



The RETROSPECT

TAMPA CHAPTER — A FIVE STAR CHAPTER OF MOAA NATIONAL

AUGUST 2026 VOLUME 32, NUMBER 8



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT: STEVE POULIN ADM USCG RET

GREETINGS!



I trust that everyone had a wonderful 4th of July holiday celebrating America's 250th year of independence. I also hope you are enjoying the very welcome rain we have been getting in the Tampa Bay region. Gladly, the rain has not dampened our energy and activities at the Tampa Chapter! We had a great July lunch meeting. We typically see a drop in attendance during the heat of the summer months due to travel, snow birding, and other obligations, but our attendance in July was good.

At the July luncheon we had the privilege of honoring our Past President, Charles Dalcourt, and his wife, Millie, for their leadership and support to the Tampa Chapter. I had the pleasure of presenting Charles with the President's Award on behalf of National MOAA in recognition of his accomplishments, innovation, and inspiration while serving as our President. In true Charles fashion, he surprised us by presenting the Chapter a generous gift from Mazda of Clearwater! We were also pleased to welcome CAPT Corrie Sergent, USCG as our guest speaker. CAPT Sergent is the commander of Coast Guard operations throughout the Tampa Bay region and gave us a broad and informative overview of Coast Guard operations nationally and locally. It was perfect timing because on August 4th the Coast Guard will celebrate its 236th birthday. Semper Paratus!

I hope our attendance at the upcoming August lunch meeting exceeds our attendance in July. We will welcome COL Daniel Ellis, USA (Ret) as our guest speaker. Daniel currently serves as the Senior Mentor Program Coordinator for Mentors for Hillsborough County Veterans in the 13th Judicial Circuit Court's Veterans Treatment Court in Tampa, Florida. Daniel's presentation will be a great opportunity to better understand the challenges some veterans face in the region and how the Veterans Treatment Court helps identify the unique needs, issues, and therapies for veterans to reintegrate them back into their communities.

We were grateful to have Tony LaVecchia at our lunch meeting in June. Tony laid out the priorities for the Florida Council of Chapters (FCoC) under his leadership. The priorities I outlined for our Chapter fully support Tony's vision for the FCoC. As a refresher, those priorities focus on improved communication, greater advocacy, and increased membership and activity. Your Board of Directors is working hard on these priorities, but we need your continued help and support. In my last email to members, I encouraged you to engage in MOAA's legislative Call to Action by registering at the Legislative Action Center and using its tools to send communications to elected officials regarding MOAA's legislative priorities. One of the best ways we can continue to support our servicemembers, veterans, and families is to use our voices. The Call to Action will be a continuing campaign with many opportunities now and in the future to communicate MOAA's legislative priorities. This is not a static effort because legislative initiatives often are proposed throughout a Congressional session. Each piece of legislation is a new opportunity for us to communicate. Please stay tuned-in to the Legislative Action Center.

Thanks for your support and commitment. I look forward to seeing you at the August meeting!

Steve Poulin
Admiral (Ret)
U.S. Coast Guard



UPCOMING EVENTS

August 6, 2026
Board of Directors Meeting
Virtual 7 PM – 8 PM

August 13, 2026
Chapter Luncheon
11:30 AM – 12:00 PM Social
12:00 PM – 1:30 PM Lunch
Columbia Restaurant
(see page 9)

Future Events:
9/11 Wreath Laying Ceremony
Steinbrenner Field
More info to come.
Date and time TBD

MOAA Total Force Conference
National Harbor, MD
February 1-3, 2027
(see page 11)

FCoC Leadership Training & Convention
Rosen Center, Orlando, FL
March 11-14, 2027
www.FLMOAA.org

For all upcoming events click on the link to our website calendar:
<https://moaatampa.org/events/>

REMINDER:

SUBMISSION DEADLINE
FOR THE SEPTEMBER 2026
ISSUE IS 20 AUGUST 2026

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 Mularoni at membership@moaatampa.org

LEGISLATIVE LOWDOWN



BEN RITTER, SGT USMC
(FORMER)/HONORARY MBR

Capt NORM BILD,
USAF RET

The **Take Care of America's Veterans Act** (H.R. 9237) – AKA the TCVA – is part of current legislation that includes more than 20 MOAA-backed bills that stress the need to move quickly to secure long-overdue benefits for millions of veterans, caregivers, and survivors. The TCVA was brought to the House floor on the morning of July 16, but, unfortunately, the vote on the bill was postponed.

During a July 14 press conference that had taken place on Capitol Hill, MOAA President and CEO Lieutenant General Brian T. Kelly, USAF (Ret) stated: "It is already well past time to make this happen, and we have a unique, but fleeting, opportunity. Veterans don't need this legislation tomorrow. They don't need it even today. Veterans needed this legislation yesterday. And the day before that. And their families and survivors as well."

Kelly spoke alongside lawmakers and representatives from the American Legion, Wounded Warrior Project, Elizabeth Dole Foundation, Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors

(TAPS), and other organizations backing this very important omnibus bill. Nearly two dozen such groups had signed onto a recent letter to leaders on the House and Senate Veterans' Affairs committees explaining the need to "translate long-standing bipartisan agreement into meaningful action." Speakers highlighted different parts of the sweeping legislation, which includes meaningful relief for tens of thousands of combat-injured veterans whose military retirement pay is offset by VA disability compensation. "MOAA believes that the nation makes a promise to those who serve, their families and their survivors, and it doesn't end when service ends," Kelly said. "The Take Care of America's Veterans Act keeps that promise."

Kelly and other advocates brought up the bill's funding mechanism, which would codify a proposed change to the VA Schedule for Rating Disabilities for tinnitus and sleep apnea. The change would not reduce benefits for veterans already diagnosed with those conditions, and any updates would be made prospectively to future claims or requests to revise ratings. "It is not an approach that anyone likes or prefers," Kelly said, "but the alternative is not acceptable. Doing nothing risks having veterans' funds inevitably returned to the Treasury with nothing to show for it except reduced ratings and the frustration of once again going back to Square One." Congressman Gus Bilirakis (R-Fla.), a longtime lead sponsor of the Major Richard Star Act in the House was quoted as saying: "This is the time to get it done. We have an opportunity, folks, to make history with the Richard Star Act and all of these bills that we've been working on for many, many years."

Along with assisting combat-injured veterans, this legislation would also offer education, employment, and retirement support to caregivers, many of whom sacrifice financial and personal well-being to provide for those who served. It would also end penalties faced by surviving spouses who lose benefits if they remarry before age 55 and reduce eligibility requirements

for enhanced Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) for survivors of veterans diagnosed with ALS.

References:

- (1) <https://www.moaa.org/content/publications-and-media/news-articles/2026-news-articles/advocacy/house-delays-action-on-omnibus-veterans-package;-moaa-continues-advocacy/>
- (2) <https://www.moaa.org/content/publications-and-media/news-articles/2026-news-articles/advocacy/veterans-omnibus-bill-represents-unique-but-fleeting-opportunity/>

Concerning children with Autism in military families who are seeking Autism Care:

Current MOAA-supported language in the House National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) draft would make a difference for these children. In a recent letter to Pentagon leaders, Senators Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY) and Eric Schmitt (R-MO) called on them to Improve TRICARE Coverage of Autism Care: "Our military families, especially those with autistic children or children with other developmental disabilities, are entitled to receive the best possible care to provide comprehensive applied behavior analysis (ABA) services to TRICARE beneficiaries diagnosed with autism."

"By refusing to provide ABA therapy as a basic medical benefit, TRICARE is failing our service members and forcing overwhelmed families to navigate a frustrating bureaucratic maze just to secure limited life-changing care," Gillibrand said in a press release announcing the letter. "The Defense Health Agency (DHA) must dismantle these restrictive barriers immediately and permanently authorize full ABA therapy as a basic TRICARE benefit and adopt all of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine (NASEM) recommendations to ensure autistic children of service members receive

continued on page 2

LEGISLATIVE LOWDOWN *cont.*

the full care they need.” The letter cited an independent analysis by the NASEM which assessed TRICARE’s Autism Care Demonstration (ACD). The MOAA-supported report recommends authorizing ABA as a TRICARE basic benefit, among numerous other improvements to autism care. Challenges with TRICARE’s coverage of ABA were also highlighted in a recent NBC News report on a military family’s fight to secure coverage for their young son’s autism care.

“Since 2021, military families have struggled to access critical care for their children with autism, and by removing ABA therapy as a basic medical benefit under TRICARE, DHA has put undue burdens on service families,” Senator Schmitt said in the release. “Implementing the NASEM recommendations will help better serve our military families and ensure they have options for care for their children with autism.”

The FY 2027 NDAA may also address ACD concerns. The House Armed Services Committee’s version of the annual bill includes a provision with Pentagon report requirements detailing

progress on implementing NASEM recommendations. Increased congressional oversight is key to ensuring TRICARE follows through on ACD reforms.

While these developments represent meaningful progress, lasting change will require sustained attention from Congress and TRICARE leadership. Please join MOAA in urging elected officials to support the committee’s provision as the NDAA process moves forward. Enhanced reporting and oversight are essential to achieving full implementation of the NASEM recommendations and improved access to autism care for military families.

Source: <https://www.moaa.org/content/publications-and-media/news-articles/2026-news-articles/advocacy/removing-undue-burdens-from-military-families-seeking-autism-care/>

Additional Resources:

- (1) Advocacy News: <https://www.moaa.org/content/publications-and-media/news-articles/news-listing/?cat=107>
- (2) Legislative Action Center: <https://moaa.quorum.us/>

AUGUST LUNCHEON GUEST SPEAKER: COL DANIEL ELLIS, USA (RET)

Senior Mentor Program Coordinator, Mentors for Hillsborough County Veterans



Daniel currently serves as the Senior Mentor Program Coordinator for Mentors for Hillsborough County Veterans (MHCV) in the 13th Judicial Circuit Court’s Veterans Treatment Court (VTC) in Tampa, Florida (as of November 2025). MHCV is dedicated to identifying veterans in need, supporting their treatment, and helping each participant successfully reintegrate into their community.

Daniel holds a bachelor’s degree from the University of Tampa and a master’s degree from Saint Leo University. Throughout his career, he has exemplified the spirit of a Warrior Citizen, completing 27 years with AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals while simultaneously serving 32 years in the U.S. Army as both an enlisted soldier and an officer in Active Duty and Reserve components.

His civilian leadership experience includes training, mentoring, sales management, strategic planning, and budget and forecasting oversight. His military career culminated at the rank of Colonel, during which he held key command and primary staff roles where he coordinated and executed complex logistical operations at the tactical, operational, and strategic levels in both combat and steady-state environments. Although history is not his strongest interest, Daniel was selected to serve a two-year term as Historian for the Old Town Harley Owners Group (HOG) Chapter in Brandon, Florida. When not riding his Harley, he enjoys traveling with his wife, golfing, biking, and participating in volunteer activities.

Daniel is married to his wife, Tina, and they were blessed with their first grandchild in February 2026. He is the proud father of two sons, Tyler and Spencer, and father-in-law to his daughter-in-law, Malia (Tyler’s wife).

MEDICAL CORNER

—Submitted by Jeanne Richard, Lt Col, USAF (Ret)

Study finds high cancer rates among special ops forces

A study commissioned by the US Special Operations Command found that special operations troops have an 18% higher cancer incidence rate compared to other military personnel. The research, which analyzed over 231,000 special operators, found elevated rates of specific cancers such as melanoma and testicular cancer, often diagnosed at younger ages. SOCOM is taking steps to address these findings, including potential changes to health screening protocols.

Researchers also identified significantly higher rates of several specific cancers, including melanoma and testicular cancer. In some cases, special operators were diagnosed years earlier than other service members.

The findings come from SOCOM’s Special Operations Forces Cancer Study, one of the largest examinations of cancer incidence and mortality ever conducted within the special operations community.

While the study found elevated cancer rates, researchers emphasized that it was designed to determine whether a difference existed, not why it existed. According to the full report, additional research is needed to better understand potential occupational, environmental and lifestyle factors that may contribute to the trend.

The findings add new urgency to a question that has circulated among operators, veterans



—East Coast-based Navy SEALs conduct dive operations to increase maritime lethality during training off the coast of Key Largo, Fla. (Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Katie Cox)

and advocacy groups for years: Are unique aspects of special operations service increasing long-term health risks?

“Twenty-five years in USSOCOM gave me a front-row seat to what this community asks of its people, and what it costs them,” said John Doolittle, a retired Navy SEAL Captain who previously helped lead USSOCOM’s Preservation of the Force and Family program and now serves as a senior adviser for human performance and readiness at Leidos. “This study confirms what many of us have long suspected, that a career in Special Operations includes a measurable increase in cancer risk.”

The report arrives as the Department of Veterans Affairs continues a broad effort to better understand military-related health conditions and toxic exposures. Since the implementation of the PACT Act, the VA has screened more than 5 million veterans for toxic exposures, with approximately 43% reporting at least one potential exposure during military service.

Click on the link for the full story: <https://www.military.com/socom-study-of-231000-special-operators-finds-18-higher-cancer-risk>

Surviving Spouse Corner:

—Submitted by Frances Chancey LTC USA (Ret)



MOAA Surviving Spouse Virtual Chapter

The MOAA Surviving Spouse Virtual Chapter provides a welcoming forum for education, information sharing, advocacy, and fellowship among military surviving spouses nationwide.

Whether you are newly widowed or have been a surviving spouse for many years, you are invited to join us. Connect with others who understand the unique challenges of military survivor life, stay informed on issues that matter, and become part of a nationwide network of support and friendship.

Join the Virtual Chapter

Application:

https://www.moaa.org/uploadedfiles/mssvc02_application_2025.pdf

It can also be obtained by sending a request to mssvc02@gmail.com

Source:

<https://www.moaa.org/content/publications-and-media/news-articles/2021-news-articles/surviving-spouse-corner-join-moaas-surviving-spouse-virtual-chapter/>



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



2026 OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT: STEVE POULIN ADM USCG RET
VP: CORVELLI MCDANIEL CPT (former) USA
SECRETARY: DAVID ZALLO LTC USA RET
TREASURER: LEWIS VANDYKE COL USA RET
SURVIVING SPOUSE LIAISON: FRANCES CHANCEY LTC USA RET
IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT: CHARLES DALCOURT COL USA RET

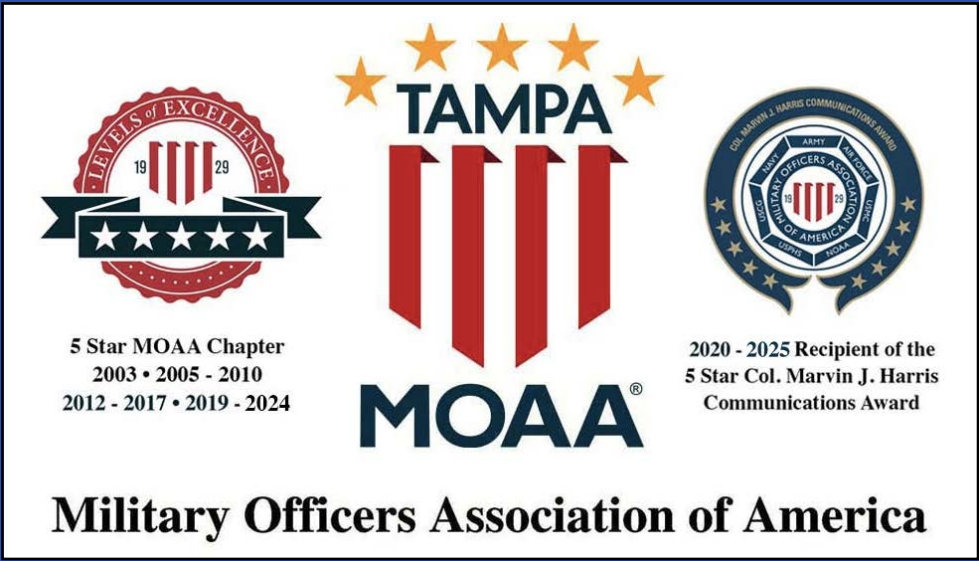
2026 DIRECTORS:

COMMUNICATIONS: SARA MARKS CAPT NC USN RET
LEGAL AFFAIRS: WILLIAM MITCHELL LTJG (former) USN
LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS: BEN RITTER, SGT USMC
(former)/HONORARY MEMBER



MOAA MISSION STATEMENT

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



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:

The Tampa Chapter of the
Military Officers Association of America
Post Office Box 6383
Tampa, FL 33608-0383
E-Mail: Secretary@moaatampa.org





Mazda of Clearwater

Thank You for Your Service!

Mazda of Clearwater has built its reputation around respect and honesty. In doing so, we're able to deliver a superior experience in both Sales and Service. We think of MOAA members as family and will strive to exceed your Mazda ownership expectations.

MOAA members, as well as MOAA friends and family will receive Mazda of Clearwater Employee Pricing on ANY new Mazda purchase.



Transparent Pricing is the reason Mazda of Clearwater is the Clear Choice for your next new or preowned vehicle purchase...

No Price Addendums	No Market Adjustments
No Certification Fees	No Reconditioning Fees

Visit Us at Our New Facility Located at: 15064 US Highway 19N., Clearwater, FL 33764

For More Information, Please Call Us at 727.344.3344 or Visit www.MazdaofClearwater.com

TWO BROTHERS AND TWO PURPLE HEARTS FROM WWII

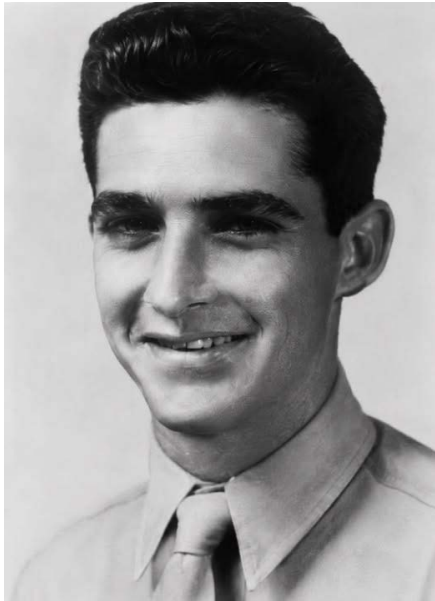
—By Sara Marks, CAPT NC USN (Ret) Family photos: Sara Marks and Fred Marks

On August 7th we honor those who received a purple heart medal. Many receive this auspicious award posthumously. Two of my uncles gave the final measure in WWII. I'd like to share what I know about these two brave and courageous men, my Uncle Page and Uncle Fred.

2nd LT Henry Page Walley, U.S. Army Air Corps

Uncle Page was eight years older than my Mom. She adored all of her brothers and remembered Page as a tall, handsome and quiet young man. When he left to serve in the European theater as an Army pilot his wife, Dolores Mooneyham Walley and his unborn daughter were in Mississippi. His daughter Carol Walley Wilkerson was born eight days after he crashed.

"Lieutenant Walley was the Co-Pilot aboard the B-24 Liberator 42-64435 of the 576th Bomber Squadron, 392nd Bomber Group. The plane was on its 21st mission to Hansdorf Airfield in Germany. Because of poor weather and visibility over Hansdorf Airfield the group elected to bomb a target of opportunity, Vorden Airfield. They dropped 1,050 one hundred pound bombs achieving massive airfield destruction. Page's plane, having been hit by enemy flak, was the only plane lost during the raid. It was last seen with its number three engine on fire. Next, a large explosion was seen beneath the aircraft. They then headed back towards the Dutch coast, but went down, out of control into the English channel. Since no parachutes were seen it was subsequently concluded that all the crew perished." ⁽¹⁾ and ⁽²⁾
*Note that Fred Marks expanded on the Facebook post reference.



—Henry Page Walley

The Chattanooga Daily Times recorded the notification to Uncle Page's wife Dorothy that stated: "Since your husband, Lt. Henry P. Walley, Air Corps, was reported missing in action Feb. 21, 1944, the War Department has entertained the hope that he survived and that information would be revealed dispelling the uncertainty surrounding his absence. However, as in many cases, conditions of warfare deny us such information. Information in the hands of the War Department indicates that your husband became missing in action while on a bombing mission to Munster, Germany. The B-24 (Liberator) bomber in which he was a crew member was last seen going down out of control over the North Sea, about miles from the Dutch Coast. Since no information has been received which would support a presumption of his continued survival, the War Department must now terminate your husband's absence as death."

Although his wife remained hopeful for years; Uncle Page's remains were never found. His daughter was able to speak with a pilot from an aircraft that witnessed Uncle Page's plane go down. I know that gave her some peace speaking to someone who knew what happened to her Dad. Uncle Page, along with numerous others, is memorialized on the Tablets of the Missing, Cambridge American Memorial Cemetery, Cambridge, England, Pillar XI, Middle Panel. ⁽³⁾ Both of my uncles are also memorialized on a War Monument in downtown Jackson, Mississippi. ⁽¹⁾

2nd LT Fred Jervy Walley, U.S. Army Air Corps

Uncle Fred was just four years older than my Mom and the same age as my Father. Mom was especially close to him. Uncle Fred was dark complected and athletic. Being athletic he worked as assistant pro at the Jackson Country Club. Once, he golfed with Babe Ruth when "The Babe" came to Jackson promoting little league baseball.

In the spring of 1944 Fred was assigned to the 425th Bomber Squadron, 308th Bomber Group, Heavy out of Burma-India and China. On July 8, 1944, aircraft B-24J with serial number 42-73502, named "Belle of the Brawl," crashed on takeoff from Kunming, China. Aircraft commander 2nd Lt Hollis D. Sneed, along with Fred and five other crewmen, perished; one airman survived. The 308th Bombardment Group, nicknamed the "Flying Cobras," played a critical role in the China, Burma and India Theater. They were especially known for flying missions against Japanese targets while simultaneously running dangerous logistics operations over "The Hump" (the Himalayan mountains) to keep themselves resupplied. In a last letter to my mother, Rose, he wrote of crashing in the jungle on one of the trips over the hump and having to make his way out. He promised to tell her about the "adventure" when he returned. The family never heard the story. ⁽¹⁾

The Chattanooga Daily Times, July 21, 1944 reported: "Killed in action was Lt. Fred J. Walley. The report of the death of Lt. Walley followed by only one week the receipt by his brother here of a letter saying he was in action in India as the pilot of a Liberator bomber. The letter had been mailed out of China on July 6. A previous letter had told of Lt. Walley's having been missing in action for a time and having escaped with an interesting story to tell when opportunity arose." ⁽³⁾ *Note that the source is incorrect with the date of a letter mailed out of China on July 6. Fred died on July 8th.

The telegram from the adjutant-general to Walley (This was David Walley, the oldest brother) said: "The Secretary of War desires me to express deep regret that your brother, Lt. Fred J. Walley, was killed July 8 in Kunming, China." ⁽³⁾

Uncle Fred was buried overseas in China. In 1947 Uncle Fred's remains were repatriated to the United States. He was reinterred in the Chattanooga National Cemetery on October 31, 1947. ⁽⁴⁾

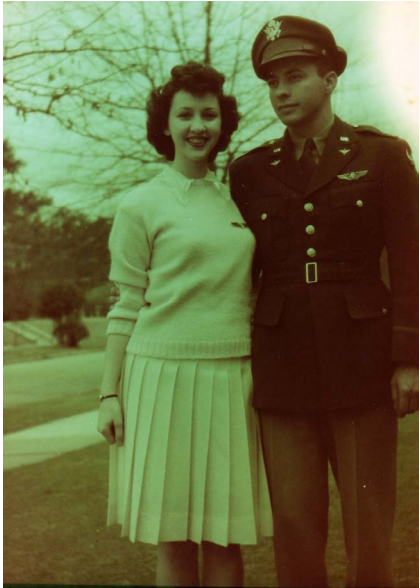
Mom drove with me from Mississippi to my last duty station. On the way to Virginia, we stopped at the Chattanooga National Cemetery to pay our respects to her beloved brother Fred. It was Memorial Day weekend, and it was her first time to visit this beautiful National Cemetery.

So, on August 7th, I will remember all those awarded a Purple Heart and especially those who did not live to receive that medal. I thank those who gave all, especially Uncle Page and Uncle Fred. You have my deepest admiration for your courage and for giving me the chance to live freely in our great nation.

- References:
- (1) Contributing memories of Fred W. Marks, CWO4 USA (Ret)
 - (2) N Alabama • Middle Tennessee, NW Georgia and NE Mississippi War Memorials Facebook post dtd February 21, 2024.
 - (3) <https://www.etvma.org/veterans/henry-p-walley-8717/>
 - (4) <https://www.etvma.org/veterans/fred-j-walley-8959/>
 - (5) <https://www.abmc.gov/cemeteries-memorials/about-cambridge-american-cemetery/>



—Fred J Walley



—Rose Walley Marks (Note: Rose is wearing a miniature of Fred's bombardier wings) and Fred Walley

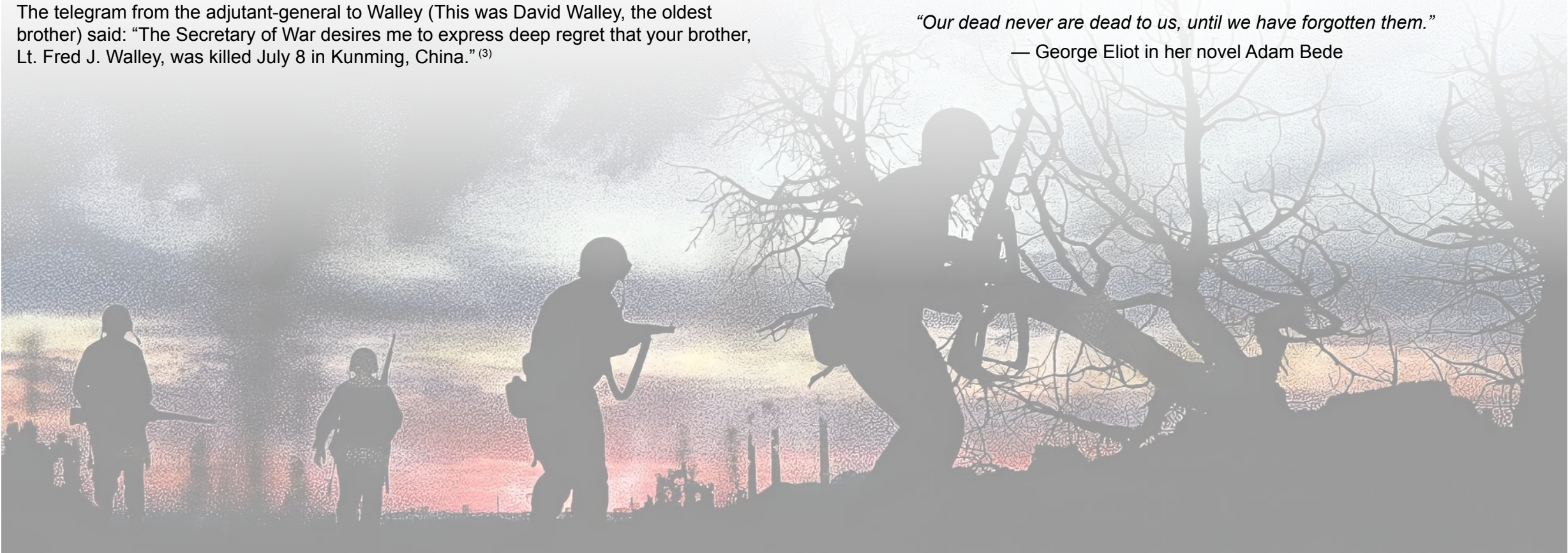


—(l-r) Purser Hewitt, Clarion Ledger Newspaper, Fred Walley, Babe Ruth, Norman Bryant, assistant pro in Jackson, Mississippi 1939. Fred Walley and Babe Ruth beat Purser Hewitt and Norman Bryant. *Note the signature on the photo is Babe Ruth's real signature.



—Uncle Fred's grave site at the Chattanooga National Cemetery.

"Our dead never are dead to us, until we have forgotten them."
— George Eliot in her novel Adam Bede



July Luncheon Photos

Photo Credit: Carol Zieres and Timothy Mckee



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



My love of travel conflicted with my ability to attend July's luncheon, but I heard many wonderful comments about our speaker and pleased that Charles Dalcourt was able to attend and receive his award from MOAA National. It was a rare occasion for him to simply sit, eat and not worry about coordinating the luncheon. In the meantime, I was in the Azores and Madeira, which are two archipelagos that are part of Portugal. In the middle of the Atlantic Ocean, there were welcomed cool breezes. I also enjoyed the beauty and history of these islands. I'm keeping up to date on everyone but miss seeing each of you at our luncheon. A huge thank you to Timothy McKee and Carol Zieres for taking wonderful photos for the newsletter and website.

I'm pleased to announce our August luncheon guest speaker COL Daniel Ellis, USA (Ret) will present information about the Veteran's Treatment Court. We have several chapter members who are involved with helping our veterans navigate the court system and help them become productive citizens. Take a moment to read COL Ellis' bio.

August 7th is Purple Heart Day. It struck a chord with me because I lost two uncles in WWII. I decided to share their stories with you. I hope that you'll not only find my article interesting and remember all those who gave everything. To quote President Abraham Lincoln: "...they gave the last full measure of devotion..."

Thank you to Jeanne Richard for your continued contributions to Medical Corner with a link this month on an article about increased incidents of cancer in members of the special forces. Other articles that I hope you enjoy include one about Marines and sailors responding to the earthquake in Venezuela, a US Coast Guard cutter named after a 9/11 hero, and an impressive summary of all that Charles Dalcourt has contributed to our chapter resulting in an award from MOAA National presented to him at last month's luncheon. Due to copyright issues, I'm not able to publish many articles without permission but have five links to several articles that I hope you'll take the time to "click" the links and read. I hope that you'll find all the articles and links interesting and informative. Chapter Members, this is your newsletter and your chapter

so please share your talent and the leadership you displayed while on active duty and help MOAA Tampa Chapter continue to lead the way to a promising and adventurous future, especially for our JROTC students who look to us for our leadership and all we serve with scholarship funding and for supporting each other during and after our active duty service time.

Know your MOAA Tampa Leadership is working hard to keep our chapter involved in our many endeavors, and that we need each and every one of you to help our chapter continue its vibrant programs. Will you be the leaders to help MOAA Tampa? We still need assistants for the Treasurer, Buddy Calls, Newsletter, and Luncheon Reservations. Additional positions include Website Content Editor and Speaker Coordinator to name a few positions. You can contact me as the Director for Communications via email: 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. My role as your editor continues to be an enriching and rewarding learning experience, but one that I don't do alone. Please send your stories to my MOAA Tampa email: coms@moaatampa.org.

I hope that everyone had a wonderful July 4th and celebrating our nation's 250th anniversary. I was waving my American Flag in the Azores! Everyone keep safe and cool during this hot summer.

General Douglas MacArthur (1938), on the original intent of the award as an inspiration rather than a memorial of loss: *"...not intended... to commemorate the dead, but to animate and inspire the living."* [1]

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 Officers 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 advertise-

ments that appear in this publication/website do not reflect an endorsement by MOAA or this affiliate. Articles in the newsletter/website are the opinions solely of the individual authors and do not necessarily express the policy or opinions of the newsletter's editor or publisher, nor do they reflect an endorsement by the Tampa Chapter or the National organization of the Military Officers Association of America, unless so indicated. The views expressed in individually signed articles do not necessarily reflect Chapter policy. MOAA National, the Florida Council of Chapters, and the Tampa Chapter are nonpartisan organizations. Our chapter membership is open to all Military officers (Commissioned and warrant), including Active Duty, National Guard, Reserve, former officers, and spouses/surviving spouses of military officers.

Our luncheon meetings are held 1130 hours every second Thursday of each month at the Columbia Restaurant in Ybor City.

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](#)

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: <https://flmoaa.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.

U.S. Coast Guard accepts delivery of 63rd Fast Response Cutter named for 9/11 hero

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

U.S. Coast Guard Forces Micronesia / Sector Guam
Story by [Lt. Sara Muir](#)

Date: 06.11.2026 **Posted:** 06.12.2026 02:34 **News ID:** 567524

KEY WEST — The U.S. Coast Guard accepted delivery of the 63rd Fast Response Cutter, Jeffrey Palazzo (WPC 1163), on Thursday in Key West.

Jeffrey Palazzo is the fifth FRC to be homeported in Guam, joining the recently commissioned Vincent Danz (WPC 1162).

The Sentinel-class FRCs replaced the 1980s Island-class 110-foot patrol boats and possess 21st-century command, control, communications, computers, cyber, intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance equipment, with improved habitability and seakeeping. The U.S. Coast Guard ordered a total of 77 FRCs to date to perform a range of missions, including countering illicit maritime activities, search and rescue, bilateral and multilateral international operations, and the national defense of ports, waterways, and coastal areas.

Each FRC is named after an enlisted U.S. Coast Guard hero who performed extraordinary service in the line of duty. Jeffrey Palazzo was a New York City firefighter and U.S. Coast Guard reservist who made the ultimate sacrifice on Sept. 11, 2001, while responding to the attacks on the World Trade Center. Palazzo served in the Coast Guard Reserves as a Machinery Technician 1st Class aboard the cutter Cape Horn out of Station Rockaway, responding to many high-profile incidents and large-scale emergencies.

In 1993, he was on the first Coast Guard boat to discover the Golden Venture, a cargo ship that ran aground carrying more than 200 Chinese immigrants and was credited with saving dozens of people from the water. After eight years of active duty in the Coast Guard, Palazzo joined the New York City Fire Department in 1996 while continuing to serve in the Reserves. In the spring of 2001, he joined Staten Island's elite Rescue Squad 5. On Sept. 11, Palazzo responded to the World Trade Center as part of the massive emergency response. He and 10 members of Rescue Squad 5 served their last shift that day. His actions that day embodied the Coast Guard's core values of honor, respect, and devotion to duty.



—Courtesy Photo | LT Hayden Carter (second from left), commanding officer of USCGC Jeffrey Palazzo (WPC 1163), shakes hands with Allen Harker (left), contracting officer for the Fast Response Cutter Project, during an acceptance ceremony in Key West, Florida, on June 11, 2026. The cutter is named for Jeffrey Palazzo, a New York City firefighter and U.S. Coast Guard reservist who made the ultimate sacrifice on Sept. 11, 2001, while responding to the attacks on the World Trade Center. (U.S. Coast Guard photo by Ensign Carly Logan)

FRCs homeported in the U.S. territory of Guam extend the U.S. Coast Guard and Oceania District's operational reach across the Pacific, conducting maritime security operations, combating illegal fishing, supporting search and rescue missions, and strengthening partnerships with Pacific Island nations and Allies. These cutter crews are essential to maintaining a safe, secure, and prosperous Pacific in one of the world's most expansive maritime regions. The Jeffrey Palazzo will join the Vincent Danz, commissioned in May 2026, the Myrtle Hazard (WPC 1139), Oliver Henry (WPC 1140), and Frederick Hatch (WPC 1143), all commissioned in Guam.

Since their 2021 commissioning, Guam's FRC crews have distinguished themselves across the region, most recently responding to the impacts of Super Typhoon Sinlaku on communities in the Marianas and conducting regional patrols. USCGC Myrtle Hazard's crew became the first to operationalize the bilateral maritime law enforcement agreement with Papua New Guinea, conducting joint patrols and boardings in 2023. USCGC Oliver Henry's crew saved around a dozen mariners in the Federated States of Micronesia, delivered humanitarian assistance during the Yap drought, and towed the 500-ton yacht Black Pearl to the Republic of Palau, res-

cuing 11 people in 2024. USCGC Frederick Hatch became the first FRC to visit several Pacific ports, including Tacloban, Philippines, for the 80th anniversary of the Battle of Leyte Gulf, and the crew operationalized the enhanced bilateral agreement with Palau in 2024.

Sixty-two FRCs are in service: 13 in Florida; seven in Puerto Rico; six each in Bahrain and Massachusetts; five in Alaska; four in California and Guam; three each in Hawaii, Texas, New Jersey, and Mississippi; and two each in North Carolina and Oregon.

For more information, please visit the [Fast Response Cutter Program Page](#).

-USCG-

Source: <https://www.dvidshub.net/news/567524/us-coast-guard-accepts-delivery-63rd-fast-response-cutter-named-9-11-hero>

Naval Aviation Takes Center Stage During International Naval Review 250 in New York City

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

Commander, Naval Air Force Atlantic
Story by [Petty Officer 2nd Class Julianna Lynch](#)

Date: 07.24.2026 **Posted:** 07.24.2026 12:48
News ID: 570678

The skies over New York Harbor thundered with allied airpower as nearly 178 military aircraft took flight during the International Aerial Review (IAR250), a once-in-a-generation demonstration of precision, partnership, and American military excellence celebrating the nation's 250th anniversary.

Behind the historic flyover was Rear Adm. Rich Brophy, commander, Naval Air Force Atlantic, whose team led the planning and execution of one of the largest multinational aerial demonstrations in recent U.S. history. Naval Air Force Atlantic synchronized aircraft from the U.S. Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, National Guard, and Reserve forces, along with nine allied and partner nations, into the tightly controlled airspace above New York City.

"The successful execution of the International Aerial Review 250 was a monumental feat of operational planning and coordination by many stakeholders across Naval Air Force Atlantic and federal and military organizations," said Brophy. "Integrating 178 aircraft from across the U.S. military and our allied and partner nations into the complex airspace above New York City demanded absolute precision."

From breathtaking flyovers to static aircraft displays, naval aviation was the centerpiece of International Naval Review 250, giving thousands of visitors an up-close look at the capability, readiness, and professionalism that power America's maritime force every day. The celebration peaked as the U.S. Navy Flight Demonstration Squadron, the Blue Angels,



—Photo By Petty Officer 2nd Class Pierce Luck | Jersey City, NJ (July 3, 2026)
– Rear Adm. Richard T. Brophy, commander, Naval Air Force Atlantic, speaks to civilians at an aviation static display event Liberty State Park during International Naval Review (INR) 250 Jersey City, July 3, 2026. For 250 years, our Navy and Marine Corps have stood the watch – constant, unabated in mission, faithfully preventing crisis and resolute in defending America's independence. International Naval Review 250 honors the Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard's enduring role on, under, and above the seas. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Pierce Luck)

carved across the New York skyline in a ceremonial pass, delivering a striking reminder that naval aviation is built on discipline, trust, and unmatched teamwork.

"The flawless execution we witnessed is a testament to the unmatched professionalism and dedication of our joint and multinational crews," Brophy said. "This once-in-a-generation flyover was more than a spectacular visual display; it served as a powerful demonstration of our seamless interoperability and our enduring shared commitment to global security."

International Naval Review 250 united 55 nations, more than 8,000 U.S. Sailors, Marines, and Coast Guardsmen, allied service members, tall ships, and military aircraft in one of the world's most recognizable harbors. As only the seventh International Naval Review in U.S. history, the event celebrated 250 years of maritime leadership while strengthening the alliances that continue to preserve peace and security around the globe.

As aircraft roared overhead and ships lined New York Harbor, INR250 proved that America's maritime advantage extends far past the horizon. Through the leadership of Rear Adm. Brophy and the dedication of thousands of service members, the event honored the history of those who served before and inspired the next generation to answer the call. It showcased a Navy that remains ready, capable, and united with allies to meet any challenge. (U.S. Navy story by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Julianna J. Lynch)

Source: <https://www.dvidshub.net/news/570678/naval-aviation-takes-center-stage-during-international-naval-review-250-new-york-city>

Marines, Sailors of Littoral Combat Force support U.S. interagency earthquake response in Venezuela

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

24th Marine Expeditionary Unit
Story by [Capt. Shawn Doublet](#)

Date: 06.30.2026 **Posted:** 07.23.2026 12:29
News ID: 570599

CARACAS, VENEZUELA — Following two earthquakes off the northern coast of Venezuela on June 24 the United States mobilized a humanitarian response at the request of the Venezuelan government. To support U.S. Southern Command's rapid deployment of personnel and specialized equipment into the disaster zone, Littoral Combat Force 24 transitioned from scheduled regional security missions to support the U.S. government's disaster response operation.

On the evening of June 24, twin 7.2 and 7.5 magnitude earthquakes struck west of Caracas, causing immense destruction in coastal cities like Catia La Mar and the state of La Guaira. The U.S. response mobilized massive aid and dispatched a specialized Disaster Assistance Response Team. Operating from Puerto Rico, Camp Lejeune, and amphibious transport dock USS Fort Lauderdale (LDP 28) in the Caribbean Sea, the disaggregated Marine Air-Ground Task Force pivoted rapidly from its scheduled regional security missions to directly support the Department of State for humanitarian assistance.

"In a disaster of this magnitude, the first 72 hours are a race against the clock. Roads are destroyed, airports are damaged, and infrastructure collapses," said Col. Ryan Lynch, commanding officer of LCF-24. "LCF-24 brings the ability to bypass those obstacles. By operating from the sea and forward nodes, we can insert experts, equipment, and medical support directly into the hardest-hit areas, providing the combatant commander and our interagency partners with the flexible options they need to save lives."

With the airports near Caracas initially closed due to severe earthquake damage, the U.S. response relied heavily on the organic aviation and logistics capabilities of the LCF. This reliance was demonstrated immediately at the highest levels of command.

As U.S. Southern Command coordinated Department of War efforts on the ground in Venezuela, LCF-24 provided the critical transport. MV-22B Ospreys from Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 365 (Reinforced), the Aviation Combat Element for LCF-24, launched from their shore-based headquarters at Jose Aponte De la Torre Airport in Ceiba, Puerto Rico. They inserted Marine Corps Major General Kevin J. Jarrard and his command element directly into the disaster zone, immediately establishing a U.S. military Humanitarian



—Photo By Lance Cpl. Allison White | A Venezuelan citizen holds a national flag next to his damaged restaurant following an earthquake in La Guaira, Venezuela June 28, 2026. At the direction of U.S. Southern Command, assigned to U.S. Military forces are supporting Department of State-led U.S. disaster assistance to the people of Venezuela in the aftermath of June 24, 2026, earthquakes, (U.S. Marine Corps photo)

Assistance Coordination Center ashore in Venezuela.

To sustain the operational tempo, LCF-24 aviation assets quickly established forward flight operations out of Curaçao, just off the Venezuelan coast. From this strategic staging area, the MAGTF's MV-22B Ospreys are continuously pushing heavy logistics and personnel into the country, which is further supported via its tethered KC-130J Hercules provided by 2d Marine Aircraft Wing. Simultaneously, the squadron's UH-1Y Venom helicopters are conducting aerial surveys of destroyed infrastructure and swiftly moving DoW, DoS, and Search and Rescue personnel between heavily affected, hard-to-reach areas.

Ashore, Reconnaissance Marines from the LCF's Maritime Raid Force are working shoulder-to-shoulder with Venezuelan SAR teams and U.S. Urban SAR units deployed from Fairfax County, Virginia, and Los Angeles, California. LCF-24 provided heavy-lift

support necessary to get the Marines and those civilian experts to the front lines of the rescue effort safely.

"The rapid pivot of Littoral Combat Force-24 from scheduled security operations to active lifesaving missions demonstrates their operational flexibility," said Lt. Gen. Calvert Worth, commanding general of II Marine Expeditionary Force. "Being deployed forward to Puerto Rico as an expeditionary advanced base, operating from an Amphibious Warship—USS Ft Lauderdale and with remaining elements postured for rapid deployment, LCF-24 bypassed damaged infrastructure to insert critical leadership and rescue assets exactly where the Combatant Commander needed them. We've proven yet again that Marines—partnered with the Navy—are uniquely equipped to deliver hope and critical relief alongside our interagency and international partners when disaster strikes."

LCF-24 is a forward-deployed Marine Expeditionary Unit capable of executing missions ranging from security operations to Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR). The Marines and Sailors of LCF-24 remain at hand to support ongoing joint and interagency recovery operations along the Venezuelan coast.

Source: <https://www.dvidshub.net/news/570599/marines-sailors-littoral-combat-force-support-us-interagency-earthquake-response-venezuela>



JULY LUNCHEON MEETING

EVENT: Chapter Monthly Luncheon Meeting

DATE: Thursday, 13 August **TIME:** Social time 1130 hours, Meeting time 12 noon – 1330 hours

LOCATION: Columbia Centennial Museum, 2029 E 7th Ave, Ybor City

RESERVATIONS: Reservations must be made by NOON Friday, 7 August. Call 321-258-7388 OR via email to LunchReservations@moaatampa.org. Reservations are limited to 60. A Reservation Made is a Reservation Paid.

CANCELLATIONS: Cancellations must be made by NOON Monday, 10 August, by calling 321-258-7388 OR via email to LunchReservations@moaatampa.org.

COST: Event cost is \$35 payable by check or cash, \$36 by credit card (includes service charge).

DRESS CODE: Proper attire is business casual for all (i.e., for men, slacks/collared shirts). Military uniforms are always appropriate.

GUEST SPEAKER: COL Daniel Ellis, US Army ret., Senior Mentor Program Coordinator, Veterans Treatment Court in Tampa

MENU: 1905 Salad, Cuban Bread and butter, Ropa Vieja, Pollo Salteado, Yellow Rice, Fresh Green Beans, Platanos Maduros, Coffee, Iced Tea, Soft Drinks and a Celebration Cake for the Coast Guard

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 321-258-7388 or send an email to LunchReservations@moaatampa.org to be added to the distribution list.



BULLETIN BOARD

CARING FOR OUR “SHUT-IN” MEMBERS

Our Chapter wants to become aware of members who are hospitalized, homebound, in care facilities or just plain sick and has provided a way for you to inform us. Please contact LTC David Zallo, USA (Ret), Sick Call Chairman via email to: Secretary@moaatampa.org

VETERANS TREATMENT COURT

Norm Bild is the MOAA Tampa contact for the highly successful Veterans Treatment Court in Hillsborough County. Contact him at (813) 205-1476 if you are interested in being a veteran mentor. He will also serve as an escort if you want to attend court sessions as an observer.

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: Director of Outreach, Assistant Editor for the chapter newsletter *The Retrospect*, Assistant Secretary, Assistant Membership, Historian/Archivist, Public Affairs, Guard and Reserve Liaison, Scholarship Committee, Buddy Calls, Photographer, Fundraising and Advertising 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.

Keep Your MOAA Contact Updated

Please email any email address changes to “membership@moaatampa.org” or go to your account at moaa.org and update mailing address, phone number, email address under the “Profile Info” once logged into your account.

IMPORTANT DATES IN AUGUST

4 Coast Guard Birthday
7 Purple Heart Day
29 Marine Forces Reserve Birthday

Florida Veteran’s Benefit Guide for 2025 Link:
<https://www.flipsnack.com/qcausamagazine/fdva-benefits-guide-2025/full-view.html>



Welcome New Members

COL William Huff IV, US Army (Ret)
1st LT Roosevelt Hanna, USAF (former)

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



Buddy Call Program

Let's check on our chapter members over the holidays. Volunteers need to assist making calls!

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



OCS Connect was developed to support the families of high school seniors enlisting in the military by providing timely, reliable, and emotionally-grounded resources. We have built a trusted platform that bridges the communication gap between civilian families and the military structure, helping loved ones feel more informed and less alone during the enlistment journey.

To view upcoming Events & Podcasts: <https://www.ourcommunitysalutes.org/ocs-connect>

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



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

Annual Subscription Costs:
Half Page Ad: \$1000
Quarter Page Ad: \$500 • 1/8 Page Ad: \$250

E-Mail: coms@moaatampa.org

COL Charles Dalcourt Received the MOAA National President’s Award

—By Sara Marks, CAPT NC USN (Ret) and Carol Zieres, COL USA (Ret)
Photo credit: Timothy McKee and Carol Zieres

Colonel Charles J. Dalcourt, Jr., United States Army (Ret) received the President's Award at MOAA Tampa's July 2026 monthly luncheon. Charles faithfully served the MOAA Tampa Chapter as President for five consecutive years and Legislative Chairman for two years. He also served on the Florida Council of Chapters board as the Area Vice President (West Central Area). As Chapter President, he accomplished more than any other Chapter President in that Tampa Chapter received four Community grant awards in 2024-2025 and consistently achieved a Five-Star Level of Excellence status for six consecutive years.

Charles leadership experience as a career Army Officer and MOAA Tampa Chapter President, combined with his business acumen as CEO of a successful private sector consulting firm, provided him upper-level management skills and an uncanny ability to solve problems at the strategic level. His astute understanding of Army Personnel policy, as it relates to MOAA's future agenda of attracting and retaining younger generation military officers, capably led him to work with the Tampa Chapter board of directors on the creation of enhanced communication platforms such as the Military Transitioning Program for retiring military officers. Charle's ability to effectively articulate this program to the chapter board resulted in a fully budgeted, quarterly chapter-sponsored event that prepared the military officer and his or her family for civilian life after retirement. Under Charles's tutelage, the Tampa chapter found another means to communicate MOAA's brand and importance to a previously untapped audience transitioning from the military.

Charles always inspired the Tampa Chapter to find new ways to enhance retention of its current members and attract new members to join ranks with the Chapter. His vision to hold an inaugural Winter Gala in December 2021 came at a time when morale was low due to the isolation of the pandemic. He quickly assembled a committee of volunteers that met frequently in his personal office and devoted much of his own time hosting in-progress reviews to ensure every detail of the Winter Gala was carefully deliberated and executed. The Winter Gala was a huge success sparking great enthusiasm among the attendees as evidenced by the many laudatory comments received both during and following the event. Moreover, the result of the Winter Gala enhanced the chapter's e-commerce resource capabilities as well as expanded other outreach programs in



—COL Charles Dalcourt, USA (Ret) presented the MOAA National President's Award by ADM Steve Poulin, USCG (Ret)



the local community (e.g., the Veterans Treatment Court, My Warriors Place, Homeless Veterans, and support for Gold Star families.) and developed good public relations for the MOAA brand. Two subsequent galas were held 2023 and 2024.

For many years, the Tampa Chapter has been a beacon of support for military service members and their families. Through thoughtful investments and grassroots fundraising, the Chapter provided critical resources, but as the Chapter expanded its outreach programs in the Greater Tampa area, the need for additional support has never been greater. In September 2025, the Tampa Chapter of MOAA held another first - an inaugural golf tournament fundraiser at Walt Disney World Shades of Green Resort for which Charles served as Event Chairman. This event served as the principal fundraising event for 2025, which netted over \$25,000 in sponsorships and donations to directly support a variety of vital outreach initiatives that impact both individuals and organizations in the community including scholarships, JROTC programs, veteran's affairs, National Guard and Reserve outreach, a homeless veterans program, and Gold Star family support.

Colonel Charles Dalcourt was duly recognized by MOAA National as a chapter member who has enacted change in the community helping Veterans overcome challenges and mentoring the next generation to serve. His story articulating how members of the Tampa Chapter are leading programs that fulfill the chapter's commitment to community, outreach, and support was featured in the cover story of MOAA's National magazine, titled, "The Change Makers" in the Chapter's Edition in January 2023. Colonel Charles Dalcourt exemplifies the true meaning of MOAA's mantra, "Never Stop Serving."

Charles, you richly deserve the MOAA National President's Award and the gratitude of all who are members of the MOAA Tampa Chapter, the Florida Council of Chapters and MOAA National. Your contributions to the MOAA Tampa Chapter will long be remembered and have laid the groundwork for our chapter's continued success.

Congratulations Charles!



Advertise in the monthly MOAA Tampa Chapter Newsletter



The

RETROSPECT

TAMPA CHAPTER — A FIVE STAR CHAPTER OF MOAA NATIONAL



The Retrospect is published monthly by the Tampa Chapter of the Military Officers' Association of America (MOAA), P.O. Box 6383, Tampa, FL 33608-0383. The MOAA Tampa Chapter is a 501-C-(19) tax exempt veterans' organization not associated with the Department of Defense. The views expressed in individually signed articles do not necessarily reflect Chapter policy.

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.

DIGITAL PUBLISHING		
Ad Deadline	Inserts	
Dec. 20	Jan. 1	
Jan. 20	Feb. 1	
Feb. 21	Mar. 1	
Mar. 21	April 1	
April 20	May 1	
May 20	June 1	
Jun. 20	July 1	
July 20	Aug. 1	
Aug. 19	Sept. 1	
Sept. 20	Oct. 1	
Oct. 20	Nov. 1	
Nov. 21	Dec. 1	

Advertising	Cost (Artwork supplied)	Cost (Ad creation)
Half page (12.95" wide x 9.75" tall)	\$1,000.00	+\$75.00
Quarter page (6.5" wide x 6.25" tall)	\$500.00	+\$50.00
1/8 page (6.5" wide x 3.5" tall)	\$250.00	\$35.00
DIGITAL AD FORMAT: Digital ads must be submitted in PDF, JPEG or EPS formats.		
NEED HELP? If you do not have a digital ad, we can create one for you. See chart above for pricing based on desired ad size.		
DEADLINE: See Digital Publishing table.		
Purchase Ads for a calendar year to be published January - December. We can discuss pro-rating if you miss the deadline for a 12 month package.		



American Red Cross
Central Florida and
the U.S. Virgin Islands

Turn Compassion Into Action!

Join the Service to the Armed Forces Team!

Our Service to the Armed Forces volunteers at MacDill AFB support service members, their families, and our veterans every day! Become a part of our team providing support to the MacDill clinic, pharmacy, and beyond. By volunteering at the clinic, you will provide support to our military community. Our vital work is only possible because of people like you. Bring your skillset, experience, and compassion to MacDill AFB clinic today!



Volunteers Urgently Needed in the Following Areas at MacDill AFB:

Coping with Deployment Facilitator	MacDill AFB Clinic	MacDill Clinic Professional Volunteer	MacDill AFB Pharmacy
Help provide skills to help military families cope with military life, especially deployments. *Must be mental health professional, holding a current license*	Provide assistance with tasks in a clinical setting such as surgical prep; runner; charting; reception; prepare patients for treatment and administrative tasks.	Provide assistance with a specific service or treatment to designated clients in an urgent care, outpatient/inpatient unit, or other health care settings.	Provide assistance with tasks in a clinical setting as well as support staff in a variety of direct and indirect patient care activities.

Additional security clearance may be required in compliance with government regulations

**Some positions such as clinic professional volunteer require a valid and current license in their field.

To learn more, visit redcross.org or contact:

Molly Gallagher, Senior Volunteer Recruitment Specialist
molly.gallagher@redcross.org



Scan with cell phone camera to apply!

251601-16

Call, email or visit moaatampa.org to reserve your spot today!

Email: coms@moaatampa.org
www.moaatampa.org

Articles of Interest Found on the Web

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



US Coast Guard History: <https://www.history.uscg.mil/home/history-program/>

TRICARE medical vs. dental coverage: understanding key differences: <https://newsroom.tricare.mil/News/TRICARE-News/Article/4533925/tricare-medical-vs-dental-coverage-understanding-key-differences>

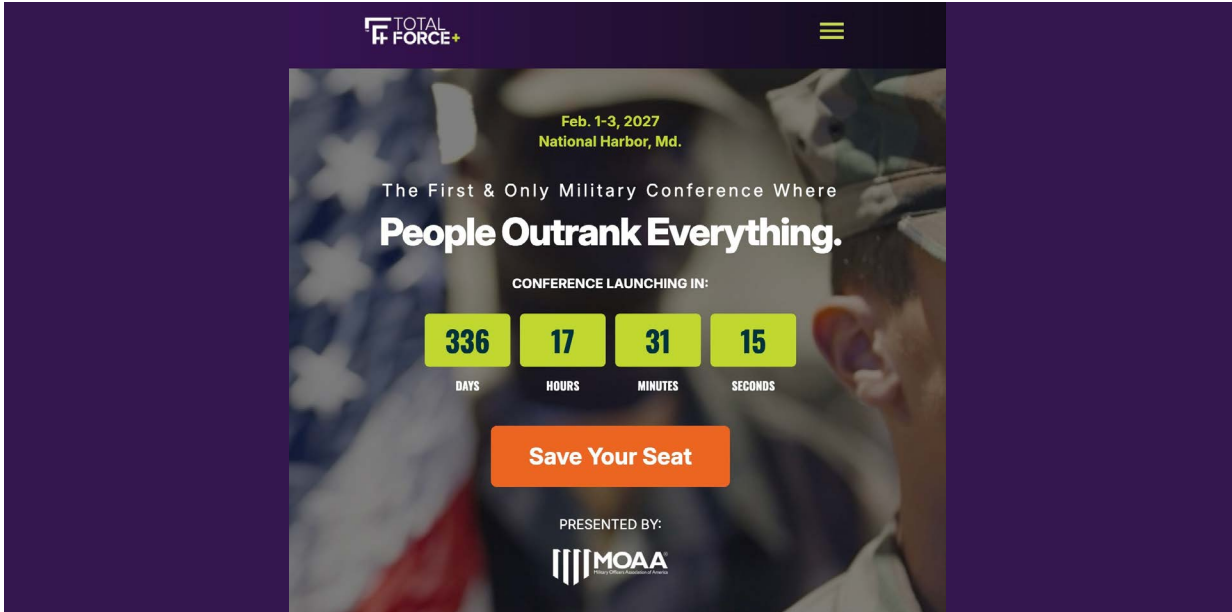
Coast Guard Monitors Chinese Vessels in the Arctic: <https://www.war.gov/News/News-Stories/Article/Article/4550235/coast-guard-monitors-chinese-vessels-in-the-arctic/>

Historic Multinational Medical Team Integrates Aboard the USS Essex (Canada and US work together): <https://www.war.gov/News/News-Stories/Article/Article/4555204/historic-multinational-medical-team-integrates-aboard-the-uss-essex/>

In a suicide crisis, eligible veterans can go to any ER for free. Nearly 50,000 already have.: <https://www.militarytimes.com/veterans/2026/07/23/in-a-suicide-crisis-eligible-veterans-can-go-to-any-er-for-free-nearly-50000-already-have/>

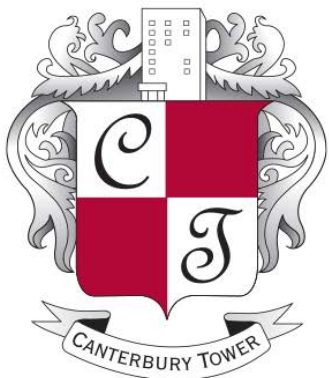
MOAA PRESENTS NEXT TOTAL FORCE CONFERENCE FEB 1-3, 2027

Click on the link to learn more: <https://totalforceplus.moa.org/>



There's a lot of retirement options out there, but once you visit Canterbury Tower, Bayshore Boulevard's only CCRC, the choice is clear. You've planned wisely for this day and when it comes time to find the place you WANT to call home ... look no further than Canterbury. We're close to all that South Tampa has to offer – medical facilities, restaurants, downtown and MacDill Air Force Base. Since 1976, Canterbury Tower has built a reputation for stability, comfort and grace. Offering independent living, assisted living and a Health Center with short-and long-term care options, we have the place for you.

Our Spaces



Are Spectacular!

Canterbury Tower
3501 Bayshore Boulevard • Tampa
www.canterburytower.org
813.837.1083



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/>



The Military Crisis Line is Here for You

Free & Confidential

There's no charge and you decide how much information to share.

Always Available
Accessible 24/7/365.

Trained Counselors

Many are Veterans who understand the challenges service members and their loved ones face.

Calling from Overseas?

In Europe

Call [00800 1273 8255](tel:0080012738255) or DSN 118
In Korea

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

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

Dial #MYVA or [02-8550-3888](tel:02-8550-3888) and press 7

PLACE YOUR AD HERE

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

This 1/8 Page Ad is \$250

E-Mail: coms@moaatampa.org



Standing with you at every stage.

93569

1-800-247-2192 • www.moainsurance.com

How We Help and Why You Should Join!

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

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

NEVER STOP SERVING!



The Tampa Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America, Inc.

P.O. Box 6383
Tampa, FL 33608-0383



Name _____

Rank _____ Service _____ Status (Active, Retired, Former) _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

EMAIL address _____

Phone (HOME or CELL) _____ Date of Birth: Month: _____ Day: _____

Spouse / Emergency Contact: Name _____

Phone _____

MOAA National Member Number _____

If not a MOAA National member, can we set up a Basic membership for you at no cost? YES or NO

I give my permission: signature: _____

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

World War II _____ Korean War _____ Vietnam Era: _____ Vietnam (in country) _____

Gulf War (Desert Shield/Storm) _____ Lebanon, Grenada, Panama _____

Iraq/Syria (OIF/New Dawn/OIR) _____ Afghanistan (OEF/ORS/OFS) _____

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

Tampa Chapter Annual Dues: \$30.00; ----- No fee for Active Duty or Surviving Spouses.-----

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 _____

CHAPLAIN’S CORNER

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



NAVY MEDICINEFAST FACTS

August 2025

RELIGIOUS MINISTRY TEAMS (RMTs)

Strengthening spiritual readiness and fostering total wellness throughout the Navy Medicine Enterprise

- RMTs play crucial roles in upholding religious freedom and fostering spiritual readiness by providing compassionate support and spiritual care to every person, regardless of their beliefs; and offering expert guidance on matters of religion and morale.
- This comprehensive approach, known as Religious Ministry (RM), combines the four core competencies of the Chaplain Corps: **PROVIDE**: Directly offering religious services and spiritual guidance; **FACILITATE**: Enabling individuals to practice their own faith, even if it falls outside the chaplain’s specific denomination; **CARE**: Delivering compassionate pastoral care during times of crisis, stress, or personal need; and **ADVISE**: Offering informed counsel to leadership on religious, ethical, and morale-related issues.



RMT BREAKDOWN

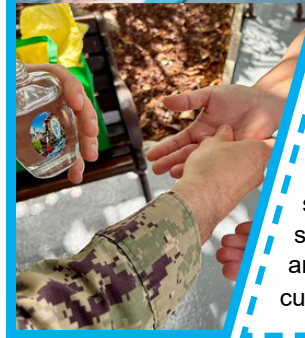
RMTs are comprised of: Chaplains, Religious Program Specialists (RPs), Chaplain Assistants (CAs), volunteers, and those hired to work within or support the Command Religious Program

Across the Navy Medicine Enterprise there are 109 Chaplains and RPs / 48 are currently assigned to expeditionary medicine (EXMED) platforms

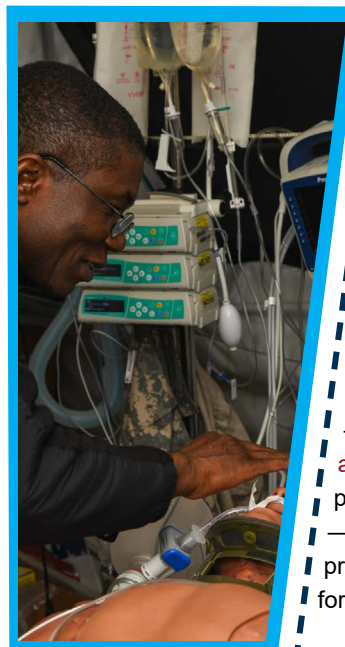
RMTs provide support to: hospital ships, expeditionary medical facilities (EMFs), expeditionary medical units (EMUs), and expeditionary medical ships (EMSs)

SPIRITUAL READINESS

- RMTs cultivate resilient “warfighting healers:” In direct support of the Surgeon General’s strategic initiatives, Navy Medicine Enterprise RMTs ensure every warfighting healer possesses a strong spirit. This includes fostering a sense of meaning and purpose, connection to something greater than oneself, deep-trusted relationships within a community, a foundation in strong values, and a life dedicated to serving others.
- Religious and spiritual engagement can reduce suicide risk: A February 2025 article by Rear Adm. Carey Cash, Deputy Chief of the Chaplain Corps, highlights a strong connection between religious / spiritual engagement and a reduced risk of suicide. According to Cash, adults who practice a faith or are spiritually engaged are 62% less likely to die by suicide. This effect is even greater when a person cultivates their faith or practice within a community, increasing the reduction to 82%.



NAVY MEDICINEFAST FACTS



NAVY MEDICINE CHAPLAIN RESIDENCY

- Navy Medicine chaplains undergo a demanding 12-month Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) residency in a healthcare setting. This rigorous training specifically prepares them to be essential members of interdisciplinary healthcare teams in military treatment facilities and to provide crucial support in combat casualty care during expeditionary medical operations.
- Navy Medicine sponsors and funds this specialized CPE program, known as the Pastoral Care Residency (PCR).
- Eight active-duty Navy chaplains are selected each year through a competitive board process to participate in the PCR program.
- After completing the residency, these chaplains commit to a three-year assignment within Navy Medicine commands. Historically, the PCR program partnered with accredited VA training locations on both coasts.
- The PCR program is currently evolving, instituting changes that will make the program more adaptable and flexible, better preparing Navy Medicine chaplains for service in dynamic expeditionary environments.

BUILDING ON A PROUD LEGACY

- A Historic Alliance: The U.S. Navy Chaplain Corps and Navy Medicine have shared a unique and enduring bond since the Navy’s inception in 1775. In fact, medical officers (surgeons) and chaplains were the very first naval staff officers authorized by the Continental Congress.
- Early Recognition of Chaplain’s Role in Healthcare: The importance of chaplains in hospital care was recognized early on. In 1814, Surgeon William Paul Crillon Barton (1786-1856)—who would later become the first Chief of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery—recommended that uniformed chaplains be assigned to all naval hospitals.
- Support in Times of Crisis: From the earliest sailing ships to today’s modern forces, Navy chaplains and Religious Program Specialists (RPs) are consistently by the side of medical providers. They are always ready to offer comfort and spiritual care to those in need. Through counseling and prayer, RMTs have historically been vital to the recovery and healing process for countless service members, whether at sea or forward deployed, serving with SPRINTs (Special Psychiatric Rapid Intervention Teams), or ministering at hospitals.



A Navy chaplain attending to a patient aboard the hospital ship USS Solace, ca. 1945

Source: <https://www.dvidshub.net/publication/issues/74189>

August 2025 Flashback



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

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

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

Events Calendar: We have a new “Events” page where you will find an updated calendar, displaying our upcoming MOAA events. 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/



THE TAMPA CHAPTER RATED FIVE STARS 2003, 2005-2010, 2012-2017, 2019-2025



5 Star MOAA Chapter
2003 • 2005 - 2010
2012 - 2017 • 2019 - 2024



2020 - 2025 Recipient of the
5 Star Col. Marvin J. Harris
Communications Award

Military Officers Association of America

“NEVER STOP SERVING”