



# OFFICER'S CALL

MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

BROWARD COUNTY CHAPTER, INC.

April 2015

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



As our Government continues to “churn through” the 2016 budget--particularly the MCRMC, the MOAA President’s primary concerns are military retirement and medical care to sustain a twenty-year all-volunteer force. So, in any contact you have with Congressional decision-makers, let them know who you are and what your concerns are.

As far as Chapter Business goes, your Board approved a budget for the year including \$2500 in Scholarship funding. Two members contributed a total of \$1000, so we now have \$3500. This also exhibits the plan that, if a member would like to donate money directly to a mission, for example scholarships, it is entirely legal.

In another vein, if we want to be a thriving, vibrant chapter, we have to start thinking of fundraising ideas. There are some notes regarding this in **MOAA Chapter Guides**, so take a look. (We have added a link to our website under the tab “**Our Chapter**”, then “**Chapter Documents**”.)

A second item of business is activities for younger members. My intent in both arenas is to convene small discussion groups of members to generate ideas. We need to make sure all of our members are finding fun in the Chapter while doing good works in our community as well as nationally in Veterans’ affairs. In the “old days”, there was a saying about accomplishing major, sizeable goals—“You eat an elephant one bite at a time.” A Four Star award and positioning for scholarships were big chunks in 2014 —congratulations to all of you. So now, we take on bigger goals.

I believe there is more fun for all and the results are better when together we grab an oar and pull. Don’t think about what you can’t do; think about what you can do.

Best to everyone,  
Steve



## UPCOMING EVENTS

- 11 Apr – 10am – 12pm **Board Meeting** | John Knox Village, Pompano Beach (Heritage Tower)
- 12 Apr – 11:30am – 2:30pm **BCC MOAA Luncheon** | Lighthouse Pt. Yacht & Racquet Club
- 18 Apr – 6:00pm – 11:30pm **South FL Coast Guard Ball** | Miami Marriott/Biscayne Bay



## CHAPTER CONCERNS AND INFORMATION

Please provide illness or other caring information regarding our members to our **Chaplain/Personal Affairs Chairman or 3<sup>rd</sup> VP (Personal Affairs, Awards.)**

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.

### **Chapter elected officers include:**

*President:* LTC Steven Bettner | USA  
954.942.3651

*1<sup>st</sup> Vice President:* LtCol David Harper | USAF  
954.249.8868; *Programs, JROTC, Funding*

*2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President:* 1LT Michael Hunt | USA  
954.439.8925, *Membership*

*3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President:* MAJ Fred Richards | USAF  
305.915.8322; *Personal Affairs & Awards*

*Secretary:* Jean Bettner 954-942-3651

*Treasurer:* LtCol Charles Radoy, USAF  
561.733.7276

*Chaplain:* LTC Ronald Burgess |USA  
954.450.8823

# HAPPY EASTER

## The Extravagance of God

Springtime and the weeks after Passover and Easter is a good time to think about God's extravagance toward us. The word extravagance has a bad connotation for most of us. We usually think of it in terms of wasteful spending of money. We say a person has extravagant ideas, lives beyond his means, and goes beyond the limits of what is reasonable and moderate. However, when we look about us, we see everywhere evidences of the extravagance of God. One of our cardinal sins is that of trying to wall Him up, confine Him to our human limitations, think of Him in terms of our own limited vision.

God's extravagance is evident in nature—the glory of a sunset, the majesty of the mountains, the vastness of the sea. It is also evident in Passover and Easter. How stingy we are in our concept of God's greatness. God is lavishly, excessively, outrageously loving in every iota of His infinite being. It's His nature. When we realize just how extravagant and outrageous His love is for us, it unleashes in our hearts and minds in an extravagance of devotion that transforms life into an experience previously inconceivable.

Consider the kind of extravagant love the Father has lavished on us—He calls us children of God! When we feel like we are not good enough to be loved by God, we should remember that God's love is greater than our doubts. We must silence the sounds of condemnation so we can hear the voice of God's loving assurance and remember that He has selected us to be part of His family—with all of our faults and our God-given potential.

Our response to human events must be one of faith in an extravagant God who is the father of all men and active in human affairs. We have the awesome responsibility to be a part of the extravagance of God's new creation, observing world events and try to discern divine purpose in them and move in that direction.



## CHAPTER HAPPENINGS

### 'Today's Army' Presentation at March Luncheon

Broward County Army Recruiting Command presents "Today's Army" at the March Luncheon.

The Broward County Company Commander and 1st Sergeant presented an overview outlining the status of Army recruiting for this year. They discussed how difficult it is just to qualify; just one in ten qualifies based on school and social records. Florida has little problem making its goals, whereas the Northeast U.S. almost always falls short.

The program ended due to time constraints - not because of lack of interest or questions.



LTC Steve Bettner, USA (Ret), presenting Chapter Certificate of Appreciation to MAJ Greg Shepard, USA, for the "Today's Army" presentation.



LTC Leo Gray, Pam Shepard, MAJ Greg Shepard, Lynn Warrick, 1st Sgt Richard Conner, Barbara Boynton, Loretta Young and Fred Richards gather after the Luncheon.

COL Richard Louis Evans (USAF, Ret) Born Aug 1, 1921 in Kalamazoo, Mich., passed into our Lord's care March 27, 2015. Survived by his loving wife of 70 years, Maggie, daughter Nancy (Norm) Rack, grandchildren Tina-Margaret Steele, Todd (Rebekka) Trahan, great-grandchildren Nicolette Steele, Tyler & Jordan Mocello, Amanda & Jason Rack.

COL Evans completed pilot training and was commissioned in August 1943. He flew in the Western Pacific & New Guinea combat campaigns during WW II, served in the Korean and Vietnam conflicts, earning the Air Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, World War II Victory Medal, and Korean and Vietnam Service Medals. He retired from active service in March 1973 making Ft. Lauderdale his home.

He was an amazing husband, father, and Gramps to his family and we are so fortunate to have had him in our lives. A celebration of his life will be held at Kraeer Funeral Home, 200 N. Federal Hwy, Pompano Beach March 31st at 4-5pm.

In lieu of flowers, the family would ask for donations made in his name to the DAV Charitable Service Trust.

## IN MEMORY OF



**COL RICHARD LOUIS EVANS**  
COLONEL | US AIR FORCE (RETIRED)

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

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

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## 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](http://www.moaa.org/discounts).

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### Important Broward MOAA links:

- **Home Page:**  
<http://www.browardmoaa.com/>
- **Calendar Link:**  
<http://www.browardmoaa.com/#!calendar/c137c>
- **Booster Club:**  
<http://www.browardmoaa.com/#!booster-club-members/c2q6>
- **Newsletters (some dating back to 2002!):**  
<http://www.browardmoaa.com/#!newsletters/c24sm>

