

Military Officers Association of America  
El Paso Chapter



Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
February 2016

A meeting of the El Paso Chapter of the Military Officers Association (MOAA) was held on 27 Feb 2016 at the Candlewood Suites, El Paso Texas.

Attendance:

President: COL (RET) Forrest Smith  
Vice President: Ms. Jan Rasmussen  
Secretary: Col (RET) Steve Barrett  
Treasurer: Ms. Elma Smith  
Immediate Past President: COL (RET) Lennie Enzel  
Chaplain: Ms. Connie Sullivan  
Publications/Newsletter Editor: LTC (RET) Bill Moore  
Programs: COL (RET) Bob Pitt  
Public Relations/Door Prizes: LTC Martha Caldwell

1. Administrative: The meeting was called to order at 1006 and Ms. Sullivan provided the invocation.

2. President's Remarks: COL (R) Smith welcomed all in attendance.

3. Old Business:

A. Secretary: COL (RET) Steve Barrett provided a draft copy of the minutes for the 30 Jan 2016 BOD meeting. Minutes were approved as submitted.

B. Treasurer: Ms. Elma Smith provided a review of the calendar year 2015 Profit/Loss Statement as well as the January 2016 Balance Sheet and Profit/Loss Statement.

1. Cumulative CY 2016 income totaled \$17,128.15 with expenses of \$19,347.76 for an annual net loss of \$2,219.61. Primary sources of income were from advertising, luncheons and membership dues; leading expenses printing/copying, luncheons and postage/mailing.
2. January 2016 total income was \$1,142.45 with total expenses of \$2,210.25 for a monthly net loss of \$1,067.80. Primary sources of income were membership dues and advertising payments while the primary expenses were printing and copying as well as reimbursement for travel to the National meetings in Orlando.
3. Discussion was held regarding which account contained the Life Membership "set aside" amount identified by previous BoDs. Since designated Life members do not pay annual dues, this "set aside" amount was designated to be used in succeeding years to cover standard expenses that membership dues traditionally help offset.
4. Current balances in the Chapter's accounts were also reviewed; at the next meeting Ms. Smith will identify all accounts by type in addition to their numerical designation.

C. Membership: COL (R) Smith received positive feedback from initial discussions with Ft Bliss Solider For Life representatives regarding the inclusion of a MOAA presentation in their transition agenda; a follow-up discussion is planned but not yet scheduled.

D. Programs: COL (R) Bob Pitt shared a recap of February's membership luncheon as well as upcoming sessions:

1. The 13 February 2016 luncheon at the Underwood Golf Course was magnificent—well over 50 attendees joined us and heard COL John A. Smyrski, WBAMC Commander, provide a presentation on the current status of WBAMC as well as a detailed update on the status of the new hospital currently being built. Door prize donations yielded a very impressive \$275.
2. The MOAA Day at the Races scheduled for 5 Mar 2016 was cancelled due to the equine virus.
3. The next membership luncheon will be held on Saturday 9 April 2016 at the General George V. Underwood Jr. Golf Course Clubhouse. The menu will include chicken cordon bleu, au gratin potatoes, sautéed broccoli, salad, drinks and MOAA cake for dessert. Gluten free options will be available and the cost for attendees will be \$20. Our very own Ms. Connie "FLOR" Sullivan, who has performed all over the country, will entertain with her Spanish Floor Dance.
4. COL (R) Pitt also advised the Underwood Golf Course Clubhouse is still unavailable for the planned 11 June gathering. The BoD requested he determine if the clubhouse would be available on the 4<sup>th</sup> or 18<sup>th</sup> of June; if not, the Centennial Club may be the best option. The goal is still to make this meeting the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. A lengthy discussion on potential guest speakers ensued since we have received no feedback on our request for MOAA National President/CEO Lt. Gen Dana Atkins to join us as previously hoped. COL (R) Smith will continue to work on coordinating a guest speaker as well as the possible participation of musical support from Ft. Bliss.

E. Legislative Liaison: COL (R) Lennie Enzel will submit articles for the upcoming Border Bulletin issue. COL (R) Enzel also shared she recently attended the National Prayer Breakfast as did Ms. Sullivan; many chaplains and soldiers participated and the event was a great success.

F. Publications/Webmaster: LTC (R) Bill Moore request input for the next Border Bulletin be submitted NLT 3 March 2016.

G. Public Relations: LTC Martha Caldwell reported no articles were submitted this month following our decision to cancel the MOAA Day at the Races. Articles will be submitted to the EP Inc., The Bugle and El Paso Times for the planned April luncheon.

H. JROTC/ROTC: Col (R) Steve Barrett reported he received feedback from UTEP ROTC Professor of Military Science LTC James Lee and will attempt to coordinate a meeting to discuss potential support to their battalion. Requests from the El Paso Independent School District and Horizon High School JROTC units have been received for MOAA JROTC medals to be presented at their Annual Review and Awards Ceremonies. Medals have been ordered from MOAA National.

I. Auxiliary Liaison: Ms. Connie Sullivan shared an update of recent events attended and contributed multiple articles for the most recent Border Bulletin.

J. Door Prizes: LTC Caldwell shared a list of the current door prize inventory. Since the scholarship fund is now fully funded, a motion was made and approved for future door prize donations to go into the main checking account to help offset the monthly net losses we have been experiencing for most of this past year.

4. New Business:

A. Communications and LOE Awards Packets: LTC (R) Moore reported the Communications Awards packet was submitted to meet the 1 Feb deadline and the LOE package was submitted on 25 February as well.

- B. 2016 Advertising Costs: Following engagement by COL (R) Enzel and other MOAA members, First Command has reversed their earlier decision and will continue to be an advertising sponsor this year. Additional sponsors are still needed to offset the loss of USAA as a regular advertise.
  - C. Vietnam Memorial Dedication at the Flag Pole: A dedication ceremony will be held at the William Haddad WWII Memorial on 26 March. Additional details will be shared if received.
  - D. Massing of the Colors: Will be held at St. Raphael Catholic Church on 2 April 2016.
  - E. Veterans Stand Down: This annual event will be held on 8 April 2016 with a focus on assisting veterans with their job search opportunities; veterans in need will also be provided breakfast and lunch. A motion was made and approved to contribute \$100 to support this event.
  - F. Travelling Vietnam Wall: The *Wall That Heals*, which honors the more than 58,000 who fell in the Vietnam War, will be on display at the Ft. Bliss National Cemetery 14-17 Apr 2016. Ft Bliss CG Stephen Twitty will speak and we will support with our Chapter colors. The desire to support with a MOAA table will also be pursued.
5. Ms. Sullivan provided a benediction and the meeting was adjourned at 1114.

Respectfully submitted by:

Col (R) Steve Barrett, Secretary

FORREST SMITH  
COL, USA, Retired  
MOAA President, El Paso Chapter