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THE COTTON PATCH

APRIL 2017

Newsletter of the Northeast Arkansas Chapter

MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

www.moaa-arkansas.org/neark



PRESIDENT:

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER: . I know I have spoken quite a bit about the need for the Chapter to work on expanding our membership and I know Keith Blackman will do an excellent job as Membership Chairman in furthering this effort. However, after having the “opportunity” to mull over a couple versions of our member lists this past week, I think one could also make a strong argument that we have an attendance problem. If we had a significant number of members attending our monthly meetings, we would need to find a larger facility in which to meet. Now, I know most of us are either completely or partially retired and it is commonly believed that we do not have anything to do. We, of course, know this is absolutely not true. We have plenty to do and we value our time. So I have to conclude that those who seldom or never participate in our meetings do not find sufficient value in attending. So, I would urge anyone who may be reading this in the Newsletter and who normally does not feel that attending a Chapter (cont'd at upper right)

meeting is worth their time to give a little thought to what would make it more valuable for you and let us know your suggestions. I am sure that any of the Chapter officers and Board members would be more than happy to have your input. I also need to add, even if you normally attend but see things that can be changed or improved, please let us know your thoughts.

APRIL MEETING ON 18 APRIL

The APRIL general meeting will be held at Western Sizziln' in Jonesboro on 18 APRIL at 1900 hrs. Our Speaker will be new ASU Basketball Coach Mike Balado. Coach Balado comes to ASU from Louisville where he was assistant coach. During his four year tenure working with head coach Rick Pitino at Louisville the Cardinals posted a record of 106-32 with a winning percentage of .768, and during the 2016-2017 campaign, he helped lead Louisville to a 25-9 record and a No. 2 seed in the Midwest Regional of the NCAA Tournament. A native of Miami, Fla., Balado is married to the former Alicia Nigro and the couple has twins, Aiden and Addy, born in June of 2009.

Chapter to Award Vietnam Vet Lapel Pins

The MOAA NEA Chapter's program for the US Congressionally mandated commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam Conflict will kick off at our May meeting with the awarding of certificates and lapel pins for military who served during the war. *This event is being staged to award these items to members of our MOAA chapter only. Later events will be open to area Vietnam Veterans area wide and will be launched this fall.* This commemoration is being conducted in conjunction with our yearly memorial ceremony for our fallen comrades. The May ceremony has received an initial allotment of 50 pins and certificates signed by the President of the United States. We are attempting to secure the participation of a publicly significant individual who will do the actual awarding honors. The ceremony will have press and TV coverage locally. The pins will be awarded on a first-come basis until the next shipment is received. Date and time of our fall ceremony will be announced at the end of the summer.

The Chapter Board and Staff held its monthly meeting on 05 April 2017 at 0800 at Front Page Café. Present were CPT Hank Germer, LTC Rich Burns, COL Don Brown, LTC Bob Schoenborn, Major Ed Foster, LTC Ed Mason, LTC Keith Blackman, CWO4 GW Hansen, CWO3 Howard Dunn, COL Jerry Bowen, 1LT Dennis Hill and LTC Ed Mason. Members absent were: CPT Rich Hartness (teaching a college class), MAJ Tim Norman, LTC Jim Waldo, LTC David Hastings, and Barb Fisher. Next meeting will be on 03 May.

Dues fund our scholarship activities so please be generous in paying your dues and in giving a little something extra to the scholarship fund if you can.

2017 Dues (\$20) for Northeast Arkansas Chapter, PO Box 718, Jonesboro, AR 72403

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Amount Submitted: _____



MOAA

Military Officers Association of America

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