

*Level of Excellence Award Winner: 2011 – 4 Star; 2012 – 5 Star 2013 – 5 Star;
2014 – 5 Star; 2015 – 5 Star; 2016 – 5 Star; 2017 – 5 Star; 2018 – 5 Star;
2019 – 5 Star*

THE OUTBACK

NACMOAA

Established 1972

MAY/JUNE
2021

NACMOAA STAFF & DIRECTORS FOR 2020

Mrs. Sharon Douglas – President

LtCol Alex Torrance– Vice
President, Coordinator for Guest
Speakers & Luncheons

LtCol Gerald Hietpas – Mohave
Satellite President

Col George Weil – Secretary &
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Mrs. Heather Weil – Treasurer

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Director

Col Jim Muehleisen – Director

LtCol Dick Jonas – Membership
& Director

Col Jon Berry – Director

LCDR Peter Jensen – Chaplain

Mrs. Mary Jonas – Outback Editor
& Surviving Spouse Liaison



From the President

By: Sharon Douglas

I hope this finds you all safe and well. Looks like we had a short Spring, and we are headed for an early summer. Now, if only the winds would slow down.

The biggest announcement I have is that on 03 June we will be having our first in person luncheon since our picnic, way back in October. Granite Gate is still not open to the public, so we are having our get-together at Mortimer Farms. It will be in the outside Events Venue. Same location as our lunch back in 2019. It is covered and shaded with ceiling fans. You will find more information in this newsletter about location, menu, price, etc.

***Most importantly, I will need to have a hard head count by 19 May. You are more than welcome to pay at the door, but I

[continued on page 2]

NACMOAA is back. We will have an “In Person” lunch 03 June at Mortimer Farms. RSVP to Sharon Douglas at 928-632-5939 by May 19th.

"Join with your fellow Officers and continue to make a difference!"

MOHAVE SATELLITE NEWS

Officers: President – LtCol Jerry Hietpas; 1st Vice President, Surviving Spouse Liaison, Substitute Secretary–Charlene (Char) Eastman; 2nd Vice President for Programs–CPT Joan McDermott; Secretary, Bullhead City Liaison–Maj Bob Roberts

On May 8th President Jerry Hietpas presented the MOAA Certificate of Recognition & Medal to Mohave High School AFJROTC Cadet Angelina Rediger. Pictured to the right of Cadet Rediger is Bob Roberts the Bullhead City Liaison for the Satellite.



The Mohave satellite meets in Lake Havasu at the Eagles Aerie. They have no meetings in July, August or December.

For additional information about the Mohave Satellite activities contact Jerry Hietpas at gjhiet@gmail.com or by phone at 928-715-6628.

LtCol Jerry Hietpas, USAF, Ret. President Mohave Satellite

Contact Information: Phone: 928-715-6628 Email: gjhiet@gmail.com

From the President: [cont. from page 1]

MUST have your RSVP by 19 May. I will be acting as the Lunch Coordinator. Please call me at 928-632-5939 to RSVP or send your check to me at P.O. Box 95 Dewey, AZ 86327.

Our V.P. Alex Torrance invited a very interesting guest speaker to our June lunch. An officer from the Prescott Police Department will be discussing policing policies and a variety of other topics. We are also pleased to announce a special guest, recently retired Prescott Police Chief Debora Black will be in attendance. I hope you will join us to thank Chief Black for her years of public service.

Two ROTC and one JROTC Scholarships were recently presented. Cadets from ERAU Army and Air Force as well as a high school junior from Bradshaw Mountain received the MOAA Awards. The Bradshaw ceremony was in person and I was honored to be there to present the award. Due to pandemic restrictions, Prescott High decided to forgo a selection this year.

NAC was a proud co-sponsor of the ERAU AROTC Lumberjack Battalion entry in the 2021 Bataan Memorial Death March. All 11 of the cadets finished the 26.2 mile march with 35 lb. ruck sacks. I received a great photo of the battalion and a hand written thank you note for our sponsorship. A very impressive group of young leaders. This was the second year NAC participated.

NAC had our first information table at an event in over a year, on 01 May at the Frank Shankwitz Tribute & Celebration of Life Day. We finally got to use our flag themed

NACMOAA HAS BEEN BUSY IN 2021!



April 10th –ERAU AROTC Lumberjack Battalion entry in the 2021 Bataan Memorial Death March. Cadets & Instructors were appreciative of NACMOAA's donation. Alex Torrance represented NACMOAA for the event accompanying the cadets for the entire 26.2 miles.

May 1st –Frank Shankwitz, co-founder, CEO & the first President of the Make-A-Wish Foundation, passed away on Jan. 22, 2021.

Wish Riders hosted a Celebration of Life Memorial Ride to honor the life of Frank Shankwitz. The ride originated in New River and ended in Prescott at the Prescott Rodeo Grounds.

NACMOAA set up an information table providing membership to anyone interested. Sharon Douglas, Clyde Meade, Dick Jonas and Mary Jonas maned the table.



May 4th –Scholarship awards to Embry-Riddle AFROTC Cadet Thomas Dewald and AROTC Cadet Rile Singley. The Award Ceremony was virtual however, Maj Ortega did send a picture of Cadet Dewald receiving his Certificate.



[continued on page 8]

From the President: [cont. from page 2]

pop-up canopy. It was nice to get back out in the community and represent MOAA. We hope to participate in many more events through the end of the year. We can always use volunteers to man the table and greet the public. Opportunities will be posted here for upcoming events.

Our new and improved website should be up and running the week of 17 May. Check it out at nacmoaa.org. Please let us know what you think. Dick Jonas and the entire website committee have been working on this project for the past few months. Many thanks for all of your time and hard work.

The 2021 Yavapai Stand Down is scheduled to take place on 17-18 Sept. The location has not been announced yet. They are going to have the annual clothing drive this year. If you have items from your spring cleaning, hold on to them until we are able to start collecting them. Monthly meetings start 19 May, so more information will be announced soon.

We are always looking for new ways to finance our Scholarship Fund, Events Fund and Honor Flight Fund. If you have any ideas on fund raising, please pass them on to me or any board member.

There will be a Memorial Day observance at Citizens Cemetery @ 815 Sheldon Street on Monday 31 May from 0900-1000. Parking is available at Yavapai College as well as a free shuttle. Seating at the event is limited, so it might be a good idea to bring your own lawn chair.

Each year MOAA recognizes achievement in communication excellence with the Marvin J. Harris Award. NAC submitted an entry for print newsletter. I am pleased to announce that for the second year in a row, our own Outback Newsletter Editor Mary Jonas has won the highest award of 5 stars. Congratulations. The Outback is a high quality publication, and we all appreciate the time and effort you put into making this an award winning publication.

All good things come to an end. Mary has volunteered a lot of her time for many years producing our newsletter. She has been our editor since 2012. That is a tremendous amount of time and commitment. Mary would really like to retire from the editor position. What better time than after back to back 5 star communications awards? If you are interested in learning more about this position please contact Mary at: mlgjonas.2012@gmail.com

In closing I thank you for taking the time to read our newsletter and I am really looking forward to seeing all of you at the 03 June luncheon. Remember RSVP date is 19 May.

Sharon Douglas, Surviving Spouse
President. Northern Arizona Chapter

NAC Board of Directors minutes from 05 May unavailable at press time.



Ladies of NACMOAA

We gather at 11:30 AM, order off their menu and pay individually. Our lunches are usually over by 2:00 PM. We encourage all ladies of NACMOAA to join us for this social event.

Our lunch dates for 2021 will be: May 14th; July 9th; September 10th and November 12th.

If you know of any of our Ladies who have moved or have health issues we should be aware of, please forward that information to Mary Jonas at mlgjonas.2012@gmail.com or call her at (928) 636-2259. You can also share wishes for prayer or spiritual questions with our Chaplain, Peter Jensen, at (323) 928-9918.

Membership Corner: Please forward any Membership Changes and/or Updates to Dick Jonas at [<az04nac@erosonic.com>](mailto:az04nac@erosonic.com) or call him at (928)636-2259. Dick has the responsibility of maintaining our membership roster so inputs help to keep it current.

If you are in need of a NACMOAA nametag, Dick is the man to contact. The name tags cost \$5.82 each. There is no shipping fee if you pick up your nametag at one of our meetings.

Membership Updates:

We have lost seven members since my last report, but we have added two and there are two more who are very likely prospective members. Our current membership is 72. If you'd like to join NACMOAA now, there is a blank membership application form near the end of this newsletter. For interested Surviving Spouses and for those interested in becoming a member of the Auxiliary, there's a form for that also near the end of the newsletter.

Public Information Officer (PIO)

We now have contact info and meeting announcements in the *Courier*, and in two smaller newspapers — *Coffee Talk* and *The Lonesome Valley Newspaper*.

The website should be public by the time you get this issue of the *Outback* newsletter. You can see it online at www.nacmoaa.org. If you have any comments or recommendations regarding the website, please contact me at az04nac@erosonic.com. or you can call me at 928-636-2259.



It is with great sadness that we announce the death of Peter Jensen's sister Margo Boetticher. She passed the week of May 3rd, 2021. We ask our members for their prayers for Peter, Karen and their family.



~Chaplain's Corner~ Please contact Chaplain Peter Jensen for prayer requests, solace regarding family and friends, or spiritual guidance. He can be reached by phone: (323) 982-9918 or by email: [<chcpetercjensen@gmail.com>](mailto:chcpetercjensen@gmail.com)

Arizona SB 1331 Full State Tax Exemption for Military Retired Pay

We have word from Sen David Gowan, sponsor of SB1331, that his for full exemption of retired pay bill is still alive in budget negotiations now ongoing in the state legislature. However, help is needed to let the House leadership know this bill is important to our members and all retired military members in the state. Listed below are the names and contact information for House leaders on this issue. If your chapter is in one of the districts noted, your emails and calls as constituents will have greater impact.

Rep Russell "Rusty" Bowers Speaker	rbowers@azleg.gov	District 25	602-926-3128	House
Rep Regina E. Cobb Appropriations Comm	rcobb@azleg.gov	District 5	602-926-3126	Chair
Rep Travis Grantham Pro Tempore	tgrantham@azleg.gov	District 12	602-926-4868	Speaker
Rep Ben Toma Majority Leader	btoma@azleg.gov	District 22	602-926-3298	
Rep John Kavanagh Chair Appropriations	jkavanagh@azleg.gov	District 23	602-926-5170	Vice
Rep Becky Nutt Representative	bnutt@azleg.gov	District 14	602-926-4852	AZ
Rep Gail Griffin Representative	GGriffin@azleg.gov	District 14	602-926-5895	AZ

Below is a suggested message to send to these members:

Dear Representative

I'm asking for your favorable consideration of exempting military retired pay from Arizona income tax. It is a "Work Force Development Bill" because it's all about attracting and keeping military retirees in Arizona.

Here are some key points for consideration:

1. A retiree joining the military at 18 can qualify for retirement after 20 years. At 38 years old, the majority of retirees will move into a second career and that income will be fully taxed.
2. A majority of retirees bring with them a spouse who will most likely find employment and their income will also be fully taxed.
3. Retirees of the Uniformed Services bring with them their own health benefits.
4. Retirees will purchase homes, cars, and other assets that will be fully taxed.
5. Many uniformed services retirees bring with them specialized skills that translate to the private sector and many will start new small businesses.
6. Uniformed Services retirees are disciplined, dependable, skilled, highly trained, and do not need long periods of initial training as employees.
7. Considering the technical professions, our military is at the forefront in new technologies and their training regimen is unbeatable. From aircraft maintenance to cybersecurity, our military leads the world, and these men and women receive years of specialized intense training that our state could benefit from.

A Fiscal Note prepared for SB1359 (Identical to SB1331) is favorable for passage. Here is a quote "**Estimated Impact** - We estimate that SB 1359 will decrease annual General Fund

AZ SB 1331 Full State Tax Exemption for Military Retired Pay [cont. from page 6]

individual income tax revenues by \$(48.3) million beginning in FY 2022. However, if more military retirees are attracted to the state as a result of the exemption, the revenue reduction could be partially offset from additional tax collections to the General Fund.” Unquote.

Another quote from the **State of Arizona Executive Budget Summary, for FY 2021**, Revenue Outlook, Page 17, last two paragraphs: “Thankfully, since then the state’s economy and General Fund revenues have experienced extraordinary growth under the conservative fiscal management of the Executive and our Legislative partners. Today, the State of Arizona is in its strongest-ever fiscal position. It is time for the State to recognize the sacrifice of its more than 53,000 retired veterans, who receive a lifetime benefit from our nation in the form of a pension, by allowing them to keep as much of that benefit as possible. Therefore, the FY 2021 Executive Budget fully eliminates this tax by exempting all pension pay of the Uniformed Services of the United States. This new exemption – retroactive to tax year 2020 – is expected to save the average pensioner more than \$840 per year in State income tax, reducing General Fund revenues by approximately \$45.5 million beginning in FY 2021.” unquote.

Thank you in advance for your help on this important bill. Please contact me if you have questions. My phone is 703-232-3609.

Respectfully,
Lee Lange Legislative Director
AZCoC, MOAA

Excerpts from SSP presentation by Sharon Douglas at AZCoC meeting 07 May 2021

- THE TIMETABLE FOR THE PHASE IN OF BENEFITS IS:
- 2021-SBP WILL BE REDUCED BY NO MORE THAN TWO-THIRDS OF DIC, RATHER THAN THE WHOLE AMOUNT. **THE FIRST OF THESE PAYMENTS APPEARED ON THE FEB 2021 PAY STATEMENTS.
- 2022-SBP WILL BE REDUCED BY NO MORE THAN ONE-THIRD OF THE AMOUNT OF DIC RECEIVED
- 2023-SBP-DIC OFFSET WILL BE ELIMINATED IN TOTAL, ALLOWING FOR FULL PAYMENTS OF BOTH. THIS WILL BE EFFECTIVE JAN OF 2023 AND PAID FEB 2023.
- **THE MOST IMPORTANT ACTION SBP RECIPIENTS CAN TAKE IS TO MAKE SURE YOUR ANNUITY ACCOUNT INFORMATION, INCLUDING EMAIL ADDRESS IS CURRENT.
- **This is also a good time to update your DEERS information.

Update to increase in DIC

- S-976 was introduced in Senate 3/25/21
- It has been read twice and sent to the Committee on Veterans Affairs.
- Next committee meeting is 4/28/21
- **Update-Hearing was held on 4/28/21 but no details published yet
- Purpose of bill:
- 1. Increase in the amount of Dependency and Indemnity Compensation for Surviving Spouses
- 2. Modify requirements for DIC compensation for Veterans rated totally disabled at time of death.

The full Power Point presentation is at GroupWorks for download.



Pictured here is the Army JROTC unit at Bradshaw Mtn HS. On May 8th Sharon Douglas presented the MOAA award to Cadet Keenan Rivera.

OUR JUNE 3RD LUNCH LOCATION IS AT THE BARN EVENTS VENUE AT MORTIMER FARMS. THIS TRAILER/SIGN IS A GOOD THING TO LOOK FOR. IT MEANS YOU ARE CLOSE.



Treasurer's Report: As of May 04, 2021



Cash on Hand	\$11,714.21
Less Events Fund	-688.81
Less Reserve for Scholarships	-2,698.08
Less Reserve for Mohave Satellite	-1,341.91
Less Reserve Mohave Scholarship Fund	-600.00
Less NACMOAA Honor Flight	<u>-2,909.75</u>
Net General Funds	\$3,475.66



Submitted by Heather Weil, Treasurer

The Northern Arizona Chapter of MOAA wishes to express our thanks to the staff of Granite Gate Senior Living for their continued efforts on the behalf of their residents. We hope they are all staying safe and well during this pandemic. We hope to be back with them in 2021.

Help Prevent Suicide
Learn how to be there for the Veteran or
Service Member in your life.
VeteransCrisisLine.net



Marine Corps League



**Copper State
Detachment #906
P.O. Box 1775
Prescott, AZ
86302-1775**

Once a Marine...Always a Marine

Meetings on 4th Wednesday of each month 1900 hours at the
VFW Post 10227, 2375 N. 5th St., Prescott Valley, AZ 86314
(928) 445-3393 www.copperstate906mcl.org
An organization of Marines for Marines, by Act of Congress

The Marine Corps League gives you the opportunity to get involved
and make a difference in your community, to help those less fortunate
and to participate in an organization that gets things done.

The VA Hospital
Bingo Night
Special Volunteers
Sports Outings
Fund Drives
Visitation

Marines Helping Marines
Wounded Marines Program
Veteran Family Programs
Holiday Visitations
Raffles & Fund Drives

**The Young
Marines**
Scholarships
Training
Mentoring
Leadership

Toys for Tots
Toy Collection
Special Deliveries
Provide Joy
Christmas Spirit

**Community
Involvement**
Rodeo
Court House Events
Special Events

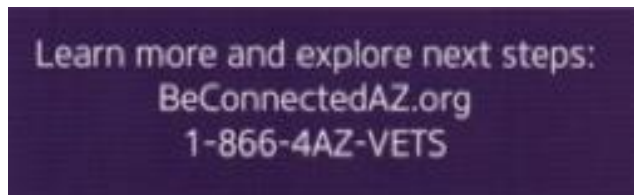
Honor Guard
Parades
Funerals
Sports Events
Patriotism

The Outback Newsletter is published by the Northern Arizona Chapter, which is an affiliate of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA). MOAA and its affiliated chapters and councils are nonpartisan.



MOAA MISSION: To advocate for our military community and connect it to the nation we serve.

MOAA VISION: To promote and protect a strong national defense and lead our nation to honor its commitments to all who serve.



**Thank You Businesses for
your support of
NACMOAA.**

**If you would like to place
an AD in this newsletter,
contact any Board
Member.**





dickjonas@erosonic.com
928-636-2259



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folk music
8 books - lyrics, war
stories, pictures

The advertisements that appear in this publication do not reflect an endorsement by MOAA or this Chapter.

Membership Changes: Effective January 2019 All Surviving Spouse and Auxiliary Members will pay \$5.00 per year. This will help us keep more accurate information for our membership roster.

What this means for Surviving Spouse and Auxiliary Members, after completing the form below, is that we can now vote on Chapter issues and hold office [effective January 2019].



NORTHERN ARIZONA CHAPTER ~ APPLICATION FOR
SURVIVING SPOUSE/AUXILIARY MEMBERSHIP

Must be completed for you to have a vote on Chapter Issues or to hold elected office.

NAME: FIRST _____ MIDDLE _____ LAST _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

TELEPHONE: _(_____)_____ ALTERNATE PHONE: _(_____)_____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

MEMBERSHIP TYPE:

Spouse (Auxiliary): Your regular member spouse Rank / First / M Int / Last Name / MOAA Member #

Surviving Spouse: Your deceased spouse Rank / First / M Int / Last Name / MOAA Member #:

AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$_____ (Make check payable to NACMOAA)

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT: _____ DATE _____

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 2019 Surviving Spouse/Auxiliary dues are \$5.00 per year.

Send this application to NACMOAA Treasurer 4839 N Viewpoint Dr Apt A,
Prescott Valley, AZ 86314



New Regular Membership Application Northern Arizona Chapter

Name _____ MI _____ Last _____

Rank _____ Service _____ Component _____

Status: Active Retired Former Reserve NG DOB (optional):

Address _____

City _____ ST _____ Zip _____

Home phone _____ Cel _____

EMail _____

Spouse Name: First _____ Last _____

Member of National MOAA: Yes No (circle one). You do not have to be a National member to join our chapter. If you are, circle membership type: Basic Premium Life and provide your National MOAA Membership # _____

Dues (choose the one which applies to you):

New Regular member who signs up in the 1st qtr - \$25; 2nd qtr - \$20;
3rd qtr - \$15. If you sign up in the 4th qtr it's \$25, but that covers your
4th qtr in the current year, plus dues for the entire follow-on year.

Amt enclosed: \$ _____ (make check payable to NACMOAA)

Signature _____ Date _____

Mail check and application to:

NACMOAA Treasurer
4839 N Viewpoint Dr. Apt. A
Prescott Valley, AZ 86314

See MOAA on the web at www.moaa.org

**All Chapter members are encouraged to be members of
national Military Officers Association of America.**

Any person who has ever held a commission or a warrant in any of the eight uniformed services is eligible for membership in the Military Officers Association of America.

NEXT LUNCHEON! 03 JUNE 2021

LOCATION: The Barn Events Venue at Mortimer Farms
1484 Old Black Canyon Hwy Dewey-Humbolt AZ 86327
Phone: 928-830-1116

GATHERING TIME: 11:00

PLACE: The Barn

ANNOUNCEMENTS & INTRODUCTIONS: 11:30

BUFFET LUNCH: 12:00 PM



DIRECTIONS: The best way to get to The Barn at Mortimer Farms is Head East on Hwy 69 from Prescott. From eastbound HWY 69 continue 0.4 miles past the intersection with Hwy 169. Go past the American flag on the left-hand side of the road. Next you will see a banner that says THE BARN painted on a commercial 18 wheeler trailer. JUST past this you will turn left into the farm. The Barn is directly in front of this entrance. Parking is to the west side of the venue. If you get lost or have questions, I will have my cell phone with me. 928 899 6655.

COST: The Buffet is \$25.00 per person. The reservation deadline is May 19th.

MORTIMER FARMS WESTERN BUFFET MENU:

SIDES: Herb Roasted Potatoes & Baked Beans; Loaded Vegetable Green Salad

ENTREES: Slow cooked Beef & Chicken Sandwiches

DESSERT: Fresh Strawberry Shortcake w/whipped cream topping and Carrot Sheet Cake

BEVERAGE SERVICE: Coffee, tea, water & lemonade

IF YOU HAVE DIETARY RESTRICTIONS, PLEASE ADVISE SHARON DOUGLAS NO LATER THAN May 19th.

PROGRAM: Sargent Ben Scott from the Prescott Police Department.

Sharon must have an accurate attendance count for Mortimer Farms by May 19th.

Please cut on the line below and mail with your check to Sharon Douglas

TO RECEIVE NO LATER THAN – Wednesday May 19, 2021.

NACMOAA address is PO Box 95 Dewey, AZ 86327.

You may call Sharon at (928) 632-5939 to place a reservation if you prefer to pay at the door.

LATE NOTICE CANCELLATIONS CANNOT BE REFUNDED

October 3rd Meeting: Please make checks payable to: NACMOAA

BUFFET Reservation Request # _____ of meals. All meals are \$25.00

My check for \$ _____ is enclosed

Attendees: Members:

Guests:

Lunch - \$ _____

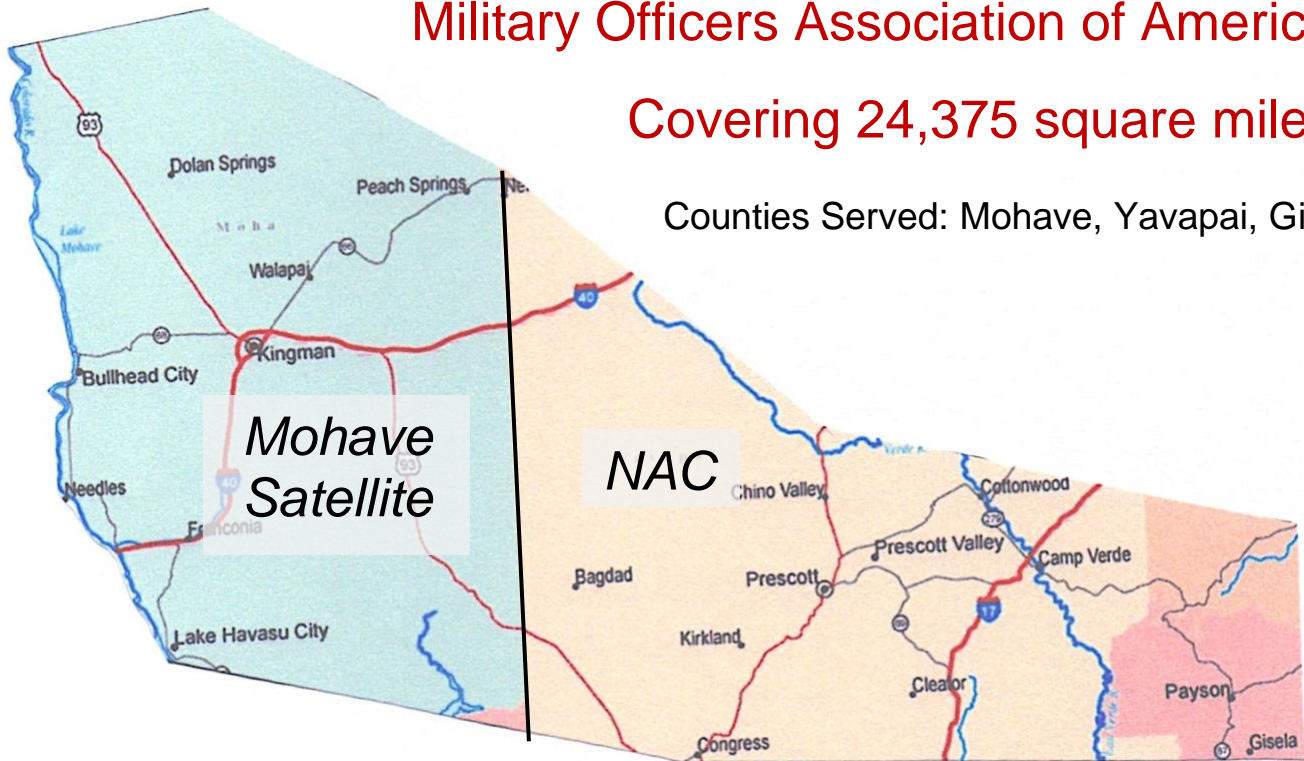
Scholarship - \$ _____

Honor Flight - \$ _____

TOTAL - \$ _____

Northern Arizona Chapter
Military Officers Association of America
Covering 24,375 square miles

Counties Served: Mohave, Yavapai, Gila



From: NAC MOAA
The Outback
Mrs. Mary G. Jonas, Editor
P O Box 1226
Chino Valley, AZ 86323

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