

MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA
Huntsville, Alabama Chapter
General Membership Meeting Minutes
April 24, 2019

President CAPT Richard West opened the meeting at 1130 hours at The Summit Club, Redstone Arsenal, Alabama. 26 members and guests were in attendance.

Opening Prayer: LTC Wiggers

Pledge of Allegiance: CAPT West

Welcomes: CAPT West provided opening remarks and welcomed members and guests:

- New Member: LTC Jim Duttweiler (first meeting)
- Past Presidents: Lt Col Charles Clements, USAF (Ret.); MAJ Bruce Robinson, USA (Ret.)
- Guest: Elizabeth Kocir; Kathy Duttweiler.

Reports:

- Secretary's Report: The March meeting minutes were approved as written.
- Treasurer's Report: The March report was approved as written.

| Month | Opening Balance | Closing Balance |
|-------|-----------------|-----------------|
| March | \$5767.05 | \$5717.65 |

- Service Concerns:
 - Army: COL James Treadway: NSTR
 - Navy/Marines: CWO4 Kubik: NSTR
 - Air Force: Col Ed Uher: NSTR
- Membership: NSTR
- Legislative Issues: Lt Col Clements presented the following: (details are in the May Sentinel)
 - MOAA Stormed the Hill on 10 April.
 - Tut Fann – Mid March Sen. Jones sent a letter to the Department of Veteran Affairs listing a number of concerns. On 3 April the VA sent an inspection team.
 - AL Senate Bill 136 to waive start-up fees for the first 3 years of a veteran owned business
 - AL Senate Bill 101 provides an exemption for sales tax for certain veteran organizations such as MOAA.
 - Commissary/exchange merger – on 8 March a coalition of 27 military and veteran organizations asked leaders of the House and Senate Armed Services committees for more study and oversight before allowing DoD to merger the entities.
- LMT: COL Fairlamb explained that \$5k was moved to a 9 month CD @2.1% interest and \$15k was put in a 19 month CD @2.4% interest
- Sentinel/Golf: May newsletter is being finalized. Next Golf meeting is May 17th at The Links.

- Public Affairs: NSTR
- ROTC: CDR Inman reported that he is working the Gold Bar ceremony and the final JROTC award ceremonies. Have presented 5 Awards to 5 High Schools with 4 on standby.
- Programs: The next guest speaker will be chapter member LTC Ed Kennedy. Working August with Mo Brooks tentative.
- Hospitality: Mrs. Hightower reported that our May 11th breakfast venue has been confirmed.
- Surviving Spouse: NSTR
- Reports from VPs and Others: NSTR

President's Comments:

- Sponsors are needed for the Sentinel and the Golf tournament.
- Next Governing Board meeting is 9 May
- Next membership breakfast will be 11 May at the City Café Diner on Drake Avenue
- RSAMCC Merit Awards ceremony is 14 May at 1700 at the Summit Club
- Next Golf Committee meeting is 17 May at 1200 at The Links at Redstone
- Memorial Day Wreath Laying ceremony is 27 May at 1300 at the Veterans Memorial
- Next membership lunch is 29 May at the Summit Club at 1100.

Old Business:

- The Scholarship Fund 501(c)(3) tax status has been approved by the IRS.

New Business:

- The Chapter was awarded the COL Marvin J. Harris Communications 5 Star Awards for both the website and the newsletter.
- CAPT West discussed cyber security and told attendees to look for an article on the same in the upcoming Sentinel.


Comments from Membership: NSTR

Guest Speaker: CAPT West introduced Mrs. Elizabeth Kocir from the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at UAH. Mrs. Kocir discussed the Lifelong Learning program and the many benefits of which our members could take advantage. Following her brief, she took many questions from the membership and stayed after the meeting to entertain even more inquiries.

Closing Prayer: LTC Wiggers

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 1240.

Submitted:

 5/29/2019
 Michael C. Barron Date
 Secretary, HCMOAA

Approved by General Membership:

 5/29/19
 Richard C. West Date
 President, HCMOAA