

MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA
Huntsville, Alabama Chapter
General Membership Meeting Minutes
March 28, 2018

President Gerald Maxwell opened the meeting at 1100 hours at Nick's Ristorante, Huntsville, Alabama. Sixty-one (61) members and guests were in attendance.

Opening Prayer: LTC Wiggers

Pledge of Allegiance: Col Maxwell

Welcomes: Col Maxwell provided opening remarks and welcomed members and guests:

- Guests: John E. Carson, Connie Cecil, Lynette Fairlamb, Karla Gniadek, Judy Haynes, Patricia Hicks, Angie Inman, Laurie Kubik, Kathy LaFlamme, Wanda McLemore, Sonja Nurmi, Jim Pryor, Sue Pryor, Nancy Robinson, Heather Robinson, Zelda Skezas, Marianne Stevens, Bonny Treadway, Andrea Velasquez and Ruth Woida
- New Members: None
- Past Presidents: Lt Col Charles Clements and MAJ Bruce Robinson

Reports:

- Secretary's Report: The Acting Secretary, Lt Col Clements, presented the February 2018 General Membership Meeting minutes which were approved as written.
- Treasurer's Report: CAPT Rick West presented the February 2018 Treasurer's Report which was approved as written.

Month	Opening Balance	Closing Balance
February	\$6826.59	\$7830.85

Notable income included individual dues, MOAA HQ recruiting incentive, Sentinel advertising and collection for membership meeting meals. Notable expenses included the Surety Bond, office supplies, P. O. Box annual rental, gift basket donation to the RSAMCC, and membership meeting meals payment.

- Service Concerns:
 - Army: COL James Treadway: NSTR
 - Navy/Marines: CW4 Louis Kubik: NSTR
 - Air Force: Col Ed Uher: NSTR
- Legislative Issues: Lt Col Clements informed the members of the results of the special election that occurred on 27 March for State House of Representative District 21. Rex Reynolds (R) won. Also, Alabama taxpayers in 27 counties (including Madison) affected by the storms last week have a two-month extension to file their tax return. The new due date is 18 June 2018.
- Membership: NSTR
- ROTC: Three awards have been held in March, with another one scheduled for tomorrow. Seven award ceremonies will occur in April and five are scheduled for May. The awards ceremony for Alabama A&M University is set for 1530 on 19 April. A modified Gold Bar ceremony with Alabama A&M University will be accomplished during this ceremony.
- Sentinel: The Sentinel for April, including the hard copy has been dispatched.

- Golf: MAJ Robinson informed us of the next 2018 Golf Tournament Planning meeting at The Links on 20 April, at noon. We can use new volunteers on this committee.
- Programs: The speaker line-up is set through September. No membership meeting in June or July.
- Hospitality: Our informal breakfast meeting is the second Saturday at the Royal Rose café.
- Surviving Spouse: NSTR

Reports from VPs and Others: NSTR

President's Comments:

- Next Governing Board Meeting: 12 April at the Java Café
- Next Breakfast: 14 April at the Royal Rose Café
- Volunteer Luncheon: 17 April at the Summit
- Next Membership Meeting: 25 April at the Summit; speaker is Brandi Medina from the Alzheimer's Association
- Merit Awards Ceremony: 8 May at the Summit
- Memorial Day Wreath Ceremony: 28 May, Veterans Memorial, downtown Huntsville
- Tut Fann BBQ: 9 June at 1100—need volunteers

New Business: None

Comments from Membership: Captain Rose discussed the need for another state-owned / run Veteran home such as Tut Fann. He mentioned the possibility of converting a closed hospital in Northern Alabama to such a residence and the need for grass roots lobbying to make this a reality.

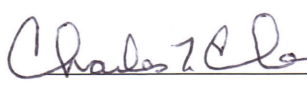
Guest Speaker: Our speaker was Captain Rose. He was awarded the Medal of Honor in October 2017 for his actions as a Special Force Medic during the period between 11 and 14 September 1970. Captain Rose give an inspiration talk that illustrated the difference between failure and losing. Using the example of a JROTC cadet who appeared to be suffering from low self-esteem he spoke of how her actions, some of which appeared to be failures, were actually attempts to improve. Small failures are instructive on how to ultimately succeed in life. The cadet received the recognition of "most improved" and this had a positive impact on her self-esteem. Failures don't make one a loser. He emphasized that the Chapter's efforts for JROTC recognition are critical in this area! During the Q&A, Captain Rose explained his MOH recognition was delayed due to the classified nature of his unit's activities as the result of presidential politics.

Closing Prayer: LTC Wiggers

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 1345.

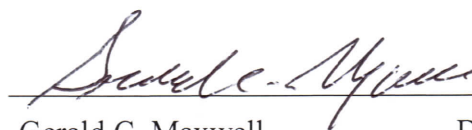
Submitted:

Approved by General Membership:

 25 April 2018

Charles T. Clements
Acting Secretary, HCMOAA

Date

 25 April 2018

Gerald C. Maxwell
President, HCMOAA

Date