



Maryland Council  
Military Officers Association of America  
Meeting Minutes  
23 July 2011 at Annapolis Sheraton Hotel

Members Present:

Norm Taylor, President  
John Whitman, First Vice-President  
James Pede, Secretary  
Greg Dalke, Treasurer  
Jim Shiffrin, Webmaster, President, Ft Meade Chapter  
Jack Fringer, Legislative Liaison  
Raymond Rowland, President PG County Chapter  
Tony Blankenship, President, Southern Maryland Chapter  
James Shellem, President, Upper Eastern Shore  
Tom Smith, Director  
Jim Campbell, Montgomery County Chapter  
Bill Schultz, Montgomery County Chapter Secretary  
James Dittbrenner, Montgomery Chapter  
Eleanor Layman, Ft Meade Chapter  
Luke Brennecke, President, Upper Potomac Chapter

Members Absent:

Gunter Finkenauer, Second Vice-President  
Harvey Kaplan, President, Montgomery County Chapter  
Andy Fallon, President, Annapolis Chapter  
Ed Kreiner, Acting President, Susquehanna Chapter  
Dave Peterson, Director  
James Shelley, President, Baltimore Chapter  
Ken McCreedy, President General Smallwood Chapter

The Maryland Council met 23 July 2011 at 1200 at the Annapolis Sheraton Hotel with a Call to Order by President CAPT Norm Taylor.

Following the pledge CAPT Taylor reported good news for the Council saying that MOAA had released the list of the 2010 Levels of Excellence Awards. In the five star category awards went to Ft Meade and Upper Potomac Chapters. Four star category winners included Montgomery County and Southern Maryland Chapters. Invitations to the annual membership meeting to receive awards should be forth coming. The annual meeting is scheduled for 28-30 October 2011 in San Antonio.

CAPT Taylor asked all in attendance to remember CAPT James Coleman, former president of the Annapolis Chapter. CAPT Coleman passed away July 7<sup>th</sup> from pneumonia. He was 76 years old. Jim will be missed by all his MOAA friends.

CAPT Taylor also announced that Ed Kreiner was recently hospitalized and asked all to keep him in their thoughts and prayers as he recuperates from a tick bite.

Review and approval of minutes: Minutes from the 26 March 2011 meeting were reviewed and approved as written.

Treasurer's report: CDR Dalke said he had just received the \$1000 MOAA check from COL Lee Lange, MOAA, for support of the upcoming legislative lunch. It was not reflected in the end of June budget handout (Atch 1). He reported that the checking account is just less than \$1000. He stated his concern that the council had not met its target of \$800 in membership dues from chapters. He reminded all that the dues are voluntary but encouraged everyone to contribute their fair share. Certificates of deposit stand at \$7,500. The treasurer's report was approved and accepted.

Council Goals: CAPT Taylor said the purpose of council goals is to measure results of the two year leadership commitment we all made to MOAA. The number and nature of the goals established should not become intimidating or stressful for council members. In fact he asked that feedback be provided if some thought the goals had become a burden. The goals, he said, speak to the purpose of the council and health of the chapters. They should lead to better communication with chapters. He asked Maj Shiffrin to place the goals on the web site. CAPT Campbell moved that the goals be adopted by the council, Jim Dittbrenner seconded, and the motion was approved.

Council Level of Excellence Award: In March CAPT Taylor announced that MOAA established council level awards for 2010. Because so many chapters complained about the lead time and preparation the awards were delayed until 2011. Our council will apply for the award in 2012 and because of earlier efforts in establishing an awards committee, the council is well prepared for the submission. Submission is due June 1, 2012 for calendar year 2011. Special thanks to Lt Col Finkenauer and Maj John Whitman for their work thus far. CAPT Campbell ask is new metrics were sent out. CAPT Taylor expected metrics to be re-issued and said we have plenty of time to fulfill the metrics for the award. LTC Fringer asked if MOAA had published new criteria as well. CAPT Taylor offered to check with MOAA on when new criteria would be published.

Maryland Legislative Luncheon: LTC Fringer provided copies of the menu for the 14 September luncheon. He said we have room for 80 (60 council members, 20 MOAA staffers) and 10 congressional guests. He asked everyone to look for the registration email and provide timely responses so planning committee can prepare appropriately. Deadline for registration is 14 August. CAPT Taylor said his effort to reach all legislators was frustrating but that everyone responded positively.

Website Improvements: CAPT Taylor expressed his desire for the web site to be more “friendly” and asked that all chapter presidents take the time to ensure it is up to date. He asked them to take this task on as a chapter initiative to provide consistency across the web site. Following some discussion regarding membership listings, it was resolved that chapter secretaries are responsible for ensuring chapter leadership lists on the web site are correct. CAPT Taylor and Maj Shiffrin agreed to work this issue together.

Exemption from Federal Income Tax, 501(c)(19): In March CAPT Taylor reported that our tax exemption package had been submitted to the comptroller. It was rejected and we learned we have no tax status with the state. All agreed the cost to obtain tax free status is too costly. CDR Dalke recommended we continue to examine the need for tax free status.

Assignment to Council Committees: In March CAPT Taylor distributed a list of Council Standing Committees. He said that with only four meetings yearly, the standing committee concept establishes responsibilities for council initiatives. These committees should generate actions for the council for the term of the officers. The committee is supposed to generate a report, take actions, and offer recommendations for the council to act on.

Action Item: CAPT Taylor asked all committees to look at the established Legislative Committee Goals and Guidelines as a model. Each committee should draft a similar document. In the future, each committee, as applicable, should offer agenda items and make reports to the council during council meetings.

Zip Code Reconciliation: CAPT Taylor asked if all chapter presidents had received the zip code listing from Col Lee Lange. Several said no. Representatives from Montgomery County reported they thought it was already accomplished for their chapter.

Action Item: CAPT Taylor will inquire about the coverage of the zip code listing to ensure all chapters are included.

Action Item: Chapter presidents were asked to examine the listing for accuracy and send any changes to Maj Pede to consolidate the report to MOAA NLT 14 August.

TOPS Update: Jim Dittbrenner will send all chapters an email report covering his actions to date (ATCH 2). Weekly announcements are on the web site. Over 260 people are receiving his input.

Hawaii Trip: The trip is being customized to reduce costs. There has been a lower than expected level of registration. One positive change is that folks can commit at a later date. Greater flexibility in the trip is in the works as well.

Col Lange Yearly Summary: CAPT Taylor asked if all chapters received this summary via email. No one recognized it. He promised to mail it to everyone.

Action Item: CAPT Taylor will email yearly summary to presidents.

Chapter Intervention Plan: CAPT Taylor introduced the plan as an intervention by Col Lange and staff to meet with chapters in trouble. The Baltimore, Prince Georges, and Susquehanna Chapters are struggling and have become candidates for intervention efforts. CAPT Taylor intends to work with MOAA to reinvigorate failing chapters.

Recruiting: CAPT Taylor raised the issue of out reach to Guard and Reserve officers with the help of BG Adkins. He said we need to build on existing programs in the council such as the recently re-instated Council Outstanding Unit Award. LTC Fringer resurrected this award in previous years. The Public Relations Committee will determine recipients annually for this award beginning with 2011.

Action Item: PR committee action item to source a candidate for the 2011 award.

Tax Exemption for Widows: CAPT Taylor reminded all that the \$5,000 subtraction from income applies to widows and widowers, as well as ex-spouses. Eleanor Layman said she will be speaking to the Society of American Widows soon and knows of one woman asking for a three year tax review of her filings.

Veterans Treatment Courts: Legislation has been reintroduced in H2026 and echoes sentiments of H2138 regarding veterans treatment courts. Montgomery County chapter is just now starting to dialogue with local representatives. Other chapters should stress their support of the bills as well.

CAPT Campbell moved to adjourn the meeting, Maj Shiffrin Seconded, the motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 2pm.

The next council meeting is schedule for 1130am, 12 November 2011, at the Annapolis Sheraton.

JAMES PEDE, Maj, USAF Ret  
MD Council Secretary

- 1 ATCH: Treasurer's Report
- 2 ATCH: Council Goals
- 3 ATCH: Council Committees
- 4 ATCH: TOPS Report

ATCH 1: Treasurer's Report

**Maryland MOAA Council**  
*Treasurer's Report, as of 30-June-2011 (CDR Greg Dalke, USN, retired)*

Balance Sheet	28-Feb-10	30-Jun-11	change in position
Assets			
Cash	\$9,500.28	\$8,494.99	(\$1,005.29)
CD	\$2,000.28	\$994.99	(\$1,005.29)
	\$7,500.00	\$7,500.00	\$0.00
Liabilities			
Equities	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	\$9,500.28	\$8,494.99	(\$1,005.29)
A=L+E	\$9,500.28	\$8,494.99	(\$1,005.29)

Financial Activities or Profit-Loss Statement		2011 Budget:		2011 Budget:		2011 Budget:		2011 Budget:		
YTD Actuals:	Receipts		(from)	(description)	(date)	(amounts)		(description)	(date)	(amounts)
\$610.00	dues:	\$800.00	S Ch.	chk #1063	3-May-11	\$68.00		Web Site (3 years)	22-Jun-11	\$143.64
			GB Ch.	chk #381	3-May-11	\$51.00		Shearon Annapolis	26-Mar-11	\$50.19
			UP Ch.	chk #457	3-May-11	\$75.00		chk #285,287,288	22-May-11	\$165.15
\$206.25	other:	\$206.00	CD interest	auto deposit	16-May-11	\$206.25		Past Prez & Gavel	27-Jun-11	\$467.68
\$816.25	<totals>	\$1,006.00		Total:		\$400.25		FlagZone	26-Mar-11	\$200.00
	Expenses		(to)	(description)	(date)	(amounts)		MD RYTF	22-May-11	\$378.88
\$143.64	mail/web:	\$0.00						Storming the Hill	22-May-11	\$1,405.54
\$50.19	meetings:	\$0.00						<totals>		\$2,500.00
\$165.15	intl gifts:	\$100.00						Difference: Receipts to Expenses		(\$1,005.29)
\$467.68	Flags:	\$500.00								
\$239.50	extl gifts:	\$250.00								
\$378.88	campaigns:	\$1,650.00								
\$1,445.04	<totals>	\$2,500.00								

- Notes: 1. In 2006, checks by Dalke started at #260 & finished at #xxx.  
 2. Maryland MOAA Chapters:  
 A Ch. = Annapolis Chapter  
 FGGM Ch. = Fort George G. Meade Chapter  
 GB Ch. = Greater Baltimore Chapter  
 GWS Ch. = General William Smallwood Chapter  
 (LES Ch. = Lower Eastern Shore Chapter)  
 MC Ch. = Montgomery County Chapter  
 PGC Ch. = Prince Georges County Chapter  
 S Ch. = Susquehanna Chapter  
 SM Ch. = Southern Maryland Chapter  
 UES Ch. = Upper Eastern Shore Chapter  
 UP Ch. = Upper Potomac Chapter

ATCH 2: Council Goals



**MARYLAND COUNCIL OF CHAPTERS  
GOALS 2011 – 2012**

- ▶ **One hundred percent representation of Chapters at Council meetings**
- ▶ **Activate Council Committees as a primary Chapter resource**
- ▶ **Initiate a Chapter Rescue Plan for marginal chapters**
- ▶ **Improve Council web site with consistency among Chapter sites**
- ▶ **Establish a Council Auxiliary Liaison Officer position**
- ▶ **Provide Council expertise to strengthen Chapter structure & mgmt**
- ▶ **Assist Chapters in reaching and maintaining a Level of Excellence**
- ▶ **Improve Chapter to Chapter communications and mutual support**
- ▶ **Encourage Chapters to share successful “best practices”**
- ▶ **Assist Chapters in creating and publishing a newsletter**
- ▶ **Encourage Chapters to develop community outreach programs**
- ▶ **Encourage Chapters to develop auxiliary memberships**
- ▶ **Assist Chapters to develop a Leadership Ladder for continuity of mgmt**
- ▶ **Review potential of establishing a new chapter in Western Maryland**



## **ATCH 4: TOPS Report**

### ***MARYLAND COUNCIL***

**mdmoaa.org**

### **Council Meeting**

**23 July 2011**

#### **Maryland TOPS Liaison Report**

##### **1. Current Status**

- A. Continuing to distribute the Career Fairs and Open House Listing. Currently goes to all 10 Maryland MOAA chapters, the Maryland Council Web Site and six other web sites, two other MOAA Chapters in Virginia, 13 military installations, and some 65,000 individuals world-wide.
- B. Continuing to distribute Vacancy and Program Announcements weekly to all 10 Maryland MOAA Chapters, two VA Chapters, the Wounded Warrior Program Counselors, 13 military installations from Dover AFB to Norfolk NAS, and some 250+ separating military personnel.
- C. Serving as XO of Northern VA MOAA BANG Program, developing monthly programs for retiring and separating service members.

##### **2. In-Process Activities**

- A. Developing with Karl Savino, Karin Sadowski, and Greg Wilcox, a working version of Wounded Warrior Mentor Training. To be offered at the American Legion Hall in Springfield, VA this fall.
- B. Proposed a Panel comprised of MOAA and a State Representative for the upcoming 29 September RecruitDC Program. This program is for the top 250 recruiters in the metropolitan area and will be held at MITRE in September. The Panel's focus is on hiring returning veterans and will deal with the conflicting issues of EEO versus Hiring A Veteran Programs, and will deal with the issue of the HR function's concern in hiring returning service members due to the possibility of PTSD.

##### **3. Proposed Activities**

- A. Establishing a Business and Networking Group within each chapter that houses a military installation in its area of responsibility. (Copy attached.)
- B. Presenting periodic Transition Programs for separating service members and their spouses. (Copy attached)