

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT: COL CHARLES DALCOURT USA RET

# GREETINGS!



introduced to the Chapter at our last luncheon, and we look forward to meeting LTC JoAnn Enriquez (USAF Retired) soon.

We also enjoyed the return of our Coalition Officers to our monthly luncheons. Although BG Larsen, Chairman of the Coalition and the Danish Senior National Representative, has been a stalwart attendee and supporter of the Chapter throughout the pandemic, other officers in the Coalition have been unable to attend the luncheons due to COVID restrictions. In July, COL Hamid Kbiri and BG Eloy Maqueira, from Morocco and Spain respectively, joined us at the Columbia restaurant. It was incredible to have them in attendance, to touch Morocco and Spain from Tampa was great. We also witnessed how the room's architecture spoke to them both. The walls, pictures, and molding spawned conversations amongst attendees and highlighted similarities in cultures and tastes.

### Second Chance

In May, the Transition Committee launched an inaugural seminar titled "Thriving After Military Service." The seminars are day-long events that provide transitioning members a forum to learn and listen to discussion about topics not covered in other transition classes. The inaugural seminar was a very successful event that focused on family and community. Scheduled to occur quarterly, we are poised for round two. Paul McAneny and his team will host the second seminar on 19 August. Please contact Paul if you are interested in attending, assisting, or have ideas to contribute.

### Member of the Month

Our Honored Member of the Month for August

2021 is Lt Col Barbara Brotherton (USAF Retired). Barbara is an avid volunteer and a stalwart servant. She is actively engaged in myriad organizations across Tampa and graciously serves this Chapter when called. An encouragement to many, Barbara zealously attended the Chapter's meetings during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic via Zoom. Consistently present and willing to help, her passion to serve and willingness to help are attributes that set Barbara apart.

Please join us on 12 August at our monthly luncheon, in-person or virtually, and help us congratulate and thank Barbara. Also, please be sure to read Barbara's biographical information later in this newsletter. She has a very interesting story...must read.

### Closing Out

In closing, I am very appreciative of all who are fervently working across the Chapter on the initiatives we have introduced. We have made incredible progress this year and the Board of Directors ambitiously seeks to ensure the organization's efficient and effective operation. The deep dives into policies, the organization's structure, and the creation of new committees will gird progress and provide a framework for the Chapter's future.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, thank you for your service, sacrifice, and support. We walk expectantly into the future and promise our legacy will proclaim that we "Never Stop Serving."

All the best,  
Charles Dalcourt

Greetings and as always, it is my pleasure and privilege to write you this month. I pray that all of you and your families are well...that you are embracing the summer and the extended daylight it affords us.

### Lunch at the Columbia...

It has been a joy to see so many of you at our monthly luncheons. The camaraderie and esprit amongst members imbue the room and it has been refreshing to fellowship again over a good meal. I look forward to seeing many of you in the Siboney room and I encourage you to invite a guest.

We are excited to welcome several new members to the Chapter. COL Matthew Cogdell (USA Retired), LTC Mary Martin (USAF Retired), and LTC Steve Pecinovsky (USAF Retired) were

## UPCOMING EVENTS

5 Aug - 10:00 AM  
Board of Directors Meeting  
Safety Harbor

12 Aug - 11:30 AM  
Chapter Luncheon  
Columbia Restaurant Siboney Room  
[\(See page 6\)](#)

19 Aug - 9:00AM - 4:00PM  
"Thriving After Military Retirement"  
Transition Seminar at Five Labs,  
4115 W. Spruce Street, Tampa FL.  
[\(See page 10\)](#)

10 December - 6:00PM-10:00PM  
Winter Gala Save the Date  
For more info email:  
[TampaMOAA.Secretary@gmail.com](mailto:TampaMOAA.Secretary@gmail.com)  
[\(See page 6\)](#)

WANT TO PLACE AN AD  
[\(See page 6\)](#)

## REMINDER:

SUBMISSION DEADLINE  
FOR THE SEPTEMBER ISSUE IS

20 AUGUST 2021

Please submit articles in a Word  
Document and photos in JPEG

NOTICE: if you have a change of address, please notify our membership team--Bill Schneider at 813 977-2572  
[geowillyl@aol.com](mailto:geowillyl@aol.com) or Tom South  
[813 975-5025 tsouth1811@gmail.com](mailto:813 975-5025 tsouth1811@gmail.com)

## LEGISLATIVE LOWDOWN



BY LTC REGINALD WILLIAMS, USA RET

Greeting for August! This month as Congress goes into recess, the article will highlight the FY 2022 National Defense Authorization Act markup and schedule in preparation for meeting the October 1, 2021 deadline for becoming a law. Majority of the review and markups has been completed by both the House and Senate subcommittees/committees with a few more sessions remaining in the beginning of September. Your legislative affairs team is continuing to monitor efforts at the national and state levels and will continue to urge you to take action to advocate for those issues that are of concern to our servicemembers, veterans, retirees and dependents. So let's get right to it!

### NDAА 101: Understanding the FY 2022 Markup, Schedule, and More<sup>1</sup>

The House and Senate Armed Services Committees have started the process of marking up their chamber's version of the FY 2022 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). Both chambers aim to close out most of the markup process before Congress adjourns for its annual August recess and elected officials return to their home states, though other competing priorities on the Hill may change those plans.

The House already has introduced its version of the FY 2022 NDAA, containing topline funding for defense programs. As for the Senate, there is no publicly available version yet. However, this is not unusual; the bill worked on by the Senate Armed Services Committee will typically be formally introduced as the original version to the full Senate rather than being introduced prior to or during the subcommittee/committee markup process. Much of the authorizing process, under Senate rules, is done during closed sessions.

### What Is the Legislative Markup Process?

Consideration by committee is one of the first hurdles any bill, including the NDAA, must overcome in the legislative process. It is also the hurdle where most legislation stalls and, as a result, does not advance any farther.

Markup is the final step in the committee consideration phase of the legislative process: The subcommittees and full committees will deliberate the bill in session, then vote on whether to report it out of the subcommittee/full committee.

How hard is it to clear this hurdle? Of the 16,601 intro-

duced in the 116th Congress (2019-2020), only 344, or 2%, became enacted laws. That's down slightly from the 115th Congress, when 13,556 pieces of legislation were introduced and 443 were enacted, about 3%. This single-digit percentage has been the trend for the last five decades.

Despite these low numbers, Congress has successfully passed the NDAA into law for 60 consecutive years. There is no law that requires Congress do this; the NDAA is still just a bill, like any other piece of legislation.

Here's a list of the subcommittee/full committee markups set for the House and Senate Armed Services Committees:

- **Monday, July 19:** Senate subcommittees on Strategic Forces and Cybersecurity.
- **Tuesday, July 20:** Senate subcommittees on Readiness and Management Support, Personnel, Airland, Emerging Threats and Capabilities, and Seapower.
- **Wednesday, July 21:** Full Senate Armed Services Committee markup.
- **Wednesday, July 28:** House subcommittees on Cyber, Innovative Technologies, and Information Systems; Strategic Force; Seapower and Projection Forces; and Military Personnel.
- **Thursday, July 29:** House subcommittee on Tactical Air and Land Forces; Readiness; and Intelligence and Special Operations.
- **Wednesday, Sept. 1:** Full House Armed Services Committee Markup.

The NDAA is not a budget bill; unlike the 12 appropri-

*continued on next page*

tions bills, not passing the NDAA by Oct. 1 won't result in a funding lapse or a shutdown. However, the annual NDAA establishes new DoD policies and programs and can re-authorize programs set to expire; without timely passage of both appropriations and authorization legislation, significant issues can arise with the military pay raise, new quality-of-life programs for servicemembers and their families, and high-quality health care coverage, along with many other support programs and benefits necessary for an all-volunteer force.

What's Next From MOAA?

The NDAA markups are only the first step in the legislative process; the desired destination is the president's desk for signing, so that the FY 2022 NDAA can become law. MOAA will continue engaging with Congress and the executive branch to ensure our legislative priorities make it into the final version of this year's NDAA.

Below is where you come into action.

Support MOAA's NDAA Efforts

You can make your voice heard on these MOAA priorities by asking your lawmakers to co-sponsor bills addressing these issues in the current legislative session. The more support these bills have, the better the chance of their NDAA inclusion:

[Fix the TRICARE Young Adult Coverage Gap](#)

[Support the Military Hunger Prevention Act](#)

[Support Concurrent Receipt](#)

[Support Legislation Extending TRICARE Coverage to Certain 'Gray Area' Retirees](#)

[Support the Military Retiree Survivor Comfort Act](#)

[Secure Health Care for Servicemembers in the Selected Reserve](#)

[Support the Retained Skilled Veterans Act](#)

**TRICARE and Benefit Improvements, Pay Raise Top MOAA's NDAA Priority List<sup>2</sup>**

The FY 2022 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) timeline is now clear, with the House and Senate schedules released and DoD's "by request" bill introduced by the House. The Senate Armed Services Committee is scheduled to do a full committee markup July 21, followed by the House Armed Services Committee on Sept. 1.

The dates are later than last year's markups (Senate in early June, House on July 1), with delays in the NDAA process the downstream effects of administration turnover delays and a late presidential budget. Passing the NDAA by the new fiscal year looks increasingly unlikely.

As the committees prepare, here are some of the many issues MOAA's Government Relations team would like to see addressed in this year's NDAA. In some cases, links are provided to bills which already take on these concerns and could be added to the NDAA text:

Active Component

- **Military Pay:** A full pay raise of 2.7% for servicemembers – given the president's budget requested this figure, it is unlikely Congress will reduce this number. However, we will watch closely to ensure the troops get their full raise.
- **SGLI:** It has been over a decade since the maximum policy amount for Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance has been increased, and improvements must be made to keep up with inflation. A bipartisan bill addressed by MOAA ([H.R. 3793](#)) would make this change.
- **Parental Leave/Postpartum Policies:** Legislation such as the Military Moms Matter Act ([R. 3047](#)) and the Ser-

vicemember Parental Leave Equity Act ([H.R. 3122](#) and [S. 1571](#)) would expand parental leave, increase the recovery time before a physical fitness test is required for active duty mothers, and create a pilot program to streamline the postpartum appointment process. These changes would bring parental leave offered to servicemembers in line with federal benefits and options provided by many private, large employers.

Reserve Component

- **Incentive Pay Parity, Including Aviation Incentive Pay:** MOAA backed the National Guard and Reserve Incentive Pay Parity Act ([S. 1859](#)) and seeks the inclusion of this bill in the NDAA to tackle this issue.
- **Ending Forced Arbitration:** MOAA signed The Military Coalition letter supporting the Protecting the Employment Rights of Service Members Act ([H.R. 2195](#)), a bipartisan bill that would ensure service members can enforce their rights under the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA) and avoid being sent through private arbitration systems because of fine print in an employment contract or other agreement. MOAA is working to prevent this provision from being stripped out by the Senate, as in previous years.
- **Standardized Discharge Form:** The Record of Military Service for Members of the Armed Forces Act of 2021 ([S. 1291](#)) would reduce paperwork burdens as reserve component servicemembers seek their earned veterans benefits.

Health Care

- **TRICARE Young Adult Coverage:** Premium-free TRICARE young adult coverage up to age 26 would bring TRICARE in line with requirements for commercial health plans. This issue is addressed in the Health Care Fairness for Military Families Act ([H.R. 475](#) and [S. 1972](#)) and is part of MOAA's ongoing [Advocacy in Action](#) campaign.
- **Reserve Component Care:** Enhancements to health care benefits for these servicemembers – including zero out-of-pocket cost medical and dental care; TRICARE eligibility for "gray area" Reserve Component retirees receiving retirement pay due to deployment credits; and an accelerated fix making Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHBP)-eligible federal employees eligible for TRICARE Reserve Select – are part of the Healthcare for Our Troops Act ([H.R. 3512](#)).
- **Mental Health Access:** Improved access to mental health care within the military health system, including a mental health schedulers pilot; a utilization report on impact of copay increases on mental health access; and a reduction in mental health copays.

Families

- **Basic Needs Allowance:** The Military Hunger Prevention Act, bipartisan legislation in the House and Senate ([H.R. 2339](#) and [S. 1488](#)), would provide an estimated \$400 monthly subsidy to servicemembers with a household gross income (not including the Basic Allowance for Housing, or BAH) at or below 130% of their location's poverty line, as well as financial education resources. This has also been part of MOAA's Advocacy in Action efforts.
- **Spouse Employment and Child Care Improvements:** MOAA seeks legislation adding military Spouses to the Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC) and authorizing servicemembers to establish dependent care flexible spending accounts (DCFSA). In order to be included in this year's NDAA, the House Ways and Means Committee would have to waive jurisdiction, which is unlikely. If not included in the NDAA, MOAA will continue to push for passage as a standalone bill ([H.R. 148](#) and [S. 1532](#)).

Retirees

- **Concurrent Receipt:** Correct concurrent receipt for combat-injured servicemembers through passage of the Major Richard Star Act ([H.R. 1282](#) and [S. 344](#)).
- **180-Day Rule:** Support a servicemember's transition by repealing the 180-day rule, a policy which limits federal employment options for servicemembers. MOAA has backed the Retain Skilled Veterans Act ([H.R. 4031](#) and [S. 2161](#)), which would make the needed changes.

Survivors

- **DFAS Recoupment:** MOAA seeks to support survivors by backing legislation that would end recoupment of a fallen servicemember's last paycheck by the Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS). The Military Survivor Comfort Act ([H.R. 2214](#) and [S. 1669](#)) would reform this process with gradual repayments and the option to appeal for debt forgiveness.

The momentum from this year's Advocacy in Action campaign have certainly made a difference on many of the key issues that MOAA hopes to be included in this year's final bill. Continued grassroots support will be key to getting these items over the finish line and enacted to support our troops, families, retirees, and their survivors.

**Attention, Shoppers: Help MOAA Build a Better Commissary Benefit<sup>3</sup>**

Protecting your earned commissary benefit has been a MOAA priority for decades. One of many examples: The *Retired Officers Association Bulletin* from the fourth quarter of 1949 took aim at proposed cuts to the benefit at the behest of private merchants, going so far as to ask these business-owners if they "might show a more generous attitude toward those who would again, if necessary, be expected to safeguard their personal interests."

In recent years, MOAA has fought to ensure any plans to merge the commissary and exchange systems keep the shopping benefit strong, prioritize beneficiaries over savings, and [address issues](#) with the initial business case analysis.

Many of these advocacy efforts, both recently and over past decades, involve budgetary and bureaucratic concerns. But just as important to the benefit are plans by the Defense Commissary Agency (DeCA) to modernize its operations – from [curbside pickups](#) to expanded store-brand items and other changes you'll see on your regular grocery run.

And that's where MOAA needs your help.

As we work to provide DeCA officials with feedback on these efforts, we need to hear from you – on-the-ground intel regarding what's changing at your store, what challenges remain, and what issues you see as critical to maintaining and improving your shopping benefit.

Not a regular shopper? We want to hear from you, too – what turned you off to your local store? Are there ways the commissary could get your business back? What are your local private-sector groceries doing that you wish you'd see on base?

Share your experiences, good and bad, by sending an email to [legis@moaa.org](mailto:legis@moaa.org) with the word "commissary" in the subject line. Your feedback helps MOAA advocate for a better, more modern shopping benefit for all eligible patrons.

Please remember to take action! [Visit MOAA's Take Action Center](#)

Sources:

- 1) [www.moaa.org](http://www.moaa.org), article by Brenden McMahan, July 19, 2021
- 2) [www.moaa.org](http://www.moaa.org), article by MOAA Government Relations Staff, July 13, 2021
- 3) [www.moaa.org](http://www.moaa.org), article by MOAA Staff, July 07, 2021

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



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## 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 MOAA and their surviving spouses.

## Tampa Chapter



5 Star MOAA Chapter  
2002, 2004-2017, 2019



2020 Recipient of the  
5 Star Col. Marvin J. Harris  
Communications Award



Chairman of the Joint Chief's  
Outstanding Public Service Award

**Military Officers Association of America**

## TAMPA CHAPTER MISSION:

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.

## GENERAL CONTACT INFO:

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## August Luncheon Guest Speaker: Vice Admiral (VADM) James Malloy, Deputy Commander, U.S. Central Command (Rescheduled from July)



**VADM James Malloy** is a native of Silver Spring, Maryland and a 1986 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy. He holds a Master of Science in Systems Technology (Command, Control and Communications) from the Naval Post Graduate School; a Master of Science in National Security Strategy from the National War College and a Master of Health Sciences in Emergency and Disaster Management from Touro University.

His sea tours include assignments onboard USS Deyo (DD 989), USS Fahrion (FFG 22) and USS Benfold (DDG 65). He deployed in command of

both USS Falcon (MHC 59) and USS Pinckney (DDG 91), guiding Pinckney through her maiden deployment. He commanded Destroyer Squadron 50 as commander, Middle East Force (CTF 55) and commander, Coalition Task Group 152.1 operating at sea and from naval command centers in Kuwait, Bahrain, and the United Arab Emirates.

Ashore, VADM Malloy served as the Navy theater missile defense officer

and commander in chief operations briefer at U.S. Central Command (J3) in Tampa, Florida. Following the 9/11 terror attack, he established U.S. Naval Forces Central Command Friendly Forces Coordination Cell in Bahrain, as deputy for the operational liaison staff.

Other staff assignments include flag aide to Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Central Command/U.S. 5th Fleet in Bahrain; initial requirements officer for the Littoral Combat Ship on the staff of the Chief of Naval Operations, Surface Warfare Directorate (N86); head, Washington Placement Branch at Naval Personnel Command (PERS 441) and assistant deputy director, Politico-Military Affairs in the Strategic Plans and Policy Directorate (J5) on the Joint Staff.

As a flag officer, his tours include deputy director of operations, U.S. Central Command (J3); commander, Carrier Strike Group 10, deploying with USS Dwight D. Eisenhower (CVN 69) to U.S. European Command and U.S. Central Command areas of responsibility in support of Operation Inherent Resolve; vice director for operations, the Joint Staff (J3); deputy chief of naval operations for Operations, Plans and Strategy (N3/N5); and commander, U.S. Naval Forces, U.S. Central Command, U.S. 5th Fleet, Combined Maritime Forces.

VADM Malloy began serving as deputy commander, U.S. Central Command September 21, 2020.

## Notes from the Editor: CAPT Sara Marks, NC, USN (Ret)



As I write my editor comments, I'm in Denver after completing a tour of four National Parks in the state of Colorado. When I reflect on the beauty and grandeur of the mountains, streams, history and majesty of each National Park I can only say that I'm in awe of God's creation and realize just how small we all are in comparison

to the mountains and canyons that have evolved over the last 2 billion years. What also amazes me is that it took small consistent and persistent efforts of many factors, to include lichen slowly breaking down rocks, the flow of water over long periods of time to widen canyons and many other acts of nature to change the landscape over millions and, yes, 2 billion years. Think about that! So, I gently lead you into thinking about what you can contribute to this life and consider what you can contribute to our MOAA Tampa Chapter. I don't think it will take millions of years to effect change for our chapter and community, but by contributing what you can WILL make a tremendous positive difference. Make sure to read about the positive effects of volunteering in the Medical Corner and provided in this newsletter is information on positions that our chapter needs volunteers to fill.

Looking forward to our next luncheon, Vice Admiral Malloy, Deputy Commander of CENTCOM rescheduled his talk from our luncheon in July, and we are thrilled that he is able to come this month. We look forward to hearing about his perspective on CENTCOM and current world events.

Paul McAneny graciously stepped in last month and provided valuable estate planning information. Paul, a very busy man, is also working on the second "Thriving After Military Retirement" seminar that will be held 19 August from 9:00AM – 4:00PM. Be sure to read the newsletter for further details. I do need to make a correction from last month's newsletter. Paul is the Program Lead for Transitions Committee. The Community Outreach is another standing committee

that has yet to have an identified lead. Again, take a moment to review our chapter organization and open positions.

As I prepare for each edition of The Retrospect, I always love talking to our members highlighted each month in our newsletter. Our chapter wouldn't be successful without you. Our Member of the Month, voted by the chapter's board of directors, recognizes "excellence of service" of individuals in the MOAA Tampa chapter. Our honorary August, Member of the Month, is LtCol Barbara Brotherton, USAF, Ret for her patriotism and outstanding service in support of the MOAA Tampa Chapter. One of the most unassuming people I've met, she has done so much for our chapter, to include participating with Buddy Calls last Fall and working in the Florida Council of Chapters Convention hosted by MOAA Tampa in 2019. You'll love reading about her Navy experience. I know I did! Also take the time to read about our Chapter Member Spot-light, CAPT Steve Swift, USNR, Ret. Steve, you've had an amazing career, and you're still active in so many community endeavors, both local and at large.

Lots of important dates in the month of August. Read more about Coast Guard Day, Navajo Code Talkers Day and National Airborne Day. And did you know that August 10th is the DoD's birthday? Read all about it! Check out the Coalition Corner Quiz this month and see if you can answer the questions.

Chapter Members, this is your newsletter so please share your stories, including such topics as military history, individual biographies, the role of military spouses, special events of interest to members, any vignettes of military or veterans service, holiday, commemorative or celebratory themes, etc. Send me your stories! "Life's most persistent and urgent question is, What are you doing for others?" – Martin Luther King, Jr.

Let us never forget. - NEVER STOP SERVING!

Sara Marks, CAPT NC USN (Ret)

THE RETROSPECT is published monthly by the Tampa Chapter of the Military Officer's Association of America (MOAA), P.O. Box 6383, MacDill Air Force Base, FL 33608-0383. The Tampa Chapter is a 501 (c) (19) tax exempt veterans organization not associated with the Department of Defense and is an affiliate of

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OUR EDITORIAL POLICY:

MOAA National, the Florida Council of Chapters, and the Tampa Chapter are nonpartisan organizations. Our chapter membership is open to all Military officers (Commissioned and warrant), including Active Duty, National Guard, Reserve, former officers, and spouses/surviving spouses of military officers.

**Our luncheon meetings are held 1130 hours every second Thursday of each month at the Colombia Restaurant Sibodney Room in Ybor City and available to attend via Zoom.**

ON THE WEB:

Tampa Chapter <http://moaatampa.org>

Communications directed to specific board members may be made by accessing their contact information listed under "ABOUT MOAA TAMPA CHAPTER" and "LEADERSHIP."

A password protected MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY is posted on the website under the "MEMBERSHIP" category.

FL COUNCIL of CHAPTERS: [www.moaafi.org](http://www.moaafi.org)

MOAA NATIONAL: [www.moaa.org](http://www.moaa.org)

OPERATION HELPING HAND: [www.operationhelpinghandtampa.com](http://www.operationhelpinghandtampa.com)

TAKE ACTION: <http://www.moaa.org/Content/Take-Action/Top-Issues/Top-Issues.aspx>

As a member of MOAA, you are entitled to exclusive member benefits and discounts. Find out more about our member-only services and offers or explore the topics that most interest you.

# UPDATE OPERATION HELPING HAND

On JULY 31, MR. JOE BATTLE officially retires as the DIRECTOR OF THE JAMES A HALEY VA HOSPITAL. Our Heartfelt thanks for your untiring support, active participation, and dynamic leadership enabling OPERATION HELPING HAND to perform our mission of supporting the active duty wounded and injured and their families while at the JAMES A. HALEY VA HOSPITAL. In recognition of his dedication of OPERATION HELPING HAND, the EXECUTIVE COUNCIL has voted to make him an honorary member of the EXECUTIVE COUNCIL. This proclamation will be placed on the OPERATION HELPING HAND/MOAA wall across from the HEROE'S CAFÉ.

OPERATION HELPING HAND is expanding its mission. In addition to providing assistance to the families of the active duty wounded and injured patients at the JAMES A HALEY VA HOSPITAL, we will also provide assistance to veterans of all wars who utilize the JAH SCI for their primary source of rehabilitation. OPERATION HELPING HAND will further assist the JAH VA in obtaining any needed rehab equipment, special VA hospital enhancement projects, and will continue to fully support the dynamic art, music, and virtual reality therapy programs. This, of course, includes the continued support and funding for the POLYTRAUMA FAMILY SUPPORT GROUP.

OPERATION HELPING HAND remains an all volunteer 501(c)(3) organization, in which 96.5% of all donations received goes for the support of these vital projects.

OPERATION HELPING HAND will need your continued support to allow us to continue our vital program of service to our wounded and injured and their families. This support can be through donations by checks or by using our website: ([OPERATIONHELPINGHANDTAMPA.COM](http://OPERATIONHELPINGHANDTAMPA.COM)).

STAY SAFE, HEALTHY AND RESILIENT!

OUR TREMENDOUS GROUP OF VOLUNTEERS MAKE ALL OF THIS POSSIBLE!

**Here are easy ways you can help...**

#### Give Supplies

- Rental or leased cars
- Cell phones or phone cards
- Amusement park, movie, dinner tickets
- Restaurant or food market gift certificates
- Any comfort or recreation items that will make their stay here in Tampa more enjoyable
- Bus or taxi gift cards
- Gasoline gift cards

Your support in this very worthwhile operation will definitely help the wounded or injured service members and their families.



LTC JIM GRIFFIN  
Chairman, OPHH

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



Calling Tampa MOAA members who work for local, national and international corporations. How would you like to see your corporation's logo in the March 22, 2022 Bob Silah Memorial Golf Tournament at MacDill AFB? Plan early, Contact [tigerpaw65@verizon.net](mailto:tigerpaw65@verizon.net).



## AUGUST CHAPTER MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

### CAPT Steve Swift, USNR (Ret)



A native of Syracuse, New York, CAPT Steve Swift graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1987. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering and a Master of Business Administration from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

From 1987-1989, he attended Nuclear Power School and Prototype, and Submarine Officer School. He was then assigned to the USS Seahorse (SSN-669) at Charleston, S.C. where he received his Submarine Officer Warfare pin. In 1992, CDR Swift was assigned to Submarine Officer School, in Groton, CT, where he taught Submarine Officer Basic and Advanced course, and obtained his Master Training Specialist (MTS) certification, and where he was named instructor of the year.

After successful tours he left active duty to pursue a career in business with American Power Conversion as the Florida State Sales Engineer, IKON – Technology Services, as a Regional Manager, and Progress Energy as a District Operations Manager.

CAPT Swift resumed his Navy career as a Reserve Intelligence Officer and in 1998 as he was assigned to US Central Command Intelligence 108 at MacDill AFB, FL, where he served as the Operations Officer. In 2001, following 9/11 he was mobilized to US Central Command Joint Intelligence Center in the Horn of Africa Analyst Branch, where he was the lead Maritime Interdiction Op-

erations Officer for the Intelligence Directorate.

Following his mobilization, in late 2002, he was selected as Executive Officer of Commander, U.S. Atlantic Fleet Intelligence unit 0274 at Naval Station Mayport, FL. Following a successful one-year tour, in late 2003, he was selected to be the Director of Basic Reserve Intelligence Training (BRIT) for Reserve Intelligence Area Thirteen (RIA-13) at NAS Jacksonville, FL. During this assignment, he was again mobilized to US Central Command in the Intelligence Directorate Targets Branch, where he was a major contributor to Time Sensitive Targeting while standing watch as the lead JIOC watch stander for Operation ENDURING FREEDOM and IRAQI FREEDOM. He was then the team lead for Counter-Terrorism targets, culminating with a four-month tour in Bagram, Afghanistan with the Joint Intelligence Agency Task Force.

In 2006, he returned to the Central Command Intelligence Reserve unit, and was then selected to be Executive Officer of Central Command Intelligence Unit 174 at MacDill AFB, Tampa.

Following a successful XO tour, in 2009, he was selected to be the Commanding Officer of STRATOM Cruise Missile Support Activity, Atlantic in Norfolk, VA. Following this high op-tempo tour, he was selected to lead the Naval Criminal Investigative Service 1274 as Commanding Officer in December 2011, culminating with the unit selection as the national small unit O'Connell award recipient for 2013. CAPT Swift was then selected for his third Commanding Officer tour as Commanding Officer of NR JICCEN 0274 in Jacksonville, Florida. He completed his 30 year career in 2017 as a member on the Information Warfare Community national staff.

In his civilian career, CAPT Swift transitioned from the

corporate world to the government world in 2007 and retired as a Defense Intelligence Agency team lead at Central Command Intelligence Plans Directorate as a lead planner for J2 Plans Central in late 2016.

In addition to his retiring out of Central Command and the Navy in 2016 and 2017 respectively, he served (and continues to serve) as the U.S. Naval Academy Blue & Gold Officer Area Coordinator for Area #213 (Greater Tampa Bay area), and he sat on the Area Coordinator Steering Committee as the Southeast representative, advising the Dean of Admissions and helping coordinate field activities from 2011-2020, culminating as the chairman (responsible for 2200 BGOs across the country) in his final three years in his final term. He is the correspondence director for the USNA Tampa Bay Alumni Chapter, and when Tampa Bay was selected as one of 13 out of 102 chapters as a Distinguished Chapter, and he was selected to represent the chapter as a Trustee on the national USNA Alumni Association Board.

Steve lives in Brandon, FL (east Tampa) with his wife Kris (married 25+ years) and his dog. He enjoys traveling on cruises and competing in and coaching those that compete in endurance triathlons, swimming and running events, as he is a certified USAT triathlon and RRCA running coach. He also supports the Navy SEAL Foundation every year by raising significant funds and swimming across Tampa Bay in the Frogman 5k+ Swim every year since 2010 (one of two swimmers to have swum every year)

Steve has coordinated charity donations from the Brandon Running Association from their annual Shamrock 5k and 10k runs to support OPERATION Helping Hand in the past 2 years that they have held the race.



## AUGUST LUNCHEON MEETING

**EVENT:** Chapter Monthly Luncheon Meeting  
**DATE:** Thursday, 12 August **TIME:** 1130 hours  
**LOCATION:** Columbia Restaurant, Siboney Room 2117 E 7th Ave, Ybor City  
**RESERVATIONS:** Call 813-676-4676 and follow prompts OR via email at:  
[moaatampa.reservations@gmail.com](mailto:moaatampa.reservations@gmail.com)



REMEMBER a reservation made is a reservation paid.  
 Reservations must be made by NOON Friday, 6 August. Reservations are limited to 60.  
**CANCELLATIONS** must be made by NOON Monday, 9 August by calling 813-676-4676  
**COST:** Event cost \$30 payable by check or with cash. **MASKS:** Masks are optional.

**DRESS CODE:** During periods when Daylight Savings is in effect, proper attire is business casual (slacks/shirts with collar).  
**MENU:** 1905 Salad, Cuban Bread and butter, Arroz con Pollo, Snapper "A la Rusa", Seasonal Fresh Vegetables, Black Beans, Platanos, Coffee, Iced Tea, Soft drinks and Dessert

**PARKING:** Across the street from and behind the Columbia Restaurant

Luncheon reminders are sent via email. If you are not receiving the reminders, please call 813-948-7539 or send an email to [lutzgranny89@gmail.com](mailto:lutzgranny89@gmail.com) to be added to the distribution list.

If you are unable to attend in person, the luncheon meeting will be available via ZOOM:  
 One Tap Mobile: US: [+13126266799](tel:+13126266799), [98144698442](tel:+198144698442)#, ..., \*995165# or [+16465588656](tel:+16465588656), [98144698442](tel:+198144698442)#, ..., \*995165#

Meeting URL: <https://triple-strand-global-solutions.zoom.us/j/98144698442?pwd=MkU1WlJDMWFjeGljY0VQQTY5b3NwZz09&from=addon#success>

Meeting ID: 981 4469 8442 Passcode: 995165

## 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:

[TampaMOAA.Secretary@gmail.com](mailto:TampaMOAA.Secretary@gmail.com)

CDR Geoff Harrington USNR, Ret, Sick Call Chairman



### Smile.Amazon and The MOAA Foundation

Do you ordinarily order from Amazon.com? Want to do some good while you shop? Use Smile.Amazon.com (not

Amazon.com) and let Amazon contribute to The MOAA Foundation. Why The MOAA Foundation – because it provides assistance to over 100,000 military and veteran families and their survivor each year! All you do is go to smile.amazon.com, enter your Amazon email address or your mobile phone number and your password, select The MOAA Foundation as your charity, and place your order as usual. Not a different password to remember!

Amazon contributes 0.5% of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the MOAA Foundation. The MOAA Foundation (TMF, EIN 46-4219250), a 501c(3) charitable subsidiary of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA), offers grants to MOAA, its councils and chapters in support of career development and community outreach programs and services.

If you want to see more about the Foundation, go to the MOAA site, [www.MOAA.org](http://www.MOAA.org) (at the home page, go to the bottom and select the Site Map to find the MOAA Foundation).

### Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (TAPS)

is heading to Jacksonville, FL in August for our Southeast Regional Seminar and Good Grief Camp, and we're recruiting volunteers to support the families of the fallen. Here's how you can help...

- Seminar pack-in/pack-out
- Registration set-up / Family check-in
- On-site logistic support

Interested? [SIGN UP ONLINE HERE](#) or contact [lauren.griffin@taps.org](mailto:lauren.griffin@taps.org)

TAPS also invites those currently serving in the military and veterans to volunteer as a Military Mentor for Good Grief Camp at this event: <https://www.taps.org/mentors/2021/southeast>

We would love to have you join us to volunteer at this event. Thanks for your continued support as we care for the families of the fallen.



## IMPORTANT DATES IN AUGUST 2021

Antiterrorism Awareness Month	10 Agent Orange Awareness Day
1 Air Force Day	14 Navajo Code Talkers Day
4 Coast Guard Day	16 National Airborne Day
7 Purple Heart Day	29 Marine Corps Reserve Birthday
10 U. S. Department of Defense Birthday	

## WANT TO ADVERTISE IN THE RETROSPECT OR KNOW A BUSINESS THAT DOES!!!

Annual Subscription 1 July - 30 June  
 1/2 Page Ad: \$1000 • 1/4 Page Ad: \$500  
 1/8 Page Ad: \$250  
 E-Mail: [TampaMOAA.Secretary@gmail.com](mailto:TampaMOAA.Secretary@gmail.com)

# SAVE *The* DATE



INAUGURAL FUNDRAISER

# WINTER Gala

THE TAMPA CHAPTER OF THE  
 MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

FRIDAY DECEMBER 10, 2021

6:00PM - 10:00PM

Private COUNTRY CLUB  
 1601 S MacDILL AVE  
 TAMPA, FL 33629

TAMPA CHAPTER'S COMMUNITY OUTREACH INITIATIVES IN SUPPORT OF:  
 HOMELESS VETERANS IN THE LOCAL AREA  
 THE VETERANS TREATMENT COURT  
 TRANSITION OF MILITARY VETERANS RELEASED FROM ACTIVE DUTY OR RECENTLY RETIRED  
 SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS APPLICABLE TO COLLEGE/ TRADE OR VOCATION SCHOOLS  
 FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 813.681.9602 OR EMAIL [TAMPAMOAA.SECRETARY@GMAIL.COM](mailto:TAMPAMOAA.SECRETARY@GMAIL.COM)  
[WWW.MOAAATAMPA.ORG](http://WWW.MOAAATAMPA.ORG)

# July Luncheon Photos

Photo credits: Bob Sawallesh and Sara Marks

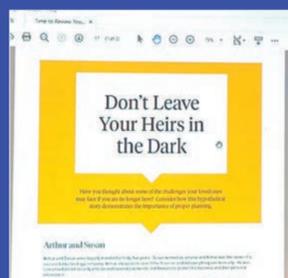


## July Luncheon Guest Speaker: LTC Paul McAneny, USAF Ret

Paul McAneny graciously agreed to step in at the last minute as the guest speaker. He presented very pertinent information for estate planning from both a financial and emotional perspective. It's not something any of us like to dwell on or think about, but once we make plans and are realistic about what must be done it can bring peace of mind and be a great gift to our heirs.

Thank you Paul for presenting such valuable information for all ages.

Paul is a Financial Professional with 1847 Financial.



## FOOD TO SHARE WITH OUR HOMELESS IN TAMPA

—By Sara Marks, CAPT NC USN (Ret)

We are blessed to have such wonderful food at our monthly luncheons. After each luncheon the food from the buffet that we couldn't possibly finish, the Columbia boxes up for us so we can share with those in need. After July's luncheon, Paula Stewart, with the help of Reggie Williams and Geoff Harrington, ensured that the rest of the buffet was distributed to the homeless near her church in downtown Tampa. Let us always remember those less fortunate than us.



## CHAPTER MEMBER OF THE MONTH LTCOL BARBARA BROTHERTON, USAF RET

I was born and raised in Chicago. When I graduated from high school, my mother and I decided to move out west since my father had passed away and we wanted a change. When going to college in San Francisco, I was planning on being a social worker in California. Then, before starting my senior year, my mother decided she wanted to return to Chicago – so off we went. It wasn't until my second semester of my senior year when I started receiving letters from the various branches of the military inviting me to join. The information was truly stimulating and the idea of social work suddenly took a back seat. Since I don't look good in green, I scratched the army and marine corps. That left the Navy and Air Force (and I do like blue!). Since I'm not a big fan of water, the Air Force won and I began to dream of seeing the world. I signed up in 1966 and where do you think my first duty assignment was – Scott AFB in Illinois! Since I wasn't very far from St Louis, I just pretended I was actually living in Missouri!

Career-wise, I started out in Personnel, which I did like, but then was switched over to Administration for my next assignment. Elmendorf AFB was opening up to women and they wanted a woman officer to sort of be a "Mother Hen" to the enlisted females so I received a job as a Squadron Admin Officer on the base. Administration then became my specialty. My follow-on assignments were then in Administration as Chief of Central Base Administration at three different bases, starting out at a rather small base (Williams), then moving to a medium-sized base (back to Elmendorf) and then to a large base (Offutt). After being at Offutt for a while, I was moved up to Headquarters SAC to be the Chief of Reprographics. After my tour ended, I was sent to an Army post, Fort Meade, to work at a tri-service organization as the Chief of Resource Management - which I definitely enjoyed. Lastly, I was sent to Patrick AFB as the Executive Officer to the Wing Commander – a position that was great as it gave me the opportunity to learn more about the Space Program. And there was where I retired.

Since retiring I have kept very busy with outside activities. For a while I was quite active with Meals on Wheels, Keep Brevard Beautiful and church activities. Now that I'm here in Tampa I'm busy, again, with various church activities including, but not limited to, singing in the choir and playing in the bell choir. Also, I've recently gotten involved in becoming a Red Cross volunteer concentrating on Service to the Armed Forces. In addition, I'm a participant in a University of South Florida study seeking to determine if Alzheimer's can be prevented through cognitive training. With all of these and many other outside avenues available to all of us, there is no time to be bored.

I shall always be grateful for all the wonderful opportunities I received both on active duty throughout my 25 plus years and as a retiree. How I appreciate the world that has opened up to me through all the beautiful people I have come in contact with throughout my life. What a joy it has been!!



# Coalition Corner

Submitted by: **BGEN Henrik Larsen**



Dear MOAA Members,

It was a great pleasure being able to bring my colleagues from Spain and Morocco along to attend the monthly MOAA luncheon. They truly enjoyed participating and being introduced to MOAA.

Next time I will be bringing the Senior Representatives from Sweden and Uzbekistan along.

We are all doing great here at the Coalition with US Central Command enjoying our regained freedom of movement.

The Coalition is currently 46 nation strong dealing with the activities related to the ongoing missions in the US CENTCOM area of responsibility. As you are all aware the Resolute Support Mission in Afghanistan has been concluded. The command of the residual engagement in Afghanistan has been transferred to Commander CENTCOM. Obviously we are still monitoring the situation closely. We keep our fingers crossed and hope that the ongoing peace talks between the Government of Afghanistan and the Taliban in some way will provide a prosperous future for the Afghanistan. They truly deserve that after almost 40 years of conflicts.

For the August edition of the Retrospect I offer an opportunity for you to test your knowledge about the nations of the Coalition. Enjoy and stay safe!

## Test your knowledge....

...about the nations associated with the Coalition at US CENTCOM.

### Category A: The nations inside the US CENTCOM area of responsibility

**1. Kabul in Afghanistan was located strategically along the ancient Silk Road. In the 18th century, Kabul became the capital of Afghanistan. Kabul is believed to have been existing for many years, but for how many years has Kabul been around?**

- a) 1500    b) 2500    or    c) 3500

**2. There are currently 20 nations inside the US CENTCOM area of responsibility. How many of those are monarchies?**

- a) 4    b) 7    or    c) 9

**3. Except for the emblem the flag of Iraq is similar to the flags of?**

- a) Yemen, Egypt and Syria    b) Egypt and Syria or
- c) Syria



### Category B: The US CENTCOM Coalition nations (currently 45)

**4. This opera house is a great architectural work of the 20th century. The architect was from Denmark, but where can you visit the opera house?**

- a) Copenhagen, Denmark    b) Madrid, Spain    or
- c) Sydney, Australia



**5. This building is very close tip over. You can still enter the tower if you dare. If you want to do this challenge you would have to visit the leaning tower in?**

- a) Amman, Jordan    b) Pisa, Italy    or    c) Ankara, Turkey



**6. Which nations possess the oldest national flag in the world?**

- a) Denmark    b) Egypt    or    c) England

### Category C: Famous Brands:

**7. The wooden shoes - or wood clogs became the most common work shoe in Europe throughout the Industrial Revolution era, but where do they originate from?**

- a) Germany    b) Lebanon    or    c) The Netherlands



**8. Kia Corporation is Korea's oldest manufacturer of motor vehicles – now part of part of the dynamic, global Hyundai-Kia Automotive Group – the world's fifth largest vehicle manufacturer. Kia was founded in?**

- a) 1944    b) 1954    or    c) 1964

**9. LEGO, plastic building-block toys that rose to massive popularity in the mid-20th century. It all started back in 1932. Today there is a Legoland Theme Park very close to Tampa. Where does LEGO originates from?**

- a) The Netherlands    b) Denmark    or    c) Germany



And...this one is for free. French Fries originates from Belgium

1. 3500 years / 2. 7 (Bahrain, Kuwait, Jordan, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Qatar and United Arab Emirates / 3. Yemen, Egypt and Syria / 4. Sydney, Australia / 5. Ankara, Turkey / 6. Denmark (it is believed to have been in existence since June 15, 1219 though it was officially recognized as the national flag in 1625) / 7. The Netherlands / 8. 1944 / 9. Denmark

# 19 Military Athletes to Represent U.S. at Tokyo Olympics

<https://www.defense.gov/Explore/News/Article/Article/2690855/19-military-athletes-to-represent-us-at-tokyo-olympics/> — Submitted by Bob Sawallesh, LTC, USA, Ret

Seventeen soldiers, one Marine and one Coast Guardsman have earned spots in the delayed 2020 Olympics in Tokyo. The games, which were postponed last year due to COVID-19, will be held from July 23 to August 8.



Earlier this year, **Marine Corps Staff Sgt. John Stefanowicz** defeated the country's top rated 87-kilogram Greco-Roman wrestler to earn a spot in this year's games.

*"Being able to represent the USA on an international level while being in the Marine Corps is the highest honor that I have ever felt. It is something that is almost indescribable. I have finally accomplished this mission that has had an insurmountable amount of adversity, that has required years and decades of perseverance,"* he said.

*"This could not be possible without the support I have had from my team and coach," Stefanowicz said. "The struggles that we have had to overcome as a team have made us all stronger, and in particular, coach Jason Loukides has helped transform me into the person and Marine that I am today."*

**Coast Guard Lt. Nikole "Nikki" Barnes** will compete in the Women's 470-class sailboat category.



*"I fell in love with the Coast Guard. I am always on the water and the allure of creating a safer environment for fellow boaters was a big intrigue for me. As I have been in the Coast Guard, I have seen even more how this is a tremendous organization of people working hard to make a safer maritime environment,"* she said.

**Army Sgt. 1st Class Elizabeth Marks** will compete in Paralympic swimming's 50-meter freestyle, 50-meter butterfly, 200-meter individual medley and 100-meter backstroke.



In 2016, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, she won a gold medal in the Paralympic Games in the 100-meter breaststroke and a bronze in the 100 meter medley.

Marks enlisted in the Army in 2008 as a combat medic. She was injured while serving in Iraq and was sent to Brooke Army Medical Center in Texas for recovery. It was there, she said, that she fell in love with swimming, which was used as a form of therapy.

Like most of the soldier-athletes going to the Olympics, Marks is a member of the Army's World Class Athlete Program, a program which enables soldiers with athletic potential to receive professional coaching, while keeping current with Army military occupational specialty and training requirements.

Although Marks said she trained hard to compete and to win, "none of it would have been possible without my brothers and sisters in the military believing in me and pushing me to do so."



### Athletes Headed for Tokyo

#### Army

- 1st Lt. Amber English – women's skeet
- Staff Sgt. Naomi Graham – women's boxing, 75 kilogram category (pictured below)



Staff Sgt. Nickolaus Mowrer – 10m air pistol, men; 10m pistol, mixed team; and 50m rifle, 3 positions.

Staff Sgt. Sandra Uptagrafft – 10m air pistol, women; 10m air pistol, mixed team; and 25m sport pistol.

Sgt. Samantha Schultz – modern pentathlon

Sgt. Amro Elgeziry – modern pentathlon (pictured below)



- Sgt. Ildar Hafizov – Greco-Roman wrestling, 60 kg category
- Spc. Alejandro Sancho – Greco-Roman wrestling, 67 kg category
- Spc. Benard Keter – 3,000-meter steeplechase, track and field
- Sgt. Patrick Sunderman – men's smallbore rifle

Spc. Sagen Maddalena – women's smallbore rifle

Spc. Alison Weisz – women's air rifle

Sgt. Philip Jungman – men's skeet

1st Lt. Sam Kendricks - pole vaulting

Sgt. 1st Class Elizabeth Marks – Paralympic swimming in 50-meter freestyle, 50-meter butterfly, 200-meter individual medley and 100-meter backstroke

Staff Sgt. John Joss – Paralympic shooting, 50m rifle

Staff Sgt. Kevin Nguyen – Paralympic shooting, 50m rifle

#### Marine Corps

Staff Sgt. John Stefanowicz – Greco-Roman wrestling, 87 kg category

#### Coast Guard

Lt. Nikole Barnes – 470-class sailboat category



# We need your help!



With MOAA Tampa Chapter's incorporation of additional community outreach efforts, a stronger focus on membership growth and recruiting, an expansion of the Chapter's scholarship program, and the introduction of a family and community-oriented transition program for servicemembers retiring or separating from active duty in the Tampa Bay area, our Chapter's organizational construct demanded a more robust structure to support both our increased breadth and ongoing efforts. Even more, our board of directors is committed to enhance the Chapter's support of the Veterans Treatment Court, collaborate with other Tampa organizations to reduce our city's homeless veteran population, and to elevate our advocacy for the Guard & Reserve. These initiatives seek to satisfy needs and fill gaps our constituents face. They have already proven to be both profitable and impactful.

As stated, to accomplish our goals, it was necessary to revise the organization's structure...to shore up our weak areas. We answered the call. The results of our efforts over the past year are captured in the Organizational Relationships Summary shown here. It shows the positions, the incumbents, and the vacancies that currently exist. Please review it with a heart to serve.

So, where do we go from here? We need dedicated members to help us to fill these positions. Will you get in on the game? Please bear in mind that these are not intended to be "full time" jobs – most require four hours or less each month. Your contribution is important. Whether large or small, your efforts will make a difference and allow the Chapter run more efficiently...to get the job done.

Help us accomplish our objectives, build a legacy that will last. Let's stand together and demonstrate our resolve to "Never Stop Serving." I look forward to your calls and emails.

Geoff Harrington  
Secretary, MOAA Tampa Chapter

## Position descriptions

**College & University Scholarships** – Scholarship Committee – identifies recommended candidates (high school seniors) who qualify and apply for the annual scholarship program; a member of the Scholarship selection team

**Trade & Vocational Scholarships** – Scholarship Committee – identifies recommended candidates who qualify and apply for the annual scholarship program; a member of the Scholarship selection team

**Community Outreach Committee Head** – direct the activities of the various outreach programs of the Chapter, including Veterans Affairs, Guard & Reserve, SROTC/JROTC, and liaison with the Veterans Treatment Court

**Assistant Program Head** – Transitions Committee – assists Transition program head as directed; provides interim leadership if the committee head is unavailable

**Medical Committee Head** – direct the activities of the JAHVH Representative and the Medical Articles Contributor; maintain an awareness of current medical issues impacting active servicemembers, understand all medical issues linked to MOAA's calls for action; and assist the Officers and Directors in appreciating

## Tampa Chapter MOAA Organizational Relationships

I. Officers		Incumbent	Board of Directors (Shown in bold)
President	DALCOURT	<b>DALCOURT</b>	Board of Directors (Shown in bold)
1st VP	SCHNEIDER	<b>SCHNEIDER</b>	
2nd VP	MULARONI	<b>MULARONI</b>	
Immediate Past President	ZIERES	<b>ZIERES</b>	
Secretary	HARRINGTON	<b>HARRINGTON</b>	
Treasurer	MARTIN	<b>MARTIN</b>	
Assistant Treasurer	VACANT	VACANT	
Surviving Spouse Liaison	BRUNELLE	<b>BRUNELLE</b>	
Assistant Surviving Spouse Liaison	VACANT	VACANT	
II. Directors			
Director, Education, Training & Events	SIEGMAN	<b>SIEGMAN</b>	
Luncheon Reservations & Setups	RICHARD	<b>RICHARD</b>	
Special Events	SIEGMAN	<b>SIEGMAN</b>	
Speakers Bureau	MITCHELL	<b>MITCHELL</b>	
Education & Training	VACANT	VACANT	
Director, Communications	MARKS	<b>MARKS</b>	
Editor, RETROSPECT	MARKS	<b>MARKS</b>	
Website Coordinator	NICHOLSON	<b>NICHOLSON</b>	
Advertisement Sales	VACANT	VACANT	
Fundraising Coordinator	VACANT	VACANT	
Director, Legal Affairs	MITCHELL	<b>MITCHELL</b>	
Legal Affairs Assistant	VACANT	VACANT	
Director, Legislative Affairs	WILLIAMS	<b>WILLIAMS</b>	
National Level	RITTER	<b>RITTER</b>	
State & Local Level	BILD	<b>BILD</b>	

Non-Board Members		
Senior Chaplain	LIEVING	<b>LIEVING</b>
Assistant Chaplain	HELVESTON	<b>HELVESTON</b>
III. Standing Committees		
<b>Membership</b>		
Military & Public Service Recruiting	SCHNEIDER	<b>SCHNEIDER</b>
Member Database	VACANT	VACANT
Sick Call	SOUTH	<b>SOUTH</b>
<b>Scholarship</b>		
College & University	HARRINGTON	<b>HARRINGTON</b>
Trade & Vocational	SCHNEIDER	<b>SCHNEIDER</b>
<b>Community Outreach</b>		
Operation Helping Hand Liaison	VACANT	VACANT
Veterans Treatment Court (VTC)	RICHARD	<b>RICHARD</b>
Homeless Vets/Veterans Affairs	BILD	<b>BILD</b>
Guard & Reserve	STEWART	<b>STEWART</b>
SROTC & JROTC	PLESS	<b>PLESS</b>
<b>Transitions</b>		
Assistant Program Lead	SIMS	<b>SIMS</b>
<b>Medical (new)</b>		
JAHVH Representative	McANENY	<b>McANENY</b>
Medical Articles Contributor	VACANT	VACANT
IV. Ad Hoc Positions		
Flag Officer Liaison	VACANT	VACANT
Flags & Banners	HARRINGTON	<b>HARRINGTON</b>
Photographer(s)	SOUTH   SAWALLES	<b>SOUTH   SAWALLES</b>
Base Entry/ID Cards	MULARONI	<b>MULARONI</b>
Chapter Historian	VACANT	VACANT

medical guidelines and directives associated with, or having bearing on the Chapter's planned activities and events

**JAHVH Representative** – Medical Committee – conduct liaison with the JAHVH to determine how MOAA Tampa Chapter best assist the hospital accomplish its mission; purpose to glean an understanding of how the Chapter can add value to the care, consideration, and support of patient's families

**Medical Articles Contributor** – Medical Committee – research and write medical-related articles for the monthly newsletter

**Flag Officer Liaison** – Ad Hoc position – a General/Flag Officer who communicates with fellow General/Flag Officers within the Chapter's area of influence, the activities, programs, and needs of the MOAA Tampa Chapter

**Chapter Historian** – Ad Hoc position – responsible to collecting, maintaining, and preserving the Chapter's memorabilia and documents; establishing or codifying records of Chapter activities and events; advise and provide insight to the board of directors on matters of historical relevance; and perform other duties as assigned by the President or board of directors

## Thriving After Military Service Transition Seminar

—By Paul McAneny, Col (Ret) USAF, Transition Committee Chairman, MOAA Tampa Chapter

When you are released from active duty military service you receive any number of info briefings on the importance of a good resume, how to interview, how to dress, and on and on. At this point you probably have that pretty firm in your mind if not on paper. To be sure, you need to get a job with pay and benefits adequate to meet your family needs; and, of course, you want that next job to lead to a fulfilling career with advancement and all that goes with it.

But...is there more to life after military service than getting a job and starting a non-military career? What about you and your family? Have you really thought out what your health insurance options are and how much they cost? Have you considered life insurance options, building a nest egg over and above your military retirement, your finances, your taxes? Do you have a will, health power of attorney, and have you set up a trust? You have a lot going for you and now is the time to capitalize on it by seriously considering these questions.

Alright then, you've got a handle on this, having military training and experience you know the value of service. You served your country with honor and integrity, and you did so proudly! How about taking some of that commitment and spreading it around? Voluntary service is out there just begging for you to join in, and a myriad of opportunities abound in our fast growing Tampa Bay Region. Find out what the Veterans Treatment Court (VTC) does and learn how you can support your fellow veterans who may not be as fortunate as you. Join a local Krewe - many of these organizations do more than just march and throw beads in the big Tampa parades (but, no doubt, that's a heck of a lot of fun too!) and are very much into community service. Want to start a local business? Then get active in one of our award winning Chambers of Commerce. How about supporting the various veteran organizations in the Tampa area? Consider helping the VA's homeless veterans' initiatives. If you were an officer, join the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) and its local 5-star award winning chapter. If you were an NCO, how about the Non-Commissioned Officers

Association (NCOA). There's also Special Operations Warrior Foundation, Association of the US Army, and many more. Many Veterans have found their niche in exciting and unusual part-time gigs such fitness instructors and working in stadium staff for our local Professional Sports Clubs. Finally, there are volunteer organizations - too many to mention here - like Habitat for Humanity, various church-sponsored food banks, and so on.



It's your brand new life as a civilian – so make the most of it!! Our focus is on you, your family, and our community. We held our first event May 20, 2021, with a resounding response. Here is a selection of enthusiastic comments from the after-action surveys:

- "Extremely valuable! I'm in the middle of my transition now and this was the only venue I've seen that covers these topics."
- "Excellent! Focused on a very different part of my transition—how to stay connected to the military community."
- "I very much like the emphasis on continued service in retirement."
- "Love the energy and purpose."
- "Amazing program that I will be a big advocate for and will spread the word."
- "Will definitely recommend other service members attend this event in the future."

The MOAA Tampa Chapter has a second new and unique offering of "Thriving after Military Service" Transition Seminar on Thursday, 19 August from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. These seminars are held quarterly. Best yet, there's no cost to you and a light lunch is provided. If you are planning to retire in the Tampa Bay area e-mail: [TampaMOAA.Secretary@gmail.com](mailto:TampaMOAA.Secretary@gmail.com) for questions on dates of future seminars. We'd love to have you join us!



### How We Help and Why You Should Join!

The TAMPA CHAPTER-MOAA, one of the largest and recognized as one of the top chapters in the Nation, has a very basic and focused approach for all officers on Active duty, Reserve, National Guard, and retired officers—WE'VE GOT YOUR BACK!

Some of the local community outreach our Tampa MOAA chapter members are involved with include: Veterans Treatment Court, Operation Helping Hand, funding local MOAA Scholarships, Transition support from military life, coordinating with our MacDill AFB Coalition partners with chapter activities, our Chapter Buddy Check initiative, and supporting the local ROTC/JROTC.

**NEVER STOP SERVING!**

## Tampa Chapter Join Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Rank \_\_\_\_\_ Service \_\_\_\_\_ Status \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_@\_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Cell (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth – Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact: Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

MOAA National Member Number \_\_\_\_\_

### **Tampa Chapter Annual Dues: \$25.00**

*(There is no dues requirement for active-duty personnel or a surviving spouse; you MUST be a member of National MOAA)*

### **MOAA National Annual Dues: (Premium Level – \$48.00; Basic Level – No Cost for 1 year)**

You can join National MOAA at their website: <https://www.moaa.org/content/join-moaa/why-join-moaa/>

**MOAA National Lifetime Dues:** Lifetime dues are based on the member's age. The cost ranges from \$0 to \$851 and there is no cost (free) for age 100+.

You can bring the completed form to any event or you can mail it with the \$25.00 check made out to: "MOAA Tampa Chapter", to: **Bill Schneider**, 15888 Sanctuary Drive, Tampa, FL 33647

\*\* The chapter has my permission to list my name and rank as a new member in our chapter newsletter. Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Please email questions to: [TampaMOAA.Membership@gmail.com](mailto:TampaMOAA.Membership@gmail.com)

## Financial Corner: The ABCs of Buying Life Insurance



—Submitted by: Paul J. McAneny, Col USAF (Ret)

Shopping for life insurance is seldom very high on most people's "to do" lists. Still, when it comes to protecting themselves and their families, it is important. So how do you determine how much – and what kind – of life insurance is right for you?

**You may want to consider the following four steps:**

### Step number one

Assess your immediate needs. Before you can decide how much life insurance to buy, you have to determine precisely which needs you are hoping to meet. For example: Will you use the policy's death benefit to pay for funeral expenses only? Or are you hoping to provide funds to help your family cover ongoing monthly expenses such as housing, car payments, and food? What about a side fund – do you want to have money set aside to meet emergencies or opportunities? Your answers to these questions will help you determine how much coverage you need.

### Step number two

Consider your future needs. Will you use your policy as part of your overall financial plan? Some policies allow you to accumulate money on a tax-deferred basis\* to meet unexpected emergencies, help pay college expenses, or supplement retirement income. Once you've determined both your immediate and longer-term objectives, you should have a fairly good idea of how much insurance is right for you.

### Step number three

Determine how much you can afford to pay. Regardless of how much coverage you need, it makes no sense to buy a policy you cannot afford. Once you know how much you can set aside – comfortably – each month, find a policy that fits your budget. "Term" insurance, for example, provides the largest amount of coverage for the lowest monthly cost, but it doesn't build cash values. What's more, coverage ceases (or becomes much more expensive) at the end of the "term period" – regardless of whether you still need the protection. Permanent insurance, on the other hand, costs a little more, but it builds cash value\*\* which you can access to meet planned or unplanned financial needs. (Keep in mind, however, that policy loans will reduce the death benefit and cash values.)



### Step number four

When you've determined how much insurance is enough, how much you can afford and what kind of policy to buy, you want to find a reputable agent who represents a high quality company. And remember - while it may not be high on your "to do" list, your family – and your future financial security – could depend on it.

\* As long as premiums are paid and the policy doesn't lapse. Assumes contract is not a modified endowment contract under IRC §7702A.

\*\* Accessing cash values may result in surrender fees and charges, may require additional premium payment to maintain coverage, and will reduce the death benefit and policy values.

This information is for educational purposes and should not be considered specific financial, tax or legal advice. Always consult with a qualified advisor regarding your individual circumstances.

For RRs of other Broker/Dealers:  
If applicable, Independent Broker/Dealer Representatives must obtain proper disclosure from your Broker/Dealer compliance department.

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## National Airborne Day – August 16, 2021



National Airborne Day, August 16, was chosen by former President George W. Bush back in 2002 as a day to recognize the past, present, and future contributions of American airborne troops in all campaigns, theaters, and peacekeeping missions. For example, the invasion of Normandy during World War II might have gone the wrong way and cost thousands more lives, if not for Allied soldiers dropping from aircraft behind enemy lines. From the first American use of paratroopers on August 16, 1942 to the 101st "Screaming Eagles," airborne divisions are some of our best and bravest.

### HISTORY OF NATIONAL AIRBORNE DAY

In terms of young or old warfare tactics, using American airborne forces to surprise an enemy by landing behind battle lines has only been a "thing" since the 1940s. It was just after World War I when, perhaps looking back in hindsight with better vision, Brigadier General Billy Mitchell first came up with a viable version of the idea of "dropping" troops into combat. The idea was developed and tested at Fort Benning, Georgia, and first "went live" in the North African campaign of the Second World War, meeting with decisive success.

Perhaps best illustrated by the film "Saving Private Ryan," paratroopers in WWII suffered some disadvantages when they parachuted into German territories, such as disorientation or losing their sense of compass directions during a nighttime paratrooper assault. The second was a lack of ready supplies. Airborne troops sometimes had to scrounge, be cunning, and exploit every resource to procure food, weapons, and ammunition. And that's to say nothing about being surrounded by the enemy on all sides!

With paratroopers now jumping out of an aircraft at the rate of about 118.5 feet per second, National Airborne Day is also a time to recognize the vigorous training of airborne units in the Army. The safety of this training is also important to note. A jumpmasters attention to detail is critical, with equipment checked regularly.

Airborne tactics have steadily advanced alongside other military strategies, up until 2002, when President Bush's proclamation made the anniversary of the first airborne assault a holiday. The U.S. Senate backed that up in Senate Resolution 235 in 2009. Since then, August 16 is a patriotic day with a special cachet because airborne troops are said to be the elite of the elite, earning top honors across the Armed Services.

Source: <https://nationaltoday.com/national-airborne-day/#history>

## Navajo Code Talkers Day – August 14, 2020

National Navajo Code Talkers Day is August 14. This holiday honors the contributions of Native Americans / First Nations people who contributed to the United States war effort during World War Two, as well as recognizing the evolution of U.S. code related to Native American languages and the participation of First Nations tribe members in U.S. military efforts from many conflicts.

Image result for navajo tribe

The story of the Navajo code talkers is complex. Some object to the name of the holiday, mistakenly believing that Navajo tribe members are singled out for the distinction at the expense of other tribes that participated in this war effort.

But the name of the holiday refers not to the Navajo tribe itself, but is a broader term that refers to the "Navajo code" used to fool Axis powers including the Nazis and Japanese Imperial forces. Learn more about that process below.

President Ronald Reagan established Navajo Code Talkers Day in 1982, and the holiday honors all the tribes associated with the war effort including (but not limited to):

- Cherokee
- Choctaw
- Comanche
- Hopi
- Navajo

The Navajo code depended on the complexity of the Navajo language as well as further encoding the messages (depending on when and where they were sent). These combined factors rendered it impossible to break as a code, and some sources report it is one of the few, possibly the only "code" used by the U.S. military, that was never broken during the conflicts it was used in.

Source: <https://www.museumofmilitaryhistory.com/event/navajo-code-talkers-day/2020-08-14/>



## MEDICAL CORNER

### Patient and Family Partnership Council Update

— By Jeanne Richard, LtCol USAF Retired, MOAA Tampa Chapter

The goal of the Patient and Family Partnership Council (PFPC) is to listen to the voice of Medical Group patients and their families to help provide the highest quality of care to every patient, every time.

The Council met Friday, 9 July at the 6th Medical Group, MacDill.

The agenda included topics provided by patients and providers and appropriate staff were available to offer information/updates and listen to suggestions from attendees.

I was especially interested in the discussion regarding Pharmacy practices and how our membership could be affected.

#### 1. PHARMACY COMMUNICATION:

I know we all have experienced the digital phone answering nightmare (press 1, press 2, press etc.) and never being able to have a conversation with a “live” individual. The truth of the matter is that the Pharmacy does not have enough personnel to work on filling prescriptions and answering the phone. The good news is that there is a workable system that allows us to communicate (and yes, receive an answer back): **Tricare Online Secure Messaging: TOLSecureMessaging.com**. Imagine, being able to send a message anytime instead of waiting for normal business hours. Over the 24 hours Elsa impacted business, Pharmacy personnel were able to clear over 300 messages received via this messaging system!

#### 2. PRESCRIPTIONS:

- Off-base providers must submit prescriptions electronically via the MacDill Epharmacy: **DOD MACDILL EPHCY NCPDP# 5740849** 3250 Zemke Ave, MacDill AFB, FL, 33621. If the correct address is NOT entered, the prescription will not come through.
- Patients MUST activate the electronic prescription through the Tricare Online Secure Messaging system (TOLSecureMessaging.com). Once the script has been activated, it will be available for pick-up after 2 days processing time. The medication will be available for 7 (seven) days and if not picked up will be returned to the system and re-activation will be required.
- Hard copy/paper scripts will be honored at the **Urgent Care Pharmacy** for 1) scripts from the VA; 2) scripts from an ER or urgent care visit; 3) scripts for controlled substances.
- Retiree Priority Pick up** is Monday-Friday 0830-1030. See, they really do appreciate us.

The PFPC meets quarterly (Jan, Apr, Jul, Oct) and I will provide updates after each meeting. I encourage you to send me issues or words of thanks to be added to the agenda for discussion/clarification. I will send out an email prior to each meeting requesting topics for the agenda.

### ‘Breakthrough’ COVID Infections in Vaccinated Are Milder: Study

— Submitted by Sara Marks, CAPT NC USN (Ret)

Folks who suffer a rare “breakthrough” coronavirus infection after getting the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine will not get as sick and, importantly, are much less likely to pass the coronavirus on to others, a new study shows.



It’s very unlikely that a person will become infected with COVID-19 after getting one of the messenger RNA (mRNA) vaccines, which provided 91% effective protection among the vaccinated people included in this study.

But those who got COVID-19 despite their vaccination wound

up having milder symptoms over a shorter period of time compared to those who weren’t inoculated, researchers reported July 1 in the *New England Journal of Medicine*.

Vaccinated people who caught COVID-19 also had a 40% lower viral load during their infection, compared with unvaccinated people.

“If you were at least partially vaccinated, you had less virus in you for a shorter period of time than those that hadn’t been vaccinated, which means that they would be less likely to be passing the virus on to anyone else,” said researcher Dr. Jefferey Burgess, associate dean for research at the University of Arizona’s College of Public Health, in Tucson.

According to Dr. Amesh Adalja, a senior scholar with the Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security, in Baltimore, the findings “should give people a lot of confidence about COVID-19 vaccines. When the very rare breakthrough infections occur they are really not clinically meaningful, as the severity and infectiousness is greatly attenuated — even in not fully vaccinated individuals.”

The study involved 3,975 health care workers, first responders and other essential and front-line employees who were prioritized for receiving an mRNA vaccine. Participants included 3,179 adults who got one or two shots, along with 796 people who went unvaccinated. The researchers tracked all these people from mid-December to mid-April to determine how well the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines work. Quite well, as it turns out. Out of the entire group, 156 unvaccinated people became infected with COVID-19, compared with only five fully vaccinated and 11 partially vaccinated people.

A full two-dose course provided 91% protection, and even just one dose gave 81% protection, the researchers calculated. If a vaccinated person did get infected with COVID-19, they were 58% less likely to suffer a fever or chills, the results showed. Instead, they usually had cold-like symptoms (such as the sniffles), spent two fewer days sick in bed, on average, and had an overall length of illness that was six days shorter than folks who eschewed vaccination.

This study took place before the advent of the Delta variant, which is 50 to 80 times more transmissible than the original Alpha strain of COVID-19, noted Dr. Tina Tan, a professor specializing in pediatric infectious diseases at Northwestern University’s Feinberg School of Medicine, in Chicago. Burgess couldn’t say how the new strain would impact the protection reported in the study. “I’m a little hesitant to go out on a limb on that, because we’re still learning about the Delta variant,” Burgess said. “I can say that from what I’ve seen in other studies, two doses of these messenger RNA vaccines are protective against the Delta variant.” Adalja sounded a more confident note regarding mRNA vaccine protection against Delta.

“I do not believe the Delta variant poses a problem for the vaccines, and those who develop rare breakthrough infections post-vaccination are likely to have clinically insignificant disease that is not contagious,” Adalja said.

Source: [Newsmax Health](#) © HealthDay

## How Volunteering Can Help Your Mental Health

According to new research, people become happier over time after they start volunteering. — Submitted by Sara Marks, CAPT NC USN (Ret)

The coronavirus pandemic has led to the practice of social distancing, creating feelings of stress and isolation in many of us. Some groups have been hit particularly hard, including the elderly, parents juggling work and child care, and people who have lost their jobs. Against this backdrop, many people have turned to volunteering to help make a difference, even at a distance.

New research suggests that volunteers aren’t just helping the communities they serve. People who volunteer actually experience a boost in their mental health—good news at a time when [more than a third](#) of Americans are experiencing symptoms of anxiety or depression.

In a study published this year in the [Journal of Happiness Studies](#), researchers examined data from nearly 70,000 research participants in the United Kingdom, who received surveys about their volunteering habits and their mental health, including their distress and functioning in everyday life, every two years from 1996 to 2014.

Compared to people who didn’t volunteer, people who had volunteered in the past year were more satisfied with their lives and rated their overall health as better. Additionally, the researchers found that people who volunteered more frequently experienced greater benefits: Those who volunteered at least once a month reported better mental health than participants who volunteered infrequently or not at all.

But does volunteering make people happy, or are happy people simply more likely to volunteer? The researchers found the same results even when they accounted for participants’ initial levels of well-being before they started volunteering. In other words, people who started to volunteer became happier over time.

Although it’s true that people who are happier do tend to [spend more time volunteering](#), the current study suggests that you don’t need to already feel happy in order to benefit



from it. In fact, [some research](#) suggests that people who start out with lower levels of well-being may even get a bigger boost from volunteering.

To get a sense of how large the benefits of volunteering were, the researchers compared it to the effects of people’s income. They found that, for a participant earning an average middle-class salary, volunteering was essentially “worth” approximately \$1,100 per year: that is, volunteering would make someone as happy as having an extra \$1,100.

Why does volunteering support our mental health? According to Ricky Lawton, associate director at Simerica Research

Consultancy and lead author of the paper, a combination of factors is likely at play. First, volunteering appears to be intrinsically rewarding—when we help others, we tend to experience what researchers call a “[warm glow](#).” Second, volunteering is likely to help boost our sense of social connection. In particular, for older adults, volunteering can be a way to stay [connected to others](#) after retirement.

Finally, volunteering can be a way to build professional skills and try out leadership opportunities, which is especially relevant to young adults. In the current study, the researchers found that participants ages 16-24 and 55-74 were especially likely to benefit from volunteering, perhaps because of the opportunity to build social connections and new skills.

Many nonprofit organizations are offering opportunities to volunteer remotely from home during the pandemic. While research hasn’t directly compared this to traditional in-person volunteering, Lawton suspects that remote volunteer opportunities are likely to also benefit our well-being. So, if you’ve been feeling overwhelmed or out of sorts lately, volunteering can be a way to help bring you a sense of control in a stressful situation—a happy side effect of the vital work volunteers do.

Source: [Great Good Magazine](#)

## National Coast Guard Day

Source: <https://nationaldaycalendar.com/national-coast-guard-day-august-4/>

National Coast Guard Day on August 4th celebrates and honors the courageous work of the service members of Coast Guard.

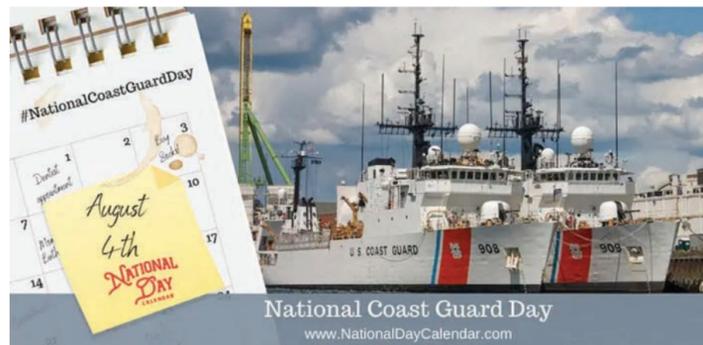
The United States Coast Guard is one of the six US Armed Forces. While this maritime service is a branch of the military, they are a multi-missioned service. During peacetime, it operates under the Department of Homeland Security. However, their responsibilities can be transferred to the US Navy by the President of the United States any time deemed necessary, or by Congress during war times.

*Always ready, The United States Coast Guard's official motto in Latin reads Semper Paratus.*

Since 1790, the Coast Guard's missions have changed. As the nation and the military services grew, maritime needs evolved. In 1917, the first Coast Guard aviators graduated from Pensacola Naval Aviation Training School. Today, aviation is a large part of the Coast Guard's security, enforcement, and defense readiness.

Always ready to protect our shores and waterways, the Coast Guard provides more than search and rescue. They are a large part of the nation's navigation system and Marine Environmental Protection.

When Hurricane Katrina struck the Gulf Coast of America, the US Coast Guard saved over 33,500 lives. Their maritime efforts rescued an estimated 24,000 lives from peril in severely dangerous conditions.



Since 1790, service members have been at the ready to provide support whatever the mission. Their commitment continues today.

### HOW TO OBSERVE #NationalCoastGuardDay

In America, thousands of events nationwide honor the Coast Guard. Get involved and show your support. Other ways to celebrate the day include:

- Taking a tour of one of the many Coast Guard museums in the country.
- Share stories of Coast Guard experiences.
- Listen to the U.S. Coast Guard Band.
- Watch movies featuring the Coast Guard. Find a complete list here.
- Read about the Coast Guard in *The Coast Guard* by José Hanson and Tom Beard or *So Others May Live: Coast Guard's Rescue Swimmers: Saving Lives, Defying Death* by Marth J. Laguardia-Kotite and Tome Ridge

Post on social media using #NationalCoastGuardDay.

### NATIONAL COAST GUARD HISTORY

The United States Coast Guard traces its founding to an act of Congress on August 4, 1790. The Coast Guard consisted of 10 vessels that carried out the enforcement of various trade and humanitarian duties.

There are over 1,500 national days. Don't miss a single one. Celebrate Every Day with National Day Calendar!



## US Department of Defense (DoD) Birthday

Source: <https://www.museumofmilitaryhistory.com/event/us-department-of-defense-dod-birthday/2021-08-10/>



U.S.  
DEPT OF  
DEFENSE

The U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) was established August 10th, 1949. Although, the federal government has overseen the U.S. Armed forces since our nation's inception, the Department of Defense name and centralized defense department was

not established until the late 1940s. The "official" anniversary of the creation of the Department of Defense as we know it in modern times is August 10. Established in 1949 thanks to an amended National Security Act (more on that below) the agency is run by the Secretary of Defense (SECDEF) with the Joint Chiefs of Staff for the various military services operating subordinately to the SECDEF.

The DoD Birthday will be celebrated on Monday, August 10, 2020.

The United States Department of Defense (DoD) is a federal agency described as an Executive Branch department. The DoD is described as being among the largest employers in the world; there are more than one million active duty service members, more than 800 thousand members of the Guard and Reserve, and more than 700 thousand civilian employees.

The Department of Defense headquarters is located inside the Pentagon operating with the mission statement to provide the nation with military forces to act as a deterrent and provide national security.

The official date of the creation of the Department of Defense may be a bit misleading for some as the nation has always had an entity that operated in a similar capacity; but as we'll learn below the road to the DoD as we now know it was a long and winding one.

## Dubious Military Distinctions

By Cornelius "Neil" Cosentino, MAJ, USAF (Ret)

In the category of Dubious Military Distinctions, I like to think I hold the world's record for the shortest flight in a KC-135A/B between two different airports. (The KC-135 is an aircraft that refuels other planes in midair.)

My "world record" flight took place in 1968 between St. Petersburg-Clearwater International Airport (KPIE) and MacDill Air Force Base (KMCF) in Tampa, Florida.

The day started at Plattsburgh Air Force Base in New York where I was told to deliver a KC-135A/B to PEMCO, an Inspection and Repair As Necessary (IRAN) facility located at St. Petersburg – Clearwater International airport.

Like most pilots, I like landing at different airports, especially if I can land a military aircraft at a civilian airport, so it was a good mission. Everything was routine. We landed, taxied to the north end of the very long PEMCO hangar and turned over the aircraft and paperwork to the IRAN team that met us. They told us that our take-home KC-135A/B aircraft was at the other end of the hangar.

We preflighted our "shiny new" rehabbed aircraft, made sure all the systems worked, and that all the equipment and paperwork was onboard.

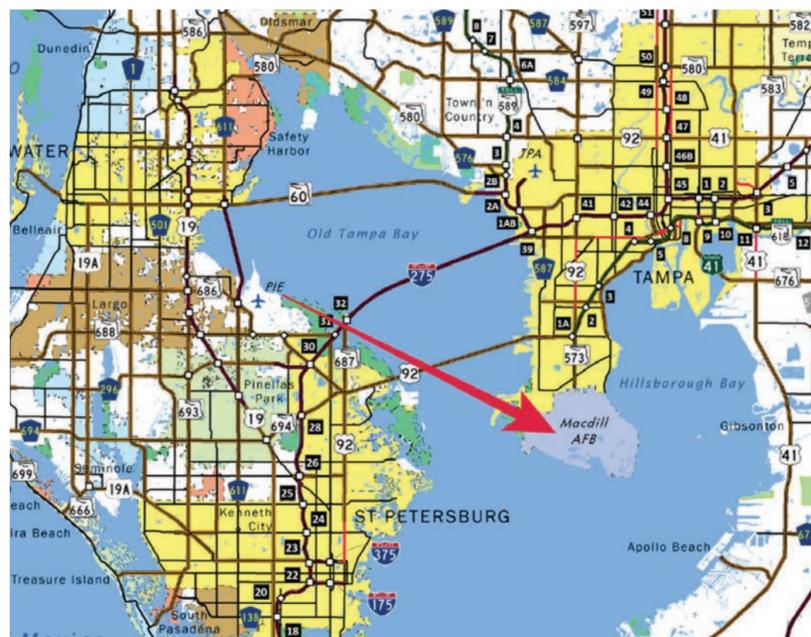
The next action was to fly to MacDill Air Force Base, refuel the KC-135, and get the mission information we needed to do a mid-air refuel of another aircraft on our return flight to Plattsburgh Air Force Base. That mission was required to insure all the refueling systems worked, before the plane could go back on Strategic Air Command's (SAC) alert duty or fly a future refueling mission.

The first thing I did was to apply my "Hitech" six-minute navigation system that works with every aircraft, even the Moonlander. Six minutes is 10% of airspeed, so my aircraft at 200 knots means that we would cover 20 miles in 6 minutes in a no wind condition. Since the distance between them is approximately 10 miles, we could fly directly from KPIE and KMCF in approximately three minutes. The alternative was to take off and fly radar vectors to the south, then to the east, then back west to MacDill, which could take more than 20 minutes.

The takeoff wind favored a south takeoff, so I contacted the St. Petersburg – Clearwater control tower and shared my plan with a request for a direct flight to MacDill AFB, saying that I would clear the flight path with both the Tampa International airport tower

and the MacDill AFB tower. I called both towers asked for their approval and gave them my transponder code. They responded that there was no conflicting traffic.

The tower cleared me for takeoff. We were very light and airborne in less than 3,000 feet. I left the gear and flaps down, turned at 500 feet to the southeast, was cleared to land, and made a right base turn landing to the south at MacDill. The turn off was at the second taxiway, and shutdown came soon after. My total flight time less than four minutes, a world record (so far as I know) for the shortest flight in a KC-135A/B between two airports.



Cornelius "Neil" Cosentino became a US Air Force pilot in 1960 and went on to log over 6,000 hours in military, commercial and private flying. He flew the B-47, KC-135, F-4CDE, including three tours in Vietnam. He was awarded 9 Air Medals and the Distinguished Flying Cross.

# Where were you on 9-11?

By COL Carol Zieres, USA RET

This year marks the 20th anniversary of the unimaginable horror that descended upon our nation as terrorists turned commercial airliners filled with innocent people into lethal weapons attacking the World Trade Center, the Pentagon, and a fourth hijacked commercial airplane headed for Washington, DC that crashed in a field site near Shanksville, Pennsylvania. The morning of Tuesday, September 11, 2001 was, by all accounts, a picture-perfect Indian summer day with clear blue skies that would go down in American History as a day of infamy, and for many Americans, 9-11 shall never be forgotten.

In July 2000, I received Department of the Army orders to move to Washington, DC where I would spend the next four years assigned to the Office of the Chief, Army Reserve (OCAR) working as a Medical Organizational Integrator (OI) in the Force Programs Division of the Pentagon. During this timeframe, The Pentagon was undergoing extensive renovations and so my office had been relocated to a high-rise government-leased building (Jefferson Plaza II or "JP11") in Crystal City, two metro stops on the Blue Line and a little over one mile walking distance from the front entrance to the Pentagon. My office co-workers and I spent untold hours navigating back and forth between Crystal City and the halls of the Five-sided fortress, where we often attended work meetings and briefings within the Army G-1 Directorate or the CAR's office.



—Aerial view of the damage at the Pentagon following the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, 2001. Photo credit: Air Force Tech. Sgt. Cedric H. Rudisill.

In late August 2001, I received TDY orders to attend the Logistics Executive Development Course (LEDC), a Five month School, at Ft. Lee, just south of Richmond, Virginia. I was housed in temporary quarters at Ft. Lee during the 22 week college and would drive back home to my townhouse in Alexandria, VA on the weekends. I shall never forget that fateful Tuesday morning of September 11th, while sitting in my Statistics class at Ft. Lee, when my instructor was abruptly interrupted by the breaking news that the World Trade Center had been struck by a commercial jet airliner. We thought it to be a terrible tragic accident. The class quickly tuned into CNN and right before our eyes, we watched a second commercial jet fly into the second Twin Tower - We gasped in horror, stunned by such a surreal picture on live television, as if we were watching a Hollywood Sci-fi movie-like production. By this time, we had learned this was no accident, but America had come under siege by some foreign invader. Then at 9:37 am, closer to home, the third hijacked commercial jet slammed in to the outer E-ring of the Pentagon. An American Airlines Boeing Jet 757 that took off from Dulles Airport, carrying 10,000 gal of jet fuel and 64 passengers was bound for Los Angeles, when suddenly the aircraft took an abrupt turn to the east, slipping off the air traffic controller radar screen, striking the renovated section of the Pentagon, Wedge 1 before passing into an un-renovated, Wedge 2. The aircraft exploded on impact leaving a 75 – 100 foot gaping hole. The affected wedge collapsed from structural damage caused by the intense heat generated by the explosion of jet fuel. I remember the shock and disbelief that the Pentagon, a symbol of American military strength, had been attacked! How could this have happened?

A few interesting facts about the Pentagon: The building made primarily of concrete and steel, was constructed during WWII; its ground breaking ceremony was September 11, 1941 (ironically 60 years prior to the attack). The actual building structure consisted of 17.5 miles of hallways, 6.5 million sq ft of space, sitting on 29 acres. The entire complex consisted of 583 acres of land. At that time, the Pentagon housed approximately 26,000 military and civilian employees and about 3,000 nondefense support personnel. Its unique five-sided design with a series of rings, wedges and corridors ensured one could travel from any point in the building to an opposite location in seven minutes. (See footnote 1)

Turning back to Ft. Lee, my Statistics class was dismissed and in fact, all my classes had been suspended for the next couple of days. I remained glued to the television for more information. Instantly, I started dialing phone numbers back at my office building in Crystal City to determine if everyone was okay; first to my boss, LTC Sandy Wood, but my calls were not getting through. It was impossible to establish any type of communication (landline or cell tower), had been impacted by the explosion. Later, I would learn that the entire office building (JP11) had been evacuated due to secondary and tertiary explosions of vehicles parked near ground zero that had been impacted by the fire.

Forced evacuations occurred at the Pentagon as the smoke billowed out from the point of impact into Wedges 1 and 2. I later learned that some of my fellow Army Reserve Co-workers in adjacent corridors had described feeling a "concussion," then the lights went out leaving them no choice but to low crawl on the floor, feeling

their way around the furniture to the doorways with a wet shirt tied around their head as face masks so they wouldn't succumb to smoke inhalation, until they were safely outside of the building. Many Heroes responded, rescuing others around them inside the Pentagon taking immediate action to help the injured, to try to reach other survivors, and to assist other rescue workers. Consequently, a National emergency was declared by President George W. Bush as he addressed the nation on national television; all planes were grounded in airports across the country to prevent another terrorist hijack attempt. We were suddenly, "A Nation at War." The National Guard was called up to provide additional security at commercial airports.

Fort Lee and all military installations declared threat condition, (THREATCON DELTA/CHARLIE) for upgraded force protection. Immediately, all motor vehicles at Ft. Lee were searched before entering the base and large concrete barriers were put in place at the Main gate, while other secondary gates remained closed. Crisis action teams stood up and were in full operation in Army Reserve Headquarters around the country within hours of the attacks. That following weekend after the attack, I drove back home and of course, I drove by the Pentagon to see first-hand the damage to the building. A huge American Flag was draped over the black charred hole where the plane struck the building.

It would be days before I would learn of the unfortunate loss of

our comrade in arms, LTC (P) David Scales, one of our AGR staff officers. Colonel Scales was killed in the fireball explosion while sitting at his desktop computer in the Army G-1 (DCSPER) office. He was only 44 years of age and left behind a wife and a 12 year old son. Colonel Scales had been one of my senior mentors and we had shared an office at one time in the Force Programs Directorate in JP11. He had just moved to the Army G-1 to accept a promotion in his new position. He was promoted posthumously to Colonel.

The final death toll was 189 reported fatalities: 125 Pentagon workers and 64 people on the plane (including the five hijackers on board the AA FLT 77). The section of the Pentagon affected by the crash housed a mix of Army and Navy offices. A construction crew had just completed a three-year renovation project of the wing containing Wedge 1 at a cost of \$258 million. Two-thirds of the personnel working in Wedge 2 had already moved out in anticipation of renovations due to begin there. The casualty figures would have been much higher, otherwise.

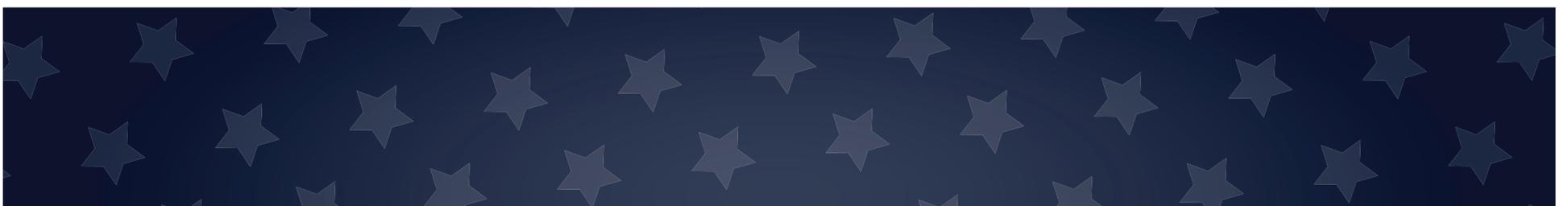
When I was asked to draft this memoir recalling where I was on 9-11, what suddenly occurred to me was where I could have been on 9-11. Had I not been in school two hours away, I could have also been in the midst of this horrific tragedy; perhaps even attending a meeting in the Pentagon during the terrorist attack. I could only imagine the chaos of traffic on the Beltway, re-routing of the Metro trains bypassing the Pentagon metro stop, the screaming of sirens from fire trucks as First Responders rushed to the scene of the burning building and remnants of the burning fuselage, the cries for help of survivors within the building, confusion and uncertainty of what was happening that day and why, and the pandemonium that followed from a City in Lockdown. My town house that I had purchased just a few months before 9-11, was only 2.5 miles from the Pentagon crash site. Days after the plane crash, I checked on my nearby house, the only thing I could find out of place was a few rattled dishes, that's all. But the whole experience certainly rattled my soul and the haunting images of that day will always remain.

From time to time people have asked me, have I ever deployed overseas or been in a combat zone? The answer to the first question is "Yes," I lived and worked in the European Theater of Operations during the Cold War in the early 1980's. But the closest brush with actual combat was September 11th 2001, when my unit was impacted by a terrorist hijacked commercial jetliner that slammed into the outer rings of the Pentagon. From that day forward, American lives changed and would never be the same.

\*\*A \$501 million repair and renovation initiative, dubbed the Phoenix Project, began in early October 2001 with the goal to have repairs completed by September 11, 2002. A total of 50,000 tons of debris were moved from the site during demolition. The Phoenix Project was officially completed in February 2003 at a total cost of some \$5 billion (footnote 2).

Source of reference:

1. The Impact of 9-11 on the Army Reserve – Pentagon Operations, Office of Army Reserve History, HQs, USARC Ft. McPherson, GA (2003)
2. <https://pentagonmemorial.org>



# CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

CHAPLAIN (COL) BERNARD H LIEVING JR USA RET



I was at Fort Benning, GA attending Airborne School in preparation for my assignment to an Airborne Engineer Battalion at Fort Bragg, NC. I had been through ground week and tower week and was in the third and final week – jump week – making the five jumps necessary to earn my airborne wings.

I had just exited the C-130 and upon finishing the necessary count before checking to make sure my parachute was deployed, I looked up and saw that I had an issue. One of the lines connecting my parachute straps to the canopy was over the canopy contorting its shape into the outward appearance of a large brassiere. I had

a “Mae West”, named by World War II Army parachutists after the generous body shape of the actress.

As I looked down to my reserve parachute to deploy it, I heard the “Black Hat”, the instructor on the ground, call out over his bull horn, “You with the malfunction, pull your reserve.” I pulled it and as it deployed it caught just enough air to lessen the pull on the line causing the malfunction and my main chute suddenly was shaped as it should have been from the beginning.

I then had another issue. If I did not get the reserve pulled back down to my chest,

it could deploy under and into the main chute and cause it to collapse. I was so focused on getting that done, I missed hearing the Black Hat bull horning me saying, “Prepare to land.” So, instead of doing a 5 point parachute landing as we had been taught – balls of feet, side of calf, side of thigh, side of hip or buttock, and side of back – I did a 3 point landing – balls of my feet, butt, and back of my head.

As I regained my senses lying there on the ground on my back, a Jeep pulled up and two Black Hats hurried to me to make sure I was okay. The first one to me helped me up and the second looked at me and said, “My God, chaplain, had I known it was you I would not have been praying so hard! I know God is with you!

I thanked him for praying for me, gathered up my main and reserve chutes and began the walk to the assembly area. As I walked I did indeed thank God for being with me, not just at that moment in the air and on the ground. I thanked God for being with me from the time I was baptized and I was called by name, with the promise that I was God’s child and that God would never abandon me.

In the United Methodist Church’s ritual for Reaffirmation of the Baptismal Covenant the pastor says to the congregation, “Remember your baptism and be thankful.” If you have read to this point, I now invite you to remember your baptism or other significant faith experiences in your faith walk and give thanks to our Creator God who loves you and will always be with you.



## Surviving Spouse Corner: Preparing for the Unpredictable

Submitted By Renee Brunelle

Author Gail Joyce, Gold Star Mom, Surviving Spouse, MOAA Board Member, Source: MOAA.org



Many women — and men — are blindsided by the death of a spouse, because couples rarely talk about the inevitable.

When you are at your most vulnerable, you must make choices that will have an enduring impact. Should the body be cremated or preserved? What type of service and where will it be held? Will he or she be buried in a hometown family plot or in a national cemetery many miles away?

To be better prepared for these difficult decisions, take time to have that important conversation with your spouse and your children about death and what happens after death. This conversation is a gift of love that each member of a marriage or family makes to the other.

Resources are available on [MOAA.org](https://www.moaa.org) and other websites that will help you have those conversations and make planning for the unknown perhaps a little easier. Find out who your local veteran service officer is, get to know them before you really need them, and then make sure they are the first on your list to contact.

Ask your chapter to schedule at least one meeting each year where these issues are discussed. MOAA, the [Surviving Spouse Advisory Council](#), and your surviving spouse liaison can provide members with a wealth of information.



### Steps to take:

- Encourage members and spouses to talk to each other about end-of-life issues and ways to prepare.
- Prepare and organize important documents (such as DD Form 214, wills, living will, durable power of attorney, insurance policies, birth/marriage certificates, passwords, bank account and investment information).
- Make sure utilities are in both names.
- Open a credit card account in your name.
- Establish eligibility for burial in a VA National Cemetery.
- Make a list of helpful resources, including [MOAA](https://www.moaa.org), [the VA](https://www.va.gov), [AARP.org](https://www.aarp.org), [Military OneSource](https://www.militaryonesource.com), [MOAA Minnesota Chapter “The Day After Calls,”](https://www.moaa.org) [MOAA’s Surviving Spouse Virtual Chapter](https://www.moaa.org), and [MOAA’s Surviving Spouses and Friends Facebook group](https://www.moaa.org).

As spouse and surviving spouse, it is important you think about yourself and your survivors and the things they will need to know. Be prepared!

## HAVE YOU VISITED OUR WEBSITE AND ‘LIKED’ OUR FACEBOOK PAGE?

[WWW.MOAAATAMPA.ORG](https://www.moaa.org) and Facebook: [MOAA Tampa Chapter](https://www.facebook.com/MOAA-Tampa-Chapter)

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 pass-word to access. You can also download an Excel version of the list once permitted into the page. Check out the [Member Directory](#) now!

**Facebook:** Visit us on Facebook at [“MOAA Tampa Chapter”](https://www.facebook.com/MOAA-Tampa-Chapter) where you can scroll through our photo albums, like and share our posts, and stay up to date on Tampa Chapter news and events.



# “NEVER STOP SERVING”