



HOUSTON AREA
 PO BOX 1082
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 www.moaahoustonarea.com

Newsletter to Members

Vol. LVII No.7

July 2020

Next Meeting Saturday, July 25, 11:30 Kelley's Country Cooking, Stafford

President's Message

Dear MOAA HA Chapter Members,

Like many of you, I hope to spend part of the upcoming holiday weekend celebrating our nation's birthday with family and friends—although due to the pandemic, this year's Fourth of July may not seem as complete without the traditional picnics, parades, fireworks, and the Sousa marches we're used to seeing during this time of year. But as much as all of us enjoy these fine traditions, it is important to remember that Independence Day is, most of all, an opportunity to reflect on the true meaning of our citizenship. The Declaration of Independence makes it clear. To be American is about much more than the place we call home. It's a deeply felt commitment to higher principles: liberty, equality, opportunity, and self-governance. I wish you and your families a Happy Fourth of July!



Joe Willoughby

Switching gears, I'd like to take a moment to say farewell and thanks to Ms. **Carol Ann Wilson** for 12 years of dedicated service to our chapter. Carol Ann has essentially been the “team mom” for the MOAA-HA Chapter, handling many of the day-to-day tasks required to keep the chapter alive. From publishing the monthly newsletter and annual membership directory, to sorting mail and making monthly luncheon arrangements for the chapter, there are so many seemingly large and small tasks that Carol Ann performs on behalf of the chapter. We are truly grateful and appreciative of all her efforts in support of the chapter. Saying goodbye is never easy, especially to someone who has been such a valued team member. We wish Carol Ann all the best and as an honorary lifetime MOAA HA Chapter member, we hope to see her on a regular basis at our monthly luncheons!

(Continued on p.3)

2020 Officers

President

Joseph C. Willoughby, LtCol USAF (Ret.) 713.569.6700
 joe.willoughby@gmail.com

Vice President

Robin P. Ritchie, COL, USA (Ret.) 713.818.0408
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Secretary (VACANT)

Treasurer

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Chaplain Kerry Magee CAPT USN (Ret.) 979.964.3236h 979.236.2415c
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Rollins J. Collins LTC USA (Ret) 704. 213.2334
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Surviving Spouse MOAA Liaison

Judith Thomas 719.331.8485
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Immediate Past President

Daniel M. Gutierrez, MAJ USA (Ret.) 281.543.1257
 danielgutierrez1751@gmail.com

Editor VACANT



MOAA Houston Area Board Meeting

Tuesday, July 21, noon
Rudi Lechner's Restaurant
2503 S. Gessner Houston 770631
(713) 782-1180

All members are welcome.

MOAA Houston Area Monthly Luncheon Meeting

July 25, 2020
11:30a-1:00p

Kelley's Country Cooking

11555 West Airport @ 59
Meadows Place (Stafford)
281-277-3367

Country Fried Chicken Breast
OR
Roast Beef with Gravy

Homemade Mashed Potatoes
Green Beans
Carrot-Raisin Salad

AND

Key Lime Pie
OR
Peach Cobbler

Rolls, butter, drink

\$16.99

RSVP by WED. 7/22,

to Joe Willoughby,
713.569.6700 (call or text),
joe.willoughby@gmail.com

We have to GUARANTEE
the number attending.

Future 2020 MOAA-HA Monthly Meetings

Aug 29 Sept. 26 Oct. 31
Note: Military Ball Canceled

Sites of Monthly Meetings
To Be Announced

Military Officers Wives Association

MOWA

NO MEETINGS UNTIL
FURTHER
NOTICE

Phyllis Ottis, 713.774.2282

MOAA-HA

\$ Treasurer's Report, June 30, 2020

Receipts \$ 360.01
Expenses \$ 600.00
Balance \$ 3,222.30*
*Award Fund Reserve \$ 1,967.71
Operating Balance \$ 1,254.59

Frank Tricomi, 2020 Treasurer
COL USA Ret.

Endowment Fund & Houston Corps of Cadets

The year is half over; it has been a very unusual year. Hope you are all well. Now would be a good time to send a donation to the Corps of Cadets at the University of Houston. The form is in this Newsletter.

Thank you,

Bill
William Taylor
Cpt. USA Ret

Chaplain's Message

SHALOM!
PEACE BE
WITH YOU!



Kerry Magee
CAPT USN (Ret.)

Happy Fourth of July, Y'awl!

This month, we celebrate the 244th Anniversary of the United States of America! Do you remember?

On June 11, 1776, Congress formed a Committee to start work on the DECLARATION. Thomas Jefferson took 17 days to write the first draft of the Declaration of Independence. Congress adopted it on the Fourth of July. This took place in the Pennsylvania State House. Congress had the best out of all colonies (and I believe Almighty God watched and guided them on each step).

These 56 men were men of means, well educated. Among them were 24 lawyers and 9 planters. They were not wild-eyed pirates but rich men who enjoyed much ease in their personal lives. They knew that when they signed the Declaration, they risked losing everything they owned!

During the War for Independence, five were captured by the British, twelve had their homes ransacked, and ships were burned. Nine died in the war. Two lost their lives due to failing health.

Our Founders had everything to lose, nothing to gain, except one thing . . . They considered LIBERTY much more important than security! And they wrote:

“And for the support of this DECLARATION, with a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes, and our Sacred Honor.”

And they fulfilled that Pledge!

They paid the price!

And Freedom was born!!!!

God bless you all!

***CAPT Kerry B. Magee
USNR-RET
Chaplain/Past President***

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

(Cont'd from p. 1)

I'd also like to take a moment to thank MOAA HA chapter members **Dan Gutierrez** and **Rollins Collins** for their leadership and dedication in executing the chapter's local JROTC/ROTC award program. The chapter awards MOAA ROTC/JROTC medals and certificates to Houston-area cadets and midshipmen at 7 ROTC universities and 110 JROTC high school programs. This is by far our most successful community outreach program, and it fosters positive military recognition among the youth of our community. Because of our success with the program, for the second consecutive year, MOAA national awarded the chapter \$300 in financial support for this community--focused program.

In closing, right now we are scheduled to host a chapter luncheon on Saturday, July 25th, at Kelley's Country Cookin' in Stafford, Texas. I feel we've lined up a great speaker in **LtCol Tom Duncavage**, USMC (Ret.) from the Texas Military Preparedness Commission. However, given the current situation, we will continue to monitor the COVID-19 situation and adjust our plans accordingly. We remain committed to the health, safety, and well-being of our chapter members and their families.

Be sure to let me know if will be attending, as we have to guarantee the final number to the restaurant and will be committed to that number.

Never Stop Serving,

**Joseph C. Willoughby
Lt Col, USAF (Ret.)
MOAA-HA President**

Forgotten Words and Phrases?

Remember these? We wonder how many youngsters might know what they mean:

Heavens to Murgatroyd!
Don't touch that dial!
I have a carbon copy.
You sound like a broken record.
Hung out to dry.
You've got lots of moxie.
Straighten up and fly right!
Not for all the tea in China!
This is a fine kettle of fish!
It's your nickel.
Don't forget to pull the chain.
Gee whillikers!
Jumping Jehoshaphat!
Holy Moley!
Holy Toledo!
We were in like Flynn and living the life of Riley.

Speaker for July 25

**Lt Col Tom Duncavage,
USMC (Ret.)**



Lt Col Tom Duncavage, USMC (Ret.) of League City currently serves as an appointed Commissioner on Governor Abbott's Texas Military Preparedness Commission. At our July 25 chapter luncheon, Colonel Duncavage will discuss the commission's efforts to preserve, protect, expand, and attract new military missions, assets, and installations to the state of Texas.

Tom also works full-time as an aerospace engineer at NASA's Johnson Space Center. Tom retired from the United State Marine Corps after 23 years of active and reserve service. In addition to his military service, Tom has previously served as an Assistant Chief Engineer at NASA Headquarters, as a Flight Test Engineer for Naval Air Test Center, and as a Supervisory Engineer for Naval Air Systems Command.

He is a current member of the Marine Corps Reserve Ass'n, the United States Navy Test Pilot School Alumni Ass'n, the Houston Military Affairs Committee, the Marine Corps League, and the University of Houston's William P. Hobby Jr. Center for Public Policy and a donor to the Wounded Warrior Project and the Xena Project. Duncavage received a B.S. in physics from

Providence College and is a National Security Fellow at the Maxwell School at Syracuse University. **Join us at Kelley's Country Cooking on Airport Blvd.** in the Stafford/Sugar Land/-Missouri City area and hear this very interesting and informative speaker!

**REPORT ON
JUNE 27 MEETING**

We had a good turnout for the June meeting at **Central Texas Style Barbecue** in Pearland, especially considering the state of the COVID-19 warnings. Our very special photographer, **COL Andy Parsons**, again took great photos for us.

Rhee Haun, a Surviving Spouse member,



was there and was so pleased that the meeting came to her, since she lives in Pearland! Some of us may not know, but Rhee is a musical composer, and she is an active member of the Houston Symphony League Bay Area, One of her compositions will be featured at a members' concert on Wednesday, September 2, at St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Nassau Bay. Rhee has even written a symphony, "The Birds."



COL Charles and Sylvia Prendergast, who live in Friendswood,

were also happy to join us, and Central Texas Style BBQ is one of their favorite, regular restaurants. They will be celebrating their 50th anniversary on August 22!

Maj. Dr. Milinda Morris, USAF (Ret.) attended, which was her first meeting since she joined at the Retiree Appreciation Day last October. She is a candidate for the Texas State Senate, 13th District, and hope you will support her and contact anyone you know in the 13th District.



Our own COL **Buddy Grantham** had been scheduled to speak, but he was called for Guard business at the last minute. So CDR **Eugene Tulich** graciously agreed to step in and give the talk he was scheduled for later in the year. BUT then Harris County issued a new stay-at-home order for those at high risk, and CDR Tulich decided that he and Joan should stay at home. BUT he sent his notes to **President Joe**, who bravely and capably substituted for us and brought us up to date on current



Who is that masked man? It's our President, LtCol Joe Willoughby, USAF (Ret.)

lobbying groups in Washington, and they stay on top of all issues and make it easy to be involved, so be sure to read the monthly magazine and visit the Website to learn how you can help.

The **Military Ball**, which had been rescheduled to the fall, has now been **CANCELED** for this year. The date for the next Military Ball will be **May 15, 2021**, so mark it on your calendars.

We have renewed hopes for Ellington to get the United States Africa Command (AFRICOM), which is currently in Stuttgart, Germany. Since President Trump announced a major withdrawal of

happenings in military matters in our area..

Joe reminded us that MOAA is one of the premier

troops from Germany, those efforts have been renewed. You will recall efforts of a few years ago, especially with Houston's gigantic interest in oil and gas matters, which are also quite prominent in Africa. Houston is also home to many Nigerians and many believe that Houston's Ellington Field is a perfect match for Africom. More huge pluses are the Port of Houston and Freeport. **CDR Tulich** will keep us informed.

Since this was **Carol Ann Wilson's** last meeting as our Editor and in charge of her many duties over the past 12 years, she received recognition and thanks. Since she is an Honorary Member, we hope to see her at future meetings from time to time.



Carol Ann Wilson receives Certificate from Pres. Joe Willoughby.

Joe also presented Carol with a beautiful bouquet of flowers and comped her meal.



Our Chaplain, **Capt. Kerry Magee**, USN (Ret.), had planned to be present, but was unable to make it. His wife, **Solange Ann Magee**, was there and made a presentation to Carol Ann of a gift of an engraved letter opener.



Ann Magee also made a presentation from Capt. Magee to Immediate Past-President **MAJ Dan Gutierrez, USA (Ret.)**, a U.S. Army skull cap and a collector's Royal minted coin.



Other Photos from June 27 Meeting



Stancie Chamberlain and MAJ Daniel Gutierrez



COL Frank & Barbara Tricomi



COL Robin P. Ritchie



Solange Ann Magee



Our special room at Central Texas Style Barbecue Restaurant



LtCol Joe Willoughby, MOAA-HA President, speaking to the group

We had our flags, but the ceiling was too low, so, undeterred, we pledged allegiance to an American flag on the wall of the restaurant!

A great time was had by all! Won't you join us for our July 25 meeting? We will be in the Sugar Land area at Kelley's Country Cooking on Airport Blvd. at 59.



Maj Dan Gutierrez in the very special gift from the Magees in recognition of his service as Chapter President

Funds from MOAA

Military Officers Association of America has advised that they made an electronic funds transfer (EFT) into the chapter's bank account in the amount of \$300 for the "USAA Sponsorship Program." THANKS!

George Washington: The Solider Who Could Not Die

Young Washington surely received God's supernatural protection, and here is what he said about it:

"As I have heard since my arrival in this place (Fort Cumberland) a circumstantial account of my death and dying speech, I take this opportunity of contradicting the first and of assuring you that I have not as yet composed the latter. But by all-powerful dispensations of Providence, I have been protected beyond human probability and expectation, for I had four bullets through my coat yet escaped unhurt, although death was leveling my companions on every side of me. GW"



Fifteen years later, Washington returned to the same Pennsylvania woods, on a peaceful surveying mission. An ancient, leather-faced Indian Chief heard Washington was in the area, and went to find the famed warrior. Upon meeting him, the Chief said, "I have traveled a long and weary path that I might see the young warrior of the Great Battle."

Over council fires the Chief related how he had ordered his braves to shoot down the officers, and Washington was specifically targeted. He added that his own rifle had never before missed, but after personally firing 17 times at Washington without effect, he concluded that Washington was under the protection of the Great Spirit.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL FORM

Military Officers Association of America, Houston Area

Membership is available to Officers who have held a Federal Warrant or Commission in any of the seven uniformed services of the United States or to the surviving spouse of such a person. Please use this form for application for membership, renewal, or changes to the current directory of members.

NAME: _____
(Please print) Last First Initial Rank
Branch _____ Status _____ MOAA Nat'l ID _____ *

Spouse's First Name: _____ Tel. For Directory _____

Home Address: _____

E-mail: _____

Dues: Regular Membership \$30 first year; annual renewal \$30

(Discount for multiple years if paid with renewal: \$20 for each add'n'l year *pd w/renewal*)

Surviving Spouse \$15 first year; annual renewal \$10 (same discount for multiple years)

Make check payable to MOAA,HA and send to MOAA,HA

PO Box 1082 Houston TX 77251-1082

For more information, call COL Joe Willoughby, 713.569.6700

**If not a MOAA national member, another benefit of chapter membership is the opportunity to become a national MOAA member at the BASIC LEVEL for free! If you would like to do so, please indicate here:* YES No

Signature: _____



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**MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, HOUSTON AREA
Houston Corps of Cadets ROTC Endowment Fund–The University of Houston
(Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force)**

Please Print Donor name: _____
Mailing Address _____

Phone: Day _____ Evening _____ e-mail _____

My pledge of \$ _____ should be designed to support MOAA, HA Houston Corps of Cadets
My gift will be made with installments of \$ _____ to be paid _____ monthly _____ quarterly _____ annually _____.
Beginning date: _____ The Office of Stewardship will send reminders.)
____ Enclosed is a check (made payable to University of Houston) for the first pledge payable.

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Account Number _____ Expiration date: _____
Name as it appears on card: _____

Signature: _____

____ I would like to be contacted about fulfilling my pledge with a gift of appreciated securities.
My pledge payment will be matched by: _____

(Please specify company for our records)

Donor signature: _____ date _____
Donor Signature: _____ date _____

*Thank you for your support of the MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, HOUSTON
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Send completed form : Univ. of Houston; Advancement Svcs; P.O. Box 867; Houston TX 77001-0867

MILITARY BALL FOR 2020

HAS BEEN CANCELED

New date for the next Military Ball: May 15, 2021

Please plan now to be with us for our **July 25 Membership Luncheon**

Kelley's Country Cooking Restaurant
11555 West Airport @ 59
Meadows Place (Stafford)