

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT: COL CHARLES DALCOURT USA RET

GREETINGS!



Greetings to all and welcome to our March newsletter. We are already into the third month of 2023, and as January and February, this month is packed with activity. We are preparing for the Advocacy in Action Campaign, gearing up for our scholarship assessments and awards, and looking forward to supporting the MOAA Florida Council of Chapters Convention in May of 2023. Please seek to help us accomplish these tasks by offering your time and talent.

Legislative Advocacy Note

We need your immediate assistance in support of Concurrent Receipt. The Major Richard Star Act must be reintroduced in the new Congress because it was not signed into law during the 117th Congress. This act supports combat-injured veterans

with concurrent receipt of vested longevity pay and VA disability. Specifically, the act would authorize combat-injured veterans to receive their full DoD retirement pay earned for years of service and their full VA disability compensation for lifelong injury. Please contact your representative and senators and urge them to support the Major Richard Star Act.

Winter Gala

Our second Winter Gala was another great event! Art, entertainment, food, and camaraderie all shook hands at the Palma Ceia on the evening of 17 February and created both a wonderful environment and experience for all. On behalf of the Board of Officers and Directors, thanks for the incredible effort and sacrifice of the Gala Planning Committee. Your extraordinary investment in time and energy enabled our seminal fundraising event for the year to fulfil its intent. Please be sure to join us at the March luncheon and we honor the committee members in person.

Volunteers needed...

We still need your help in filling several positions in the Chapter. Please note that assistants are critical to our succession planning and the development of future Officers and Directors. Exposure to different facets of the organization facilitates knowledge and context that enable decision making. Please contact any board member, committee head, or me directly if you are interested

in making a difference. Whether you have an hour, a day, a weekend, or a week to volunteer in support of the Chapter's initiatives, it brings value to our work.

Member of the Month

Our Honored Member of the Month for March 2023 is Lieutenant William "Bill" Mitchell (Former USN). Bill serves as the Chapter's Legal Advisor on the Chapter's Board and is an invaluable member of the Team. His wisdom and ability to interpret both people and statutory requirements repeatedly serves and protects the Chapter. A longstanding member of the Tampa Chapter, we remain very thankful for Bill's leadership and continued contributions. Please join us at our luncheon on 9 March and help us honor Bill. Also, please be sure to read his biographical information later in this newsletter.

Wrapping up:

In closing, thanks to those that are actively engaged in the Chapter's efforts; that give of themselves to support the accomplishment our mission. I ask that you continue to support MOAA's advocacy across the various lines of effort being pursued. Thank you for your confidence and encouragement. I pray that God's peace, strength, and joy will embrace you all.

All the best,
Charles Dalcourt

UPCOMING EVENTS

2 March
10:00 AM
Board of Directors Meeting

7 March – 9:00 AM – 4:30 PM
"Thriving After The Military"
Five Labs, Tampa FL
([see page 4](#))

9 March
Chapter Luncheon
11:30 AM – 12:00 PM Social
12:00 PM – 1:30 PM Lunch
Columbia Restaurant
Centennial Museum
([see page 6](#))

16 March – 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM
OpHH Dinner
USF Embassy Suites
([See page 12](#))

19-21 May
Florida Council of Chapters
2023 Annual Convention
World Golf Village
St. Augustine, FL
<https://www.moaaf.org/Convention.aspx?ConvYear=2023>
([see page 10](#))

REMINDER:

SUBMISSION DEADLINE
FOR THE APRIL 2023
ISSUE IS 20 MARCH 2023

Please submit articles in a Word Document and photos in JPEG
Email articles to
coms@moaatampa.org

NOTICE: if you have a change of address, please notify our membership team via email—Matt Mulatroni at membership@moaatampa.org or Tom South at tsouth1811@gmail.com

LEGISLATIVE LOWDOWN



BY LTC REGINALD WILLIAMS, USA RET

MOAA recently announced that AiA will send teams from each state to meet with their elected representatives in their respective DC offices. Our Florida Council of Chapters Legislative Chair, will be leading a team of other Council members who will be requesting meetings with our Florida 28 representatives, including the 4 in our area, and 2 senators. You will have an important role in advance of these meetings and as the legislative process moves forward on MOAA's targeted issues. We have work to do and will need your continued support as we send a clear message to lawmakers.

MOAA's Advocacy Campaign to Target TRICARE Pharmacy Cuts, Housing Costs¹

The path to protecting the all-volunteer force amid a generational recruiting crisis begins with a simple message: We will honor the promises made to those who serve.

As MOAA begins its plans to return in-person to Capitol Hill for its yearly spring advocacy campaign, we've identified two critical issues where we are falling short on key promises. Issues where small changes will mean big improvements to the lives of servicemembers past and present. Issues where the DoD can begin to rebuild trust with all groups and stem the erosion of earned benefits.

Issues where members like you can make a difference.

Join MOAA's Advocacy in Action this April as we send a clear message to lawmakers: Now is not the time to trim critical programs at the expense of those who need help the most:

- As servicemembers face skyrocketing rents and mortgage payments, it's time to reverse cuts to the Basic Allowance for Housing, restoring the benefit to cover 100% of these expenses.
- As TRICARE Pharmacy users deal with drug shortages and high drug costs, it's time to restore the thousands of brick-and-mortar pharmacies, including many locally owned shops in rural areas, to keep this crucial benefit strong.

TAKE ACTION: [Help MOAA Fight Cuts to the TRICARE Pharmacy Network](#)

At the end of April, MOAA will send teams of state council

leaders to Washington, D.C., to meet with their legislators on the Hill. With those leaders will be members of MOAA's Board of Directors and headquarters staff — a contingent of 225 people with sights on contacting every one of the 535 congressional offices.

We want to make the most of this opportunity to return to the Hill but we cannot rely solely on these visits — we need your help to increase our voice. You can make a remarkable difference from home before or after our AiA event.

More details on our primary goals for Advocacy in Action this year:

1. Restore Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) to 100%

Our servicemembers give 100% in service to our country and they should not have to carry the additional burden of paying higher housing costs not covered by their allowance. Please help relieve stress on our military and help support recruitment and retention to sustain a strong all-volunteer force.

Background:

- In 2005, Congress eliminated servicemembers' out-of-pocket (OOP) housing expenses, setting BAH at 100% of rental and utility costs.
- The 2015 NDAA, responding to budget pressures under sequestration, allowed DoD to reduce the rate to 95%, which was phased in 1% each year from 2015 to 2019. The DoD Budget Overview for FY 2015 noted this reduction of BAH would save the DoD \$5 billion over five years.
- According to FY 2023 DoD tables, an E-5

continued on page 2

LEGISLATIVE LOWDOWN *cont.*

with dependents will pay \$1,332 a year OOP, on average. The average O-3 with dependents will pay \$1,596 a year. Examples of higher ranks for those who served a 20-year career find a retired E-7 with dependents will have paid \$30,240 in housing costs, and a retired O-5 with dependents will have paid \$42,320.

It’s important to understand that DoD’s compensation strategy segments pay to help minimize tax liability for the member, and eventual retirement calculations favoring the government. As such, basic pay is typically set lower than for civilian counterparts with Basic Allowance for Subsistence and BAH separately allocated to specifically cover those costs in a mutually beneficial manner.

When 95% BAH does not cover housing and utility costs, which have skyrocketed based on inflation rates, the already lower basic pay or subsistence portions of the compensation package are forced to cover the difference. This leaves some military families stressed in other family budget areas such as food, clothing, childcare, retirement planning, etc. Military families should not have to prioritize and choose one necessity over another.

2. Reverse TRICARE Pharmacy Cuts

TRICARE Pharmacy network cuts, announced in late 2022, have created barriers to accessing prescription medications, particularly for the elderly, rural families, and those with serious medical conditions such as cancer, epilepsy, and multiple sclerosis.

Background:

- With the new pharmacy contract, the Defense Health Agency (DHA) slashed retail pharmacy network requirements as a cost-cutting measure. This enabled Express Scripts to offer contract terms to many pharmacies that reportedly didn’t even cover their costs. As a result, the TRICARE retail network has shrunk nearly 25% from approximately 55,000 to 42,000 locations.
- Most healthy families can readily switch to another local pharmacy for their occasional medication needs, but this cut has created access problems for many elderly beneficiaries, those in rural areas, and others with serious medical conditions.
- Beneficiaries with limited transportation and mobility challenges rely on the unique services and locations offered by independent pharmacies, including those serving long-term care facilities or located in medical provider settings such as hospital lobbies and oncology clinics. Many rural families now have to drive up to 30 minutes round trip, passing their former neighborhood pharmacy, to get to an alternate network location a hardship when dealing with an acute illness. Patients with serious medical conditions have reported challenges getting home infusion therapies, compound medications, and limited distribution drugs.
- If TRICARE’s reduced network requirements are allowed to stand, the pharmacy network could shrink by another 7,000 locations and still meet access standards. The Kroger family of stores has already severed ties with Express Scripts, and if their proposed merger with Albertson’s moves forward, the TRICARE network could shed another 1,700 pharmacies.

How do these reductions in BAH and pharmacy support impact recruiting for our all-volunteer force?

All services are experiencing challenges with recruiting. The eligibility pool continues to shrink and the propensity to serve remains low, exacerbated by more than 54% of parents who do not recommend their child for military service. Military families are more inclined to recommend service; but in a 2021

poll, the Military Family Advisory Network found 62.9% of military or veteran families would recommend the military — down from 74.5% in 2019. Looking forward, [Brookings reports](#) a decline in birth rates that will likely not correct itself: in 2007, for every 1,000 women of childbearing age, roughly 70 gave birth; in 2020 that number was 56. No one should be surprised in 15 years that the pool of eligibles will be even smaller.

MOAA and other like-minded associations continue to be concerned about the continued erosion of service-earned benefits and the impact on recruiting. Making the servicemember cover 5% or more of their housing costs to save money for other DoD programs does not help servicemembers manage their finances and does not help the recruiter’s position with prospective recruits who hear about eroding benefits directly from their influencers. Additionally, changes in access to health care, enrollment fees for retirees, reduced access to pharmacies, and attacks on COLA won’t compel retirees to encourage someone to join the military.

These challenges, and others you know from your experiences, must be addressed by Congress through a strategic lens focusing on the recruiting process. In that effort, we must educate our legislators to understand this foundational question, “Are we, as a nation, keeping our promises to those who raised their hand to serve in the uniformed services?”

In addition to the two topics above regarding BAH and pharmacy access, coupled with a clear focus on recruiting as the most essential pipeline to our nation’s all-volunteer force, MOAA will prepare comprehensive fact sheets to articulate these issues, which we will leave with the congressional offices during our AiA visits. These fact sheets will also be available to all MOAA members via our website to help in any engagements you might be able to arrange while your legislators are home.

Make Your Voice Heard With MOAA’s Legislative Action Center?

MOAA’s [Legislative Action Center](#) has surpassed expectations since its launch at the start of 2022, allowing members to send tens of thousands of letters, make phone calls, share personal experiences on military- and veteran-related issues, and much more.

Now, at the start of 2023 and a new Congress, the Legislative Action Center will begin with a clean slate. MOAA members will have a chance to engage on new and ongoing issues impacting the uniformed services and veteran communities.

You may think the center looks sparse in the session’s early going – there aren’t many calls-to-action to send to your legislations, and the [list of MOAA-supported legislation](#) may be minimal. All of this is normal at the start of a new Congress.

The 118th Congress convened Jan. 3. Each Congress lasts two calendar years, and in that time elected officials will introduce thousands of standalone bills. If a bill isn’t signed into law during the Congress in which it was introduced, it’s considered “dead” and must be reintroduced and restart the legislative process in a new session.

MOAA staffers will spend the next several months [communicating our legislative priorities](#) on Capitol Hill and engaging with legislators to introduce critical legislation to benefit servicemembers, veterans, their families, and survivors.

What Can MOAA Members Do in the Meantime?

It is critical that MOAA members, and the wider uniformed service and veteran communities, remain engaged as the new session builds steam. You can do this in several ways:

- Check back with the Legislative Action Center.** MOAA will be adding new calls to action, more MOAA-supported legislation, and other key updates regarding the association’s legislative priorities throughout the year.
- Become active in the Tampa Chapter.** You can meet, collaborate, and socialize with fellow

servicemembers and military spouses.

- Check out online and printed publications.** MOAA’s email newsletter and magazine, The FCOC’s *Communique*, and the Chapter’s *Retrospect* are key ways members can stay up to date on the association’s legislative advocacy.

Legislative Action Center 101

MOAA’s Legislative Action Center offers members a plethora of features to make their voices heard on Capitol Hill and take an active role in MOAA’s advocacy:

- Campaigns to contact federal legislators:** MOAA’s action center enables virtual advocates to send letters, make phone calls, and share the association’s advocacy priorities on social media as well.
- MOAA’s key advocacy issues:** Want to know what MOAA is doing for the population groups of interest to you, then check out MOAA’s [Key Advocacy Issues](#) to learn more about what MOAA is lobbying for on behalf of these key groups.
- MOAA-supported legislation:** On average, every two-year congressional session introduces over 10,000 individual bills. Use this [dedicated page](#) to find each bill MOAA supports in the current session.
- Log your interactions with lawmakers:** The new [log an interaction](#) feature enables virtual advocates to provide MOAA with information about their meetings with lawmakers.
- Look up your elected officials’ contact information:** Unsure how to contact your lawmakers, or even who your elected officials are? The [directory feature](#) not only finds their names, but provides detailed contact information for multiple offices, as well as links to their social media profiles.

To make the most of these features, here are some best practices when using the platform:

- Enable cookies.** MOAA’s Legislative Action Center offers members the option to remain signed in on any device where you’ve already accessed the platform. This means you will not have to reenter your information every time you want to send a call to action to your legislators. However, cookies needs to be enabled on your devices so the center can keep you logged in. If you don’t know how to manage cookies, these links will help you get started on [Internet Explorer or Edge](#), [Safari](#), [Chrome](#), and [Firefox](#).
- Address not recognized?** Sometimes (not often) a member’s address won’t be recognized in the action center’s [registration form](#). Unfortunately, MOAA does not manage that part of the form; it pulls data from Google. If your address isn’t recognized, we recommend using a next-door address or another address near you so you can access the platform. Alternatively, you can [add your address to Google](#).
- MOAA’s action center tutorial.** First-time, and seasoned, users can review commonly asked questions about the center. This is a good place to start if you are troubleshooting an issue with the platform.

While MOAA’s Legislative Action Center is a powerful tool, its power stems from the dedication of MOAA’s members and your continued engagement with lawmakers on the issues impacting the uniformed services and veteran communities. As much as MOAA fights for you, MOAA needs you to fight alongside us, as well; check out the [Legislative Action Center](#) now.

Sources:
1) [www.moaa.org](#), article by Dan Merry, February 15, 2023
2) [www.moaa.org](#), article by Brenden McMahon, February 08, 2023

Florida Department of Veterans Affairs (FDVA)

—Submitted by Reginald Williams, LTC USA (Ret)

Governor’s Framework for Freedom Budget Strongly Supports Florida’s Veteran Community
FEBRUARY 3, 2023

TALLAHASSEE – Gov. Ron DeSantis’ Framework for Freedom Budget provides timely and essential services and support to the state’s 1.5 million Veterans, their families and survivors through the Florida Department of Veterans’ Affairs (FDVA). “

FDVA is a constitutionally chartered State Veterans’ Affairs department responsible for serving the Nation’s third largest Veteran population. Operating as the premier point of entry for Florida’s 1.5 million Veterans, FDVA operates a network of nine State Veterans’ Homes and provides statewide outreach to connect Veterans with their earned services, benefits and support. “

Florida Department of Veterans’ Affairs Executive Director James S. “Hammer” Hartsell said: “As a Navy Veteran, Governor DeSantis is a true patriot who appreciates and understands our Veterans’ community. Since 2019, he and his administration have committed hundreds of millions of dollars to our department, helping to ensure a positive future for our nation’s heroes

and their families. Because of his leadership and administration’s collaborative focus on enhanced Veterans’ Advocacy, Florida is the most Veteran sought-after and Veteran-friendly state in the nation.”

Included in this year’s budget recommendation is an increase in the number of Veterans’ Claims Examiners in Florida, reflecting an expanding population influx, the state’s large Veteran population and projected growth of U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs health care facilities. In 2022, FDVA Veterans’ Claims Examiners operating out of VA health care facilities assisted more than 272,000 veterans in providing information and counsel on earned services, benefits and support. In addition, claims examiners have processed nearly 35,000 new claims on behalf of Florida Veterans, and helped recover more than \$194 million in retroactive benefits for Florida Veterans and their families.

In addition, one of the biggest responsibilities within FDVA is its network of State Veterans’ Homes. The State of Florida boasts eight State Veterans’ Nursing Homes and one State Veterans’ Domiciliary, including two newly opened homes in Port St. Lucie and Orlando.

Governor DeSantis has proposed funding for capital improvements and replacement of medical and resident support equipment in the state’s veterans’ homes. Other veterans’ home funding includes additional funding to complete the staffing needs for the two new veterans’ homes, an electronic time system and support to ensure all of the homes are able to maintain necessary operations.

The Governor’s Framework for Freedom Budget continues funding for Florida is for Veterans, Inc. (*Veterans Florida*), and the Veterans Employment and Training Services program (VETS). *Veterans Florida* is a non-profit created by the State of Florida to help military Veterans transition to civilian life with rewarding career opportunities and entrepreneurship training. *Veterans Florida* also promotes our status as the nation’s most veteran-friendly state and administers the Florida Skill-Bridge initiative, which connects active-duty service members with Florida-based jobs in the six months prior to discharge. “

Source:
1) [www.floridavets.org](#), article February 03, 2023

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



2023 OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT: CHARLES DALCOURT COL USA RET
1ST VP: WILLIAM SCHNEIDER COL USA RET
2ND VP: MATTHEW MULARONI LTC USA RET
IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT: CAROL ZIERES COL USA RET
SECRETARY: KILEY STINSON LT COL USAF RET
TREASURER: LEWIS VAN DYKE COL USA RET
SURVIVING SPOUSES LIASION: VACANT

2023 DIRECTORS:

EDUCATION, TRAINING & EVENTS: TOM KUCHAR CDR USCG RET
COMMUNICATIONS: SARA MARKS CAPT NC USN RET
LEGAL AFFAIRS: WILLIAM MITCHELL LTJG (former) USN
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.

5 Star MOAA Chapter
2003 • 2005 - 2010
2012 - 2017 • 2019 - 2021

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: Secretary@moaatampa.org



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



The 2nd Annual MOAA Tampa Winter Fundraising Gala was a great success! It was full of beautiful music and artwork, the enthusiasm of our next generation from the Freedom High School JROTC, online auction and raffle items, delicious food and most of all great comradery among old and new friends. Please see highlights of this wonderful event in this newsletter. Thank you to Tom Kuhar, CDR USCG (Ret) for leading this

extraordinary occasion and laying down the groundwork for the next Gala and the next Chairman of the MOAA Tampa Winter Gala. It will be a wonderful opportunity, so don't hesitate to let us know about helping with improving our fundraising event each year. We look forward to next year's event!

March holds many promises as we enter into Spring. Paul McAneny, COL USAF (Ret) has the next "Thriving After The Military" Seminar set for March 7th. See the information in the newsletter. And it's exciting to know that some of the Wounded Warriors are starting to attend the Operation Helping Hand dinners now. For me, I will be traveling to the Holy Land and Jordan for the latter half of March and am so excited. While I was stationed in Newport, Rhode Island I had the pleasure of sponsoring an Israeli Naval Officer who was attending the Naval War College as part of 50 other international officers along with his family. Before we knew that a pandemic was in progress I was in the Holy Land in January 2020 and after my pilgrimage I was able to reacquaint with them in Haifa and am so thrilled to be able to see them again on this trip. My publisher, Emily Yates is also a world traveler and will be traveling to the Emerald Isle and return from her trip a few days after me, so I hope that you'll all understand that the April edition of *The Retrospect* will be published a bit later than usual.

This month we are highlighting our Member of the Month William "Bill" Mitchel, LTJg USN (Former) who is our Director for Legal Affairs and also put together a fantastic "Legal Rodeo" last Fall, which our Chapter hopes to repeat at another time in the near future. Bill has been on the Board of Directors and a member of our chapter for quite some time and provides excellent legal guidance on various topics. Bill it is a pleasure to serve with you. Our Chapter Spotlight this month is COL Harold "Hal" Youmans, USA (Ret), who I met when making Buddy

Calls in December 2020 and have stayed in touch with off and on with Buddy calls. We have yet to meet in person, but he's been delightful to talk to and so interesting to get to know. Hal, I hope to meet you at a luncheon soon. Please read their bios in the newsletter.

As always, I appreciate articles submitted by our chapter members and their contributions to The Retrospect. Bob Sawallesh, LTC USA (Ret) provided a most interesting article about spy balloons, which apparently is not a new idea. I'd also like to thank Pettis Sims, LCDR USN (Ret) for capturing the impressions of the Gala from the JROTC Cadets, Paula Stewart, LTC USA (Ret) for highlighting all the musicians responsible for the beautiful music at the Gala, which I'd like to personally thank Ginger Heath for her beautiful piano music she provided, and updates from the 6th Medical Group on the new GENESIS system. Please read the other articles provided and hope you find them interesting and informative.

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 has our Chapter Secretary's email, so send any articles or questions to secretary@moaatampa.org or you may contact me at coms@moaatampa.org.

It is always my pleasure and honor to serve as your Editor for The Retrospect and work on our chapter's website. It has been and still is a rich and rewarding learning experience, but one that I don't do alone I plan to see everyone at this month's luncheon and know that I'll hold everyone up in prayer on my wonderful trip Israel and Jordan.

"I can do things you cannot, you can do things I cannot; together we can do great things." -- Mother Teresa

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 non-partisan organizations. Our chapter membership is open to all Military officers (Commissioned and warrant), including Active Duty, National Guard, Reserve, former officers, and spouses/surviving spouses of military officers.

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

ON THE WEB:

Tampa Chapter <https://moaatampa.org>

Communications directed to specific board members listed in the main menu ABOUT US then LEADERSHIP may be made by emailing secretary@moaatampa.org or going to the main menu to CONTACT and email us using the form provided.

FACEBOOK: [MOAA Tampa Chapter](https://www.facebook.com/MOAA-Tampa-Chapter)

INSTAGRAM: https://www.instagram.com/moaa_tampa

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

FL COUNCIL of CHAPTERS: www.moaafl.org

MOAA NATIONAL: www.moaa.org

OPERATION HELPING HAND: www.operationhelpinghandtampa.com

TAKE ACTION: <https://moaa.quorum.us/>

MOAA'S NEWS LISTING - Click for the latest news and resources from MOAA. 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.

*REMINDER: April newsletter will be published by 10 April.



A one-of-a-kind Place for One-of-a-kind People

We are the only rental retirement community located on Tampa Bay

- . Pet-friendly, high-rise apartments available with stunning views
- . Waterfront fine dining, heated pool, bayside boardwalk
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For Information or to Schedule a Tour call: **813.835.4475**

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WHY? There are several events for transitioning military members, BUT none quite like this! Typical transition events and services focus on job placement, resume development, interview skills, etc. Our event goes a completely different direction...

- We focus on family, community, education, and resilience with engaging and insightful guest speakers;
- We share unique insights on healthcare, legal imperatives, finances, and other areas that help military members support themselves and their families in a positive, impactful, and long-term manner; and
- We expose you to many different ways to enjoy the opportunities available if you put down real and lasting roots in our Tampa community.

What are people saying about this event:

"Extremely valuable! I'm in the middle of my transition now and this was the only venue I've seen that covers these topics."

"This was an amazing day; so much info that I didn't get from my Base."

"Love the energy and purpose!"

REGISTER: : <https://thrivingaftermilitaryservice.eventbrite.com/>

**Space is limited and personal masking is optional for this event.



Thriving After Military Service Transitioning Veteran Event

Hosted at the
FIVE Labs Conference Center
4115 W Spruce St., Tampa
Tuesday, 7 March, 2023
9:00 am - 4:30 PM

FREE & OPEN TO ALL RANKS
with complimentary lunch,
drinks, and snacks!!!

MEMBER OF THE MONTH

WILLIAM “BILL” MITCHELL, LTJG USN (FORMER)

Bill Mitchell grew up in a small town in Montana near Glacier National Park. He received a BA from the University of Washington in economics. During the Vietnam War he served as a supply officer with one of the first ballistic missile submarine squadrons to receive the Poseidon missile. After military service he completed the coursework for a PH. D in economics from the University of California at Berkeley. He received an MA in economics and a JD from Berkeley. He received a Masters in Tax Law from Georgetown University. Using his military experience, he practiced in Washington DC where he worked on restructuring the oil and telecommunications industry. In Tampa he has practiced as a tax lawyer and an employment lawyer. He is board certified in labor and employment law and has served as Chair of the Certification Committee for Labor and Employment Law. He is the author or co-author of three legal treatises and a published poet. He is currently working on a novel based on his military service.



CHAPTER MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

COLONEL HAROLD W. YOUNMANS, USA RET

Colonel Harold W. Youmans is completing more than 55 years of progressively demanding and responsible leadership within the nation's military and veterans' community. He enlisted in the Regular Army in 1966 and after earning a billet in and completing Infantry Officer Candidate School, he served his country in both domestic and foreign assignments.

In the Republic of Vietnam (1968) Lieutenant Youmans was posted with the III Marine Amphibious Forces and earned the Bronze Star, several awards for Valor, and the Combat Infantryman Badge. As a Captain in Europe and in the United States he commanded combat infantry and training units before leaving Active Duty in 1973.

He earned a Bachelor of Science at the University of Tampa (1974), a master's at the University of South Florida (1976) and a Law Degree from the University of Florida (1981), each while serving in the Army Reserve in Florida His military education includes completion of the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College with Honors (1980) and the U.S. Army War College (1991). Between 1974 and 1979 he was the Assistant City Manager at Dade City, Florida, and its representative to the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council. He was appointed to two gubernatorial study groups focusing on law enforcement planning.

By 1982 Major Youmans had returned to Active Duty and was an Assistant Professor of Military Science at Florida State University. While in Tallahassee, he also served as an Acting Inspector General and conducted extensive classified and unclassified investigations for the Department of the Army.

Lieutenant Colonel Youmans was assigned to the Operations Directorate on the Army Staff at the Pentagon in 1985. There, as the Director for Psychological Operations, he participated in the selection, mobilization, and deployment of personal and material assets to support classified worldwide joint operations. He was, for a time, a Visiting Observer and Lecturer at allied and NATO training institutions in Europe. In 1987 LTC Youmans was assigned to the Operations Directorate at the Joint Staff in Washington,



where his Special Operations duties required access to many of the most classified operations conducted by the armed forces of this nation. He was also a visiting instructor at the National War College and the Defense Intelligence College.

His concluding Active Duty assignment following his promotion to Colonel in 1989 was with the U.S. Special Operations Command. As the Chief of Policy and Concepts, he deployed with U.S. forces to Panama (1989), Guantanamo Bay, Cuba (1990), and Somalia (1992). During the Persian Gulf War, he deployed as DoD representative with a United States Information Agency team which negotiated a Diplomatic Note to place a broadcast radio station in Bahrain. Upon completion of his 28-year military career in 1994 he was awarded the Defense Superior Service Medal.

Leaving active duty, Colonel Youmans continued his contribution of the military and veterans' community. He served 15 years as a Special Magistrate and Hearing Officer in Hillsborough County, Pinellas County, Orlando, and Bradenton Beach, deciding environmental, land use, and code enforcement issues. He is an active lecturer and mentor, frequently speaking at legal, military, and other seminars across the country.

As a member of the Bar at the U.S. Courts of Appeals for the Armed Forces, for Veterans Claims, and for the Federal Circuit, he represented veterans in records correction and disability claim cases. He is a trained Civil and Family Law Mediator. During the Iraqi and Afghan conflicts, he provided broadcast commentary in Tampa and Ohio. He provided additional commentary during the Ukrainian War.

Colonel Youmans is a two-time recipient of The Florida Bar Association's Burton Award for Public Service (1997 and 2009) and the Hillsborough County (Florida) Bar Association's Pro Bono Award (2003). He holds an appointment to the Infantry OCS Hall of Fame at Fort Benning, GA. In 2018 he was designated as a Distinguished Member of the Special Operations Regiment at Fort Bragg, NC. He retired from the active practice of law in 2013. Colonel Youmans is married, has two grown children, and an active brood of grandchildren.

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:
Diana Pagan - 813-827-9785



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MARCH LUNCHEON MEETING

EVENT: Chapter Monthly Luncheon Meeting

DATE: Thursday, 9 March **TIME:** Social time 1130 hours, Meeting time 12 noon – 1330 hours

LOCATION: **Columbia Centennial Museum** in Ybor City, corner of 21st Street and 7th Avenue

RESERVATIONS: Call 813-676-4676 and follow the prompts OR via email to bab@digital.net.

REMEMBER: Reservations must be made by NOON Friday, 3 March.
Reservations are limited to 60. A reservation made is a reservation paid.

CANCELLATIONS must be made by NOON Monday, 6 March 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, Arroz con Pollo, Black Beans, Fresh Green 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 to be added to the distribution list.

Or by Zoom:

One Tap Mobile: US: [+13052241968..89747483931#.*031275#](tel:+13052241968..89747483931#.*031275#) or [+16469313860..89747483931#.*031275#](tel:+16469313860..89747483931#.*031275#)

Meeting URL: triple-strand-global-solutions.zoom.us/j/89747483931?pwd=dE5YN0gxbWY0ZEdNM2lkM2ZmTFBhZz09&from=addon

Meeting ID: 897 0829 2982 Passcode: 031275

Join by Telephone:

For higher quality, dial a number based on your current location.

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+1 386 347 5053 US

Meeting ID: 897 4748 3931 Passcode: 031275



BULLETIN BOARD



Colonel Patrick Willis, US Army
Lieutenant Colonel Truc Pham, US Army, Retired

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: Secretary@moaatampa.org

Smile.Amazon and The MOAA Foundation

Do you ordinarily order from Amazon.com? Want to do some good while you shop? Use Smile.Amazon.com (not Amazon.com) and let Amazon contribute to The MOAA Foundation. Why The MOAA Foundation – because it provides assistance to over 100,000 military and veteran families and their survivor each year! All you do is go to smile.amazon.com, enter your

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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 (at the home page, go to the bottom and select the Site Map to find the MOAA Foundation).

VOLUNTEER POSITIONS AVAILABLE

You’ll hear the Chapter President frequently mention “Never Stop Serving,” and you’ll see it sprinkled throughout this newsletter. This Chapter depends on that volunteer spirit from you its members to accomplish so many great things.

Everything the Chapter does is accomplished by volunteers, and there are currently several volunteer positions open, including: Surviving Spouse Liaison, Director of

IMPORTANT DATES IN MARCH

- Women’s History Month
- 3 Navy Reserve Birthday
- 4 Hug a GI Day
- 5 Seabee Birthday
- 12 Daylight Saving Time Begins
- 13 K-9 Veterans Day
- 15 American Legion Birthday
- 17 St. Patrick’s Day
- 21 Rosie The Riveter Day
- 25 Medal of Honor Day

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Buddy Call Program

We’re restructuring the Buddy Call Program. Looking for volunteers to assist with calling our members.



Please contact
CAPT Angie Nimmo, NC
USN RET at
(760) 401-9718

Outreach, Assistant Editor for the chapter newsletter *The Retrospect*, Assistant Secretary, Assistant Membership, Historian/Archivist, Public Affairs, Guard and Reserve Liaison, General Office Liaison, Scholarship Committee, Buddy Calls, Photographer, Fundraising and Advertising, 6th Medical Group Liaison, and VA Hospital Liaison.

If you would like to volunteer for or learn more about any of these positions, please contact the Secretary at Secretary@MOAATampa.org.

BEAUTIFUL ART AT THE GALA

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



Craig Gross, Gold Star Father



Carol Zieres, COL USA (Ret)



The artwork displayed for SGT Gudzak (a quadraplegic veteran) was brought in at the last minute by his mother, Julie.



Stu Dwort, Honorary MOAA Tampa Chapter Member



Francesca Escoto



Babette Arnold

Freedom High School JROTC Cadets Share Their Thoughts About The 2nd Annual MOAA Tampa Gala

Submitted by: Pettis Sims, LCDR USN RET Photo Credit: Sara Marks, CAPT NC USN (Ret)

Cadet William Pauline

When I do the POW MIA table it means more to me than just the things on it. I have no relative that have died in the service but the reminder of the people that have risked their lives to ensure that people like me reconfirms why I'm doing it. To honor those that have laid down their lives for me and my fellow Americans and to protect a country that they and I both love dearly. When I look at the table, I do not see an empty chair or an empty glass. I see a group of long-lost soldiers who in their fight to protect us, are waiting for their turn to come home and rejoice. I am honored to spend that time remembering and servicing the men and women who have not come home but will never be forgotten, that is what it means to me to do the POW and MIA table.

Cadet Janeth Martinez

I was grateful to participate in the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) Gala, to me it was an honor. Everyone was respectful, and enjoyable to talk with at my table. The food was amazing and fancy. I got to talk to outstanding people from different occupations. It was such a beautiful get together with everyone and remembering loved ones.

Cadet Alina Marini

I am grateful for the chance to go to the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) Gala. It was the first time I had gone to such an event. The food was amazing and I was able to talk to many people who provided some wisdom to me. I am graduating this year, so I hope to be going on my own in the future to support the cause.



Cadet Gonzalez-Rodriguez

I am incredibly grateful to be invited again, it was awesome, the people and everything. It was set up awesome. The environment of the place we performed in was great as usual. The food was great too. Overall, everything was great, and I had a blast. Thanks again for inviting us again this year.

Cadet Enalia Tate

What I enjoyed about MOAA was when an older woman approached me asking for help to get some artwork from the silent auction, and to me a story about a disabled Marine (I think) and how he was paralyzed. His name was Billy and his artwork helped him with his disability. This was a wonderful opportunity to develop good social skills.

Cadet Julian Cabrera

I really enjoyed my time at this year's MOAA Gala because I was able to talk to different people and hear

their stories, experiences, and their advice on how I can achieve my goals. It was also nice to apply what I've learned at the NJROTC military ball to how I conducted myself at the gala. Thank you for having us at the ball this year.

Cadet Carlaen Ross

On February 17th, I had the opportunity to participate in my second MOAA Winter Gala. It was a great experience and I really enjoyed talking to the MOAA members and veterans that were at my table and listening to some unique and interesting stories. The presentation, food, and decorations were phenomenal. I had a great time and am so thankful I was able to attend the 2023 Winter Gala.

2023 Gala*

—Photos by: Sara Marks, CAPT NC USN (Ret), Joe's Photo of Tampa



*An updated link to all the Gala photos will be made available from Joe's Photo of Tampa in the next newsletter and chapter website.

MUSIC ADDED A TOUCH OF CLASS TO THE WINTER GALA

Submitted By: Paula Stewart, LTC USA RET Photo credit: Sara Marks, CAPT NC USN (Ret)

“The Second Annual MOAA Tampa Chapter Winter Gala was accented by a wonderful variety of musical performances throughout the evening. Thanks to our own Ginger Heath, wife of CAPT Chris Heath, USN RET, Dr. Ryan Hebert, Department of Music, University of Tampa (UT) and Skye Wright, UT graduating student musician and coordinator.

The entertainment began with a well-tuned, classical string trio on the terrace as chapter members and their guests arrived. A guitarist performed beautiful melodies in the atrium near the registration

The evening ceremony was officially called to order and after the Freedom High School JROTC Color Guard presented The Colors, another JROTC cadet sang The National Anthem, accompanied by Ginger Heath on piano. Taps was grandly played by a UT trumpeter at the recognition of the ceremonial empty table honoring all Armed Forces POW/MIA.

For the remainder of the evening, Ginger played classy piano selections with the accompaniment of a drummer a saxophonist. We, “...could have

danced all night...”

Here are the names and instruments of the musicians from the UT who made our evening so very special:

Danny Analytis, French horn
Charles Bub, saxophone
Tiffany Easy, cello
Trevor Feely, drums
Joshua Hett, guitar
Jubilee Lee, piano
Michael Skarupta, trumpet
Dallis Williams, violin

We especially thank Ginger, Skye, the University of Tampa Music Department and all the musicians. Salute!”



Honorary MOAA Tampa Chapter Member Indira Cozine



For all of her contributions to the Thriving After Military Service seminars that are put on quarterly by the MOAA Tampa Chapter, Indira Cozine was named an Honorary Member of the MOAA Tampa Chapter at the 2nd Annual MOAA Tampa Winter Fundraising Gala.

Pictured (L to R); Lewis VanDyke, Treasurer, Tom Kuhar, Events, Charles Dalcourt, President, Indira Cozine, Kiley Stinson, Secretary, Carol Zieres, Immediate Past President, Matt Mularoni, 2nd VP, Bill Mitchell, Legal Affairs, Sara Marks, Communications, Reggie Williams, Legislative Affairs. Photo Credit: Joe's Photo of Tampa.

2nd Annual MOAA Tampa Winter Fundraising Gala Wrap Up

The 2nd Annual Tampa MOAA Winter Gala is now in the books. Thank you to those who planned, attended, and supported our flagship fundraising event. It was great to see many new and familiar faces, honor and reflect on our Chapter's achievements, enjoy the art & music the talented supporters of Tampa MOAA provided, and see the tremendous professionalism of the Freedom High School NJROTC cadets. While we close out the books and reconcile the accounts, know that your efforts helped raise critical funds for the continued success of the various Tampa MOAA Chapter outreach and scholarship programs.

The planning for next year's Gala will begin almost immediately. I challenge each of you to consider how you can support the 2024 Gala to improve on the successes we saw this year.



We need someone to lead the planning for next year's Gala. The blueprint is set, the team is incredible, and the opportunity is quite rewarding. Please email events@moaatampa.org if you may be interested.

See you at the next Gala!

Tom Kuhar, CDR USCG (Ret)
Winter Gala Chairman 2023

Thank you



Special thanks to Crystal Crabill, above, Community Ambassador at Mission BBQ in Brandon for donating the beautiful Mission BBQ gift basket to the Tampa MOAA Winter Gala 2023 Silent Auction. Donation coordinated by LTC Bob Sawallesh, USA, Retired.

MARCH LUNCHEON GUEST SPEAKER

COLONEL (Dr.) ERICH W. SCHROEDER

Colonel (Dr.) Erich W. Schroeder is the commander of the 2nd Medical Group, Barksdale Air Force Base, Louisiana. He leads a staff of 400 personnel providing multi-specialty outpatient clinical services and emergency medical services supporting 31,000 beneficiaries. As Chief Executive Officer for the medical group, he executes a \$21 million dollar enterprise supporting the medical and dental readiness of the 2nd Bomb Wing, Headquarters Eighth Air Force, Headquarters Air Force Global Strike Command and 32 associated units.

He trains and equips 2nd Medical Group medics to respond to conventional and nuclear contingencies and peacetime operations in support of US interests worldwide. Col Schroeder oversees Air Force Global Strike Command's largest accredited ambulatory clinic with 79,000 patient encounters and 246,000 prescriptions annually, as well as one of the Air Force's ten dental residency programs.



MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Meritorious Service Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters
Air Force Commendation Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters
Air Force Achievement Medal
Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with four Oak Leaf Clusters
Air Force Organizational Excellence Award
Kosovo Campaign Medal with one Bronze Star Device
Nuclear Deterrence Operations Service Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters
Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon

EDUCATION

1993 BS in Biology, US Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, CO
1996 MS in Industrial Management, Central Missouri State University, Warrensburg, MO
1998 Squadron Officer School (in Residence), Maxwell AFB, AL
2005 Doctor of Medicine, University of Kansas School of Medicine, Kansas City, KS
2006 Internal Medicine Internship, University of Kansas Medical Center, Kansas City, KS
2009 Master of Public Health, University of Texas-Houston, San Antonio Campus
2009 Air Command and Staff College (by Correspondence)
2010 Residency in Aerospace Medicine (RAM), United States Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine (USAFSAM), Brooks City-Base, San Antonio, TX (Board Certified)
2011 Residency in Occupational Medicine, USAFSAM, Brooks City-Base, San Antonio, TX (Board Certified)
2015 American Association for Physician Leadership Certified Physician Executive (SDE equivalency)
2016 Air War College (by Correspondence)

Support for All Who Serve

The Military Crisis Line is a free, confidential resource for all service members, including members of the National Guard and Reserve, and Veterans, even if they're not enrolled in VA benefits or health care.

Website: <https://www.veteranscrisisline.net/get-help-now/military-crisis-line/>



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Call [080-855-5118](tel:080-855-5118) or DSN 118

In Afghanistan
Call [00 1 800 273 8255](tel:0018002738255) or DSN 111

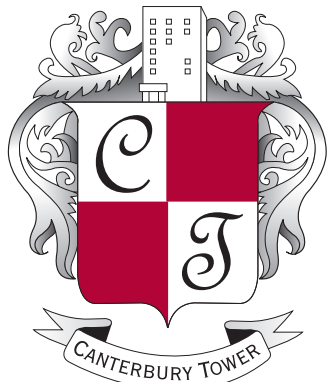
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After long, costly road, Air Force happy with new KC-46 vision system

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

—By Stephen Losey

WASHINGTON — The remote vision system for the U.S. Air Force’s latest tanker was meant to transform how the service conducts aerial refueling. It did bring about change — but the service and the aircraft’s manufacturer, Boeing, concede it hasn’t lived up to all its expectations.

Now, after years of halting development and at times contentious negotiations, the Air Force and KC-46A Pegasus manufacturer Boeing say the company and its primary subcontractor, Collins Aerospace, have developed the right solution. Even so, implementation remains more than two years away.

The new version of the vision system, dubbed RVS 2.0, uses 4K ultrahigh-definition cameras to give boom operators a full-color, sharp 3D image as they guide the refueling boom into the receiver aircraft.

The Air Force, which last year approved the design for the new RVS, says the upgrade will eliminate the KC-46’s longstanding issue with lighting conditions — and that it’s time to start making this design a reality.

“We have the demos, we have the videos, we’ve flown it on [Boeing] planes ... and it looks magnificent,” Lt. Col. Joshua Renfro, the head of the Air Force’s KC-46 Cross-Functional Team, said in a January interview with Defense News.

RVS 2.0 was originally to be released in March 2024. But in October 2022, the Air Force announced a delay of 19 months, largely due to supply chain issues among Boeing subcontractors. Under the current timeline, RVS 2.0 will now arrive in October 2025, at which point testing and Federal Aviation Administration certifications will have ended, then system installation will begin on the Pegasus fleet.

The road to get to RVS 2.0 has been tough — and for Boeing, extraordinarily costly. The contractor has racked up roughly \$6.8 billion in charges on the KC-46 program, as multiple problems with the tanker cropped up. Not all of those charges were related to the vision system, but Boeing regularly cited issues with the RVS in its quarterly earnings reports as it explained the KC-46’s latest charges. Boeing declined to say exactly how much this system has cost as part of those charges.

Problems out of the box

When the Air Force received its first KC-46 in January 2019, the event represented a dramatic change in how boom operators refuel aircraft. In older tankers, such as the KC-10 Extender and KC-135 Stratotanker, boom operators looked through a window in the back to steer the boom into the aircraft in need of fuel. In the KC-135, boom operators even lie on their stomachs while refueling.

In the KC-46, however, boom operators remain in their stations near the front of the tanker and use a system of cameras, sensors and screens to remotely refuel everything from fighter jets to bombers to cargo planes.

The concept was ambitious, and it struggled from the start. Not only was the first KC-46 a year late — Boeing originally set a goal to deliver it to the Air Force by the end of 2017 — but Air Force testers also identified problems with the Collins-made vision system before delivery. The issues were serious enough to be deemed a category 1 deficiency — the most serious of its type.

As Air Force testers put the KC-46 through its paces, Renfro explained, it became clear the original Remote Vision System had issues. It wasn’t responding quickly enough to sun and shadows, he said, and sometimes the image was distorted.

The Air Force sat down with Boeing for some “hard negotiations,” as Renfro called them, on how to get the Pegasus the vision system it needed. By April 2020, both parties reached an agreement to replace the original RVS with a redesigned vision system.

It took another two years before the service accepted the completed design for RVS 2.0. Its preliminary design review was held in May 2021, and Air Mobility Command originally expected the review to close that fall.

However, the new RVS also encountered problems. In January 2022, the command told reporters the design had “deficiencies with the panoramic visual system that detects, recognizes and identifies receiver aircraft.” The Air Force ultimately decided to keep the preliminary design review open while trying to identify how to address those technical risks.

Several months later, the service announced it closed the preliminary design review and accepted the completed design for RVS 2.0, and that Boeing would cover the costs under the terms of the engineering and manufacturing development contract.

Renfro said the Air Force had its experts in the room throughout the design process, working with Boeing’s engineers and boom operators on the new vision system. “A lot of small inputs, made over time by subject matter experts, lead to a product that is much better when it is delivered,” he added.

Seeing clearly

In a January visit to Boeing’s Arlington, Virginia, office, the company showed Defense News footage of how the new vision system works, and



—A KC-46 Pegasus, center, refuels an F-15C Eagle over the Gulf of Mexico on Nov. 18, 2021. (Staff Sgt. Betty R. Chevalier/U.S. Air Force)

how it is an improvement over the old one.

Boeing had mounted both RVS versions side by side on their own KC-46s, and then in summer 2022 the firm conducted tests in the “stressing” lighting conditions that vexed the Pegasus, recording what each camera set saw. These test flights took place over the Pacific Northwest as well as California near Edwards Air Force Base.

Ernest Burns, Boeing’s test and evaluation chief boom operator, said stressing conditions include low sun over water while the Pegasus and the receiver aircraft are turning, or high sun angles casting shadows on the receiver aircraft. Another tricky condition could be a white, solid cloud deck below the planes, where a very white airplane that is receiving fuel could blend into the clouds.

In the 2D videos shown to Defense News, which the company said were unaltered, the difference was apparent.

The monochrome imagery captured by the original vision system’s cameras was oversaturated in some bright, high sun conditions. and in one video, parts of the white-topped RC-135 receiving the fuel started to wash out and disappear against the cloudy backdrop. As the plane turned, which sometimes must happen in combat to avoid threats, the guiding lines that are meant to help the operator steer the boom into the RC-135’s receptacle began fading on the screen.

In another operation over water, the black-and-white video showed shadows from the Pegasus masking the contact area of a C-17. When those details on the receiver aircraft start to disappear, the risk of accidental damage from a misguided boom becomes more likely.

But footage of the same operations captured by RVS 2.0 cameras showed the planes in full color, with higher resolution. The white edges of the RC-135 remained sharp and visible against the clouds, and the red guiding lines remained clear.

Boeing also showed off a station with the 3D display that boom operators would see through passive polarized glasses. The station showed video of nighttime refueling of an F-16 jet in 3D. The resulting imagery was crisp enough to make out the pilots’ heads turning in the cockpit, and include details such as buckles on their parachutes.

Each RVS 2.0 system has six cameras: one pair of color cameras to capture the 3D imagery; a second redundant pair as backup; and a pair of improved infrared cameras. It also has redesigned image processors, upgraded panoramic sensors and redesigned stations for boom operators.

‘Risky business’

Air Mobility Command wants RVS 2.0 as soon as possible, Renfro said, but for now it can make do with the current system. After all, he explained, the service made progress with the KC-46 last year during exercises in the Indo-Pacific region and the Middle East.

During the latter in August 2022, KC-46s refueled two F-15E Strike Eagle fighters carrying out regular operations for U.S. Central Command; the Air Force said that was the tanker’s first refueling mission as part of a real-world operation.

After that mission, Air Mobility Command head Gen. Mike Minihan signed off on the final interim capability release, opening up the KC-46 to worldwide deployments. The Pegasus is now cleared to carry out all refueling missions around the world on all aircraft, except the A-10 Warthog.

All that was done with the KC-46’s current technology, including the original vision system, Renfro said.

“We absolutely want [the updated vision system] as soon as we can get it, however we’ve learned to operate without and carry that additional risk for that time period,” he said.

Much remains undetermined about the process for retrofitting the RVS 2.0 on the fleet, he added. For example, it’s unclear how long it will take to install the updated system on all KC-46s once deliveries start in 2025, though it will surely take years, he explained.

Renfro also wondered what the retrofit process will look like, where it will take place and how long an individual plane’s upgrade will take. The process will be a heavy maintenance action, he said, though it remains unsettled whether the Air Force will combine the activity with regularly scheduled depot maintenance.

The service will also need to carefully plot the schedule for these upgrades to ensure it has enough KC-46s flying at any given time for missions, Renfro said.

“There will be some balance between: I need future capability, and I need to keep employing the capability that I’ve prove[d] and have come to rely on right now using the [KC-46] we have,” Renfro said.

In a statement to Defense News, the KC-46 program office said Boeing and Collins Aerospace are continuing detailed development work on the design presented at the June 2022 critical design review. That work will lead to the establishment of a system integration laboratory, the program office said, where more systems development, early system-level testing and eventually certification testing will take place.

The Air Force is “well underway” on setting up the integration laboratory, the program office noted, and it expects RVS 2.0’s fidelity will continue to improve as its hardware and software mature.

The integration laboratory’s work — including qualification testing of subcomponents to ensure they meet the FAA’s and the military’s certification requirements — will end in flight testing of the new system, which will collect data used to certify airworthiness and aerial refueling clearances.

“Air refueling is an inherently risky business,” Renfro said. “We have two planes in close proximity, flying [hundreds of] miles an hour, that are intentionally touching one another. So there needs to be rigor in that process.”

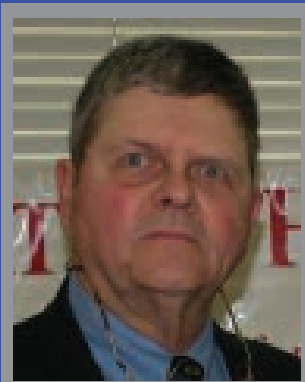


—A KC-46 Pegasus refuels a C-17, as viewed through the RVS 2.0 system. (Boeing)



—A KC-46 Pegasus refuels an F-16 at night, as seen through the updated version of the Remote Vision System, dubbed RVS 2.0. (Boeing)

UPDATE OPERATION HELPING HAND



LTC JIM GRIFFIN
Chairman, OPHH

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



On 19 JANUARY, OPERATION HELPING HAND held its 207TH monthly dinner to support the wounded and injured who receive treatment at the SCI/POLYTRAUMA facilities at the JAMES A HALEY VA HOSPITAL. We were honored to have a very large group of supporters attending the dinner. But most importantly, we had patients from the VA! GEOFF HOPKINS, VA, DIRECTOR REC THERAPY, INTRODUCED ALL THE PATIENTS IN ATTENDANCE AND FURTHER EXPLAINED HOW THE ASSISTANCE FROM OPERATION HELPING HAND IS USED. DR. STEVEN SCOTT, DIRECTOR OF REHAB SERVICES WAS ABLE TO INTERACT WITH MANY OF THOSE IN ATTENDANCE. EMBASSY SUITES prepared a superb dinner which was totally enjoyed by all. Special thanks to the CHEF AND STAFF AT EMBASSY SUITES. The colors were presented by THE CHAMBERLIN HS MARINE JROTC. MS PAULINE EVANS presented us with her monthly poem especially written for the occasion.

This evening's dinner was sponsored and served by a fantastic group from CELESTRON CORP. THANK YOU, GREG CELESTAN, CEO and your folks for their very enthusiastic attendance! MUCH APPRECIATED. It was an honor to have a very, supportive group from UNISEN join our family. THANK ALL OF YOU UNISEN AND VILLIAN FOLKS for attending.

We are making the final preparations for the 2023 BOB SILAH MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT presented by UNISEN SENIOR LIVING ON 24 MARCH at MACDILL AFB. All signups will be on our website-[OPERATIONHELPINGHANDTAMPA.COM](https://www.operationhelpinghandtampa.com)

All our volunteers with whom we are extremely blessed to have, they have never failed to be willing to pay the price to make it work. You must be willing to pay the price to make it work.

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 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 these programs. OPERATION HELPING HAND will need your continued support to allow us to continue our assistance to all these vital programs. This support can be by donations by checks or by using our website. [OPERATIONHELPINGHANDTAMPA.COM](https://www.operationhelpinghandtampa.com).

**OUR TREMENDOUS GROUP OF VOLUNTEERS
MAKE ALL OF THIS POSSIBLE!**

Operation Helping Hand February Dinner Photos

Photo credit: CWO Tom South USA (Ret)



Celebrate the Navy Reserve Birthday

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

—By Justin Sloan

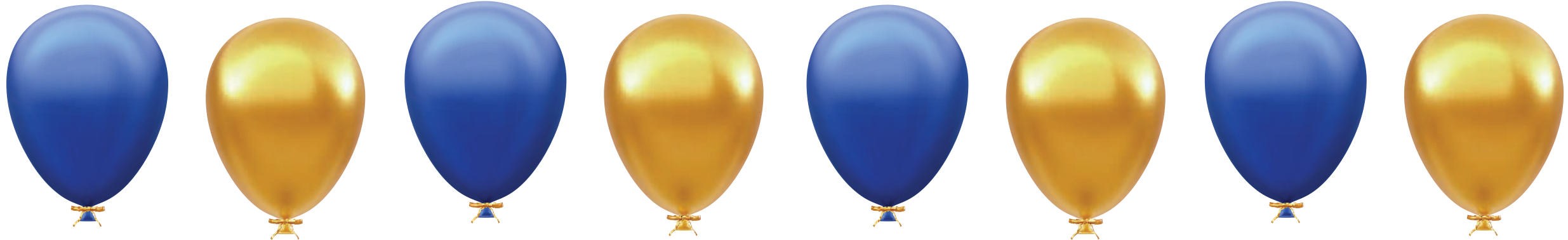
The U.S. Navy Reserve celebrates its birthday every March 3.

Formed in 1915 in response to the outbreak of World War I, the [Navy Reserve](#) made up almost 84 percent of the Navy's fighting force during the war. Among its ranks were five future U.S. Presidents and 15 recipients of the Medal of Honor. The Navy Reserve has since had reservists serve in every major war in which the United States has fought.

On any particular day, 25 percent of the Navy Reserve is delivering global operational support to the fleet and combat forces. The Reserve has seen over 70,000 mobilizations of Selected Reservists since September 11, 2001, and more than 4,500 deployments by reservists serving on Full-Time Support.

Today, over 100,000 reservists serve as either the Selected Reserve (SELRES) or Individual Ready Reserve (IRR) Sailors. Reservists serve to amplify the Navy's core capabilities, which include forward presence, deterrence, sea control, power projection, maritime security, humanitarian assistance, and disaster response.

Source: <https://www.military.com/navy/navy-reserve-birthday.html>



March 5 – Seabee Birthday

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

March 5, 1942

Happy Birthday to the Seabees!

Since March 5, 1942, the United States Navy has employed an elite cadre of construction battalions, more commonly known as Seabees. Over the years the Seabees have served in all major American conflicts, supported humanitarian efforts, and helped build communities and nations around the globe. Seabees young and old now celebrate the birthday of their unique organization today. However, March 5 has not always been recognized as its birthday.

From its beginning during World War II until 1954, the Seabee anniversary was observed on December 28 as this was the date Admiral Ben Moreell requested authority from the Chief of the Bureau of Navigation to recruit enlisted personnel to serve in a naval construction force. In the early 1950s, Rear Admiral John R. Perry, recognizing the current Seabee birthday fell at a hectic time of the year and many Seabees were on leave as it fell during the week between Christmas and New Years', made the decision to find a new date suitable for the celebration of the Seabee birthday.

Several historically significant dates in Seabee history were considered for the new birthdate. One of these was October 31 as it was the day in 1941 when the Chief of the Bureau of Navigation directed Admiral Moreell to form a Headquarters Construction Company of ninety-nine men for duty in Iceland. March 19 was also considered because on that day in 1942 the Secretary of the Navy authorized Civil Engineer Corps Officers of the newly formed Construction Battalions.

After much deliberation by leadership, March 5, 1942 was determined to be the date of most appropriate day to celebrate the Seabee birthday. Not only was that the date the Construction Battalions were given official permission to assume the name "Seabees," but it was also the anniversary date of the Civil Engineer Corps which had been established in 1867.

Source: <https://americangimuseum.org/seabee-birthday/>



US, Senegal launch medical exercise in Thies

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

—By Master Sgt. Dave Thompson, U.S. Army Southern European Task Force, Africa

THIES, Senegal - U.S. Army and Air Force medical professionals from the Vermont National Guard began a two-week medical readiness exercise with their Senegalese partners Feb. 20.

The 40-person U.S. team will work alongside Senegalese hospital professionals to treat patients in a variety of medical specialties at the Thies Regional Hospital 70 kilometers east of Dakar and at two smaller hospitals in and around Thies.

"We're here to collaborate and build a rapport with our Senegalese partners," said Lt. Col. James Burrows, the officer in charge of the exercise. "We've enjoyed a state partnership with Senegal since 2008, and these exercises build on the trust and mutual respect we have for each other."

MEDREX is a program designed and overseen by the U.S. Southern European Task Force, Africa, that enables medical personnel from the U.S. military and partner nations to exchange medical procedures and strengthen treatment capabilities. The exercise exposes participants to unique medical delivery methods, improving their capacity to assess and deliver care.

MEDREX Senegal 2023 is organized and executed by the Vermont National Guard State Partnership Program and administered by the National Guard Bureau.

After receiving an orientation of the three hospitals, the Vermont team separated into their



medical specialties and immediately began providing patient care alongside their Senegalese counterparts.

Working in the OB/GYN ward at Thies Regional Hospital, Capt. Joan Emerson, a registered nurse, and Staff Sgt. Christina Fontaine, doula labor support, helped deliver twin boys by cesarean section.

"It was an amazing experience and one I will never forget," said an excited Fontaine as she recounted her first experience assisting with the delivery of twins and holding them.

"They certainly do things differently than what we're accustomed to seeing back home," said Emerson. "It is interesting to learn their methods and take part in this exchange."

In addition to Senegal, the Vermont National Guard has state partnerships with North Macedonia and Austria.

The 30-year-old Department of Defense National Guard Bureau SPP program builds relationships that enhance global security, understanding and cooperation. It fosters long-term relationships across all levels of society and encourages the development of economic, political and military ties between the states and 100 partner nations.

MEDREX Senegal 2023 continues through March 2, 2023.

Source: https://www.army.mil/article/264266/us_senegal_launch_medical_exercise_in_thies

Special ops aviation unit presents dozens of valor, combat awards

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

—By Davis Winkie

More than 50 of the Army's most elite aviators and their support personnel received combat or valor awards recently in a ceremony at Fort Campbell, Kentucky.

The newly-decorated members of the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment, known as the Night Stalkers, were recognized on Feb. 16 for their participation in four different operations between 2019 and 2022, commander Col. Roger Waleski told Army Times in a Tuesday phone interview. The storied unit provides aviation support to special operators throughout the military, including high-stakes efforts such as the [2011 raid in Abbottabad, Pakistan](#) that killed Osama Bin Laden.

Lt. Gen. Jonathan Braga, the top general for Army Special Operations Command, led the group ceremony. Officials said 54 soldiers received 75 awards, including 11 Distinguished Flying Crosses with valor devices, seven Bronze Stars, seven Air Medals with valor devices, 43 Air Medals with combat devices and four Army Commendation Medals with combat devices. Recipients ranged in rank from specialist to colonel.

Waleski indicated that a "significant number of awards" went to the regiment's participants in the U.S. military's withdrawal from Afghanistan and the evacuation operation at Hamid Karzai International Airport in Kabul. Although many of the Night Stalkers' missions are cloaked in secrecy, the website [The Drive previously reported](#) the unit's specially-modified helicopters were present during the evacuation, and [other stories have emerged](#) referencing [their participation](#).

The Global War on Terror is virtually over for conventional troops, whose role in the re-maining hotspots has shrunk so greatly that [the National Defense Service Medal](#) and [Global War on Terrorism Service Medal](#) are no longer awarded to new troops. But the work continues for the Army's special operations aviators, Waleski emphasized.

"[We're] an organization that is still very relevant in today's affairs," the commander asserted. "Even though we think that the War on Terror may be over, violent extremism is still alive and well in the world."

In recent years, members of the regiment have reportedly participated in missions in [Syria](#) that resulted in the deaths of key Islamic State terrorist leaders — including [the 2019 raid](#) that killed ISIS founder Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi.

"The majority of the awards were from countering violent extremist organization-type operations within the [U.S. Central Command area of responsibility]," which [includes](#) Egypt, southwest Asia and portions of central Asia, Waleski acknowledged. "These are missions that are in highly-complex environments. They are operations against determined enemies of the United States and our allies and our interests."

The colonel also noted the regiment's importance in preparing for large-scale combat against a foe like Russia or China, in addition to their role in operations that occur before shooting starts.

But the event, which included family members and community leaders, was about recognizing soldiers whose accomplishments may otherwise go unspoken, Waleski said. He reflected on the impact such ceremonies have on families who may not realize "the sort of things that [soldiers are] doing when...overseas," adding that in-person events also can foster community among families that was difficult to replicate during the pandemic.

"It shows you what Night Stalkers and the [special operations] community are still doing overseas," he noted. "It's still dangerous, and they're still serving the nation with honor."

Source: <https://www.armytimes.com/news/your-army/2023/02/22/special-ops-aviation-unit-presents-dozens-of-valor-combat-awards/>



—Assorted awards lie awaiting presentation to members of the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment during a ceremony at Fort Campbell, Kentucky, on Feb. 16, 2023. (160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment/Army)



—Lt. Gen. Jonathan Braga, the commander of Army Special Operations Command, presents an award to a member of the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment during a ceremony at Fort Campbell, Kentucky, on Feb. 16, 2023. (160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment/Army)



A member of the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment receives a Distinguished Flying Cross with valor device during a ceremony at Fort Campbell, Kentucky, on Feb. 16, 2023. (160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment/Army)

Spy Balloons and Whiskey

—Submitted by: LTC Robert Sawallesh, USA, Ret.



Bataille de Fleurus gagnée par l'Armée Française, le 8 Messidor, de l'An 2.

"The French were the first to use balloons for aerial reconnaissance in 1794, during their conflict with Austria. This reconnaissance contributed to the French victory by providing a way for the French to observe the makeup and activities of their enemies."

"After the French Revolution had ended, one of the first acts of the Committee of Public Safety was to appoint an advisory commission that recommended using observation balloons to help France's armies. They set aside an area in the Paris suburbs for conducting secret balloon experiments. There, the world's first military observation balloon, *L'Entreprenant*," was constructed in 1793 under the guidance of the scientist Charles Coutelle and assisted by N.J. Conté." See <http://www.century-of-flight.freeola.com/new%20site/balloons/Napoleonic.htm>.

Sawallesh comment: President Washington do doubt could have used a "spy balloon" during the Whiskey Rebellion in 1794." See <https://www.mountvernon.org/library/digitalhistory/digital-encyclopedia/article/whiskey-rebellion/>.



—George Washington reviewing the troops being deployed against the Whiskey Rebellion - Washington Reviewing the Western Army, at Fort Cumberland, Maryland, ca.1795. [63.201.2]. Courtesy The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, NY. Source: <https://www.mountvernon.org/library/digitalhistory/digital-encyclopedia/article/whiskey-rebellion/>.

2023

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This award-winning, informative monthly newsletter, The Retrospect, is available on-line at www.MOAA Tampa.org and published on the MOAA Tampa FaceBook site. This publication is packed with information addressing our community based projects and updates readers on the national and local initiatives that improve the quality of life for all servicemembers, their families, and survivors. It also includes myriad non-political articles that are of interest to both military and civilian communities.

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Mar. 21	April 1
April 20	May 1
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Aug. 19	Sept. 1
Sept. 20	Oct. 1
Oct. 20	Nov. 1
Nov. 21	Dec. 1

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Over 200 Years of Service: The History of Women in the U.S. Military

—By Danielle DeSimone

From the battlefields of the American Revolution to the deserts of Kuwait, women have been serving in the military in one form or another for more than 200 years. They have had to overcome decades of obstacles to get to where they are today: serving in greater numbers, in combat roles and in leadership positions all around the world.

Here is a look at the history of women in the military, and how their roles have changed over the years.

Revolutionary War

Although women were not always permitted to enlist in the U.S. Armed Forces, many still found ways to serve their nation.

During the Revolutionary War, as colonial militias armed themselves and joined George Washington’s Continental Army, many of these soldiers’ wives, sisters, daughters and mothers went with them. These women traveled alongside the Continental Army, where they boosted morale as well as mended clothes, tended to wounds, foraged for food, cooked and cleaned both laundry and cannons.



—After her husband was killed in battle, Margaret Corbin continued to fight from his post at Fort Washington.

Some women found ways to join the fight for independence. Margaret Corbin, for example, disguised herself as a man and traveled with her husband to the front lines of the Battle of Fort Mifflin, where she helped him load his cannon. When her husband was shot by enemy fire, Corbin carried on fighting, even after being shot three times. She was given a military pension in acknowledgment of her efforts, and years after her death was reburied at West Point with full military honors. Similarly, Deborah Sampson fought disguised as a man for years before her true sex was revealed. Other women, such as Lydia Darragh, also supported the war effort by spying on behalf of the Patriots.

However, women’s roles in the military became even more crucial during the Civil War, as their support expanded.

Civil War

During the Civil War, nearly 20,000 women lent their skills and efforts in everything from growing crops to feed Union troops to cooking in Army camps. Other tasks included sewing, laundering uniforms and blankets and organizing donations through door-to-door fundraising campaigns.



—Nurse Annie Bell with patients after the Battle of Nashville during the Civil War, circa 1864.

Notably, it was during the Civil War that women began to serve as nurses on a much larger and more official scale. Approximately 3,000 women served as nurses for the Union Army during the war. Legendary nurse and founder of the Red Cross Clara Barton even received a special “military pass” that permitted her to travel directly onto the battlefield, where she drove her medical wagons straight into the fray to tend to wounded soldiers. Fellow trailblazer Dorothea Dix was even appointed superintendent of the United States Army Nurses for the Union Army, leading her own “army of nurses” over the course of the war. Dix is remembered for pushing for high standards of behavior and training among her nurses, as well as providing ample opportunities for female nurses working in support of the military.

Meanwhile, some women even marched on the battlefields. Historians estimate that about 1,000 women disguised themselves as men and fought on both sides of the Civil War.

World War I

The 20th century changed everything for women in the military.

At the onset of the United States’ entry into World War I in April 1917, the U.S. Army Nurse Corps (ANC) – formally established in 1901 – had only officially been in existence for less than 20 years, and only had 403 nurses in its active-duty ranks. By June 1918, just over a year later, there were more than 3,000 American nurses deployed to British-operated hospitals in France. These nurses often worked in dangerous conditions near the front lines, caring for service members and civilians alike, and ensuring the health and safety of Allied troops.



—American nurses care for injured soldiers in France in 1918.

However, WWI is also notable because it was the first time women – who did not yet have the right to vote – were allowed to openly serve in the U.S. military.

With large numbers of American men being sent to war overseas, the Armed Forces – and the U.S. Navy in particular – needed stateside replacements for the roles that were left behind. After finding a loophole in a naval act that would allow women to serve in non-commissioned officer and non-combat roles, the Navy enlisted its first “yeomanettes.” Around 12,000 women served in the rank of yeoman, mostly working clerical duties, as well as telephone and radio operators and translators.



—Telephone operators – also known as “Hello Girls” – in the U.S. Signal Corps Female Telephone Operators Unit are pictured here working 3 kilometers from the trenches in France. Helmets and gas masks can be seen in their bags on the backs of their chairs.

Meanwhile, the U.S. Army Signal Corps enlisted women to work as telephone and switchboard operators. These women – nicknamed the “Hello Girls” – often worked very close to the front lines in France. They would not be recognized for their high-pressure work or their status as veterans until decades later, in 1979.

Then, only a few years after the War to End All Wars, World War II broke out and women’s roles continued to evolve with the rest of society.

World War II

WWII created an unprecedented need for service members. As more than 16 million Americans stepped up to serve on the front lines – the majority of those being men – the U.S. military was left with many non-combat roles that needed to be filled. So, the women of the United States stepped up too, and for the first time in history, all branches of the military enlisted women in their ranks.

- **Army:** The Army formed the Women’s Army Auxiliary Corps (WAACs), which was later renamed and restructured to form the active duty Women’s Army Corps (WACS). The branch also formed the Army’s Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASPs).
- **Navy:** The Navy formed the Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service (WAVES).
- **Marine Corps:** The Marines enlisted women in the Marine Corps Women’s Reserve.
- **Coast Guard:** The Coast Guard formed the Women’s Reserve (SPARS), which stood for the Coast Guard motto, *Semper Paratus* – “Always Ready.”

In total, nearly 350,000 American women served in uniform during World War II.

These women took on non-combat roles in order to free up more men to fight. They continued to work clerical jobs as they did during World War I, but they also drove vehicles, repaired airplanes, worked in laboratories and cryptology, served as radio and telephone operators, rigged parachutes, test-flew planes and even trained their male counterparts in air combat tactics.



—WACS at Bolling Field use a theodolite to obtain data on upper air flow of a balloon.

Women also served as nurses. 57,000 served in the Army Nurse Corps and 11,000 in the Navy Nurse Corps – and these roles were not without risk. Many of these women worked right on the front lines and came under enemy fire, and some even won combat decorations. Army Col. Ruby Bradley, a nurse in the U.S. Army Nurse Corps, was kept prisoner at an internment camp in the Philippines for 37 months, during which she remained steadfast in her calling as a nurse. She performed 230 major surgeries and delivered 13 babies during her time as a prisoner of war (POW), even under harsh conditions. In total, 432 women were killed in the line of service during World War II and 88 were taken as POWs.



—In England in early 1945, WACS Maj. Charity E. Adams and Capt. Abbie N. Campbell inspect the first contingent of Black members of the Women’s Army Corps assigned to overseas service.

True to societal norms at the time, all branches emphasized the expectation of femininity within the ranks of women in the military throughout the war. Uniforms included skirts, not slacks, and nail polish, makeup and feminine hairstyles were not only allowed, but encouraged. But beyond this focus on femininity, these women were finally recognized as vital, enlisted members of the Armed Forces.



—Two members of the Navy’s WAVES work on the engine of a North American T-6 Texan plane at Naval Air Station in Jacksonville, Fla. in 1943.

They risked their lives and were integral to American success in the war, and through it all, they faced challenges in navigating their new roles and overcoming discrimination in a male-dominated arena. After the war, many of these women would return home, hoping to continue their military career, only to find themselves pushed out of their roles so that the men returning from war could have them. Some women would struggle for decades to obtain veteran status or benefits for their service during WWII.

But because of their perseverance and dedication to service throughout the war, they helped pave the way for women in the military who would come after them.

Over 200 Years of Service: The History of Women in the U.S. Military cont.

Korean War

In 1948, three years after the end of World War II, **President Harry S. Truman signed the Women’s Armed Services Integration Act into law, officially allowing women to serve as full, permanent members of all branches of the Armed Forces.**

However, this was not a guarantee of equal opportunity. The act actually restricted the number of women who could serve to **only 2% of each branch**, and also limited how many women could become officers. Additionally, female service members could be automatically discharged if they became pregnant, and **they were unable to command men or serve in combat positions.**

But regardless of the obstacles that remained in female service members’ paths, the Women’s Armed Services Integration Act was still a step toward progress for women in the military. One month after the act’s passing, President Truman issued the **Integration of the Armed Forces** executive order, desegregating the military and ensuring that Black women could now serve equally in all branches of the military as well.



—Medical personnel – including Army nurses – of the 8225th Mobile Army Surgical Hospital (MASH) with a H-13 helicopter in Korea in 1951.

And serve they did. Just two years later, the Korean War broke out, and 120,000 women would go on to serve in active duty positions from 1950-1953. Although they could not serve in combat, they undertook new roles such as **military police officers or engineers.**

Military nurses would also continue to play a critical role during this time. Mobile Army Surgical Hospitals (MASH) were heavily used during the Korean War, providing fully functioning hospitals in combat zones, where many nurses worked.

Just a few years later in the Vietnam War, these nurses would be called to the front lines once again.

Vietnam War

Approximately 11,000 women were stationed in Vietnam during the nearly 20-year war, and 90% of them were nurses in the Army, Navy and Air Force. Notably, most volunteered to go.



—U.S. Navy nurse Lt. Cmdr. Joan Brouillette checks the condition of a service member as she makes her daily rounds of the intensive care ward at the United States Naval Support Activity Hospital in Da Nang, South Vietnam in 1968.

During the Vietnam War, other female service members worked as air traffic controllers, intelligence officers and clerks – both at home and in Vietnam. In 1967, **President Lyndon B. Johnson opened promotions for women** to general and flag ranks and in 1972, **women were allowed to command units that included men.**



—In 1967, President Lyndon B. Johnson opened promotions to women to general and flag ranks.

The U.S.’ involvement in the Vietnam War came to a close in 1973 and two years later, **the Pentagon announced that pregnant women could remain in the military.**

The 80s, 90s and Today

At the end of the 20th century and the beginning of the 21st, there were a lot of “firsts” for women in the military: **the first woman to become a Navy fighter pilot; the first female four-star general in the Army; and the first female rescue swimmer in the Coast Guard, among others.**



—Cmdr. Rosemary B. Mariner, pictured in her A-7E at Naval Air Station, Lemoore, Calif. Mariner was one of the first six women to become a Naval aviator, and the first woman to command a naval aviation squadron.

There was even the first Silver Star awarded to a female soldier since World War II. **Army Sgt. Leigh Ann Hester** was awarded the military medal in recognition of her brave actions during an enemy ambush on her supply convoy in Iraq in 2005. She is also the first woman to ever receive the Silver Star for direct combat action.



—Army Sgt. Leigh Ann Hester after receiving her Silver Star medal during a military awards ceremony at Camp Liberty, Iraq, in June 2005. | Photo credit U.S. Army/Spc. Jeremy D. Crisp

But it was not just the “firsts” that were impressive in these more recent years.

As more women broke through barriers and established themselves as capable service members working in defense of the nation, the list of “firsts” slowly became less noteworthy in comparison to the sheer number of women serving, as well as their significant contributions to their respective branches.

In the Gulf War, from just 1990-1991, **more than 40,000 women** deployed to combat zones, although they still could not technically serve in direct combat roles or assignments.

In 1994, President Bill Clinton **rescinded the “Risk Rule,”** essentially allowing women to serve in all positions in the military except for direct ground combat roles. This allowed for many more women to still engage in combat as aviators, sailors, Air Force personnel and other roles.



—U.S. Army Chief of Staff Gen. Mark A. Milley congratulates Capt. Kristen Griest and U.S. Army Ranger School Class 08-15 during graduation at Fort Benning, Georgia on Aug. 21, 2015. Griest and class member 1st Lt. Shaye Haver became the first female graduates of the school.

Then, in 2013, **then-Defense Secretary Leon Panetta** announced that **the ban on women in combat would be lifted entirely, and that female service members would be allowed to serve in direct ground combat roles.** In 2015, this was **put into action.** This historic change opened up hundreds of thousands of jobs for women in the military and essentially ensured that as long as female service members completed the necessary training and requirements, they could now serve in almost any role in the U.S. Armed Forces.



—U.S. Marine Corps Female Engagement Team members clear a hallway during military operations in urban terrain training in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) in January 2021. The team is comprised of all-female volunteers who work specifically with women and partnered forces to build trust and beneficial relationships while respecting cultural boundaries and customs. | Photo credit U.S. Marine Corps/Lance Cpl. Andrew Skiver

Since the opening of combat positions to women, several female service members have trained to step into these new roles. Over the past seven years, 100 women have graduated from the Army’s Ranger School and others have successfully completed Navy SEAL officer assessment and selection, proving their capabilities in even the most rigorous and challenging of assignments.

Women continue to make history in the military today, pushing boundaries and taking on more roles – and more prestigious roles – than ever before. **More than 300,000 women** have served in Iraq and Afghanistan since 9/11, **more than 9,000** have earned Combat Action Badges and today, **women make up 16%** of our nation’s Armed Forces, serving in every branch of the U.S. military.

As the history of women in the military clearly shows, female service members are a force to be reckoned with – and the USO continues to stand behind all members of our Armed Forces as the Force Behind the Forces®.

Source: <https://www.uso.org/stories/3005-over-200-years-of-service-the-history-of-women-in-the-us-military>

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OR check No service during any of these periods of time _____

Tampa Chapter Annual Dues: \$30 No fee for Active Duty or Surviving Spouses.

Chapter name tag \$13 YES _____; NO _____: Name as you want it on name tag: _____

You may bring the completed form to any Chapter event, or you can mail it with your check (payable to MOAA Tampa Chapter) to: Matt Mularoni, C/O MOAA Tampa, PO Box 6383, Tampa, FL 33608-0383.

Email questions to: membership@moaatampa.org

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

Coalition Corner



Dear MOAA Tampa Members,

I hope you are all doing great out there enjoying the nice weather. I also hope the MOAA Gala, February 17th went well. We would of course have loved to join the Gala, but, unfortunately, there were no representatives from the International Coalition due to a number of conflicting events. Some of us were engaged in a security summit that had a very interesting program with a lot of excellent keynote speakers. The security summit is a joint effort between the Young Presidents Organization (Tampa, Naples, and Sarasota Chapters), the YPO Global Diplomacy Network and the International Coalition with US CENTCOM.

Commander US CENTCOM General Kurilla, Deputy Commander US SOCOM Vice Admiral Green, the former Commander of Operation Resolute Support in Afghanistan, General (ret.) Miller, former National Security Advisor, and Ambassador O'Brien just to mention a few. I personally moderated a panel of international senior national representatives discussing our views on the situation in the US CENTCOM area of responsibility and other topics around the world in general. Being part of security summits like this one always provide an obvious venue for representatives from both the private, political, and military sector to discuss current issues of interest.

Obviously, the situation in Ukraine is on everybody's mind. As I write this input for the MOAA Tampa's newsletter *The Retrospect*, it is exactly one year ago that Russian armed forces invaded Ukraine. Obviously, today's media is focused on the "one-year mark" with reference to statements expressed by numerous heads of states around the globe, the UN etc.

The terrible earthquakes in Türkiye and Syria are another tragic event calling for a necessity to rapidly advance coordination of humanitarian support. I am aware that US CENTCOM, to include USAID are doing whatever necessary to support these efforts and also aware that many individual nations have set up air bridges etc. in support of the populations affected in both countries.

The weekend around February 18th and 19th with President's Day on Monday 20th also provided a great opportunity for the international military community here in Tampa to go and visit places in Florida or other places in the US. Because of President's Day on Monday being a day off US CENTCOM labelled Friday 17th a non-duty day. A lot of coalition folks took advantage of the possibility to leave the Tampa area late Thursday to go exploring places in Florida or the US in general as part of our stay here.

We are currently rotating some of the Senior National Representatives with the International Coalition. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Japan, and Egypt recently rotated. I am

looking forward to presenting our new members during the upcoming monthly MOAA luncheons and also to bring new nations along to the Operation Helping Hand dinners up at the Embassy Suites close to the James A. Haley Veterans' Hospital.

I am also aware about considerations to bring more Senior National Representatives from nations inside the US CENTCOM area of responsibility onboard the International Coalition. Currently we have 12 out of 21 nations represented in the coalition. Obviously, I am not foreseeing any representatives from Syria, Iran, or Afghanistan to join the coalition. So, all in all and pending the possibility of another two nations to join the coalition with almost all nations within the region who will be represented here. I believe that to be a very unique thing and we are all in the same building allowing not only the US CENTCOM folks, but in fact all of us to address issues to the coalition nations (44) – in person. Although from the military we all possess a pretty good insight and idea on what is going on at the political level in our respective nations.

Today my thoughts and prayers go to Ukraine. Fundamental values must be protected. Their struggle is our struggle.

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

Surviving Spouse Corner: How Surviving Spouses Benefit From MOAA Membership



—By Dr. Vivianne Cisneros Wersel, Surviving Spouse Advisory Council member

MOAA's mission is to improve the lives of those who serve and their families. As a MOAA member, surviving spouses have opportunities to connect with kindred surviving spouses in addition to receive information about benefits and programs that might be new to them.

Understandably, when someone becomes a surviving spouse, there is a certain knowledge gap to navigate. Surviving spouses of MOAA work to help close that gap.

It's also important to note many survivors might not be aware they are eligible to join MOAA even if their military spouses were not MOAA members.

Depending on your membership level, surviving spouses will have a consistent line of communication as well as support regarding their eligibility for various MOAA benefits, such as discounts, advocacy, scholarships, and membership to their virtual chapter. Communication options include telephone, emails, literature, social media, and webinars.

A great example of the support MOAA provides is the [MOAA Surviving Spouse Virtual Chapter](#) and the [Surviving Spouses and Friends Facebook group](#), which unites military survivors from different war eras. Through these avenues, a surviving MOAA spouse has ample opportunity to relate to like members with similar backgrounds. Local chapters also can provide a spouse with a tangible sense of community and connection.



Source: <https://www.moaa.org/content/publications-and-media/news-articles/2020-news-articles/surviving-spouse-corner-how-surviving-spouses-benefit-from-moaa-membership/>

Congress salutes Marine veteran, the last WW2 Medal of Honor recipient

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

—By Kevin Freking

Congress is giving its ultimate final salute Thursday to Hershel W. "Woody" Williams, a hero of the battle for Iwo Jima who was the last remaining Medal of Honor recipient from World War II.

Williams, who died in June at age 98, is lying in honor in the U.S. Capitol Rotunda, a tribute reserved for the nation's most distinguished private citizens. Only six others have received the honor: civil rights icon Rosa Parks, the Rev. Billy Graham and four Capitol police officers.

Just 21, Williams was a Marine corporal when U.S. forces came ashore on the strategic Japanese island in early 1945.

Williams moved ahead of his unit and eliminated a series of Japanese machine gun positions. Facing small-arms fire, he fought for four hours, repeatedly returning to prepare demolition charges and obtain flamethrowers. President Harry Truman awarded him the Medal of Honor, the military's highest decoration, later that year.



—Marine veteran Hershel "Woody" Williams famously destroyed enemy positions with a flamethrower on Iwo Jima.



—The flag-draped casket bearing the remains of Hershel W. "Woody" Williams is carried by joint service members into the U.S. Capitol, Thursday, July 14, 2022 in Washington, to lie in honor. (Al Drago/Pool Photo via AP)

Source: <https://www.militarytimes.com/military-honor/2022/07/14/congress-salutes-marine-veteran-the-last-wwii-medal-of-honor-recipient/>

MEDICAL CORNER

Genesis Logon Guide

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



GENESIS Patient Portal DS LOGON Guide

Please **READ** this entire guide

*Department of Defense
Defense Health Agency
Military Health System*

Health.mil

Please visit the MHS GENESIS LOGON page (link below). At the bottom of page click on Download FAQs, there is more info about DSL.
<https://my.mhsgenesis.health.mil/pages/home>

- ➔ Go to <https://my.mhsgenesis.health.mil/pages/home> to sign up for a DSL account
- Select “Create Account”
 - Follow the DSL registration procedures
 - Registration can take up to 10 minutes to verify your identity. Individuals will be consenting to a soft-inquiry on their credit report and receive a one-time PIN (OTP) to the phone number on file. Prior to starting this, ensure you have time and access to your phone.
- ➔ For Retirees, Veterans, Family Members/Dependents. See pages 4-6 in the downloaded FAQs. For more on the following information:
- Proceed to a RAPIDS ID Card Office Locator. Use this link <https://idco.dmdc.osd.mil/idco/> to find RAPIDS site locations.
 - Most RAPIDS sites require an appointment . Please utilize site locations website to make an appointment and find a list of required documentation to bring.
 - Veterans only have the option to contact the VA by phone, web page, or in-person at a VA Regional Office
- ➔ After you have created an account, (see pages 6-10 in FAQs) you can:
- Manage Relationships
 - Password Information
 - Account Locks, Deactivations, & Suspensions
 - DSL accounts can be locked for a variety of reasons to include unusual activity. Account locks can only be unlocked by DMDC.
 - Account locks are not the same as account suspended or an account that has been deactivated.

If you have unsuccessfully tried to remote proof multiple times and are now receiving an error, your ability to remote proof will be suspended for 30 days. If you try again, the 30 day timeline starts over again. DMDC CCC, VA, and DSL cannot remove the suspension on your ability to remote proof as it occurs at the data vendor site. You must either wait the full 30 days to try again or proceed to a RAPIDS site location to provide proof of identity in-person.

What is DS LOGON (DSL)? It is a identity verification system managed by the Department of Defense (DoD). This log-in method allows access to the new MHS Genesis Patient Portal, but is also used to access other DoD and VA partner websites that contain PII. By signing up for a free account, you can view your financial and benefits information, Personal Health Information (PHI), claim statuses and records.

IMPORTANT
Please read ALL of the following information

- **What is REMOTE PROOFING?** In order to protect your PII and PHI in partner applications, remote proofing is a multiple step process where the system automatically selects a means to remotely verify identity. The process consists of any combination of the following: successfully uploading documentation (e.g., driver’s license), taking a selfie, typing select digits of a credit card, and/or answering knowledge-based questions. ALL information sent to the data vendor is ENCRYPTED and PROTECTED. **The user CANNOT choose which method is used for remote proofing.** The data vendor provides information that helps DoD verify the user’s identity.
- You **MUST** complete all the steps at a single time in the time limit provided. If you do not complete the process, you timeout, or you provide information that cannot be verified, your ability to access DSL and partner sites may be impacted
- The process should take approximately 10 minutes. Please have driver licenses, computer or cell phone with a camera, to receive a One Time Pin, credit cards, and/or loan documents available **BEFORE** you start the process.

- The data vendor provides information that helps the DoD verify a user’s identity. The information used in remote proofing is pulled using a soft inquiry on your credit report and is not used for any other purpose except to verify your identity at a single point in time.
- **THIS DOES NOT AFFECT YOUR CREDIT, IT IS ONLY USED TO VERIFY YOUR IDENTITY.**
- The data, identity documents, and information you provide ARE NOT used in data mining or for any other purpose except identity verification. All information sent to the data vendor is encrypted and protected.
- If you have reported identity theft and your credit report is frozen, you will need to temporarily unfreeze your credit report to remote proof.

I STILL NEED HELP!

For further assistance contact a call center below.

Organization	Phone # and Hours	Helps With
DMDC Customer Contact Center	800-368-3665	DEERS, CAC Issues, identity proofing, and DSL account information
	Mon-Fri 5am-5pm PT	DMDC help desk DOES NOT help with ID.ME or LOGIN.GOV
Veteran Affairs (eBenefits)	800-827-1000	Veterans adding an identity to DEERS, Benefits Questions, such as GI Bill, Claim Status or Disability Benefits
Veteran Affairs (eBenefits)	Mon-Fri 5am-6pm PT	Technical Issues, such as password changes or error codes
	800-983-0937	
Veteran Affairs (eBenefits)	Mon-Fri 5am-6pm PT	

RAPIDS Site Locator <https://idco.dmdc.osd.mil/idco/>

**6th
Medical
Group**



MOAA Tampa Scholarship Announcement



To: MOAA Tampa Chapter members

The Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce that the MOAA Tampa Chapter will award college scholarships of up to \$2,000.00 each to high school seniors who are planning to attend college during the academic year 2023-2024. Applicants must be a dependent or grandchild of a MOAA Chapter member who has been in good standing for at least one year prior to the date of application. The selection committee reserves the right to limit scholarship awards to one per sponsor.

The application form and further requirements can be found at the chapter website: www.moaatampa.org.

Completed applications and documentation must be submitted no later than midnight April 15, 2023 to:

Colonel (Ret) William A. Schneider,
15888 Sanctuary Drive
Tampa, FL 33647

Scholarship winners will be announced on May 1, 2023.

If you have any questions, please contact Colonel Schneider at (813) 977-2572 or via email at wajs33647@gmail.com.

Sincerely,
MOAA Tampa Chapter Scholarship Committee.

Eligibility Requirements

1. Be a dependent or grandchild of a MOAA Tampa Chapter member who has been in good standing for a minimum of one year prior to the date of application.
2. Have a GPA of 3.0 or higher.
3. Complete the scholarship application
4. Attend the May 11, 2023 Luncheon and Awards Ceremony. Attendance is required by the recipient or immediate family member in order to receive the award.

Required attachments

1. Submission of proof of the Military affiliation of the sponsor. (Military ID or DD form 214)
2. Submission of transcript reflecting 3.0 or higher GPA.
3. Submission of two Letters of Reference from persons other than relatives. (teachers, work supervisors, clergy, etc.)
4. An acceptance letter from an accredited college, community college or university.
5. A letter written by the student, in which he or she explains his or her goals and academic experience and extracurricular and community volunteer experience.
6. A completed Scholarship Application Form
7. A photo of the student.

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

Submit application and attached documents not later than midnight April 15, 2023 to:

Colonel (Ret) William A. Schneider, USA
15888 Sanctuary Drive, Tampa, FL 33647
(813) 977-2572
wajs33647@gmail.com



MOAA Tampa Scholarship Application



Date of application _____

Sponsor name _____

Date sponsor joined chapter _____

Student name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

Graduating school _____

College accepted _____

Academic awards _____

School activities _____

Community activities _____

Completed application and supporting documents must be submitted no later that April 15, 2023.

National Hug a G.I. Day – March 4, 2023

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

March 4 is the only day on the calendar that’s also a military command — march forth! — so it’s only appropriate that this be the day that we celebrate the servicemen and servicewomen in our lives with National G.I. Day. Soldiers in the U.S. military — including members of the Army, Air Forces, and Marines — have been referred to as G.I.s since 1940, and today is the day that we celebrate everything they do for us with a big hug, either literal or metaphorical.

Source: <https://nationaltoday.com/national-hug-a-gi-day/>

NATIONAL HUG A G.I. DAY TIMELINE

June 17, 1942

G.I. Joe is Born

Former army sergeant turned comic strip artist Dave Breger begins his G.I. Joe series in “Yank” magazine.

1944

G.I. Becomes Official

President Franklin Roosevelt signs what will later become known as the G.I. Bill.

1964

Hottest Toy of the Season

Toy company Hasbro trademarks G.I. Joe as an action figure.

20th century

Double Meaning

G.I. becomes an abbreviation used in supply records for galvanized iron.





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CHAPLAIN’S CORNER

CHAPLAIN (COL) BERNARD H LIEVING JR USA RET



There must be a God because since the beginning of his-
tory most people have believed the universe in which we live
could not have come about without there being a Source which
brought it into being. Since the beginning of the human race
there has been a need or hunger for things like love, goodness,
truth, and mercy, the source of which has been beyond human
capability. Thus God!

Today, there is an increasing disbelief in God. In 1944 ninety
percent of adult Americans believed in God. In the latest polls,
that number is down to eighty-one percent, down six percent
since 2017. The percentage has fallen most sharply in young
adults. Many of those who do believe in God do not believe in
the God of Jewish and Christian scriptures.

It is impossible for us to prove God exists or to demonstrate the existence of God. Yet, in
the ancient history of the Jewish people as told in scriptures, there were many names for
the God worshipped as Creator. The one most often used is “YHVH,” since there are no
vowels in biblical Hebrew. With vowels added, it becomes “Yahweh.” Jews do not say the
word as it, as the name of God, is too sacred. Instead, when YHVH appears they pro-
nounce it as “Adonai,” meaning “Lord.” Another God name in the Old Testament is “El Shad-
dai,” Lord God Almighty. “El Elyon,” yet another name in the Old Testament, is translated
Most High God.

For Muslims, the name of God is Allah who is seen as the same God of Abraham, Moses,

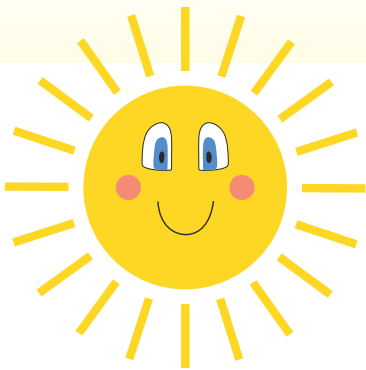
Isaac, and Jacob, for there is only one God.

Christians often call God by the names taken from the Jewish scriptures, the Christian Old
Testament. However, since in Christianity there is the belief that God came to the world in
human form in Jesus, many of the names associated with Jesus refer to God. Those names
include “Son of God,” “Emmanuel” (God With Us), and “Mighty God.”

Regardless of all the above given names of the One called God, this God cannot be identi-
fied with the help of a dictionary or a biblical commentary. It is possible to know God only
through a relationship, an experience in response to God’s call for a willingness to trust and
take risks. This One we call God is All-Wise, All-Powerful, All-Loving, All-Knowing and who
will find a way to let us know God is with us in this place.

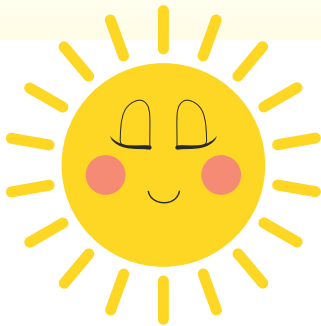
In the book, *Two Souls Indivisible*, the author, James S. Hirsch, tells the story of two Viet-
nam War pilots, one Navy and one Air Force, shot down, captured and imprisoned by the
North Vietnamese. One night, one of the prisoners whose spirits were declining, prayed for
strength to endure. The next morning, he heard a scratching sound coming from his cell
window which was almost totally boarded up. There was a three-inch gap on the window’s
covering through which he saw a green leaf on a branch, which had been pushed through
the gap. He held the leaf, rubbed it between his fingers and was very grateful for evidence
of life and, for him, a sign that God would be with him through the terrible conditions with
which he was living.

Look for and see the signs of God’s presence in your circumstances and be thankful.



Daylight Savings Time

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



Mar 12
Forward 1 hour

Mar 12, 2023 - Daylight Saving Time Starts

When local standard time is about to reach
Sunday, March 12, 2023, **2:00:00 am** clocks are turned **forward** 1 hour to
Sunday, March 12, 2023, **3:00:00 am** local daylight time instead.

Sunrise and sunset will be about 1 hour later on Mar 12, 2023 than the day before.
There will be [more light in the evening](#).

Also called [Spring Forward](#), [Summer Time](#), and [Daylight Savings Time](#).

More info:
[US Senate Approves Permanent DST Bill](#)
[DST Start 2023: US and Canada](#)

Nov 5
Back 1 hour

Nov 5, 2023 - Daylight Saving Time Ends

When local daylight time is about to reach
Sunday, November 5, 2023, **2:00:00 am** clocks are turned **backward** 1 hour to
Sunday, November 5, 2023, **1:00:00 am** local standard time instead.

Sunrise and sunset will be about 1 hour earlier on Nov 5, 2023 than the day before.
There will be [more light in the morning](#).

Also called [Fall Back](#) and [Winter Time](#).

More info:
[US Senate Approves Permanent DST Bill](#)

Source: <https://www.timeanddate.com/time/change/usa/florida>

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

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/



MOAA

About MOAA Tampa Chapter

Operation Helping Hand Tampa

Membership

Newsletters

MOAA Scholarship

Events & Programs

FDCC 2019 Convention

Q

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

MOAA

Tampa Chapter

LEVELS of EXCELLENCE

18

29

★★★★★

5 Star MOAA Chapter
2003 • 2005 - 2010
2012 - 2017 • 2019 - 2021

COMMUNICATIONS AWARD

2020 - 2021

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

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Operation Helping Hand

Chairman of the Joint Chief's
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“NEVER STOP SERVING”