

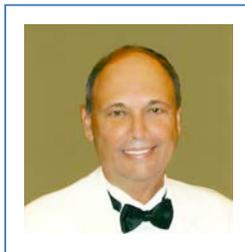
OFFICER'S CALL

MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

BROWARD COUNTY CHAPTER, INC.

April 2014

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



The year has just started and here we are near our summer break. Man, time moves fast. The presentations at our luncheons are getting more interesting, but some of you are missing valuable information regarding support for Veterans in Broward County. You need plan to attend some of these to enjoy a little social time and a lot of knowledge. Contained herein are synopses of our previous meetings and the upcoming one for April. In May, our luncheon will be our annual Memorial service.

On the political front, the battle in DC continues on military cuts. The current issue of the national MOAA magazine contains cards to be signed and mailed to our Congressional Representatives. Please show your support for today's military—sign and forward the cards. This entire battle is, in my opinion, a long way from over. This is an election year, 2014, which could greatly impact the entire argument. That is yet to be seen. I would encourage you to make sure you are properly registered. If you may be out of town in November, sign up for your Absentee Ballot. Whatever you chose, **vote**. If you need help, please contact one of the Chapter Officers.

On the Chapter front, our modernization of the infrastructure continues to improve. We are very close to being able to begin some significant growth. But, against this background, I'll repeat what I have said many times, this is not my Chapter nor the Board's Chapter...it is **your Chapter** and we need your help. You'll hear more about how you can help grow and make this a vibrant Chapter.

In the meantime, take care, be safe and see you on April 27th.

Very best, Steve.

UPCOMING EVENTS

April Luncheon—April 27 – Begin assembling at 1130. LHPYRC, Brunch Buffet | RSVP: LtCol Sam J Trichilo 954-752-1280 or LtCol Steve Bettner 954-942-3651. **Coats Preferred**. Cost is \$30.00/person payable to MOAA/BCC.

May Luncheon & Annual Memorial Service—May 18 - Begin assembling at 1130 LHPYRC | RSVP: LtCol Sam J Trichilo 954-752-1280 or LtCol Steve Bettner 954-942-3651. This meeting will be our **Annual Memorial Meeting**, organized and conducted by Sam Trichilo. For this meeting **coat is preferred, but uniforms are most appropriate** due to the subject of the service. George Graveson and David Harper will assist.

Due to Summer break, the May event is our last Luncheon until Oct 2014.

Our summer picnic will be held **August 16** at the Aegean Condominium, 1000 South Ocean Blvd, Pompano Beach - same location as the 2013 picnic.

BOARD MEETING & JROTC AWARDS

May 10, 2014 – at American Legion Post 142, (behind city Hall, Pompano Beach) 171 American Legion Blvd. (SW 2nd St). Enter the meeting room through the Lounge at the Northeast corner of the American Legion Hall. **Breakfast will be served at 0900. The Business Meeting will begin at 1000.** Board members, please call the host, LtCol Sam Trichilo (954) 752-1280 to advise if you do not plan to attend. Other members of the Chapter are also invited to attend. They are requested to call LtCol Trichilo to advise if they do plan to attend.

OTHER EVENTS

May 29, 2014 – Pompano Beach High School JROTC 5K Run for Paralyzed Veterans. Contact Lynn Warrick or Napoleon Solajes of our chapter.

June 6-8, 2014 – Florida State Council Convention, St Petersburg, FL. This is the annual statewide Convention which allows you to meet with many members of the National MOAA Staff, and ask questions about National Organizations functions, etc. More important for this is a chance to meet members of other Chapters and discuss their issues.

Broward County Chapter – Summer Break: June-Sept/2014



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

Legal: CPT Ed Fink |USN 954-524-2889

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

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER PASSOVER AND EASTER

What do Passover and Easter have in common? We could spend much time talking about how they differ, but what do they have in common? I can think of two themes—freedom and uniqueness. One Rabbi, Barry Leff, of British Columbia, Canada, says the usual response he gets when he asks for the meaning of Passover is “freedom.” *The Passover meal, Seder, commemorates the deliverance of Israel from slavery in Egypt.* Celebrating freedom certainly is part of the Passover story, but “it’s not simply a “freedom from”—freedom from oppression, freedom from living in fear, but more than that, it is “freedom to”—freedom to serve God.”

In Christianity Easter also means freedom—freedom from the fear of death and freedom from sin (a life lived outside of God’s presence). This freedom allows us the opportunity to choose a life in service to god.

And a second theme is “chosenness” or “Uniqueness.” The Exodus story is so central because it celebrates the formation of the Jewish people. Before the Exodus and giving of the Torah, on Mt. Sinai, there really wasn’t a “Jewish people.” There were 12 tribes descended from Abraham, but it wasn’t until they left Egypt and received the Torah that they really became the “Jewish people.” The Exodus story celebrates their “chosenness,” their uniqueness. The New Testament for Christians puts it this way: “You are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people that you may proclaim the

praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light (I Peter 2:9).”

Both Jews and Christians think of themselves as being blessed, chosen by God for a purpose (mission)--to be a blessing to others. A certain amount of “freedom from” is a necessary precondition to “freedom to.” The “children of Abraham” needed to be free of the demands of the Egyptians before they could be free to serve God. Today, each one of us needs to be free from whatever our Egypt is to be able to serve God, family, and God’s people. One of the most common recurring phrases in the Torah is “because you were strangers in Egypt.” The Jewish people are admonished not to wrong the stranger, because they were strangers in Egypt. Rabbi Barry Leff says, “We celebrate our uniqueness through the Exodus story, but it is for the purpose of carrying a universal message to be kind to the “other.” We know what it is like to be the “other.” We are told over and over again (36 times) to remember that WE were slaves in Egypt.”

When you celebrate Passover and Easter this year, remember that the holiday is NOT just about celebrating freedom from Egyptian enslavement. Spend a few minutes of your Seder and Easter conversation exploring the question of why God wanted us to be free. What is the “freedom to” we are commanded to pursue? Are we light for a darkened world? We have been blessed; let us now use our freedom and our uniqueness to be a blessing.

FOLLOW-UP: MARCH PRESENTATION

We had another successful and informative Luncheon on March 23 regarding the VA Services available in Broward County.



Pictured above are Dr. Greenberg, Caaron "Doc" Snover, and Sandi Fritz prior to their VA Presentations. The information was helpful and there were a lot of questions. Thanks to them for a great afternoon.

APRIL PRESENTATION – MISSION UNITED

Our next luncheon will feature a presentation from the Mission United folks of Broward County. They provide free services for Veterans' not provided by the VA or the government. They are a new and growing part of the Broward County United Way, devoted solely to Veterans. You will find their presentation both inspiring and energetic. Since they are a part of the United Way it will present us with opportunities for Volunteering. Presenters will be Carlos Molinet and Jonathan Davidson. **This will be on Sunday April 27. At 1230 at the LPYRC.**



DID YOU SEE THIS ARTICLE IN MILITARY.COM?

April 17, 2014 – Bryant Jordan

Veterans being treated at Department of Veterans Affairs hospitals have given the agency high marks in customer satisfaction, according to a survey conducted by an independent company.



The American Customer Satisfaction Index, which conducts surveys for government and private sector services, rated the VA 84 for inpatient care and 82 for outpatient care on a 100-point scale. Those numbers compare favorably with the private sector hospitals for inpatient and outpatient care, which place 80 and 83, respectively, on the index.

"Our nation's veterans deserve the best care, and the ACSI survey results help us better understand how veterans feel about their overall health care experience at VA," VA Secretary Eric Shinseki said. "There is always more work to do, and we are focused on continuous improvement to the care we provide."



*Who is this guy in the Blue Uniform??
HINT: The Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University ROTC Ball.*

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

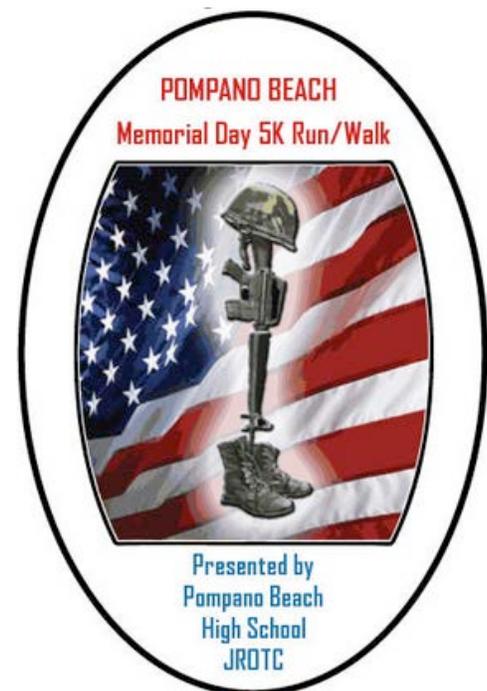
P.O. Box 8552

Deerfield Beach, FL 33443-8552

Pompano Beach High School JROTC 5k Run for Paralyzed Veterans.

On May 29, 2014, the PBHS is sponsoring this event. If you want to participate, please contact Lynn Warrick, 954-545-9377 or Napoleon Solajes, 302-465-2839.

With this run, there will also be an opportunity for Volunteers to help with administration. It's a good chance for our Chapter to begin Community activities together. And note, this is an opportunity to support Junior ROTC, which is right down our alley. More will be discussed at the next Luncheon (27 April).



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.