

OFFICER'S CALL

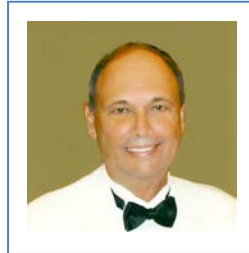
MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

BROWARD COUNTY CHAPTER, INC.

December 2014

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We are now reaching the end of another year. It has been a momentous year for both our country and our Chapter. For our country, we have completed another mid-term year election, and will have an interesting final two years of this Presidency. However, both MOAA and our mission remain the same. We will likely continue to experience the diminishing resource and end strength of our Armed Forces that we have witnessed in the past. Everyone should stay close for the position of MOAA so we can reinforce it at the grassroots level.



In terms of our Chapter, the award of a National Four Star Level of Excellence status has been the most momentous occasion of late, and the culmination of a lot of hard work by all of you. When I attended the National MOAA Convention, several folks asked me just how soon we would be a Five Star Chapter. We have "set the bar" and now we're being watched for our progress. Some of your accomplishments this year include: continuing growth and use of our website; becoming a strategic partner with the Broward County JROTC to assist in the growth and maturation of our youth; having sufficient funds at year end to begin a scholarship fund; achieving cost savings through streamlining operating expenses; having an unprecedented number of members step forward to be a part of the Volunteer Board of Advisors and Committees; and updating the By-Laws to reflect our vision of the future.

If you would like a glimpse of this, please come to the January 11 Luncheon which will be followed by the Chapter Business Meeting. Reminder: December 6 is our Christmas Gala Luncheon at LHPYRC as we prepare for the New Year.

So, I congratulate all of you in having a banner year and setting a new standard. More will follow in the future.

Jean and I sincerely hope you and yours have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

The very best,
Steve

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

7 Dec – BCC MOAA Luncheon
12:30pm – 2:30pm | Lighthouse Point
Yacht & Racquet Club, 2701 NE 42nd
St., Lighthouse Point; \$30/person;
contact LTC Bettner or LtCol Radoy for
reservations

15 Dec – Officer's Call Input

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

11 Jan – BCC MOAA Luncheon
12:30pm – 2:30pm | 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



"JROTC is important element in our mission."

more details
inside



The district's 63 retired military officers and non-commissioned officers instruct approximately 7,200 cadets, and support over 1,500 school and community activities annually.



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



JROTC PROGRAM

LTC Green is the Broward County School Board Coordinator for JROTC and Military Programs and is responsible to the Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Robert Runcie.

LTC Green spoke about the purpose of the JROTC program and the success in Broward County. The Cadets, all volunteers, learn discipline, teamwork and leadership skills combined with academic achievement. Most important of all, the Broward County Cadets, 7800+, have a 98%+ graduation rate. This is one of the reasons our Chapter considers JROTC an important element in our mission, "Preserve National Security."

A large proportion of our next generation of national leaders from all professions will likely come from these Cadets. LTC Green addressed the Chapter about JROTC being a step in our Chapter's partnership with his program and as a foundation for awarding scholarships next year. The luncheon was a success with 54 Chapter members and guests attesting to their enthusiasm of the JROTC initiatives.

*LTC Bettner (Ret),
Chapter President,
presents LTC Green
(Ret) with a Broward
County MOAA
Chapter Certificate of
Appreciation.*



ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The Coordinator Junior ROTC and Military Programs monitors the military aspects of 19 Army, 5 Navy, 3 Air Force, 2 Marine, 1 Military Academy and 12 Middle School Leadership Development Programs. The Coordinator serves as the single point of contact for all JROTC related matters and ensures instructors and programs are in compliance with published military and civilian standards. The district's 63 retired military officers and non-commissioned officers instruct approximately 7,200 cadets, coach JROTC athletic and academic teams, mentor college bound cadets, raise funds, and support over 1,500 school and community activities annually.



CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Christmas and Hanukkah both celebrate God's intervention in human history in a positive way--Hanukkah through the eternal flame, the symbol of God's presence; and Christmas through the birth of a child. Both celebrate God's concern, His love, for people.

There is a better thing than just the observance of Christmas and Hanukkah, and that is, keeping its spirit—the turning on of the light within. Are you willing to forget what you have done for other people, and to remember what other people have done for you; to ignore what the world owes you and to think what you owe the world; to put your rights in the background and your duties in the middle distance, and your chances to do a little more than your duty in the foreground; to see that your fellowmen are just as real as you are, and to try to look behind their faces to their hearts, hungry for joy; to own that probably the only good reason for our existence is not what we are going to get out of life, but what we are going to give to life; to close your book of complaints against the management of the universe, and look around you for a place where you can sow a few seeds of happiness—are you will to do these things, even for a day?

Are you willing to stoop down and consider the needs and desires of little children, to remember the weakness and loneliness of people who are growing old; to stop asking how much your friends love you, and ask yourself whether you love them enough; to bear in mind the things that other people have to bear in their hearts; to try to understand what those who live in the same house with you really want, without waiting for them to tell you; to trim your lamp so that it will give more light and less smoke, and to carry it in front so that your shadow will fall behind you, to make a grave for your ugly thoughts, and a garden for your good thoughts—are you willing to do this even for a day? Then you are keeping Christmas and the deeper meaning of Hanukkah!

If the spirit of these holidays were with us every day...some revolutionary events would occur:

Selfishness would die a death of starvation.

Avarice would be hung higher than Haman.

Foolish pride would go down in crushing defeat.

Senseless strife and silly bickering would shame each other to death.

Our prayer for the unity of all mankind would be answered.

Racial animosities would be drowned in a sea of brotherhood.

War, with all its horrors, its brutality, its devilishness, would be an utter impossibility.

"Peace on earth" would become a glorious reality.

VETERAN'S DAY EVENT

John Knox Village

Chapter members and some 75 Veterans present participated in an event honoring all Broward County Veterans. The event featured bagpipes leading the posting of the colors, members of the Broward County Sheriff's Department, members of the Pompano Beach fire Department, and MOAA honoring the Veterans. That was followed by a few war stories—and a lot of laughs-- from WW II Veterans. The event closed with beautiful music provided by a professional soloist. We have been invited to participate in the event next year.



Steve Bettner and Greg Fitch, the host of the Veteran's Day service.

**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*

In this space in our future newsletters, you will see a new column, advising you of MOAA Legislative issues and our resultant activities. Thaddeus Hamilton has volunteered to be our Legislative Liaison Chair, filling a major void in our Chapter administration. He will be responsible for recommending and coordinating Broward County MOAA Legislative activities, from local government to national Congressmen and Senators. For example, very recently, it was noted that MOAA National met with Congressmen to defend the Pay and benefits of Active and Retired Military personnel. The article in Military .com also noted that thousands of notes from MOAA members were received Thanks to Thaddeus for helping and taking on this challenging job for the Chapter.

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.