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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
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**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING OCTOBER 16TH - 6:00 PM,
THE LANDING'S BALLROOM, FORT RUCKER, AL**

GUEST SPEAKER

TO BE DETERMINED




AGENDA & MENU

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

- >German style cucumber salad
- >Schnitzel with Jaegar gravy
- >German potato salad
- >Green beans w/bacon & crispy onions
- >Rolls & butter
- >Warm apple pie & vanilla ice-cream
- >Sweet/unsweet tea, coffee, water

Cost: \$22.00



Please make your Reservations by noon Wednesday, October 13th 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 meals.





President's Message by Ron Kaita 

What a wonderful time of the year as the day's temperatures are much more tolerant for all those with outside chores around our homes and plenty of community/outdoor activities abound. Our Chapter is doing quite well as we still must dance around the COVID-19 in our midst. I would also like to remember those American lives lost during 9/11 (Patriot Day), especially to our military members and first responders. I would like to thank all who were able to attend our last members dinner meeting, and a special thanks to our Vice President, Russ Smith, for conducting it during my absence

with Ms. Jessica Lynch, PX Store Manager as our guest speaker with an exchange update. My wife Lark and I were able to see our newborn grandson in Temple, Texas; and what a handsome and happy little boy. Dodging Hurricane Ida upon our return was tricky as everyone else was heading west to Houston as we sped east along I-10 back to Alabama. We got through with only two hours before Ida made landfall. Whew! I hope everyone got through all the rain and winds from Hurricane Ida's romp through our state.

Our next Chapter Dinner meeting will be held on 16 October with social hour at 1800 hrs., and dinner served at 1900 hours at the

Aviation Landing club on Fort Rucker with one of my favorite meals, Jager-Schnitzel. Our guest speaker is to be determined based upon availability of a couple of folks we are coordinating with at this time.

The most recent events for our chapter were the presentation of Leadership and Distinguished Honor Graduates from the Warrant Officer Candidate School Classes 21-18, 21-20, and next week for Class 21-19. Our MOAA Chapter presents these 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 thank our (**see PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE, page 3**)



Membership Report

by Othan Gilbert

Our chapter membership count is currently 145.

I am pleased to report the welcome addition of 3 new chapter members, all of whom were former members of the Dothan MOAA chapter, which is now inactive. CW5 Arthur Doyle and his wife, Grace, who live in Slocomb. LTC Tony Haro and his wife, Ann, who live in Dothan and CW4 Chyde Butler and his wife, Lucy, who also live in Dothan. We welcome all 3 officers and appreciate their confidence in joining our chapter.

I regret to inform you of the death on 24 August of one of our members: MAJ Mark Jankoski. Mark was a retired Army chaplain. We extend our condolences to his surviving spouse, Nancy, who was formerly the Director of Religious Education for the Fort Rucker Chapel. Nancy lives in Enterprise.

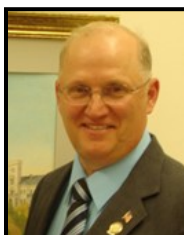
We all know that there are a lot of

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 fortrucker-moaa.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 Charlie Wigglesworth

Just when you think we are in the clear, COVID changes its shape and decides to attack in a different direction. There are no guarantees in life except death and taxes so I do my best to be safe and took my vaccination. I have lost too many friends and former Soldier friends. Please be safe and health.

There is a move afoot to change the eligibility for burial in Arlington. Be sure to stay abreast of the changes and as I get more info I will pass along.

A recently published report from the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), a nonpartisan think tank, has repackaged old, outdated stats to argue military personnel costs are too high and "unsustainable." They are also talking about us retirees.

The author's suggestions include cutting annual pay raises, putting more money into skill-targeted bonuses, shifting more health costs to military beneficiaries, and considering further housing allowance reductions, among others. Bottom line, they are always looking for ways to cut our earned benefits. This is outdated data that was

repackaged and published. MOAA is working to ensure correct info is put out.

The VA is working to be sure that the best service possible is provided to all Veterans. It is currently a challenge but when all things are considered, they do pretty good.

"The country's 19.5 million veterans 65 and over account for nearly half of emergency department visits at VA hospitals — more than double the rate for seniors nationwide," said VA Acting Under Secretary for Health Dr. Steven L. Lieberman. "Our goal is to lower this number by ensuring VA's elderly population receives age-friendly emergency care, while improving care coordination in communities across the nation." As many of us are in that age group, it is good that the VA is working to take care of us "Older Members."

Be sure to read your MOAA magazine or go on-lineup get the latest info that affects us all. MOAA headquarters is working hard to ensure our benefits are protected.

I apologize in advance for the limited input but I must say that we have areas in America with limited internet access. I am in one of those areas in the mountains of Virginia. Until next issue, again, be heathy and safe.



Greetings to Everyone:

Those joyful summertime days! They have given us gardens with colorful flowers to cheer, clouds to meringue, and fields of fresh corn, tomatoes, butterbeans, peas, and fried okra, favorites for the table especially for the Southern fare. Though a pandemic along with storms and sadness appear with many challenges, blessings still abound. Gratefully, ROWA managed, as military wives do, and found continuation to meet. As the new term began in June, members met twice to make preparations, find four officers to serve in ROWA, and establish hosts for the luncheons. There was also time (cautiously) to enjoy travel, see family, celebrate birthdays, and even swing on the porch while enjoying nature, watching the bright starts sparkle, recalling memories and looking forward to football season.

There are memories of the beginning of ROWA ranging from 1973 to this year which celebrates 48 years. Ft. Rucker memories include the naming from Camp Rucker to Ft. Rucker in October 1955, 66 years ago. As Summer has traveled to



Retired Officer Wives Association (ROWA)

by Mary Jane Collins



September, we find celebrations from Labor Day to Rosh Hashanah, Patriot day, Grandparents Day, to Yom Kippur, Constitution Day, Old Farmer's Almanac, and in current timeframe that International Day of Peace for which we pray and need. May we ever be mindful of our freedom and pray for our beloved America, land of the free, and the home of the brave. God bless you with peace and joy!

ROWA invites and encourages former and new members and guests to attend luncheons at The Landing on the second Tuesday of the months from September 14, 2021 through May 10, 2022 at 11:00am. Membership dues this year are five dollars. Each attendee chooses and purchases her menu preference this year.

Reservations are by the Friday before to Mary at 334-347-4966.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE from page 1)

new MOAA National members and especially our newly joined Chapter members, however we have lost some. Othan has the details but in short, we are currently holding our own with regards to membership. I would like to remind everyone to please check out MOAA's National homepage as many updates and programs are constantly updated and new offerings are made known. This year's MOAA National Annual

Meeting of Members will be held on 15 October 2021 in Arlington, VA at the Sheraton Pentagon City Hotel. You can find more information on National's and our webpages as it becomes available. Do not forget to take advantage of your travel and billeting discounts offered by MOAA because of your premium and lifetime memberships.

Unfortunately, if you have not heard, the Warrant Officer Candidate School (WOCS) graduations are now being

conducted virtually with viewing by families, friends, and acquaintances via Facebook instead of in attendance at the Aviation Museum. If the graduation ceremonies open again for live attendance, Class 21-19 will hold theirs on 22 September 2021 @ 1000 hrs.

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.

VA & COVID-19—“COVID-19 booster shots and additional doses: We follow Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance on booster shots and additional COVID-19 vaccine doses. Booster shots aren't available yet, but we'll update you here when we have more information about where and when you can get one....”

“**The difference between an additional dose and a booster shot:** A booster shot is for people whose immune response may have weakened over time....”

“**Who can get an additional vaccine dose?** The CDC now recommends a third vaccine dose for certain groups of people with weakened immune systems who received either the Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine.... They may benefit from a third dose to make sure they have enough protection against COVID-19. **Note:** At this time, we're offering additional vaccine doses only for people with weakened immune systems.... Starting in mid-September, the CDC is expected to recommend a booster shot for anyone who received either the Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine. When that begins, you should be able to get a booster shot 8 months after you received your second dose.

“**You may be able to get a third dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna vaccine if any of these descriptions are true for you:** (1) You currently receive cancer treatment for tumors or cancers of the blood; (2) You have advanced HIV (*see VA page 4*)”

2021 Officers & Directors

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TREASURER'S REPORT by LTC (Ret) Loel Ewart



Net Worth of the Fort Rucker Chapter of MOAA as of 09/13/2021 is **\$29,274.45**. These funds are in one checking account, one savings account and one Money Market Account in the AllIn (FCU).

Activities Since Last Report: (08/09/21) **Starting balance of:** **\$29,103.43**

| DEPOSITS | ACTION | |
|----------|--|-------------------|
| 08/10/21 | Donations; (Ron K \$200),(Dues \$200), (Dinner,\$44) | \$444.00 |
| 08/23/21 | MOAA Dinner Receipts | 472.00 |
| 08/31/21 | Money Market Interest | 10.39 |
| 09/08/21 | NL Sponsors (AllIn, Hagler, Coffee County Arts) | 450.00 |
| | Deposits Total | \$1,376.39 |

| CHECKS: | EXPENDITURES: | |
|---------|---|-------------------|
| 1923 | 08/09/21 Ron Kaita (Guest Pencil Boxes) | \$176.00 |
| 1924 | 08/23/21 IMWRF (MOAA Dinner) | 481.74 |
| 1925 | 08/26/21 Dennis Newton (Web Service) | 382.63 |
| 1926 | 09/01/21 Othan Gilbert (Mailing supplies) | 165.00 |
| | Expenditures Total | \$1,205.37 |

| | | |
|------------|--|---------------------|
| | Net Increase | \$171.02 |
| (09/11 /21 | Current Total Balance of; | \$29,274.45 |
| | All In checking | \$4,800.47 |
| | All In Savings | \$5.41 |
| | AllIn Money Market | \$24,468.57 |
| | Reserve Total: (Minus Reserve); | -\$24,468.57 |
| | Life Membership | \$8,610.00 |
| | MOAA reserve, | \$15,858.57 |
| | Minus Savings: | \$5.41 |

***Usable Funds as of September 13, 2021 (Minus reserve/savings) \$4,800.47**
Other News *No outstanding bills. Scholarship Fund= \$296.07

(VA from page 3) (meaning you have a low CD4 cell count) or you have HIV and aren't on treatment at this time; (3) You received an organ transplant and take medicine to suppress your immune system; (4) You received a stem cell transplant within the past 2 years or are taking post-transplant medicine to suppress your immune system; (5) A health care provider has diagnosed you with a moderate-to-severe primary immunodeficiency (like DiGeorge or Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome); and (6) You currently take high-dose corticosteroids or other medicines that may suppress your immune system.

"If your condition or medication isn't on this list and you think you have a moderately to severely weakened immune system, contact your health care provider.

"What to know before you get a third vaccine dose: You need to get the same vaccine for all 3 doses. You should get your third dose at least 28 days after your second dose. You don't need to get your third dose at the same facility where you got your first 2 doses.... Confirm that the facility has the vaccine you need before you schedule an appointment for your third dose. And bring your vaccine record card with you when you come in so we can record your third dose.

"How to get your third vaccine dose at VA if you're eligible, if you're a Veteran who receives health care through VA: If you're eligible for a third vaccine dose based on the information in your VA health record, we'll contact you when we have a vaccine for you. This may take some time. If we don't contact you, you can call or send a secure message to your VA health care team. They can tell you if you can get a third dose at this time and help you schedule an appointment."

(Taken from www.va.gov)

WARRANT OFFICER CANDIDATE AWARDS



(L) WO1 Darin S. Linder, Distinguished Honor Graduate, Class 21-18, student w/highest class standing.

(R) WO1 Britney A. McCloud, Leadership Awardee, Class 21-18, student demonstrating the highest leadership attributes.

(L) WO1 Arianne M. Gower, Leadership Awardee, Class 21-18, student demonstrating the highest leadership attributes.

(R) WO1 James N. Fisher, Distinguished Honor Graduate, Class 21-18, student w/highest class standing.



PICTURES FROM AUGUST 21st MOAA MEETING & DINNER



Russell Smith presenting memento to Jessica Lynch



Fred Latremore & Lisa Bailey



Jessica Lynch guest speaker



Checking in with Loel Ewart & Mary Rutkowski



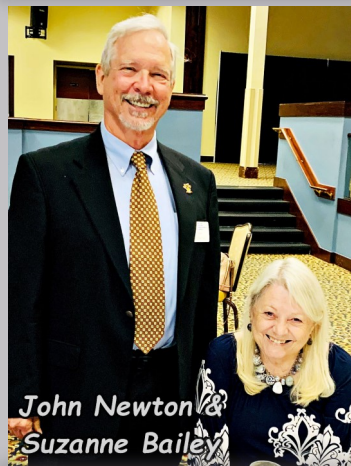
Charlotte & Cecil Simmons



Benny & Peggy Jones



Dee Gilbert & John Newton



John Newton & Suzanne Bailey



Chris Stallings & Jessica Lynch



Barbara Ewart & Gale Brodgen



Yan, our faithful server



Social Hour gossiping



Gem, flower, and color for October—Opal, Marigold, & white or yellow.

PICTURES FROM AUGUST 21st MOAA MEETING & DINNER (continued)



Debbie & Randy Godfrey



Suzanne Bailey & Faye Swinehart just talking



Mary Rutkowski & Faye Swinehart



Checking in with Loel Ewart & Mary Rutkowski



Suzanne Bailey & Faye Swinehart social distancing



& More Social Hour



More Social Hour



& still More Social Hour



| Important Dates for MOAA Ft Rucker Chapter, Year 2021-2022 | | |
|--|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Board of Directors' Meeting | Newsletter Input Suspende | Bi-Monthly Dinner Meeting |
| 8 Nov 21 | 17 Nov 21 | |
| 13 Dec 21 | | 18 Dec 21 |
| 10 Jan 22 | 19 Jan 22 | |
| 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 |



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Coffee County Arts Alliance
— PRESENTS —

| | | |
|---|-------------------------|------------------------|
| THE BLIND BOYS OF ALABAMA <i>Grammy Award Winning Gospel Group</i> | Sep 30, 2021 7:00 pm | Enterprise High School |
| "MESSIAH" SING-ALONG <i>Community Vocalists, Soloists & Orchestra</i> | Dec 5, 2021 6:00 pm | Enterprise High School |
| GLENN MILLER ORCHESTRA <i>WORLD FAMOUS BIG BAND</i> | Jan 27, 2022 7:00 pm | Enterprise High School |
| 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 |

THE SEASON IS DEDICATED TO THE MEMORY OF MAXWELL NEAL "JUG" BROWN

Tickets & Information: 334.406.ARTS (2787)
www.CoffeeCountyArtsAlliance.com



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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