



Heartlander

South Central Florida Chapter
June 2022



South Central Florida Chapter of MOAA

P.O. Box 7841
Sebring, FL 33872



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Our Web Site: www.scfcmoaa.org

Florida Council of Chapters website: www.moaafi.org

Take Action. MOAA Legislative Action Link:

<https://moaa.quorum.us/>

1 June 2022. Board Meeting: 4:30 PM Business Meeting, 6:00 PM. **Venue: EAA Hanger at Sebring Airport.** 197 Challenger Drive Sebring, Florida. **Please note that this meeting will not be at the SeaServices Museum, but at the Sebring Airport. There is a map showing the location of the hanger on the last page of this newsletter.**

7 July 2022. Board Meeting: 4:30 PM. Dinner/Social with spouses/better halves/significant others: 6:00 PM, Caddyshack. 3122 Golfview Rd., Sebring. **Speaker will be Kevin Roberts, Highlands County Commissioner.**

MOAA State Convention, 9-12 June in West Palm Beach. The Florida Council of Chapters of MOAA is hosting its 45th annual convention and business meeting this summer. As the state council president, Mike has provided all the details on the next page. Go to www.moaafi.org to register and learn more details about the convention.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

Be sure to read the tribute to Lieutenant JG Del Smith written by Fred Carino. Del passed away recently and would have been 101 in September. He was the last WWII veteran in our chapter and had flown planes off the aircraft carrier Hornet in some of the most important battles of the Pacific Theater. He led a long and successful life and we were proud to have him as a member of our chapter. There are some pictures of Del toward the end of this newsletter.

I am sorry I missed the meeting at the Runway Cafe. I understand it was a great place to meet and the food was very good. (Cont.)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: (Cont.)

We thank Chaplain Kirk for making the arrangements to meet there. We are looking to meeting there again in November.

Peggy and I had a wonderful trip to Rome and the Mediterranean. We visited Sicily, Santorini, Mykonos, Istanbul, Ephesus, Athens and Naples. My phone app told me we walked over 11 miles the day we visited the Vatican and my legs felt like rubber when I got back to the hotel. As before, the Sistine Chapel, although beautiful, was wall to wall visitors, and we felt rushed. The rest of the Vatican and St. Peter's Basilica were remarkable. The archeological site on the island of Delos, the birthplace of Apollo and Artemis, was fascinating. This is considered one of the most important mythological, historical, and archaeological sites in Greece. In Istanbul, we visited several churches and mosques. We only walked 7 miles in Istanbul and also visited the bazaar shopping area. Again, we were exhausted when we got back to the ship. The House of the Virgin Mary, supposedly her final resting place, was worth visiting. Ephesus is still the most interesting archeological place I have visited. There is evidence of civilization at this site dating back as far as 6,000 BC. The city was famous in its day for the nearby Temple of Artemis (completed around 550 BC), which has been designated one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. Its many monumental buildings included the Library of Celsus and a theatre capable of holding 24,000 spectators. Athens and the Acropolis, containing the Parthenon were also worth visiting. I think because they are sitting in the middle of the city of Athens, they are not as intriguing as Delos and Ephesus.

Don't forget to sign up for the **MOAA State Convention.** The information is located on this page and at the top of page 3.

The upcoming 1 June meeting will be at the EAA Hanger, past the terminal building at Sebring Airport. Charley Dye will talk about the educational program located in this hanger.

On the Chapter Calendar, I have included the meeting dates through December 2022.

Again, if anyone has any inputs for the newsletter, please send them to me.

Cheers,
Bob

A Tribute to Lieutenant (Junior Grade) Delbert Smith, by Fred Carino

Flying with Del at Midway

His hands gripped the chair arms as if he had throttle in one and the joystick in the other. The windshield of his cockpit was filled with the length and breadth of the enemy ship as he bore in at a dizzying angle his bomb sight filled with the center of the Japanese carrier. As he pressed the release button and the heavy bomb came away from its rack he pulled back hard on the stick as the pent-up G-forces pressed down into his seat, his sweat-soaked cloth helmet gushing its contents down his face and neck. As the stick went forward and the weight of the pull-out bled away, he banked left and could see the blossoming explosion and fire leaping skyward from the carrier's deck. As Del Smith, former U.S. Navy dive bomber pilot, sat watching the new "Midway" motion picture in the darkened theater, he was back in his SB2C Helldiver in the South Pacific. It was 1944 and he was yet again a young, determined man at the point of his nation's spear, locked and loaded to smite the enemies of America. On either side, my brother Chris and I monitored our friend Del as his hands and arms tensed and his chest heaved - the only person in the theater who knew the fear, excitement and satisfaction of a combat pilot flying through flak, enemy fighters and surviving to fight another day. Chris and I had seen "Midway" the previous week and floated the idea to Del, uncertain of his reaction. After all, Delbert Smith, was the REAL DEAL, a for real dive bomber pilot flying from the carrier Hornet in the Pacific in World War II. In addition to bombing runs at Saipan, Guam and Iwo Jima, Del had destroyed cargo ships in Manila Bay and later sank a Japanese destroyer off Davao in the southern Philippines. He once had to ditch his plane in the Philippine Sea running out of gas on the return of a long-range strike on the retreating Japanese carrier fleet. No matter. He and his crew were picked up by a destroyer's whaleboat and high-lined back aboard Hornet the next morning and back flying that afternoon. We were beginning to think the excitement might be too much for Del but his decades of vigorous golfing and miles per week on his treadmill had kept his ticker in great shape. As the lights were coming up at the end of the show and we began our slow shuffle out to the corridor I asked Del what he thought of the movie. He responded strongly, "It was realistic. In fact, it was too realistic."

Del was one of "The Greatest Generation" author Tom Brokaw wrote about in his book a few years back. Millions of ordinary Americans put their personal lives on standby as they donned the uniforms of all the Armed Services or marched into the factories which produced all the tanks, planes, ships, and bullets to defeat Germany, Japan, and Italy in World War II. I spent many hours listening to Del these past few years. I learned a lot about his family, growing up in and near Kenosha. Taking to the air at a small local airport under the tutelage of a woman pilot acquaintance of Amelia Earhart in a scratch-built (Cont.)

A Tribute to Lieutenant (Junior Grade) Delbert Smith, by Fred Carino (Cont.)

Navy training program. Learning to land on the wooden flight deck of a converted coal-fired side paddle-wheel passenger ferry on Lake Michigan. Learning to dive bomb with unerring accuracy. Preparing for the final push into Japan awaiting the carrier Wasp while flying the powerful F4U Corsair on the Big Island of Hawaii and then getting the news about an atomic bomb that ended the war. Sticking with the Navy through the great demobilization and marrying Agnes and the start of a great family. The tragedy of her death by a hit and run driver while training up for the Korean War. Leaving the Navy and making a new life and later with new wife Charlene and new babies. . Fulfilling the wartime pledges to God and comrades that if he were blessed with surviving war, he would make a good life in the new America.

Del lived a good and full life. Filled with the joys of family love, community respect and the admiration of people who knew him. Despite his Distinguished Flying Cross, he declined to tell his story on film. No flamboyance. "I was just doing my job," he said. Let us be thankful that Del did his job, kept his faith in America just as so many others have and will. God bless and keep you in eternal life my friend.

There are some pictures of Del later in the newsletter.

Chapter Calendar

1 June 2022. Board Meeting: 4:30 PM Business Meeting, 6:00 PM. **Venue: EAA Hanger at Sebring Airport.** 197 Challenger Drive Sebring, Florida.

7 July 2022. Board Meeting: 4:30 PM. Dinner/Social with spouses/better halves/significant others: 6:00 PM, Caddyshack. 3122 Golfview Rd., Sebring. **Speaker will be Kevin Roberts, Highlands County Commissioner.**

3 August 2022. Board Meeting: 4:30 PM Business Meeting, 6:00 PM. Venue: Sea Services Museum, 1402 Roseland Ave., Sebring, FL 33870, (corner of Kenilworth and Roseland, about a mile east of Sebring High School). Speaker to be determined.

6 September 2022. Board Meeting: 4:30 PM. Dinner/Social with spouses/better halves/significant others: 6:00 PM, Dimitri's Banquet Room, 2710 Kenilworth, Sebring 33870. **Speaker will be Chaplain Kirk.**

5 October 2022. Board Meeting: 4:30 PM Business Meeting, 6:00 PM. Venue: Sea Services Museum, 1402 Roseland Ave., Sebring, FL 33870, (corner of Kenilworth and Roseland, about a mile east of Sebring High School). **Speaker to be Charley Dye on the Battle of the Atlantic.**

4 November 2022. Board Meeting: 4:30 PM. Dinner/Social with spouses/better halves/significant others: 6:00 PM, Runway Cafe, 130 Authority Lane (Inside Terminal Bldg) Sebring Airport. **Speaker will be from MOAA National**

7 December 2022. Board Meeting: 4:30 PM Business Meeting, 6:00 PM. Venue: Sea Services Museum, 1402 Roseland Ave., Sebring, FL 33870, (corner of Kenilworth and Roseland, about a mile east of Sebring High School).

Did You Know? The Florida Council of Chapters of MOAA will host its Annual Convention and Business Meeting 9-12 June in West Palm Beach

Each year, the Florida Council of Chapters (FCoC) of MOAA conducts an annual convention and business meeting. This year, it will be in West Palm Beach. A highlight this time will be that Mike Borders will hand over the reins of the state council to the new president—Pat Kluever. The keynote speaker for the “All Hands” breakfast will be Lt Gen Dana T. Atkins, USAF (Ret), President and CEO of MOAA National. There will be two major evening events: a “Casino Night,” and a “Murder Mystery” dinner show. There are also tours, wine tastings, and more. See the separate attachment for a special edition of the FCoC Communiqué newsletter. Everything you need to know is there, along with information on how to register. Come see Mike get his life back—or maybe not—who might be the “victim” in the murder mystery? After all, Diana already has the urn ready to go!



Did You Know 2: Our Chapter Yet Again Won the MOAA 5-Star Comms Award (Newsletter and Website)

Each year, MOAA National holds a competition for chapters and state councils for the best websites and newsletters. Our chapter has won this award for several years in a row, and did so for the 2021 competition year. This involves both objective and subjective criteria. The chapter leadership prepares a packet, submits it to Big MOAA, and it goes before something very similar to an old-fashioned military promotion board. After evaluation, the results go into the hopper, and awards are made. We can be rightly proud of our newsletter and website. Only about 15-20% of chapters qualify for the 5-star level award. It is high praise from outside evaluators. Along with some 24 other winners in Florida, we helped lead the way nationwide. Three Cheers!!!

Welcome to Our Newest Members:

- Robert Tedder
- Don Rescigno

June Birthdays: 8 June: Mack Payne
8 June: Herb Smith
26 June: Tom Damron

Editor's Note: If your birthday is not recognized, it is because you did not include it on your application form. Please contact our Secretary, Doug Tait at 863-385-1763, and provide the same.

Did You Know 3: Our Chapter Yet Again Won a \$4K Financial Grant from the MOAA Foundation

For the fifth time in a row, our chapter qualified for and won a grant from the MOAA Foundation. Each year, we apply for the grant through a rigorous process established by MOAA HQS. Not unlike the awards process, our packet is evaluated by a “promotion board.” Our specific program has totaled some \$34K as a result of this grant program. The monies we receive go directly to support needy veterans and their families in our local area. This is done in partnership with the Veterans Council of Highlands County. It operates an emergency assistance fund and also a food pantry. We generally set aside about 85% of the monies received for financial assistance, and 15% for the pantry. In addition to the pantry, our support goes to Thanksgiving and Christmas food baskets supplied to needy veterans during those two holiday periods. We can be proud of the support we provide to our less-fortunate fellow veterans. Our organization does more than all but a couple of other groups in our community. Look for a future edition of the newsletter when we will have a picture of the check presentation to the Veterans Council.

Did You Know 4: The VA is Adding Nine Respiratory Cancers as Presumptives

The Department of Veterans Affairs is adding nine rare respiratory cancers to the list of presumed service-connected disabilities due to military environmental exposures to fine particulate matter.

The following list of rare respiratory cancers have been added to [VA's regulations through an Interim Final Rule](#) published in the Federal Register on April 26, 2022:• Squamous cell carcinoma of the larynx.

- Squamous cell carcinoma of the trachea.
- Adenocarcinoma of the trachea.
- Salivary gland-type tumors of the trachea.
- Adenosquamous carcinoma of the lung.
- Large cell carcinoma of the lung.
- Salivary gland-type tumors of the lung.
- Sarcomatoid carcinoma of the lung.
- Typical and atypical carcinoid of the lung.

The VA determined through a focused review of scientific and medical evidence there is biological plausibility between airborne hazards and carcinogenesis of the respiratory tract — and the unique circumstances of these rare cancers warrant a presumption of service connection. The rarity and severity of these illnesses and the reality these conditions present, is a situation where it may not be possible to develop additional evidence, prompted VA to take this action.

The VA will begin processing disability compensation claims for Veterans who served any amount of time in the [Southwest Asia theater of operations](#) beginning (Cont.)

Did You Know 4: The VA is Adding Nine Respiratory Cancers as Presumptives (Cont.)

Aug. 2, 1990, to the present, or Afghanistan, Uzbekistan, Syria or Djibouti beginning Sept. 19, 2001, to the present. Any Veteran who has or had one of the listed cancers at any time during or after separation from military service may be eligible for disability compensation benefits. VA will contact impacted Veterans and survivors to inform them about their eligibility and will provide information on how to apply.

Veterans, survivors or dependents who had claims previously denied for any of these respiratory cancers are encouraged to file a [supplemental claim](#) for benefits. If you are a Veteran, survivor or dependent applying for the first time, file a new claim [here](#).

To apply for benefits, Veterans and survivors may visit [VA.gov](#) or call toll-free at 800-827-1000.

View the interim final rule for [Presumptive Service Connection for Rare Respiratory Cancers Due to Exposure to Fine Particulate Matter](#) and leave comments.

Did You Know 5: You May be Eligible for Free or Discounted Internet Service

An updated program from the federal government offers free or discounted internet to many Americans, including many active-duty families, veterans and their survivors.

The [Affordable Connectivity Program](#) (ACP), administered by the FCC, replaces the [Emergency Broadband Benefit Program](#) which, while open to more people, was a temporary program enacted during the COVID-19 crisis. It ended March 1, 2022.

Who Is Eligible?

Those eligible for the ACP include those receiving other federal benefits, such as:

- [A VA Veterans Pension](#)
- [A VA Survivors Pension \(also known as Death Pension\)](#)
- SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program), or food stamps
- WIC (Women, infants and children) assistance
- Medicaid
- Free or discounted school lunch or breakfast
- Pell grants
- **Supplemental security income (SSI) from Social Security**

Those with an income that is at twice the [federal poverty guideline](#) or lower are also eligible. That includes a family of four earning no more than \$55,500; a family of two earning no more than \$36,620 or a single person who earns no more than \$27,180. There are higher limits in Alaska and Hawaii.

Persons who have a Lifeline phone can also apply for the program. (Cont.)

Did You Know 5: You May be Eligible for Free or Discounted Internet Service (Cont.)

Others may be eligible as well; for more information, see the [ACP website](#).

Even if you aren't eligible under these existing stipulations, you may be eligible for the program if you are eligible for discounted internet from your service provider.

What The Program Provides

The ACP program will pay up to \$30 monthly (\$75 for those residing on tribal lands) directly to the internet provider. That means if you have a discounted program like [Internet Essentials from Comcast](#), the nation's largest internet service provider, it may cost you nothing as a participant in the ACP program.

The ACP program also provides a one-time discount of up to \$100 to cover the cost of a device to access the internet. This can be a laptop or desktop computer or a tablet computer. It does not include mobile phones, large phones or "phablets" that can make mobile calls. The participant must contribute a portion of the total cost, and the device cannot cost more than \$150. Many providers offer these devices at a large discount to low-income customers; for instance, Comcast's Internet Essentials program offers a choice of a windows or Chromebook laptop computer for \$149.99. There is a limit of one device per household.

How to Apply

You can apply [directly to the government](#), but in many cases, it may be easier to contact your local internet provider directly to see whether they participate in the program. The FCC has a [list of all internet providers participating in the program](#) to assist you in finding a local provider.

Either way you apply, be aware that lots of documentation will be required with your application. You need to show proof of eligibility: either a benefits letter from the [Department of Veterans Affairs](#), or another qualifying agency; proof of address; copies of identification documents and [other documentation](#). If you are applying based on income, you may need to submit copies of tax returns or other documents.

The MOAA Store is Now Open?

Would you like to buy a MOAA polo shirt or some other MOAA item?

Go to the MOAA "Store," click on the following link to the store: [MOAA Store](#)

You can also call them at 1-717-396-7100

From apparel to headwear and much more, we are excited for you to show your MOAA pride!

They have everything from men's and ladies' polos, coffee cups, hats, you name it.

Heard on the Hill—Charley Dye, Legislative Affairs Chair

Last month I focused on the Major Richard Star Act, one of MOAA’s top three key issues. The other two are the Stop Copay Overpay Act and a 4.6% pay raise for the military.

Since the month of May is Mental Health Awareness Month (a time to remember that your mental health is essential to your overall health), I will focus on the Stop Copay Overpay Act. H.R. 4824.

Military retirees and their family members, along with those still serving, may require mental health care for a wide range of reasons. Whatever the need, regular visits to a mental health care provider may provide a road to recovery. Unfortunately for many in this community, those visits are not cheap.

Copayments for mental health care visits have more than doubled. For Tricare users since 2018 some retirees must pay \$50 out of pocket for each visit. This is more than double the standard rate of many private sector plans and an increase from the \$20 copay on the Tricare plan from just four years ago. On average, Federal Employee Health Care Plans (FEHBP) still charge \$20 for such visits.

Before blaming the increase on inflation or other economic factors, consider the military health system reforms passed by congress as part of the 2017 NDAA. Since the law did not address mental health care specifically, Tricare officials implementing the reforms classified such treatment as “specialty care.” This means that a military family pays the same amount out of pocket for a counseling session as they would for a neurosurgical consult.

This practice is out of step with commercial health care plans. It serves to discourage patients from seeking the care they might need as they weigh multiple costly sessions against other financial needs.

The Stop Copay Overpay Act would cap out of pocket expenses at the level of a primary care copay charge. It would do so without reducing the overall reimbursement to the provider so that these providers would be less likely to drop Tricare patients.

Edit as necessary. Charley

The next meeting is at the EAA hangar at the Sebring Airport. Is anyone going to bring the MOAA accoutrements, such as the flag, etc.? Also, below is a map of the EAA location. It is not found on Google or Apple maps; however, the Heartland Flying Club, co-located, is listed.

If you want to sign up for a range of updates from MOAA National:

Go to: http://moaa.highroadsolution.com/moaa_preference_page/EmailSearch.aspx and follow the prompts. It gives various options for the type of information desired, as well as the frequency you may wish to receive it. Don’t miss out on this valuable resource!

SURVIVING SPOUSE CORNER —Craig Smith, Surviving Spouse and Personal Affairs Chair

VIRTUAL CHAPTER VIEWPOINTS with news you can use

WASHINGTON, April 6, 2022 /PRNewswire/ -- Today the United States Postal Service filed notice with the Postal Regulatory Commission (PRC) of price changes to take effect July 10, 2022. The new prices, if favorably reviewed, include a two-cent increase in the price of a First-Class Mail Forever stamp from 58 cents to 60 cents.

The proposed prices, approved by the Governors of the U.S. Postal Service, would raise First-Class Mail prices approximately 6.5 percent which is lower than the Bureau of Labor Statistics annual inflation rate of 7.9 percent as of the end of February. The price changes reflect a judicious implementation of the Postal Service’s pricing authority provided by the Postal Regulatory Commission.

The proposed Mailing Services price changes include:

Product	Current Prices	Planned Prices
Letters (1 oz.)	58 cents	60 cents
Letters (metered 1 oz.)	53 cents	57 cents
Letters additional ounce(s)	20 cents	24 cents
Domestic Postcards	40 cents	44 cents
International Letter (1 oz.)	\$1.30 cents	\$1.40 cents

MOAA ADVOCACY VOICES

Toxic Exposure is highlighted in the May MOAA magazine. From Agent orange in Vietnam, to the burn pits in Iraq, Saudi Arabia and middle east, veterans are and have developed many diseases from their service to the nation. MOAA is pushing for three things, process reforms, a robust scientific process to ensure the right associations are made between toxic exposure and illness and faster creation of presumptive conditions once the scientific burden has been met. This month’s magazine has tear off post cards to our legislatures to support the “Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics Act” (PACT) and other house bills brought up this year.

SENIOR THEMES

Veterans Affairs Life Insurance (VALI)

This is just a heads up for all those seniors that failed to get Life insurance, the VA will offer a new life insurance for veterans with service-connected disabilities. The program will open in January 2023. Veterans Affairs Life Insurance (VALI) provides guaranteed acceptance whole life coverage of up to \$40,000 to Veterans with service-connected disabilities. Lesser amounts are available in increments of \$10,000. Under this plan, the elected coverage takes effect two years after enrollment as long as premiums are paid during the two-year period. More information will be included in the Oct Newsletter for those eligible to apply with low monthly rates.

And if you have any questions please feel free to contact the chairpersons below: or me at craigsmith03905@yahoo.com.

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PURPOSES OF THE MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

The Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) is a not-for-profit corporation that is operated exclusively to further the interests of the nation and its uniformed services personnel, their family members, and survivors.

From the preamble to the Bylaws of The Military Officers Association of America

- To inculcate and stimulate love of country and flag;
- To defend the honor, integrity, and supremacy of our National Government and the Constitution of the United States;
- To advocate military forces adequate to the defense of our country;
- To foster the integrity and prestige of uniformed service;
- To foster fraternal relations between all branches of the various Services from which our members are drawn;
- To further the education of children of Service personnel;
- To aid personnel of the Services from which our members are drawn, and their family members and survivors, in every proper and legitimate manner; and
- To present their rights and interests when Service matters are under consideration

We unite to form THE MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

TAKE ACTION!!

<https://moaa.quorum.us/>

MOAA's Top Legislative Priorities for 2022

- Sustain pay raises and adequate BAH for the troops and COLA raises for retirees.
- Ensure the Coast Guard, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and Public Health Service continue to receive pay during a government shutdown.
- Protect the value of the military health care benefit.
- Protect the Military Health System pharmacy benefit and achieve flexibility in TRICARE pharmacy copays.
- Address barriers to accessing care within the MHS, including TRICARE coverage gaps and mental health care access challenges.
- Protect family support programs, and ensure military-provided services (housing, PCS, childcare, youth programs, financial counseling) are readily available and meet standards for quality and costs.
- Achieve equity of benefits, protections, and administrative support for Guard/Reserve members consistent with their active-duty counterparts.
- Sustain Veterans Health Administration (VHA) foundational missions and services.
- Reform the presumptive process to support veterans claiming service-connected disabilities for toxic exposures.
- Achieve concurrent receipt of service-earned retirement pay and VA disability pay.
- Protect full military honors and burial at Arlington National Cemetery for those currently eligible.
- Improve survivors' benefits.
- Support a quality transition experience from active duty to veteran status for all servicemembers.

TAKE ACTION: <https://moaa.quorum.us/>

The Heartlander is published monthly by members of the South Central Florida Chapter of Military Officers Association of America, P.O. Box 7841, Sebring, FL 33872. The Chapter is an apolitical and not-partisan, non-profit organization affiliated with National MOAA and the Florida Council of Chapters, MOAA, not associated with the Department of Defense. The views expressed do not necessarily reflect the views of MOAA, the Florida Council of Chapters, the Chapter or DOD. This newsletter can be accessed electronically on our website: www.scfcmoaa.org, is emailed electronically to members, and can be sent hard copy to members not on the Internet.

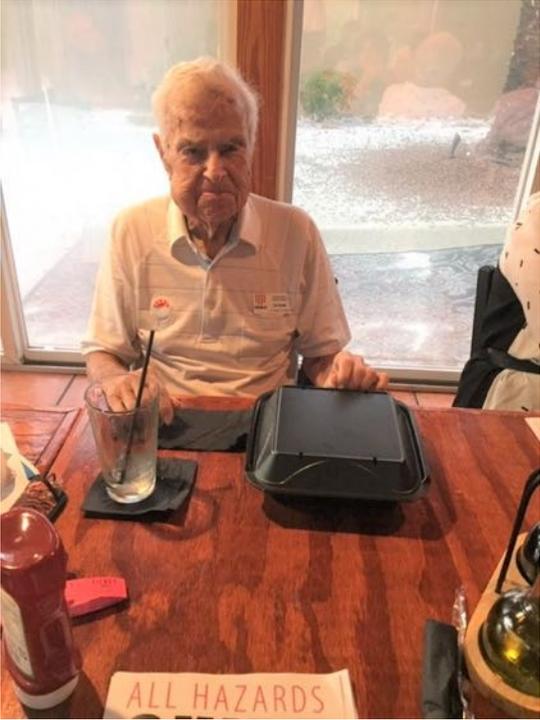
WHO CAN JOIN MOAA?

MOAA membership is open to all officers, commissioned or warrant, whether on active duty, retired, former, reserve or national guard of all the eight uniformed services, including the Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, Space Force, Coast Guard, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the Public Health Service. To join our chapter, click the join us button on our Chapter's home page at <https://moaafl.org/Chapters/SCFCMOAA/JoinUs.aspx>.

Nametags: If you don't have and DO want a chapter nametag, please let us know. We need your info as you want it to appear on the tag: Name, Rank, Service. Spouse/significant other's name. The cost is \$10.00 each. Here is an example:



SOME PICTURES OF DEL SMITH



JROTC CADETS RECEIVING MOAA MEDALS

Cadet Ethan Neal



Cadet Jaxon McCracken



Cadets Mares and Villa



Cadet David Alexander McQuaig



Cadet Giovanni Cardenas



CHAPTER MEMBERS IN ACTION ENJOYING THE RUNWAY CAFE



USEFUL ADDRESSES, PHONE NUMBERS AND WEB SITES

Air Force Retiree Services: (800) 531-7502;

www.retirees.af.mil

Arlington National Cemetery: (703) 607-8000;

www.arlingtoncemetery.org

Armed Forces Retirement Home: (800) 422-9988;

www.afrh.gov

AAFES: (214) 312-2011; www.aafes.com

Army Retired Services: (703) 571-7232; [https://](https://soldierforlife.army.mil/retirement)

soldierforlife.army.mil/retirement

Burial at Sea: (866) 787-0081; [https://](https://www.mynavyhr.navy.mil/Support-Services/Casualty/Mortuary-Services/Burial-at-Sea/)

[www.mynavyhr.navy.mil/Support-Services/Casualty/](https://www.mynavyhr.navy.mil/Support-Services/Casualty/Mortuary-Services/Burial-at-Sea/)

[Mortuary-Services/Burial-at-Sea/](https://www.mynavyhr.navy.mil/Support-Services/Casualty/Mortuary-Services/Burial-at-Sea/)

Combat Related Special Compensation: [http://](http://www.secnav.navy.mil/mra/CORB/Pages/CRSCB/default.aspx)

[www.secnav.navy.mil/mra/CORB/Pages/CRSCB/](http://www.secnav.navy.mil/mra/CORB/Pages/CRSCB/default.aspx)

[default.aspx](http://www.secnav.navy.mil/mra/CORB/Pages/CRSCB/default.aspx) DEERS: (800)-538-9552, Fax: (831) 655-8317;

www.tricare.osd.mil/deers

Defense Commissary Agency: www.commissaries.com

DFAS Casualty Assistance Branch: (800) 321-1080 or (216)

5225955; (For Reporting a Retiree's death, option #1)

I.D. Cards Benefits and Eligibility: (866) 827-5672; [https://](https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/rsl/appj/site.jsessionid=_liU5y-4sPqtyCtImmgUJThnUWUeAanhb15EaGXQn4lh2pEEKpso!416826654?execution=e1s1)

[www.dmdc.osd.mil/rsl/appj/](https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/rsl/appj/site.jsessionid=_liU5y-4sPqtyCtImmgUJThnUWUeAanhb15EaGXQn4lh2pEEKpso!416826654?execution=e1s1)

[site.jsessionid= _liU5y-4sPqtyCtImmgUJThnUWUeAanhb15E](https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/rsl/appj/site.jsessionid=_liU5y-4sPqtyCtImmgUJThnUWUeAanhb15EaGXQn4lh2pEEKpso!416826654?execution=e1s1)

[aGXQn4lh2pEEKpso!416826654?execution=e1s1](https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/rsl/appj/site.jsessionid=_liU5y-4sPqtyCtImmgUJThnUWUeAanhb15EaGXQn4lh2pEEKpso!416826654?execution=e1s1)

Internal Revenue Service: (800) 829-1040; www.irs.gov

Marine Corps Retired Affairs: [tps://](https://www.mcieast.marines.mil/Staff-Offices/Retired-Affairs/)

www.mcieast.marines.mil/Staff-Offices/Retired-Affairs/

(Hover over "Veteran Marines" then click on "Retired

Services")

Medicare: (800) 633-4227. TTY: (877) 486-2048;

www.medicare.gov

Military Officers Assoc. of America: (800) 234-6622;

www.moaa.org

National Burial Services: (800) 697-6940

NPC Navy Reserve Personnel Management (PERS 9):

(866) 827-5672; [www.npc.navy.mil/career/](http://www.npc.navy.mil/career/reservepersonnelmgmt/Pages/default.aspx)

[reservepersonnelmgmt/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.npc.navy.mil/career/reservepersonnelmgmt/Pages/default.aspx)

Navy Casualty Assistance: (800) 368-3202

Navy Retired Activities Office: (866) U-ASK-NPC

(866-827-5672)

MILL RetiredActivities@navy.mil; www.npc.navy.mil/support/

Reserve Component SBP: (866) 827-5672 ask for PERS-912

Retiree Dental — Delta Dental: (888) 838-8737;

www.trdp.org

Servicemembers Group Insurance (SGLI): (800)

419-1473; www.insurance.va.gov

Social Security Administration: (800) 772-1213;

www.ssa.gov

Pay/SBP Questions: www.dfas.mil. Pay inquiries and update of pay or SBP records in case of death, divorce, or remarriage:

Retiree:

Defense Finance and Accounting Service

U.S. Military Retirement Pay

P.O. Box 7130 London KY 40742-7130

(800) 321-1080, (216) 522-5955

SBP/RSFPP annuitant:

Defense Finance and Accounting Service

U.S. Military Annuitant Pay

P.O. Box 7131 London KY 40742-7131

(800) 321-1080, (216) 522-5955

(800) 669-8477; www.insurance.va.gov

Burial information: (800) 827-1000; www.cem.va.gov

GI Bill: (888) 442-4551; www.gibill.va.gov

VA: www.va.gov **Regional offices:** (800) 827-1000

(overseas retirees should contact the American Embassy/consulate)

TDD (800) 89-4833

Insurance: A Regional Office and Insurance Center

PO Box 7208 (claims inquiries) -ORPO

Box 7327 (loans) -ORPO

Box 7787 (payments)

Philadelphia PA 19101

(800) 669-8477; www.insurance.va.gov



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