

MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA ALAMO CHAPTER



THE



LARIAT

Volume 44, Number 7

"Five Star ★★★★ Chapter"

July 2024



President's Message

Summer has come and we are taking the month off – no chapter meetings during July.

However, that doesn't mean that the staff is not active. We slip in a golf meeting at the beginning of the month since this is our big fundraising event for the MACEF, our acronym for the Educational Foundation.

Several of us are attending the Non Commissioned Officer Association of the United States of America (NCOA) national convention held locally in July. They have a really great panel of the top senior enlisted leaders from each service discussing critical topics. There are other various events that we attend as well as the normal stuff needed to keep the chapter running.

One item that we have for each of the monthly membership meetings is the discussion in the last remarks about volunteerism for the committees. Committees cannot be successful as a one-person committee. It takes a village. An example is the Membership Committee. The role is not only to get new members but to retain the current membership.

For new members, we try to attend the JBSA Newcomer Orientation that occurs twice a month. That means that there are people to attend each of these for the two Friday mornings of the month that these occur. We maintain a schedule with the dates. No surprises.

One recruitment event that we

would like to add on a regular basis is the TAP (Transition Assistance Program) for those exiting the military. People/volunteers are required for this. There is also a TAP Too for spouses of those departing active duty.

There are also individual events where we could make a presence. Kathie Estrada, VP Membership, Recruitment and Retention, David Patrick, VP Programs, and I attended an event sponsored by the Ft Sam Houston Exchange. We set up a booth and chatted with folks as they wandered through the event. Besides the great time chatting with folks, we were able to enroll some new members.

There are more opportunities like this that we could attend if we had more Membership Committee members. Our other committees also are in need of members, be they the Volunteer Committee, Transition Committee or any of the others. Can you help?

The beauty of our chapter is that we have close to 900 members. The more folks are involved, the greater the ability to reach more and accomplish more without overburdening the few.

Again, can you help? Please reach out to me or to the committee chairs for more information. We will gladly chat with you.

Best wishes for a marvelous summer. See you at our August social event for a conversation with Jeff Fair from the San Antonio Chamber on Artificial Intelligence – AI.

Kitty

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

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Wishing all our members and their families a safe and happy summer!





Notices

Thank You

to each person 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!

Lt Col Tom Carter, USAF (Ret) LTC Bill Goforth, USA (Ret) Maj Daniel Haley, USAF (Ret) Col Dale Hollrah, USAF (Ret) Col Upendrakumar Kharod, USAF (Ret)

Lt Col Kitty Meyers, USAF (Ret)
Col Fred Ryder, USAF (Ret)
LTC Aimee Schumacher, USA (Ret)
Lt Col Wade Taylor, USAF (Ret)
CAPT Bill Whiting, USN (Ret)
CAPT Jerry Wiens, USN (Ret)
LTC Machielle Wood Denmon, USA
(Ret)

MOAA Alamo Chapter

Mission & Vision

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.

1

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:

Lynn Henderson

6/6/24

VA Extends Service Connection for 3 Cancers for Gulf War and Post-9/11

On June 14th the VA announced the extension of presumptions of service-connection for three new cancer types under the *PACT Act* for Gulf War and Post-911 veterans: male breast cancer, urethral cancer, and cancer of the paraurethral glands.

This includes veterans who deployed to Afghanistan, Somalia, Djibouti, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Yemen, Uzbekistan, and the entire Southwest Asia theater of operations, which includes Iraq.

Any veteran who currently has or previously had one of the listed cancers at any time during military service or after separation may be entitled to disability compensation benefits dated back to Aug. 10, 2022, the date the *PACT Act* was signed into law.

VA will review all claims from impacted veterans and survivors who previously filed and were denied for these three conditions on or after Aug. 10, 2022, to determine if benefits can now be granted.

Veterans and survivors can apply or learn more about the *PACT Act* by visiting VA.gov/PACT or by calling 1-800 -MYVA411.



Soldiers' Angels Adopt a Soldier

Deployed Service Members urgently need your support!

Currently, Soldiers' Angels has over 375 deployed Service Members eagerly awaiting to be "adopted" and receive morale-boosting care packages from home to uplift them during their deployments.

These brave individuals are supporting combat or humanitarian missions, often in areas with limited access to supplies beyond what's available on base/on the ship. Your generosity can make a huge difference to those serving far from home.

What does it mean to "adopt" a Service Member?

After you register as an Angel volunteer, you can search our database for a Service Member wishing to be adopted. From there, you will support them with care packages and letters every month throughout their deployment.

Please remember, you may or may not hear back from the Service Member you support. Several factors, including the type of mission and location, affect communication during deployment. Don't be disappointed if you don't hear back immediately. Many Angels receive gratitude once the Service Member completes their deployment, and some even form lifelong friendships.

Your support can make a tremendous impact on their morale during and after their deployments! Please consider registering to volunteer and adopting a Service Member today!

To get started, you will need to register as an Angel volunteer.

https://soldiersangels.org/volunteer/



Legislative Report

This month's report will concentrate on federal legislation. The 2025 NDAA House version has been passed and is now in the hands of the Senate, but it is expected not to pass in its present form. Representative Chip Roy of Texas and others have placed amendments concerning social issues.

What didn't happen and is very disappointing is that the Major Richard Starr Act was not amended to the House version of the NDAA. Passage of this bill would positively affect the retirement and VA pay of over 7,000 veterans in Texas and thousands more across the nation.

Insofar as the Senate is concerned, they have just started working on their version of the NDAA. Preliminary versions do not have the Richard Starr Act on them. Thus far there does not seem to be any social issue amendments on this Senate version that is being developed.

What I would ask all of our membership to do is to log on to the MOAA.org website, go the to Advocacy section and send comments to your representative and Senators regarding what you want to see on the NDAA and the other issues that MOAA is advocating for. Make sure that when you log in that you specify that you are in Alamo Chapter TX16.

In addition to that, physically call your Representative and your Senator's offices and talk with the military or legislative representative and express to them the importance of getting the NDAA passed with the Richard Starr Act!

We really need all of your help in getting an NDAA passed which makes sense and that includes what our medically retired veterans need - that being the Major Richard Starr Act!

Not much is going on with the Texas Legislature at this time. The Lt. Governor issued preliminary topics he wants the Senate to study. One committee hearing has occurred and no others are scheduled until September.

On the House side, the Speaker also issued topics to be studied but no hearings have been scheduled at this time and likely will not be until our present Speaker is re-elected or a new one is elected.

> Jim Cunningham MAJ, USA (Ret) VP Legislative Affairs

Membership Application/Renewal

Join/Renew - \$25 Annual Fee

Name
Branch of Service Rank
[] Active [] Retired [] Former [] Reserve [] National Guard [] Spouse of Eligible Officer [] Friend of the Chapter
[] MOAA National Mbr? If yes pls provide mbr number:
Email Address
(Please provide a <u>personal email</u> without a ".mil" domain, if available.)
Address
City
State Zip
Phone Number
Date of Birth
Spouse Name
Spouse/Alternate Email Address
Method of Payment
[] Check (make payable to MOAA Alamo Chapter)
[] Credit Card Charge my card \$
Card number
Expiration date CVV
Zip code where CC Statement is mailed:
Signature
[] YES—I would like to help the Alamo Chapter as a volunteer - email me details
Mail to: MOAA Alamo Chapter TX16 P.O. Box 340497 Ft. Sam Houston, TX 78234
Referred By:



Membership Memos

THANK YOU Renewing Members:

Col Robert Certain, USAF (Ret) CAPT Don Crumbley, USN (Ret) Col Dale Hollrah, USAF (Ret) Col Wright Nodine, USAF (Ret) Col Fred Ryder, USAF (Ret) Col Robert Snodgrass, USAF (Ret) Col Timothy Strawther, USAF (Ret) CAPT Bill Whiting, USN (Ret) CAPT Jerry Wiens, USN (Ret) LTC Sean Blaydon, USA (Ret) LTC Bill Goforth, USA (Ret) Lt Col Kitty Meyers, USAF (Ret) LTC Kerry Reyna, USA (Ret) Lt Col Wade Taylor, USAF (Ret) Lt Col John Ward, USAF (Ret) Lt Col Ralph Williams, USAF (Ret) Maj Daniel Haley, USAF (Ret) Maj William Friedrich, Jr, USAF (Ret) CPT John Miterko, USA (Fmr) Danielle Baldwin Ellis Irene Nikolewski

WELCOMENew Members:

LTC Jean McNeal, USA (Ret)
LTC Stephen Shomion, USA (Ret)
LTC Magaly Thurman, USA (Ret)
Lt Col Kirsten Verkamp, USA (Ret)
Maj Vanessa Mora, USAF (Ret)
Maj John Williams, USAF
Capt Deborah Goelzhauser, USAF
(Fmr)

1Lt Zenia Nettles, USA
CW4 Beau Marcum, USA

WANTED!

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

kamconsulthr@gmail.com

Membership Stats

Active Duty 157
Former Military 25
Friends of the Chapter 7
Retired 580
Surviving Spouse 142

Total 911



Support MOAA'S Legislative Initiatives

IT'S AS EASY AS 1, 2, 3 . . .

- Go online to www.moaa.org
 and connect with the
 "Legislative Advocacy Center" link.
- 2. Complete the registration -- the system will automatically load the contact information for your senators and your congressional representative.

 (Note: when asked for your chapter use the code "TX16").
- 3. Respond to MOAA Legislative Alert eblasts.

(Note: MOAA will provide you suggested letters for each legislative issue identified. You may modify the suggested response or use the provided response. Then just click on the submit button and the letters will go to your Representatives and/or Senators.)

YOUR INFLUENCE COUNTS!

www.moaa.org/takeaction



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Golf Shirt \$30

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Credit Card #:			Exp Date:	
Billing Zip Code:	CVV:	Total \$	(Free pick up from Chapter Office/Event or add \$10.00 for ship	ping)



Happyn Birthday

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to those members born in the month of JULY

If you have a birthday this month and your name is not here, then we do not have your birth month in our records.

If you'd like to be included please call, text or email us the information.

Donna Balderston, CSM USA (Ret) Cora Bayle Cox, CAPT USN (Ret) Melanie Beahm, LCDR USN Benjamin Brumfield, CW2 USA Harry Carpenter, LtCol USMC (Ret) Richard Chen, Lt Col USAF Rick Coneway, Col USAF (Ret) Susan Dick, CPT USA Harry Edwards, Col USAF (Ret) Charles Elia, BG USA (Ret) James Finn III, MAJ USA (Ret) Francis Forsberg, CAPT USN (Ret) Michael Fox, Lt Col USAF (Ret) John Franklin III, Maj USAF (Ret) John French, LTC USA (Ret) William Friedrich, Jr, Maj USAF (Ret) Matthew Geiman, COL USA Marc Girard, LTC USA (Ret) George Griffith, Maj USAF (Ret) Susan Halavin, LTC USA (Ret) Mary Hassell, CPT USA Byron Hepburn, MajGen USAF (Ret)

Bill Hudson, Col USAF (Ret)
Adana Hull
Douglas Hurst, COL USA (Ret)
Raymond Isaia, LTC USAF (Ret)
Dale Johnson, Lt Col USAF (Ret)
Robert Johnson, Lt Col USAF (Ret)
Jeffrey Kendall, BrigGen USAF (Ret)
Johann Kinsey, Maj Gen USAF (Ret)
Lusita Lake
Drew Maddry, COL USA
Douglas McCary, COL USA (Ret)

Patrice Melancon, BrigGen USAF (Ret) Walter Meyer, LTC USA (Ret) Kathryn Meyers, Lt Col USAF (Ret) John Miller, Col USAF (Ret) Roger Moreau, MAJ USA (Ret) Ian Natkin, COL USA (Ret)

Melanie Owes, MAJ USA Alana Pompa, LTC USA (Ret) Pablo Raggio, COL USA Gary Rainer, LTC USA Richard Reusch, Col USAF (Ret) John Revak, Lt Col USAF (Ret) Steve Richards, Col USAF (Ret) Frank Rohrbough, Col USAF (Ret) Stephen Rohrbough, Lt Col USAF (Ret)

Nancy Ruffin, COL USA (Ret)
Gordon Shults, CWO USA (Ret)
Randy Smith, Lt Col USAF (Ret)
William Smith, Col USAF (Ret)
Tim Strawther, Col USAF (Ret)
Charles Thompson, CWO NJARNG
Patrick, Tracy MAJ USA (Ret)
Thomas VanDerhoof, Maj USAF
(Ret)

Paul Wagoner, Brig Gen USAF (Ret) James Walker, LCDR USN (Ret) Marion Weisser Alicia Williams, CPT USA Machielle Wood Denmon, LTC USA (Ret)

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The ARC is a nonprofit life plan continuing care retirement community (CCRC) in beautiful. San Antonio, Texas. We welcome all officers, retired or honorably discharged from all branches of service, warrant officers, as well as senior level GS 14 and above federal employees who are at least 62 years old, including spouses and surriving spouses.



Military Officers Association of America - Alamo Chapter

16th Annual MOAA-AC Golf Tournament

Sponsored by

Donegan Burns Foundation



Warrior and Family Support Center & MOAA Educational Foundation





Friday, October 18, 2024

Ft Sam Houston Golf Course, 1050 Harry Wurzbach, San Antonio, Tx

\$125 per player (limit 120 players)

Includes green fees, cart, goodie bag, lunch & Awards dinner

REGISTRATION & LUNCH begin 11am - Shotgun Start 12:30pm



SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES:

Title Sponsor \$15,000 (Donegan Burns Foundation)

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

Platinum Sponsor \$5,000

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Monetary donation in any amount \$

CONTACT INFORMATION

Tournament Co Chairs: Frank & Stephen Rohrbough Frank: 703-868-8006 Stephen: 210-262-7026 MOAA Ofc: 210-228-9955 Email: moaa-ac@sbcglobal.net

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.

Participation implies agreement to use photos in any PR materials

4 person team or individual player registration form

Player 1 Name: Shirt Size: Mens Ladies (circle one) Email (required):				
Player 2 Name: Shirt Size: Mens Ladies (circle one) Email (required):				
Player 3 Name: Shirt Size: Mens Ladies (circle one) Email (required):				
Player 4 Name: Shirt Size: Mens Ladies (circle one) Email (required):				
Super Ticket \$50 per person: Includes 2 Mulligans, 2 Beverages, Raffle Drawings, Scratch Off Game, Contests: Closest to Pin, Putting, Hole in One, Shoot out for \$100,000 - 50/50 split.				
Company Name:				
Contact/Donor Name:				
Email:				
Tel:				
Credit Card #:				
Exp Date: Billing Zip Code:				
CVV: Tel:				
Golf Fee Amt: \$ Donation Amt: \$ SuperTicket Amt: \$				
Sponsorship Amt: \$ Total Amount: \$				

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 or PayPal on our secure website: www.alamomoaa.org. Call Trish at 210-228-9955 for questions on tournament





16th Annual Golf Tournament October 18, 2024

at the Ft Sam Golf Course in San Antonio.

The tournament raises funds for . . .

- 1) The USO Warrior & Family Support Center (formerly JBSA Warrior & Family Support Center) on Ft Sam Houston which provides a neutral, home-like place for families and patients to gather together after long and often painful days of treatment.
- 2) The Chapter's JROTC and ROTC Scholarships (MOAA 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. One Scholarship is awarded to a chapter member's child/grandchild and one for a local High School student with a military relative (all ranks). Since its inception this tournament has raised over \$200,000 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 \$125 and give a Warrior an opportunity to play <u>free</u> of charge. (Unused player spot donations will go directly to WFSC) 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, or an item for the Silent Auction.
- 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 the MOAA Office at (210) 228-9955.

Sign up or donate using this form or alternatively, you can sign up and/or donate online at our website and pay using your credit card. Go to www.alamomoaa.org. Tax ID: 501(C)3 #82-1635522.

Thank you.

Frank Rohrbough
Frank Rohrbough
Co-Chair, Golf Committee

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MOAA Career Transition

Texas Coordinator David Patrick, Col, USAF (Ret) dwpatrick01@gmail.com 210-259-9867

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Nonprofit Management Graduate
Online Degree
https://tinyurl.com/45je334w
Chuck Rodriguez (MG Ret USA) Ph D
210–504-7502

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Security Service Federal Credit Union

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Introducing Your New MOAA Alamo Chapter Educational Foundation (MACEF) Board of Directors

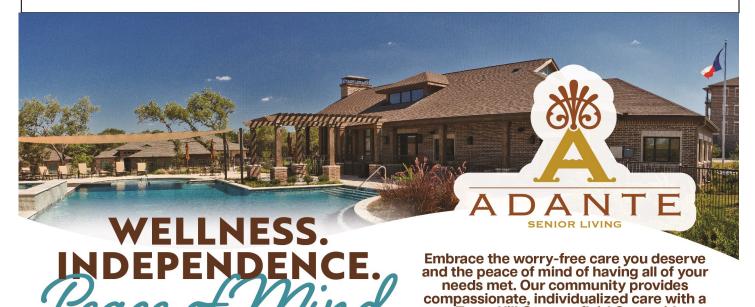
Our mission is to raise funds to support the chapter's local scholarship program.



In 2024, 32 JROTC and college ROTC Cadets each received a \$1,000 scholarship. We are asking for your assistance to help us surpass that amount in our current campaign.

Please consider making a special donation to support this great program at the chapter website www.alamomoaa.org. You can also help by introducing us to a local business that supports the military by making an email introduction. Your introduction can open doors and avoid our information being lost as spam.

From left to right, we are Bill Whiting, CAPT USN (Ret) (vice chair); Mike MacNaughton, Col USAF (Ret); Addy Addington, Col USAF (Ret); Brad Freeman, COL USA (Ret) (board chair); Gary Sadlon, COL USA (Ret); and Rob Snodgrass, Col USAF (Ret).



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Transition Tips

Interview Questions

I read a very interesting article recently that chatted about interview questions. The discussion revolved around the questions you should ask during the interview. It's vital that the questions you ask make an impression on an interviewer. I once interviewed for a position and throughout the interview I was asking questions. The interview became very conversational rather than a question-and-answer session. As we completed the interview, the general manager asked if I had any questions. I replied that I had been asking them during our discussion. He was impressed. I did get the job.

This is where your research becomes vital in your interview preparation. Not only check out the company from financials to corporate culture but check out the interviewers. Use your friends, Google, and LinkedIn. You ask the question how to discover the interviewers? Easy, ask HR. They should provide you with their names. Check websites like Glassdoor and LinkedIn to find out others who work for the company, even to the appropriate department. You want to get as much information as you can about the company.

Now that you have the info, develop your questions for the deeper dive during the interview. You have scratched the surface. The interview is the opportunity to get the interviewer's take on your research. You want to uncover any info under "those rocks" because you will now be making a decision that will impact the next period of your life, be it a couple of years or beyond.

Another extremely useful resource for interview prep is the MOAA website, www.moaa.org. I've chatted about this in the past (and will not stop). Under the transition page, you will find a wealth of recorded webinars and new ones to attend. Here is a list of the current ones posted under the subtitle of Interview Prep.

Transition and Career: Interview Prep and Salary Negotiations

- Combating Ageism: Job Search Tips for Transitioning Servicemembers, Veterans, and Military Spouses
- Expert Tips on Interview Preparation
- Salary 101
- Salary Negotiation and Upward Mobility
- Interview Quicksand ... and How to Steer Clear of It

Once you have the questions, it's time to practice. Grab a bud or spouse and have them interview them. A mentor is also a great coach in this prep. Practice includes your questions as the conversation flows. You don't want to be canned in your approach. By this I mean you want the conversation to flow. However, you want to feel comfortable including your questions in the interview.

Your transition and, hopefully, the onboarding to the new company will be a lot easier. Expectations on both your part and the company's will be much clearer going in. Best of luck. And remember to smile.



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

Previously published Transition Tips can be found at www.AlamoMOAA.org under the Transition Services tab.



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PERSONAL AFFAIRS (Open)

ASST PROGRAMS

PR-SOCIAL MEDIA Lt Col Kathie Estrada **EDITOR** LTC Aimee Schumacher CHAPLAIN LTC James Taylor PX/VAC Rep MAJ Jim Cunningham SA TRANSITION Lt Col Kitty Meyers TX TRANSITION Col David Patrick WEBMASTER Col Bill Hudson VOLUNTEER COORD Col Pete Schaub BLUE SKIES Liaison Col Dan Van Syoc ARC Liaison COL John DiPiero ACTIVE DUTY LIAISON (Open)

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CONTRACTOR: Trish Meserve

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Col Mike MacNaughton
CAPT Bill Whiting
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COL Gary Sadlon
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Editorial Policy

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 MOAA Alamo Chapter Educational Foundation is a 501c 3.

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

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THE LARIAT

National Award Winning Newsletter

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www.ALAMOMOAA.ORG

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2320 Stanley Rd, Bldg 140 Ft Sam Houston, TX 78234

Upcoming Events

July

(No meetings or social events in July)

August

22 Chapter Luncheon Ft Sam GC 11am 24 JBSA Town Hall

September

26 Chapter Luncheon Blue Skies

October

18 MOAA-AC Golf Tournament 19 Retiree Appreciation Day FSH

November

2 Retiree Appreciation Day Randolph 21 Annual General Meeting Luncheon

NEVER STOP SERVING! WE NEED <u>YOU</u> TO VOLUNTEER!

Current Needs:

- 1) Personal Affairs/Surviving Spouse Chair
- 2) Members for the following committees:

Golf Tournament

Membership

Marketing

Transition

Legislative Affairs

Personal Affairs/Surviving

Spouse

Spouses of current members will be considered

The position descriptions of all chapter positions can be found on the chapter website under the resources tab.

www.alamomoaa.org

If interested or have questions please call or text Kitty Meyers

210 355 6244.