

MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA ALAMO CHAPTER



THE



LARIAT

Volume 40, Number 12

“Five Star ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ Chapter”

December 2020



President's Message

Well, 2020 is about over. What a year for the history books. As one friend exclaimed, there are not enough words to describe this year. It has been one of challenges, losses and many trials. However, we can also say that there were lessons learned. How many of us had heard of Zoom, let alone how to use it. I can say that I am not only familiar with Zoom but also Webex, Microsoft Teams and other ways to link.

David Patrick, Stephan Porter and I coordinated with Workforce Solutions Alamo (WSA), the Texas Workforce Commission and its various partners to create a virtual Red White and You Hiring Fair on November 5th. Of the total 925 job seekers attending, 388 identified themselves as veterans. As for employers, there were 131. The Alamo Chapter coordinated the Veterans Resource Village for the event. Sixteen nonprofits featuring education

and other transition resources connected with these job fair participants. What an experience. Check out the photo of the WSA Command Center below. That's me in the middle of the room, assisting as needed with any technical difficulties. Yes, masked and socially distanced.

The Chapter is moving forward with plans for 2021. There is a great list of speakers for the monthly “meetings”. We're planning on Zooms for at least the first few months of the year. Peter Hunt and the scholarship committee are already working on the scholarship program for Spring 2021. We have other opportunities in the works.

The reality is that the pandemic has impacted our chapter finances. This will continue to be a challenge. You have received letters from me request-

ing your assistance for both the Operations fund and the Education Foundation. As we analyzed the membership stats, we found that only 45% of our members are actually dues paying. We continue to ensure quality programs and opportunities for you for only \$20 per year. The Chapter Operations needs your financial support. Our expenses are bare minimum. Even with this frugality, it has not been able to match the income.

Please support us when you receive the membership renewal reminders. Donations and sponsorships are also welcome.

The Education Foundation is also a focus. We support 23 scholarships annually. We are in the process of
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Join the 2021 MOAA Scholarship Committee!!!

The MOAA Scholarship Committee is in full swing for 2021 but it's not too late to get involved! Given the impact of the pandemic that will likely last at least through next spring, we will transition our 25 March 2021 Scholarship Luncheon to an Awards Ceremony, delivered virtually.

Even with the change of format, our committee needs to finalize the scholarship application and continue advertising the opportunities to all qualified high school students, Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) cadets and college-level senior Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) cadets in our catchment area.

The next meeting of the MOAA Scholarship Committee will take place (virtually, of course) on Friday, 11 Dec 20, at 10am via the Zoom link below:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82609486875?pwd=Z2R1T1k3YmV4QnliVDFleUNGbHd1UT09>

Meeting ID: 826 0948 6875 Passcode: 902258

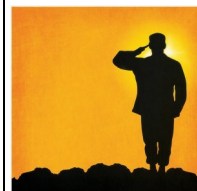
In addition to the scholarships, the committee will continue to recognize JROTC cadets at approximately 125 high schools in South Texas with the MOAA Award based on their academic record, citizenship, leadership, community involvement, professionalism and financial need. One cadet in each of the JROTC units will receive a MOAA medal and certificate that will be presented at their school's award ceremony in the spring. Our recognition of these outstanding young Americans makes a tremendous impact on the winners, their families, their units and their schools.

If interested in participating, please contact our Scholarship Committee Chairperson, Col (ret) Pete Hunt, peterhunt2012@gmail.com, text/phone to 210-867-0418, or simply dial in to the Zoom meeting on 11 Dec 20!

Hope to see you there and as always, THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Col (USAF, Ret) Pete Hunt

Chairperson, Scholarship and Awards Committee



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:

LCDR Gilberto Rodriguez USN
(Ret)
11/17/20

Hilda Jennings
Feb 2020

Bea Vander Linden
Aug 2018

Maj Gerald Frazier USAF (Ret)
(Date Unknown)



Merry Christmas And Happy Holidays

to all our Chapter Members
and their families





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!

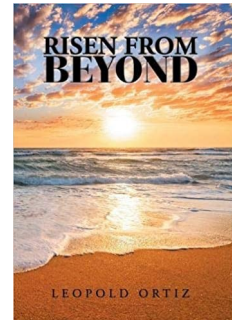
LtCol Phyllis Allen USAF (Ret)
 Col Philip Andrews USAF (Ret)
 LTC James Bailey USA (Ret)
 Col Edd Barnes USAF (Ret)
 LTC Donald Bartlett USA (Ret)
 COL George Becknell USA (Ret)
 COL David Bell USA (Ret)
 LTC Robert Blake USA (Ret)
 LTC Anton Blieberger USA (Ret)
 LTC George Bradley USA (Ret)
 COL Bruce Brant USA (Ret)
 Col Joseph Brozena USAF (Ret)
 COL Randy Bruett USA
 CAPT Gene Carnicom USPHS (Ret)
 Col Ch Robert Certain USAF (Ret)
 COL Benjamin Chacko USA (Ret)
 Col Irene Collier USAF (Ret)
 CAPT James Cosby USN (Ret)
 Col David Cox USAF (Ret)
 LtCol Eugene Culp USAF (Ret)
 MajGen Lewis Curtis USAF (Ret)
 COL Rodney Day USA (Ret)
 Col Mark Delaney USAF (Ret)
 COL William Del Vecchio USA (Ret)
 MAJ James Drake USA (Ret)
 BG Charles Elia USA (Ret)
 LTC Jim Finch USA (Ret)
 LtCol Michael Fox USAF (Ret)
 Lt George Frecsko USN (Ret)
 COL Charles Freeman USA
 Linda Gayer
 LTC Bill Goforth USA (Ret)

LCDR Armon Grantham USN (Ret)
 Col Dean Hartman USAF
 RADM Clare Helminiak USPHS (Ret)
 Col Stephen Hodge USAF
 Barbara Horvath
 Col Lewis Jamison USAF (Ret)
 CMDR Don Kentopp USN (Ret)
 LTC Bret Kinman USA (Ret)
 Pamela Kroyer
 Col Glenn Larsen USAF (Ret)
 COL Edward Lefeber USA (Ret)
 Maj George Lindquist USAF (Ret)
 LtCol Forest Little USAF (Ret)
 Maj John Markovetz USAF (Ret)
 Gen William McBride USAF (Ret)
 Col James McConnell USAF (Ret)
 Col Michael Miller USAF (Ret)
 Lolly Orlowski
 Helga Parks
 Col David Patrick USAF (Ret)
 COL Randall Perkins USA (Ret)
 COL Norbert Picha USA (Ret)
 LtCol William Pollock USAF (Ret)
 LtCol Alfred Ramsey USAF (Ret)
 COL Charles Reding USA (Ret)
 Col Steve Richards USAF (Ret)
 Maj William Riggs USMC (Ret)
 LTC Joseph Robles USA (Ret)
 COL Michael Rogers USA (Ret)
 Judith Schindler
 Col Steve Senia USAF (Ret)
 LTC Benjamin Sewell USA (Ret)
 Dian Sherrod
 LtCol David Shultz USAF (Ret)
 Mary Sidorsky
 Col Lisa Skopal USAF (Ret)
 MajGen Bruce Smith USAF (Ret)
 BG Thomas Smith USA (Ret)

LtCol Ralph Stearman USAF (Ret)
 Col Ch Karen Stocks USAF (Ret)
 Nina Tannenbaum
 COL John Tully USA (Ret)
 Col Marc Van Wert USAF (Ret)
 CAPT Jerry Wiens USN (Ret)
 Marilyn Weltz
 Col Richard Wheatley USAF (Ret)
 Col Bob Wickman USAF (Ret)
 LTC Machielle Wood Denmon USA (Ret)
 LtCol Thomas Young USAF (Ret)

Col Leopold Ortiz Memoir

Chapter member, the late Col Leopold Ortiz is a published author! His Memoir is entitled Risen from Beyond and can be obtained from any book seller, including Amazon. Don't forget to log onto Amazon Smile and use Alamo Chapter Outreach as your charity!



This story is a fantastic tale about an individual who rose from beyond the other side of the railroad tracks.

The story is of realized dreams, perseverance, and hard work. His beginnings were humble. He grew up during the Great Depression. Despite their poverty, his family was able to overcome obstacles that could have prevented them from reaching their goals.

During World War II, Ortiz wanted to do his part and volunteered to enlist in the US Navy at age seventeen. He rose from seaman apprentice in the US Navy to colonel in the US Air Force.

In 2012, Ortiz received a commission as an admiral in the Texas Navy by Governor Rick Perry.

Membership Memos

THANK YOU Renewing Members

MajGen Lewis Curtis USAF (Ret)
 RADM Clare Helminiak USPHS (Ret)
 Col Philip Andrews USAF (Ret)
 COL David Bell USA (Ret)
 COL Bruce Brant USA (Ret)
 CAPT Gene Carnicom USPHS (Ret)
 COL William Del Vecchio USA (Ret)
 COL James Dodson USA (Ret)
 Col Ramona Dolson USAF (Ret)
 Col Dean Hartman USAF
 Col Donna Holcombe USAF (Ret)
 Col Leslie Long USAF (Ret)
 COL Mark Mueller USA (Ret)
 COL Randall Perkins USA (Ret)
 COL Jim Phelps USA (Ret)
 COL Norbert Picha USA (Ret)
 Col Peter Pollock USAF (Ret)
 Col Richard Reusch USAF (Ret)
 COL Michael Rogers USA (Ret)
 Col Lisa Skopal USAF (Ret)
 Col Robert Snodgrass USAF (Ret)
 Col Ch Karen Stocks USAF (Ret)
 LtCol Phyllis Allen USAF (Ret)
 LTC Kurt Andersen USA (Ret)
 LtCol Ron Blackburn USAF (Ret)

LtCol Wanda Carter USAF (Ret)
 LtCol Catherine Dikcis USAF (Ret)
 LtCol Robert Guerra USAF (Ret)
 CDR Don Kentopp USN (Ret)
 LTC Bret Kinman USA (Ret)
 CDR Sarah Kovel USN (Ret)
 CDR Steven Larson USN (Ret)
 LtCol Steven Letch USAF (Ret)
 LtCol Alfred Ramsey USAF (Ret)
 LtCol David Richmond, Jr USAF (Ret)
 LtCol David Shultz USAF (Ret)
 LtCol Thomas Young USAF (Ret)
 Maj George Lindquist USAF (Ret)
 LCDR Alistair McLean USN (Ret)
 Maj Katherine Mills USAF (Ret)
 Maj William Riggs USMC (Ret)
 Maj Thomas Vanderhoof USAF (Ret)
 CPT Sabrina Allen USA (Ret)
 Capt Richard Blake USAF (Ret)
 Rose Elda Prochazka
 Nina Tannenbaum

WELCOME New Members

COL Luigi Biever USA (Ret)
 Col Kevin Heckle USAF
 COL Catherine Lassiter USA
 Col William Morrison II USAF (Ret)
 COL Vincent Mysliwiec USA (Ret)
 COL Christian Richards USA
 Col Joseph Rogers USAF (Ret)
 LtCol James Bishop USAF (Ret)
 LtCol Anthony Cascarano USAFR
 LTC Charles Chaplinski USA (Ret)
 LtCol Jeff Crouse USAF (Ret)

LtCol Deborah Divich USAF (Ret)
 LtCol John Gerst USAF (Ret)
 LTC James King II USA
 LTC Andre Rivier USA
 LTC Michael Rogowski USA
 LTC Eric Russell USA
 LtCol Patricia Schiefer USAF (Ret)
 LTC Betty Jean Simmons USA (Ret)
 LtCol Wade Slocum USAF (Ret)
 LtCol Patrick Spencer USMC
 LtCol Paul Villagran USAF (Ret)
 LtCol Cory Waldroup USAF
 LTC Felicia Williams USA
 MAJ Nicole Amstutz USA
 MAJ Dwaipayan Chakraborti USA (Frmr)
 Maj La Unah Cuffy USAF (Ret)
 Maj Aaron Eldridge USAF
 LCDR Drew Harvard USN
 MAJ Ryan Labio USA
 Maj George Logan USAF (Ret)
 MAJ Tilburcio Macias Jr USA (Ret)
 Maj Ian Morris USAF
 MAJ Lecreshia Shields USA (Ret)
 Maj Donna Marie Tartell USAF (Ret)
 Capt Heather Burns USAF
 LT Danica Carlson USPHS
 LT Ricardo Cato USPHS
 Capt Samuel Cerezo USAF
 Capt James Clark USAF (Ret)
 Capt Aaron Delbosque USMCR
 Capt Sebryna Flugrath USMCR (Frmr)
 Capt David Foster USMC (Frmr)
 Capt Ramiro Garrido USAF
 LT William Harwood USN (Frmr)
 Capt Trevor Langford USAF
 (Continued on Page 12)

Current Membership Stats

Active Duty 377
 Surviving Spouse 174
 Former Military 51
Retired 825
Total 1427

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 years 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.
- 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.

ORDER FORM - Alamo Chapter Merchandise

Pebble Beach Performance Golf Shirt \$30

Circle order details below - Subject to availability

Shirt 1: Mens Ladies S M L XL 2XL 3XL Blue White Brindle

Shirt 2: Mens Ladies S M L XL 2XL 3XL Blue White Brindle

Shirt 3: Mens Ladies S M L XL 2XL 3XL Blue White Brindle

Shirt 4: Mens Ladies S M L XL 2XL 3XL Blue White Brindle

Free pick up from Chapter Office (appt required) or add \$5.00 for shipping.

Great Gift Idea For Christmas!!

Name: _____

Address: _____

Tel: _____

Provide Credit Card info below or mail in check made payable to MOAA-AC - to P.O. Box 340497, San Antonio, TX 78234, or call the office at (210) 228-9955 (Tues thru Thurs 1-4pm) to place order and pay by credit card over the phone.

Credit Card #: _____

Exp Date: _____ Billing Zip Code: _____ CVV: _____ Total # Shirt: _____ Total # Coins _____

Total Enclosed: \$ _____





Commemorative “Randolph@90” Medal

A gift to you for your donation of \$100 or more to the MOAA-AC Scholarship Fund.

To donate, just click <http://www.alamomoaa.org/donate.cfm> or write a check to the Alamo Chapter Educational Foundation and mail it to MOAA Alamo Chapter, P.O. Box 340497, San Antonio, TX 78234.

**Offer good from Nov 20, 2020
to February 28, 2021
(while supplies last)**

This beautiful medal celebrates the 90th anniversary of the founding of Randolph Field, often called "The West Point of the Air" by the air cadets who trained there early in its history. The base, known for most of its history as Randolph Air Force Base, is now called JBSA-Randolph.

The medal features the famous “Taj Mahal” superimposed over the Alamo. The Taj Mahal was designed as a multi-purpose building that serves as base headquarters, theater, administrative offices, and a water tower. It is the focus of the “air city” imagined by the founders of Randolph. The medal has an Air Force blue drape and a dangle with the Air Force logo. The numerals on either side of the Taj Mahal celebrate the founding date of 1930 and the anniversary date of 2020. The medal was designed and produced by Celebrate Excellence of San Antonio under the direction of retired Air Force Colonel Karen Currie who was assigned to Randolph Air Force Base during the 50th anniversary celebrations in 1980.

Col Currie, a member of the MOAA Alamo Chapter, is donating a medal to each contributor of \$100 or more to the MOAA-AC Educational Foundation Scholarship Fund between now and February 28, 2020. This is sure to be a treasured keepsake for any Air Force member who has spent some duty time in the shadow of the Taj Mahal. “Randolph @90” would be perfect stocking stuffer for Fiesta Medal collectors.

Learn more about the history and significance of JBSA-Randolph from the historian of the 12th Flying Training Wing, Mr. Lane Bourgeois, during the MOAA-AC monthly ZOOM webinar on Thursday December 17 from 1100-1200. Mr. Bourgeois will be making a special presentation on the resiliency of Randolph’s founders, who had to overcome a multitude of problems to make Randolph Field a reality. He will also discuss the Father of Randolph, General Frank Lahm; the Architect of Randolph, Lt (later General) Harold Clark; the namesake, Capt. William Randolph; and the herculean contributions of the San Antonio Chamber of Commerce.

You can help us commemorate the 90th anniversary of the founding of JBSA-Randolph by attending the virtual presentation by Mr. Bourgeois on December 17. By contributing \$100 or more to the MOAA-AC Educational Foundation Scholarship Fund, you will help us invest in the future of Junior ROTC and ROTC students and receive the “Randolph@90” Fiesta Medal as a souvenir keepsake.

Please keep in mind that the MOAA-AC Educational Foundation is a 501(c) (3) organization. This means your donations are tax-deductible.

Thank you.



Medical Minute

Ladder Safety

Whether you are dusting above the cabinets, cleaning gutters or putting up Christmas lights, a ladder may be just the tool you need!

- ♦ Guard doorways and block any high traffic areas to reduce the chance of collision. Be mindful of weather conditions that may make outdoor ladder use hazardous, such as rain or high winds.
- ♦ Set a strong foundation. Set the ladder on firm, flat or even surface. If you must use a ladder on a soft surface try placing a board beneath.
- ♦ Angle it appropriately. A straight or extension ladder should be placed a foot away from the surface it is resting against for every four feet of the ladder's height.
- ♦ Climb carefully. Face the ladder when climbing and maintain three points of contact --- either two hands and a foot or two feet and a hand. Grip the rungs not the side rails and don't climb with items in your hands. Wear shoes with good traction.
- ♦ Stop before the top. Don't stand on the top of the step ladder. With straight or extension ladders, avoid going higher than the third rung from the top.
- ♦ Avoid leaning or over reaching. Get down and reposition the ladder instead.
- ♦ Ask for help. If you are not feeling steady request help to complete the task. Or hire someone to get the job done.

Source: Mayo Clinic Health Letter

Irene Collier (Ret.)



Solitaires



Your COVID-19 Risk

The more risk factors, the higher your chance of exposure.

Your local gym, the take-out joint, the gas station or grocery store, your doctor's office, your grandchild's playground: among the public areas you visit most, which ones pose the biggest risks for exposure to COVID-19?

Considering the following five risk factors.

1. Poor air flow

People infected with COVID release viral particles into the air when they talk, cough, or sneeze. The viral particles ride in bits of moisture of varying sizes. Droplets, which are larger, tend to sink to the ground within six feet of the person who expels them. Tiny aerosols, however, can float or drift in the air for hours. Someone else who inhales the viral particles can get infected.

Air transmission is critically important. One of the biggest risks for getting COVID-19 is spending time indoors in environments with low ventilation — no open windows to dilute the indoor air contaminants, and no air purifiers to clean the air.

If you're visiting an indoor location — like a gym or store — consider the ventilation. If the air is stuffy and windows are closed, it raises potential COVID transmission risk.

Outdoor areas generally have lower COVID risks, since air currents scatter and dilute the virus. This is a plus for outdoor places you visit (such as a gas station, playground, or sidewalk café).

2. Crowds

You can encounter crowds in outdoor venues (such as parks or busy sidewalks) or indoor spaces. The ventilation will be better outside, which is good; but the more people you're around (outdoors or indoors), the more likely you'll be in close proximity to potential COVID carriers and viral particles they release.

The advice is to limit or avoid travel to places where there are crowds. If you can't, try to stay at least six feet away from others to help reduce the number of droplets you're in contact with (but remember that smaller aerosols may still be present).

3. A lack of face mask usage

Wearing a face mask not only helps keep an infected person's COVID particles from being expelled, but also protects uninfected people from inhaling viral particles.

The World Health Organization now recommends that you wear a three-layer mask with an inner layer made of polypropylene fabric (nonwoven material used for such products as reusable shopping totes). If you don't see people wearing face masks where you're going, then leave.

You don't need to wear a mask while alone in a park, but keep a mask handy in case others come along.

4. How long you'll be there

The amount of time you spend somewhere, especially indoors, affects your risk for being exposed to COVID. The CDC notes that you can become infected by being within six feet of an infected person for 15 minutes or more.

Reduce your risk by getting in and out of indoor locations as quickly as possible. (Reduce it further by controlling additional factors — staying six feet away from others and wearing a mask.)

For example, when you need to go grocery shopping, make a list of everything you need in advance. If you're familiar with the store layout, tailor the list so you can move through the aisles efficiently, without needing to walk back and forth repeatedly.

If you have an appointment or you're picking up takeout food from a favorite restaurant, ask if you can wait outside and have them call or text you when it's time for your meeting or your

(Continued on Page 14)

HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT PLANNED GIVING?

By COL (R) Vaughn E. Caudill, CPA, Alamo Chapter Treasurer

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!

3. Sample Bequest language:

"I give, devise, and bequeath to the MOAA-Alamo Chapter, P.O. Box 340497, San Antonio, TX 78234, Tax ID 82-1635522, _____% of my estate or the sum of \$____; the following described property _____; or _____% of the rest, residue and remainder of my estate."

"I (your name) do hereby publish this as a Codicil to my Last Will and Testament dated _____. Anything to the contrary in my aforesaid Last Will and Testament notwithstanding. I hereby devise and bequeath to MOAA-Alamo Chapter, P.O. Box 340497, San Antonio, TX 78234, tax identification number 82-1635522, the sum of \$____; or the following described property, to wit: _____; or _____ percent of the rest, residue and remainder of my estate."

In all other ways I do hereby ratify and confirm my Last Will and Testament as heretofore published. In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal this (date)."
(Add your signature, witness signatures and seal.)

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



Do you buy from Amazon?

Would you like for 0.5% of what you buy from Amazon be donated to the Alamo Chapter Educational Foundation? You can. Read on.

Amazon Smile has the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, plus you generate donations for charity, at no cost to you.

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.

For eligible purchases through AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price the educational foundation. There is no cost to the Alamo Chapter Education Foundation or you. Just use your regular Amazon login info and password to continue shopping.

Please switch your Amazon account to Amazon Smile to support the Alamo Chapter Educational Foundation.



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JANUARY 2021

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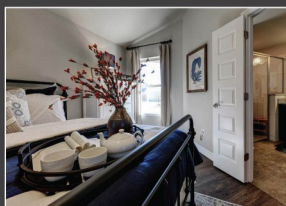
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Visit our newly renovated cottages and apartment homes.

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or Visit:
BlueSkiesofTexas.org



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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

It's Almost Tax Time Again!

Will you give more to the IRS or make a tax deductible donation to MOAA-AC?

Dear Alamo Chapter Members:

Can you believe it is almost income tax time again with the IRS lurking just around the corner?

Like any other volunteer based nonprofit organization it takes resources – people and operating capital -- to accomplish our mission and provide our approximately 1,100 members the programs and services they deserve. We operate on a very lean annual operating budget of approximately \$45,000 and have the reputation for being fiscally responsible under tight cost controls. Membership dues cover less than 30% of our expenses so we must rely on non-dues revenue, i.e., advertising, corporate sponsorships and **individual donations** to help us keep our lights on and the doors open each year!

Additionally, the amount we award in Scholarships in any given year is based on the amount received through our fund raising efforts the previous year. In 2020 we were able to give 23 x \$1,000 to local JROTC and ROTC Cadets but due to the pandemic our normal fundraisers had to be curtailed and we will be severely underfunded for the 2021 scholarship program.

So . . . I am asking you to please consider making a donation either to our Chapter Operations or to our Scholarship Fund. Why give more to the IRS when you can make a tax deductible contribution to your Alamo Chapter? The Alamo Chapter Educational Foundation is a registered 501(c) 3 Non Profit. Tax ID 82-16355222. Your contributions do make a difference!

Just complete and mail the form below

or

donate on our website at <http://www.alamomoaa.org/donate.cfm>.

Again, thank you for your membership. You continue to be a valued asset to our country, to our military community and to the MOAA organization. Through your financial generosity, we look forward to continuing to provide you “5-star” service in the coming years.

Respectfully,



Kathryn “Kitty” Meyers, LtCol USAF (Ret)
President

----- ✂ ----- Please Cut & Return ----- ✂ -----

Name: _____

Tel: _____

Email: _____

To Pay by Credit Card:

To Pay By Check: Make Payable to MOAA-AC

Card Number: _____

Total Amount: \$ _____

Expiration Date: _____ Billing Zip code: _____

\$ _____ Scholarship Fund

Amount: \$ _____ CVC Code: _____

\$ _____ Operations

Please mail to: MOAA-AC, P.O. Box 340497, Ft. Sam Houston, TX 78234

OUR CORPORATE PARTNERS

Please support those that support us!

When you use their services let them know you heard about their company/organization from the MOAA Alamo Chapter

Abby Consulting <i>Website Design</i> http://www.abbyconsulting.com/ 210-490-6513	Army Residence Community <i>Retirement Living</i> https://armyresidence.com/ 210-646-5300
Beldon Roofing Company <i>Trusted Since 1946</i> https://www.beldon.com/ 833-5-BELDON	Blue Skies of Texas <i>Retirement Community</i> <i>In the tradition of Air Force Village</i> https://www.blueskiesoftexas.org/ 866-553-5389
Medical Services International <i>Providing Healthcare Consulting Services</i> 210-497-0263	CTWP Digital Solutions <i>Printers, Copiers, Fax Machines & Office Equipment.</i> https://www.ctwp.com/ 210-590-2897
WWII Museum & Golf <i>Museum and Themed Mini Golf</i> memorialminigolf@gmail.com Buda, Tx	M. D. Ellis Refrigeration LLC <i>Heating & Air Conditioning</i> https://www.facebook.com/M-D-Ellis-Refrigeration-LLC-589273391215105/ 210-265-1978
Security Service Federal Credit Union <i>Full-service Financial Cooperative</i> https://www.ssfcu.org/ 888-415-7878	Transition Management Solutions, LLC <i>Non-profit Consulting</i> http://www.tms-texas.com/ 210-259-9867
USAA <i>Financial Services Company</i> https://www.usaa.com/ 800-531-8722	<i>Insert Your Business Here!</i>

Corporate Partners:

Sponsors and Advertisers in The Lariat

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

MOAA's New Job Board

MOAA has a new feature for those transitioning. They've partnered with **Indeed** in its creation. Here are some pointers from MOAA's Director of Career Transition and Member Services, Brian Anderson. He posted these points in an article entitled "5 Reasons to Visit MOAA's New Job Board". Here are the points for connecting with **"MOAA's Job Board powered by Indeed"**.

- There is a full range of resources and other tools to assist military, veterans and spouses in transitioning.
- You have the wealth of job opportunities and resources at your beck and call from **Indeed**. These include resume assistance and job search tips.
- Not only is it available 24/7 but it is constantly updated as employers post their new positions. Once you set up the alerts, you will be pinged when a new job is posted within your parameters.

- It's free. You can set up your profile and upload your resume. You can then start your job search.
- **Indeed** has created a Veteran Resource Center hub with veteran-specific career guidance and tools to assist you in the process.

I will add another key feature that you can pass along to enlisted folks and non-MOAA members. This tool is available to all. Those who are then interested in joining MOAA can learn about the other transition feature of www.moaa.org that are included with that membership.

Also remember that your Alamo Chapter has transition resources available. Connect with David Patrick, Stephan Porter or myself for one-on-one coaching to assist you in your next career move. Happy Transition.

Kitty

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

President's Message

(Continued from Page 1)

organizing the board of directors for this 501(c)3. Not only do we need financial support, we welcome those interested in participating as a board member to contact me. Peter also has the information for the Scholarship Committee in this edition of the *Lariat*. Check it out on Page 2.

We wish everyone a very happy holiday season and a very prosperous 2021. Please continue to be safe in these times. We look forward to seeing you in the new year.

Kitty

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

Welcome New Members

(Continued from Page 4)

Capt John Nelson USAF
Capt Melissa Parker USAF (Frmr)
CPT Louis Rojas USA
Capt Craig Stan USAF
CPT Ladonna Tolbert USA
Capt Bennie Thompson, Jr ANG
Capt Adriene Walker USAF (Ret)
CPT Christopher Ward USA
Capt William Werner USAF
Capt Richard Whittmeyer III USAF
CPT Hugo Ybarra USAR (Frmr)
1Lt Amanda Martinez USAF
1LT Ashlyn Meyer USA
LTJG Richard Shea USNR (Frmr)
2LT Brenda Carpenter ARNG (Frmr)
2LT Stuart Cram USA
2Lt Stephen Denison USAF
2LT David Donica USA
2Lt Melissa Enriquez USAF
2Lt Connor Flynn USMC
2LT Christopher Harper USA
2LT Julia Hernandez USA
2Lt Christopher Kennedy USAF
2Lt Fabian Lemus USAF
2Lt Michael Marty II USMC
2LT Jayson Peyton ARNG
2LT Jesse Pieper USA
2LT Santos Salinas USMC
2LT Connor Toomey USA
2LT Dylan Turner USAR
CW3 Marcus Hawthorne USA (Ret)
CW2 Mark Frankovich USAR (Frmr)
WO1 Robert Houck USAR
WO1 Christopher Thompson USA
Majel Braden
Thomas Edwards
Ashley Schafer



Notable Celebrations In December

Dec 7 Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
Dec 11 Hanukkah 1st Day
Dec 13 US National Guard Birthday
Dec 25 Christmas Day



MOAA NATIONAL ENROLLMENT

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

Name _____

Branch of Service _____ Rank _____

☐ Retired ☐ Active ☐ Former

☐ Reserve ☐ National Guard

☐ Spouse of Eligible Officer

☐ Graduation Year (Cadet/Midshipmen) _____

Email Address** _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone Number _____

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



Method of Payment

☐ Check (please make payable to MOAA Alamo Chapter) ☐ Credit Card Charge my card \$ _____

Card number _____

Expiration date _____ CVV _____ Signature _____

Zip code where Billing Statement is mailed: _____

Send to: MOAA-Alamo Chapter, P.O. Box 340497, Ft. Sam Houston, TX 78234; or email to moaa-ac@sbcglobal.net; or signup **online** at www.alamomoaa.org.

MOAA LOCAL ALAMO CHAPTER ENROLLMENT

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

☐ YES! Renew my Alamo Chapter Membership

Name _____

Branch of Service _____ Rank _____

☐ Retired ☐ Active ☐ Former

☐ Reserve ☐ National Guard

☐ Spouse/Surviving Spouse of Eligible Officer

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email Address _____

(Email address required for Electronic Membership)

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

Phone Number _____

Date of Birth _____

Spouse Name _____

Spouse Email Address _____

☐ I would you like to help the Chapter as a Volunteer

One-Year Membership \$20

(Monthly newsletter "The Lariat" sent by email)

Solitaires

(Continued from Page 7)

order is ready.

5. Contaminated surfaces

While it's not a common means of transmission, you can contract COVID by touching contaminated surfaces, such as a door handle. But it would have to be the case that a person just before you was infected and coughed on the handle; and you came along and touched it, didn't wash your hands, and then touched your eyes, nose, or mouth.

It's easy to break the potential chain of transmission. Just avoid touching your face, and use hand sanitizer frequently (as soon as you're finished shopping or pumping gas, for example).

The big picture

Consider all of the risk factors together to gauge COVID risk. The more risk factors present, the higher the risk. For example, spending an hour in a crowded, stuffy gym with low face mask use is a bad idea; instead, go for a walk and lift dumbbells at home.

We all need to keep going places — to the grocery store and pharmacy - Go out just when it's necessary, and follow precautions.

Source: Harvard Health Letter

Irene Collier (Ret)

Happy 384th Birthday
to the
United States
National Guard

Dec 13, 1636



*Always Ready,
Always There*



Congratulations Kitty!

Congratulations to Kitty Meyers Planning Committee Member

Kitty was recently selected as a recipient of the 2020 Alamo Area Council of Governments (AACOG) Regional Awards.

Workforce Solutions Alamo nominated Kitty for the AACOG Regional Award in the Community/non-profit Project of the Year category.

“AACOG Regional Award: *The Community/Non-Profit Project of the Year Award category honors community-based or non-profit projects that have contributed to the betterment of the AACOG region. This award is given annually to community-based or non-profit driven projects that have made a positive impact to the communities involved in and affected by the project.*”

“Kitty, we are impressed by your energy and passion to serve the community on and off base. We wish you continued success and we appreciate your continued support with the Annual Hiring Red White and You! Job Fair.”

Kitty will be honored at the AACOG Area Council Board of Directors Annual Luncheon on December 2nd, 2020.

(See pic of Kitty in action on Page 1)

Alamo Chapter - Vision & Mission

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

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
kamconsulthr@gmail.com



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) Advertising Cmte Members
- 5) Community Outreach Members
- 6) Historian
- 7) Editor

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

www.alamomoaa.org



Army Residence
Community

WELCOME TO THE ARC.

RETIREMENT LIVING FOR ALL BRANCHES OF THE ARMED FORCES.



ARC is a nonprofit life plan continuing care retirement community (CCRC) in beautiful San Antonio, Texas, which welcomes 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 60 years old, to include spouses and surviving spouses.

In independent living, enjoy the freedom offered by zero-maintenance high-rise or private cottage living, turning you loose to travel, volunteer or pursue any interests you like. If assisted living, memory care, or long-term care is ever needed - you will have caregivers who understand and honor what you've given your country.

GENERALLY SPEAKING, WE LOVE PERSONAL ENDORSEMENTS LIKE THIS.

"ARC has everything we wanted - separate quarters (duplex) for independent living, a continuum of healthcare, all on the same campus. All that and the price was right! It was the best decision we ever made. Come join us and you will find a very warm welcome from folks from all the services who share your values."

Bill Klein — Major General, USA, ret.



Go to armyresidence.com or call 1-800-871-3749 for more information.

Soldiers' Angels ADOPT-A-FAMILY

Soldiers' Angels understands the unique challenges faced by military and veteran families during the holiday season. With deployments, VA medical appointments, or financial difficulties, providing a festive celebration can be difficult. The Soldiers' Angels Adopt-A-Family Program matches military/veteran families* with individuals, businesses, or organizations that are eager and excited to help the family have a holiday to remember! Working through Soldiers' Angels, they will provide gifts for the children and a grocery gift card to help towards their holiday meal.

To learn more or apply, visit our website:

www.SoldiersAngels.org/Adopt-A-Family



Contact Us!

Phone: 210-629-0020

Email: holidaysupport@soldiersangels.org

Website: www.SoldiersAngels.org



Deadline to Apply is December 7th

December Zoom Speaker Bio



Mr. LANE M. BOURGEOIS

Lane Bourgeois is historian for the 12th Flying Training Wing, JBASA-Randolph, Texas. As historian he serves to research, collect, document, index, and preserve valuable primary source documentation on the wing's operational mission. Produced every year, he researches, compiles, and writes the official periodic wing history. Historians preserve the corporate memory, provide historical services, answer historical inquiries for wing staff, wing members, and various other leaders at all levels throughout the Air Force.

Lane Bourgeois began his career as a civil servant in April 2006, retiring as a Master Sergeant from the Air Force after serving in a 22-year career. That career included various positions in the munitions career field. His civilian grade is GS-12. As a historian he has deployed to support contingency operations in Turkey, Italy, Qatar (twice), United Arab Emirates, Iraq, and Kuwait. He has been married to Kim Savoy of St. Amant, Louisiana, for 32 years. They have three children: Kyle, Paul, and Jacob.

ASSIGNMENTS

1. Sep '84 – Mar '88, Missile Technician, 37th EMS, George AFB, Calif.
2. Apr '88 – Nov '89, Missile Crew Chief, 51 EMS, Osan AB, Korea.
3. Dec '89 – Apr '89, NCOIC Missile Shop (Night Shift), Osan AB, Korea.
4. Jun '89 – Jul '93, Storage and Handling Dispatch; Storage and Handling, Line Delivery; Munitions Control 416th MSS, Griffiss AFB, NY.
5. Aug '93 – Jan '98, Munitions Plans and Scheduling; Technical Order Distribution Officer; Quality Instructor; Assistant NCOIC, Munitions Inspection; Line Delivery, Swing Shift Supervisor; NCOIC Munitions Control, 28th Munitions Squadron, Ellsworth Air Force Base, SD.
6. Feb '98 – Jun '02, 71st Flying

Training Wing Historian, 71st Flying Training Wing, Vance Air Force Base, Okla.

7. Jun '02 – Jun '06, Air Force Recruiting Service Historian, Randolph Air Force Base, Texas

8. Apr '06 – Jan '12, 12th Flying Training Wing Historian, Randolph Air Force Base, Texas

9. Feb '12 – Feb '15, 31st Fighter Wing Historian, Aviano Air Base, Italy

10. Feb '15 – Present, 12th Flying Training Wing Historian, JBASA-Randolph, Texas

EDUCATION

1991 Noncommissioned Officer Leadership School

1991 Associate, Munitions Systems, CCAF

1994 Noncommissioned Officer Academy

2002 Associate, Aerospace History, CCAF

2011 Bachelor of Arts, English, with Honors, AMU

AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Air Force Commendation Medal with two oak leaf clusters

Air Force Achievement Medal with three oak leaf clusters

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award

Southwest Asia Service Medal

Kuwait Liberation Medal

Joint Service Achievement Medal

Outstanding History Program (AETC) 2000

Outstanding History Program (AETC) 2001

Outstanding History Program (AETC) 2005

Excellence in Wing History (USAF) 2005

Excellence in Wing History (AETC) 2010

John R. Burton Award (USAF) 2010

Outstanding Annual History (USAFE) 2013

Allan S. Major Excellence in History Program (AETC) 2016

AETC Excellence in Wing History 2017

AETC Excellence in Periodic History 2017



VOLUNTEER STAFF:

PRESIDENT	LtCol Kitty Meyers kamconsulthr@gmail.com
PROGRAMS	Col David Patrick dwpatt01@gmail.com
MEMBERSHIP	COL Felix Santiago felixsantiago01@gmail.com
LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS	MAJ James Cunningham jimbo48@sbcglobal.net (Open)
SECRETARY	
TREASURER	Col Vaughn Caudill vaughn.caudill@gmail.com
SCHOLARSHIPS	Col Peter Hunt moaa.ac.awards@gmail.com
PERSONAL AFFAIRS	Col Stu Myers
Personal Affairs Assist	CAPT Cora Bayle Cox
PR-SOCIAL MEDIA	LtCol Kathie Estrada
LEGAL COUNSEL	Jacobson Law Firm
SOLITAIRES	(Open)
SUPPORT	Lt George Frecko
EDITOR	(Open)
CHAPLAIN	LTC James Taylor
PX/VAC Rep	Jim Cunningham
SA TRANSITION	LtCol Kitty Meyers
TX TRANSITION	Col David Patrick
WEB MASTER	Col Bill Hudson
HISTORIAN	(Open)
VOLUNTEER COORD.	Col Pete Schaub
ADVERTISING	Col Lisa Skopal
BLUE SKIES REP	LtCol Jim & Dottie Conner
ARC REP	Col Joe & Janet Morgan
CHAPTER AFFAIRS	Col Irene Collier
ACTIVE DUTY LIAISON	LTJG Rachel Johnson
CONTRACTOR:	Trish Meserve

Chapter Board:

Chairman:	COL Barbara Ramsey
Vice Chair:	LtCol Ed Marvin
Col Mac McDonald	Col Frank Rohrbough
LTC Jim Finch	LTC Bill Goforth
LTC Robert Blake	

Honorary Director: Gen William McBride

Alamo Chapter Educational Foundation Board:

COL Robert Akam	Maj Tony Hargrove
Col Peter Hunt	CAPT Bill Whiting

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 Alamo Chapter Educational 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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moaa-c@sbcglobal.net

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MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA
ALAMO CHAPTER

THIS IS A PRIVATE ORGANIZATION. IT IS NOT A PART
OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE OR ANY OF ITS
COMPONENTS AND IT HAS NO GOVERNMENTAL
STATUS

FOR INFORMATION REGARDING
OUR BY-LAWS, STRATEGIC PLAN,
EVENTS CALENDAR, MEETING
MINUTES AND PAST ISSUES OF
THE LARIAT PLEASE VISIT OUR
WEBSITE:

WWW.ALAMOMOAA.ORG

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Email: moaa-ac@sbcglobal.net
www.alamomoaa.org

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

THE LARIAT

National Award Winning Newsletter

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



Thursday Dec 17

11am - Noon

ZOOM Webinar

Mr. Lane Bourgeois

12th Flying Training Wing Historian
JBSA Randolph Air Force Base

**To celebrate the 90th anniversary
of the founding of Randolph AFB,
relive the history of Randolph and
the Taj Mahal.**

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

Meeting ID & Passcode TBD

Please join us!

ZOOM Host: James Cunningham
210-416-0502



Thursday Jan 28

11am - Noon

ZOOM Webinar

Kenny Wilson

President & CEO

Haven For Hope

“Homelessness in San Antonio”

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

Meeting ID: TBD

Passcode: TBD

Please join us!

ZOOM Host: James Cunningham
210-416-0502