

11 July 2023

SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT

1. Board of Directors (BOD):
 - COL Victoria Revilla, U.S. Army (ret) -- President
 - COL David Buck, U.S. Army (ret) -- 1st Vice-President & Treasurer
 - COL Porcher L. Taylor, U.S. Army (ret) -- 2nd Vice-President
 - CW4 Bruce Brown, U.S. Army (ret) -- Legislative Affairs Chair
 - CW3 Dawn Cater, U.S. Army (ret) -- ROTC Coordinator
 - Col Gary Metzinger, U.S. Air Force (ret) -- Director
 - a. The Board of Directors (BOD) has met on several occasions to develop a Strategic Plan for the revitalization of the chapter. The President, COL Revilla, permanently moved to San Antonio, Texas on 15 June 2023 but will continue to lead the chapter until a replacement is found or the chapter takes the next action for the long-term.
 - b. COL Revilla has continued to represent the chapter in the Virginia Council of Chapters (VCOC) quarterly meetings and assisted the council in developing and coordinating several actions.
2. Membership: Regular Members – 83; Auxiliary Members – 10
 - a. COL Revilla has assisted the VCOC for many months by developing and coordinating the revision of the By-laws.
 - b. COL Revilla conducted the review of the VCOC Treasurer Files in preparation for the transfer of duties to the new VCOC Treasurer. The review included travel, zoom meeting sessions and many electronic correspondence documents and transmissions.
 - c. There were no Chapter General Membership meetings for the first half of the year 2023. The next meeting is scheduled during the month of October (date/time TBD). Annual chapter dues to the VCOC were paid on time.
 - d. We mourn the loss of three (3) distinguished members of the chapter:
 - (1) Col. Albert Pianalto, USAF (Ret), served on the chapter BOD for 3 years as our Legislative Chair, and also worked for Delegate Kirk Cox of Colonial Heights helping with the VCOC annual Storming of the Virginia Assembly).

- (2) COL Richard Cadorette, USA (Ret) served on the BOD for 3 years and as chapter president in 2003.
- (3) LTC William C. Banze, USA (Ret) served on our Memorial Society committee for over 20 years; helping with placing of flags at our Southlawn Memorial Cemetery plot during Memorial Day and Veterans Day. LTC Banze was a veteran of 3 wars: WWII, Korea and Vietnam.
3. Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) Activities: The Chapter requested a written report of accomplishments from the eight (8) high schools and one college programs. Here are the actions completed by SSV chapter with the programs.
- a. MOAA Leadership Medals were provided to the participating 6 high schools and one college. Two high schools did not provide response after several contacts.
 - b. A visit was completed to 6 of the high schools that provided their annual reports, and a check was presented for their program. Four schools received a \$500 check and MOAA Certificate of Achievement for Distinguish Level Award and two schools received a \$300 check and MOAA Certificate of Achievement for Superior Level Award; for a total of \$2,600 presented this year by Southside Chapter.
 - c. COL Revilla and COL Metzinger participated in the Virginia State University officer commissioning ceremony on 14 May 2023. MOAA certificates of achievement were presented to the seven (7) new Army lieutenants and forms for the basic MOAA membership.
 - d. A \$5,000 ROTC Scholarship was awarded to Virginia State University during the commissioning reception. These funds will provide five \$1000 scholarships for 5 SROTC cadets enrolled in the program (to be used for admin fees, books or tuition).
 - e. The Southside Chapter has begun the process to establish an ROTC Scholarship Endowment Fund at Virginia State University (VSU). Each year, the endowment fund will make ROTC scholarships available to cadets in the program, all four levels. The VSU program is operated under the U.S. Army ROTC chain of command. The VSU Professor of Military Science Department and staff will select the recipients. A similar endowment fund is also in the works to be established at Virginia Tech University (Air Force ROTC department) and to be followed by Norfolk State University (Navy ROTC department).

4. Legislative Affairs: No activity other than monitor the VCOC objectives and maintain contact with new Congresswoman Jennifer McClellan (elected after death of Congressman Donald MacEachin).
5. Scholarship Program: Two \$2,000 Southside Virginia Chapter, MOAA scholarships were presented on 10 June 2023 during a dinner and awards ceremony with the students, their families and chapter board members in attendance. Both families had older children that have received this scholarship in the past.
 - Miss Marylyn Reiter of Dinwiddie County HS (granddaughter of an Army retiree and 3-tour Vietnam War Veteran on her mother's side). She is currently enrolled in Brightpoint Junior College with a focus on Pharmacy degree.
 - Mr. Kevin Meza of the Appomattox Governor School in Petersburg (son of retired Navy warrant officer). He is attending Richard Bland College with a focus on Mechanical Engineering.
6. Community & Public Affairs:
 - a. COL Revilla has served as a volunteer on the Petersburg Preservation Task Force for 5 years as the Military Affairs director for the organization. The Task Force was formed 5 years ago to assist the City of Petersburg in re-opening, fund development and operating the three museums of the city. During her tenure she negotiated/planned the implementation of the Tuskegee Airman gallery display in the main museum and also assisted in the repatriation ceremony of WWII veteran remains from Pearl Harbor to be buried in Blandford Memorial Cemetery. Since the city has closed the museums once again (due to long-term renovations), COL Revilla negotiated/implemented the return of all Tuskegee Airman artifacts to the Petersburg Chapter of the Tuskegee Airman and to the family of the late LtCol Howard L. Baugh, USAF (Tuskegee pilot who was born in Petersburg and attended Virginia State University). Many of the artifacts will be displayed in other museums and at the Virginia Black History Museum located in Richmond Virginia. The large bronze statue of LtCol Baugh (partially funded by the Southside VA chapter) is permanently on display at that museum.
 - b. Photos and press release information were provided to VCOC Website and local Community Facebook accounts for the activities in ROTC Program and Scholarship Program.
 - c. A donation of \$1000 was made to the Freedom Defenders of Virginia Motorcycle Club. Founded in 2015, the club focuses on assisting those who

have served and currently serving with financial, material or emotional needs. They endeavor to bring service to those who are incarcerated or homeless.

- d. A donation of \$1,500 was presented to the American Legion Post in Dinwiddie County which is raising funds to establish a permanent office.
7. Southside Chapter Status: The chapter continues to be a Member of VCOC, mostly participating in a satellite manner. Revitalization actions are in the works. During the mid-October General Membership meeting (date/time TBD), the leadership will decide whether dissolving the chapter is the next option.
8. Report prepared by the undersigned.



VICTORIA REVILLA
Colonel, U.S. Army (Retired)

Chapter President