



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

Newsletter to Members

Vol. LV No. 12

December 2018

NEXT MEETING SATURDAY, January 12, 2019 BAY OAKS COUNTRY CLUB

President's Message

Wow! Where did the year go; indeed, where did the years go? Anyway, enough wistfulness. I am happy to report that we've had another busy year. Here are some of the things our chapter did in 2018:



Daniel Gutierrez

- The chapter continued its recruiting efforts and succeeded in recruiting or reenlisting eleven members.
- We continued to fulfill our obligations to our members by offering and conducting eleven consecutive members' luncheons and meetings with guest speakers.
- The chapter continued its support of JROTC and ROTC programs by presenting medals in person to several cadets and sending medals to over 100 high schools.
- The chapter attended commemorative ceremonies during Memorial Day at the Houston National Cemetery.
- The chapter participated in the annual Retiree Appreciation Day activities at Ellington Joint Reserve Base.
- Prairie View A&M Naval ROTC celebrated its 50th anniversary, and the chapter was represented at the ceremony.
- Through the efforts of our brilliant editor, **Carol Wilson**, the chapter published 12 consecutive newsletters that I consider the best in the state.
- As president, I participated in all four Texas Council of Chapters (TCC) meetings on behalf of the chapter.
- The chapter published and emailed to all members its annual slate of officers in nomination along with a revision to the bylaws. The election was duly held during the chapter's annual members' meeting and all nominated officers were elected. Newly elected officers are named within. The amendments to the bylaws were ratified.

(Continued on p. 3)

2018 Officers

President

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

Vice President

VACANT

Secretary

Rollins J. Collins, LTC USA (Ret.)
 704.213.2334 rollins.collins93@gmail.com

Treasurer

Don L. Couch, LTC USA (Ret.)
 832.205.2009 couchdon@hotmail.com

Liaison Eugene Tulich CDR USCG
 281.376.0061 gene42@flash.net

Chaplain

Kerry Magee CAPT USN (Ret.)
 979.964.3236h 979.236.2415 cell
 usnr06ret@brazoriainet.com

Editor Carol Ann Wilson

8902 Sunnywood Drive
 Houston TX 77088-3729
 281. 847.9754; 281.642.4050 cell
 carolwilson@earthlink.net



**MOAA Houston Area
Board Meetings for
2019**

2019 Board Meetings
To Be Set By the Board
and Noticed to the Members

All members are welcome.

**MOAA
Houston Area
Jointly with
MOWW and
AFA**

January 12, 2019*
1 p.m.
Bay Oaks Country Club
Clear Lake, Texas

**Holiday
Gala**

MENU

Bay Oaks Signature Salad

Black Bean Crusted Salmon
w/Crispy Tortilla Slaw and
Poblano Cream Sauce
OR

Medallions of Beef
Tenderloin w/Garlic
Whipped Potatoes and
Roasted Asparagus

Preset Swappers Dessert
Apple Pie and Pecan Pie

Dinner Rolls w./Butter
Iced Tea and Water
Coffee Service

CASH BAR

\$50

Music provided by
Heath Spencer Philip

**In place of January Meeting*

**RESERVATIONS FOR
HOLIDAY GALA DUE BY
DECEMBER 15**

See page 5 for form

PLEASE ATTEND!

**Military Officers
Wives Association**

MOWA

**Thursday, Dec. 20
11:30 Fellowship
Luncheon at Noon**

**Rudi Lechner's
2503 S. Gessner**

**Order off the Menu
and Pay Individually**

**RSVP to Phyllis Ottis,
713.774.2282,
by Mon. 12/17, 10 a.m.**

See you there!

MOAA-HA

**\$ Treasurer's Report,
December 1, 2018**

Receipts	\$ 45.00
Expenses	\$ 9.47
Balance	\$2,067.10

*Don L. Couch, Treasurer
LTC USA Ret.*

**CONGRATULATIONS TO
NEWLY ELECTED OFFICERS
FOR 2019**

President	MAJ Daniel Gutierrez
Vice Pres.	LtCol Joe Willoughby
Treasurer	SS Judith A. DuBose

Office of Secretary filled by
presidential appointment.

Thank you for serving!

**Chaplain's
Message**

**SHALOM!
PEACE BE
WITH YOU!**



Kerry Magee
CAPT USN (Ret.)

This is the Season of Light
and Joy! The Light of a
Menorah's nine candles
celebrating Hanukkah meshes
with the Joy of re-dedication
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! Let it be so!

Again this year, it has been a
humbling and yet rewarding
experience to serve as your
Chaplain. Many thanks for
your gracious support of my
luncheon prayers and monthly
columns, and for your prayers
for my health concerns.

I leave with you an old Irish
Blessing:
"May your neighbors respect
you,
Trouble neglect you,
The Angels protect you,
and Heaven accept you!"

**HAPPY HANUKKAH!
MERRY CHRISTMAS!**

MAY GOD BLESS YOU
AND KEEP YOU!

MAY JOY AND PEACE BE
WITH YOU ALL YEAR!

Humbly submitted by

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

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

(Cont'd from p. 1)

- I, as president, and **LTC Rollins Collins**, chapter secretary, learned MOAA National's "committee module" computer program and reconciled national's and the chapter's roster for the first time in memory.

- Now, the chapter is busy planning the "Holiday Gala" to be held in January. Reservation form may be found on page 5 of this newsletter.

Ladies and gentlemen, as you can see, we have endeavored to positively present the chapter as a good and viable force within the community. But we need to do more. Over twenty current members remain in arrears of their 2018 dues! Five of these are MOAA Life Members! If this is you, please fix this. We need your support, the community needs your support, MOAA needs your support, and your country needs your support. Stand up and be counted as you did before.

Meanwhile, until we meet again, please accept my salute and wishes for a

wonderful holiday season. See you all at the dance.

Let us be strong, be active, and be involved.

Remember: "Never stop serving."
God bless.

Respectfully,
Daniel M. Gutierrez
MAJ USA (Ret.), President

HAVE YOU SENT YOUR 2019 DUES?

Annual Dues are due on January 1 for 2019.

Please use the form in this newsletter, which is for both new members and renewals, so that we may have your current information.

Report & Photos from November Meeting

What a great meeting we had on November 15 at Rudi Lechner's Restaurant. It was the Annual Meeting with Election of Officers for 2019 and approval of Bylaw Amendments to conform to MOAA National requirements. The bylaw amendments passed and are posted at the chapter's hosted Website (www.moahoustonarea.com). There were no nominations from the floor, and the new officers are:

President **MAJ Daniel Gutierrez**
Vice Pres. **LtCol Joe Willoughby**
Treasurer **SS Judith A. DuBose**

The meeting was jointly shared with the MOWA organization, as has been our tradition in the past. This year was a special treat, however, because the Military Order of World Wars (MOWW) ALSO joined us and met jointly with us. Their Commander, who is also our Secretary, **LTC Rollins Collins**, read the MOWW preamble, as is the custom at their meetings.

Our Chaplain, **CAPT Kerry Magee**, gave a moving and inspiring Veterans Day speech about DUTY-HONOR-COUNTRY, from **General of the Army Douglas MacArthur** as we remembered famous battles of United States history. His wife **Ann Solange Magee** was present. Her grandfather fought in both WWI and WWII and survived. She was born an American Flag Day and has become a United States citizen.

CAPT Magee concluded his remarks with this famous and beloved, but author unknown, poem:

IT IS THE VETERAN

It is the Veteran, not the preacher, who has given us freedom of religion.

It is the Veteran, not the reporter, who has given us freedom of the press.

It is the Veteran, not the poet, who has given us freedom of speech.

It is the Veteran, not the campus organizer, who has given us freedom to assemble.

It is the Veteran, not the lawyer, who has given us the right to a fair trial.

It is the Veteran, not the politician, who has given us the right to vote.

It is the Veteran, who salutes the Flag,

It is the Veteran, who serves under the Flag,

To be buried by the flag,
So the protester can burn the flag.

Author: Anonymous

That's worthy of memorizing, don't you think?

CAPT Magee said the quotes in his speech are all taken from the book *Chicken Soup for Veterans*. (That would be a good gift. -Ed.)

And again we thank **COL Andy Parsons** for more great and memorable photos.



CAPT Kerry & Ann Magee



Secretary Collins receives Certificate of Merit from President Gutierrez



Tina and LTC Dennis O'Driscoll with their grandson



2018 President and 2019 President-Elect MAJ Dan Gutierrez



Editor/Database Manager Carol Wilson receives Certificate of Merit from Pres. MAJ Dan Gutierrez



Phyllis Ottis, Alice Alvarado, and Sarah T. Crabtree



Our table in the Hunt Room at Rudi Lechner's Restaurant

Endowment Fund & Houston Corps of Cadets

We've all heard that it's better to give than to receive. We've also heard that "it's the thought that counts." Yes, thoughts are great, but they don't add to the funds we need for the Corps of Cadets.

What is the real "spirit" of giving? Think about what it really means. The true spirit of giving is doing for others with no expectation of gain. Giving anonymously is surely the true spirit of giving, but today we need that deduction on our tax return. Won't you take advantage here at year's end? Form is on the last page.

Thanks for your help.

Bill

William Taylor
Cpt. USA Ret



Pat & LTC Rollins Collins



Carol Wilson, Janice & CPT Bill Taylor



LTC Rollins Collins, MOWW Commander



MOWW Insignia

**JOIN US FOR OUR HOLIDAY GALA ON
SATURDAY AFTERNOON, JANUARY 12, 2019, 1 p.m.**

**BAY OAKS COUNTRY CLUB
14545 Bay Oaks Blvd*, Houston, TX 77059
(281) 488-7888**

Advance Payment Required: Cutoff is December 15, 2018



HOLIDAY GALA

For Members, Spouses, and Guests
Co-Shared by
**MOAA-Houston Area Chapter
Military Order of World Wars (MOWW)
Air Force Association (AFA)**

January 12, 2019, 1 p.m.
Bay Oaks Country Club

RESERVATION

Name(s) _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Tel. _____

Check enclosed (\$ 50 per person) payable to MOAA-HA for \$ _____

Send Reservation to: MOAA-HA (& Call Don Couch to confirm: 832.205.2009)
PO Box 1082, Houston TX 77251



Great Food with Choice of Entree
Music and Dancing
Music: Heath Spencer Philip

Attire: Full formal dress, "black tie"



***Clear Lake area between Space Center Blvd. and El Dorado Blvd.**

History Teacher

In September of 2005, on the first day of school, Martha Cothren, a History teacher at Robinson High School in Little Rock, did something not to be forgotten.

On the first day of school, with the permission of the school superintendent, the principal, and the building supervisor, she removed all of the desks in her classroom. When the first period kids entered the room, they discovered that there were no desks.

“Ms. Cothren, where are our desks?” they asked. She replied, “You can’t have a desk until you tell me how you earn the right to sit at a desk.”

They thought, “Well, maybe it’s our grades.” “No,” said Ms. Cothren.

“Maybe it’s our behavior.” She told them, “No, it’s not even your behavior.”

And so, they came and went, the first period, second period, third period. Still no desks in the classroom.

Kids called their parents to tell them what was happening, and by early afternoon television news crews had started gathering at the school to report about this crazy teacher who had taken all the desks out of her room.

The final period of the day came, and the puzzled students found seats on the floor of the desk-less classroom. Martha Cothren said, “Throughout the day no one has been able to tell me just what he or she has done to earn the right to sit at the desks that are ordinarily found in this classroom. Now I am going to tell you.”

At that point, Martha Cothren went over to the door of her classroom and opened it.

Twenty-seven U.S. Veterans, all in uniform, walked into that classroom, each one carrying a school desk. The Vets began placing the school desks in rows, and then they walked over and stood alongside the wall. By the time the last soldier had set the final desk in place, those kids began to understand, perhaps for the first time in their lives, just how the right to sit at those desks had been earned.

Martha said, “You didn’t earn the right to sit at these desks. These heroes did it for you. They placed the desks here for you. They went halfway around the world, giving up their education and interrupting their careers and families so you could have the freedom you have. Now, it’s up to you to sit in them. It is your responsibility to learn, to be good students, to be good citizens. They paid the price so that you could have the freedom to get an education. Don’t ever forget it.”

By the way, this is a true story. And this teacher Was awarded the Veterans of Foreign Wars Teacher of the Year for the State of Arkansas in 2006. She is the daughter of a WWII POW.

This story’s message:
Let us always remember the men and women of our military and the rights they have won for us.



**We Wish You A
Very Merry Christmas,
Happy Hanukkah, Merry Holidays
AND
The Very Best Year in 2019!**



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 addn'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 LTC Rollins Collins 704.213.2334

**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: _____



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.

Please charge my credit card for the amount of my gift, as scheduled above:

____ Visa ____ Mastercard ____ American Express ____ Discover

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 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