



HOUSTON AREA
PO BOX 1082
HOUSTON TX 77251-1082
www.moaahoustonarea.com

Newsletter to Members

Vol. L No. 12

December 2013

NEXT MEETING SATURDAY, December 7, CHRISTMAS DANCE FOREST CLUB

President's Message

The year has gone by so quickly. There are many things I can say about this year, but I believe it can be said best in this manner—we broke some new ground, discovered some weaknesses, discovered some strengths, and realized that we can conquer obstacles if we have foresight and the will to do so.



The Chapter made history: 50 years a part of MOAA. And with planning, recruiting, and determination we can move forward with the new times ahead. But as we say in the Navy, it will require an “All Hands” evolution—everyone in it together. Together standing unified in focus, establishing objectives and goals and change in thinking, and concept to perpetuate the best of the past and build a future that incorporates solidarity, mission purpose, and organization subsistence. Keep the tried and true traditions, birth new traditions, and ensure you stand firm in your resolve to: (1) commit to the needs of the members, (2) advocacy for our armed forces personnel and their families, (3) stand as a voice for our veterans, and (4) become active in local and state legislation supporting the veteran and military community. My best wishes to the New Officers and Board. May 2014 open new horizons and bring MOAA Houston greater impact into the community.

Because of pressing personal matters and some important family issues I will not be at the December meeting. This I regret. Let me leave you this message. The Christmas Season stands as a reminder for the nation, that our country believes in the virtues of the Christian Faith, which can be summarized in these words Love, Honor, Duty, Respect, Service, Sacrifice and Faith in the Lord God.

(cont'd on page 3)

James W. “Pappy” Mehrmann, President
Captain, USNR, Ret.

2014 Officers to be Installed December 7

Officers

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Kerry Magee (see 1st VP)

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**MOAA Houston Area
Board Meeting**

**NO MEETING
IN DECEMBER**

**Meeting Dates for 2014
at 11:30 a.m.
Rudi Lechner's
2503 S. Gessner**

Tuesday before Monthly Mtg

1/21 2/18 3/25 4/22
5/27? 6/24 7/22 8/26
9/23 10/21 11/18

All members are welcome.

**MOAA
Houston Area
Monthly Meeting
Christmas Dance**

**Saturday, 12/7
6-7, Social Hour
Dinner at 7**

**The Forest Club
9950 Memorial Drive
& Saddlebrook Lane
(713) 686-8422**

Menu

Lettuce Wedge

Filet Mignon or
Pan Seared Red Snapper
Assorted Vegetables
Starch
Assorted Breads

Pecan Ball
\$55

Reservations to
Jeannette Evans,
281.495.2202, by
TUES. 12/3

**BRING
TOYS FOR TOTS
(New, unwrapped)
DEEJAY & DANCING**

**MOAA-HA
2014 Monthly Meetings**

Last Saturday of each month
Except May, Nov., and Dec.

1/25 2/22 3/29 4/26 6/28
7/26 8/30 9/27 10/25 11/20
12/6 May is Military Ball
November meeting with MOWA

**Board recommends moving
monthly meetings to BraeBurn
Country Club (to be voted on at the
December Christmas Dance)**

**Military Officers
Wives Association**

MOWA

**NO
MEETING
IN
DECEMBER**

SEE YOU IN 2014!

MOWA DUES:
Send dues to Shirley Hooks
1023 Omar St.
Houston TX 77009-6534

MOAA-HA

**\$ Treasurer's Report
December 1, 2013**

No changes from last report, but
balance was incorrect (typo error) in
the November newsletter.

Balance \$4,718.

*Martin J. Harris, Treas.
Maj USMC Ret.*

2014 DUES ARE DUE 1/01/14
See form on page 8 for discount for
multi-year payments and credit
applied to surviving spouse.

From Our Chaplain



CAPT Kerry Magee

**SHALOM! PEACE BE
WITH YOU!**

This is the Season of Light
and Joy! The Light of a
Menorah's nine candles
celebrating Hanukkah; Joy of
rededication of
the Temple in
Jerusalem.



The Light of
the four purple candles of
Advent, leading to the
lighting of the white Christ
Candle announcing the Light
of the World; the
Joy of celebrating
the birth of God's
only Son, Jesus
Christ, the Savior
and Redeemer of
all mankind.



I truly believe this season
should also be one of LOVE;
Love one another as God
loves us. This requires
compassion, affection,
consideration, generosity,
graciousness, and forgiveness.
This is a challenge to all of us;
may we all accept and
embrace it!

This is my last column as
your Chaplain. It has been my
honor and privilege to be your
Chaplain for the last three
years. It has been both a
rewarding and humbling
experience.

You have blessed me with
your warm and gracious

acceptance of me, my prayers, and my monthly message.

May God continue to bless all of us as we face an uncertain future.

HAPPY HANUKKAH!
MERRY CHRISTMAS!"

GOD BLESS Y'ALL!

*Kerry B. Magee
CAPT USNR-RET*

Endowment Fund and Houston Corps of Cadets

“Brother, can you spare a dime?” That is a phrase you have heard before, at least most of us way back when. For some it may be a way right now.

After the big Thanksgiving Feast, perhaps you can spare a dime or possibly a little more and make your tax-deductible donation to The Houston Corps of Cadets at the University of Houston. I know times may be a little tight, but try if you can. It will be greatly appreciated by the cadets, and you will have the personal satisfaction of knowing your money has been well spent—as well as having that wonderful tax deduction received by The University of Houston.

*William Taylor
Cpt. USA Ret.*



PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

(Continued from page 1)

John Adams said “[T]he general principles of Christianity . . . united all parties in America . . . to assert and maintain her independence . . . are eternal and immutable, as the existence and attributes of God; and that those principles of liberty, are unalterable . . .” (Letter 28 June 1813 to Thomas Jefferson.)

To you my MOAA comrades, I speak these words:

SEEP EXPERTUS

“Often Tested”

SEMPER FIDELIS

“Always Faithful”

FRATRES AETERNI

“Brothers Forever”

I am honored to have known you. I am honored to have served with you, and I hope our paths shall pass again. I will miss all of you.

Thank You. God Bless you, and God Bless the United States!!!

**James W. “Pappy” Mehrmann,
President, Captain, USNR, Ret.**

Military Order of World Wars

Meets the 4th Thursday
for Luncheons at
Rudi Lechner’s Restaurant,
2503 S. Gessner.
Our members are invited to attend.

Photos From Our November Meeting with MOAA

Thanks to our great and exceptional **Andy Parsons** for more great photos!



Alice Harris, Billie Clarke, and Martin Harris

What a great time we had visiting with the wonderful ladies of MOAA! Next November, we’ll do it again.



Lucy Somers and Betty Zotzky



Bill and Janice Taylor



Billie Clarke & Carol Wilson



Bobbye Parsons and winner Carol Wilson

We hope to see you at all our upcoming meetings! Mark your calendars now for our 2014 events.

Thanks again, Members of MOWA, for a great time of fellowship with you.

Newsletter Now Sent by Email

COL Andrew Parsons has volunteered to send our newsletter out by email to all our members who have email or can get it by email. If you do not have email capability yourself, please find someone who will receive it and print it out for you.

If you have email but are not receiving the newsletter, perhaps we do not have your email address, or it is wrong in our system.

Please get that info to COL Parsons, 713.541.3143 or apbp@swbell.net.

This is saving our much-needed funds.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Official versions *(changes in bold)*

1892

“I pledge allegiance to my flag and the republic for which it stands: one nation indivisible with liberty and justice for all.”

1892 to 1923

“I pledge allegiance to my flag and **to** the republic for which it stands: one nation indivisible with liberty and justice for all.”

1923 to 1924

“I pledge allegiance to **the** flag **of the United States** and to the republic for which it stands: one nation indivisible with liberty and justice for all.”

1924 to 1954

“I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of **America**, and to the republic for which it stands; one nation indivisible with liberty and justice for all.”

1954 to Present

“ I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America , and to the republic for which it stands, one nation **under God**, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.”

Report from 11/19/13 Board Meeting

MONTHLY MEETINGS:

After discussion and from reports received from members, the Board decided to recommend to the members for approval at the December meeting/party that we move the regular monthly meetings to the BraeBurn Country Club, 8101 Bissonnet St (just east of S. Gessner), Houston TX 77074.

This will depend on whether they can accommodate us for all our 2014 dates, yet to be determined, but they have been very good hosts for us in the past.

The price will still be \$30, but that includes valet parking. Many of our members do not realize that **valet parking is included** at BraeBurn, so help us spread the word!

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL:

Board Members will volunteer to contact nonrenewing members and try to recruit their renewal. If any of our regular members can help with this task, let Kerry Magee know (979-964-3236).

OFFICERS NEEDED:

The position of First VP was vacant for all of 2013, and Chaplain Kerry Magee filled that role for us. It still remains vacant. If we do not find a volunteer ASAP, Eugene Vecera has volunteered to add it to his duties as our new Secretary. This adds quite a load to an already demanding job.

Auxiliary Members are eligible to serve as officers of MOAA-HA. Do we have someone who will help? The primary duty of First VP is to secure speakers for our meetings.

We also need a Third VP, which is the Membership Chairman. This has also been vacant for two years now.

DUES:

Discounts for paying for more than one year when you renew. This also applies to Auxiliary members. And remember: if you have a paid membership for multiple years and you pass from this Earth, your surviving spouse is credited with your paid balance.

And just a reminder: All members are welcome at our board meetings, all at Rudi Lechner's Restaurant on South Gessner just north of Westheimer.

How the Internet Started

(According to the Bible)

In ancient Israel, it came to pass that a trader by the name of Abraham Com did take unto himself a healthy young wife by the name of Dorothy.

And Dot Com was a comely woman, large of breast, broad of shoulder, and long of leg. Indeed, she was often called Amazon Dot Com.

And she said unto Abraham, her husband, "Why dost thou travel so far from town to town with thy goods when thou canst trade without ever leaving thy tent?"

And Abraham did look at her as though she were several saddle bags short of a camel load, but simply said, "How, Dear?"

And Dot replied, "I will place drums in all the towns and drums in between to send messages saying what you have for sale, and they will reply telling you who hath the best price. The sale can be made on the drums and delivery made by Uriah's Pony Stable (UPS)."

Abraham thought long and decided he would let Dot have her way with the drums.

And the drums rang out and were an immediate success. Abraham sold all the goods he had at the top price, without ever having to move from his tent.

To prevent neighbouring countries from overhearing what the drums were saying, Dot devised a system that only she and the drummers knew. It was known as Must Send Drum Over Sound (MSDOS). She also developed a language to transmit ideas and pictures: Hebrew To The People (HTTP).

And the young men did take to Dot Com's trading as doth the greedy horsefly take to camel dung. They were called Nomadic Ecclesiastical Rich Dominican Sybarites, or NERDS.

And lo, the land was so feverish with joy at the new riches and the deafening sound of drums that no one noticed that the real riches were going to that enterprising drum dealer, Brother William of Gates, who bought off every drum

maker in the land. Indeed he did insist on drums to be made that would work only with Brother Gates's drum-heads and drumsticks.

And Dot did say, "Oh, Abraham, what we have started is being taken over by others."

And Abraham looked out over the Bay of Ezekiel (or eBay as it came to be known).

He said, "We need a name that reflects what we are."

And Dot replied, "Young Ambitious Hebrew Owner Operators."

"YAHOO," said Abraham.

And because it was Dot's idea, they named it YAHOO Dot Com.

Abraham's cousin, Joshua, being the young Gregarious Energetic Educated Kid (GEEK) that he was, soon started using Dot's drums to locate things around the countryside.

It soon became known as God's Own Official Guide to Locating Everything (GOOGLE).

That is how it all began. And that's the truth.





**Mine was earned in
Vietnam. By my dad.**

Barbara Q., USAA member

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We know what it means to serve.*

¹Based on 2011 Member Communications Trend Survey.

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Houston Corps of Cadets ROTC Endowment Fund–The University of Houston
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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: _____

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Donor Signature: _____ date _____

Thank you for your support of the MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, HOUSTON AREA, HOUSTON CORPS OF CADETS ROTC ENDOWMENT FUND, THE UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON

University of Houston; Advancement Services; P.O. Box 867; Houston TX 77001-0867
Attn: Nancy V. Clark E-mail: uh.edu/giving

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Auxiliary (spouse of deceased officer) \$15 (\$10 for each additional year paid at same time)

WOULD YOU SERVE ON A COMMITTEE? _____

Comments _____

Make check payable to MOAA,HA and send to MOAA,HA
PO Box 1082 Houston TX 77251-1082
For more information, call Maj. Val G. Henneberg 713.729.8217



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ATTENTION:

Our newsletter is posted at our Web site on or before the 1st of each month.
All past issues of our newsletter are also posted.

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