

February—March 2022

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- >President’s Message 1 & 3
- >Guest Speaker 1
- >Membership Report 2
- >Legislative Report 2
- >ROWA Report 3
- >Treasurer’s Report 4
- >Good News for Bad Times 4 & 6
- >Dec. Dinner Photos 5 & 6
- >2022 Calendar & Good From Bad 6
- >Sponsors’ Ads 7
- >Membership Form 8

The MOAA 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.
 Ft. Rucker Chapter MOAA, P.O. Box 620075, Fort Rucker, Alabama 36322
 Email: moaa@fortruckermoaa.org; Website: <http://www.fortruckermoaa.org>

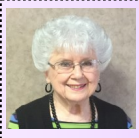
**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING FEBRUARY 19TH - 6:00 PM,
 THE LANDING, LEGENDS ROOM, FORT RUCKER, AL**

SCHEDULE & MENU

Social: 1800
 Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance: 1845
 Dinner: 1900

- >Caesar salad
- >Thai curry chicken
- >Basmati rice
- >Green beans w/bacon & crispy onions
- >Bread pudding w/vanilla sauce
- >Unsweet tea, coffee & water

Cost: \$24.00 per meal



Whoya Gonna Call?
 Please make your Reservations by noon Wednesday, February 16th to Mary Rutkowski at (334) 347-4966. **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 reserved meals.

GUEST SPEAKER

Colonel Earle Thompson
 Auburn University

President’s Message by Ron Kaita



Hello everyone. The holidays are now behind us and 2022 will be one of the most challenging year for our State and the Nation because of record inflation and it is an election year with so many important races and candidates bombarding radio/television, internet, and yes even our mailboxes trying to garnish our vote. Please take time and research each candidate, evaluate their positions, and choose wisely in November when you vote.

On the lighter side, some winter tips are to cover those outdoor faucets to prevent freezing of pipes and water, spouts and don’t forget about those sensitive plants exposed to the cold temperatures. Winter is still with us for a few more weeks, but signs of spring coming are already showing up.

The good news is MOAA finished 2021 with a total membership of 354,138. This is the highest total MOAA membership since 2016. That is welcomed news and National has a new membership campaign, “Strength in Numbers” that promotes every additional voice counts as MOAA

works to protect and defend the earned benefits of our men and women in uniform and their families. Everyone in our chapter need to support this line of effort by helping the recruitment of new members for our association and our chapter.

MOAA’s New Legislative Action Center with its new advocacy platform “Quorum.” The Action Center will provide the latest lines of effort by MOAA with our elected officials on the hill, to include the ability for us to engage our state politicians and much more information once you sign up for access on the MOAA National Website. Please visit our chapter webpage for additional information.

A draft proposal to reduce Arlington National Cemetery (ANC) eligibility is still pending and a joint report from the DoD and the VA to the House Armed Service Committee is due this March. For our members who are interested in a burial site closer to home, the Alabama’s Spanish Fort State Veterans Memorial Cemetery expansion will add 2,762 pre-placed vault sites (casket sites), 960 Columbarium niches (above-ground

urn sites), 800 in-ground urn sites, and a Memorial wall that will include 100 sites.

One of the chapter’s important actions is our support to the US Army Warrant Officer Career College (USAWOCC) for the FY22 Honorable Order of the Eagle Rising Society (ERS). LTG Atkins is the expected presenter along with the USAWOCC Commandant, and the selected awardee. The suspense for ERS packets submission is 2 May 2022, with a ERS ceremony sometime in July 2022 at the Aviation Museum on Fort Rucker, AL. If the event is open to the public, please add this event on your calendars. The application packet forms will also be posted on our webpages for those who want to encourage applicants to submit for this prestigious award before May 2022.

Our next Chapter Dinner meeting will be held on 19 February with social hour beginning at 1800 hrs., and dinner served at 1900 hours at The Landing (formerly the Officers Club) on Fort Rucker. Our guest speaker is tentatively COL Earle Thompson of Auburn University. (see **PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE, page 3**)



Membership Report

by Othan Gilbert



Our chapter membership count is currently 137. I am pleased to report the welcome addition of 2 new chapter members: LTC Rick McCleskey and his wife, Wendy, who live in Cottonwood and CW3 Robert Williamson and his wife, Pam, who live in Dothan. They are both welcomed and their confidence in joining our chapter is appreciated.

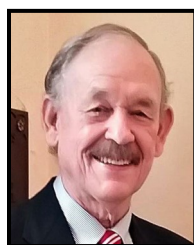
I regret to inform you of the death of one of our members, COL Thomas Walker, who lived in Newton and died on 1 January. We extend our condolences to his surviving spouse, Freddie Sue, and his family.

We all know that there are a lot of retired officers in our area. While many are not members of MOAA National, many are but are **not** members of our chapter. It is hard to understand why some have no interest in joining our chapter, particularly since our chapter dues are so low at \$12 per year. In recent years, our board has maintained a policy that new members get the first year of their chapter dues gratis to encourage joining. In any case, perhaps they need some encouragement from you to join. It is important that all chapter members are involved in chapter recruitment. Experience has shown that the best candidate for membership into the

chapter are those that are already members of MOAA National. When you find someone that wishes to join, have them go to our chapter website, download a chapter application, fill it out and return to our box at the Fort Rucker post office. No check necessary. Remember, we are not a social club and membership with MOAA National is a prerequisite to chapter membership.

The national MOAA website is moaa.org and our chapter website is fortruckermoa.org. Please check the chapter website from time-to-time as photos from our past dinners, minutes from our board meetings, and chapter finance reports are posted there. The phone number for MOAA National is 800-234-6622. If you would like to purchase a MOAA National life membership, it is better to do so by calling them direct and speaking with someone. If you do that (vs doing so over the web), they will give you a 10% discount, give you credit for your current premium membership (if applicable) and arrange payments over an extended period.

Remember to patronize the ten sponsors of our newsletter. They help to support the chapter and deserve our consideration.



Legislative Report by Ray Collins



If it weren't for the situation being such a common occurrence it would be unimaginable that this country could allow deficiencies in some basic needs areas in the life of service members. I will highlight just a few.

There is a need to be paid and for that pay to keep track with the civil sector. Sadly that need goes unheeded in the halls of congress.

The requirement to pay all branches to include the Coast Guard, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the Public Health Service has been unrecognized by congress. This need has been ignored by congress and the president when they fail to

reach agreement on the National Budget.

A "HANDS OFF" policy should be implemented to protect health care needs, requirements and expansion when the budget crunchers come looking for areas to cut.

This age of military family life is different from what was thought to be necessary in the not so long ago. Today it is important that the family unit be supported by domestic services that were unknown or didn't exist just a few years ago. Services such as day care, spousal job search assistants, youth programs and housing are important in the service members being able to concentrate on their job requirements and in their retention.



Retired Officer Wives Association (ROWA)

by Mary Jane Collins



Happy New year Everyone!

From autumn grandeur to Christmas joy in 2021, we have journeyed into the

New Year of 2022. In January we stand at the threshold of new beginnings to envision possibilities, accomplishments, advancements, prosperity, and as well continued strength for our military, and the time tested, proven

Constitution of the United States of America, ever standing firm in origin, purpose, and righteousness. January is historically known as a time for reflection from the past to the hope for the future. January hosts the Twelfth Night Festival of Christmas with singing, wassail punch, and friends. The next day is Epiphany with the celebrations of the three Kings who brought gifts for the Christ child.

Soon after these celebrations, ROWA members enjoyed their first meeting of this year with hostess Sam Newton who provided a clever list of our individual activities with interesting prizes which she gave for the most counts. Prior to these celebrations, President Susanne Bailey and members planned the term's meetings with location and nice menus at The Landing. We began in September with hostess Carolyn Wooley who entertained us with a nice interesting guessing game and a prize for the winner. October's meeting gave us an autumn theme with Faye Swinehart as hostess and everyone sharing their thoughts and memories of nature's beautiful colors. Note cards

were the prize. November, with myself as hostess, was a time of remembrance as we gathered to appreciate our Veterans for their honorable service and valor. A golden colored leaf was the prize as memories of active-duty times were shared. Christmas time with hostess Mary Rutkowski gave us a decorative meeting with festive trees and cheerful holiday plans. The ornament exchange and passing game were enjoyed with focus and laughter. Our senior member received a Christmas plant as a prize. Our members enjoyed the joyful Christmas dinner with MOAA and the festive fellowship among us.

January also provided Alabama a special winter delight as one early morning recently, a winter wonderland appeared in upper Alabama with pristine white snow covering the grounds, shrubs, trees, roofs, houses, and patios. Then latter other areas of the state received and enjoyed the same!

ROWA invites other Retired Officers Wives and guests to join our meetings: February 8, March 8, April, 12, and May 10 at The Landing at 11:00AM.

Reservations are not required but welcomed. Contact: Mary at 334 347 4966.

May each of you have a blessed New Year with something bright and beautiful every day.

(PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE from Page 1) The USAWOCC has started this year's slate of WOCS classes. As usual, our chapter will support with the presentation of Leadership and Distinguished Honor Graduates from the Warrant Officer Candidate School. MOAA awards at every graduation for MOAA National in recognition of their achievements with a MOAA certificate, a \$100 check, and a three-year Premium membership.

I would like to remind everyone to please check out MOAA's National homepage as to the many important updates and new offerings. MOAA is constantly making new

offerings for its members. As the COVID-19 restrictions seem to be loosening on travels here and abroad, please check out the traveling opportunities and discounts offered by MOAA.

For our chapter's newest community service project, we will provide the beautification maintenance of the Wounded Warrior Cabin on East Beach at Lake Tholocco. This will be a quarterly project, approved by the Garrison Command and the Outdoors MWR Office. Our first rodeo will probably be in March 2022. This is a joint venture between us and Fort Rucker's Above the Best Silver

Chapter of the US Army Warrant Officer Association (USAWOA). It will be a quick operation, probably only an hour, followed by a snack and officer fellowship afterwards. I hope you can support this cabin beautification project to ensure our visiting wounded veterans have a first-class visiting experience.

As always, please take care of yourselves, your families, as well as prayers and well-wishes for our men and women who are deployed keeping us safe and secure. Please stay safe and be careful of your exposure to the elements.

2021 Officers & Directors

PRESIDENT—Ron Kita, 334-677-6734, ronald.kaita@twc.com

VP For PROGRAMS—Russell Smith, 334-489-4197, russell8765@twc.com

SECRETARY—Carolyn Wooley, 334-400-4603, ckwooley@troycable.net

TREASURER—Loel Ewart, 334-774-0328, lewart@troycable.net

MEMBERSHIP—Othan Gilbert, 334-432-3433, ogilbert@troycable.net

BANQUETS & ROWA REP
Mary Rutkowski, 334-347-4966

PUBLIC AFFAIRS—Russell Smith, 334-489-4197, russell8765@twc.com

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS
Charlie Wigglesworth, 334-598-2313, wigglesworthcharles@gmail.com

CHAPLAIN/WEBMASTER
Dennis Newton, 334-465-5079, drnewton@me.com

SURVIVING SPOUSE AFFAIRS
Faye Swinehart, 334-774-8817, jswinehart712@troycable.net

ROTC/JROTC—Ron Kaita, 334-677-6734, ronald.kaita@twc.com

NEWSLETTER EDITOR
Frank Estes, 334-797-9196, estesf@troycable.net

RETIREE AFFAIRS
Ray Collins, 334-774-2101, mjpcollins.ua@centurytel.net

TREASURER’S REPORT by LTC (Ret) Loel Ewart



Net Worth of the Fort Rucker Chapter of MOAA as of 01/10/2022 is **\$29,261.49**.
These funds are in one checking account, one savings account and one Money Market Account in the AllIn (FCU).

Activities Since Last Report: (12/13/21) **Starting balance of;** **\$29,893.24**

DEPOSITS	ACTION	
12/15/21	Dues \$84; Ron K donation \$100	\$184.00
12/20/21	Dec. Dinner deposit (Dues \$15; Scholarship Fund \$102; S. Auction \$170)	1077.00
12/30/21	Money Market Interest	\$10.40
01/04/22	Dues, (Circle Insurance Agency \$150; 1 three year dues)	<u>186.00</u>
	Deposits Total	\$1,457.40

CHECKS:	EXPENDITURES:	
1934 12/18/21	Mary Rutkowski (Christmas Dinner Decorations)	\$224.70
1935 12/20/21	IMWRF MOAA (Christmas Dinner)	649.45
1936 12/21/21	MOAA National (Scholarship Fund)	500.00
1937 12/22/21	The Army Gift Fund (Ft. Rucker Emergency Food Bank)	500.00
1938 01/05/22	USPS (post mail box, 1 year rent)	70.00
1939 01/06/22	ALCOC annual dues	<u>145.00</u>
	Expenditures Total	\$2,089.15
	Net Decrease	\$631.75

(01/10 /22) **Current Total Balance of;** **\$29,261.49**

	All In checking	\$4,746.59	
	All In Savings	\$5.41	
	All In Money Market	\$24,509.49	
Reserve Total:	(Minus Reserve);		-\$24,509.49
	Life Membership	\$8,610.00	
	MOAA reserve,	\$15,899.49	
	Minus Savings:	\$5.41	-\$5.41

Usable Funds as of January 10, (Minus reserve/savings) **\$4,746.59**

Other News—No outstanding bills. Scholarship Fund= \$00.00.

NOTE—We are starting January 2022 in the black.

Good News for Bad Times

“In the early 18th century, England was infected with a plague of materialism. The gap between the rich and poor was widening, but moral degeneracy marked every level of society. The Prime Minister, Robert Walpole, led an openly immoral life and often made fun of virtue. Moral laxity pervaded the nation. Drunkenness, gambling, and cruel amusements were an obsession. Crime was rampant, and criminal law was unfair and barbarous, making criminals only more desperate. The Church of England had, for the most part, ceased to be a vital force. Many ridiculed and railed at the Christian faith without reserve (these conditions summarized from A. Skevington Wood, *The Inextinguishable Blaze* [Eerdmans], pp. 9-16).

“God broke into this dismal and seemingly hopeless situation by saving a young man, George Whitefield, who had been raised in his mother’s inn and tavern. His friends, John and Charles Wesley, also were

saved out of their legalistic religion to a living faith in the Redeemer. Through these men, the good news of God’s salvation spread to that decadent society and saved it from the brink of anarchy and revolution. In his biography of Whitefield, Arnold Dallimore observes (*George Whitefield* [Cornerstone Books], 1:25):

‘We shall need to remember that it was among a people broken by gin that Whitefield and the Wesleys went about in the nobility of their ministries and that there was triumphant meaning to Charles Wesley’s lines on the deliverance effected by the Gospel:

‘Hear Him, ye deaf! His praise ye dumb,
Your loosened tongues employ;
Ye blind, behold your Savior come,
And leap ye lame for joy!

‘He breaks the power of cancelled sin,
He sets the prisoner free! (see **GOOD NEWS, page 6**)

PICTURES FROM DECEMBER 18th MOAA MEETING & DINNER



Ron Kaita & Yan



Dennis Newton, Fred Latremore, & Lisa Bailey

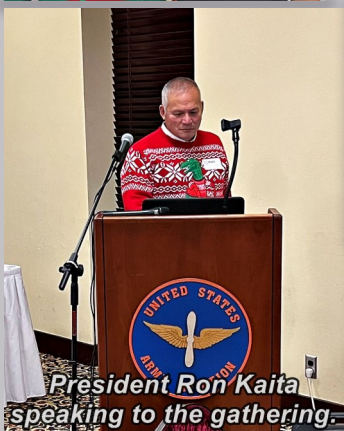
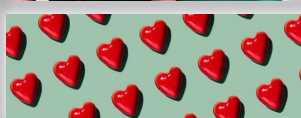


**Claudia Wigglesworth
Mary Jane Collins**

*Merry Christmas
&
Happy New Year!*



Lark & Ron Kaita



President Ron Kaita speaking to the gathering.



Bill Carter & Richard Kenyon



Mary Jane & Ray Collins



Rose & Dennis Bergstrazer



Mary Rutkowski & Carolyn Wooley



Dee & Othan Gilbert

*Merry Christmas
&
Happy New Year!*



Dennis Newton & Russell Smith



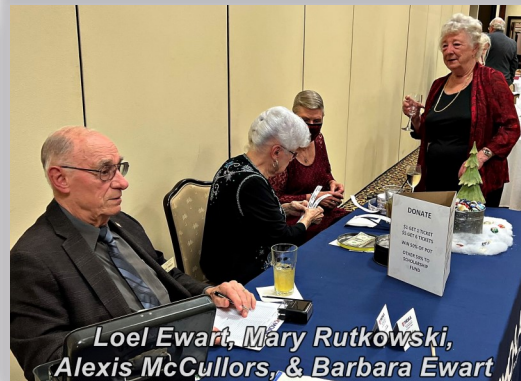
Rose Bergstrazer, Susanne Bailey, & Dee Gilbert



John & Sam Newton



Pamela & Robert Williamson



Loel Ewart, Mary Rutkowski, Alexis McCullors, & Barbara Ewart



President Ron Kaita briefing on MOAA status



Singing Christmas Carols led by Dennis Newton on the guitar.

Gem, flower, & color for February—Amethyst, Iris & Violet, & Purple

PICTURES FROM DECEMBER 18th MOAA MEETING & DINNER (continued)



Barbara & Loel Ewart



Peggy & Benny Jones



Claudia & Charlie Wigglesworth



Charlie & John Wigglesworth



Dee Gilbert
Claudia Wigglesworth
Merry Christmas
&
Happy New Year!



Susanne Bailey & Richard Kenyon



Mary Rutkowski & Alexis McCullors



Mary Rutkowski & Carolyn Wooley



Ann & Frank Estes



Susanne Bailey & Faye Swinehart

(GOOD NEWS from page 4)
His blood can make the foulest clean,
His blood availed for me!

“That same liberating, powerful message is what we need for our dismal, spiritually dark times. Let’s believe it, live it, proclaim it, and pray that God would break through in our day with His powerful Word of salvation!”

From Luke 3:1-6 and www.bible.org

“God could certainly protect us from all misfortunes, but the trials and tribulations in our lives often do much to strengthen us and get us closer to Him. It is during the hard times that we should grow closer to God, and trust Him to carry us through them. It is also during those times that our faith can grow, as we see His mighty hand of deliverance.”

(From Good from “Bad” by Bill Brinksworth)

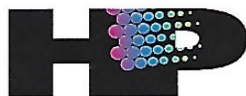
Important Dates for MOAA Ft Rucker Chapter, 2022		
Board of Directors' Meeting	Newsletter Input Suspende	Bi-Monthly Dinner Meeting
14 Feb 22		19 Feb 22
14 Mar 22	16 Mar 22	
11 Apr 22		16 Apr 22
9 May 22	18 May 22	
13 Jun 22		18 Jun 22
11 Jul 22	20 Jul 22	
8 Aug 22		20 Aug 22
12 Sep 22	21 Sep 22	
10 Oct 22		15 Oct 22
14 Nov 22	16 Nov 22	
12 Dec 22		17 Dec 22



**ENTERPRISE
PET CREMATORY**
Because Your Pet Loved You

4550 Boll Weevil Circle, Suite 2 East • Enterprise, AL 36330
334-347-0373
www.EnterprisePetCrematory.com

HOUSTON PRINTING COMPANY, INC.
"Printing Excellence Since 1912"



Danny Cosby
Owner

280 East Main Street • Post Office Box 5549 • Dothan, AL 36302
714-4767 Cell • (334) 792-6651 • (334) 792-0848 Fax
Toll Free 800-443-9088 • dannycosby@houstonprintingal.com

LAW OFFICES OF
BROCK & STOUT, LLC

GARY W. STOUT
ATTORNEY AT LAW

2731 ROSS CLARK CIRCLE DOOTHAN, AL 36301 (334) 671-5555
807 E. LEE STREET ENTERPRISE, AL 36330 (334) 393-4357

Coffee County Arts Alliance
— PRESENTS —

THE GREATEST LOVE OF ALL <i>A Tribute to Whitney Houston - Belinda Davids</i>	Feb 17, 2022 7:00 pm	Enterprise High School
SHAKESPEARE IN JAZZ <i>ALL THE WORLD'S A SONG</i>	Mar 24, 2022 7:00 pm	Elba High School
Piney Woods Arts Festival <i>Original Arts & Crafts; Children's Fun Center</i>	April 30: 9AM-5PM May 1: 12-4PM	Enterprise State Community College

THE SEASON IS DEDICATED TO THE MEMORY OF MAXWELL NEAL "JUG" BROWN
Tickets & Information: 334.406.ARTS (2787)
www.CoffeeCountyArtsAlliance.com




Circle Insurance Agency
863 Andrews Avenue
Ozark, Alabama 36360

Sammy Judah sjcircleins@troycable.net TEL. (334) 774-7177 FAX (334) 774-0907



Sorrells Funeral Home & Crematory

4550 Boll Weevil Circle
Enterprise, AL 36330
Phone 334-347-9598
Fax 334-393-7599
Email sfhenterprise@gmail.com
www.sorrellsfuneralhomeenterprise.com

Joan V. Newman, AAMS®
Financial Advisor

Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

1032 Boll Weevil Circle Ste E
P.O. Box 311507
Enterprise, AL 36331-1507
Bus. 334-347-4656 TF. 888-347-4657
Fax 866-462-3521
joan.newman@edwardjones.com
www.edwardjones.com

24 - Hr Emergency Service
334-774-8050
334-687-4550

Alabama Licenses
HVAC # 00157
Refrigeration # 51409



HAGLER
HEATING & COOLING
RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL..... WE GET IT DONE!

Clay Hagler, Owner
office@haglerac.com
clay@haglerac.com
186 North Union Ave • Ozark, AL 36360
www.haglerac.com

Eufaula Office: 334-687-4550
Ozark Office: 334-774-8050
Fax: 334-774-9186

U.S. ARMY
WARRANT OFFICER ASSOCIATION
★ ★ ★ ★ ★
ABOVE THE BEST SILVER CHAPTER
FORT RUCKER, AL 36362

PAST OR PRESENT WARRANT OFFICER?
JOIN US IN OUR MONTHLY MEETINGS! EVERY SECOND THURSDAY



FOLLOW US FOR MORE INFO →

We're **All in[®]**
2Finances



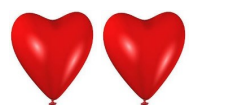
Let us help you with yours.

All in CREDIT UNION
www.allincu.com

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		
<p>Enclosed is my check, in accordance with the schedule below, for membership in the Fort Rucker Chapter of the <i>Military Officers Association of America (MOAA)</i>.</p> <p>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.</p>		
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? _____		
<p>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.</p>		
<p>Make checks payable to Fort Rucker Chapter MOAA Thank you for your support! Web address: www.FortRuckerMOAA.org</p> <div style="text-align: right;">  </div>		