

Volume 63, Issue 12  
December 2024



Huntsville Chapter  
Military Officers Association of America

# The Sentinel

Huntsvillemoaa.org



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



Greetings all!

I hope you all had a safe and pleasant Thanksgiving holiday. Felicia and I surely did – too much good food just for two people!

As usual, November was a very slow month. Many members participated in activities for Heroes' Week / Veterans Day, but otherwise it was pretty quiet.

Just a reminder that our next meeting isn't scheduled until January – details will be provided later and in the January Sentinel. Our Christmas party is in a week, and we have a lot of people attending! I am really looking forward to a great time. Thanks to all of you attending for making this a great event each year!

December is the final month of our annual scholarship drive. We should be able to match or surpass our scholarship awards from last year. The Scholarship Fund Board of Directors and Chapter Governing Board will work on a recommended scholarships award donation which will be presented to membership at the January meeting for approval.

Membership Renewal! We have 48 members needing to renew – that is down from the 57 total that needed to renew at the start of our annual drive. If you aren't sure of your dues status, please see the list in the Sentinel on page 12 or contact Bruce Robinson or me.

**Have a "most excellent" December! Go Navy – Beat Army! Roll Tide!**

As always, many thanks to all of you for being members of the **biggest and BEST MOAA Chapter in Alabama!**

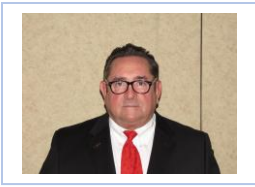
Rick

*There is no member meeting in December – Merry Christmas!*

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*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.”

Donald Trump was elected the 47th president of the United States, an extraordinary comeback for a former president who refused to accept defeat four years ago and survived two assassination attempts. With a win in Wisconsin, Trump earned the 270 electoral votes needed to clinch the presidency. At the end of the voting President-elect Trump earned 312 electoral votes and winning the popular vote with over 76.4 million votes cast. He becomes the first Republican presidential candidate to win the popular vote in 20 years. The Republican Party also has a majority in both Houses. President-elect Trump is the first former president to return to power since Grover Cleveland regained the White House in the 1892 election. At 78 he is the oldest person elected to the office.

Alabama Secretary of State Wes Allen on 6 November 2024 said 58.55% of registered voters cast ballots in Tuesday’s presidential election, the lowest turnout for any state presidential election since 1988. Allen said 2,264,780 Alabamians cast ballots on 5 November 2024, not counting provisional ballots. That was just over 65,000 fewer ballots than were cast in 2020, when 2.3 million voters participated in the election. I was a poll worker at precinct 12 here in Madison County. I can tell you that the lines were long even before the polls opened and stayed that way until around 6:15 or so. Come on, we can do better than a turnout of 58.55%.

By Inauguration Day 2025, the 119th Congress will have convened, but before all that, the 118th Congress must attend to some unfinished business. The Lame Duck session has already kicked off. Here are some **High Priority Items:**

**Federal Appropriations.** The Continuing Resolution for FY2025 currently providing stop-gap funding expires 20 December. By then, Congress will either need to pass the individual appropriations bills, approve a massive omnibus spending bill, or punt spending decisions until next year.

**The FY25 National Defense Authorization Act.** Congress has passed an annual defense bill for 64 years in a row and this year will be no different. Staff negotiators have been working to reconcile competing versions of the bill since early October. Members will start tackling some of the thornier

*Continued on page 9*

## 2023-2024 GOVERNING BOARD

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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

1st Vice President: CW4 Edward J. Banville, USA-Ret, 256-683-4127, [ed.banville@hotmail.com](mailto:ed.banville@hotmail.com)

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)

Army Representative: LTC Nicholas M. Mikus, USA-Ret, 256-604-7767, [nicholasmikus@comcast.net](mailto:nicholasmikus@comcast.net)

Navy Representative: COL Raymond G. Regner, USMC-Ret, 256-851-5903, [rregner58@gmail.com](mailto:rregner58@gmail.com)

Air Force Representative: Col Edward L. Uher, USAF-Ret, 256-882-6824, [biced992K@aol.com](mailto:biced992K@aol.com)

Immediate Past President: Col Gerald C. Maxwell, USAFR, 256-606-5282, [avataxmax@gmail.com](mailto:avataxmax@gmail.com)

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

### STANDING COMMITTEES

Membership: MAJ Bruce T. Robinson, USA-Ret, 256-426-0525, [brobins1976@gmail.com](mailto:brobins1976@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: Vacant

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, [avataxmax@gmail.com](mailto:avataxmax@gmail.com)

FAHC Liaison: MAJ Bruce T. Robinson, USA-Ret, 256-426-0525, [brobins1976@gmail.com](mailto:brobins1976@gmail.com)

Golf: MAJ Bruce T. Robinson, USA-Ret, 256-426-0525, [brobins1976@gmail.com](mailto:brobins1976@gmail.com)

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

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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, [fairlambjrt@comcast.net](mailto:fairlambjrt@comcast.net) (June 2026)

MAJ Monte C. Washburn, USA-Ret, 256-301-5457, [monte@washburns.org](mailto:monte@washburns.org) (June 2027)

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**

So far exchange and commissary have not stated all holiday hours, expect the Exchange to be as prior years: Regular hours except closing early Christmas eve and closed 25 December.

For those wondering what the new building going up to the left of the Exchange gate – it’s going to be the Challenger Bingo Hall. I did not know Bingo was such a big event.

Computers, TV’s, laptops, tablets and I Pad’s - put them all on your Santa’s list. I’ve found that the Exchange has the latest TV’s available – but only online. Breakfast with Santa Saturday 14 December at the Main Exchange. Bring your Santa letters and see Santa, Mrs. Clause, and some of their elves. Get breakfast, some crafts, and a treat.

The next gun sale is all FN firearms 10% off with your STAR card through 5 December. Receive up to a \$125 mail in rebate for several FN pistols through 31 December. The gun counter will have a Stoeger special in store only. A \$75 rebate for any Stoeger STR-Series pistol through 15 January.

Remember the self-checkout lanes only take credit/debit and STAR cards. No cash back or tobacco sales and if it’s a clearance item you usually have to take it to a regular register or customer service to get the correct price.

You always get 10% off (sometimes more during special promotions) your first day’s purchases when you use your STAR card. Something to keep in mind for Spring and the eventual winter clearance items. Use your STAR card at the food court for 10% off your purchases and 10% off catering orders. Your holiday bill could be on the Exchange when you use your STAR card though 31 December.

**Shopette**

Hours: Christmas Day closed. All other days expect regular hours 0600-2200.

New wines and beers – stop in to check out the selection. Gluhwein and a wide variety of holiday gift sets now available. Visit the Redstone Express for Holiday Party and Tailgating supplies. Various wine selections are on sale each month so stop in and see what varieties are on sale this month. Depending on selection and off the regular price, the Express usually offers 10% on a case wine (but not liquor) – be sure to ask!

Various specials around the store including gift sets for various liquors. Plus, many local and craft beers.

*Continued on page 9*

**Need Addresses**

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

**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  
[rgregner58@gmail.com](mailto:rgregner58@gmail.com)

Air/Space Force Representative:  
**Col Edward L. Uher**  
256-882-6824  
[bged992K@aol.com](mailto:bged992K@aol.com)

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



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BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

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TOLL-FREE: 888.468.9672  
FAX: 615.591.3932

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**CONTACT:**

**GERMI CLOUD,**  
NSSA, CRPC  
VICE PRESIDENT, WEALTH ADVISOR  
**256-715-0094**  
germi@cloudfinancial.com



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Huntsville, AL 35801  
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**Fox Army Health Center**  
**MAJ Bruce T. Robinson, USA-Ret**



## Schedule an Appointment Using the MHS GENESIS Patient Portal

Navigating your healthcare appointments at [military hospitals and clinics](#) is convenient with the [MHS GENESIS Patient Portal](#)'s scheduling feature.

“The scheduling feature allows you to manage most of your medical appointments online, whether it’s on a smartphone, tablet, or computer,” said U.S. Public Health Service Cmdr. Minh Doan, patient portal solution owner at the Defense Health Agency.

Here’s how you can take full advantage of the scheduling feature.

### **Step 1: Log in**

To begin, visit the [MHS GENESIS Patient Portal](#) using a computer or mobile device. Once on the site, you’ll need to log in.

**Note:** Access to the MHS GENESIS Patient Portal requires a DS Logon, Common Access Card, or Personal Identity Verification. If you don’t have a DS Logon, you can register for one on the portal site by clicking “Create New Account.”

For issues accessing the patient portal with your DS Logon, contact the DMDC Customer Contact Center at 800-368-3665. Help is available Monday through Friday from 5 a.m. to 5 p.m. PT.

Have more questions about logging in to the MHS GENESIS Patient Portal? Check out “[How To Access Your MHS GENESIS Patient Portal](#)” on the TRICARE Newsroom.

### **Step 2: Navigate to Appointments**

Once you’re logged in, look for the “Appointments” tab. This section allows you to:

- See all your upcoming and past appointments.
- Schedule new appointments.
- Reschedule or cancel existing appointments.

Click “Schedule Appointment” to begin. Looking to schedule an appointment for a family member? Select the name of the person the appointment is for.

### **Step 3: Select the appointment by Provider or Appointment Type**

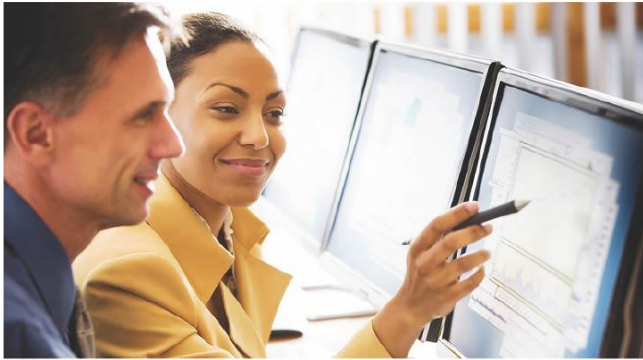
There are two options available when scheduling an appointment: by Provider or by Appointment Type.

- **By Provider:** If you’ve already seen a provider, their name will appear at the top of the provider list. You can choose a provider from the larger list of available providers. After selecting your provider, you’ll need to select the Appointment Type.

*Continued on page 17*

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**Dale C Kuehl, AAMST™**  
Financial Advisor  
2045 Cecil Ashburn Drive S E  
Suite 103  
Huntsville, AL 35802  
256-881-1583

FAP-1966G-A

## 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

Choose Well.  
Live Well.



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our VETERANS"

THERE COMES A POINT

A point to live well, love well, BE well.



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at WELLPOINT

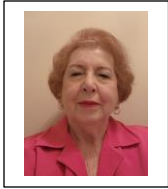
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256-701-8300

2940 MILL RUN ROAD SE  
HUNTSVILLE, AL 35763

RESIDENCESATWELLPOINT.COM





## **Surviving Spouse's Luncheon**

**Mrs. Bonnie Treadway**  
**256-859-1484**

Our December luncheon will be on Thursday, 19 December, at Conners Steak and Seafood, 345 Bridge Street, Huntsville. Phone: 256-327-8425. Everyone will be called.

### **Surviving Spouse Corner: A Season to be Grateful**

The holidays are filled with special family times that include beautiful memories. These memories can be sweet and make you all warm inside, but they also can cause sad emotions relating to the loss of a loved one.

As Thanksgiving approaches, it can be beneficial to focus effort and energy on what you are grateful for in your “new life” since the loss of a loved one. I am grateful for:

- The enduring and unwavering support of my family, friends, and community — as a military surviving spouse, these are near and far.
- My good health that allows me to support my family and grandchildren as they grieve and help others as well.
- Being able to enjoy every new day. To be able to walk daily and enjoy meeting people, nature, trails, lakes, the ocean, sunrises, and sunsets.
- Beautiful memories and our legacy that I can pass down to my children and grandchildren.
- The strength and all the beauty life has to offer.
- My resilience to persevere.
- My faith. I look forward to meeting my spouse again.
- All life's experiences. These experiences, whether they are good or bad, shape us throughout this life. They keep us alive.

As the holiday season approaches, I wish everyone good health and happiness and a wonderful Thanksgiving that is shared with family, friends, and great memories.



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

Isaiah 9:6

“For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”



Merry Christmas! It's hard to grasp how quickly this year has passed. As I age it seems time speeds up. As time passes it is important to not lose focus on the gift that Isaiah foretold thousands of years ago.

What did the promise mean? I think we all pretty much agree that Isaiah was foretelling the birth of Jesus. But what about the part, “the government will be on His shoulders?” It refers to the idea that He would be of royal authority with the weight of humanity on His shoulders.

So why call Him Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, everlasting Father, and Prince of peace? These names were given so we would have a glimpse of the gift we were being promised.

As a kid, I often circled the gifts under my Christmas Tree, trying to guess what I was going to get. I would eye them, pick them up and shake them trying hard to figure out what might be in them. Of course, we always had the obligatory new pajamas, but other presents were not so easy. With this prophecy we get a glimpse of what is in that present, “Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father,

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**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: 291  
Regular Members: 245  
Surviving Spouses: 46

New this month: 1  
Deaths this month: 0  
Renewals:9

**Welcome New Members to Huntsville Chapter MOAA**

**Col Jay Carlson, USAF**

**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*

issues as they return to town in November. Expect a final vote in mid-December.

**The Farm Bill.** America’s farmers are struggling, and a Farm Bill reauthorization is way past due, but there is little reason to think a final product comes together by December. Expect another extension.

**Judicial Appointments.** The first Trump Administration is credited with remaking the federal bench with 234 judicial appointments, which Biden has countered by confirming 213 judges so far. Thirty judicial nominees are pending in the Senate.

The Alabama Department of VA commissioner is not currently a governor appointee but is instead selected by the Alabama Veterans Affairs Board. Besides the governor, the board is made up of representatives nominated to the governor from several veterans’ organizations, including the American Legion, MOAA and Veterans of Foreign Wars. Sen. Andrew Jones, R-Centre, is chairman of the Senate Veterans, Military Affairs and Public Safety Committee. He said he’s had recent discussions with multiple stakeholders and “there seems to be a consensus that the next ADVA commissioner should be a cabinet official who answers to the governor.” This begs the question of how Governor Ivey ousted Admiral Kent Davis last month. Governor Ivey is expected to support a bill to make the commissioner a direct appointment by the governor.

The October 2024 Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W), released on 13 November, was 309.358, 0.2% above the FY 2025 baseline of 308.729. November 2024 figures will be announced on 11 December. IIII

*PX/Commissary – continued from page 3*

Always save 5 cents per gallon (usually more during holidays) at the gas pumps when you use your STAR card.

**Commissary**

Christmas: Closes early 24 December at 1600. Closed Monday 25 December. Reopens Tuesday 26 December regular hours.

New Year’s: Closes early 31 December at 1700. Closed Monday 1 January 2025. Reopens Tuesday 2 January 2025 regular hours.

If you want organic fruits/vegetables check out the first sales area on your right as you enter the commissary. Plenty of turkeys and hams available. There are still 69 cents a pound turkey (they were reduced to 35 cents a pound the weekend before Thanksgiving!). Smoked turkeys continue to be unavailable – I’ve asked, and the distributor has not delivered any. Last time I was there the salads were very sparse.

Near the registers – chocolate and treats from around the world to celebrate your Christmas! Check out the long aisle of sweets and goodies that are good for giving and for treating yourself. Check out the center of the store where warehouse pricing is in effect! Plus, additional holiday chocolates and candies from around the world. Throughout your commissary you will find specials that will make your Holidays the best yet!

Your Bakery and Deli can create Meat and Cheese trays or/and Sandwich trays. Please call 256-876-3517 and please give a 24-hour notice. Remember the Sushi Bar located by self-checkout. IIII



## HCMOAA Treasurer's Report October 2024

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

1. The October 2024 Treasurer's Report is presented herein.

2. Monthly Summary:

	Operating Funds	Saving
Starting Balance	\$19,221.00	\$ 1,703.67
Income	\$ 855.00	\$ 0.01
Expenses	\$ 5,272.34	\$ 0.00
Ending Balance	\$14,803.66	\$ 1,703.68

3. Notable income: Membership meeting meals, Sentinel advertisement income, petty cash and dues.

4. Notable expenses: Payments to Well Fargo to bring the new CD up to \$20,000, the Summit for the October's membership luncheon, an expense for the RAD, petty cash, NAVFOC dues, office supplies and Bankcard fees.

5. Chapter Saving account activity is limited to interest.

6. The former Certificate of Deposit (CD) reached its maturity on 8 October 2024 and was valued at \$15,979.05. A new CD in the amount of \$20,000 was purchased on 8 October 2024. The term of the new CD is for four (4) months at an interest rate of 4.16%. The new CD matures on 8 February 2025.

7. The Chapter Operating Funds contains \$1,922.15 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 [rckw675@att.net](mailto:rckw675@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 November 2024

None

Total received for November:	\$0.00
Total received CY24:	<b>\$1440.00</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)

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

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
_____ Mailing Address	_____ City	_____ State	_____ Zip		
_____ Phone Number	_____ E-mail Address	_____ Signature			

**Attention Annual Members**

It is not too early to renew your membership for next year  
 The Chapter has one of, if not the, lowest membership rates in the country at \$10

***Those members needing to renew are listed on the next page***

You can also renew for multiple years and lock in that low rate  
 Don't know when your membership expires? Contact MAJ Bruce Robinson at  
 256-426-0525 or [brobinso1976@gmail.com](mailto:brobinso1976@gmail.com).

Don't want to worry about renewing ever again - consider becoming a Chapter Life Member – contact  
 COL John Fairlamb at 256-539-0161 or [fairlambjrf@comcast.net](mailto:fairlambjrf@comcast.net) for the details

**The following annual members need to renew their memberships:**

COL Tom L Albertson, USA  
CW4 William J Barron, USA  
LTC Johnnie L Bone Jr, USA  
COL Douglas S Brouillette, USA  
CDR Christine S Downing, USN  
Col Frederick J Driesbach, USAF  
LTC Paul H Fall, USA  
LTC James H Foster, USA  
Mrs. Myrna G Griffiths  
Lt Col Montgomery S Hand, USAF  
LTC Norman P Hopkins, USA  
COL Arthur S Irish, USA  
LTC Edwin L Kennedy, USA  
LTC Ruby R Lardent-Davis, USAR  
MG John A Leide, USA  
COL Roger S Matzkind, USA  
Lt Col Garry M Moore, USAF  
Col Scott G Patton, USAF  
MG Kenneth J Quinlan, USA  
COL John D Rivenburgh, USA  
CW2 Noel G Snivley, USA  
MAJ Raymond L Springsteen, USA  
CPT Robert E Steward, USMC  
COL Michael D Teter, USA

Col Stephen C Baker, USMC  
COL Lawrence J Becker, USA  
LTC Kenneth E Breeden, USA  
LTC Andre M Cota-Robles, USA  
COL Mary O Drayton, USA  
LTC William K Emerson, USA  
Maj Marisha K Findley, USAF  
COL Ronald N Funderburk, USA  
COL Mary S Hall-Van Bebber, USA  
COL William A Holbrook, USA  
CAPT Timothy W Howell, USN  
COL Joshua S Kennedy, USA  
COL Dale C Kuehl, USA  
CAPT Kenneth L Lawing, USN  
LTC Richard W Levan, USMC  
Mrs. Elaine Miner  
COL Norbert Patla, USA  
COL William R Pope, USA  
Col Adrian A Ritchie Jr, USAF  
LCDR Jesus M Rodriguez, USN  
Lt Col Joshua M Soblaskey, USAF  
LCDR Daniel F Stayton, USN  
COL Matthew T Tedesco, USA  
LTC Harold E Walden, USA



**32 Birthdays in December**

Mrs. Travis Stewart  
MAJ Francis W Thonus, USA  
COL Thomas M Devanney, USA  
CW4 Carl J Woida, USA  
COL Nathanael P Causey, USA  
LTC William D Katholi, USA  
LTC Thomas E Means, USA  
LTC Gary W Flecker, USA  
BG Leslie L Fuller, USA  
MAJ Chester Williams Jr, USA  
COL David L Wyatt, USA  
Lt Col Charles W Zavadil, USAF  
COL Dahl J Cento, USA  
MAJ Paul A Horn, USA  
Lt Col Joshua Soblasky, USAF  
Mrs. Edwina Morse

CW3 Donald L Wagoner, USA  
Mrs. Billie K Jones  
LTC Robert W Senn, USA  
LTC LaVerne J Gehm, USA  
LTC Kenneth V Barnwell, USA  
Lt Col Robert R Barnes Jr., USAF  
LTC Malcolm R Sams, USA  
MAJ William H Steele, USA  
MAJ Bruce T Robinson, USA  
LTC Richard W Levan, USMC  
CAPT Thomas L Jones, USN  
Mrs. Dalila Carrasquillo  
LTC James H Foster, USA  
LCDR Daniel F Stayton, USN  
CAPT George C Skezas, USN  
Lt Col Gerald W Haynes, USAF

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*

Prince of Peace”.

As you gather with your family and friends, let's not forget the present that is waiting for us. Since we know what the present is, let's take time to prepare to open it or accept the gift that Jesus' birth brings.

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

Blessings, Dave





**TAPS**

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

**None this month**

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

*We will miss these outstanding Leaders and Patriots.*



### **Simplify Your Life by Joining the Chapter Life Member Trust (LMT)**

Tired of forgetting to renew your Chapter annual membership? Want to make one more item in life simpler? We have a solution – become a Chapter Life Member!

The upfront cost is probably less than you think. We use your current age and the Social Security Administration Actuarial Table to figure the buy-in cost. For example, if you are a male and currently 55, depending on your exact birthday, the fee is \$271.00; 67, the fee is \$184.00; 70, the fee is \$163.00; and 75, the fee is \$117.00. Costs are slightly more for our female members due to enhanced longevity. If you are currently paid in advance, we'll give you credit for the years paid beyond 2023 which reduces the buy-in cost.

The LMT will pay your dues every January, so you can forget about keeping up with a payment. Help yourself and the Chapter by reducing the administrative burden for all of us and the postage cost to send in annual dues and to send out reminders.

To join the LMT or to find out your upfront cost, contact the LMT Board Chairman, COL John Fairlamb, USA (Ret.) at [fairlambjrf@comcast.net](mailto:fairlambjrf@comcast.net).

## Army-Navy Football – Memorable Moments

It's been more than 130 years since Army and Navy first battled on the gridiron. Army took down Navy 17-11 in the 124th meeting between the two teams. The Midshipmen hold a 62-55-7 head-to-head edge.

But like the nature of this rivalry, numbers alone don't fully encompass the history of the series. These are just a few notable happenings from the 1890s for perspective:

- Benjamin Harrison was in his second year of his term as the 23rd president
- Early in the year, Wyoming and Idaho were admitted as the 43rd and 44th states.
- Ellis Island wouldn't open for more than another year (Jan. 1, 1892).

Here are 10 influential moments chronicling Army and Navy's decorated pasts.

### **1890 — The first game**

Navy had competed as a football team since 1879 when it challenged Army to what would become the first game in an ongoing series. Except that Army side had never before played an organized game. Still, the Black Knights accepted. Despite home-field advantage in West Point, the Midshipmen's experience propelled them to a 24-0 win.

### **1893 — Use your head**

You might be wondering why a game that ended 6-4 made this list. After all, it looks more like a baseball score. But 18 years after the first confirmed use of a glove on the diamond, Navy's Joseph Mason Reeves flashed the leather on the gridiron. Injuries prompted the Admiral to enlist the help of an Annapolis shoemaker for his football career to continue. In doing so, he becomes the first player to use a football helmet.

### **1944-45 — On top of the world**

Army and Navy have met as the No. 1 and No. 2 teams twice in 121 years. It just so happened to be in back-to-back years. Both times, it was the Black Knights who gained the upper hand, winning 23-7 in 1944 and 32-13 the following year.

Led by eventual Heisman Trophy winners Felix "Doc" Blanchard (1945) and Glenn Davis (1946), Army finished both seasons a perfect 9-0 as national champions.

### **1952 — The "M\*A\*S\*H" game**

The classic TV show M\*A\*S\*H featured the Army/Navy game in an episode from its debut season first aired in 1973. The show's writers scripted the 53rd meeting between the academies with the Midshipmen winning 42-36.

In reality, the 'Mids did win the 53rd game. It took place 21 years earlier and ended 7-0, the final victory of a Navy three-game win streak. Coincidentally, the score depicted on M\*A\*S\*H has never been the outcome in any of the first 121 games.

### **1963 — Victory in mourning**

One of the most historic games in the series is also known for almost not happening. President John F. Kennedy was assassinated on Nov. 22. His untimely death meant the game fell within the military's 30-day national period of mourning, nearly cancelling the contest before the Kennedy family urged for the game to be played.

A decision to postpone to the following week was made right around the announcement that Navy quarterback Roger Staubach would be the recipient of the Heisman Trophy. He remains the program's second winner.

*Continued on next page*

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On Dec. 7 — the 22-year anniversary of Pearl Harbor — Staubach and the Midshipmen defeated Army 21-15.

Trailing late, the Black Knights drove down to Navy's 2-yard line with a chance to tie the game. However, time expired before a they could run another play. This game will also be remembered for the [debut of instant replay](#).

### **1964 — Breaking barriers**

Army snapped a five-game skid against Navy the following year with an 11-8 win. But it was the Midshipmen who took down a more significant obstacle. Sophomore wingback Calvin Huey became the first African-American to take the field for either side in the series, catching four passes for Navy.

The following season, he'd accomplish the feat at Georgia Tech's Bobby Dodd Stadium. In Roger Staubach's 1974 autobiography, "First Down, Lifetime to Go" he said, "Calvin Huey was just the kind of guy you liked. He had a great personality, worked hard in football and was an intelligent guy."

### **1983 — Go West, military man**

A trip to Pasadena marks the sole installment of the rivalry played west of the Mississippi River. The Rose Bowl hosted in 1983 after the Army-Navy '83 Foundation, a nonprofit organization, was created to attract donations to cover the cost of the game. [According to The Washington Post](#), that number was estimated to be around \$6 million.

Despite the 2,500-plus miles separating both schools from southern California, more than 9,000 mids and cadets were reported to be in attendance as Navy won 42-13. The game returned to Philadelphia the following year and has not been further west than Landover, Maryland, since.

### **2015 — One of a kind**

Staubach remains the lone Heisman quarterback to come from Navy. However, Keenan Reynolds is part of elite company too as the only Midshipmen signal caller to beat Army four times.

As a senior, he ran for 136 yards and two touchdowns while adding 113 yards and another score through the air in a 21-17 win over Army. Reynolds finished fifth in Heisman voting, guiding Navy (11-2) to its best record in program history and is the fourth 'Mid to have his number retired.

### **2016 — Changing of the guard**

The turn of the century came with an extended period of dominance for Navy. The two sides exchanged wins in 2000 and 2001 before the 'Mids ripped off 14 consecutive wins, cruising by a 25.7 point average margin of victory over the first nine games.

Four of the final five wins were decided by one possession before [Army broke through in Baltimore](#), the same city where the Black Knights once stood alone at the pinnacle of college football over 70 years prior.

Army owned the trenches, rushing for 316 total yards and three touchdowns in a 21-17 win. That victory was the start of a three-game winning streak for the Black Knights.

### **2022 — Army wins rivalry's first OT game**

Army kicker Quinn Marezki made a 39-yard field goal to defeat Navy 20-17 in double-overtime of the 123rd Army-Navy game. The field goal gave the Black Knights the win in the first overtime game in series history.

Army finished the game with 125 rushing yards, averaging 2.6 yards per carry. Navy finished the game with 259 rushing yards, averaging 4.54 yards per carry. In total, both teams completed three passes combined. 🏈



*Fox – continued from page 5*

- **By Appointment Type:** Choosing the right type of care ensures you're matched with the appropriate provider. Click on the cell and a dropdown list will show available appointment types to choose from. For example, you can choose a family medicine visit for routine care or general health concerns. You can also choose between an in-person or telephone appointment. (**Note:** Telephone visits may not be appropriate for all health concerns.)

After selecting the Appointment Type, you'll be asked to select the location where you want to be seen. Search for the military hospital or clinic where you're normally seen or where you expect to be treated. If you can't find your military hospital or clinic, it may be listed by another name—or, it may not have appointments available to schedule in the patient portal. Please call the facility directly to make an appointment or contact your care team for more information.

#### **Step 4: Pick a date and time**

You'll see available dates and times for the provider you selected, or for the appointment type at the location you selected. Scroll through the options to find a date and time that works best for you. MHS GENESIS allows you to select appointments based on your schedule, providing flexibility and convenience.

If you don't see a time that works, you can always check back later or contact the hospital or clinic directly for availability.

#### **Step 5: Add details about your visit**

Before finalizing your appointment, you'll have the opportunity to provide additional details. You must specify why you're scheduling the appointment. You can also add notes for your provider. This step helps your care team prepare for your visit by ensuring they have all necessary information in advance. You'll also choose how you'd like to be contacted if a follow-up is needed for your appointment.

#### **Step 6: Confirm the appointment**

Once you've filled in all details, review your appointment to ensure everything is correct. Confirm the location, provider, date, and time. When you're ready, click "Book Appointment." You can then see the details under "Upcoming Appointments."

#### **Step 7: Managing appointments**

Need to make changes to your appointment? Simply return to the "Appointments" tab. From here, you can modify or cancel your appointment at any time.

- Under "Upcoming Appointments," find the appointment you want to modify. Select "Options."
- Select "View Details," "Reschedule appointment," or "Cancel." Rescheduling will let you change the date or time of your appointment. Canceling will remove a scheduled appointment that's no longer needed. (**Note:** If you cancel, you'll need to create a new appointment if you still need to see your provider.)
- Fill in required fields with the red asterisk.
- Click "Send request" or "Yes, Cancel Appointment" after you've filled in all required fields. Please note that when you "Send request," your care team will get a Reschedule or Cancel message. They'll need to take action before your appointment is rescheduled or cancelled. Click "Yes, Cancel Appointment" to finalize the cancellation.

By following these steps, you'll find that the [MHS GENESIS Patient Portal](#) is a convenient method for making and managing your appointments. 

## **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 300 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 300+ 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 December

- 1 December – Birth of Civil Rights movement - Rosa Parks was arrested in Montgomery, AL (1955)
- 1 December – Civil Air Patrol founded (1941)
- 2 December – Napoleon Bonaparte crowned Emperor of France (1804)
- 2 December – United Arab Emirates formed (1971)
- 3 December – First artificial heart transplant (1982)
- 5 December - Haiti was discovered by Christopher Columbus (1492)
- 5 December - The AFL-CIO was founded (1955)
- 6 December - Thomas Edison demonstrated his newly invented phonograph (1877)
- 6 December - Gerald Ford was sworn in as vice president (1973)
- 7 December – Pearl Harbor Day
- 7 December – Christmas Party – Overlook- 1700**
- 7 December – SEC Championship Game
- 8 December - John Lennon was assassinated in New York City (1980)
- 8 December - The USSR (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) ceased to exist (1991)
- 11 December - The first transatlantic radio signal was transmitted by Guglielmo Marconi (1901)
- 11 December - King Edward VIII abdicated the throne of England (1936)
- 12 December – Monthly Board Meeting – Java Café - 1100**
- 13 December - New Zealand was discovered by Dutch navigator Abel Tasman (1642)
- 13 December – Beginning of the “Rape of Nanking” (1937)
- 14 December - George Washington died at Mount Vernon (1799)
- 14 December – Army-Navy Game
- 15 December – The Bill of Rights became effective (1791)
- 15 December - Gone with the Wind had its world premiere in Atlanta (1939)
- 16 December - The Boston Tea Party occurred (1773)
- 16 December – Battle of the Bulge began (1944)
- 17 December - Orville and Wilbur Wright achieved the first powered, controlled airplane flight (1903)
- 20 December - South Carolina became the first state to secede from the Union (1860)
- 21 December – First Day of Winter
- 20-21 December – First round college football playoffs
- 23 December - The transistor was invented at Bell Laboratories (1947)
- 25 December – Christmas Day
- 31 December - Thomas Edison demonstrated his electric incandescent lamp (1879)
- 31 December – New Year’s Eve

