

Military Officers Association of America  
El Paso Chapter



Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
November 2015

A meeting of the El Paso Chapter of the Military Officers Association (MOAA) was held on 21 November 2015 at the Candlewood Suites, El Paso Texas.

Attendance:

President: COL (RET) Forrest Smith  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President: COL (RET) Steve Barrett  
Treasurer: Ms. Elma Smith  
Immediate Past President: COL (RET) Lennie Enzel  
Publications/Newsletter Editor: LTC (RET) Bill Moore  
Legislative Liaison: MAJ (RET) Ed Stone  
Public Relations: Ms. Judy Stone,  
Programs: COL (RET) Bob Pitt  
Door Prizes: Ms. Julie Pitt  
Member at Large: LTC Martha Caldwell  
Member at Large: LTC Bennie Stinson  
Member at Large: Ms. Beverly Stinson

1. Administrative:
  - A. The meeting was called to order at 1015.
  - B. COL (R) Steve Barrett provided the invocation.
2. President's Remarks: COL (R) Smith provided an in depth review of the National meetings held in Orlando FL and mini recaps of the earlier TCC monthly call as well as the Town Hall hosted by Congressman O'Rourke. During TCC meeting, it was mentioned that USAA may stop advertising with local chapters; will need to follow-up to determine if true as USAA is a regular advertising contributor for our Chapter.
3. Old Business:
  - A. Treasurer: Elma Smith provided a review of the September and October Balance Sheets and a Profit/Loss Comparison Year to Date Comparison for both months.
    - 1) September 2015 total income was \$1,983.57 with total expenses of \$2,309.74 for a monthly net loss of \$326.17. This brought the calendar year net loss to \$1,971.90. Primary sources of income were attendee payments to attend the Retiree Appreciation Dinner and membership dues; primary expenses were costs of the Retiree Appreciation Dinner, and payment for three representatives to attend the MOAA meetings in Kansas City MO
    - 2) October 2015 total income was \$313.56 with total expenses of \$156.21 for a monthly net gain of \$157.35. This reduced the calendar year net loss to \$1,514.55. Primary income sources were membership dues; primary expenses were postage/mailling costs.

- 3) A proposal was made to authorize the treasurer to transfer up to \$1,500 from savings to checking to cover expenses (if necessary); the motion was unanimously approved.
  - 4) As part of a general expenses discussion, the topic of how many additional copies of the Border Bulletin are printed and distributed was raised. In addition to the copies mailed to members, extra copies are currently printed and distributed at the Centennial Club, Joint Task Force-North and WBAMC. Consensus was the Centennial Club and JTF-N copies are usually quickly consumed but unsure if the WBAMC copies were being distributed in the best location. LTC Stinson will explore the possibility of moving the distribution point from the HQ offices to a more publically accessible location.
- B. Membership: COL (R) Smith outlined a three point plan he is formulating: 1) energize a volunteer service organization (VSO) coalition; 2) reengage at the Brigade level; and 3) directly assist with Transition Briefs. He hopes to meet with Congressman O'Rourke and form a coalition with AUSA, NAUS and other local VSOs with a goal to collectively increase recruiting for each organization and increase the flow of information to members as well as active duty and other retiree members.
  - C. Programs: COL (R) Bob Pitt provided a review of the RAD dinner and associated income/expenses. The next membership gathering will be the December 2015 brunch at the Centennial Club on Saturday 12 December 2015 (0930 start) to be immediately followed by the Army/Navy game (1300). The brunch menu was reviewed and discussion evolved to potential guest speakers for the February and April 2016 luncheons. MG Twitty and Congressman O'Rourke were identified as potential candidates to help celebrate our 60th anniversary. Discussion of potential April guest speakers/performers was tabled until the December BOD meeting at a minimum.
  - D. Legislative Liaison: MAJ (R) Ed Stone reported no significant activity largely due to a fractured Congress and impending changes with MOAA national leadership. New MOAA leadership will identify a new legislative lead in near future but in meantime stay tuned for emails on any MOAA legislative updates or calls for action.
  - E. Publications/Webmaster: LTC (R) Bill Moore stated the Border Bulletin was delivered to the Post Office yesterday. Input for the next Border Bulletin is due NLT 3 January 2016.
  - F. Public Relations: Ms. Judy Stone submitted announcements for the upcoming December brunch to the El Paso Times, El Paso Inc. and the Ft Bliss Bugle. All should be published during the next 2 weeks. Ms. Stone has been in discussion with LTC Caldwell to facilitate a handoff of the PR duties.
  - G. JROTC/ROTC: COL (R) Steve Barrett reported that a scheduling error precluded our planned BOD representation at the Canutillo High School Pass-In-Review.
  - H. Door Prizes: Ms. Julie Pitt provided a report of the door prizes that were awarded at the RAD dinner as well as a list of prizes remaining in the inventory. Ms. Pitt thanked everyone for the great 6 years she has enjoyed as the Door Prizes chairman and looks forward to assisting the new chairman in the coming year.
4. New Business:
    - A. 2016 BOD Ceremony: BG (R) Kotter will be offered the honor of swearing in the new BOD at the December 2015 brunch.

- B. Junior Enlisted Food Bank: Donations will be collected at the December brunch; canned goods, diapers, dry foods, pasta and sauce are all always highly desired items.
  - 1) LTC (R) Bill Moore will also send out multiple emails advising members to bring food, material or cash donations for the Food Bank to the December 2015 brunch.
  - 2) A unanimous motion was approved to donate all door prize ticket contributions raised at the December 2015 brunch to the Ft Bliss Jr Enlisted Food Bank.
- C. ARMY-NAVY Football Game: Starts at 1300 following the conclusion of the December 2015 brunch. All are encouraged to join the festivities at the Club and try and root for Army to break a 13 game losing streak to their arch rivals.
- D. MOAA Day at the Races: Will be held 5 March 2016. Menu selections were discussed and three salad and two meat choices were agreed upon. Sunland Park has a new policy requiring a down payment be made for future events—motion approved to pay \$300 in upfront costs.
- E. 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary: In addition to initial discussion noted in Programs above, COL (R) Smith will attempt to get a copy of the “MOAA Impact” video he and Ms. Smith recently viewed at the MOAA meeting in Orlando.
- F. MOAA Orlando Meetings: COL (R) Forrest Smith provided a detailed recap of the meetings. MOAA national provided a recap of the status of funds and organizations statistics. MOAA has been in existence for 86 years and has been recognized as one of the Top 50 Lobbyists on Capitol Hill and is the top VSO addressing issues critical to those who have or will serve. MOAA has more members than all of the other national VSOs combined. National membership is growing although local chapter membership is on the decline. “Never Stop Serving” is the new MOAA mantra. COL (R) Smith concluded by stating the meetings were a great networking opportunity and very informative; he will share a few of the statistics and topics with attendees at the December 2015 brunch.
- G. Upcoming Awards Submissions: The Communications Awards packet is due NLT February 1, 2016 and the Levels of Excellence nomination is due NLT 1 March 1 2016. LTC (R) Moore will lead preparation of the submission.
- H. TCC Western Region Executive Vice President: TCC is seeking a new VP from the El Paso, Lubbock or Amarillo area—COL (R) Enzel was identified as a potential candidate.
- I. VSO Coalition: In addition to conversation noted during the Membership discussion, COL (R) Enzel shared a recent conversation held at the end of a Veterans Town Hall in Las Cruces about the concept of exploring a possible merger or new coalition between the El Paso and Las Cruces chapters. More words to follow at a later date.

5. The meeting was adjourned at 1145.

Respectfully submitted by:  
COL (R) Steve Barrett, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President

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