

MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

ALAMO CHAPTER



THE



LARIAT

Volume 41, Number 4

“Five Star ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ Chapter”

April 2021



President's Message

About five years ago, five people met in the office of Serafina de los Santos, Executive Director for the 502nd Force Support Group, Joint Base San Antonio. I was one of those five, along with Serafina, Chuck Bunch of then USO San Antonio (now USAA), Jon Vance and Jose Ontiveros who are both on Serafina's staff. The goal was to create greater employment opportunities for transitioning military. The mission was to connect and collaborate with others in the JBSA and San Antonio community that could assist in this goal.

It is now 2021. We meet weekly, even in pandemic times, over Zoom. We generally have 50 or more on the call. The Alliance has over 90 members. JBSA is well represented with folks from transition and family resource centers from Randolph, Lackland and Ft Sam. Employers like Randolph Brooks FCU and Dynamic Advancements are represented. Nonprofits such as FourBlock, Endeavors, Clarity and a host of others attend. Yes, I'm there along with Stephan Porter representing Alamo MOAA. We have other Alamo MOAA members there representing their companies and non-profits.

It's exciting to see this group in action. Texas State Representative Barbara Gervin-Hawkins attended and briefly spoke about the activities in Austin affecting the military and veterans. A lively discussion was had as the

group discussed these and other opportunities in the transition arena. We then did our normal “around the room”, bringing up opportunities and needs of the group. It's our opportunity to share and collaborate.

Alamo MOAA has several take-aways from this event. Each week I speak on the opportunities of MOAA and Alamo MOAA through the MOAA website and its activities for all ranks, services and military spouses. The Alliance also publishes the chat notes that David Patrick publishes in his weekly e-blast to over 1000 transitioning recipients across Texas. It is also our opportunity to connect with this multitude of resources, to assist and receive assistance as the need arises. An example is when I receive a call from a member in need and I can connect him or her with a community resource.

It is exciting and engaging to participate in a collective whose goal is to serve and assist those transitioning.

This is one example of how Alamo MOAA is active in the community. We look forward to highlighting other initiatives. Drop me a line and let me know how you are involved.

Kitty

Kathryn “Kitty” Meyers
LtCol USAF (Ret)
SPHR, SHRM-SCP

Alamo Chapter Volunteer of the Year



Felix Santiago
COL USA (Ret)

Felix Santiago is the Vice-President, Membership, Recruitment & Retention for the Chapter.

Under his leadership, this Chapter continues as the largest in Texas (over 1400 members) and is in the top 3% in size of all of MOAA's 385+ chapters which allows it to have a greater impact on helping military, veterans, spouses and families of all ranks.

Felix donated over 400+ hours in his duties. His commitment and dedication to enhance the recruitment and retention procedures as well as supportive actions to achieve the organization's annual goals, enabled the growth of the Chapter by over 23% -- no small feat in a pandemic year.

Congratulations Felix!!

Inside This Edition:

Pg	2	Chapter News & Notices
Pg	3	Scholarship Winners
Pg	4	Membership Memos
Pg	5	The Story of Ranger Ray
Pg	6	Health Benefits & Welfare
Pg	8	Golf Tournament Flyer
Pg	10	Field of Valor
Pg	12	Transitioning Tips
Pg	14	Volunteers Wanted!
Pg	17	Ya Gotta Laugh!
Pg	18	Upcoming Chapter Events

News & Notices



Thank You!

to each of our members listed below who have donated a little (or a lot!) to the Educational Foundation, and/or Chapter Operations
 We really appreciate it—and every dollar helps!

Aina Blake

Col David Brooks USAF (Ret)

MAJ Robert Corbo USA (Ret)

LTC Jeanette Hammond USA (Ret)

Lt Col Matthew Henrikson USAF (Ret)

CDR Bob LeJeune USN (Ret)

Lt Col Kathy Rafferty USAF (Ret)

Maj Carlos Rodriguez USAF (Ret)

MG Charles Rodriguez USA (Ret)

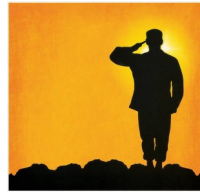
Lt Col Stephen Rohrbough USAF (Ret)

LTC Ch James Taylor USA (Ret)

Jeanette Wahl

LTC Machielle Wood Denmon USA (Ret)

To All our Chapter members, Corporate Partners and their families



TAPS

We have received information that the following member has passed away.

We wish to convey our sincere condolences and best wishes to their family and loved ones:

Col Brian M. Davis USAF (Ret)

3/10/21

Do You Shop Amazon?

Would you like for 0.5% of the purchase price be donated to the Alamo Chapter Educational Foundation? You can. Just switch your Amazon account to Amazon Smile to support the Alamo Chapter Educational Foundation.

When first visiting the website smile.amazon.com you are prompted to select a charitable organization by entering a name or EIN so please enter either “Alamo Chapter Outreach” or 82-1635522. Just use your regular Amazon login info and password to continue shopping.

There is no cost to the Alamo Chapter Education Foundation or to you. And we get a check at the end of each quarter!



Membership Eligibility

Membership in the Alamo Chapter is open to active duty, former, retired, and National Guard and Reserves commissioned and warrant officers of the eight U.S. uniformed services and their surviving spouses.

Alamo Chapter Educational Foundation



The MOAA Alamo Chapter supports scholarships for ROTC and JROTC cadets through its 501(C)3 Education Foundation. The scholarships help towards the cost of college for local JROTC high school students as well as those ROTC students already in college.

This year we will be providing 20 x \$1,000 scholarships to cadets covering programs from Austin down to the Valley. Our annual fund raiser, the Golf Tournament for our 2022 scholarship program is scheduled for November 5th but only provides a portion of the funds we need and will hopefully not be cancelled due to COVID-19.

Help us support the cadets. Your support moves them one step further to reaching their dreams.

Any amount you could give will really help this worthwhile program for our deserving youth. 100% of all money raised goes to our scholarship program.

Visit the chapter website at www.alamomoaa.org and click on the donate tab. Alternatively, mail a check or your credit card info to the office.

Thank you for your support and generosity.

Kathryn “Kitty” Meyers
 LtCol USAF (Ret)
 SPHR, SHRM-SCP
 Chapter President

Alamo Chapter Scholarship Winners 2021

Winner	School Info	Type
Mr Chacko, Peter	Homeschooled	MAJ James and Cheryl Cunningham MOAA Chapter Member Dependent Scholarship
Ms Lim, Meghan	Health Careers HS	COL Clarence Torrey Scholarship Bexar County--Relative of Veteran
C/Villicana, Ana Paula	PSJA Memorial HS	General Robert Herring Scholarship High School JROTC
C/Estrada, Hermelinda	San Benito HS	Col Edward and Sue McCarthy Scholarship High School JROTC
C/Moran, Danial	UT-Austin Air Force ROTC	College ROTC
C/Zuniga, Kevin	UT-Austin Army ROTC	College ROTC
Cadet (and USMC Sgt) Bishop, Timothy	UT-Austin Navy ROTC	College ROTC
C/Yunker, Michael	Texas St--Air Force ROTC	College ROTC
C/Nguyen, Huy	Texas St--Army ROTC	College ROTC
C/Stewart, Abrah	UTSA--Air Force ROTC	Lt Col Ed and Ruby Marvin Scholarship College ROTC--UTSA Air Force
C/Rush, Nichelle		College ROTC
C/Garza, Gabriela	UTSA--Army ROTC	College ROTC
C/Cordero, Lorenzo		College ROTC
C/Barrett, Parker (UIW)	St Mary's--Army ROTC	College ROTC
C/Lee, Anna (St Mary's)		College ROTC
C/Duque, Daniel	TAMU – Kingsville--Army ROTC	College ROTC
C/Villanueva, Mark	TAMU--Corpus Christi--Army ROTC	College ROTC
C/Brady, Matthew		College ROTC
C/Arizmendi, Anaeli	UT-RGV--Army ROTC	College ROTC
C/Castaneda, Jasmine		College ROTC

Membership Memos

THANK YOU Renewing Members

Maj Gen Gary Alkire USAF (Ret)
 MG Charles Rodriguez USA (Ret)
 Brig Gen Jeffrey Kendall USAF (Ret)
 BG Rodney Wolfe USA (Ret)
 RADM Mariann Stratton USN (Ret)
 COL Scott Bleichwehl USA (Ret)
 Col David Brooks USAF (Ret)
 CAPT Thomas Cahill USN (Ret)
 COL Dave Carothers USA (Ret)
 COL Bruce Creller USA (Ret)
 CAPT Don Crumbley USN (Ret)
 Col Brian Davis USAF (Ret)
 COL Jerry Davis USA (Ret)
 Col John Hanna USAF (Ret)
 Col Aulay MacRae USAF (Ret)
 Col John Root USAF (Ret)
 COL Michael Rozsypal USA (Ret)
 Col Robert Wickman USAF (Ret)
 COL Michael Wright USA (Ret)
 Lt Col Warren Camarano USAF (Ret)
 Lt Col Paula Haley USAF (Ret)
 Lt Col Harley Hartung USAF (Ret)
 CDR Bob LeJeune USN (Ret)
 LTC Robert Pollock USA (Ret)
 Lt Col Stephen Rohrbough USAF (Ret)
 Lt Col Wayne Shaw III USAF
 Lt Col Ferrell Talbot USAF (Ret)
 LTC Ch James Taylor USA (Ret)
 LTC Richard Velazquez USA (Ret)
 Maj Fernando Carreon USAF (Ret)
 MAJ Robert Corbo USA (Ret)
 Maj Carlos Rodriguez USAF (Ret)
 Maj Stephen Wilhite USAF (Ret)
 Peggy Marchbanks
 Jeanette Wahl

30-second “Elevator Pitch” To Promote Membership

Membership in an association such as ours is achieved by the majority when a friend/acquaintance is also a member.

We need your help to encourage your friends, neighbors, business associates etc to come join us! Participating in the social events is not mandatory (albeit fun!) but we do need their support and voice when it comes to advocacy at the city, county and state level.

Here's an approach you could take when introducing MOAA Alamo Chapter to someone:

Open the conversation with something like:

I am with The Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) and the Alamo Chapter. Are you a member? If no :

- We are a volunteer nonprofit organization for commissioned officers (and surviving spouses) that has 1400+ members and is over 50 year old – located at Ft. Sam.
- We advocate and lobby for the entire military community – all ranks -- to influence legislators in Washington and in Austin to sustain yours & my earned entitlements, i.e. pay raises, medical benefits, commissary privileges, education benefits, etc. We are strictly non partisan.
- We make ourselves heard through the strength of our membership numbers. This is why it is important for all eligible officers to belong.

(Continued on Page 12)

WELCOME New Members

VADM Raquel Bono USN (Ret)
 Col Jennifer Alexander USAF (Ret)
 Col Michael German USAF (Ret)
 COL John Geurin USA (Ret)
 Col Lydell Kiplin USAF
 CAPT John Townsend USN (Ret)
 COL Vickie Tuten USA (Ret)
 CDR Guy Banta USN (Ret)
 LTC Doyle Fontenot USA (Ret)
 Lt Col Clifton Gordon USAF (Ret)
 LTC Jeanette Hammond USA (Ret)
 LTC Ron Kettler USA (Ret)
 Lt Col Joseph Leavengood USAF (Ret)
 CDR Matthew Ross USCG
 LTC Marjorie Voxx USA (Ret)
 Lt Col James Whitner USAF (Ret)
 CPT Dana Delgado USA (Fmr)
 2LT Jonathan Delarosa USA
 2LT Sophie Everaert USA
 2LT Nicholas Locken USA
 2LT Christian Lopez USA
 2LT Kyle Stewart USA
 2LT Sarah Sullivan USA
 CW3 Luciano Oranday USA (Ret)
 Florence Brymer
 Charity Hagner
 Ginger Jones

Current Membership Stats

Active Duty 317
 Surviving Spouse 168
 Former Military 59
Retired 844
Total 1388

April Speaker - Ranger Ramiro “Ray” Martinez

‘I’m going up to get the shooter’



Almost 55 years after Whitman’s deadly rampage, Ray Martinez remembers it clearly

Ray Martinez describes the sniper’s position on the University of Texas Tower observation deck while remembering the mass shooting which took place almost 55 years ago. Martinez stormed the tower to help take out the shooter, Charles Whitman.

But to hear the New Braunfels resident and former lawman recount the events of Aug. 1, 1966, when he and another officer took the life of Charles Whitman, one might think it happened just yesterday.

Whitman shot and killed 16 people and wounded many others from a perch atop the University of Texas Tower observation deck in Austin before Martinez and another Austin police officer ended the threat.

Of course, like most heroes, Martinez says he isn’t one.

“I was just doing my job,” he said. “People ask was I scared. Of course, I was scared. Only a liar or a fool would say they weren’t.”

The story has been told and re-told again and again. And it will be repeated numerous times every year on August 1 in commemoration of the event’s anniversary. But such a remarkable tale deserves repeating, at least in abridged form, in Martinez’s words.

Martinez worked at the Austin Police Department and was waiting at home before his shift was to begin when, while cooking a small meal, he saw on

the afternoon news reports of a sniper with a rifle picking off people on campus. Martinez called the police station to see if his help was needed, and a lieutenant told him to go and help direct traffic around campus. He went and found that traffic detail was under control and then made the decision to rush to the tower.

Once he got to the campus, Martinez said he saw a pregnant woman hurt on the ground and others who appeared to be dead at Whitman’s hands. He ran zig-zagging to the tower and made it safely. The former U.S. Army corporal expected to see many police officers in the tower preparing to invade the observation deck. Instead, he ran into a young man with a clipboard who took down his name. Martinez said he still doesn’t know who that man was.

“All this time, you could hear all this shooting,” Martinez remembered. “The sniper was shooting down. Policemen and civilians were shooting up there.”

Out on the street, people had grabbed their personal firearms from the backs of their trucks and from their homes, which was commonplace, Martinez said. He said civilians tried helping law enforcement take out Whitman. They were able to slow him down but the sniper still posed a threat.

“The sniper could take his time at first because nobody was shooting at him,” Martinez said. “When people, mostly detectives and civilians, started shooting, he had to take cover because of the return fire.”

Inside the tower, Martinez took the elevator to the 26th floor. He said a prayer before the doors opened and he was confronted by a rifle and a pistol pointed straight at him. Luckily it was a police officer and a civilian planning to move on the sniper.

The civilian, Martinez learned later, was Allen Crum, who eventually climbed the final stairs to the observation deck with Martinez to help.

“I started going up and the guy with the rifle said, ‘Where are you going?’” Martinez said. “I said, ‘I’m going up to get the shooter.’ He said, ‘Not by your-

self you’re not — we’ll go together and do it service style.’”

So, they ascended the stairs, expecting danger at every step and finding bloody, wounded and dead people Whitman had assaulted on his way to the top of the tower. As they neared the top of the stairs, Crum stopped Martinez and asked, “Are we playing for keeps?” — meaning were they going to kill the shooter. Martinez responded in the affirmative, with an expletive thrown in for good measure.

Crum then asked Martinez to deputize him, and Martinez replied, “Consider yourself deputized.”

Once Martinez and Crum reached the observation deck, Martinez went through a door and peeked around two corners but didn’t see the sniper. So, he stationed Crum at one corner of the deck with his rifle trained in one direction while Martinez proceeded the other way to possibly catch the sniper in crossfire if he ran to the corner where Crum aimed the rifle.

Martinez said as he started to stalk the sniper, APD Officer Houston McCoy came up behind him carrying a shotgun and they moved ahead together. Meanwhile, Crum apparently had fired a shot that drew the sniper’s attention toward one corner of the tower while Martinez and McCoy approached from the opposite direction.

They saw Whitman sitting and pointing his weapon in the direction of the shot he heard from Crum, so the officers caught him off guard.

Martinez and McCoy started shooting.

“I kept advancing and shooting,” Martinez said. “I could tell I was making contact. I kept advancing and shooting and yelled at McCoy to shoot. He shot.

“By this time, my gun was empty,” Martinez continued. “I reached back and grabbed the shotgun from McCoy. I fired at the sniper at point blank range.”

He said before he fired the final shotgun blast Whitman was still moving

(Continued on Page 16)

Health, Benefits & Welfare

IRS Tax Deadline Extended

Victims of this month's winter storms in Texas will have until June 15, 2021, to file various individual and business tax returns and make tax payments. Following the recent disaster declaration issued by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the IRS is providing this relief to the entire state of Texas.

Source: IRS

Need Transportation?

The Texas Veterans Network sponsored by Alamo Area Council of Governments, and Texas Veterans Commission Fund for Veterans' Assistance is providing Rides 4 TX Heroes. Rides can be for grocery shopping, medical appointments, prescription pick ups, job interviews, school etc. Any military member is eligible, any age, any branch, their spouses, surviving spouses or their dependents. Call 888-724-8387 or visit www.TxVeteransNetwork.com for more info.

Source: St Phillips Good Samaritan Veterans Outreach

Survivors and Burial Benefits Kit

After the passing of a loved one who has served this country, many survivors do not know what to do or where to begin to obtain VA assistance. VA has prepared a Survivors and Burial Benefits kit to help guide Veterans, service members and their families after the loss of a loved one. The Kit gives a description of each burial benefit, instructions on how to apply, and where to go to get assistance. It covers:

- Pre-need eligibility for National Cemetery burial or memorialization
- Memorial or burial flags
- Government headstones or markers
- Medallions
- Presidential Memorial Certificates (PMC)
- Burial benefits and burial automatic payments
- Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC)
- Dependents' Educational Assistance Program (DEA)
- Marine Gunnery Sergeant John David Fry Scholarship

- Survivors pension
- Special monthly pension benefits
- The Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs (CHAMP-VA)
- Home loan guaranty
- Veterans Month of Death benefits
- VA life insurance

Other features include tips on how to fill out applications with examples of completed forms. These tips and examples give applicants a better understanding of how to properly fill out applications.

VA encourages Veterans and service members to discuss their military service with their dependents, as well as planning their legacy. Families and survivors should know where to locate service medical records, discharge documents, VA disability ratings, and other information. These details will be beneficial to survivors as they prepare to apply for VA benefits. Families and survivors should keep this kit in storage so that it will be available when needed.

The Planning Your Legacy VA Survivors and Burial Benefits Kit is available for download at

<https://www.benefits.va.gov/BENEFITS/docs/VASurvivorsKit.pdf>

Source: Vantage Point Blog Update

Dental Care for Veterans Act

Chairwoman Julia Brownley (D-CA) of the House Veterans' Affairs Subcommittee on Health on 8 FEB introduced H.R. 914, the Dental Care for Veterans Act, legislation that would phase in eligibility for all veterans enrolled in the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) for health care to receive dental care as a part of its medical benefits package.

This bill would require the VA Secretary to furnish dental care in the same manner as any other medical service, and defines a four-year implementation plan beginning with veterans in priority groups one and two—for veterans with service-connected disabilities rated at 30% or more—in year one. The bill currently has 28 cosponsors.

Source: DAV Take Action

Help Extend Auditory Relief (HEAR) Act

U.S. Representatives Matt Cartwright (D-PA.) and John Katko (R-NY) re-introduced the Help Extend Auditory Relief (HEAR) Act H.R. 1106, to expand hearing benefits for seniors on Medicare.

Currently, Medicare Part B covers auditory examinations in the event of an accident or illness, but not routine checkups – which physicians recommend addressing gradual loss of hearing – or hearing aids. If prescribed a hearing device, the out-of-pocket expenses may be impossible to afford. Typical hearing aid models can cost over \$1,000, with the most state-of-the-art devices topping \$5,000. People who need devices for both ears face double the cost. Specifically, the HEAR Act would amend the Social Security Act to include Medicare coverage for hearing rehabilitation, including a comprehensive audiology assessment to determine if a hearing aid is appropriate. It would also extend Medicare Part B coverage to hearing aid devices.

Source: MOAA Newsletter

Air Force Uniforms

The Air Force has authorized a slew of new uniform changes — including allowing maintainers to wear shorts during warm weather across the entire force. According to modifications coming to Air Force Instruction 36-2903, commanders of maintainers have the authority to allow them to wear dark navy blue shorts instead of the Airman Battle Uniform or Operational Camouflage Pattern trousers when temperatures are expected to meet or exceed 80 degrees Fahrenheit. These shorts may be worn in areas such as the flight line, hangars and dock areas where the temperature cannot be controlled, the service said. The shorts would be paired with a coyote brown T-shirt and uniform green or coyote brown socks with uniform boots. Several Air Force installations, including Nellis Air Force Base in Nevada, have paved the way on this issue, and have previously allowed their maintainers to

(Continued on Page 15)



Medical Minute

Cardiac Arrest

The stress created with lock downs and quarantine have caused an increase in heart attacks.

If you are out in public the following is what you should do.

Look for the following symptoms:

- Suddenly faints or collapses.
- Stops breathing
- Has no pulse
- May have twitching muscles

Call 911 right away.

Start "Hands on" CPR (push hard and fast) about 100 times a minute, on a person's chest. This keeps blood flowing to the heart and the rest of the body. Keep doing CPR until help arrives. Swap off with another bystander if possible.

Use a defibrillator. If you are near a gym, airport or public place ask a bystander to locate an Automatic External Defibrillator or AED. Classes are given in all communities on how to use a defibrillator. But the units do have voice step by step and visual advice prompts that tell you how to use them correctly. An AED shocks the heart out of is deadly rhythm and back to normal.

Heart attacks can damage the heart leaving scar tissue that can't contract or pump as well as healthy muscle so it is important to regain the normal rhythm as soon as possible.

Source: Harvard Heart Letter May 2020

Irene Collier (Col, Ret)



Solitaires



Face Mask Discomfort

The COVID pandemic has challenged a lot of our norms. Probably the most visible is the most uncomfortable. We wear the face masks for health reasons. However, a few adjustments may be all it takes to keep your mask on and your COVID guard up.

Wearing a mask sometimes causes uncomfortable breathing and even a shortness of breath. The best strategy is to breathe at a slower rate. This decreases the resistance against the mask. Try exhaling with your lips pursed. If walking, decrease the pace to lower the demand on your lungs.

By now, everyone has heard about the different types or styles of masks. A cloth mask may help to stop the exposure from one person to another as it limits respiratory secretions. There are other styles, including the N95 and the KN95. Masks are now widely available in style and fashion.

A snug mask worn over the mouth and nose as recommended may make you feel anxious or even claustrophobic.

First of all, you are not in danger. There is no evidence that wearing a face covering will change the oxygen or carbon dioxide levels in your blood or harm your lungs. Focus on taking slow deep breaths. This will help relieve anxiety. Wear your mask frequently so that you get used to it.

Facial rashes or breakouts from mask wearing are also common. Masks can trap oil and allergens against the skin. This can block the facial hair follicles and glands, causing pimples. Wash cloth masks regularly. Consider an over-the-counter acne wash that contains salicylic acid or a gentle cleanser to clean the face and help unclog pores. Wash your hair daily with an anti-dandruff shampoo. If the straps hurt your ears, a steroidal cream and moisturizer can help. There are also clips or straps which will attach the ear loops behind your head. Use a shoelace to tie the loops behind your head. There are many little homemade remedies that can help.

Source: Harvard Health Watch.

Irene Collier (Col, Ret)

Temporary Waiver of Vehicle Title & Registration Requirements Ends April 14, 2021

Effective 15 April 2021 JBSA Security Forces will resume enforcement of valid Texas vehicle registrations for installation access. All vehicles must then possess current vehicle registrations.

Three ways to renew your vehicle registration:

Online: Visit <http://www.TxDMV.gov> or www.Texas.gov. This is the quickest and least expensive way to renew. Save \$1 if you renew online. Online renewal is available up to nine months past your registration expiration date.

Mail: Return the bottom portion of your registration renewal form, payment and other required information to your county tax assessor-collector.

In Person: Visit the office of your county tax assessor-collector. In many counties, in-person renewal is also available at other locations, such as certain grocery stores. Contact your county tax office to check hours and locations.

Reminder: Before renewing registration, Texans will need to obtain a passing vehicle inspection at the state vehicle inspection station of their choice, unless their vehicle is exempt from inspection requirements.



13th Annual MOAA-AC Golf Tournament

Military Officers Association of America - Alamo Chapter
Benefiting



JBSA Ft Sam Houston Warrior and Family Support Center & Alamo Chapter Educational Foundation

Friday, November 5, 2021

The Quarry Golf Course, 444 E. Basse Rd, San Antonio, Tx

\$150 per player (limit 120 players)
(\$10 early bird discount if registered & paid by September 5th)

Womens & Mens Divisions!
Includes green fees, cart, goodie bag, lunch & dinner

REGISTRATION & LUNCH begin 11:00am - Shotgun Start 1pm

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Title Sponsor \$10,000

Tournament named in your honor, Club House Banner, Promotional recognition, Tee Box signage, Green Fees & Cart for 8 players.

Platinum Sponsor \$5,000

Club House Banner, Promotional recognition, Tee Box signage, Green Fees & Cart for 6 players.

Gold Sponsor \$2,500

Club House Banner, Promotional recognition, Tee Box signage, Green Fees & Cart for 4 players.

Silver Sponsor \$1,500

Club House Banner, Promotional recognition, Tee Box signage, Green Fees & Cart for 2 players.

Hole In One Sponsor \$1,000

Hospitality Cart Sponsor \$750

Hole Sponsor \$325

Warrior Player Sponsor \$150

Monetary donation in any amount \$ _____

(For 4 person teams or individual players)

Player 1 Name: _____
Shirt Size: _____
Email: _____

Player 2 Name: _____
Shirt Size: _____
Email: _____

Player 3 Name: _____
Shirt Size: _____
Email: _____

Player 4 Name: _____
Shirt Size: _____
Email: _____

Participation implies agreement to use photos in any PR materials

Credit Card #: _____

Exp Date: _____ **Billing Zip Code:** _____

CVV: _____ **Tel:** _____

Golf Fee Amt: \$ _____ **Donation Amt:** \$ _____ **SuperTicket Amt:** \$ _____

Sponsorship Amt: \$ _____ **Total Amount:** \$ _____

MOAA-AC is a private organization. It is not part of the Department of Defense or any of its components and it has no governmental status.

Make checks payable to: MOAA-AC and mail to: P.O. Box 340497, Ft. Sam Houston, TX 78234. If you prefer, you may also register and/or donate by credit card on our website: www.alamomoaa.org. Call Trish at 210-228-9955 for questions on tournament registration, or to pay/donate by phone with your credit card (Mon-Thurs 1-4pm).



The Military Officers Association of America

Alamo Chapter (MOAA-AC)

is conducting its

13th Annual Golf Tournament on November 5, 2021 at the Quarry Golf Course in San Antonio.



The tournament raises funds for . . .

The Warrior & Family Support Center on JBSA Ft Sam Houston which provides a neutral, home-like place for families and patients to gather after long and often painful days of treatment. **The Chapter's JROTC and ROTC Scholarships (Alamo Chapter Educational Foundation)** which help towards the cost of college for promising local high school students as well as those ROTC students already in college. Scholarships are awarded to the children and grandchildren of all military (all ranks). Since its inception this tournament has raised over \$135,000 for its beneficiaries . . . and we'd love your help to raise even more!

If you have been a donor in the past, we are very grateful for such support and we need your help again this year. If you have not provided support in the past, please consider doing so.

Here are the ways you can help:

- ♦ Be a **sponsor** -- select one of the many options listed on the reverse.
- ♦ Be a **golfer** -- submit an entry form for yourself or a team using the registration form on the reverse.
- ♦ Be a **contributor** -- donate an entry fee of \$150 and give a Warrior an opportunity to play free of charge, or donate any dollar amount to help us defray expenses and allow us to give more to the cause.
- ♦ Be a **supporter** -- provide goodie bag items (preferably a minimum of 150, or gift certificate(s) to be used as a tournament prize.
- ♦ Be a **volunteer** -- help during the planning phase as a committee member and/or during the tournament with registration, as a course assistant, contest judge, awards assistant, etc.

Your support of this fundraising event will be greatly appreciated. Please feel free to distribute this flyer to any of your family, friends, co-workers and fellow golfers who may desire to support this worthy cause. If you wish to contact us about a sponsorship, donations, prizes, or being a volunteer, please call Frank Rohrbough at (703) 868-8006 or call our MOAA Office at (210) 228-9955.

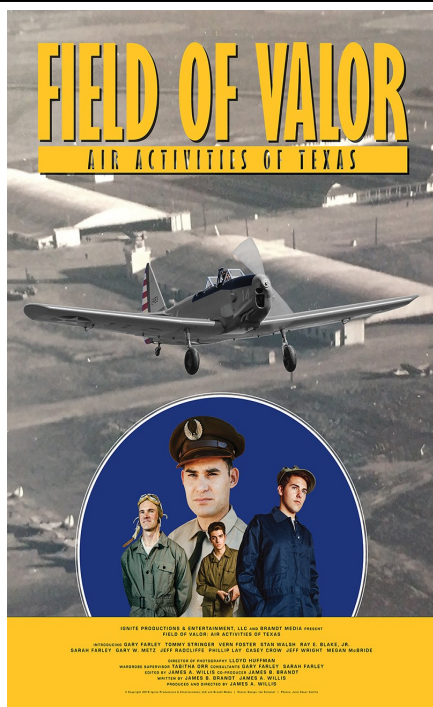
Sign up or donate using this form or alternatively, you can sign up and/or donate on line at our website and pay using your credit card. Go to www.alamomoaa.org. Tax ID: 82-1635522 .

Thank you.

Frank Rohrbough

Frank Rohrbough
Co-Chair, Golf Committee

Field of Valor - Air Activities of Texas



Travel back to the past and experience life as a U.S. Army Air Corps cadet embarking on an uncertain future during World War II.

Ranging in age from 18 to 24 years old, some of these future pilots actually flew an aircraft before ever driving a car. They were from all over the country and had to grow up quickly, learn to fly in combat, and risk their lives to defend their country.

enactments, and interviews with former cadets Ray Blake, Jr., Stan Walsh, former flight instructor Vern Foster, researchers Gary and Sarah Farley, historian Tommy Stringer, author Gary Metz (*Last of the Randolph Blues*), and family historian Jeff Radcliffe.

Synopsis: It was clear to many in 1939 that direct U.S. involvement in World War II was only a matter of time. Training under 750 pilots a year, the United States Army Air Corps. was severely outmatched by the warring powers of Europe and the Pacific. To confront this threat, a breakthrough in air power was essential and demanded daring leaders, novel ideas, bold action, and industrial might on a scale never before considered possible. Americans unified to transform a depression crippled, isolationist nation into a civilian/military partnership that created the largest air force in history, defined the future of warfare, and launched a world power.

The documentary **Field of Valor** is available on DVD at <https://fieldofvalordoc.com/buy-dvd>

The trailer can be accessed at the following link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pR_Kg2Q5A4s

Field of Valor: Air Activities of Texas contains nearly two hours of historic footage, rare photographs, re-

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For more information visit our website www.AlamoMoaa.org And look for the Media Kit under the About Us tab or email Lisa Skopal lskopal@ymail.com	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Insert Your Business Here!</i></p>

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Sponsors and advertisers are vital for the success of any nonprofit and our Chapter is no exception.

Their support provides us with the resources to fulfill our mission. We are working hard to build long-term relationships with several sponsors and businesses throughout the San Antonio area for both the Chapter operations and our Educational Foundation. The Foundation provides the support for the JROTC and ROTC scholarships distributed to deserving cadets annually.

We need your help to “pay it forward”. Please consider using these companies whenever possible. Let them know you saw their name in MOAA Alamo Chapter’s monthly newsletter, *The Lariat*, and make sure you thank them for their support. This lets them know their sponsorship is paying off advertising with MOAA Alamo Chapter. This will help ensure a long-term partnership with them and the Chapter.

Additionally, if you know of any business interested in sponsoring or advertising in the monthly *Lariat*, please let me know. We have different levels of sponsorship and different advertising options that can be tailored to each business.

A marketing package has been developed that describes the various plans. I would be happy to meet and help them develop options that will benefit their needs.

Lisa Skopal

Lisa Skopal
Advertising Coordinator

lskopal@ymail.com

Transitioning Tips

As the pandemic is waning, we are focusing on what's next for the workplace. Many are hoping to get back into the office. Well – hold your horses as the saying goes. I've mentioned in the past months that I thought that how we approached the post-pandemic workplace that things would be different. Workplaces would be redesigned to accommodate social distancing. Ban the open workspace and welcome the new version of those dreaded cubicles aka plexiglass.

Another big change is the number of companies that are starting or increasing the opportunities for remote work. In the past few weeks, Bexar County, Texas announced that 50 percent of its IT department would continue working from home. Ford Motor Company also announced that a large portion of the corporate offices would continue working remotely. They would come to the office for meetings or similar requirements.

I think we've all adjusted to this work at home concept. However, we only thought of this as temporary. However, some of us have come to realize benefits. Love that commute along with the savings on gas and all the other costs that accompany keep that car in the garage. Cost of clothing has also been reduced. Yoga pants in various shades that only the cat and I can see. Slippers or sneakers for the feet. We only must work on business attire from the waste up.

There are some costs associated working at home. We must make sure that our equipment connections are at the best. Can't have that dreaded warning flash of weak internet connections. My pc battery died last summer at the worst time, during the lockdown. Creativity and a little pc bravado helped me through this crisis. I know that this comes as a surprise to my friends, aware that I am an absolute

technophobe. We've learned about the best lighting and other requirements to survive Zooms and all the other web platforms through which we connect.

There are so many other things that we have learned as new skills and about ourselves in the past months. I encourage you to open your minds as we move to the "new" post-pandemic workplace. For those in a job search, research the marketplace, the companies, etc. to advantageously place your skills upfront in a competitive advantage. Your resiliency is your asset. Capitalize.

Kitty

Kathryn "Kitty" Meyers
LtCol USAF (Ret)
SPHR, SHRM-SCP
Chapter Transition Liaison Officer

Elevator Pitch

(Continued from Page 4)

- In addition, we run the chapter operations and promote camaraderie through our monthly social events.
- There is an application providing membership in both MOAA and the Alamo Chapter. (See Page 13)
- You owe it to yourself (and family) to support the organization that supports you and I ask that you please join. Thanks.

If you get push back consider saying:

- It is a no hassle membership – no sales calls, no sales emails and no pressure to be actively involved.
- We are just looking to you to help strengthen our numbers.
- You will receive legislative updates, the national MOAA *Military Officers* magazine, and our chapter newsletter *The Lariat* by email to keep you informed.
- Again, you owe it to yourself (and family) to be part of an organization that protects your rights, entitlements and benefits.

Have them sign up online at

www.alamomoaa.org

or email us at moaa-ac@sbcglobal.net or call the office at 210.228.9955.

Estate Planning & Decedent Affairs Checklist

In these uncertain times, one way to achieve some peace of mind is to have your personal affairs in order.

The MOAA Alamo Chapter is here to provide you with resources regarding estate planning and decedent affairs checklist. These are general guidelines and recommendations. Your estate planning is better enhanced when you work with your attorney or legal support office.

Please either contact the office for a copy or go online to the Alamo chapter website and find a link to it under the Hot News section on the home page.

Cora Bayle-Cox

CAPT USN (Ret)
Assistant Personal Affairs Officer

Alamo Chapter

Vision: *To be the primary advocate for the military community*

Mission:

- Provide information, support and social engagement to members;
- Offer programs and services for the common good of the military community;
- Support MOAA at the national, state and local levels with a powerful voice.

Visit www.alamomoaa.org for more info



MOAA NATIONAL ENROLLMENT

☐ YES! Sign me up as a FREE BASIC MOAA Member

Name _____

Branch of Service _____ Rank _____

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To ensure deliverability of MOAA communications, please provide a personal email without a ".mil" domain if available.

We value your privacy. MOAA does not rent or sell its members' emails to third parties. If you include your email address, you will receive e-communications from MOAA as a member benefit. Visit www.moa.org/email for details.

Date of Birth _____

Spouse Name _____

Your spouse has access to all of your MOAA member benefits.

**Email address required for BASIC Membership



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☐ YES! Sign me up as a new Alamo Chapter Member

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WANTED!

Active Duty or Retired Job Seekers

If you would like to be added to the regular email blast that lists job opportunities in **San Antonio and Texas** please contact David Patrick, the Career Transition Coordinator - Texas
dwpatrick01@gmail.com

If you are an area **employer** who is interested in hiring career transitioning officers or their spouses or if you are a MOAA member interested in helping a career transitioning officer or spouse as a **San Antonio Networker**, or if you are a **MOAA-AC member Job Seeker**, please contact

Kitty Meyers LtCol USAF (Ret)
Chapter Transition Liaison Officer at
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NEVER STOP SERVING!

WE NEED YOU

TO VOLUNTEER

for positions on your Chapter Leadership Team
(Member spouses also welcome!)

Current Needs:

- 1) Secretary (No minute-taking required)
- 2) Surviving Spouse Coordinator
- 3) Membership Cmte Members
- 4) Community Outreach Members
- 5) Historian
- 6) Editor
- 7) Treasurer

*Position Descriptions can be found on
the chapter website under the re-
sources tab.*
www.alamomoaa.org



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Bill Klein — Major General, USA, ret.



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Health, Benefits & Welfare

(Continued from Page 5)

wear shorts. Across the entire Air Force and Space Force, airmen and guardians will be allowed to wear duty identifier patches that are no more than five letters and fall within the spice brown color scheme. Socks that are solid black, white, navy blue, gray, desert sand, tan, Defense Logistics Agency-issued green or coyote brown and have only small trademark logos are also permitted with physical training gear. Additionally, the Air Force has given the green light for eyeglasses and sunglasses with frames that are black, brown, white, navy blue, gray or transparent material, or gold or silver wire. Likewise, airmen and guardians are allowed to carry messenger and lunch bags — so long as they are black, brown, gray or navy 67 blue and do not feature designs outside of the ABU and OCP patterns. And finally, the fleece cap and/or gloves may be worn without an outer garment. The changes are slated to take effect on 15 MAR. Separately, the Air Force announced 2 MAR that it had signed off on new designs for an Air Force Physical Training Gear uniform. The designs for the PT jacket, T-shirt, shorts and pants will become available to airmen in 2022.

Source: AirForceTimes

10 Things That Are Free With a Library Card

The library not just about books anymore. So, before you spend money on a subscription or a one-time purchase, call your local library.

Following are examples of the varied items you can check out and the services you can access for free through many libraries.

1. Streaming video. For years, it's been possible to check out DVDs and Blu-ray discs from your local library. But you might even get free access to streaming services courtesy of your library membership. For example, if your library partners with the streaming service Kanopy, you can access more than 30,000 commercial-free films from the comfort of your home. Visit Kanopy's website to find out if your library participates, or ask

your library if it offers access to any streaming video services.

2. Electronic publications Looking for a magazine or a book to read on your mobile device? Your library card might give you access. Find out if your library offers access to apps such as Flipster which is for digital magazines, or OverDrive, which is for e-books and audiobooks. As long as you have the right login credentials for such an app, you can download or otherwise read various publications for a set period of time, free of charge.
 3. Online courses LinkedIn Learning offers its catalog of online courses free to patrons of participating libraries. So, ask your library if it partners with LinkedIn Learning or similar services.
 4. Self-improvement classes Check to see what types of self-improvement classes and seminars are offered through your local library. You might be surprised to discover that you can learn about budgeting, take foreign language lessons and practice using technology at the library for free.
 5. Museum passes Nancy Selig of Milton, Massachusetts, was thrilled to discover that the Milton Public Library offers free passes to museums in Boston. It's also possible to find free passes to museums and other local attractions at other public libraries around the country. Check your library's website or ask a librarian.
 6. 3-D printing. Many libraries have 3-D printers, which can allow you to try out this technology — or even print out simple household items, like a spoon or a phone case, at a discount. If you want access to cutting-edge technology but are not ready to buy it yet, call your local library. See what is available there.
 7. Party supplies Throwing a party and need supplies? Some libraries offer access to bakeware, fondue pots, pasta makers, chocolate fountains and even large coffee makers, says Culbertson. These items are often too pricey to buy for a one-off event, but your library might have a
8. Co-working space. Free Wi-Fi in libraries, along with quiet spaces, can provide you with a place to do your homework or even work on your business in peace — without the price tag that comes with renting a desk at a shared workspace
 9. Meeting rooms Looking for a place to hold meetings? Some libraries will let you reserve meeting rooms for free, especially if you are part of a nonprofit or similar type of group. Check with your library if you're hard-pressed to find a meeting place for your organization.
 10. Babysitting Maybe you shouldn't actually view your public library as a babysitter. However, if you're looking for something for your toddler or elementary-age child to do — and you're looking for a little sanity — the library might just be a gift. Some offer after-school programming, including educational and hands-on activities for young children and even teenagers. Check to see if your library offers clubs — including chess, book and even role-playing-game groups — that can keep the kids occupied.

Source: MoneyTalksNews

MOAA's 2021 Legislative Priorities for the VA

- Strength and modernize VA's workforce.
- Eliminate health disparities for women and minority veterans to ensure health equity in accessing timely, compassionate, and quality care.
- Expand access to caregiver, palliative care, geriatric care, extended care, and hospice programs and services for veterans and wounded warriors, and their caregivers.
- Improve veteran suicide prevention programs and increase access to behavioral health care services.
- Improve medical exam and claims processing to meet pandemic-related and enduring challenges.
- Support our nation's economic recovery through increased educational opportunities and protections to get

(Continued on Page 16)

Ranger Ray

(Continued from Page 15)

and still clutching his Carbine.

News of Martinez's actions at the tower spread far and wide. He was asked to appear and receive commendations from various groups and organizations across the country following that fateful day. He spent several more years in law enforcement and even became a justice of the peace in Comal County.

Later, he wrote a couple of books. He devoted a portion of his autobiography published in 2004 to the events of Aug. 1, 1966.

At the time of the infamous tower shooting, police cars had no lights or sirens, cops had no portable radios and ambulances were basically hearses or vans with sirens, Martinez said. He said the job of a law enforcer has changed tremendously over the years.

"Later on, I wrote a second book about the evolution of law enforcement in Texas," Martinez said. "I did research from 1900 to 2000."

He said police agencies use the UT shooting to train their members. Following the tower event, numerous active-shooter incidents have occurred across the country. Martinez said he's been told that organizations use what he did to exemplify the way to handle such cases. He said getting to and neutralizing the threat as soon as possible is the method of choice.

"I like to think I played a part in Texas law enforcement history," the former Texas Ranger said. "After this, the SWAT team concept was formed."

Now law enforcers have better technology to help them do their jobs, but that technology also might help to create problems, Martinez said.

He said technological advances like the Internet, camera phones and social media sites spread the word of violent acts almost instantaneously and could lead copycats to commit similar acts.

But in his 30 years of law enforcement, Martinez said, he saw things come and go, and police agencies have always been able to get their jobs done.

"Over the years, new obstacles come up," he said. "We find solutions for those obstacles and or we get stopped. We have to move on."

He said controversy always seems to peek its head into police matters. It happened when he worked in the industry and will continue.

The recent addition of body and dashboard cameras for officers is a good tool for all involved, Martinez said. Officers can use the footage to their advantage to tell their sides of what could be controversial interactions.

"First of all, if you're doing your job and you're doing it how you were trained, that camera isn't going to give you any troubles," he said. "I don't think citizens are any worse than they used to be. There's always the exception to the rule."

Since retirement, Martinez has enjoyed some downtime and a lot of golfing. He said he's also volunteered in and around New Braunfels. He's a Blue Coat with the local chamber of commerce and a member of the Noon Lions Club, he has sat on the board of United Way, and more.

Martinez said he is so proud of the time he's spent in "beautiful" New Braunfels. He's also proud of the police agencies and the good work they do for the community.

Cliff Martinez of Austin, Ray's nephew, said he remains in awe and extremely proud of his uncle. Cliff said he never was told much about his uncle's role in ending the tower shooting, but he recently learned more and became even more thankful to call Ray his uncle.

Cliff Martinez said the story of "Ranger Ray," as his uncle is called, is less about a single human and more about the actions and life of a real American hero.

"It's not so much about my uncle. It's about a human being," Cliff Martinez said. "If you take away the person's name and any knowledge of who the person is, and you describe the role they played that day and they were willing to risk their life to save further civilian lives, you would get chills in your arms and you would say, 'This

man is a true hero.'"

Ray Martinez said he's no hero. He was a man doing a job and trying to do it well.

"I was making a little more than \$18 a day. You didn't do it for the money," Martinez said. "You raised your hand and made an oath to do it to the best of your ability. I feel I did my best."

Health, Benefits & Welfare

(Continued from Page 15)

veterans back to work.

- Pass comprehensive toxic exposure reform.
- Strengthen and protect service-connected disability compensation.

Source: MOAA Newsletter

VA Moratoriums re Eviction, Foreclosure, Loan Forbearance, Overpayment & Copay

The Department of Veterans Affairs will extend the existing moratorium on evictions and foreclosures, as well as extend VA loan forbearance requests, to 30 JUN, because of COVID-19. The current moratorium extensions for evictions and foreclosures were set to end March 31.

Also, the Department of Veterans Affairs reaffirms its commitment to extend debt relief for Veterans through 30 SEP for collection on all Veteran benefit overpayments and medical co-payment debts incurred after April 1, 2020.

To assist with making informed choices for their situation, VA will notify Veterans of the existence of their current debt and available expansive relief options. These options include making payments, extending repayment plans, waivers, compromises and temporary hardship suspensions. Veterans and beneficiaries with questions regarding benefit overpayments can see frequently asked questions, go online to submit requests or call 800-827-0648. Call volume is generally lower Tuesday-Friday. For health care co-payment debts, Veterans should contact the Health Resource Center at 866-400-1238 for payments.

Source: VA News Release

Planned Giving

During these difficult times, I am inspired by a profound sense of just how blessed I am. If you have also reflected on how precious life is, and you want to give back, please consider including the Alamo Chapter in your estate distribution.

What a wonderful way to leave your mark and impact the lives of the military in South Texas as your legacy. Few people can support their favorite charities as much as they would like during their lifetimes, but most people can consider a bequest.

That is one reason why we are asking members to consider naming the Alamo Chapter in their estate planning. Why should you choose to include the Alamo Chapter in your estate planning? You know we will make good use of your charitable gift supporting the military in south Texas.

Did you know that 60 to 70 percent of all Americans die without a valid will? Family members are left to imagine their loved ones' wishes, belongings may be distributed improperly, and assets are allocated according to state laws. Even if you have a will now may be the perfect time to review your estate planning documents. You can also update your planning documents to include a favorite organization such as the Alamo Chapter.

Here are some options for including the Alamo Chapter in your final plans:

1. Some types of bequests to consider:
 - a. Specific Bequest: what dollar amount, property or other asset
 - b. Percentage Bequest: Percentage of your estate or specific item
 - c. Residual Bequest: Alamo Chapter to receive the remainder after final expenses and other bequests.
2. A gift by way of a beneficiary designation: naming the Alamo Chapter as a beneficiary of a life insurance policy, retirement plan, bank & investment accounts, or other financial accounts. Nothing could be easier!

Please have your gifting decision reviewed by your estate planner or other financial advisor.

Col Vaughn Caudill



Ya Gotta Laugh!

What does a dyslexic, agnostic insomniac do at night?

He stays up wondering if there really is a dog.

A pastor dies and is waiting in line at the Pearly Gates. Ahead of him is a fellow who's dressed in sunglasses, a loud shirt, leather jacket, and jeans. Saint Peter addresses him, 'Who are you, so that I may know whether or not to admit you to the Kingdom of Heaven?'

The fellow replies, 'I'm Jack, retired pilot from Houston.' Saint Peter consults his list. He smiles and say to the pilot, "Take this silken robe and golden staff and enter the Kingdom. The pilot goes into Heaven with his robe and staff.

Next, it's the pastor's turn. He stands erect and booms out, 'I am Bob, Pastor for the last 43 years.' Saint Peter consults his list. He says to the Bob, 'Take this cotton robe and wooden staff and enter the Kingdom.' 'Just a minute,' says Bob. 'That man was a pilot and he gets a silken robe and golden staff and I get only cotton and wood. How can this be?'

'Up here – we go by results,' say Saint Peter. 'When you preached – people slept. When he flew, people prayed.'



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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 Operations is a non-profit organization 501c 4. The Alamo Chapter Education Foundation is a 501c 3.

MOAA and its affiliated chapters and councils are strictly non partisan.

Advertising contained in the newsletter is not endorsed by MOAA or its affiliate the Alamo 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.

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ALAMO CHAPTER

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THE LARIAT

National Award Winning Newsletter

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Thursday 22 Apr at 11am
Chapter Webinar
via ZOOM

Ramiro “Ray” Martinez
Texas Ranger

Hear the story of how he shot and killed the
University of Texas tower sniper

No pre-registration necessary
– just logon to ZOOM and join us!

Meeting ID: 834 5103 3624

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Please join us!



Thursday 27 May at 11am
Chapter Webinar
via ZOOM

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Commanding General
BAMC
Deputy Market Director, San Antonio Military Health System
Chief, U.S. Army Dental Corps

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