

Dec 2022—Jan 2023

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- >President’s Message 1 & 2
- >Guest Speaker 1
- >Membership Report 2
- >WO & WOC Awards 2 & 4
- >ROWA Report 3
- >Legislative Report 3
- >Treasurer’s Report 4
- >MOAA Chap Calendar 6
- >Dinner Pictures 5 & 6
- >Sponsors’ Ads 6 & 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 36320
 Email: moaa@fortruckermoaa.org; Website: <http://www.fortruckermoaa.org>

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17TH - 6:00 PM DINNER,
THE LANDING, ST. MICHAEL’S ROOM, FORT RUCKER, AL

SCHEDULE & MENU

Social: 6:00 PM
Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance: 6:45 AM
Dinner: 7:00 PM
 >Fresh Fruit Salad
 >Prim Rib, gravy on side, creamed horseradish
 > Sauteed Fresh Vegetables
 >Baked Potatoes w/sour cream, shredded cheese
 > Butter rolls & butter
 >Oreo Pie
 >Sweet & unsweet tea, water, & coffee

Cost per meal: \$25.00



Whoya Gonna Call?

Please make your Reservations by noon Wednesday December 14th to Mary Rutkowski at (334) 347-4966.

Cash or personal checks only!

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

Guest Speaker— Christmas Music



President’s Message by Ron Kaita

December, please

Did all the little gobbling’s, monsters, storm troopers and princess’s ring your doorbell like crazy for Halloween? LOL! Now that Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays are here, please enjoy the holidays. Just to let you know, the Fort Rucker dining facilities will entertain military retirees and veterans to enjoy the traditional dinners after the remaining students have eaten on those holidays. The serving time is 1215 hrs, and since the holiday meals for the soldiers are being served on duty days there will be no surcharge for the actual holiday meal with all the trimmings. Just check to see which DFAC (WOC or AIT) is open on each holiday. At our next dinner meeting in

come out in force and enjoy an extra special dinner meal of prime rib and trimmings, my favorite! This will be a fun filled event as we will have lots of merriment, caroling, and some silent auction prizes to fund our annual MOAA donation for student college scholarships. Now that the mid-terms elections are behind us, we can continue to watch the actions of our representatives to encourage their support to our military service members and their families, and especially our veterans and retirees as inflation continues to impact our finances and future. MOAA will remain vigilant in approaching our civilian leadership on the military’s needs and all those who have already served and sacrificed to the greater

good of our great Nation. I had the pleasure to attend this year’s MOAA Annual Meeting of Members in Kansas City, MO where again we were presented the highest 5-star Level of Excellence Award. The 2021 award will be attached to our Chapter’s flag and streamer with all the previous awards demonstrating the great works we do for our chapter and its members. Thanks to all for making the Fort Rucker Chapter 1 of 6 from 12 Alabama MOAA Chapters to obtain this recognition. No time to rest as we prepare and plan for member actions and activities for next year’s award submission. I continue to attend each Warrant Officer Candidate School graduations. There is one this week for Class 23-02 this (see

Presidents' Message page 2)(Presidents' Message, page 1) Thursday, 14 November and upcoming Class 23-03 Wednesday, 23 November at the Aviation Museum @ 1000 hrs. The last class to graduate for this year will be on Wednesday, 14 December 2022. The MOAA awards provided at every graduation for the Distinguished Honor Graduate and Leadership Awardee is in recognition of their achievements with a MOAA certificate, a \$100 check, and a three-year Premium membership. My last MOAA briefing to WOCS Class 23-02 (Yellow Class) netted 74 new MOAA Basic Memberships from the graduating class. These new Basic Members is what grows MOAA's membership and influence on Capital Hill. We as the senior members need to support our younger officers and their families in these tough times ahead.

As always, please take care of yourselves, your families, as well as prayers and well-wishes for our men and women who are deployed world-wide keeping us safe and secure. Happy Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas to you and your loved ones at home or away.

Please stay safe and enjoy the colder weather we are experiencing. I wish all Chapter MOAA members, families, and all veterans to always remember to live our lives by MOAA's motto... Never Stop Serving.



Membership Report

by Othan Gilbert

Our chapter membership count is currently 137.

In November I will be sending out notices to pay your 2023 annual dues (\$12), if applicable. If you receive a notice, I would appreciate prompt payment. Please don't wait until the end of December.

For some years I have been taking pictures at the chapter dinner meetings and storing them on my computer. They have been transferred to our website (fortruckermoa.org). They go back primarily to 2015 but there are some from 2009 and 2011. Go look. If you have attended any of these meetings, you will probably enjoy looking at them.

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 eleven sponsors of our newsletter. They help to support the chapter and deserve our consideration.

Please join us for a

Christams Gala

Thursday December 8th, 2022

4—7:00pm

The Teerace at Grove Park

101 Tulip Lane Dothan, AL

36305

Vicky Turner, 334-792-7349



WO1 Tyler M. Martine (R): Distinguished Honor Graduate of Class 23-01, as a student with the highest class standing.

WO1 Dylan W. Jackson (L): Leadership Awardee of class 23-01, as the student denmonstrating the highest leadership attributes



Retired Officer Wives Association (ROWA)

by Mary Jane Collins

Greetings to All,

Those beautiful autumn colors still abide with us now in the eleventh month of November with trees aglow of nature's shining gold, purple, red, and yellow. While leaves dancing with the wind bring cooling temperatures, we are encouraged to find coats and scarves for warmth. Amid nature there are many special times to enjoy from the first day of November declared for Saints Day to Veteran's Day.

The appreciation and remembrance of our Veterans serving in danger with honor and protecting us and our America is well known. How thankful and blessed we are! Another Veteran, General George Washington, serving as the first President of our country, gave the first Proclamation to have a Day of Thanksgiving with prayers for the blessings given in the Almighty's new country of the United States. A high standard he gave. May our country ever be mindful and return to that standard.

Through the centuries Thanksgiving Day has been and is a happy and blessed time to be grateful and joyful with family and friends gathering to thank God and the many blessings bestowed. The feast of Thanksgiving's fare includes many traditions such as turkey, ham, casseroles, pecan pies, coconut and chocolate cakes, and much more.

November holds many other occasions as well. This year for the first time in U.S. history that a total lunar eclipse of the moon was Nov. the 8th on election day and seen by many early in the morning. How interesting.

The November ROWA members met at "The Landing" for luncheon and fellowship. Martha McKee decorated the table with autumn colors, flowers, pilgrim figures and a tray of cupcakes which was very enjoyable.

We thank the Ft. Rucker Community Spouses Club and commend the Board and members for a very well-done Annual Bazaar. The proceeds of approximately twenty thousand dollars will provide scholarships and community grants/

May you have a blessed and happy Thanksgiving.

The next ROWA meeting is Dec. 13, 2022 in "The Landing" at eleven O'clock with luncheon. Christmas ornaments will be exchanged. Guest and members are welcome.

Thank you for contacting Mary Rutkowski at 334-347-4966 for the number attending.

Let us be thankful and rejoice in the coming of Advent and Christmas. God bless!



Legislative Report

by Ray Collins



There is a requirement for a thorough Quadrennial Review of Military Compensation (QRMC) board to perform a deep study of the Military pay and benefits system at a minimum of every four years. The study is done by an extensive group of experts from all the services, the DOD, and research institutions. The Secretary of Defense is the executive agent, though by law (1967) it is the president's responsibility to undertake the review. It is not unusual for the review to exceed the four-year window. Given the average of three years to complete the review we will in all likelihood see the next review results in the fall of 2025. Some of the issues which the 14th QRMC should address are:

Basic Allowance for Housing which should include an assessment of the current BAH system and whether using the mean and median housing cost in calculation is appropriate. The bottom line should be how well the current BAH is meeting the quality-of-life standards of the service member and their family.

The assessment of the Basic Needs Allowance (BNA) should determine the number receiving in comparison to those eligible to receive Basic Needs Allowance. The Military Alliance position on the issue of what makes up income is that BAH should not be included in qualifying for BNA.

On the issue of future interment in ANC the following stand out. Since in ground burials will not reach max capacity for another 42 years, there is time to consider and thoroughly evaluate alternatives. At present, the most logical expansion possibility seems to be to expand one of the existing 155 national cemeteries into the next ANC. Other possibilities include tightening the eligibility criteria, or limit burials to cremation but the columbarium space at ANC is quickly diminishing. There is time but time passes quickly.

COLA WATCH: The August 2022 Consumer Price Index is 291.629 or 8.6% above the FY 2022 COLA baseline.



2021 Officers & Directors

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

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

SECRETARY—Carolyn Wooley, 334-400-4603, wooleyc1945@gmail.com

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

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



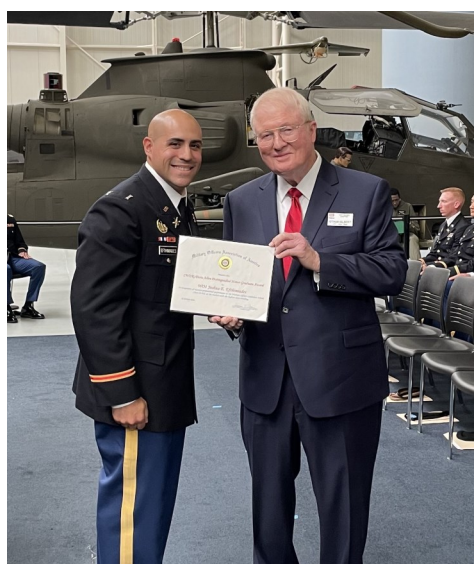
Net Worth of the Fort Rucker Chapter of MOAA as of 11/14/2022 is **\$29,395.20**. These funds are in one checking account, one savings account and one Money Market Account in the AllIn (FCU).

Activities Since Last Report: (10/03/22) **Starting balance of;** **\$29,294.87**

DEPOSITS	ACTION	
10/03/22	Ron Kaita Donation to MOAA	\$200.00
10/17/22	MOAA Dinner Receipts	772.00
10/21/22	Houston Printing (NL Sp \$150) Stan Smith (MOAA Meals \$46)	196.00
10/31/22	Money Market Interest for October	3.66
11/02/22	Coffee County Arts Alliance (NL Sp)	150.00
11/07/22	Dinner Meals (4 personnel \$92) (Ron K. Donation \$8)	<u>100.00</u>
	Deposits Total	\$1,421.66
CHECKS:	EXPENDITURES:	
1958 10/10/22	Loel Ewart (Printer Ink)	185.96
1959 10/17/22	IMWRF (MOAA Dinner)	789.75
1960 10/21/22	Dennis Newton (Web Service)	<u>345.62</u>
	Expenditures Total	\$1,321.33
	Net Increase	<u>\$100.33</u>
	(11/14 /22) Current Total Balance of;	<u>\$29,395.20</u>
	All In checking	\$7,837.09
	All In Savings	\$5.41
	All In Money Market	\$21,552.70
	Reserve Total: (Minus Reserve);	-\$21,552.70
	Life Membership	\$8,170.00
	MOAA reserve,	\$13,382.70
	Minus Savings:	\$5.41 - \$5.41

***Usable Funds as of November 14, (Minus reserve/savings) \$7,837.09**
Other News*No outstanding bills. Scholarship Fund= \$.280.00

Warrant Officer Candidate Awards



← Othan Gilbert (Right) presents the CW3 (Ret) Doris Allen Distinguished Honor Grauate Award to **WO1 Joshua E. Efthimiades** in recognition of superior professional performance in the Warrant Officer Candidate school, Class22-502 as the student with the highest class standing.



→ Othan Gilbert (Right) presents the CW4 (Ret) William L. Ruff Leadership Award to **WO1 Chantal A. Tavitian** for recognition of superior professional performance in the Warrant Officer Candidate School, Class 22-502, as the student demonstrating the highest leadership attributes.



Photos from October 15th MOAA Dinner



Mayor Blankenship receiving a memento from Ron Kaita



Allen & Karen Dunham



Bob & Dittie Cooper



Mayor Mark Blankenship



Don Cullen



Lark Kaita & Karen Dunham



Loel Ewart & Mary Rutkowski



Peggy Jones, John Newton & Benny Jones



Martha McKee



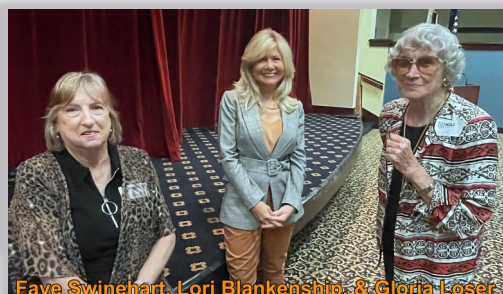
& more attendees



Clyde Wylie & Reenee George



Susan Cullen, Linda & Robert Littlefield



Faye Swinehart, Lori Blankenship, & Gloria Loser



The Whole Gathering 2

Photos from October 15th MOAA Dinner (continued)



Carolyn Wooley & Dittie Cooper



Lori Blankenship, Faye Swinehart, & Mayor Mark Blankenship



Gloria Loser & Mary Jane Collins
Speaking with Lori & Mark Blankenship



The Whole Gathering



Dinner guests & attendees



Lark Kaita, Ricky Torres, & Ron Kaita



Ricky Torres & Dennis Newton



Ray Collins & Mayor Blankenship



Shelly & Paul English



Sam Newton & Carolyn Wooley



Important Dates for MOAA Ft Rucker Chapter, 2022		
Board of Directors' Meeting	Newsletter Input Suspense	Bi-Monthly Meeting
12 Dec 22		17 Dec 22 (D)
L= Lunch on Thursdays. D= Dinner on Saturdays.		

We're **All in** 2 Finances

Let us help you with yours.

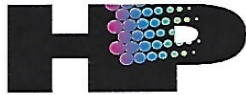
All in CREDIT UNION www.allincu.com



**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 —

MESSIAH A COMMUNITY CHORAL PRESENTATION	Dec 4, 2022 5:00 pm	First Baptist Church Enterprise
FOREVER YOUNG <i>Your Life - Your Music</i>	Feb 7, 2023 7:00 pm	Enterprise High School
ATLANTA POPS ORCHESTRA AN IRISH HEART WITH Chloë Agnew	Mar 3, 2023 7:00 pm	Enterprise High School
RESURRECTION - A JOURNEY TRIBUTE <i>The Best of Journey</i>	Apr 4, 2023 7:00 pm	Enterprise High School
PINEY WOODS ARTS FESTIVAL <i>A Juried Arts & Crafts Show</i>	Apr 22 & 23 2023	ESCC

 **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

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 

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

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

186 North Union Ave • Ozark, AL 36360
www.haglerac.com



STEVE & PAM SCHISLER
OWNER OPERATIONS

128 W. Court Square
Ozark, AL 36360
334.443.0434
loosebrickcoffee.wordpress.com

follow us on
 Facebook &  Instagram



**Sorrells Funeral Home
& Crematory**

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

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