



The RETROSPECT

TAMPA CHAPTER — A FIVE STAR CHAPTER OF MOAA NATIONAL

OCTOBER 2026 VOLUME 33, NUMBER 10



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT: STEVE POULIN ADM USCG RET

GREETINGS!



It is hard to believe we are entering the fall season. It was a full summer for our Chapter, as evidenced by the incredible September we are having. We were pleased to welcome COL Dave Soutter and his current operations team from CENTCOM at our monthly luncheon. Dave gave us a wonderful overview of CENTCOM activities. It was inspiring to hear about the hard but important work of CENTCOM in promoting peace and stability in the Arabian Gulf region. Our guest speaker for the October lunch will be COL Trent Harris from the Australian Defense Force. Trent is the senior foreign liaison to the Tampa Chapter

and a vital part of the foreign coalition at CENTCOM. He will give us an overview of the Australian national defense strategy and help us better understand the threat environment from Australia's perspective. I am grateful to Trent for agreeing to speak to us in October. We had scheduled October as our annual business meeting but had to push it to November because a few Board members are unavailable next month. We will still have the local estate attorney speak with us in November, so we'll simply append a relatively brief business meeting to the November lunch.

Several of our members proudly represented the Tampa Chapter at a very solemn 9/11 remembrance ceremony at Steinbrenner Field. I am thankful to the Knights of Columbus who invited us along with the American Legion to participate in a wreath laying to honor those killed in the terrorist attacks on that tragic day 25 years ago, as well as those who died in the follow-on military actions. Not only did they give a fitting tribute to the victims and the fallen, but I think we also stimulated membership interest in the Tampa Chapter through many of the connections we made at the ceremony.

Moreover, we took the next step in our Advocacy in Action campaign to support MOAA's legislative priorities with elected officials. As the Congressional session comes to a close, we must continue to elevate

our voices to advocate for our service members, veterans, and families. Now is the time to ramp up our efforts and be a force multiplier for the collective efforts of MOAA nationwide. Please sign up with the Legislative Action Center and use the tools provided to register your call to action. We must be unrelenting in our advocacy.

We are making progress in expanding our membership base. Please take the opportunity to talk about MOAA and the Tampa Chapter when the opportunity arises. You might be surprised at the interest you will generate, and even how many people you will meet who are MOAA National members but have yet to affiliate with a chapter. To be clear, growing our membership base is about creating more opportunities for advocacy, enhancing our service to the local community, and expanding camaraderie.

Speaking of camaraderie, the Ladies Afternoon Tea is coming up in November. It will be an incredible time for fellowship as the Ladies of MOAA Tampa celebrate America's 250th birthday and welcome the spouses from our coalition partners.

I will conclude this month's message by extending a hearty Happy 79th Birthday to the U.S. Air Force. While I chose the Coast Guard as a career, my father was in the U.S. Air Force for 27 years. I grew up on U.S. Air Force bases, both here and overseas. The U.S. Air Force will always be close to my heart, so watching the cutting of the cake at our September lunch held special meaning for me as it did for those who served in the U.S. Air Force. "Aim High ... Fly, Fight, Win."

As always, thanks for your commitment and dedication to live MOAA's motto of "Never Stop Serving."

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 1, 2026
Board of Directors Meeting
Virtual 7 PM – 8 PM

October 8, 2026
Chapter Luncheon
11:30 AM – 12:00 PM Social
12:00 PM – 1:30 PM Lunch
Columbia Restaurant
(See page 9)

November 12, 2026
Chapter Luncheon
MOAA Tampa Annual Business Meeting

November 14, 2026
Ladies Semiquintennial Celebration 10
Joseph's Tea House
Clearwater, FL
(See flyer page 3)

Future Events:
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 NOVEMBER 2026
ISSUE IS 20 OCTOBER 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 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) – For too many servicemembers, retirees, their families, caregivers, and survivors, navigating the military health system means encountering significant barriers to healthcare. Whether the problem occurs at military treatment facilities or within the TRICARE civilian provider network, beneficiaries often lack a consistent, clear, and widely understood way to report an access problem in order to ensure it reaches the right resource, and to know what happens after they raise the concern.

Together with a group of military and veterans service organizations, MOAA recently led the efforts in writing a letter to our elected officials in the US Congress, urging them to preserve a key provision in the Senate Armed Services Committee (SASC) version of the FY 2027 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) that would give military health system patients a better way to report and track access to care problems. Section 701 of the SASC version requires a digital system that would enable TRICARE beneficiaries to electronically file a complaint, raise awareness about an issue, or provide positive

feedback about access to care at military hospitals/clinics or through the TRICARE network. The system would route complaints to the appropriate patient resource and allow beneficiaries to track the status of their submission.

Not only would this system direct patients to assistance, but the increased visibility on beneficiary-level access problems should drive improvements through more effective oversight and greater accountability. The system would route complaints to the appropriate patient resource and allow beneficiaries to track the status of their submission.

Section 701 builds on bipartisan efforts already underway in Congress in the form of H.R. 6796 – the Military Care, Access, Reporting, and Evaluation (Military CARE) Act. The NDAA language mirrors this bipartisan House bill supported by MOAA and many other stakeholders, but expands to include access to care complaints in the TRICARE network along with those in Military Treatment Facilities (MTFs).

Together, these efforts reflect bipartisan, bicameral recognition that existing problem reporting options are fragmented, inconsistent, and insufficient to ensure beneficiaries receive timely assistance when they encounter barriers to care. They also underscore the need for Congress and the Defense Health Agency to have greater visibility on beneficiary access challenges to ensure the military health system is properly funded to deliver on both the medical readiness and benefit provision missions. Improving the way beneficiaries report and track access problems will not, by itself, solve every challenge facing the Military Health System (MHS). However, it is an important step toward a system that is adequately funded, responsive, and accountable. Access to timely, high-quality health care is essential to military readiness and quality of life, and it is a core part of the nation's commitment to those who serve. Your voice matters – please urge your lawmakers to support this important legislation.

MOAA President to CNN: "Put the Veteran at the Center" – In a recent interview, Brian Kelly, Lieutenant General, USAF (Ret), told the participants that the **Take Care of America's Veterans Act** offers a unique opportunity to address dozens of priorities. The Take Care of America's Veterans Act can do "a ton of good" for millions in the veteran community, but only if lawmakers vote on the bill before the end of the 119th Congress.

Encouraging lawmakers to move the landmark legislation forward, Kelly told news anchor Brianna Keilar: "The worst thing that could happen is no vote before this Congress goes out. If that happens, everybody's back to square one. They've got to reintroduce all this legislation. We're all looking to and counting on Congress to take the politics out of this, take emotion out of this, and if you put the veteran at the center, you have a vote."

The legislation contains more than 60 individual bills, many of which address critical MOAA priorities such as:

- * Relief for nearly 60,000 combat-injured military retirees who face an unjust pay offset between their military retirement pay and VA disability compensation. "The fact that those are offset to each other while others are allowed to keep both of those things is really unjust, particularly if you think about who's most deserving," Kelly said. "Why wouldn't we as a country say those at the front of the line ought to be our combat-injured?"

- * Short- and long-term support for military caregivers, including provisions that would provide financial, professional, and mental health resources.

- * Removal of restrictions faced by military survivors who lose benefits if they remarry before age 55. Kelly called the existing

continued on page 2

LEGISLATIVE LOWDOWN *cont.*

rules “archaic,” adding, “Those benefits were earned for those folks, and they should be able to keep them.”

The bill also improves survivor benefits, boosts VA research and suicide-prevention efforts, expands VA transition and education resources, and much more. Kelly said the bill would do “a ton of good for tens of millions of veterans, their families, caregivers, survivors, in one opportunity” and said that good outweighed the legislation’s funding mechanism, which comes from changes to VA disability rating schedule for sleep apnea and tinnitus that are already in the works. “You never get a perfect bill,” Kelly told Keilar. “In totality, this is worth it.”

The interview came less than a week after a commentary piece on the bill authored by Kelly appeared on *The Hill*’s website with a similar message: “Backing this bill, imperfections and all, is not a political act; it is a pragmatic one. It honors the current service members and veterans who gave so much, the caregivers and families who carry the weight beside them, and the survivors who keep their memory alive.”

MOAA supports the legislation alongside more than 20 other stakeholder organizations including The American Legion, The Elizabeth Dole Foundation, and The Wounded Warrior Project.

This Bill - H.R. 5339 - Would Expand PACT Act Benefits to Those Who Were at the Pentagon in the Days After September 11 – Many Pentagon workers who returned to their posts immediately after the attacks may have been exposed to toxic materials. MOAA recently endorsed bipartisan legislation that would expand benefits to veterans who served at the Pentagon in the days after the Sept. 11 attacks and suffer from a range of toxic exposure-related illnesses. The Susan E. Lukas 9/11 Servicemember Fairness Act (H.R. 5339) extends the presumption of service connection to several conditions for those who served at the Pentagon Reservation from Sept. 11, 2001, to Nov. 19 of that year.

These conditions include asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), tracheomalacia, and any other type of cardiovascular disease, respiratory disease, skin disease, or cancer. The bill also allows Pentagon leaders to identify other diseases for service connection if they are linked to specific hazardous materials found at the Pentagon after the attack. Four Virginia lawmakers serve as original cosponsors of the legislation: Democratic Representatives

Suhas Subramanyam, Don Beyer, Bobby Scott, and Republican Representative Rob Wittman. “These servicemembers spent countless hours at their posts, putting the mission before themselves in the early hours of our post-9/11 reality,” said Jen Goodale, MOAA’s director of Government Relations for Veteran and Retired Affairs. “Our nation has an obligation to honor that service by ensuring they receive the benefits and care their sacrifices have earned.”

The bill bears the name of Lt. Col. Susan Lukas, USAF (Ret), who was serving at the Pentagon during the attack and returned to work the next day. She was diagnosed with several toxic exposure-connected conditions in later years, she told *USA Today*, including tracheomalacia, which can lead to a collapsed airway.

More than 3,000 individuals may have been exposed to toxic substances at the Pentagon in the aftermath of the attacks, according to the Reserve Organization of America (ROA), a long-time supporter of the legislation. The bill would provide protections to these individuals in line with those offered by the Sergeant First Class Heath Robinson Honoring Our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics (PACT) Act of 2022 to those who served near burn pits or other areas linked to toxins.

“These heroic men and women deserve the same benefits under the PACT Act that Congress has provided to other servicemembers, and I am proud to introduce this bill to close the gap in coverage,” Subramanyam said [in a press release](#) announcing the bill’s 2025 introduction.

Sources:

- (1) www.moaa.org
- (2) <https://www.moaa.org/content/publications-and-media/news-articles/2026-news-articles/advocacy/moaa-takes-pragmatic-approach-veterans-omnibus-legislation/>
- (3) <https://www.moaa.org/content/publications-and-media/news-articles/2026-news-articles/benefits/moaa-president-to-cnn-put-the-veteran-at-the-center/>
- (4) <https://thehill.com/opinion/6070663-congress-urged-pass-veteran-benefits-bill/>
- (5) <https://moaa.quorum.us/campaign/151857/>
- (6) <https://www.military.com/23-veterans-organizations-urge-congress-to-pass-60-provision-bill-package>
- (7) <https://www.moaa.org/content/publications-and-media/news-articles/2026-news-articles/benefits/bill-would-expand-pact->

MEDICAL CORNER

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

New Cardiovascular (CV) guidance targets unique needs of “tactical athletes”

The American College of Cardiology and the American Heart Association have issued [cardiovascular guidance for “tactical athletes”](#) including firefighters, police officers and military personnel. The guidance addresses the unique health risks these individuals face, such as sudden intense physical activity, high stress and exposure to extreme environments, and outlines cardiovascular disease evaluation and management.

Full Story: [STAT](#) (9/3), [American Heart Association](#) (9/3)



MOAA TAMPA WISHES THE US AIR FORCE A HAPPY 79TH BIRTHDAY

—Photo credit: Carol Zieres, COL USA (Ret)



—Lt Col Barbara Brotherton, USAF (Ret) Cuts the Air Force Birthday Cake at the September 2026 MOAA Tampa Luncheon

Image link: <https://www.facebook.com/FirstAir-Force/posts/happy-79th-birthday-to-the-united-states-air-force-first-air-force-is-proud-to-s/1391520306486302/>



Surviving Spouse Corner:

—Submitted by Frances Chancey LTC USA (Ret)



Veteran Spouse Network

The Veteran Spouse Network (VSN) offers free peer-support programs designed to help military and veteran families navigate the challenges of active-duty life, transition to civilian life, and establish new roots after military service.

VSN continually evaluates and updates its programs based on participant feedback, ensuring that the resources remain relevant, effective, and responsive to the needs of military and veteran families.

For information about upcoming programs and events, or to register, visit the VSN “Calendar of Events” (<https://veteranspousenetwork.org/events/>).

Example course: **This Event is Open To**

- ☐ Spouse/partner of active-duty service member/post-service veteran
- ☐ Family member/caregiver of active-duty service member/post-service veteran
- ☐ Divorcee or widow/widower of active-duty service member/post-service veteran
- ☐ Active-duty service member/post-service veteran



LADIES OF MOAA TAMPA CHAPTER & COALITION SPOUSES:

You are cordially invited to attend a Ladies Afternoon Tea to help MOAA Tampa celebrate America's 250th birthday:



WHEN: Saturday, November 14, 2026 from 2-5 pm

WHERE: Joseph's Tea Room
25028 US-19 Clearwater, FL 33763

COST: \$50.40

DRESS CODE: Semi-formal, patriotic attire encouraged
(i.e., wear something red, white, and blue)

Guests get to choose their own pot of tea from a list of over 80 high quality tea blends. A salad is served followed by a presentation of a three-tier tray filled with assorted croissant and tea sandwiches, scones and tea biscuits served with Devonshire cream and jam and petit desserts. Price includes gratuity.

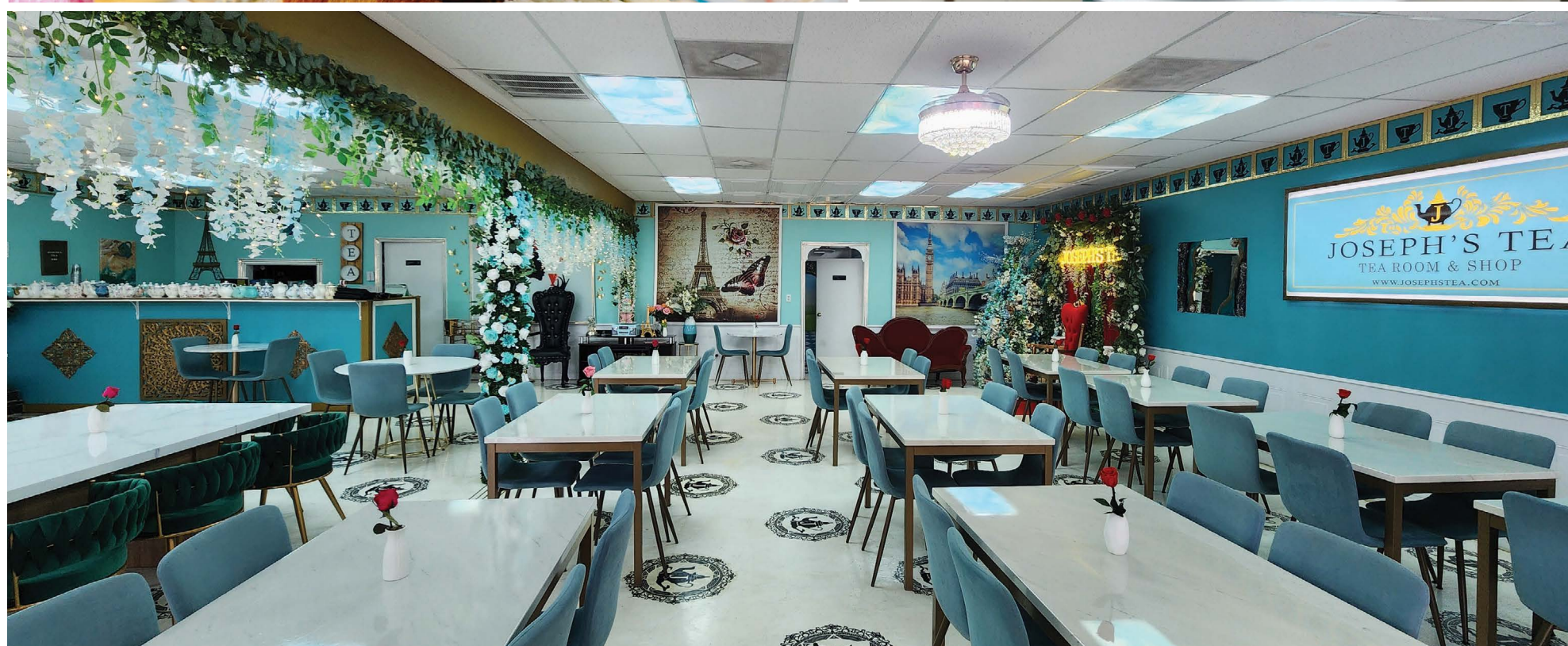
(Experience can be customized for vegan and/or gluten free for an additional cost of \$4.00 per person).

Register by October 21, 2026
at the following link:



<https://tampa-chapter-ladies-semiquincentennial-tea.cheddarup.com>

****We plan to have a speaker from the American Red Cross local chapter talk to us about their mission and support to American troops and their families stationed overseas. MOAA Tampa is donating money to the American Red Cross and any additional donations would be graciously accepted.**



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

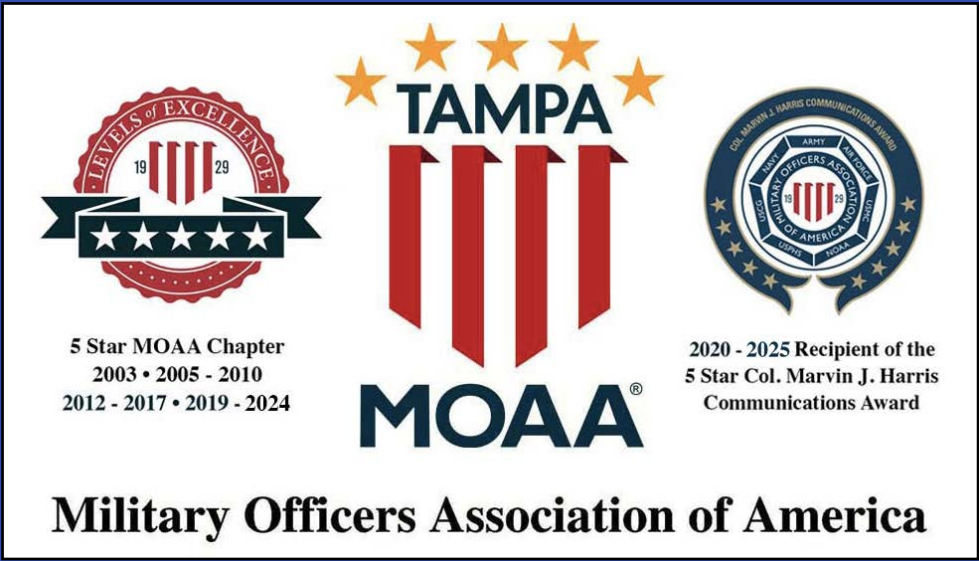
2026 DIRECTORS:

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





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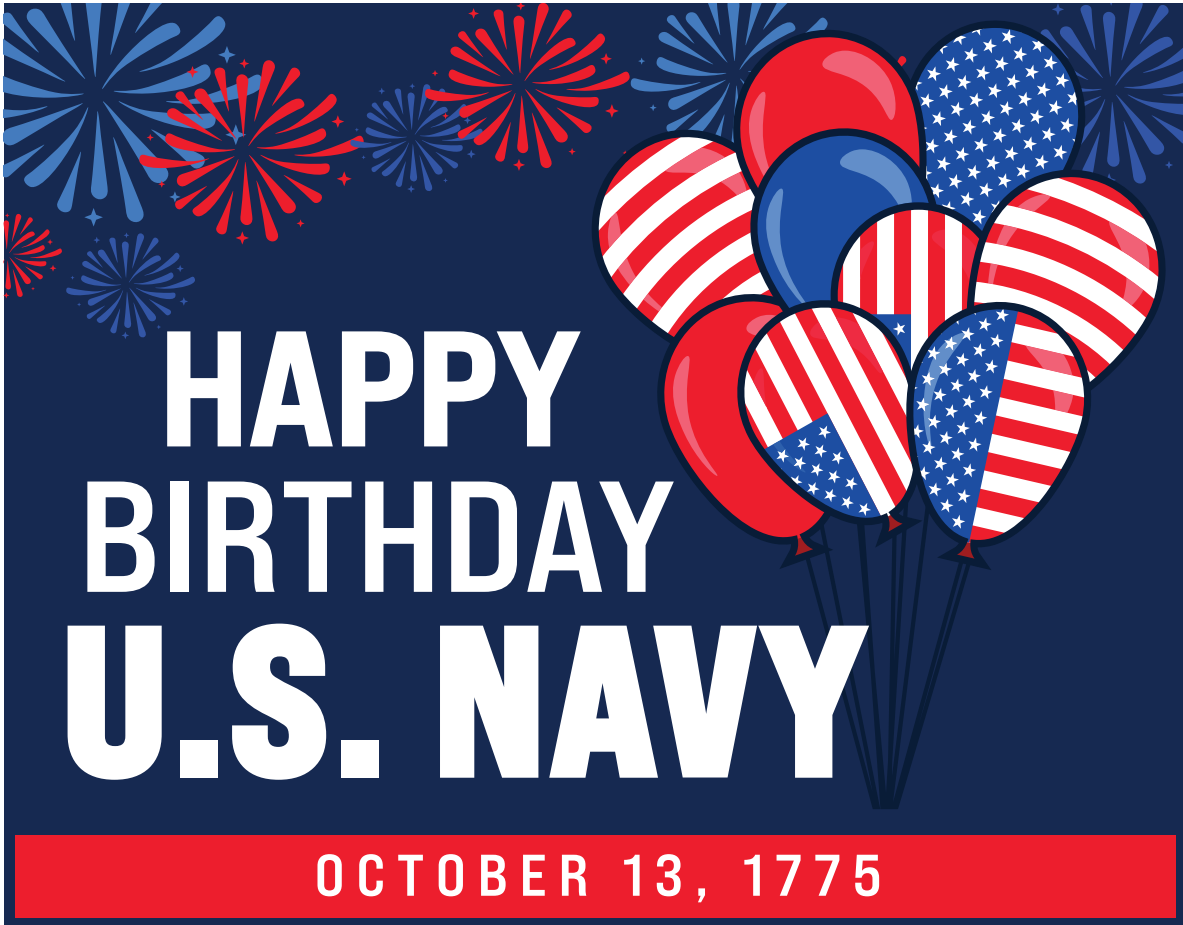
Visit Us at Our New Facility Located at: 15064 US Highway 19N., Clearwater, FL 33764

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

OCTOBER GUEST SPEAKER:



Group Captain
Trent Harris,
Chairman of the
Coalition and
Australian
Senior National
Representative
at US CENTCOM



MOAA TAMPA CHAPTER SUPPORTS THE 25TH
9/11 REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY

—By Sara Marks, CAPT NC USN (Ret) Photo credit: Kim McDaniel and Bob Sawallesh, LTC USA (Ret)

MOAA Tampa Chapter President Steve Poulin, ADM USCG (Ret) presented a wreath on behalf of the MOAA Tampa Chapter at the 25th Anniversary Remembrance Ceremony held at Steinbrenner Field honoring all those killed on September 11, 2001 and those killed in Afghanistan. The event was hosted by the Knights of Columbus and featured a miniature of the Twin Towers.

Speakers at the ceremony included a volunteer fireman from Lower Manhattan and a Green Beret who was one of the first to deploy to Afghanistan. MOAA Tampa Chapter members in attendance included MOAA Tampa Chapter Vice President Corvelli McDaniel, CPT USA (Former), Bob Sawallesh, LTC USA (Ret), Norm Bild, Capt USAF (Ret) and Director for Legislative Affairs Ben Ritter, SGT USMC (Former)/Honorary MOAAA Tampa Chapter member.

May we never forget 9/11, especially all those who lost their lives on that terrible day in 2001 and those who served in Afghanistan.



MOAA Tampa Chapter President Steve Poulin, ADM USCG (Ret) and Vice President Corvelli McDaniel, CPT USA (Former) with the MOAA Tampa wreath presented at the 25th Anniversary 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony.



Wreaths presented by various organizations and placed in front of a miniature replica of the Twin Towers.



Knights of Columbus hosted the 25th Anniversary 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony.



(L-R) Vick Lindenmeyer, LTC USA (Ret), Steve Poulin, ADM USCG (Ret) , and Gary Frazier, CPT USA (Former)



Norm Bild, Capt USAF (Ret)



Bob Sawallesh, LTC USA (Ret)



On the right: Ben Ritter, SGT USMC (Former)/ Honorary Member MOAA Tampa Chapter



September Luncheon Photos

Photo Credit: Carol Zieres, COL USA (Ret)



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



Over the last three months I've been busy exploring the world. I've mentioned my travel to the Azores and Madeira in July and the Canadian Rockies in August. This past September I flew to Vietnam and had an amazing experience exploring Hanoi, Ha Lung Bay, Hoi An, Hue and Ho Chi Minh City, still referred to by locals as Saigon with a side trip to the Cu Chi Tunnels. So now I'm reacclimating to Eastern Time and happily adjusting to my black labrador puppy. It'll be nice to be home for the foreseeable future. While I've been traveling, I'd like to thank Carol Zieres for taking wonderful photos for the newsletter and website at the September luncheon; and Bob Sawallesh and Kim McDaniel for taking photos at the 25th Anniversary 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony. I've noticed that we have a tight knit chapter. As the newsletter editor, I rely on each of you to help me provide accurate and relevant articles and information in our newsletter and website. Thank you for your continued support.

I'm pleased to announce our October luncheon guest speaker Group Captain Trent Harris, Chairman of the Coalition at USCENTCOM and Australian Senior National Representative. At the luncheon last month, COL David Soutter, US Army and Chief of Current Operations provided an excellent unclassified overview of the state of international affairs.

If you haven't signed up yet, please note that on November 14, 2026, COL Carol Zieres, US Army (Ret) is coordinating a Ladies Tea to celebrate our nation's 250th Anniversary with proceeds from a planned raffle to go to the American Red Cross. Please see the flyer in this newsletter for more information.

Thank you to Jeanne Richard for your continued contributions to Medical Corner with a link this month on an article about treatment of our "tactical athletes." Other articles that I hope you enjoy include photos from the 25th Anniversary 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony with many MOAA Tampa Chapter members in attendance, an article about High Tea at the Empress Hotel in Victoria, British Columbia attended by Carol Zieres and me, and how to use AI to write your resume among several other articles. Due to copyright issues, I'm not able to publish many articles without permission but have four links to articles that I hope you'll take the time to "click" the links and read.

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'm delighted to report that I will be home for a while and look forward to seeing everyone at the October luncheon. I'm grateful to all who have assisted me in insuring that the past three newsletters have had accurate information as well as photos taken of all events for the last three months. I look forward to all that our MOAA Tampa Chapter will accomplish the rest of this year and in 2027. Finally, on October 13th Happy Birthday to the United States Navy!

"It follows then as certain as that night succeeds the day, that without a decisive naval force we can do nothing definitive, and with it, everything honorable and glorious."

"President George Washington, 15 November 1781, to Marquis de Lafayette.
[*The Writings of George Washington from the Original Manuscript Sources 1745-1799*.vol.23. (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1937): 341.]

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

Our luncheon meetings are held 1130 hours 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.

3 Tips on How to Use (and Not Use) AI When Writing Your Resume

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

By: Andia Dinesen, AFC®

If you're a tech-friendly job seeker, you might be wondering how to use artificial intelligence more effectively in your job search. If you are not a tech-friendly type, or if you've been reading any number of the "Don't Use AI"-focused articles online, you might be wondering how to avoid it altogether.

Leveraging AI as a tool in your job search can be very effective. It can also be a hindrance. The key is using the technology the right way: as an aide, a key task organizer, or a researcher. Letting AI do *all* the legwork may seem like a good idea, but the results may not be what you're expecting.

Move Forward Faster With MOAA's Executive Career Transition Accelerator

Want more transition and career guidance? Join fellow transitioning servicemembers, veterans seeking advancement in their civilian careers, and MOAA's in-house experts on Oct. 16 for a full day of networking, professional guidance, and much more. In-person and virtual options available.

Not sure what I mean? Follow these do's and don'ts for starters.

1. Using AI as Your Editor

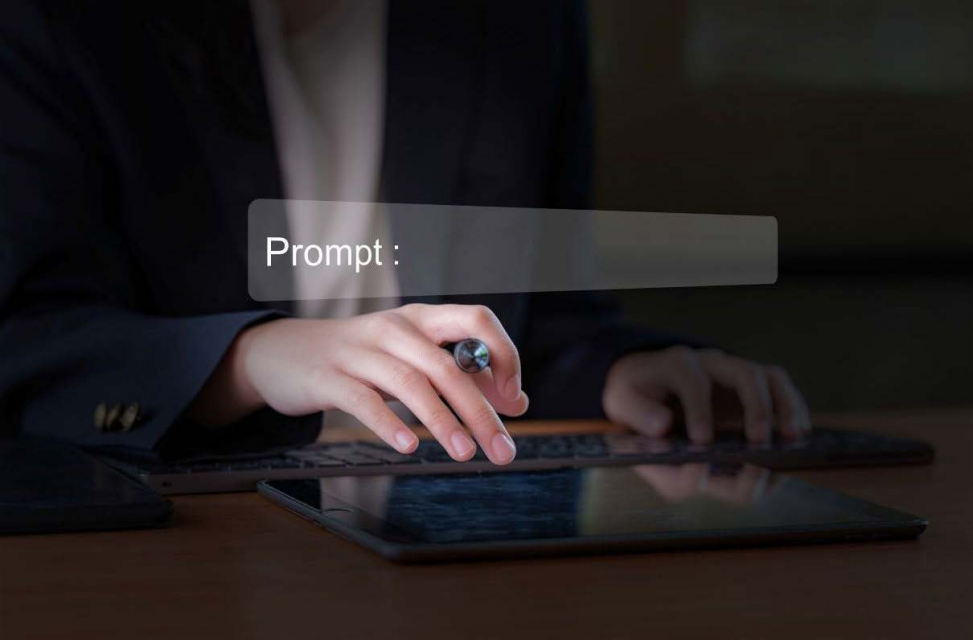
Don't use an AI prompt to write your résumé. A hiring manager or human resources professional can tell whether your materials were composed by AI. With the number of résumés they are reviewing, they can *TELL*. And once your material is flagged as AI-prepared, seemingly generic or inauthentic, you'll likely miss out on the next review stage.

Do start by writing your résumé yourself. Use a tried-and-true template and framework, and just let things flow. Then use AI to iterate, refine, and synthesize your skills, experience, and knowledge. Unsure where to start? [Check out MOAA's resources](#). (Premium and Life members can access [even more expert guidance](#).)

2. Using AI to Build Your Case

Don't expect AI to write your bullet points for you. AI-driven summary tools may be useful for digesting some briefings or long documents, but they aren't up to translating your work experience into standout prose.

Do use AI to help with specific phrasing. This can be accomplished by employing the STAR (Situation, Task, Action, and Result) method. Make sure your knowledge, skills, and expertise communicate the "so what" within each bullet. I suggest using quantifiable metrics along with qualifiers – it helps the reader understand what you are trying to communicate, even if it is a



—songsak chalardpongpun/Getty Images

- **Situation:** "Identified inefficiencies"
- **Task:** "Led implementation of automated program"
- **Action:** "Reduced Processing time and error rates by 50%"
- **Result:** "Improved customer satisfaction"

3. Using AI to Match the Moment

Do consider AI help aligning your résumé with a specific job. Upload your draft résumé and the job description, then provide your preferred AI tool with a specific prompt. For example, "Take this résumé draft and this job description and help me highlight my skills and experience that best align with the job duties, responsibilities, and expectations." If the result isn't perfect, consider uploading one section at a time – start with the summary, for example, or have AI better match your core skills to the job's requirements.

Don't leave other humans (or yourself) out of the loop. As with anything involving AI assistance, read every word before sending out your résumé. Hand it to a few real humans for review; remember, [MOAA experts are here to help](#).

AI can be a valuable tool, but ensure you're doing the work upfront ... and getting real-world guidance AI simply can't provide.

Source: [https://www.moaa.org/content/publications-and-media/news-articles/2026-news-articles/transition-and-career/3-easy-tips-on-how-to-use-\(and-not-use\)-ai-when-writing-your-resume/](https://www.moaa.org/content/publications-and-media/news-articles/2026-news-articles/transition-and-career/3-easy-tips-on-how-to-use-(and-not-use)-ai-when-writing-your-resume/)



OCTOBER LUNCHEON MEETING



EVENT: Chapter Monthly Luncheon Meeting

DATE: Thursday, 8 October **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, 2 October.
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, 5 October, 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: Group Captain Trent Harris, Chairman of the Coalition and Australian Senior National Representative at US CENTCOM

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

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. For more information: <https://www.hillsboroughcountymentors.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.

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.

IMPORTANT DATES IN OCTOBER

13 Navy Birthday
26 National Day of the Deployed
31 Halloween

Welcome New Members



Colonel William Huff, USA (Ret)
1st Lt Roosevelt Hanna, USAF (Former)
LTC Berton Newbill, USA (Ret)



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>

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

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

Coalition Corner



September has remained a demanding month for coalition personnel within HQ CENTCOM, with a sustained operational tempo continues to place significant demands on representatives from more than 32 partner nations. While these commitments have limited opportunities for some personnel to participate in recent community engagements, the value placed on these relationships remains unwavering. The connections forged through both professional and social interactions continue to strengthen the bonds between our nations, providing valuable opportunities to build friendships, exchange perspectives, and reinforce the partnerships that underpin our collective efforts.

This month, coalition personnel also reflected on events that occurred 25 years ago and the profound impact they have had on nations, military partnerships, and communities. The anniversary provided an opportunity to honour those affected, remember the sacrifices made, and recognise the enduring cooperation and solidarity that emerged from a defining moment in modern history. For many coalition representatives, these reflections served as a poignant reminder of the importance of shared values, mutual support, and the strong professional and personal relationships that continue to strengthen our coalition today.

As always, the coalition community remains dynamic, with representatives arriving and departing as assignments conclude and new opportunities arise. We thank those who have recently completed their tours for their dedicated service and valuable contributions, and we warmly welcome the newest members of the coalition team. Their experience, perspectives, and commitment will further enhance the strength and diversity of our coalition partnership.

Trent Harris, Group Captain (O6)
Chairman of the Coalition and
Australia Senior National Representative to USCENTCOM



FLASHBACK OCTOBER 2022 MOAA TAMPA LUNCHEON



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)



For Young Americans the 9/11 attacks and subsequent wars are history not memory
<https://www.navytimes.com/veterans/2026/09/11/for-young-americans-the-911-attacks-and-subsequent-wars-are-history-not-memory/>

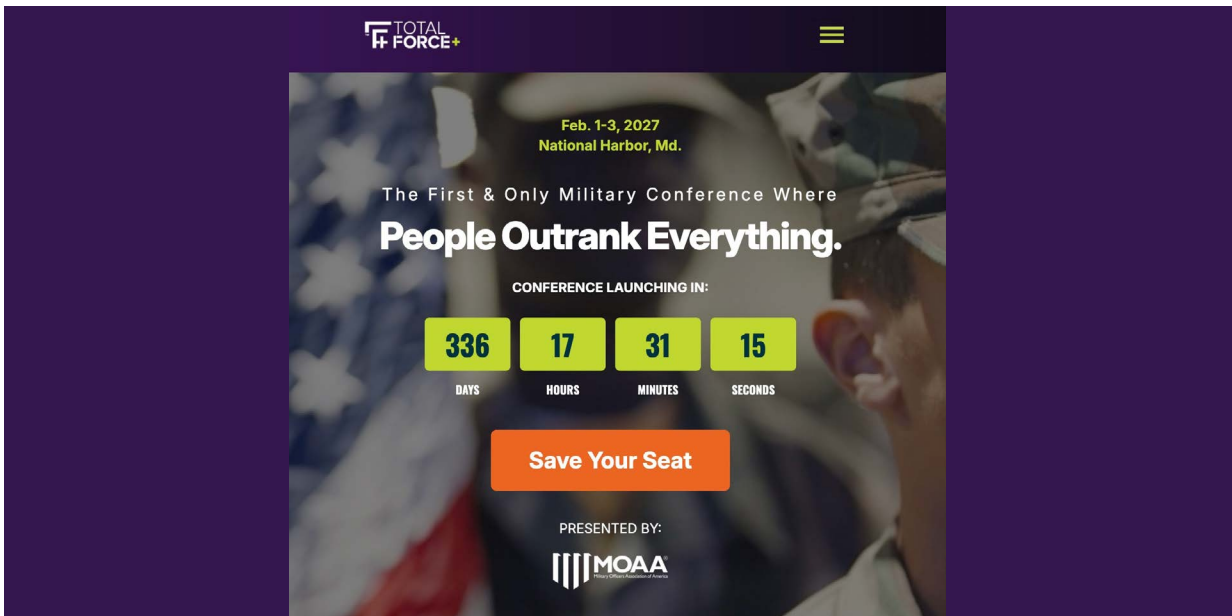
WWII's famed "Mosquito Bowl" comes to the big screen
<https://www.navytimes.com/veterans/military-history/2026/09/09/wwiis-famed-mosquito-bowl-comes-to-the-big-screen/>

Military careers cut short in combat and now fighting for full benefits
<https://www.navytimes.com/veterans/2026/08/06/their-military-careers-were-cut-short-in-combat-now-theyre-fighting-congress-for-their-full-benefits/>

Suicide Prevention Strategies
<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/suicide-prevention-strategies-study/>

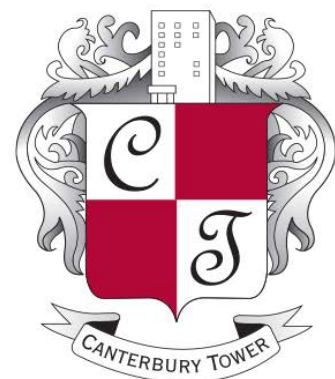
MOAA PRESENTS NEXT TOTAL FORCE CONFERENCE FEB 1-3, 2027

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. Something's always happening at Canterbury with socials, outings, excursions and new friends and old just down the hall. Close to all that South Tampa has to offer – medical facilities, restaurants, downtown and MacDill Air Force Base – this is the place you WANT to call home. 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 a place for you.

Good Friends



Good Times

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

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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** _____



MOAA TAMPA CHAPTER

2027 ANNUAL CHAPTER DUES RENEWAL FORM

Renewal Window: 1 October 2026 to 31 January 2027



[] CHECK HERE IF THERE ARE NO CHANGES TO YOUR PROFILE / CONTACT INFO FROM LAST YEAR

1. MEMBER PROFILE & MILITARY DETAILS

Full Name: _____

Rank: _____

Service Branch: _____

Status: [] Active [] Retired [] Former

National MOAA Member ID*: _____

Spouse Name: _____

*Required by Chapter Bylaws

2. UPDATED CONTACT INFORMATION (Complete only if changed)

Street Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Primary Email: _____

Primary Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

3. RENEWAL SELECTION & CONTRIBUTION CALCULATOR

[] 1-Year Membership Renewal (Through Dec 31, 2027)

\$ 30.00

[] 2-Year Membership Renewal (Through Dec 31, 2028)

\$ 60.00

[] 3-Year Membership Renewal (Through Dec 31, 2029)

\$ 90.00

[] Optional Contribution: Chapter Scholarship Fund

\$ _____

[] Optional Contribution: JROTC Support / Veteran's Treatment Court / Other Local Outreach

\$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED PAYMENT (Dues + Contributions)

\$ _____

4. CONVENIENT PAYMENT METHODS

METHOD 1: ONLINE (Fastest & Securest)
Pay instantly using a secure debit or credit card at:
<https://my.cheddarup.com/c/tampa-chapter/items>

Scan the QR Code below to pay:

METHOD 2: IN PERSON
Bring this completed document alongside payment to any monthly member luncheon gathering.

METHOD 3: BY MAIL
Make checks payable to: **MOAA Tampa Chapter**
Mail your form and check to:
MOAA Tampa Membership
P.O. Box 6383
Tampa, FL 33608-0383



Questions? Reach our membership chair directly at membership@moaatampa.org

Thank you for your dedicated service and continued support with our chapter!

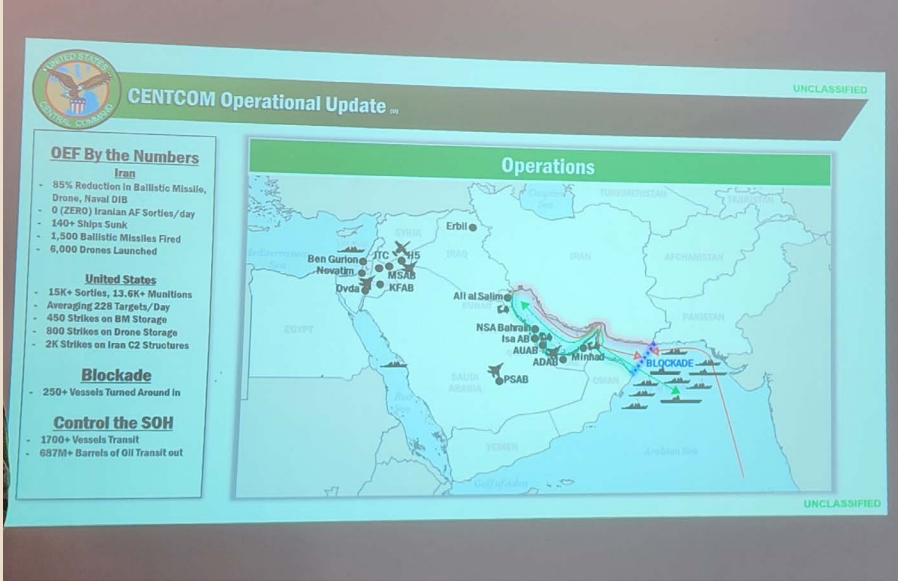
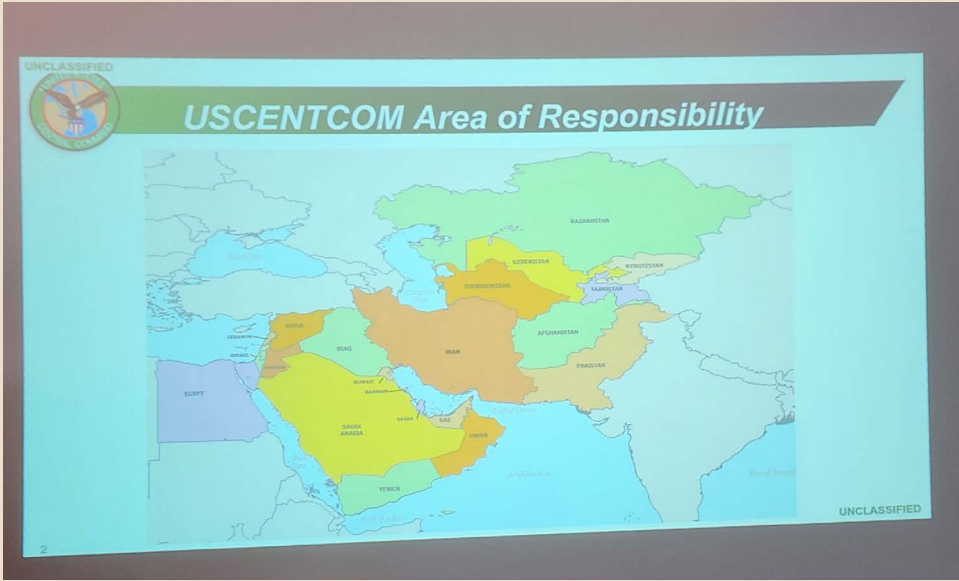
<https://moaatampa.org/>



INFORMATIVE UPDATE FROM US CENTCOM AT THE SEPTEMBER 2026 LUNCHEON

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

Colonel David Soutter, US Army and Chief of Current Operations at US CENTCOM presented an unclassified overview of the perspective of risk and state of international affairs at the MOAA Tampa September luncheon last month. He fielded many questions after his presentation.



AEDC at 75: Gemini jumps so Apollo can fly

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

Arnold Engineering Development Complex
Story by [Bradley Hicks](#)

Date: 09.25.2026 | **Posted:** 09.25.2026 13:19 | **News ID:** 575689

ARNOLD AIR FORCE BASE, Tenn.
— Thousands of testing hours were dedicated to the Project Apollo space program throughout the 1960s at what was then known as Arnold Engineering Development Center, but Center efforts also focused greatly on the precursor to Apollo in the early part of the decade. Project Mercury, which was launched in 1958 and was the first U.S. manned spaceflight program, preceded Gemini. Through Mercury, Alan Shepard became the first American in space on May 5, 1961. Just shy of three weeks later, then-President John F. Kennedy challenged the U.S. to put an American on the moon and return them safely before 1970. Apollo would accomplish Kennedy’s objective in 1969 but, before attempting touchdown on the lunar surface, NASA needed a “trial run.” Project Gemini served this purpose and effectively bridged the Mercury and Apollo programs. Project Gemini was announced on Jan. 3, 1962. A two-man spacecraft that would be used for Gemini missions was under development at the time.

The objectives of Gemini were to subject astronauts to long-duration flights, to develop effective methods of rendezvous and docking with other orbiting vehicles and the maneuvering of docked vehicles in space, to perfect methods of reentry and landing at a preselected point, and to obtain greater insight on the impact of weightlessness on the crew during the longer flights. A little more than 5,800 “occupancy hours” are listed as Gemini support on the master log of test work conducted across AEDC test facilities.

Work to support the program included aerodynamic and propulsion tests. Although those involved were unaware at the time, work at AEDC, today known as Arnold Engineering Development Complex, that would eventually support the Gemini program can be traced back to the late 1950s when an early version of the Agena engine was installed in an AEDC test cell. The Agena target vehicle was an uncrewed spacecraft used during Project Gemini to develop space rendezvous and docking techniques in preparation for the subsequent Apollo missions. “Even the center’s early work on the Atlas, used to launch the Gemini-Agena target vehicle, can be considered part of the center’s contribution to the Gemini program,” states *Beyond the Speed of Sound*, a book detailing the history of AEDC. Before the first Gemini capsule was built, models of the proposed capsule were subjected to extreme reentry conditions in high-speed AEDC wind tunnels.

These tests helped direct the design and structure of the capsule and the ablative shield used to protect those inside upon entering Earth’s atmosphere. A full-scale, dynamic stage separation test was conducted for the first time in 1963 by simulating a Gemini mid-altitude abort using the retrorockets for stage separation and capsule escape during the boost phase of launch. During an abort, the manned capsule would essentially be pulled away from the booster. “The test simulated spacecraft retro abort at an altitude of 70,000 feet by firing a full-scale spacecraft afterbody (consisting of a heat shield and retrograde rocket system on a rail-borne carriage),” states *Beyond the Speed of Sound*. “The retrograde section of the Gemini adaptor section was separated from the equipment section by a linear-shaped charge and the retromotors accelerated the capsule system down the track. Spacecraft drag was simulated with a constant-force cylinder mechanism.” The Gemini escape system was subjected to additional testing at AEDC.

One such effort was conducted to determine the deployment, inflation and drag characteristics of a close-coupled ballute decelerator attached to a full-scale manikin. “The ballute system was intended to stabilize and decelerate the astronaut prior to parachute deployment in the Gemini emergency escape system,” *Beyond the Speed of Sound* states. “Deployments of the initial ballute configuration were unsuccessful. Various modifications were accomplished until two successful deployments were achieved. Drag levels for the configurations tested were now lower than required and no further modifications were necessary as determined by the contractor.”

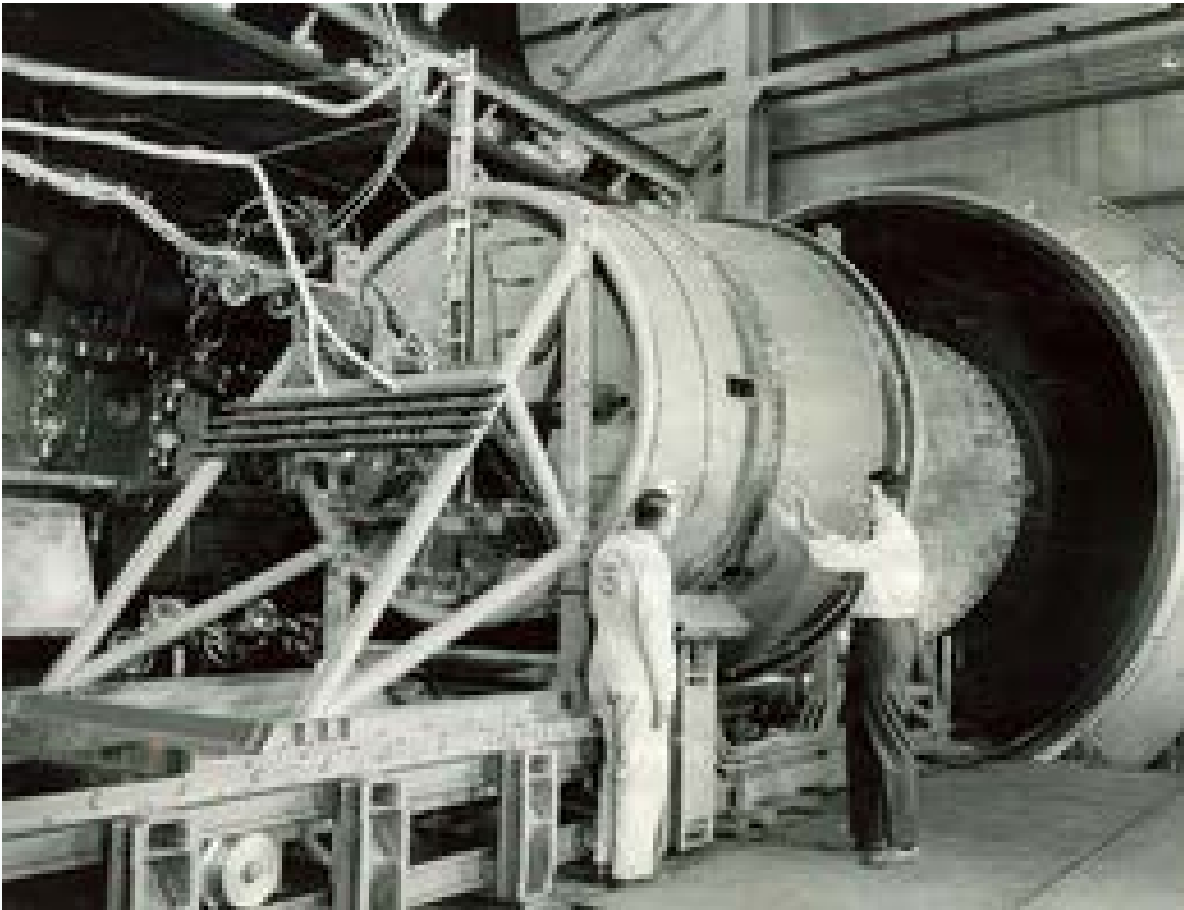
Testing of the Agena engine became a heavy focus at AEDC following failure of the target docking vehicle during the October 1965 Gemini 6 mission. An uncrewed Atlas-Agena target vehicle was launched but, after the Agena engine fired to separate it from the Atlas, the vehicle exploded. The mission was aborted. A program initiated by the Air Force and NASA known as “Sure Fire” was given top priority in the wake of this event. “Under a project called ‘Sure Fire,’ engineers and support personnel at the center worked around the clock to pinpoint the cause of that failure and to prove the reliability of ‘fixes’ that had been made in the engine’s fuel and electrical systems,” *Beyond the Speed of Sound* states.

The first test under the program occurred at AEDC on Feb. 7, 1966, and five additional tests were successfully conducted over two days. Analysis from the final firing indicated a need to make some minor adjustments to the engine, modified after Gemini 6, including replacement of the gas generator fuel valve and a change in the instrumentation lines. A checkout firing was started at a high altitude on Feb. 12, 1966. “Countdown was initiated, and all systems functioned normally until the point of ignition, at which time the engine failed,” *Beyond the Speed of Sound* states. “A ‘hard start’ caused the injector head to separate from the thrust chamber around the circumferential weld that joins the two.” With setbacks in the rearview, the first of more than 20 successful tests with the second Agena engine began on March 1, 1966.

The Agena engine that would put a target vehicle into orbit for rendezvous with Gemini 8 on March 16, 1966, passed the last of its ignition reliability and mission simulation tests at AEDC. In a final test run that lasted three minutes at simulated high altitudes, the engine performed perfectly. Following the one dozen Gemini flight missions that occurred from spring 1964 to fall 1966, then-AEDC Commander Brig. Gen. Lee Gossick commented on the Center’s support of the program. “The United States can be proud of its achievement in the Gemini program,” Gossick said. “There were minor difficulties, but the final tabulation stands at 12-for-12 – a perfect record that I’m sure was made possible to a large extent by the splendid test support provided by the Arnold Center.”

This is the 25th in a series of articles highlighting the history of Arnold Engineering Development Complex during its first 75 years. Additional articles will be published throughout 2026 to commemorate the anniversary of AEDC.

Source: <https://www.davidshub.net/news/575689/aedc-75-gemini-jumps-so-apollo-can-fly>



—Courtesy Photo | A full-scale replica of the Gemini adapter section and capsule base is prepared for simulated high altitude testing of the emergency abort system at what was then known as Arnold Engineering Development Center in 1963. Thousands of hours of testing were conducted at AEDC, today known as Arnold Engineering Development Complex, in the 1960s in support of the Project Gemini space program, the precursor to the Project Apollo program that landed man on the moon in 1969. (U.S. Air Force photo)

CHAPLAIN’S CORNER



I recently published a book about my family’s history entitled, *The McDaniel Effect: Faith, Family, and Fortitude*. It took three years of my life to accomplish, and the book begins in 1816 which is as far back as we can go to find records and official documents of our family. The book profiles 35 family members born between 1816 and 1943, and brought to light that of the 35, there were 13 McDaniels who served our nation in the Army, Navy, and Air Force.

From the subtitle “*Faith, Family, and Fortitude*,” I want to focus on the word “faith.” We hear this word routinely, but what does “faith” mean? So that we have a common definition as the basis for this article, faith must be put in biblical terms. Faith is certainty about God even when we are uncertain about the circumstances. Said another way, faith says, “*I may not understand what God is doing, but I trust the One who is doing it.*” Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., who was an ordained Baptist minister before becoming a civil rights leader, said, “Faith is taking the first step even when you don’t see the whole staircase.”

It was faith in our omnipotent God that gave rise to hope in my family that beyond slavery, limited education, the Civil War, surviving the period of reconstruction, systemic oppression, and the denial of civil rights, was a land where freedom, equality, and opportunity existed. A nation that would one day embrace former slaves and descendants of slaves as citizens with all the rights and privileges thereto appertaining. After three years of extensively studying the lives of those profiled in the book and documenting the beginning of our American story, I can say with confidence that faith – “certainty about God even when they were uncertain about the circumstances” – drove them to persevere. Faith caused the 13 McDaniels who served in our military to believe in the promise of their country enough to defend it, serving in places such as the Philippines, Germany, Korea, and in naval operations resulting in the awarding of the Navy Occupation Service Medal.

When it comes to MOAA’s work in behalf of the veteran’s community, it requires faith. Yes, time, money, commitment, teamwork, planning, goals, and other elements are necessary. But greater

than these elements, is faith. In order to take on some of the daunting challenges that confront the veteran’s community: homelessness, mental health conditions, addiction, job placement, and transition from military to civilian life, the chapter’s efforts are enlarged by a force multiplier. God is that force multiplier. He is the God that took two fish and five barley loaves and fed 5,000 men, not counting women and children (Matthew 14:13-21). The daunting and the formidable are not a challenge for Him. “Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us.” (Ephesians 3:20). Whatever our goals and aspirations may be, God is able to do exponentially more and exceed our wildest expectations.

In the Chaplain’s Corner we get to say what we are not always able to say in the flow of meetings and luncheons and conferences. In order for our programs and initiatives to have serious impact, and if the lives of the veterans in the Tampa region that we are serving are to truly change, it will only come at the hand of the One who has life changing power. We must have the faith that if we take the first step, we can achieve legislative victories, inspire future servicemen and women through JROTC partnerships, build greater capacity for successful veterans support services, and encourage the lives of veterans and their families, “even when we don’t see the whole staircase.” Not faith in general, but faith in God who is the only One who can transform a life and has the power to take what our mortal hands have done and overlay His mighty hands to achieve outcomes we never thought possible!

It was by faith that Noah heeded God’s warning and built the ark to the exact dimensions required by God in order to save his family from the flood. It was by faith that Abraham obeyed when he was called to go to a land that was to be an inheritance, even though he had no idea where he was going. And it was by faith that Moses took on the colossal task of orchestrating the Israelites freedom from hundreds of years of bondage and departure from Egypt. With God, the ark was successfully built, and Noah and his family survived the flood, Abraham arrived at the promised land of Canaan, and Moses led over 2 million people out of Egypt. If we have the faith and are faithful to our MOAA mission, God is a rewarder of faithfulness.

Corvelli McDaniel, CPT (former) USA

Lost in 1950, Korean War Soldier comes home to Pennsylvania for Final Rest

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

U.S. Army Human Resources Command
Story by [Daniela Vestal](#)

Date: 09.25.2026 | Posted: 09.25.2026 13:42 | News ID: 575696

FORT KNOX, Ky. – The remains of U.S. Army Pfc. Albert H. Faust, 17, killed during the Korean War, will be interred Oct. 2 at Indiantown Gap National Cemetery in Annville, Pennsylvania. Service and interment are being coordinated by Lamm & Witman Funeral Home.

In late 1950, Faust was a member of Battery B, 57th Field Artillery Battalion, 7th Infantry Division. He was reported missing in action Dec. 6, 1950, near the Jangjin (Chosin) Reservoir, Democratic People’s Republic of Korea.

The U.S. Army did not receive any information to indicate that he was ever held as a Prisoner of War and on Dec. 31, 1953, issued a presumptive finding of death. He was declared non-recoverable on Jan. 16, 1956

The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency accounted for Faust on May 29, 2025.

For more information on DPAA’s efforts to locate and identify Faust, please visit: https://www.dpaa.mil/News-Stories/ID-Announcements/Article/4207118/soldier-accounted-for-from-korean-war-faust-a/

U.S. Army Human Resources Command’s Past Conflict Repatriations Branch plays a vital role in the process of identifying, locating and contacting subsequent generation family members of



Soldiers missing or killed in action during WWII and the Korean War to positively identify previously undiscovered or unknown remains.

Media interested in covering and/or obtaining more information about the funeral and interment should contact Lamm & Witman Funeral Home, 610-678-3461.

Source: <https://www.dvidshub.net/news/575696/lost-1950-korean-war-soldier-comes-home-pennsylvania-final-rest>

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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!
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