



KANSAS COUNCIL OF CHAPTERS
MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA



MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
Saturday, 16 February 2008 – Fort Riley, KS

FLINT HILLS CHAPTER, JUNCTION CITY, KS
JAYHAWK CHAPTER, LAWRENCE, KS
KAW VALLEY CHAPTER, TOPEKA, KS
SANTA FE CHAPTER, LEAVENWORTH, KS

SMOKY HILL CHAPTER, SALINA, KS
SUNFLOWER CHAPTER, JOHNSON COUNTY, KS
WICHITA CHAPTER, WICHITA, KS

COUNCIL OFFICERS PRESENT:

President:	Richard Keller, LTG, USA-RET
President-Elect:	Gary LaGrange, COL, USA-RET (Jan)
First Vice President:	James S. Cooper, CAPT, USN-RET (not in attendance)
Second Vice President:	Mary Goodwin, COL, USA-RET
Treasurer:	Francis R. Fanning, COL, USAF-RET (not in attendance)
Past President:	David L. Kennedy, CWO3, USMC-RET
Secretary:	Charles T. (Bud) Munson, LCDR-USNR-RET
Legislative Chairman:	Hollis B. Logan, COL, USAF - RET
Personal Affairs Chairman:	Vacant
Newsletter/Website Chair:	David L. Kennedy, CWO3, USMC-RET

CHAPTER DELEGATES PRESENT:

Flint Hills Chapter:	John Allard, LTC, USA-RET, President Gary LaGrange, COL, USA-RET, member
Jayhawk Chapter:	Bernie Kish, COL, USA-RET, President Jim Henry, CAPT, USN-RET, Past Council President John W. Halladay, COL, AUS-RET, Past Secretary
Kaw Valley Chapter:	Delbert L. Hill, CW5, USA-RET, President Hollis B. Logan, COL, USAF-RET, Legislative Chairman Carl R. Bush, CW4, USA-RET, President-Elect Raymond L. Rhodd, LTC, USA-RET, Vice-President
Santa Fe Trail Chapter:	Mary Goodwin, COL, USA-RET, President Richard R. Keller, LTG, USA-RET, Past President
Sunflower Chapter:	David L. Kennedy, CWO3, USMC-RET, President Bud Munson, LCDR, USNR-RET, Past President
Smoky Hill Chapter:	No one present
Wichita Chapter	No one present (due to ice storm)

The meeting was called to order at 1102 hours: Chapter Flags and the American Flag displayed.

GEN Richard Keller, Council President led in the Pledge of Allegiance and opening prayer. GEN Keller then introduced Kenneth Steggeman, LTC, USA-RET, Flint Hills Chapter Past President for his welcoming remarks on behalf of the Flint Hills Chapter. LTC Steggeman announced that the Wichita Chapter representative canceled their trip to the Council meeting due to ice storms.

GEN Keller then asked attending members to introduce themselves, and remarked that minutes of the November 3, 2007 meeting had been circulated and asked for comments. Motion to accept the Minutes was moved, seconded, and passed. He then read the Treasurer's report which showed a balance of \$2,031.43, and distributed the Agenda for the meeting.

COL Gary LaGrange, Flint Hills Chapter, gave a power point presentation on Project America Cares, a program obtaining school supplies for Iraqi school children. The materials are sent by priority mail in packages not weighing more than 70 pounds. It was suggested that information on the program be placed in

the Council's web site. Also asked was if it would be more efficient just to send money to the program managers versus attempting to replicate the program at other Chapters. It was also suggested that information, including COL LaGrange, be sent to MOAA to be placed in the "Tip of the Hat" feature included in their newsletter.

GEN Keller announced that he would be joining each of the active Kansas MOAA Chapters.

Larry McGee provided an update of construction and personnel activities at Fort Riley, home of "Big RED One". There is a total of \$1.5 billion dollars worth of improvements planned, with a design / build program in order to accelerate completion. There will be \$124 million dollars in construction during the current fiscal year. He stated that Fort Riley will grow from 9500 to 18,000 personnel. Plans are to double the size of the Commissary, making it the largest in the US Army, and to build a new Post Exchange. Projections are that 9,000 housing units will be needed off base, with 3514 units to be on base. He alluded to the impact on Junction City and Manhattan that is already significant and will be immense as returning soldiers fill up the Base.

At 1220 hours the meeting broke for lunch.

The meeting resumed at 1240 hours, with COL Hollis B. Logan, Legislative Chairman, giving a comprehensive and detailed report, including information on necessity to file an income tax return in order to qualify for the Federal stimulus refund. He also mentioned that the Tri-Care Mail order prescription service will fill prescription drug orders, 30 day supply, at no cost for generic drugs, and \$15 for name brand products. COL Hollis reminded members to check the Military Pension tax form for correct beneficiary.

LCOL Ray Rhodd, Kaw Valley Chapter, gave a report on returning veterans who will need medical care, employment, and a place to live. LCOL Rhodd mentioned sending a note to LCOL George Webb, US Army National Guard-Ret, E-Mail address: gwebb@kcva.org, telephone: 785-296-3976: mention or refer to the "Wounded Veterans Bill".

GEN Keller reminded members to check MOAA National web site for updates on legislation pending before Congress; that each Kansas Council Chapter should encourage their members to support MOAA efforts by sending in to elected representatives the postcards included in the Officer Magazine. On the ongoing "Give Me TEN" campaign, GEN Keller pointed out that an MOAA Life member should be counted as a National MOAA member each year when developing the annual MOAA Chapter Merit evaluation report. This report will be due at MOAA National by June 1, 2008, and each Kansas Chapter must have their report ready for review by 1 May 2008, and GEN Keller advised members to bring their 2007 report submissions to the next Kansas Council meeting (in Topeka) on Saturday, 12 April 2008.

Kaw Valley Chapter, Topeka, will host the meeting and will provide advance notice of the location. Earlier it had been pointed out that there could be a possible conflict with the hotel selected due to another group meeting at same time.

Chapter Activities and Best Practices

Wichita Chapter

Our November 2007 meeting was attended by 50+, featuring the Sweet Adeline's Emerald City Chorus. We signed up one new Give Me 10 member. Our December meeting was a sit-down Christmas dinner, with presentation by the Mueller Meistringers, and auditioned ensemble of 4th and 5th grade students from Mueller Elementary School. Our January 2008 Sunday brunch, with 70+ attendees, featured Wichita Mayor Carl Brewer, and MOAA member. The Mayor emphasized the importance of leadership. He also noted the impact of the aviation industry in Wichita and its affect on the State of Kansas's budget and the necessity for continued investment to protect this valuable resource from poaching by other states. Also in January, we submitted our entry for MOAA's Communication Awards. Wichita is a Category III Chapter and submitted entries for Newsletter, Website, and Chapter Recruiting Brochure.

Our February meeting will feature Mr. Thomas Sanders, Director of the Robert J. Dole VA Regional Medical Center in Wichita. We expect a large turnout. We are coordinating with COL Lee Lange II, Director of Chapter Affairs, to come visit our chapter for the 24 May 2008 meeting. This trip will satisfy MOAA National's requirement for their periodic Chapter visit. We will also have installation of officers for the coming year at this meeting.

We have met with the Commander of the Naval Reserve Unit, will visit, and expect to sign their officers into the Give Me 10 program. To vary our meeting agendas, we plan to have a vocalist, who has performed internationally, for our March 2008 meeting. In April 2008 we expect to have a student from the CGSC as our speaker, pending final arrangements.

Respectfully,
Tony Pimental, COL USAF (Ret)
President

Santa Fe Trail Chapter

The Santa Fe Trail Chapter Board of Directors met on 20 November 2007 and decided on an agenda for 2008. The 20 November dinner meeting was attended by 41 members and spouses. Entertainment was a mystery play acted out by members of the chapter.

The dinner meeting on 15 January 2008, at the Leavenworth Country Club, with about 55 members and spouses in attendance. Two CGSC students spoke at the dinner and were well received. I have arranged for two chapters to have speakers in the near future and will be happy to coordinate other speakers from CGSC. The Fort Leavenworth Commanding General has instituted a Strategic Communications Outreach effort and each student of CGSC must seek and opportunity to interact with the community at least once during their school term. Subsequent classes will have two and then three requirements, so we can help the students by asking them to our meetings and they in turn can share with us their experiences in the theaters of operation in Iraq and Afghanistan.

On 9 February 2008, three members of the SFT chapter manned a booth at Fort Leavenworth's PAIR day on behalf of national. Jim Pittman, Steve Mulcahy and I signed up 53 officers for national, but with the Give Me Ten credit for our chapter and two officers exclusively for our chapter. We even got LT General Caldwell to sign up as well as one of his deputies, Brig General Abrams. The February CGSC started with 295 students, with 41 international officers.

Of the U.S. officers, 62 percent have had at least one or more tours in Iraq or Afghanistan and they will probably return to theater after graduation.

Our Board of Directors will meet on 28 February 2008 for lunch, and the next general membership meeting will be on 18 March at our usual location. Cadets from the Leavenworth High School Junior ROTC will share their achievements with us as guests.

COL Mary G. Goodwin, USA (Ret)
President, Santa Fe Trail Chapter

Jayhawk Chapter

- (1) Two meetings since November 2007 Council Meeting:
 - November: Former KU All-American football star, John Hadl, was the speaker [Army ROTC night]
 - January: GEN Rich Keller was the speaker and also installed the 2008 officers
- (2) Gen Comfort Endowment Fund-Raising: Under leadership of Erv Hodges, continued progress toward goal of \$500 scholarship to KU Army, Navy and Air Force ROTC cadets. We will give \$250 to each during CY 2008.
- (3) Future Meetings and Programs:
 - 25 March 2008: COL Steve Mains, Army Center for Lessons Learned
 - 20 May 2008: Professor Burdette Loomis, KU Political Science Department: He will discuss 2008 National elections

Kaw Valley Chapter

This is the Kaw Valley report for the activities and goals that the Chapter will participate in during CY 2008.

PROGRAMS:

The 10 February 2008 dinner meeting program featured the Capital Sound Quartet from Topeka.

Our Program Chairman, CW4 Carl Bush, USA-Ret, is working with Command and General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth to have student as the program.

Our plans are to have a U.S. Navy officer either in August or October.

The Board of Directors meets the first Monday of each month with the exception of June and July.

GOALS:

The Chapter's goal is to give four (4) \$800.00 JROTC Scholarships to the four High Schools that have the JROTC programs: Army, Air Force, Marine, and Navy.

One of my goals is to increase membership in the Chapter. Another goal is the KAW Valley Chapter to qualify for MOAA National Awards.

CW5 Delbert L. Hill, USA-Ret.
President

Flint Hills Chapter

The November 2007 chapter meeting featured the Chief of Staff for the 1st Infantry Division and Fort Riley as the guest speaker. The chapter officers for the coming year were elected.

The MOAA distinguished awards were presented to two Kansas State University (KSU) ROTC cadets in December and the chapter will sponsor the overall champion trophy for the Annual Mid America Drill in March at the Junction City High School.

The February 2008 meeting featured the President and CEO of the Kansas State Foundation presenting the

plans for a World War II memorial to be erected on the main KSU campus in Manhattan. The university has selected a site and the Foundation will be instrumental in raising the funds necessary for site preparation and memorial construction. The chapter officers were installed.

LTC John W. Allard, USA (Ret)
President

Sunflower Chapter

Our guest speaker at the January 2008 meeting was Maj General Jack Strukel, Jr., USA-Ret, who spoke about patriotism and leadership. General Strukel also administered the oath of office to the CY 2008 Chapter officers: CWO3 David Kennedy, USMC-Ret., President; LCDR Sheldon Vazquez, USNR-Ret., 1st Vice President; LCDR Robert Jackson, USNR-Ret., Second Vice President; Major Harry Malnicof, USMC-Ret., Secretary; and LCDR Donald Baker, USN-Ret., Treasurer.

For the past five years, or so, the Sunflower Chapter has conducted its business affairs without 1st or 2nd Vice-Presidents on the Board of Directors. The president handled most of the recurring activities including planning monthly meetings, arranging for programs speakers and events, etc. Fortunately, for me, I have both a 1st Vice President, who will fleet up to President in 2009, and a 2nd Vice president, who will move up each of next two years. I also have a complete Board of Directors with which to work this year. To obtain maximum benefit to the Chapter I have established Committees, listed below, to handle most of our normal activities:

- Programs - Sam Malsbury
- Membership (recruiting and retention) - Mike Neer
- Fundraising - Bob Jackson
- Publicity - Doug Dilday
- Activities - Sheldon Vazquez

A major change is emphasis this year on publicity. We have done many noteworthy things in the past but have not done a good job letting others know of our efforts. Doug Dilday will be working to have our Chapter activities publicized hopefully generating interest and attracting more members.

Our Treasurer reported a balance of \$116,974.63 as of January 31, 2008. This reflects receipt of former Sunflower Chapter member Art Kramish's bequest, which totaled \$98,786.19 which will be turned over to our Foundation account. Also, 64% of our membership paid renewals for 2008.

Program Chairman Sam Masbury, assisted by Bud Munson and Jim Kelly, has outlined attractions for coming CY 2008 meetings:

- February - Officer Mark Chuddick, Leawood KS department; will speak about personal and property safety
- March - Army Reserve Air personnel, on their experiences in Pakistan and Afghanistan
- April - Auction, which was scheduled for December 2007, but canceled due to weather
- May - Annual ROTC scholarship award; speaker TBD
- September - either a wine tasting, a beer sampling, or both

Activities Chairman Sheldon Vazquez suggested the Chapter attend a T-Bones minor league baseball game, and he has worked with the Olathe Marathon to provide Sunflower volunteers to man an aid station along the route.

Publicity Chairman Doug Dilday reported that there are many opportunities to publish our activities and will need sufficient advance time, say 30 days, to get them included. He has looked at local radio stations and newspapers, both of which provide Community Calendar notices.

Membership Chairman Mike Neer reported on HB 2663 being offered in the Kansas Legislature involving limiting the way disability applications are processed, possibly limiting to only one group such as the American Legion. He will forward a copy to all Board members to keep all informed if any action on our part is required.

There was discussion of moving our meeting to a different day, including to Sundays. No action taken as of this date.

Respectfully,
CWO3 David L. Kennedy, USMC-Ret., President
Sunflower Chapter