



# May 2019



**Program: National MOAA, Legislative Issues, Membership**

**Speaker: LTC Marcantonio J. Oliveri, US Army (Ret.) who is on the Board of Directors of MOAA in Washington D.C.**

LTC Marcantonio Oliveri began his military service as a Marine Corps second lieutenant after graduating from St. John's University N.Y., in 1967. After a tour in Quang Tri Province in Vietnam, he returned to New York and was commissioned in the New York National Guard in 1973. He was commissioned in the Army Reserve in 1974, where he served as a transportation officer with responsibility for logistical war planning. In civilian life, he was a manager and executive in the telecommunications industry. He has extensive experience as a MOAA chapter leader in New York and Florida and is currently president of the Florida Council of Chapters.

He resides in Royal Palm Beach, Fla. LTC Oliveri has served on the Membership Committee and Strategic Planning Committee for National MOAA.

## **Next Dinner Meeting 1800 –Tuesday–21 May 2019**

The location for the meeting this month is at the

### **Saugahatchee Country Club**

**3800 Bent Creek Road Opelika, AL 36804**

Take Bent Creek Parkway which is Exit 57 off I-85. Go the opposite direction of the Sam's Club/Sports Academy stores and through the residential section (south).

Saugahatchee Country Club is on the left before Hamilton Road.

**Please RSVP at 334-826-1107 or by email to [bohler1107@charter.net](mailto:bohler1107@charter.net) by Friday, 17 May 2018 by 2100.**

## April Meeting Minutes

- Pledge by Mike Golden
- Prayer by Mike Kosolapoff
- Dinner
- Welcome Award Winners, Instructors, Family Members, and MOAA members.
- Bill Broome emceed the program. He first announce that USAA was a sponsor for this event and for the programs at the table.
- Chapter Challenge Coins were shown to the membership and handed out to the students for the first time. Look for the Chapter Challenge Coin design on page 8.
- He read about the MOAA award: It is presented annually to specifically selected individuals who are participating in ROTC or JROTC programs throughout the country and who exhibit a high potential for military leadership. The seven uniformed services from which MOAA draws its membership are listed on the medal and the ribbon colors are the colors of our national flag, which armed forces have rallied around during war and peace.
- President Mike Golden pinned the MOAA medals on each JROTC/ROTC recipient as ROTC Banquet Chairman Bill Broome read each student's biography.
  - Auburn High School Army JROTC– Cadet Major Justin Torres– guest: father, Stephen Torres and mother, Aimee Torres
  - Booker T. Washington High School Army JROTC– Cadet Lieutenant Colonel JaMyia NcNeil– guest: friend, Cadet Major Ashleigh Manley
  - Central High School Navy JROTC– Cadet Commander Tory Williams– guest: mother, Flossese Baugh and grandfather, Thomas Melvin
  - Smith Station High School Marine Corps JROTC—Cadet First Lieutenant Linda Montgomery– guest: mother, Donna Montgomery and grandmother, Linda Tamor and brother, Mitchell Montgomery and instructor's wife, Felecia Bolden
  - Lyman Ward Military Academy Army JROTC– Cadet Captain Jade Mayard
  - AU Army ROTC –Cadet Aaron Giller
  - TU Army ROTC– Cadet Sergeant First Class Diamond Richardson—guest: brother, Kenyan Richardson
  - AU Naval ROTC Navy-Officer Candidate Shawn Bass
  - TU Naval ROTC Navy– Midshipman First Class Anthony Simonte
  - AU Naval ROTC Marine– Staff Sergeant John Roth—guest: wife, Charlene Roth and father, Bob Roth and mother, Cindy Roth
  - TU Naval ROTC Marine– Midshipman First Class Rynel Marshall
  - AU Air Force ROTC— Cadet Major Austin Thompson
  - TU Air Force ROTC– Cadet Major Alesha Webb-Turner
- Mike Golden asked guests of students to stand for applause, because everyone helps the student get to this point.
- Mike Golden presented Tonya Reed of the Opelika Auburn Newspaper a Challenge Coin for her assistance in getting our guest speaker's photo and caption in the newspaper in a timely manner for the past year. She was also in attendance to take photos of the ROTC Banquet. Photo on page 6.
- Bill Broome is presented the 5-Star Harris Award and Coin from National MOAA for his outstanding website he made for our chapter by Mike Golden. Photo on page 6.

**Minutes continued on page 6.**

# Thirteen Students Receive ECAC-MOAA Awards



## ECAC-MOAA High School JROTC Award Winners



Above -L: Auburn High School JROTC instructor LTC Anthony Benitez -L with student Cadet Major Justin Torres-R



Above-C: Booker T. Washington High School JROTC instructor LTC Chip Flowers-L with student Cadet LTCOL JaMyia McNeil-R



Above-R: Smith Station High School JROTC instructor 1st Major William Bolden-L with student Cadet First Lieutenant Linda Montgomery-R



Above: Central High School JROTC instructor Gunnery SGT Anthony Elder-L with student Cadet Commander Tory Williams-R

### ECAC-MOAA Military Academy Award Winner

Right: Lyman Ward Military Academy instructor 1SGT Lee Kolb-L with student Cadet Captain Jade Mayard-R





# ECAC-MOAA Tuskegee Univ. ROTC Award Winners



Photo Left: Instructor LtCol Bryan Gray-L with student Cadet Major Alesha Webb-Turner-R Air Force ROTC



Photo Right: Instructor CPT Wesley Summers-L with student Cadet Sergeant First Class Diamond Richardson -R Army ROTC



Photo Above: Instructor LT Derek Bailey-L with student MIDN 1/C Anthony Simonte-R Naval ROTC-Navy



**Future  
Leaders  
Of  
America**



Photo Above: Instructor Major Dan Murphy-L with student MIDN 1/C Rynel Marshall-R Naval ROTC-Marine



ECAC-MOAA Auburn Univ. ROTC Award Winners



Photo Left: AU Instructor LtCol Patty Patten-L with student Cadet Major Austin Thompson-R Air Force ROTC



Photo Right: AU Instructor MAJ Earl Ingram-L with student Cadet Aaron Giller-R Army ROTC



Photo Left: AU Instructor Major Dan Murphy-L with student Staff Sergeant John Roth-R Naval ROTC Marine



Photo Right: AU Instructor LT Derek Bailey-L with student Officer Candidate Shawn Bass-R Naval ROTC Navy



Bill Broome-L is presented the 2018 Col. Marvin J. Harris Communications Five-Star Award by ECAC-MOAA president, Mike Golden-R. Bill Broome did an outstanding job setting up and maintaining our new website for East-Central Alabama Chapter.



### 2018 Col. Marvin J. Harris Communications Award

Each year, national MOAA holds the Col. Marvin J. Harris Communications Award Contest to identify councils and chapters that do an outstanding job communicating with their members and community. MOAA affiliates competed in two categories of competition: print and e-newsletters and websites. A panel of judges scored the submissions based on a set of subjective criteria, looking at both design and content. Councils and chapters received extra credit for communication efforts that went above and beyond established standards, with additional points being awarded in the print and e-newsletter category to affiliates that published their own membership directory and recruiting materials. In the websites category, affiliates that communicated with their members via email networks and social media channels received extra credit. National recognized 96 councils and chapters that received five-star awards for their exemplary communication efforts and 10 councils and chapters that received four-star awards for their outstanding efforts.

#### Alabama

Alabama Council of Chapters (website)

Greater Birmingham Chapter (print newsletter)

*East-Central Alabama Chapter (website)*

Huntsville Chapter (print newsletter and website)

Montgomery Area Chapter (website)

South Alabama Chapter (print newsletter and website)

Congratulations Bill Broome, webmaster, of ECAC-MOAA

Congratulations Charlie Block, webmaster, for AL Council of Chapters who is one of our members.

### April Minutes Continued from page 2.

- Membership Update:
  - 3 New Members and their spouses—Steve Ogburn and his wife Trish; Patricia Williams and her husband Kevin; and Gordon Bugg and his wife Debra. Photos are on page 7.
  - 2 Members Passed Away—LT Thomas Farrell Jones at the end of March and CAPT Kenneth “Husky” Kirkwood at the beginning of April
- Judy Bohler asked for medal recipients to meet at the back for a group photo for the newspaper and then school ROTC unit photos of student and instructors for the newsletter.
- Mike Golden announced the adjournment.



Mike Golden- L presents Tonya Reed-R from Opelika Auburn Newspaper an ECAC-MOAA Challenge Coin for her diligence in putting **our guest speaker’s photo and caption in the newspaper** after each meeting.

# In Remembrance of...



Julia Claire Smith Gullage, known as Judy, passed away on April 28, 2019 at Bethany House in Auburn, AL. Judy was born in Camphill, AL and married the love of her life, Jim Gullage, in May 1960. They spent the summer in Tuscaloosa while Jim finished law school. The newlyweds then travelled the world courtesy of **Jim's active duty service in the U.S. Army JAG Corps. They lived in Charlottesville, VA and Monterey, CA, where Judy studied at Monterey Community College. She worked as an assistant to a colonel on the military base. They were then stationed in West Berlin, Germany. Their daughters, Lisa and Lauri, were born while they were in Germany. The Gullage family move to Opelika in 1968 when Jim joined the law practice of Walker & Hill. In the 70's, Judy studied education at Auburn University hoping to be an elementary teacher, but their sons, Jason and Jared, were born who were her top priorities. Her husband, Colonel Jim Gullage, just passed away in January last year and our chapter was helping her and the family with his loss. Please keep Judy's family in your thoughts and prayers as they are coping with the loss of both parents so close together.**

If you go to the chapter website [www.ecacmoaa.com](http://www.ecacmoaa.com) and then to programs, then scroll down to Wreaths Across American, then donate to WAA, our chapter will be recognized if this code number **AL0046P** is entered or



selected from the list. You can even donate (purchase wreaths) in memory of someone.

**Now and Always  
We'll be There.**

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Above: Patricia Williams and her husband, Kevin joined us for the April meeting. She retired from the Navy.

Below: Gordon Bugg and his wife, Debra. He retired from the Army.



Above: Steve Ogburn and his wife Trish. He retired from the Air Force.

## New Members

# Mayor's Memorial Day Breakfast

The City of Auburn and its Veterans Committee invite citizens to honor the United States military at the Twenty-First Annual Mayor's Memorial Day Breakfast on Monday, May 27 at 8:00 a.m. at The Hotel at Auburn University and Dixon Conference Center.

Retired Sgt. Buck Marsh will be the guest of honor and the recipient of the 2019 Distinguished Veteran Award. For the eighth year, the Auburn Heroes Remembered Award will be presented to the family of a local distinguished veteran who has passed away. This year's award will be in honor of Lt. Col. Ted Sargent, U.S. Marine Corps and posthumous recipient of the Navy Cross for his service in Vietnam.

At 10:00 a.m., immediately following the breakfast, there will be a memorial wreath laying ceremony at the Auburn Veterans Memorial Monument located at the northeast corner of Ross Street and Glenn Avenue.

Our MOAA chapter paid for two tables for 20 people, so you can buy tickets for seats at the meeting. Many members have reserved or paid for tickets and are on Mike Golden's list he emailed on Friday. **Tickets are \$25 each.** If more members are wanting tickets, they are also available at City Hall. Ticket proceeds will go to the Auburn Veterans Memorial Fund.

For more info: [www.auburnalabama.org/veterans](http://www.auburnalabama.org/veterans)



National Nurses Week was last week.

Thank you to all the military nurses in our chapter.

*The Friday before Mother's Day was Military Spouse Appreciation Day. Thank you to all the spouses for the hard work and for the support to the military personnel.*



Challenge Coin

### Representing MOAA's

East-Central Alabama Chapter

Side One: A seadog sitting in front of the Alabama flag with the state outlined in the top right.

**Side Two: MOAA's logo with the different services represented.**

Our AL-03 chapter covers the following counties: Lee, Tallapoosa, Chambers, Macon, and Russell.

## No June or July meeting- Luau on August 17th

Some of the articles on these pages are gathered online from various MOAA websites and newsletters. They are attributable to their reporters and personnel. Contact the club secretary with any questions.

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