



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

Newsletter to Members

Vol. LV No. 3

March 2018

NEXT MEETING SATURDAY, March 31, 2017 BRAEBURN COUNTRY CLUB

President's Message

DON'T FORGET TO SET YOUR CLOCKS FORWARD MARCH 11!

Yes Daylight Saving Time is upon us again. For this country it all began 100 years ago this month as a World War I measure. During the Second World War it was reinstated, and it has more or less remained a permanent fixture of our annual seasonal cycle.



Daniel Gutierrez

Coincidentally, the measure was passed into law on March 19, 1918. March 19 is also the date of the beginning of "Operation Iraqi Freedom," which kicked off in 2003. This nation has been at war ever since. We, as a society, have become so accustomed to this phenomenon that it hardly registers in our conscience anymore. But, as General of the Army **Douglas MacArthur** said (quoting Plato) in his farewell address to the Corps of Cadets at West Point, "Only the dead have seen the end of war." So we go on.

And so we, in our little chapter, go on. The board is vigorously pursuing guest speakers for our members' monthly luncheons. This month, as described in another column in this newsletter, we have asked Mr. **Dan Seal**, Executive Director of the Bay Area Houston Executive Partnership, to address us. He has a fascinating and informative presentation concerning the vulnerabilities facing the Houston area (of which we just recently experienced with Hurricane Harvey) and what can be done. I for one am most eager to hear what he has to say.

On another front, the board has studied the problem of continuing the chapter's support of the JROTC programs in the Greater Houston area. The most viable solution that seems to be
(Continued on p. 3)

Respectfully,

Daniel M., Gutierrez, MAJ USA (Ret.), President 2018

2018 Officers

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**MOAA Houston Area
Board Meetings for
2018**

Tuesday before Monthly
Luncheon Meeting

3/27/17 11:30
Rudi Lechner's
2503 S. Gessner

2018 Board Meetings
3/27 4/24 5/22 6/26 7/24 8/21
9/29 10/23 11/13? None in Dec
All members are welcome.

**MOAA
Houston Area
Monthly Meeting
and Luncheon**

Saturday Mar. 31
11:30 fellowship
12 Noon Luncheon
BraeBurn Country Club

8101 Bissonnet St
Houston TX 77074
(713) 774-2586

Spinach Salad

Chicken w/ artichoke hearts,
sundried tomatoes
in lemon butter sauce

OR

Rainbow Trout Almandine
w/lemon butter sauce

Mashed Potatoes
Seasoned Vegetables
Rolls, Butter
Coffee, Tea

Carrot Cake

\$30

Complimentary
Valet Parking

Reservations by Wed.
3/28 to Don Couch,
832.205.2009

**2018 MOAA-HA
Monthly Meetings
Remaining**
3/31 4/28
May is Military Ball
6/30 7/28 8/25 9/25 10/27
11/15 (with MOWA)
12/?/18? Christmas Party

**Military Officers
Wives Association**

MOWA

Thursday, March 15
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. 3/12, 10 a.m.

See you there!

MOAA-HA
\$ Treasurer's Report,
March 1, 2018

Receipts \$1,247.00
Expenses \$ 733.20
Balance \$4,365.04

Don L. Couch, Treasurer
LTC USA Ret.

DUES ARE DUE NOW!

CHECK YOUR "Paid Through"
date in the Membership Directory.
Please use form in each newsletter to
report current information

(Only Paid Members Will Be
Included in 2018 Directory)

Chaplain's Message

SHALOM!
PEACE BE
WITH YOU!



Kerry Magee
CAPT USN (Ret.)

NOTE: Our beloved Chaplain is bravely battling injuries from an automobile accident, so we reprint his Message from a prior issue.--Ed.

This is one of the most enduring, meaningful, and beautiful Prayers in all of Christendom: "The Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi."

O Lord, make me an instrument of Thy Peace.

Where hate is, may I bring Love;

Where offense has been given, may I bring pardon;
Where there is discord, may I bring fellowship;

Where there is error, may I bring Truth;

Where there is doubt, may I bring Faith;

Where there is despair, may I bring Hope;

Where there is darkness, may I bring Light;

Where there is sadness, May I bring Joy.

O Divine Master let me seek

To console, rather than to be consoled;

To understand, rather than be understood;

To love, rather than to be loved;

For it is in giving that I receive,

In forgetting myself that I find myself;

In pardoning that I receive pardon;

In dying, that I am born again to Life Eternal;

O Lord, make me an instrument of thy Peace!

AMEN!

May God bless you and yours!

Humbly submitted by

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

TAPS

Keith "Ed" Fitz
LtCol USAF (Ret.)



Col Fitz and wife Sisy at Christmas Gala 2015

Sisy Fitz asked us to notify his fellow MOAA-HA members of Ed's passing. He was diagnosed with Glioblastoma Stage 4 brain cancer in July while visiting their children in Seattle. They stayed there for his surgery and treatments, but unfortunately he lost the battle on Dec 16. A memorial service will be held in April; details to be announced.

Rest in Peace, Col. Fitz.



INCOMING PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

(Cont'd from p. 1)

available is to start a program of personal sponsorships by our individual members. As of this writing, forty-nine high schools have been selected by chapter members for sponsorship. I urge all of you to consider sponsoring a high school in your community. Please contact our chapter secretary, LTC **Rollins Collins**, for details.

Finally, a word about our dedicated chaplain, Captain **Kerry Magee**; you probably have all heard about his accident and subsequent injuries. On behalf of the chapter, I know you would want me to wish him a quick and complete recovery. God speed Kerry; we have you in our thoughts and prayers.

Now, I wish all of you renewed vigor upon the advent of spring, the celebration of St. Patrick's Day, and the renewed hope from a blessed Easter.

Remember, "Never stop serving."
God bless.

Respectfully,

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

HAVE YOU SENT YOUR 2018 DUES?

Only those in good standing will be listed in and receive the 2018 Membership Directory.

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

Endowment Fund & Houston Corps of Cadets

As I write this it is February 28th, early in the year, and plenty of time for you to start planning your gift to The Houston Corps of Cadets, University of Houston, tax deductible. It is very important that the United States Armed Forces remain strong and unmatched. You know it; I know it. Do what you can.

As a result of not being prepared, on this date in 1942 the Heavy Cruiser USS Houston and the Australian Light Cruiser HMAS Perth were attacked and sunk by far superior Japanese forces in the Battle of Sundra Strait. The survivors helped build the infamous Bridge of the River Kwai. Let us not do this again. Please send what you can.

Bill

William Taylor
Cpt. USA Ret

AD PRICES FOR MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

(PUBLISHED IN APRIL)

\$300 for either inside cover;
\$100 for full page inside;
\$50 for half page inside;
\$25 quarter page inside;
\$25 for Patron Ads.

Please make check payable to MOAA-HA and send to PO Box 1082, Houston TX 77251

**SPEAKER FOR
MEETING ON
March 31**



**Dan Seal, Executive
Director
Special Initiatives
Bay Area Houston
Economic Partnership**

Dan Seal is Executive Director–Special Initiatives for the Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership, or BAHEP, where he manages the strategies and activities of its economic development program of work. In addition, he represents BAHEP and the Bay Area Houston region at special functions, providing expert insight, expertise, and support to accomplish the goals set forth in BAHEP's Strategic Plan.

He is also very involved in the Partnership's efforts to advocate for new storm surge suppression technologies to help this region mitigate flood damage during future tropical storm and hurricane events.

Seal has served in his present capacity since joining BAHEP in November 2007. He previously served as vice president of marketing for the Economic Development Division of the Greater Houston Partnership, where he marketed the Houston region to C-level decision makers to create new jobs, new income, and to promote

the area's business climate and image.

Over the last five years, the organizations that Seal has been affiliated with have assisted companies in creating more than 41,000 new jobs worth an estimated annual economic impact of \$5.3 Billion. During this time, such leading corporations as Lockheed Martin, Hewlett Packard, BMC Software, JPMorgan Chase, and Rolls Royce Energy Systems have located or expanded operations in Houston.

Prior to his tenure with the Greater Houston Partnership, Seal headed the Houston Real Estate Division of the ICH Corporation, and prior to ICH, he was involved in real estate marketing and development in Dallas, Texas. Seal received his bachelor's degree in business administration-marketing from Texas A&M University.

Come on out to our March 31 meeting and hear his dynamic and informative message.

**WELCOME,
NEW MEMBER!**

Oudrey Hervey, CDR USN Ret.
Spouse: **Floresa**
18510 Vinland Dr.
Houston TX 77058-4235
713.341.6205

CORRECTION to info on New AUX Member **Phyllis Ottis** from Feb. Newsletter: Her telephone number is **(713) 774.2282**. Our apologies.

ALSO: Vice President **LTC Dennis O'Driscoll's** email address was incorrect in the February newsletter. Correct: aggieOD1977@gmail.com.

Do we have your email address?
Please make sure to send it!

**Report of Feb. 24
Meeting**

President Dan Gutierrez called the meeting to order and we observed a moment of silence in memory of **Ed Fitz**. We then had a report on **Kerry Magee's** road to recovery from his injuries suffered in a recent auto accident. Following the Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation, a fine meal was enjoyed.

Pres. Dan reported on the state of the medals for JROTC Cadets, now being funded individually by our members, since MOAA National had stopped supporting. To date 49 cadets will be sponsored by our Members. In this large Houston area, many more remain of the total 107. If interested, contact **Rollins Collins**. Ideally, you would pay the \$7.50 for each medal and present it at a school near you. If you cannot present, donating the medal is very much appreciated!

Our speaker, **Kim "Kimmy" Caravello**, U.S.VETS - Houston Development; U.S.

Army / Military Intelligence/Airborne told us all about U.S. VETS and her activities with the dynamic U.S.VETS-Houston. She said,



Kim Caravello

"Many Houstonians don't even know we are here." They help the many homeless vets in Houston. For returning vets, "Transition is not easy," said Kimmy.

U.S. Vets is sponsoring a “Band of Brothers” Softball Tournament on **July 7** at Constellation Field, which is the home of the Sugar Land Skeeters of the Atlantic League of Professional Baseball, and they “need WWII Vets.” For the tournament they will have four softball teams, and the goal is to raise money. She told us about the Tom Hanks-Steven Spielberg 2001 HBO mini-series “Band of Brothers” and encouraged us to watch the series, all of which is true! It is the story of Easy Company, and it is available on Amazon. Thanks, Kimmy, for your excellent talk and great information!

Other Photos from 2/24 Meeting



Kim Caravello speaking

Email Kimmy at kcaravello@usvetsinc.org.



Cousins LCDR Vern Gillette and AUX member Glora DeValcourt



Kim Caravello received Certificate from MAJ Dan Gutierrez, President

We are so thankful that we have **COL Andrew Parsons** to take these great photos to share with us!



LTCol Joe Willoughby

It was good to see **Joe Willoughby** again! And he was our big winner! He donated it back to the fund for the JROTC medals. Thanks, Joe!



LTC Don Couch presents winnings to LTCol Joe Willoughby

What a great meeting! We hope to see you at the next one on March 31 at BraeBurn Country Club!

Buffalo Soldiers National Museum
3816 Caroline St, Houston, TX ·
(713) 942-8920

Prairie View A&M Celebrates 50th Anniversary

MOAA-HA Members Andy Parsons and Don Couch attended the festivities for the 50th anniversary of Prairie View A&M’s Naval Reserve ROTC program. The program was inaugurated in September of 1968. Learn more at <http://www.pvamu.edu/nrotc/about-us/>.



This 50th Kickoff Event was held at Houston’s Buffalo Soldiers National Museum, and if you want to have a great field day, pay a visit! This commemorated the first NROTC Unit established at a historically black college.

The Buffalo Soldiers, comprised of former slaves, freemen and Black Civil War soldiers, were the first to serve during peacetime. The Houston Light Guard Armory, built in 1925, is now the home of Buffalo Soldiers National Museum.

CAPT Timothy Symons, Prof Naval Science, Rice and PV.



Vice Adm David Brewer



U.S.VETS-Houston Mission: The successful transition of military veterans and their families through the provision of housing, counseling, career development and comprehensive support.

U.S.VETS-Houston has four facilities locally; Midtown, Fannin Street, Downtown, and one in the Museum District. The Midtown location is the main hub for our programs. The Service Center located at the Historic DeGeorge at Union Station serves as a supplement to the Midtown location. The Fannin Street location provides supportive services. The Museum District office houses our administrative staff. In addition, U.S.VETS-Houston employs a full-time driver to shuttle veterans in between our locations, the VA and the Salvation Army.

Each month, USVETS-Houston interacts with over 1000 veterans and their families by services listed below:

SERVICES PROVIDED AT THE SERVICE CENTER

Veterans Service Center (SC) operates in the Downtown area, providing intake, initial case management & referrals to Houston programs. The Service Center also gives veterans access to much needed services such as computer email, voicemail, sack lunches, fax & copy machines. SC served 400+ veterans; 200 were unduplicated calls & provided 12,000 sack lunches in 2017.

PROGRAMS & SERVICES PROVIDED AT MIDTOWN

Veterans In Progress (VIP) program is a 72 bed work re-entry program with a goal of linking the veteran to employment and permanent housing. After the job skills needed for employment have been attained, VIP compels veterans to gain employment through an aggressive job search strategy. VIP from Jan 2017 – Aug 2017 served 120 unduplicated veterans.

Critical Time Intervention (CTI) is a ground-breaking program offered only at the Houston site to assist a specific target population—chronically homeless veterans with severe mental illness, mainly dual diagnosis—regain stability. CTI provides individualized treatment to veterans during the critical period of transition from an institution to the community. We provide intense case management services and other supports over a 9 month period with a team comprised of U.S.VETS and VA staff. In addition, the CTI program provides regular veteran to veteran peer support groups for veterans with serious mental illness and substance abuse problems. CTI served 26 unduplicated veterans.

Permanent Housing for Disabled Veterans (PHDV) is a 54-unit program designed to aid those individuals who suffer from permanent mental or physical disabilities that prevent them from achieving economic self-sufficiency. The PHDV program provides long-term rental subsidies & supportive case management services. This program incorporates Best-Practice principles of Permanent Supportive Housing which has been shown to improve the lives of homeless individuals with disabilities while decreasing the overall costs to society. PHDV has serviced 61 veterans for FY 2017.

Employment Services (CDI) In early 2014, U.S.VETS-Houston began its partnership with the Call of Duty Endowment & Swords to Plowshares to offer rapid employment services for recently returning veteran (OIF/OEF/OND) through the Career Development Initiative (CDI) Program. From July 2016 to July 2017, the CDI Program enrolled 80 veterans, resulting in 48 placed in jobs. The same period, Swords Employment Program had 80 enrolled, resulting in 48 job placements.

SERVICES PROVIDED ON FANNIN ST. IN MIDTOWN AREA OF HOUSTON

Supportive Services for Veterans Families (SSVF) is a new program that expands the capacity to act before a Veteran becomes homeless & to target the problem of family homelessness by promoting housing stability among homeless & at-risk Veterans & their families. Supportive services provided by U.S.VETS in conjunction with the Houston Housing Corporation (HHC) include outreach, case management, assistance in obtaining VA benefits, & assistance in obtaining & coordinating other public benefits. From 2015-2016, the program has served 171 veteran households.

Outreach Services provide linkage to all our programs including Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program (HVRP) that we have jointly with Goodwill Industries of Houston. During the 2015 – 2016 year, the Outreach program has served 1,100 non-duplicated veterans and for FY 2017 300 veterans.

Midtown
4640 Main Street
Houston, TX 77002

Service Center
1418 Preston Street, Suite 2
Houston, TX 77002

SSVF
7227 Fannin Street, Suite 200
Houston, TX 77030

Visit us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/helptexasvets/> 12 Binz St, Ste 290, Houston 77004 www.usvetsinc.org

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

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 _____ MOAA Nat'l ID _____
Spouse's first name: _____ Tel. For Directory _____
Home address: _____

Civilian Occupation: _____
Business Firm _____ Business phone _____
E-mail: _____

Dues: Regular Membership \$30 first year; annual renewal \$30 (\$20 for each addn'l year *pd w/renewal*)
Auxiliary (spouse of deceased officer) \$15 (\$10 for each addn'l year *pd w/renewal*)

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 Rollins Collins 704.213.2334

