans. Special guest speakers

include Marshall Trimble, Arizona historian and storyteller/singer, for the Thursday luncheon; Dr Randy Groth, AZ CASA, for the Saturday luncheon; and Qubad Talabany, Kurdistan Representative to the US and son of the Iraqi president, at the Soaring Eagle dinner on Saturday night. There will also be a tour of the Boeing Apache Helicopter plant for the first 50 who sign up.

We really encourage our members to attend any or all of this conference, especially the opening ceremony on Thursday and the luncheon that day, the luncheon on Saturday and most especially the Soaring Eagle Banquet on Saturday, 6 June. That event will have the Soaring Eagle awards, the speech by Mr. Talabany, a recognition of our vets who participated in the Normandy Landing 65 years ago, and finally an early celebration of Army Birthday/Flag Day. It should really be a great event so please sign up early. The registration form and draft agenda are attached, and both can also be found on our web site <http://www3.ausa.org>. We are also looking for sponsors to allow us to bring local soldiers to it.

Past Events: Some Great Success Stories!

2009 Awards Luncheon We had the largest turnout ever for our February Awards



CDT Griffin & Vic

luncheon where we recognized with cash awards and citations outstanding soldiers from the AZ Army National Guard and Recruiting Command, as well as the top ROTC cadets from the four schools we support: ASU, GCU, NAU and ERAU. The top ROTC cadet in the State was Cadet Carlton A. Griffin from NAU, who received our Task Force Smith Saber in memory of our beloved late member BG (ret) Brad Smith. We also provided all awardees with a one year membership in AUSA.

Another high point of the luncheon was the attendance and speech by LTG (ret) Jay Garner, who came here from Kurdistan in Northern Iraq after picking up his wife Connie at their home in



LTG (ret) Jay G

Florida. Jay has been working closely with the Kurds and gave a fascinating but sobering assessment of the situation in Iraq, as well as the threats of Islamic Fundamentalism and Nuclear Proliferation. He also paid particular recognition to the NCO's in the room, as is most appropriate during this year of the NCO. Everyone enjoyed meeting him: members, awardees and their guests, and our corporate sponsors whom we invited to recognize their support. It was a truly great affair!

Golf Tournament



Curt Uptadel Team



Our Annual **Task Force Smith Golf Tournament** was held on 10 April at Luke AFB Falcon Dunes GC. We had the largest turnout and raised the most money ever for our soldier support programs. Our grateful thanks go to the sponsors who contributed so generously, the GCU Cadets who provided all the support. This truly was a great success and we expect it to be even better next year when we will hold it again on Good Friday, 2 April 2010. We were almost completely full this year so please sign up early, and continue the wonderful contributions!



Dick Minor and MOWW team

Chapter President's Remarks

Cudos to all that helped with and participated in both the Awards Luncheon and the Golf tournament. The Regional Conference combined with our annual Army Birthday celebration will complete what has been an outstanding year for our Chapter. Thanks to all again for your outstanding support. I would be remiss if I did not again ask for all of your help in continuing to grow our membership and make next year even better.

ASU Army ROTC Cadets Brave 2009 Bataan Memorial Death

March by LTC Kirk McIntosh
ASU ROTC Professor of Military Science

Record-Breaking Participation in this year's event

Nineteen Arizona State University ROTC cadets and three cadre powered through this year's 20th annual Bataan Memorial Death March held in White Sands New Mexico. This annual event honors the memory of those who participated in the 1942 Bataan Death March on the Bataan peninsula in the Philippines where American and Filipino soldiers were force marched more than 60 miles with no food or water. These POWs were tortured, maimed, or killed while marching. Most of those who survived spent the next three years in Japanese POW camps until 1945.

A record setting 5,300 participants from all 50 states and 8 countries took part in this year's somber event which took place on March 29,

2009. A roll-call of the survivors and recently deceased members of the New Mexico National Guard Bataan survivors brought tears to the eyes of the marchers as more than 25 names went unanswered--all of whom had died since last year's event.

A flyover by two F-22 fighters followed by canon fire marked the start of this year's memorial run. A number of the Bataan survivors were seated along the start line and virtually all competitors took the opportunity and the honor to shake their hands prior to the start point. Runners took the survivors' hands gently and whispered words of thanks prior to starting their grueling 26.2 mile march.

Participants were young and old and competed either in the light or heavy competitive categories as individuals or teams. Heavy participants wore their duty uniform (ACU), boots, hats, and a rucksack with at least 35lbs of weight, not including water. ASU's teams' rucks averaged 45lbs with gear and water. Light par-

ticipants ran in ACUs with water only. Team members must finish within 20 seconds of each other or else be disqualified. The type of surface covered the spectrum from level loose gravel to mountainous packed rock to inclined pavement to soft and sandy riverbeds. Terrain relief was significant starting at 3900 feet elevation, down to 3600, back up to 5000, and back down to 3900, all with gear while wearing uniform and boots.

Cadets were exhausted but thrilled when they crossed the finish line. Several had to visit one of the several medic tents for blister treatment and/or IVs. Cadet Debroy, a junior at ASU Army ROTC, hobbled around the finish line with his feet wrapped up for numerous blisters but wearing a smile on his face. When asked about why he decided to compete in this grueling event and what he got out of it, he responded that he, "wanted to be part of the team...part of something bigger than myself. I did it to challenge myself and for the memory of those who have served before me."

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"In every battle there comes a time when one group of warriors must be sacrificed for the benefit of the whole....," declared President Franklin D. Roosevelt during one of his fireside radio chats in March 1942. The battle he spoke of was the battle of the Philippines, and the warriors were those fighting American men and women on Bataan and Corregidor....

Bataan Cont.

ASU Army ROTC fielded two 5-man heavy teams, one 5-female light team, and four individual heavy runners. In the 24 team ROTC Male Heavy field, one of the ASU teams finished 3rd and the other 19th. The female team finished 2nd in the Female Light category. This year, the 5th BDE ROTC team fielded a 5-man heavy team consisting of cadre only from all three Arizona Army ROTC programs--three from ASU, one from NAU, and one from UA. Ranging in ages from 29 to 48, this team finished a surprising 4th in the 24 team ROTC Male Heavy category. CPT Jason Mammoser

(ASU) was both the captain of the cadre team and the trainer for the cadets. An ASU Army ROTC alum of the class of 2002, he led his team to victory in 2000 and 2001. When asked about next year's participation, he said, "I fully intend to have even more ASU cadets participate in next year's event. We will win the male and female heavy team categories." In the last 9 years, ASU Army ROTC has placed first in the heavy team category four times (2000, 2001, 2002, and 2006).



A marcher greets a survivor

More information about this annual memorial can be found at www.bataanmarch.com. Next year's event is scheduled for March 21, 2010.

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Chapter Officers

We have a great group of officers now, including some new ones. We really appreciate the new blood and the enthusiasm they bring to the committee. We've organized so each can work on his special interest, but we all are working on the Regional Conference! We expect the group to look essentially the same after the elections. Please contact any if you are interested in working with them.

Executive Committee

We meet at 1400 on 1st Monday of the month. Please notify any member if you have a special interest or issue you want to discuss and we will arrange for you to present it at the monthly meeting. Enter the main gate of Pettycrew Armory at 5425 E. McDowell on the south side of McDowell. Once through the gate bear right. The Armory is the first building on left. Enter from South side of building and go down the hall to the conference room.

WISE MEN

The Board of Directors meets with us quarterly under Dave Kauchek's chairmanship, but we frequently call on the following "gurus" for their experience and wise counsel. They are also a good conduit for others who may want to express their views more privately.

- Park Shaw colretusarmy@earthlink.net 480-488-9099
- Len Lai lendilai@aol.com 480-595-8648
- Jim Morris jhmoris1@cox.net 623-561-1347

Military History:

April 21, 1898—The Spanish-American War Began

May 1, 1960—An American U-2 spy plane is shot down while conducting espionage over the Soviet Union.

"The soldier, above all other people, prays for peace, for he must suffer and bear the deepest wounds and scars of war."

Douglas MacArthur



As the premier voice for America's Soldiers, we are a dedicated team committed to building the most professional and representative association for the United States Army.

AUSA is open to all Army ranks and components including Active, National Guard, and Reserve as well as Department of the Army civilians, retirees, concerned citizens, and family members. Indeed, AUSA welcomes anyone who subscribes to the philosophy of a strong national defense with special concern for the Army. Community businesses and defense industry companies are also represented by AUSA.

WHERE YOUR MONEY GOES

Organizations that AZ Territorial Chapter Supports through your Contributions:

Arizona National Guard Family Assistance Program

Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame Society

Phoenix Military Veterans Commission Foundation, Inc.

Military Family Relief Fund

Adopt a Reserve or National Guard Unit in Arizona

Contributed to the Carillon at the U.S. Military Cemetery in Phoenix

Contribute to College ROTC Funds at ASU, GCU, NAU and ERAU

Provide Awards for Academic and Professional Achievement to ROTC, National Guard, Reserve and Active duty Recruiters in Arizona

Sponsor an annual luncheon for JROTC Cadets throughout Arizona

Contribute to ASU Foundation/ASU Gammage Military Family Ticket Fund

Contribute financial support to various military sponsored activities in the Valley

IF YOU KNOW OF ANY ORGANIZATIONS OR PERSONS WHO ARE ACTIVELY SUPPORTING OUR MILITARY PERSONNEL AND COULD USE OUR SUPPORT, PLEASE LET US KNOW.

Military Appreciation:

Disney Parks Celebrate Military

Walt Disney Resorts are offering free multi-day admissions to active duty and retired military personnel, along with active members of the U.S. Coast Guard, National Guard and Reserves. "Disney's Armed Forces Salute" allows for great rates at select Disney Resort hotels and discounted "companion tickets" for family and friends. For details and contact information please read the full press release. [Www.prnewswire.com/mnr/disney/36573/](http://www.prnewswire.com/mnr/disney/36573/)
<http://www.prnewswire.com/mnr/disney/36573/>

Vets Hunt and Fish for Free

Eligible vets may apply for free hunting and fishing licenses in Kansas. Veterans who were separated from the armed services under honorable conditions and are legal residents and have a disability certified by the Kansas Commission on Veterans Affairs with a disability rating of 30 percent or more may apply. Visit the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks' website at <http://www.kdwp.state.ks.us/> to submit an application.

SAT/ACT PowerPrep Software Free for Military Families

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For more information log onto <http://www.ausa.org/programs/familyprograms/MilitaryAppreciation>