



# OFFICER'S CALL

## MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

BROWARD COUNTY CHAPTER, INC.

November 2014

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**November 4<sup>th</sup> is fast approaching.** The official voting position, both National MOAA and our Chapter, is to inform you of the issues and candidates, and encourage you to VOTE. It is one of the greatest privileges we have as Americans, and every member of our Chapter has proven his or her patriotism in defending this international standard for voting. So, let's use it.



In addition to winning the MOAA Four Star Award, I see signs daily of our Chapter making progress. The most major, I believe, is that next year we will have sufficient discretionary funds to begin awarding some scholarships. It will be relatively small in the beginning, but it will grow over time. Nonetheless, it is a huge step forward. Some other steps are: a definite increase of volunteers wanting to help by being on a committee or becoming an elected officer; a definite increase in members' usage of the website to communicate, and obtain information about the Chapter and events; and a definite decrease in mail-out requirements which is cost saving to the Chapter. So, get on board and volunteer for a committee of your liking. It is not that time consuming, and we need your ideas and your hands.

Coming into the Holiday Season, it is time to really count our blessings, not the least of which is our great country. Enjoy the family times of Thanksgiving and Christmas. In the New Year you will hear more about our Master Plan to grow and strengthen, so we can better fulfill our mission. We will continue to submit our Chapter for annual awards to see where we are compared to our goals.

So look for some exciting times and continued success for our Chapter.

Best to all,  
Steve

#### **8 Nov – Board Meeting:**

9:00 am – 10 am  
Sterling McClellan Post 142 |  
American Legion | 171 SW 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Street, Pompano Beach

#### **10 Nov – Fallen Heroes Ceremony**

8:00am – 9:30 am  
Pompano Beach High School,  
600 NE 13<sup>th</sup> Ave, Pompano Beach,  
FL 33060

#### **11 Nov – Veterans Day**

Honoring Veterans who have  
served in the U.S. Armed Forces

#### **16 Nov – BCC MOAA Luncheon**

12:30pm – 2:30pm,  
Lighthouse Point Yacht & Racquet  
Club, 2701 NE 42<sup>nd</sup> St., Lighthouse  
Point; \$30/person; contact Lt Col  
Bettner or LtCol Radoy for  
reservations

#### **16 Nov – Special Event Committee**

2:30pm – 3:30pm,  
Lighthouse Point Yacht & Racquet  
Club, 2701 NE 42<sup>nd</sup> St., Lighthouse  
Point

#### **21 Nov – Officer's Call Input**



## Honoring Our American Veterans

by transporting America's veterans to  
Washington, D.C. to visit those memorials  
dedicated to honor their service and sacrifices.

more pictures  
inside





## Honoring Our American Veterans

*We Shall Never Forget...*

### 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 3<sup>rd</sup> VP | Dr. Ronald Anderson, USPHS at 954.941.6189.**

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

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

*1<sup>st</sup> Vice President:* LtCol Sam Trichilo |USAF  
954-752-1280

*2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President:* LtCol David Harper |USAF  
954-249-8868

*3<sup>rd</sup> 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

At the October 19 Luncheon, Kevin Slonsky told the story of the South Florida Honor Flight which supports WWII Veterans. The flights represent an opportunity to visit Washington DC monuments and are free to the Veterans. A team of well-trained volunteers and guardians personally accompany this elite group for the one-day trip. It is a chance for our Chapter to participate in both areas and help preserve this unique Veterans' benefit.

*Dick Ware,  
Buddy Galvin,  
Steve Bettner,  
and Kevin Slonsky  
after enjoying the  
presentation.*



*Buddy Galvin (now 93) telling  
his story as a passenger on  
the first Honor Flight.*

#### **SEEING THE REAL THING.**

On October 11, Leo Gray and David Harper went to the Ft. Lauderdale airport to view the return of that day's Honor Flight. The event was well attended. Pictures highlight Leo greeting the WW veterans home. And this event, held fairly late on a Saturday evening, was attended by a large crowd.





Thanksgiving is one of our most distinctly American holidays. Few countries in the world have been able year after year to celebrate a day of thanksgiving under such consistently prosperous conditions as has the United States.

## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER



Yet that very prosperity obscures the real nature and secret of the thankful life. More and more we have been associating thankfulness with material abundance. We take pride in America as a great nation because of her physical strength, which she draws from fertile fields, rich mines, and thriving industrial centers. But that is not essentially why we are thankful. Historically, there is no evidence that the most prosperous nations have been the most grateful.

Our forefathers were thankful before they were prosperous. The significant lesson of the origin of Thanksgiving is that the spirit which has made America great is one wherein the people have had the will to give thanks in the face of adversity. Imagine holding a day of thanksgiving in a settlement half of whose inhabitants had died within the first year. The three days of festivity in that late fall of 1621 began with a church service for the fifty-five people surviving out of the 102 who had landed at Plymouth a year earlier. Fortunately, the worst was over. They had won of the friendship of the neighboring Indians, who had joined them in their celebration, and their food supply had improved. But it was still and lean and lonely environment.

On October 3, 1863, Abraham Lincoln proclaimed, by Act of Congress, an annual National Day of Thanksgiving "on the last Thursday of November, as a day of Thanksgiving and Praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the heavens." In this Thanksgiving proclamation, our 16th President says that it is...

"...announced in the Holy Scriptures and proven by all history, that those nations are blessed whose God is the Lord... But we have forgotten God. We have forgotten the gracious hand which preserved us in peace and multiplied and enriched and strengthened us, and we have vainly imagined, by the deceitfulness of our hearts, that all these blessings were produced by some superior wisdom and virtue of our own... It has seemed to me fit and proper that God should be solemnly, reverently and gratefully acknowledged, as with one heart and one voice, by the whole American people..."

## CHAPTER NEWS & ELECTIONS

At the next Luncheon (11/16) we have two items we must deal with.

- 1) **Approval of the rewritten By-Laws**, and
- 2) **Election of the *Slate of Officers* for the next 2 years.**

**Item #1 (By-Laws):** We have circulated a copy to all electronically, and those who indicated they needed a written copy. Let one of your officers know if you want a written copy.

**Item #2 (Officer Slate):** Below is the Slate submitted by the Nominating Committee. Nominations from the floor will be accepted.

### Officers:

**President:** Steven Bettner, LTC USA

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President:** David Harper, LtCol USAF

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

**3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President:** Fred Richards, Major USAF

### Advisors:

Leo Gray, LtCol USAF

Janet Harrison, Auxiliary

Phillip Myers, Capt USAF

Birney Pease, COL USAF



So, come prepared to vote. Note that of the eight nominations, four are new volunteers to help shepherd our Chapter. We should be proud of the growth in participation by the members.

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

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



**WE WANT YOU!**

**We're Hiring!!!** We still need more  
volunteers...

**Legislative  
Liaison** & **Membership  
Committee  
Chairman**

*are two of the most important.*

*Ask any Board member about the positions.*

CHAPTER WEBSITE: [www.browardmoaa.com](http://www.browardmoaa.com)

WISHING YOU & YOUR  
FAMILY A HAPPY AND  
SAFE HOLIDAY...



## 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).