

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 54th Year

OUTSTANDING SERVICE IN IRAQ

First Lieutenant Jospheh Olson

Operations Officer, Alpha Company, 121 Brigade Support Battalion



A 2010
P
R Inside
this
issue:

President's Message
Luncheon
Program
TAPS/Sick Call
Events Schedule
Chaplain Corner
Junior Officer

2	Personal Affairs	10
3	Membership	11
3	Legislative	12
3	Membership Applications	14
5	Luncheon Pictures	Insert 1
7	Marathon Pictures	Insert 2
8		

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



I would like to open the April 2010 Border Bulletin by expressing my continuing appreciation for the incredible efforts demonstrated across your El Paso Chapter as we investigate new strategies and procedures designed to increase membership and improve accountability. Board members have had some very constructive dialogue during our Saturday brainstorming sessions.

I continue to be impressed with the cooperative nature of the dialogue and the unified efforts to embrace change as we set the conditions to accommodate the impending surge of service and family members arriving to Ft Bliss this summer and early Fall. These truly are exciting times for our El Paso Chapter.

One of our Chapter's most important responsibilities is to continue to inform and influence the processes and policies of our higher MOAA echelons. Special thanks go to Ed Stone and Bill Moore for their efforts as participants in the recent Texas Council of Chapters meeting in Tyler, Texas. As most of you know by now, Ed Stone assumed the role as President of the Texas Council of Chapters during that meeting. Ed played a significant role in getting some key issues on the agenda of the recent Texas Council of Chapters meeting. Specifically, we have begun lobbying Regional and National levels to review their methods of accounting for memberships as well as informing both echelons of El Paso Chapter initiatives to transition to online registration processes utilizing online credit card processing. Bill Moore has taken the web site to another level and continues to investigate different processes that will facilitate easier registration and better accountability of membership. We think this will ease both membership application procedures and registration for different MOAA events. Additionally, we believe this will facilitate improved accountability efforts when the local chapter attempts to distinguish between local and national chapter memberships. We'd like to continue to encourage a more collaborative relationship between the local Chapters and Regional and National levels.

On 25 March, Colonel Joe Simonelli returns from Iraq and will assume command of the Ft Bliss Garrison. COL Simonelli is also a member of the MOAA National board and will bring tremendous perspective as the El Paso Chapter continues to contemplate initiatives focused on cultivating a larger following among the active duty and recently retired demographics here in El Paso. As we enter the third Quarter of FY 2010, our El Paso Chapter is in a unique position to influence policy and procedures at each echelon of the MOAA organization. The message is clear, it is increasingly important that all members of the El Paso Chapter reach out to fellow service members and recent retirees and gain their membership and more importantly, their perspective, as we shape our Chapter messages and themes, and continue to inform National policy. Expect an exciting year ahead, I promise.

Our El Paso Chapter has also initiated dialogue with the National level to host the 2011 MOAA National Convention right here in El Paso, Texas. I think the home of the largest Army installation in the Military would serve as a suitable host location for a National level MOAA Convention, and I think the unique partnership relationship Ft Bliss shares with the El Paso community serves as the perfect setting for the event. Will keep you all informed as we continue in dialogue to make this special event become a reality.

The El Paso Chapter continues to make progress to partner with and supports Active Duty and Family members within the Ft Bliss community. We have initiated an effort to feature the outstanding performance of junior grade officers in our Border Bulletin and will continue to feature these junior officers in each of our subsequent publications. We continue to receive tremendous feedback from 4th Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division forward deployed in Iraq. The El Paso Chapter has also sponsored two teams participating in the Bataan Death March competition held annually at White Sands Missile Range. This year's competition will be held on 21 March at WSMR and the two teams we are sponsoring are the Joint Task Force-North All Female team, and the 2nd Battalion 43rd Air Defense Artillery team. Congratulations to both units and best of luck in the competition. Ed and Judy Stone joined Elma Rodriguez and I in welcoming home the great Soldiers of 3/3 CRAM, 11th ADA Brigade. We were all available to send off the equally great Soldiers of 3-43 ADA as they begin their tour of duty in Kuwait and Qatar. Your El Paso Chapter also continues to dispense scholarships to deserving young El Pasoans as we did with 11 recipients in 2009. Refer to our website for additional information.

On the 20th of March, the El Paso Chapter will hold its annual Day at the Races at Sunland Park Racetrack. Currently there are more than eighty personnel registered to attend. The Chapter will also host more than a dozen Wounded Warriors at this event. It should also be noted that the next El Paso Chapter MOAA Luncheon will be held on 10 April at Landry's. The Board has decided to rotate locations for these Luncheons in order to entertain different venues around the El Paso area. During the 10 April Luncheon there will be a vote to amend several Bylaw paragraphs and to delete Section 6 of Article VI. Details of changes can be found at our website or by reaching Mr. Bill Moore at wlm.elpaso@me.com. These recommended changes reflect our Chapter's efforts to review and update By Law verbiage, and I think that is appropriate.

On a final note, the Chapter Board will begin holding its monthly meetings on the first Saturday of the month starting on 3 April, in Building 452. We will continue to hold our Saturday morning Brainstorming sessions each Saturday morning in Building 452 for anyone who wants to attend. Again, I want to close by encouraging members to actively support our efforts to increase MOAA membership at both the El Paso Chapter and National MOAA levels. Thank you.

Forrest E. Smith
Colonel, USA
President 2010




ALAN BATTENBURG

April 10th Luncheon Program

Landry's Seafood House

6801 Gateway West, El Paso, TX 79925

Luncheon Speaker

Alan Battenburg

WWII Historian

Alan spent his early years in Chicago, Illinois. He is a graduate of Iowa Wesleyan College, Mt Pleasant, IA.

He served in Vietnam as a member of the 19th Engineer Battalion and later retired from the US Army. After Army retirement, he became a civil servant in the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard.

After retiring as a civil servant, he spends the majority of his time researching World War II.

MEMBERSHIP MEETING PROGRAM

Saturday, April 10
Landry's Seafood House
6801 Gateway West

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



COL Forrest Smith presents a Certificate of Appreciation to Mr. Harry Hicks, February 2010 Guest Speaker

Taps

Jeanne Moon died 10 March at William Beaumont Army Medical Center. She was preceded by her husband Fred. Surviving are a daughter and son. No additional information is available at this time.



Judy Stone and her mother, Mrs. Virginia Fischer, at the February Luncheon

April Luncheon Menu

Choose One of Six Entrée Selections

1. Lemon Pepper Catfish Fillets
2. Shrimp Fettuccine
3. Chicken and Mushrooms
4. Fish and Shrimp
5. Landry's Gold Burger
6. Herb Crusted Chicken Sandwich

Includes -- Salad, Soft Drink, Coffee, Tea or Water, and Cake

**Please submit your Luncheon
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Wednesday, 7 April**

Secretary
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All lunch reservations
with payment to our
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\$16 Per Person

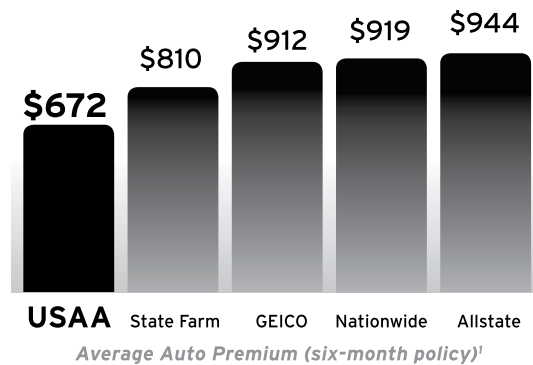
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Property and casualty insurance products are available to military members and their former dependents who meet certain membership eligibility criteria. To find out if you are eligible, contact USAA. Underwriting restrictions apply. Automobile insurance provided by United Services Automobile Association, USAA Casualty Insurance Company, USAA General Indemnity Company, Garrison Property and Casualty Insurance Company, USAA County Mutual Insurance Company, San Antonio, TX. Each company has sole financial responsibility for its own products. © 2010 USAA. 92506-0410

2010 EL PASO CHAPTER, MOAA EVENTS SCHEDULE

March 20, 2010	MOAA Chapter's Annual "Day at the Races"
March 21, 2010	The 21st Annual Bataan Memorial Death March
March 27, 2010	West Point Founders Day
April 3, 2010	April Board Meeting
April 10, 2010	April Member Meeting and Luncheon
May 1, 2010	May Board Meeting
May 3, 2010	Input for June Issue of Boarder Bulletin
May 22, 2010	TCC 2d Quarter Teleconference
June 5, 2010	June Board Meeting
June 12, 2010	June Member Meeting and Luncheon

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CHAPTER DUES

Effective 01/01/2009

Printed Bulletin w/Directory \$20.00

email with printed Directory-
\$15.00 Annual

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2008 & 2009

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

**Saturday, APR 10 Meeting
at the Landry's Seafood
Reservations and Checks
to Secretary by APR 7th**

**Input for
June 2010
BULLETIN
by 3 May 2010**

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Chaplain Corner

Chaplain Tom Phelan



The Month of April begins during the Jewish Passover, which celebrates the delivery of God's

people from the land of their slavery. The blood of the Passover lamb protected the family from the angel of death. April also begins during the Christian Season of Lent and Holy Week leading up to Easter Sunday. On that day nearly two thousand years ago, Christ Jesus, the Lamb of God who had been sacrificed for the world was resurrected from the dead. His Resurrection was a miracle unlike anything the world had seen before or since. In its

display of victory over death, it promises eternal life to all those who place faith in the Lord, and established Christianity as the largest religion in the world.

It is certain that everyone will enter eternity some day. Just a few informal inquiries will usually confirm that most people seem to assume that their ultimate destiny is heaven, although some will state that they simply wish to disappear. Is it inevitable that a person will go to heaven, or just what is required? May 6th is the National Day of Prayer, when we pray to God, and May 9th is Mother's Day, when we talk with Mom, if we can. Surely both the Lord and our mother would want us to spend eternity in heaven if possible. So just what is required?

The Month of May concludes with Memorial Day, when we pause to honor the heroes who sacrificed themselves that we might enjoy life and liberty. The Bible itself states that there is no greater love than that one lay down his life for his friends. It is only right that we honor such courage, and it is even more thrilling to know that those who gave their lives might not only live on in memory, but in heaven. While there are many impressive memorial monuments in the world, none can compare with the lonely cross where Jesus died. The Son of God came to earth as the greatest hero to rescue all those willing to follow him. All those who place faith in Christ Jesus have eternal life and will live forever in heaven with the Lord.

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Outstanding Junior Officer

Future Army leadership begins with our junior leaders today. The El Paso Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) is proud to announce the first recipient of our Junior Leader Award – First Lieutenant (1LT) Joseph Olson. 1LT Olson is presently serving in Iraq.

Daily Duties: 1LT Joseph Olson is second in command of a Supply and Distribution Company within the 121st Brigade Support Battalion, 4th BCT, 1AD. 1LT Olson's primary responsibilities are to ensure the mission success of all unit operations which include, but are not limited to tracking mission requirements to support nearly 4,000 service members within

the brigade's battle space; oversee the unit's maintenance program of over 100 pieces of equipment valued at nearly \$50 million; and take the lead on all administrative actions for 140 service members deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Demonstrated good officer-ships: Lieutenant Olson is an officer of the highest caliber. He gives back to his Soldiers on a daily basis through mentorship and individual counseling. His ability to provide sound guidance to his subordinates and meet the intent of his commanding officer distinguishes him as an officer of the highest caliber. He routinely conducts distribution missions to locations up to fourteen (14)

hours away with amazing skill and a dynamic attitude. Additionally, 1LT Olson is an extremely loyal service member that can be counted on in the toughest of situations and accomplishes the most difficult tasks with superior results; all while maintaining a "Family First Attitude".

Unit: Alpha Company 121st Brigade Support Battalion

Duty Title: Operations Officer

Hometown: Kaysville UT

Branch: Quartermaster

Source & Year of Commission: United States Military Academy Class of 2007



Cara Olson & 1LT Joseph Olson



1LT Olson at motor maintenance in Iraq

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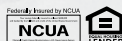
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Personal Affairs

Jose Luis Hernandez
Personal Affairs Chairman



As many of you know, numerous changes are transpiring at Fort Bliss, construction is at an all time high throughout Fort Bliss and East Bliss (Biggs Field) in anticipation of the military growth on the Installation. The Post Exchange and

Commissary are going through a remodeling phase if you will, bringing better and newer services to the military community with top of the line retail upgrades, fast food restaurants, state-of-the-art Movie Theater, etc.

We too at the Human Resources Directorate are going through numerous changes. The Fort Bliss Welcome Center has relocated to Building 503, adjacent to Building 500. This building has been completely remodeled and all agencies are up and running, ready to provide the best service possible to incoming Soldiers and Family members arriving at Fort Bliss to include the retiree community. The Post Vehicle Registration Office and El Paso County Tax Office are located in this building, providing post vehicle registration and Texas State license renewals for vehicles. One of the highlights within the Welcome Center is that it is completely handicapped accessible, with an elevator on the A side (rear) and a ramp on the B side (rear) with plenty of handicapped parking spaces between Buildings 500 and 503. In addition to this important upgrade, an ID Card/DEERS Office has been installed on the 3rd floor of the building in order to provide ID Card support for handicapped personnel unable to walk long distances or unable to enter Building 500 due to the size of the wheelchair or scooter. Additionally, the TRICARE Office has also relocated to this new building to assist with TRICARE issues.

Recently, the Retirement Services Office has received numerous calls and or visits from retirees or Family members requesting a copy of their most recent 1099-R (Retiree Tax Statement). Unfortunately, this office no longer has the capability of printing the tax statement from the HUNT-DRAS System. We are able to go into the system and update your retiree pay account so that a replacement tax statement can be mailed to you. Retirees or annuitants can also call toll free to DFAS at 1-800-321-1080 and request it

that way. Bottom line here is that retirees should not wait too long before inquiring about their retiree or annuitant tax statements, if it doesn't arrive at your address by the middle of January, please contact us for assistance. One other option is by accessing DFAS on line through myPay; however, if the retiree does not keep the myPay account active it will not allow access to tax forms or any other services.

The Fort Bliss Retirement Services Office is currently in the process of preparing a Personal Affairs Guide Book for Widows and should be completed in the next couple of months. This guide book will be tailored to the needs of the local retiree community. In the past six months, this office has provided assistance to hundreds of military widows and survivors, preparing applications for Arrears of Pay (AOP) and Verification for Survivor Annuity (SBP) payments. This process is sometimes hampered in that widows and survivors are misinformed as to what needs to be done and in what order upon a retiree's or annuitant's death. Some contact the Veterans Administration, local veterans organizations, DFAS, ID Card/DEERS, Social Security or the RSO making for delays in benefits and payments due. This office is readily available to assist in the notification process starting with DFAS, Social Security, Veterans Administration, Civil Service Retirements and insurance companies too. Bottom line, when a retiree or annuitant passes, contact the Retirement Services Office, we will make notification, verify entitlements to AOP and SBP Annuity payments and ensure that a new dependent ID Card is reissued due to changes in sponsor's status. We will also assist in contacting other offices relative to retirement or death benefits.

We remind the military retiree community of other services available at the Fort Bliss RSO such as assistance with changes to retiree pay accounts for allotments, beneficiaries, mailing address, financial institution, tax filing and withholding status and assistance in requesting 1099-R forms and Retired Account Statements. This includes assistance in obtaining copies of lost documents (i.e. DD 214, retirement orders, medical records, etc.)

As always, the Fort Bliss Retirement Services Office is ready to provide our local military retiree community (for all services) assistance in any post-retirement services required. Mr. Walter R. Basil, SBP Counselor and I are here to serve you – the retiree, Family member and widow.

Membership

Active duty officers -- you need us and we need you in both the national organization and the El Paso Chapter. Please see our application form inside this newsletter or on the web at <http://elpasomoaa.org/Files/2009threeapplicationsobversecolorfillable.pdf>. Remember, once you use the online fillable application, delete your data in each line and hit "enter" to clear the form -- a must for each line!

Annual El Paso Chapter membership is \$20 per year for all print media, our newsletter, the Border Bulletin (six publications), and a member directory (published in April). If you desire an electronic version of the newsletter, the cost of the membership fee is \$15 per year.

THE TIME IS NOW TO INCREASE OUR MEMBERSHIP! EVERY MEMBER IS A RECRUITER.

THE 2010 GIVE ME 10! RECRUITING CAMPAIGN IS UNDER WAY.

Unlike previous campaigns, this year's effort will emphasize paid memberships. The "double~down" recruiting incentive is back again this year, with chapters receiving \$20 for each paid membership. Chapters will earn \$10 for every new complimentary membership, \$20 for each new life membership, and

\$20 for each annual membership that's converted to a life membership.

Chapters that sign up 10 new paid members will receive a \$100 bonus, and chapters will continue to receive a \$100 bonus for every 10 new paid members they recruit thereafter. When the campaign ends Dec. 31, 2010, the chapter with the most paid memberships (minimum of 10 paid members) in each of 10 categories based on chapter size will receive \$1,000.

Each quarter, a \$500 bonus will be given to the council in each of four regions that adds the most paid MOAA memberships (minimum of 10 paid members). However, a council cannot win in two consecutive quarters. An independent chapter in each region, which is not served by a state council, will receive \$250 for the most paid members. Quarterly bonuses will be paid only if an independent chapter has recruited a minimum of four new paid members, and an independent chapter can't win in two consecutive quarters. Finally, councils that have 75 percent or more of their chapters recruit eight or more new paid members will earn "A Night Out With MOAA" incentive.



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The Second Session of the 111th Congress has started but little legislative action has taken place. Initial work was stopped due to the record snowfall in D.C. followed by the President's Day recess.

While Congress is now back at work the recently presented President's budget for Fiscal Year 2011 is commanding attention as is the continuing issue of national health care. The former included remarks that the President wanted to look to the future beginning in Fiscal Year 2012 and hold discretionary funding to a 3-year freeze in an attempt to reduce the federal deficit (the difference between what the government spends and what it takes in). The federal debt is the total amount the government owes to its lenders (China and Japan are among the largest). While the VA has been receiving significant annual increases in its health care budget, this is a discretionary account; benefits and the national cemetery system are mandatory accounts. Where this goes remains to be seen.

MOAA has developed its 2010 federal legislative goals. These were enumerated in the January issue of the MOAA magazine but I'll repeat them for emphasis. The primary goals are: 1) Reverse Medicare/Tricare payment cuts; 2) Sustain people and weapons in the defense budget; 3) Sustain military manpower increases; 4) Gain wounded warrior and caregiver fixes; 5) Resist shifting health care costs to beneficiaries (the Secretary of Defense is outspoken on this issue saying that beneficiaries need to pay more for their military provided health care); 6) Repeal the SBP/DIC offset; 7) Work for full concurrent receipt with emphasis on phasing out the retired pay offset for Chapter 61 retirees; 8) Restore military pay compatibility; 9) Upgrade the Guard and Reserve retirement health care programs; and, 10) Improve spouse and family support. These are ambitious but demand attention. The lobbying issue is one of trying to convince legislators to incorporate our priorities into legislation, primarily the budget, while also listening to other lobbyists and constituents. The latter are key to trying to convince legislators how and what to vote on as they are dependent on constituent votes to get elected or reelected. Telephone calls and e-mails are the

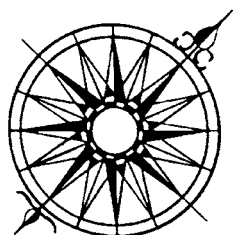
best way to communicate with legislators, at least those in Washington. Letters take time to reach individual offices and can take as long as two to three months.

While not legislative in nature, something that needs to be closely watched is the recently appointed Debt Commission. Created by Presidential Executive Order since the concept was voted down by the Senate, the commission is tasked with making recommendations to Congress to reduce the federal deficit to 10% of the Gross National Product by 2015. Key to the committee are the individuals appointed to it; while bi-partisan in nature one already appointed is the head of a large union who sits in on cabinet-level White House meetings. One committee co-chair sat on a similar committee in 1994-95 which recommended that COLAs be limited when applied to Social Security and military and federal retirement benefits.

Commission recommendations are not binding, which is why the Senate voted down the initial concept as it made all recommendations part of a total package to be voted "Yea" or "Ney" much like BRAC recommendations. Of concern is that all government programs, including VA health care, military retirement, Social Security and Medicare, are subject to being looked at. Final committee recommendations are due the end of 2010. This means they will be taken before the 112th Congress (2011-2012) for consideration.

For those members who have claims pending for service-connected disabilities Congress has approved over the past 2 years funds for the VA to hire additional claims raters and adjudicators to help bring down the claims backlog. It takes 2-5 years to train new people in these positions and progress slows down in the interim as experienced people must train the new ones. The concept is great but results can be slow in coming. The regional office which handles the claims for the El Paso area will be going to double shifts. Part of the reason for this is that while funds have been made available to hire new people, funds for expanded physical space have not kept up. Paper claims files have been relocated from the regional office building to an off-site location to free up office space. This adds to the processing time.

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Effective 1 March 2010
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El Paso

THE BORDER BULLETIN



Chapter Bylaw Changes

The below recommended changes to the chapter bylaws were agreed upon by the Board and are now presented to the Chapter Membership for approval at the April 10, 2010 Membership Meeting and Luncheon.

Article IV membership

Section 5(Change 1st Sentence to read)

"Chapter members will hold and maintain membership in MOAA National."

Article VI - Dues

Section 1

Append "Section 1.1 At the discretion of a majority of voting Officers, Directors, and Chapter Staff Emeritus, online credit card processing may be implemented for the payment of membership dues, event registrations, and monetary donations to the chapter."

Section 2 - (Change to read)

"The annual dues for a calendar year will become due in the anniversary month (12 months) of the prior year payment. Pending member dues notification will occur not later than 30 days prior to the anniversary month."

Section 3 - (Modify first sentence to read)

"Members who become 60 days delinquent paying dues shall be notified of the delinquency by email and/or postcard."

Section 5 (Amend the 6th Sentence to read)

"At the beginning of each calendar year, The Treasure may transfer from each Life Member's account an amount to be determined by the Board to the Chapter's operating fund, as needed form a separate account set aside to maintain the Life Membership Reserve."

Section 6 - Delete

This section relates to prorating chapter dues.

Article IX - Officers

Section 2

Append "Section 2.1 The Membership shall indemnify and hold harmless any individual who has served or who is serving as an officer or Board member against claims or liabilities arising from such service, and shall reasonably reimburse expenses incurred in defending against such claims or liabilities, provided they do not arise from negligence or willful misconduct of the officer or Board member."

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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
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THE BORDER BULLETIN

FEBRUARY LUNCHEON

Insert 1



THE BORDER BULLETIN

El Paso Half Marathon in Iraq

Insert 2



Soldiers from 4th Special Troops Battalion, 4th Brigade, 1st Armored Division assemble behind unit colors prior to the El Paso half-marathon at Contingency Operating Base Adder, Iraq on Feb. 27. The battalion is deployed from Fort Bliss, Texas and many Soldiers reside in El Paso.

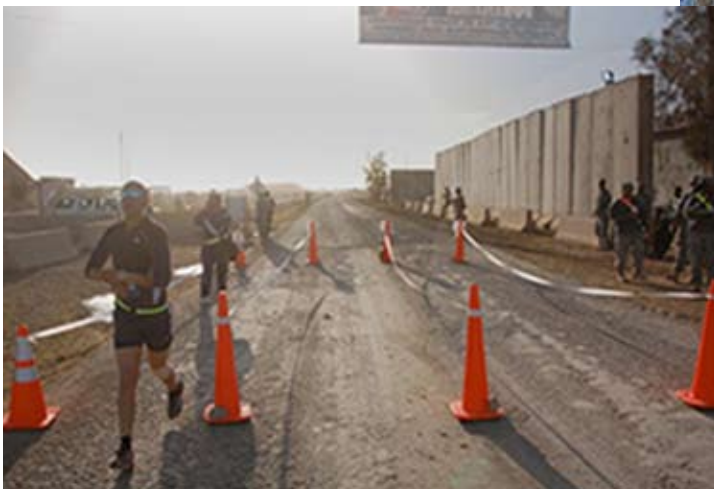


Army broadcaster Staff Sgt. Jarrett Simpkins conducted a post-race interview with Sgt. Derek Miller, Hummlestown, PA, the winner of the satellite El Paso half-marathon Feb 27 at Contingency Operating Base Adder, Iraq. Miller is a driver for the command sergeant major of 4th Special Troops Battalion, 4 Brigade, 1st Armored Division deployed from Fort Bliss, Texas near El Paso

Winner!



Sgt. Derek Miller, Hummlestown, PA, reaches for a cup of water at the 9-mile marker for the satellite race of the El Paso half-marathon Feb. 27th at Contingency Operation Base Adder, Iraq. Miller is a driver for the command sergeant major of the 4th Brigade, 1st Armored Division deployed from Fort Bliss, Texas near El Paso



Denver native, Spc. Janelle Drennan, an all source intelligence analyst with the 201st Battlefield Surveillance Brigade, reaches the finish line of the satellite race for the El Paso half-marathon Feb 27 at Contingency Operating Base Adder Iraq. Drennan's finishing time for the 13.1 mile race was 1 hour, 28 minutes, 52 seconds; the fastest among women.



Lt. Col. Alan Shumate, commander of 4th Special Troops Battalion, 4th Brigade, 1st Armored Division, inspires runners with a pinata during the satellite race of the El Paso half-marathon, Feb. 27 at Contingency Operating Base Adder, near Nasiriyah, Iraq. Shumate's unit is from Fort Bliss, a large military base adjacent to El Paso, TX.