

FORT RUCKER CHAPTER  
MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA  
BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING  
FEBRUARY 14, 2022

The meeting convened at 1230 on 14 February 2022 at the Divots Restaurant at Silver Wings Golf Course, Fort Rucker, AL and chaired by Ron Kaita. Attendees were Ron Kaita, Russell Smith, Carolyn Wooley, Loel Ewart, Frank Estes, Othan Gilbert, Ray Collins, Mary Rutkowski, Dennis Newton and Lisa Bailey.

Dennis Newton opened the meeting with prayer.

**Old Business**

- Minutes of the 10 January meeting were approved.

**New Business**

- The Treasurer's 14 February 2022 finance report was approved. The budget for 2022 as presented was approved.
- Ron Kaita said that the warrant college attendees are holding car washes on Saturdays to raise money. There was a virtual graduation last week. There will be two more graduations this month.
- Frank reminded everyone to get their articles for the newsletter in on a timely matter.
- Russell said he didn't have a speaker for our Saturday night dinner but suggested that we talk to the other members that attend as to what we do as a board and invite suggestions and ideas.
- Othan reported the death of COL (Ret) Lee Cole Smith, Jr. We now have 136 chapter members.
- Ray Collins gave a report on Legislative Affairs. The National Defense Authorization Act was signed into being on Dec. 27, 2021. The act has a 2.7% pay raise for active-duty military. The NDAA also made sweeping changes to the way sexual assault charges will be prosecuted.
- Ray in reporting on the retiree council meeting: Health Care, COVID boosters are presently for active duty only. Veteran Affairs, there is a big push in Alabama to reduce the number of veteran suicides. Commissary, the issue in stock levels is transportation from the distribution center to the store. Post Exchange has reopened Subway. Popeyes will be closed from 2 to 4 months.
- Mary Rutkowski reported that ROWA met last week at the Landing. They played a game called 'What's in Your Purse?' It was a lot of fun.
- Mary Rutkowski took reservations for the Saturday night dinner.
- Russ Smith said he is back posting on face book. He is also posting on a veteran's web site.
- Russ also brought up the expense of the Wreaths Across American which could be put to better use. It was decided to table it for now.
- Ron announced that we will get with the warrant officers on March 12, at 1000, at the wounded warrior cottage to spruce up the grounds.
- Ron said he was approached by the Alabama Council for a Eubanks Award. He did purchase one from the Aviation Museum and mailed it at Jerry Steele. He will be reimbursed for the cost.
- Ron reminded us of the upcoming Eagle Rising Society Ceremony to be held in July.
- Ron also stated that the MOAA Storefront is open for business. They don't have our flag or name tags.
- Ron said he will need help to present the JROTC awards. Also need to contact Troy University to present 2 lieutenant bars for Army and Air Force students.

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- Lisa Bailey mentioned that our members really don't know much about the ROTC program and what it is. She met COL Townsend at the Daleville high school and she might be a good speaker on this subject at one of our dinner meetings.

The board adjourned at 1342 hours.  
The next Board meeting will be on 14 March 2022.

Carolyn Wooley, Secretary