



HOUSTON AREA
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Newsletter to Members

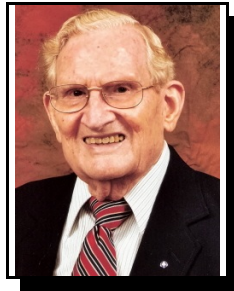
Vol. XLIX No. 3

March 2012

NEXT MEETING SATURDAY, March 31, 2012 JUNIOR LEAGUE

President's Message

Those of you who were not present at our February meeting missed a great presentation! Carl Cadis had us spellbound with his information about current events at NASA and about space travel generally. We learned that lots of things are going on. A summary of his talk appears in this issue. We are very fortunate to have such top-quality speakers at our meetings., and I encourage you all to attend our March Meeting, which will be at the Junior League of Houston. See page 2 for details and reservations.



I also want to encourage you to take advantage of the commissary sale at Ellington Field April 19-22. Additional information appears below and on page 7 of this newsletter .

I look forward to seeing you at our meetings.

Ervin Eggleston, President
Captain, USNR ,Ret.



DUES ARE PAST DUE for 2012!!!

Make sure you get your dues paid in order to be included in the 2012 Directory! The form is on the back page of this and every Newsletter.

LAST CALL! Directory will close April 15.

Sale at Ellington Field: April 19-22, 2012.
See page 7 of this newsletter for details.

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**MOAA Houston Area
Board Meeting**

Tues. Mar. 27, 11:30

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

Future Board Meetings

4/24 5/22 6/26 7/24 8/21 9/25
10/23 11/13 All members welcome.

MOAA

**Houston Area
Monthly Meeting and
Luncheon**

*Remaining 2012 Meetings will be
at The Junior League of Houston
(Mar., June, July, Aug., Sept., Oct.)
and at Rudi Lechner's (April)*

**Saturday Mar. 31
11:30 fellowship
Noon Luncheon**

**JUNIOR LEAGUE
OF HOUSTON**

**1811 Briar Oaks Ln
Houston TX 77027
713-622-4191**

www.juniorleaguehouston.org

Menu

House Salad

Panko-crusted Chicken with
Mushrooms/Cream Sauce, Bourbon
Sweet Potatoes, Green Beans

OR

Mediterranean Grilled Salmon with
Garlic, Chive, Parsley, Basil, Wild
Rice, and Asparagus

Pecan Ball in Lace Basket on
Three Sauces

Coffee or Iced Tea

\$27

Reservations to Jeannette
Evans, 281.495.2202, by
5 p.m. on Wed. 3/28

2012 MOAA-HA Meetings

3/31 4/28 May Ball 6/30
7/28 8/25 9/29 10/27

November 15? with MOWA
12/8 Christmas Party at Forest Club

**Military Officers
Wives Association**

MOWA

**March Luncheon
Thursday, March 15, 2012
11:30 a.m.**

**JUNIOR LEAGUE
OF HOUSTON**

1811 Briar Oaks Ln
Houston TX 77027
713-622-4191

Menu

House Salad

French Country Chicken
w/Mushroom Sauce
w/baby carrots and peas w/fresh mint
OR

Mediterranean Grilled Salmon
w/garlic, olives, parsley & basil,
w/wild rice & asparagus

Tiramisu

Iced Tea and Coffee

\$27

RSVP TO: Bobbye Parsons,
713-541-3143, by noon.
March 13, 2012

MOWA dues:

Send to Shirley Hooks

MOAA-HA

**\$ Treasurer's Report
March 1, 2012**

Receipts \$ 875.00
Expenses \$ 790.79
Balance \$7,498 65

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

Speaker March 31



CAPT William A. Fitzgerald,
USN (Designator 1310-Naval
Aviator)

Captain Fitzgerald is
Commanding Officer and
Professor of Naval Science,
Rice University and Prairie
View A&M University. His
squadron commands include
the Red Lancers of Patrol
Squadron TEN (VP-10) at
NAS Brunswick, Maine
(1987-91), the P-3 FRS,
Patrol Squadron THIRTY
(VP-30) in Jacksonville,
Florida (1991-94), and the
Golden Swordsmen of Patrol
Squadron FOUR SEVEN
(VP-47) at NAS Barbers
Point, Hawaii (1997-98). In
2002 Captain Fitzgerald
reported to the Pelicans of
Patrol Squadron
FORTY-FIVE (VP-45) in
Jacksonville, Florida, as
Executive Officer and in
2003 he assumed duties as
Commanding Officer of
VP-45, where he led his
squadron to a highly
successful Mediterranean
deployment. His squadron
won the 2003 Safety Award
and Golden Wrench Award
for maintenance excellence.

Other sea duty assignments
include the USS Enterprise
and on the staff of the
Commander, Naval Forces
Europe, and Commander,
Sixth Fleet in Naples, Italy,
where he served first as the
Air Operations Officer and
Deputy for Transformation,

and then as the Deputy Director, Operational Net Assessment (ONA) and Assistant Deputy Director for Assessments (N9) (2005-08).

Captain Fitzgerald's shore duty assignments include the OPNAV staff at the Pentagon as the Deputy Executive Assistant to the Director, Air Warfare (N88) (1998-2000). His many accomplishments in post-graduate work include a Masters of Science degree in National Resource Strategy, and a Masters in Public Administration from Harvard University, Kennedy School of Government (2004-05). In May 2008 Captain Fitzgerald assumed command of Naval Air Station Brunswick, ME, as the base's 36th and final Commanding Officer, where he executed the shutdown of the base due to BRAC 05 in May 2011.

Captain Fitzgerald is authorized to wear the Legion of Merit (two awards), Meritorious Service Medal (two awards), Joint Service Commendation Medal, Navy Commendation Medal (four awards), Navy Achievement Medal (two awards), as well as various service and unit awards.

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.

From Our Chaplain



CAPT Kerry Magee

SHALOM! PEACE BE WITH YOU!

The last week of Feb. I had a three-hour pre-op session at Christus St. John's Hospital in Clear Lake prior to my minor lip cancer surgery 72 hours later. By the time you read this, I pray the surgery was successful and NO cancer cells were found in my lower lip!

While I was waiting during the Pre-Op session, I was scanning/reading *LIFE IS GOOD!* Magazine by Gulf Coast Healthy Lifestyles, LLC, of Houston, TX. Their Mission Statement: "To gently lead, teach, and inspire our readers to adopt healthy lifestyle choices for themselves and for their families." There were many good articles, and I recommend that y'all get a copy; it's FREE at most Hospitals' waiting rooms!

But, I really wanted to share with y'all this special article called "Words of Wisdom: A Fresh Start":

"Fact: Our bodies are created by the food we eat. A healthy diet creates healthy bodies, resistant to disease. An unhealthy diet creates unhealthy bodies, susceptible to disease. To maintain health, energy, and mobility, our bodies are designed by GOD and Nature to MOVE! And move often! The Law of Attraction: it's as real as the Law of Gravity. What you think about, you bring about and attract into your life. There are NO good reasons to smoke. Take whatever steps necessary to quit now and eliminate this harmful habit from your life. Practice Random Acts of Kindness on a daily basis—it'll make you feel great! Consider giving your

body a food break and partake in a one-day fast. Sleep, beautiful sleep! Our bodies requires a full-night's sleep in order to repair, restore, and renew itself. Practice the Law of Abundance through gifts of charity to worthy organizations you believe in. When experiencing a stressful situation, reserve a special place in your mind to escape (Mediation or Prayer)."

I found very little that was new to me in this article, but it did reinforce some items I found missing in my life. Introspection and reflection at times in our lives are good not only for the Body, but also for the Soul!

MAY GOD BLESS Y'ALL!

Kerry B. Magee
CAPT USNR-RET

Photos From Our February Meeting

Andy and Bobbye Parsons were traveling in and around Australia and missed our February meeting (and we missed them!) So Carol Wilson took these photos.



MAJ Val and Erika Henneberg, Army



President Erv Eggleston, CAPT USN, and Speaker Carl Cadis



Gloria DeValcourt and Michael Hay, LtCol USAF



Maj George & Mary Geist, USAF



Phyllis Ottis and Rose Horvath



Pres. Erv Eggleston presenting certificate to Speaker Carl Cadis



Maj Harris presents winnings to LTC Robert Ottis

Endowment Fund and Houston Corps of Cadets

The news is revealed. Our 2012 fund raiser for the Endowment Fund will be a cruise—but not just any cruise. Sure, it will be from Galveston, and it will be for five nights and four days to the Western Caribbean, but to excite and overload you, we are moving the date to **October 13**, and guess what? It will be an “Elvis Tribute Cruise,” and not only that, our “Elvis” will be played by Donnie Edwards, who is the most famous Elvis impersonator of them all! This is neither the skinny Elvis nor the fat Elvis, but the best Elvis (other than Elvis himself, but then he is dead). So this is as good as it gets.

As usual, this is for an inside cabin with all port fees paid on the Carnival *Triumph*. An additional fee will be charged if you want to fully participate in all the Elvis activities. The drawing will be held at the September 25 luncheon, so you will have plenty of time to pack. More to come as we advance toward the date. Tickets are still \$10, and anyone may purchase the tickets, which will be printed in each newsletter, with Martin Harris holding the funds. We made almost \$600 for the Endowment Fund last year, so let’s try to beat that in 2012.

I think there is a strong possibility that we may also obtain a free weekend at a first-class hotel in New Orleans. We have not fully worked out all the details yet, but it would include airfare. This would be a second prize, over and above the cruise, which would enable two drawings for the same \$10 purchase! More on this next month.

*William Taylor
Cpt. USA Ret.*

Report on Our February Speaker, Carl Cadis, re NASA

Readers, we just must share with you a fairly detailed summary of our fantastic March speaker! Carl Cadis, who is in charge of training astronauts for living on the International Space Station (ISS), gave a most informative and inspirational talk at our February meeting. What a great message. Check out NASA at www.nasa.gov.

He began with a photo of John Glenn and his wife with President Kennedy, after Glenn’s history-making orbit of Earth 2/20/62. This year is the 50th anniversary of that event, and what great progress has been made since then! “It was crazy what we did with what we had to work with,” say Glenn and all the pioneers of those days. In the early years, they didn’t even have a computer! Just women with slide rules. Think about it. Think about the courage of all those astronauts. John Glenn even went back to space in 1998, at age 77!

Two weeks ago NASA opened up a new training program for new astronauts, and 6,372 applied! “That’s the most since the 1960s,” Cadis said. After 135 missions, the shuttle program is no longer operating. And Houston is not getting a real shuttle for display, but “we’re getting a fake one from Florida,” said Cadis. It was the CapCom who talked to the astronauts in the shuttle, but it was Carl Cadis who played their wake-up songs, beginning in 1997 when he started at NASA. (Carl works for a contractor, not for NASA itself. NASA lowered its requirement for manpower

when it built a satellite network. In the Apollo days NASA employed hundreds of thousands, but today NASA employs 18,000 and 80,000 NASA workers are with private contractors. So now NASA can do more with fewer people.)

The Space Station houses six people, and they circle Earth 16 times a day at 17,000 mph. The astronauts at the ISS have a continuing need for supplies, and a manned vehicle must take them up and bring other things back. So why is the Shuttle program being disbanded? Because of its expense. NASA will use private companies to accomplish what the shuttle did. Think about that for a minute.

The work they do in space benefits many areas of our lives. They conduct many experiments, many of which teach us about living on Earth, such as matters of health and aging, but also the origins of the Universe. One excellent example that comes from NASA is the modern communication of medical readings from ambulances on their way to the ERs of the world. Those hook-ups come directly from NASA research.

NASA's current project is ORION, which is a new vehicle for NASA to go to *Deep Space*. It is a Multi Purpose Crew Vehicle (MPCV) that will hold four astronauts, which will be NASA's new vehicle. It is being developed by Lockheed Martin and is truly the vehicle of the future.

The Space Station travels in low-Earth orbit, 300 miles

up, and "anybody can do that, because that technology is 50 years old" said Carl. Then Carl told us about these four private companies that are developing projects that will affect all of us in the next two to four years:

1. SpaceX (www.spacex.com) is a company owned by Elon Musk, a South African native who started PayPal and sold it to eBay for millions of dollars. He also founded Tesla Motors. SpaceX was founded in 2002 and has operated at a profit since 2007. Its 1200 employees have already proven launch vehicles Falcon 1 and Falcon 9 Heavy and have a contract with NASA for 12 missions to the ISS. They do rocket tests every day in McGuire County, Texas, near College Station, and their Dragon Capsule is schedule to be launched in May.

2. Sierra Nevada Corp. (www.sncorp.com) has partnered with NASA to advance the development of the Dream Chaser, a fully-reusable crew vehicle to transport humans to low Earth orbit and then return them to Earth with a runway landing. It will be launched by an Atlas V. The technology is based on 1982 technology from Langley! It's a "little shuttle," said Cadis, and it's being developed in Reno and Colorado.

3. Blue Origin (www.blueorigin.com) is a company started by Amazon founder Jeff Bezos. "We are currently focused on developing rocket-powered Vertical Takeoff and Vertical Landing (VTVL) vehicles for access to suborbital and orbital space"—a rocket that goes straight up and straight back down and lands. It's being tested in West Texas, and they have many job openings, all listed on their home page.

4. Boeing is developing the CST 100, a passenger vehicle to go to the ISS. Learn all about it at these two Web sites (among others):

(a) thefutureofthings.com/news/11329/boeing-s-cst-100-space-capsule.html
(b) www.boeing.com/defense-space/space/ccts/docs/CCDev2%20Boeing%20CST-100%20Overview.pdf

Fifteen countries are involved in the Space Station, with five Mission Control Centers: Houston, Moscow, Toulouse, Munich, and Tokyo. As you can see, lots and lots of things are going on regarding space flight. **GoogleX** is a \$30 million X prize being offered by Google to the first private company that can go to the moon and send back data. So far 26 companies are competing for that prize, with a December 2013 deadline!

Carl is an ordained minister, and he fittingly inspired us with a story illustrating what just one courageous person can do as he told us of Heidi Baker (www.irismin.org), a former ballerina who came to the Lord and became a missionary. Today this *Christian* woman feeds 5,000 others a day in that *Muslim* country!

Carl exhorted each of us to "pass Courage on to others" and referenced materials from two recent movies: *Courageous* and *Act of Valor*.

Carl's wife Johnette and two of their seven sons, Josiah and Noah, were there, and Carl told us: "My hero is my wife."





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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

SALE AT ELLINGTON FIELD

Take advantage of spectacular savings on popular grocery items at the **Commissary On-site Sale**. The Randolph Air Force Base Commissary is hosting an On-site Sale at Ellington Field Joint Reserve Base.

Location: Ellington Field Joint Reserve Base, 14555 A Street, Houston, TX 77034-5586

Date(s): 19, 20, 21, 22 April 2012

Sale hours :

Thursday, April 19	0900 to 1700 hours	Saturday, April 21	0900 to 1700 hours.
Friday, April 20	0900 to 1700 hours	Sunday, April 22:	0900 to 1700 hours.

Randolph AFB Commissary Point of Contact; Ralph Maastricht (210) 652-5102 Ext: 3029

National Guard and Reserve members, military retirees, active-duty military service members, and dependents can take advantage of the great commissary savings.

All authorized commissary shoppers are invited to the sale, sponsored by the Randolph Commissary. Commissaries.com - Randolph AFB Commissary. The commissary has expanded its reach to Guard and Reserve members in particular by bringing the benefit to you via these On-site Sales to areas with military populations not served by a nearby commissary. Sale items may include paper products, soap and cleaning products, canned goods, sport drinks, water, laundry detergents, and a variety of other products at savings of 30 percent or more! Please check the store local information page for specific sale items.

Your On-Site Sale - "It's Worth the Trip!"

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 Grade Service
Branch _____

Spouse's first name: _____ Tel. For Directory _____

Home address: _____

Civilian Occupation: _____

Business Firm _____ Business phone _____

E-mail: _____

Dues: Regular Membership \$10 first year; annual renewal \$20

Auxiliary (spouse of deceased officer) \$10

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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