



THE TERRITORIAL

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



MAY 2026

National MOAA and the Tucson MOAA Chapter are non-partisan



FROM THE EAGLES NEST

By Polly Parks

Tucson MOAA Chapter President

The May 21 luncheon will be the last until September. The Board is considering moving to a more centrally located venue with lower prices while maintaining amenities. The Board will also use the summer to see if we can tap into the pool of potential members who are still working. I plan to publish an issue of The Territorial in July to update members on any changes.

For those attending the May 21 luncheon, I will be collecting cash or checks, as Treasurer Chuck Vaughan is out of town.

The April 22 MOAA Tucson Chapter's Lieutenant Colonel John A. Devine Memorial Scholarships ceremony honoring exemplary Cadets and MIDN at the University of Arizona was a success. Kudos to Col John Davee, 1st VP and Scholarship and Awards Chairman, for organizing an excellent program. Full coverage begins on page 4.

All three scholarships were sponsored, in part or in full. Contributions to the Fund help us keep this program going in perpetuity.

Herding cats: John also organized ROTC and JROTC to identify awardees, find

presenters, print certificates, and ensure presenters received the certificates and ribbons. Thank you, John and all chapter presenters.

The MOAA ROTC Awards for outstanding Juniors at the three U of A ROTC ceremonies were: the Army ROTC Medal Award to Cadet Richmond Slan, presented by LTC Brenda Hughey at an afternoon ceremony on 22 April; the Air Force ROTC award to Cadet Tracy Harrell, presented by LtC Caleb Martiny at o'dark 30 on April 28; and, not much later than o'dark 30, CAPT Chuck Vaughan, accompanied by CAPT Tina Talley, presented the Navy ROTC award to MIDN 2/C Derek Luther at an April 29 ceremony.

The chapter was also busy presenting the four MOAA JROTC Awards for outstanding Juniors. On April 15, Capt. David Acklam presented to Cadet Wyatt Wilson at Cienega Navy JROTC, and LTC Jerry Peterson presented to Cadet Joshua Petty at Flowing Wells AF JROTC. On April 29, Chapter President Polly Parks presented to Cadet Major Gabriel Canez at Cholla Army JROTC, and CAPT Tom Eiff presented to Cadet Alexander Bustillos at the Desert View AF JROTC.

Vail Satellite: I attended the Vail satellite meeting with Tom Owens last Saturday.

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Upcoming Tucson Chapter Meetings

Venue: [The Viscount Suites](#) / Time: 1130
4855 E. Broadway, Tucson, AZ

NOTE DATE CHANGE: May 21, 2026 **2026: The Future of NATO,** **presentation by Mark Schultz**

June-August is Summer Break. Meetings resume in Fall

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MOAA Vail Satellite Meeting

MOAA Vail Satellite will hold its next meetings **Saturday, May 16** at the 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 pollyparks@earthlink.net. If you desire to participate, please email pollyparks@earthlink.net 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

From the Eagles Nest *continued from page 3*

There are now 6 members participating. Discussion of the feasibility of holding the Del Lago Golf Tournament on June 18 led to an agreement to move it to September. More details coming. If any members want to chair the effort to pull it together administratively, please step up. The one last year was quite successful and brought in a tidy sum for the Scholarship Fund.

In a more sober note, Tom also said he would have to step back due to health issues.

MOAA Foundation Community Outreach Grants: The Chapter was awarded two grants.

\$1,800 goes to Tucson Helping Veterans, a 501c3 nonprofit that organizes the annual Tucson Veterans' StandDown and provides various forms of assistance year-round. The grant supports their emergency rental assistance program for veterans facing eviction. Personal Affairs Chair and Tucson Veterans' Affairs Committee representative Brenda Hughey will manage the grant.

The D-M RAO on-site VSO office, staffed by volunteers, received a \$690 grant to cover out-of-pocket expenses for a mandatory software program that interfaces with the VA and for printer cartridges. In addition to handling disability claims, John Roseberry participates in TAP briefings on base. This is the third year the Chapter has received a grant for the VSO. Receipts have already been submitted, and the Chapter will supplement the grant to cover the expense.

Membership: Chair Caleb Martiny has made significant strides in organizing membership data and records. Some of you may be contacted by him to update your 2026 dues status, as the records are incomplete. Caleb is also the chapter

representative who will interface with the MOAA National Committee Module. One of the Module's key features is the quarterly Real-Time Report, which tracks new MOAA National members moving into, out of, or within our catchment area.

The membership list is a vital tool for the chapter and MOAA National, but our chapter has not kept it up to date. If you have moved or changed your email address in the past couple of years, let Caleb know. We know there are discrepancies between the Box list MOAA National sent us and the information we have on file for members.

May 28-29, Caleb Martiny, Rusty Orvik, and I will attend the Western Regional Symposium in San Diego.

myAuth: Before I wrap up, I want to draw members' attention to myAuth, a new military-wide multi-factor sign-in process that will replace all traditional DS logins by the end of 2026.

Like all the DOGE-driven out-sourced initiatives, it is being rolled out in an early BETA version. So, expect some confusion when accessing DoD-related services over the next few months. This will include Tricare, DEERs, ID card renewal, and more.

I was alerted to the change by one of those Tricare updates, which will take effect in June. I tried it on Tricare and a couple of other websites, and the same thing kept happening. Once you reach the myAuth login (after entering your old login/password and creating a new myAuth password), I get stuck in a multifactor loop that doesn't work, and, of course, there are no instructions.

If anyone can figure this out, please let me know so I can share it with our readers and the DM-RAO retiree community.

Hope to see you at the May 21 luncheon!

“Never Stop Serving”

2026 LTC John A Devine Scholarship Awards



Left to right: AROTC MSG Jason Bernhardt, AROTC Cadet Rushman Schwartz, NROTC MIDN Derek Luther, NROTC MIDN Marcus Wilson, (Scholarship sponsors): Mrs. Sherry Ford, Ms. Polly Parks, and Mrs. Kristi Scully. Backrow: USAF Col Cory Christoffer, NROTC MSgt Stephen Powers, and AFROTC Cadet Terrill Hall.

Pool Report, April 22, 2026

Second Vice President Col. John Davee, USAF (Ret.), was the Master of Ceremonies for the MOAA Tucson Chapter's Lieutenant Colonel John A. Devine Memorial Scholarships at the April 22 Chapter luncheon meeting.

The Tucson MOAA Chapter ROTC Scholarships were established to honor the memory of LTC John A. Devine, in recognition of his service to the United States as an Army Officer and his numerous contributions and leadership within the Tucson Chapter of MOAA.

LTC John Devine initially entered the Navy at age 17 during WWII. After his service in the Korean Conflict, LTC Devine left the Navy

and joined Naval Intelligence. Subsequently, LTC Devine was offered a direct commission into the US Army and served with the 5th Special Forces Group and the 1st Special Forces Group, both based at Ft. Bragg, N.C. LTC John Devine served two tours in Vietnam and retired from the Army after 22 years of service.

Each year, MOAA Tucson recognizes outstanding cadets or midshipmen in each of the military services' ROTC programs at the University of Arizona. Each scholarship is presented in memory of or to honor a United States Military Services veteran. The scholarships are sponsored jointly by the Tucson Chapter, its members, families,

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friends, and other veterans to honor the service and sacrifices of veterans, past and present.

Each Detachment Commander determines the recipient based on exceptional potential for military leadership, high moral character, good academic standing, and a high degree of loyalty to the ROTC unit. Each \$2,000 Scholarship is sent directly to the University Bursar's office and deposited into the recipient's account to cover education-related costs.

This year, the Air Force ROTC Detachment Scholarship recipient, Cadet Liam Henry, was ill and unable to attend. The Chapter will honor Cadet Henry with a personal presentation at a luncheon in the Fall. AFROTC Detachment Commander Col. Cory Christoffer and the 2025 Scholarship recipient, Cadet Terrill Hall, were in attendance.

From the Army ROTC Detachment, in attendance were the Scholarship recipient, Cadet Rushman Schwartz, and AROTC MSG Jason Bernhardt.

From the Navy ROTC, in attendance were Scholarship recipient, MIDN Marcus Wilson, MSgt Stephen Powers, and an additional guest, MIDN Derek Luther.

All three 2026 Scholarships were sponsored in whole or in part by Chapter Surviving Spouses who were also in attendance. The Air Force ROTC scholarship sponsor, Mrs. Sherry Ford, sponsored the scholarship in memory of her late husband, Col. John E. Ford, III. The Army ROTC scholarship sponsor, Ms. Polly Parks, sponsored the scholarship in memory of her late husband, Colonel George Luis Cajigal. The Navy ROTC scholarship sponsor, Mrs. Kristi Scully, sponsored the scholarship in memory of her late husband, Commander Donald G. Scully.

During the scholarship presentation, the Detachment representative introduced the recipients, who gave brief remarks about their plans for their military careers once commissioned. Colonel Davee gave brief overviews of the sponsors' careers.

The Air Force ROTC Scholarship was awarded to Cadet Liam Henry in memory of U.S. Air Force Col. John E. Ford III. Col. Ford retired in 1992 after a decorated Air Force career spanning 37½ years. Colonel Ford was an AFROTC cadet at UCLA, where he earned his bachelor's degree in cinematography, and later his master's degree in education from Southern Illinois



Chapter President Polly Parks (center) presents the AFROTC scholarship recipient, Cadet Liam Henry, his scholarship check in absentia. (Left: Col Cory Christoffer, right: Cadet Terri Hall, 2025 Scholarship recipient.

University. He was also a distinguished graduate of the Squadron Officers' School, the Air Command and Staff College, and the Air War College.

No stranger to combat operations, Colonel Ford's assignments throughout his career took him to the Philippines, the Republic of Vietnam, and the Persian Gulf region during Desert Storm. Colonel Ford was the first combat camera officer in Vietnam in

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December 1961. Later in 1967, he returned to Vietnam, where he remained for 2½ years, primarily as commander of a combat camera detachment. In a later assignment as a Plans Officer at Langley AFB, Colonel Ford was instrumental in writing the plans that brought U.S. prisoners of war from Vietnam.

During his final assignment as Vice Commander, Headquarters Air Combat Camera Service, Colonel Ford deployed to Desert Storm, where he served on Gen. Norman Schwarzkopf's operations staff and commanded all combat camera forces in the Desert Storm theater of operations.

During his career, Colonel Ford flew 124 combat missions and logged 329.5 combat hours over Southeast Asia and the Persian Gulf. As an aside, it was noted that many published combat photographs from Vietnam and Operation Desert Storm identify the photographer as Col. Ford.

Following his retirement from the Air Force, Colonel Ford taught for eight years in the Junior ROTC program at Hemet High School in Hemet, CA. The Scholarship in Memory of Colonel John E. Ford, III was fully sponsored by Mrs. Sherry Ford.

The Army ROTC Scholarship was awarded to Cadet Rushman Schwartz in memory of U.S. Army Colonel George Luis Cajigal.

COL Cajigal retired in 1995 after a distinguished 27-year career as a Combat Engineer.

Colonel Cajigal was born in Havana, Cuba, and came to the United States in 1961 when his family was accepted for political asylum. Incidentally, Col Cajigal was quickly drafted into the U.S. Army upon becoming a naturalized US citizen in 1968.

Colonel Cajigal obtained his bachelor's degree from Western Carolina University, later receiving master's degrees from Pacific

Lutheran University and North Carolina State University. He also attended the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, the Armed Forces Staff College, and the Inter-American Defense College.

A Vietnam War veteran, Colonel Cajigal had numerous combat engineer assignments in the XVIII US Army Airborne Corps at Fort Bragg, NC, culminating as Director, Force Modernization, and Director, Plans and Training, XVIII Airborne Corps.



AROTC Cadet Rushman Schwartz listens as Col. John Davee gives the background of USA COL. George L. Cajigal. Right: Polly Parks, Chapter President, and Army MSG Jason Bernhardt.

Other major assignments included: District Engineer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Wilmington District; Assistant Director of Civil Works, Headquarters, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; Military Assistant to the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works, U.S. Army, The Pentagon; Instructor and U.S. Army Exchange Officer, Peruvian Army Engineer School, Lima, Peru.

Colonel Cajigal's post-military career focused on support to the Defense Threat Reduction Agency's mission to eliminate weapons of mass destruction from the former Soviet

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Union and affiliated nations.

Colonel Cajigal was active in the Military Officers Association of America's Florida Council of Chapters, Vietnam Veterans of America, and the Highlands County Veterans Council. He was a lifelong sailor and succeeded in soloing as a light-sport aircraft pilot.

This Scholarship in Memory of Colonel George Luis Cajigal was funded by Ms. Polly Parks, Colonel Cajigal's spouse, and the Tucson MOAA Chapter.

The Navy ROTC Scholarship was awarded to MIDN Marcus Wilson in memory of U.S. Navy Commander Donald G. Scully.

CDR Scully served a distinguished 28-year career in both the Merchant Marines and the US Navy beginning in 1943, during the height of World War II. CDR Scully was present in the US Naval forces in Tokyo Bay when Gen. MacArthur formally accepted the Japanese surrender to end WWII.

With the end of WWII hostilities, CDR Scully was discharged from the Navy and soon joined the Merchant Marines. Most of his time in the Merchant Marines was spent sailing to Argentina and other parts of South America.

CDR Scully reentered the US Navy as the Vietnam conflict started heating up. In fact, CDR Scully was assigned to the US Embassy in Saigon, South Vietnam, where he was seriously injured during an attack on the embassy, resulting in a 2-year recovery and rehabilitation stay in the San Diego Naval Hospital.

With his recovery and return to duty, CDR Scully was in charge of an inland riverine reconnaissance unit. During his time in the US Navy, CDR Scully attended the Navy SEAL course and the US Army Jump School.

CDR Scully was an active LIFE member of MOAA and a member of the Military Order of the Purple Heart. CDR Scully had a lifelong love of the water, which began early in Canada, where he spent time sailing with his cousins.

This Scholarship in Memory of CDR Donald G. Scully was sponsored by Mrs. Kristi Scully, CDR Scully's spouse, and the Tucson MOAA Chapter.



Col John Davee reads the narrative of CDR Donald G Scully as MIDN Derek Luther, Scholarship recipient, MIDN Marcus Wilson, Chapter President Polly Parks, and MSgt Stephen Powers listen.

During lunch, those attending also had an opportunity to talk with the ROTC officers, cadets, and midshipmen. Several new members attended.

D-M RAO News: Maintenance Group is undergoing a change of command. Currently, the base has 500 deployed and is reintegrating 800. The A-10 reactivation will not apply to D-M.

12 June is Freedom Fest. May is Spouse Appreciation Month and the Xchange is

hosting special events, including a small gift, food truck, massages for spouses, and Bundles for Babies.

VITA, which has been operating at D-M as an AF initiative for active-duty personnel supported by JAG, closed out the season by processing 2,236 federal returns.

Legislative Update

By MOAA Staff (edited)

MOAA offered nine proposals in a May 8 letter to lawmakers that “address issues integral to readiness, retention, and quality of life” and should be included in the upcoming must-pass defense authorization bill.

Many have been part of MOAA advocacy efforts dating to the beginning of this Congressional session (or before) and are reflected in bills making their way through the 119th Congress; the FY 2027 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) offers a legislative vehicle for passage of these improvements.

To weigh in, click this [link to the Legislative Advocacy Center](#) to send messages to your lawmakers. Continued grassroots support of these pieces of legislation strengthens the argument for their NDAA inclusion.

Duty Status Reform Act: H.R. 6976 would cut the more than two dozen reserve duty statuses to four, better ensuring these members earn the same benefits and service credit as their active-duty counterparts when performing the same duties.

MOLD Act: H.R. 7188/S. 3654 would give families in military housing more resources to escape unhealthy living conditions, including required independent inspections to remediate toxic mold and the ability to withhold housing payments until treatment and repairs are complete.

Military CARE Act: H.R. 6796 would establish a digital reporting system to allow patients at military hospitals and clinics to report access to care issues. The system would connect beneficiaries with patient advocates while reporting data to the Defense Health Agency for use in identifying issues at individual facilities and systemwide trends.

Major Richard Star Act: H.R. 2102/S. 1032, already cosponsored by more than 400 House and Senate members, would end an unjust pay offset faced by combat-injured retirees, who lose a dollar of military retirement pay for every dollar of VA disability compensation. MOAA is a founding member of the [Star Act Alliance](#), which has worked to increase [momentum behind the legislation](#) in recent weeks.

TRICARE For Life and GLP-1s: MOAA has been outspoken regarding the need to reverse last year’s decision to end coverage of these drugs for certain TRICARE For Life users, creating a two-tier coverage system that sets a dangerous precedent and weakens the service-earned health benefit.

Health Care Fairness for Military Families Act: H.R. 4768/S. 2448 would allow dependents to remain on TRICARE coverage until age 26, bringing parity with commercial health plans. Eligibility currently ends at 21 (or 23 for full-time students), meaning military families must decide between costly TRICARE Young Adult premiums or the end of health care coverage.

Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) Restoration: BAH has not covered full housing costs since 2015 and now sits at 95% of expected rent and utility bills. This means most of the force, to include junior members in high cost-of-living areas, are forced to cover at least 5% of these bills out of pocket. Bringing BAH back to 100% not only restores a service-earned benefit, it will help address other financial concerns faced throughout the all-volunteer force.

Prenatal Care for Military Families Act: H.R. 4381 would create a pilot program to establish pregnancy as a TRICARE qualifying life event (QLE), allowing expectant moms to change plans and secure

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access to vital prenatal care where it is available.

Child Care Improvements: By expanding the Child Care In Your Home pilot program as well as increasing access to au pairs among military families, the NDAA could help address the more than 8,000 military children now on child care waitlists.

MOAA ROTC & JROTC 2026 Awards



Above left: April 28, LtC Caleb Martiny presents ceremonial Scholarship check to USAF Cadet Liam Henry who had been unable to attend the Scholarship Luncheon. In the Fall, the Chapter will make a formal presentation to Cadet Henry. Above right: LtC Martiny exchanges salutes with Cadet Tracy Harrell, MOAA ROTC Award recipient. Below, left: April 29, Polly Parks, Chapter President, presents JROTC award to Cadet Major Gabriel Canez at the Cholla High School JROTC awards ceremony; far right is the Cadet Battalion Commander Gavin Morrin who the MOAA award recipient in 2025. Below right: April 29, the High Grade Cadets at the Desert View award ceremony.





TUCSON CHAPTER OFFICERS

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

President: Polly Parks, Territorial Editor, 703-338-6881 / pollyparks@earthlink.net

1st Vice President: Ross Orvik, CDR, USN, (Ret), 510-393-9359 / rorvik@orvik.com

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

Personal Affairs: Brenda Hughey, LT COL USA (Ret), 703-321-6344 / hugheyb1@gmail.com

Legislative Chair: volunteer needed

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

Membership Chair: Caleb Martiny, Lt Col, USAF (Ret), 907-250-6521 / calebmartiny@gmail.com.

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

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

SS Liaison: Leonard Summers, USAF Maj (Ret), (520) 548-1702 / cctscwbys@aol.com

Chaplain: Bette Ludlow, 520-207-3755 / bettyludlow@yahoo.com

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Past President: Tom Owens, Col, USAFR, (Ret), 520-760-3476 / 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 for the Board position of Legislative Chair as Caleb Martiny is taking on the Membership Chair. Please consider lending your **LEADERSHIP AND VOICE** to the Chapter teams.

Contact Tucson Chapter President Polly Parks at pollyparks@earthlink.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