

MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA
SOUTHWEST VIRGINIA CHAPTER

MINUTES - BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

17 November 2022

Call to Order

President Matt Haag called the meeting of the Board of Directors of The Southwest Virginia Chapter, Military Officers Association to order at 1010 hours Eastern Standard Time on 17 November 2022.

Directors and Chapter Officers Present

President Matthew Haag; 1st Vice President Gary Powers; 2nd Vice President; Treasurer and Membership Chair Robert Brown; Secretary Steve Jamison; Chaplain David Gilleran; Sergeant At Arms Michael Kasnick; Community Services Volunteer Representative Dan Karnes; Past President Lee Ensley; Smith Mountain Lake Satellite Representative Rick Cocrane; Surviving Spouse Representative Mary Lou Summers; Director Tom Dalzell; Director John Miller; Director Larry Johnson; Director Roger Burnett.

Directors and Chapter Officers Absent

Legislative Affairs Representative and Awards Chair Robert Habermann; VCOC Representative Anita White; Transition Team and Director Michael Leigh; Military Family Support Center President Roger Talmadge.

Opening Prayer

Chaplain David Gilleran led the Board of Directors in prayer.

Pledge of Allegiance

1st Vice President Gary Powers led The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag recited by all present.

Approval of Board of Directors Meetings Minutes

Minutes of the Board of Directors meeting of 15 September 2022 were approved as submitted.

President's Report –

- The focus at the Roanoke Valley Veterans Association meeting in Roanoke on 26 September 2022 was about the upcoming Veterans Day Parade.
- Provide information on the New Freedom Farm, a nonprofit community farm located in Buchanan, Virginia. The farm exists to aid veterans and first responders with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), substance use, traumatic brain injury (TBI), and other conditions by using the therapeutic activity of interacting with equines, farming, and peer-to-peer support. The end goal is to empower

individuals and help them heal by realizing their efforts and contributions. New Freedom Farm heals heroes through horses by offering veterans and first responder's space and confidence to develop deep friendships through equine activity and gentling, fostering physical, emotional, and spiritual health, assisting individuals with reintegration into civilian life. Veterans, first responders, and their families are welcome at New Freedom Farm.

Secretary's Report

- Secretary Jamison reported on the passing of Colonel Claude Reynolds, USMCR (Ret), BGEN James White General, AUS, Army Reserves (Ret) and Mrs. Patricia (Pat) Skelton.

Treasurer's Report

- Income and Expenses Budget vs. Actual – Copy provided to each Board member.
- Prime Checking Account balance – \$7,129.86
- Leadership Savings balance is - \$5,558.51

1st Vice President's Report

- Entered the Chapter in the annual Veterans Day Parade Saturday 12 November 2022. Capt Powers drove his Shore Patrol jeep with chapter members riding

Membership Chair Report

- Using MOAA Real Time Report gained three new names.
- Set up a MOAA Chapter table inside the Market Place building during the Veterans Day parade ceremony.

Program Directors Report

- 17 November 2022 – Board of Directors meeting. Program by Mr. Christopher Roberts, City of Roanoke Coordinator, Youth and Gang Violence Prevention. The program is designed to drive solutions to youth and gang violence.
- 15 December 2022 – 15 December 2022 – Swearing in of Chapter Officers and Board of Directors for 2023 by MGEN James E. Archer USAR (Ret). Program by Mr. Bob VandeLinde on gliders in the Normandy Invasion. Bob VandeLinde was a member of the 187th Infantry Regiment of the 101st Airborne Division in Korea, a recipient of the Silver Star, Purple Heart and CIB and made two combat jumps in Korea

Surviving Spouse Representative Report

- Currently have 7 active members. Two ladies inquired about a “Christmas Luncheon”.
- The “Veterans Tribute Bell Tower” permanent memorial has been renamed “*The Southwest Virginia Veterans Memorial Bell Tower*”. The renaming was approved by the Virginia Director of Veterans Services. This will be a two to three year project not to exceed \$250,000. HDH Architectural has been hired to submit drawings by 1 December 2022 and will oversee construction of the Bell Tower. The project will be announced at the wreath laying ceremony on 17 December 2022.
- The Southwest Virginia Cemetery Ambassador Program currently have 25 members. Attend all veterans' services. Main duties are to direct “Honors” and presenting the next of kin with a sympathy card. If the Honor Rifle Team does not

- collect the empty rifle cartilages the group will collect them for presentation to the family. From February through October volunteers attended 90 services.
- 23 families attended our Veterans Day services.
- 10th Annual Wreath Laying ceremony will be held at 1300 hours on Saturday 17 December 2022 at the Southwest Virginia Veterans Cemetery Dublin, VA. Volunteers from the Southwest Virginia Chapter will represent all the services at the Wreath Laying Ceremony.

Smith Mountain Lake Satellite Report

- Met on 12 October 2022 for a lunch meeting featuring Ms. Linda Davenport and others in Civil War costumes with an appropriate program on the Civil War “Women Left Behind.”

Public Relations Report

- Communiqué Newsletter – 4th quarter 2022 (OCT-NOV-DEC) in the works.
- Chapter Website & Face book – Up and running.
- Public Affairs/Media. CAPT Powers volunteered to cover these duties.
- Col. Marvin J. Harris Communications Award is due to MOAA January 2023.
- Chapter Levels of Excellence Award for 2021 is due to MOAA 1 May 2023.

Past President’s Report

- Army-Navy football game 10 December 2022. GO NAVY!!

Directors Report’s

- CAPT Burnett -
- LTC Gilleran – Moving with new email address.
- COL Miller – The AUSA will participate in the 11 November 2022 Veterans Day Parade at the D-Day Memorial at 1100 hours. Legislative Update 3 December 2022 American Legion Post 3. AUSA “Veterans Christmas Tree Hotel Roanoke. Ornaments handmade by veterans from the VA home and VA Health Care Center. Vote for Veterans tree.
- Capt Johnson –

Legislative Liaison Report -LTC Habermann –

- MOAA’s 2022 Legislative Priorities. Details can be found on the MOAA website, <https://www.moaa.org/>

VCOC Report - COL White-

- VCOC Legislative Priorities. Details can be found on the VCOC website: <https://moaavcoc.org/legislativeaffairs/>.

Committee Chairperson’s Report

- **Awards Chair** – LTC Habermann
 - Letters requesting nominations will be sent to all ROTC, JROTC, CAP units in December/January 2023 for all the
 - MOAA ROTC/JROTC Medal Awards
 - Archer Awards
 - SWVC Leadership Awards

- **Community Services Volunteer Representative** – LTC Karnes

Old Business

- The memorial for BGEN Scott VanCleaf was discussed. Costs, planning issues and the active interest by the Air Force Association in this project preclude the chapter from continuing with this effort. The Board voted to provide all pertinent information to the Air Force Association who will proceed with the proposed memorial for BGEN Scott VanCleaf.
- The Board of Directors also discussed the possible establishment of a SWVC permanent memorial at the Virginia Veterans Cemetery in Dublin and establishment of the criteria as to who would be recognized on the memorial. President Matt Haag will convene a planning meeting to develop procedures for recognition of chapter members. Members will be CAPT Matt Haag, CAPT Gary Powers, COL John Miller, COL Thomas Dalzell and CDR Lee Ensley.

New Business

- Developed a proposed slate of officers and board members for 2023 for presentation to the chapter membership at the 15 December 2022 membership meeting.

CHAPTER OFFICERS 2023

PRESIDENT - CAPT Matthew Haag USN (Ret)
FIRST VP - CAPT Gary Powers, USN (Ret)
SECOND VP - LTC Dan Karnes, USAR (Ret)
SECRETARY - LTC Steve Jamison, USA (Ret)
TREASURER - COL Robert Brown USA (Ret)
PROGRAMS - COL Thomas Dalzell, USMC (Ret)
CHAPLAIN - LTC Dave Gilleran, USA (Ret)
MEMBERSHIP CHAIR - COL Robert Brown USA (Ret)
VCOC REPRESENTATIVE - CAPT Matthew Haag USN (Ret)
LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS REP - LTC Robert Habermann, USA (Ret)
PERSONAL AFFAIRS REP - LTC Steve Jamison, USA (Ret)
NEWSLETTER EDITOR - COL Thomas Dalzell, USMC (Ret)
FACEBOOK EDITOR - CDR Lee Ensley, USN (Ret)
WEBMASTER - LCDR Klaus (Ted) Lonitz, USN (Ret)
PUBLIC AFFAIRS - CAPT Gary Powers, USN (Ret)
AWARDS CHAIR - LTC Robert Habermann, USA (Ret)
SERGEANT-AT-ARMS - MAJ Michael Kasnick, USA (Ret)
BEREAVEMENT COMMITTEE - LTC Dave Gilleran, USA (Ret)
TRANSITION TEAM REP - LTC Dan Karnes, USAR (Ret)
COMMUNITY SERV VOL REP - LTC Dan Karnes, USAR (Ret)
PAST PRESIDENT - CDR Lee Ensley, USN (Ret)
SURVIVING SPOUSE REP - Mrs. Mary Lou Summers
SMITH MOUNT SATELLITE REP - CAPT Richard Cocrane, USN (Ret)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

COL Robert Brown USA (Ret)
 CAPT Roger Burnett, USN Ret)
 CAPT Richard Cocrane, USN (Ret)

COL Thomas Dalzell, USMC (Ret)
CDR Lee Ensley, USN (Ret)
LTC Dave Gilleran, USA (Ret)
CAPT Matthew Haag USN (Ret)
LTC Robert Habermann, USA (Ret)
LTC Steve Jamison, USA (Ret)
CPT Larry Johnson, USAR (former)
LTC Dan Karnes, USAR (Ret)
MAJ Michael Kasnick, USA (Ret)
COL John Miller, USA (Ret)
CAPT Gary Powers, USN (Ret)
COL Donald Sowder, USA (Ret)
Mrs. Mary Lou Summers

Adjourn

- The meeting adjourned at 1138 hours.
- The next meeting will be a membership meeting on Thursday 15 December 2022 at 1130 hours. There will be a Board of Directors meeting.