

THE BORDER BULLETIN

El Paso Chapter of Military Officers Association of America

★★★★★ A NATIONALLY RANKED FIVE-STAR CHAPTER ★★★★★

A MOAA affiliate from January 23, 1956 - El Paso Chapter of Military Officers Association of America - Our 53rd Year

4th Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 4th Brigade, 1st Armored Division AWARDS CEREMONY Contingency Operating Site Garryowen



Lt. Gen. Charles H. Jacoby Jr., Multi-National Corps-Iraq commander, praises the courage and sacrifice of the six Purple Heart and 13 Corps Commander's coin recipients assigned to 4th Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 4th Brigade, 1st Armored Division during a recent visit to Contingency Operating Site Garryowen. The U.S. battalion is deployed from Fort Bliss, Texas, to advise and assist Iraqi security forces in Maysan province. Photo by Sgt. Eric Weaver.

D 2
E 0
C 9 **Inside
this
issue:**

President's Message	2
Luncheon	3
Program	3
Highlander Brigade	8
4th Battalion	9
Personal Affairs	10

Membership	11
Legislative	12
TAPS/Sick Call	12
Membership Applications	14
Op Ed	15

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Our future as an organization resides in the Active Duty. Fort Bliss has changed and will change more. We welcome the election of new Officers and Board members bringing with them the vision to capture this change and move us forward. COL Ed Manning, 2010 President Elect, will bring new ideas about direction. Freshness will breathe new life into our organization.

In this issue, the 4th Brigade Combat Team/1st Armored Division takes center fold. The Brigade is deployed "forward." By the Holiday Season, the 1st Brigade will be similarly engaged. And if plans stay on track, the 3rd will be projected soon after the 4th returns. Most of the members of the El Paso Chapter have in our own time shared the experiences that those in 1st Armored Division are now experiencing. We want all of you, Officers and Soldiers, to know that we are thinking of you and working hard for you in trying to make all of our lives better through our Association's objectives. Our very best regards to all of you, this Holiday Season and always.

We must recruit new national MOAA and El Paso Chapter members. Speaking of change, take a look at how our new webmaster, LTC Bill Moore, has completely revamped elpasomoaa.org, our website...it is an up-to-date, first-class front door for our activities. Bill has developed on-line applications for national's Give Me Ten program, Free for first-time Active Duty and Two-Fers, two years for \$28, a \$62 value, for Lapses of more than four months, Former Officers, and Surviving Spouses...and, the El Paso Chapter...the applications look like those on page 14 of this issue. The difference is, fill them in from your keyboard while at our site, print them out, and mail them in to the postal addresses provided below the signature line. Note: Please, follow the instructions in clearing the form once complete. Let's see if we can bring in one new chapter member, each, in 2010.

The El Paso Chapter was honored at MOAA's national convention in San Diego in October with the 2008 Five Star Chapter Excellence Award, the best, our seventh. There is every reason to believe that we will receive the same award for 2009. Thank you to everyone for your support and hard work.

Another update, we need less than Three-thousand Dollars to fully fund our designated scholarship...that's thirty individuals opening up their hearts and pocket books with a Hundred Dollars, each. So remember, the MOAA Scholarship Fund

is a non-profit, charitable organization, incorporated in Virginia and declared tax-exempt by the Internal Revenue Service under §501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Help us fund the scholarship this year...draw checks payable to "MOAA Scholarship Fund"; and, mark them on the memo line with "Rodriguez/El Paso Chapter 501 (c) (3)"...mail your charitable donation to: The Scholarship Fund, MOAA, PO Box 34889, Alexandria, VA 22334-0889.

October's luncheon with the German Schuhplattler performing their native folks dances was great. The Centennial Club is up to the challenge...on par with the Officers Club. Our thanks to the Centennial.

New Officers and Board Members were elected by acclamation at the last meeting and will be installed at our December 12 General Membership Meeting. At this writing, we still need fill two key Board positions – Membership and Personal Affairs.

We will be attending, supporting, and recruiting at the Army–Navy Game, December 12, at The Centennial Club. Come and help us and go to our luncheon, too. Doors open at Noon and Game Kick Off is 1230 Hours. Being oriented for multi-tasking, MOAA can handle both at the same time.

Our December 12 Luncheon will be held at The Centennial Club, Biggs Army Airfield. We are honored to have Leon Metz, Southwest Historian, as our featured program speaker. REMEMBER: The Centennial Club!




The Levels of Excellence award presentation photo. Presenting the award is Gen. Richard Neal, USMC-Ret., who is MOAA's chairman of the board, to BG Morgan Jellett

Photo attributes to Kris Ann Hegle, MOAA Photographer



December 12 Luncheon Program THE CENTENNIAL CLUB, BIGGS ARMY AIR FIELD Christmas Luncheon...it'll be a real fun meeting...

LUNCHEON SPEAKER Leon Metz

El Paso's own
renowned Southwest Historian

MEMBERSHIP MEETING PROGRAM

Saturday, December 12th
THE CENTENNIAL CLUB
Biggs Army Air Field

1100 - 1200	SOCIAL HOUR
1200 - 1215	OPENING CEREMONY
1215-1300	MEAL SERVICE
1300-1335	PROGRAM
1335-1355	DOOR PRIZE DRAWING
1355 - 1400	CLOSING
1400	ADJOURNMENT

Please submit your Luncheon
Reservations no later than
Wednesday 9 December

Secretary
MOAA
PO Box 6144
El Paso, TX 79906-0144

All lunch reservations
with payment to our
postal mail box

\$ **15** Per Person

**REMITTANCE
ENVELOPE ENCLOSED**

December Luncheon Menu

Roast Turkey
Whipped Potatoes
Green Beans Almondine
Tossed Green Salad with
Dressing
Roll and Butter
Coffee and Iced Tea

Taps

LAGOUROS, JOHN E., 91, COL,
survived by, wife, Paulette
Lagouros and son, John O.
Lagouros.

**BURROUGHS, JONNIE C., 81,
LTC,**
June 2009, Las Cruces, no other
information available.



Oktoberfest Luncheon
Mrs. Ceil Jellett, BG Morgan Jellett, and COL Ed
Manning with son John



Representing MOAA at the RAD, Saturday, 9/26
Chapter members Judy and Ed Stone and LTC Bill Moore

WE DON'T REPORT TO WALL STREET.

WE REPORT TO YOU.

Better investing begins now | 800-531-8910 | usaa.com

Invest with a company that didn't need a single dollar of bailout money. From asset management to retirement solutions, we offer complete financial services, all managed with a disciplined approach that comes naturally to a company founded by officers of the U.S. military. Call 800-531-8910.



2010 EL PASO CHAPTER, MOAA BOARD MEETINGS AND LUNCHEONS

- December 2 Board Meeting, The Centennial Club
 December 12 Luncheon, The Centennial Club,
 Biggs Army Air Field
 January 5 - Wednesday, Board Meeting, The Centennial
 January 10 - Wednesday, Input for February issue of The Border
 Bulletin
 February 3 - Wednesday, Board Meeting, The Centennial
 February 13 - Saturday, Luncheon, The Centennial
 February 28 - Sunday, absolute last day for 2010 DUES
 February 28 - Sunday, NO DUES for 2010, member dropped from
 the 2010 Directory
 March 3 - Wednesday, Board Meeting, The Centennial
 March 3 - Wednesday, Input for April issue of The Border
 Bulletin
 March 31 - The 2010 Directory, print copy, published and distributed
 April 7 - Wednesday, Board Meeting, The Centennial
 April 10 - Saturday, Luncheon, The Centennial
 Point of Contact: Colonel Bob Pitt 533-51

The Border Bulletin NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

Editor
 MAJ Edwin S. Stone, III
EDITORIAL COMMITTEE
 MG John Oblinger, USA 751-4699
 MG William H. Riley, Jr. 584-8798
 LTC Dan Schulte, USA 755-3387
 Advertising Manager
 MAJ Edwin S. Stone III
 publications@elpasomoaa.org
 Printer: Northeast Printing, 755-6089

December 2009

Vol 53 No 6

The Border Bulletin is the Official
 publication of the El Paso Chapter of The
 Military Officers Association of America
 P.O. Box 6144, Fort Bliss, TX 79906-0144.
 This bulletin is published Bi-monthly.
 Subscription is included in the annual
 dues of \$20.00.

CHAPTER DUES

Effective 01/01/2009
 Printed Bulletin w/Directory \$20.00
 email with printed Directory-
 \$15.00 Annual

Chapter Staff Emeritus

Mrs. Rosalinda Ancheta	755-8167
COL Margaret H. Baskfield	584-6826
Mrs. Penelope Cochran	778-5723
Mrs. Hedy Forcier	751-2638
LTC Rafael G. Garcia	593-1469
CWO Emiliano Gorgas	594-0444
LtCol James E. Gregan	587-9846
Major E. Dexter Lysterly	585-9619
Mrs. Blanche J "Maggie" Maguire	584-7682
CW4 Manuel Martinez	751-3791
LTC James L. McLaughlin	566-4976
MWO Edward C. Ney	592-6518
CW4 William M. Ryerson	772-6759
LTC Daniel J. Schulte	755-3387
Mrs. Kathleen Schulte	755-3387
MAJ Edwin S. Stone, III	598-6058
Captain Jeanne B. Thompson	598-0891
COL Martin C. Wehmhoner	585-9106

**Saturday, DEC 12 Meeting
 at the Centennial Club Res-
 ervations and Checks to
 Secretary by DEC 9th**

**Input for
 February 2010
 BULLETIN
 by 10 January 2010**

Thank you for serving... Now, let us serve you!
This is the Retirement You Wanted!



1575 Belvidere, El Paso, Texas • (915) 833-2229

Come to **The MonteVista** and see how exciting
 every, single day can be. Live surrounded by your
 peers, people who understand why you stop and salute
 when the flag goes by. Enjoy wonderful food served
 restaurant style – and the fun of laughter at the
 dinner table. At The MonteVista, you'll find:

- Superior service
- Spacious, sunny apartments
- Exceptional gourmet dining
- Wonderful planned activities
- Housekeeping and linen service, plus
 Scheduled transportation

On-site skilled nursing and rehabilitation!

The
MonteVista
at
Coronado

A FIVE STAR
 QUALITY CARE COMMUNITY

EL PASO CHAPTER AWARDS

Category 1 Outstanding Chapter (Runner-up)
 CY 2000 and 2001.

Five - Star Chapter CY 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, & 2008

Category 1 "Print Newsletter" WINNER in 2004; Runner-up 2008;

2008 Best Legislative Coverage (printed newsletter)

2006 Communications Award Category 1,

"Electronic Newsletters", 2nd Runners-Up (tie)

2007 Special Communications Award

A wealth of knowledge. A knowledge of wealth.



Robert Sweet
Financial Consultant

Bob Sweet combines nearly 20 years of experience with outstanding achievement and a genuine commitment of service to his customers. He is a Certified Estate Planning Professional and a Long Term Care Professional.

He credits his success to a deep understanding of customer needs: "My clients... really don't care how much I know until they know how much I care. The more you listen to the client, the more you can help."

At Bank of the West, we think Robert Sweet is another example of how we provide a wealth of knowledge and a knowledge of wealth.



Bank of the West

Wealth Management Services

500 N. Mesa
El Paso, Texas 79901

Phone: (915) 747-1665
www.botw-ep.com

RAYMOND JAMES
FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC.
Member FINRA/SIPC

Securities offered through Raymond James Financial Services, Inc. Member FINRA/SIPC

- NOT FDIC Insured
- NOT GUARANTEED by Bank of the West
- Subject to risk and may lose value

Raymond James and Bank of the West are not affiliated.

Your one-stop, do-it-all shop.

Document services

We can print, collate and bind presentation materials, including complex and high-volume jobs.

Mailbox services

We'll give your business a real street address, then sign for and receive your incoming packages.

Packing and shipping

Options include UPS Next Day Air®, UPS Ground, UPS International and UPS Freight.

Inside the PX Mall

Open daily

915.566.1239 Tel

915.566.8939 Fax

9155 Dyer Street, Suite B-80

El Paso, TX 79906

915.751.3334 Tel

915.751.4537 Fax



The UPS Store



Copyright ©2008 Mail Boxes Etc., Inc. 8CG9414642 12.08

SKILLED NURSING FACILITY & REHABILITATION CENTER 915-581-4883

- Licensed Skilled Nursing Facility
- Medicare, Medicaid Certified
- Private, Semi-Private Rooms
- Rehabilitation Services



Living the Whole of Life
Senior Living with an Emphasis on Living

915-581-4683

7304 Good Samaritan Court



**CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF SERVICE
1983-2008**



www.good-sam.com
TDHS License #050642, 103878

SENIOR APARTMENTS 915-834-6002

- 1, 2, 3 Bedroom Floor Plans
- Optional Meal Program
- Swimming Pool & Jacuzzi
- Small Pets Welcome

ASSISTED LIVING 915-834-2483

- 1 Bedroom Apartments
- 3 Meals Daily
- Personal Assistance with Activities of Daily Living

**Our family, proudly taking care of your family's transportation needs;
striving to exceed expectations EVERY DAY!**

SHAMALEY

PONTIAC **BUICK** **GMC**

Proud Supporter of our Armed Forces, we are ALWAYS WITH YOU!



Bliss' Highlander Brigade spearheads new mission in Iraq

By Major Myles B. Caggins, III, PAO

4th Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division,

Contingency Operating Base Adder, Iraq

<http://www.facebook.com/4BCT1AD>

Since 2003, U.S. Forces have evolved from high-intensity combat, to counterinsurgency and now stability operations in Iraq. The Soldiers of the 4th Brigade, 1st Armored Division "Highlander" are at the vanguard of the Army's new direction by serving as the proof of principal unit for the military's advise and assist mission.

The brigade advises and assists Iraqi Army, Police, and border enforcement units; as well as, improving civil capacity and essential services for Iraqi people by collaborating with U.S. State Department provincial reconstruction teams and the Government of Iraq.

Soldiers from the brigade's six battalions operate Dhi Qar, Maysan, and Muthanna provinces across southern Iraq, criss-crossed by the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers, on historic desert lands and marshes. Each province has a bustling capital city and rural areas dotted by villages where time stands still. Ancient landmarks like the 4,000 year old Ziggurat at Ur and the Uruk (Erech) ruins add rich character to landscape.

As a provision of the June 30 U.S.-Iraq Security Agreement implementation, U.S. Forces moved out of cities and ceased unilateral security operations in urban areas. This actually resulted in stronger relationships with their Iraqi counterparts, having them take the lead in planning and conducting security missions in southern Iraq. Now when Highlander brigade convoys move through towns they

are escorted by the Iraqi Police or Army.

In years past the U.S. Army's role as trainers included rudimentary skills like marching and marksmanship instruction. Today, the Iraqis are requesting courses on crime scene investigation, mortar firing techniques, explosive ordnance disposal, combat life saving skills, and advanced vehicle maintenance. The brigade and Iraqi Security Forces share more intelligence than ever before with the U.S. marrying electronic surveillance with the Iraqis extensive human source networks

This partnership is resulting in more effective crime-fighting operations that provide not just a detainee, but actual evidence that Iraqi judges can use for prosecuting crimes.

While there is much work to be done, troops still find the time to develop meaningful relationships with their Iraqi counterparts. They build lifelong friendships over such events as soccer games, combatives tournaments, movie nights and meals during their down time between training and missions.

Soldiers are not only in great partnerships with their Iraqi counterparts, but also with other defense agencies, they work hand in hand with various Navy, Air Force and Marine personnel along with DoD and other governmental agency civilians specializing in intelligence and rule of law.

To improve the ability of U.S. State Department provincial

reconstruction teams to deliver projects and training for Iraqi people the Highlander Brigade has a battalion tasked with synchronizing civilian experts, professional engineers, and civil affairs units that help the Iraqi Government deliver critical services to their people. The goal is to help establish an Iraqi first economy, essential services (clean water, electricity), strong agriculture, good governance and credible national elections.

The Highlanders are led by Colonel Peter A. Newell and Command Sergeant Major Phillip D. Pandey.

The battalions of the 4th Brigade, 1st Armored Division: 2nd Squadron, 13th Cavalry Regiment "Sabers"; 4th Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment "Regulars"; 1st Battalion, 77th Armor Regiment "Steel Tigers"; 2nd Battalion, 29th Field Artillery Regiment "Pathfinders"; 121st Brigade Support Battalion "Iron Hammer"; 4th Brigade Special Troops Battalion "Strike Force."

The success of our ranks could not have happened without the continued support of all of you back home. When Family, friends and El Pasoans embrace our unit and continue to show the love that they have, it gives our Soldiers the strength to carry on in this vital mission. The constant packages, letters, pictures and emails from all of you are a great morale-booster for our troops and it helps keep their eyes on the prize.

*Spc. Bradley J. Clark, 4BCT, 1AD
public affairs, contributed to this
article.*



Staff Sgt. Stephen Claybourne instructs Iraqi army counterparts from 10th Motorized Transport Regiment on the vehicle controls of an International five-ton truck. Claybourne and the Logistical Training and Advisory Team, 121st Brigade Support Battalion, are responsible for providing subject matter experts for each partnership training event. Photo by 1st Lt. Joseph Olson.

4th B A T T A L I O N



Soldiers from 4th Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment meet with Police training academy instructors following the July 30, graduation ceremony. The battalion is deployed from Fort Bliss, Texas, to advise and assist Iraqi security forces in Maysan. Photo by 2nd Lt. Frederick McAfee



An Iraqi army trainee eases a breathing tube into border transition team member, Sgt. 1st Class Jerry Stutz, during a practical exercise as a part of the combat lifesavers course held on Forward Operating Base Hunter. The breathing tube provides a secondary airway for a patient whose natural airway may be obstructed due to injury. The border transition team is attached to 2nd Squadron, 13th Cavalry Regiment and advises and assists the Iraq Department of Border Enforcement in rural Maysan province. Photo by 2nd Lt. Juan Torres Jr.



Sgt. Michael Richardson, a mechanic from Academy, Texas, checks the radio of Pfc. Anthony Valentino, a mechanic from Carol Steam, Ill., in preparation for a combat logistics patrol pre-brief to Joint Security Station Al Wahab. Briefs ensure Soldiers are in compliance with all safety regulations and equipment is fully mission capable. The Soldiers are attached to 2nd Squadron, 13th Cavalry Regiment deployed from Fort Bliss, Texas. Photo by 2nd Lt. Juan Torres Jr.



Pfc. Anthony Valentino, a mechanic from Carol Steam, Ill., repositions a halogen flood light mounted to the hood of a Mine-Resistant Ambush-Protected vehicle prior to departing to Joint Security Station Al Wahab. The additional lights assist Soldiers in identifying potentially hazardous objects on the desolate expanses between bases. Valentino is attached to 2nd Squadron, 13th Cavalry Regiment deployed from Fort Bliss, Texas. Photo by 2nd Lt. Juan Torres Jr.



Sgt. Christopher Dunlop, from North Richland Hills, Texas, takes samples from the purified water tank. Dunlop and water purification specialists were called in because the purification system had not been operating properly for nearly three years. Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Jason Tellez.



Sgt. 1st Class Sean O'Connor, a platoon sergeant from Scranton, Pa., assigned to 4th Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment reports to the Sergeant Audie Murphy Club selection board, presided over by 4th Brigade, 1st Armored Division Command Sgt. Maj. Phillip D. Pandey Sept. 15. O'Connor was part of a group of non-commissioned officers chosen to participate in the Sergeant Audie Murphy Club selection boards held by 4th Brigade, 1st Armored Division "Highlander" at Contingency Operating Base Adder, Iraq. Photo by Sgt. Mark Miranda.

Personal Affairs

Editor

Congress says "NO!" to SBP/DIC and Chapter 61 under 20 Years of Service Restoration of Offsets in the 2010 National Defense Authorization Act Budget Reconciliation Process

In the October issue, an edited version of what MOAA had to say about what Chapter 61 Retirements for those under 20 years of service meant to an individual in lost benefits was explained...they get a royal hosing. Similarly and better known, surviving spouses are docked with Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) and VA Dependency Indemnity Compensation(DIC) offsets. DIC is received if the sponsor expires by reason of a service connected disability. If you want to read a full blown layout of these two issues, read "Undue Sacrifice" under Major Issues on the national website: either, http://www.moaa.org/lac/lac_issues/lac_issues_major/index.htm or <http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/moaa/unduesacrifice/#/0>, a brochure prepared in early 2008 to hand out to members of Congress during MOAA's annual "Storming the Hill."

Not pleasant to either think or talk about; but Active Duty, please, pay attention...while the figures may be dated by a couple of years, they give you the picture – Here's a chart excerpt from Undue

Sacrifice:	Pay Grade	SBP is	DIC is	Spouse Receives	Spouse Loses
	O-4, 14 years	\$30,404	\$13,848	\$30,404	\$13,848
	O-3, 4 years	\$21,976	\$13,848	\$21,976	\$13,848
	E-6, 14 years	\$15,271	\$13,848	\$15,271	\$13,848
	E-4, 4 years	\$ 9,900	\$13,848	\$13,848	\$ 9,900

DIC in most cases is wiped out by SBP...in the other instances SBP, a paid annuity, is diminished by DIC, compensation for service connected injuries received . The sites above and the MOAA Legislative Action Center are good places for one to begin to research the subject of offsets. One will see more about this before this issue is delivered.

So, what's next? Legislation already on the books in the form of Bills. Help MOAA by joining and addressing these issues with your elected members of Congress. Write your Congressman and ask them to co-sponsor important legislation ...the more that get on-board, the better – then, MOAA can ask one of them for a discharge petition to send the bills to the floor for a vote. Here are the current Bills: S. 535 - End SBP-DIC Offset/H.R. 775 - SBP-DIC Offset ; and, S. 546 - Retired Pay Restoration Act of 2009/H.R. 333 - Disabled Veterans Tax Termination Act able to do so. How do I participate? Go to MOAA's Key Bills, <http://moaa.capwiz.com/moaa/issues/bills/> review the pending Bills; select the one you support; take action now by "punching" your zip code - current or Home of Record - into the box; review the suggested message; and, sign it as a friend of MOAA and get on with it.



COUPON!!

AROUND AND ABOUT TOURS

6716 Mesa Grande • El Paso, TX 79912 / (915) 833-2650

SANDY GIBSON

\$25 OFF on aroundandabouttours@earthlink.net
your 1st overnight stay!! <http://www.aroundandabouttours.com/>



For nearly 50 years, First Command has been assisting American families in their efforts to build wealth, reduce debt & pursue their lifetime financial goals & dreams.

Ed Daffron, CFP®
Financial Advisor

915.772.0100
ejdaffron@firstcommand.com

6501 Boeing St., Suite H-5
El Paso, TX 79925

RETIREMENT PLANNING • EDUCATION PLANNING • INSURANCE

Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards Inc. owns the certification marks CFP®, CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ and CFP (with flame logo)® in the U.S., which it awards to individuals who successfully complete CFP Board's initial and ongoing certification requirements.
©2007 First Command Financial Services, Inc. parent of First Command Financial Planning, Inc. Financial Planning services offered by First Command Financial Planning, Inc. (Member SPC).

Membership

MG Bill Riley - Membership Director



ACTIVE DUTY, you need us and we need you, both in the national organization and in the chapter. Check the applications on page 14.

NATIONAL: Free Memberships for first time Active Duty Members; and,


Two-years for \$28, a \$62 value, for lapsed memberships of 4 or more months, and first time retired and former officers and surviving spouses.

Annual EL PASO CHAPTER membership: \$20 all print media, our newsletter, The Border Bulletin, and \$15 electronic, email notification that the pdf version is on the web, and a print Directory. Here's the challenge, 200x new Chapter memberships in 2010!

LTC Bill Moore, Webmaster, has developed an online fillable application...type in the info, go to print from your page, and mail the application in the address at the bottom of the application. Separate addresses for all applications and separate checks for the Two-fer and Chapter membership...remember, first time Active Duty memberships in National are free, no obligation whatsoever attaches. Remember, once one uses the online fillable application, delete your data in each line and hit "enter" to clear the form...a must for each line! <http://elpasomoaa.org>

Think you can go without MOAA? Check Personal Affairs and Legislative!

Again, IT'S TIME FOR THOSE OF YOU WITH A "9" for 2009 in your address label TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP for 2010.



Ready for your Next Tour?
Plan your future with **THE SOLDIER'S edge**

Proper planning and money management make goals happen. That's why FirstLight offers the Soldier's Edge to our military as they look to life's next possibilities.


The Soldier's Edge will help you plan for retirement or a career after the military! Get ready for your next tour!

- ★ Remodeling, college and auto loans
- ★ Investment & estate planning services
- ★ Small business checking and lending
- ★ FREE financial planning programs

Find out more: www.Military.FirstLightFCU.org
It's a great day to be a soldier's credit union!®

El Paso Branches
1741 Marshall Rd. (North of the PX)
WBAMC, 1st Floor (5005 N. Piedras)
9993 Kenworthy
1555 N. Lee Trevino
5050 N. Desert Blvd.
(Mesa & I-10 • Next to Fuddruggers)

562-1172



FIRSTLIGHT
FEDERAL CREDIT UNION
Helping you achieve financial success

The Magic Pan Restaurant

Gourmet Dining & Catering

Lunch: Tue-Sun 11am-2 pm
Dinner: Thu. Fri. & Sat. 5pm-10pm

Reservations accepted for Dinner

5034 Doniphan - Placita Sante Fe-
(915) 581-2121

www.magicpanrestaurant.com



JIM SWANSON Builders

Cabinet Shop and General Construction

Specializes in Fabrication and Installation of Handicapped Devices in your Home

LICENSED & BONDED FOR YOUR PROTECTION

10350-C Grouse Road
El Paso, Texas 79924

(915) 821-3754

KANE KERBY
Owner

Legislative

John B. McKinney - Legislative Chairman



LTC John McKinney receives MOAA's top award for the 2008 Best Legislative Column present on behalf of national by General Jellett, our Chapter President

One of the things difficult in doing a legislative column is that things written about can change before the column is printed. Please take this into consideration when reading not only what is written here but also what is published in other newsletters and magazines you receive. MOAA may, for example, asks us to write or call our Members of Congress concerning specific pieces of legislation yet when contact is made a vote may have already been taken. This is just the manner in which the legislative world works. Additionally, a large number of co-sponsors may seem to be the driving factor in bringing legislation before a subcommittee for a hearing but this is not necessarily true. Bills may be introduced with only one or two co-sponsors while those with lots of them may never get to the floor for a vote. Chairmen drive the train. When funds are involved, money can also be the determinant factor on ultimate approval or disapproval.

Congress, while working on various pieces of legislation, is primarily engrossed in the monumental health care bill. Perhaps by the time you read this a vote will have been taken in either the House or Senate or both. Watch for the impact on any of the forms of Tricare, especially Tricare for Life, and Medicare. The Senate recently voted against a bill to fix the scheduled 21 percent decrease in Medicare payments to physicians effective January 1 on the premise that the cost for it could not be funded. The House, conversely, introduced HR 3961, the Medicare Physician Payment Reform Act of 2009, to repeal the formula previously set by Congress which determines the reimbursement rates. A reduction in Medicare rates will adversely impact TFL payments and, consequently, those who carry this "free" health care plan could find it harder to find doctors and specialists in the civilian community willing to take new Medicare patients. Doctors are not required to take new patients.

Much has already been written about the recently passed National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), the legislation that tells DoD how it will spend the funds

appropriated for it. There are no Tricare increases but the Senate version to repeal the deduction of survivor benefits (DIC) from SBP failed to pass, supposedly due to lack of funds. Those retired under Chapter 61 again lost the battle to phase out the disability offset from retired pay, ostensibly because the Senate did not like how the House had proposed funding it. Money can be found to support some programs but not others, particularly when some affect few people. Budget rules seem to be more politically motivated than publicly motivated. The NDAA does provide a 3.4% cost of living increase for active duty personnel. There is also word that federal civil service personnel and Members of Congress may receive a 2% cost of living increase while those dependent on the annual COLA to help offset increased living costs, military retirees and social security recipients for example, will receive nothing, possibly for the next two years. The President has stated he would like to have social security recipients get another \$250.00, as was done under the Stimulus Bill, but Congress asked where that money will come from.

Concerning the issue of increasing Tricare costs, during a congressional hearing in mid-October on projected DoD budget growth a member of the Congressional Research Service addressed the rising costs of a service member and a member of the Congressional Budget Office addressed the increasing pay raises of the active military as causes. Included by the latter was a discussion on rising health care costs and their impact on the DoD budget. A solution might be to increase retiree cost shares because, "It's hard to get folks to control their utilization (of military health care facilities) when they don't face a co-payment." This battle is not over.

In mid-September a third Senate hearing this legislative session was held on the calculations used for compensation for service-connected disabilities. Some studies say that some disabilities are under compensated while others are over compensated and both quality of life and lost earning capacity should be considered in compensation. There is nothing in VA out year strategic planning addressing an internal study to look into compensation changes.

Congress will soon go into its annual holiday recess with a majority of the Fiscal Year 2010 federal budgets not approved. For this the members look forward to yet another salary increase. Again, no COLA increase 2010 for those drawing military retirement and social security.

NORTHEAST PRINTING

99728-A Dyer St. • El Paso, TX 79924
(915) 755-6089
FAX (915) 757-2452

neprinting@aol.com

H. V. WHITEHILL, D.D.S., M.S.

PRACTICE LIMITED TO ENDODONTICS

CHASE BANK-EAST
1533 N. LEE TREVINO, SUITE 210
EL PASO, TEXAS 79936 (915) 594-9097



Professional Home Inspector
TREC. License No. 8534

ADVANTAGE
Home Inspection

Don Powell
474-4241

4933 Grapeland Dr.
El Paso, TX 79924

7735 ALABAMA STREET
EL PASO, TEXAS 79904
(915) 755-1681



HILL & SONS, INC.
DBA

HILL'S AUTOMOTIVE CENTER

QUALITY AUTOMOTIVE REPAIRS SINCE 1967

DAVID A. HILL
Certified Mechanic

GRADY L. HILL
President

GARY D. HILL
Certified Mechanic



COL E. Manning
and BG J.
Morgan Jellett at
the October
Luncheon, The
Centennial Club.



Kay Martinez
at the
October
Luncheon

Free Checking ♦ Free Internet Banking ♦ Free Online Bill Pay

ARMED FORCES BANK
"Your Hometown Bank Around the World"

1720 Marshall Road & Inside the PX, Fort Bliss
Biggs Mini Mall East, Biggs Army Air Field
www.afbank.com Member FDIC 888.929.2265

Committed To Delivering Results That Endure

David R. Hampton
Associate

On-Site
Booz Allen Hamilton Inc.
Bldg 5800, Carter Road
Fort Bliss, TX 79916
Tel (915) 568-8804
Mobile (913) 683-2019
hampton_david@bah.com

Booz | Allen | Hamilton

FUTURE FORCE INTEGRATION DIRECTORATE

Superior

JOHN GALLEGOS

HOME REMODELING & REPAIRS

INTERIOR - EXTERIOR PAINTING • TEXTURES
RENOVATIONS • SPECIALIZED IN WATER DAMAGE REPAIRS
SHOWER & TUBS - CERAMIC TILE • FREE ESTIMATES

(915) 256-4757

(915) 751-9595

LICENSED

4947 KNOX

BONDED

"GIVE ME TEN" RECRUITING PROGRAM
Give Me Ten (GMT)



Recruited for MOAA by the El Paso Chapter
TX05

ACTIVE FORCE COMPONENTS

FREE - \$31 Value

one year complimentary first time membership in
Military Officers Association of America (MOAA)

MEMBERSHIP ENROLLMENT

DETAILS: www.moaa.org

EL PASO CHAPTER: <http://elpasomoaa.org/>

____ YES! Sign me up as a MOAA Member

Name _____

Spouse _____

Branch of Service _____ Rank _____

____ Active Duty ____ National Guard ____ Reserve

Address _____

City _____ State ____ Zip _____

Date of Birth _____

Phone Number _____

Email Address _____

Recruited by El Paso Chapter TX05

Signature: _____

Mail to: **MOAA; Attn: Give Me 10!; 201 N
Washington St; Alexandria, VA 22201-2539.**



MEMBERSHIP
____ electronic w/print directory \$15
_____ per year

____ print media \$20 per year
EL PASO CHAPTER: <http://elpasomoaa.org/>

____ YES! Sign me up as a MOAA Member

Name _____

MOAA National NR _____
If eligible, one must be a national member!

Spouse _____

Branch of Service _____ Rank _____

____ Active Duty ____ National Guard ____ Reserve

Address _____

City _____ State ____ Zip _____

Date of Birth _____

Phone Number _____

Email Address _____

Chapter Name _____ El Paso Chapter

Chapter Recruiter _____

Signature: _____

**DRAW YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO "MOAA" in the
amount of either \$20 or \$15; and, mail to: El Paso
Chapter, MOAA; PO Box 6144, Ft. Bliss, TX
79906-0144.**



RECRUITED BY EL PASO TX05



Military Officers Association of America
DETAILS: www.moaa.org

____ Lapsed Membership(4x months)
____ first time Retired, Former Officer,
Surviving Spouses

TWO-FER, \$28.00

two years in MOAA national for \$28.00

MEMBERSHIP ENROLLMENT

RECRUITED BY EL PASO TX05

____ YES! Sign me up as a MOAA Member

Name _____

Spouse _____

Branch of Service _____ Rank _____

____ Retired ____ Former Officer ____ Other,
LAPSED

Address _____

City _____ State ____ Zip _____

Date of Birth _____

Phone Number _____

Email Address _____

RECRUITED BY EL PASO TX05

Signature: _____

**Please draw your check to "MOAA" in the amount
of \$28.00; and, mail it along with application to:
MOAA; PO Box 1488; Merrifield, VA
22116-1488.**

Editorial 12 -2009

Something of value? An annual membership in a professional association that has your interest squarely in its sights. Costs: currently \$31.00 annually...less than a full tank of gasoline – and, it works for you all year long without you having to be engaged on a regular basis. A real good deal! Active Duty and Retired, you can't afford to be without it.

What got left on the cutting room floor this year during the 2010 National Defense Authorization Act congressional reconciliation process? Two items of great interest – see Personal Affairs.

Times are changing. The El Paso Chapter, too. We will have a new website look by the time LTC Bill Moore works it up and launches it at the end of October. It's a professional piece of work. Furthermore, Bill is your new 2010 Editor and Advertising Manager. Highly qualified and a wonderful person, he'll take our chapter communications to the next level.

It has been an honor to serve the El Paso Chapter membership these past six years. Bowing out from active Board participation at year end, thank you, all, for your continuing support...you are great!

TIMBERLAKE
Membership Software Made Simple

1-800-303-4234

**"9" in Local Dues for
2009?**

Time to renew for 2010!

EL PASO CHAPTER MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

2009 BOARD OF DIRECTORS OFFICERS

OFFICERS

President
1st Vice-President
2nd VP
Chair 3rd VP
Co-Chair 3rd VP
Secretary
Assistant Secretary
Treasurer
Chaplain

NAME

BG J Morgan Jellett - 637-2515
COL David R Hampton - 568-8804
LTC Powell M Trusler - 425-851-1965
COL Joseph P DeAntona, CDR, 11th ADA Bde
COL Emmett M Schaihl, DCG/C of S
CWO Emiliano Gorgas - 594-0444
LTC BJ Jackson - 591-9095
LTC Rafael G Garcia - 593-1469
COL Ron Huggler - 568-4640

DIRECTORS

Immediate Past President
Legislative Liaison
Personal Affairs
Membership Chairman
Programs
Public Relations
Publications/Editor
Post Liaison

MAJ Edwin S. Stone, III - 598-6058
LTC John B McKinney - 598-4348
CWO Emiliano Gorgas - 594-0444
MG Bill Riley - 584-87-98
COL Bob Pitt - 533-5111
Mrs Judy Stone
MAJ Edwin S Stone, III
COL Lenore Enzel - 755-2325

COMMITTEES

DCG/Chief of Staff
1st BCT, 1st AD
3d BCT, 1st AD
4th BCT, 1st AD

COL Emmett M Schaihl

5th BCT, 1st AD

COL Peter A Newell, CDR
CSM Phillip Pandey, CSM
COL Randall C. Lane, CDR
CSM Felipe Paul, CSM
COL Joseph P DeAntona, CDR
CSM Jimmie W Nelson, CSM
COL Edward P Manning, CDR
CSM William A. Green IV, CSM

11th ADA BDE

Garrison Command

Deployment Brigade

COL James Green, CDR
CSM Joseph G Considine, CSM

5th AR BDE, First Army

Historian
Webmaster
TOPS
Fisher House
Chair, JROTC/Youth Activities
Co-Chair, JROTC/Youth Act.
Thrift Shop
Data Base
Door Prizes

LTC Daniel J Schulte - 755-3387
LTC William L. Moore
COL Chuck Wehmhoner
Mrs Kathleen Schulte
LTC Rafael G Garcia
LTC Powell M Trusler
Mrs Beth Manning
Mrs Janet H. Rasmussen - 598-3835
Mrs Jacqueline Welsh - 778-0408

Statement of Publication

The Border Bulletin is the newsletter of the El Paso Chapter, Military Officers Association of America. It is published bi-monthly, even months, to inform the membership of issues and activities of interest to all. elpasomoaa.org is a non-profit entity within the State of Texas organized to represent the membership and to support the activities of the Texas Council of Chapters and MOAA National. Advertising contained on the website and in the newsletter and directory are not endorsed by the Chapter and does not represent any recommendation to the membership. Opinions expressed in articles contained herein are not necessarily those of the membership as a whole or the Chapter. Questions should be directed to the Editor, at the Chapter office.

El Paso Chapter, MOAA
P.O. Box 6144, El Paso, TX 79906-0144
publications@elpasomoaa.org

THE BORDER BULLETIN

is the print newsletter of the
El Paso Chapter, Military Officers Association of America
(MOAA)
P.O. Box 6144, Fort Bliss, TX 79906-0144
<http://elpasomoaa.org>

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. Postage

PAID
El Paso, Texas
Permit No. 2149

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

WILLIAM TIPPIN & COMPANY, P.C.

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

WILLIAM TIPPIN JR., CPA
7500 Viscount, Suite 108, El Paso, TX 79925
(915) 592-9696 Fax (915) 592-9924
Toll Free: 1(877) 692-9696

CPA

wtippin@juno.com

"9" in Local Dues for 2009?
Time to renew for 2010!

**Our family, proudly taking care of your family's transportation needs;
striving to exceed expectations EVERY DAY!**



Proud Supporter of our Armed Forces, we are ALWAYS WITH YOU!



The leadership of 7th Engineer Battalion, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division inspected a bridge construction site on Route Arnhem in Maysan province, Sept. 6. The bridge, located near the border of Dhi Qar and Maysan Provinces, is near completion and will replace the temporary bridge currently in the area that was built when the road was washed out several years ago. The 4th Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division is deployed from Fort Bliss, Texas, to Maysan province in Iraq, where they advise and assist Iraqi security forces. Photo by Pfc. J. Princeville Lawrence



A UH-60 Black Hawk hovers at the ancient Ziggurat of Ur near Nasiriyah, Iraq. The helicopter was piloted by Chief Warrant Officer Four Darren "Doc" Dreher and Chief Warrant Officer Two Thaddeus "Ted" Simpson from Company A, 2nd Battalion, 104th Aviation Regiment providing direct support to the 4th Brigade, 1st Armored Division "Highlander." The pilots are assigned to the Illinois Army National Guard. The Highlander Brigade is deployed from Fort Bliss, Texas. The Ziggurat, constructed in 2,100 B.C. by Sumerian King Ur-Nammu, is preserved by the Iraqi ministry of antiquities. Photo by Spc. Ernest Sivia III.



An Iraqi army soldier photographs documents recovered during a practical exercise held on Contingency Operating Site Hunter. The Soldiers trained on techniques used to properly collect evidence and arrest suspected criminals. The 2nd Squadron, 13th Cavalry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division is deployed from Fort Bliss, Texas, to advise and assist Iraqi security forces in Maysan province. Photo by 2nd Lt. Juan Torres Jr.



Sgt. Liliana Rivera, a chemical operations specialist from Dos Palos, Calif., assigned to 121st Brigade Support Battalion, determines a grid coordinate before calling a nine-line medical evacuation request in a test of her Soldier common tasks knowledge. Rivera was part of a group of non-commissioned officers chosen to participate in the division-level Soldier and Non-commissioned Officer of the Quarter boards held by 34th Infantry Division "Red Bulls" and hosted by 121st Brigade Support Battalion at Contingency Operating Base Adder, Iraq. Photo by Sgt. Linda Murphy.



4/1's Command Personal Security Detachment Preparation underway to secure an area near the Ziggurat



The "Schuplattler" at the October 2009 Luncheon.



The "Schuplattler Ax Dance" at the October 2009 Luncheon.



**The "Schuplattler"
at the October 2009
Luncheon.**