



**April/May 2019**

*The Airways is the bimonthly newsletter of the Fort Rucker Chapter, MOAA which is an Affiliate of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA). MOAA and its Affiliates are nonpartisan.*

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**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING & DINNER**  
**APRIL 13, 2019—1800 HOURS AT**  
**THE LANDING**

**OK! NOW WE ARE BEGGING. WE HAVEN'T SEEN SOME OF YOU FOR A LONG TIME. PLEASE! WE'D LIKE TO SEE YOU AGAIN! COME JOIN US AT OUR NEXT MOAA DINNER.**

**GUEST SPEAKER**

Our guest speaker this month is one of our own Fort Rucker Chapter members, *CW5 (Ret) Jim Kale*. He serves as a volunteer and docent at the US Army Aviation Museum at Fort Rucker and will present a program called *Flying the Presidents*.

For more information on CW5 Kale, see page 3.

**Social: 1800**  
**Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance: 1845**  
**Dinner: 1900**

*Fresh Fruit Salad in Lettuce Cup*  
*Southern Style Brown Sugar & Clove Glazed Ham*  
*Fresh Green Beans w/Shallots & Light Garlic*  
*Rolls & Butter*  
*Lemon Meringue Pie*  
*Unsweet Tea, Water, Coffee*

**Cost: \$22 per person**

Please make your Reservations by noon Wednesday, April 10th to Mary Rutkowski at (334) 347-4966.



**PLEASE—Cash or personal checks only!**

Persons not canceling their reservation by noon on the Friday prior to the Dinner Meeting will be responsible to our Chapter Treasurer for full payment of the meals.

## A Message from the President Lisa Bailey

Our chapter receives many requests for assistance, both financial and personal. Last month we got a letter from Dr. Blake Busbin who is the AP History teacher at Auburn High School in Auburn, Alabama. He is also the 2017 Alabama History Teacher of the Year. I found his request to be compelling and potentially very interesting for our members.

In this letter Dr. Busbin described the Auburn High School Veterans Project, a project that his students have been leading since 2014. Their purpose is to honor our veterans through preserving their history. To date, they have interviewed 276 veterans, collected several hundred photographs for their Wall of Faces Initiative and hosted a Welcome Home ceremony for Vietnam veterans in their area. In his description of their efforts, Dr. Busbin talked about how these young students have gained a great appreciation and understanding of the lived experiences of our veterans and of military history.

He has invited our chapter to participate in these interviews. He seeks those members who served in Vietnam for an audio-recorded session of oral history with his students and other veterans in the same session. These two-hour sessions will take place at Auburn

High School on Thursday, April 25th at 2 pm as well as on Friday April 26 at 10 am, 1230 pm

and 2 pm. Snacks and drinks will be provided as well as light lunch items between the 10 am and 1230 pm sessions.

The audio recordings will be provided to the participating veterans, and with their permission, submitted to the Library of Congress Veterans History Project. To aid in the interviews, questions are crafted and shared beforehand to allow the veterans flexibility in choosing memories and stories that they wish to share, and the interviews will be led by a group of 2 to 3 students, not a large audience.

This project has been officially endorsed this year by the Alabama Bicentennial as well as the Department of Defense Vietnam War Commemoration.

If you are interested in helping these students with a worthy project, please contact me for more information or Dr. Busbin directly (preferred) at 334-887-2120 (school) or 404-372-8755 (cell). His email is [wbbusbin@auburnschools.org](mailto:wbbusbin@auburnschools.org).

I have contacted Dr. Busbin about this project and have asked that he speak to our group. I will have a few handouts with me at our Chapter dinner meeting on April 13. I look forward to seeing you there.



## Legislative Report by Charlie Wigglesworth



Spring is here and our leadership at the National Headquarters is working hard to protect our benefits. In the March 2019 issue of the *Military Officer* magazine between pages 12-13 and 92-93 are letters to send to the majority and minority leaders of the House and Senate regarding the Survivor Benefits Plan-Dependency and Indemnity Compensation offset. This was a key issue during MOAAs "Storming the Hill". Next month we will be getting postcards to send to our U.S. legislators. Highly recommend we all send these in. It works!

In other news from MOAA, the following bills are being supported by MOAA:

**Federal - S 21** A bill making continuing appropriations for Coast Guard pay in the event of an appropriations act expired prior to the enactment of new appropriations (official title to be confirmed).

**Federal - HR 333** A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to permit retired members of the Armed Forces who have a service-connected disability rated less than 50 percent to receive concurrent payment of both retired pay and veterans' disability compensation, to extend eligibility for concurrent receipt to chapter 61 disability retirees with less than 20 years of service, and for other purposes.

**Federal - HR 413** A bill to

amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow the work opportunity credit to small businesses which hire individuals who are members of the Ready Reserve or National Guard, and for other purposes.

**Federal - HR 847** A bill to provide interim appropriations for the Coast Guard Retired Serviceman's Family Protection and Survivor Benefits Plans for each fiscal year after fiscal year 2018, and for other purposes.

**Federal-S 164** A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to remove the prohibition on eligibility for TRICARE Reserve Select of members of the reserve components of the Armed Forces who are eligible to enroll in a health benefits plan under chapter 89 of title 5, United States Code.

These are only a small part of what MOAA is advocating for. Be sure the check out your monthly magazine.

### VA News

The VA has approved the monies to build a VA home here in the Wiregrass. Several of the local cities are in the running for the site (Dothan, Ozark, Enterprise, Andalusia) at last report. More to follow as I get news on the great project for the veterans of our area.

## Membership Report

by *Othan Gilbert*



MOAA National recently sent a list of life and premium (annual) members of National that live in our area but do not belong to our chapter. The list included 95 life members and 116 premium members. That is a total of 211 National members that could but do not belong to our chapter for various reasons. These are our friends and neighbors; people that perhaps many of us see every day. So, next time you meet one of your officer friends, ask them if they are a member of MOAA. If they are, see if you can convince them to join the chapter. Unfortunately, nationally, only about 15% of all national members are members of local chapters. A chapter membership form can be found on our chapter web site. Remember, membership with MOAA National is a prerequisite for chapter membership.

Our chapter membership total at the time of this writing is 164. 125 of our chapter members are life members of National.

The national MOAA website is [www.moaa.org](http://www.moaa.org) and our chapter website is [www.fortruckeremoaa.org](http://www.fortruckeremoaa.org). You might want to check the chapter website from time-to-time as photos from our dinners, minutes from our board meetings, and chapter finance reports are posted there. The phone number for MOAA National is 800-234-6622.

Othan Gilbert  
Membership Chair

### Eidsmoe Gives Presentation



SUBMITTED PHOTO

At a recent dinner meeting of the Fort Rucker Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America, John Eidsmoe gave a presentation about the life of George Washington and his impact on the early formation of our country. Eidsmoe is a retired Air Force lieutenant colonel, a retired Alabama State Defense colonel, a Mississippi State Guard colonel, a law professor at Oak Brook College of Law, a pastor and the author of 14 books. He lives in Pike Road. The president of the chapter, Maj. Lisa Bailey presents a gift to Eidsmoe.

## GUEST SPEAKER

Our guest speaker this month is one of our own Fort Rucker Chapter members, **CW5 (Ret) Jim Kale**. He serves as a volunteer and docent at the US Army Aviation Museum at Fort Rucker and will present a program called Flying the Presidents.



Jim hails from Oklahoma, where after obtaining his Bachelor of Science in Education from Southwestern State University, he joined the US Army. Upon graduation from the Rotary Wing Aviator Course, his military career included:

- > 2 assignments in Vietnam: Chinook Cargo Pilot, 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry (1969/70); Medevac Pilot 237<sup>th</sup> Medical Detachment (1972/73)
- > 2 assignments at Ft. Sill, OK (1973/75) and (1980 \5) Chinook Cargo Pilot, Bn SIP
- > 1 assignment at Ft. Meade, MD as Maintenance Test Pilot, and Medevac Pilot
- > 1 assignment in Korea, Battalion Standardization Officer (SIP Huey and Chinook) (1980)
- > 4 years in Germany, 205<sup>th</sup> Aviation Company – Chinook Pilot/Huey Pilot
- > 3 year Assignment at the Boeing Helicopter Factory, Army Acceptance Test Pilot

Among his many accomplishments, he also has vast experience both as a military and as a civilian pilot.

- > Approximately 5,000 hours in civilian airplanes
  - > Over 7,000 Helicopter hours Active Duty
  - > About 2000 Contract Helicopter hours Instrument IP at Ft. Rucker
  - > Built and flew a Piper Cub J-3 from parts
  - > Built and flew a MiniMax homebuilt airplane
- His Federal Aviation Agency (FAA) Flight Ratings include:

- \* Private Pilot (Single Engine Land and Sea)
- \* Instrument Pilot (Fixed Wing and Helicopter)
- \* Commercial Pilot (Helicopter)
- \* Airline Transport Pilot (Helicopter)
- \* Certificated Flight Instructor (Helicopter)
- \* Certificated Instrument Instructor (Helicopter)
- \* Advanced and Instrument Certificated Ground Instructor

In 2017 he was awarded the Federal Aviation Agency **WRIGHT BROTHERS MASTER PILOT AWARD** for 50 years of flying experience.

## Coffee County Arts Alliance and Center Drugs & Home Health Present

	<b>PINEY WOODS ARTS FESTIVAL</b> A Juried Arts & Crafts Show	Apr 13 9 am-5 pm Apr 14 Noon-4 pm	Enterprise State Community College
		<b>MOUNTAIN TALES FILM FESTIVAL</b> On the Quad Films Screen at Dusk	Apr 12 2-10 pm  Enterprise State Community College



**FREE ADMISSION - 334.406.ARTS (2787)**  
[www.CoffeeCountyArtsAlliance.com](http://www.CoffeeCountyArtsAlliance.com)



# TREASURER'S REPORT

by *Loel Ewart*



**Date: Monday March 11, 2019**

Net Worth of the Fort Rucker Chapter of MOAA as of 03/11/2019 is, **\$29,041.90**. These funds are in one checking account, one savings account and one Money Market Account in the Army Aviation Center Federal Credit Union (AACFCU).

**Activities Since Last Report: (02/11/19) Starting balance of \$29,084.41**

## DEPOSITS

## ACTION

02/19/19	MOAA Dinner (Dinner \$692, Sch Fund \$96)	\$788.00
02/25/19	Dues \$36, Meals \$44	80.00
02/28/19	Money Market interest	7.41
03/01/19	Feb dinner meals	88.00
	<b>Deposits Total</b>	<b>\$963.41</b>

## CHECKS:

1842	02/16/19	John Eldsmoe (Dinner speaker)	\$200.00
1843	02/19/19	IMWRF (Feb. Dinner)	805.92
		<b>Expenditures Total</b>	<b>\$1,005.92</b>
		<b>Net Decrease</b>	<b>\$42.51</b>

<b>03/14/19 Current Total Balance of</b>	<b>\$29,041.90</b>
A ACFCU checking	\$4,884.80
AACFCU Savings	\$5.41
AACFCU Money Market	\$24,151.69

<b>Reserve Total: (Minus Reserve)</b>	<b>-\$24,151.69</b>
Life Membership	\$10,610.00
MOAA reserve	\$13,541.69
<b>Minus Savings: \$5.41</b>	<b>-\$5.41</b>

**\*\*\*\*Usable Funds as March 14, 2019 (Minus reserve/savings) \$4,884.80**

**Other News** \* No outstanding bills. Scholarship Fund=\$96.00

## Graduation Awards



**DHG Swanson, WOCS 18-13, 07122018 & Lisa Bailey**



**DHG WO1 Murphy, WOCC 19-03, 12192018 & Othan Gilbert**



**DHG Young, WOCS 18-12, 06072018 & Ron Kaita**



**DHG Jones, WOCS 18-14, 07032018, & Dennis Newton**

### Department of Veterans Affairs Official Sentenced to 11 Years in Prison for \$2 Million Bribery Scheme Involving Program for Disabled Military Veterans

"A former U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) official was sentenced ...for demanding and receiving bribes from three for-profit schools in exchange for enrolling disabled military veterans in those schools and facilitating over \$2 million in payments from the VA using the veterans' federal benefits.

"James King, 63, of Baltimore, Maryland, previously pleaded guilty to an Information alleging one count of honest services and money/property wire fraud, one count of bribery of a public official, and one count of falsifying records to obstruct an investigation. King was sentenced...to serve 132 months in prison to be followed by three years of supervised release, and to pay \$155,000 in restitution to the VA. Earlier this week, Judge Bates sentenced three school owners and employees who admitted to bribing King...."

*Extracted from www.va.gov.*



**LDR WO1 Walker, WOCC 19-03-12, 192018 & Othan Gilbert**

**Retired Officer Wives  
Association (RWOA)  
by Mary Jane Collins**



Spring Greetings Everyone,

As we bid the winter months farewell, we continue writing our history, marching forward with harmony in the rebirth of nature and the brighter, lengthy days on the wings of springtime. Winds of change escort the arrival of the year's third month as birds joyously announce the new season with trees budding and colorful blossoms appearing in array.

As the winter drew nearer to closing, the ROWA February luncheon brought special guests for a Valentine theme to enjoy "Sweet friends and Sweethearts" at the Silver Wings for a delicious lunch and enjoyable fellowship. As Solomon noted, the wisdom of a loving heart is a fountain of joy. Alabama history was shared about Marti Gras and Lent. Door prizes drawn were chocolate hearts. Marching on, the next luncheon with delicious salads by the Ice House, brought Alabama history personified, represented by mystery guests.

As the history was given, the guests revealed some of Alabama's well known and finest: First Lady and Senator Dixie Bibb Graves; Marine WW2 Pacific Veteran /Author, Eugene Sledge; First Lady and Governor Lurleen Wallace; Miss America Heather Whitestone; Singer Lifetime Grammy, Emmylou Harris. These interesting, informative presentations gave us a greater appreciation of those from Alabama who contributed to the lives of many worldwide. ROWA President Carol Lee Dawson expressed appreciation to our membership and noted that the officers for the next term would be elected in April.

Wives and widows of all retired military officers are eligible for membership and guests are always welcome. Reservations: By the Friday beforehand to Mary 334 347 4966

**April 9 The Landing—"Southern Belle and Tea" - Style Show**  
**May 14 The Landing—"Alabama the Beautiful" - Installation of Officers**



(L to R) Mary Jane Collins, Karyn Kaempf, Esse Muskopf, Mary Emery, Carol Lee Dawson



(L to R) Jim Muskopf, Ray Collins, Al Apel, Ken Bedsole, Burle Dawson, John Newton

**Important Dates  
for MOAA - Fort  
Rucker Chapter,  
Calendar Year 2019**



Board of Directors' Meeting	Newsletter Input Suspense	Bimonthly Dinner Meeting
8 Apr 2019		13 Apr 2019
13 May 2019	15 May 2019	
10 Jun 2019		15 Jun 2019
8 Jul 2019	17 Jul 2019	
12 Aug 2019		17 Aug 2019
9 Sep 2019	18 Sep 2019	
7 Oct 2019		19 Oct 2019
4 Nov 2019	13 Nov 2019	
9 Dec 2019		14 Dec 2019

**WOA Above the Best  
Silver Chapter**

P.O.Box 620951  
Fort Rucker, AL 36362

Chapter Contacts

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ftruckerwoa@gmail.com

facebook:  
AboveTheBestSilverChapterUSAWOA



**WOA Above the Best  
Silver Chapter**

Chapter calendar  
Memorabilia  
Community Events

<https://sites.google.com/site/ftruckerwoa/>



To our Google Site

**PICTURES FROM FEBRUARY 16th MOAA MEETING & DINNER**



Lisa Bailey & John Eidsmoe



Ron & Lark Kaita



Dennis Newton & Al Apel



Randy Godfrey & Bob Littlefield



Martha & Ben McKee



Dee Gilbert, Darlene & Russell Smith



Lisa Bailey & Fred Latremore



Don Cullen & Randy Godfrey



Bob & Linda Littlefield

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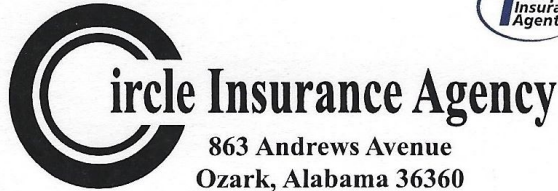


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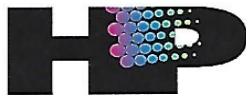


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**MOAA, Ft. Rucker Chapter  
P.O. Box 620075  
Ft. Rucker, AL 36362-0075**

*Return Service Requested*

**MOAA Membership Application  
Fort Rucker Chapter**

**Fort Rucker Chapter  
Military Officers Association of America (MOAA)  
PO Box 620075  
Fort Rucker, AL 36362-0075**

Enclosed is my check, in accordance with the schedule below, for membership in the Fort Rucker Chapter of the *Military Officers Association of America (MOAA)*.

Individual joining: 1 Dec – 28 Feb \$12.00; 1 Mar – 31 May \$9.00; 1 Jun – 31 August \$6.00; Membership 1 Sep – 30 Nov \$3.00.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ RANK: \_\_\_\_\_

BRANCH OF SERVICE: \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF BIRTH: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

SPOUSE'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

NATIONAL MOAA MEMBERSHIP # \_\_\_\_\_ National Life Member? \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership in the National MOAA is required for membership in our local Chapter. If you are a member of National and do not know your membership number so indicate and we will obtain it from National.**

**Make checks payable to Fort Rucker Chapter MOAA Thank you for your support!**

**Web address: [www.FortRuckerMOAA.org](http://www.FortRuckerMOAA.org)**