

MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA  
ALAMO CHAPTER



THE



LARIAT

Volume 31, Number 11

“Five Star ★★★★★ Chapter”

November 2011



## President's Message

By the time you receive this, we will have hopefully helped pass Propositions One and Ten to the Texas Constitution. These are both issues that MOAA and the Texas Coalition of Veterans Organizations pursued and supported.

The first will pass property tax exemptions on to the surviving spouses of 100% disabled veterans who pass away. This is something that is automatically done with those of lesser disability and we needed to address the disparity with this group of surviving spouses. The law would go into effect on January 1, 2012 and would not be retroactive to spouses whose veteran passed away prior to that.

The second corrected some provisions in Texas voting law that would affect the voting rights of Texas servicemen. It would also bring Texas into alignment with Federal voting law.

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We have had the MOAA Annual Meeting here in San Antonio as well. In a MOAA first, we have recognized Community Heroes, both on the military and civilian sides of the house who have worked with our military, wounded warriors and their families to make their life easier and more productive. In addition, Alamo MOAA and the Alliance for Veterans and Families worked with National to present a military job fair. This will continue with additional efforts to find veterans jobs in the future.

Our nation is in a great crisis now. We have a crisis of leadership and economics on all fronts and threats to the well being of our soldiers and their families. If we, as an organization, and we as individuals want to protect our retirements, the future retirements of our present day and future military members and the benefits that they and their families are entitled to, we must make our voices heard. Make that contact today with your representatives in the House and Senate. Call their offices. E-mail them through the MOAA website ([www.moaa.org](http://www.moaa.org)). If we don't take up this battle and protect our interests and the interests of future military members and their families, no one else will and we will all lose. I, for one, don't want to see that happen so

let your representatives know what you want and support. They just might listen!

I wanted to mention, as well, that the Alamo Chapter now has a father/son legal team that will assist you in legal matters.

They are recognized by the National MOAA and do offer some discounts for legal work with MOAA members.

Adolph, the father, is a retired Air Force officer and Dana, the son, is an active Air Force Reserve Officer. Here is their information should you need to use their  
(Continued on Page 13)

### NOTICE

## ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

of the

MOAA Alamo Chapter

will be held during the luncheon on

November 17, 2011

Kendrick Club  
Randolph AFB

# Chapter News & Notices



## Cookie Angels

Grateful thanks to those who either baked and or brought items to the wounded soldiers at Ft Sam Houston's Warrior and Family Support Center.

If you were able to give this month on behalf of the Alamo Chapter please call Susie at (210) 654-0351, so we may add your name to our list. Thank you.

Maryada Artiglia  
 Ruth Baliram  
 Donna Budjenska  
 Irene Collier  
 Frank and Delores DeVille  
 Nita Felder  
 Susan Filipini  
 Marge Fraley  
 Joe and Adele Genualdi  
 John Gibbs  
 Ed and Sue McCarthy  
 Mac and Lori McDonald  
 Lolly Orłowski  
 Jan Rund  
 Cheryl Smith  
 Lou Strong  
 Susie Tolman  
 Dot Wise  
 Tom and Evelyn Woods

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 Federal Credit Union  
 Spectrum Technologies, Inc  
 USAA

## Volunteer Opportunities

The Alamo chapter has the following positions open that we would love to have some help! You can spend as much or as little time as you have available. Call the office at 210-228-9955 to volunteer.

Personal Affairs Reps  
 PR/Marketing Reps  
 Photographer for Social Functions  
 Legal Counsel  
 Greeters at Social Functions  
 Duty Officer - Floater  
 Members for Calling Committee  
 Members for Program Committee  
 Transportation Coordinator

## Get Well Soon!!



LtCol Jim Cuskey USAF (Ret)

LtCol Bill Polasek USAF (Ret)

Diane Hoff  
 Spouse of LTC Randy Hoff USA (Ret)

## Chapter Vision & Mission Statement

### Vision:

To be the primary advocate for the military community

### Mission:

- To be a major source of information, support and social engagement for the membership;
- To provide programs and services for the common good of our military community;
- To be a powerful voice supporting MOAA at the local, state and national levels.



Thank you to the following members who have generously contributed to either the Scholarship Fund or to the Operating Account. We appreciate it very much:

Linda Gayer (Aux)  
 MAJ Michelle Glenn USA  
 CW4 Robert Parrotte USA (Ret)  
 LTC Carl Russell USA (Ret)

## TAPS

We have received information that the following members have passed away. We wish to convey our sincere condolences and best wishes to their family and loved ones:

COL Howard T. Cain  
 9/30/2011

CWO3 John V. Lewis  
 Date unknown



# Advocating As If Your Life Depended On It!

## And it does!

We, as officers and warrant officer members of the Military Officers Association of America, whether active or retired, have a great challenge before us. We are faced with a Congress and a President, who have, for the most part, not served in the military and perhaps have no real appreciation for what the military members and their families have to live with on a day to day basis. As a result, they are trying to apply civilian standards to what is a unique and special entity, that being the members of our armed forces. Discussions are underway to “civilianize” our medical programs. To tamper with and make our retirements for our young soldiers look more like a 401k to be invested in the stock market. (Doesn't that give you great confidence?)

MOAA is one of the few military organizations that is moving with full force to help prevent or lessen the damage that some of these proposals are suggesting. MOAA needs each and everyone of us to work with and educate our congressmen and senators as to the fallacy of this “civilianization” process. Our men and women in uniform pledge their all, to include their lives, if necessary to protect this nation and its people. I don't think that the kid at the local Walmart is required or expected to do that. Congress evidentially thinks, however, that we should pay more for our medical coverage and accept fewer benefits to bring us more inline with our civilian brethren who have never served in combat, have never been shot at, who have not had to leave behind wives and children to exist and grow without the benefit of a mother or father being there to guide them.

To tell a young man or woman who is serving that their retirement is about to be essentially gutted on the altar of deficit reduction, is a betrayal of trust that that service person had when they joined. It is usual that a soldier with 20 to 30 years service should be rewarded with a comfortable retirement earned for his or her many years of service. It should not be placed in jeopardy by giving it to the whims of the stock market. It should be guaranteed and paid for the life of the individual.

What do we as individual members do about this? Some have suggested on the MOAA Blog that MOAA is making

suggestions but not doing anything. I beg to differ. I have been in the advocacy business for some years and what MOAA says and suggests to our Congressmen has to be backed up by our support and individual advocacy. They lay the ground work, but we need to support and advocate for what they are saying.

We are supposedly a representative government and though many of our politicians may be beholden to a set of lobbyists or certain ideologies, they still tend to listen to their constituents if enough of us make our views known. How do we do that? Attend their town halls. Tell them what we want them to support. Tell them why they must support it. Tell them what may happen to their political career if they don't support it. E-mail them. MOAA's website makes this so easy one should be ashamed if you don't use it on a weekly basis! Granted, your e-mail will not likely be read by anyone other than a staff person, however, if that politician gets masses of e-mails regarding a subject such as military retirement, military medical care, (Continued on Page 13)

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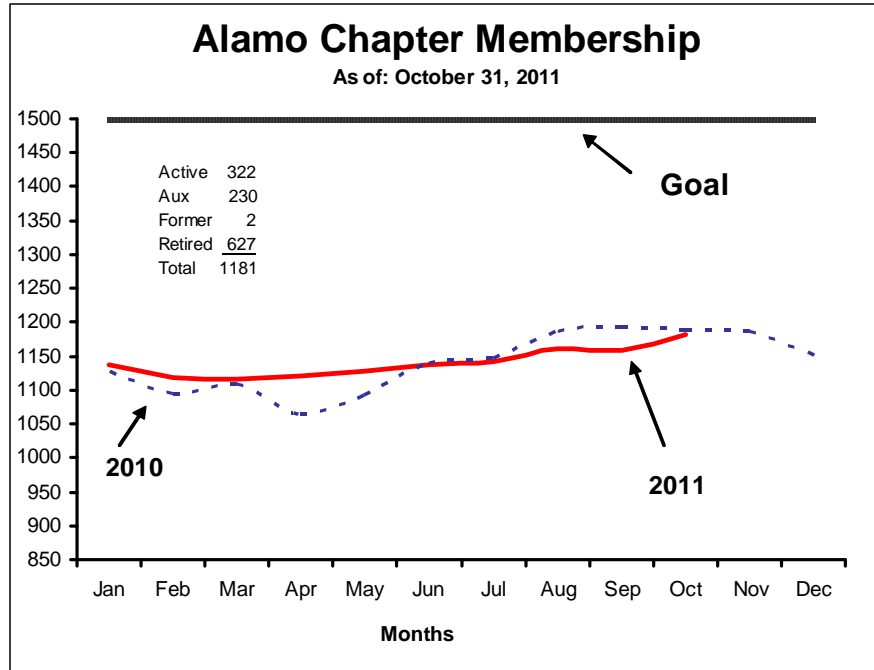
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## Welcome New Members:

Col Philip Andrews USAF  
 Col Thomas Ball USAF  
 COL Luigi Biever USA (Ret)  
 COL Russell Livingston USA  
 LTC Jose Betancourt USA (Ret)  
 LTC Kimberlie Biever USA  
 LtCol Maragret Carey USAF  
 LtCol Richard Doyle USAF  
 LtCol Michael Gayer USAF  
 LTC Arthur Jackson USA (Ret)  
 LTC Daniel Moroney USA  
 LTC Tim Teague USA  
 LTC Hector Villarreal USA  
 LTC John Wegenhof USA  
 Maj Barbara Dauerty USAF  
 Maj John Elliott USAF  
 MAJ Edward Fair USA  
 MAJ Thurayya Gillia USA  
 Maj Aaron Homjak USAF  
 MAJ Leon Hooten USA  
 Maj William Knebel USAF  
 Maj Sandra Magana USAF  
 MAJ Scott McMahon USA  
 Maj David Mills USAF  
 Maj Simon Morgan USAF  
 MAJ Larry Smith USA

## Year to Date Membership Stats



MAJ Marc Statham USAR  
 MAJ Michael Turpin USA (Ret)  
 Capt Harold Brock USAF  
 CPT Stephanie Kessinger USA  
 Capt Nancy Kloehr USAF  
 CPT Louis Lozano USA  
 CPT Anthony Miranda USA  
 CPT Matthew Partyka USA  
 CPT Kathleen Pitt USA

Capt Edwin Rodriguez USAF  
 CPT Michael Saucedo USA  
 CPT Wes Stots USA  
 CPT Charles Wyatt USA  
 LTJG Cole Deats USN  
 1LT James Lang USMC  
 CW4 Darren Lester USA  
 CW4 Luis Lozano USA  
 CW3 Claudell Harris USA

Want Ad

### The Officers Placement Service (TOPS)

If you are an area **employer** who is interested in hiring career transitioning officers or their spouses . . . or if you are a MOAA member who is interested in helping a career transitioning officer or spouse as a **San Antonio networker** . . . or if you are a MOAA member **job seeker**, please contact me – David Patrick, Chapter TOPS Officer & MOAA Texas Networking Coordinator, 210-259-9867, [dwpatrick01@gmail.com](mailto:dwpatrick01@gmail.com).

## AND....Thank You Renewing Members:

Col Bob Barnhardt USAF (Ret)  
 Col Francis Brown USAF  
 Col Michael Hutchison USAF  
 COL Douglas McCary USA (Ret)  
 Col Barry Ream USAF (Ret)  
 Col Richard Reusch USAF (Ret)  
 Col Steven Robinette USAF  
 COL Lawrence Sansone USA (Ret)  
 Col Gerald Talcott USAF  
 Col Jim Weimer USAF (Ret)  
 LtCol Bryan Bradford USAF (Ret)  
 LTC Carl Russell USA (Ret)  
 MAJ Michelle Glenn USA  
 MAJ Joe Pina USA (Ret)  
 CPT Kacenia Patterson USA  
 CW4 Robert Parrotte USA (Ret)  
 Lilas Harvey USAF (Aux)

**Vote  
Yes  
for  
Proposition One**

(Property Tax Exemption for  
Surviving Spouses)

## Member Profile

### Susie Tolman - Czech Refugee Recalls World War II Past

*Editor's Note: This is the first in a two-part series graciously given to us by Carol Baass Sowa of TODAY'S CATHOLIC newspaper*



Susie Tolman refers to her girlhood years in World War II Czechoslovakia (now the Czech Republic) as just another “refugee story.” “There were some of them a hundred times worse than mine, because there were families that lost their children — one child here, another child there and father here in the army,” she explains. “Mine is not even that exciting.” But it was eventful enough.

Growing up in Kasperske Hory, on a family estate in Bohemia awarded centuries before to an ancestor who served the Holy Roman Emperor Charles IV, Tolman (whose given name was Gertrude Straub) would have had an idyllic childhood, had World War II not intervened. Her father owned several lumber mills and a furniture factory, with the family maintaining a second home in Plzen.

There were good times with family and friends, trips to Spain, Austria and Africa, and visits to the country, where Susie’s pet lamb was carefully saved from slaughter each year by the caretaker — or so she thought. Years later she would learn her “little Liesel” was replaced with a new lamb each year and the previous year’s Liesel had been served up as one of their meals! “The innocence of children,” Tolman sighs.

As the war progressed, Tolman, an only child, acquired siblings when the Straubs became foster parents for sev-

eral refugee children rescued after Allied bombings in Germany. As a pastime, the children would stage musical concerts. Sadly, once the war ended, all foreigners were expelled by the new Communist government, including the fostered children, despite the Straubs’ pleading. Tolman was especially fond of one little orphaned girl. “Where would she go?” her parents pleaded with the authorities. “They weren’t interested in that,” Tolman remembers wistfully. “She was a German citizen and out she went.”

The occupation by Hitler’s forces brought other changes. Convents were closed and nuns left homeless. The Straubs were Catholics and her father found work for five or six nuns in his factory office, including their mother superior, and they became like members of the family. Later he paid Ukrainian prisoners of war college students to work in the factory.

As the war progressed, the Straub factory and lumber mills were confiscated by the Third Reich. Furniture production was halted and her father forced to produce ammunition boxes instead. Not allowed to reveal what he was making, he ironically called them “the chocolate boxes.”

An especially memorable incident centered around her father’s new Tatra, a Czechoslovakian luxury car given him as a Christmas present by a business associate. A few weeks later he drove it to Nazi-occupied Prague and shortly thereafter received a letter from the government “requesting” his car “for the Fatherland.” “There was nothing my father could do,” recalls Tolman, “so he gave them the car.”

Several months later, when viewing a newsreel at the movies, Mr. Straub saw his Tatra being given by Hitler to

(Continued on Page 6)

## Member Profile

(Continued from Page 5)

Miklos Horthy, Hungary's war-time leader. He was furious. "My father got up and I can't repeat his choice words," Tolman says with a laugh. He was taken for interrogation to the Dachau concentration camp and kept there several days. Needed back at the factory to ensure production of the "chocolate boxes," he was finally released. Since he had been kept in an isolated area for "special" prisoners, he would swear to his dying day that the infamous concentration camp was just a "plain old hotel" where nobody was mistreated and he received three good meals a day.

By September of 1944 the school in Plzen was near closing as its teachers had been inducted into the army, so Tolman was sent to the Ursuline high school in Salzburg, Austria — until Salzburg was bombed. She recalls a bombing raid commencing as her mother arrived for a visit and Mrs. Straub being shepherded to the town's shelter, inside a mountain, while Tolman's class remained in the school basement, lined with shelves of canned food.

When a bomb struck the school building, a jam jar crashed down onto Tolman's head and the students were rushed to the town shelter. However, before first aid could be administered, her mother first had to be taken care of as she had fainted at the sight of blood dripping down her daughter's face. In later years the two would laugh about this.

Tolman left the school when the bombing of Salzburg increased. The students had been put to work cleaning up the resulting rubble when her shovel hit something. Pushing the dirt away, she discovered a body. "I put my shovel down," she remembers, "and went to the train station." Heading for Plzen, she rode the train until it was bombed, then walked again, caught another train and then walked home. "It took me four days," she re-

calls, "and I came home on Christmas Day and I refused to go back."

After the war ended, American troops occupied Plzen and set up offices in the family home, with Tolman's father striking up a fast friendship with the American chaplain, Father Eugene Noury, OMI. As a result, when the time came for the Americans to pull out and turn the area over to the Russian troops, whom many feared, the kindly priest offered to ferry the teen-aged Tolman to safety in Salzburg. Here he left her in the care of the Ursuline convent until they located the woman whose home she had previously boarded in during her earlier stay.

Tolman was able to take with her more than other Czech refugees due to her special American "protector." Among the items she toted along was her cherished Underwood typewriter on which she typed her school papers. It would unwittingly play a part in her future university choice.

The typewriter (which Tolman still has) had been a birthday present to her, but was inventoried by the Germans when confiscating her father's business. When the family business subsequently became property of the Communist government that followed, her typewriter was listed as "stolen government property" and kept her from being accepted at the University of Vienna in Austria. Instead she attended the University of Heidelberg in Germany as a commuting guest student.

During this time she also worked as a secretary for the American forces in Salzburg. Here her boss, a colonel due to ship out shortly, had so much difficulty pronouncing the nickname she went by, Traudl, he asked, "Do you mind if I call you Susie? It's only for two weeks." He left; the name Susie stayed.

Cut off from her family, Tolman was devastated to receive a letter just before Christmas in 1945 from the manager at her father's former factory, informing her that her parents had

been killed at the German border trying to escape from Czechoslovakia. Still, two years later, when a pair of American soldiers traveling to Germany asked for her parents' names to check on the list of refugees there, she gave them the information.

The two discovered her parents alive in Heidelberg and, despite the language barrier, conveyed to the frightened Straubs that they must pack a suitcase and come with them immediately, though not explaining why. (The Straubs believed their daughter dead, having also received a letter from the Czech factory manager saying Tolman had been shot trying to return to Czechoslovakia for Christmas.)

Taken by train to Berchtesgaden, Germany, a short way from Salzburg, the two G.I.s set the Straubs up in an apartment paid for with a carton of cigarettes and gave the bewildered pair food and money. Her parents were so used to being shunted around at this point, says Tolman, they thought this was to be their new home.

Wanting to surprise Tolman, the young men then convinced her (after much persuasion) to drive with them to Berchtesgaden for dinner, picking her up in a two and a half ton army truck. Things did not go exactly as planned though.

As the truck lumbered into the town, Tolman noticed a couple walking along the road and gasped at their resemblance to her dead parents. Of course it was her parents. The truck stopped, she got out and the three were reunited in a scene so moving Tolman's voice still breaks today in the retelling.

*IN THE NEXT ISSUE: Changes in post-war Czechoslovakia, Susie Tolman's life as an American army wife and her keeping alive Czech egg-decorating and other customs.*



## Medical Minute

### Orthostatic Hypotension

Some people experience a drop in blood pressure when they stand up (orthostatic hypotension). Falls are a risk often with serious injury such as fractured hips. There are ways to counter the problem.

The causes are varied. It could be a condition that affects the nervous system: Parkinson's, Lewy body disease, diabetic neuropathy or a side effect of medication. Here are eight things you can do to counter orthostatic hypotension:

1. Take your time standing up. Gradually change from lying down to sitting to standing position.
2. Try these maneuvers: Wiggle your toes and flex your foot before you stand up. Squatting and stooping forward can temporarily increase your blood pressure.
3. Review your medications with your doctor and maybe make a change. Some drugs work by relaxing and widening blood vessels which can trigger orthostatic hypotension.
4. Lift the head of your bed by 10 to 20 degrees. Sleeping with your head higher than your feet decreases the amount of blood passing through your kidneys. The body retains more fluid and keeps blood pressure higher.
5. Increase your fluid (and maybe salt) intake. Dehydration causes a drop in blood pressure because the volume of blood decreases.
6. Drink coffee in the morning. Coffee boosts blood pressure and may ease symptoms.
7. Exercise more: walking, biking, light swimming can increase heart rate and improve cardiovascular fitness.
8. Wear compression stockings. Special stockings apply pressure to the lower half of the body and keep blood from pooling in veins.

Source: *Harvard Health Letter*, August 2011

*Col Irene Collier*



### DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME

Daylight Savings Time (DST). Is it a bane or a boon? We "spring forward" and "fall back" annually. But it is not nice to fool Mother Nature. She gets even with you. DST is the practice of temporarily advancing clocks during the summertime so that afternoons have more daylight and mornings have less.

It is known that the ancient civilizations adjusted daily schedules to the sun. Some divided day hours into 12 hours regardless of day length. The Romans had a water clock that adjusted to different scales for different months of the year. (Jerome Carcopino *Daily Life in Ancient Rome, People and the city*).

In 1969 Benjamin Franklin was envoy to France and wrote the proverb, "Early to bed early to rise, makes a man healthy, wealthy, and wise." In 1784 he wrote the satire to tax window shutters, ration candles, and woke Parisians by ringing church bells and firing cannons to awaken the people at sunrise. (Seymour Stanton Black, "Benjamin Franklin, American Inventor" 2006)

Modern DST was first proposed by the New Zealand entomologist, George Vernon Hudson. His shift work gave him time to collect insects. About the same time a British author, William Wellet, was dismayed that Londoners slept through half the day. In 1905 he disliked cutting short his golf round at dusk. Being a horseman he liked getting up early. (Seize the Daylight, a pamphlet by William Wellet, "The Waste of Daylight." 1907)

Various countries couldn't agree on how to implement daylight savings time. Opinions in the US were no dif-

## Solitaires



ferent. The question was not only how, but when to start and stop. Local and state governments also disagreed. Hawaii and Arizona never did adopt DST. DST is generally not observed near the equator where in summer changes in light do not vary enough to justify it.

The first saving law was passed in the US in 1918 and repealed in 1919. Bitter fighting continued throughout the year between indoor and outdoor advocates. In the early '60's the Interstate Commerce Commission was appointed the nation's time keeper.

Up till then the railroad had set the time. In 1972 the Uniform Time Act was passed. The theater industry wanted it, but farmers opposed it. Finally President Nixon signed the Emergency Daylight Savings Time Act of 1973. It passed in January 1974.

Some interesting anecdotes resulted from those squabbles:

1. Indiana observed two zones; splitting the state down the middle and splitting Indianapolis in two. Finally in April 2005 the Indiana legislature passed the law that implemented DST state wide beginning in 2006.
2. Candy makers lobbied for DST in November 2007. It was rumored that it interfered with Halloween. Younger children were not allowed out after dark.
3. DST increased morning hour accidents but had a much larger decrease in the afternoon with more daylight. There was an increase in pedestrian deaths the first few weeks of DST.
4. Terrorist activities: In 1999 the West Bank of Israel was on summer time and had just switched to standard time. West Bank terrorists had smuggled bombs to their Israeli counterparts. They misunderstood the time on

(Continued on Page 13)

# Medical Spotlight

## Health Effects of Food & Beverage Consumption - Part 2 Diet and Chronic Disease Relationships

*Editor's Note:*

*This article, written and submitted by local ARC Residents John & Tina Vanderveen, is part two of a three part series.*

The increased life span of some populations helps to focus nutrition research on the relationship of diet to the occurrence of certain chronic diseases. Diseases such as cancer, hypertension, cardiovascular disease, diabetes, osteoporosis, liver cirrhosis and dementia have increased with the average age of the population. Obesity associated with excess energy intake in the diet and reduced activity levels within a population are interrelated with the prevalence and severity of some of these chronic conditions. Unlike the sciences associated with deficiency of essential nutrients, the relationships between consumption of food and beverages and the occurrence of chronic diseases is less understood. Absolute proof of these relationships is difficult to obtain in studies that involve human beings. Thus it becomes necessary to obtain evidence through a broad array of research approaches that include complex biological, behavioral and environmental sciences. Evidence from research will enable a better understanding of food and beverage consumption and its role in health status of individuals and populations.

Several types of research approaches are useful in providing information about diet and disease relationships. Survey research conducted to explore relationships between food intake and health of a population is useful in identifying associations between levels of consumption of certain foods or food components and the prevalence of a particular disease. Knowledge of such associations is useful in identifying potential diet related problems and in development of hypotheses about likely relationships between diet and some diseases. However

these studies do not provide assurance that a relationship exists.

Once a hypothesis has been formulated, retrospective and prospective observational studies can be designed and conducted to test the strength of the proposed relationship. A retrospective study can be conducted using an existing data base that contains information collected on the diet and health status of a population provided the information needed is complete and was collected under rigorous scientific parameters or rules. There are several longitudinal studies (often called cohort) in which a large numbers of healthy individuals have been observed for years (i.e. the study of citizens in Framingham, Massachusetts). Since these studies were designed to observe general health of the cohort, information in an existing data base may lack the quality of detail that would be incorporated in a prospective study where the focus of data collection can be narrowed to the relative diet disease relationship. Observational studies provide some level of information about the validity of a hypothesis but lack the assurance that findings are representative of the population of interest. Assessment of the dietary intake may lack accuracy because it relies on the participant's memory of food consumed over long periods of time.

Intervention studies are generally considered to provide the most useful assessment of the validity of a hypothesis. These are designed to include careful control of dietary intake and the use of accepted biomarkers of the disease conditions. Subjects are randomly assigned to either a treatment or control group. The treatment group is provided a diet suspected of having a relationship with a disease and the

control group is provided a diet not suspected to exhibit that relationship. Depending on the length of the study and completion of all aspects relevant to the intervention, control study participants may be offered the treatment on a voluntary basis. This is generally considered a courtesy to volunteer subjects if the intervention is perceived as having a health benefit. Although intervention studies can provide reliable information in assessing the validity of a hypothesis, the approach is not often useful in studying diet disease relationships that are long term (years) or when the study conditions would have permanent or adverse effects on health of the participants.

Laboratory studies based on use of animals, tissue culture procedures and state of the art technologies are useful in the study of diet and disease relationships. Ethically human subjects cannot participate in experimental studies when they require high risk procedures. Animal studies provide an opportunity to conduct multigenerational experiments in a reasonable time frame. They also provide the opportunity to identify biochemical mechanisms that are needed to validate or show the feasibility of a hypothesis. However, because species differences within animals are known to exist with regard to diet disease relationships, findings derived from animal studies need to be supported by human observations.

John Vanderveen, PhD  
Food and Drug Administration

Tina Vanderveen PhD  
Public Health Service



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## POLYTRAUMA CENTER DEDICATION

San Antonio received another star in its medical care crown for our veterans on October 25<sup>th</sup> when the fifth Polytrauma Center in the nation was dedicated.

The South Texas Veterans Health Care System Polytrauma Center will serve veterans from all eras who have serious, debilitating wounds, PTSD or TBI issues. It is the first center of its type designed with the integrated care for the veteran that will include family members as part of the treatment process.

The dedication began at 1200hrs with the posting of the colors by the Joint Service Color Guard, Ft. Sam Houston and the playing of the National Anthem by the Brass Quintet from the 323<sup>rd</sup> Army Band, Ft. Sam's own. Tillman Rutledge, a WWII Vet and survivor of the Bataan Death March, who has done over 20,000 hours of volunteer service at Audie Murphy, led the Pledge of Allegiance. Chief Chaplain Juliana Leshar gave the invocation.

There were several speakers, including Marie Weldon, Director, South Texas Veterans Health Care System; Lawrence Biro, Network Director, VA Heart of Texas Health Care Network; The Honorable Kay Bailey Hutchison, senior Senator from Texas; and the Honorable Robert Petzel, Under Secretary for Health. The keynote speech was given by the Honorable Eric K. Shinseki, Secretary of Veterans Affairs.



The ribbon cutting was done by Senator Hutchinson and Secretary Shinseki. Many Wounded Warriors and veterans attended the event including some of the first patients to occupy the Polytrauma Center.



## Speaker Bio




General Edward A. Rice, Jr, USAF (born 1955) is the 30th Commander, Air Education and Training Command (AETC), Randolph Air Force Base, Texas.

As commander, he is responsible for the recruiting, training and education of all US Airmen. His command includes the Air Force Recruiting Service, two numbered air forces and Air University. Air Education and Training Command consists of 12 bases, more than 70,600 active duty, reserve, guard, civilians and contractors, and 1,380 trainer, fighter and mobility aircraft.

He previously served as Commander, United States Forces Japan and Fifth Air Force, Vice Commander, Pacific Air Forces, Commander, 13th Air Force, and Commander, Kenney Headquarters (P), Hickam AFB, Hawaii until October 2006. He served as a White House Fellow at the Department of Health and Human Services, as a professional staff member for the Commission on Roles and Missions of the Armed Forces, and as the Deputy Executive Secretary for the National Security Council.

Rice is a 1978 distinguished U.S. Air Force Academy graduate where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree. In 2006, he attended a Joint Force Maritime Component Commander Course, Naval War College at Newport, R.I.

Rice has flown more than 3,900 flying hours as a pilot in the B-1B, Boeing B-52G/H, E-3, Northrop Grumman B-2, Boeing KC-135, Lockheed C-130, Cessna T-37 and Northrop T-38.



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## Benefits of Membership of MOAA and the local chapter

- Our monthly newsletter, *The Lariat*, which includes a calendar of events, is sent to each member (or made available on-line), and includes both MOAA and Alamo Chapter news. Stay informed!
- Monthly luncheons, which rotate between the Randolph, Fort Sam Houston, and Lackland service clubs, feature informative speakers and are also open to guests.
- Benefit information of all kinds is provided through the Alamo Chapter. We have an experienced Vice President of Personal Affairs who can give quick answers to your and family members' questions, or who can research the more complex issues.
- The opportunity to enjoy the camaraderie of meeting fellow chapter members and their guests. We also plan for various social events, open to families and guests. In addition, our chapter features a singles group called the Solitaires, some of who are surviving spouses. The Solitaires have a busy social calendar.
- Make your voice heard on proposed state and national military legislation which may affect you and your family. Both the Alamo Chapter and MOAA national welcome your views!
- Enjoy many benefits, discounts, and services, to include career planning through TOPS (The Officer Placement Service). The Alamo Chapter also provides college scholarships to those who qualify.

Referred by: \_\_\_\_\_

### The Give Me 10! Campaign Options:

1. Active Duty, National Guard and Reserve officers of all services, who are not past or present members of MOAA national are eligible for a one year **free** national and local MOAA (MOAA-AC) membership.
2. Retired Officers or Auxiliary (surviving spouses), and lapsed members of MOAA national, can receive a 2 year membership for \$30.00 (The usual yearly membership rate is \$31). You will then receive a one year local MOAA-AC membership **free**.
3. Those already members of MOAA national need to complete this application to receive a 1 year **free** local membership to MOAA-AC.

Normal Dues: MOAA national \$31 per year, MOAA local \$25.00 (Auxiliary & email newsletter subscribers \$15)

## Membership Application

(Annual Membership)

Are you a member of MOAA National? \_\_\_\_\_



### Military Officers Association of America Alamo Chapter

Circle Status: Commissioned & Warrant Officers of all services - Active, Reserves, Former, or Retired, National Guard, NOAA, PHS, Surviving Spouse.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(Print) Last First MI Spouse

Residence Address \_\_\_\_\_ City State Zip

Rank/Grade Service Date of Birth

Home phone \_\_\_\_\_ Business phone \_\_\_\_\_

Civilian/Military Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

Firm/Unit \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail\* \_\_\_\_\_

\* May we have your permission to publish this information in the Chapter Membership Directory? \_\_\_\_\_

(\*This directory and your e-mail address are exclusively for the use of the chapter and will not be sold or used for any other purpose than chapter communications and/or board approved activity.)

Would you like to access our monthly newsletter (The Lariat) at our website versus having a hard copy mailed to you? \_\_\_\_\_ (Dues reduce to \$15 per year).

Would you be interested in being active in chapter volunteer activity? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature Date

### CHARITABLE OUTREACH PROGRAM

Please accept my tax-deductible donation of: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to (check one)  
Outreach Fund\* \_\_\_\_\_ As designated by the Alamo Chapter \_\_\_\_\_

\*a fund for annual college scholarships and other charitable programs and services.

Send applications to:

MOAA-AC, P.O. Box 340497, Ft Sam Houston, TX 78234

For questions please call (210) 228-9955 or e-mail: moaa-ac@sbcglobal.net  
Also visit our chapter's website at www.alamomoaa.org

Please feel free to copy and provide this form  
to prospective members.

9-19-11

Solitaires

(Continued from Page 6)

the bombs. As the bombs were being planted they exploded killing three terrorists instead of two bus loads of innocent victims.

5. Farmers objected because grain harvesting is best done after the dew evaporates, so when field hands arrive for work then leave earlier in the summer their work is less valuable.

6. Children and workers had to go to work in the dark. Work schedules that kept workers in the sun longer, increased the number of skin cancers.

7. In 1993 during a DST transition while a computer timing system limited the radio-timed synchronized signals, it allowed molten steel to cool one hour less than required resulting in the splattering of molten steel while it was poured.

8. Dmitri Medvedev, President of Russia, stated that longer exposure to sun increased health problems and lead to his motivation to nullify DST for Russia.

Congress means well but there are always unintended consequences which were not considered.

November meetings for the Solitaires will be: Tuesday 1 November 1100 Ft Sam Golf Club (Surprise program) and Sunday Brunch 27 November 1100 at Randolph Parr club.

Source: News articles David Preau, *Seize the Daylight* 2005

*Col Irene Collier (Ret)*

\*\*\*\*\*

*If you are a single man or lady and like to eat, chat, make new friends, experience or provide sometimes brief impromptu or scheduled interesting demonstrations, talks, or discussions, whether you are: visiting the area; active duty or retired; widowed or divorced; the SOLITAIRES is the group for you.*

*This is a wonderful opportunity to enjoy camaraderie with other single men and ladies whose backgrounds and experiences are or have been with the military. Call the office (210) 228-9955 for more details.*

President's Message

(Continued from Page 1)

services: The Jacobson Law Firm, P.C., 6391 De Zavala Rd, Suite 201, San Antonio, Texas 78249.

Telephone: (210) 341-1333, Fax: (210) 341-8016.

Our November luncheon will take place on November 17<sup>th</sup> at the Kendall Club, Randolph AFB. This will be our annual business meeting as well as having General Rice, the Commander of AETC as our speaker. I hope that as many of you as can will attend this meeting. Not only is it important for our Chapter, but I think that you will learn much from the General's talk. Make those reservations now!

We will be having our Christmas Party on December 7<sup>th</sup> at the Parr Club, Randolph AFB. This will begin at 1800 and there will be a band and dancing. Santa will put in an appearance for all of those good and bad boys and girls. Please make your reservations for this fun function as soon as you can.

*Jim Cunningham USAR (Ret)*

Advocating

(Continued from Page 3)

SBP, DIC, etc. they will start paying attention.

The whole point is that nothing will get done if we as members of MOAA don't get out and support these legislative efforts. MOAA, fortunately, has a great deal of influence in the Congress, however, that won't matter if we don't show our individual representatives that we, as their constituents, support these efforts as well.

*Jim Cunningham USAR (Ret)*

Health, Benefits & Welfare

Veteran's Driver's License

During the 82nd legislative session, Rep. Jason Isaac (R-Dripping Springs) was successful in passing legislation that will allow veterans to add an endorsement to their Texas driver's license.

Rep. Isaac commented, "I have many veterans in my family, and it was recently brought to my attention that they often must carry their discharge form (DD-214) with them at all times in order to prove their status. Many businesses, organizations, and events provide certain benefits to this honorable group of citizens and it seems unnecessary that this cumbersome form is the only proof of service that they currently have. Adding a small endorsement to a veteran's driver's license is a common sense solution to this issue."

The bill took effect on September 1st, but because the Department of Public Safety (DPS) will need to establish and approve rules as well as develop software for the new license, it may not be available until several months later.

When the development is complete, veterans will simply have to present proof of honorable service at the DPS office when they renew their license in order to have the endorsement added.

\*\*\*\*

New VA Clinics

The South Texas Veterans Health Care System opened two new VA clinics in Wonderland of the Americas Mall. The clinics are located in two separate spaces in the lower level of the mall and both are primary care clinics. Wonderland of the Americas mall is located on Loop 410 and Fredericksburg Road.

\*\*\*\*

# Chapter Events Calendar

## NOVEMBER

- 1 Volunteer Hours Due*
- 1 Solitaire's Luncheon 11am Ft Sam Golf Club**
- 3 Staff Meeting 9am MOAA-AC Office*
- 5 Retiree Appreciation Day Ft Sam Houston**
- 8 Election Day - Fly the Flag!**
- 10 Marine Corps Birthday**
- 11 Veterans' Day Ceremony Ft Sam Houston National Cemetery 9:30am. Fly the Flag!**
- 16 Ft Sam Volunteer Advisory Council Mtg 9am*
- 17 Board Meeting Randolph Kendrick Club 9am**
- 17 Annual Business Mtg Luncheon Kendrick Club 11am**
- 24 Thanksgiving - Fly the Flag!**
- 27 Solitaire's Sunday Brunch 11am Randolph Parr O Club**
- 29 Extravaganza Sam Houston Club (Ft Sam Newcomers Welcome)*

## DECEMBER

- 1 Volunteer Hours Due*
- 1 Annual Chapter Planning Meeting 9am-3pm MOAA-AC Office*
- 3 Solitaire's Christmas Potluck at Mavis Cleary's house**
- 7 Pearl Harbor Day**
- 9 Chapter Christmas Dinner Dance Randolph Parr O Club**
- 25 Christmas Day - Fly the Flag!**



Note: Events **bolded** are for the **general membership** and *italicized* are for *staff*, though members are always welcome. Please call the office for details (210) 228-9955

### Ongoing:

**Cookie Angels** delivering items to Warrior & Family Support Center

## JANUARY 2012

- 1 New Year's Day - Fly the Flag!**
- 1 Volunteer Hours Due*
- 3 Solitaire's Luncheon 11am Ft Sam Golf Club**
- 5 Staff Meeting 9am MOAA-AC Office*
- 16 Martin Luther King, Jr, Day - Fly the Flag!**
- 19 Ft Sam Volunteer Advisory Council Mtg*
- 19 Board Meeting 9:00am*
- 19 Chapter Luncheon**
- 22 Solitaire's Sunday Brunch 11 am Randolph Parr O Club**
- 25 Extravaganza Sam Houston Club (Ft Sam Newcomers Welcome)*

## AMERICAN RED CROSS - FORT SAM HOUSTON

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Call 210-221-3355 for class information or to volunteer.

# Receiving The Lariat Online?

If you would prefer to read your Lariat on-line rather than receive a printed copy, send us an email with the subject line as OLLO and we'll gladly remove you from the printed version mailing list.

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## Alamo Chapter

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**VP LOGISTICS** LtCol Fred Koechley

**LEGAL COUNSEL** Jacobson Law Firm

**SOLITAIRES** Mavis Cleary

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**CONSULTANT** Lt George Frecsko

**EDITOR** Col Kerry Green

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### Statement of Publication

The Lariat is the newsletter of the Military Officers Association of America—Alamo Chapter. It is published once each month to inform the membership of issues and activities of interest to all.

MOAA-AC is a non-profit organization within the state of Texas organized to represent the membership and to support the activities of the Texas Council of Chapters and MOAA National.

Advertising contained in the newsletter is not endorsed by the Chapter and does not represent any recommendation to the membership. Opinions expressed in articles contained herein are not necessarily those of the membership as a whole or the Chapter. Questions should be directed to the Editor, at the Chapter office.

MOAA-AC P.O. Box 340497 San Antonio, TX 78234  
(210) 228-9955 moaa-ac@sbcglobal.net

[www.alamomooa.org](http://www.alamomooa.org)



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ALAMO CHAPTER

# THE LARIAT

2009 National Award Winning Newsletter

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P.O. Box 340497  
Ft Sam Houston, TX 78234-0497  
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**U.S. AIR FORCE**

**Thursday November 17, 2011**

**Annual Business Meeting  
Spkr: Gen Edward A. Rice,  
Jr.**

**Cmdr Air Education Training Command Randolph AFB**

**RAFB Kendrick Club**

**Meet & Greet begins 11am - Lunch served approx 11:45am**

### **Menu (Indicate Choice)**

**A) 6oz Strip Steak**      **B) Roman Style Chicken**  
**With Peppercorn sauce**      **With Romanesca Sauce**  
**Garden Salad, Roasted Potatoes, Cinnamon Glazed Carrots**  
**Dinner Rolls & Butter**  
**Apple and Pecan Pie**  
**Water, Coffee & Tea Service and \$4.00 per small bottle wine**

**Cost per person \$20**  
**Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**RSVP by Noon Monday 14 November**  
**Reservations not cancelled by noon 15 Tuesday will be billed**  
**Non member Officers are welcome with paid reservations**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Guest:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Send reservation slip & check made payable to  
MOAA-AC to P.O. Box 340497, Ft Sam Houston, TX 78234  
Call (210) 228-9955 with any questions.**



**Friday December 9, 2011**

**Christmas Dinner Dance**

**RAFB Parr Club**

**Meet & Greet begins 6pm - Dinner served approx  
7pm**

### **Holiday Buffet**

**Smoked Pork Loin with brown sugar mustard  
glaze, beef tenderloin wrapped in bacon, spring salad with cran-  
berries, sweet potatoes and Yukon gold potatoes, gouda mashed  
potatoes, green beans with thyme & tarragon, medallions of honey  
glazed carrots, wedges of brie, brioche croutons**  
**Italian ice cream, pecan, apple, sweet potato or pumpkin pie**  
**Water, Coffee & Tea Service**  
**Pay As You Go Full Bar**

**Cost per person \$35**  
**Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**RSVP by Noon Monday 5 December**  
**Reservations not cancelled by noon 6 Tuesday will be billed**  
**Guests welcome!**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Guest:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Send reservation slip & check made payable to  
MOAA-AC to P.O. Box 340497, Ft Sam Houston, TX 78234  
Call (210) 228-9955 with any questions.**