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October 2022



Huntsville Chapter  
Military Officers Association of America

# The Sentinel

Huntsvillemoaa.org



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



Greetings all!

I am loving this weather! Just the right amount of rain and some cool days! Now is the time to make sure your heating system works...

That was a great turnout for the September luncheon! I think all enjoyed Mr. Kelley's discussion and responses to the many questions. Utilities are near and dear to all of us – as they would be to any "retiree group"!

Our next meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, October 20<sup>th</sup>** at the Summit Club – This is not our normal date... it was changed to accommodate the guest speaker and the scheduling of the RAD. The meeting will start with meet and greet at 1030 and lunch / business meeting / guest speaker starting at 1100. Our guest speaker this month will be CAPT Paul Frost, USN (Ret.) from MOAA HQ. He is their expert on legislative issues and one of two MOAA HQ's Benefit Counselors. With all the changes to benefits and the current legislative actions, this should be a very interesting meeting. **RSVPs are open – note that the deadline is earlier than usual! Please RSVP to me ASAP at [rickw675@att.net](mailto:rickw675@att.net) or 256.776.6901** – let's have a huge turnout for CAPT Frost and bring those questions!

The Golf Tournament is complete for this year! We had a record number of players and a ton of fun! We are still working the financial report which will be promulgated at the October meeting. All went very well except for the sponsors – we were down a bit there and I believe it is a sign of the current economic times. Regardless, **we did have several great sponsors and a TON of donors!** Please see page 12 in this newsletter for a complete (I hope) list!

Also coming up this month, we have RAD, Chapter Elections, and NAVFOC's Founder's Luncheon. I will provide the latest details in the email promulgating this newsletter.

**Have a great October and stay safe!!!**

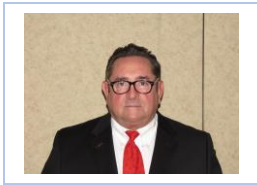
Rick

***Member Meeting is 20 October – Guest speaker is CAPT Paul Frost (USN-Ret) from MOAA National***

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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.”

The Mid-Term election is 8 November 2022. One US Senate seat is on the ballot. All 7 of the US House of Representatives seats are on the ballot, but you vote for the candidate associated with the district you reside in—for most of us it will be District 5. All 35 State Senate seats and all 105 State House seats are on the ballot, but again you vote for the person of your choice based on where you live. All of us make a choice for Governor, lieutenant governor and the other state-wide offices.

The **Alabama Recompiled Constitution Ratification Question** is on the ballot. A ‘yes’ vote supports ratifying the Constitution of Alabama of 2022, an updated and recompiled state constitution that was drafted to do the following: arrange it in proper articles, parts, and sections; remove all racist language; delete duplicative and repealed provisions; consolidate provisions regarding economic development; and arrange all local amendments by county of application. A “no” vote opposes adopting the proposed recompiled and updated state constitution.

And of course, there are 10 proposed amendments for the Alabama constitution.

**Amendment 1** concerns the fight to bail. Currently the constitution states a person charged with a crime other than a capital offense are eligible for bail. Amendment 1 would add several of crimes (e.g., kidnapping, rape, sodomy, domestic violence, etc.) to the list of those ineligible for bail.

**Amendment 2** would authorize county and city governments to grant public funds to private companies to expand access to high-speed internet services, or broadband.

**Amendment 3** concerns the power of the Alabama governor to commute a death sentence to life in prison. The amendment says the governor must notify the victim’s family and the attorney general before commuting or granting a reprieve in a death sentence.

**Amendment 4** would prohibit the Legislative from changing election laws near the date of a general election. The amendment says that any change in election law passed during a year with a general election must take effect at least six months before the election.

**Amendment 5** would delete from the constitution a provision that says probate judges have general jurisdiction over “orphans’ business.” This was based on a request of the Alabama Law Institute. The use of “orphans’ business” is obsolete language. The removal will have no practical impact to probate judges or their duties.

**Amendment 6** would allow cities and towns that collect a special property tax to pay bonds or other debt services on public capital improvements to also use those tax dollars to directly pay for public capital improvements on a “pay as you go”

## 2022-2023 GOVERNING BOARD

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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

1st Vice President: Vacant

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, [mbaron468@gmail.com](mailto:mbaron468@gmail.com)

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

Army Representative: COL James D. Treadway, USA-Ret, 256-859-1484, [jtreadway51@mchsi.com](mailto:jtreadway51@mchsi.com)

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

Air Force Representative: Col Edward L. Uher, USAF-Ret, 256-882-6824, [bged992K@aol.com](mailto:bged992K@aol.com)

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

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

### STANDING COMMITTEES

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

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

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: Mrs. Jan Camp, 256-464-8622, [janetecamp@aol.com](mailto: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](mailto:rickw675@att.net)

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

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

FAHC Liaison: MAJ Bruce T. Robinson, USA-Ret, 256-426-0525, [brobinsol1976@gmail.com](mailto:brobinsol1976@gmail.com)

Golf: MAJ Bruce T. Robinson, USA-Ret, 256-426-0525, [brobinsol1976@gmail.com](mailto:brobinsol1976@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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### LIFE MEMBERSHIP TRUST

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

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

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

*Continued on page 9*



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



**Main Exchange**

Your AAFES store will have the new Toy Book available with 32 pages of toys on sale from late October to Dec 24. Stop in and get your copy!

The Exchange sale brochures have an October 28th 25% off all cookware and cutlery semi-annual event. Also 25% off select exercise accessories, 10% Glock handguns, 25% off gun safes, 20% off pet supplies, 20% off Gillette shave items, and 20% off Sauder furniture.

Use your Military Star card and enjoy 10% off in the Redstone Exchange Food Court and Burger King.

Columbus Day Specials are on their way, and they are gearing up for Halloween! Stop by your Exchange NOW and get your Halloween costumes.

As always shop early for best selection.

**Shopette**

New wines and beers – stop in to check out the selection – some are only temporary. Gluhwein still available near the last register in the aisle. Various wine selections are on sale each month so stop in and see what varieties are on sale this month. Risata semi sweet wines and Luca Bosio sweet wines just arrived.

Jack Daniel's Winter Jack has just arrived. And of course, Egg Nogg is always a sellout – get yours now.

Visit the Redstone Express for all your Holiday Party and Tailgating supplies.

**Commissary**

Stop by your commissary for holiday treats without the tricks! Your commissary will soon have fresh turkeys available. Quantities are limited. Plenty of frozen and smoked turkeys are available now, including Shady Brook Farms at \$0.68 per pound. I got mine and am ready for Thanksgiving.

Football season continues! Your Commissary has you covered for all the chips, dips, sauces, marinades, steaks, chops, chicken wings and whatever else you might need to make your tail gating party one of the best! Also, mixed nuts, cashews and pistachios! Don't forget, while entering the Commissary, check out the table of coupons and sales flyers – you will find several coupons covering those football party necessities!

*Continued on page 9*

**Need Addresses**

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

**None this Month**

**Concerns**

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

**None this Month**

Persons to contact are:

Army Representative:  
**COL James D. Treadway**  
256-859-1484  
[jtreadway51@mchs-i.com](mailto:jtreadway51@mchs-i.com)

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

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

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



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**CONTACT:**

**GERMI CLOUD,**

NSSA, CRPC

VICE PRESIDENT, WEALTH ADVISOR

**256-715-0094**

[germi@cloudfinancial.com](mailto:germi@cloudfinancial.com)



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



### Update from Fox Army Health Center

- Fox Army Health Center has transitioned to a new electronic health record (EHR), MHS Genesis, to help streamline and standardize patient record keeping. We “went live” on 24 September. As we acclimate to using the new EHR, patients will experience longer than normal wait times for appointments in clinical services and pharmacy. In an effort to minimize wait times, we encourage using one of these alternative options for receiving same day care:
  - TRICARE Nurse Advice Line - 24/7 access to a licensed nurse who can provide medical advice. Call 1-800-874-2273, Option 1, to speak with a nurse.
  - Network Urgent Care Center - TRICARE eligible dependents can utilize network Urgent Care Centers. Active Duty should seek care at a MTF. For more information, or to locate an in-network Urgent Care Center near you, visit <https://tricare.mil/CoveredServices/IsItCovered/UrgentCare>
  - Emergency Department - If you are experiencing a medical emergency, please call 911 or proceed to the nearest Emergency Department if you are able.
- We have received our seasonal flu shipment. Announcement is attached
- Fox is hiring qualified clinical professionals! Please review our vacancies for Licensed Practical Nurses, Medical Support Assistants, and Social Workers on the USAjobs website at [www.usajobs.gov](http://www.usajobs.gov).
- Fox Army Health Center continues to accept interested individuals that would like to volunteer their time through the American Red Cross. Please visit [www.redcross.org/alabamamississippi](http://www.redcross.org/alabamamississippi) to apply or contact Ms. Tammy Burks at [tammy.burks@redcross.org](mailto:tammy.burks@redcross.org) or 256-763-1237 for any questions. You may also visit the North Alabama Red Cross office at 1015 Airport Road SW, Suite 202 Huntsville, AL 35802.
- We are continuing to comply with CDC requirements for wearing a mask in healthcare facilities. Please continue to wear a face mask when visiting the clinic.

## Flu Shots

### Influenza Vaccine is Here

**FAHC has received a **LIMITED** amount of Flu Vaccine!**

Beneficiaries with scheduled appointments may request a flu vaccine during their visit.

Beneficiaries may also receive their flu vaccinations through any Tricare Retail Pharmacy which offers the vaccination **FREE** of charge.

For Information on TRICARE retail network pharmacies, please contact TRICARE at 1.877.363.1303 or search on-line at <https://tricare.mil/flu>

For FAHC Flu updates call the Flu Hotline at 256-955-8888 ext.1071

Email flu related questions to [usarmy.redstone.medcom-fahc.mbx.flu@mail.mil](mailto:usarmy.redstone.medcom-fahc.mbx.flu@mail.mil)



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## **Surviving Spouse's Luncheon**

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

The group decided that the next luncheon would on 20 October at 11AM at Kacey's Restaurant, 10017 Memorial Parkway South in Huntsville. Phone 256-715-0183. Everyone will be called.

## **Surviving Spouse Corner: What's in a Name?**

For many years, spouses of MOAA members were referred to as "auxiliary members" when their spouse member died.

When MOAA established the Auxiliary Member Advisory Committee (AMAC), a focus group of auxiliary members to advise the association's president on matters of importance to those who had lost their military spouse, the committee suggested it might be time to move away from the term "auxiliary."

The military was starting to refer to family members who had lost a military member as "survivors." The definition of "auxiliary" -- giving help or support, especially to a more important person or thing -- was not how spouses felt. They were the ones who had managed the household, made frequent moves, gave up careers, and raised families while the military member served. They were "survivors."

Therefore, in 2013, MOAA's board of directors voted to change the name "auxiliary member" to "surviving spouse" and declared them full members with all the rights and privileges of membership, including a position on the board of directors.

Since then, two surviving spouses have served on the board of directors: Joyce Hart, who was succeeded by Gail Joyce. In addition, Capt. Kathy Thorp, USN (Ret), is a surviving spouse on the board of directors.

The AMAC became the Surviving Spouse Advisory Council and remains at the forefront of leadership in MOAA for all surviving spouses. Through their dedication and hard work, they implemented the training module for surviving spouse liaisons for MOAA's regional leadership conferences, contribute monthly columns to *The MOAA Newsletter*, chartered the Surviving Spouse Virtual Chapter, advocated for the successful elimination the SBP/DIC offset, established the annual Surviving Spouse Liaison Excellence Award, and conducted the first Spouses and Surviving Spouse Summit at MOAA's 2021 annual meeting.

The Surviving Spouse Advisory Council also has expanded focus from advocacy only to a comprehensive development of services benefiting the spouse and surviving spouse community within MOAA.

We hope you will join the Surviving Spouse Advisory Council at the second annual Spouse and Surviving Spouse Summit at MOAA's 2022 annual meeting in Kansas City, Mo., on Oct. 28.

The Surviving Spouse Advisory Council looks forward to continued support to educate, encourage, and engage spouses and surviving spouses of MOAA.



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

### **Anger**

What does it take to turn a person into a Judas? What motivates someone to betray deep-seated loyalties?

Unresolved anger and resentment for one thing. Consider the story of Earl Pitts, FBI agent turned Soviet spy.

According to Evan Thomas in NEWSWEEK, Pitts was raised on a farm in Missouri and was recognized as a Future Farmer of America. His parents said they disciplined him firmly but fairly. He was a captain in the army who regarded himself as a patriot. Even today he is described by his wife as a "good man." So, what happened?

After getting his law degree and serving as a military policeman for six years, in 1983 Pitts realized a lifelong ambition by going to work for the FBI. In 1987 he was assigned to the New York office, and there his troubles began. He did not see how he could afford to live in the Big Apple on his \$25,000 salary.

Thomas writes, "Morale in the office was poor, and petty cheating on expense accounts was rampant. Burdened with debt from student loans, Pitts had to ask his father for a loan. He felt humiliated. Pitts later told a psychiatrist that he was "overwhelmed" by a sense of rage at the FBI.

One morning he came up with the idea of spying for the KGB. That way he could kill two birds with one stone; he could solve his money problems and get back at his bosses, he later told a psychiatrist, "I was shoved by the bureaucracy, and I shoved back."

Over the next seven years Pitts worked as a Soviet spy and for his services received \$224,000. When he was finally caught and convicted the judge sentenced him to twenty-seven years in prison. At the sentencing the judge asked him point-blank why he had become a traitor. Earl Pitts replied, "I gave in to an unreasonable anger."

Never allow anger to fester nor cause bitterness. Deal with anger as God prescribes.



## **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: 315  
Regular Members: 265  
Surviving Spouses: 50

New this month: 4  
Deaths this month: 0  
Renewals: 0

## **Welcome New Members to Huntsville Chapter MOAA**

**Col James Kendall, USAF**  
**CAPT Kenneth Lawing, USN**  
**CDR David Campbell, USN**  
**MAJ Jean Downs, USA**

## **Recruiting**

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



*Legislative – continued from page 2*

basis instead of going into debt.

**Amendment 7** would clarify the authority of counties, cities, and towns to use public funds for economic development purposes.

**Amendment 8** applies only to Shelby County. It would put privately-owned sewage systems under regulation by the Alabama Public Services Commission.

**Amendment 9** is similar to **Amendment 8**. It would put privately owned sewages systems in the town of Lake View in Tuscaloosa and Jefferson counties under the regulations of the Alabama Public Services Commission.

**Amendment 10** is a companion to the proposed recompiled Alabama Constitution of 2022. If voters ratify the Alabama Constitution of 2022, **Amendment 10** provides that any new amendments will be properly organized in the recompiled document,

The last day to register to vote by mail and in person is 24 October 2022. The Last day to apply for an absentee ballot by mail is 1 November. The last day to apply for an absentee ballot in person is 3 November. The last day to submit a completed absentee ballot in person is by 5 PM on 7 November. The deadline for a completed absentee ballot, received by mail, is noon on 8 November. Polls are open from 7 AM to 7 PM on 8 November. So VOTE!!

Wealth management and financial advisor David Little will replace Frances Akridge on the Huntsville City Council. Andrea Alvarez, a senior financial analyst for MDW Associates, will take her seat on the Huntsville City Schools Board of Education. Both were winners in runoff elections held on 20 September, with Little defeating former Huntsville Utilities Manager Bill Yell in the District 2 city council race to replace Akridge, and Alvarez defeating Angela McClure, owner of real estate closing business The McClure Group, in the District 3 school board race.

The August 2022 CPI-W is 291.629 which is 8.6 percent above the FY 2022 COLA baseline. While CPI-W figures from the first nine months of the fiscal year can indicate inflation trends and help predict the COLA increase, only the last three are used in the actual calculation. A range of COLA predictions after this year's July figure of 292.219—8.9% above the FY 2021 baseline—the final figure between 8% and 10%; anywhere in that range would mark the highest increase in this metric since 11.2% in 1981. The September figures will come out Oct. 13, and the COLA rate will be set. |||

*PX/Commissary – continued from page 3*

Your Commissary also has a huge selection of candies for Halloween - (M&M's, snickers, lollipops, and more!) right in the center of the store in the Club Pack Savings Isle! We also have fruit cake and all the materials if you want to make your own! Red and green cherries, ginger/lemon peel, citron – everything you need! For the latest check out <http://my.commissaries.com>

Your bakery and deli can create meat and cheese trays or/and sandwich trays. Please call 256.876.3517 and provide a two-hour notice. |||





## HCMOAA Treasurer's Report August 2022

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

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

2. Monthly Summary:

	Operating Funds	Savings
Starting Balance	\$16,468.14	\$16,523.68
Income	\$ 3,697.20	\$ 0.14
Expenses	\$ 260.42	\$ 0.00
Ending Balance	\$19,904.92	\$16,523.82

3. Notable income: \$1,277 in Bankcard deposit (will be transferred to HCMOAAASF), \$660 for a Sentinel ad, \$500 from RSAMCC for the RAD luncheon, \$80 in dues, and a \$50 incentive from MOAA for last year's recruitment event.

4. Notable expenses: Petty cash, \$31 contribution for partial payment for a tool supporting the HCMOAAASF, and guest speaker certificate frames.

5. Chapter Saving account activity was limited to interest.

6. The Chapter Operating Funds contains \$3,403.07 in reserved funds donated by various VSOs in support of the RAD Luncheon for the Retirees. This is money unused from 2019/2021/2022 donations and will be applied to a future RAD luncheon or similar event.

### Scholarship Fund Donations

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

The Scholarship Fund operates on a calendar year. 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 tournament.

### Scholarship Fund Donations Received During September 2022

State Farm Insurance (Lara Bryant)  
CAPT Thomas Jones, USN (Ret.)  
COL Philip White, USA (Ret.) – Non-Member  
Mrs. Rosemary Bundy  
Anonymous (2)

Total received for September:	\$850.00
Total received CY22:	<b>\$2250.00</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!

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

_____ Active	_____ Retired	_____ NG	_____ Former Officer	_____ Reserve	_____ 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

***You can't get a decent lunch for \$10 these days!***

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

**These Sponsors / Donors were very supportive of our 2022 Scholarship Fund Golf Tournament. Please thank them with your patronage!**

**Platinum Sponsors**

State Farm—Lara Bryant                      OASYS, Inc.                      Poarch Band Creek Indians

**Gold Sponsors**

First Command                      RFCU                      SAIC  
Torch Technologies                      John & Lynette Fairlamb

**Silver Sponsors**

Conditioned Air Solutions                      USAA                      Bryant Bank

**Lunch Sponsor - Cloud Financial**

**Breakfast Sponsor - North AL Veterans & Fraternal Organizations Coalition**

**Hole Sponsors**

Nick's Ristorante                      Air Force Association                      La Finka Restaurant  
Bruce & Nancy Robinson                      Rolo's Café                      Jan Camp  
Rick & Felicia West                      Serenity Nail Spa                      A-P-T  
Anonymous (5)

**Corporate Donors**

Home Depot	Twin Peaks	Lowes
Publix	Phoenix	Tennessee Aquarium
Trader Joes	Firestone Auto Care	Gunter's Landing GC
Terri Pines CC	Your Golf Superstore	Colonial GC
Cherokee Ridge CC	COSTCO	Valley Hill CC
Metro Diner	Lee's Magic Tunnel	The Ledges
Wahlburgers	Red Robin	Taziki's
Point Mallard GC	Outback	Chuy's
Connors Steak	Ihop	Steak-Out
Phil Sandoval's	Surin of Thailand	Larry's Pistol & Pawn
Atlanta Braves	TN Titans	El Monte Restaurant
The Casual Pint	Newk's	Lake Guntersville G.C. Walton's
Southern Table	Nick's Ristorante	The Brass Tap
Hampton Cove RTJ GC	Alliance Wealth	Wintzell's
Mary's Wine & Spirits		

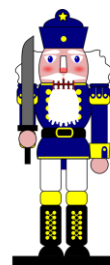
\*\*\*All the generous "booze" donors at our August luncheon with the Mayor!!\*\*\*



# **Huntsville Chapter MOAA Christmas Party**

## **Holiday Dinner**

Sliced honey glazed ham  
Oven roasted turkey breast with giblet gravy  
Country Style corn bread dressing with giblet gravy  
Macaroni & cheese  
Whole green beans  
Yeast Rolls & Butter  
Ice Water – Coffee  
Sweet or Unsweetened Iced Tea  
Pecan pie



## **HUNTSVILLE CHAPTER MOAA CHRISTMAS PARTY**

**THE OVERLOOK at THE SUMMIT CLUB  
SATURDAY EVENING, 3 DECEMBER 2022**

**COCKTAILS - No Host/Cash bar - 5:00 pm**

**President's Remarks and Dinner - 6:00 pm**

**DOOR PRIZES**

**DRESS: Business Casual – khakis/slacks and collared shirts/polo shirts for the men – slacks/skirts and blouses/collared shirts for the ladies – of course you can always dress more formally**

**\$25.00 PER PERSON (Members & Family) - \$30.00 PER PERSON (Guests)**

**RSVP by 18 November 2022 (with check made out to HCMOAA) to:**

**MAJ Bruce Robinson  
809 Farley Drive SE  
Huntsville, AL 35802  
256-426-0525**





**Membership Meeting**  
**20 October 2022**  
**1100 – Summit Club**

**Guest Speaker: CAPT Paul Frost (USN-Ret)**  
**Program Director, Financial and Benefits Education/Counseling/Veteran Services**  
**Transition Center, Military Officers Association of America (MOAA)**

Paul Frost, a retired Navy Captain, was appointed as the Program Director, Financial and Benefits Education/Counseling/Veteran Services in March 2015. Paul is co-lead on MOAA's Financial and Benefits Education program and is also an accredited Veteran Service Officer (VSO), providing VA disability compensation claim and appeal information and advice to the currently serving, retiree, veteran and military family community. In Nov 2016, he completed a rigorous training track and certification as an Accredited Financial Counselor (AFC®).

Prior to his appointment as Program Director, Paul was one of our pioneer VSO Volunteers, filing over 100 VA disability compensation claims & appeals.

Paul retired in 2012 after more than 29 years of naval/joint service. His final billet, from 2010 to 2012, was as Deputy Commander, Navy Region Southwest Asia. His responsibilities included providing naval installation management and support for the Navy's FIFTH Fleet in the Kingdom of Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates. From 2007 until 2010, Paul was the Chief of Staff, Joint Interagency Task Force West, U.S. Pacific Command's Executive Agent for DOD's counter-narcotics program in the Asia-Pacific theater. From 2001 until 2002, Paul commanded a Maritime Patrol Aviation squadron (VP-5) based out of Jacksonville, Florida. His squadron was deployed to the Mediterranean during the September 11th attacks and his aircrews participated in Operation Enduring Freedom operations.

Paul holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration/Finance from the University of Southern California and a Master of Science degree in National Resource Strategy from National Defense University.

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**Menu:** Eggplant Parmesan, Country Fried Steak with White Pepper Gravy, Green beans Almondine, Potato Salad, Wild and Long Grain Rice, Red Velvet Cake, Rolls with Butter, Iced Tea, Water, and Coffee

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

**RSVP:** CAPT Rick West, 256-776-6901, [rickw675@att.net](mailto:rickw675@att.net), NLT 15 October 2022

## **Chapter Elections**

It's that time again. The Chapter will hold an election for Chapter officers in the coming months. The positions and candidates are:

President – CAPT Richard West  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President - Vacant  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President – COL Gene Lesinski  
Secretary – COL Michael Barron  
Treasurer – Lt Col Charles Clements  
Army Service Representative - LTC Nick Mikus  
Navy/USMC Service Representative – Col Raymond Regner  
Air/Space Force Service Representative – Col Edward Uher

### **The Elections Process**

Regular elections of officers will be held biannually on even numbered years. Prior to the July membership meeting of the HCMOAA, the President shall appoint a nominating committee chaired by the immediate past President and a representative from each of the uniformed services represented in the HCMOAA. Available past Presidents of the HCMOAA are also designated as members of the nominating committee.

The Committee Chairman or his representative shall present the names of candidates proposed at the September membership meeting. Names of the nominees shall be published in the October edition (electronic and printed) of *The Sentinel*.

At the October membership meeting the recommended slate of nominees shall be read and additional nominations called for from the floor. Nominations shall then be closed, and election of officers will take place.

The results of the election shall be published in the November and January (printed only) editions of *The Sentinel*.

The newly elected officers will take office at a formal installation at the January meeting.





## 20 Birthdays in October

Col Donald R Brewer, USAF  
CPT Sean R Sterling, USA  
MAJ Curtis Smith, USA  
CPT Gary M Rose, USA  
Capt Howard Sanderford, USMC  
Col Adrian A Ritchie Jr, USAF  
LTC Robert W Hearon, USA  
COL Melvin J McLemore, USA  
LTC Harold E Walden, USA  
CW4 Edward Banville, USA

Col Edward L Uher, USAF  
CW2 Edward C Baltz, USA  
LTC Russell L Dunford, USA  
COL William W Stevenson, USA  
BG Daniel L Montgomery, USA  
COL Barton Lawrence Jr, USA  
CAPT Richard C West, USN  
Lt Col Brian J Smith, USAF  
LTC James A Cox, USA  
MAJ Lance Granger, USA

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

### **Nearly 15,000 Community Pharmacies Are Leaving the TRICARE Network Next Month**

Many military families who use independent or community pharmacies soon will have to find an alternative source for their prescription medication needs.

Approximately 15,000 community pharmacies will leave the TRICARE retail pharmacy network on Oct. 24. Nearly 400,000 beneficiaries, or roughly 4% of the TRICARE-eligible population, will be affected by the change.

Impacted beneficiaries will receive a letter from Express Scripts with a list of alternative in-network pharmacies. Walgreens and CVS remain in-network, as do many grocery store pharmacies and smaller chains. Network pharmacies also can be found using this [online search tool](#).

After Oct. 24, beneficiaries who continue to fill prescriptions at departing community pharmacies will pay the full retail price for the medication.

Even with the departure of community pharmacies, Express Scripts reports the TRICARE retail network will continue to meet or exceed TRICARE'S pharmacy access standard of at least one pharmacy within a 15-minute drive of 90% of beneficiaries.





## 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 – September Member Meeting



Mr. Wes Kelley, CEO of  
Huntsville Utilities, addresses the  
membership



Chapter President Rick West  
presents a certificate of  
appreciation to Mr. Wes Kelly

## 2022 Annual Scholarship Golf Tournament



Scenes from this year's Scholarship Golf Tournament. The participation was high, the weather was great, and everyone had a good time

## **What You Need to Know for Federal Benefits Open Season**

The Federal Benefits Open Season starts Nov. 14 and ends Dec. 12, 2022. This open season is for dental and vision coverage through the Federal Employees Dental and Vision Insurance Program (FEDVIP). FEDVIP is offered by the U.S. Office of Personnel Management and is separate from TRICARE and TRICARE Open Season activities.

Review the Q&A below to see if you're eligible for FEDVIP and more.

### **Q: Who is eligible for FEDVIP?**

**A:** Eligible persons for FEDVIP includes certain retired service members, active-duty family members, and survivors. However, FEDVIP dental and vision coverage are separate. You may not qualify for both.

### **Q: Who is eligible for dental coverage?**

**A:** Those who may qualify for dental coverage include:

- Retired service members and their eligible family members
- Retired National Guard and Reserve members and their eligible family members
- TRICARE For Life beneficiaries

### **Q: Who is eligible for vision coverage?**

**A:** To be eligible for FEDVIP vision coverage, you must be enrolled in a TRICARE health plan. Those who may qualify for vision coverage include:

- Active-duty family members
- National Guard and Reserve members and their eligible family members
- Retired service members and their eligible family members
- TRICARE For Life beneficiaries

### **Q: How do I enroll in FEDVIP?**

**A:** If you aren't newly eligible for FEDVIP or you haven't experienced a Qualifying Life Event (QLE), the next chance for you to enroll in FEDVIP dental and/or vision coverage is during this year's annual open season. Your coverage will be effective Jan. 1, 2023.

If you currently have FEDVIP coverage and don't want to make a change, you don't have to do anything. Your existing plan will continue next year as long as you remain eligible.

Don't miss your chance to enroll in or change your FEDVIP plan for next year. Visit the [BENEFEDS website](#) to check your eligibility and access tools to help you research the right plans for you and your family.

## **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 310 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](mailto:brobinso1976@gmail.com) or 256-426-0525.

## Important Dates in October

- 1 October – Henry Ford’s Model T went on sale for the first time (1908)
- 1 October – Peoples Republic of China founded (1949)
- 1 October – Panama Cana Zone returned to Panama (1979)
- 2 October – Thurgood Marshall sworn in as first African American justice of the Supreme Court (1967)
- 3 October – East & West Germany reunited (1990)
- 3 October – President Lincoln established Thanksgiving Day as the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in November (1863)
- 4 October – Russians launched the first satellite – Sputnik I - into orbit (1957)
- 4 October – Pope Paul VI became the first Pope to visit the US (1965)
- 6 October – The first "talkie" opened in New York - *The Jazz Singer* starring Al Jolson (1927)
- 6 October – Egyptian President Anwar Sadat was assassinated in Cairo (1981)
- 8 October – Great Chicago Fire (1871)
- 8 October – Monthly Breakfast – City Café Diner – 0900**
- 8 October – Sergeant Alvin York single-handedly took out a German machine-gun battalion (1918)
- 10 October – Spiro Agnew resigned as Vice President (1973)
- 11 October – Columbus Day
- 12 October - Brazil became independent of Portugal (1822)
- 13 October – US Navy established (1775)
- 13 October – Monthly Board Meeting – Java Café - 1100**
- 13 October - The cornerstone of the White House was laid by George Washington (179
- 14 October - Chuck Yeager became the first man to break the sound barrier (1947)
- 15 October – Napoleon Bonaparte exiled on the Island of St. Helena (1815)
- 15 October – US Senate confirmed Clarence Thomas to the Supreme Court (1991)
- 18 October – The Nuremberg War Crimes Trial began (1945)
- 19 October - "Black Monday" occurred on Wall Street as stocks plunged 22.6% (1987)
- 20 October - General Douglas MacArthur “returned” to the Philippines (1944)
- 20 October – Monthly Member Meeting – Summit Club - 1030**
- 20 October - Jacqueline Kennedy married Greek businessman Aristotle Onassis (1968)
- 21 October - Thomas Edison successfully tested an electric incandescent lamp (1879)
- 21 October – Retiree Appreciation Day**
- 22 October – Cuban Missile Crisis began (1962)
- 24 October – United Nations founded (1945)
- 26 October - The shoot-out at the O.K. Corral (1881)
- 31 October - Halloween

