

Military Officers Association of America
El Paso Chapter



Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
December 2015

A meeting of the El Paso Chapter of the Military Officers Association (MOAA) was held on 19 Dec 2015 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/Legislative Liaison: COL (RET) Lennie Enzel
Publications/Newsletter Editor: LTC (RET) Bill Moore
Programs: COL (RET) Bob Pitt

1. Administrative: The meeting was called to order at 1005.
2. President's Remarks: COL (R) Smith welcomed the new Board of Directors in attendance and provided a brief recap of the December membership meeting/brunch held at the Centennial Club on 12 December, 2015 which was followed by the annual gathering to watch the Army/Navy game. Highlights included BG Kotter installing the 2016 Board of Directors, guest speaker Ft. Bliss Commissary Director Michael Mena providing an update on local and national commissary topics as well as having a questions and answer session, and the collection of cash and non-cash donations for the Ft. Bliss Junior Enlisted Food Bank.
3. Old Business:
 - A. Treasurer: Ms. Elma Smith provided a review of the November Balance Sheet and a Profit/Loss Statement.
 1. November 2015 total income was \$742.68 with total expenses of \$1,418.44 for a monthly net loss of \$675.76. Primary sources of income were membership dues and primary expenses were printing/copying costs. Reimbursement for the MOAA Orlando meetings is still an outstanding expense.
 2. Two requests for support were received from a Veteran's Non-Profit organization on Dyer St. All agreed to postpone a formal decision on providing support pending additional research of the requesting organization.
 3. Ms. Smith donated fully decorated Christmas trees to the Veterans Home and a local Ft Bliss soldier.
 - B. Membership: One new member signed up during the Army/Navy game and a potential new Membership Chairman has been contacted to determine interest/willingness to serve.
 - C. Programs: COL (R) Bob Pitt provided a recap of the 12 December 2015 membership brunch, associated income/expenses and the post-brunch 14th consecutive Navy victory over Army. The next membership gathering will be held at the General George V. Underwood Jr. Golf Course Clubhouse on 13 February 2016 from 1100-1400. COL John A. Smyrski, WBAMC Commander,

will be invited to serve as the guest speaker. This will be a regular membership meeting and not the actual 60th anniversary celebration as previously discussed. The menu will include schnitzel, fries, broccoli, salad and our traditional dessert of MOAA cake.

- D. Legislative Liaison: COL (R) Lennie Enzel had no major issues to report this month but encouraged all to stay tuned for emails on any MOAA legislative updates or calls for action.
- E. Publications/Webmaster: LTC (R) Bill Moore advised input for the next Border Bulletin is due NLT 4 January 2016. Advertising fees will be discussed under new business topics.
- F. Public Relations: NSTR.
- G. JROTC/ROTC: COL's (R) Forrest Smith and Lennie Enzel contacted LTC James Lee, UTEP ROTC, to encourage UTEP to build our chapter into their 2016 plan and advise us of desired support. No response has yet been received.
- H. Door Prizes: COL (R) Bob Pitt provided a report of the door prizes that were awarded at the Army/Navy December brunch as well as a list of prizes remaining in the inventory. Ms. Julie Pitt is coordinating the handoff of decorations and prizes to LTC Martha Caldwell.

4. New Business:

- A. Ft. Bliss Junior Enlisted Food Bank: Cash and non-cash donations from the December brunch were turned in and a cash donation of \$100 (amount raised from door prize ticket sales) will be turned in this week.
- B. Potential Guest Speakers for February and April Meetings / 60th Anniversary: As highlighted in Programs section above, COL Smyrski will be invited as the February guest speaker and LTC (R) Bill Moore will contact national to request new MOAA President/CEO Lt Gen Dana Atkins serve as a guest speaker for our 60th anniversary.
- C. MOAA Day at the Races: LTC (R) Bill Moore coordinated the official scheduling on 5 March 2016 and he will meet with Sunland Park Racetrack officials this week to provide the required down payment.
- D. Communications and LOE Awards Packets: The Communications Awards packet is due NLT 1 February 2016. Significant discussion was held regarding the new criteria requiring state legislative articles/info in addition to national legislative issues. BOD members will review emails and articles over the past year to ensure we identify qualifying communications. LTC (R) Moore is also preparing the LOE packages for submission.
- E. 2016 Advertising Costs: Discussion was held to discuss whether costs to sponsors should increase or remain the same. The loss of USAA sponsorship (\$2,100 annually) is a major loss and unless a replacement sponsor is identified, a reduction in printing of non-member copies of the Border Bulletin may be necessary.

5. The meeting was adjourned at 1107 with best wishes for a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to all.

Respectfully submitted by:

COL (R) Steve Barrett, Secretary

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

