



OFFICER'S CALL

MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

BROWARD COUNTY CHAPTER, INC.

January 2015

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Here we are, beginning a New Year again together - 2015. Time during the holiday season seems to move especially fast. Many of our members travel to be with family and loved ones. We wish each and every one safe travel and look forward to seeing you again in January when we get back to the business of our Chapter.



Something we started last year, and will continue this year, is having an annual theme for the Chapter. The intent is to provide a broad level of guidance for speakers and topics. We have very creative folks in our Chapter. This year's theme will be: **"2015: WWII plus 70."** I can tell you that our Special Events Committee, Chaired by Phil Myers, is already planning an appropriate summer picnic. So, here's the first Warning Order: Mark your calendar for the Event, scheduled for August 15, 2015. Get ready for great food, hijinks and fun of the '40s.

As for BCC MOAA activities right now, everything is quiet due to the holiday season. But at the National level, the battles will continue to preserve our military benefits. At the local level, there's a lot we can do. We now have a Chapter Legislative Liaison Officer to map out our plan. I'm excited because we can now codify our message and visit our representatives with clear objectives - something we need badly.

So, the bottom line is 2015 should be a banner year for our Chapter, but it's still up to us. We are on a great track for more success, and I am confident in our team.

Very Best, Steve.

UPCOMING EVENTS

10 Jan – Board Meeting:
9:00am – 11:00am | Sterling McClellan Post 142 | American Legion | 171 SW 2nd Street, Pompano Beach

11 Jan – BCC MOAA Luncheon & Swearing In of New Board Advisors
11:30pm – 3:00pm | Lighthouse Point Yacht & Racquet Club, 2701 NE 42nd St., Lighthouse Point; \$30/person; contact LTC Bettner or LtCol Radoy for reservations

11 Jan – Special Event Committee
2:30pm – 3:30pm | Lighthouse Point Yacht & Racquet Club, 2701 NE 42nd St., Lighthouse Point

28 Jan – Officer's Call Input

14 Feb – Board Meeting:
9:00am – 11:00am | Sterling McClellan Post 142 | American Legion | 171 SW 2nd Street, Pompano Beach

22 Feb – BCC MOAA Luncheon
11:30pm – 2:30pm | Lighthouse Point Yacht & Racquet Club, 2701 NE 42nd St., Lighthouse Point; \$30/person; contact LTC Bettner or LtCol Radoy for reservations

28 Feb – Officer's Call Input

MOAA | LEVEL OF EXCELLENCE AWARD

The Florida Council had 22 Chapters receiving awards, which easily appeared to be the largest state contingent. There are other events at the Convention which makes it one worthy of attending.

For the Broward County Chapter it was a significant event, as we are now officially a winner. Congratulations!

more details
inside 





CHAPTER CONCERNS AND INFORMATION

This recurring column will provide Chapter members with the opportunity to share joys and information with each other and strengthen the bond we have as brother and sister officers and families of our nation's military veterans. If you have any information in this area to share, please advise the Secretary, Jean Bettner, 954-942-3651.

Please provide illness or other caring information regarding our members to our **President, or 3rd VP | Dr. Ronald Anderson, USPHS at 954.941.6189.**

Chapter elected officers include:

President: LTC Steven Bettner |USA
954-942-3651

1st Vice President: LtCol Sam Trichilo |USAF
954-752-1280

2nd Vice President: LtCol David Harper |USAF
954-249-8868

3rd Vice President: Dr. Ronald Anderson |
USPHS 954-941-6189

Secretary: Jean Bettner 954-942-3651

Treasurer: LtCol Charles Radoy, USAF
561-733-7276

Chaplain: LTC Ronald Burgess |USA
954-450-8823

Christmas Gala



The Broward County MOAA Chapter held its annual Christmas Gala in December at the Lighthouse Point Yacht Club. The event was highlighted by a visit from the Lighthouse Point Fire Department who accepted the toys the Chapter had donated for Children in Broward County.

There had also been a surprise visit from Santa Claus, leaving a present for the Chapter of the Four Star Level of Excellence streamer for our guidon. We also had a raffle, which is always good for laughs and fun. The final highlight of the day was the debut of the Broward County Chapter Players to begin the Christmas carol sing-a long with lots of singers.

Everyone left with a wonderful start to the Christmas season.

*Chapter Members
Jo Rayburn, Dianne Gray,
Linda Williams,
and Loretta Young perform
as a Quartet of carolers
at the Broward County
MOAA Chapter
Christmas Gala.*



The Broward County MOAA Chapter Players perform "Rudolph", led by Rudolph himself. The crowd sang along to get in the Christmas mood.

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

NEW YEAR | 2015

A Thought for the New Year...

“Moses my servant is dead; now therefore arise, go over this Jordan.” Here is a bit of history about the God of history who has a purpose for nations, for people, and through them is working out His purpose. Moses was dead. They had come to the end of a chapter, and some thought it was the end of the book.

Moses had been their George Washington. With a strong hand he had led them out to freedom and had somehow managed to forge them into something of a nation with a sense of going somewhere under the rulership of God. What a wonderful Book is the Bible, with its many parallels to so many events, happenings, and experiences which every generation has to face.

I have chosen this story not because it neatly answers our questions when calamity or change looms—how could it? — but because it reminds us of a thought we don't consider enough. There is such a thing as a God of history, the living God who has a purpose for nations and for people; the world is in stronger a hand than ours, and therefore, what seems to us calamity is not wholly calamity. It is also opportunity. “Moses my servant is dead.” Very well: get up, go on. “Go over this Jordan.”

That is God speaking to Joshua at this critical junction in time. “Be strong and of good courage.” ...as I was with Moses, so I will be with you: I will not fail you, nor forsake you.” (Joshua 1:1-7)

Who said we were to have an easy time here? Does the God of the Bible promise it? “Only be thou strong and very courageous. [As I was in your yesterdays, so will I be in your tomorrows.] I will not fail you, or forsake you.”

MOAA | NATIONAL CONVENTION

The MOAA National Convention was held in the Pentagon City Sheraton this year in November. A major part of this convention is always the annual Level of Excellence Award Dinner which was attended by LTC (Ret) Steve Bettner (USA) to represent the Broward County Chapter. For proper perspective, a Four or Five Star Award represents the top 30% of all MOAA Chapters, with a Five Star award being the top.

The Florida Council had 22 Chapters receiving awards, which easily appeared to be the largest state contingent. There are other events at the Convention which makes it one worthy of attending. For the Broward County Chapter it was a significant event, as we are now officially a winner. We'll be back next year.



Chapter President LTC (Ret) Steve Bettner, USA, accepts the Four Star Level of Excellence award from Chairman of the MOAA Board GEN (Ret) John Tilleli, USA, at the MOAA National Convention in November.

MOAA | LEVEL OF EXCELLENCE AWARD



Dick Gould unwraps Santa's gift of the 4-Star Level of Excellence Streamer for the Chapter guidon.

**MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOC. OF AMERICA,
BROWARD COUNTY CHAPTER, INC.**

P.O. Box 8552
Deerfield Beach, FL 33443-8552

CHAPTER WEBSITE: www.browardmoaa.com

**THE LEGISLATIVE
CORNER**

By Thaddeus Hamilton

Happy Holidays to all Military Officers and their families! We must give Honor to our Creator and maker of all things. Part of MOAA's National mission and the Broward County Chapter's mission is serving as the most effective organization shaping relevant government policies as these policies relate to all Military Officers and their families.

2015 is upon us and we must all unite on the national, state and local levels to fully serve and protect America from all enemies foreign and domestic. Some of MOAA's National Legislative goals for 2015 are:

- Protect currently serving and retiree benefits from severe, arbitrary sequestration cuts
- Create new incentive for employer/government/contractors to hire military spouses
- Avert a 24% Medicare/TRICARE payment cut and fix the statutory formula to improve care access
- Block the consolidation of TRICARE Health plan into a single plan providing less choices
- Preserve full inflation cost of living adjustments (COLAs)
- Eliminate VA claims backlog and improve efficiency and transparency of claims processing

In order for all of MOAA's goals to be achieved, we must unite all MOAA members at the national, state and local levels to speak with one voice. We must develop relationships with our Congressional representative, state, county and city elected officials. I am asking for volunteers to join the legislative committee to help develop a 2015 legislative strategic plan. We appreciate all your help.

- Thaddeus Hamilton, LTC US Army Retired

ACCESSING MEMBER BENEFITS

MOAA has many products and services available to its members, including transition assistance, military health and benefits counseling and financial information. Details on all member benefits MOAA offers that you can take full advantage of with your membership can be found at: www.moaa.org/discounts.