Volume 53, Issue 8 August 2014

Award Winning

- **Newsletter**
- Website
- Legislative

Reports





PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE Dr. Bruce T. Robinson, MAJ, USA, Ret



Hi Everyone -

Our annual golf tournament is fast approaching. It will be held on 29 August at the Links at Redstone. The tournament is the chapter's primary fund raising activity, and all proceeds go towards our scholarship program. Get your registrations in **now!** We are still in need of sponsors, door prizes and your donated items. If you know of any businesses that might be interested in sponsoring the tournament, please let me know. Also, be sure to tell your friends and associates about the tournament - it is open to all. You can download a flyer from the chapter website.

In response to a note I sent out a month or so ago about starting a "Spouses Column" in *The Sentinel*, Jan Camp answered the call. You can see her anecdote on page 16. Now that the ice has been broken, let's get some additional articles rolling in. The subject matter is pretty much unlimited.

Also inside is an update on the 2015 Alabama State MOAA Convention which planned for April of next year. The Montgomery Chapter and the Alabama Council of Chapters have been hard at work planning what should be an excellent event. I plan to include periodic updates in the newsletter as information becomes available.

Finally, we have an outstanding guest speaker this month. Our Congressional Representative, Mo Brooks, will be our guest at the Membership Meeting on 27 August. With all of the issues facing our country, our military and our veterans – this should be a timely and informative session. Congressman Brooks will take your questions, so come prepared. We have also opened this meeting up to the affiliates of the North Alabama Veterans and Fraternal Organizations Coalition (NAVFOC), so we should have a larger than normal turnout.

- Bruce

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REMINDERS

Monthly Membership Meeting: The next meeting is Wednesday, 27 August 2014, 1100 at the Summit Club. The guest speaker will be Congressman Mo Brooks.

Auxiliary, WOW Support Group & MOAA Widow's Luncheon are scheduled. See articles inside for dates & times.

Breakfast: Next breakfast is Saturday 30 August 2014, 0900 hours at the Steak & Shake Madison Square Mall.

Governing Board: Next meeting is Thursday 14 August 2014, 1100 hours at the Summit Club.



Legislative Corner Lt Col Gerald W. (Jerry) Haynes, USAF-Ret



"Visit Your Legislatures in August 2014"

This is the theme of National MOAA in the month of August. Congress must make some big decisions in the second half of this year. The full House and the Senate Armed Services Committee (SASC) completed their respective drafts of the FY 2015 defense authorization bill. We are helping to make easier for you to visit your House Representative in the Huntsville Chapter if you live in House District 5 of Alabama. Congressman Mo Brooks will be the guest speaker at our general membership meeting on 27 August 2014 at 11:00 AM at the Summit Club on Redstone Arsenal. The meeting will include a Buffet Lunch-\$15 cash or check only. If planning to attend please RSVP by 22 August to our President, Bruce Robinson at: brobinso@mitre.org or 256-450-3191.

Plan now to attend and bring your questions. In particular national is providing "fact sheets" for guidance on what they consider some of the leading issues that the Congress will have to come to grips with during the next session. You can review those in detail on the National MOAA website http://www.moaa.org/augustrecess/. The SASC-passed version of the defense bill would make a number of cuts to pay and benefits proposed by the administration, including:

- 1. Capping the FY 2015 military pay raise at 1 percent, 0.8 percent below the increase dictated by current law to keep pace with private sector pay growth;
- 2. Increasing Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) out-of-pocket costs for service members by five percent over the next three years;
- 3. Dramatically increasing TRICARE pharmacy copayments over next ten years and require all beneficiaries to refill maintenance medications via the mail-order pharmacy.

However, the House passed version of the defense bill REJECTS all the cuts. So, you can see our real work is to convince the Senate to reject the cuts. Thus, we need to insure that Senators Richard Shelby and Jeff Sessions hear from us. To assist in your letters, faxes and emails, be sure to review the Fact Sheets at

http://www.moaa.org/augustrecess/#sthash.Ow8eOzT6.dpuf

Continued on page 8

2013-2014 GOVERNING BOARD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President: MAJ Bruce T. Robinson USA-Ret, 256-450-3191, brobinso@mitre.org

1st Vice President: COL Norb Patla, USA-Ret, 256-890-3340, norbpatla@otelco.net

2nd Vice President: Lt Col Charles T. Clements, USAF-Ret, 256-450-3610, <u>charles.clements@mda.mil</u>

Secretary: Col Don Kimminau, USAF-Ret, 256-489-5880, don.kimminau@gmail.com

Treasurer: CAPT Richard C. West, USN-Ret, 256-776-6901, rick675@hughes.net

Army Representative: LTC Arno Hoerle, USA-Ret, 256-837-6253, arhoerle@mediacombb.net

Navy Representative: CW4 Louis J. Kubik, USMC-Ret, 256-859-3054, <u>lkubik@mediacombb.net</u>

Air Force Representative: Col Edward L. Uher, USAF-Ret, 256-882-6824, biged992K@aol.com

Immediate Past President: Temporarily Vacant

Second Past President: Maj Glenn S. Crawley, USAF-Ret, 256-883-2323, <u>glenncrawley@comcast.net</u>

STANDING COMMITTEES

Membership: CDR John Inman, USN-Ret, 256-425-8022, inman331@msn.com

Programs: LTC Earl Freeman, USA-Ret, 256-479-6735, earl1906@gmail.com

Legislative Affairs: Lt Col Gerald Haynes, USAF-Ret, 256-882-7857, jerry15@hiwaay.net

Personal Affairs: COL Bill Stevenson, USA-Ret, 256-424-1334, mrbill5779@comcast.net

Public Affairs (Publicity): CH (COL) Danny W. Burttram, USA-Ret, 256-651- 6378, <u>dburttram198@gmail.com</u>

Chapter Historian: Vacant

Chapter Auxiliary & Hospitality: Mrs. Carrie Hightower, 256-882-3992

Finance (Budget): CDR Robert Rolf, USN-Ret, 256-206-6164, rolf@att.net

Constitution and By-Laws: Maj Glenn S. Crawley, USAF-Ret, 256-883-2323, glenncrawley@comcast.net

Audit: MAJ Robert C. Szeremi, USA-Ret, 256-883-5127, szeremi@comcast.net

Chapter Chaplain: CH (LTC) Bert E. Wiggers, AUS-Ret, 256-617-0055, <u>chbwig@mediacombb.net</u>

Commissary & Post Exchange: Col Gerald C. Maxwell, USAFR, 256-606-5282, gerald.c.maxwell@nasa.gov

FAHC Liaison: Col Edward L. Uher, USAF-Ret, 256-882-6824, biged992K@aol.com

Golf: CDR John Inman, USN-Ret, 256-425-8802, inman331@msn.com

ROTC: Lt Col Charles Clements, USAF-Ret, 256-450-3610, <u>charles.clements@mda.mil</u>

TOPS: MAJ Bruce T. Robinson, USA-Ret, 256-450-2252, brobinso@mitre.org

THE SENTINEL Editor: MAJ Bruce T. Robinson, USA-Ret, 256-450-2252, <u>brobinso@mitre.org</u>

Life Membership Trust

MAJ Robert C. Szeremi, USA-Ret, 256-883-5127, szeremi@comcast.net (June 2017)

CH (COL) Danny W. Burttram, USA-Ret, 256-651-6378, dburttram198@gmail.com (July 2015)

LTC John C. Franks, USA-Ret, 703-489-2701, john.franks@ingenuityinc.net (July 2016)



PX / Commissary Col Gerald C. Maxwell, USAFR



At the Main Redstone Exchange: The Exchange values your opinion! Please take a moment to tell them how they are doing. Please take our survey at <u>www.ExchangeCustomerSurvey.com</u>. Take the survey and log in to register for a chance to win Sweepstakes Prizes.

Tickets are on sale at the Redstone Exchange for the 4th Annual Rhythms Brew & BBQ Festival that will be Saturday August 23rd. Musical artists for this concert include Ledisi, Brian Culbertson, Tony! Toni! Tone!, and Tucka! We are also selling tickets for the Darius Rucker Concert for August 24th. Visit Customer Service to purchase your tickets.

Please be patient while the renovations continue at the Redstone Exchange. Please feel free to ask a sales associate if you cannot find what you are looking for!

At The Shoppette: Rug Doctor is now available at the Redstone Express. Retirees Appreciation Day Tent Sale will be 18-20 September 2014. Check out our monthly promotions and save!!

At The Commissary: August-meat back to school sale, watermelon promos, grocery wacky Wednesday sale (Sales Reps Deleted items are sold at a great price for our Patrons), August 26th is Women's equality day. September – Labor Day promos on meats, butts and ribs, case lot sales 18-20 September, September 19th RAD (Retirees Appreciation Day), National Honey month promo, Hispanic Heritage month promo (promotion & demo of Hispanic food).

TRICARE Prime® Enrollment Fees for Fiscal Year 2015

TRICARE Prime enrollment fees are changing for fiscal year 2015 (Oct. 1, 2014–Sept. 30, 2015) for retired service members and their eligible family members, survivors and former spouses. The annual fee for an individual beneficiary will be \$277.92 and the annual fee for beneficiary family coverage will be \$555.84. There are no TRICARE Prime enrollment fees for active duty service members and active duty family members. For details or more information, visit www.tricare.mil/costs.

Need Addresses

Mrs. Jean Brauer Mrs. Neida Creech LTC Wallace Johnson LTC Edward Murphy

We have lost track of the above members. If you know their whereabouts, please have them contact Chris Downing at 256-828-9740 to update their addresses.

Concerns

This month the following people were reported as being ill or recuperating and need our support and prayers:

None this Month

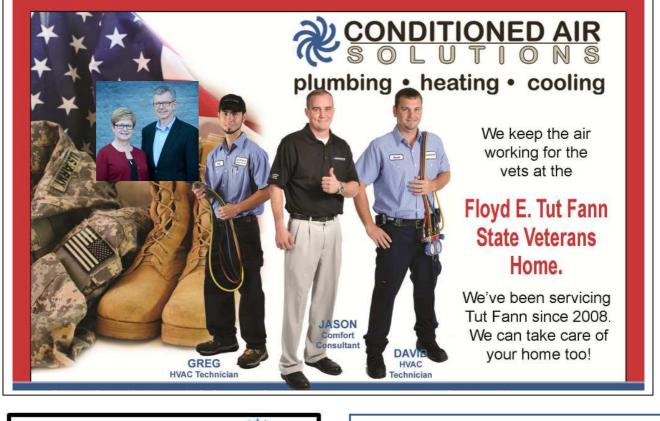
Persons to contact are:

Army Representative: LTC Arno Hoerle 256-837-6253 arhoerle@mediacombb.net

Navy/USMC Representative: **CW4 Louis J. Kubik** 256-859-3054 lkubik@mediacombb.net

Air Force Representative: Col Edward L. Uher 256-882-6824 biged992K@aol.com

Personal Affairs Officer COL William Stevenson 256-424-1334 Mrbill5779@comcast.net



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Carrie's Notes Mrs. Carrie Hightower, 256-882-3992

MOAA Auxiliary

Once again, the attendance was light in July. Maybe with the summer coming to an end, our group will return to normal. Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, August 18th, at 9:30 AM

WOW Support Group

I hope everyone is having a great summer. We will resume our regular monthly meetings in September. The date and place will be announced next month.



Fox Army Health Center Col Edward L. Uher, USAF-Ret



Know Your TRICARE Payment Options

If you pay a premium for your TRICARE Prime plan, remember you have safe, convenient options that ensure you will not miss a payment or default on your coverage options. There are three automatic monthly payment choices. Find the one that best suits your needs:

- Have payments allotted from your retirement pay. To sign up, complete the Allotment Authorization Letter electronic form.
- Authorize an electronic funds transfer (EFT) from your bank account each month. To sign up online, complete the Electronic Funds Transfer Authorization Form (EFT).
- Set up a recurring monthly charge to your credit card. To sign up, print out the Auto Charge Request Form and submit it by mail or fax using the instructions on the form.

To make your selection, go to Humana-Military.com, select "Beneficiary" and then under the "Quick Links" menu, click "TRICARE Forms." Payment forms are located in the "Enrollment Related" section.

Completing the electronic forms online is easy. Enter your identification information into the appropriate online form and click "Submit" to begin the process. Then follow the prompts to complete the request. After Humana Military has successfully set up the requested payment, you will receive a confirmation e-mail.

Remember, recurring premium payments must be made either by credit card or by monthly automatic deductions. Checks are acceptable only for the initial TRICARE Prime enrollment fee.

Continued on page 9

FIND OUT WHY 92% OF **USAA MEMBERS** PLAN TO STAY FOR LIFE.

USAA Auto Insurance. Save up to 15% when you garage on base!

At USAA, our commitment to serve the military community is without equal. We understand military life. Just one reason our members are as loyal to us as we are to them.



* GET A QUOTE. usaa.com/insurance or 800-531-8722

92% based on 2014 member communications trend survey. 'This is a reduction in your premium for Comprehensive coverage, except in CA, where it also applies to your premium for Collision coverage. Not available in MA and NY. Other restrictions apply. Use of the term "member" or "membership" does not convey any eligibility rights for auto and property insurance products or legal or ownership rights in USAA. Ownership rights are limited to eligible policyholders of United Services Automobile Association. "Honorably served" means a discharge type of "honorable." Membership and product eligibility and underwriting restrictions apply and are subject to change. Eligible former dependents of USAA members may purchase auto or property insurance if the member obtained USAA auto or property insurance. Automobile insurance provided by United Services Automobile Association. USAA Casualty Insurance Company, USAA General Indemnity Company, Garrison Property and Casualty Insurance Company, and USAA County Mutual Insurance Company, San Antonio, TX, and is available only to persons eligible for P&C group membership. Each company has sole financial responsibility for its own products. © 2014 USAA. 206225-0614



Chaplain's Corner CH (LTC) Bert Wiggers, AUS-Ret

"Fight the Good Fight"

Fight the good fight of faith; take hold of the eternal life to which you were called, and you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. (1Timothy 6:12, NASV)

The Gulf War was a showcase of readiness. Each day's broadcasts usually contained a segment of how tank mechanics, flight crews, soldier and other military personnel took extreme caution to clean and repair their individual tools for the battles.

Fighting a spiritual war involves similar painstaking preparations. We cannot participate and enjoy the spoils of Christ's victory over Satan without personal cleansing from sin. The Bible calls this repentance. It means we turn away for behavior that disobeys God's commands. Also we must practice what is right in His eyes. Daily we need to confess our sins. Like abrasive desert sand, sin clogs our fellowship with the Father, disrupting our clear sense of His direction and creating static in our relationship with Him. The all-important line of communication with the Commander of your salvation is garbled, making victory difficult. Repentance will not happen until we are serious about sin. See it as God does. Hate it as He does. Understand its disabling effects on you. And we must always remember: "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (1 John 1:9, NASV)





MOAA Widow's Luncheon Liz Townsend 256-721-9762

8 August 2014

The MOAA widow's luncheon will be held on Friday, 8 August, at Mezza Luna, 2724 Carl T. Jones Drive, Huntsville, phone 256-650-2514.

Fran Tyra will be our hostess. We will meet at 11:00 AM.

Please call the telephone committee: Fran Tyra, 256-881-6938 for reservations.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS TO HUNTSVILLE CHAPTER MOAA

None this Month

HCMOAA is reporting time spent on volunteer activities to Redstone Arsenal. Please keep track of your volunteer hours throughout the month and report them to Ray Weinberg at 256-885-0089 or ray.kw@juno.com.

Scholarships



The Chapter has instituted an active scholarship program. In conjunction with the Redstone Women's Club, we will issue one or more scholarship each year to a deserving student.

Please consider making a donation to our program. Contact Norb Patla for details.

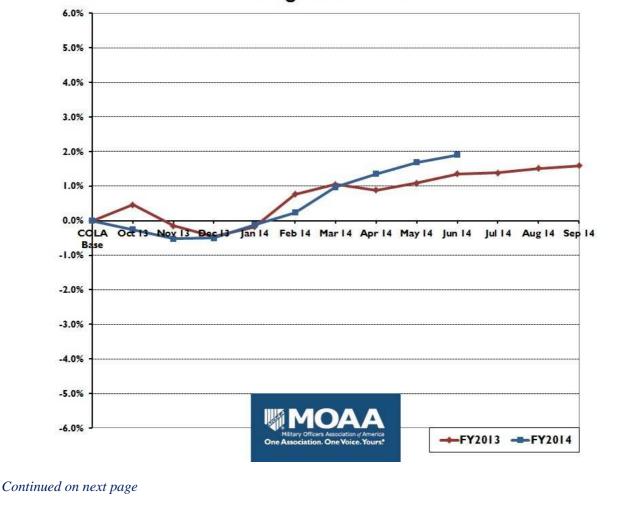
Legislative - continued from page 2

Good Enough for YOU but not for ME!

For the second year, Congressional lawmakers from both parties are engaged in behind the scenes talks with the aim of exempting lawmakers and their aides from the insurance exchanges mandated by President Obama's signature health-care overhaul, the Affordable Care Act. "If Capitol Hill leaders move forward with the plan," according to the report, "they risk being dubbed hypocrites by their political rivals and the American public. By removing themselves from a key Obamacare component, lawmakers and aides would be held to a different standard than the people who put them in office." With this in the minds of the voting citizens, we may find many new House of Representatives and Senators this coming election season for our government. As good citizens, make your voice heard on this absurd policy.

COLA Watch (for those of you who care about that sort of thing)

The Consumer Price Index increased another 0.2 percent in June, rising to 234.702 and now stands 1.9 percent above the FY2014 COLA Baseline of 230.327:



Change in Inflation

Legislative – continued from previous page

A Ban on Russian Arms Firms under Consideration Could Harm US Troops

Shortly after the President slapped sanctions on several Russian arms firms over the Ukraine conflict and the downing of the commercial airline over the Russian/Ukraine border, a top U.S. General Officer warned that a Congressional bid to bar dealings with Moscow's main weapons exporters could be catastrophic for U.S. forces. Why? USMC General Joseph Dunford, commander of U.S. forces in Afghanistan, said 88 Russian helicopters the Pentagon is buying for Afghan security forces were critical for protecting U.S. troops that remain in the country after the end of this year. Why in the world are we purchasing helicopters from Russia and contributing to their economy and military industry when we have helicopters in Afghanistan that we could leave with qualified mechanics and pilots to teach the Afghans how to fly our own helicopters. Then we could replace the ones left with Afghanistan forces with new American made helicopters for our own forces. Make your voice heard on this issue!!

10 Ways TRICARE Self-Service on the Web Makes Life Easier

Humana Military knows you're busy and you want information available to you on your terms. Humana Military and TRICARE are here to help. The secure self-service page for beneficiaries on Humana-Military.com provides you instant access to eligibility, referrals and claims information and much more. It's quick, easy, 100 percent secure and available when you need it. By accessing the secure self-service page, you can see your profile and family information and perform many of the services formerly provided at a TRICARE Service Center.

Go to Humana-Military.com, click on "Beneficiary" then "Self-Service" to register for self-service access. You can also use your Department of Defense Self-Service Logon (DS Logon) to gain access. For more information about getting a DS Logon, visit <u>https://myaccess.dmdc.osd.mil</u>. However, once you enter the secure self-service site with your DS Logon, you will no longer be able to log in using your "Self-Service for Beneficiaries" account.

Once you create your account on Humana-Military.com, you will be able to:

- 1. Check eligibility for you and your family members
- 2. Make a TRICARE Prime enrollment fee payment
- 3. Set up recurring payments
- 4. Change your primary care manager
- 5. Check referral and authorization status
- 6. View recent communications
- 7. View your self-service history
- 8. Check your plan year deductible and catastrophic cap amount
- 9. Check claims
- 10. Find links for network providers and compare hospital quality

This page also displays current helpful information that could affect you or a family member, so explore your online self-service options today.

2015 Alabama State MOAA Convention





The Montgomery Chapter, with help from the Alabama Council, is organizing the 2015 Convention.

The Riverboat Harriott II will sail Friday, April 24, 2015 for a fantastic Sunset cruise on the Alabama River. You will enjoy the sights accompanied by three musical venues and super food while visiting with your fellow Alabama MOAA members. Afterwards, the downtown entertainment area awaits.

The Saturday agenda is filling up as well.

There will be AM and PM business/information sessions and lunch. COL Barry Wright, MOAA Director of Council and Chapter Affairs, will lead one of the sessions. The other session will be devoted to Council President Charlie Marvin and MOAA Board member Dick Erickson reporting on the 2015 "Storming the Hill".

Various activities for the spouses are planned on Saturday, to include lunch.

Saturday dinner will feature guest speaker MOAA President VADM Norb Ryan and light entertainment following a no host cocktail hour.

Sunday morning will be highlighted by a Memorial breakfast and special service.

Invitations have or will be extended to Senator Sessions, Admiral Clyde Marsh (SBVA), Governor Bentley, and Lt Governor Ivey to speak at the business sessions or Saturday Lunch.

Last, but certainly most important, income must be raised through advertising sales, monetary donations and sponsorships in order to hold individual registration fees at a minimum. Call Lew Nyman at 334-273-9655, or email to <u>Inyman@knology.net</u> with your offer to assist with fund raising.

There will be more specifics on the agenda and social events as the planning moves forward.

3rd Annual Scholarship Golf Tournament

Our 3rd Annual Scholarship Golf Tournament is scheduled for 29 August at the Links at Redstone. All of the proceeds go to fund our scholarship program. Last year we raised \$2000 for merit awards. We would like to top that this year. We could use your help in multiple ways. If you are a golfer (or know someone who is) – sign up to play. We are in need of items to be used in our silent auction or as door prizes – when you are dining out, shopping, getting your car fixed, or whatever else in town, ask the manager if he/she would like to support the cause with coupons, gift cards or merchandise. Letters are available if requested by a business. Finally, we are asking members to donate items in support of the tournament – a list of needed items has been distributed, along with drop-off locations. Sign-up forms and sponsor forms are available on the Chapter website. Contact our golf chair, John Inman, with any questions or to help out.



August Membership Meeting 27 August at 11 AM Summit Club

Congressman Mo Brooks (R-AL)

On November 6, 2012, Congressman Mo Brooks (R-AL) was re-elected as the Representative for Alabama's 5th Congressional District. He proudly represents the people of North Alabama and serves on three important committees: Armed Services, Science, Space, and Technology, and Foreign Affairs.

As a sophomore member, Congressman Brooks is highly active and engaged in representing the interests of the 5th District. Brooks supports America's missile defense technologies; he introduced successful legislation in 2011 and 2012 that blocked the White House from sharing classified missile technologies with Russia, and was adapted into the National Defense Authorization Act in FY2012. Rep. Brooks is also a vocal opponent of sequestration, voting against the Budget Control Act and called upon Administration officials to account for the consequences of sequestration in a HASC Strategic Forces Subcommittee hearing on April 18, 2012.

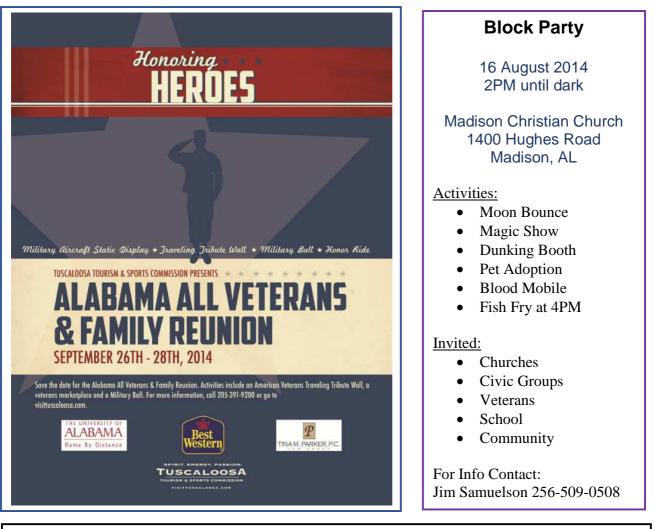
During his first year on the Hill, Brooks founded and became co-chairman of the Army Aviation Caucus, a forum in which Members of Congress, staff, and Army leadership raise awareness for Army Aviation and seek to affect legislative priorities. The Caucus now includes more than 50 members and is one of the most active caucuses on Capitol Hill.

Rep. Brooks graduated from Grissom High School in 1972 (where he was all-city in baseball and an active member on two state championship debate teams). He graduated from Duke University in three years with a double major in political science and economics, with highest honors in economics. In 1978, he graduated from the University of Alabama Law School.

After graduation, Rep. Brooks worked as a prosecutor in the Tuscaloosa District Attorney's office, where he built a solid "tough-on-crime" reputation. Rep. Brooks left the Tuscaloosa District Attorney's office in 1980 to return to Huntsville as a law clerk for the presiding Circuit Court Judge. In 1982, Brooks was elected to the Alabama House of Representatives, and was reelected in 1983, 1986, and 1990. While in the legislature, he was elected Republican House Caucus Chairman three times and was ranked number one (out of 140 legislators) by the Alabama Taxpayers' Defense Fund in the fight to protect family incomes from higher taxes.

In 1991, Brooks was appointed Madison County District Attorney. In 1996, he ran for the Madison County Commission and unseated an eight-year incumbent Republican. He was reelected to the Commission in 2000, 2004, and 2008.

In 1976, Mo Brooks married Martha Jenkins of Toledo; they met at Duke University. Martha graduated from the University of Alabama with an accounting degree. She later retired as a certified public accountant and obtained a math and education major from the University of Alabama in Huntsville in 2005. She taught math at Whitesburg Middle School. Mo and Martha are the proud parents of four children and grandparents of five grandchildren. Rep. Brooks was first elected to the U.S. House of Representatives on November 2, 2010.



JOIN THE GOING AWAY PARTY FOR CRIME

Huntsville Police Department and Huntsville Community Watch Association are hosting a free celebration to prevent crime.

National Night Out will feature a Veteran's Walk, children's activities, live music, and vendors. The event will be held on Tuesday, August 5 from 5-7 p.m. at the Jaycee's Building (2180 Airport Road).

Other activities include a drunk driving course for golf carts, slides, and the SWAT truck. Vendors include WZYP, Target, Domino's Pizza and Home Depot.

"National Night Out helps prevent crime through neighborhood revitalization," said Officer Johnny Hollingsworth. "We're giving crime a going away party with the help of the community."

The Veteran's Walk will be presented by Healthy Huntsville, an initiative led by Mayor Battle to reduce obesity by promoting healthy eating and active lifestyles.

National Night Out began in 1984 as a way for communities to learn crime prevention techniques and band together against crime. National Night Out involves more than 37.8 million people each year and is celebrated throughout all 50 states, U.S. territories, Canada, and military bases worldwide. Approximately 800 people attended Huntsville's celebration last year.

MOAA		Huntsville Chapter Military Officers Association of America P.O. Box 1301 Huntsville, AL 35807-0301				
		Application or R		mation		
New	60033600 	Renewal				
One year \$10.00 2 years \$20.00 3 years \$30.00	e,	Interested in a Chapter Life Membership? Contact us for pricing (based on your age)				
First Name		MI	Last Name		_	
Preferred Name	1	Birthday	Spouse's Name		Period(s) of Active Duty i.e. 1965 - 1990	
Grade	33 <u>-</u>	Branch of Service	MOAA National Me	embership Number		
Active Re	tired	Former Officer	Reserve	NG	Surviving Spouse	
Mailing Address		5	City		State	Zip Code
Telephone Number		R	Email address		_	



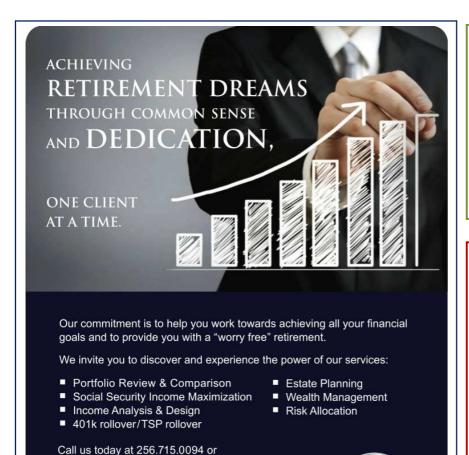
MOAA Connect

MOAA's Social Media Application

Go to <u>www.moaa.org</u>, and on the pulldown menu "Connect with MOAA" select "MOAA Connect"

Set up your profile, and begin collaborating with MOAA members across the country

Give it a try!



visit our website at www.cloudfinancial.com.

ment advice is offered by Horter Investment Management, LLC, a ment Adviser. Insurance and annuity products are sold separately th cial, Inc. Securities transactions for Horter Investment Managemen d through Pershing Advisor Solutions, Trust Company of Americ nal Monument Advisor, Fidelity, Security Benefit Life, and Wells Fargo

STRATEGY. ETHICS. PERFORMANCE.

Membership Statistics

Total Members: 449 Auxiliary Members: 74 Life Members: 244

New this month: 0 Deaths this month: 1 Renewals: 0

Armed Forces Week

2–9 August 2014

Free or discounted admissions to attractions for active or retired military I.D. card holders and families are offered by:

- Huntsville Museum of Art
- U.S. Space and Rocket
 Center
- Burritt on the Mountain
- Early Works Museum
 Complex
- Sci-Quest Hands-on Science Center
- Huntsville Botanical Garden

Army "Pink Slip" Details Emerge

Earlier this week, Army officials provided greater clarity behind its ongoing involuntary drawdown efforts with MOAA and other major veteran and military service organizations. The announcement followed swift negative reaction by the press and legislators when various "pink slip" news stories surfaced regarding the way the Army handled the notification of nearly 1,200 officers involuntarily selected to separate - some while deployed combat zones.

Army officials emphasized that leaders were involved in the notification process. The 87 deployed captains (O-3), once notified, immediately received "change of mission" orders and will be out of country within 30 days. They were given the choice to either return to home duty station or to a transition location of choice and given 10 months to separate.

These separations are just one method the Army is undertaking to bring their active duty force down from 570,000 members to 490,000 by 2015. Enlisted drawdown efforts will largely be adjusted by reducing the accession pipeline but more officers can expect pink slips early next month when the involuntary separation board results are released for majors (O-4).

The Army is in a difficult predicament. Sequestration and other budget cuts have led to significant end strength reductions that hit the Army and Marine Corps hardest.

40 Birthdays in August Happy Birthday!



COL John Rivenburgh, USA Mrs Carrie Hightower MAJ John Yelverton, USA Lt Col Ronald Harvey, USAF Mrs Doris Prince LTC Merrill Rising, USA LTC Henry Arnold, USA COL William Holbrook, USA Mrs Martha Delaney MAJ Michael Wood, USA COL Michael Barron, USA COL Richard Dean, USA COL William Roberts, USA COL Thomas Sharp, USA LTC Norman Hopkins, USA Mrs Marjorie Hines COL George Sisson Jr, USA LCDR Harold Swanson, USN Louis Kubik, USMC MAJ Richard Quinones, USA

BG Eric Smith, USA Mr Alvin Jupiter CAPT James Newman, USN Col Frederick Driesbach, USAF COL Ruford Fowler, USA LTC Philip Bradley, USA MAJ Warner Davis, USA Mrs Margot Snyder COL Joseph Goss Jr, USA LTC Richard Carter, USA LTC Patrick Conner, USA Lt Col Robert Reville, USAF CH (MAJ) Frank Turnbow, USA COL Ronald Crowley, USA Mrs Helen Wilson CPT Camden Kent Jr, USA Capt William Jackson, USMC LTC Richard Sorrell, USACW\$ Mrs Carol Freyder COL Ronald Funderburk, USA





COL Charles Perry, USA

Our deepest sympathy to the families of our departed friends

MEMORIALS

If you would like to send a memorial contribution to the Huntsville Chapter MOAA, please send the following information along with your check to: Memorials, HCMOAA, P.O. Box 1301, Huntsville, AL 35807

In memory of:

By:

Treasurer's Report CAPT Richard West, USN

For the Month of May 2014

Beginning Balance	\$14922.14
Credits	2723.00
Debits	2303.82

Ending Balance \$15341.32





P.O. Box 1301 Huntsville, AL 35807-0301

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Spousal Anecdote

by Jan Camp

This comes under the category of helping an uncooperative husband make the right decision:

Many long years ago when Howard and I were middle aged and stupid, we spent a great deal of time on our Honda motorcycle, both locally and across the country. It's exhilarating to blast off into the unknown (or familiar) with the wind blowing into your face as you experience a feeling of freedom from the confines of a car. We loved it.

One day while touring the top of Monte Sano after enjoying a lovely lunch complete with copious amounts of sweet tea, it became apparent to me that Monte Sano had very few public rest rooms. We did finally find one for which i will be eternally grateful. However, while touring the mountain, Mother Nature reassured me she was still in charge and I asked Howard to find another rest room. He said he'd do the best he could and just kept on driving toward the downhill side of the mountain. I again strongly stated my situation and was told he was trying.

This became a situation where I felt I had to state my position in a logical manner. "Howard, I said ... I need to use the rest room. Look at it this way ... we're heading down hill. I'm perched on the seat behind you and i have to go. You know that liquid runs downhill. It's your call."

It worked.