President’s Message

LTC Marc Oliveri, USAR (Ret)

Merry Christmas

I hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving and is looking forward to the next holidays during this festive season. Since the next issue of the communiqué will be published in February, I want to take time now to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy Hanukkah.

A lot has happened since the last Communique in October, 2016. We have a new President elect, some new members of both houses and the election season is finally over.

MOAA national has made several changes and additions. To start off, Barry Wright, Director of Council and Chapter, will retire January 19, 2017. We are sorry to see Barry leave as he has become a staple in our everyday dealings with MOAA. We wish him the very best in his retirement. COL Terri Coles will be replacing COL Wright. LTC Clarence Counts will assumed the position of Assistant Deputy Director of Council and Chapters and, Brian Anderson, the former Deputy Director of Council and Chapters, has been promoted to Senior Director of Personal Transition. Just when you know where everyone was in the lineup they go and change it. Congrats to all! In addition Lt Gen Ed Hanlon USMC has assumed the Chairmanship of Council and Chapters.

I’ve had the opportunity to visit several chapters during the last two months and I must say I am very impressed with the accomplishment of all these chapters. Chapters are aggressively pursuing new
members, and leading other councils in our membership drive. Chapter members are stepping up for various leadership roles and Lee Coast Chapter has graciously volunteered to host the 2018 convention. Knowing that a learning curve exists to putting a convention together, and I can speak from experience, we are making some changes to centralize some of the more difficult areas at the council level. COL Troy Scott has volunteered to coordinate this effort and will be accepting calls from any chapter members wishing to work on 2019 and 2020 conventions or the centralized issues.

Our leadership forum will take place Jan 27th and 28th in Orlando at the Rosen Center Hotel. I have sent out an invitation to all chapter presidents asking to invite membership chairs, legislative chairs and any other chapter members wishing to learn more about MOAA’s initiatives.

Our featured guest speaker will be MOAA president Lt Gen Dana Atkins. I am sure he will have a lot to tell us. This will be the first time that MOAA national will team up with a council to combine a Leadership Forum and a Symposium. MOAA has agreed to offset part of the expense in the form of lunch. A great opportunity to meet many of the new MOAA national members, outlined earlier, and new chapter members.

To Register for the Leadership Forum click on REGISTER.

Our 2017 convention is progressing nicely with a total of 76 cabins already reserved. Cape Canaveral Chapter, the host chapter, has been working hard to ensure a successful convention. I encourage everyone to register for our upcoming convention.

To Register for the 2017 Convention click on REGISTER.

I would like to take a moment and reflect on Dec 7th, the 75th anniversary of Pearl Harbor.

My very best for a Heathy and Happy New Year.

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**Submitting Articles and Pictures for The Communiqué**

Articles can be attached to an email. Microsoft Word works best. You can also type your information into the body of an email where it can be copied and pasted into the newsletter. PDF files can also be used.

Pictures should have a .jpg extension. If you are sending pictures from your chapter, please include the chapter name and the names of those in the picture. A few words on what the event is about will help interest the readers.

If you have questions about your submission, contact Marty Brown wb2vyk@gmail.com 336-601-1318

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**Wanted FCOC Convention Coordinator**

Use your event planning and negotiating skills!

Contact Marc Oliveri for info: ltcolmarc@gmail.com
Surviving Spouse Advisory Committee (SSAC)
Joyce Harte, Member, MOAA Board of Directors
Print & Digital Media Committee

SSAC met in Arlington on Sunday, October 23, 2016, before MOAA’s annual meetings held during the next two days. As the surviving spouses committee transitions from the former auxiliary advisory committee, a number of changes are taking place. MOAA staff member, LTC (USA R) Suzanne Walker has been appointed as new advisor to assist SSAC in achieving its goals by providing logistical and other support as needed. Suzanne is Staff Director for Special Events and Protocol and a member of the Councils/Chapters Support Team. She is a well-known, familiar person at all MOAA events.

SSAC will focus on two major areas for the coming year. One will be recruiting new surviving spouses for their chapters and providing support for current surviving spouses. Their plan is to reach out and communicate with all the surviving spouses with a special mindfulness to new widows or widowers and to engage all spouses as much as possible. More participation with other spousal groups will be one way of engaging with all.

The second area of emphasis will be to extend, increase, or preferably eliminate the special Survivor Indemnity Allowance offset better known as the “Widows Tax.” After several years of extensive work by MOAA members and staff, Congress has just passed a defense bill which includes a two-year extension of the current $310 monthly “catch up” allowance. This allows MOAA an opportunity to push the new administration and Congress to eliminate the offset permanently as it should have done years ago.

Recognizing that it takes time and experience to become a more productive member of SSAC, the term limits will be expanded from three years to four with an opportunity to extend for another two years. SSAC believes this change will have a positive effect on setting and accomplishing goals. To make this possible, a year will be added to all current members to give them a chance to develop criteria and guidelines for staggering the membership of the committee while maintaining stability, experience, continuity, and productivity.

Currently, Florida’s SSAC liaison’s duties are divided between two SSAC members: Micki Costello of Virginia and Anne Hartline of Alabama. Splitting the state which has, by far, the largest number of surviving spouses in the country is not a good idea. Florida has the chance in October of 2017 to remedy the situation as new SSAC members are recruited. We have to be a part of the solution by assuring that we have qualified and willing surviving spouses to apply for the position. Sometime before then, criteria and guidelines will be developed and distributed to chapter presidents and our Council president, Marc Oliveri. It is the responsibility of all our chapters to make sure we send completed applications of qualified candidates to prevent Florida from being split again.

Another initiative to provide additional support for surviving spouses will be a pilot program to create two virtual SSAC members. The concept will be developed during the coming year with details sent to all council and chapter presidents.

Another opportunity to learn more about advocacy issues affecting surviving spouses is Facebook. It’s a closed group, and you will be asked to join Surviving Spouses group. There is abundant information and a chance to interact with other military surviving spouses. The page is maintained by Katy Prout, a member of SSAC for four years.

I hope you will give your full support to SSAC. They are a hard-working group with many accomplishments that have supported MOAA at each level. SSAC strives to make sure that surviving spouses are an integral part of MOAA chapters and the MOAA family. Please contact me with any of your ideas or suggestions for SSAC. We welcome your input. (jharteva@aol.com)
Holiday Greetings!

I attended the MOAA National meeting in Arlington, VA in October, and spent some time with the Surviving Spouse Advisory Council. I really appreciate their good ideas. We need to hear from the chapters.

Don’t forget the FCOC Convention at Sea April 23-30.

I am looking for short happenings with surviving spouses during their military life. These can be funny or serious. I hope to get them into the Military Officer Magazine.

SCAM ALERT: Beware of false IRS tax bill notices.

Update for the St. Petersburg (SPMOAA) fundraiser for Heaven on Earth for Veterans: we raised $2000 with our activities such as yard sales and bridge games.

Looking forward to the FCOC Leadership Forum January 27 in Orlando.

Sherry Freese, 727-641-5979

South Central Chapter Participates in Veterans Day Activities

Mike Borders, COL, USA (Ret)
SW Area AVP
SFL Membership Chair

Pictured here is Del Smith, a member of the South Central Florida Chapter. Del was one of the Grand Marshals in the Highlands County Veterans Day parade. Del flew SB2C Hell Divers off of the USS Hornet in the Pacific campaign during World War II. Del joined MOAA National last year and our chapter after he saw an article in the local paper. Del is a stalwart supporter of the chapter and has never missed a meeting—pretty impressive for a 95 year old. The South Central Florida Chapter also had two vehicles in the parade and were once again well represented.

Hope you have a Merry Christmas.
Chaplain’s Message
Chaplain (Col) Charles Caudill, USAF, (Ret) Religious Activities

Hugs

A hug is the perfect one size fits all gift.

The greatest memory I have of my parents is receiving hugs. When I was a child and afraid of the dark my father would hold me in his arms and all my fear would depart. I knew when I was sick, lonely or needing to be loved after making a mistake, my parents loved me and demonstrated it with their hugs. My parents gave me unconditional love even before I heard my father preaching about it in the pulpit. I learned to never feel insecure because I knew that my parents loved me and God loved me.

Throughout my life I have given hugs. At the Virginia Military Institute I am known as the “hugging Chaplain”. This was re-affirmed when I recently attended the 35th reunion of the VMI Class of ’81. Alumni came up to give me hugs and share with me how my hugs and counsel helped them get through their cadetship. It was a deeply gratifying experience to learn I had made a positive impact on so many young men. Sadly, today’s teachers and professors are not allowed to hug a student even if a pupil gets hurt.

We attended Sunday worship in the Chapel and directly afterward participated in a special communion and prayer service requested by several roommates from the VMI Class of ‘71. Each one had a severe or terminal illness and knew they would not be together in five years for the next reunion. Afterward they all hugged. I was standing next to one of the roommates who is a doctor and as I gave him a hug he started crying. He told me he is a widower and will be leaving three young children. He is struggling with the best way to take care of them. I told him I know the spirit of God is always with us and that “All things work for good to those that love Him.”

When I was stationed in Germany I counseled another Chaplain’s two teenage children who had been arrested for stealing. The German police put them in my custody under the conditions the teenagers were sent back to the United States the very next day. The Chaplain and his wife had adopted these children from a German orphanage when they were two years old. They had never been given a hug until they were adopted. The children were always in trouble growing up. The power of hugs for babies is life changing. A new born child must be hugged in order to feel secure and loved.

As we grow older our need for acceptance increases. And I believe our desire for hugs intensifies as well. To keep from feeling alone we need to be at peace with ourselves. My Dad taught me to look at myself in the mirror every morning, give myself a hug and say, “God loves me and so do I.” We can reach out to others, get involved with our neighborhood, volunteer, travel and do many other things not to be lonely.

The holidays are upon us and it is a great time to give your family lots of hugs. It is a time to declare God’s love for us through his abundant care; a time to appreciate all we have been given, and share our gratefulness with others.
MOAA Legislative Update:

http://www1.moaa.org/legislative/

Florida Congressional Election Results
Ten new faces were elected to the Florida Congressional Delegation in November. That’s over 1/3 of the current members. The democrats lost seats in two races but gained in three races changing the overall mix to 16 republicans and 11 democrats representing Florida. Three incumbents competed in new districts and all won their respective races.

To see a comprehensive list of the Florida Delegation for the 115th Congress based on the 2016 elections click on the following List of Florida Congressional Representatives.

With this amount of turnover in the up-coming 115th Congress, it will be even more important for our chapters and members to be particularly active educating the new congresspersons on the issues and advocacy positions of MOAA.

In early January we expect that MOAA will publish its top ten Legislative Priorities to set the agenda for the year ahead. That will be a great starting point to begin to communicate with our new Representatives and to remind our returning Representatives of the important matters that we will be fighting for on behalf of the over 880,000 currently serving servicemembers, their families, military retirees and their dependents, and surviving spouses receiving benefits that reside here in Florida.

After January 5th, you will be able to find the contact info for both the Washington DC offices as well as the District offices of the entire Florida delegation by following this link: http://www.house.gov/representatives/#state_fl
Just click on the name(s) of those you are interested in and it will take you to their official Congressional website where the information is available (and will be kept up to date).

Short Term Government Funding ends December 9th
The Continuing Resolution expires on December 9th. The Congressional Republican leadership's plan is to "get it into the next administration and then finish the job there," Speaker of the House Paul Ryan (R-Wisc.) said last week. It is highly likely Congress will approve another temporary continuing resolution, instead of a full budget, and that this new continuing resolution is likely to be longer than anticipated, possibly into April of 2017. That is 7 months into the fiscal year with funding limited to the levels of FY 2016. Defense officials have recently warned that a long-term continuing resolution being discussed by the Congressional leadership would have serious impact on the Pentagon’s ability to develop new programs and sustain readiness of existing ones.

FY 2017 National Defense Authorization Bill
House and Senate leaders resolved hundreds of differences between their respective versions of the FY 2017 Defense Authorization Bill, and followed MOAA's and The Military Coalition's recommendations on most of them. The House passed the Bill on December 2nd by a vote of 375 to 34, with 25 non-voting - representatives Corrine Brown (D; FL-5) and Richard Nugent (R; FL-11) among those (neither will be returning to Congress next year).
December 2016

Legislative Affairs, (Continued)

Click here to read MOAA’s summary of key provisions of the Bill:

The Senate took up the measure earlier than expected on December 8th. S-2943 passed by a vote of 92 - 7 and is on its way to the White House for the President’s signature. Notable among those voting against the bill are Senators Rand Paul and Mike Lee. Senator Lee (R-UT) had stifled adding important amendments supported by MOAA to the original Senate bill in a strange maneuver in May.

Last year President Obama vetoed the first NDAA because it allocated funds from the Overseas Contingency Operations (commonly referred to as War-fighting funds) for base functions. There have been statements from Defense officials and White House staff to recommend another veto because this Bill also contains similar use of OCO funds, although the amount this year is much smaller.

MOAA has issued an Action Alert with a suggested letter to the President urging him to “sign this important bill into law so our forces can get on with their important mission without further disruption.”
http://capwiz.com/moaa/issues/alert/?alertid=74395626

Sequestration relief will be a top MOAA priority during the next Congress.

Legislative Briefings for Chapter Members coming up in January
On January 27, the FCOC will host its annual Leadership Forum in conjunction with MOAA’s South East Region Symposium in Orlando, FL. Go to www.moafl.org for detailed agendas and registration information.

Both Col Dan Merry, USAF, Ret, MOAA’s Director of Government Relations and Lt Col Bob Bienvenue, USAF, Ret, FCOC Legislative Chair will conduct morning and afternoon sessions to assist our chapters’ efforts in advocating MOAA’s legislative agenda. Bob will also introduce an FCOC initiative to enhance the effectiveness of Storming the Hill through grass roots chapter contacts with our federal legislators.

Sequester and Defense Funding
Congress passed the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015 which established spending levels for FY 2016 & 2017 above the caps set by the sequester provisions in the Budget Control Act of 2011. Without any further action to modify that provision in law, sequester level spending caps will resume for the FY 2018 budget. The Department of Defense and the Civilian departments and agencies are already preparing their budget submittal for FY 2018 in advance of the incoming administration taking over in January. Those preparations necessarily reflect the current “sequester” law.

Secretary of Defense Ash Carter was asked by MOAA President Lt Gen Dana Adkins, USAF, Ret, in an interview last month what the fiscal impact would be on the defense budget if sequestration were to return in FY18. His response was that sequestration would require defense budget cuts totaling about $100 billion over the next five years. Under the NDAA bills of the past several years sequestration has created a conundrum under which current forces are too big for the current constrained budget limits but too small for the missions being assigned to them.
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Citrus County Chapter Hosts MOAA Councils and Chapters

Director, Barry Wright

COL Mark Bodenheim, USAR (Ret)
MOAA Citrus County Chapter, Vice President

The Military Officers Association of America (MOAA), Citrus County Chapter, reveals the 2015 Five Star Level of Excellence Award during the chapter’s monthly luncheon on November 10th, 2016. The award was received by the chapter at the national MOAA annual meeting in October. Local MOAA chapters across the country receive this highest award level for their accomplishments in various areas of chapter operations. Pictured, from left, are: CAPT Tim Holme, USN (Ret), Citrus County Chapter president; Lt Col Wayne Brown USAF (Ret), MOAA Florida Council of Chapters Area Vice President; and COL Barry Wright, USA (Ret), national MOAA Director of Chapter and Council Affairs.

Members of the MOAA Citrus County Chapter socialize during the November 10th luncheon meeting. The meeting’s featured speaker, COL Barry Wright, USA (Ret), national MOAA Director of Chapter and Council Affairs, briefed members on how MOAA will represent service members in light of the recent national election results. The MOAA Citrus County Chapter meets monthly at the Crystal River Golf Club from September through May. The meeting includes a speaker presenting a subject of interest to the military community. The chapter also participates in various social and community functions throughout the year. Active duty, former or retired military officers, who are currently members of the national MOAA organization, are invited to learn more about chapter events and membership by accessing the chapter website at: http://moaafl.org/Chapters/CitrusCounty or contact the Vice President, COL Mark Bodenheim, USAR (Ret) at (352) 513-4197.
Kingdom of the Sun Fall Activities
Arlo Janssen, President, Chapter President, KOS/MOAA

The Kingdom of the Sun (KOS) Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) held our “Annual Meeting and Memorial Service” Dinner meeting at the Ocala Elks Club at 6:00 PM on Thursday, November 3, 2016. Our 2015 Five Star award from MOAA National was pinned to our KOS banner. The dinner meeting featured election of KOS Officers for the next year and a Memorial Service that honored six of our deceased members in 2015/2016. COL Robert Morris, USA (CHC), conducted this special service.

Our Annual Army/Navy Tailgate Party is set for December 10, and our Veterans Snowflake Ball is scheduled for December 15, 2016.

The newly elected slate of Officers will be installed on January 5, 2017. Lt Col Wayne Brown, USAF/Ret, the FCOC Mid Central Area Vice President, is scheduled to install our KOS Officers.
General Lawrence Snowden Honored at Book Signing
Dennis Baker, Commander, U.S. Navy (ret)

General Lawrence Snowden, "Snowden's Story, One Marine's Indebtedness to the Corps" gave Governor Rick Scott (Fig 2) the first public copy of his book at the Florida Veterans Hall of Fame Reception at the Governor's Mansion on November 9th. General Snowden sold over 300 books at his very first book signing (Fig 1) at 95 years young. Just before the event he was given a Quilt of Valor from the Quilt of Valor Foundation presented by retired Navy Captain Bill McCamy (Fig 3).

Lt. General Lawrence Snowden is a lifetime Member of MOAA and made the Tallahassee Chapter what it is for many years. Below is the newspaper article I had written about him. The link will tell you all you need to know. The CMC just came down and awarded him with the two highest medals that can be received in this nation.

He is a twice wounded Iwo Jima Warrior who has written his memoirs for his 95 years of life. The review will provide more information. You can see his book at:


General Snowden’s book can be purchased at: Turtle Cove Press and can be inscribed by General Snowden.

https://www.amazon.com/Snowdens-Story-Marines-Indebtedness-Corps/dp/098594384X/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1477933670&sr=1-1&keywords=lawrence+snowden

For all Officers in the Panhandle there is a rare opportunity to meet the General and get a book and photo. There will be a book signing on December 10th at Hearth and Soul in Tallahassee from 11:00 - 1:00 p.m. A Great opportunity for Christmas gifts.

Dennis Baker, Commander U.S. Navy (retired)
"Restless Hearts - What If Fallen Heroes Could Go Home."
www.restlessheartswarriors.com
December 2016

The Council Communiqué

Membership Chair, Mark Bodenheim and wife Mary at welcome table.

Chapter President, Tim Holme, and wife Joy.

MOAA of Citrus County Hosts Recruiting Event

The Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) Citrus County Chapter held its annual installation dinner Dec 1st at the Citrus County Golf & Country Club. The featured speaker was Lt Col Wayne Brown USAF (Ret), the MOAA Florida Council of Chapters Mid-Central Area Vice President. Pictured, from left, are: Lt Col Brown USAF (Ret) with his wife Marty and CAPT Tim Holme, USN (Ret), Citrus County Chapter president with his wife Joy.

MOAA of Citrus County Installs Officers

Leadership members of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) Citrus County Chapter, receive their oath of office during the December 1st installation dinner at the Citrus County Golf and Country Club. Pictured from left are previous president LTC Norm Cooney, USA (Ret); chapter board member LTC John Courte, USA (Ret); Vice President COL Mark Bodenheim, USAR (Ret) and president CAPT Tim Holme, USN (Ret).
Veterans’ Update

R. Steven Murray, Lt Col, USAF (Ret)
Communications Director
Florida Department of Veterans’ Affairs

NATIONAL PEARL HARBOR REMEMBRANCE DAY; DECEMBER 7, 2016

WHEREAS, on the morning of December 7, 1941, the United States Naval Base at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, was attacked by
two aerial forces of the Japanese Empire; and

WHEREAS, over 2,400 American lives were lost in this devastating attack, and a major portion of the United States Navy’s
Pacific Fleet was destroyed; and

WHEREAS, the attack on Pearl Harbor and the other military bases on the Hawaiian Island of Oahu precipitated America’s
entrance into World War II; and

WHEREAS, the stories of bravery and sacrifice surrounding the attack on Pearl Harbor have increased our understanding
and appreciation for the sacrifice of the men and women who served in the United States Armed Forces during
World War II; and

WHEREAS, December 7, 2016, marks the 75th anniversary of the surprise attack on Pearl Harbor; and

WHEREAS, the 75th anniversary marks a time for communities, individuals, and organizations to gather across our
nation and throughout the State of Florida to perform acts of charity, to pray, and to support one another as we honor
and remember those who lost their lives on December 7, 1941; and

WHEREAS, the Congress of the United States, by Public Law 104-335, as amended, has designated December 7 of each
year as National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Rick Scott, Governor of the State of Florida, hereby direct the flags of the United States and the
State of Florida to be flown at half staff at all local and state buildings, institutions, and grounds throughout the State
of Florida, from sunrise to sunset, on Wednesday, December 7, 2016. In addition, I encourage all citizens of our great
country to observe National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day with appropriate observances and activities to commemorate
and honor those who died in the service of our freedom on December 7, 1941, at Pearl Harbor.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Florida to be affixed at Tallahassee, the capital of this
5th day of December, in the year two thousand and

ATTEST:

SECRETARY OF STATE

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*Prices are based on double occupancy

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### 2017 Florida Council of Chapters' Convention at Sea

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### 3 Easy Ways to Make Your Reservation

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MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA (MOAA)
FLORIDA COUNCIL OF CHAPTERS (FCOC)

The MOAA Florida Council of Chapters (FCOC) is comprised of 44 Chapters with nearly 8,000 members and their families. FCOC is one of MOAA’s largest Councils. MOAA has a membership of over 380,000 members in all 50 States.

The FCOC’s primary communication vehicles are our bi-monthly publication, *The COUNCIL COMMUNIQUE* and our Website [www.MOAAFL.org](http://www.MOAAFL.org) Ads run for one year.

The *COMMUNIQUE* is distributed electronically to all our chapters, MOAA Headquarters in Virginia, and our influential contacts across the state of Florida.

The *COMMUNIQUE* provides a unique forum for businesses to reach a select segment of the population. The membership is patriotic and professional. We encourage your business to reach out to our members by advertising in *The COUNCIL COMMUNIQUE*.

In appreciation of Businesses that also support the FCOC Annual Convention with Ads in the Convention Souvenir Program Book within the last year the FCOC offers a discount for the same size Ad shown on the following Order Form.

Thank you!

FCOC

Advertise with Us!
### ADVERTISING ORDER FORM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Size of Ad</th>
<th>ANNUAL</th>
<th>CONVENTION ADVERTISER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Business Card Size (2” H x 3.5” W)</td>
<td>$300</td>
<td>$250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quarter Page Size (4” H x 3.5” W)</td>
<td>$420</td>
<td>$350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Half Page Size (8” H x 3.5” W)</td>
<td>$840</td>
<td>$700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Half Page Size (4” H x 7.5” W)</td>
<td>$840</td>
<td>$700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full Page Size (9.625” x 7.5” W)</td>
<td>$1200</td>
<td>$920</td>
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Size of Ad: _______ Mo/Yr to Begin: _______ Mo/Yr to End: _______
Amount: $_________
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Address: ________________________________________________
City: __________________________________________________
State: _________________________ Zip: __________
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- Submit PDF file to: advertising@MOAAFL.org
- Ad information must be submitted by the 1st of the month “preceding” the first month of publication.
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### About Our Newsletter...

We’re on the Web!

**See us at:** [www.moaafl.org/](http://www.moaafl.org/)

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**The Council Communiqué** is the newsletter of the Florida Council of Chapters (FCOC), Military Officers Association of America, and is published bimonthly: February, April, June, August, October, and December. MOAA’s Councils and Chapters are non-partisan organizations. The Communiqué is intended for wide distribution within the FCOC including Chapter Leaders and all Chapter Members in Florida.

A current issue of the **The Council Communiqué** can be found at the Florida Council of Chapters Web Site: http://www.moaafl.org/. Opinions expressed by writers are their own, and may not express the positions of FCOC or the MOAA.