

MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA
Huntsville, Alabama Chapter
General Membership Meeting Minutes
24 Apr 2013

President Bruce Robinson opened the meeting at 1130 hours at the Summit Club

Opening Prayer: Bert Wiggers

Pledge of Allegiance: Bruce Robinson

Welcomes: Members and Guests

- President Bruce Robinson recognized and welcomed our guests:
 - Col William Darby
 - Sean Davis Richard Ruffin (AAMU) Nancy Robinson
 - Heather Robinson AAMU ROTC Cadets
- President Bruce Robinson recognized our new members and first-timers
 - Steven Palmer, LTC USA Raymond Regner, Col USMC (ret)

Reports:

- Secretary's Report: Don Kimminau presented the General Membership Meeting minutes for February and March which were approved as written.
- Treasurer's Report: Rick West presented the March Treasurer's Report which was approved as written

	Opening Balance	Closing Balance
Mar 2013	\$9103.09	\$9907.09

- March's major incomes were Dues (\$490) and Sentinel advertising, and major expenditures was Communications (\$155).
- Membership – Vacant: President Robinson provided a membership update and stated we are still looking for volunteers for Membership, Newsletter editor and Golf Tourney Chairpersons.
 - HCMOAA currently has 447 members, with 13 new members and 8 members renewing members since our last meeting. 59 non-renewing individuals were dropped from our rolls on 1 April.
 - We are continuing the letter writing campaign to encourage local personnel to become active members.
- Branch Concerns:
 - Army: Arno Hoerle, no concerns
 - USAF: Ed Uher, not present
 - USN/USMC: Harold Swanson, no concerns
- Legislative: Jerry Haynes was not present
- Hospitality: Carrie Hightower presented status of 22 June "Pre-July 4th Picnic" at Redstone Arsenal's Overlook.

President's Comments:

- President Robinson present an overview of MOAA's national and HCMOAA's mission and structure
- Upcoming Events:
 - Executive Committee meeting: 9 May, 1130 at the Summit
 - Redstone Wives' Club Scholarship Presentations: 26 May
 - Breakfast: 25 May, 0900 at Steak & Shake

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- Memorial Day Wreath Ceremony: 27 May
- Membership Meeting: 29 May, 1130 at the Summit; Guest Speaker, Eric Jackson, Long Term Care expert (and Sentinel advertiser)
- Tut Fann Veteran's Home BBQ: 8 Jun
- Summer Social: 22 Jun

New business:

- 50/50 drawing of \$12 was won by Rene Lemieux, who donated the winnings back to the chapter.

Gold Bar Ceremony: Charles Clemens introduced seven AAMU ROTC Cadets who will be commissioned next month during the ceremony officiated by Col Darby, who presented them with 2LT rank on behalf of HCMOAA.

Guest Speaker: Col William Darby, Commander, Fox Army Health Center (FAHC), Redstone Arsenal

Colonel Darby enlisted in the United States Army in 1984 received a direct commission in 1988 as an Environmental Science Officer. He has served in a variety of assignments, including US Special Ops Command, US Central Forces Command, and as an adjunct Professor at the United States Army Medical Department Center and School. During his career he has been deployed numerous times, including his duties as Joint Task Force Surgeon in support of Hurricanes GUSTAV and IKE.

Before arriving in Huntsville and assuming command of as the Fox Amy Health Center, Colonel Darby was was most recently assigned as the Chief, Concepts and Requirements Division, Directorate of Combat and Doctrine Development, Fort Sam Houston, TX.

Col Darby provided inspirational words for the soon-to-be 2LT's in attendance, focusing on their transitions from students to leaders, along with the responsibility and opportunities that transition means for them.

Col Darby also discussed a White Paper, "Innovative Solutions will Reduce DOD Health Care Costs" by CAPT Kathryn Beasley, USN-Ret, which can be found on the MOAA website: (http://www.moaa.org/uploadedFiles/MOAA_Main/Main_Menu/Take_Action/Top_Issues/Innovative%20Solutions.pdf.) He highlighted key aspects of the paper and the ways FAHC is implementing some of the solutions.

Col Darby closed by pointing out the impact of sequestration on FAHC, especially in terms of potential furlough of the staff which is 96% civilian, which would cause the center to be closed every Friday during the furlough period.

Closing Prayer / Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 1220.

Respectfully submitted by Don Kimminau