

# October/November 2018

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.

Ft. Rucker Chapter MOAA

P.O. Box 620075

Ft. Rucker. AL 36362-0075

Website: http://www.fortruckermoaa.org

Email: moaa@fortruckermoaa.org

The Army's 4th Component: its 979,000 Retired Soldiers & 247,000 surviving spouses. Motto: "Our mission has changed, but our duty has not." Army Echoes, Jun-Sep 2018, pg 2.

# **GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING & DINNER OCTOBER 20, 2018** 1800 HOURS AT THE LANDING

Social: 1800

**Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance: 1845** 

Dinner: 1900

German Schnitzel w/ Jaegar Gravy

German Potato Salad

Coleslaw

**Brotchen & Butter** 

German Chocolate Cake

Tea, coffee, & water

Cost: \$22.00 per person





# **GUEST SPEAKER**



Jonathan R. Tullos

Executive Director, Wiregrass Economic **Development Corporation** 

(Resume on page 4)

\*\*<del>\*\*\*</del>\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

PLEASE—Cash or personal checks only!

Please make your Reservations by noon Wednesday, October 17th to Mary Rutkowski at (334) 347-4966.



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**

# Charlie Wigglesworth

By the time you receive this newsletter, fall will be here! But it still feels like Summer. It has been to summer that never seems to stop! Claudia and I have truly enjoyed our travels this summer and looking forward to more on the horizon. I want to thank the entire executive board of all the support they have rendered when I have been out of the net. Thanks to Lisa Bailey, our Vice President and incoming President, and Dennis Newton, our Legislative Affairs Chair and Webmaster for representing the chapter in the training meeting in South Carolina. Dennis is also representing the Chapter in Phoenix this year at the Annual Convention. He will receive the Chapter's 2017 Five Star award. We will provide more information of the news from National in a later newsletter.

Our chapter has been supporting the Warrant Officer Candidate School graduations for some time now. Newly appointed Warrant Officers are presented the CW3(R) Doris Allen Distinguished Honor Graduate Award and the CW4(R) William L. Ruf Leadership Award co-sponsored by the US Army Warrant Officer Association and the Military Officer Association of America. Both of these awardees also receive a complimentary three-year Premium Membership in MOAA and a \$100 check. CW5(R) Ron Kaita is the MOAA Recruiting Ambassador for our Chapter and does all the recruiting presentations to these classes.

Recently the MOAA representative for the Initial Entry Rotary Wing (IERW) courses (COL-Retired Stanley Smith, a member of our chapter) assumed the position of Director, Alabama Aviation College. The chapter has continued to support the graduations with members of the executive board since his departure. However, it does spread us a pretty thin on occasions. The distinguished graduates of the IERW courses, whether commissioned officers or commissioned warrant officers, receive a complimentary three-year Premium Membership in MOAA. We attend the graduations and present the awards to the above graduates. We would like to offer the opportunity to other members of the chapter to participate in these graduations. All graduations are at the Aviation Museum and the dates of these graduations for the remainder of this fiscal year are as follows:

2018 - 8 Nov, 21 Nov, 6 Dec, 19 Dec 2019 - 17 Jan, 31 Jan, 14 Feb, 28 Feb, 14 Mar, 28 Mar, 11 Apr, 25 Apr, 9 May, 23 May, 30 May, 13 Jun, 27 Jun, 11 Jul, 25 Jul, 8 Aug, 22 Aug, 5 Sep, 19 Sep

If you would like to be a presenter at one of these graduations, please contact either Ron Kaita at 334-477-7860 (c) and 334-677-6734 (h) or Charlie Wigglesworth at 334-598-2313.

Just as a note of interest, due to the great work of Ron Kaita and Chapter representatives at Fort Rucker and others across the Nation, today a healthy number of the Warrant Officers of the active and reserve components are members of MOAA! And that doesn't count the retiree numbers! There is truly strength in numbers as MOAA represents the interests of officers of the Active, Reserve, National Guard component and retirees. Additionally, as MOAA represents the interests of the Officer Corps, they also are a voice for those we have lead for years in the enlisted force.

As always, keep all of our military members who stand on the front lines for the freedoms we enjoy each day in your prayers.

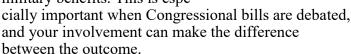
# **Veterans Administration News Snippets**

- >> WASHINGTON On Sept. 14, two weeks ahead of schedule, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) exceeded its goal to deliver 81,000 appeals decisions of disability benefits and services to Veterans in fiscal year 2018 — 28,000 more decisions than the previous year.
- >> WASHINGTON The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announced that it is ready to hire an additional 50 Veterans Justice Outreach (VJO) specialists following President Trump's signing today of the Veterans Treatment Court Improvement Act of 2018, a new law shoring up support services to Veterans impacted by the justice system.
- >> WASHINGTON The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announced that thousands of low-income Veteran families around the nation will continue to receive benefits under the Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) program.

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# Legislative Report by Dennis Newton

As Legislative Affairs, my role is to keep you informed about issues that involve your military benefits. This is espe-



A great example is how MOAA in its role as the leader of the Veterans Coalition was able to head off an attempt by the Department of Defense to increase the cost of your Tricare Insurance. DOD wants to modernize its weapons capabilities, and has a mandate to raise the number of troops in service. This all costs money. A few years back Congress started a requirement that any newly created fiscal project requires cuts in other programs. This seems like a sensible philosophy. It is supposed to keep the federal deficit in check. But in reality, it often is just a political hammer. DOD wants new weapons. It needs more money. Personnel is one of the most expensive areas of their funding. If you need more people and more weapons, the only other place to go is retirements. They can save money by holding back on COLA raises. A ½ a percent is still a lot of money. And they can raise fees on Tricare and off-set a great deal of money.

What this does is ostensibly cause you a pay cut. It means you as a Veteran are paying for the weapons. The rest of the taxpayers are asking you who served the nation already to pay more. That way taxpayers can keep on without adding to their tax burden and DOD gets its new capabilities. But they are breaking their promises to you.

So last Spring, when MOAA discovered yet another hidden proposal to cut benefits and raise fees- they jumped into high gear and rallied to prevent this injustice. You should have seen recently that there are no new increases in Tricare costs this year and that the COLA increase to retirement is in the budget. This is does not happen without thousands of us writing Congress and keeping watch on them.

One website that is especially useful is: <a href="http://www.veteransresources.org/">http://www.veteransresources.org/</a>

You may have seen the RAO bulletin which is occasionally sent on our MOAA mailing list to you. This is a very rich source of What's Happening in Veteran Circles. It is worth the read and is a quick way to stay informed. You need to stay informed and not believe that your benefits are secure. In this day of so much political wrangling and grandstanding, with so few Americans involved in actual defense and so little understanding amongst them about what it means to sacrifice for this country, you could see some real cuts if you do not stay vigilant. Visit RAO occasionally. Put it in your bookmarks and watch for MOAA's requests to get involved in writing to your Congress when a need is known.

Dennis Newton Legislative Affairs



Midterm elections are this November. It's not too late to get your friends primed to get out and vote. Our country and your veteran and military benefits are at stake. If your friends are not registered to vote, help them get the information in time to beat the registration deadline.

THEN VOTE!

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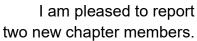
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# Membership Report

by Othan Gilbert



COL Kelly Hines (Shannon) who lives at Fort Rucker and Lt. Col. Michael Milton (Nance) from Enterprise. COL Hines is the Commandant of the Warrant Officer Career College and Lt. Col. Milton is an Air Force retiree. Both are very much welcomed. I am sad to report the death of three of our chapter members. CW5 James Rathburn (Nancy) of Chancellor, COL Sam Griffith (Penny) of Ozark and MAJ Lubert Wing (Betty) of Phenix City. 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. A chapter membership form can be found on our chapter web site and on the address page of this newsletter. Remember, membership with MOAA National is a prerequisite for chapter membership.

The national MOAA website is <a href="https://www.moaa.org">www.moaa.org</a> and our chapter website is <a href="https://www.fortruckermoaa.org">www.fortruckermoaa.org</a>. The phone number for MOAA National is 800-234-6622.

Remember that Lowe's and Home Depot give active duty personnel and military retirees a 10% discount as do many other businesses. In most cases you must ask to know for sure because it is not advertised.

Othan Gilbert Membership Chair



# Jonathan R. Tullos

Executive Director, Wiregrass Economic | Development Corporation

The purpose of the Wiregrass Economic Development Corporation is to foster and encourage responsible, economic development activities that result in job creation, retention, increased tax base and an improved systemability and quality



increased tax base and an improved sustainability and quality of life for the citizens of

Coffee and Geneva County.

Winner of the 2010 Alabama Economic Development Achievement Award In recognition of the development, recruitment, expansion, and diversification of industry: and for creating robust economic development for the city of Enterprise, the city of Daleville, and the counties of Coffee and Geneva.

### **RESUME:**

Jonathan is a graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point, where he earned a B.S. in Business Management. Upon graduation, he was stationed at Fort Rucker, Alabama, where he attended and completed helicopter flight school. He served as an active duty aviation officer in the United States Army before he was honorably discharged. He transitioned into Federal Employment as a Department of the Army Civilian, working for the Aviation Technical Test Center, Redstone Test Center, and The Directorate of Simulation. During this time, Jonathan earned a master's in Business Administration from Auburn University.

In the private sector, Jonathan has helped to established three private companies which deal primarily with real estate and natural resource investment. Jonathan is an active member of the First United Methodist Church in Enterprise. He is also a member of professional organizations such as Disabled American Veterans, The Association of the United States Army, and the Enterprise Chamber of Commerce. He is actively involved with the charitable organizations Team Red, White and Blue, which assists disabled war veterans in assimilating back into society as a civilian, and the SOS Animal Shelter, which is the only no-kill animal shelter in the Enterprise area. Jonathan also serves as the Vice President of the West Point Society of the Wiregrass. Jonathan presently serves on the YMCA Board of Directors, Enterprise Chamber of Commerce, Enterprise Community College Foundation Board, Southeast Alabama Regional Planning and Development Commission's Revolving Loan Committee.

# TREASURER'S REPORT

by Loel Ewart

Net Worth of the Fort Rucker Chapter of MOAA as of 09/10/2018 is \$28,411.62. These funds are in one checking, savings and Money Market Account in the Army Aviation Center Federal Credit Union (AACFCU).

Activities Since Last Report: (08/12/18) Starting balance of: \$27,479.61

DEPOSITS	ACTION	
08/02/18	MOAA National (wire Deposit)	\$100.00
08/14/18	AACFCU/Houston Printing (NL Sponsors)	300.00
08/22/18	MOAA National (Wire Deposit)	250.00
08/27/18	MOAA Dinner Receipts	765.00
08/31/18	Coffee County Arts (NL Sponsor)	150.00
08/31/18	MM Interest	7.16
•	Deposits Total	\$1,572.16

CHECKS: EXPENDITURES: 1825 08/20/18 IMWRF (August Dinner)

**Expenditures Total** \$640.15 \$28,411.62

(09/10/18) Current Total Balance of:

AACFCU checking \$4,301.38 AACFCU Savings \$5.41 AACFCU Money Market \$24,104.83

**Reserve Total:** (Minus Reserve):

Life Membership \$10,710.00 MOAA reserve \$13,388.29

Minus Savings: \$5.41 -\$5.41 Usable Funds as September 10, 2018 (Minus reserve/savings) \$4,301.38

Other News: No outstanding bills. Scholarship fund- \$308.00.

Loel Ewart
Treasurer

# Alabama the Beautiful 200

Became Territory in 1817. Statehood December 14, 1819. Name Alabama derived from Central Alabama Native American Tribe. Motto on the State Coat of Arms. Audemus Jura Nostra Defendeve. We Dare Defend Our Rights. Flag: Crimson, St. Andrew's Cross on White Field.



Dinner will be on December 15th at The Landing. This year we will have a Silent Auction of items contributed by various Wiregrass businesses and individuals (see page 8). Proceeds from this event will go toward our Chapter's Scholarship Program. You can help in two ways: first, attend our Christmas dinner and bid generously on the Silent Auction items, and two, contribute an item for use on our Silent Auction tables. To make contribution, contact Charlie Wigglesworth (see page 11).

Please support our Scholarship Program.



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# Retired Officer Wives Association (RWOA)

by Mary Jane Collins

Greetings Everyone,

Those buttermilk skies have appeared once again as we transition from summer into autumn. The cotton is blooming tall, schools are in session, and the football season, of great importance in the SEC, is here with dedicated fans of both schools and colleges prepared for game days, tailgating, grilling and cheering. History of Alabama records the first school was in 1799, more developing by 1800 as early colleges were established by faith denominations, and by 1831 the state's first university founded. Gradually the frontier developed into towns and cities from Alabama's stately mountains to vast rivers to beautiful white sand beaches.

ROWA's own history here began in 1973 and celebrates the Association's 45th year now. September is the season for ROWA to reconvene which we did at The Landing September 11. It was certainly a day to remember as we paused in silence for the

ones lost, their families, our country, and the brave responders. ROWA was meeting the same morning of the attack that year. The table decorations included green foliage, symbolizing continued life and a quotation list from 9/11 which included: Bush: Attacks dent steel but not the steel of American resolve. Powell: The American spirit will prevail.

Following the remembrance, our fellowship with luncheon

was enjoyed as guests and new members were acknowledged. Wife of COL Kelley Hines, Commandant US Army WOC College, Mrs. Shannon Hines, president of the Ft. Rucker Community Spouses Club (FRCSC) was a special guest representing the senior leadership spouses. The FRCSC Annual Bazaar will be at Yano Hall Nov. 2-3 with proceeds providing educational scholarships and community grants.

God bless!

# **ROWA Meetings**

Oct. 9—Ingrid's—Fall in South Alabama— German Style Nov. 13—Silver Wings—Veterans Honored—Stars fell on Alabama Dec. 11—The Landing—Sweet Home Alabama—Ornament Exchange

Reservations to Mary 334-347-4966 by the Friday noon beforehand.





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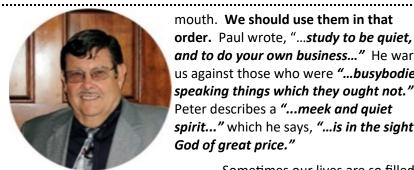
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Yancey Parker's

# Chaplain's Corner by Ben McKee

Standing Still and Listening for God's **Guidance** 



and to do your own business..." He warns us against those who were "...busybodies, speaking things which they ought not." Peter describes a "...meek and quiet spirit..." which he says, "...is in the sight of God of great price."



Growing up in central Oklahoma and listening to Sooner Football each Saturday in the fall of the year gave me ample reason to attend OU and also my son to attend OU. But little Ben decided that the Lord was "Leading him beside the still waters." In other words, he was going to attend OSU in "Stillwater," Oklahoma. To me, that was like an Alabama Grad having a son who demanded to attend Auburn! Ben kept ribbing me that "Still water runs deep." So, he became a Cowboy instead of a Sooner to my dismay.

What is the meaning of the saying, "Still waters run deep?" Perhaps you have noticed that the shallow waters of a creek seem to move swiftly while the deeper waters on the surface seem to move more slowly. I believe that the saying is used to express that one should not be fooled into thinking that a quiet person has nothing to say. Often the people least likely to speak are the ones with the most to say. The Bible says, "The quiet words of the wise are more to be heeded than the shouts of a ruler of fools."

Quietness does not come easy for many of us especially when there are so many issues in society upon which to voice our opinions. Just look at the past two weeks of media reporting—and then see the results of opinions on Facebook. First, we had the deaths of two famous people: a famous Senator and a famous Singer. Then, much was said about the anniversary of the 9/11 disaster. And all the while, the media constantly bombarded us about the division of society based on political ideologies. Being an American allows us to have differing opinions on issues but we must not let the media divide us as a people. God gave us two ears and one

Sometimes our lives are so filled with noise that we cannot hear the still small voice of the Lord. Remember Elijah hearing, feeling and seeing the wind, earthquake, and fire, but the Bible tells us that God was not in any of these, but then as he was quiet, he heard a still small voice, and it was the voice of the Lord. How long has it been since you just set in absolute silence and opened up your heart to hear the voice of the Lord?

Listen to the instruction given to Job toward the end of his suffering, "Hearken unto this, O Job: stand still, and consider the wondrous works of God." The Psalmist wrote, "Stand in awe, and sin not: commune with your own heart upon your bed, and be still." Again he wrote, "Be still, and know that I am God...."

Moses, when he and the Children of Israel were on the bank of the Red (Reed) Sea, and King Jehoshaphat, when he and the Children of Israel faced an alliance of armies, both used these words: "Fear not, stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD...The LORD shall fight for you, and you shall hold your peace." In each situation as they were still before the LORD, God delivered them with His mighty hand. "The victory is ours when the battle is the Lord's."

The Lord said through the prophet Isaiah, "...in quietness and in confidence shall be your strength...." Let us learn to disentangle ourselves from the cares of this world and be still and guiet before the Lord. Let the Lord allow you to rest in green pastures and let Him lead you beside the still waters. My prayer is that I may learn to "Stand still and listen for God's guidance before I speak." And that we, as a nation, can come together in unity as Americans as I remember we were during WWII. A divided nation cannot stand.

House Rejects Flawed Choice Funding Extension Bill, Opportunity to Compromise from MOAA website

"As organizations representing the interests of America's 21 million veterans, we are pleased that the House listened to the voices of those who served and rejected S. 114, flawed Choice funding extension legislation that had little chance of being approved by the Senate....With tonight's vote result, there is now a new opening for the House and Senate to work together in a bipartisan, bicameral manner to rapidly reach agreement to continue funding the Choice program uninterrupted in the short term - without forcing veterans themselves to pay for it - while also making long overdue and urgent investments in VA health care capacity for the long term....We thank all those Members who voted to reject this unacceptable legislation and call on them and all Members of the House and Senate to work together, and with us, to quickly find a reasonable solution that we can all support, just as they are doing to make #ForeverGIBill a reality."



# Military Officers Association of America Fort Rucker Chapter P.O. Box 620075 Fort Rucker, AL 36362-0075

The Fort Rucker Chapter of Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) is soliciting donations of items, products or services for a silent auction. The auction will be held at our December 15, 2018 chapter meeting. Proceeds from the auction will benefit the MOAA Scholarship Fund and our local chapter support for the commissioning of ROTC cadets at Troy University.

The MOAA Scholarship Fund was established in 1948 to provide educational assistance for the children of military families. The fund supports one of the association's founding principles: education is the cornerstone of a strong democracy. It is funded by donations from MOAA members, Councils and Chapters, corporations, and others with a desire to help military families.

Through 2017, the MOAA Scholarship Fund has provided more than \$140 million in educational assistance to more than 14,000 students. The majority of support to families is provided through interest-free loans. This allows us to reuse the donations over and over again. The MOAA Scholarship Fund is a public, non-profit, charitable organization incorporated in Virginia and declared tax-exempt by the Internal Revenue Service under §501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Its tax identification number is 54-1659039. We are committed to demonstrating the highest standards of public accountability and stewardship of donors' gifts.

Locally, the Fort Rucker MOAA chapter sends representatives to present gifts of rank insignia to ROTC Cadets, both United States Army and United States Air Force. These cadets designated by their professors of military science for exceptional performance.

Thank you for your support of our project. Please let us know if you would like to join us for the auction and share a meal and Christmas musical entertainment.

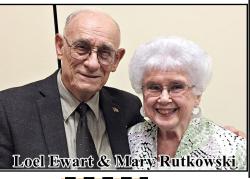
Please contact Lisa Bailey (334) 588-0512 ..... for more information.

Sincerely,

Charles Wigglesworth
Charles Wigglesworth,
President

# PICTURES FROM AUGUST 18th MOAA MEETING & DINNER









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THANKS!
To all who
attended our
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# Important Dates for MOAA -Fort Rucker Chapter Calendar Year 2018



Board of Directors' Meeting	Newsletter Input Suspense	Bi-Monthly Dinner Meeting
15 October		20 October
12 November	21 November	
10 December		15 December

# WOA Above the Best Silver Chapter

Chapter calendar Memorabilia Community Events

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



# WOA Above the Best Silver Chapter

P.O.Box 620951 Fort Rucker, AL 36362

**Chapter Contacts** 

email:

facebook: AboveTheBestSilverChapterUSAWOA



# **Defense Bill Expands Benefits for Veterans**

Posted on September 20, 2018, www.dav.org by Mary Dever.

"Service-connected disabled veterans and their families will soon have access to certain new privileges under the recently signed John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019—several of which have been longstanding DAV legislative priorities. Beginning in January 2020, service-connected veterans and their caregivers will be eligible to use base commissary stores and some morale, welfare and recreation facilities on bases worldwide....In addition, veterans with a service-connected disability rated as permanent and total will soon be eligible to use space-available (Space-A) travel on DOD aircraft, in accord with DAV Resolution Number 274. Eligibility does not extend to spouses, significant others or caregivers, and those wishing to travel Space-A must have a DD Form 2765...."

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Ensemble Mélange Romantic, Jazz, Latin, Broadway, Classical	Jan 17, 2019 7:00 pm	Enterprise High School
THE CAB CALLOWAY ORCHESTRA  Big Band Swing Jazz	Feb 14, 2019 7:00 pm	Enterprise High School
PINEY WOODS ARTS FESTIVAL A Juried Arts & Crafts Show	Apr 13 & 14 2019	Enterprise State Community College



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

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Fort Rucker Chapter

# MOAA Membership Application 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; Membership1 Sep – 30 Nov \$3.00.

NAME:

BRANCH OF SERVICE:

ADDRESS:

CITY:

STATE:

ZIP:

DATE OF BIRTH:

PHONE:

SPOUSE'S NAME:

E-MAIL ADDRESS:

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.

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

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

Web address: www.FortRuckerMOAA.org