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August 2023



Huntsville Chapter  
Military Officers Association of America

# The Sentinel

Huntsvillemoaa.org



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CAPT Richard C. West, USN (Ret.)

Greetings all!

Welcome to another great edition of the Sentinel newsletter! Sit down, turn the A/C up and enjoy reading a lot of good information!

Our next meeting is August 21<sup>st</sup>. Our guest speaker will be **Representative Dale Strong**. His schedule is packed, so we moved the August meeting to a Monday at the Summit Club, starting at the usual 1030. **RSVPs are open!** Send them to me at [rickw675@att.net](mailto:rickw675@att.net) or call 256.776.6901 (landline!). With all that is going on in our country, this should be a very informative meeting! Note: Rep. Strong has a commitment right after our meeting, so we'll work the meeting schedule around his departure time – meet and greet is still at 1030 and lunch at 1100 (maybe 1055).

Several of us have been busy with the only other event on the Chapter's plate now – the golf tournament. I repeat the following 2 paragraphs from last month's newsletter:

“As many of you know, our fund-raising cycle has begun in earnest. Our 2023 Scholarship Fund golf tournament is scheduled for September 8<sup>th</sup> at The Links at Redstone. The Golf Committee is fully engaged in seeking sponsors and donations for the tournament and the silent Auction.

I know that many of you, due to work conflicts, summer commitments and just plain demographics, can't participate in the committee or the tournament. No problem! We know and understand and appreciate your situation. One way that you can still help is to send **donations** to **HCMOAAASF** at our **P.O. Box**. Please indicate that the donation is for the fund and whether you wish to remain anonymous or not as a donor.”

We are still looking for more sponsors/donors and more players – we have just over a month left! Let's all work to make this a big success! And as always, many thanks to all of you for being members of the **biggest and BEST MOAA Chapter in Alabama!**

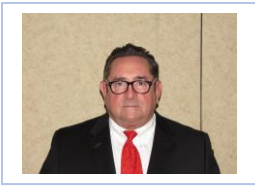
Have a happy and safe August! Watch out for those young ones heading back to school!

Rick

***The next member meeting is on 21 August – the guest speaker is the Honorable Dale Strong, member of Congress***

<b><u>In This Issue</u></b>			
President's Message	1	Membership Application	11
Legislative Corner	2 & 9	Golf Tournament Info	12
Concerns	3	Guest Speaker	13
PX/Commissary	3 & 12	Birthdays	14
Advertisements	4, 6 & 12	TAPS	15
Fox Army Health Clinic	5	Chapter Objectives	16
Surviving Spouse Luncheon	7	Important Dates	17
Surviving Spouse Corner	7		
Chaplain's Corner	8 & 14		
Membership Statistics	8		
Treasurer's Report	10		

*Note: National MOAA and the Huntsville Chapter are non-partisan organizations*



## Legislative Corner

### Lt Col Charles Clements, USAF-Ret

**Take  
Action**

→ <http://www.moaa.org/takeaction/>



“All politics is local.”

The Alabama Legislature this year approved several bills related to the military, its members and their families. The bills signed into law this year were:

- **House Bill 44** by Rep. Chris Blackshear, R-Phenix City, expands the Military Stability Commission to include representatives from Fort Moore, previously named Fort Benning. In Columbus, Georgia, Fort Moore provides 4,346 jobs in Alabama’s Russell and Lee counties.
- **Senate Bill 17** by Sen. Tom Butler, R-Madison, requires that all state references to the United States Armed Forces should include the United States Space Force.
- **Senate Bill 37** by Senator Sam Givhan, R-Huntsville, extends professional license reciprocity to spouses of U.S. Department of Defense contractor spouses.
- **Senate Bill 46** by Senator Arthur Orr, R-Decatur, creates an interstate teacher mobility compact that allows teachers licensed in compact member states to teach in Alabama as long as their license requirements meet or exceed Alabama’s requirements.
- **Senate Bill 67** by Sen. Clyde Chambliss, R-Prattville, provides flexibility for educational tuition reimbursement for active members of the Alabama National Guard.
- **House Bill 246** by Rep. Kenneth Paschal, R-Pelham, creates a compact allowing cosmetologists who are licensed to practice in participating states to also practice within Alabama.
- **House Bill 129**, also by Paschal, outlines the proper and respectful final disposition of unclaimed cremated remains of military veterans in a state or national cemetery.
- **House Bill 210** by Rep. Rhett Marques, R-Enterprise, allows active military members who have motor vehicles registered in Alabama but live in another state on military assignment to get their required vehicle liability insurance in the state where they are stationed.

The Military Stability Commission’s mission is to protect and expand military installations in the state. A recent economic impact study found that the defense industry, including private aerospace companies and shipbuilders, accounted for an annual economic impact of \$50.3 billion in Alabama, providing 264,780 jobs with an annual payroll of \$19.3 billion.

The U.S. Supreme Court ruled that the map lawmakers approved in 2021 violated the Voting Rights Act of 1965. It was the latest development in a lawsuit that alleged Alabama’s congressional maps were discriminatory, as just one of the

*Continued on page 9*

#### 2023-2024 GOVERNING BOARD

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2nd Vice President: COL Gene Lesinski, USA-Ret, 845-725-3677, [gene.lesinski@gmail.com](mailto:gene.lesinski@gmail.com)

Secretary: COL Michael C. Barron, USA-Ret, 337-422-8862, [m.barron468@gmail.com](mailto:m.barron468@gmail.com)

Treasurer: Lt Col Charles T. Clements, USAF-Ret, 256-715-1671, [ctcbama76@gmail.com](mailto:ctcbama76@gmail.com)

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Navy Representative: COL Raymond G. Regner, USMC-Ret, 256-851-5903, [raymond.regner@gmail.com](mailto:raymond.regner@gmail.com)

Air Force Representative: Col Edward L. Uher, USAF-Ret, 256-882-6824, [bigned992K@aol.com](mailto:bigned992K@aol.com)

Immediate Past President: Col Gerald C. Maxwell, USAFR, 256-606-5282, [gerald.c.maxwell@nasa.gov](mailto:gerald.c.maxwell@nasa.gov)

Second Past President: Lt Col Charles T. Clements, USAF-Ret, 256-715-1671, [ctcbama76@gmail.com](mailto:ctcbama76@gmail.com)

##### STANDING COMMITTEES

Membership (Acting): MAJ Bruce T. Robinson, USA-Ret, 256-426-0525, [brobinso1976@gmail.com](mailto:brobinso1976@gmail.com)

Programs: COL John Vanderbleek, USA-Ret, 256-893-1565, [jvbleek78@gmail.com](mailto:jvbleek78@gmail.com)

Legislative Affairs: Lt Col Charles T. Clements, USAF-Ret, 256-715-1671, [ctcbama76@gmail.com](mailto:ctcbama76@gmail.com)

Personal Affairs: Lt Col Gerald Haynes, USAF-Ret, 256-882-7857, [jerry15@hiwaay.net](mailto:jerry15@hiwaay.net)

Public Affairs (Publicity): Vacant

Chapter Historian: Vacant

Surviving Spouse Liaison: Vacant

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

Constitution and By-Laws: CAPT Richard C. West, USN-Ret, 256-776-6901, [rickw675@att.net](mailto:rickw675@att.net)

Chapter Chaplain: Col Dave McKinney, USAF-Ret, 334-467-6860, [mckinnewd@gmail.com](mailto:mckinnewd@gmail.com)

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

FAHC Liaison: MAJ Bruce T. Robinson, USA-Ret, 256-426-0525, [brobinso1976@gmail.com](mailto:brobinso1976@gmail.com)

Golf: MAJ Bruce T. Robinson, USA-Ret, 256-426-0525, [brobinso1976@gmail.com](mailto:brobinso1976@gmail.com)

ROTC/JROTC: COL Gene Lesinski, USA-Ret, 845-725-3677, [gene.lesinski@gmail.com](mailto:gene.lesinski@gmail.com)

TOPS: MAJ Bruce T. Robinson, USA-Ret, 256-426-0525, [brobinso1976@gmail.com](mailto:brobinso1976@gmail.com)

The *SENTINEL* Editor: MAJ Bruce T. Robinson, USA-Ret, 256-426-0525, [brobinso1976@gmail.com](mailto:brobinso1976@gmail.com)

Webmaster: CAPT Richard C. West, USN-Ret, 256-776-6901, [rickw675@att.net](mailto:rickw675@att.net)

##### LIFE MEMBERSHIP TRUST

COL John Fairlamb, USA-Ret, 256-539-0161, [fairlambjrf@comcast.net](mailto:fairlambjrf@comcast.net) (June 2026)

MAJ Monte C. Washburn, USA-Ret, 256-301-5457, [monte@washburns.org](mailto:monte@washburns.org) (June 2024)

Lt Col Gerald Haynes, USAF-Ret, 256-882-7857, [jerry15@hiwaay.net](mailto:jerry15@hiwaay.net) (July 2025)



**PX / Commissary**  
**Col Gerald C. Maxwell, USAFR**



**Main Exchange**

If you missed the sales tax holiday – don't worry! Your Exchange ALWAYS has no tax! Plus mark your calendars for what should be the last weekend in February 2024 – Severe Weather Preparedness Sales Tax Holiday!

It seems there is a sale at the gun shop every two weeks. It's not advertised on the Exchange web site – but it does show up if you add the sale items to your chart at [shopmyexchange.com](http://shopmyexchange.com). Not sure how long the sales will continue but good deals at 10% off if you use your STAR card. On sale now are back to school items, TV's, computers, Apple products, and everyday shop for your military pride items. You can also start your items to buy list now for the usual weeklong Black Friday sale with 10% off and an additional 10% off with your STAR card. Or, if you don't have a STAR card yet, you can get EVERYTHING you buy your first day's purchase for at least 10% off and sometimes 15% off.

Remember - formerly serving military can shop online (although not in store) at the Exchange! All veterans are being encouraged to confirm veteran eligibility status at <https://www.vetverify.org>. The Exchange values your opinion! Every month, check out the online sweepstakes!

Please take a moment to tell them how they are doing. Please take our survey at [www.ExchangeCustomerSurvey.com](http://www.ExchangeCustomerSurvey.com). Take the survey and log in to register for a chance to win Sweepstakes Prizes.

**Shopette**

It now seems no tent sales for the foreseeable future. Exchange HQ controls the event and for now, tent sales are on hold. But you can always save 10% on wine (wine 6 bottles or more; however, and spirits/liquor is not on the case sale). The first day savings when you use your STAR card is also good at your Shopette. Whenever you use your STAR card, you always get 5 cents off per gallon of gas – usually more around holidays! Make it a movie night by using the Red Box app (plus get coupons) to reserve a movie at the Shopette.

New at the Shopette is Kopper's chocolate. Since 1937 a bite-sized work of art. You can find out more at [kopperschocolate.com](http://kopperschocolate.com). Also, new is Booker's uncut and unfiltered small batch bourbon collection and Legent Kentucky straight bourbon whiskey. On sale is Ciroc various flavors vodka, numerous tequilas, and Malibu runs. Check out the "Sip and Savor" area end cap for additional specials. Restocked is the Morgan Creek Vineyard's display – A taste of Alabama – various wines from right here in Alabama.

*Continued on page 12*

**Need Addresses**

We have lost track of the above members. If you know their whereabouts, please have them contact Bruce Robinson at 256-426-0525 to update their addresses.

**None this month**

**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 Nicholas M. Mikus**  
256-604-7767  
[nicholasmikus@comcast.net](mailto:nicholasmikus@comcast.net)

Navy/USMC Representative:  
**COL Raymond G. Regner**  
256-851-5903  
[raymond.regner@gmail.com](mailto:raymond.regner@gmail.com)

Air/Space Force Representative:  
**Col Edward L. Uher**  
256-882-6824  
[biged992K@aol.com](mailto:biged992K@aol.com)

Personal Affairs Officer  
**Lt Col Gerald Haynes**  
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NSSA, CRPC  
VICE PRESIDENT, WEALTH ADVISOR  
**256-715-0094**  
germie@cloudfinancial.com



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**Fox Army Health Center**  
**MAJ Bruce T. Robinson, USA-Ret**



- Fox has new clinic hours: 0730 - 1600.
- Fox will be closed on the afternoon of August 16 from 1200 – 1600 for training.
- DYK? Fox Optometry Clinic provides primary care vision services including comprehensive ocular health exams to all beneficiaries (Active Duty, Active Duty Family Members, Retirees and their family members. Call the main appointment line, 256-955-8888 option 2.
- We've been able to fill a vacant position in Behavioral Health so that we are now able to provide a service that has been missing for a while:
  - The Child Family Behavioral Health Therapist is able to see the family members of Active-Duty beneficiaries, starting at age 6. This included evidenced based counseling for adolescents and adults, play therapy for children, and parenting skills associated with therapeutic interventions with their children.
  - In 2021, the Surgeon General issued an advisory on the mental health needs for our youth. Additionally, nationally, there has been a shortage of mental health providers particularly for our children. For Service Members and their families, it is important that they know their family members can receive the mental health care that they need, which contributes to the overall health of the family.
  - Treatment from Fox Army Health Child and Family Behavioral health, occurs within the Department of Behavioral health, located on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of Fox, between the hours of 0730 and 1600. If family members are interested in receiving care, they are welcome to call DBH to schedule an intake for further screening of need and if CABHS is the right level of care for the need.
- Fox Army Health Center's Tobacco Cessation Program incorporates motivation, behavior modification, strategies for coping with cravings, peer support, and medication safety education into each session.
  - Free to all TRICARE beneficiaries and DoD civilians
  - Free tobacco cessation medication, if indicated
  - Pre-program screening and orientation visit
  - Five classes held every Tuesday from 1130-1230
  - Blood pressure evaluations at each session
  - Interval telephone follow-up for one year
  - To sign up please contact the FAHC Wellness Clinic at 256-955-8888 x1440 or 1050

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**When it comes to your to-do list, put your future first.**

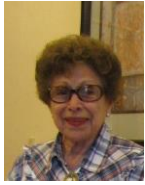
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FAP-1966G-A



## **Surviving Spouse's Luncheon**

**Mrs. Carrie Hightower**  
**256-882-3992**

There will not be a luncheon in August.  
We will gather again next month.

### **Surviving Spouse Corner: Finding Your Path After Losing Your Spouse**

When you lose your spouse, you often face lifestyle questions that need to be answered. Do I stay in my home? Should I move closer to my children? Should I go back to work? Should I start volunteering?

Like others, when I lost my husband 20 years ago, I needed to address those questions.

My situation was different than some because my mother, who was 94 at the time, had been living with us for 13 years. She wasn't keen on moving, which meant we weren't going anywhere.

When she passed away four years later, I decided to get back to work. But my home wouldn't remain empty for long.

Soon after my mother's death, my older sister retired and wanted to move in with me. She relocated from California to my home in Virginia. She stayed two years and then moved to Colorado, where she had wanted both of us to move initially.

Was that the end of my roommate revolving door? Far from it: Next came my grandson and his best friend for what was supposed to be a six-month stay while one found a job and the other finished school. Instead, one stayed with me for two years and the other for six. I learned living with young boys was much different than raising my three daughters.

Next came my daughter and son-in-law, who wanted to relocate from the Washington, D.C., area after retiring. They have been here for going on five years.

Do I miss my privacy sometimes? Of course. I'm sure my housemates also miss theirs from time to time. But it's been a very good fit.

There are pros and cons to an open-door policy — what has worked for me and my family in recent decades might not be ideal for you. But I believe life has a way of leading us to where we're meant to be — and in this case, it's kept me in my home.

Evidently, that is what I always wanted.



**Chaplain's Corner**  
**Col Dave McKinney, USAF-Ret**

**Matthew 6.11:**

Give us this day our daily bread.

**Matthew 6.34:**

So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today.

**James 4.14:**

Yet you do not even know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes.



This past month I have heard the word, tomorrow, in so many ways. Even though the word tomorrow means the next day, it can also signify sometime in the future. My daughter often tells me she will take care of it tomorrow. I often tell my wife the same thing, especially when I don't want to deal with the issue at hand.

I often hope tomorrow will be sunnier than today. I want to put off the harder things or those that are pure drudgery, thinking it will be easier tomorrow. Maybe I'll have a better night's sleep, or maybe the issue at hand will fix itself, so that I don't have to take care of it. No matter how you look at it though, we are putting off things that should be dealt with today.

Writer and Pastor John Ortberg said that the word "tomorrow" may be one of the most dangerous words in the English language. And as I ponder his thoughts, I tend to agree. In Matthew 11 and in the Lord's prayer, we say, give us our daily bread. We don't ask for bread for the future, but what we need today. When we put off things we need to do today until tomorrow or sometime in the future, we may find ourselves surprised, as we don't know what tomorrow brings.

I had a friend in Montgomery who knew he was dying from cancer. While he thought about tomorrow, it wasn't a worry, he was looking to see what he could do today, looking for ways to make life easier for his wife tomorrow. The day before he died, he made a decision to make something easier for his wife in the future, he changed the oil in his wife's car.

*Continued on page 14*

**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:

**Membership Statistics**

Total Members: 308  
Regular Members: 259  
Surviving Spouses: 49

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

**Welcome New Members to Huntsville Chapter MOAA**

**MAJ Albert Lang, USA**

**Recruiting**

You are our best recruiter. If you have a friend, colleague or co-worker who is eligible to join MOAA, or who already belongs to MOAA National – bring him/her to a Chapter meeting. You would be doing both them and the Chapter a favor.



*Legislative – continued from page 2*

state’s seven congressional districts is majority black, despite 27% of the state’s population being black. The Governor called for a special session to run from 17 July through 21 July. The new congressional district map approved on 21 July by the Alabama Legislature makes changes to all seven districts and moves about a dozen counties to different districts.


Democratic lawmakers denounced the plan and said it would not fix the likely Voting Rights Act violation found by a three-judge federal court and affirmed by US Supreme Court. Republicans, who hold three-fourths of the seats in the Legislature, approved the map by a 24-6 vote in the Senate and 75-28 in the House. They praised the plan for its compactness and said it kept together communities of interest, which they said included Mobile and Baldwin counties on the coast, the Black Belt, and the Wiregrass.

Democrats said the plan failed to address the key finding by the court, the need to create a second majority Black district, or, as the court said, “something quite close to it.”

District 7 remains the only majority Black district, with a Black voting age population of 51%. The Black voting age population in District 2 increased from 30% to 40%. Republicans said that would comply with the court guidance to create a second district where Black voters would have an opportunity to elect a candidate of their choice. Democrats disputed that and said they will rely on the federal court to reject the plan.

21 July was set by the three-judge district court for the Legislature to pass a new map. The court’s deadline was based on guidance from state officials about when a map would have to be ready in time for next year’s elections. The court said the Black voters and organizations who are plaintiffs in the litigation should file their objections to the new map by 28 July. The court has tentatively scheduled a hearing on challenges to the plan to begin on 14 August. A summary of some of the changes:

- District 1, in southwest Alabama, still includes all of Baldwin and Mobile counties. The district became wider and flatter, losing Washington and Monroe counties on its north side and gaining most of Covington County on its east side.
- District 2 still covers southeast Alabama but changed substantially. It added Lowndes, Macon, and Russell counties. It added northwest Montgomery County and now includes all of that county. It lost Autauga and Conecuh counties, most of Covington, and about half of Elmore.
- District 3 in east Alabama also changed substantially. It lost Macon, Russell and Coosa counties and gained Etowah.
- District 4 still spans the state from east to west in the northern half of the state. It lost Etowah County and added Blount County.
- District 5, which spans most of the border with Tennessee, gained Lawrence County and lost a portion of Lauderdale County.
- District 6 in central Alabama gained Coosa and Autauga counties and lost Blount County.
- District 7 in west Alabama added Washington, Monroe, and Conecuh counties on the south end and lost Lowndes County.

The June 2023 Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W), released July 12, was 299.394, 2.6% above the FY 2023 baseline of 291.901. The next CPI-W release is set for 10 Aug 2023. The CPI-W figures from the end of this fiscal year (July, August, and September 2023) will be compared to the FY 2023 COLA baseline to calculate the 2024 COLA. 



**HCMOAA Treasurer's Report June 2023**

**Submitted by Lt Col Charles T. Clements, USAF (Ret.)**

1. The June 2023 Treasurer's Report is presented herein.

2. Monthly Summary:

	Operating Funds	Savings
Starting Balance	\$17,506.83	\$16,701.58
Income	\$ 2,070.50	\$ .64
Expenses	\$ 1,120.84	\$15,000.00
Ending Balance	\$18,456.49	\$ 1,702.22

3. Notable income: May’s Membership Luncheon, returned checks from Well Fargo to the HCMOAA account (\$300 from USAA intended for the HCMOAAASF and \$165.50 that had been paid to a HCMOAA member), a \$300 Silver Sponsor intended for HCMOAAASF, an ad from Mercer and petty cash.

4. Notable expenses: Payment of the May’s Membership Luncheon, our share for the Tut Fann BBQ event and petty cash.

5. Chapter Saving account activity is limited to interest.

6. Certificate of Deposit (CD) was purchased in the amount of \$15,000 from Wells Fargo on 8 Jun 2023. The CD was for 5 months at an interest rate of 4.4%. The date of maturity is 8 Nov 2023.

7. The Chapter Operating Funds contains \$3,091.68 in reserved funds donated by various VSOs in support of the RAD Luncheon for the Retirees. This is money unused from previous donations and will be applied to a future RAD luncheon or similar event.

**Scholarship Fund Donations**

The Chapter has an active scholarship program. In conjunction with the RSA Military & Civilians’ Club, we issue scholarships each year to deserving area students. **Please consider donating.** Contact Rick West, at [rickw675@att.net](mailto:rickw675@att.net) or 256.776.6901 for details.

The Scholarship Fund operates on a calendar year basis. Remember that the fund is fully tax deductible - 501(c)(3). **100% of all donations go toward scholarships.**

Note: The below amounts reflect only donations directly to the fund. Golf Tournament monies are tracked separately and presented to the membership following the tournament.

**Scholarship Fund Donations Received During July 2023**

None

Total received for July:	\$0.00
Total received CY23:	<b>\$0.00</b>





Huntsville Chapter  
 Military Officers Association of America  
 P.O. Box 1301 - Huntsville, AL 35807  
[www.huntsvillemoaa.org](http://www.huntsvillemoaa.org)



**Membership Application or Renewal**  
 Yes - I'd like to add my voice to the Huntsville Chapter!

<input type="checkbox"/> New	<input type="checkbox"/> One Year \$10*	If New, how did you hear about us? <input type="checkbox"/> MOAA National <input type="checkbox"/> Local event <input type="checkbox"/> Letter / e-mail from HCMOAA <input type="checkbox"/> HCMOAA website <input type="checkbox"/> Friend / acquaintance <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please explain _____)
<input type="checkbox"/> Renewal**	<input type="checkbox"/> Two Years \$20	
<input type="checkbox"/> Life Membership***	<input type="checkbox"/> Three Years \$30	

\*New members joining after September 1<sup>st</sup> will have their membership paid through following calendar year  
 \*\*If renewing just update any address or phone changes, verify e-mail address, and sign the form  
 \*\*\*Interested in a Chapter Life Membership? Contact us for pricing (age-based)

_____	_____	_____
<b>First Name</b>	<b>MI</b>	<b>Last Name</b>
_____	_____	_____
<b>Preferred Name</b>	<b>Birth Date</b>	<b>Spouse's Name</b>
_____	_____	_____
<b>Grade</b>	<b>Branch of Service</b>	<b>Period(s) of Active Duty (i.e. 1965-1990)</b>

Membership in our MOAA Chapter is not the same as MOAA National membership. At a minimum, FREE "Basic" MOAA National membership is required. If you are not already a National member, we will add you as a Basic member. Again, it's FREE and provides several valuable benefits. Please contact us for more information.

\_\_\_\_\_ **MOAA National Membership Number**

<input type="checkbox"/> Active	<input type="checkbox"/> Retired	<input type="checkbox"/> NG	<input type="checkbox"/> Former Officer	<input type="checkbox"/> Reserve	<input type="checkbox"/> Surviving Spouse
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
<b>Mailing Address</b>	<b>City</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Zip</b>		
_____	_____	_____	_____		
<b>Phone Number</b>	<b>E-mail Address</b>	<b>Signature</b>			
_____	_____	_____			

**Governing Board Vacancies**

The Chapter has several vacancies on the Governing Board that we are looking to fill with volunteers from the membership. They include:

**Surviving Spouse Liaison** – responsible for keeping the surviving spouses of the Chapter informed & look out for their welfare – you do not have to be a surviving spouse to serve

**Membership Chair** – responsible for recruiting and retention of Chapter members – this is a key position

**Webmaster** – responsible for all aspects of the Chapter website – ideally this would be a member's child or grandchild who is website savvy – this is a key position

**Publicity** – responsible for advertising Chapter events – primarily the golf tournament

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5PM- 11PM TUESDAY - SATURDAY  
 HAPPY HOUR DAILY 5PM- 6:30PM

## Scholarship Golf Tournament

Our annual fundraising golf tournament for 2023 is scheduled for September 8<sup>th</sup> at the Links at Redstone.

The Chapter's Golf Committee will hold its next planning meetings on Friday, 11 & 25 August, at 1200. They will take place at the Weeden Grill at the Golf Course over lunch.

The Golf Committee needs volunteers to make the tournament a success. You don't need to know anything about golf to help out.

Areas where you can help include:

- Corporate sponsorships
- Soliciting items for the silent auction & door prizes
- Soliciting rounds of golf from local courses
- Advertising the tournament
- Signing up golfers
- Helping staff the tournament – registration, silent auction, photography, manning prize holes, placing hole signs, and more

If you would like to join the Committee, or just find out more, contact Bruce Robinson at 256-425-0525 or [brobinso1976@gmail.com](mailto:brobinso1976@gmail.com)

*PX/Commissary – continued from page 3*

### Commissary

August has kids and college students back in school. Stop by your commissary for school snacks and to fill the home or dorm refrigerator. Also, while entering the Commissary check out the table of coupons and sales flyers – you will find several coupons covering those school necessities!

Ask for your commissary Rewards Card – you can use it to pre-load digital coupons for use at your commissary grocer. Customers must visit the Commissary website beforehand to download, or "clip", their desired promotions. Follow the commissary on Facebook or on Twitter @YourCommissary.

Feds Feeds Families continues - at the entrance of your Commissary or just past the checkout lines you will find an opportunity to give back to your community. Pre-packaged bags for the Feds Feeds Families food drive. A wide variety of items bagged and convenient. Also check out the International Aisle with foods and treats from all over the world.

Check out the "Thrill of the Grill" promotion. Deals on meat, produce, everything you would need for your summer grilling needs. Commissary CLICK2GO is one tap away for savings and convenient online shopping. Download the mobile app and start shopping for the items you love! Schedule free curbside pickup from your desktop or mobile devices while shopping online. Visit the [How Commissary CLICK2GO Works](#) page for additional information such as payment details and accepted coupons. IIII



**Membership Meeting**  
**21 August 2023**  
**1100 – Summit Club**

**Guest Speaker: Honorable Dale Strong**  
**Member of Congress for Alabama's 5<sup>th</sup> District**

Dale was born in Monrovia, Alabama and has family roots stretching back several generations. A graduate of Sparkman High School, Dale holds a B.S. in Business Administration from Athens State University and received his EMT license from the University of Alabama in Huntsville.

After graduating from Athens State Dale worked for First Alabama Bank and then as a Pharmaceutical Sales Representative. A lifelong volunteer fireman Dale continued to work as a first responder and as a 911 Dispatcher as well as with Huntsville Emergency Medical Services (HEMSI) and Huntsville Med-Flight. Dale continues to serve as an active member of the Monrovia Volunteer Fire Department as a firefighter and EMT answering hundreds of emergency calls a year.

Dale's commitment to saving lives was recognized when he was awarded the Medal of Valor for his service during the devastating tornado on Airport Road in Huntsville in November of 1989.

In 1999 Dale married Laura Toney and they have been married for 21 years. Laura is a nurse and began dating Dale when she worked in the Huntsville Hospital Emergency Room. Dale and Laura have two children, Whitney who attends Auburn University, and Harrison who is a student at Westminster Christian Academy. Dale's children are being raised in the Mt. Zion Baptist Church – the same church family he shared growing up.

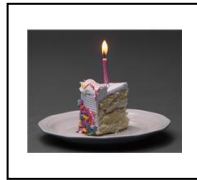
In November 2022, Dale was elected to serve as the next congressman for Alabama's Fifth Congressional District. Upon assuming office, Dale immediately began to advocate for his constituency, receiving assignments to serve on the House Armed Services, Homeland Security, and Science, Space and Technology Committees for the 118th Congress.

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**Menu:** Eggplant Parmesan; Country Fried Steak with White Pepper Gravy; Green Beans Almondine; Wild and Long Grain Garden Rice; Apple Cobbler; Rolls with Butter; Iced Tea, Water and Coffee

**Cost:** \$20 for Chapter members and families; \$25 for non-members / guests – pay at the door – cash or check only. **Exact change is appreciated.**

**RSVP:** CAPT Rick West, 256-776-6901, [rickw675@att.net](mailto:rickw675@att.net), NLT 16 August 2023



**32 Birthdays in August**

Mrs. Carrie V Hightower  
MAJ John V Yelverton, USA  
Mrs. Judith McKinley Jr  
Col Frederick J Driesbach, USAF  
MAJ Warner A Davis, USA  
COL Joseph Goss Jr, USA  
COL Mary O Drayton, USA  
Col William D McKinney, USAF  
COL William J Roberts, USA  
LTC David A Diehl, USA  
COL Thomas A Sharp, USA  
COL Ronald C Crowley, USA  
LTC Richard A Carter, USA  
CPT Camden J Kent Jr, USA  
Capt William L Jackson, USMC  
COL Arthur S Irish, USA

Mr. Alvin M Jupiter  
COL John D Rivenburgh, USA  
Lt Col Ronald G Harvey, USAF  
CW5 Paul M Steele, USA  
COL William A Holbrook, USA  
COL Michael C Barron, USA  
Lt Col Garry M Moore, USAF  
Mrs. Carol H Freyder  
COL Gene Lesinski, USA  
CDR David B Campbell, USN  
Mrs. Jane L Berg  
LTC Norman P Hopkins, USA  
MAJ Richard J Quinones, USA  
MAJ Albert G Lang, USA  
COL Ronald N Funderburk, USA  
MAJ Raymond L Springsteen, USA

If we missed your birthday, it's because we don't have it on file. Please e-mail your birth date to MAJ Bruce Robinson at [brobinso1976@gmail.com](mailto:brobinso1976@gmail.com) so it can be included in future newsletters. Thank you.

*Chaplain's Corner – continued from page 8*

What in your life are you putting off until tomorrow? A trip with your loved ones? Telling your spouse or your children you love them? Encouraging others? Accepting Christ? I encourage each of you to make needed decisions and live life to the fullest today. James said it very clearly when he wrote to the Israelites, "Yet you do not even know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes."

So how is tomorrow one of the most dangerous words in the English language? Simply, tomorrow might not come and all that was put off until tomorrow was for naught.

If you would like to share prayer requests or contact me, I can be reached at [MOAACchaplain@gmail.com](mailto:MOAACchaplain@gmail.com) or call/text (334) 467-6860.

Blessings, Dave





**TAPS**

*Our deepest sympathy and prayers are extended to the families and friends of:*

**CW4 Ronnie Lowell Rogers, USA-Ret**, 86, of Huntsville, AL, passed away on March 25, 2023. Ronnie was born to William and Elva Rogers on December 23, 1936. He was retired from the US Army.

He is survived by his wife, Gail Woodard Rogers; his nephew Bill Rogers, III; and nieces, Kerrie Rogers Parish and Colleen Rogers Jager, all from Oregon.

Services were held at the Church of the Nativity on Friday, March 31, 2023. Visitation was from 11:00 am – 1:00 pm

A Funeral Service was held at 1:00 pm.

Internment followed at Maple Hill Cemetery.

The family has requested no flowers please. In lieu of flowers, please donate to the charity of choice.

***Gone but not forgotten for their dedicated support and service to our Country.***

***We will miss these outstanding Leaders and Patriots.***



## **Huntsville Chapter Objectives**

- Promote the aims of the national MOAA organization
- Further the legislative and other objectives of MOAA through grassroots activity
- Foster fraternal relationships among retired, active and former officers of the uniformed services
- Maintain liaison and a positive relationship with the Redstone Arsenal Garrison and other military commands in the Northern Alabama area
- Provide a social venue for members to meet periodically and enjoy fellowship with people of similar interests and backgrounds
- Promote and assist worthy community activities
- Provide useful services and information for members and their dependents and survivors
- Provide representation to the Alabama Council of Chapters of MOAA
- Provide representation to the Northern Alabama Veterans and Fraternal Organizations Coalition
- Protect the rights and interests of service retirees and active-duty military members in matters of state legislation through the Alabama Council of Chapters

## **Benefits of Membership**

We are the largest of the 13 chapters in Alabama and have over 320 members. We have been recognized by National MOAA for the last four years with Level of Excellence awards. We provide grassroots support for issues that affect us and are active in both the Redstone Arsenal and Madison County communities. Why should you join our chapter? This is what we do, and what's in it for you:

- Partnership with Redstone Arsenal agencies – Fox Army Health Clinic, Army Community Service, MWR, PX/Commissary, Military Retiree Council
- Membership in the North Alabama Veterans and Fraternal Organizations Coalition (NAVFOC) – plugged in to the larger Veterans associations “big picture”
- Recognizing leadership – JROTC/ROTC awards and “gold bar” ceremonies
- Recognizing potential – Scholarship Awards program with the Redstone Arsenal Military and Civilians Club
- Community service/relations – annual Tut Fann Veterans Home BBQ, Memorial Day wreath laying ceremony, Veterans Day parade and events, Retiree Appreciation Day
- Camaraderie – Monthly meetings & breakfasts, parties, golf tournament
- Information – Monthly newsletter, web site, Personal Affairs, guest speakers
- Legislative action – grassroots activities, support for National MOAA agenda
- Venue for getting involved

Please visit our award-winning chapter website at <http://huntsvillemoaa.org> where you can find out more about chapter activities.



## Attention Members

One of the best sources of income for the Chapter comes from advertisements like the ones in this newsletter. You are the best resource for identifying potential advertisers. The next time you go out to dinner, or to shop, or to get a haircut, or to get your car fixed – ask the business manager if they would consider advertising. Let them know that the newsletter reaches our 320+ members each month. All they can say is “no”.

If they are interested or desire more information, please let Bruce Robinson know, and he will follow up with them. His contact information is [brobinso1976@gmail.com](mailto:brobinso1976@gmail.com) or 256-426-0525.

## Important Dates in August

- 1 August - Anne Frank penned her last entry into her diary (1944)
- 2 August - President Warren G. Harding died suddenly while in office (1923)
- 2 August- Albert Einstein wrote a letter to President Roosevelt concerning atomic weapons (1939)
- 2 August - The Iraqi army invaded Kuwait (1990)
- 3 August - Christopher Columbus set sail from Palos, Spain (1492)
- 5 August - Film star Marilyn Monroe died at age 36 (1962)
- 6 August - The first atomic bomb was dropped over Hiroshima (1945)
- 6 August – The Voting Rights Act of 1965 was signed into law (1965)
- 7 August – The US Congress approved the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution (1964)
- 8 August - Soviet Russia declared war on Japan (1945)
- 9 August - The second atomic bombing of Japan occurred over Nagasaki (1945)
- 9 August - Richard M. Nixon resigned the presidency (1974)
- 10 August – Monthly Board Meeting – Java Café – 1100**
- 11 August – Golf Meeting – Links – 1200**
- 12 August – Monthly Breakfast – City Café Diner – 0900**
- 11-16 August - Six days of riots began in the Watts area of Los Angeles (1965)
- 13 August - The Berlin Wall came into existence (1961)
- 14 August - President Roosevelt signed the Social Security Act (1935)
- 14 August – Japan surrenders, ending World War II (1945)
- 15 August - Woodstock began in a field near Bethel, New York (1969)
- 16 August - Gold was discovered in the Klondike River in Alaska (1896)
- 16 August – Elvis Presley died (1977)
- 17 August - The first transatlantic balloon trip was completed by three Americans (1978)
- 18 August - The 19th Amendment was ratified, granting women the right to vote (1920)
- 21 August – Monthly Member Meeting - Summit Club - 1100**
- 21 August – Hawaii became the 50<sup>th</sup> state (1959)
- 22 August - A volcanic eruption under Lake Nios in Cameroon killed more than 1,500 persons (1986)
- 24-25 August - British forces burned the Capitol, the White House and other public buildings (1814)
- 25 August – Golf Meeting – Links – 1200**
- 26 August – A volcano erupted on the island of Krakatoa, killing over 36,000 people (1883)
- 28 August – The march on Washington, DC, attended by over 250,000 people (1963)
- 31 August - Britain's Princess Diana died at age 36 (1997)

