

Minutes of Quarterly Meeting  
Military Officers Association of America  
South Carolina Council of Chapters  
Ft Jackson, SC  
May 11, 2013

## **Opening**

Meeting opened at 1020 hrs.  
Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance

## **Attendance**

Dale Ellenburg – President  
David B. Lobb – VP Legislative Affairs  
Pamela Durham – Treasurer  
Richard Palmer – Webmaster  
John Allen – Past President  
Pat Morgan – Keowee, Past President  
Warren Benson - Columbia, President  
Fred Bosarge – Star Fort, President  
William Koehler – Greenville, President  
Bob Armstrong – Aiken, outgoing President  
Hank Herrera – Aiken, incoming President  
Andy Burleigh – Daniel Morgan, 1<sup>st</sup> VP  
Jeff Feinstein – Santee-Wateree, President  
Katie Danner – Greenville, Conference Chair

## **General**

- “MyPay” account member needs a **CAC** (Common Access Card) to use efficiently. If you use the current method of logging on, you will be required to change your password every 60 days with a very complicated password being required.
- Minutes of previous board meeting can be found on the new council’s website. Motion made by Warren Benson to accept minutes as posted, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Fred Bosarge. Motion passed.
- MOAA North East Regional Conference will be in Hersey, PA, 26-29 SEP 2013.
- MOAA South East Regional Conference will be in Jacksonville, FL, date TBA.
- May is Military Appreciation Month in Myrtle Beach.
- Army is celebrating their 238<sup>th</sup> Birthday, June 15 at the Ft Jackson NCO Club. \$30/person, black tie, formal affair. must make reservations NLT 31 May 2013 to Beverly Renee Wedges, Executive Services/Protocol Officer at [beverly.r.wedges.civ@mail.mil](mailto:beverly.r.wedges.civ@mail.mil)
- Some chapters have not registered their 501c(3) status with the state. It’s different than your IRS registration. Once the Treasurer has completed the councils, she will send instructions to the four chapters still needing to complete this registration.

## **Business**

- David Lobb, VP Legislative Affairs:
  - Dale Ellenburg, along with Chaplin CAPT Glenn Miller (Hilton Head Chapter) and Adm Norb Ryan visited all the legislative delegation offices from South Carolina. They had the pleasure of meeting with only four of the seven "principals" they were Representatives Jeff Duncan and Joe Wilson and Senators Lindsay Graham and Tim Scott. This occurred while he was in Washington at the Storming of the Hill. There are not many Congressman who have served in the military nor have many of their family members.
  - Military Voting – Do away with in Primary, 963 military vote cast in Primary
    - DOD gave \$10.5 million to come up with internet voting procedures.
  - VA Evaluations decreasing in number of claims completed within timeframe
    - Administration is the problem. Dr's and Nurses are great.
  - Bill introduced in Congress to make those having served and serving in the National Guard/Reserves Veterans.
  - Bill in State to change law dictating the state flags at ½ mass for all combat fatalities, police and fire fighters for given period of time.
  - Bill to make Adjutant General an Appointed Official probably will pass.
  - Two Bills about VA Education – House (not in Vet favor) & Senate (Vet favor)
  - Rally for SC Veterans Advocacy Council – good participation
    - Org. not very effective
    - Hasn't accomplished much
  - Watch out for possible LOSS of Commissary Benefits
    - DOD considering approx. 50% budget cut in commissary system
  - Meeting at Capital, Tuesday, May 21<sup>st</sup> on Exempting Military Retired Pay from Taxes. Currently 14 other states adopted this.

## Chapter News

Santee-Wateree – membership in organization is reducing. Any suggestions?

Daniel Morgan – mentioned that guest speaker at convention is the mother in “Kimberly’s Flight”, First Female Pilot.

Aiken – introduced the newly elected President, Hank Herrera. May 1<sup>st</sup>, JROTC has 12 cadets & Congressman Joe Wilson. May 25<sup>th</sup>, 1 pm, Annual Aiken Day Memorial Day Parade which they cosponsor. June is their installation meeting. Nov 6<sup>th</sup> is their 50<sup>th</sup> Chapter Anniversary.

Keowee – they’ve increased their membership. They have a partnership in the Patriots Hall Museum. They partner with Keowee Key’s providing a vacation for some Wounded Warriors.

Columbia – Retires Day at Ft Jackson on May 17 & 18. Spoke about how great the “Boys & Girls Clubs” are helping youth. There are 16 in the state: 4 military (Shaw, Jackson & 2 in Charleston) & 12 civilian. On June 6<sup>th</sup> is the “Missing Man Burial”. The “Missing-in-America” is a nation wide project that helps veterans be buried in National Cemeteries. They make sure the lost, homeless & unidentified veterans are not buried alone.

Star Fort – they’ve increased visibility in the community. Memorial Day celebration will be held in the Greenwood Cemetery. A Veterans Center is being established in the old library building. Membership only pays their dues when they show up at a meeting, not within requested time period.

## **State Conference 2013**

The state convention is to be in Greenville October 6-8 at the Hyatt. Bill Koehler and Katie Danner provided some updated information. Council's website will be updated with any and all information when it comes available. Forms and price sheets are available for advertisement in the conference program.

Motion made by Pam Durham for council to purchase full color advertisement in program, not to exceed \$250, 2<sup>nd</sup> by David Lobb. Motion passed.

### **Closing**

Next meeting will be Aug 10, 2013

Meeting adjourned.

Secretary protem,

Pamela A. Durham, 1<sup>st</sup> Lt, USAFR (Ret)

Treasurer

South Carolina Council of Chapters

Military Officers Association of America