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September 2022



Huntsville Chapter
Military Officers Association of America

The Sentinel

Huntsvillemoaa.org



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



Greetings all! Welcome to another great newsletter!

The summer months are over (well, September is hot for a while) and I am looking forward to some cool temperatures!

What an excellent turnout for the August luncheon! I think all enjoyed Mayor Battle's discussion and responses to the many questions. Hopefully we can keep attendance at our luncheons on par with this one!

Our next meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, September 28th** at the Summit Club. The meeting will start with meet and greet at 1030 and lunch / business meeting / guest speaker starting at 1100. Thanks to help from members John Fairlamb and John Olshefski, our guest speaker this month will be Wes Kelley – CEO/President of Huntsville Utilities. With all the growth in the region and the rise in costs, this should be a very interesting meeting. **RSVPs are open! Please RSVP to me ASAP at rickw675@att.net or 256.776.6901** – let's have a huge turnout for the Mr. Kelley and bring those questions!

We are in the last week of preparations for the Scholarship Fund Golf Tournament - scheduled for **September 9th** with a 0830 shotgun start. We have a lot of golfers and a pretty good silent auction. Sadly, we are a bit short on sponsors, but we will figure out how to make that up before the end of the calendar year!

Speaking of the Scholarship Fund, you can still make a direct donation. We have received many from our great members – any amount helps! Donations can be made out to HCMOAAASF and sent to the chapter's P.O. Box. Any questions, let me know.

FYI, we had 7 cancellations from the August luncheon due to testing positive for COVID – a couple of members were very sick. That rascal is still out there and still making people very sick. Please follow the recommended guidelines, posted requirements and (most of all) **stay safe!!!**

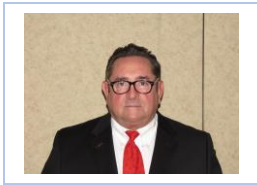
Rick

Member Meeting is 28 September – Guest speaker is Mr. Wes Kelley, President & CEO of Huntsville Utilities

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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.”

Voters in Huntsville cast ballots in two contested city council and three contested board of education races on 23 August. Bill King won his contest for the District 4 city council and Holly McCarty won her contest for the Board of Education for District 2. Two races are undecided, leading to runoffs. Candidates must get 50% plus 1 vote to avoid a runoff. David Little and Bill Yell will face off for the District 2 spot on the city council. For the District 3 school board seat, incumbent Elisa Ferrell lost out to Andrea Alvarez and Angela McClure. Those two are headed to the runoff. The runoff races will be held 20 September. Vote!

2022 Legislative Recap. During the 2022 Regular Legislative Session there were 719 general bills, 105 local bills, and 49 proposed constitutional amendments introduced. At the end of the session there were 298 bills that were enacted, including 210 general bills, 71 local bills, and 17 proposed constitutional amendments. Summaries of every general act can be found at <https://alison.legislature.state.al.us/>.

By a 95 to 1 vote, the U.S. Senators delivered overwhelming bipartisan approval to NATO membership for Finland and Sweden on 5 August. Wednesday, calling expansion of the Western defensive bloc a "slam-dunk" for U.S. national security and a day of reckoning for Russian President Vladimir Putin over his invasion of Ukraine. The candidacy of two Western European nations that, until Russia's war against Ukraine, had long avoided military alliances--took a crucial step toward expansion of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and its 73-year-old pact of mutual defense among the United States and democratic allies in Europe.

On 9 Aug 22 President Biden signed a \$280 billion bipartisan bill to boost domestic high-tech manufacturing, part of his administration's push to boost U.S. competitiveness over China. The act provides about \$52 billion in grants and other incentives for the semiconductor industry as well as a 25% tax credit for those companies that build chip plants in the U.S. The cost of the tax break is projected to be about \$24 billion over 10 years. The bill also authorizes about \$200 billion to enhance scientific research over the same timeframe.

Continued on page 9

2022-2023 GOVERNING BOARD

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Chapter Historian: Vacant

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LIFE MEMBERSHIP TRUST

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

Check every day for the Deal of the Day <http://www.shopmyexchange.com> – major discounts on items you want. Across from the customer service counter check out the “As Seen On TV” items. Coupons, rebates, interactive ads, specialty stores, and super daily specials? Your Exchange has it all at: <https://www.shopmyexchange.com/savings-center/> If you have a Military Star Card, each time you use it through 31 Dec, you will automatically entered to win getting your Star Card bill paid in full!

At the gun shop – most ammo available and now no limit. They are now open on Mondays but figure their hours are 10-2:30 every day (except Sunday) since they require time to set up and close down.

For those without an Exchange STAR card – apply and your first days of purchases at the Exchange are at least 10% off! Apply and make a list for upcoming Black Friday Deals! You may call us at [256-883-6100](tel:256-883-6100), fax [256-880-0588](tel:256-880-0588), or [email us](mailto:email.us).

Shopette

New! Auchentoshan – Single Malt Whisky triple distilled crafted in Glasgow since 1823. New! Canadian R&R (Rich and Rare) Canadian Whiskey. Limited time specials on a variety of whisky’s including Japanese Whisky’s and Sake’s.

No need to go to the Caribbean or buy duty free at the airport! Check out the imported various Jamaican, Barbados, Haiti, and other island rums. Plus, new – Haku Japanese craft vodka distilled from 100% Japanese rice and bamboo charcoal filtered. Also new – Stoli Elite Ultra-Premium vodka.

Commissary

Football season! 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! 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.

September has Labor Day promos on meats, butts and ribs, case lot sales, National Honey month promo, Hispanic Heritage month promo (promotion & likely a demo of Hispanic food).

Continued on page 11

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

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

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CONTACT:

GERMI CLOUD,

NSSA, CRPC

VICE PRESIDENT, WEALTH ADVISOR

256-715-0094

germi@cloudfinancial.com



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



News from Fox Army Health Center

- Fox Army Health Center is transitioning to a new electronic health record, MHS Genesis, to help streamline and standardize patient record keeping at any installation. We are scheduled to “Go Live” on 24 September. As we prepare, patients may experience longer than normal wait times for appointments in clinical services, and pharmacy operations will be significantly degraded. I have included the attached flyer for your use and to share with your population on ways to alleviate long waits in the pharmacy.
- Fox has still not received our shipment of seasonal flu; an announcement will be released through social media channels when this year’s shipment arrives and is available for the public.
- 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
- 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 to apply or contact Ms. Tammy Burks at 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.

Fox Army Health Center
Pharmacy Services will be degraded in preparation for
MHS GENESIS GO-LIVE
HELP US HELP YOU!
While we prepare, we strongly recommend that you initiate your prescriptions and refill requests prior to your arrival
How to fill a prescription:
1. Online through PCRS link (PREFERRED)
*www.redstone.amedd.army.mil/PCRS/login
2. Call 256-955-8888 ext. 1035
• For text/voicemail notifications, please inquire with a pharmacy team member

health.mil/mhsgenesis

American Red Cross

Volunteers Needed!
Become a Red Cross Volunteer at Fox Army Health Clinic!

Join the Red Cross Team at Fox Army Health Clinic and become a volunteer today!
Please go to www.redcross.org/alabamamississippi to complete your volunteer application today.
Tammy Burks, Sr. Volunteer Recruitment Specialist
Tammy.Burks@redcross.org or 256-763-1237 if you have any questions.

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Surviving Spouse's Luncheon

Mrs. Carrie Hightower
256-882-3992

It is nice that our luncheons have resumed. Let's have a good turnout this month. We will meet on Thursday, 15 September, at 11 AM at Rolo's Cafe, 975 Airport Road in Huntsville. Phone 256-883-7656. Everyone will be called.

Surviving Spouse Corner: Join Us for MOAA's Surviving Spouse/Spouse Summit

A couple worked together diligently to gather all their important papers, lists of contacts, and telephone numbers and placed them in a safety deposit box at their bank. However, one important detail was missing: The husband never had his wife sign the card allowing her access to the safety deposit box. After his death, it took months of correspondence and legal action before she was able to obtain the papers that she needed to continue the life she had envisioned as a surviving spouse who was prepared.

Being a military surviving spouse is never easy, and even though we might think we are prepared for the future, unexpected circumstances and questions arise that we must be prepared to answer.

Spouses, military members, and surviving spouses who will be attending MOAA's 2022 annual meeting in Kansas City, Mo., are invited to participate in this special summit Oct. 28 at 9 a.m. for answers to key questions, including:

- How do we access VA benefits? What is the survivor assistance program?
- Are you aware of the recent legislative issues that impact families and survivors? How can we encourage our elected representatives to take action?
- What are the important steps to take to be prepared for life after a spouse dies?
- How do we begin the difficult process of getting rid of possessions accumulated over a lifetime in order to downsize?
- What are the many benefits MOAA provides for surviving spouses?

The summit will begin with an informative panel presentation, followed by round table discussions. The following topics will be presented:

- Downsizing Made Easy — [Renée Brunelle](#), Surviving Spouse Advisory Council (SSAC)

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

The Last Request

A wounded soldier said to his comrades who were carrying him, "Put me down. Don't bother to carry me farther I am dying." They did as he requested and returned to the scene of battle. A few minutes later, an officer saw the man weltering in his blood and said to him, "can I do anything for you? Nothing, thank you? No, thank you. I am dying." "Isn't there anything I can do for you?" persisted the kindhearted officer. "Shall I write to your friends?"

"I have no friends that you can write to. But there is one thing for which I would be much obliged. In my pack you will find a Testament. Will you open it at the 14th chapter, and you will find a verse that begins with 'Peace.' Will you read it to me?" The officer did so and read the words, "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid." (John 14:27)

"Thank you sir," said the dying man. "I have that peace; I am going to the Savior—God is with me—I want no more," and he was gone.

"Watch, stand fast in the **faith**, be brave, be strong. (1 Corinthians 16:13, NKJV)



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: 313
Regular Members: 263
Surviving Spouses: 50

New this month: 2
Deaths this month: 2
Renewals: 0

**Welcome New Members to
Huntsville Chapter MOAA**

LTC Audrey Ransom, USA
CW4 Chris Chance, 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

On 10 Aug 22 President Biden signed into law The Sergeant First Class (SFC) Heath Robinson Honoring our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics (PACT) Act. The PACT Act is perhaps the largest health care and benefit expansion in VA history. Before the passage of this Act roughly 70% of disability claims related to burn-pit exposure are denied by the VA due to lack of evidence, scientific data and information from the Defense Department.

The PACT Act will bring these changes: It expands and extends eligibility for VA health care for Veterans with toxic exposures and Veterans of the Vietnam, Gulf War, and post-9/11 eras, it adds more than 20 new presumptive conditions for burn pits and other toxic exposures, it adds more presumptive-exposure locations for Agent Orange and radiation, it requires VA to provide a toxic exposure screening to every Veteran enrolled in VA health care, and it will improve research, staff education, and treatment related to toxic exposures. If you're a Veteran or survivor, you can file claims now to apply for PACT Act-related benefits.

President Biden signed Democrats' landmark climate change and health care bill into law on 16 Aug. The legislation includes the most substantial federal investment in history to fight climate change—some \$375 billion over the decade—and would cap prescription drug costs at \$2,000 out-of-pocket annually for Medicare recipients. It also would help an estimated 13 million Americans pay for health care insurance by extending subsidies provided during the coronavirus pandemic.

The July 2022 CPI-W is 292.219, 8.9 percent above the FY 2022 COLA baseline. The Consumer Price Index for August 2022 is scheduled to be released September 13. The CPI-W baseline for FY 2022 is 268.421.

Please read the recent posting to the Legislative portion of our webpage. There an article concerning ID Cards and an article concerning the Senate Version of the \$847B NDAA for next fiscal year. |||

Surviving Spouse Corner – continued from page 7

- Preparing for the Future — [Gail Joyce](#), MOAA board member, chair of SSAC
- Second Marriages and Other Important Issues — [Capt. Paul Frost](#), AFC®, USN (Ret), MOAA Program Director, Financial & Benefits Education/Counseling/Veterans Services
- Current Surviving Spouse/Family Advocacy Actions — MOAA Government Relations Staff
- Assistance for Surviving Spouses — VA representative

Presenters, assisted by SSAC members and MOAA staff, will lead the roundtable discussions. This will provide everyone an chance to ask questions and interact with other participants.

Don't miss this opportunity to learn ways to be better prepared for the future to guarantee that as a surviving spouse you will be the one who has access to the important papers. [Learn more about MOAA's annual meeting.](#) |||



HCMOAA Treasurer's Report July 2022

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

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

2. Monthly Summary:

	Operating Funds	Savings
Starting Balance	\$15,909.97	\$16,523.54
Income	\$ 616.17	\$ 0.14
Expenses	\$ 58.00	\$ 0.00
Ending Balance	\$16,468.14	\$16,523.68

3. Notable income: \$500 from NAVFOC for the RAD luncheon, \$100 for an advertisement in the Sentinel, and \$11.17 from Wells Fargo for settlement payment.

4. Notable expenses: Postage.

5. Chapter Saving account activity was limited to interest.

6. The Chapter Operating Funds contains \$2,903.07 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 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 August 2022

COL Michael C. Barron, USA (Ret.)	Mrs. Jan Camp
Lt Col Gerald W. Haynes, USAF (Ret.)	Anonymous (2)
Mrs. Zollie McDaniel (Widow, USMC)	

Total received for August:	\$850.00
Total received CY22:	\$1400.00





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!

_____ 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	_____ Three Years \$30	
_____ Membership***		

*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

_____ Active	_____ Retired	_____ NG	_____ Former Officer	_____ Reserve	_____ Surviving Spouse
_____ Mailing Address	_____ City	_____ State	_____ Zip		
_____ Phone Number	_____ E-mail Address	_____ Signature			

PX/Commissary – continued from page 3

Click 2 go checkout! Place your order on the website; the commissary selects your items and bags them; and drive to the Redstone Commissary to pick up your items in the special packing space (new drive in entrance now open just past the Auto Detail Shop). Order online 24/7 up to 6 days ahead - \$4.95 service fee waived!

Check out the latest at <https://www.commissaries.com/> 



What Will Military Health Closures and Realignments Mean for Your Care?

With the recent release of the [Section 718 report](#) on military treatment facilities (MTFs) to be downsized or closed, MOAA continues its advocacy work to ensure impacted beneficiaries maintain access to quality health care.

The report [provides details](#) on Defense Health Agency (DHA) plans to downsize 31 MTFs and close two military clinics. The changes will impact up to 155,000 beneficiaries, including retirees and active duty family members.

Pharmacy capacity at downsized MTFs will remain unchanged – retirees and other TRICARE beneficiaries still will be able to use the MTF pharmacy to fill prescriptions even if they receive medical care from civilian providers.

While the report includes details on implementation and communication plans, and “serves as a certification to the congressional defense committees that affected beneficiaries will be able to access health care services through the purchased care component of the TRICARE program”, MOAA remains concerned about potential barriers to accessing care in surrounding communities.

The report indicates 20 of the MTFs facing restructuring are in areas of high or very high risk based on TRICARE network capacity and new beneficiaries per network primary care manager (PCM). In the very high risk category, each PCM would have to accept more than 200 new patients to accommodate the MTF realignment. DHA has addressed this with transition periods of up to four years, and has offered assurances in the report that no beneficiary will be transitioned until a provider with availability has been identified.

While MOAA appreciates the transition period and the assurances, concerns remain regarding uncertainty across the civilian health care workforce and the difficulty in accurately projecting future provider availability. These factors may put beneficiaries’ access to care at risk.

MOAA already has reached out to staffers on the House and Senate Armed Services Committees with these concerns. We will also be contacting member offices in impacted districts to get their reactions to MTF restructuring plans. They will likely be concerned not only for military families but also non-military constituents who will be affected when thousands of TRICARE beneficiaries are released into the civilian health care systems in their communities.

Affected Facilities

These outpatient clinics, listed by historic service alignment, will transition to active duty only; some may continue to enroll active-duty family members as appropriate for provider skill sustainment. All will maintain current pharmacy capacity.

Army

- Army Health Clinic (AHC) Kirk – Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md.
- AHC Fox – Redstone Arsenal, Ala.
- AHC Barquist – Fort Detrick, Md.
- AHC Rock Island Arsenal, Ill.
- AHC SOUTHCOM – Fort Gordon, Fla.

Continued on next page

Continued from previous page

- AHC Kenner – Fort Lee, Va.
- AHC Fillmore – New Cumberland, Pa.

Air Force

- 87th Medical Group (MEDGRP) – Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J.
- 42nd MEDGRP – Maxwell AFB, Ala.
- 45th MEDGRP – Patrick AFB, Fla.
- 78th MEDGRP – Robins AFB, Ga.
- 66th MEDGRP – Hanscom AFB, Mass.
- 6th MEDGRP – MacDill AFB, Fla.
- 17th MEDGRP – Goodfellow AFB, Texas
- 436th MEDGRP – Dover AFB, Del.
- 7th MEDGRP – Dyess AFB, Texas
- 2nd MEDGRP – Barksdale AFB, La.

Navy

- Naval Health Clinic (NHC) Patuxent River, Md.
- Naval Branch Health Clinic (NBHC) Groton, Conn. (will continue to enroll active duty family members)
- NBHC Naval Support Activity (NSA) Mid-South, Tenn.
- NHC Corpus Christi, Texas
- NBHC Portsmouth, N.H.
- NBHC Naval Air Station Belle Chasse, La.
- NBHC Dahlgren, Va.
- NBHC Indian Head, Md.
- NHC New England, R.I.
- NBHC Meridian, Miss.
- NBHC Albany, Ga.
- Earle Branch Health Clinic (BHC) – Colts Neck, N.J.

These inpatient hospitals will transition to Ambulatory Surgery Centers/Outpatient Clinics. Current pharmacy capacity will be maintained.

- 633rd MEDGRP – Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Va: Inpatient care likely to transition to three local TRICARE network hospitals (Sentara CarePlex, Riverside, and Bon Secours Mary Immaculate, per DHA [Use Case](#).)
- Naval Hospital Beaufort (serves Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island and Marine Corps Air Station Beaufort, S.C.): Beaufort Memorial can likely absorb inpatient care from NH Beaufort, but there are also several additional hospitals within a one-hour drive, per DHA [Use Case](#).)

These outpatient clinics will close:

- Community Based Medical Home North Columbus — Fort Benning, Ga.
- Sabal Park Clinic – MacDill AFB, Fla. 



Membership Meeting
28 September 2022
1100 – Summit Club

Guest Speaker: Mr. Wes Kelley
President and CEO, Huntsville Utilities

Wes Kelley is the President and CEO of Huntsville Utilities. HU provides service to more than 200,000 electric, 100,000 water, and 60,000 natural gas customers in Huntsville and Madison County, Alabama. HU has also constructed a city-wide fiber-optic infrastructure used by Google Fiber and others to provide high-speed telecommunication services to the community.

Prior to coming to Huntsville in 2017, Wes led Columbia Power & Water Systems and Pulaski Electric System, both in middle Tennessee. Wes is chairman of the Tennessee Valley Public Power Association and vice-chair of the American Public Power Association's membership committee. He has also served on the Tennessee Valley Authority's Regional Energy Resource Council and the Customer Planning Council.

In his community, Wes is vice-chair of the U.S. Space and Rocket Center (the home of Space Camp) and is the past chair of the Tennessee Center for Performance Excellence.

Before moving to the Tennessee Valley in 2005, he worked with the Hillsdale Board of Public Utilities in Michigan and served as the city's economic development director. He graduated with a bachelor's degree in political economy from Hillsdale College.

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, NLT 23 September 2022

Chapter Elections

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

President
1st Vice President
2nd Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer

The three Service Representatives (Army, Navy/USMC & Air/Space Force)

There are two positions that will be vacant and need to be filled. They are the 1st Vice President and the Army Representative. The 1st Vice President assists the President and fills in for him in his absence. The Army Representative stays current on Army issues and reports them to the Governing Board.

If you are interested in holding one of these positions, or know someone who might be, please contact a board member.



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HAPPY HOUR DAILY 5PM- 6:30PM

Scholarship Golf Tournament

Our annual fundraising golf tournament for 2022 is scheduled for September 9th at the Links at Redstone. Registration begins at 0700 and there is a shotgun start at 0830.

The Golf Committee still 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 set-up, tear-down and helping with the hole-in-one contest. You can also come out and bid on the silent auction.

To find out more, contact Bruce Robinson at 256-425-0525 or brobinso1976@gmail.com



20 Birthdays in September

COL Robert M O'Donnell, USA
MAJ Larry N Levaas, USA
Mrs. Ursula Spicer
Col Donald F Kimminau, USAF
CPT Richard J Pella, USA
CW4 James E Keirstead, USA
LTC Andre M Cota-Robles, USA
Mrs. Ann Eittreim
LTC Robert E Ciccolella, USA
Mrs. Marilyn T Setlow

MAJ Mary L Shaw, USA
LTC Peter D Schofield, USA
COL Robert S Troth, USA
LTC John C Franks, USA
Maj Leroy Huntington, USAF
Maj James M Tynan, USAF
COL Steven S Debusk, USA
Lt Col Claude R Baldwin Jr, USMC
Capt Steven E Lavender, USAF
LCDR Jesus M Rodriguez, USN

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.



TAPS

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

The Chapter was recently notified that **Mrs. Barbara Hanline** and **Maj William Burke (USAF-Ret)** who were Chapter Life Members have passed away.

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

We will miss these outstanding Leaders and Patriots.



Reagan Comments

Think what you will of Ronald Reagan and his politics, but most cannot dispute the following comments of his regarding our government:

- 'Here's my strategy on the Cold War: We win, they lose.'
- 'The most terrifying words in the English language are: I'm from the government and I'm here to help.'
- 'The trouble with our liberal friends is not that they're ignorant; it's just that they know so much that isn't so.'
- 'Of the four wars in my lifetime, none came about because the U.S. was too strong.'
- 'I have wondered at times about what the Ten Commandments would have looked like if Moses had run them through the U.S. Congress.'
- 'The taxpayer: That's someone who works for the federal government but doesn't have to take the civil service examination.'
- 'Government is like a baby: An alimentary canal with a big appetite at one end and no sense of responsibility at the other.'
- 'The nearest thing to eternal life we will ever see on this earth is a government program.'
- 'It has been said that politics is the second oldest profession. I have learned that it bears a striking resemblance to the first.'
- 'Government's view of the economy could be summed up in a few short phrases: If it moves, tax it. If it keeps moving, regulate it. And if it stops moving, subsidize it.'
- 'Politics is not a bad profession. If you succeed, there are many rewards; if you disgrace yourself, you can always write a book.'

History of Labor Day

Labor Day 2022 will occur on Monday, September 5th. Labor Day pays tribute to the contributions and achievements of American workers and is traditionally observed on the first Monday in September. It was created by the labor movement in the late 19th century and became a federal holiday in 1894. Labor Day weekend also symbolizes the end of summer for many Americans, and is celebrated with parties, street parades and athletic events.

Why Do We Celebrate Labor Day?

Labor Day, an annual celebration of workers and their achievements, originated during one of American labor history's most dismal chapters.

In the late 1800s, at the height of the Industrial Revolution in the United States, the average American worked 12-hour days and seven-day weeks in order to eke out a basic living. Despite restrictions in some states, children as young as 5 or 6 toiled in mills, factories and mines across the country, earning a fraction of their adult counterparts' wages.

People of all ages, particularly the very poor and recent immigrants, often faced extremely unsafe working conditions, with insufficient access to fresh air, sanitary facilities and breaks.

As manufacturing increasingly supplanted agriculture as the wellspring of American employment, labor unions, which had first appeared in the late 18th century, grew more prominent and vocal. They began organizing strikes and rallies to protest poor conditions and compel employers to renegotiate hours and pay.

Many of these events turned violent during this period, including the infamous Haymarket Riot of 1886, in which several Chicago policemen and workers were killed. Others gave rise to longstanding traditions: On September 5, 1882, 10,000 workers took unpaid time off to march from City Hall to Union Square in New York City, holding the first Labor Day parade in U.S. history.

The idea of a "workingmen's holiday," celebrated on the first Monday in September, caught on in other industrial centers across the country, and many states passed legislation recognizing it. Congress would not legalize the holiday until 12 years later, when a watershed moment in American labor history brought workers' rights squarely into the public's view. On May 11, 1894, employees of the Pullman Palace Car Company in Chicago went on strike to protest wage cuts and the firing of union representatives.

On June 26, the American Railroad Union, led by Eugene V. Debs, called for a boycott of all Pullman railway cars, crippling railroad traffic nationwide. To break the Pullman strike, the federal government dispatched troops to Chicago, unleashing a wave of riots that resulted in the deaths of more than a dozen workers.

Who Created Labor Day?

In the wake of this massive unrest and in an attempt to repair ties with American workers, Congress passed an act making Labor Day a legal holiday in the District of Columbia and the territories. On June 28, 1894, President Grover Cleveland signed it into law. More than a century later, the true founder of Labor Day has yet to be identified.

Continued on next page

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Many credit Peter J. McGuire, cofounder of the American Federation of Labor, while others have suggested that Matthew Maguire, a secretary of the Central Labor Union, first proposed the holiday.

Labor Day Celebrations

Labor Day is still celebrated in cities and towns across the United States with parades, picnics, barbecues, fireworks displays and other public gatherings. For many Americans, particularly children and young adults, it represents the end of the summer and the start of the back-to-school season.

Holidays That Fall on Mondays

The Uniform Monday Holiday Act of 1968 changed several holidays to ensure they would always be observed on Mondays so that federal employees could have more three-day weekends. The Act, signed into law on June 28, 1968, moved Washington's Birthday Memorial Day, and Columbus Day to fixed Mondays each year. Labor Day is in good company.

Chapter Happenings – August Membership Meeting



Huntsville Mayor Tommy Battle addresses the August Membership Meeting at the Summit Club, and is congratulated by Chapter President Rick West

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 or 256-426-0525.

Important Dates in September

- 1 September – Hitler invaded Poland, starting World War II (1939)
- 2 September – The Great Fire of London destroyed over 13,000 homes (1666)
- 2 September – US Treasury established (1789)
- 2 September – General Sherman captured Atlanta (1864)
- 2 September - Formal Japanese surrender aboard the *USS Missouri* in Tokyo Bay (1945)
- 3 September - Great Britain and France declared war on Nazi Germany (1939)
- 4 September - The island of Manhattan was discovered by navigator Henry Hudson (1609)
- 4 September – Football season kick-off - Alabama vs. Miami
- 5 September – Labor Day
- 6 September - Leningrad was renamed Saint Petersburg (1991)
- 7 September - Brazil declared its independence from Portugal (1822)
- 8 September - The Northern Pacific Railroad across the U.S. was completed (1883)
- 9 September - The Democratic People's Republic of Korea was established (1948)
- 9 September – Scholarship Golf Tournament – Links at Redstone – 0830**
- 10 September – Monthly Breakfast – City Café Diner – 0900**
- 11 September - The worst terrorist attack in U.S. history (2001)
- 12 September - John F. Kennedy, 36, married Jacqueline Bouvier, 24 (1953)
- 13 September – Francis Scott Key wrote the National Anthem (1814)
- 14 September - Eight days after being shot, President William McKinley died (1901)
- 14 September - Princess Grace of Monaco died in a car accident (1982)
- 15 September - Tanks were first used in combat (1916)
- 15 September – Monthly Board Meeting – Java Café - 1100**
- 16 September - The *Mayflower* departed from England with 102 passengers (1620)
- 16 September – General Motors was founded (1908)
- 18 September - The U.S. Air Force was established (1947)
- 21 September - The People's Republic of China was established (1949)
- 23 September – First day of Autumn
- 25 September - Spanish explorer Vasco Nunez de Balboa first sighted the Pacific Ocean (1513)
- 26 September - The first-ever televised presidential debate (1960)
- 28 September – Monthly Member Meeting – Summit Club - 1100**
- 29 September – US Army established (1789)
- 30 September - The Berlin Airlift concluded after 277,264 flights (1949)

