



HELIOGRAM

The Military Officers Association of America
Coronado Chapter
September 2024
Volume 51 Number 6



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CORONADO CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP

Life Members:	73
Basic and Annual Members:	138
Surviving Spouse	35
Honorary Members:	6
Total Chapter Membership:	252

2024 CORONADO CHAPTER GOALS

1. Support the 2024 MOAA National Advocacy in Action priorities through their widespread publication via weekly Legislative Alerts, monthly articles in our newsletter and engagement with appropriate representatives and elected officials.
2. Continually encourage our members to "Never Stop Serving" by providing avenues for their active involvement with organizations and groups sharing MOAA's mission as well as strengthening the bond between the Chapter and its membership.
3. Support the educational goals of qualified JROTC students and graduating seniors through the award of merit based scholarships to students in recognition of their past achievements and potential for leadership.
4. Annually nominate a deserving veteran for induction into the Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame, Canyon Vista Medical Center's Veterans Wall, or the United Veterans Council's Veteran of the Year.
5. Revamp and revitalize our social media space to increase the visibility of the MOAA brand as well as provide online capabilities to facilitate dispensing with current manual processes for activities and payments.



PRESIDENT

Edward A. Wozniak, LTC, USA (Ret)

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(520) 249-0926

First and foremost, I hope that everyone had an absolutely fantastic summer and had an opportunity to spend some quality time with family and friends, or as the song goes, just sit on a beach with your toes in the water and you know what in the sand.

And speaking of time, it's been a pretty busy summer for the Chapter. Although our dinner meetings may have taken a hiatus the chapter continued to support community events and activities while maintaining a presence at several events such as the "Evening on the Green" sponsored by the Ft. Huachuca MWR, the Stand Up 4 Freedom Street Fair supporting the Warrior Healing Center, celebrating National Buffalo Soldier Day with the Southwest Association of Buffalo Soldiers, and most recently our support for the Relay for Life in association with VFW Post 9972 and American Legion Post 52 in Sierra Vista. Take a peek at the Public Affairs page for some photos from all our recent activities and some of the upcoming events and activities planned in the next few months.

And speaking of activities, our Surviving Spouse group is becoming a more and more active element in the Chapter and now comprises almost 15% of our total membership. In addition to their lunch meetings they're also planning an excursion to the Gaslight Theater in Tucson to take in a show. Check out the Surviving Spouse page to see what's been happening and what's coming up next! Along those same lines, we're ALWAYS looking for places to go, things to do, and most importantly activities and events to get involved in that provide support and assistance to our veterans and their families. Let's not just have an impact, let's make a difference for Sierra Vista and Ft. Huachuca!

And speaking of outreach, as a result of our Public Affairs efforts and Membership activities we are now the largest MOAA chapter in Arizona and the second largest in the country according to MOAA National. A lot of members are good, a lot of engaged members are even better. That being said, there are a lot of our members and surviving spouses who, from time to time, require a helping hand that can be something as simple as changing a few light bulbs to doing simple repairs around a member's home. Everyone has skills and abilities and at least a little time to help out their fellow members. As they say, if not me who, if not now when, so if you have the skills and ability and just a little time let Allen Goodman know that you're available to lend a helping hand if required.

And last but not least, "Never Stop Serving".



IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

James Clenney, LCDR, USN (Ret)

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(520) 234-5286

Officers, Wives, Husbands, Survivors, and Friends:

We are blessed to serve in Sierra Vista. And I have been doubly blessed by the quantity of information that is available to support “community action.” The following information includes five specific and (often inter-)related topics. I share pertinent items regarding Legislative, Distinguished Honor Graduate program, Historian Programs, Surviving Spouses, Scholarship Support, and Veteran Suicide.

Legislative activities have been steady. We continue to encourage involvement in directing our elected officials' attention to the business of maintaining the quality of life of those who are, have, and will serve the nation. Their current “State Work Period” (aka recess that ends September 6) affords an opportunity for us to access them in a much more local manner. And you always have access to them through official digital means. We regularly encourage Coronado Chapter members to access elected officials through the Legislative Action Center (quorum.com) site. The usage rates of the Legislative Action Center (LAC) offer some interesting insights.

MOAA has over 353,000 members.

The Legislative Action Center has recorded **25,868** total registrations in 2024 by all categories of MOAA members.

8,189 of these registrations were MOAA local chapter members.

These numbers record that only around **7%** of MOAA's members are acting on legislative activities through the LAC. This number, while surprisingly small, is enough to support recognition of MOAA as a “Top Lobbyist” for 17 years. And, your actions (as chapter members) make up **31%** of all actions logged into the LAC. I am encouraged that membership in a chapter is a clear indicator of your personal willingness to take time and act on matters of importance.

If you have not yet accessed the LAC, I encourage you to do so. If you have a specific legislative topic that you would like to see attended to and/or supported by the chapter, please pass your desires on to me and/or Chapter President Wozniak.

Historical Studies

The chapter continues to support the MOAA Distinguished Honor Graduate program. Through this program, chapter members have the honor of publicly delivering a 3 year membership to MOAA and a one year membership to Coronado Chapter. This program enables 25-30 young officers to experience the platform and support of our association. We can always use additional presenters. It is easy, enjoyable, and fulfilling! Contact me or President Woz-

niak if you would like to experience this as an observer or as an awarding representative.

The chapter has been recently introduced to several phenomenal programs that are focused on historical information and events. Your Chapter Directors have considered the info below and, as a Board, recommend that we encourage members to support one or more of these efforts. Please look through the linked websites of these programs. If you have any inclination toward history, any of these would feed your personal interests.

The Library of Congress' Veterans History Project can be accessed at ([About | Veterans History Project | Programs | Library of Congress \(loc.gov\)](#))

Its goal is to "collect, preserve, and make accessible the firsthand recollections of U.S. military veterans who served from World War I through more recent conflicts and peacekeeping missions, so that future generations may hear directly from veterans and better understand what they saw, did, and felt during their service."

There is also an Arizona-based organization Veterans Heritage Project which can be accessed through ([Home | Veterans Heritage Project](#)). The stated mission is to connect students with veterans to honor veterans, preserve America's heritage, and develop future leaders. If the chapter membership steps up to support this program, the VHP would help us to provide first-hand knowledge of civic education to middle school, high school, and college students. This program connects veterans with personal history (don't we all?) to interested students.

A major difference between the two above is, whereas the Veterans History Project can receive (narrative story) contributions from anyone, the Veterans Heritage Project is focused on matching young students with veterans to acquire their narrative story. The former allows you as members to independently perform this service. The latter will need coordination at the chapter level. Please consider these two and act accordingly.

A final item of historical interest is the existing potential for you to transcribe hand-written documents housed in the Library of Congress. The information (<https://crowd.loc.gov/campaigns-topics/>) lists some interesting campaigns. The campaigns allow citizens with access to computers to (digitally) view and work with some amazing historical documents! I did a quick review and found that the topics range from Clara Barton's writings to Presidential Papers to private letters of men and women serving our nation in time of war.

Surviving Spouse

Surviving Spouse membership is very important to this chapter, and to me personally. In the roles that I previously held in Coronado, I was continually focused on this element of our membership for several wrong reasons. Administratively, I was concerned that we needed more of these members to "round out our mix." Conversely, and at the same time, I was very focused on keeping "the proper limits" on our membership mix. I was complying with the Tax Code for our 501(c)19 status as a *Veterans Organization*. FYI, "At least 75 percent of the members must be past or present members of the United States Armed Forces. At least 97.5 percent must be: a. Present or former members of the U.S. Armed Forces; b. Cadets (including only students in college or university ROTC programs or at Armed Services academies); or c. Spouses, widows, widowers, ancestors or lineal descendants of individuals referred to in (a) or (b)." The real focus should always be on bringing the

strength of our association to bear on the needs of our needful members (and community).

I offer Bravo Zulu (that's Navy for "Well Done!" 😊) to Director Strain! She has shaken me out of my prior focus and called me to attend to the SERVICE of this element of membership (and our community). MOAA Coronado Chapter members should become well informed with the stunning amount of ongoing chapter activities in support of Surviving Spouse issues. I call your attention to a growing network of informational and counseling support for survivors, the growing support for caregivers, the growing organization of informational gathering and sharing, and the growing attention to the needs of future, current, and "experienced" survivors. I also encourage you to join with me and learn about/support the Surviving Spouse mission. I am sure that Jane (and any of her committee members) will welcome your input and support.



Scholarship Support

This chapter has a significant history of supporting our local scholars (and future leaders) with funds to help them in their advanced education. Director Youngblood has kicked up the chapter's ability to increase our public persona and our ability to support more students with more sizable funds. I would be remiss if I didn't join her in encouraging your presence at the November 11th Veterans' Day parade and Member's Picnic at Tompkins Park. I also encourage you to join us for the Second Annual Army-Navy Game Watch Party at Doc's Watering Hole on December 14th. Write those dates on your calendar! In ink!



CHAPLAINS CORNER

Chaplain Allen Goodman, CW2, USA (Ret)

agoodman0663@yahoo.com

(719) 440-1105

I trust and pray you all had a good Summer. I wrote in the May issue that I would give you a break from my ramblings for the Summer. Welllll, I'm back!

This Summer has been tough for a couple of our members. In June, our dear Sandra Abney was called home and in July, COL (Ret), Allen Rossow reported to his last duty assignment. Our Chapter was well represented at both of their memorial services. So thanks to everyone who attended their memorial services. I know the families appreciated the support.

As a reminder, please keep me informed of any of our members that may need our assistance. We have members who are willing and able to help in anyway.

Finally, please keep the following members in your prayers. If you're able to, please call or pay a short visit. Let them know, that they are not forgotten. I know it would be appreciated.

Special Prayers & Concerns

Betsy Carver

Barbara Hall

Nancy Fyffe

John Peele

Harley Hannsz

Bob Abney

Marianne Newcomer

Billie Stockl

John Black

Ann Lander

Donna Isler

Olga Valle

Kandy Clenney

Lucinda Rossow

And as always, pray for our military members and for their continued safety as they serve around the globe.



MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR

Allen Goodman, CW2, USA (Ret)

agoodman0663@yahoo.com

(719) 440-1105

Whew, it's been a hot summer. Glad that it's begun to cool down and with our much needed monsoons. I trust that all of you had a good summer traveling, or just staying in the area relaxing with friends. We are so blessed to be in such beautiful and friendly community of Sierra Vista.



Your chapter has been busy this summer. Not only with our monthly Farmers Market appearances, but our sponsorship and participation of several community and MWR activities. With our participation in these activities, we're informing the public about our Coronado Chapter and MOAA mission of "Never Stop Serving". With our involvement we've been able to recruit 28 new members giving us a total of 252 members.

Our recruitment activities have been very successful, but it's time to get our membership involved. Encourage your fellow members to come to our monthly dinner meetings, and or volunteer at one of our community events. Along with our community activities, we're planning a Veterans Day and New Member welcome at Tompkins Park this Veterans Day, November 11th after the parade. Stay tuned for more information to come.



As you all know, I started doing tours and outings. On May 31st we toured the Titan Missile Museum outside of Green Valley, AZ. We had 14 members join us on that tour and afterwards we had lunch at the Coyote Grill. We had a great time visiting and fellowshiping that day. Since it was so hot this summer, I decided to take a break, but on September 20th we



will be going to the Copper Queen Mine in Bisbee, AZ. The month of October I'm planning a trip to the Pima Air and Space Museum in Tucson. Like all of our outings, transportation will be available. Watch your inbox for details.

One last thing; Remember, we're all recruiters, so ask your fellow officers to join our Chapter. I recommend you keep a few of our tri-folds handy to give out. In case you

don't have any tri-folds, ask me the next time we meet.

“Hail, New Members!”

WO1 Benjamin Altman	CPT Michael Bang	CPT (Ret) Robin Biron
2LT Katelyn Blackburn	Former 1LT Tommy Coffman	CPT Natallie Hales
CPT (Ret) Bill Colberg	LTC (Ret) Reid Culton	MAJ (Ret) John Goggin
MAJ (Ret) Thomas Gardenhire	CPT Natalie Hales	2LT Kyle Melles
CPT Jaron Newman	CPT Devin Pratt	1LT Ryan Schmitz
CW3 (Ret) Mark Richardson	MAJ Brad Steinman	CW3 Andrew VanVeen
CW4 Michael Benton	Former CPT Russalice Benton	Honorary Julia Ours
Former CPT Marc Kaplan	WO1 Kenny Schichtl	CW5 (Ret) Donna Smith
WO1 Cristian Colon-Torres	CPT Adrienne Garcia	

September Birthdays



Robert (Bob) Abney	Jessica Bedisky	Theresa Biron
Samual Boas	Anastacia Bory	Hanna Lore Cannon
Samantha Carlson	George Castle	Lindsey Coleman
Ronald Faulkner	Thomas Gardenhire	Shelby Katelyn
Gosseck Randall Groth	Jennifer Hale	Marc Kapplan
Maggie Mahlik	Susan Mayberry	Lynne Mooradin
Tie Hugart	Sabrina Rostkowski	Maranda Schichtl
Harry Mallory	Hubert Wilkins	Edward Wozniak



PUBLIC AFFAIRS DIRECTOR

Kaylee Nix-Wozniak

moaapublicaffairs@gobalsmarts.us

(520) 732-9631

“Making an impact for military families through Sierra Vista community engagement and veteran community outreach”.

If you were out and about over the last couple of months you would probably have seen the MOAA Coronado Chapter public affairs team here, there and everywhere. Just a few of the activities your Chapter has been involved in since May.

National Buffalo Soldier Day



The Coronado Chapter was honored to be able to celebrate National Buffalo Soldier Day with the Southwest Association of Buffalo Soldiers (SWAB). This organization is dedicated to keeping alive the history of the Buffalo Soldiers as well



as the restoration of such sites as Camp Newell and the Mountain View Colored Officers Club on Ft. Huachuca. A presentation from local historians and a proclamation from our own mayor and member Clea McCaa



rounded out a great and interesting program.



**Southwest Association
of Buffalo Soldiers
(SWABS)**

**CAMP
NACO**
A cornerstone of Buffalo
Soldier history in Arizona

Stand Up 4 Freedom Street Fair

It was a pleasure to support the Stand Up 4 Freedom Street Fair in the run up to the 4th of July weekend with all proceeds going to the Warrior Healing Center in support of their efforts to assist veterans in our community. Was a great time partnering up the VFW Post 9972 and American Legion Post 52 to support this worthwhile event.



An Evening on the Green

The wind may have been blowing (hard) but it didn't dampen this event sponsored by the Ft. Huachuca MWR. Not only did it give the participants an opportunity to enjoy an evening of jazz, wine, (and a little beer), it also gave the Coronado Chapter an unique opportunity for exposure to a wide range of military and civilian personnel of all ranks and grades.





OPEN TO ALL AUTHORIZED MWR PATRONS

Free
Wine & Craft Beer
Tasting

**An Evening
on the Green**

+JAZZ & WINE FESTIVAL
at Brown Parade Field
8 JUNE, 5-9 PM

**CRAFT VENDORS
ON SITE FOR SHOPPING!**

**Desert Fever & DJ Dirty Red
will provide free entertainment!**

**MWR CONCESSIONS, WINE BY THE BOTTLE
OR GLASS, CRAFT BEER BY THE GLASS AND
BOURBON & WHISKEY SAMPLES
AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE!**

For more information, call 520-538-0836.

Memorial Day at the Southern Arizona Veterans Memorial Cemetery

The Coronado Chapter was proud to be one of the many Veterans groups who participated in the annual Memorial Day ceremony honoring those who made the ultimate sacrifice. Chapter members were well represented in a number of different groups, just proving that we never stop serving





SURVIVING SPOUSE DIRECTOR

Jane Strain, MAJ, USA (Ret)

jstrain801@gmail.com

(520) 249-4057

Greetings from your Coronado Chapter Surviving Spouse Group!!

First, our most exciting news! Allow me introduce Julia Ours, the new Deputy Director of Care-givers. This new position for our surviving spouse efforts will add a more inclusive aspect for all members. Please feel free to visit with Julia at our 19 September meeting, I know you'll find her to be knowledgeable, helpful and sensitive to situations. Julia has also located information on the Sierra Vista Fire Department lock box program which will be our first project. We will be sharing this information with everyone.

On 16 July I had the privilege to hear Gail Joyce, Chair of the MOAA Surviving Spouse Council present at the Grand Canyon Chapter in Flagstaff. It was a very pleasant luncheon and I learned much from Gail and the Grand Canyon members. Linda Wolverton, Director of the Luke Surviving Spouse group was also present. Information from Gale and the council can be found on the MoAA.org website in the Surviving Spouse resource area.

Our LaCasita luncheon on 23 July was an exciting social event. Everyone talked! We are now planning our next social for 30 October and are currently researching an acceptable location.

I also had the opportunity to present to the Sunrise Rotary group on 5 August. The Surviving Spouse information was well received by the group and on 1 October, I'll be traveling to the Luke Surviving Spouse group to visit with Linda Wolverton and learn about her care-givers work.

Our first surviving spouse outing is currently slated for 4 January when we will be traveling to the Gas Light Theater in Tucson for a 6pm performance of Scrooge. We have a block of 30 tickets and once we ensure that our Surviving Spouses had the opportunity to attend, any remaining tickets will be offered to the full membership. Tickets cost is \$28.

We have added a few more members to our group of surviving spouses and we'll continue to reach out to ensure they are supported during their demanding transition time. The national MoAA membership of 360,000, the surviving spouse groups represent 12-13% of the population.

Your Coronado MoAA chapter of surviving spouses are ready to educate, encourage and engage with surviving spouses and care-givers.

Respectfully submitted.

Jane Strain, Director



JROTC AFFAIRS DIRECTOR

Lori Wysong, CW3, USA (Ret)
lolowysong6@gmail.com
(520) 227-9402



**Tombstone JROTC
Color Guard**



**Buena JROTC lending a
helping hand**



Public Affairs teamed up with JROTC and VFW Post 9972 and the American Legion Post 52. Buena and Tombstone high school JROTC students worked side by side with these veteran organizations in support of the American Cancer Society's annual "Relay for Life". As long as there is a need for people to serve, there will always be those willing to serve.



American Legion Riders



**Tombstone JROTC
"Walkers"**



SCHOLARSHIP DIRECTOR

Kathy Youngblood
kdyoungblood@yahoo.com
(520) 227-6036

Welcome Back Members!

Happy to have you all back from your summer break. I hope you had a restful and enjoyable time. It's great to see everyone refreshed and ready to dive back into our activities. Let's make this year even better than the last!

The 2024-2025 MOAA Scholarship Program for eligible Cochise County Senior High School Students is beginning. This year, eligibility criteria include children of active-duty military personnel.

The COL Iluminada Chinneth Nursing Scholarship has been donated for the second time for the 2024-2025 school year. For MOAA Scholarship Information and Applications please contact Kathy Youngblood at kdyoungblood@yahoo.com.

Here are a few things to look forward to:

Picnic in the Park, Veterans Day 2024
 11am at Tompkins Park

2nd Annual Army-Navy Game Watch Party
 December 14 at Doc's Watering Hole

Let's make this a fantastic year together!



PICNIC IN THE PARK

COME CELEBRATE WITH
MOAA
 Coronado Chapter
 Brought to you by our dedicated
 Membership and Scholarship Committees

**NEW MEMBER
 MEET AND GREET**

— 11TH NOVEMBER —
VETERANS DAY
 *** HONORING ALL WHO SERVED ***

Designed by Foreath

JOIN US
 Immediately after/following
 the Sierra Vista Veterans Day
 Parade at
 Tompkins Park
 2060 S. 7th St. and BST
 Sierra Vista, AZ
 BYOB and your lawn chair!

POTLUCK • RAFFLES • GAMES

Main entrée and water will be provided.
 Members with last names beginning with A-M please bring a side dish.
 Members with last names beginning with N-Z please bring a dessert.

RSVP to Jim Clenney
 520.234.5286



2nd VICE PRESIDENT (Programs)

Tom Hessler, COL, USA (Ret)

tjhessler@cox.net

19 September 2024 Program

LTC Dana Allmond (Ret), CEO, Az Department of Veterans' Services

Social Hour at 1800, Dinner at 1830, and Program at 1915.

Following in the footsteps of her grandfather and father, retired Army Lt. Col. Dana Allmond has committed her life to public service and currently serves as the Cabinet Executive Officer, Executive Deputy Director of the Arizona Department of Veterans' Services.

The daughter of a Vietnam-era Veteran, Lt. Col. Allmond enlisted in the U.S. Army Reserve as an administrative specialist in 1989. She later attended the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York, graduating with a Bachelor of Science degree in Individual Psychology. She earned her commission as a Second Lieutenant in 1994. Lt. Col. Allmond also has a Masters in Counseling and Leader Development from Long Island University and a Master of Business Administration from Arizona State University.



Throughout her military career, Lt. Col. Allmond was a tactical officer, company commander, served in a combat zone, and was a Chief Executive Officer and Battalion Commander. She also led Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine, Coast Guard and Department of Defense civilian personnel at six Military Entrance Processing Stations. After retiring from the military, Lt. Col. Allmond continued her service with Veteran health care groups in Southern Arizona. She lives in Marana with her husband Jon and her four children.

17 Oct 24	Sheriff Mark Dannels, Cochise County
21 Nov 24	Chapter Board Reports & Elections
19 Dec 24	Sierra Vista Community Chorus
16 Jan 25	Allyn Nock, BrightStar Care. (And induction of New Board Members
20 Feb 25	Ms, Cheri A. Oz, Drug Enforcement Administration
20 Mar 25	Honoring Surviving Spouses
17 Apr 25	Honoring Scholarship recipients
15 May 25	TBD

Please note: I have been the Programs guy for about 8 years and now wish to "retire" at the end of 2024. Let me know if you would be interested in taking over next year. I am willing to assist and train. Contact me at tjhessler@cox.net or catch me at a dinner meeting.

Thursday, September 19, 2024 DINNER RESERVATION FORM

Pueblo Del Sol Country Club, 2770 South Saint Andrews Drive, Sierra Vista

Social Hour 1800 - Dinner 1830 - Program 1915

My Name _____ Guest Name _____

Check Information: Make checks payable to Coronado Chapter, MOAA and mail to: Reservations,
Coronado Chapter, MOAA, P.O. Box 1685, Sierra Vista, Arizona 85636-1685

Total for meal(s) at \$36.00 each _____

Donation to Operating Fund (Optional) _____

Donation to Scholarship Fund (Optional) _____

Check Total _____

No. of vegetarian meals desired (if any) _____

SEPTEMBER BUFFET MENU

Fresh Garden Salad w/Dressing

Beef Stroganoff

Chef's Vegetable of the Day

Buttered Egg Noodles

Dessert: Caramel Flan

Reservations should be postmarked by **September 5, 2024** to ensure timely receipt.**ENTER INFO BELOW ONLY IF REQUESTING CHANGES TO THE MEMBERSHIP ROSTER.**

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

For more Information about Reservations contact Tom Hessler at 459-0093, tjhessler@cox.net**A Note about Reservations.**

We **MUST** give a **final** reservation count to Pueblo del Sol five days before the dinner. Your reservation should be postmarked 14 days prior to the dinner just to be sure we receive it in time.

If you even think you will be coming, you should make your reservation as early as possible. We can take cancelations up to eight days before the dinner. We can either return your check, destroy it or credit it toward the following dinner. If for some reason you miss the deadline give me a call at (520) 459-0093 or email me at tjhessler@cox.net to be placed on a waiting list. We often times have last minute cancellations. Looking forward to seeing you there!

ANNUAL HELIOGRAM SCHOLARSHIP DONORS LIST 2024**2024 SUSTAINING LEVEL (Cumulative Donations of \$300 or more)**

Breer, Ronald & Ruth	Carlson, Samantha
Chinneth, Iuminada	Hessler, Thomas
Jensen, Brooke	Kilpatrick, Merle
Lotero, Ronald & Cynthia	Molloy Family Trust
Nelson, Camille	Wysong, Roger & Lorenza

2023 GOLD LEVEL (Cumulative Donations of \$200 to \$299)

Bobar, Janet	Carver, Betsy
Faulkner, Ronald	Haymore-CrossCountry Mfg
March, FW & JK	Otsuka, Yukio & NM
Puett, Joseph & Margaret	

2024 SILVER LEVEL (Cumulative Donations of \$100 to \$199)

Bates, William & Joan	Bauerbach, Richard
Flynn, Joseph	Kellock, Robert
Lane, Judith	Molloy, Kyle
Nickles, DE & CA	Scheumann, Steven
Symmnes, Kenneth	

2024 CHAPTER DONORS (Cumulative Donations Up to \$100)

Goodman, Allen & Donna	Harju Lee & Song
Heinz, Jo-Anne	Hicks, William
Steele, Tie & Mary	Walsh, Teresa
Wozniak, Ed & Kaylee	

**Please Support the organizations and businesses shown in our newsletter!
All have Sponsored and Supported our Chapter in Many Outstanding
Ways!**

TOTAL TO-DATE: \$5,212.00**GOAL: \$10,000.00**

Please Support these organizations
and businesses!
All have Sponsored and Supported our Chapter in Many Outstanding Ways!



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ATTENTION!

RAFFLE ITEMS

ARE NEEDED!

**Lori Wysong is collecting Raffle items
to offer at our monthly dinner meetings.**

**These raffles are fun
and provide a steady stream of income
for the Scholarship Fund.**

Consider donating something that other people may enjoy!



VETERAN SUICIDE

How much do we think about veteran suicide? This is not a topic that is regularly included in daily interactions with our neighbors. Typically and honestly, I only seem to focus on this when I am focused on it. I am working to change that, and I encourage you to understand what we are facing. In recent weeks, MOAA has joined in the efforts of Cochise Serving Veterans and other VSOs to create a county-wide resource network to address the mental health needs of our veteran family. We are in combat with the heinous enemy of suicide. I ask for your support and input as I lay out the battleground with the following information:

The U.S. suffered 101,847 casualties across Vietnam, Korea, Desert Storm, Iraq, and Afghanistan.

Over 120,000 veteran suicides have been completed over the past 20 years.

At 19.4%, our county ranks **fourth** in the percentage of adults who have served in uniform, among all metropolitan and rural areas in the United States.

Arizona's veteran suicide rate remains significantly higher than both the national veteran suicide rate and the general population's suicide rate.

In 2023, veteran suicides accounted for 20.6% of all U.S. adult suicides.

65% of all American deaths by suicide (2019 - 2023) were among middle-aged and older veterans

Suicide rates are notably higher and have increased more rapidly in rural areas compared to large metropolitan counties. In a direct correlation, Cochise County has the second-highest rate of veteran suicide in Arizona.

In 2023, the VA allocated \$2.8 billion to provide veteran medical care in Arizona \$115,000 was specifically designated for Cochise County to cover medical services, administration, facility maintenance, educational support, research, and other overhead costs.

Not to put too blunt of a point on this topic...BUT, if the above information doesn't concern you, you aren't paying attention. Help us to address and overcome these numbers. Join us in some way. Advise, Support, Act.

Thank you all for your service to the various communities that you are members of. Thank you for your continued personal leadership.

SUICIDE PREVENTION

The Coronado Chapter has "Support the United Arizona Veterans in helping to find ways to reduce veteran suicides in Arizona" as one of our five Chapter Goals. Below are ways we can help:

Publicize "Be Connected," a program "Connecting Arizona service members, veterans, families & helpers to information, support and resources." Their website is <https://beconnectedaz.org/> or call 1-866-4AZ-VETS (429-8387). We are now "Be Connected" Partners.

Support “22 a Month to End 22 a Day.” At the Warrior Healing Center, they are fighting this problem innovatively to restore hope. You can get more information at <https://chuffed.org/project/22-a-month-to-end-22-a-day>.

Emory Healthcare Veterans Program, free to qualified **post-9/11** military servicemembers and Veterans. This program is designed to treat conditions such as **post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)**, **traumatic brain injury (TBI)**, **military sexual trauma (MST)**, **anxiety**, and **depression** related to past military service. More information can be found at <https://www.emoryhealthcare.org/centers-programs/veterans-program/index.html>.



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**About the Coronado Chapter of the
Military Officers Association of America.**

The Heliogram is published nine times each year by the Coronado Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA). We don't publish in June, July, or August. Our chapter is a not-for-profit organization registered with the Arizona Corporation Commission and recognized by the federal Internal Revenue Service under 28 U.S.C. 501 (c) (19). MOAA and its affiliated chapters and councils are nonpartisan. Visit www.moaacoronado.org, our website. Look for us on Facebook at: MOAA Coronado Chapter Sierra Vista, Arizona. Visit the MOAA legislative website to "Take Action" and receive relevant and timely legislative updates: <http://www.MOAA.org/Legislative>. Our post office address is: P.O. Box 1685, Sierra Vista, Arizona, 85636-1685. A complete list of our officers and directors appears at left. We welcome your calls and emails. Our email address for general inquiries is coronadomoaa@gmail.com

According to MOAA Bylaws, our membership shall be composed of: (a). Men and women who are or have been officers — that is, commissioned or warrant officers — of the regular, reserve or National Guard of the United States in one of the eight US uniformed services of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Public Health Service, and Space Command. (b). Widows and widowers of deceased members or of any deceased individual who would, if living, be eligible for membership. (c). Individuals elected as Honorary Members as set forth in Section 2 (e) of this Article. (d). There shall be no discrimination in membership or participation in the affairs of the Association by reason of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, handicap, or age.

**WE NEVER
STOPPED SERVING!**