

Level Of Excellence Award Winner: 2010-4 Star; 2011-5 Star; 2012-5 Star
2013-5 Star

THE OUTBACK

NACMOAA
Established 1979

MAR/APR
2015

NACMOAA DIRECTORS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS FOR 2015

LtCol Dick Jonas - President

Col Bill Sahnó - Payson Satellite
President

Maj Bob Roberts - Mohave AZ
Satellite President

Col Paul Sadick - Vice President

Col Jim Muehleisen - Treasurer,
Luncheon Coordinator
- Secretary

LtCol Dick Jonas - Member Chair

COL Bill Black - Legislative Liaison

LtCol Bob Wallace - Personal Affairs
Chair & Chapter Transition Liaison

LtCol Darren L Venters - ESGR

Capt Charlie Sullivan Sr - Chaplain

Mrs. Nina Muehleisen, Mrs. Pat
Arntzen - Auxiliary Liaisons

Mrs. Mary Jonas - Outback Editor

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

LtCol Darren Venters,
Col Jim Muehleisen,
COL Bill Black,
Maj Stewart Fraiser

From The President

by: Dick Jonas



Since our last meeting in February, the Northern Arizona Chapter has lost two of our strongest and most loyal members. We are deeply saddened by the passing of LT Ed Arntzen and Mrs Joyce Black. They were long time members and served the Chapter well in various staff positions. They will be sorely missed. Our sincerest condolences go out to their families.

MCRMC The acronym stands for "Military Compensation and Retirement Modernization Commission." Within the past couple of months the Commission's findings have been reported. None of the findings are yet in bill form in the Congress, however, there is the potential to see sweeping and long term changes in military pay and retirement downstream. Please inform yourself on the issues and correspond with our representatives in Washington who will be deliberating those issues. Perhaps the best way to do that is to stay abreast of MOAA National's weekly Legislative Updates. You can sign up for them at moaa.org. I also send them out via email to many of our members.

NACMOAA Website The Chapter's new website is up and running at nacmoaa.org *The Outback*, our bi-monthly newsletter is posted to the site as each new issue is published. If you have suggestions about how to improve the site, please write, call, or send me an email.

(continued on page 4)

MEMBERS PLEASE !!! SEND YOUR LUNCHEON RESERVATION INFORMATION TO COL JIM MUEHLEISEN BY THE DEADLINE DATE. STONERIDGE NEEDS AN ACCURATE COUNT TO ORDER THE FOOD. YOU CAN PAY AT THE DOOR BUT WE REALLY NEED AN ACCURATE COUNT FOR THE MEALS.

SATELLITE NEWS

NACMOAA



PAYSON: The MOAA Rim Country Satellite Chapter of Payson, Arizona, was formed during 2005 and serves communities in the High Country Region which include Payson, Pine Strawberry, and Tonto Basin. The Rim Country Satellite Chapter is supported by the Northern Arizona Chapter in Prescott, AZ.

Membership is open to those who hold or have ever held a warrant or commission in any component of the Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, Public Health Service, or NOAA and their surviving spouses. A primary goal is to provide up-to-date survivor benefit information to members for their survivors in the event of death. Included is the intent to keep all members informed regarding current veterans' legislation and events which impact the retired military/veteran community.

The Rim Country Satellite Chapter of MOAA meets at least once per quarter at a time and location which is announced to the members. The meeting usually consists of a luncheon forum with a guest speaker who presents a topic of current information of interest to all.

The next meeting of the Payson Satellite will be 11 April, 2015 at 1130, at the Mazatzal Casino in Payson. CW04 Rives will be in touch with details via email, phone or postal mail. His contact information is: phone 830-496-1248 email <Rives1630@gmail.com>.

Mark the date on your calendar; we hope to see you there.

Officers: Col Bill Sahnó - President; Col Elise Pitterle: Vice President; **Pending:** Secretary;
Col Bill Sahnó - Publicity; Father Lowell Andrews: Chaplain
CWO4 Larry Rives, USA - Meetings & Programs Chair.



MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

Arizona Council of Chapters

Spring Council Meeting information

May 20, 2015 Green Valley Chapter Dinner; Social/Registration 5:15 PM; Dinner 6 PM @ Quail Creek Madera Clubhouse, 2055 E. Quail Crossing Blvd, Green Valley, AZ

May 21, 2015 Spring Council Meeting 9 AM @ The Grill on the Green, 5800 S. Camino Del Sol, Green Valley, AZ

If you would like to attend either the Green Valley Chapter Dinner or the Council meeting, please contact LtCol Dick Jonas, President, NACMOAA for additional details like meal choices, etc. and so that he can let the AZCoC folks know how many of us will be attending.

Dick Jonas 928-636-2259 <dickjonas@cableone.net>



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

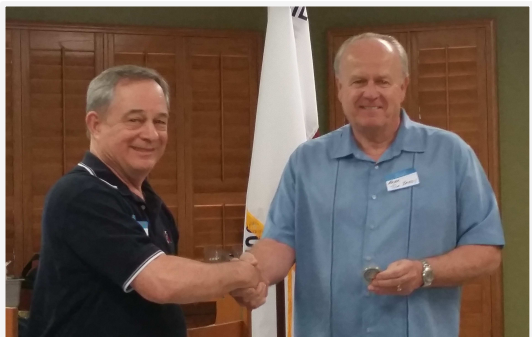
SATELLITE NEWS

NACMOAA



MOHAVE: Mohave Satellite has grown a little more. It is good to see so many members willing to pitch in and participate to the extent possible for them. Understandably, there are limitations that result from the aging process, but it is wonderful how members work around and/or through such potentially detracting factors. The intent to serve and contribute towards MOAA Mission accomplishment seems to be a significant motivation.

The satellite chapter received good press from Buck Dopp, a writer for the Today's News-Herald in Lake Havasu City. The Sunday, March 15, 2015 edition of the newspaper included an article that featured the Mohave Satellite. It was well written and is creating interest in the Lake Havasu area. Buck deserves our appreciation.



Maj Bob Roberts thanks Bullhead City Mayor Tom Brady after his presentation to the Mohave Satellite on 14 March.
[Photo supplied by Carolyn Roberts]

At the most recent Mohave Satellite meeting (14 March 2015), Paul Bennett, Lt Col USAF (Ret), and his wife Marlene were welcomed guests from Lake Havasu City. It was also a pleasure having Mayor Tom Brady as the featured speaker. His presentation was interesting and informative.

In the near future, the satellite will be sponsoring a WWII veteran on an Arizona Honor Flight trip, presenting an award to an outstanding AFJROTC cadet at Mohave High School, and participating in a Memorial Day activity. Once again, sincere appreciation is extended to the Arizona Council of Chapters and Northern Arizona Chapter for their encouragement and support.

The next Mohave Satellite meeting is scheduled for 9 May 2015 at 11:00 AM at the Mason Jar in Fort Mohave, AZ. For additional meeting information contact Maj Bob Roberts.

Major Bob Roberts, USAF (Ret)

President Mohave Satellite Chapter

Maj Roberts' contact information is: Phone: 928-219-4292 Email: ceriel47@msn.com

Officers: Maj Bob Roberts, USAF (Ret) - President;

CWO4 Keith Phillips, USCG (Ret) - Vice President;

Mrs. Kay Lavish: Secretary

MOAA MISSION



While MOAA membership consists of people who have ever held a commission or warrant in the U. S. uniformed services, the MOAA mission focuses on issues of concern to the nation and all U. S. military veterans. We support a military establishment big and strong enough to provide national security for the American people. Also, our goal is to assure that the nation bears true faith with all U.S. military veterans and their families.

From The President: cont. from page 1

Payson & Mohave Satellites Our two NAC satellite chapters continue to make progress. The Mohave Satellite has a membership of 15, almost four times what we started with a year ago. The Payson Satellite continues to add new members; they are at 19 at last count. I urge you to take the time to visit their meetings when you can. That kind of support is most encouraging.

Thank you from your Outback editor:

I want to thank all of our Chapter staff and members who are so helpful in providing information and pictures for The Outback. Without your efforts I would not be able to put this newsletter together six times a year.



You are truly appreciated.

Mary Jonas

Bits and Pieces - March 18, 2015:

Submitted by Lt Col Bob Wallace, Personal Affairs Officer/Transition Representative

The Department of Veterans Affairs is updating the way it determines eligibility for VA health care, a change that will result in more Veterans having access to the health care benefits.

Effective 2015, VA eliminated the use of net worth as a determining factor for both health care programs and copayment responsibilities. Instead of combining the sum of a Veteran's income with his/her assets to determine eligibility for medical care and copayment obligations, VA will now only consider a Veteran's gross household income. Over a 5-year period, it is estimated that more than 190,000 additional Veterans will become eligible for reduced costs of their health care services.

The Arizona State Parks agency is offering passes to veterans for day use into state parks. The passes are good for two years from the date of issue, with some restrictions. For information on all 28 state parks, trails and off-road vehicle programs and the State Historic Preservation Office, call 602-542-4174 or visit AZStateParks.com or call 520-586-2283.

If I can be of any assistance in any matter, please contact me. Semper Fidelis,

Lt Col Bob Wallace

Cell: 702 280-5770

Email: wallacerm@cox.net



Treasurer's Report: As of March 18, 2015

Cash on Hand	\$4,190.28
Less Reserve for Scholarships	-1,548.00
Less Reserve for Payson	- 667.90
Net General Funds	\$1,974.38

Submitted by: Jim Muehleisen, Treasurer

Ladies of NACMOAA

As many of you know, my husband Edward G. Arntzen, passed away on February 7, 2015. I truly appreciate the cards, notes, emails and telephone calls I have received from many of you. Thank you!!

I resigned as Auxiliary Liaison a few months ago while my husband was ill. As you can imagine, my plate continues to be full since I am responsible for settling his estate and my accounts as we head toward tax deadlines. Others in NACMOAA have accepted the responsibilities I was handling. Mary Jonas and Nina Muehleisen are making Auxiliary luncheon plans and contacting those of you who have been attending our luncheons which are held the 1st Friday in odd numbered months. If you have not been joining us, please consider coming for lunch. We are a small but friendly group and would gladly welcome you!

Jim Muehleisen, NACMOAA Treasurer, is now planning the Chapter luncheon menus at StoneRidge Golf Club and handles the reservations for the Chapter. Please make your reservations for that luncheon by the time suggested in this notice since StoneRidge Golf Club orders their food products based on our reservation list.

I still receive information from the national Auxiliary Liaison and will continue to pass them on as I am their only contact for our chapter at the present time. Some of the information I receive from national is very valuable as basic knowledge and some are of great value, depending on your personal circumstances. Please read them and decide for yourself which might be most helpful to you. Their intention is to be as inclusive as possible.

I look forward to seeing you at our Auxiliary luncheons and also at our Chapter meetings.

Best Wishes,

Pat Arntzen,

Ladies of NACMOAA

928-772-8268 or pmarntzen@cableone.net



Ladies of NACMOAA Luncheon schedule for 2015:

May 1; July 10 [postponed because of 4th of July activities]; September 4; November 6.

All luncheons are scheduled to begin at 11:30 AM

Our luncheon in March was well attended and a good time was had by all. The weather was wonderful and the view of Prescott from the restaurant was outstanding.

Either Nina Muehleisen or Mary Jonas will contact you near the end of April for the next luncheon to confirm attendance. We have decided to continue to meet at the Icha Maajoh restaurant at the Prescott Resort for now.

Nina Muehleisen: 928-771-0125 <nanaesq@aol.com>

Mary Jonas: 928-636-2259 <mgjonas@cableone.net>

NACMOAA Speakers for 2015:

4 April - Don Milburn; 6 June - Wayne Fischer - Heritage Park Zoological Sanctuary;

1 August - Susan Howe - Honor Flight Arizona; 3 October - Taylor/Padgett - Estate Planning;

5 December - Cool Water Band - Holiday Celebration

Arizona Department of Veterans' Services: State Veterans/Military Legislation Update:
52nd AZ Legislature, First Regular Session; 19 March 2015

SB 1060 This bill has passed the AZ Senate and been sent to the House. If it passes there, the new law will increase the military pension exclusion by \$500 to \$3,000 for state income tax purposes.

SB 1422 This bill has passed the Senate and has been sent to the House. The new law, if passed in the House, will award veterans a bonus point entry in drawings for hunt permit tags.

HB 2090 This bill has passed the House. In the Senate, the Appropriations Committee has recommended a Do Pass recommendation. The bill would allow the Military Family Relief Fund committee to award up to \$20,000 per qualified family. That is a \$10,000 increase.

New Chapter Members in 2014-2015:

Payson: COL James Ard, 2Lt Denise Blanchette, Col Elise Pitterle, CWO4 Larry Rives

Mohave: Maj Raul Ares, LtCol Nolan Boyle, LCDR Thomas Brown, Col John Culton MD, Col Gerald Hietpas, Mrs Kay Lavish (Aux), Maj Dean Leverenz, LTC Dick Loucks, CWO2 Ed Post, Mr. Howard Foss

Parent Chapter: 28 Army & Air Force ROTC cadets in the Class of 2016; MAJ Robert Malloy, Lt Col James Evans, CWO3 Daniel Capps, MAJ Douglas Hague, LtCol Michael Damiano, LtCol Melvin Vuk, CAPT Robert Prentice, Col Carl DeKemper

Welcome to all of you. We look forward to seeing you at our meetings &/or activities.

***April 4th Guest Speaker:* Donald T. Milburn, RDCS, RVT, NACT, FSDMS**

Mr. Milburn is currently retired from the position of Director of Radiology and Vascular ultrasound customer education programs at the General Electric Healthcare Technologies, Ultrasound Division of Milwaukee, WI.

He received his initial electronic, engineering and medical training courtesy of the US Navy in the field of Electro/hydraulics and as a helicopter search and rescue air crewman/paramedic.

Mr. Milburn has been active in the field of ultrasound since 1976, his first credentials in Echocardiography granted in 1981 by the National Assoc. of Cadiographic Technologists, (NACT). He is also registered through the American Registry of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers, (ARDMS) in the specialties of cardiac, (RDCS) and vascular, (RVT) ultrasound. He has worked as a staff sonographer, research sonographer, clinical applications specialist, marketing product manager and professional educator. He is an internationally noted lecturer and published author on ultrasound and Doppler physics, advanced technologies, Cardiac and Vascular clinical ultrasound and professional speaking skills. Mr. Milburn has delivered more than 2000 clinical and technical lectures around the world.

Mr. Milburn has taught professional presentation and speaking skills at GE ultrasound university, an internal education component of GE Healthcare. Upon completion of a rigorous training program in 2007, he was awarded the designation of master trainer through General Electric Healthcare.

He currently resides in the mountains of Prescott, AZ with his incredibly tolerant wife, Carrol Ann.



The Surviving Spouses of MOAA The Heart Behind One Powerful Voice®

From: Kathy Prout, chair, Auxiliary Member Advisory Committee (AMAC)

The Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) provides eligible beneficiaries with a benefit called an annuity, a monthly payment for the beneficiary's lifetime. The amount of this benefit is typically 55% of the retiree's retired pay at the cost of 6.5% of monthly retired pay. SBP is paid by the Defense Finance and Accounting Service.

Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) is a benefit paid monthly to eligible survivors through the VA. To qualify for this benefit, you must be the spouse, child, or dependent parent of a veteran who died while serving on active military duty or as a result of a service-connected disability or who had a disability rating of totally disabled for a certain length of time before death. Guard members and reservists who were activated for federal military service and later separated are considered veterans.

Under current law, SBP is reduced dollar for dollar by the DIC awarded, currently \$1,254.19 per month, leaving the surviving spouse with the remainder of the SBP — or, in many cases, nothing. Approximately 62,000 surviving spouses are affected by the SBP-DIC offset, and 35,000 of these receive no DIC as their SBP is completely offset. This means a survivor receives an income of only \$1,254.19 a month from DIC instead of full SBP plus full DIC. The average SBP payment is \$988 a month.

These are two separate programs for two separate purposes. In the entire federal government, un-remarried military surviving spouses are the only insured entity to incur this offset. Service members and spouses purchase SBP at retirement to ensure the surviving spouse will have income upon the retiree's death. DIC is purchased with service and sacrifice. The 100% disabled retirees receive disability compensation in addition to their retired pay, yet the benefit is not paid for the deceased retiree who was 100% disabled and who died because of service to the country. This is wrong!

Over the past 13 years, bills have been introduced in Congress to change the law and eliminate this unjust offset. So far these bills have not been passed into law. Entering our 14th year, Senator Nelson (Fla.) and Congressman Wilson (S.C.) are slated to introduce new legislation.

[MOAA supports elimination of the SBP-DIC offset.](#) If affects our members who purchased SBP upon retirement and now suffer a disability. If they should die of their service-connected disabilities, their spouses could be impacted by the offset.

See MOAA's [Vow of Honor](#) publication to learn more about this unjust offset.

Provided By: Pat Arntzen

Later this year, MOAA will launch a new publication titled *The Survivor's Guide*. The purpose of this guide is to assist surviving spouses as they accomplish the actions needed following a loved one's death. It will be available in print and as a download from the MOAA website.

AMAC members suggest that following the guide might prompt spouses and retirees to review their personal files. To do this, spouses should obtain the MOAA [Personal Affairs Action Guide](#). For information about MOAA publications, go to www.moaa.org/infoexchange or call MOAA at (800) 234-6622. While The Survivor's Guide is in development, MOAA members can refer to the shorter [Survivor's Checklist](#).



NORTHERN ARIZONA CHAPTER
MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA
APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Full Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone #: _____ Alternate Phone #: _____

E-Mail address: _____

Are you retired? Yes No

Branch of Service: _____ Rank: _____

Widow(er): Yes No

Spouse's Name: _____

Member of National MOAA: Yes* No (Note: It is not a requirement to belong to National MOAA to join our chapter)

* If Yes, your MOAA Number (found on your monthly magazine address label or membership card): _____

National Membership Type: (Please Check One)
Basic _____ Premium _____ Life _____
Basic members pay NO Chapter Dues

Chapter Dues are \$20.00 per year prorated quarterly for member and spouse.
Auxiliary Chapter Membership is free for widow(er)s of spouses who were active members.

Amount enclosed: _____
(Please make check payable to NACMOAA)

Signature of Applicant _____ Date _____



Mail check and application to: Jim Muehleisen
1460 Eagle Crest Drive
Prescott, AZ 86301-5455

Visit MOAA on the Web.
http://www.moaa.org/
and check out our
Chapter webpage:
www.nacmoaa.org

Next Meeting: Saturday, April 4, 2014
at StoneRidge Golf Club, Prescott Valley

NAC staff will have a short meeting at 11:00 AM prior to the luncheon.

GATHERING TIME: 11:30 AM (Cash bar available)

LUNCH: Noon **PLACE:** StoneRidge Golf Club



DIRECTIONS: From Highway 69 in Prescott Valley turn onto Stoneridge Blvd. [there is a traffic light at this intersection] between the curved stone entrance (south). Continue downhill about 1.5 miles. Club entrance is on the left side.

COST: \$25.00 per person includes meal, beverage, dessert, tax and tip.

MENU: TRI-TIP BEEF — Thinly sliced Oven Roasted Tri-Tip Beef with brown gravy & mashed potatoes

BAKED SALMON — Oven Baked Salmon served with lemon butter sauce & wild rice

Served with House Salad, Fresh Vegetable, Baked Rolls & Butter
Dessert - Carrot Cake — Coffee, Tea or Lemonade.

PROGRAM: Don Milburn - Presentation topic: History & Development of advanced medical imaging (Sonography) & it's correlation with astrophysics and modern military technology.

Please cut on the line below and mail with your check to: **JIM MUEHLEISEN**
NO LATER THAN - Saturday March 28, 2015. Cost is \$25.00 per person.
Jim's address is 1460 Eagle Crest Drive, Prescott, AZ 86301-5455.

Late Notice cancellations can not be refunded.

April 4th Meeting: Please make checks payable to: NACMOAA

Reservation Request # _____ My check for \$ _____ is enclosed. (\$25.00 per person)

Number wishing the meal choice: _____ Tri-Tip
_____ Salmon

Attendees:

Members:

Guests:

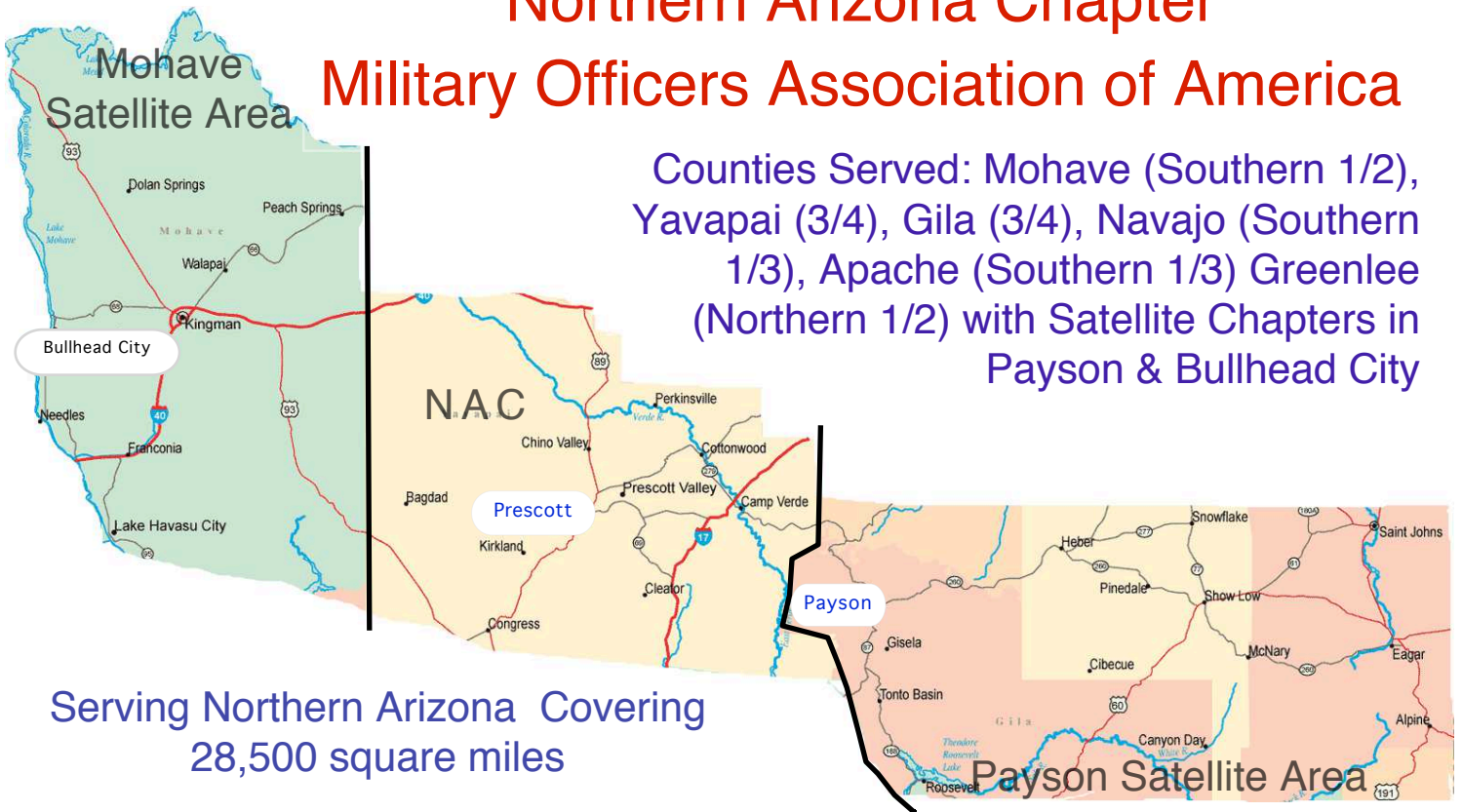
Lunch - \$ _____
Dues - \$ _____
Scholarship - \$ _____

TOTAL - \$ _____

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Northern Arizona Chapter Military Officers Association of America

Counties Served: Mohave (Southern 1/2),
Yavapai (3/4), Gila (3/4), Navajo (Southern
1/3), Apache (Southern 1/3) Greenlee
(Northern 1/2) with Satellite Chapters in
Payson & Bullhead City



Serving Northern Arizona Covering
28,500 square miles

One Powerful Voice®

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