

November 14, 2009

4th Quarter 2009 Officer and Chapter Reports to Texas Council of Chapters

Officer Reports

Quarterly Financials

TEXAS COUNCIL OF CHAPTERS-MOAA FINANCIAL REPORT, 14 AUGUST – 7 NOVEMBER 2009

Beginning balance, 14 August 2009			\$6,724.13
Income:	Dues (Greater Lubbock & Wichita Falls)	48.00	
	Interest	<u>1.65</u>	<u>49.65</u>
			\$6,773.78
Expenses:	Quarterly Meeting (Wichita Falls)	250.00	
	Gold Bar Program	89.30	
	MOAA Scholarship Fund	<u>75.00</u>	<u>414.30</u>
Ending balance, 7 November 2009			\$6,359.48
Balance in American Bank			\$6,359.48

Respectfully submitted,

(signed by)

Louraine Robertson, Treasurer

TEXAS COUNCIL OF CHAPTERS—2009 DUES PAID

TX 01 Abilene	31.60	TX 08 Highland Lakes	28.80
TX 16 Alamo	200.00	TX 24 Hill Country	46.80
TX 02 Austin	96.00	TX 11 Lone Star	91.60
TX 22 Central	18.40	TX 31 North DFW	43.20 *
TX 29 Del Rio/Ft. Clark	5.20	TX 23 Northeast	20.00

TX 04 East Texas	13.20	TX 30 Oilpatch	20.00
TX 05 El Paso	200.00	TX 19 Panhandle	21.20
TX 06 Ft. Wolters	6.00	TX 27 Rio Grande Valley	7.20
TX 03 Greater Dallas	136.80	TX 25 Rose Capital	46.80
TX 13 Greater Lubbock	31.60	TX 20 Wichita Falls	16.40
TX 07 Heart of TX	32.40		

Total Collected: \$ 1,113.20

*Collected in 2008

Still to be heard from: Golden Triangle. Brazos Valley has notified us that they are not going to join TCC.

Proposed 2010 Budget

TEXAS COUNCIL OF CHAPTERS – MOAA 2010 PROPOSED BUDGET (With 2009 Comparison)

	2009 Budget	Actual to 11/7/09	2010 Proposed
Income:			
Dues	\$1,115.00	1,070.00*	1,120.00
Interest earned	15.00	5.28	10.00
MOAA Nat'l. "Give Me 10"	<u>0</u>	<u>500.00</u>	<u>0</u>
	1,130.00	1,575.28	1,130.00
 Expenses:			
President	0	0	0
Quarterly meetings	1,000.00	389.87	1,000.00
Texan Newsletter	0	0	0
Secretary	0	0	0
Treasurer	0	0	0
Legislative	0	0	0
Veteran's Coalition Dues	50.00	50.00	50.00
Nonprofit Renewal, Sec. of State	5.00	0	5.00
MOAA Scholarship Fund	<u>75.00</u>	<u>75.00</u>	<u>75.00</u>
	\$1,130.00	\$ 514.87	\$1,130.00

Note: We actually collected \$1,113.20 in dues, difference was an early payment recorded in 2008.

Chapter Reports

Chapter Name: El Paso Chapter

Chapter #: TX 05

Number of Chapter Members: 598

- Paid, Honorary, Courtesy – 415
- Special Electronic GMT to 2010 - 183

Significant Highlights

Successes:

- Web site reconfigured and up grading in progress by LTC Bill Moore, USA, Retired...
- Personalized electronic emails and legislative alerts in mass mailing program...
- Transfer of leadership to the succeeding generation in Chapter for 2010...
- 2008 Five Star Excellence Award presented at Annual Convention in San Diego...8th such successive annual award...

Challenges: Chapter membership...the El Paso Chapter has through attrition lost members since 2003 at an approximate rate of 50x per year. We are meeting significant head winds in recruiting new chapter members. While remaining above the 600+ membership numbers to remain classified in the Large Chapter niche by including the GMTs who receive a special membership for a year, we stand to slip to the next lower level by year end.

Future Initiatives: Recruit heavily among the Active Duty and those just retired for new chapter members.

Legislative Efforts

Names of congressional reps you are covering: Through the El Paso Military Coalition, in which the MOAA chapter participates, we reach Senators Cornyn and Hutchison and Reps Reyes and Ciro Rodriguez. LTC John McKinney, USA, RET, our Legislative Director, has direct contact with both Reps via other channels also and in some cases is in contact almost daily. An aside, John

McKinney was selected and awarded Best Legislative Coverage in 2008 by national.

How is your Chapter doing on e-mail alerts: The El Paso Chapter uses email alerts exclusively. It is the most efficient, cost effect manner in which to maintain contact with our membership. We have a new webmaster. He has moved us to personalized email alerts in the same manner that MOAA national broadcasts their alerts. Ours generally are dispatched within 4x hours of receipt from either national or TCC. We do not replicate alerts of the same subject.

What postcards and letters are you sending: The El Paso Chapter does not use self generated postcards because they are expensive and generally wind up in the round file. We do not consider them either timely or cost effective as a rule. More and more we are moving towards technology based communications.

Other Significant Comments

None

Report submitted by: Morgan Jellett, BG, USA, Retired, President

Chapter Name: North DFW Military Officers Association

Chapter #: 31

Number of Chapter Members: 114

Significant Highlights

Successes: Chapter assisted Town of Flower Mound prepare and present its annual Veterans' Day Celebration, to include logistics as well as having one of our Chapter Members being a part of the "Official Party" as a representative of the US Navy. Also we will have a MOAA recruiting table at the event (staffed by members {in uniform if they still fit!}).

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Challenges: As usual, the largest challenge to our Chapter is increased participation in operation of the Chapter by our members. They come to meetings but operating the Chapter is still by the "Core 20% as usual.

Future Initiatives: In addition to the Challenges above, we will become more involved with our Legislators on the National and State levels to support our Active Duty forces and to protect our benefits.

Legislative Efforts

Names of congressional reps you are covering:

Congressman Dr Michael Burgess (26th District)
State Senator Jane Nelson
State Representative Tan Parker

How is your Chapter doing on e-mail alerts: Very well. We continue to emphasize all legislative actions of which we are aware. We “Blast” the Chapter via e mail on MOAA alerts, TX Council alerts and any other pertinent data we receive.

What postcards and letters are you sending: Bimonthly Chapter Newsletter. Personal Affairs correspondence as appropriate and necessary.

Other Significant Comments

Two members (Maj. Brian Michaels & LTC. Patrick Martin presently deployed to SW Asia.

One member (Capt. Bruce Balvin) returned from deployment to SW Asia. Bruce will share his experiences with us at the November Chapter meeting.

I attended the MOAA Conference in San Diego and accepted our 5 Star Excellence Award.

Report submitted by: Charles Correll
President
North DFW Military Officers Association

Chapter: Central Texas Chapter

Chapter #: 22

Number of Members: 52

Significant Highlights

Successes: Central Texas Chapter of MOAA met in the months of July, August and September. The Central Texas Chapter meets every 3rd Friday of each month at the Yank Sing Restaurant in Killeen, TX.

July Meeting: President Christ presented an Executive Board proposal regarding the Memorial Project, specifically, that the Chapter may be able to purchase a marble bench to be placed at the Central Texas Veteran's Cemetery at the new Flag Retirement Site Burn Pit, also near the Cemetery Flag. Further, President Christ emphasized that the Chapter intends to continue the Memorial Fund, and place another memorial out at the VA Cemetery in the future.

Based on a motion (and membership concurrence) to approve the Memorial Bench Project, President Christ directed Gene Wentworth to pursue a contract in order for the Chapter to go forward with the Memorial Bench Project.

Secondly, in regards to the recently passed legislation that allows veterans who have been certified as 100% disabled (and/or the designation of inability to work) to be granted a total exemption of property tax throughout the State of Texas, President Christ informed the membership that if they fell into that category but needed some assistance, that a chapter representative will assist them in filing for the property tax exemption.

Ben H. Wickersham, a retired teacher and veteran of 45 years in numerous executive positions in various educational institutions, and expert on Springfield Armory Long Arms, appeared as the guest speaker. Mr. Wickersham, who has provided expert testimony before the Texas Legislature Educational Committee, provided a deep history of the Springfield Armory Long Arms, from 1795 to the present, including the M-1 Garand Rifle used during WWII.

August Meeting: The August Executive Board and Memberships meetings were presided over by First Vice-President Jos Portmann. President Christ and Chairman Spencer Smith, were absent in order to attend the MOAA TCC 3rd Quarter Meeting held August 21-22 in Wichita Falls, TX.

At the request of Acting President Portmann, Gene Wentworth, Chairman of the Memorial Project, presented an update to the membership on the progress of the on-going Memorial Project. Utilizing drawings with the approved inscription (passed around), Wentworth advised that the proposed MOAA memorial bench is expected to be placed in the vicinity of the Cemetery Flag Pole. Also, once the memorial project is in place, this MOAA Chapter will be permanently and proudly represented at the Veteran's Cemetery in Central Texas.

Scholarship Chairman/Coordinator Bill Nance, provided a detailed briefing of the Chapter's Scholarship Program. In regards to achievements, Nance noted that the Chapter has already provided over \$7000 in scholarships over the past few years to one Nurse Corps Officer, one Military Police Officer, and three scholastic recipients still in the college ROTC Program.

Following his scholarship briefing, Nance introduced two guest speakers, JROTC Military High School Instructors, LTC Sid Thurston, USAF (Ret) from Temple High School, and LTC Joe Merlo, USA (Ret), who teaches at Ellison

High School in Killeen. Both speakers provided a history of the JROTC Program, which was originally started in Cheyenne, WY in 1911. Also, both emphasized that the objectives are "not recruiting for the military," but to train high school kids to be better citizens by development of character, self-discipline, and instilling responsibility. Lastly, both speakers explained that no war-fighting skills are taught in JROTC.

September Meeting: Leading from the August guest speaker presentations by the JROTC Military High School Instructors, President Christ expressed his desire for the Chapter to become more directly involved in the JROTC Program. Pursuant to a request by President Christ, Chapter ROTC Awards and Scholarship Chairman, Bill Nance, prepared a special program to allow the Chapter to become "more in touch" with the JROTC Program. Nance then presented the details of the "Chapter Liaison Officer" Program, noted that two Board Members already volunteered to serve as JROTC Chapter Liaison Officers. After outlining the duties and responsibilities of the Chapter Liaison Officers, Nance solicited another 5 volunteers from the membership (one for each of the seven local high schools that receives Chapter JROTC support. Nance also provided specialized booklets for each high school to provide guidance to each Chapter Volunteer.

President Christ introduced Dr. Gary Ross, Interim President, Texas A&M University, Central Texas as the guest speaker. At the onset of his presentation, Dr. Ross informed the attendees that he was previously the Interim Executive Director of Tarleton State prior to being named University of Texas A&M Central Texas. Further, Texas A&M University has the second largest ROTC Program in Texas. Dr. Ross also, expressed his desire to make a commitment to MOAA, that any of the CenTex Chapter's scholarship recipients who chose to remain in the Killeen area when they come to Texas A&M as a junior or senior, Texas A&M University will match their scholarship. (This statement brought applause). Lastly, Dr. Ross explained that Texas A&M University offers several eight week courses, maintains thirteen degree programs, and approximately 1200 students are enrolled for the Fall Semester at FT. Hood.

Successes continued: During this third quarterly period, significant accomplishments were achieved in three specific areas. Chapter membership increased from 47 to 52. At President Christ's direction, the CenTex Chapter advanced the Scholarship Program and instituted the JROTC Chapter Liaison Officer Program to allow the Chapter to provide direct advocacy and individual support to JROTC students and instructors at each high school that the Chapter works with.

In regards to the on-going Memorial Project, a granite stone memorial style bench, with approved MOAA inscription has been approved, and a contract is in

the works to construct the memorial bench, and ultimately, have it installed at the Cen-Tex Veteran's Memorial Cemetery at Killeen.

Challenges: Expansion of recruitment efforts to bring in new chapter members. Continue to raise funds for the Centex Veteran's Cemetery Memorial. Make the newly formed JROTC Chapter Liaison Program a viable program.

Future Initiatives: Intensified chapter membership recruitment continues. Closer liaison and more direct involvement with JROTC Candidates and Military Instructors, through the use of Chapter Liaison Officers to more closely monitor candidate progress and scholarship selection assistance. Move forward with the on-going CenTex MOAA Memorial Project. .

LEGISLATIVE EFFORTS

Names of congressional reps you are covering:

House District 54--Representative Jimmie Don Aycok
House District 55--Representative Ralph Sheffield
House District 52--Representative Diana Maldonado
House District 50--Representative Mark Strama
Senate District 24--Senator Troy Fraser

Also, Jim Endicott, the recently appointed Chairman of Legislative Affairs, regularly visits the State Legislature and compiles the latest significant information on veterans and military related bills. Chairman Endicott provides a verbal briefing and update each month, to the Executive Board and Chapter Membership, regarding the most recent veterans and military related legislative developments.

How is your Chapter doing on e-mail alerts: Chapter members regularly receive legislative updates as they become available, via e-mail, concerning pending and passed bills that affect veterans and military personnel. Chapter members are continuously urged to e-mail their respective representatives.

What postcards and letters are you sending: - None.

Report submitted by:

Billy Hengler
Secretary

Chapter Name: Heart of Texas

Chapter #: 7

Number of Chapter Members: 88

Significant Highlights

Successes: Provided \$300 for local JROTC summer camp training camp and will be presenting \$2,000 to four Baylor ROTC cadets in recognition of being top performers at summer training camp. Chapter was recognized in the November 2009 The Affiliate Tip of the Hat for recent award of \$10,000 to five college students plus the earlier achievement of establishing an American Patriot Scholarship through The Scholarship Fund of MOAA. We also donated \$100 to the McLennan County Veterans Association to help with expenses for the annual Veterans Day Parade in downtown Waco that involves over 1800 participants. We recently completed a special drawing fundraiser that raised almost \$2,000 using three prizes: Ruger M77 270 rifle, Nikon scope, and rifle case.

Challenges: Continuing to recruit new members and keep new volunteers for President, 1st VP and 2nd VP officer positions. We continue to have success in our monthly evening meetings, but continuing effort to keep participation at 45+ and to keep interesting line of speakers and entertainment at minimal cost.

Future Initiatives: Continue to have major fundraiser event with the April golf scramble fundraiser in attracting wider range of sponsors and players. Expand our ROTC awards to include new Army ROTC unit at Baylor as well as continue with Air Force ROTC support and JROTC awards with new McGregor HS JROTC in addition to five JROTC units now supported.

Legislative Efforts

Names of congressional reps you are covering: Chet Edwards

How is your Chapter doing on e-mail alerts: We do pass the information along.

What postcards and letters are you sending: Reminder notices on monthly dinner meetings for members who receive our newsletter by mail

Other Significant Comments

Report submitted by: Vince Tobola, Treasurer and Past President

Chapter Name: East Texas Chapter MOAA

Chapter #: TX04

Number of Chapter Members: 33

Significant Highlights

Successes:

1. The East Texas Chapter sign will be prominently displayed at the Hearts Veterans Museum. The museum officially opened to the public November 11, 2009. Informational literature and membership applications for our East Texas chapter as well as National are available.
2. The drop box where American flags can be left for proper disposal is now completed and located at the Hearts Museum. The drop box (painted red white and blue with American Flags) was available for the Grand Opening of the Hearts Veterans Museum here in Huntsville. The museum Director was very receptive to the flag drop box because he already had several flags dropped off for disposal. The American Legion Sam Houston Post 95 will pick up the flags for their proper disposal.
3. Our annual golf tournament was conducted on November 7, 2009. The proceeds are earmarked for the Hearts Veterans Museum.
4. The Chapter's 4th quarter meeting was held in Conroe, Texas with guest speaker Navy Captain Henry Domeracki, IJDET Director, PACOM JIOC, Fort Worth & CO JIOC PACOM 0308. Captain Domeracki gave a video presentation on the conditions and accomplishments during his tour in Iraq. Special guests were representatives from the Sam Houston State University ROTC department.
5. On November 11th the Hearts Veterans Museum hosted a dinner honoring Veterans Day. The East Texas Chapter had a table for the event.
6. The "Best Bets" section of the Huntsville Item (local Newspaper) is being used to increase community awareness for our meetings and events.
7. The Chapter has recruited 3 new members and 5 new national members.
8. December 12th there will be a Christmas party at the Chapter President's home.

Challenges:

1. Continue recruiting new members and encouraging old members to return.
2. Continue support for legislative issues of interest to MOAA .

Future Initiatives:

1. Provide support to the *Wounded Warriors* program.
2. Support the *Rebuilding Together* program.

Legislative Efforts

Names of congressional reps you are covering:

1. Senator Steve Ogden District 5
2. Rep. Jim McReynods District 12
3. Rep. Lois Kolkhorst District 13
4. Rep. Ron Eissler District 15
5. Rep. Brandon Creighton District 16
6. Rep. John Otto District 18

How is your Chapter doing on e-mail alerts:

15 e-mails to national and 2 e-mails to state
2 personal contacts with National Rep
2 personal contacts with State Rep

What postcards and letters are you sending:

2 letters on national issues were sent this quarter

Other Significant Comments

Report submitted by: Jerry E Jackson, President East TX Chapter

Chapter Name: Rose Capital

Chapter # TX – 25

Number of Chapter Members: 127

Significant Highlights

Successes:

- Chapter awarded a Four Star Level of Excellence for 2008
- Continue to increase membership and improving attendance at scheduled programs and activities.
- Continue to improve chapter involvement with community and civic leaders through commitment on various committees within the Chamber of Commerce of Tyler.
- Recently participated in the annual Senior Expo in Tyler, TX sponsored by Tyler Area Chamber of Commerce.
- Established the Chapter Board of Directors for 2010. We have seven Directors in addition to the Board of Officers.

Challenges :

- To strengthen and build on the Chapter's recruiting program.
- To increase the membership with emphasis on varied ages and officer statuses.
- To strengthen and increase the number of volunteers in support of the Chapter.
- To identify various fund raiser possibilities to increase our chapter revenue.
- To implement the use of the electronic mail for the membership to receive their program reservations and newsletter and all info that is sent by U.S. Mail.
- To continue the support of various military community projects.

Future Initiatives:

- Continue to work on revision of chapter newsletter to increase its productivity to the membership.
- Explore various ways to increase chapter advertising capabilities and materials.

--Continue to promote development of a Community Military Coalition with other local military organizations. This being a means to work on the common issues within and about the military community.

-- Continued development and implementation of the "Chapter Strategic Plan"

--Development of a comprehensive communication plan to be more in touch with those in the chapter that are unable to participate in Chapter activities. The reasons being possible transportation issues or personal affairs issues that the chapter could be of assistance.

Legislative Efforts

Names of congressional reps that you are covering:

Currently at the state level State Representative Leo Berman being a retired Military Officer and a member of the chapter we have close contacts and relationships with him and at times discuss various issues with him. United States Congressman Louie Gohmert is very visible in our community and having been a former military officer he is very attuned to all of our issues at the local and national level.

How is your chapter doing on e-mail alerts:

The chapter continues to use every opportunity with the use of the e-mail to keep our membership informed of various issues and encourages them to respond to our elected officials on issues that have or may impact their lives. We are very involved with and a sponsor of the Welcome Home Soldier Project here in East Texas. All of those in the chapter that have e-mail are alerted to a arrival or any issues that effect any one of those soldiers or their families.

What postcards and letters are you sending:

We send postcards for various activities to those in the membership that do not have e-mail. We send a letter out to each contact that we are alerted to as a possible member including an invitation to the next program on the calendar and a copy of our newsletter. We continue to track this potential member for several months by inviting them to attend the various activities that we have scheduled. Once we get a new member a Welcome Aboard letter is mailed to that member including a copy of our by-laws and a directory of the membership.

Other significant comments:

We are proud that Jim Snow our president has been nominated to serve on the Texas Council of Chapters. He is an outstanding officer and has given our Chapter a rebirth with his very capable leadership. We wish you all well for the next two years of your leadership and Jim will certainly help enhance that as best he can.

Report submitted by:
Shirley Lindsay
Secretary, Rose Capital Chapter
MOAA

Chapter Name: Greater Lubbock Chapter

Chapter #: 13

Number of Chapter Members: 80

Significant Highlights

Successes:

- Created a VA Committee to work with the Veterans Administration and local VA Hospitals and Clinics to support our veterans.
- Increasing membership is an increasing emphasis. Added a new member in September.
- Scholarship Fund \$26,653.17
- General Fund \$3,866.02
- Membership voted to increase participation with other local veteran organizations to jointly participate in community events and to promote information to the public.
- Increased involvement in the information area and to contact media areas to inform what MOAA is doing in the community as well as other military organizations.
- Attendance at monthly meetings on the increase
- Participate in and support military families in the community and have representatives at Family Day events for the National Guard, and Reserve.
- Participate in Welcome Home Events for our troops that have been deployed.
- One of our chapter members, David Cummins, discovered another free way in which GLC MOAA can publicize an activity it is promoting; e.g. a

visit to a Reserve or National Guard unit's Open House event is PressEgg.com www.pressegg.com which provides free accounts to non-profit organizations.

- A chapter member monitors obituaries in the local newspaper and identifies decedents with military service during their lifetime. When funeral directors have an Internet website guestbook, our member submits "The members of Greater Lubbock Chapter of Military Officers Association of America salute -----. We admire and respect him for his valiant military service for our country". For area funeral homes that do not have online guestbook, a snail mail letter is sent.

Challenges:

How the chapter should participate in legislative efforts. Chapter has been reluctant to push agenda.

Future Initiatives:

Continue to challenge membership to be pro-active in legislative actions and support of national.

Legislative Efforts

Names of congressional reps you are covering:

Participation is being done individually and not as a chapter

How is your Chapter doing on e-mail alerts:

Alerts are responsive, however, motivation is still not as we would like.

What postcards and letters are you sending:

NONE at the present time.

Other Significant Comments

Our Chapter is becoming more active and interested in participating in events outside of the immediate chapter.

On 11 November our Chapter will meet at the Silent Wings Museum with other veteran and civilian organizations to celebrate Veterans Day. Major General Walter B. Huffman retired and former Judge Advocate General of the United States Army from August 5, 1997 through September 30, 2001 will speak. He is currently the dean of Texas Tech University School of Law from which he graduated in 1977.

1. New chapter officers will be presented to the membership by our notice letter with the proposed late for calendar year 2010.

2. Installation of officers will be held in January 10.
3. VA Committee Report of actions will be presented at the December 09 meeting.
4. We will be participating in a welcome home celebration of units returning from Iraq and Afghanistan upon their return in December 09. Date for the welcome home has not been set as of this date.
5. Community Action will be a major item of consideration by the membership for 2010.

Report submitted by:

***BG (Ret) Gary G. Harber
President***

Chapter Name: The Lone Star Chapter
Chapter #: TX-11
Number of Chapter Members: 279

Significant Highlights

Successes:

- Awards:

Col. Jim Costin was awarded MOAA's 2008 Communications Award for his contributions to chapter newspaper *Parade*. This is his second award.

- Programs:

July - Maj Gen Frank Padilla presented an excellent power point /discussion on "Building Air Power in Iraq & Afghanistan". We had a large crowd that thoroughly enjoyed his presentation.

August - CPT Bill Baker & Ora Mallard, Family Support Center, NAS Fort Worth JRB, provided the membership with the support services available to our members and their survivors --- with handout brochures and contact information.

September - Lt Robert Rangel & Officer Michael Valdez, Ft. Worth Police Narcotics Section presented a program on Drugs and Gang activities. The program drew many questions and interest from the members.

Challenges:

Recruiting officers to take position of President and First Vice President.

Future Initiatives:

Legislative Efforts

Names of congressional reps you are covering:

Kay Granger, Michael Burgess, Ralph Hall, Joe Barton, Ken Marchant

How is your Chapter doing on e-mail alerts:

E-mails are generally sent to chapter officers and chairs for action.

What postcards and letters are you sending:

Each month we send 100 – 120 postcards to both our Representative and Senators regarding target issues important to retirees and active duty personnel.

Other Significant Comments

Chapter Officers/Chairs are in continuous contact with Congressional/State/Local officials and their respective offices by written/Email/telephonic communications regarding pertinent legislative matters and initiatives/efforts related to them in Town Hall Meetings. The Legislative Chair has also attended and participated in Town Hall Meetings.

Report submitted by: Wesley Charles, LCDR, U S Navy Retired

Chapter Name: Del Rio/Fort Clark

Chapter #: 29

Number of Chapter Members: 22

Significant Highlights

Successes: Began meetings after usual summer break. Had a well attended meeting with a good speaker, the City Manager of Del Rio.

Challenges: Temporarily several members absent with the flu and other illnesses. Continuing difficulty getting access to the officers on t Laughlin Air Force Base. On going delays in the remodeling and repair of our home base, the former Officers Club building on Fort Clark.

Future Initiatives: An aggressive recruiting effort beginning in January. We have received a list of all present and former national MOAA members in the immediate area that do not belong to a local chapter (there are 79 of them, and apparently many do not know of our clubs existence).

Legislative Efforts

Names of congressional reps you are covering: Rep. Rodriguez

How is your Chapter doing on e-mail alerts: Only a few so far. We are gathering e-mail addresses

What postcards and letters are you sending: Letters from MOAA Retired Officer Magazine and ones sent out by national MOAA

Other Significant Comments

Our November-December meetings are combined into one which is also a Christmas Party following the business meeting. It is normally well attended by members and guests, and usually leads to a few new members.

Report submitted by: *CDR Edward L. Dillon, USNR-Ret.
President*

Chapter: Austin

Chapter #: 16

Number of Members: 264

Significant Highlights

Successes: The summer months are a relatively quiet period as a portion of the membership travels and the focus is different. Yet, membership is up, and attendance at the meetings is up. There has been direct effort in ensuring membership data is current and correct to enhance monthly contacts and to provide requisite information on programs and current issues.

Challenges: Review of chapter by-laws; Review of auxiliary/regular membership benefits/requirements; working with National on the administration/enhancement of the "Gold Bar" Program, and the issue of Austin Diagnostic Center dropping all patients holding Tri Care Prime. While most of this is continuing, it is projected for completion during the quarter.

Future Initiatives: Development of enhanced co-operation, communication with Service related organizations with the community; follow up on current successes and challenges.

The issue of ADC/TRICARE PRIME has brought the need to be aware and cooperate with other military adjunct organizations. We will be working through the Military Service Coalition to establish better communication avenues for all activities concerned.

Legislative Efforts

Names of congressional reps you are covering: Cornyn, Hutchinson, Doggett, and McCaul.

How is your chapter doing on e-mail alerts: The chapter is working on enhancement/coordination of a viable system thru the Service Representatives. As some members do not have that capability, other direct contact activities are being conducted. E-mail communications are being stressed, but we have determined a significant portion of our membership does not use and does not intend to obtain the resources to utilize e-mail.

What postcards and letters are you sending: As a chapter, we have not been sending cards/letters, however, we remind members at meetings of current issues, and to communicate with their senators and representatives.

Report submitted by Wes Lokken