



THE RETROSPECT

JANUARY 2020

TAMPA CHAPTER — A FIVE STAR CHAPTER OF MOAA NATIONAL

VOL. 26, Number 1

Upcoming Events

**OUR BOARD WILL MEET AT 1000 on:
+ 02 JANUARY
+ 06 FEBRUARY
+ 05 MARCH**

LUNCHEON MEETING WILL BE HELD AT 1130 AT SURF'S EDGE CLUB ON MACDILL AIR FORCE BASE ON 09 JANUARY

Reserve your seat by 06 January by calling: (813) 676-4676 and following the prompts.

**MENU:
MIXED GREENS WITH CRISPY NOODLES, TOMATOES, CUCUMBERS, AND CARROTS
SWEET AND SOUR CHICKEN
FRIED RICE
STIR FRY VEGETABLES
FORTUNE COOKIE AND ALMOND CAKE**

PUBLICATION DEADLINE FOR THE FEBRUARY ISSUE IS 25 JANUARY 2020



IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT COL ZIERES USA (RET)

MESSAGE FROM THE IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT JANUARY 2020 COL CAROL ZIERES USA (RET)

I'll begin with some highlights from our December luncheon: The Christmas spirit definitely filled the air at the Surf's Edge Club dining room during our annual holiday luncheon. Our central focus was on gift giving to the TOYS FOR TOTS annual fund drive which netted a grand total of \$465, plus two boxes filled with toys were presented to CAPT JOSHUA STANBERY, USMC from the 4th Assault Amphibian Battalion. My heartfelt thanks to our Christmas Committee organizer, MAJ (RET) DOLORES INCREMONA, and to all chapter members who generously donated items for our silent auction/raffle drawing, or brought in table decorations which added to the festive occasion. I'd also like to thank FIRST COMMAND for their generous donation to our chapter.

All of these wonderful gifts help our chapter remain financially solvent so we can continue to offer scholarships each year to deserving college bound students. Members enjoyed live Christmas music by violinist LEMAY OLANO JAMES followed by Pianist, MS. GINGER HEATH, who played such wonderful back-ground music during lunch, including a sing-along to AULD LANG SYNE! Once again, we were honored to host two new coalition guests: COL VALYNTYN ZOLOTAR (Ukraine) and COL KIHYUN PARK (ROK), accompanied by the Chairman of the Coalition, BGEN HENRIK LARSEN. Since my tenure as your chapter president is drawing to a close, I'd like to take a moment to personally thank the 2019 Board of Directors and committee leaders and participants. We can all be proud of the work that was done to increase our membership; to continue a viable scholarship program, to continue support of ROTC/JROTC; to host great guest speakers at our luncheons; to hold a superb golf tournament; to continue supporting the best charity in MOAA, and of course, the great team effort in the operational planning and execution as host chapter for the FCOC's 42nd convention. The 2019 FCOC convention was the hallmark event for our chapter which will long be remembered!

EDITORIAL POLICY

The Retrospect is electronically published monthly by members of the Tampa Chapter of the Military Officers' Association of America (MOAA), P.O. Box 6383, MacDill Air Force Base, FL 33608-0383 and is viewed on line at <http://www.moaaatampa.org/>.

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We are honored to have RADM HOWARD, Commander of SOCCENT, install the 2020 Board of Directors at our January 9th luncheon. Your new chapter president, COLONEL (RET) CHARLES DALCOURT, will be outlining his goals and vision for 2020, and I hope you will give him the same level of support and cooperation that you have given me through my tenure; starting with the basics like paying your annual membership dues on time!

Finally, opportunities are always available for volunteers to assist the chapter at such events as the annual golf tournament and our signature charity, Operation Helping Hand monthly dinners. It has been my pleasure to serve as your chapter president these past three years and my very best wishes to you and your family for a HAPPY, HEALTHY and PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR!

**"AS ALWAYS, WE'VE GOT YOUR BACK"
"—NEVER STOP SERVING —"
"TAKING CARE OF OUR TROOPS IS A LIFETIME COMMITMENT"**





COL Charles Dalcourt, USA RET
2020 Tampa Chapter
President

LEGISLATIVE LOWDOWN

For more information, visit [MOAA National's Legislative Action Center!](#)

Happy New Year! What a pleasure to greet you all in 2020 with great news from the past and high expectations for the future. I pray that all enjoyed a peaceful respite during the holiday season and that you will experience overwhelming joy in 2020.

Recapping the past

After a tremendously aggressive year of consistent engagements with legislators, MOAA closed 2019 as the only military or veteran service organization honored as one of the top lobbyist for 2019 by The Hill, a Washington, D.C. based news outlet. Even more, the effects of MOAA's activities in 2019 will enhance the quality of life for servicemembers, current and former, and their families in very clear and tangible ways. Here are a few of MOAA's 2019 accomplishments you helped achieve:

- Helped secure the repeal of the widows tax to eliminate the loss of up to \$12,000 per year for nearly 67,000 surviving spouses of servicemembers killed in service or through service-caused illnesses;
- Partnered with other Veteran Service Organizations to pass the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2019 – increasing access to benefits and healthcare for those impacted by Agent Orange at sea further from the mainland;
- Ensured a 3.1 percent active duty pay raise, and protected housing allowances from arbitrary cuts;
- Successfully lobbied Congress to delay DoD's plan to eliminate 18,000 military medical billets and call for an assessment on military medical readiness and support to beneficiaries, including many military caregivers and their families;
- Engaged Congress to legislate significant improvements to accountability for the quality and safety of military family housing provided by public-private partnerships; and
- Ensured no new healthcare access fees for currently serving and retirees.

These incredible advances were enabled by your voices. I am so very appreciative of the responses our chapter members provided to MOAA's numerous calls to action this past year. Your advocacy made a difference; your involvement changed policy!

High expectations for the future

You've seen the power of our combined activism. Let's start the year strong! Visit MOAA's website, select the "Advocacy" button, and peruse the "2020 Legislative Mission." There's still work to be done.

MOAA national needs our continued support, feedback, and fighting spirit to continue pressing our Congressional Leaders to acknowledge other issues that remain of concern. Issues such as the elimination of military medical billets, the future of our commissaries, and the expansion of benefits for our Guardsmen and Reservist remain a concern. These are battles we must fight as those who have served, for those still serving...our legacy. Use the strength of your intellect, experience, and will to win to defeat the threats to benefits earned...deserved.

Signing off

As we embrace another beginning, we also welcome change in our chapter. We are extremely fortunate to have LTC (USA Retired) Reginald Williams accepting the mantle as the chapter's legislative affairs coordinator. Reggie served over 30 years in uniform and after retiring, continued to selflessly sacrifice as a member of our government's Civilian force. Please embrace him as you wonderfully accepted me into your ranks and keep the fire flowing up to Congress and beyond throughout this New Year.

I offer my sincere appreciation for the tremendous work, effort, and advocacy this chapter provided from the legislative front. Florida's roar resonated throughout Washington in a way that enabled success...propelled issues to the forefront of both consideration and action.

Again, thanks for your credible contributions this past year. It has been a pleasure to serve alongside you.

All the best!
Charles



See More:

MOAA Legislative Action Center
<http://www.moaa.org/Legislative/>

MOAA Capitol toll free hotline at 1-866-272-6622

¹ MOAA Named One of The Hill's Top Lobbyist for 2019, by Dan Merry, dated 15 December 2019, <https://www.moaa.org/content/publications-and-media/news-articles/2019-news-articles/advocacy/moaa-named-one-of-the-hills-top-lobbyists-for-2019/>

JANUARY SPEAKER:

Rear Admiral H. Wyman Howard III, Commanding Officer, Special Operations Command Central



Rear Admiral H. Wyman Howard III is a native of Alexandria, VA, and a 1990 graduate of the United States Naval Academy, where he graduated with a Bachelor of Science in International Relations, and was a member on the Navy Crew rowing team. Howard is a SEAL Naval Officer who assumed command of Special Operations Command Central, MacDill AFB, FL in July of 2018 following assignment as the Assistant Commander, Joint Special Operations Command, Fort Bragg, NC from 2016 - 2018.

Howard has commanded at all levels of Special Operations, including service as the Commanding Officer of Naval Special Warfare Development Group, from 2011-2013. He has multiple tours in command of joint task forces, and was among the first to deploy into Afghanistan following the attacks of September 11, 2001, and has deployed consistently since.

His joint interagency staff and policy experience includes Director of Operations for the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency, Springfield, VA from 2015 - 2016. He also served as the Deputy Director for Global Operations, Office of the Chairman of the Joint Chief of Staff, Washington, D.C. and as Director for Counterterrorism Policy in the Office of the Secretary of Defense.

His professional military education includes the Naval War College, the Joint Special Operations University, and the Defense Language Institute. Rear Admiral Howard is a graduate of Naval Special Warfare's assessment, selection and training course (Basic Underwater Demolition / SEAL Class 172).

He holds a Master of Science from the Eisenhower School in National Security and Resource Strategy, with a focus on space, and where he earned three Eisenhower School Commandant's awards for Excellence in Writing. He also holds a Global Executive MBA from TRIUM, jointly conferred by the London School of Economics and Political Science, HEC Paris School of Management, and New York University's Stern School of Business.

Rear Admiral Howard has commanded and served on teams whose combat contributions were recognized with four Presidential Unit Citations and two Joint Meritorious Unit Awards.

He is an active volunteer within the community, a member of the Council on Foreign Relations, and an Eagle Scout.



MACDILL AFB, Fla. — The Commander, Special Operations Command Central (SOCCENT) held a change of command ceremony at the headquarters facilities, July 19. Maj. Gen. Darsie D. Rogers relinquished command to Rear Adm. Wyman Howard Thursday during a traditional ceremony on MacDill in front of senior leaders, service members and family, and members of the MacDill community.

An Update to the Repeal of the Widows Tax
Update Provided by Ms. Renee Brunelle
Tampa Chapter Surviving Spouse Liaison



Renee Brunelle
 Tampa Chapter
 Surviving Spouse Liaison



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 20, 2019

To Our Incredible Federal Workforce:

As 2019 comes to a close and we head into a New Year and new decade, the United States is stronger and more prosperous than ever before. Your devoted and vigilant efforts are critical to our Nation's success, as we work together to serve the citizens of our magnificent Country. Your great contributions to this Nation are why I am pleased to inform you that I recently signed into law major improvements to compensation and benefits for Federal Employees included in the 2020 appropriations package and the 2020 National Defense Authorization Act. Through hard work and determination, my Administration overcame partisan gridlock to get these bills to my desk and to deliver these real results for you and your families.

In 2020, most Federal Employees will see their PAY INCREASE by an average of 3.1 percent—the largest raise in more than 10 years. This pay raise reflects the excellent work of our Federal workforce and complements another unprecedented benefit that I also just signed into law—Paid Parental Leave.

Before I was President, I promised to deliver Paid Family Leave for workers across the Nation. I am proud to report that after decades of empty promises and inaction, the legislation I have signed into law provides 12 WEEKS OF PAID PARENTAL LEAVE FOR FEDERAL EMPLOYEES. This ensures parents are not forced to choose between their jobs and spending precious time with their children. Strong and thriving families are the true source of America's success—and the key to America's future. As the chief executive of the Country's largest workforce, I am proud to say that our Government is leading by example in changing the culture of how we support working families. Along with the pay raise, the new Paid Parental Leave benefit will help ensure Federal Employees have the resources and support they need to raise healthy and happy families.

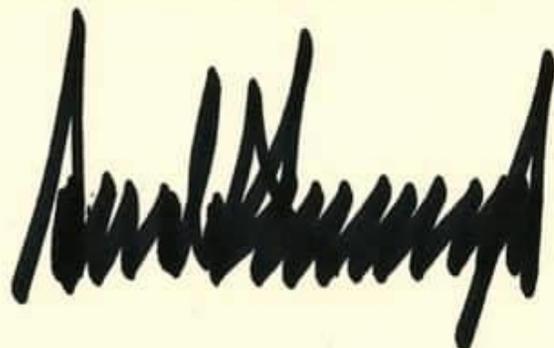
Our Country has never been stronger. Almost 160 million great Americans are working—more than ever before—the unemployment rate is at a 50-year low, and wages are up substantially for the first time in decades. Our economy is thriving and the Stock Market has set more than 130 record highs over the last 3 years. As a result, your Thrift Savings Plans are reaching extraordinary levels!

As we end this year, I hope you spend time with your friends and family and reflect upon the great work we have accomplished together in service to our Nation. That is why, earlier this week, I signed an Executive Order to excuse Federal Employees from duty so they can celebrate Christmas Eve with friends and loved ones.

I want to thank each of you for your work this past year, and I am excited about what we will achieve working together for the American people in 2020. Our Country has never done better—and we are just getting started! May God bless you and your family this holiday season, and may God continue to bless the United States of America.

Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year!

Sincerely,





**THE TAMPA CHAPTER OF THE
MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICA (MOAA)**



2020 BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

OFFICERS:

- PRESIDENT: COL CHARLES DALCOURT USA RET
- 1ST VP - LTC JEANNE RICHARD USAF RET
- 2ND VP - COL BILL SCHNEIDER USA RET
- IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT - COL CAROL ZIERES USA RET
- TREASURER - LT COL KENNETH MARTIN USMC RET
- SECRETARY - CDR GEOFF HARRINGTON USNR RET
- SENIOR CHAPLAIN - COL BERNARD H LIEVING JR USA RET

**JOIN US FOR THE INSTALLATION OF THE
MOAA TAMPA CHAPTER 2020
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
9 January 2020
Make Your Luncheon Reservations Now!**

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS:

- OPERATION HELPING HAND/GOLF TOURNAMENT CHAIRMAN - LTC JIM GRIF-FIN USA RET
- MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN - COL WILLIAM A SCHNEIDER USA RET
- FLAG OFFICER LIAISON - MAJ GEN JAMES JONES USAF RET
- PROGRAMS/ACTING EDITOR *The Retrospect* - COL CAROL ZIERES USA RET
- EVENTS - LTC JEANNE RICHARD USAF RET
- FLAGS & BANNERS - CDR GEOFF HARRINGTON USN RET
- SICKCALL CHAIRMAN - CDR GEOFF HARRINGTON USN RET
- SURF'S EDGE LIAISON - LT COL RICHARD SIEGMAN USAF RET
- RESERVATIONS - LTC JEANNE RICHARD USAF RET
- LEGISLATIVE LIAISON - LTC REGGIE WILLIAMS USA RET
- SURVIVING SPOUSE LIAISON - MS RENÉE BRUNELLE
- ROTC/JROTC/BASE ENTRY - MAJ JOHN T MASSEY USAF RET; LTC MATT MULARONI USA AD
- NATIONAL GUARD/RESERVE LIAISON - CAPT NORMAN BILD USAF RET
- LEGAL ADVISOR - FORMER LT WILLIAM MITCHELL USN
- CIVILIAN RECRUITING/LEGAL ASSIST. - FMR NAVY LTJG BILL MITCHELL
- DATABASE MANAGER - CW2 THOMAS SOUTH USA RET
- SCHOLARSHIP CHAIRMAN - MAJ GEN JAMES JONES USAF RET
- PUBLIC RELATIONS - VACANT

GENERAL CONTACT INFO:

The Tampa Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America
Post Office Box 6383, MacDill AF
Tampa, FL 33608-0383
E-Mail: moaatampachapter@tampabay.rr.com

OUR MISSION:

The Tampa chapter is a Five-Star organization dedicated to supporting MOAA's primary purpose: To maintain a strong national defense and to ensure our nation keeps its commitments to currently serving, retired, and former members of the uniformed services and their families and survivors.



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- JANUARY 1**
LTC WILLIAM DRIVER USA AD
COL JOHN EANES USA RET
COL EVELIO OTERO USAF RET
LTC JAMES PEARSON USA RET
LTC GERALD PEFFERS USA RET
- JANUARY 3**
LT COL DONALD KENDRICK USAF RET
LTC HARRY LIVINGSTON AUS RET
LTC GLENN NIELSEN USAF RET
CAPT DARRELL A RUSSELL USN RET
CPT WILLIAM WEITZ USA RET
- JANUARY 4**
CAPT DAVID KRIEGER USN RET
CAPT HOWARD E LYON USPS
- JANUARY 6**
MAJ GLENN REINKE USAF RET
- JANUARY 8**
LT COL EDWIN H GEASA USAFR RET
LTC DAVID MOUNT USA AD
COL CLAYTON LEE VANNES USA RET
- JANUARY 10**
LT COL CAROLYN EBERHART NC USAF RET
AUXILIARY MEMBER HELEN TURNER
- JANUARY 12**
MAJ KENNETH PAYANT USA RET
- JANUARY 13**
CDR FRANK TROTTO USCG RET
- JANUARY 14**
COL MICHAEL MCNERNEY USAF RET
- JANUARY 15**
LTC KATRYNA DEARY USA AD
- JANUARY 18**
AUXILIARY MEMBER MAXINE D CONWAY
LTC JASON P ROCK USA RET
FMR ARMY CPT SIDNEY SWINDLE DDS
- JANUARY 19**
MAJ JULIUS H OKRZESEKI USAFR RET
MAJ RICHARD S ZEINER USAF RET
- JANUARY 20**
LTC RICHARD RAY USAF RET
- JANUARY 21**
COL JOHN R MARTINA USA RET
- JANUARY 23**
LT COL KAREN MERTES USAF RET
- JANUARY 24**
LT COL JOSEPH J LAWRENCE USAF RET
- JANUARY 26**
DR (FMR USAR CPT) ROBERT BROWN
BRIG GEN MURIEL MACCARTHY USAF RET
AUXILIARY MEMBER CAROL RAYMOND
AUXILIARY MEMBER CAROLE ANN STINSON
- JANUARY 29**
LTC SUMNER R ELY USA RET
COL CORINNE RITTER USA RET
LTC ELY SUMNER USA RET
- JANUARY 30**
COL EMMETT BATTLES USA RET
AUXILIARY MEMBER EVELYN BOPP
AUXILIARY MEMBER PATRICIA CRANFORD
- JANUARY 31**
MAJ HENRY J BINDER USAR
COL MICHAEL A COOK USA RET
AUXILIARY MEMBER PEGGY SCHILB

Is your **JANUARY** birthday missing?
JUST SEND A NOTE TO:
CDR Geoff Harrington USNR Ret
fgharrington44@gmail.com

BULLETIN BOARD

CARING FOR OUR "SHUT-IN" MEMBERS

Our Chapter wants to become aware of members who are hospitalized, homebound, in care facilities or just plain sick and has provided a way for you to inform us. Please contact CDR Geoff Harrington USNR Ret at (813) 926-7988 so that he may call or send cards to let them know they are missed. Alternatively, you may send an **e-mail** to: moaatampachapter@tampabay.rr.com, *CDR Geoff Harrington USNR, Ret, Sick Call Chairman*

FAST FACTS FOR 2020

- 2020 (MMXX) will be a leap year starting on Wednesday of the Gregorian calendar
- It is the 2020th year of the Common Era (CE) and Anno Domini (AD) designations
- It is the 20th year of the 3rd millennium
- It is the 20th year of the 21st century, and
- It is the 1st year of the 2020s decade

COMPLETE
OUR
MEMBER
SURVEY
ON PAGE
15



The Retrospect— Looking Towards 2020...



**CAPT
DON DVORNIK**

Since no stalwarts have stepped forward to assume the mantle of RETROSPECT Editor as yet, I am proud to announce that Colonel Carol Zieres USA will serve as Acting Editor in the interim. No one knows the RETROSPECT better than Carol since she has been one of our biggest supporters as President with her excellent contributions each month.

Thank you Carol, you and Melissa will make a great team and I extend best wishes to you both for future success. Happy New Year to everyone as we travel the 2020 road together and I look forward to seeing everyone at the monthly MOAA Luncheon Meetings.

Cheers. CAPT Donald F. Dvornik USN (Ret.)

HOW TO JOIN THE TAMPA CHAPTER:

Come to a luncheon (2nd Thursdays) at 1115 at the Surf's Edge Club on MacDill Air Force Base and ask for COL William A Schneider USA OR [download our brochure](#) and mail the application accordingly with payment.

NOTE: to be eligible for membership in the Tampa Chapter, one must be a member of [MOAA National](#) or join National at the same time the Chapter is joined.

HAVE YOU SEEN OUR UPDATED WEBSITE?

WWW.MOAATAMPA.ORG

The MOAA Tampa website is a comprehensive and valuable tool that you can use to make the most of your MOAA Membership. Some of the things you can find on our website include:

Events Calendar: We have a new "Events" page where you will find an updated calendar, displaying our upcoming MOAA events, as well as events happening with Operation Helping Hand. Click on our [Events Page](#) to check it out!

Photo Gallery of Events: This is our photo gallery, where you will see all of the photos during our luncheons, special meetings, conventions and more! If you've had your picture taken at our events, you can likely find it by scrolling through our [Photo Gallery!](#)

Newsletters: Here you will find the latest volume of The Retrospect, our award winning Tampa Chapter Newsletter. You can also access archived versions of The Retrospect for reference and research. In addition, you can find archived versions of the Military Spouse Newsletter, which has been merged into The Retrospect starting in August 2019. Visit [The Retrospect](#) page to read on!

Member Directory: You can access an electronic version of our Member Directory on our website. **The list is password protected** for safety of our private information, but MOAA Tampa Chapter Members can be provided the password to access. You can also download an Excel version of the list once permitted into the page. Check out the [Member Directory](#) now!

WWW.MOAATAMPA.ORG

OPERATION HELPING HAND UPDATE

"As long as we are needed, Operation Helping Hand will be there..."



**LTC JIM GRIFFIN,
CHAIRMAN, OPHH**

The outpouring of support and gratitude for the honored wounded and injured at the CHRISTMAS DINNER was beyond description. A cheerful group of over 300 volunteers made an already fantastic evening even more special. Special thanks to ARMA GLOBAL for their sponsorship of the dinner and a special congratulations to BOB EVANS for providing another very exceptional CHRISTMAS DINNER.

LIFELINK FOUNDATION, under the leadership of VICTORIA PANIKVAR AND MELODY MACZKO, generated the support within

their company to provide huge gift bags for all of the honorees. The contents of these bags were donations from all within the company. Our sincere appreciation and thanks goes to these magnificent folks and their organization.

The COL PHILLIP DELONG DETACHMENT 1267, MARINE CORPS LEAGUE, not only presented the colors, provided large bags of toys for SANTA to distribute, but they presented us with a marvelous donation. THANKS!

Another longtime supporter, KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS AMBASSADORS OF ST PAUL, presented yet another incredible donation to OPERATION HELPING HAND. Our sincere thanks to all of you for the great work that you do.

We were able to honor the VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR at this special occasion. ANN, SHERRY, SANDY, CARLA, ROBERT, LORI, AND MELISSA were all recognized for the wonderful part they play in making OPERATION HELPING HAND successful in attaining all of our goals.

We are looking forward to seeing you at our 16 JANUARY DINNER sponsored by CAE.

As always, a very special thanks to our tireless volunteers which enables us to consistently provide 96.5% of all the monies donated to go to our wounded and injured and their families. The strong support of our local business community and their commitment to sponsor our dinner events, golf tournament, and provide generous donations throughout the year, along with the individual support we receive from numerous donors every month in the way of checks, or on our website (OPERATIONHELPINGHANDTAMPA.COM) insure that the support of our mission will not be interrupted for as long as our assistance is required.

**OUR TREMENDOUS GROUP OF VOLUNTEERS
MAKE ALL OF THIS POSSIBLE!
HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

VISITING FAMILY MEMBERS

Since the beginning of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom, the James A. Haley Veterans' Hospital has had a marked increase in the number of wounded and injured active duty members referred for treatment. Their Spinal Cord Injury and Comprehensive Rehabilitation Units have treated some of the most severely injured service members who have been in combat in these operations. The average stay for the injured is 45 days. Many of the families travel from all over the country and must provide for themselves while staying here in the Tampa Bay area.



CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

CHAPLAIN (COL) BERNARD H LIEVING JR USA RET



**CINDY AND CHAPLAIN (COL)
BERNARD H LIEVING JR USA RET**

It is that time of year again – time for those New Year's Resolutions. Most lists of previous years' resolutions include items such as: lose weight, exercise more, do a better job of financial management, clean out the garage, enjoy life, spend more time with my spouse and family, and find some place to volunteer so I can help others.

In my Google search I found lists of suggested resolutions that included: climb a mountain, get a tattoo, get a six pack, quit your job if you hate it, go a week without my phone, grow a mustache, and ride the scariest roller coaster ride you can think of.

Those are all well and good and if they were to be lived out for all of 2020 they certainly could make a difference in one's life. I had to search harder to find a list that included: pray every day to hear and obey God's will for my life; daily read the scriptures of my faith; volunteer at or through my faith community to help others' lives be better; increase my charitable giving; find someone to whom I can be a faith mentor, and invite a neighbor, friend, or family member to worship with me.

Just maybe 2020 is the year to focus our life-changing resolutions less on our physical well-being and place our emphasis more on renewing our relationship with God and the spiritual aspects of our lives. If we were to do so, by the end of 2020 we could be very different people.



Palm Beach-Martin Counties Chapter
 Military Officers Association of America

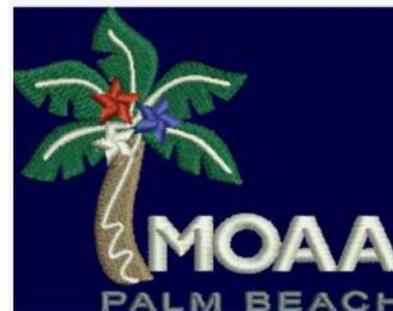
FCOC Convention 2020!

During the Convention in 2020, we will be offering some fun things in and around Palm Beach Gardens. Between now and then, we will be highlighting a few events. We ask that you do the same with your chapter. Here's another:

In 1993, Task Force Ranger was given the mission of locating and capturing a Somali warlord in Mogadishu, Somalia. During the mission, an Army Black Hawk was shot down. In the eighteen hour battle that followed, eighteen Americans were lost while an estimated eight hundred Somali rebels were taken out.

Hollywood eventually transformed the history of the mission into the critically acclaimed movie, *Black Hawk Down*.

Matt Eversman was a US Army Ranger First Sergeant in the mission. He is an accomplished speaker who has spoken at many events. During the MOAA Convention, he will be talking to conventional attendees about his experience in Somalia. This is an event that should not be missed.



C2020:

**Thur-Fri-Sat-Sun
 May 28, 29, 30, 31**

At the PGA Marriott in Palm Beach Gardens.

Registration will open in January.

This is the weekend after Memorial Day 2020.



CONTACT:

Paul Loschiavo
 Chairman C2020
 561-310-4769
moapalmbeach@gmail.com

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!



MOAA MISSION STATEMENT

The Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) is a nonprofit veterans' association dedicated to maintaining a strong national defense and ensuring our nation keeps its commitments to currently serving, retired, and former members of the uniformed services and their families and survivors. Membership is open to those who hold or have ever held a warrant or commission in any component of the Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, Public Health Service, or NOAA and their surviving spouses.



MOAA Tampa Scholarship Information for year 2020 is available.

Visit our website and download the latest information. You can also find the application and details on Pages 17-18 in this newsletter.

[Scholarship Program](#)

DOD Leaders Look to Future, Reflect on End-of-Year Results
DEC. 20, 2019 | BY TERRI MOON CRONK , DOD NEWS
 Read This Article [Online](#)

Congress' passage of the fiscal year 2020 National Defense Authorization Act yesterday will enable the Defense Department to adapt to the challenges posed by great power competitors, Defense Secretary Dr. Mark T. Esper said. Esper said President Donald J. Trump will sign the act into law today.

The act also authorizes the establishment of the U.S. Space Force as the newest branch of the armed forces, the first in more than 70 years.

"We are looking forward to beginning a number of important modernization programs in areas such as hypersonic weapons, artificial intelligence and directed energy that have been held back because of the [continuing resolution]," he said.

Reflecting on 2019, Esper said he is content with the progress DOD made toward implementing the National Defense Strategy. He also said the transatlantic alliance with NATO is on the right trajectory following a leadership meeting earlier this month.

"We have consistently pushed our NATO allies to contribute more to our shared security, and many of them have responded with greater contributions to defense spending and an improved focus on war-fighting readiness," he added. "This is resulting in a stronger, more capable NATO alliance."

The secretary said the United States must deal with the world we live in, not the one we want. "As we focus on long-term competition in China and Russia, we will not lose sight of our national security interest in the Middle East. Our troops deployed throughout the region continue to do great work to ensure ISIS remains defeated and to deter further Iranian aggression," he said. Esper extended his appreciation to military members — especially those who are in harm's way — for their service far from home over the holiday season.

He also reemphasized DOD's commitment to continued reforms in the new year. A DOD-wide review has netted more than \$5 billion in savings, he said. He also added that as DOD expands the process beyond the fourth estate to other parts of the department, it will continue to free up resources to invest back into the department's top priorities.

Joining the secretary at the Pentagon press conference was Army Gen. Mark A. Milley, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. The Washington Post published what is called the Afghanistan Papers that suggested public and private statements about the Afghanistan war are different.

"There is an assertion out there of some sort of coordinated lie over 18 years," Milley said. "I find that ... more than a bit of a stretch. I find that a mischaracterization from my own personal experience. You're looking at probably hundreds of general officers, State Department employees, CIA, Department of Defense folks. I just don't think that you can get that level of coordination to do that kind of deception."

The so-called Afghanistan Papers were an attempt in about 2,000 pages to do interviews looking backward to determine lessons learned for the force as it goes to the future, the chairman said.

"We have a mission in Afghanistan, that is to ensure that it ... never again becomes a safe haven for terrorists," Milley said. "So until we are confident that that mission is complete, we will retain a presence to do that."

None of us wants forever wars, Milley said. "It has to do with national interest, with the realistic appraisal of what adversaries and enemies of the United States of America are doing and what their threats are to America." DOD weighs the costs, benefits and risks associated with that, he noted.

"And that's why we are where we are in the various parts of the world. Specifically, with respect to Syria, we are there to ensure the enduring defeat of ISIS," Milley said. The United States' original objective going into Afghanistan on Oct. 7, 2001, was to prevent Afghanistan from ever again becoming a platform to launch terrorist attacks on the United States, and, to date, that has been successful, the general said.

"... [There] is only one way that [the Afghanistan war] is going to end and it is a negotiated solution with the Taliban and it is going to have to be an Afghan-to-Afghan solution. That is what we have been saying for years," Milley said.



Defense Secretary Dr. Mark T. Esper and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Army Gen. Mark A. Milley brief the media at the Pentagon, Dec. 20, 2019.

Photo By: Marine Corps Sgt. Warren Smith

Artificial Intelligence to be Used for Charting, Intel Collection
DEC. 13, 2019 | BY DAVID VERGUN , DOD NEWS
 Read This Article [Online](#)



Air National Guard intelligence analysts assigned to the 181st Intelligence Wing work on new developmental programs at the Hulman Field Indiana National Guard Base, Ind., Nov. 02, 2019.
 Photo By: Air Force Tech. Sgt. Luke Strum

Nautical, terrain and aeronautical charting is vital to the Defense Department mission. This job, along with collecting intelligence, falls to the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency. Two senior DOD officials think that artificial intelligence will aid NGA's mission.

Mark D. Andress, NGA's chief information officer, and Nand Mulchandani, chief technology officer from DOD's Joint Artificial Intelligence Center, spoke yesterday at the AFCEA International NOVA-sponsored 18th Annual Air Force Information Technology Day in Washington. The reason charts are so vital is that they enable safe and precise navigation, Andress said. They are also used for such things as enemy surveillance and targeting, as well as precision navigation and timing.

This effort involves a lot of data collection and analysis, which is processed and shared through the unclassified, secret or top secret networks, he said, noting that AI could assist them in this effort. The AI piece would involve writing smart algorithms that could assist data analysts and leader decision making, Andress said.

He added that the value of AI is that it will give analysts more time to think critically and advise policymakers while AI processes lower-order analysis that humans now do. There are several challenges to bringing AI into NGA, he observed.

One challenge is that networks handle a large volume of data that includes text, photos and livestream. The video streaming piece is especially challenging for AI because it's so complex, he said.

Andress used the example of an airman using positioning, navigation and timing, flying over difficult terrain at great speed and targeting an enemy. "An algorithm used for AI decision making that is 74% efficient is not one that will be put into production to certify geolocation because that's not good enough," he said.

Another problem area is that NGA inherited a large network architecture from other agencies that merged into NGA. They include these Defense Mapping Agency organizations:

- ◆ DMA Hydrographic Center
- ◆ DMA Topographic Center
- ◆ DMA Hydrographic/Topographic Center
- ◆ DMA Aerospace Center

The networks of these organizations were created in the 1990s and are vertically designed, he said, meaning not easily interconnected. That would prove a challenge because AI would need to process information from all of these networks to be useful.

Next, all of these networks need to continuously run since DOD operates worldwide 24/7, he said. Pausing the network to test AI would be disruptive. Therefore, Andress said AI prototype testing is done in pilots in isolated network environments.

However, the problem in doing the testing in isolation is the environments don't represent the real world they'll be used in, he said. Nonetheless, the testing, in partnership with industry, has been useful in revealing holes and problems that might prevent AI scalability.

Lastly, the acceptance of AI will require a cultural shift in the agency. NGA personnel need to be able to trust the algorithms. He said pilots and experimentation will help them gain that trust and confidence.

To sum up, Andress said AI will eventually become a useful tool for NGA, but incorporating it will take time. He said the JAIC will play a central role in helping the agency getting there. Mulchandani said the JAIC was set up last year to be DOD's coordinating center to help scale AI.

Using AI for things like health records and personnel matters is a lot easier than writing algorithms for things that NGA does, he admitted, adding that eventually it will get done. Mulchandani said last year, when he came to DOD from Silicon Valley, the biggest shock was having funding for work one day and then getting funding pulled the next due to continuing resolutions. He said legislators need to fix that so that AI projects that are vital to national security are not disrupted.

DECEMBER LUNCHEON PHOTOS



Tampa Chapter




MOAA
 Military Officers Association of America
 Chapter of the East Coast's
 Outstanding Public Service Award
 Since Tampa Chapter 1962, 2008-2017

View our Event Photo Gallery at MOAATampa.org!

DECEMBER OPERATION HELPING HAND DINNER PHOTOS



PHOTOS FROM AROUND THE WORLD (photos taken from <https://www.defense.gov/observe/photo-gallery/>)



The USS Carney travels alongside the Spanish frigate ESPS Alvaro de Bazan during a routine passing exercise in the Atlantic Ocean, Dec. 17, 2019.

Photo By: Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Fred Gray



Marines raise fuel lines to drain remaining fuel during a simulated airfield seizure at Ie Shima training facility in Okinawa, Japan, Dec. 10, 2019.

Photo By: Marine Corps Sgt. Audrey Rampton



Soldiers assigned to the Illinois National Guard move through smoke during a drill at the Marseilles Training Center in Marseilles, Ill., Dec. 11, 2019.

Photo By: Army Sgt. Stephen Gifford



Marines conduct maintenance on an M1A1 Abrams Tank during an exercise at Marine Corps Air-Ground Combat Center, Twentynine Palms, Calif., Dec. 13, 2019.

Photo By: Marine Corps Sgt. Miguel Rosales



Army paratroopers jump out of an aircraft at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska, Dec. 11, 2019.

Photo By: Justin Connaher, Air Force



Pearl Harbor survivor Don Long receives an American flag during remembrance ceremonies in Hawaii on the 78th anniversary of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, Dec. 7, 2019.

Photo By: Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class Aja Jackson



The USS Leyte Gulf sails in the Arabian Sea, Dec. 10, 2019, during its deployment to the U.S. 5th Fleet area of operations.

Photo By: Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class Darion Chanelle Triplett



Soldiers drive military vehicles to an explosives range at Al Asad Air Base, Iraq, Nov. 29, 2019. Explosive ordnance disposal soldiers use these ranges to provide controlled disposal of explosive ordnance.

Photo By: Army Spc. Derek Mustard



Matt Gormanous, a crew member of the Coast Guard cutter Stratton, holds his 16-month-old daughter in Alameda, Calif., Nov. 22, 2019, after returning from a deployment in the Western Pacific.

Photo By: Navy Senior Chief Petty Officer NyxoLynno Cangemi



Marine with Marine Rotational Force Europe 20.1, Marine Forces Europe and Africa, fires a shoulder-launched multipurpose assault weapon during a live-fire range in Setermoen, Norway, Nov. 6, 2019.

Photo By: Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Nathaniel Hamilton



Army paratroopers and Greek soldiers clear a building in Kilkis, Greece, Nov. 23, 2019, during Iron Sword, an exercise designed to strengthen interoperability between Greek and U.S. forces.

Photo By: Army Spc. Ryan Lucas



Naval Base Guam Harbor Security Forces escort the fast-attack submarine USS Topeka as it transits Apra Harbor to return to its home port in Guam, Dec. 20, 2019.

Photo By: Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class Randall W. Ramaswamy



MOAA TAMPA CHAPTER 2020 DUES RENEWAL FORM

DUES: \$25.00

DEADLINE FOR RENEWING MEMBERSHIP IS 1 JANUARY 2020

HELP US MAINTAIN A CURRENT MEMBERSHIP ROSTER BY UPDATING INFORMATION THAT HAS CHANGED SINCE LAST YEAR:

RANK, NAME, SERVICE: _____

DOB: _____

ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

PHONE NUMBER: CELL/HOME: _____

SPOUSE/SIGNIFICANT OTHER: _____

NO CHANGES: _____

Dues may be sent to the Membership Chairman at the following address **OR** delivered in person at a Chapter Luncheon.

MAILING ADDRESS:
COL. WILLIAM SCHNEIDER, USA (RET)
15888 Sanctuary Drive
Tampa, FL 33647-1076

Consider donating to our scholarship fund.

Amount Enclosed:	
Dues:	\$25.00
Scholarship:	\$ _____
TOTAL:	\$ _____

Make check(s) payable to: MOAA Tampa Chapter

NOTE: MOAA NATIONAL DUES MUST BE PAID SEPARATELY (<http://www.moaa.org>)

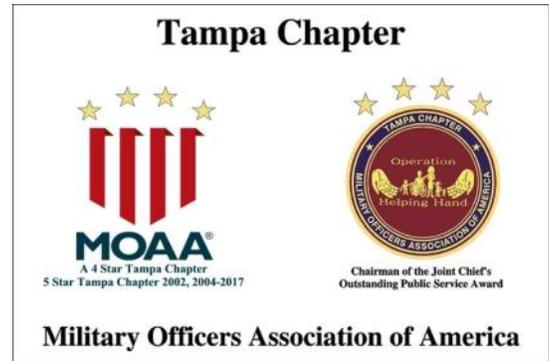


November 8, 2019

MOAA Tampa Chapter Membership Survey 2020: Change in luncheon location and speaker/topic suggestions

Dear MOAA Tampa Chapter Member,

In order to bring you the best value and even greater social experience during the MOAA Tampa Chapter Luncheons, the Board of Directors is considering changing the meeting location for the Chapter’s monthly luncheons.



Some of the reasons for changing the location are to:

- eliminate the need for vetting base access to members and guests to get on base
- improve the quality of the food and beverage service for the cost involved
- enhance the audiovisual support
- provide greater flexibility to accommodate the growing needs of our Chapter

We are interested in knowing how the general membership feels about meeting off base.

Please take a moment to complete your response below:

If you are in favor of moving the location, please recommend off-post venue(s)for the Board to consider. Provide the name of dining establishment, contact person and phone number or email (if known):

We are interested in your suggestions for specific topics or guest speakers that the Tampa Chapter Programs Officer consider for the calendar year 2020. Provide a BRIEF description of topic, contact person’s name and phone number/email address:

Your Name and Contact information: _____

Send your completed form/information to: Dick Siegman at dicknick2@msn.com or bring to the next Chapter Luncheon.

THANK YOU for your input.
MOAA Tampa Chapter Board

**SCHOLARSHIP ELIGIBILITY AND REQUIREMENTS
MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA TAMPA CHAPTER**

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

Be a dependent or grandchild of a member of the MOAA Tampa Chapter who has been in good standing for a minimum period of one year prior to the date of application. Be a graduating senior from a secondary school.

Have a GPA of 3.0 or higher OR documented IEP/504 Status.

Complete the Scholarship Application Form.

Attend the June 11, 2020, Luncheon & Awards Ceremony. Attendance is required by the **recipient or immediate family member** in order to receive the scholarship award.

REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS:

Submission of proof of Military Affiliation (DD214 or Military ID) of the sponsoring MOAA Tampa Chapter member as the applicant must be a depend or grandchild of a member of the MOAA Tampa Chapter.

Submission of proof of 3.0 GPA in the form of the high school transcript OR transcript and IEP/504.

Submission of two written letters of reference from someone other than a relative. References may be from teachers, school counselor, clergy, work supervisor, etc.

An acceptance letter from an accredited college, community college, or university with Student ID number included.

A letter **written by the student** in which he/she explains his/her goals, academic experience, and extracurricular activities.

A completed Scholarship Application Form (see Application on the web page). **No late documentation will be accepted.**

A color photo head shot or student senior picture (or a scanned photo sent via email in jpeg format).

The selection committee reserves the right to limit the scholarship awards to one per sponsor.

Submit completed application package by 1 April 2020 to:

MGEN (Ret) James G. Jones
15824 Sanctuary Drive
Tampa, FL 33647

**MOAA TAMPA CHAPTER
SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION**

Date of Application: _____

Name of Sponsor: _____

Date sponsor joined chapter: _____ Sponsor MOAA National # _____

Student Name: _____

Student Address: _____

City State Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Graduating School: _____

College Accepted: _____ Student ID #: _____

Academic Awards & Honors (Name & Year Received):

School Activities (Clubs, bands, athletics, etc. – Name & Year):

Other Extracurricular Activities, Community Activities (scouting, volunteering, employment, etc. – Name & Year):

Late or incomplete applications will not be considered.