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Capitol Area Chapter
Military Officers Association of America

Timely Topics

Chapter Web site: www.cacmoaa.org

(Vol 2017 – No.4)

2016-17

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April MOAA Dinner

When: Thursday, 13 April 2017

Where: Crowne Plaza Hotel

925 South Creyts Road, Lansing, Michigan (at I-496)

SOCIAL HOUR: 6:00 PM

DINNER: 6:30 PM

PROGRAM: 7:30 PM

ADJOURN: 9:00 PM

Menu Selections:

#1: Roast Pork Loin with gravy

#2: Grilled chicken with mushroom cream sauce

Make your reservations by SUNDAY, 9 April 2017

On line at www.cacmoaa.org

or contact CW3 Tony Kruckeberg, armyblkhawk@yahoo.com, or [517-575-9386](tel:517-575-9386)

Include # of attendees. Cost is \$25.00.

Make checks payable to 'Capitol Area Chapter MOAA.'

April Program

Valuing Others Above Oneself

Captain Christopher Dennis, USN

Commanding Officer UofM Naval ROTC

Captain Dennis will speak about, "The positive power of humility - seeking criticism, contrary points of view, admitting fault and failure, and valuing others above oneself." He will also share about the women and men of our UofM NROTC and then engage in Q&A if desired.

Captain Dennis is a fourth-generation Sailor, an Eagle Scout, hails from New Smyrna Beach, Fla. and is a 1989 graduate of Auburn University and earned a Masters of Arts in National Security and Strategic Planning with distinction from the U.S. Naval War College (1999). Captain Dennis joined the University of Michigan having recently served as Commanding Officer, Naval Air Station Sigonella, Italy. Highlighting Sigonella's many contributions during Captain Dennis's tenure was its critical role in the safe evacuation/recovery of U.S. embassy personnel from Tripoli, Libya in July 2014.

CAC Welcomed MOAA President and CEO Lt General Dana Atkins

On March 9, Lt Gen Dana Atkins, MOAA President and CEO, visited the Capitol Area Chapter. We started with a lunch meeting of the chapter officers and past leaders. The discussion was productive as we learned that MOAA remains focused on those issues that affect members, spouses and all veterans. General Atkins discussed MOAA's efforts to reduce costs to match declining revenues and protect investments that assures core member services remain intact. He advised of a new MOAA and USAA grant available to the chapter for community outreach activities that a chapter wants to support. General Atkins also stressed the importance of continued membership growth so that MOAA remains a strong influential advocate on Capitol Hill, at the White House, with the Veterans Administration, and with the planners at DoD. He noted many eligible to join don't because they are never invited to do so. The message is we should be inviting those we know or are yet to know to attend a meeting and ask them to become part of our chapter.

The social hour provided an opportunity for fellowship with our members and those attending from all the chapters in Michigan. *Director James Robert Redford from the MI Veterans Affairs Agency* also joined us for the evening to discuss veteran issues and meet with General Atkins.

We were pleased to welcome and bestow an honorary chapter membership on Michigan resident *Lt COL Charles Kettles, Medal of Honor recipient*. Colonel Kettles was invited to return and participate in chapter activities. Members enjoyed the opportunity to visit with Colonel Kettles.

MSU tennis Coach Gene Orlando was also recognized for organizing the President's Day weekend MSU-Army-Air Force Tournament to recognize and honor local veterans.

The highlight of the evening was Lt Gen Atkins as our featured speaker. He really drove home the importance of MOAA's work and the need to never stop serving our members, their families, the local community, active service members, and our veterans. The recent fight by MOAA to retain the SBP for families of those killed in action affects a small number but is vital to the family who is now without a service member.

He also encouraged the chapter to remain visibly engaged in the community to foster a positive image and assist service recruiters who compete with the many options available to the next generation. He noted programs such as those organized by Coach Orlando are perfect ways to keep the values of military service in front of the community.

The evening is best summarized by an email we received from Bob Kutulis, President, Northwest Michigan Chapter (Traverse City): *"The Crown Plaza is a great venue for your meetings—good food, great service, perfect ambiance. Plus, such an active chapter makes for a wonderful evening."*

Respectfully submitted,

Doug Couto
Ltc, USAF (Ret)
1st VP, Capitol Area Chapter, MOAA



State Senator Rick Jones, LtGen Atkins and
State Representative Tom Barrett



Chap Pres CW5 Tom McBeath and LTC Charles
Kettles, Medal of Honor recipient

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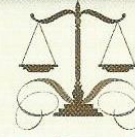


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Executive Board Meeting
 6 April 2017, 1130 hours at Piazano's,
 1825 N Grand River, Lansing, MI

Newsletter Comments or Questions
 Contact our Newsletter Editor, COL Dave
 Herring, moaaeditor@gmail.com or 517-
 719-4579.



Lt Gen Atkins addresses Capitol Area Chapter



MG Pocock and MSU Tennis
 Coach Gene Orlando



LTC Kettles, Jim Little and MG Pocock

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Welcome New Chapter Members

Paul Case CPT US Army
Gregory Monsevisian CPT US Navy
James Robert Redford CPT US Navy, Director of the Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency
Lt Col Charles Kettles, MOH, Honorary Chapter Membership

CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP

How Do I Get More National and Chapter Membership Enrollment Forms?

Answer: You can get National and Chapter Membership Enrollment forms from several sources, but please make sure they are mailed to the membership director Jim Sigmon, 1228 Alpine Drive, Dewitt, MI 48820 with your check or credit card information.

1. You can contact the chapter membership director Jim Sigmon either by calling him (517-669-5020) or e-mailing him on FSigjrs@aol.com.
2. The MOAA membership enrollment form is available and suitable for downloading and printing from your computer. http://www.moaa.org/uploadedFiles/Content/Chapters_and_Councils/Chapter_Recruiting/Bridge_to_MOAA_National/CR2013-MOAA%20Basic%20Premium%20Brochure.pdf
3. You can also get chapter enrollment forms on line via our website on www.cacmoaa.net