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June 2022



Huntsville Chapter
Military Officers Association of America

The Sentinel

Huntsvillemoaa.org



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



Greetings Huntsville Chapter Members –

Welcome to another great newsletter!

Another outstanding turnout for a Chapter luncheon – thanks to all who attended! We appreciate RADM Landolt's very timely briefing on NATO and the current situation in Europe!

Just a reminder that our next meeting will be August 31st. More details to come, but please mark the date NOW on your calendars! There are no luncheons in June or July.

On May 17th, I was very honored to present 7 scholarships to area high school students as a part of our 2021-2022 Scholarship Drive. The resumes of these students are just incredible – where in the heck do they get the time and energy? I very much enjoyed talking to them both before and after the award ceremony. Many thanks to the Redstone Arsenal Military and Civilians Club for coordinating the awards!

Speaking of the Scholarship Fund, there are still two ways for all of you to participate:

- Participate in our annual golf tournament as a player, sponsor, or golf committee volunteer.
- Make a direct donation. Any amount - \$10 or \$10,000! See page 10 for details.

Our 2022 ROTC/JROTC Award campaign is complete – 19 schools later! My deepest thanks to all of those who volunteered to present awards to these outstanding Cadets. Please keep this in mind for next year – it is a VERY rewarding experience. Also, **thanks to Geno Lesinski** for a superb job of coordinating the campaign!

Our **2022 Scholarship Fund Golf Tournament** is scheduled for **September 9th** with a 0830 shotgun start. The golf committee is full speed ahead pursuing sponsors and players. Our next golf committee meeting is June 17th at the Java Café at 1200. We welcome any and all help!

Stay flexible, stay safe, and enjoy some outdoor time (monsoons permitting)!

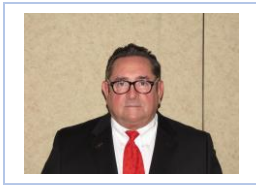
Rick

No Member Meeting in June

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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.”

It is time to vote again!

Alabama Statewide Run Off Election is June 21, 2022. Plan to vote!!!

Let's look at the results from the Alabama Statewide Primary Election.

1. Governor Ivey turned back eight primary challengers to win the Republican gubernatorial nomination without a runoff Tuesday earning about 55% of the vote.
2. In the contest to run for US Senator as the Republican candidate in November, Katie Britt earned about 45% of the vote statewide Tuesday to Mo Brooks' 29%, pitting the two in a head-to-head contest on June 21.
3. Greg Cook bested Deborah Jones for the Alabama Supreme Court in a race that became a proxy war between trial lawyers and the business community. Cook, supported by business, won 55%-45%.
4. For Secretary of State, outgoing State Auditor Jim Zeigler and state Rep. Wes Allen advanced to the Republican primary runoff to succeed GOP incumbent John Merrill as Alabama's top elections officer.
5. State Rep. Andrew Sorrell of Muscle Shoals advanced to a runoff against one of two other candidates in the race for the GOP nomination for State Auditor—the other two are too close to call at this time
6. Both Public Service Commission races are headed to runoffs.

For Place 1, incumbent Jeremy Oden won 33% to Brett Woodall's 32%. For Place 2, incumbent Chip Beeker won 43% to Robert McCollum's 36%. Both seats will be on the June 21 runoff ballot.

7. Alabama's 5th Congressional District, Madison County Commissioner Dale Strong will face former Huntsville Superintendent Casey Wardynski in a runoff. Strong got 45% of the vote to Wardynski's 23%.

The turn-out was only 23 percent state-wide.

On the National Front:

The April 2022 CPI is 284.575, 6.0 percent above the FY 2022 COLA baseline. The Consumer Price Index for May 2022 is scheduled to be released June 10. The CPI baseline for FY 2022 is 268.421.

Continued on page 9

2022-2023 GOVERNING BOARD

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Secretary: COL Michael C. Barron, USA-Ret, 337-422-8862, m.barron468@gmail.com

Treasurer: Lt Col Charles T. Clements, USAF-Ret, 256-715-1671, ctcbama76@gmail.com

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STANDING COMMITTEES

Membership (Acting): MAJ Bruce T. Robinson, USA-Ret, 256-426-0525, brobinsol1976@gmail.com

Programs: CAPT Richard C. West, USN-Ret, 256-776-6901, rickw675@att.net

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

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

Public Affairs (Publicity): Vacant

Chapter Historian: Vacant

Surviving Spouse Liaison: Mrs. Jan Camp, 256-464-8622, janetecamp@aol.com

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

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

Chapter Chaplain: CH (LTC) Bert E. Wiggers, AUS-Ret, 256-617-0055, chbwig@gmail.com

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

FAHC Liaison: MAJ Bruce T. Robinson, USA-Ret, 256-426-0525, brobinsol1976@gmail.com

Golf: MAJ Bruce T. Robinson, USA-Ret, 256-426-0525, brobinsol1976@gmail.com

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

TOPS: MAJ Bruce T. Robinson, USA-Ret, 256-426-0525, brobinsol1976@gmail.com

The SENTINEL Editor: MAJ Bruce T. Robinson, USA-Ret, 256-426-0525, brobinsol1976@gmail.com

Webmaster: CAPT Richard C. West, USN-Ret, 256-776-6901, rickw675@att.net

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COL John Fairlamb, USA-Ret, 256-539-0161, fairlambjrf@comcast.net (June 2023)

MAJ Monte C. Washburn, USA-Ret, 256-301-5457, monte.washburn@heartlandits.com (June 2024)

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



PX / Commissary

Col Gerald C. Maxwell, USAFR



Main Exchange

Your Main Exchange has the yard care tools, fertilizers, mulch and topsoils you require. Take care of all the weeds and feed the grass at the same time. You can choose from a bag to spread on your yard to several liquids that make the job even easier. Plus, lawn mowers from tractor, push, self-propelled and zero turn!

For Father's Day, throw some BBQ on the smoker or grill you can buy from your Exchange. From apartment size to having the neighborhood block party – your Exchange can make you king of the grill.

After that, enjoy your super-sized TV or surf the internet on your new computer. Either way, your Exchange has you covered!

The Exchange just had a 15% your first day's purchase with your new STAR card. Keep watch for the next opportunity to save when you get a STAR card.

Shopette

Your Express has your favorite and new offerings of beer, liquor, and various spirits. Stop in now and get a wide variety of new local brews! Plus, trending wines with featured new selections – both inexpensive and exclusive.

New beers include Bitburger dry hop'd Zwickl, and new local beers like Vapor Trail, Mach One, & Folklore Grateful Red Ale - Cahaba Brewing Company. Also try Miracle Worker - Yellow Hammer Brewing. There are many more!

Check out the wines of the Month, Spirit of the Month, and Limited Time Specials.

For the discerning buyer, Johnnie Walker Blue Label 18-year-old blended Scotch whiskey for \$27.50. You can also try Glenfiddich single malt Scotch whiskey at 12, 14, 15, and 18 years old – or - Glenmorangie at 10, 12, and 14 years old. Check out Crystal Head Vodka (in a clear crystal skull decanter). Dan Aykroyd is one of the owners and its other claim to fame is it's made from blue Weber Agave and no additives.

Commissary

You may have noticed the construction next to the commissary. I hear it's for the new Click to Go orders pickup. [Commissary CLICK2GO Online Ordering | Commissaries](#)

For your Father's Day BBQ, steaks and chops – check out the prices at your Commissary! Plus, a huge selection of sauces, rubs, and spices – and enough foil and storage containers to put it all in when you are done!

Also, check out the snacks, breads, and unusual food items from around the world – all at your commissary.

Download the Commissary Rewards mobile app (on Google Play and the App Store) today. No more clipping coupons, save time and money. Pick up your card at any Commissary, and you are ready to start saving!

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.

Lt Col Louis Davis, USAF

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:
COL James D. Treadway
256-859-1484
jtreadway51@mchs-i.com

Navy/USMC Representative:
COL Raymond G. Regner
256-851-5903,
raymond.regner@gmail.com

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

Personal Affairs Officer
Lt Col Gerald Haynes
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GERMI CLOUD,

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VICE PRESIDENT, WEALTH ADVISOR

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



Get the Latest COVID-19 Info on Boosters and Treatment

Are you continuing to protect yourself against COVID-19? Scientific evidence shows that the COVID-19 vaccines and booster doses are effective in protecting people. They protect people both from infection and especially from severe outcomes of the virus. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is now recommending a second COVID-19 booster for people in certain groups, and a first booster for children ages 5 through 11.

“As of now, a second booster dose is recommended for people who are at higher risk of severe outcomes of COVID-19,” said Dr. Jay Montgomery, Immunization Healthcare Division’s medical director of the North Atlantic Region Vaccine Safety Hub. “We know that the protection of previous dosages does diminish somewhat over time and, for some, a second booster dose could help increase protection. TRICARE beneficiaries are encouraged to stay up to date with their COVID-19 vaccines, which includes a booster for many people.”

Who is eligible for the second booster?

This varies based on your age, your health status, what vaccine you first received, and when you first got vaccinated. According to the CDC, an additional booster is available for certain people who got their first booster at least four months ago.

Right now, the eligibility rules for the second booster are as follows:

- Adults age 50 and older can receive either a Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna booster.
- Children ages 12 to 17 who are moderately or severely immunocompromised can receive a Pfizer-BioNTech booster.
- People age 18 and older who are moderately or severely immunocompromised can receive either a Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna booster.
- People age 18 and older who received the Johnson & Johnson’s Janssen vaccine (one primary dose and one booster) can receive either a Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna booster.

What about children ages 5 and older?

The CDC now recommends that children ages 5 through 11 should receive a booster shot five months after their initial Pfizer-BioNTech vaccination series.

Why should you get the booster?

If you haven’t received your first booster dose yet, you should get it. Data continues to show that you’re protected best from severe COVID-19 illness when you stay up to date with your COVID-19 vaccines and booster. During the Omicron surge, the CDC reported that those who got the first booster were 21-

Continued on page 18

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Surviving Spouse's Luncheon

Mrs. Carrie Hightower
256-882-3992

There will be no luncheons during the months of June & July.
Enjoy your summer.
We will meet again in August.

Surviving Spouse Corner: A Month of Remembrance

Elva Hernandez, Suzy Maddox, and Paula Davis sit in front of Davis' son's gravesite in Section 60 of Arlington National Cemetery on May 29, 2017. All three women have sons buried in Section 60.

May is a month with many special events and memories. For some, it means graduations or wedding showers. For gardeners, seedlings are fulfilling their promise; perennials are blooming; and the scent of lilacs and peonies enter the home as windows are finally opened. For children, it's the promise of lazy summer days or the opening of the community pool. For schools, it's the month of awards and scholarships. For the family, it's the appreciation of mothers. My May memories are of Mother's Day and Memorial Day traditions.

When I was young, we had a lovely tradition of women and girls wearing corsages and men wearing boutonnières to church on Mother's Day. In my family, we made our own. If you wore white flowers that meant your mother was dead. Colored flowers signified your mother was living. Nearly everyone wore flowers on Mother's Day.

After church, we changed into our work clothes and went to the graveyards. We cleared away dead leaves and weeds, overturned the earth in front of the headstones, and planted flowers and watered them so they would be blooming when we came to visit the gravesites on Memorial Day.

Memorial Day usually meant a parade through town. Afterward, there was often a picnic. We always visited the graves of our loved ones and shared memories of them. Flags were placed at the gravestone of each veteran.

Today, still, there are many commemorative ceremonies. I usually go to the national cemetery where my husband and many of our friends are buried. The American flags are beautiful, lining every street and positioned at each headstone. The music is inspiring, and the speaker's message is notable.

May is a month for remembering those we've lost. There is an atmosphere of sadness, patriotism, and pride. I've known sorrow, we all have, but I can't imagine the grief of a Gold Star Mother in May. Remember her in your prayers on Mother's Day and hold her in your heart on Memorial Day.



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

A Sentinel Standing on Guard of Our Hearts

'Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus (Philippians 4:6-7, KJV).

There are three things we must remember when we pray. First, we must remember the love of God; He seeks and wants only the best for us. Second, we must remember the wisdom of God; He alone knows what is best for us. Third, we must remember the power of God; He only can bring to pass that which is best for us. He who prays with a perfect belief and trust in the love the wisdom and the power of God will find God's grace.

The result of believing prayer is that the peace of God will stand like a sentinel on guard upon our hearts. The word the Apostle Paul used (*phrourein*) is the military word for "standing on guard." That peace of God, says the Apostle, "passes understanding." This means that the peace of God is so precious that a human's mind, with all its skill and all its knowledge and all its understanding can never contrive it or find it or produce it. It is entirely beyond humans' ability to obtain it by him or her work. This peace can never be of human's contriving; it is only of God's giving. The way to peace is to take ourselves and all who we hold dear and to place them and ourselves trustingly in the hand of God.



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: 317
Regular Members: 265
Surviving Spouses: 52

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

**Welcome New Members to
Huntsville Chapter MOAA**

None this month

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

The nation's top officer acknowledged concerns raised by MOAA and other advocacy groups regarding proposed medical billet cuts, telling a House committee the reductions could pose a risk to battlefield medicine.

“The key issue here is the medical readiness of the force, and do we have enough doctors, nurses and medics and corpsmen in the fielded force to handle combat conditions,” Gen. Mark Milley, USA, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, told the House Appropriations Defense Subcommittee on May 11. “Are there enough doctors and nurses available to man combat support hospitals and other field hospitals that are necessary in combat? Candidly, I do have concerns about that.”

Milley's comments were in response to a question from Rep. Ann Kirkpatrick (D-Ariz.) about military health system (MHS) reforms representing the most significant transformation of the MHS in decades.

For the past three years, MOAA has successfully pushed for provisions in the annual National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) halting billet cuts and requiring additional DoD analysis, mitigation planning, and reports to Congress.

The civilian health care system is in a very different place today than it was in 2017, when MHS reforms were envisioned. These plans must be validated and/or adjusted to account for changes in civilian medical system capacity and workforce projections. Without rigorous DoD analysis and congressional oversight, unintended consequences of these reforms could erode an earned benefit for millions of servicemembers, retirees, families, and survivors.

Congressional Resources


If in doubt as to your legislator's online contact info or who they are, the below websites provide ALL legislator's names with contact info to facilitate the copying and forwarding of suggested letters to them, asking them questions, or seeking their assistance:

<https://www.congress.gov/search?q=%7B%22source%22%3A%5B%22members%22%5D%2C%22congress%22%3A%5B%22117%22%5D%2C%22chamber%22%3A%22House%22%7D%22%7D> House

<https://www.congress.gov/search?q=%7B%22source%22%3A%5B%22members%22%5D%2C%22congress%22%3A%5B%22117%22%5D%2C%22chamber%22%3A%22Senate%22%7D%22%7D> Senate

To check status on any veteran related legislation, go to <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th> congress for any House or Senate bill introduced in the 117th Congress. Bills are listed in reverse numerical order for House and then Senate. Bills are normally initially assigned to a congressional committee to consider and amend before sending them on to the House or Senate as a whole. To read the text of bills that are to be considered on the House floor in the upcoming week refer to <https://docs.house.gov/floor> .

Please read the recent posting to the Legislative Affairs portion of our webpage—the article deals with the USS Gerald R. Ford.

As always, please take time to look at <http://takeaction.moaa.org>. The National Headquarters of MOAA has outlined action items they think are important to active-duty force as well as those who have served, including you. On the MOAA webpage each action item is presented in the following format: Who is Affected; The Issue; and The Remedy. 



HCMOAA Treasurer's Report April 2022

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

1. The April 2022 Treasurer's Report is presented herein.

2. Monthly Summary:

	Operating Funds	Savings
Starting Balance	\$16,247.29	\$16,523.13
Income	\$ 1,185.00	\$ 0.13
Expenses	\$ 1,552.62	\$ 0.00
Ending Balance	\$15,879.67	\$16,523.26

3. Notable income: Proceeds from the April luncheon, petty cash for the April luncheon and a donation from First Command.

4. Notable expenses: Payment for the March and April luncheons, petty cash for the April luncheon, office supplies, and JROTC supplies.

5. Chapter Saving account activity was limited to interest.

6. The Chapter Operating Funds contains \$2,403.07 in reserved funds donated by various VSOs in support of the RAD Luncheon for the Retirees. This is money unused from 2019/2021 donations and will be applied to a future RAD luncheon or similar event. A sponsor, First Command, added \$500.00 to this fund this month.

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 students. Please consider donating to our program. Contact the HCMOAA Scholarship Fund Treasurer, Rick West, at rickw675@att.net or 256.776.6901 for details.

On May 17th at The Summit Club, the Chapter presented \$12,000 in scholarships to outstanding area high school students at the 2022 RSAMCC Merit Awards Ceremony.

Let's try to raise the bar for 2023!

The Scholarship Fund operates on a calendar year. Remember that the fund is fully tax deductible due to 501(c)(3) status. **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 tour:

Total received for May:	\$0
Total received CY22:	\$0





Huntsville Chapter
Military Officers Association of America
P.O. Box 1301 - Huntsville, AL 35807
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 1st 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
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Intelligence

1. A young boy enters a barber shop and the barber whispers to his customer, "This is the dumbest kid in the world. Watch while I prove it to you." The barber puts a dollar bill in one hand and two quarters in the other, then calls the boy over and asks, "Which do you want, son?" The boy takes the quarters and leaves. "What did I tell you?" said the barber. "That kid never learns!" Later, when the customer leaves, he sees the same young boy coming out of the ice cream store. "Hey, son! May I ask you a question? Why did you take the quarters instead of the dollar bill?" The boy licked his cone and replied, "Because the day I take the dollar, the game is over!"

2. Three men who were raised in the wild are living in the wilderness together. One of them is extremely smart, one is average, and one is extremely stupid. One day, it is the extremely smart one's turn to catch and cook dinner. He goes out and comes back with a bear. The other two are astounded and ask, "How did you catch this bear?" The extremely smart one replies, "I see tracks, I follow tracks. I see bear, I shoot bear." The next day, it is the average one's turn to hunt and cook dinner. He goes out and returns with a deer. The extremely stupid one is amazed to see the catch and asks, "How did you catch this deer?" The average one replies, "I see tracks, I follow tracks. I see deer, I shoot deer." The following day, the extremely stupid one goes out to hunt and comes back half dead. The other two ask, "How did you mess up so badly? Didn't you follow our instructions?" To which the stupid one replies, "I did! I see tracks, I follow tracks. I see train, I shoot train, and that's when my mistake hit me."

3. I was having trouble with my computer. So, I called Nathan, the 13 year old next door whose bedroom looks like Mission Control, and asked him to come over. Nathan clicked a couple of buttons and solved the problem. As he was walking away, I called after him, "So, what was wrong? He replied, "It was an ID ten T error." I didn't want to appear stupid, but nonetheless inquired, "An ID Ten T error? What's that? In case I need to fix it again." Nathan grinned, "Haven't you ever heard of an ID ten T error before?" "No", I replied. "Write it down," he said, "And I think you'll figure it out." So, I wrote down: I D 1 0 T. I used to like that little boy.

4. A young LCDR meets with a Chief in his office. The LCDR asks, "Chief, how do you run such an efficient shop? Are there any tips you can give to me?" "Well," says the Chief, "the most important thing is to surround yourself with intelligent people." The LCDR frowns and says, "but how do I know if the people around me are really intelligent?" The Chief takes a sip of coffee and says, "oh, that's easy. You just ask them to answer an intelligence riddle." Then the Chief yells out to one of his First Class Petty Officers. The First Class walks into the room, "yes, Chief, what can I do for you?" The Chief smiles and says, "answer me this, please. Your mother and father have a child. It is not your brother, and it is not your sister. Who is it?" Without pausing for a moment, the First Class answers, "Well, that would be me." "Yes, Very good. Thanks," says the Chief. The LCDR goes back to his office, assembles his junior officers, and asks them the same question, "answer this for me. Your mother and your father have a child. It's not your brother, and it's not your sister. Who is it?" All of the junior officers look at the LCDR in amazement, "We're not sure; let us get back to you on that one." The junior officers then have numerous meetings to discuss the question without any resolution. Finally, they run into the Chief. The junior officers ask, "Chief, can you answer this for us? Your mother and father have a child, and it's not your brother or your sister. Who is it?" The Chief yells back, "That's easy. It's me!" All of the officers smile and say, "Thanks!" The junior officers schedule a meeting with the LCDR, and at that meeting, report, "sir, we found the answer to your question. We did some research, and we have the answer to that riddle. It's a Chief!" The LCDR gets up and starts screaming at them, "No, you idiots! It's the First Class!"

Interesting Situations

1. An old Marine pilot sat down at the Starbucks, still wearing his old USMC flight jacket and ordered a cup of coffee. As he sat sipping his coffee, a young woman sat down next to him. She turned to the pilot and asked, 'Are you a real pilot?' He replied, 'Well, I've spent my whole life flying planes, first Stearmans, then the early Grumman's... flew a Wildcat and Corsair in WWII, and later in the Korean conflict, Banshees and Cougars. I've taught more than 260 people to fly and given rides to hundreds, so yeah, I guess I am a pilot, and you, what are you? She said, 'I'm a lesbian. I spend my whole day thinking about naked women. As soon as I get up in the morning, I think about naked women. When I shower, I think about naked women. When I watch TV, I think about naked women. It seems everything makes me think of naked women.' The two sat sipping in silence. A little while later, a young man sat down on the other side of the old pilot and asked: "Are you a real pilot?" He replied, 'I always thought I was, but I just found out I'm a lesbian.

2. A husband, for their 10-year anniversary, bought his wife a map of the world. He wrapped it up in a box and attached a card. On the card it said, "Throw this dart at this map and wherever it lands is where I am taking you". He'd been saving up money for close to 2 years now because they had never been on a honeymoon. He then put a dart in his wife's hand. She was so excited and nervous. She said I hope it lands on Ireland. She finally threw the dart. He was happy to announce this October they will be spending 2 wonderful weeks beside the baseboard in the kitchen.

3. A couple was having dinner one evening when the husband reached across the table, took his wife's hand, and said, "Beth, soon we will be married for 30 years, and there's something I have to know. In all these 30 years have you ever been unfaithful to me?" Beth replied, "Well Charles, I have to be honest with you. Yes, I've been unfaithful to you three times these 30 years, but always for a good reason." Charles was obviously hurt by his wife's confession but said, "I never suspected. Can you tell me what you mean by good reasons?"

Beth said, "The very first time was shortly after we married, and we were about to lose our little house because we couldn't pay the mortgage. Do you remember that one evening I went to see the banker and the next day he notified you that the loan would be extended? Well, I did what I had to do." Charles recalled the visit to the banker and said, "I can forgive you for that. You saved our home, but what about the second time?"

Beth answered, "And do you remember when you were so sick, but we didn't have the money to pay for the heart surgery you needed?" Well, I went to see you doctor one night and, if you recall, he did the surgery at no charge. I did what I had to do." "I recall that", he said. "And you did it to save my life so of course I can forgive you for that. Now tell me about the third time."

"All Right, Beth said. "So do you remember when you ran for President of the golf club, and you needed 73 more votes?"



BBQ with the Vets

**Saturday, 25 June
1100-1330
Come on out & visit with the vets
Get a free lunch if you volunteer**

Chapter Member, Newsletter Sponsor & Financial Advisor Dale Kuehl of Edward Jones Receives Accredited Asset Management Specialist(TM) Designation

Financial Advisor Dale Kuehl of the financial services firm Edward Jones in Huntsville, Alabama has earned the Accredited Asset Management Specialist(TM) professional designation.

To earn this designation, Dale successfully completed the Accredited Asset Management Specialist(TM), or AAMS(TM), Professional Education Program from the Denver-based College for Financial Planning®, passed a comprehensive final exam and agreed to abide by the College's Code of Conduct.

AAMS(TM) training examines various investment strategies that are crucial for making decisions in the asset-management process. Study topics include investments and insurance, as well as tax, retirement and estate considerations.

Scholarship Golf Tournament

Our annual fundraising golf tournament for 2022 is scheduled for September 9th at the Links at Redstone.

The Chapter's Golf Committee will hold its next planning meeting on Friday, 17 June, at 1200. It will take place at the Java Café 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





29 Birthdays in June

CPT Rene E Lemieux, USA
LTC Stephen D Rice, USA
LTC Johnnie L Bone Jr, USA
CDR Rudolph M Ohme, USN
COL Michael A Roddy, USA
MAJ John F Wilson Jr, USA
Capt Kenneth E Shepard, USAF
COL Tom L Albertson, USA
CDR Robert P Rolf, USN
LTC James M Ivy IV, USA
MAJ Sherrill T Chaffin, USA
Mrs. Freddia K Scott
Mrs. Nora Taylor
CW4 William W Wright, USA
COL Lee M Tonsmeire, USA

Mrs. Helen J Kolankiewicz
MAJ Michael V Tallman, USA
LTC Roderic Spencer, USA
CPT Vernon K Sutter, USA
Mrs. Florence L Garman
CW3 Lewis F Spencer Jr, USA
Mrs. Lois J Wendt
COL John A Olshefski, USA
CWO Richard C Demming, USA
LTC Johanna L Mora, USA
Col Bernard S Morgan Jr, USAF
LTC William L Brigadier, USA
Lt Col Andrew J Grau, USAF
LTC Gary R Young, 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 so it can be included in future newsletters. Thank you.

Governing Board Vacancies

The chapter either has, or will have, vacancies in several governing board positions. We need some dedicated volunteers to fill these positions and help the leadership team keep the chapter vibrant. Brief descriptions of the positions follow. If you think you may be able to fill one of the vacancies, or desire additional information, contact any board member.

1st Vice President: An important position. The 1st VP fills in for the President in his absence. He also supervises & assists the other board members & committees with their duties.

Membership: A key position. The chair maintains a roster of chapter members & keeps it in synch with MOAA National's online roster. Responsible for recruiting & retention of members.

Webmaster: Maintains the chapter's website & keeps it current. You can be as creative as you want. The position could be filled by a spouse, child or grandchild of a member.

Chaplain: Provides spiritual support to members in need. Provides prayers at chapter meetings. Provides a monthly newsletter article. You need not be a military chaplain or any type of priest or minister to fill the position.



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

TAPS

None this month

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

We will miss these outstanding Leaders and Patriots.



Chapter Happenings in May



Madison County High School JROTC winner
Cadet Captain Mason Marks with chapter
president Rick West



Chapter president Rick West and the seven
2022 HCMOAA scholarship award winners



BG Fuller presents MOAA JROTC medal to Ft. Payne High School Cadet Miguel Pasqual-Alonzo

Chapter president Rick West presents a certificate of appreciation to chapter member and May guest speaker RADM Rich Landolt (USN-Ret)



RADM Landolt addresses the May membership meeting on NATO current affairs



Chapter president Rick West & Charles Clements present the MOAA wreath at the Memorial Day ceremony at the Huntsville Veterans Memorial

-times less likely to die from COVID-19 compared to those who were unvaccinated. They were also 7-times less likely to be hospitalized.

An Armed Forces Health Surveillance Division study also reported that active duty service members who got the booster during the winter surge of the Omicron variant were much less likely to get COVID-19 or show symptoms of the disease.

Where can you get the booster?

You can get the booster shot at:

- A military hospital or clinic
- Your civilian provider (If you need to find a vaccine provider, search the provider directory.)
- State and local-run vaccination sites
- Pharmacies participating in the Federal Retail Pharmacy Program

Like the COVID-19 vaccine, additional booster shots are free for everyone. If you aren't on active duty, you may have a cost for an office visit when seeing a civilian provider. You may also have costs if you need follow-on care.

What if you test positive for COVID-19?

The government established a Test to Treat program in March for people who test positive for the virus. Two oral COVID-19 medications that effectively treat COVID-19 symptoms are now available. To get these medications, you can go through:

- Your doctor
- Military pharmacies
- Retail pharmacies
- Some health clinics

The oral antiviral medications are Paxlovid and molnupiravir. They have shown to be highly effective in preventing severe disease and hospitalization. They're an important new way to fight the effects of COVID-19. If you have COVID-19 symptoms and test positive, don't wait to get treated. You must take the drugs within five days of your first COVID-19 symptoms. To find a Test to Treat location near you, check out the locator page.

Keep up with the latest information on COVID-19 vaccines and boosters from the CDC and TRICARE. Be sure to talk to your health care provider about your vaccine questions. Your provider can help you review all your options and help you choose your COVID-19 booster.

At the time of posting, this information is current. Visit www.cdc.gov or TRICARE COVID Guidance for the most current COVID-19 information. 

Tax Laws

Kansas: *Balloon Payment* - Want to ride in a hot air balloon in Kansas? If it is tethered to the ground, passengers are taxed for the entertainment. But if the rope is untied, it's treated as air transportation and the ride is tax free. Wisconsin and Missouri have had similar laws on the books.

Kentucky: *Breeding Contempt* - Home to the world-famous Kentucky Derby, this state has a 6% sales tax on thoroughbred stud fees. The revenue has topped \$15 million in some years, split among three horse breeder incentive funds.

Louisiana: *Worth a Shot* - Every September, Louisiana has a Second Amendment sales tax holiday. Hunting supplies, ammunition, and firearms are all exempt from state and local sales taxes, as well as use taxes. At one point it was accidentally repealed, but it was subsequently reinstated last year.

Maine: *Blue Laws* - Officially called the Maine Wild Blueberry Tax, this charge amounts to 1.5 cents per pound of wild blueberries sold. Businesses generally pass the tax on to consumers.

Maryland: *Waste of Money* - Homeowners with septic systems in Maryland have had to pay \$5 a month, or \$60 a year, with the money going to upgrade wastewater treatment plants and failing septic systems and reduce pollution in Chesapeake Bay.

Massachusetts: *Outside the Lines* - Massachusetts residents traveling for a holiday or celebration might run afoul of the law if they bring a bottle of liquor or wine. A special permit and fee are required to bring alcohol that wasn't purchased, and isn't intended for resale, in the state.

Michigan: *Be Prepared to Pay* - Like many states, Michigan taxes prepared food but not unprepared food, and the law goes into detail about how to distinguish the two. Buying hot popcorn at a concession stand may be taxable, as that counts as prepared food, but a bag of chips isn't (unless it's heated or sold with an eating utensil).

Minnesota: *A Fur Cry* - Those trying to stay warm during the Minnesota winter used to think twice before buying a fur coat. While most clothing items are tax-exempt, real fur was subject to sales tax — 6.875% statewide plus local taxes. The tax applied to fur coats bought online, as well. The rule has since been revoked, likely because fur has become less popular.

Mississippi: *Grows on Trees* - Individuals and groups of "private nonindustrial landowners" have been able to get a tax credit for up to 50% of the costs associated with hardwood and pine reforestation. The credit has a cap of \$10,000 a year and a lifetime limit of \$75,000.

Missouri: *The Bachelor Tax* - To encourage young men to marry, Missouri charged an annual tax of \$1 to single men between the age of 21 and 50. The "bachelor tax" was passed in 1820, when \$1 was equivalent to about \$20 today, and it's no longer enforced.

Montana: *Prescription for Savings* - In Montana, prescription drugs and count toward medical expenses for those who itemize deductions. Even with a valid medical marijuana card, though, the cost of buying or growing marijuana isn't deductible.

Nebraska: *Drug Tax Stamps* - Like **Alabama**, Nebraska taxes the sale of illegal controlled substances. The state's law says drug dealers must buy drug tax stamps at a rate of \$100 per ounce of marijuana, \$150 per gram of controlled substances, or \$500 per 50 dosage units of controlled substances that aren't generally sold by weight.

Nevada: *The Body Oil Deduction* - Since 1999, the Mr. Olympia bodybuilding competition has been held in Las Vegas. Like everyone else, bodybuilders can deduct ordinary and necessary business expenses. But it's one of the few professions that can count body oil among those expenses.

New Hampshire: *Improperly* - New Hampshire has neither a sales tax nor an income tax (with the exception of a 5% tax on interest and dividends above \$2,400, or \$4,800 for joint filers). Instead, many local governments rely on property taxes, which are among the highest in the nation.

New Jersey: *The Pumpkin Rule* - Several states, New Jersey included, have made a distinction between pumpkins used for food and pumpkins used for decoration. If they- were painted, cut, or sold as decorations, the pumpkins were taxable.

New Mexico: *Happy Birthday* The year-round warmth of New Mexico draws many retirees, and the state tax rules have an interesting twist for the elderly: Those over 100 years old and not claimed as a dependent don't have to pay income tax.

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 350+ 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 or 256-426-0525.

Important Dates in June

- 3 June - The Duke of Windsor married Wallis Warfield Simpson (1937)
- 4 June – Rome liberated by US 5th Army (1944)
- 4 June - A train wreck in Jessore, Bangladesh, killed 76 and injured over 500 (1972)
- 4 June – Chinese troops fire on unarmed protesters in Tiananmen Square in Beijing (1989)
- 5 June - Robert F Kennedy shot & mortally wounded (1968)
- 6 June - D-Day (1944)
- 6 June - California voters approved Proposition 13, severely limiting property tax rates (1978)
- 8 June – Apache leader Cochise died (1874)
- 9 June – Monthly Board Meeting – Java Café - 1100**
- 9 June - The British signed a 99-year lease for Hong Kong (1898)
- 11 June - Mount Pinatubo in the Philippines erupted (1991)
- 11 June - The Soviet military occupation of East Germany ended (1994)
- 11 June – Monthly Breakfast – City Café Diner – 0900**
- 12 June - The Philippines declared their independence from Spain (1898)
- 12 June - Civil rights leader Medgar Evers was assassinated (1963)
- 13 June - *The New York Times* began publishing the Pentagon Papers (1971)
- 14 June – Continental Army established (1775)
- 14 June - Warren G. Harding became the first President to broadcast a message over the radio (1922)
- 14 June - Univac 1, the world's first commercial electronic computer was unveiled (1951)
- 17 June – Watergate burglary (1972)
- 17 June – Golf Meeting – Java Cafe - 1200**
- 18 June – Battle of Waterloo (1815)
- 19 June - Julius and Ethel Rosenberg were executed (1953)
- 19 June – Father’s Day
- 20 June – First day of summer
- 22 June – Hitler invaded Russia (1941)
- 24 June – Berlin Blockade established (1948)
- 25 June – Custer’s last stand (1876)
- 25 June – Korean War began (1950)
- 26 June - The United Nations Charter was signed (1945)
- 28 June – World War I ended (1919)
- 28 June - Archduke Francis Ferdinand and his wife were assassinated at Sarajevo (1914)

