



HOUSTON AREA
PO BOX 1082
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www.moaahoustonarea.com

Newsletter to Members

Vol. LIV No. 9

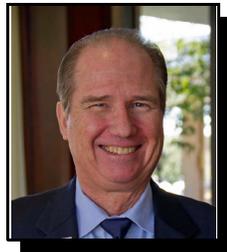
September 2017

NEXT MEETING SATURDAY, September 30, 2017 BRAEBURN COUNTRY CLUB

President's Message

"...Ah, such Men!"

Over the past summer we have lost a number of our active members who we now will remember fondly. They have passed on, and they are missed.



Eugene A. Vecera,
LTC USA

I was struck by the warm-hearted compassion shown by our membership in being of assistance to their families, and in attending the funerals of our comrades. It confirms one of the main reasons for our continued gathering at our monthly chapter meetings, which is to care for each other.

I recently returned from the national convention of a Vietnam Veterans organization and at one meeting I sat with a delegate from Tennessee who shared the key to their chapter's being the second largest in the organization. To state it simply, it was the manifestation of Service!

The chapter provided transportation, meals, visitation, and assistance in navigating the VA system or other bureaucracies; and then also brought members to meetings where the byword of "Service" continued in activities that helped other Veterans—a circle of military caring and support.

As we enter this autumn time of year, our focus will be on the October 7th Retiree Appreciation Day at Ellington Field, our October 28 meeting at the Lone Star Flight Museum, the November 11th City of Houston Veterans Day Parade, and our own Holiday party in December.

Join with us, as we will with You and close out another Great year!

Respectfully,
LTC Eugene Vecera, USA, President

Officers

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VACANT

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VACANT

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MOAA Houston Area Board Meetings for 2017

Tuesday before Monthly Luncheon Meeting

11:30
Rudi Lechner's
2503 S. Gessner

2017 Meetings Remaining
9/26 10/24 11/14?

All members are welcome.

MOAA Houston Area Monthly Meeting and Luncheon

Saturday Sept. 30
11:30 fellowship
12 Noon Luncheon
BraeBurn Country Club
8101 Bissonnet St
Houston TX 77074
(713) 774-2586

MENU

House Salad

Chicken Marsala
or
Trout Almandine

Mashes Potatoes
Seasonal Vegetables

Rolls and Butter

Pumpkin Pie

\$30

Complimentary
Valet Parking

Reservations by Wed.
9/27 to Don Couch,
832.205.2009

2017 MOAA-HA Meetings
9/30 10/28 11/16?
12/2 Christmas Gala

Military Officers Wives Association

MOWA

REGRETS THAT IT HAS DISBANDED. BALANCE IN TREASURY HAS BEEN DONATED TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON PROGRAM FOR MILITARY CADETS.

We sadly report the August 5 passing of our beloved **Bobbye Parsons**, wife of MOAA-HA member and past-president **COL Andrew C. Parsons Jr.** Bobbye served as President of MOWA for many years. She graduated from Baylor with a geology degree and retired in 1986 after 26 years of service to the M.D. Anderson Cancer Center. A voracious reader, Bobbye served as a docent in the library of Chapelwood United Methodist Church, which hosted services for her in the chapel on August 10. The family has asked that, in lieu of usual remembrances, donations may be made in Bobbye's memory to the Chapelwood Foundation's scholarship fund or to the Chapelwood library fund, 11140 Greenbay, Houston TX 77024 (www.chapelwood.org).

MOAA-HA

\$ Treasurer's Report September 1, 2017

Receipts	\$ 30.00
Expenses	\$ 125.00
Balance	\$ 4,091.93

Don L. Couch, Treasurer
LTC USA Ret.

Chaplain's Message



Kerry B. Magee,
CAPT USNR-
Ret.

SHALOM!
PEACE BE
WITH YOU!

Credit and thanks to Jim Gentil, "Mr. Positive," of Positive People Power! for reprint permission for his article, which I thought our readers would enjoy.

"And a Little Child Shall Lead Them." This was written by an 8-year-old Californian named Danny Dutton, for his third grade homework assignment, to "explain God." I wonder if any of us could have done as well?

EXPLANATION OF GOD

One of God's main jobs is making people. He makes them to replace the ones that die, so there will be enough people. He doesn't make grown-ups, just babies. I think because they are smaller and easier to make. That way he doesn't have to take up his valuable time teaching them to talk and walk. He can just leave that to mothers and fathers.

God's second most important job is listening to prayers. An awful lot of this goes on, since some people, like preachers and things, pray at times besides bedtime. God doesn't have time to listen to the radio or TV because of this. Because he hears everything, there must be a terrible lot of noise in his ears, unless he has thought of a way to turn it off.

God sees everything and hears everything and is everywhere,

which keeps Him pretty busy. So you shouldn't go wasting his time by going over your mom and dad's head asking for something they said you couldn't have.

Atheists are people who don't believe in God. I don't think there are any in Chula Vista. At least there aren't any who come to our church.

Jesus is God's Son. He used to do all the hard work, like walking on water and performing miracles and trying to teach the people who didn't want to learn about God. They finally got tired of him preaching to them and they crucified him. But he was good and kind, like his father, and he told his father that they didn't know what they were doing and to forgive them and God said O.K.

His dad (God) appreciated everything that he had done and all his hard work on Earth, so he told him he didn't have to go out on the road any more. He could stay in Heaven. So he did. And now he helps his dad out by listening to prayers and seeing things which are important for God to take care of and which ones he can take care of himself without having to bother God. Like a secretary, only more important.

You can pray anytime you want and they are sure to help you because they got it worked out so one of them is on duty all the time.

You should always go to church on Sunday because it makes God happy, and if there's anybody you want to make happy, it's God!

Don't skip church to do something you think will be more fun like going to the beach. This is wrong. And besides, the sun doesn't come out at the beach until noon anyway.

If you don't believe in God, besides being an atheist, you will be very lonely, because your parents can't go everywhere with you, like to camp, but God can. It is good to know He's around you when you're scared, in the dark or when you can't swim and you get thrown into real deep water by big kids.

But . . . you shouldn't just always think of what God can do for you. I figure God put me here and he can take me back anytime he pleases.

And that's why I believe in God.
(May God bless you too.)

God bless you all!

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

Prayers Needed

Our Member **LtCol Keith "Ed" Fitz** is battling cancer, a brain tumor, Glioblastoma, Grade IV, and needs our prayers. He was diagnosed on a visit to his son Craig in Seattle, and is receiving treatment there until he returns home mid-September. His temporary address during treatment in Seattle is 1005 Harbor Ave SW, #600, Seattle, WA. 98116.

MAJ Val Henneberg is receiving hospice care, and Erika appreciates our prayers.

WELCOME NEW MEMBER!

LT Christopher A. Rupp, USN
Spouse: Amy
5823 Valley Fair Dr.
Kingwood TX 77345-1847
Christopher.Rupp@gmail.com

NOTICE

OCTOBER MEETING OF MOAA-HA IS SCHEDULED FOR 10/28, 11:30 A.M., AT LONE STAR FLIGHT MUSEUM, 11551 Aerospace Avenue, Houston, TX 77034; (346) 708-2517; Website is www.lonestarflight.org. This meeting is behind held in conjunction with the Military Order of World Wars.

Details to be provided in the October newsletter, and perhaps through a special newsletter if necessary.

Members on the Southeast side of Houston, we are coming to you, so keep your calendar open!



Marine's Protest to NFL Commissioner

Ret. Marine Col Jeffery Powers wrote an open letter to NFL Commissioner **Roger Goodell** about the NFL's handling of player protests during the national anthem in September 2016. It went viral when **COL. Allen B. West** posted it on his Website. We thought our readers would enjoy reading his powerful message.

"Commissioner,

"I've been a season pass holder at Yankee Stadium, Yale Bowl and the Giants Stadium.

"I missed the '90-'91 season because I was with a battalion of Marines in Desert Storm.

14 of my wonderful Marines returned home with the American Flag draped across their lifeless bodies. My last conversation with one of them, Sgt. Garrett Mongrella, was about how our Giants were going to the Super Bowl. He never got to see it.

"Many friends, Marines, and Special Forces Soldiers who worked with or for me through the years returned home with the American Flag draped over their coffins.

"Now I watch multi-millionaire athletes who never did anything in their lives but play a game, disrespect what brave Americans fought and died for. They are essentially spitting in the faces and on the graves of real men, men who have actually done something for this country beside playing with a ball and believing they're something special! They're not! My Marines and Soldiers were!

"You are complicit in this! You'll fine players for large and small infractions but you lack the moral courage and respect for our nation and the fallen to put an immediate stop to this. Yes, I know, it's their 1st Amendment right to behave in such a despicable manner.

"What would happen if they came out and disrespected you or the refs publicly?

"I observed a player getting a personal foul for twerking in the end zone after scoring. I guess that's much worse than disrespecting the flag and our National Anthem. Hmhmhm, isn't it his 1st

Amendment right to express himself like an idiot in the end zone?

"Why is taunting not allowed yet taunting America is OK? You fine players for wearing 9-11 commemorative shoes yet you allow scum on the sidelines to sit, kneel or pump their pathetic fist in the air. They are so deprived with their multi-million dollar contracts for playing a freaking game!

"You condone it all by your refusal to act. You're just as bad and disgusting as they are. I hope Americans boycott any sponsor who supports that rabble you call the NFL. I hope they turn off the TV when any team that allowed this disrespect to occur, without consequence, on the sidelines. I applaud those who have not.

"Legends and heroes do NOT wear shoulder pads. They wear body armor and carry rifles.

They make minimum wage and spend months and years away from their families. They don't do it for an hour on Sunday. They do it 24/7 often with lead, not footballs, coming in their direction. They watch their brothers carted off in pieces not on a gurney to get their knee iced. They don't even have ice! Many don't have legs or arms.

"Some wear blue and risk their lives daily on the streets of America. They wear fire helmets and go upstairs into the fire rather than down to safety. On 9-11, hundreds vanished. They are the heroes.

"I hope that your high paid protesting pretty boys and you look in that mirror when you shave tomorrow and see what you really are, legends in your own minds. You need to hit the road and take those worms with you!

"Time to change the channel."

Endowment Fund & Houston Corps of Cadets

No begging for the Corps of Cadets at this time. Everyone stay safe and dry.

Bill

*William Taylor
Cpt. USA Ret*

NEW VIETNAM WAR SERIES ON PBS BEGINNING 9/17

"The Vietnam War," a new documentary series by award-winning Ken Burns, will begin on PBS (Houston Channel 8) on Sunday, Sept. 17, at 7 p.m. CDT.

See the trailer at www.pbs.org/-kenburns/the-vietnam-war/-home. They also ask for veterans' stories.

This is from the promotional materials: "Ken Burns and Lynn Novick's ten-part, 18-hour documentary series, THE VIETNAM WAR, tells the epic story of one of the most consequential, divisive, and controversial events in American history as it has never before been told on film . . . through revelatory testimony of nearly 80 witnesses from all sides—Americans who fought in the war and others who opposed it, as well as combatants and civilians from North and South Vietnam. Ten years in the making . . ."



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: _____
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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 _____

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 add'n'l year pd w/renewal)

Auxiliary (spouse of deceased officer) \$15 (\$10 for each add'n'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

