

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

# GREETINGS!



Zig Ziglar stated "It's not where you start – It's where you finish that counts." For many of us, these words resonate as we contemplate our next or closing seasons in life. In my own search for professional significance beyond retirement from military service, MOAA has provided a means of giving back...helping others. The organization's mission provides purpose...an opportunity to finish strong. MOAA enables those that are in service and out to focus on their day-to-day lives knowing that MOAA is engaged in battle daily to both preserve and enhance, in relevance and modernity, policy and benefits affecting the uniformed services.

At home, our Tampa Chapter readily embraces the mantra "Never Stop Serving." Whether advocating via legislative channels, communing with other veteran service organizations, or interacting with youth through our JROTC engagements, our Chapter has remained involved and has continually grown our capability to affect positive change. We have carried the torch with resolute commitment and resilience for

the first six months of this year, and God willing, will finish the year even stronger.

There are two quotes I often lean on. One belongs to Vince Lombardi and the other to Ralph Waldo Emerson. They are...

"I firmly believe that any man's finest hour, the greatest fulfillment of all that he holds dear, is that moment when he has worked his heart out in a good cause and lies exhausted on the field of battle – victorious." – Vince Lombardi

and

"Without ambition one starts nothing. Without work, one finishes nothing. The prize will not be sent to you. You have to win it." – Ralph Waldo Emerson

As we transition to the second half of 2022, let us focus forward with expectancy, diligence, and fervor. Let's put in the work to finish strong...exhaust our efforts to attain victory. Thanks to the myriad Chapter members that do just that – do the work necessary to make it all happen. Thanks in advance to those who will join the active roster over the next six months. Your energy and support is essential to our sustained progress. Picasso stated, "action is the key to all success." Our Tampa Chapter needs you to take action...take your turn.

### Member of the Month

The Tampa Chapter Member of the Month for July 2022 is Captain Nick Nicholson (USA Retired). Nick joined our Chapter and

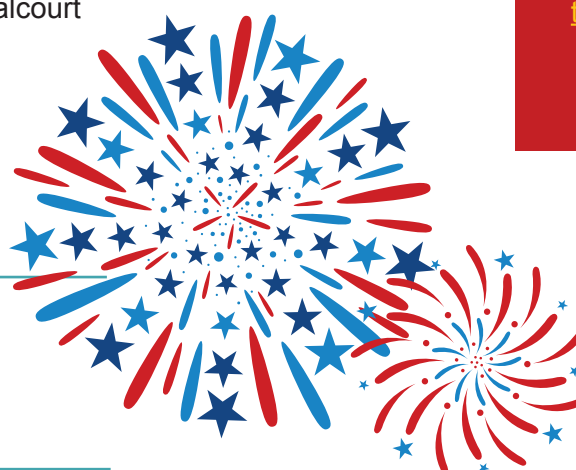
immediately made an impact. He played an integral role in supporting the inaugural Winter Gala last December. His technical knowledge and insight have advanced our website development, e-commerce actions, and our overall technical creativity. Nick is an incredible servant with a history of giving back. He teaches classes to transitioning servicemembers at MacDill AFB and participates in other community activities. A truly selfless, kind, committed, and upright servant, Nick Nicholson is a tremendous team player and a blessing to our Tampa Chapter. We will honor Nick at our next luncheon on 14 July. Please take time to view Nick's biographical information later in the newsletter and greet him in person at the luncheon. If you're nice, he may even answer a few IT or cybersecurity questions that are plaguing you.

### A Few Reminders:

In closing, please do not forget Operation Helping Hand's BBQ fund raiser on 3 July; remember to look for the raffle items available at the next luncheon; please keep an eye out for the winter Gala announcements; and be diligent to prepare for outdoor events as summer has arrived.

I remain thankful for the opportunity to serve you. Remember, "...it is where you finish that counts." Advocacy is our business; enabling others is an incredible outcome. May God cover, carry, and comfort you all.

All the best,  
Charles Dalcourt



## UPCOMING EVENTS

7 July – 10:00 AM  
Board of Directors Meeting

14 July – 11:30 AM  
Chapter Luncheon  
Columbia Restaurant Siboney Room  
([See page 8](#))

21 July – 6:00PM-8:00PM  
OpHH Dinner  
USF Embassy Suites  
([See page 9](#))

23 Aug – 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM  
"Thriving after Military Service"  
Transition Seminar  
FIVE LABS, Tampa  
Contact Col (ret) Paul McAneny,  
813-720-4763

## REMINDER:

SUBMISSION DEADLINE  
FOR THE AUGUST 2022  
ISSUE IS 20 JULY 2022

Please submit articles in a Word Document and photos in JPEG  
Email articles to  
[MOAATampa.website@gmail.com](mailto:MOAATampa.website@gmail.com)

NOTICE: if you have a change of address, please notify our membership team--Jeanne Richard at 813 948-7539 or email at [tampamoaa.membership@gmail.com](mailto:tampamoaa.membership@gmail.com) or Tom South [tsouth1811@gmail.com](mailto:tsouth1811@gmail.com)

## LEGISLATIVE LOWDOWN



BY LTC REGINALD WILLIAMS, USA RET

This month's article is to inform you of two issue impacting our community and will need your continued support. First, is the new rule for TRICARE beneficiaries making telehealth visits effective July 1. Next teammates, we almost have the toxic reform bill over the goal line. We still have a little work to do to ensure the legislation is approved – so let's continue

to get after it!

### New Rules for TRICARE Beneficiaries Making Telehealth Visits'

Telephone-only telehealth appointments will become a permanent benefit under TRICARE next month at the same time a waiver removing copays for all telehealth visits will end.

DoD issued a Final Rule addressing TRICARE telehealth expansions on June 1, terminating the cost-sharing waiver and installing the permanent benefit as of July 1. The waiver came in May 2020 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, part of efforts by federal, state, and local governments to encourage individuals to stay home, avoid exposure, and to reduce possible transmission of the virus.

DoD will end the waiver given the availability of vaccines and the reduction of stay-at-home orders. Telehealth services remain a covered benefit, but TRICARE beneficiaries will have a copay or cost share for telehealth visits on or after July 1. You can find cost shares for your specific TRICARE plan and sponsor status using this online tool.

The rule change *does not* affect TRICARE for Life beneficiaries, who will continue to have zero cost share for telehealth visits (Medicare pays 80%, TRICARE picks up the remaining 20%). Medicare's telehealth policy remains connected to the COVID-19 national emergency, which was renewed in April by the White House; the administration said it would provide a 60-day notice before allowing it to expire, and Medicare's

existing telehealth coverage will extend at least five months after that expiration.

The Final Rule also makes permanent TRICARE coverage for telephone-only provider visits. Audio-only telehealth visits allow beneficiaries to consult with providers who typically don't offer telehealth services and expand access to beneficiaries who don't have access to technology needed for video telehealth visits.

As part of its COVID-19 response, DoD also expanded the number of providers available to offer telehealth services by allowing reimbursement for interstate care – that flexibility was not addressed by the Final Rule and remains in place for the time being. MOAA has advocated for telehealth licensure flexibility, and we look forward to seeing the results of a DoD feasibility study requested by the House Armed Services Committee in the FY 2022 National Defense Authorization Act.

MOAA appreciates the temporary TRICARE flexibilities to address the impact of COVID-19 and understands these policies must be revisited. However, we remain concerned about mental health copays and fear the expiration of the telehealth cost sharing waiver will present a barrier to access to those receiving mental health care via telehealth.

We will continue efforts to reduce copays for both in-person and virtual mental health care, which was part of MOAA's 2022 Advocacy in Action campaign; **please join MOAA by contacting your elected officials and asking them to**

continued on next page 2



Legislative LOWDOWN cont.

ensure military families don’t encounter a financial barrier to accessing this care.

‘Total Team Effort’: Toxic Exposure Reform Bill Passes Senate, Heads Back to House<sup>2</sup>

The Senate voted 84-14 on June 16 to pass the Sergeant First Class Heath Robinson Honoring Our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics (PACT) Act of 2022, sending the bill back to the House for consideration.

The House previously passed a version of the omnibus toxic exposure reform legislation 256-174. While the bill is expected to clear the chamber again, MOAA is asking its members and others to reach out to their representatives and secure their support for expanding VA care to more than 3.5 million veterans, adding 23 ailments to the list of those connected to toxic exposure, funding dozens of new VA facilities in 19 states, and improving toxic exposure-related screening, research, and claims processing.

[TAKE ACTION: [Ask Your House Member to Vote for the Honoring Our PACT Act](#) | [Call Your House Member Today](#)]

“This was a total team effort, from the legislative staffs in both chambers to the dozens of advocacy groups on board to the grassroots work put in by thousands of MOAA members,” said Lt. Gen. Dana T. Atkins, USAF (Ret), MOAA president and CEO. “Everyone played a role in this success, but we’re not done yet – MOAA and our partners will see this through not

just the president’s signature, but through the implementation process so critical to ensure the earned benefits of millions of veterans.”

MOAA has supported multiple attempts at much-needed comprehensive toxic exposure reform, with efforts picking up in recent years. A coalition formed behind the current legislation, to include veterans groups like the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the American Legion, Disabled American Veterans, Wounded Warrior Project, Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America, Burn Pits 360, AMVETS, Reserve Organization of America, and Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors; veterans advocate Jon Stewart; and members of Congress from both parties, including Sen. Jon Tester (D-Mont.), chair of the Senate Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, and Sen. Jerry Moran (R-Kan.), the committee’s ranking member.

“There’s absolutely no reason, none, this bill should be a Republican bill or a Democrat bill,” Moran said at a June 7 press event held prior to the Senate’s initial cloture vote.

“I urge the House to swiftly pass this bill so I can sign it into law right away,” President Joe Biden said in a June 16 White House statement.

VA Secretary Denis McDonough said his department supports “the expansion of access to VA health care in the PACT Act and will work to ensure that the expansion of eligibility for health care does not result in the delay or disruption of care

for those Veterans already receiving health care from VA.”

Senate changes to the initial House bill did not increase the overall cost of the legislation, which had raised concern from some lawmakers. The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimated the House-passed version would cost \$322 billion, per a Military Times report -- \$43 billion more than the CBO score for the Senate version. Savings would come from delays to some benefit implementation and the use of community care programs to cover some testing and examination requirements, according to the report.

“This bill’s Senate passage shows what the uniformed services community can accomplish when it comes together,” said Cory Titus, MOAA’s director of government relations for veteran benefits and Guard/Reserve affairs. “Millions of veterans will benefit from this bill, including some who have waited more than half a century for the benefits they earned and the care they require. It’s a long-overdue fix, but we are grateful to the lawmakers who’ve helped make it happen.”

**Ask your House member to ensure this legislation crosses the finish line, by sending a letter or making a phone call today.**

TAKE ACTION: Legislative Action Center

Sources:  
1) [www.moaa.org](#), article by Karen Ruedisueli, June 15, 2022  
2) [www.moaa.org](#), article by Kevin Lilley, June 16, 2022

MOAA TAMPA CHAPTER RECEIVES 5 STAR COMMUNICATIONS AWARD

—By Sara Marks, CAPT NC USN (Ret)

Congratulations to the MOAA Tampa Chapter for receiving the 5 Star Col Marvin J. Harris Communications Award for both the Newsletter, *The Retrospect* and their website: [www.moaaatampa.org](#)! Pictured are MOAA Tampa Chapter President, COL Charles Dalcourt, USA (Ret) and Director for Communications and Editor, *The Retrospect*, CAPT Sara Marks, NC USN (Ret) with the award presented by Lt Gen Dana Atkins, USAF (Ret) President and CEO of MOAA National and COL Michael Borders, USA (Ret) President of the Florida Council of Chapters (FCOC) at the FCOC Convention held in West Palm Beach, FL June 10, 2022.

The MOAA Tampa Chapter would also like to acknowledge the invaluable contributions of Emily Yates, Publisher and freelance graphic designer for *The Retrospect*, Michael Higgins of Higgins Dynamic Enterprises and Web Manager for the MOAA Tampa website, and Nick Nicholson, CPT, USA (Ret) and MOAA Tampa Chapter member who volunteers his time providing technical oversight for the Chapter’s website.



6th Medical Group, MacDill wants YOU!

**WHAT:**  
Red Cross Volunteer(s) to man the front entrance information desk at the 6th Medical Group.

**WHEN:**  
M-F, 0700-1630. Several individuals could make this very doable.

**WHY:**  
Currently Active Duty troops are manning the desk which means they are not available for other clinic duties.

**POINT OF CONTACT:**  
TSgt Brace - 813-827-9785



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

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



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



2022 OFFICERS:

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1ST VP: WILLIAM SCHNEIDER COL USA RET  
2ND VP: MATTHEW MULARONI LTC USA RET  
IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT: CAROL ZIERES COL USA RET  
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LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS: REGINALD WILLIAMS LTC USA RET



MOAA MISSION STATEMENT

The Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) is a nonprofit veterans’ association dedi-  
cated 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, Space Force, Public Health  
Service, or NOAA and their surviving spouses.

MOAA Tampa Chapter



5 Star MOAA Chapter  
2003 • 2005 - 2010  
2012 - 2017 • 2019 - 2020



2020, 2021 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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Military Officers Association of America  
Post Office Box 6383  
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E-Mail: [TampaMOAA.Secretary@gmail.com](mailto:TampaMOAA.Secretary@gmail.com)





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



As Editor it is always an honor to capture the many activities that our chapter members are involved in. I am most excited to announce two very distinguished awards that were presented at the Florida Council of Chapters Convention held in June at West Palm Beach. First the MOAA Tampa Chapter received the 5 Star Communications Award from MOAA National for our newsletter The Retrospect and for our

website. Also, one of our chapter members, Colonel DJ Reyes, USA (Ret) received the MOAA Distinguished Service Award for his work with the Veterans Treatment Court. Read the articles about these wonderful achievements. CAPT Steve Swift, USN (Ret) and COL Carol Zieres, USA (Ret) provided photos from their attendance to Memorial Day services honoring those who gave the ultimate sacrifice. Look for the photos of their events and make sure to read the Coalition Corner with BG Larsen's reflections of Memorial Day here in Tampa at another Memorial Day service and describing how Denmark commemorates Memorial Day in his country.

I'm also pleased to announce that our luncheon guest speakers for the July luncheon are Renee Brunell and Rande Friedman who will talk about what to do to prepare to settle an estate to include cleaning out the home and thoughts on selling the house.

There are two people specifically highlighted each month. Our Member of the Month is Captain Nick Nicholson, USA (Ret), who volunteers to provide technical oversite for our chapter's website. Nick, you're so much fun to work with and I've come to appreciate your easy and professional manner when we spend time collaborating on the website. You're a tremendous asset to our chapter, and I'm proud to also call you "friend." Our Chapter Member Spotlight this month is Colonel Mary Martin, USAF (Ret). Mary has been a great help to me when I've asked her to assist me in proofing the newsletter. You have such an interesting background, especially providing a perspective of serving as a reservist throughout your career. Make sure to read about these talented and dedicated members of our chapter.

Other articles that I hope you'll enjoy including the history of the US Army Chaplain Corps, National Korean War Veterans Armistice Day, history of Independence Day and things to do in Tampa Bay during our 4th of July celebration! Make sure to read about the people at the Columbia Restaurant who make our luncheons run so smoothly. Bob Sawallesh provided this link that I'd like to share about their General Manager for you to take a moment to watch: <https://www.fox13news.com/news/columbias-general-manager-reflects-on-more-than-50-year-career-are-legacy-restaurant>.

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. I challenge all of our Chapter Members to send me your stories! I love hearing about your stories and adventures. You never know who you may inspire by sharing your experiences. Page 3 of our newsletter always has our Chapter Secretary's email, so send any articles or questions to [TampaMOAA.Secretary@gmail.com](mailto:TampaMOAA.Secretary@gmail.com) or you may contact me at [MOAATampa.website@gmail.com](mailto:MOAATampa.website@gmail.com)!

As we celebrate our Nation's Birthday this July, let us continue to pray for all who are harm's way and pray for this Great Nation especially during this time of turmoil at home and abroad. Have a safe and fun 4th of July. Don't forget to reach out and to encourage each other. Prayers for comfort, healing, and joy.

"The life of the nation is secure only while the nation is honest, truthful, and virtuous." – Frederick Douglass

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 the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA).

#### OUR EDITORIAL POLICY:

MOAA National, the Florida Council of Chapters, and the Tampa Chapter are non-partisan organizations. The views expressed in individually signed articles and the advertisements that appear in this publication/website do not reflect

an endorsement by MOAA or this affiliate. Articles in the newsletter/website are the opinions solely of the individual authors and do not necessarily express the policy or opinions of the newsletter's editor or publisher, nor do they reflect an endorsement by the Tampa Chapter or the National organization of the Military Officers Association of America, unless so indicated. The views expressed in individually signed articles do not necessarily reflect Chapter 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 the second Thursday of the month at the Columbia Siboney Room in Ybor City and available to attend via Zoom.

#### ON THE WEB:

Tampa Chapter <http://moaatampa.org>

Communications directed to specific board members listed in the main menu ABOUT US then LEADERSHIP may be made by emailing [TampaMOAA.Secretary@gmail.com](mailto:TampaMOAA.Secretary@gmail.com) or going to the main menu to CONTACT and email us using the form provided.

FACEBOOK: [MOAA Tampa Chapter](#)

INSTAGRAM: [https://www.instagram.com/moaa\\_tampa](https://www.instagram.com/moaa_tampa)

A password protected MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY is posted on the website under the "MEMBERSHIP" category. FL COUNCIL OF CHAPTERS: [www.moaafl.org](http://www.moaafl.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>

MOAA'S NEWS LISTING - Click for the latest news and resources from MOAA. [www.moaa.org](http://www.moaa.org)

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.

## WINTER FUNDRAISING GALA UPDATE

—By Tom Kuhar, CDR USCG RET

"As you know, the 2nd Annual Winter Gala will be held on December 16th, 2022. The planning team has confirmed the location (same as last year) and have had preliminary meetings with the Club staff to ensure another fantastic evening. We anticipate tickets will go on sale in the coming weeks; please be on the lookout for a detailed email announcement.

The Gala is our primary fundraising activity for the Tampa Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America. As such, please consider asking for donations from businesses you frequent or colleagues who may be interested in supporting our Chapter's outreach to the local Tampa veteran communities we serve. Sponsorships, cash donations, and donations to the silent auction and raffle will greatly help our efforts to increase the level of funds we raise this year by 50% from last year. It is an ambitious, but achievable goal if we all help secure donations.

Lastly, if you haven't already, please volunteer to help with any of the multiple planning efforts. Please email [tampamoaa.event@gmail.com](mailto:tampamoaa.event@gmail.com) with your availability and preferences for how you wish to help.

In the meantime, break out your dress-up clothes, make sure they fit, get them cleaned, and go pick up some toys for Toys-for-Tots before the holiday rush begins."



### Care for those who *served*

If you served in the Army or are a member of the Fleet Reserve Association through the Navy, Marines, Coast Guard or National Guard, you and qualifying family members may be eligible for exclusive senior living discounts that can help you and your family get the care you deserve.

SENIOR LIVING:	PRIVATE DUTY:	RESPIRE STAY:
7.5% OFF discount on senior living*	10% OFF discount on private duty home care**	Respite stay discounts vary by community***

Discounts are available to you and your family members, including spouses, parents, step-parents, siblings, in-laws, adult children, adult step-children, grandparents and step-grandparents.

► For more information or to schedule your visit, call (866) 749-7445 today.

\* Discount is only applicable to new residents of a Brookdale independent living, assisted living or memory care community admitting under an executed residency agreement. Discount applies only to the monthly fee/basic service rate, excluding care costs and other fees and is calculated based on initial monthly fee/basic service rate.  
\*\* Discount is only applicable to a new client of personal assistance services by a Brookdale agency under an executed service agreement.  
\*\*\* Discount is only applicable to new residents of a Brookdale assisted living or memory care community admitting under an executed respite agreement. Discount applies to the daily rate. Residents under a Life Care Agreement are not eligible for the discounts. These discounts do not apply to any room, board or services which are paid for all or in part by any state or federally funded program. Subject to availability. Further restrictions may apply.

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# MEMBER OF THE MONTH

## NICK NICHOLSON, CPT USA RET



Nick served in the Army initially with the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) and with the 82nd Airborne Division. While serving at the 101st he performed various maintenance roles with the Aviation branch. While serving at the 82nd he performed multiple roles within the Logistic branch before being assigned to the Signal branch to perform multiple Information Technology (IT) roles.

After a successful transition, Nick continued pursuing his IT endeavors. Currently he supports the Department of Defense (DoD) providing IT expertise to one of the Combatant Com-

mands. He also works alongside Wingu Technologies which is a local small business provider of Cloud and IT solutions and services. He also volunteers with Project Transition USA “who specializes in helping transitioning U.S. military services members and their dependents” on MacDill Air Force Base.

Nick is a recent member of MOAA Tampa Chapter and continues to facilitate various IT roles. He advises, recommends, and procures IT solutions to help the chapter plan and execute its day to day operations, while improving the chapter’s overall Cybersecurity posture.

# JULY LUNCHEON GUEST SPEAKER

## RENEE BRUNELLE AND RANDE FRIEDMAN



Renée Brunelle Matthews is the Co-Founder of Pathfinders Downsizing Solutions. She guides clients in the navigation of smoothly moving from one residence to another by “rightsizing” their entire home. Her favorite question is... “if the big storm was coming what things would you have to take?” It is a great way to begin the conversation of best choices for the next residence focused on what to *take*, what to *sell* and what to *donate/trash*. She recently discovered Spanish Galleon Silver Coins at an Estate Home that the adult child had no idea the parents had purchased decades ago.

Renée has over twenty years of experience in the Senior Living Industry as both a Marketing Director and Executive Director. Her background in working with thousands of seniors to decide on apartment choices, and then what household items to bring has been a great asset for Pathfinders clients. Through Pathfinders Downsizing Solutions clients, she has been able to provide ongoing stream of donations to Liberty Manor Veterans Home and other local underserved charities.



Rande Friedman  
813.943.2677  
Rande@WhiteGloveHouse.com

Renée has been an active part of the military community after marrying her late husband, Travis. The business is named after him since he was an Army Pathfinder plus Ranger and Green Beret. She was instrumental in starting the Yellow Ribbon Campaign at the Florida State Capital and local buildings. Since moving to Tampa over twelve years ago, she has supported USSOCOM, USCENTCOM, SOCCENT, both the 6<sup>th</sup> & 927<sup>th</sup> Wings.

**Professional and Community Affiliations:**  
Surviving Spouse Advisory Council Member ~ MOAA  
Surviving Spouse Liaison ~ Tampa Chapter MOAA  
927<sup>th</sup> Reserve Wing ~ Board of Directors (Previously Honorary Commander)  
South Tampa Chamber of Commerce Military Affairs Committee member  
GFWC Tampa Woman’s Club member (Previously Tallahassee member)  
MacDill Alliance founding member

**Education:**  
Bachelor and Master Degrees in Health Science from Armstrong Atlantic University in Savannah, Georgia with a focus on senior health and wellness.

With a background in sales and merchandising, I decided to pursue real estate in 2005. I became a specialist in probate and senior relocation after several referrals from attorneys and accountants. When asked why they chose me, they all said it was my natural ability to make people feel assured and at ease. Flattered, I dove headfirst into learning all I could about this segment of real estate. In addition to being a Certified Probate Real Estate Specialist, I am also a Senior Real Estate Specialist and an affiliate of the Hillsborough County Bar and the North Tampa Bar Associations.

# JUNE RAFFLE WINNER

Ken Martin, COL USMC RET won the raffle for tickets to see the Tampa Bay Rays along with a baseball cap and signed baseball. Come join the July luncheon and buy some raffle tickets that support MOAA Tampa’s Scholarships, Veterans Outreach and Transition programs.





# THANK YOU TO THE COLUMBIA STAFF FOR OUTSTANDING SUPPORT & SERVICE

By Sara Marks CAPT NC USN (Ret)  
and Bob Sawallesh LTC USA (Ret)

For all who attend the monthly luncheons at the Columbia Restaurant it's hard not to notice the wonderful food, the beautiful setting and hopefully the fellowship and new friendships at each luncheon. The Columbia has been so supportive of MOAA Tampa Chapter's luncheons and extending our time in the room for board meetings and Winter Gala planning upon request. However, the people we should never forget are the wonderful servers and service that the Columbia Restaurant always provides.

At our last luncheon Bob Sawallesh had the opportunity to meet and talk to the General Manager, George Guito who has been at the Columbia for 60 years. He started out as a cleaner. The servers that Bob spoke with have also worked at the Columbia for a good number of years, which is very unusual in today's restaurant culture. So the next time you attend one of MOAA Tampa's luncheons notice the crispness of each of the servers uniforms.

Makes one wonder if they hold a uniform inspection prior to the restaurant opening, but it's most obvious that each employee takes great pride in their appearance and the excellent manner and care in providing outstanding and gracious service. Make sure to take a moment to thank Mr. Guito and our servers at the next luncheon.

—Photo credits: Sara Marks CAPT NC USN (Ret) and Bob Sawallesh LTC USA (Ret)



# AMERICAN LEGION 5 WREATH LAYING CEREMONY

By Carol Zieres, COL USA (Ret)

MOAA Tampa Chapter's Immediate Past President Carol Zieres assisted with laying wreaths with the Boy Scouts at the American Legion Cemetery, USS Tampa, Post #5 Wreath Laying Ceremony on Memorial Day. Also in attendance, Ben Ritter, Honorary MOAA Tampa Chapter member. (Photo credits: Carol Zieres and Ben Ritter)





Photo credits: Bob Sawallesh, Ben Ritter and Sara Marks







# JULY LUNCHEON MEETING

**EVENT:** Chapter Monthly Luncheon Meeting  
**DATE:** Thursday, 14 July   **TIME:** 1130 hours  
**LOCATION:** Columbia Restaurant, Siboney Room, 2117 E 7<sup>th</sup> Ave, Ybor City  
**RESERVATIONS:** Call 813-676-4676 and follow the prompts OR via email to [bab@digital.net](mailto:bab@digital.net).  
**REMEMBER:** A reservation made is a reservation paid.  
Reservations must be made by NOON Friday, 8 July. Reservations are limited to 60.  
**CANCELLATIONS** must be made by NOON Monday, 11 July by calling 813-676-4676.  
**COST:** Event cost is \$30 payable by check or cash, \$31 by credit card (includes service charge).  
**MASKS:** Masks are optional.  
**DRESS CODE:** Proper attire is business casual for all (i.e., for men, slacks/collared shirts). Military uniforms are always appropriate.  
**MENU:** 1905 Salad, Cuban Bread and butter, Cuban Sandwiches, Boliche, Seasonal Fresh Vegetables, Black Beans, Coffee, Iced Tea, Soft Drinks and Flan  
**PARKING:** Across the street from the Columbia Restaurant and behind the Columbia Restaurant  
Luncheon reminders are sent via email. If you are not receiving the reminders, please call 813-374-3309 or send an email to [bab@digital.net](mailto:bab@digital.net) to be added to the distribution list.

Or by Zoom:

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## 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 Lt Col Kiley Stinson USAF Ret, Sick Call Chairman 813-957-1127 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)

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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).



**Dominick “Nick” Clemente**  
LTC USA AD

**David Pitts**  
MAJ USAF RET

**Cheryl Lockhart**  
COL USAF AD

**Matthew Will**  
CAPT USAF AD

**Rossonio (Roe) Lawrence**  
CW3 USA RET

**Mark Davey**  
LTC USA RET

### IMPORTANT DATES IN JULY 2022

4 Independence Day  
25 National Hire A Veteran Day  
27 National Korean War Veterans Armistice Day  
29 Army Chaplain Corps Anniversary





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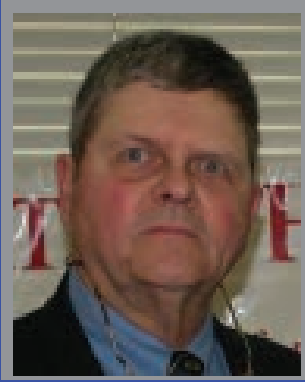
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# UPDATE OPERATION HELPING HAND



LTC JIM GRIFFIN  
Chairman, OPHH

“As long as we are  
needed, Operation  
Helping Hand will  
/be there...”



ON 16 JUNE, OPERATION HELPING HAND held its 199<sup>th</sup> monthly dinner to support the wounded and injured who receive treatment at the SCI/POLYTRAUMA facilities at the JAMES A HALEY VA HOSPITAL.

Special thanks to the great folks from BRANDON RUNNING ASSOCIATION for sponsoring the event and providing their dynamic support at the dinner.

The TAMPA ROTARY CLUB OF WESTCHASE presented a check from their very successful CLAY SHOOT to benefit OPERATION HELPING HAND. Thank you folks- much appreciated!

Next fund raising event will be the BOBBY A'S BACKYARD BBQ, which will take place on 3 JULY from 1200-4:00 next to HANKS ON DALE MABRY. You will be able to preorder on the OPERATION HELPING HAND WEBSITE or just drop by and eat with us. A \$15.00 donation is requested per plate. Hope you all can make it-and bring an umbrella just in case.

OPERATION HELPING HAND will continue to provide support and assistance to the MUSIC, ART, VIRTUAL REALITY, AND MOTION THERAPY PROGRAMS. We will always support the POLYTRAUMA FAMILY SUPPORT GROUP which provides a vital mission to join old and new patients and their families.

OPERATION HELPING HAND is an all-volunteer 501 (c) (3) organization, in which 96.5% of all donations received goes to support all of these programs. OPERATION HELPING HAND will need your continued support to allow us to continue our assistance to all of these vital programs. This support can be 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!



## Operation Helping Hand June Dinner Photos

Photo credit: LTC Bob Sawallesh USA (Ret) and CWO Tom South, USA (Ret)





# CHAPTER MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

## COLONEL MARY MARTIN, USAF RET



Mary Martin, a MOAA Life Member since 2002, joined the MOAA Tampa Chapter in July of 2021. While living in Fort Lauderdale, 2018-2021, she served as the Second Vice President for the Broward County MOAA chapter. During the past year she assisted with proof-reading *The Retrospect*.

Her military bio includes 4 1/2 years with the Army Reserve from 1980 to 1984 and after an interservice transfer, served 19 years with the Air Force Reserve. As a traditional reservist, Colonel Martin was a chief flight nurse for the 37 Aeromedical (AEG), MacDill AFB and later became the commander of two Air Force reserve units. The first was for the 64th Aeromedical Squadron (AES) Dobbins Air Reserve Base in Atlanta and then the 37<sup>th</sup> AEG.

While with the Air Force reserve she was deployed to Operation Desert Storm, Torrejon Air Base, Spain where she was the Chief Nurse of the Aeromedical Evacuation Command

Center. In 1996, she was recalled to active duty to serve on the Air Staff at the Pentagon as the Director of Medical Affairs (AF/REM) reporting to the Chief, Air Force Reserve. AF/REM responded to congressional, White House and defense department issues or complaints from military members and their families. Oversight for major medical programs included line of duty decisions, the anthrax immunization program, Tri-care for reserve family members, including dental insurance.

Currently she teaches health policy at the master's level at Chamberlain University and guides doctoral PHD dissertations at Walden University.

(Pictures are with her nephew and a Memorial Day ceremony at a Fort Lauderdale High School.)

## MOAA TAMPA SUPPORTS HOMELESS VETERANS

—By Sara Marks, CAPT NC USN (Ret)

Blessed with an abundance of food at the monthly chapter luncheons, MOAA Tampa members Bob Sawallesh, LTC USA (Ret) and Immediate Past President, Carol Zieres, COL USA (Ret) assist Paula Stewart, LTC USA (Ret) with the leftover food from the buffet for delivery to homeless veterans in Tampa. LTC Stewart works with local organizations to help find shelter or permanent housing for homeless veterans, get counselling, provide meals, clothing, and other basic necessities. The challenge is to create a network of concerned individuals and service organizations to help support our veterans.



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# COLONEL DJ REYES, USA RET RECEIVES MOAA DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Congratulations to COL DJ Reyes, USA (Ret) for his well deserved recognition for his enduring work with Veterans Treatment Courts and overall support to our veterans and their families. MOAA National President and CEO, Lt Gen Dana Atkins, USAF (Ret) presented COL Reyes his award at the Florida Council of Chapters Convention held in West Palm Beach June 11, 2022.



## 6TH MEDICAL GROUP ACTIVE IN MOAA TAMPA LUNCHEONS

—By Sara Marks, CAPT NC USN (Ret)

Welcome to Physical Therapists from the 6th Medical Group, Capt Will and Capt Witowic to the MOAA Tampa Chapter's luncheon. COL Lockhart, you are an amazing mentor to the officers at the 6th Medical Group by bringing them to our monthly luncheons and introducing them to MOAA and MOAA Tampa's mission to take care of all of veterans. We look forward to seeing you each month and meeting more of the officers from the 6th Medical Group and the valuable updates you provide to our chapter!



## MOAA TAMPA CHAPTER SUPPORTS LOCAL MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE

—By Steve Swift, CAPT USN (Ret)

30 Naval Academy Alumni and friends (including MOAA members Father Tim Corcoran, Chris Heath and Steve Swift) met at the Tampa Bay Alumni Run/Walk to Honor alumni killed in combat and military operations at Ballast Point on Memorial Day. Specifically, Brian Bourgeois, Class of 2001, who lived in Fishhawk/Tampa area from 2017-2019, and helped recruit for Navy as a Blue and Gold Officer, was honored. He was the CO of SEAL Team 8, and was killed in a training accident last December. Some alumni ran for their roommates, classmates, and shipmates. Taps was played on the French Horn to Honor all. Mimosas were enjoyed after the walk/run to toast and remember the honorees that gave their lives for our country.





# What’s the History of July 4th?

## Plus, 22 Surprising 4th of July Facts

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



Many of us celebrate the [Fourth of July](#) every year with [fireworks](#), barbecues, concerts and parades. Growing up, you may have heard that we celebrate Independence Day on July 4 because that’s the day the Founding Fathers signed the Declaration of Independence, but that’s not technically true! Although the Declaration was adopted on July 4, 1776, it wasn’t signed by most people until a month later. Read on for some more interesting [4th of July facts and history](#) and enjoy July 4, 2022!

### 4th of July History

On July 2, 1776, the Continental Congress voted in favor of declaring independence from Great Britain. The Declaration of Independence was officially adopted two days later, marked by the ringing of the Liberty Bell at Independence Hall in Philadelphia.

At the time, John Adams believed that July 2, not July 4, would be the date remembered by history.

“The Second Day of July 1776, will be the most memorable Epocha, in the History of America,” Adams [wrote in a letter](#) to his wife on July 3 of that year. “I am apt to believe that it will be celebrated, by succeeding Generations, as the great [anniversary](#) Festival.”

Although our Independence Day celebrations fall on a different date, today’s July 4 festivities would look familiar to Adams, who called for people to celebrate the day with “Pomp and Parade, with Shews, Games, Sports, Guns, Bells, Bonfires and Illuminations from one End of this Continent to the other from this Time forward forever more.”

Other early July 4 traditions have not carried through to the present day. Some colonists celebrated the day by holding mock funerals for England’s King George III, as a way of reinforcing America’s victory over the British monarchy, according to [History.com](#).

The Fourth of July was celebrated annually throughout the 18th and 19th centuries, and in 1870, Congress declared the day a [federal holiday](#). But it wasn’t until 1941 that the date became a paid federal holiday for federal employees.

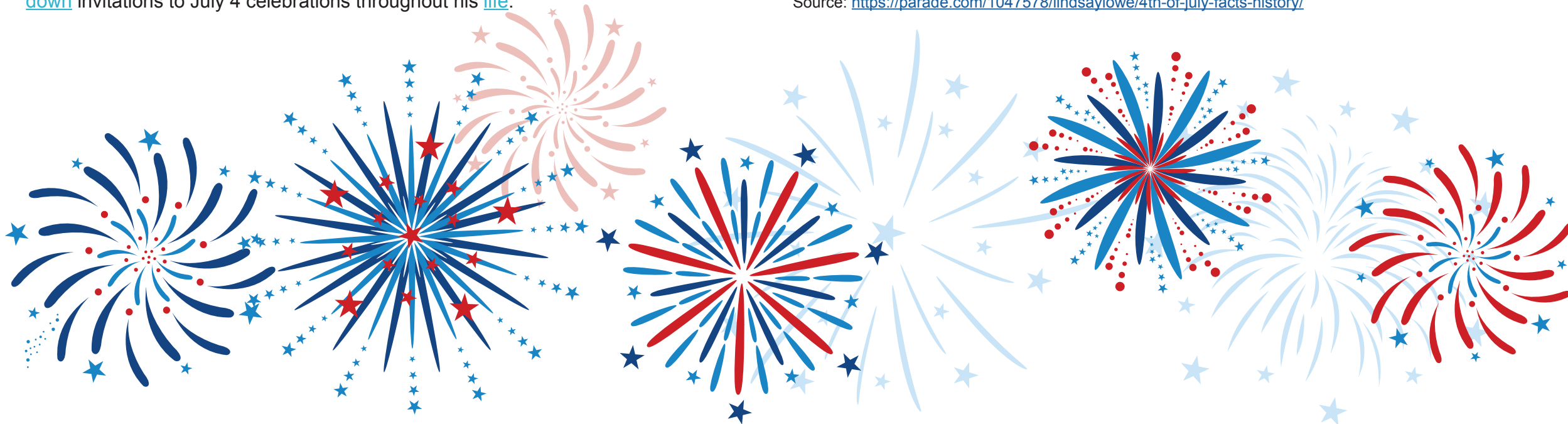
Today, fireworks displays around the country echo Adams’ call for “bonfires and illuminations from one End of this Continent to the other.”

### 4th of July Facts

1. The Declaration of Independence [was not signed](#) on July 4, 1776. That’s actually the day it was formally adopted by the Continental Congress, but it wasn’t signed by most signatories until August.
2. American typically eat 150 million hot dogs on Independence Day, “enough to stretch from D.C. to L.A. more than five times,” according to the [National Hot Dog and Sauce Council](#).
3. Three presidents [have died](#) on July 4: Thomas Jefferson, John Adams, and James Monroe.
4. John Adams [believed](#) that American independence should be celebrated on July 2, as that’s the actual day the Continental Congress voted for independence in 1776.
5. Annoyed that Independence Day wasn’t celebrated on July 2, Adams [reportedly turned down](#) invitations to July 4 celebrations throughout his [life](#).

6. Massachusetts [became the first state](#) to make the 4th of July an official state holiday in 1781.
7. President Zachary Taylor [died in 1850](#) after eating spoiled fruit at a July 4 celebration.
8. The famed Macy’s fireworks show in New York City [uses more than 75,000 fire-works](#) shells and costs about \$6 million.
9. Nathan’s Famous Hot Dog Eating Contest [is held annually](#) on July 4. In 2018, champion Joey Chestnut ate 74 hot dogs with buns in just 10 minutes.
10. Independence Day [became a federal holiday](#) in 1870.
11. As of 2016, July 4 was the number one holiday for [beer](#) sales in the U.S., according to the [National Beer Wholesalers Association](#).
12. In 1778, [George Washington gave his soldiers](#) a double ration of rum to celebrate the July 4 holiday.
13. Every July 4, descendants of the signers of the Declaration of Independence [tap the Liberty Bell](#) 13 times in honor of the original 13 colonies.
14. Eating [salmon](#) is a July 4 [tradition](#) in parts of New England.
15. Small towns in the U.S. [typically spend](#) between \$8,000 and \$15,000 on their fireworks displays.
16. President Calvin Coolidge [was born](#) on July 4, 1872.
17. About 16,000 July 4 fireworks displays happen around the country each year, according to the [American Pyrotechnics Association](#).
18. Starting in 1818, new stars and stripes were added to the [American flag](#) each July 4 to make the creation of new states.
19. The U.S. Flag Code [offers guidelines](#) for flying the flag on July 4, and every day.
20. John Hancock [has the largest signature](#) on the Declaration of Independence.
21. The first July 4 celebration [took place](#) at the White House in 1801, hosted by Thomas Jefferson.
22. One World Trade Center in New York is 1,776 feet tall to [mark the year](#) the U.S. declared its independence from Britain.

Source: <https://parade.com/1047578/lindsaylowe/4th-of-july-facts-history/>





# Coalition Corner



Dear MOAA members,

During Memorial Day representatives from more than ten nations from the International Coalition at US CENTCOM participated at the memorial ceremony that took place in MacDill Park on the Tampa Riverwalk.

It is always a great honour for coalition partners to support events like this. Memorial Day offers an opportunity for Gold Star families to come together to remember loved ones who gave their lives in service for their country - in this case the United States of America.

US CENTCOM was represented by Deputy Commander Vice Admiral James Malloy. I strongly believe that the Gold Star families represented at this memorial event were very appreciative of the speech from the CENTCOM Deputy Commander - a very personal speech mentioning the family members lost in recent missions. Tampa Mayor Jane Castor and others were there giving speeches too.



Many nations worldwide observe memorial days. Veterans who were serving in international missions during the past year are recognized for their service and determination to defend our respective nations. Our fallen colleagues are remembered and honoured - and will never be forgotten.

In my nation (Denmark) this event occurs every year on September fifth, which is our National Flag Day. Veterans engaged in missions over the past year march through the

central part of our capital Copenhagen and end up in front of our Parliament Christiansborg (borg means castle). The Prime Minister or Minister of Defence and our Chief of Defence deliver speeches honouring the veterans who served abroad and those who gave their lives serving for our nation. Families who lost loved ones are invited every year to attend the ceremony. On September fifth we often tell our stories - share our experiences if you will.

As a Royal Danish Air Force commander of our Air Force Training Centre, I unfortunately lost a colleague from my unit who served in Afghanistan back in 2010. I personally went to inform his wife and parents. The following year I served in Afghanistan for one year from 2011 to 2012. When I returned, I was part of the National Flag Day ceremony standing in the parade. Right in front of me sitting in the first row (our "Gold Star" families) were the wife and parents of my colleague who didn't return. Obviously, it was with very mixed feelings I was standing there as part of the parade. They approached me right after the parade to thank me for my service and what I did to help them through a very difficult time two years earlier. After that episode I always remember not to take anything for granted. Every year on September fifth, I always spend time to do some reflection on the "bigger issues" in life. This is time well spent and always guides me on my future path.



—The parade in front of the Danish Parliament

—Members of the Danish armed forces deployed in international operations marches in Copenhagen



—His Royal Highness the Crown Prince and the Princess participating in the memorial ceremony.

I encourage all to reflect on the time that has passed with a focus on what you need to navigate to be safe in the future.

With that and on behalf of the entire International Coalition I wish you a happy July.

BGEN Henrik Larsen  
Danish Senior National Representative to US CENTCOM  
And Chairman of the Coalition



## MEDICAL CORNER

### Patient And Family Partnership Council

—Submitted by Jeanne Richard, Lt Col USAF Retired



—6th Medical Group Patient and Family Partnership Council, MacDill AFB

*What is this you ask? Well, here's the scoop!*

"The 6<sup>th</sup> Medical Group (6 MDG) is among a growing number of clinics that are committed to patient and family centered care in the planning, design, and delivery of care. Our goal is to listen to the voice of our patients and their families. We want our patients and families to help us provide the highest quality of care to every patient, every time. This council will assist us as we work to become one of the best clinics in the Military Health System and our community. What our patients and families think is important as we work to provide safe, high quality and compassionate care."

The Council meets quarterly with the next meeting scheduled for 13 July 2022. I am currently a member of the Council and would be interested in any comments or suggestions that I can bring to the group for discussion. Topics discussed in the past include 1) pharmacy access; 2) prescription renewal; 3) immunization services; 4) COVID vaccines and

testing; 5) 6 MDG volunteer opportunities; 6) Council member volunteer. Submit topics to me, [lutzgranny89@gmail.com](mailto:lutzgranny89@gmail.com), NLT 1 July.

If you have ideas to help improve Medical Group services, please consider joining the Council. We meet quarterly and are seeking motivated patients and family members to serve as a council member on the team. Your ideas will be considered by the Executive Staff and could promote positive change in the HealthCare System.

If you are interested, please contact:

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# Ingalls Christens its 10th Legend-Class National Security Cutter

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

PASCAGOULA, Mississippi — Ingalls Shipbuilding held a christening ceremony Saturday for National Security Cutter Calhoun (WMSL 759) — the 10th NSC the Pascagoula shipyard has built for the U.S. Coast Guard.

WMSL 759 is named in honor of Charles L. Calhoun, the first Master Chief Petty Officer of the Coast Guard. Calhoun served in the U.S. Navy for three years during World War II as a torpedoman 2nd class, serving aboard the USS Lunga Point in the Pacific theatre. He participated in historic battles at Leyte Gulf, Luzon, Iwo Jima and Okinawa before being honorably discharged in 1946.

He enlisted in the Coast Guard shortly after being discharged from the Navy, assigned the rank of Boatswain's Mate 2nd Class due to his Navy training and experience. He would later serve aboard the USCGC Point Orient during the Vietnam War. The cutter fired shots at the enemy during its very first patrol, making the Point Orient the first Coast Guard cutter to fire shots in the war.

Calhoun would ultimately rise to Master Chief Petty officer of the Coast Guard, being named the first to hold the newly-created position on Aug. 27, 1969. He would serve in the position nearly four years before retiring in August 1973. He died in Santa Rosa, Calif., on Feb. 24, 2022 at the age of 76.

Calhoun's commendations and awards include the Coast Guard's Legion of Merit, Commandant's Letter of Commendation Ribbon, the Combat Action Ribbon and the Navy Presidential Unit Citation.

During Saturday's ceremony, Christina Calhoun Zubowicz, ship sponsor and granddaughter of the namesake, christened the ship by breaking a bottle of sparkling wine across the bow.

"On behalf of the Calhoun family, I would like to extend our sincere appreciation for the tre-



—Ingalls Shipbuilding held a christening ceremony June 4, 2022 for National Security Cutter Calhoun (WMSL 759) — the 10th NSC the Pascagoula shipyard has built for the U.S. Coast Guard. (Huntington Ingalls Industries)

mendous work being done here at Ingalls Shipbuilding," Zubowicz said. "Rest assured that my grandfather would be admiring this ship with great pride today knowing that his name would continue his life's work of carrying out Coast Guard missions."

Ingalls is the nation's sole provider of Legend-class cutters to the Coast Guard. Ingalls president Kari Wilkinson noted the shipyard's commitment to building "magnificent" ships for the Coast Guard.

"Today's christening is an acknowledgement of an important and valued partnership between our shipyard and the United States Coast Guard," Wilkinson said. "We consider it a privilege to build these magnificent ships and as shipbuilders, we are humbled to further Master Chief Calhoun's legacy."

U.S. Coast Guard Adm. Linda Fagan was the day's keynote speaker, having recently been appointed to lead the Coast Guard, making her the armed forces' first female service chief.

"I'm super proud of the Ingalls team, I know how much heart and soul goes into building a ship like this," Fagan said. "These national security cutters are absolutely vital to our national security and economic prosperity."

"We are a global coast guard, forward deployed — conducting exercises with maritime forces, strengthening security partnerships and maritime governance in critical parts of the world right now."

Ingalls has delivered nine Legend-class cutters to the Coast Guard, with to more under construction. Calhoun is scheduled to be delivered in early 2023.

Source: <https://www.military.com/daily-news/2022/06/07/ingalls-christens-its-10th-legend-class-national-security-cutter.html>

# Navy Unit Transfers Into Space Force, Becomes 10th Space Operations Squadron

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

By [Greg Hadley](#)

More than a dozen satellites and the Navy unit that operated them transferred into the Space Force on June 6, when the Naval Satellite Operations Center became the 10th Space Operations Squadron.

The switch marked the first of several space-focused units transferring from the Army and Navy over to the Space Force, [a process that began](#) as soon as the new service stood up in December 2019.

After months of discussion, the Space Force announced in September 2021 [a list of 15 Army and Navy units](#) that would transfer over, units that contained 319 military and 259 civilian personnel. Later that month, the [Space Force announced](#) it would welcome 215 military and 259 civilian personnel from those units.

Those transfers were supposed to start with the beginning of fiscal 2022, but Congress' [delay in passing a new budget](#) slowed the process down. An appropriations bill was finally passed in March, setting the stage for the June 6 Disestablishment and Assumption of Command Ceremony at Point Mugu, Calif.

"This activation marks the beginning of the Department of Defense's consolidation of all narrow-band, wide-band, and protected SATCOM to include all associated responsibilities for training, acquisition, and sustainment activities under a single military service for the first time in history," Space Force Lt. Gen. Stephen N. Whiting, head of Space Operations Command, said in a release.

The Naval Satellite Operations Center, or NAVSOC, first stood up in 1962 and has operated the Navy's satellites—there are 13 at the moment, providing global narrowband communications.

"For 60 years, NAVSOC has advocated and advanced American maritime superiority,"



Vice Adm. Ross A. Myers, commander, U.S. Fleet Cyber Command and U.S. 10th Fleet, left, shakes hands with Space Force Lt. Gen. Stephen N. Whiting, commander, Space Operations Command, during the Naval Satellite Operations Center disestablishment ceremony at Naval Base Ventura County, Calif., June 6, 2022. Navy photo by Ensign Drew Verbis.

said Vice Adm. Ross A. Myers, commander of U.S. Fleet Cyber Command and the 10th Fleet, during the ceremony. "NAVSOC enabled satellite communications to afford the United States and her allies the crucial ability to provide defensive measures, conduct over-the-horizon monitoring and targeting, and project combat power in areas of conflict and instability around the globe."

[All 13 of those satellites](#) are now under the Space Force, including the Ultra High Frequency Follow-On (UFO) satellite system, the Mobile User Objective System, and the Fleet Satellite Communications System. In addition to the satellites, NAVSOC also transferred over a facility at Laguna Peak, three miles from Point Mugu, that is responsible for the Space-Ground Link System and the satellites' telemetry, tracking, and command operations.

The newly formed 10th Space Operations Squadron will continue with its existing missions while now falling under Space Delta 8, which handles USSF's satellite communications enterprise.

"Space has become highly contested," Col. Matthew Holston, commander of Space Delta 8, said at the transfer ceremony. "Our adversaries recognize our reliance on space, and they are actively seeking ways to create vulnerabilities to take away our competitive advantage. It is the 10th Space Force Operations Squadron that is on the front lines to guaranteeing our American way of life."

According to a release, the 10th Space Operations Squadron was designated as such as a nod to its history as part of the 10th Fleet.

While NAVSOC is now part of the Space Force, the formal transfer of other units is still to come, including the Army's 53rd Signal Battalion.

Source: <https://www.airforcemag.com/navy-unit-transfers-into-space-force-becomes-10th-space-operations-squadron/>



# NATIONAL KOREAN WAR VETERANS ARMISTICE DAY

—By: Sara Marks, CAPT NC USN (Ret)

National Korean War Veterans Armistice Day is observed each year on July 27th. It is a time to remember as many as 50,000 American troops who died in the conflict (official sources vary on the actual number), and over 100,000 wounded, and thousands of prisoners of war.

The National Korean War Veterans Armistice Day will be observed on Wednesday, July 27th, 2022.

Each year, the President of the United States issues a proclamation announcing July 27th as a day of national observance in honor of Korean War veterans and their families. There are observances of this day on military bases, at military cemeteries such as [Arlington National Cemetery](#), and more informal observances held in America, South Korea, and elsewhere.

## A Brief History of The Korean War

Korea was, at one time, a united peninsula with no divisions between North Korea and South Korea. One of the agreements made during World War Two was between the United States and the Soviet Union; the U.S.S.R. would declare war on Japan.

Japanese forces had colonized Korea in a harsh campaign and occupation in the early 20th century; when the Soviet Union declared war on Japan, it liberated the portion of the country that would become North Korea.

U.S. forces in World War Two withdrew to the 38th parallel. This set the stage for later Cold War tensions; the United States would be at odds with Russia in West Germany (resulting in the Berlin Airlift and subsequent arms race and containment activities) and in Korea as a result of this division of the country.

These two examples are similar in one important Cold War-era geopolitical respect; in both cases there was a communist and authoritarian government in charge opposing U.S. presence in their respective areas.

For East Germany, also known formally as German Democratic Republic, communist and authoritarian rule stretched between 1949 and 1990. The fall of the Berlin Wall was the symbolic end of the Cold War, at least Germany’s involvement in it as a divided nation. The Koreans would not be so fortunate.

## Dividing Into North And South Korea

For Korea, the aftermath of World War Two saw the peninsula divided at the 38th parallel into democratic South Korea, and communist/authoritarian North Korea. In 1950, North Korea, then led by Kim Il-sung, invaded South Korea backed by promises of equipment and ammunition from the Soviet Union.

In the earliest days of the war, North Korea made requests for as many as six divisions of support from neighboring China. The Chinese military would become involved in the conflict after much debate; motivation for this included fears that General Douglas MacArthur, responsible for leading U.S. military efforts in the Korean War, might decide to press forward with an invasion of China.

The war lasted three years, two of which are described as a “war of attrition” near the 38th parallel. Both North and South Korea would insist they were the rightful governments of the entire peninsula

Korea is described as being (at the time) strategically non-essential to the U.S., but Cold War-era thinking (along similar lines to the philosophies that got the United States embroiled in the Vietnam War) demanded a “police action” in the area to repel North Korea and prevent the “spread of communism.”

Technically speaking, the Korean War never ended. An armistice was signed at Panmunjom in 1953, returning the nation to its previous status quo; a divided nation broken into North Korea (which maintained its authoritarian rule) and South Korea.

In romanized Korean, formally known as Hangul, the Korean War is called Hanguk Jeonjaeng, which translates into English as “Korean War”; in North Korea, the war is said to be known as Choguk haebang chŏnjaeng, which some Americans have translated as, “Fatherland Liberation War.” The differences in interpretation between North and South Korea, even in this small way, are revealing.

## North Korea’s Approach To The Korean War Armistice

The leadership of North Korea has, on several occasions in the 21st century, announced its refusal to recognize the armistice. 2009, 2010, and 2013 were all years that saw provocation from North Korea in this way.



But political observers note that historically, North Korean leaders have made a pastime of making threatening gestures in order to get concessions or other consideration. A pattern of on-again, off-again engagement with the North has frustrated many world leaders; at the time of this writing the United States has been lured to the negotiating table on multiple occasions with no tangible results. Especially where the issue of de-nuclearization is concerned.

## How The United States Military And South Korea Observe National Korean War Armistice Day

South Korea is a strategic partner with the United States, and there are many formal observations of July 27th in South Korea. Some involve visits to the Demilitarized Zone which runs for approximately 150 miles along

the 38th parallel. South Korean observances of the armistice can, depending on the political climate at the time, be more measured out of a desire to avoid fanning the flames of tension along the DMZ and elsewhere. South Korean leaders have in the past adopted stances such as the “Sunshine Policy” toward the North designed to create an atmosphere more conducive to talks and reconciliation. Such approaches have had mixed results, but there seems to be a desire to continue such policies toward the North in spite of a lack of progress in certain areas.

For both Americans and South Koreans, Armistice Day observances must be done with care on Korean soil as North Korean officials have a reputation of taking exception to perceived insults or slights during diplomatic occasions at or near the DMZ no matter how great or small.

There are also stateside observances; Department of Defense Secretaries have spoken at ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery and U.S. military installations; one such event saw Defense Secretary Leon E. Panetta speaking at Arlington on the 59th anniversary of the Korean War Armistice in 2012. But the President of the United States also weighs in on the sacrifices made by American and Korean forces between 1950 and 1953.

In 2013, President Barack Obama made a speech in honor of National Korean War Armistice Day, noting that for Korean War veterans, “theirs was a different kind of homecoming. Unlike the Second World War, Korea did not galvanize our country. These veterans did not return to parades.”

This speech also mentions the words of one of those Korean War veterans that neatly sums up the experience of returning home from this particular war; “We just came home and took off our uniforms and went to work. That was about it.”

Honoring the veterans of the Korean War during this time can be as simple as thanking a veteran for service to the country, but many more options are available from volunteering with a veterans service organization such as Veterans Of Foreign Wars, the Korean War Veterans Association, the [USO](#), or even the [Red Cross](#).

Those looking to volunteer their time with an organization that has a legacy of involvement with U.S. troops during times of conflict will likely gravitate toward the USO and the Red Cross, both of which were actively serving troops during the Korean War.

On an individual level, Americans can pay respects to American and Korean troops who sacrificed so much during the conflict by learning more about the history of the Korean peninsula, the conditions that led to the war, and current political actions in the country aimed at relieving the tensions between North and South.

Only with a full understanding of the conditions and causes of the region’s conflicts can all nations involved move forward toward reconciliation and peace in the region.

## Famous Veterans of The Korean War

Neil Armstrong	Buzz Aldrin	John Glenn
Michael Caine	Ed McMahon	Casey Kasem
Ted Williams	James Garner	

## Remembering The Korean War

The United States and Canada both have “memory projects” involving oral histories from those who were involved with Korean War efforts. The U.S. Library of Congress operates the Veterans History Project, which chronicles both World Wars, Korea, Vietnam, and other conflicts. Historic Canada operates The Memory Project which has a similar drive to record and preserve stories of the Korean War and beyond.

Source: <https://veteran.com/korean-war-veterans-armistice/>

# How Many Americans Died In Korea?

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

June 5, 2000 - As the 50th anniversary of the start of the Korean War approaches, one key statistic is being reclarified— the one detailing just how many Americans were killed in the war.

For years after the war ended in 1953, the Pentagon published a figure of 54,260. That combined the 33,643 “battle deaths” with 20,617 “other deaths.”

But in 1989 the Pentagon began revising the totals because “other deaths” included U.S. military deaths worldwide during the three years of the war, rather than just those soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines who died in and around the Korean peninsula.

In the 1994 version of its annual publication, Service and Casualties in Major Wars and Conflicts, the Pentagon put Korean War battle deaths at 33,652 and “other deaths” meaning deaths in the war zone from illness, accidents and other non-battle causes at 3,262. That yields a total of 36,914.

Today’s official Pentagon figures are virtually the same: 33,651 battle deaths and 3,262 other deaths.

Why, then, has the old figure of 54,000 deaths been used by the Department of Defense 50th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemorative Committee in a newsletter meant to highlight

the war’s history?

Maj. Bob White, the committee’s historian, said Monday he had been using the old 54,000 figure until he recently discovered that the Pentagon’s casualty statistics had been revised several years ago.

The higher figure also is engraved on the Korean War Veterans Memorial on the National Mall in Washington apparently because the memorial’s organizers wanted to honor all military members who died during the period of the war, not just those lost in Korea.

It might not be surprising that there would be confusion over Korean War casualty figures. The Pentagon made its official revisions over a period of several years, with little or no public explanation.

For several years in the early 1990s the “other deaths” figures were simply listed as “not available,” and so there was no official Defense Department total combining battle deaths and other deaths.

Source: <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/how-many-americans-died-in-korea/>



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.

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

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

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

EMAIL address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ (home; cell)    Date of Birth: Month: \_\_\_\_\_ Day: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

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

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Wartime Service: Please circle applicable information and provide dates of service:

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Vietnam (in country) \_\_\_\_\_; Gulf War \_\_\_\_\_; Lebanon, Grenada, Panama \_\_\_\_\_

Afghanistan (OEF) \_\_\_\_\_; Afghanistan (OES) \_\_\_\_\_; Islamic War (OIR) \_\_\_\_\_

OR check    No service during any of these periods of time \_\_\_\_\_

Tampa Chapter Annual Dues: \$ 25.00 (There is no dues requirement for active-duty personnel or a surviving spouse. You MUST, however, be a member of MOAA National.

Please visit <https://www.moaa.org/> join if not already a MOAA NATIONAL member.

You may bring the completed form to any Chapter event, or you can **mail** it with your \$25 check (payable to **MOAA Tampa Chapter**) to:

Jeanne Richard, 1223 Foggy Ridge Parkway, Lutz, FL 33559-6758.

Email questions to: TampaMOAA.Membership@gmail.com

**\*\*\* The Chapter has my permission to list only my name and rank as a new member in our Chapter Newsletter, *The Retrospect***      YES \_\_\_\_\_    No \_\_\_\_\_





# Surviving Spouse Corner:

By Renee Brunelle

## Information for helping cope after a loss of loved ones

One of the body’s tactics for coping after a death of a loved one is to really “insulate” your emotions by having your brain process a bit slower. The term “Widow Brain” is something I have heard for decades. However, until I was the person working through the loss of my late husband I really had no idea how much that term would be true in my life

Writing things down and making checklist has always been one of my better behaviors so when I got the call that my accidentally passed on a trip with friends I reached for a pad of paper and started writing notes. Years later those notes actually did need to be referenced again. Additionally, looking at MOAA Publication- “Survivor’s Checklist” (link below) can give you some direction on tasks that need to be completed.

<https://www.moaa.org/content/publications-and-media/moaa-publications/survivor-checklist-detail/>

Excerpt taken from [www.americanbrainfoundation.org/how-tragedy-affects-the-brain](http://www.americanbrainfoundation.org/how-tragedy-affects-the-brain)

**The Brain’s Response to Grief**

Grief comes in many forms. Whether brought on by the death of a loved one, a serious illness or injury, divorce, abuse, or another cause, the brain interprets grief as emotional trauma or PTSD. Dr. Shulman explains that the human brain handles emotional trauma and stress using the same set of processes.

“Traumatic loss is perceived as a threat to survival and defaults to protective survival and defense mechanisms,” says Dr. Shulman. This response engages the fight or flight mechanism, which increases blood pressure and heart rate and releases specific hormones.

Grief and loss affect the brain and body in many different ways. They can cause changes in memory, behavior, sleep, and body function, affecting the immune system as well as the heart. It can also lead to cognitive effects, such as brain fog. The brain’s goal? Survival.

Truly “survival” is the only goal for the first few months. All the questions for the final arrangements, all the financial decisions afterwards and then what is life looking like without that loved one here. It can feel like one just cannot catch up and all the ever-growing To Do list requires. Unfortunately, once you think you may have reached a good volume of completion then often a task you had not thought of is now due to be completed. It helps to ask friends who may have more experience on certain topics for some support. They are pleased to get a call to be of assistance.

Also, as a way of healing one can get their own final affairs and documents in order. That is the biggest gift someone can give to their loved ones is minimizing the discussion of “*what would they have wanted*” and simply write it down. Again, MOAA has publications to assist with documenting wishes. Then thoroughly talk about it with loved ones too. I was fortunate that many candid conversation transpired with my late husband about if either one of us passed.

Finally, grief counseling can be a way to learn new coping skills. Often the funeral homes will include one year of free services. There are also wonderful mental health professionals that are sensitive to military lifestyles. I will forever be thankful for the new skills I learned with my own discussions with a grief counselor.





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# Army Chaplain Corps Anniversary

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

The United States Army Chaplain Corps is a unique part of American military tradition. Said to be among the smallest (if not THE smallest) unit in the U.S. Army, the Chaplain Corps predates Independence Day and since this unit began, chaplains have served in every American conflict.

Army Chaplain Corps anniversary will be on Friday, July 29, 2022.

### The Anniversary of the Army Chaplain Corps

The U.S. Army Chaplain Corps celebrates its birthday each year on July 29th, the day it was authorized by the Continental Congress. There are commemorative gatherings across the globe held by Army Chaplains, Chaplain Assistants, and other support troops to observe the birthday of the Corps.

These events reaffirm the Army Chaplain Corps’ commitment to helping, mentoring, counseling, and teaching soldiers. July 29th is celebrated everywhere from Washington D.C. to the most forward deployed locations around the globe.

### A Brief History Of The U.S. Army Chaplain Corps

In 1775, The Continental Congress authorized the creation of an Army Chaplain Corps, providing one chaplain for each regiment. At the time, those who served as Army C

haplains were paid approximately \$20 a month and had no required military uniform. The role would evolve and change over time, especially where multi-faith operations are concerned. The Corps did not begin as the pluralistic operation it is today, but over time Catholic chaplains were added, and later African American and Jewish chaplains. These additions happened prior to or during the Civil War, but it wouldn’t be until 1979 for women to be allowed to accept commissions as Army Chaplains.

### What Is The U.S. Army Chaplain Corps?

The Army Chaplains Corps offer soldiers spiritual guidance, counseling, advice, and mentoring in peace and wartime by employing trained clergy members who have had both spiritual and classroom-type training and have passed Army training requirements in non-combatant soldier skills.

Chaplains are expected to accompany troops on and off the battlefield, providing what the Army calls “free exercise of religion in a pluralistic setting”.

Army chaplains must be ordained, have appropriate undergraduate and graduate degrees, and must also go through Army training above and beyond college work. But not all the people who work in the Army Chaplain Corps are ordained, nor do all who serve in the Corps serve as military chaplains.

An Army Chaplain is an officer, but an Army Chaplain Assistant may be an enlisted member who does not hold a degree or ecclesiastical training before she or he joins the service.

### The Origin Of “Chaplain”

The word “chaplain” is said to have its’ origin in the story of St. Martin of Tours, who while a conscript in the Roman army (circa 334 A.D.) is said to have cut his cape (known as a cappa in Latin) in half to share with a homeless person. This humanitarian act is supposed to have occurred while he served as a Roman soldier before his 18th birthday.

The story goes that following the cloak-cutting incident Martin of Tours had a divine vision and woke to find his cloak was whole again. St. Martin of Tours would be baptized into the Christian faith, become a monk, and later a bishop.

Since St. Martin of Tours was associated with military service, when his cloak began to be thought of as a holy relic, it would be carried into battle and used to swear oaths upon. The cloak or cappa would be placed in a royal treasury later given by Charlemagne to a group of monks circa 799 A.D.

A priest responsible for caring for this relic who would be come to known as a cappellanu. Over time any priest serving troops would become known as cappellani. In French, this is translated as chapelains. From there we get “chaplain” in English.

### The Historic Role Of Army Chaplains

Those who serve in the Army Chaplain Corps have always done so as non-combatants. Army Chaplains do not carry weapons, cannot direct combat operations, and cannot serve as commanders.

A Chaplain is not permitted to do many of the things that another soldier of equal rank and seniority may do as it relates to combat, defense operations, or other functions that are specifically related to warfare.

Chaplain Assistants, also known as Religious Affairs Specialists, are not necessarily non-combatants and do not have all the same restrictions as the Army Chaplains they work with.

This enlisted Army MOS does not require the same religious training that chaplains are required to undertake, but they do get training in psychology and related areas as part of their Army professional education experience.

### How Army Chaplains Work



Army Chaplains serve as counselors, religious leaders, moral authorities, and provide comfort to those in conflict zones or affected by combat. In peacetime and outside areas where American forces engage in combat operations, you may find Chaplains working in ways similar to those who run civilian houses of worship.

Chaplains may provide teaching, guidance, serve as mentors, even work as radio personalities in military radio stations to discuss their mission, work, and services. They often serve in or in conjunction with military medical facilities on and off the battlefield.

### Requirements To Become An Army Chaplain

The U.S. Army frequently adjusts, streamlines, and modifies its’ requirements of a variety of [Military Occupational Specialty \(MOS\)](#) codes, but in general, to become an Army Chaplain the following requirements must be met:

- ❑ Basic Army Requirements for physical readiness as determined by a [Military Entrance Processing Station \(MEPS\)](#).
- ❑ The ability to obtain a [security clearance](#).
- ❑ Minimum age of 21 years old and under age 42 at the time of active duty commissioning. Army National Guard or Army Reserve commissioning requirements include being under the age of 47 at the time of commissioning.
- ❑ Must complete “basic theological education” for the service member’s chosen denomination or faith tradition (a Master of Divinity degree is common).
- ❑ A minimum of two years of post-theological education professional experience (active duty only).
- ❑ Are ordained by the service member’s chosen denomination or faith tradition and have the faith’s endorsement to serve in the U.S. Army.
- ❑ Applicants are required to obtain “ecclesiastical endorsement” which shows in writing that the service member is qualified “spiritually, morally, intellectually and emotionally to serve as a chaplain in the Army”.
- ❑ Able to observe sensitivity to a pluralistic faith environment and enable the free exercise of religion for all.

There are minimum education requirements to serve as an Army Chaplain, which include:

- ❑ A baccalaureate degree of no less than 120 semester hours.
- ❑ A graduate degree in theological or religious studies, and at least 72 semester hours in graduate work.

These requirements must be met with degrees from an accredited institution of higher learning.

### The U.S. Army Chaplain Experience For College Students

The Army offers a training program to help Chaplain candidates determine if the Army Chaplain Corps is right for them. The Army Chaplain Candidate Program allows students to “train to become an Army Chaplain at the same time you are training for the ministry” according to the Army official site.

This program requires entry into the Army Reserve or Army National Guard. Chaplain Candidates will attend the Chaplain Basic Officer Leader Course, described as “an intensive, entry-level, initial military training process for newly acquired chaplains and Chaplain Candidates.”

### Military Honors For Army Chaplains

In spite of being non-combatants, Army Chaplains have earned many awards for bravery, self-sacrifice, and valor. Five have been awarded the [Medal of Honor](#) including a posthumous award in 1969.

During World War Two, [four Army Chaplains died](#) helping servicemembers survive a German torpedo attack on an Army transport ship, the U.S.A.T Dorchester. They gave their life jackets to other soldiers, went down with the ship, and died as a result. These men, known as “The Four Chaplains” were awarded the [Purple Heart](#) and the [Distinguished Service Cross](#) posthumously.

They were also awarded a specially-created, one-time honor: the Special Medal for Heroism. This was authorized by Congress and awarded by the President on Jan. 18, 1961, and has never been awarded again.

Many other Army Chaplains have died in the line of duty, including 12 during the Korean War, and 13 killed in action during the Vietnam conflict.

### The Army Chaplain Corps Today

There are approximately 1,300 active duty Army Chaplains, with another 1,200 Army Reserve Chaplains serving a diverse group of faiths including Buddhism, Islam, and Judaism. More than 120 individual denominations are represented.



# Here’s where you can see July 4 fireworks across the Tampa Bay area

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

Fourth of July is fast approaching, which means it's time to start planning which fun-filled events to attend throughout the greater Tampa Bay region. With some celebrations having faced cancellations or restrictions in 2021 due to COVID-19, several cities are ready to bring back their annual Independence Day fun and games. Live music, parades, water ski shows, hot dog eating contests and fireworks are just a few of the festivities taking place over the long weekend. Check out the list of events below to figure out where you should set up your lawn chair to watch the night sky light up.

## July 2

[Zephyrhills Summerfest](#) - Zephyrhills

Zephyrhills Summerfest is returning to Zephyr Park this year from 12 p.m.-9 p.m. with local food trucks and restaurants, cold treats, lemonade, a performance from DJ Emcee, as well as live bands. There will be a kids’ zone, bouncers, waterslides, cooling activities, family games, and a 30-minute fireworks show over Zephyr Lake at dark.

[The Fourth At St. Pete Pier](#) (July 2-4) - St. Petersburg

St. Petersburg is hosting a three-day Independence Day celebration with a wide range of activities at various locations in the city, including the inaugural St. Pete Pier Run, silent disco, Gulp Coast Craft Beer Garden, food trucks and vendors, a pie-eating contest, live music on the Visit St. Pete Clearwater Main Stage, karaoke, roaming entertainers and more. The traditional Fourth of July fireworks show will take place July 4 at 9 p.m. and will be visible from the entire downtown waterfront.

[Rockin’ Freedom Fest](#) - Winter Haven

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Park will be the site for Rockin’ Freedom Fest from 5-9 p.m. The festival will start with a rededication ceremony of the newly renovated park, then live music from the Bay Kings Band, along with food trucks, a ski show honoring the 100th anniversary of water ski, and a fireworks show.

## July 3

[NBP Fireworks on the Lake](#) - Sarasota

Sarasota is hosting its Fourth of July event at Nathan Benderson Park with live music, family fun, and a fireworks display starting just after 9 p.m. Optionally, event-goers can pay a registration fee and participate in a Fireworks 4-Miler, where runners and walkers can follow a four-mile course around the park’s competition lake before sunset. Gates open at 5 p.m. and music starts at 5:30 p.m. Admission is free with parking by ticket, and classic American fare and drinks will be available for purchase.

[Hometown USA](#) - Dunedin

Dunedin Parks & Recreation is putting on its Fourth of July celebration at TD Ballpark with gates opening at 7 p.m. Bay Kings band will perform from 7-10:45 p.m. with a break for fireworks at 9 p.m., a viewing of “Angels in the Outfield” will start at 7:15 p.m. and the fireworks show will begin at 9:15 p.m. The event is free to attend with concessions available.

[Red, White & Kaboom](#) - Lakeland

The Red, White & Kaboom Independence Celebration will take place at Lake Mirror along the Frances Langford Promenade from 6-9 p.m. with Andrew Luv & the Franchise Players performing before the fireworks display launches at 9 p.m. The event sponsors request all those attending to bring a canned food item that will help benefit Volunteers in Service to the Elderly.

## July 4

[Boom by the Bay](#) - Tampa

Tampa is hosting a Fourth of July extravaganza with five different event locations starting at various times throughout the day and three different firework locations. The day’s festivities include live music and entertainment, food trucks, a water ski show, a family fun area, a kid zone, a hot dog eating competition and the Friends of the Riverwalk July 4th Boat Parade and Blessing of the Fleet. Boom on the Bay-shore, the largest firework display, will start at 7 p.m. by Bayshore Boulevard south of Davis Islands Bridge.

[Clearwater Celebrates America](#) - Clearwater

Clearwater’s Independence Day celebration kicks off at 6 p.m. at BayCare Ballpark with a concert by The Black Honkeys Band, giveaways and activities for children of all ages. The event will conclude with a music-choreographed fireworks show at 9:15 p.m. Tickets are \$5 and culinary concessions as well as adult beverages will be available for purchase.

[Fourth of July Picnic in the Park](#) - Tarpon Springs

The city of Tarpon Springs will be hosting its annual Fourth of July Picnic in the Park at Craig Park from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. The festivities include a live band performance from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m., along with water slides, food, drinks and a hot dog eating contest for ages



16 and up. Fireworks will begin around 8:30 p.m., and the best viewing area will be Fred Howard Park.

[Celebrate America - 4th of July Fireworks](#) - Treasure Island

Fireworks will be shot from the beach near Gulf Front Park starting at 9 p.m.

[4th of July Fireworks](#) - Largo

Largo Central Park will host live music and fireworks starting at 6 p.m. The lineup includes Dave Matthews Acoustic Tribute at 6:30 p.m., Florida Man Band at 7:45 p.m. and the Indian Rocks Baptist Church Choir at 9 p.m. The event is free with food and beverage vendors on the grounds and limited on-site parking for \$10.

[Independence Day Celebration](#) - Palmetto Bay

Palmetto Bay Village Hall will host a Fourth of July celebration from 6-9 p.m. with several different food vendors, face painting, stilt walkers, live bands, LED robots and a free toddler fun zone with inflatables. A 15-minute firework show accompanied by music will be launched from Palmetto Bay Park at 9 p.m.

[Palmetto Fourth of July Festival](#) - Palmetto

Neal McCoy will headline this year’s festival at Sutton Park, starting at 7 p.m. with opener Lazy Bonez performing at 5 p.m. Fireworks, provided through a partnership between Brandenton, Manatee County and Palmetto, will follow the concert. The concert and fireworks are free to the public, and local food and beverage vendors will be available.

[Independence Day Celebration](#) - Temple Terrace

The city of Temple Terrace will be putting on its 47th annual Independence Day Celebration. Festivities will include music from Charlie Imes & the Sun Dogs, roaming entertainment from magician Cory Van Valin and a parade starting at Whiteway & Gillette and ending at the Little League baseball field.

[4th of July Parade & Celebration](#) - Safety Harbor

The American Legion Post 238 will host a patriotic parade down Main Street on the morning of July 4 from 10 a.m. to noon. Free snow cones, water, juice, cookies, and popcorn will be provided, as well as live patriotic music and presentations. From 5-9 p.m. Safety Harbor will host its July 4th Celebration at Waterfront Park. There will be children’s activities, live entertainment, food vendors and a fireworks display that will start at 9 p.m.

[City of Gulfport 4th of July Celebration](#) - Gulfport

The city of Gulfport has an all-day Independence Day celebration planned from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. in the Downtown Waterfront District. Events include a kids’ fishing derby, a family sand sculpture contest, a parade on Beach Boulevard at 6 p.m., music by the New Horizons Band starting at 7 p.m. and a fireworks show at 9 p.m.

[Lakeland Flying Tigers 4th of July Fireworks Spectacular](#) - Lakeland

The Flying Tigers annual Independence Day fireworks extravaganza is returning this year. The game time is 5 p.m., and following the game, the Sofa Kings will entertain with live music (time permitting), followed by a fireworks show. Baseball game tickets are \$7 and \$10.

[July 4th Celebration](#) - Plant City

The city of Plant City is hosting its free Fourth of July Event at Plant City Stadium with \$5 parking. Activities include corn hole, balloon art, face painting, inflatables, a rock wall and tug-o-war. There will be concession stands, food vendors, a 50-50 drawing, stage entertainment and a fireworks show to close the evening. The stadium gates open at 6 p.m. and fireworks start at 9:15 p.m.

Source: <https://wusfnews.wusf.usf.edu/arts-culture/2022-06-22/heres-where-you-can-see-july-4-fireworks-across-the-tampa-bay-area>



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# CHAPLAIN’S CORNER

CHAPLAIN (COL) BERNARD H LIEVING JR USA RET



What follows in this Chaplain’s Corner appeared to “*The Retrospect*” five years ago. With everything that is happening in our nation these days, I am drawn to use these words again as a call for us to look beyond ourselves to the world around us and ask what we can do to help fulfill the vision of our founding fathers.

When I was a kid growing up in rural West Virginia July 4th was my favorite holiday. It was a time for a parade, horse show and fireworks; all at the county seat. All those celebrations combined cannot come close to equaling the July 4th celebration in 1976 that we were privileged as a family to enjoy when I was stationed at the USA Chaplain Center and School at Fort Wadsworth on Staten Island, NY.

From our quarters the family had to walk ½ block to the upper wall of the old fort overlooking the Hudson River to watch as the tall ships from at least fourteen other countries sailed under the Verrazzano Narrows Bridge. They were surrounded by a flotilla of small pleasure craft headed up the Hudson for docking at city

piers. The first ship under the Verrazzano Bridge, leading the way for the ship parade was the USCGC Eagle, a 295-foot cutter of the US Coast Guard. She is called “America’s Tall Ship.” The parade took several hours.

We then walked back to our quarters for our evening meal and then went back to our lawn chairs on the riverside to watch the phenomenal fireworks display celebrating the 200th anniversary of our nation’s announcing its freedom from Great Britain. The Preamble to the Declaration of Independence affirms the purpose of the Declaration of Independence. “We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights, that among them are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness.”

As we celebrate our Independence Day this year may we all reflect on the meaning of equality; celebrate and cherish the freedoms we have every day, 246 years after the radical words of the Declaration of Independence became the foundation of who we are as a nation.

## “The Last Million:” Eastern European Displaced Persons in Postwar Germany

After World War II 1.2 million Eastern European displaced persons refused to return home, creating a large-scale refugee crisis.

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

“When this ghastly war ends,” Franklin D. Roosevelt predicted in October 1939, “there may be not one million but ten million or twenty million men, women, and children... who will enter into the wide picture—the problem of the human refugee.” Eleanor Roosevelt echoed her husband’s forecast six years later, when she personally became involved in aiding the postwar refugee crisis. “A new type of political refugee is appearing,” she observed in January 1946, “people who have been against [their] present governments and if they stay at home or go home will probably be killed.”

World War II uprooted and dislocated an unprecedented number of people—some 55 million in Europe alone. When the war ended there were approximately 11 million displaced persons (DPs) in Europe, eight million of which were located in Germany. They included about six million civilian volunteer and forced laborers [LINK Nazi Forced Labor Policy in Eastern Europe article], two million prisoners of war, and 700,000 surviving concentration camp prisoners. Additionally, thousands of anticommunists and former Nazi collaborators from Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland, the Soviet Union, and Yugoslavia fled the Red Army as it reconquered Eastern Europe.



Between May and September 1945, most displaced persons willingly returned home, with Allied military personnel overseeing the departure of an estimated 33,000 DPs per day. Others were forcibly repatriated at the hands of Soviet authorities. By the end of September, however, 1.2 million displaced persons remained in Germany and refused to return home. Most of them were concentrated in the Western occupation zones, especially in the southwestern regions under US control.

By 1951, the majority of these displaced persons, often referred to as “the last million,” had immigrated to the United States, Canada, Australia and other parts of the world. Their refusal to return home, however, caused international debate concerning the status of refugees. It also had an impact on the development of international refugee protection and led to the first comprehensive definition of a refugee.

Continued reading: <https://www.nationalww2museum.org/war/articles/last-million-eastern-european-displaced-persons-postwar-germany>

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

[WWW.MOAAATAMPA.ORG](http://WWW.MOAAATAMPA.ORG) and Facebook: [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](#)” where you can scroll through our photo albums, like and share our posts, and stay up to date on Tampa Chapter news and events.

Check out our NEW Instagram account!  
[https://www.instagram.com/moaa\\_tampa/](https://www.instagram.com/moaa_tampa/)

THE TAMPA CHAPTER RATED FIVE STARS 2003, 2005-2010, 2012-2017, 2019-2020

Tampa Chapter

5 Star MOAA Chapter  
2003 • 2005 - 2010  
2012 - 2017 • 2019 - 2020

2020, 2021 Recipient of the  
5 Star Col. Marvin J. Harris  
Communications Award

Chairman of the Joint Chief's  
Outstanding Public  
Service Award

# “NEVER STOP SERVING”