



Council Communiqué

MOAA Outstanding Newsletter 1997 & 98, 2001, 03, 05 & 06
Runner-up Outstanding Newsletter 1999, 2000, 2002, 2004
Florida Council of Chapters, Military Officers Association of America



Issue No. 88

March 2008



PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

CAPT. BILL MONK, USN (RET)

ACTION TIME!

With the Vernal Equinox almost upon us and Daylight Saving Time fast approaching, it's time to come out of hibernation and start seriously considering how you and your Chapter are going to support the MOAA initiatives in 2008. There are at least three items that you and your folks need to start addressing - and I'll address them in chronological order.

FIRST - - With the Congress starting to get up to speed, it's time to start communicating with your Senators and Representatives. Get on their radar early with your support for MOAA's legislative programs, especially the three issues I'll be talking about when I Storm the Hill on April 2. If you wonder what they are and what you need to do about them let me refer you to John Feldmann's Legislative affairs column in this issue of the Communiqué. He'll tell you how to find descriptions of the issues AND a sample letter to use when you write our Senators and YOUR Representative so that when I meet them on April 2nd, they will already know that I have ONE POWERFUL VOICE - AND IT'S YOURS! backing me up.

SECOND - - Our Florida Council Convention is due to kick off in Cocoa Beach on May 2nd. In case you're in doubt, this issue of the Communiqué is meant to assure you that the Convention is for ALL MOAAans in the state of Florida, emphatically NOT just for Chapter Presidents and Board members! If you have folks in your Chapters that wonder what the Florida Council is all about, let them know that now is the time to find out - there's a Convention agenda and Registration Form elsewhere in this issue as well as on the Council web site at www.moaaf.org. The location is the same as last months Leaders Workshop, so you're already familiar with the Hilton Oceanfront Hotel and all of the amenities it offers. So gather a group from your Chapter and come on over! You'll be glad you did!

THIRD - - You all know - or should know - that the Chairman of the MOAA Board of Directors, Gen. Mike Carns, USAF has proclaimed 2008 the Year of the Chapter. In his column in the February issue of the Military Officer magazine, he laid out the basis for his proclamation - that only through a vibrant and vital Chapter and Council system can MOAA exert the grassroots influence to support our legislative agenda at both the State and National level. Some of our Chapters, however, are barely getting by. While the reasons for their individual problems are many and varied, for MOAA to continue to be at the forefront of national veterans' organizations, you, the leaders of all of our Chapters must ensure that they remain relevant, attractive to new members, and platforms for "servant leaders" to give back to your communities. With less than 20% of MOAA members belonging to Chapters nationwide, there is ample opportunity to recruit new members - all it takes is the will to lead - and, as officers you all have been leaders throughout your careers. So this is just another challenge!

In the meantime, please keep our Comrades in the Profession of Arms in your thoughts and prayers.
Cheers, Bill



MOAA ISSUES

LtCol John Feldmann, USAF (Ret)
Legislative Chairman

This Communiqué article precedes two large events for MOAA and the Florida Council of Chapters. The first is our annual “Storming the Hill” event on April 2, 2008. We send our Florida Council president, William Monk, Capt. USN (Ret.), along with other members and MOAA staff to the offices of our Florida legislators in Washington, D.C., to inform and persuade those visited about our main issues for the current Congressional year.

The last three Communiqués have contained important information for you and members about these issues, how to contact our legislators, and WEB sites you can use.

An important addition to our Committees/Legislative link is a suggested letter you can copy, tailor for you our your chapter, and send both by mail and Email before March 24th, please. It is an essential communication to let your legislators know you support our legislative goals this year. This is a most important action item for your chapter, if we are to stave off attacks on our benefits and strengthen out country’s military. ACT NOW!

The second important activity is our upcoming annual convention at Cocoa Beach at the start of May. I hope to report to you which chapters have been apparently most successful in influencing their congressperson(s) to support our legislative goals. I will use the MOAA WEB site on Current Legislation at: <http://capwiz.com/moaa/issues/bills/>.

I will prepare a spreadsheet this week identifying which of the 25 Florida representatives is either sponsors or cosponsors of the listed bills in the House. I will redo the effort just before the May FCOO convention and compare the two, noting the chapters whose legislators have signed on between the two times. Although an imperfect measure (because some of our legislators are routinely for or ignore us), it should give some indication of which chapters are calling, Emailing, and sending the letters and post cards from the “Military Officer”. I call on each chapter’s president and Legislative chair to start an active drive right now with your legislators. Especially watch and act on the Legislative Alerts at: <http://capwiz.com/moaa/issues/?style=D>.

CHANGE TO CONVENTION SCHEDULE



There has been a recent development in the convention plan. Carnival Cruise Lines has offered a tour of their passenger liner, Glory, along with a lunch at no charge other than \$10 for transportation to the liner and back. The Registration Form included in this issue of the Council Communiqué has been revised to include the tour of the ship Glory, and is for the use of those that have not yet registered. You may also use it to amend a previous registration - - like to include the tour of the Carnival Glory. And please note the “single event without Convention Registration” option.

FLORIDA COUNCIL OF CHAPTERS, MOAA

OFFICERS:

- President**.....CAPT William W. Monk, USN
(727) 943-9414 **bilmonk@aol.com**
- Vice President**.....COL Troy Scott, USA
(941) 379-3023 **entscott@comcast.net**
- Northeast Area Vice President**.....COL Bob Bachmann, USA
(904) 737-0568 **rrbclb@mindspring.com**
- Northwest Area Vice President**.....LTC Allen DeGraw, USA
(850) 893-6181 **adegraw@comcast.net**
- East Central Area Vice President**.....Col Bob Kronebusch, USAF
(321) 777-2492 **Scramble@aol.com**
- West Central Area Vice President**.....CDR Victor Wood, USN
(727) 593-3573 **evhwood@aol.com**
- Southeast Area Vice President**...COL William H. Danzeisen, USA
(561) 747-0109 **whdanzjr@adelphia.net**
- Southwest Area Vice President**.....COL Bill Deile, USA
(239) 574-6718 **seehof@embarqmail.com**
- Secretary**.....LtCol Jim Conner, USAF
(239) 542-5627 **jmchl@comcast.net**
- Treasurer**.....LtCol Don Knutson, USAF
(352) 686-9379 **drkatty@hotmail.com**
- Immediate Past President**.....CAPT William E. Knehans, USN
(386) 233-9439 **wejfgk@cfl.rr.com**

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN:

- Budget & Finance**.....CDR William Pulver, USN
(352) 624-9400 **jbw32605@aol.com**
- Bylaw Proposals & Resolutions**.....CAPT Owen Englander, USN
(850) 479-1108 **onenglander@cox.net**
- Communiqué Editor**.....Maj Mick Cotten, USMC
(386) 960-5425 **mpcotten@earthlink.net**
- Legislative Affairs**.....Lt Col John E. Feldmann, USAF
(850) 651-5228 **jfeldmann@cox.net**
- Florida Legislative Affairs**.....COL Jere Moore, USA
(850) 385-3527 **jeremoore@earthlink.net**
- Personal Affairs**.....COL Jon Gordon, USA
(941) 923-2302 **gordonlaw@worldnet.att.net**
- Religious Activities**.....Ch (COL) Robert Morris, USA (Ret)
(352) 259-9393 **RLSIRROM@aol.com**
- Web Site Coordinator**.....LCDR Mike Magnant, USN
(813) 622-8816 **mikem@myitperson.com**
- FMMC/IMMC Editor**.....COL Henry W. Ince, USAR
(352) 873-1001 **hwince@cfl.rr.com**
- Convention Coordinator**..... Col Ron Buchert, USAF
(813) 961-4129 **rbuchert@msn.com**
- Annual Convention Chair - 2008**.....LT William Keeney, USN
(321) 779-2341 **wkeeney822@aol.com**

2008 FCOC CONVENTION - - REVISED SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

FRIDAY, 2 MAY 2008:

- 8:00 AM **Registration** begins and continues through Saturday, May 3rd
- 12:00 NOON **Hospitality Room** is open throughout the convention.
Vendors' Booths are open throughout the convention.
- 2:00 PM **Transportation for Tour of Naval Ordinance and Test Unit** at Port Canaveral.
- 3:00 PM **Board of Directors Meeting**
- 5:30 PM **President's Reception** - Social gathering with hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar. Dress should be dressy casual. An opportunity for first time attendees and convention veterans to make new friends and renew old friendships. Welcome remarks from the Florida Council of Chapters President.
- 6:30 PM **Dinner** on your own with some restaurants offering special promotions.

SATURDAY, 3 MAY 2008:



VADM RYAN

- 8:00 AM **Registration and Hospitality Room.**
- 8:00 AM **Welcome Breakfast** - Convention kick-off begins with welcoming remarks by FCOC leaders, area officials and our keynote speaker - - *MOAA President, Vice Admiral Norb Ryan, USN (RET)*. Dress is convention shirt or chapter shirt and slacks for men and women. Dressy casual, if desired.
- 9:00 AM **Memorial Service** - A MOAA tradition of ceremony and commentary that provides a dignified recognition of Florida chapter members who died during the previous year.
- 9:45 AM **Presidents Meeting** - meeting to address old and new business as it relates to statewide policy, administration and guidance.
- 10:30AM **Shopping and Lunch Outing** - Visit Cocoa Village and shop in the quaint little shops. Visit Travis Hardware that has been open since 1888. Have lunch at one of the top-notch restaurants and stroll through Riverside Park. Primarily planned for wives of delegates to the Annual Business Meeting, but husbands are welcome too. It is an opportunity to experience and enjoy local parks, beaches and restaurants.
- 11:00 AM **Council Annual Business Meeting** - is attended by the appointed delegates of each Florida Chapter to elect the new officers for the year and to vote on business specified in the by-laws.
- 11:00 AM **Depart for Carnival Glory Tour** and Luncheon aboard the ship. Return to Hilton at 2:00 PM.



ASD GRIMES

- 12:00 NOON **Buffet Lunch at Hotel** - Enjoy an outstanding lunch of salads, cold cuts and desserts at the hotel.
- 2:00 PM and 3:00 PM **Seminars** by MOAA and local experts on legislative, financial and health problems and solutions for MOAA Chapter Members.
- 6:00 PM **Military Ball with Assistant Secretary of Defense, The Honorable John J. Grimes as Keynote Speaker** - The social highlight of the FCOC 2008 Convention will be the formal military ball. Dress is dress uniform or Black Tie optional. The evening will feature the traditional ceremonial events, to include the installation of the newly elected FCOC officers. The ceremonies and the Keynote Speaker will be, followed by music for dancing to make for an unforgettable evening.

SUNDAY, 4 MAY 2008

- 9:00 AM **New Board of Directors Meeting**

**Military Officers Association of America
 Florida Council of Chapters Convention 2008
 Host: Cape Canaveral Chapter
 Hilton Cocoa Beach Oceanfront Hotel – 2 May – 4 May 2008
 Registration Form (Revised 6 March 2008)**

Name: _____ Rank: _____ Service _____ Spouse/Guest _____
 First and last names for Badges: _____ / _____
 Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____
 Chapter: _____ Chapter Position: _____

CONVENTION EVENTS				
ITEM	COST	NUMBER	TOTAL	
Convention Registration Fee (Required for all Registered Attendees)	\$35.	_____	\$	_____
1. Naval Ordinance and Test Unit Tour: May 2 nd from 2:00 PM until 4:30 PM. Briefing and Tour of the Navy Base that tests the Trident Missile Submarines on the Eastern Test Range.	\$10	_____		_____
2. President’s Reception: May 2 nd at 6:00 PM	\$20	_____		_____
3. Memorial Service Breakfast: May 3 rd at 7:30 AM	\$25	_____		_____
4. Shopping & Lunch Outing: May 3 rd 10:30 AM to 2:30 PM Transportation to Old Cocoa Village to enjoy the shops, visit the pier, the art shops, stroll River Front Park, and relax over lunch at one of the village’s upscale restaurants.	\$10	_____		_____
5. Buffet Lunch at hotel: May 3 rd at 12:00 NOON	\$25	_____		_____
5a. Tour of Carnival Glory including Buffet Lunch. Transportation leaves hotel at 11:00 AM - - tour the Glory, enjoy lunch on board, and return to hotel at 2:00 PM	\$10	_____		_____
6. Souvenir Convention Shirts: Ladies: S ___ M ___ L ___ XL ___ 2X ___ Men’s: S ___ M ___ L ___ XL ___ 2X ___	\$40	_____		_____
7. Military Ball : Beef ___ Chicken ___ Vegetarian ___	\$50	_____		_____
SC. Surcharge (See “One Event Surcharge,” below)	\$10	_____		_____
TOTAL: Payable to MOAACC Convention 2008			\$	_____

CANCELLATIONS ACCEPTED UNTIL 18 April 2008

MAIL REGISTRATION FORM WITH CHECK PAYABLE TO:
 MOAACC CONVENTION 2008 - PO BOX 254186 - PATRICK AIR FORCE BASE, FL 32925

HOTEL RESERVATIONS: CALL THE HILTON COCOA BEACH HOTEL AT 1-800-526-2609 AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND IDENTIFY YOURSELF AS A MEMBER OF THE MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA GROUP TO RECEIVE THE SPECIAL RATE OF \$119. THAT RATE IS AVAILABLE FOR 3 DAYS BEFORE THE CONVENTION AND 3 DAYS AFTER THE CONVENTION. RESERVATIONS CAN ALSO BE MADE ON THE INTERNET AT WWW.HILTONCOCOABEACH.COM. GO TO THE RESERVATIONS PAGE AND ENTER THE CODE FCC UNDER THE GROUP/CONVENTION CODE SECTION, WHICH WILL OFFER THE GROUP RATE.

PLEASE NOTE: THERE IS A “ONE EVENT SURCHARGE” OF \$10 FOR ATENDEES THAT PARTICIPATE IN ONLY A SINGLE EVENT (e.g. IF A PERSON WANTS TO ONLY ATTEND THE MILITARY BALL, THEY CAN DO SO WITHOUT PAYING THE REGISTRATION FEE, BUT PAYING THE “ONE EVENT SURCHARGE” OF \$10 PLUS THE CHARGE FOR THE MILITARY BALL). (07MAR08)



HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

Hilton Cocoa Beach Oceanfront is a brilliant landmark along Florida's Space Coast - just steps from the beach. Our restful Cocoa Beach accommodations are designed for your comfort and restoration. Each of our 296 guestrooms and suites is beautifully decorated, and most include captivating views of the Atlantic Ocean. For a truly relaxing experience, take pleasure in the renowned "Serenity" bedding - complete with an exclusive Suite Dreams mattress and box springs, a blissfully soft mattress pad and down-filled comforters.

NAVAL ORDINANCE & TEST UNIT (NOTU)

NOTU is a part of the U.S. Navy's Strategic Systems Programs (SSP) Directorate. NOTU, Cape Canaveral is a testing facility for Trident Systems on the Eastern Range

SSP's Purpose - - To state the direction and strategy our organization must take to effectively execute our programs to ensure we provide maximum value directly to the warfighter and to our other customers who support the warfighter or perform other activities essential to the defense effort.

Background - - SSP has a fifty-year history of providing credible sea-based deterrent missile systems. Our deterrent systems have been and remain a key factor in preventing nuclear war, and they helped our Nation win the Cold War. We still have this vital deterrent mission. However, delivery of high-quality and well supported systems to the fleet on time and within budget is no longer sufficient. In the current environment and in the foreseeable future, it is necessary to better this performance to achieve more with greater efficiency and to free resources to address emergent needs.



OLDE COCOA VILLAGE

Strolling down the streets of restored downtown Cocoa, Florida, you will see a number of homes and buildings on the National Historic Register – some of them dating back to the 1880s. Cocoa Village is a growing, evolving community where you can take a step back into time as you explore antique stores housed in historic buildings, eat an old fashioned ice cream cone, or just enjoy a cup of coffee in a Victorian-style coffee house.

CARNIVAL GLORY

More nightclubs, duty-free shops, restaurants and [onboard activities](#) are just a few of the features that make the Carnival Glory a truly special ship. A whopping 60% of her extra-spacious staterooms feature ocean views and 60% of those boast private balconies. Relax in any of the four pools and seven whirlpools. Or, take a wet and wild ride on the 214-foot waterslide. No matter how you choose to spend your Caribbean cruise, you're guaranteed a great time. Ship's Registry: Panama.



♦ **MOAACC Chapter** - -has put out an Email re the 2008 FCOC Convention - - and it bears repeating. So, here goes.

Registrations have been slow, and we are concerned about the legal commitments that have been made. The commitment is for 80 rooms at the special rate of \$119, but only 42 have been reserved with the deadline, April 18, fast approaching. Attendance of at least 200 will be necessary to fulfill the meal obligations, but only 82 have registered. The state convention is a wonderful experience. Every member is invited, and every member should know about the convention and that they are eligible to attend.

The souvenir program deadline for ads to be submitted to the chapter is March 15th. If a chapter has not received an ad order form, one can be requested by contacting Mrs. Roslyn

Chapter/Club Happenings

Bates, phone number 321-773-4459, Roslynbt@aol.com. As of March 1st only six chapters have placed ads. Chapters receive a special reduced price for ads that are a reduction of one-third to one-half the commercial rates. That is a big price break to make it easier for a chapter to signal that it is **ALIVE AND WELL AND FULLY SUPPORTS THE CONVENTION**.

For the convenience of your members, convention registration forms are available at two web sites and several locations. They are available at: www.moaaf.org, click on "Click Here" then click on Registration Form, www.moaacc.org, scroll down to "2008 Council of Chapters Convention" and click on Registration Form, page 5 of the December 2007 Issue of the Council Communiqué which is on the Florida Council Web Site and on page 9 of the January 2008 Issue of the Cape

Canaveral Chapter's Newsletter, The Intercom, which is on the chapter's Web Site.

This note is sent in the spirit of needing your support **RIGHT NOW!** As your convention planners we feel that we are ready to host a great convention. You may want to reproduce the "WE NEED YOU" attached flyer as a hand out to your chapter members. **IT IS NOW UP TO YOU, THE CHAPTER PRESIDENTS AND EDITORS, TO INSURE A GREAT TURN OUT!**

EDITORS NOTE: *A revised Convention Registration Form is included in the issue of the Council Communiqué - - also a revised Convention Schedule. They are "THE LATEST" - - so please use them. And do not forget the program ads - - everything helps.*

The **COUNCIL COMMUNIQUÉ** is the newsletter of the Florida Council of Chapters and is published bimonthly: February, April, June, August, October, and December with a special convention issue published in March. A current issue of the Council Communiqué can be found at the Florida Council of Chapters Web Site: <http://www.moaaf.org/>. Opinions expressed by writers are their own, and may not express the positions of the FCOC or the MOAA



Council Communiqué

FLORIDA COUNCIL OF CHAPTERS
MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

MAJ Marion L. "Mick" Cotten, USMC (Ret'd), Editor
2072 Alameda Drive • Deltona, FL 32738-4874

Quotable Quotes: Do you prefer that you be right, or that you be happy? - - A Course in Miracles

Inside This Issue - -:

- ♦ Pres' Comments - - Action Time!
- ♦ Legislative - - MOAA Issues
- ♦ FCOC VIP Information
- ♦ 2008 Convention - - Revised Convention Schedule
- ♦ 2008 Convention Registration Form (Revised)
- ♦ Convention Highlights
- ♦ Chapter/Club Happenings