

Report to ROA Department of Texas Ex-Com
Greater Houston Area, Chapter 33

Since last Ex-Com meeting November 2009

1. We've had 5 Ex-Com meetings, 1 membership meeting, and a Board of Trustees meeting for the ROTC Scholarship Fund Inc. COL Tom Berg, Chapter 33 member and JAG officer, was scheduled to speak at the member meeting but there was confusion on dates.
2. We made presentation of ROTC awards at all 8 of the campus ROTC programs in our area including; Sam Houston State, Rice University, Prairie View A & M, University of Houston, and Stephen F. Austin University. A \$200 US Saving Bond award was also made available to the top cadet in each program. No presentations were made for JR ROTC ceremonies.

Future Meetings

1. There will be a membership and guest dinner meeting on **Saturday, June 19, 2010 at 6:30** at the Westchase Marriott just off Westheimer in West Houston. The meeting will commemorate the 60th Anniversary of the U.S. entry into the Korean Conflict. The keynote speaker will be COL Ralph Hockley, Chapter VP Army and Membership Chair along with being a member of DOT's Resolution Committee. Member MG Bob Crosser, also a Korean War veteran, will introduce COL Hockley. South Korean Consul General Cho and Consul Son will attend. All are welcome! Cost for the evening including dinner is \$40 per person. Please send reservations to George Bannon, gabannon1@comcast.net, Chapter Treasurer, by **June 5**. The dress for the evening is business attire. A block of rooms has been reserved for those coming in from out of town who wish to stay at the hotel. A reservation form is attached with this report.
2. Our next Ex-Com meeting is scheduled for August with meetings also planned for October and November. We will have an ROTC Scholarship Trustee's meeting in November.
3. We plan to have the Annual Membership meeting with election of officers in September and the 5th annual member-guest picnic in Bear Creek Park, Sunday afternoon, October 24. In conjunction with the picnic, we conduct a raffle with prizes and an auction of some items to raise money for a military support organization. The first two years the money raised went to the BAMC Wounded Warrior Center and the last two years it has gone to Memorial Hermann Hospital's The Institute for Research and Rehabilitation (TIRR) – Project Victory. Project Victory rehabilitates service personnel with TBI incurred during duty in Iraq and Afghanistan. Family support and re-integration is also part of the program.

General Comments

1. The Chapter is financially healthy for the time being. We are evaluating the impacts of the increase in dues and the reduction of life membership rebates from the Department. The ROTC Scholarship fund is also healthy. Balances in the general fund and Scholarship Fund are each over \$10,000. We are in good standing with the IRS on 501(c)(3) status for the Scholarship Fund and have filed the necessary reports for the Chapter thanks to the work of COL Bannon.
2. There is grave concern about membership participation. Out of over 700 members belonging to the Chapter, we've never had over 30 people at a meeting during the last 7 or 8 years. Our core active members are a group of 5 or 6 people who serve on the board. From a recent e-mail blast sent to over 270 members with e-mail in the 77 zip code, over 70 were returned as undeliverable. We are using e-mail and the website to make information available but many of our more elderly life members do not use e-mail apparently as we have no address for them.