



# THE TERRITORIAL

**TUCSON CHAPTER OF THE ARIZONA COUNCIL OF CHAPTERS  
MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA**



MAY 2025

*National MOAA and the Tucson MOAA Chapter are non-partisan*



## FROM THE EAGLES NEST

**Ann Hollis, USAF LtCol (Ret)  
Tucson Chapter President**

This month, at our luncheon on May 22, our program will be Steve Smith (USAF Maj, Ret) on military music during the Civil War and Fort Lowell during the 1880s Indian War. He is a member of the Old Arizona Brass Band, which reenacts the 4th Cavalry Band stationed in the 1880s at Fort Lowell.

The Thursday, May 22 meeting will be held at [The Hungry Fox](#), 4637 E. Broadway & Swan, beginning at 1130 a.m. You order from a special menu. The price of \$18 covers the meal, beverage, tax, and tip.

At the April 24 meeting, we presented \$2,000 scholarships to USAF ROTC Cadet Terrill Hall, USA ROTC CADET Dezirae Dotterwick, and USN MIDN Yzzaili Medina. We focus on freshmen or sophomores who do not have scholarships and are in need of additional funding. The scholarship money goes directly to the University of Arizona to be applied to the cadet's account.

The scholarships come from the Tucson chapter 501(c)(3), which is funded through donations that can be tax-deductible if donated directly. For a \$1,000 donation, the donor can name a uniformed services veteran that the scholarship(s) is In Memory of. One does not need to be a MOAA member to initiate a donation or for the honoree to be a

Tucson chapter member. Contact me if you are interested in making such a donation.

Another way we raise scholarship funds is through selling Jim Click [Millions for Tucson](#) raffle tickets. This year's grand prize, to be awarded December 11 is a 2025 Kia Carnival Hybrid SX Prestige, the second prize is two international first-class round-trip tickets to anywhere in the world, and the third is \$5,000 cash. While not tax deductible (since you could win), an individual ticket is \$25; you can get 5 for \$100, and every dollar goes into the chapter's scholarship fund. Don't hesitate to contact me if you want to buy some.

We also presented certificates and medals to outstanding rising JROTC officers. I was lucky enough to present to Cadet Elliott Broscheid at Cienega High School April 17. Photos and more on page 3 and 4 of our ROTC and JROTC awards.

The Military Officers Association of America, Vail Satellite, next monthly meeting is scheduled for May 17, at 1130, at Del Lago Golf Restaurant. Please contact Col Tom Owens, 520-400-9561, [owensttt@gmail.com](mailto:owensttt@gmail.com), if you plan to attend.

The Tucson and Vail Satellite chapter will take a summer break and resume meetings and *The Territorial* in September.

I hope to see you at the May 22 luncheon.

# **Upcoming Tucson Chapter Meetings**

**May 22:**

**Steve Smith, Maj, USAF, (Ret)**

**Military music during the Civil War  
and at Ft Lowell during the 1880's Indian War.**

**Venue:** [The Hungry Fox](#) / **Time:** 1130  
4637 E. Boardway

**Summer Break: June, July, and August  
Meetings Resume in September**

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## **MOAA Vail Satellite Meeting**

MOAA Vail Satellite will hold its next meeting Saturday, May 17 at Del Lago Golf Restaurant, in Vail, at 1130. Please let me know if you will attend and please invite any military officers (active or retired) you know to attend. Please come and participate. We have added new members and look forward to others joining.

Col Tom Owens  
Past President, MOAA Tucson Chapter  
520-400-9561 cell <https://tucsonmoaa.org/>

## **WHO CAN JOIN**

### **THE MOAA TUCSON and VAIL SATELLITE CHAPTER?**

MOAA membership is open to all officers, commissioned or warrant, whether on active duty, retired, former, reserve or national guard and their surviving spouse of all the eight uniformed services, including the Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, Space Force, Coast Guard, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and the Public Health Service. To join the Tucson Chapter, click the Join Our Chapter button on our Chapter's home page:  
<http://www.tucsonmoaa.org/>.

The **Tucson MOAA Board** meets the first Wednesday of the month, at 2 p.m. via ZOOM. Members are invited to submit items for consideration not later than one week prior to the meeting to the President at [annhollis@usa.net](mailto:annhollis@usa.net). If you desire to participate, please email [rorkvik@orvik.com](mailto:rorkvik@orvik.com) to receive the access link.

### **MOAA Tucson and Vail Satellite Chapter Mission**

1. Advocate and support MOAA national goals.
2. Advocate and support the Arizona and metro Tucson programs, activities, and proposed legislation.
3. Encourage and promote a spirit of volunteerism and participation in programs and activities beneficial to Tucson and Vail civic and military communities.



# 2025 ROTC Awards



(TOP ROW) Tucson Chapter President Ann Hollis (USAF LtC, Ret) gives scholarship awards to: (left) USAF ROTC Cadet Terrill Hall, (middle) USA ROTC Cadet Dezirae Dotterwick, and (right) USN ROTC MIDN Yzzali Medina. (MIDDLE ROW) Right: Tucson Chapter President Ann Hollis presents an award to John Davee, Col, USAF (Ret), for his excellent endeavors in organizing the Chapter ROTC Scholarship and JROTC/ROTC awards. Center: USAF ROTC Detachment Commander, Col Cory Christoffer, with Cadet Terrill Hall, who was awarded both a scholarship and an MOAA medal. Lower right: Charles Vaughn (USN CPT, Ret) presents the MOAA medal for Outstanding Leadership to MIDN Trinity Galvan. Right: Charles Vaughn presenting the MOAA award to Army ROTC Cadet Aiden Fordyce. (BOTTOM ROW) Left: Gina Smith Christoffer, USAF Col. Cory Christoffer, and Cadet Terrill Hall share a laugh during lunch. (Right) USA LTC Rich Ingleby and USA MSG Jason Bernhardt, U of A Military Science Instructors, USA ROTC Cadet Dezirae Dotterwick, and USN ROTC MIDN Yzzali Medina, relaxing before the scholarship award.



# JROTC Awards

**Chollo / Cienega / Desert View / Flowing Wells**

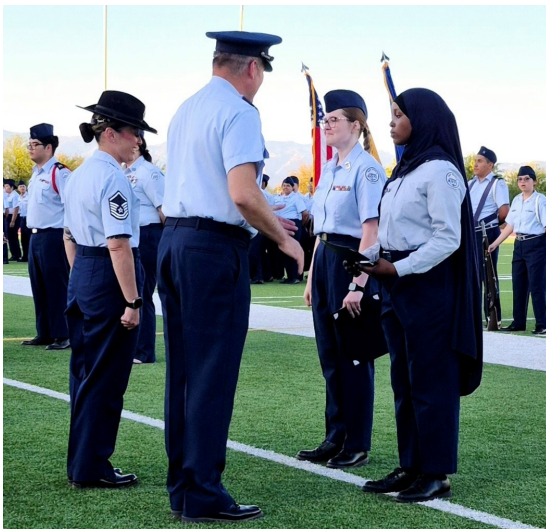


**Chollo High School**  
April 30, 2025

Left: Presenting Colors.  
Right: Tucson Chapter Surviving Spouse Liaison Polly Parks, presenting MOAA JROTC certificate and medal to Cadet Gavin Morrin .



Above, below: **Desert View High School**, May 1. Right, Tom Eiff presents MOAA Certificate and medal to Cadet Laura Siqueiros . Bottom right photos: **Flowing Wells, High School**, April 23: Jerry Peterson presents MOAA award to Cadet Jonathan Ostos and a ROA award to Cadet Alexis Bruntz.



# LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Use the [MOAA Advocacy Center](#) to add your voice to the following MOAA National Legislative Priorities:

On May 5, 2025, [H.R. 530, the ACES Act](#), passed the House on May 6 and awaits action in the Senate. The bill, introduced January 16, 2025, by Representative August Pfluger (R-TX), requires the Department of Veterans Affairs to enter into an agreement with the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine to study and report on the prevalence and mortality of cancers among veterans who served on active duty as aircrew members and regularly flew in fixed-wing aircraft. Senator Mark Kelley and Senator Tom Cotton (R-AR) introduced [S.201, the ACES Act](#), as a companion bill on January 23, 2025. H.R. 530 has been referred to the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

Senators Hirona (D-HI) and Moran (R-KS), both members of the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs, have introduced the **Veteran Caregiver Reeducation, Reemployment, and Retirement Act** ([S. 879](#)) in the Senate. The bill provides these caregivers with the education, employment, and retirement support they deserve. Urge our Senators to co-sponsor.

[S. 410, The Love Lives On Act of 2025](#), has been introduced in the Senate. The bill provides that the remarriage of a surviving spouse must not bar the furnishing of dependency and indemnity compensation or special pension benefits to such spouse. Additionally, the Department of Defense may not terminate the payment of an annuity for a surviving spouse under the Survivor Benefit Plan solely because the surviving spouse remarries. The bill also expands the definition of a dependent under TRICARE to include a remarried widow or widower whose subsequent marriage has ended due to death, divorce, or annulment. Senator Ruben Gallego has signed on as a co-sponsor; as of press, Senator Kelly has not.

A companion bill, [H.R. 1004](#), has been introduced in the House; Rep. Raul Grijalva co-sponsored back in February, prior to his passing and is the only Arizona representative to have thus far signed on. Write Rep. Juan Ciscomani to step up to the plate.

Senators Duckworth and Murray have introduced [S.B. 1231, IVF for Military Families Act](#) to require TRICARE to cover assisted reproductive technology, including IVF, for active duty servicemembers and their families.

Rep. Steven Horsford (NV-D) has introduced [H.B. 1699, the TOTAL Care Act](#) (TRICARE OBGYN Treatment and Access without Lags in Care Act ) which would mandate a 5-year pilot for TRICARE Prime beneficiaries to receive obstetrical and gynecological care without a referral. No Arizona co-sponsors as of yet.

Both the Senate and House have reintroduced the **Major Richard Star Act**. [H.B. 2102](#) and [S.B. 1032](#), Senator Mark Kelly was an original co-sponsor and Senator Ruben Gallego has signed on. Representative Juan Ciscomani was an original co-sponsor in the House.

Other TOP PRIORITY issues at the Advocacy Center include: **Stop the 34-Year Wait - Deliver Toxic-Exposed Veterans the Care They've Earned**; **Ask Congress to Address the Hazardous Unaccompanied Housing Conditions Rampant in the Military**; **Ensure Servicemembers Can Afford Housing—Restore Full BAH**; and **Military Spouses Can't Wait - Add Them to the Work Opportunity Tax Credit**.



# Budget Update

By Polly Parks, *The Territorial Editor*

House and Senate Republicans are still mired in House Speaker Johnson's *Big Beautiful Bill*, and as of a press-time, the bill as written, failed to pass. It is unclear whether the exercise will be abandoned until after the FY2026 budget is passed or will continue to be used to avoid other pressing fiscal and governance issues under the purview of the legislative branch. Specifically, the debt limit, which reached its statutory limit at the beginning of January.

A [May 9, 2025, letter](#) from Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent to the House and Senate leaders states:

“Because there is significant uncertainty in projecting government cash flows months into the future, it is impossible to identify precisely how long cash and extraordinary measures will last. However, after reviewing receipts from the recent April tax filing season, there is a reasonable probability that the federal government's cash and extraordinary measures will be exhausted in August while Congress is scheduled to be in recess. Therefore, I respectfully urge Congress to increase or suspend the debt limit by mid-July, before its scheduled break, to protect the full faith and credit of the United States.

“Prior episodes have shown that waiting until the last minute to suspend or increase the debt limit can have serious adverse consequences for financial markets, businesses, and the federal government, harm business and consumer confidence, and raise short-term borrowing costs for taxpayers. These risks were underscored by the Treasury Borrowing Advisory Committee in a report issued on April 29, 2025, raising concerns including increased volatility and costs, negative impacts on U.S. financial strength, and a heightened risk of a default.<sup>1</sup>

“A failure to suspend or increase the debt limit would wreak havoc on our financial system and diminish America's security and global leadership position.”

The footnote refers to the Treasury Borrowing Advisory Committee report, which can be accessed [here](#) and is well worth a read.

Meanwhile, the Trump Administration began releasing a piecemeal FY2026 Skinny Budget proposal at the beginning of May. Skinny refers to “no meat on the bones;” in other words, it is not a real budget. The FY2026 Skinny Budget can be accessed at the [OMB website](#); it includes a cover letter from OMB Director Russell to Senator Susan Collins, Chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee.

For Defense, the FY2026 Skinny Budget proposes a topline increase of \$133.3 billion. Without specificity, it includes a down payment on a “Golden Dome” missile defense system, expands U.S. shipbuilding capacity, continues to support the development of Boeing's F-47, and modernizes nuclear weapons. The only specific number is a 3.5% pay raise for servicemembers.

For the Veterans Administration, the Skinny Budget proposes a \$2.209 billion increase for

*Continued on page 7*

## Budget Update, continued from page 6

health care services, with a strong emphasis on outsourcing care. There is also a \$1.1 billion increase targeting veteran homelessness, including VA directly funding programs and financial support that target homeless veterans and at-risk veterans. Currently, those programs are funded through a Housing Voucher program administered by public housing authorities or non-profit organizations that receive VA grants.

The other plus-up at the VA is an additional \$2.173 billion to accelerate deployment of the troubled privatized [Cerner-Oracle Electronic Health Record Modernization \(EHRM\) program](#). The VA EHRM was authorized by the first Trump Administration in 2017 as a sole-source, non-competitive, multi-billion-dollar contract to replace the in-house VA electronic medical record system that is decades old, but considered by the private sector as the gold standard of a nationwide medical record system. Luckily, the VA has not ditched its internal system, as the EHRM has been unable to survive small-scale beta roll-outs. The new money seeks to expand interoperability with DoD, other federal partners, and outsourced caregivers.

There should be an actual budget by the September issue, and the House and Senate should be well on their way to reconciliation.

## AZCoC Spring Meeting



*Council President Charles Vaughn and seven present Chapter Presidents who received the 5-Star Level of Excellence Award.*

### By Ann Hollis. Tucson Chapter President

The Arizona Council of Chapters wrapped up its Spring meeting on May 2 in Surprise, AZ. Council officers and various Chapter officers were present, including Tucson Chapter President Ann Hollis and Catalina Mountain Chapter President Kurt McMillan. The Council President is Charles (Chuck) Vaughn, past president of the Catalina Mountains Chapter and Tucson Chapter

Treasurer.

There are currently 10 Arizona Chapters, but the Superstition Mountain Chapter recently decided to close down. Beginning on June 1, there will be nine chapters: Arizona, Catalina Mts., Coronado, Grand Canyon, Green Valley, Luke, Northern Arizona, Tucson, and Yuma.

The nine chapters and the Council received 2024 5-Star Level of Excellence Awards. The 2024 MOAA Colonel Marvin J. Harris Communications Awards is broken into two categories, websites and newsletters. The Council and six chapters, including Tucson, received the Award for Website. The Council and all ten chapters, including Tucson, received the award for Newsletter. \$17,031 was disbursed to Arizona Chapters through the 2025 MOAA Community Outreach Grants; Tucson received two. \$1,000 for the Veterans Standdown and \$1,031 for the D-M RAO VSO office.

Let me know if you would like the meeting minutes. The next meeting will be in November.



## TUCSON CHAPTER OFFICERS

Web: <https://tucsonmoaa.org/> Facebook: [MOAA Tucson Chapter](#)

**President:** Ann Hollis, USAF LtCol (Ret), 520-749-3573; / [annhollis@usa.net](mailto:annhollis@usa.net)

**1st Vice President:** Gerald Petersen, LTC USA (Ret), 520-250-1914,  
[cactushome1@earthlink.com](mailto:cactushome1@earthlink.com)

**2nd Vice President:** John Davee, Col, USAF (Ret), 520-275-7864, [kiddavee@gmail.com](mailto:kiddavee@gmail.com)

**Personal Affairs/Veteran Committee Rep.:** Ann Hollis, USAF LtCol (Ret), 520-749-3573; /  
[annhollis@usa.net](mailto:annhollis@usa.net)

**Legislative Chair:** Vacant

**Secretary:** Larry Summers

**Treasurer:** Charles Vaughan, CAPT. USN, (Ret) 505-553-4364/[Chuck.vaughan@comcast.net](mailto:Chuck.vaughan@comcast.net)

**Membership Chair:** Randy Long, Capt USAF (Ret), PhD (614) 595-5532, [RLLong@att.net](mailto:RLLong@att.net)

**Scholarship Chair:** John Davee, Col, USAF (Ret), 520-275-7864, [kiddavee@gmail.com](mailto:kiddavee@gmail.com)

**ESGR Chair:** Ross Orvik, CDR, USN, (Ret), 510-393-9359 / [rorvik@orvik.com](mailto:rorvik@orvik.com)

**Surviving Spouse Liaison; Territorial Editor:** Polly Parks, 703-338-6881/  
[pollyparks@earthlink.net](mailto:pollyparks@earthlink.net)

**Chaplain:** Bette Ludlow, 520-207-3755, [bettyludlow@yahoo.com](mailto:bettyludlow@yahoo.com)

**Webmaster:** Charles Vaughan, CAPT. USN, (Ret) 505-553-4364/[Chuck.vaughan@comcast.net](mailto:Chuck.vaughan@comcast.net)

**Past President:** Tom Owens, Col, USAFR, (Ret), 520-760-3476/[owensttt@gmail.com](mailto:owensttt@gmail.com)

### MOAA Tucson Chapter Mission

1. Advocate and support MOAA national goals.
2. Advocate and support the Arizona and metro Tucson programs, activities, and proposed legislation.
3. Encourage and promote a spirit of volunteerism and participation in programs and activities beneficial to Tucson civic and military communities.

### Volunteer to be a MOAA Mover Tucson Chapter needs Your Help

Our MOAA programs and their quality depend on the voluntary efforts of our members. We need a volunteer we still need a Board position of Legislative Chair. Please consider lending your *LEADERSHIP AND VOICE* to the Chapter teams.

Contact Tucson Chapter President Ann Hollis at [annhollis@usa.net](mailto:annhollis@usa.net).

### LOCAL VA CONTACTS

**Southern Arizona VA Health Care System (SAVAHCS)** 520-792-1450 or 1-800-470-8262

**Suicide Prevention Coordinator** 520-792-1450 extension 6415

**Caregiver Support Program** 520-629-1822 extension 5390

**Patient Advocate Office** 520-629-1819

**Care in the Community** 520-792-1450 extension 6555

**Women's Health Clinic** 520-629-4885

**Center for Development & Civic Engagement** 520-629-1822

### D-M AFB CONTACT NUMBERS

**Base Welcome Center** 520-228-4886

**Info and Referral Services** 520-228-5690

**ID/CAC card processing** 520-228-4425

**Base Exchange** 520-748-7887

**Commissary** 520-228-3116

**Retiree Activities Office** 520-228-5100

**VSO** 520-275-7633



# **MOAA GOLF TOURNAMENT**

**JUNE 6, 2025**

**Del Lago Golf Club**

**7:30 am Shotgun Start  
with Scramble Format**

**COST: \$51.00 Club Fees**

**Includes Lunch, \$20.00 Tournament Fee  
Option \$5.00 includes 1 mulligan, one grenade launch,  
& 3 foot putting string per player**

## **PRIZES**

**1<sup>st</sup> team prize: \$100**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Team Prize: \$80.00**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Team Prize: \$60.00**

**Closest To The Pin, Holes #2 & #13:  
Free Round Of Golf**

**All Proceeds go to  
Veterans Scholarships and Homeless Vets Programs**

**Contact Info:  
Gary Herbert, [gherbert752@gmail.com](mailto:gherbert752@gmail.com) / 860-460-9382**

**MOAA is the Military Officers Association of America**

# Our Veterans need YOU!!

**The SAVAHCS Center for Development  
and Civic Engagement office is actively seeking  
**passionate volunteers**  
to join our mission in supporting Veterans.**

This is your chance to make a real difference in the lives  
of those who have served our country.

Show your support for Veterans by volunteering  
as a receptionist, licensed barber, driver, visitor for housebound Veterans,  
patient escort, or a patient surveyor, etc.

Volunteering is not just about giving your time;  
it's about creating connections  
and showing appreciation for our heroes.

Whether you want to engage directly with Veterans  
or support them behind the scenes,  
we have a variety of roles that suit your interests and schedule.

For more information, please email [TucsonCDCE@va.gov](mailto:TucsonCDCE@va.gov)  
or call (520) 629-1822.

## **SAVAHCS Seeks Volunteer Drivers to Support Veteran Healthcare Access in Tucson and Sierra Vista**

The Southern Arizona VA Health Care System (SAVAHCS) seeks to recruit volunteer drivers for its vital DAV (Disabled American Veterans) Transportation Network. This program plays a crucial role in ensuring Veterans can access the healthcare services they've earned through their service.

SAVAHCS is particularly seeking volunteer drivers residing in and around Sierra Vista, Arizona, to transport Veterans to their VA medical appointments in Tucson. Ideal candidates have flexible schedules, good driving records, and can commit to volunteering for a minimum of one year.

Becoming a DAV Transportation Network volunteer is straightforward. Drivers must have a valid, state-issued license and pass a basic physical through the VA. SAVAHCS will provide all necessary training and vehicles for transportation.

For more information on becoming a VA volunteer driver, please contact the SAVAHCS Center for Development and Civic Engagement Office at (520) 629-1822.

## ANDY LOPEZ MEMORIAL

# GOLF TOURNAMENT

7<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL

**JUNE 14 | 0700**

Tucson Detachment 007  
Marine Corps League  
Fundraiser



COMMUNITY  
BENEFICIARY

**Cecilia  
Lopez**  
Battling Cancer

- ◆ Support Detachment 007 MCL
- ◆ Community Beneficiary – Cecilia Lopez

### Haven Golf Course

Green Valley, AZ

Shotgun Start • 4 man scramble

**\$100.00 per player / \$125 day of**

Raffle • 50/50 Raffle • Ball Launcher  
Longest Drive • Closest to the Pin  
Hole In One Prize

1st, 2nd & 3rd Place Prizes

Deadline to register is June 11.

**520-982-0023**