



OFFICER'S CALL

MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

BROWARD COUNTY CHAPTER, INC.

February 2015

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

At the January luncheon, we held our annual Business Meeting, completed the swearing-in of new officers and advisors, and designated a new Advisory Board. Based on our new By-Laws, we will not have another swearing-in until January 2017. The Business Meeting is very important in terms of where we are and where we are going as a Chapter—plus, it's your opportunity to ask your board the hard questions. We have made some great progress in the last couple of years, and we want to make sure you know all about it. So, in January 2016, we will hold our next Business Meeting, and I hope you plan to attend.



As I thought about the theme for our summer picnic—"WW II plus 70"—another event came to mind. January 27, 1945 is generally observed by the Jewish community as the Anniversary of their Liberation from Auschwitz by Russian troops. Reading some of those stories of survivors brings to mind the terrible tragedy of man's inhumanity to man, and how the world swore, "This will never happen again." Remember, many of those murdered were not Jewish, but Polish POWs and other enemies of the Third Reich. Against that background, our world situation today amplifies our need to stay with the major part of our mission, "Preserving National Security." It appears to this "grizzled veteran" that another struggle is inevitable. And it will be the next generation's fight, not ours. So anything we can do to help prepare for this is our goal. Many people lament the "softening" of today's youth. I say "Stop reading (and listening to) the sensationalized stories about what is the minority of the future generation." Visit our High Schools, get involved and you'll see the American spirit is alive and well.

So, that's our goal for the coming years. Let's stick to it.
Best, Steve

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

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

22 Mar – 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 Mar – Officer's Call Input

21 – 24 May – FCOC Annual Convention, St. Augustine, FL

5 – 10 Dec – FCOC Cruise. Register online. See details on our web calendar.

ANNUAL DUES REMINDER: \$30 for regular membership; \$15 for auxiliary membership.

TO PAY ONLINE:

- Go to the National MOAA website (www.moaa.org)
- Click on "Chapters"
- Click on "Online Chapter Dues Payment"
- Click on "Join or Renew Your Chapter Dues"
- Enter the required information
- Upon completion, you will receive an email payment confirmation

TO PAY BY CHECK: Of course, you can always pay your dues the traditional way. Please send your check payable to MOAA-BCC to:

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



CHAPTER CONCERNS AND INFORMATION

Please provide illness or other caring information regarding our members to our **President, or 3rd VP or Chaplain.**

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

1st Vice President: LtCol David Harper | USAF
954.249.8868

2nd Vice President: 1LT Michael Hunt | USA
954.439.8925

3rd Vice President: MAJ Fred Richards | USAF
305.915.8322

Secretary: Jean Bettner 954-942-3651

Treasurer: LtCol Charles Radoy, USAF
561.733.7276

Chaplain: LTC Ronald Burgess | USA
954.450.8823

IN MEMORIAM...

COL Birney T. Pease

Birney passed away peacefully on January 4, 2015. His passing represents a tremendous void both in friendship and achievement for our Chapter.

Birney was constantly looking for ways to improve our Chapter, and it was with the greatest of joy that we told him the Chapter had won a National award. Birney was instrumental in preparing our submission and set his usual high standard.

For those of you interested, we have set up the memorial on our website, which contains his biography and a myriad of his accomplishments. But most importantly, Birney was a friend to all of us, a testimony to his faith in God. Birney, old Buddy, rest in peace, and we'll see you at the last "Stand To".

Lovingly, the men and women of the Broward County Chapter.



CHAPTER HONORS

Another honor for our "Children"

Chris Williams a Chapter "son" and his Embry-Riddle University Army ROTC Ranger Team won the Southeastern US competition, and will be moving on to the National finals in the spring. The National Finals will be held at West Point, NY. Chris is at the lower left in the picture. Good Luck to Chris and his team.



The Southeastern Champion Embry-Riddle Army Ranger Team

Another one of our "star protégés" (and Webmaster) received an award from her "real" job and customers

"This years' award for Marketing STAR Excellence is being presented to two individuals who are incredibly responsive, conceptual and creative; they have identified an efficient proposal completion process and are consistently looking for ways to improve, and always do it with a positive attitude and a can-do mind-set. Their design skills always shine through and their attention to detail as a team is extraordinary. Tasha and Rachel have provided the Denver team with exceptional service over the last year...." (Cited from NGKF Article)

- Congrats and thank you for your extraordinary efforts!



Tasha Prinkey (pic on right) is our Chapter's Webmaster & Newsletter designer.



The 2015 Board of Advisors is sworn in by LTC Marc Oliveri, (USA-Ret) on Left. Board consists of (l-r) Steve Bettner, Dave Harper, Phil Myers, Janet Harrison and Leo Gray. Mike Hunt and Fred Richards were absent.

2015 BOARD OF ADVISORS



LTC Steve Bettner (USA, Ret), Chapter President, presents the Annual Plan.

BOARD OF ADVISORS – SWEARING IN CEREMONY

The Chapter Annual Business Meeting was held on January 11th at the Yacht Club. The swearing in was followed by the business discussion, which encapsulated the Chapter performance in 2014 and plan for 2015. The Chapter's year was highlighted by the receipt of the **Four Star Level of Excellence** from MOAA National. Next year appears to be even more exciting. As far as fun, get ready for these upcoming events:

- **21-24 May 2015** MOAA State Convention | St. Augustine, FL
- **15 Aug 2015** Chapter Summer Picnic
- **Dec 5-10 2015** Florida Council Cruise.

See everyone on Feb 22 at the Yacht Club.

**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**

I would like to take this opportunity to commend Col. Barry Wright, Director of Council and Chapter Affairs, MOAA National HQ. Col. Wright's presentation on January 30, 2015 was outstanding. He spoke on "Protecting National Security and Veterans' Benefits". It is imperative that we support MOAA national mission and hold the 114th Congress totally responsible for their actions and/or their non-actions.

The Committee Review on Military Compensation is here, as is the President's 2016 budget. So, Welcome to our new House Armed Service Committee Chairman, Rep. Mac Thornberry (R-Texas). As Rep. Thornberry and the 114th Congress deliberate the issues of sequestration, compensation, and other impacts, we must let our opinion be known about placing America's National defense capabilities at great risk. This is completely unacceptable and we must let each and every member of the 114th Congress know that. Sequestration could return in full force in FYs 2016 – 2021. Unless the current law is changed, sequestration will cause DOD to cut an additional 54 billion dollars in FY 2016 and a total of 269 billion dollars over the following five years. We'll have our action plan for local Representatives in place by March. Please see the Broward County Chapter of MOAA website and the National MOAA website and magazine for additional information.

- 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.