



**HOUSTON AREA**  
 PO BOX 1082  
 HOUSTON TX 77251-1082  
[www.moaahoustonarea.com](http://www.moaahoustonarea.com)

Newsletter to Members

Vol. LVI No. 6

June 2019

**NEXT MEETING SATURDAY, June 29, 2019 BRAEBURN COUNTRY CLUB**

## President's Message

It's June, and most of us military buffs immediately envision the history-making events that took place in North West France in June 1944. Yes, of course I refer to **D-Day June 6**, the long-anticipated invasion of Europe by the allies. But the day before, another major operation occurred that has more or less been lost in the fog of history and time.



Daniel Gutierrez

On June 5, 1944, allied armies liberated **Rome!** That was the culmination of months of bloody slugging and slogging in North Africa, Sicily, and Italy. It was the armies of Field Marshal **Sir Harold Alexander** that crawled their way up the Italian boot through rain, mud and treacherous terrain that made advancing almost impossible. The British and Poles in the famed British 8th Army commanded by General **Oliver Leese** went up the East coast; the American 5th Army (with one British corps) commanded by Lieutenant General **Mark Clark** went up the West coast of Italy. Fighting was savage, bloody, and costly. Many mistakes were made, many lessons were learned, but finally, the 5th and 8th armies converged on the Eternal City and liberation! I ask you to take a moment and remember those boys even as you celebrate the boys of D-Day.

There are other things to remember. June 4th 1942 was the beginning of the **Battle of Midway**. How many of us know that story? Many military historians consider Midway the turning point of the Pacific campaign in WW II. An epic tale of decision, courage, skill, sacrifice, and pure luck. It was at Midway that Rear Admiral **Raymond Spruance** showed himself to be one of the great sea warriors in history on an equal footing to **Nelson of Trafalgar, Don Juan of Austria at Lepanto, and Themistocles at Salamis**. I commend this story to you.

*(Continued on p. 3)*

## 2019 Officers

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**MOAA Houston Area  
Board Meetings**  
First Monday before the last  
Saturday of each month  
12 Noon

**June 24, 2019**  
**La Madeleine Restaurant**  
10001 Westheimer 77042  
713.266.7686

*All members are welcome.*

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## **MOAA Houston Area**

**June 29, 2019**  
**BraeBurn Country Club**  
8101 Bissonnet  
713.774.2586

### **MENU**

Garden Salad

Chicken Monterrey  
w/Tomatillo Sauce  
-OR-

Baked Tilapia  
w/Basil Butter Sauce

Parmesan Orzo  
Green Beans  
Warmed Rolls & Butter  
Tea, Coffee

Key Lime Pie

\$30  
Complimentary  
Valet Parking

**Reservations by Wed.**  
6/26 to Carol Wilson,  
281.642.4050

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### **2019 Monthly Meetings**

Remaining 2019 meetings  
are: 7/27, 8/31, 9/28, 10/26,  
11/23[?], and 12/14[?].

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### **Military Officers**

### **Wives Association**

## **MOWA**

**No Meetings  
During Summer Months**

**See you in September!**

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### **MOAA-HA \$ Treasurer's Report, June 1, 2019**

Receipts	\$ 1,100.00
Expenses	\$ 217.02
Balance	\$ 4,042.56*

\*JROTC Award Fund \$2,379.63  
\*Operating Funds \$1,662.93

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

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### **HAVE YOU CHECKED YOUR "PAID THROUGH" DATE?**

The 2019 Membership Directories  
have been mailed to all members,  
including those paid through 2018.  
Your entry will show your "Paid  
Through" membership status date.  
Please check yours, and if you are in  
arrears, we appreciate your bringing  
them current. The form is at the back  
of this newsletter and online at  
[www.moaahoustonarea.com](http://www.moaahoustonarea.com).

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### **PLEASE ATTEND OUR JUNE 29 MEETING**

We need 18 paid attendants at each  
meeting in order to break even on the  
expenses of the meetings.

***Won't You Help?***  
**Great Fellowship, Speaker, & Food**

### **Chaplain's Message**

**SHALOM!  
PEACE BE  
WITH YOU!**



Kerry Magee  
CAPT USN (Ret.)

My column this month is  
based upon an article by  
retired Pastor **Buddy Scott**  
recently printed in the  
*Brazosport Facts* (permission  
to use granted).

He is the Director of HIS  
LOVE Christian Counseling  
Service in Lake Jackson, and  
a friend of mine.

It's about words we use in our  
lives, and he quotes his  
mother a lot:

*"If you can't say something  
nice about someone, don't say  
anything at all."*

*"God holds us responsible for  
every word that comes out of  
our mouths."*

*"Once words leave your  
mouth, they can't be  
recalled."*

Sage advice, I think, from his  
mom!

Proverbs (Ch. 31) in the Bible  
says of a virtuous woman:  
"She opens her mouth with  
wisdom; and in her tongue is  
the law of kindness."

The Bible also says, "If you  
think you are being religious,  
but can't control your tongue,  
you are fooling yourself, and  
everything you do is useless."  
(James 1:26.)

Apostle Paul wrote to the  
Christians in Ephesus, "When  
you talk, do not say harmful  
things, but say what people  
need—words that will help

others become stronger. Then what you say will do good to those who listen to you.”(Eph. 4:29.) This sounds to me like words of encouragement!

Jesus Christ said in Matthew 7:2, “The way you judge others will be the way that you will be judged, and you will be evaluated by the standard with which you evaluate others.” Sometimes this verse convicts me when I read it! I have got to do better!

I remember “The Duke” saying in one of his western movies, “Words are what men live by, words they say and mean.” Amen to that!

My dad told me just before I became an adult, “A man’s word is his bond.” Good advice and wisdom from the old chief!

Words can heal or hurt. Please be careful how you use them.

MAY GOD BE WITH YOU ALWAYS!

Humbly submitted by

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



President Donald J. Trump on his visit to the 147th Attack Wing, Texas Air National Guard, Ellington Field, on April 10, 2019.

## PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

*(Cont’d from p. 1)*

And what about now? What have we been doing and what will we, your board of directors, be doing? Well, we’ve been doing quite a bit. Several members of the chapter attended the **Annual Armed Forces Day Military Ball**. Several members attended, in one capacity or another, the **Memorial Day** commemoration services at the **Houston National Cemetery**, and several members completed their presentation commitments at the various JROTC awards ceremonies.

This month your president will travel to Waco and take his place on the Texas Council of Chapters representing the Houston Area Chapter. The meeting is scheduled for June 14–15, and the successes and disappointments (if any) of the big advocacy effort this past March will be assessed.

Plans continue to fill out our calendar of events for the chapter. This month, standing in for Colonel **Matt Barker**, USAF, Commander of the 147th Pursuit Wing at Ellington, will be one of his deputies, Colonel **Rich Bradley**, MD, Commander of the Wing’s Medical Group. He will talk about how his unit supports the 147th’s mission and the unique challenges involved.

Our vice president, LtCol **Joe Willoughby**, USAF (Ret.) hopes to snare a **US Marine Corps** officer to make a presentation to the chapter in July. For August we have scheduled representatives of the fledgling **American Veterans Museum** to be our guest speaker. We continue with purpose to fill out the year’s schedule of events and guest speakers.

By now all of you should have received a copy of the chapter directory for 2019. If not, communicate with our editor, **Carol Wilson**.

Later on this year we will conduct our annual elections for bylaws revisions and new officers for 2020. If you feel animated and interested in serving your chapter in a more engaged manner, please let me know. **We need officers**. The chapter will play its part in **Retiree Appreciation Day** activities at **Ellington Field Joint Reserve Base** this October. We will also join the military community in observance of **Veterans’ Day** in November.

We are all striving hard to maintain the viability and relevance of this chapter. Members, please step forward and help. Play your part and we will all go forward together.

Fellow members, until we meet again, remember, **“Never stop serving.”** God bless.

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

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## Endowment Fund & Houston Corps of Cadets

This endowed fund is awarded each year by the University of Houston, and it is separate from our JROTC Fund for medals for cadets.

The form for donations is at the back of this newsletter. We hope you can help in whatever way you can.

Thank you.

***William Taylor***  
***Cpt. USA Ret***

## SPEAKER FOR JUNE 29 MEETING



**COL Rich Bradley, M.D.,  
USAF NG  
Commander, Medical  
Group  
147th Attack Wing  
Texas Air National Guard**

We are really looking forward to hearing from Dr. **Rich Bradley**, who is also Chief of the Division of Emergency Medical Services and Disaster Medicine at the UT Health Science Center in Houston.

Dr. Bradley is a 1990 graduate of Santa Clara University and completed his medical training at Georgetown University School of Medicine in 1994. Before that, he accumulated ten years' experience as a firefighter, paramedic, and 9-1-1 dispatcher.

Most important to us is his service as Commander of the Medical Group of the 147th Attack Wing of the Texas ANG. The 147th Attack Wing flies combat support missions 24/7 via advanced satellite communications thus providing surveillance, reconnaissance, and air support for U.S. and Allied forces. More at Website: ([www.147atkw.ang.af.mil](http://www.147atkw.ang.af.mil))

## MEMORIAL DAY Commemoration at Houston National Cemetery



Our President MAJ Dan Gutierrez, USA (Ret.), with two fellow brothers from Vietnam service, at HNC



MAJ Gutierrez paid his own personal honor to U.S. Marine Corps Corporal Francisco S. Lopez.

**Cpl. Francisco Lopez**, who died this past January, was the last WWII Marine in the Houston area. He fought at Tarawa, Okinawa, and in Korea. Cpl. Lopez was the father of Dan's best friend, **Frank Lopez**, when Dan served in City of Houston government for 26 years. **Frank Lopez** was a fellow Vietnam veteran (1967-68).



A young girl with her cat, enjoying the Memorial Day service at Houston National Cemetery.

## LOOKING BACK ON THE FACTS OF TWO HISTORICAL JUNE EVENTS

Every year during the first week of June, some Americans 80 and older really remember D-Day, the 6th of June, 1944, the greatest successful amphibious invasion in mankind's history, because they lived it!

This year marks the 75th Anniversary of that event. On that momentous date ("The Longest Day" as termed by **German Field Marshal Edwin Rommel**), About 7,000 ships and 11,000 aircraft carried nearly 2 million Allied soldiers from England across the Channel to the Normandy beaches of France. With strong air support, about 156,000 Allied soldiers landed on those beaches—Omaha, Utah, Gold, Sword, and Juno—with 10,000 becoming casualties and more than 4,000 confirmed dead. Almost 2,400 of those were US Soldiers on "Bloody Omaha." But at day's end, the beachheads were secure; the Allied troops had punctured this Nazi vaunted wall of defense! **General Eisenhower** predicted in his broadcast to France: "This Landing was but the opening phase of the campaign of western Europe. Great battles lie ahead. Together we shall achieve victory." Just 11 months later, total victory was achieved in western Europe.

**General Eisenhower** had told his troops embarking for Normandy, "The hopes and prayers of Liberty-loving people everywhere march with you. And let us all beseech the blessings of Almighty God upon this great

and noble under-taking.” British **Field Marshall Montgomery** had told his troops, “Let us pray that the Lord, mighty in battle, will give us Victory!” **President Roosevelt** asked all Americans to pray daily for our troops. Back then 98 percent of Americans believed in God; unlike today (a reported 75%).

Anyone younger than 80 may have read about this date, June 6, in a high school American history textbook. Many of today’s textbooks provide a few pages for coverage of WWII, and some are reported to contain ONE PARAGRAPH An entire chapter is really needed to describe how 60 million people in 15 nations died in those 6 years, in the cause of Freedom over Tyranny! At stake were all the hard-won freedoms of Western civilization!

Even still, many Americans don’t remember another major event in WWII that took place 77 years ago on June 2-4, 1942: The Battle of Midway, a most decisive naval battle in the Pacific Theater. Greatly outnumbered by the massive Imperial Japanese Navy Fleet, which planned to air attack and then invade Midway Island to establish a base in order to strike the Hawaii Islands *again*.

From the World War II Museum in New Orleans ([www.nationalww2museum.org](http://www.nationalww2museum.org)), we learn about our successful code-breaking. The United States was aware that the Japanese were planning an attack in the Pacific (on a location the Japanese code-named “AF”), because Navy cryptanalysts

had begun breaking Japanese communication codes in early 1942. The attack location and time were confirmed when the American base at Midway sent out a false message that it was short of fresh water. Japan then sent a message that “AF” was short of fresh water, confirming that the location for the attack was the base at Midway. Station Hypo (where the cryptanalysts were based in Hawaii) was able to also give the date (June 4 or 5) and the order of battle of the Imperial Japanese Navy.

Over those two days, the U.S. troops at sea and on Midway forced the Japanese to abandon the battle and retreat. The Japanese lost approximately 3,057 men, four carriers, one cruiser, and hundreds of aircraft, while the United States lost approximately 362 men, one carrier, one destroyer, and 144 aircraft. This critical U.S. victory stopped the growth of Japan in the Pacific and put the United States in a position to begin shrinking the Japanese empire through a years-long series of island-hopping invasions and several even larger naval battles. It was indeed, the “Turning Point” in the Pacific War.

The leadership and war-fighting skills of the U.S. Navy men never were greater than during this mighty Battle. Upon its conclusion, **Sir Winston Churchill**, Prime Minister of England during WWII, sent this cable to the U.S. Navy, “The annals of war at sea present no more intense, heart-shaking shock than this Battle in which the qualities of the U.S. Navy and Air Force, and the American race shone forth in splendor. The bravery and self-devotion of American airmen and sailors, and the nerves and skill of their leaders were the foundation of all!”

*LEST WE FORGET!*  
*LEST WE EVER FORGET!*

*CAPT Kerry B. Magee, USNR-RET*

## PROGRAM FROM MILITARY BALL May 18, 2019

### SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Master of Ceremony  
**Katherine Marchand**,  
KTRK-TV Houston, ABC-13

Reception  
Call to Order  
Arrival of Official Party  
Presentation of Colors  
Invocation

Introduction of Dignitaries  
and Toasts  
POW/MIA Presentation

**Remarks**  
U.S. House of Representative  
**Sylvia R. Garcia** Represents  
the 29th District of Texas

*Dinner 1st Course Salad*

**Remarks**  
**Air Vice-Marshal Alan  
Clements** CSC Defence  
Attache and Head Australian  
Defence Staff-Washington

*Dinner 2nd Course Entree*

**Remarks**  
**Rear Admiral Paul F.  
Thomas**, Commander Eight  
Coast Guard District

*Dinner 3rd Course Dessert*

Recognition of our Troops

Houston Military Affairs  
Committee's Presentation of  
the Yellow Rose of Texas

Benediction

Retire the Colors  
Closing Remarks

*Music and Dancing*

## PHOTOS FROM MILITARY BALL



LTC Eugene A. Vecera, USA (Ret.),  
Past-Pres. MOAA-HA, wife Myrna



LTC Rollins Collins, USA (Ret.) and  
wife Pat; MAJ Dan Gutierrez, USA  
(Ret.) and Stancie Chamberlain; Capt  
Kevin Abreu, USAF (Ret.) and wife  
Cindy

We are sorry to report that we have no photo of **CDR Eugene and Joan Tulich, USCG (Ret.)**, who works so hard every year to put this event together!

The Military Ball sold out with 400 attendees. Make your plans now to attend next year!

# Now and Always We'll be There.



1-800-247-2192 • [www.moaainsurance.com](http://www.moaainsurance.com)

## 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 MAJ Dan Gutierrez, 281.543.1257

*\*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](mailto:uh.edu/giving)