



FAOA News & Notes



Foreign Area Officers Association ♦ Board of Governors

May 2010



On thy grave the rain shall fall from the eyes of a mighty nation ~ Thomas William Parsons

The new FAO Journal: International Affairs

The FAOA Board of Governors is committed to improving the Association's relevance to the membership. To that end, the Board proudly presents the new look, new focus and expanded content for the FAO Journal, *International Affairs*. The FAO Journal was presented at the Annual Black Tie Dinner and is now available to paying members of the FAOA through www.faoa.org. If you have a subscription, you should have received the May 2010 issue in the mail. If not, please verify your contact information or contact the webmaster (webmaster@faoa.org).



FAOA Annual Black Tie Dinner

The FAOA 2010 Annual Black Tie Dinner with guest speaker Ambassador Ryan Crocker was a night for good food, renewed friendships, new acquaintances, and comraderie. Along with past, present and future FAOs and those involved in international issues, 110 people gathered in the elegant Main Dining Room of the Army and Navy Club in Washington DC. The evening commenced with a social hour and open bar, followed by dinner, all accompanied by dinner music and song thanks to local favorite Michele Milano. Over dessert and coffee, the FAOA Board of

Governors President, COL Gary Espinas, honored two former DIA Directors, Lt Gen James Williams and Lt Gen Patrick Hughes, for their long and on-going support to the FAOA community. Both were presented with a lifetime membership in FAOA and a large FAOA medalion. The night concluded as the gathered listened to Ambassador Crocker speak on *New Vistas for the Foreign Area Officer*.

Thanks to all who attended and a special thanks to our sponsor, [Six3 Systems](#).

FAOA Unveils New Coin Design

The FAOA has a new logo and coin design, thanks to the hard work of Coyt Hargus, the FAO Journal Editor and Board Member. In an effort to capture the DoD's new focus on FAO programs across the services, the new design incorporates the services and the core competencies of FAOs.



The coins are available for purchase at \$10. If you are interested, please contact the [webmaster](#).

Recent Readings of Interest

The Washington Post recently ran two articles of interest. The first, [Soldier, Diplomat and Tribal Anthropologist: The Modern U.S. Officer Emerges in Afghanistan WAR of Persuasion](#), follows the struggles of Lt Col Robert Brown as he seeks to fulfill his mission at Combat Outpost Keating while trying to judge the best way to interact and work with the local population. This article appeared in the Sunday edition on 16 May 2010.

The second appeared this Memorial Day weekend on Sunday, 30 May 2010. This is a slightly tongue-in-cheek piece on *What I Learned at War* by Army Reserve Major J. Mark Jackson. Worth noting are his comments on the Afghan people, particularly "The Afghans laugh at us behind our backs, too." (This article is not yet available online at WashingtonPost.com.)