

MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA
Central Florida Chapter



Four Star Chapter 2003, 2004, 2006, 2009, 2010 (Five Star) December, 2017

Volume 60 Issue 9



President's Message

Happy Thanksgiving (belated) -- hope you had a good one.

We had a super luncheon at our last meeting (18th of Nov). It was made all the more special because of the Memorial Service for our members who had passed away, led by our Chaplain (Dick Sauer) and assisted by Bob Rosen (brought and rang the bell).

I hope to see you at the luncheon on the 16th of December. Please don't forget to RSVP -- send me an e-mail or give me call.

I have two important messages this month:

ONE: Whether a military member or an auxiliary -- PLEASE take on one of our open positions as a Lead or an Assistant.

Please know that our chapter **needs your energy and drive**. Our recent Strategy session confirmed that we have much to offer but we need your LEADERSHIP. I am asking that you take one of the

following positions and make it your OWN -- OR -- volunteer as an assistant. The chapter CAN and WILL work with your schedule and travel plans -- **staff meetings can be attended via telcon** -- you don't have to make each and every luncheon. In this day age we can meet electronically and make our chapter better but NOT without LEADERS.

This is your chance to build an important program your way and to significantly contribute to our military Active Duty and Retired members and their families. The following vacancies needs your volunteer support -- we need your ideas and drive:

1. **Director Community Affairs** with Assistants to drive our outreach programs.
2. **Director Veterans Affairs** with Assistants to provide the subject matter expertise to our members on the all matters related to their in-service and out-of-service care and benefits.
3. **Director Membership Recruitment and Retention**: Are you good with people and programs? We need you and your skills.

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Dates to Note:

- Sat, Dec 9th, MOAA Board Mtg
- Sat, Dec 9th, Army-Navy Game @1500
- Sat, Dec 16th MOAA Luncheon @1130
- Mon, Dec 25th Christmas
- Mon, Jan 1st New Year's Day

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Saturday, December 16th, 2017 MOAA Luncheon

11:30 Social - Lunch at 12:00

Location

Elks Lodge 1079
12 N. Primrose Dr.
Orlando, Florida

Menu: Pork Cutlet or Chicken Cordon Bleu

Salad with house dressing

Coffee, Tea and Water included

Surprise Desert

Price: \$20 (includes gratuity)

Reservations not later than noon on Tuesday, December 13th

Call or email Rick Jung @ 407-802-4035 or rickjungsr@gmail.com

If you must cancel, please do so as early as possible. Regrettably, we must charge for "no-shows" for the cost of the meal.

President's Message (con't)

4. **Funds Raiser:** Are you getting at raising funds for great causes? Bring those talents to our chapter.

Please respond before the 16th of December (our next luncheon).

TWO: Vision and Mission Statements -- we are the VOICE for Central Florida's military community.

Vision: MOAA CFC is the Central Florida voice (boots on the ground) for MOAA supporting those that have and those that will serve our Country in the U.S. Military.

Mission: Our Chapter's MISSION is defined by three distinct categories with dedicated CFC leaders (Directors, Deputies, and Assistants) assigned to each.

1. **CFC Leadership & Strength:** This includes expansion of the leadership list, Board selectees, membership, dues, fund raising and strategic planning and execution.

2. **CFC Community Affairs:** Veterans Affairs, Community Engagement, newsletter, webpage, JROTC & ROTC scholarships and medals.

3. **CFC Member Benefits** that would revolve around social activities like luncheon/dinner programs or holiday gatherings. A strong speaker platform would also be included here. Answers, gives guidance and provides information pass through from National to Boots on the Ground.

MOAA BOARD MEETING MINUTESOctober 14, 2017

Call to Order: COL Jung called the meeting to order at 10:10 hours, and directed the Pledge of Allegiance. CW4 Sauer led the invocation.

Quorum: Eight members of the Board were in attendance: Mrs. Green, COL Jung, LTC Hines, CW4 Sauer, Lt Cutler, COL Hakola, CWO Hoy, and LTC Gillett. Others in attendance were LTC Thomas, CDR Fiebrandt, and COL Borders, President of the South Central Chapter of MOAA.

Secretary's Report: Minutes of the last Board meeting were approved.

Correspondence included a Thank You note to COL Jung from Viva Putz, a Thank You letter to the Board from Saizon Terrell for a loan and a grant toward education needs, invitations to the Marine Ball on November 11, 2017 and a meeting given by the National Center for Simulation, and notification of deaths of members Hazel Hogan, William Hayman and Jerry Lauer.

Treasurer's Report: The financial reports were accepted and approved.

OLD BUSINESS

There was a review of the process by which MOAA handles the scholarship funds.

NEW BUSINESS

A motion passed to make the memorial at the November meeting a general memorial instead of a designated memorial, due to the flux of records in recent months.

There was a review of the Chapter Bylaws, in particular Article II - Purposes. Attendants suggested several ways that the nine listed purposes could be combined or redefined. Each attendant will send a report to COL Jung with their personal thoughts for changes, refinements, or deletions of the Chapter purposes.

Besides Officers and their duties, seven duties to be managed by at-large Board members or Committee Chairmen were identified: FOCUS NEWSLETTER, Website update and Media Management, Fund Raising, Outreach (Community and Family Affairs), Membership/Recruiting, Nominations/Elections and Events/Speaker Coordinator. Ross Cutler volunteered to do the Web site and Media duties. Elections will be held in January. Nominations and Volunteers are expected to fill these slots. At present the current reduced Board is trying to perform these duties. Please volunteer for one of these responsibilities. Contact COL Jung or Mrs. Green if you can help.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:52 hours.

November 4, 2017

CALL TO ORDER: COL Jung called the meeting to order at 1000 hours: he led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. CW 4 Sauer gave the invocation.

QUORUM: Those in attendance were Mrs. Green, COL Jung, CW4 Sauer, LTC Johnson, LtCol Gillett, COL Hakola, and CAPT Rosen comprising a quorum. Trixie Sauer was a guest in attendance.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: The minutes were approved as published.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The financial reports were accepted with a small correction needed on a recent deposit. The Budget for the next fiscal year was reviewed. A small change to President's Expenses was made and the motion to approve the Budget passed unanimously.

PROGRAM: The November Luncheon will be a Commemoration of Remembrance for members who died this year. There will be hymns and bell tolling as part of the

MOAA BOARD MEETING MINUTES (con't)

program.

OLD BUSINESS

The Chapter will celebrate its 60th anniversary in 2019.

There was a review of the Bylaws, vision, mission statement and Board duties have been designated and will be assigned. These actions resulted from a strategy session held on October 14, 2017. The input was coordinated rewritten and accepted by consensus. It will soon be published. A special thanks to John Thomas, Randy Fiebrandt, Rick Jung and all the Board members and officers who contributed to this final product.

NEW BUSINESS

CAPT Rosen and LtCol Hines submitted their resignations to the Board.

It was moved, Because of the extraordinary circumstances, the Chapter will suspend the "election" section of the Bylaws and hold the election of officers and Board members in 6 months. This motion passed. The plan is that a slate of officers will be announced in April; the vote will be taken in May, and the installation will be in June. This slate will have a term of at least 18 months.

The meeting was adjourned at 1050 hours.

A note from your new Focus Newsletter Editor:

It is my challenge to take over the newsletter effort from our former long time Editor and President, Bob LePage and from Dick Sauer who dutifully filled in for a couple months after Bob LePage's passing. I have taken the liberty to continue most of the existing format and content with regard to current information for now, but will attempt to

liven it up a bit here and there. To that end, please let me know what you would like to see in the Focus. It is not my goal to repeat information already in the MOAA magazine, but to highlight Chapter events and news as well as current Central Florida activities. Contributions are always welcome, including humorous personal military stories. I may even consider a "Member" of the month to provide a brief summary of a Chapter member so we can get to know one another better.

Randy Fiebrandt (rfiebs1953@gmail.com)

USO @ Orlando International Airport

Did you know that all military members, active and retired, and their spouses and dependents are welcome in the USO at the airport? While USOs are primarily for the use of active duty members, retirees are accepted as Space A. Since our USO is rarely ever crowded, we have room for nearly every visitor. Come visit us in Terminal A, 1st floor, far west end; hours are 0600 – 2000. How do I know? I volunteer there once a week. Interested in volunteering? Contact me.

Randy Fiebrandt (rfiebs1953@gmail.com)

Dues are Due !

Please send in your dues this month, if not a life member (your address label on this newsletter shows your dues expiration date). Dues are \$15 for regular, \$10 for auxiliary. Make checks payable to MOAA CFC and mail to PO Box 141025; Orlando, FL 32814-1025. A form is provided on the last page of the Focus. Dues are our primary form of funds for administrative costs, so please help us keep the Chapter running. Contact us for information on Life Membership.

Chaplain's Message

My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into diverse temptations; Knowing *this*, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have *her* perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing. (Jas. 1:2-4)

Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations: That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ: (1 Pet. 1:5-7)

These verses have often provided comfort to me in difficult times; I offer them now to our Central Florida Chapter, for the chapter has gone through some difficult times as well. We've lost some key members, through death, forced reduction in activities for physical reasons, move from the area, and other causes.

The losses have left us scrambling to keep up. Rick Jung, who took over the presidency when Bill Gates was obliged to give it up for health reasons, has worked tirelessly to fill the gaps, in spite of the fact that he is overloaded at work, having lost a key employee. Mike Gillette also is helping to keep the flag flying, along with others.

We aren't perfect as James said (actually the Greek word translated "perfect" doesn't have the same meaning as we normally attribute to that word) but we are making progress, thank God. One person has offered his talents to handle the *Focus*, and others have indicated a willingness to help in other areas.

So, under Rick's competent leadership, the Central Florida Chapter is recovering from its losses and moving forward in the spirit of those two verses above. May the Lord continue to bless those efforts!

In His love, Chaplain Dick

A very special congratulations to Carl and Louise Rimmler for



75 Years of Wedded Bliss- - Three quarters of a century!

A couple articles of interest from the MOAA Website:

VA Now Offering Online Scheduling at Over 100 Locations

The VA is expanding the number of locations where you can make medical appointments online.

Online scheduling has been expanded to more than 100 VA facilities, both hospitals and Community Based Outpatient Clinics. The scheduling is available for both primary care and specialists.

You can access MyHealtheVet either from the VA's main health website or the Vets.Gov website. You need a Premium Account to use online scheduling. If you do not have a Premium account, please visit MyHealtheVet or contact the My HealtheVet Coordinator at your nearest VA facility.

VA plans to add more appointment types in the future and is working to make online scheduling available at nearly all VA facilities next year. Check to see if your VA facility offers online scheduling.

If you are eligible to use online scheduling, you will see a "Schedule a VA Appointment" option when you log in to your My HealtheVet Premium Account. To schedule a primary care appointment, you must have had a primary care appointment at that facility within the last two years.

What else can I do with the online scheduling tool?

You can:

Self-schedule primary care appointments at participating VA facilities where you have had a primary care appointment in the past two years.

Request help scheduling primary care appointments at participating VA facilities where you receive care.

Self-schedule or request help scheduling specialty appointments, such as outpatient mental health, optometry and audiology, at participating facilities.

View or cancel appointments and requests.

Track the status of appointment requests.

Send messages about requested appointments.

Get notifications about appointments.

Check out our [MyHealtheVet page](#) for details about other things you can use the website for, including ordering prescriptions, track your health, and see your test results.

COLA Watch

The October CPI is 240.573, 0.4 percent above the FY 2017 COLA baseline.

The CPI for November 2017 is scheduled to be released on December 13, 2017.

The final COLA for the 2017 fiscal year is 2 percent. This means retired pay will be increased by 2 percent starting in January of 2018. In other words, you will see a \$20 increase for every \$1000 of retired pay received. The final COLA is determined by comparing the average CPI of the final three months of the fiscal year to the same quarter of the prior year.



The Master Chief Petty Officer and the Master Gunnery Sergeant Two old friends, one a Marine and one a Sailor meet in a bar one day. They began to discuss which of them had had the more difficult and dangerous 30 year career. The retired Marine Master Gunnery Sergeant begins: I graduated from High School, the next morning I was on the train for Parris Island, South Carolina. Following Boot Camp I found myself in a Regiment assigned to the Iwo Jima assault. With my fellow Marines we fought our way to the top of Mount Suribachi. In Korea I was with Chesty Puller at Inchon, then we fought our way toward the Yalu River. In the cold Korean winter we fought at the Battle of Chosin Reservoir, I ended my career after Viet Nam where I spent 3 months in the Battle of Khe Sanh after stomping through endless rice paddies. The Navy Master Chief looked him in the eye and took a long draw on his bottle of beer and said simply: Well, it figures, all shore duty.

MAKE COPIES OF THIS PAGE AND GIVE THEM TO FRIENDS ELIGIBLE TO JOIN THE CHAPTER
MOAA CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION or RENEWAL

Central Florida Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA)

Eligible persons: Retired, Former or Active duty Commissioned or Warrant Officers of the seven uniformed services of the United States, and surviving spouses (eligible for Auxiliary Membership) of persons who would have been eligible, if living. Applicants for membership in the Central Florida Chapter are required to be members of National MOM. Dues are presently \$15 per year (\$10 for Auxiliary) for calendar year 2017. Please complete all applicable portions below and mail check payable to "MOAA, CFC, Inc." to the address indicated in "Amount enclosed" box below. This is my membership Application or Renewal (Note: if this is a renewal complete the form only if there are changes; otherwise just print your name on the form and sign and enclose your check)

1. NAME (please print, first, MI, last)

2. Address _____ City _____ FL Zip _____

3. Telephone# _____ Spouse (if applicable) _____

4. E-mail address, if applicable _____ @ _____

5. Birth date _____

6. National MOAA (TROA) member# (from mailing label of The Military Officer magazine)

For Regular Membership (Check as applicable)

Retired Officer _____ Former Officer _____ Active Duty Officer _____ Rank/Grade _____

Service: Army _____ Navy _____ Marine Corps _____ Air Force _____ USCG _____ USPHS _____ NOAA _____

For Auxiliary Membership (Complete items 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6, above, plus the following)

Deceased Spouse name (First, MI, Last) _____

Spouse service _____ Grade/rank _____

Your participation in various chapter activities is urgently needed and will be most sincerely appreciated. Please check one (or more) areas you would be willing to help in:

Meeting Programs _____ Chapter Officer _____

Membership Recruitment _____

Ceremonies (Patriotic events) _____ Personal Affairs _____

Newsletter _____

Reservations (take phone calls, check in members at meetings)

_____ ROTC/JROTC Programs _____

Please Sign

New member referred by _____

Amount Enclosed:

Dues:

Regular \$15 \$ _____

Or

Auxiliary \$10 \$ _____

ROTC/JROTC Contribution \$ _____

Community Service Donation \$ _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Make checks payable to

MOAA CFC, Inc., and mail to

MOAA CFC, Inc.

P.O. Box 141025

Orlando, FL 32814-1025

Publish my name in the roster

Yes _____ No _____

PLEASE LET US KNOW WHEN YOU WILL BE TEMPORARILY AWAY OR PLAN TO MOVE!!
A returned newsletter means the Chapter has wasted approximately \$1.00!

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