

# THE



# LARIAT

Volume 37, Number 1

“Five Star ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ Chapter”

January 2017



## President's Message

Well, I certainly hope that all of you had a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year. It is a great time for food, football, food, drink, food, family, football, drink, family and then resolutions. How many have you broken thus far?

As we go into the new year, it is one of uncertainties. We have a new, very unconventional President who is likely to bring many changes to our Federal government. It may prove to be a boon to the military and veterans, but that is yet to be seen. There are sure to be differences of opinion in the Congress as to how far we will go with military funding and the rebuilding of worn equipment, additional training, enhanced benefits and possible buildup of our military personnel strength.

For these reasons, it is incumbent on us all to watch what is going to transpire and lend as much support as we can to our National MOAA efforts on behalf of our military, families and veterans.

What will probably be another interesting year with the Texas State Legislature has started this month. What

continues to be the biggest elephant in the room will be possible changes to the Hazlewood Act and the legacy portion of this law. MOAA and the Texas Coalition of Veterans Organizations will be watching and working closely with legislators to attempt to make only those changes that prove to be necessary while leaving as much of the act as possible, intact. As bills are filed, we will examine them thoroughly and begin working to either make them better and get them passed into law or cause their defeat.

Other issues will also come forward. Senator Menendez has filed a bill to more closely regulate for profit universities, colleges and vocational schools. While most of the money issues are a federal matter, the state can still put some regulations in place that will protect our military and their educational benefits to ensure they can graduate with a valuable degree or certification that will enhance their ability to gain a career or employment. We have seen in recent months that this has become a major problem causing some of these schools to shut down leaving their student veterans holding the bag with coursework that is non-transferable or degrees that are not properly accredited and much more debt than they might otherwise have had.

We will also be looking at updating the old formulas for tax exemption for partially disabled veterans and voting rights for deployed military members.

Colonel Peter Hunt is still working to enhance our scholarship program for ROTC Juniors to assist them in meeting expenses in their Junior and Senior

years prior to commissioning. We still, in our geographic area, take care of about 120 high school JROTC's. Unfortunately, we are losing Jim Webb soon so I will be needing someone to help me serve these schools. Any volunteers, please contact me.

LTC Bob Blake has gotten Chapter representation for all the Congressmen in our area. In this way, we can continue to keep our military, veterans and families in front of them and make their needs known.

This year, I will also be embarking on an effort to establish satellite Chapters of the Alamo Chapter in our geographic area. I am looking at North Coastal Bend (Rockport, Port Aransas, Portland); Corpus Christi, McAllen/Brownsville and even perhaps Laredo. In doing this, I am going to need some help from our local San Antonio Area members as well as help from MOAA members in those areas.

Our Christmas party was, I thought, very successful! Even though Santa did not make an appearance, he left some gifts, which we gave away. The food was great! The band was great! The dancing was great!

In January, the chapter luncheon will be at the Ft. Sam Golf Club and the speaker will be our new Bexar County Sheriff Javier Salazar. Hope that you can attend!

Hope all of you have a wonderful New Year!

*Jim Cunningham USA (Ret)*

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# Chapter News & Notices



## Cookie Angels

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

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

Maryada Artiglia

Irene Collier

Susan Filipini

Joe & Adele Genualdi

John Gibbs

Sue McCarthy

Mac and Lori McDonald

Lolly Orlowski

Lou Strong

Brenda Tobey

Susie Tolman

Dot Wise



## Thank You!

to each of our members listed below who have donated a little (or a lot!) to either the Scholarship Fund, Chapter Operations, or both!

LTC Jennifer Cobbs-Grant USA (Ret)

Maj John Franklin III USAF (Ret)

LtCol Elizabeth Goetz USAF (Ret)

LTC James Passmore USA (Ret)

LTC Ronald Richtsmeier USA (Ret)

Maj Carlos Rodriguez USAF (Ret)

Col Karen Stocks USAF (Ret)

LtCol Mark Sweeney USAF (Ret)

Col John Whiting USAF (Ret)

## NEVER STOP SERVING!



## WE NEED YOU TO PLEASE VOLUNTEER

Positions Available on Chapter Staff

Spouses of Members Welcomed!

Contact: (210) 228-9955

moaa-ac@sbcglobal.net

### Current Needs:

- 1) Advertising Coordinator
- 2) Volunteer Coordinator
- 3) Blue Skies East Liaison
- 4) Solitaires Coordinator
- 5) Army Residence Community Liaison
- 6) JROTC Medal Presenters

## Scholarship Committee



Want to be a part of the Scholarship Committee that chooses worthy recipients of the 2017 Scholarship awards. Consideration is based on financial need, academic record, test scores, citizenship, leadership, community involvement and outstanding professional ability.

A preliminary meeting will be held on **January 11th at 1:30pm** at the Chapter office.

If you are interested in participating please contact MOAA-AC Scholarship Chair, Col (Ret) Peter Hunt at

[peterhunt2012@gmail.com](mailto:peterhunt2012@gmail.com)

or (210) 867-0418.

## The Retired Officers' Wives and Widows Club

This month's luncheon will be held on **Monday Jan 23 at 11:00am** Ft Sam Houston Golf Club.

**Program:**  
**Memorial Services**  
**Detachment**  
**Honor Guard**

Guests are welcome.  
RSVP by Jan 18 to  
(210) 822-6559

## 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:

Barbara B., Newell  
Spouse of Col Jamieson Newell  
USAF (Ret)

12/3/16



# Legislative Update



The 114<sup>th</sup> US Congress has generated hundreds of Veteran related bills, few of which have become Law. One piece of legislation that has been the top priority for the Veterans Coalition in Washington, DC addresses multi-generational exposure to toxins.

The following bills affect all generations of Texas Veterans, and some of the bills specifically pertain to those Texas Veterans affected by exposure to chemicals and dioxins such as Agent Orange and toxins released from Burn Pits.

## **The Toxic Exposure Research Act of 2015 was sent to President for signature Dec 10, 2016**

H.R.1769: Toxic Exposure Research Act of 2015. A bill to establish in the Department of Veterans Affairs a national center for research on the diagnosis and treatment of health conditions of the descendants of veterans exposed to toxic substances during service in the Armed Forces that are related to that exposure, to establish an advisory board on such health conditions, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: Rep Benishek, Dan [MI-1] (introduced 4/14/2015) Related Bills: S.901. **201** Co-Sponsors: 6 from Texas: Beto O'Rourke (D-TX-16), Lamar Smith (R-TX-21), Lloyd Doggett (D-TX-35); Filemon Vela (D-TX-34); Ted Poe (T-TX-2); Ruben Hinojosa (D-TX-15)

## **Veteran related bills signed into law during 114<sup>th</sup> US Congress:**

- ◆ Veterans ID Act of 2015 (H.R.91)
- ◆ Clay Hunt SAV Act (H.R.203)
- ◆ Construction Authorization and Choice Improvement Act (H.R.2496)
- ◆ Veterans Entrepreneurship Act of 2015 Act of 2015 (H.R.2499)
- ◆ Border Jobs for Veterans Act of 2015 (H.R.2835)
- ◆ Surface Transportation and Health Care Choice Improvement Act of 2015 (H.R.3236)
- ◆ Gold Star Fathers Act of 2015 (S.136)
- ◆ Department of Veterans Affairs Expiring Authorities Act of 2015 (S.2082)
- ◆ Wounded Warriors Federal Leave Act of 2015 (HR 313)
- ◆ National Guard and Reservist Debt Relief Extension Act of 2015 (HR 4246)
- ◆ Extend Commission on Care Report Deadline (HR 4447)
- ◆ Foreclosure Relief and Extension for Service members Act of 2015 (HR 2393)
- ◆ National POW/MIA Remembrance Act of 2015 (H.R. 1670)
- ◆ Arlington Cemetery Inurnment Eligibility (HR 4336)

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## **Aspirational Goal Update**

I am pleased to announce the addition of two new members of our Aspirational Goal Committee.

The first is BG James H. Doty Jr., USA (Ret), a Board member of MOAA-AC. He has joined as our representative to newly elected Congressman Vincente Gonzalez (D, TX) District 15, which we have just acquired. General Doty will be a welcome addition to MOAA-AC's legislative advocacy efforts.

I am equally pleased to announce the addition of CPT Roberto (Eddie) De La Garza, USA (Ret). He has consented to join the committee as our representative to Congressman Joaquin Castro's (D-TX) 20<sup>th</sup> District. We are indeed fortunate to have his services. Eddie is an attorney and a former member of both the Texas Legislature and the US Congress. His knowledge and insights will be invaluable to our legislative advocacy efforts.

*Robert E. Blake*  
LTC, USA (Ret)  
VP Legislative Affairs

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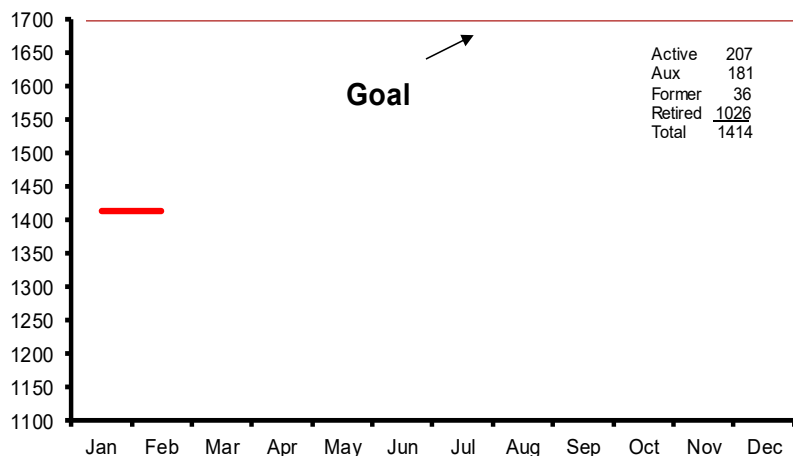
## THANK YOU! Renewing Members:

BG Charles H. Anderson USA (Ret)  
Col Philip Andrews USAF (Ret)  
COL Douglas Ashby USA (Ret)  
Col Edward Garland USAF (Ret)  
Col Dana Jacobson USAFR (Ret)  
CAPT William Knehans USN (Ret)  
COL Janice Nickie-Green USA (Ret)  
COL Randall Perkins USA (Ret)  
COL Vladimir Pospisil USA (Ret)  
Col Richard Reusch USAF (Ret)  
Col Karen Stocks USAF (Ret)  
Col Mike Tillema USAF (Ret)  
Col Michael Vlk USAF (Ret)  
Col John Westerbeck USAF (Ret)  
LTC Jennifer Cobbs-Grant USA (Ret)  
LTC Joseph Dinkins USA (Ret)  
CDR Sarah Kovel USN (Ret)  
CDR David Marx USN (Ret)  
LTC James Passmore USA (Ret)  
LTC Ronald Richtsmeier USA (Ret)  
LtCol Mark Sweeney USAF (Ret)  
LTC Peter Zielenski USA (Ret)  
LCDR Douglas Dumas USN (Ret)  
Maj John Franklin III USAF (Ret)  
Maj Gerald Frazier USAF (Ret)  
LCDR Charlotte Koch USN (Ret)  
Maj Carlos Rodriguez USAF (Ret)  
Maj John Trout USAF (Ret)

## Membership Stats

### Alamo Chapter Membership

As of: Dec 20, 2016



## Mission Statement



### Vision:

To be the primary advocate for the military community

### Mission:

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

*To help us fulfill our mission come join us at our monthly leadership meetings - the 1st Thursday each month at 10am, at the Chapter Office.*

*Call (210) 228-9955 for more information.*

## WANTED!

### All 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](mailto: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 who is 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 USAFR (Ret)** Chapter Transition Liaison Officer at  
[meyers.kathryn@yahoo.com](mailto:meyers.kathryn@yahoo.com)



Corporate Partners	Transitioning Tips	
<p><b>Abby Consulting</b></p> <p><b>Air Force Federal Credit Union</b></p> <p><b>Army Residence Community</b></p> <p><b>Beldon Roofing</b></p> <p><b>Blue Skies of Texas</b></p> <p><b>Caring Transitions</b></p> <p><b>Indian River Colony Club</b></p> <p><b>Medical Services International</b></p> <p><b>Mortgage of Texas &amp; Financial LLC</b></p> <p><b>Randolph-Brooks Federal Credit Union</b></p> <p><b>Security Service Federal Credit Union</b></p> <p><b>Silverbridge Realty</b></p> <p><i>Links to these companies' websites can be found on our webpage at <a href="http://www.alamomoa.org">www.alamomoa.org</a></i></p> <p><i>Please remember their support and bear these companies in mind when choosing a service provider</i></p>	<p><b>A Corporate Culture That is Right for You</b></p> <p>An experienced Human Resources executive joined the Gap as a vice president of Human Resources. During the interview process, he missed a significant culture detail. On his first day of work, he showed up in a suit. He was immediately out of place since everyone else was attired in casual wear, specifically jeans. The next day, he wore Levi jeans. Talk about an error in judgement. The Gap carries their brand, not Levi's. He finally had his wardrobe worked out by day 4.</p> <p>These are the types of things that can make or break a successful onboarding to a new job. The planning for this begins during the research and interview process. A creative thinker may end up being a round peg in a square hole in a large corporation with a hierarchical bureaucracy. Someone who likes structure would feel lost in a loosely organized environment. Another example would be when someone hired into a small family-owned company feels out of place being the "outsider".</p> <p>Looking at these unwritten factors are important in the job-hunting process. This begins with getting to know yourself. Make a list of the things that you like and don't like about your work environment. This will help determine the type of culture that fits you.</p> <p>Let's stop for a minute to define culture. This is the work environment and includes all the written as well as the unwritten rules of the organization. You can find the written rules in the employee handbook. I would recommend that you ask for one as you progress through the interview process.</p> <p>The unwritten rules are harder to identify because they are the ones that</p>	<p>the employees have created. These are the ones that, as the saying goes, grease the wheels of the organization. Look at how the employees interact. Some organizations are laid back while others are very formal. Check out how the managers and leadership interact with the employees. Again, look for degree of formality. Use of first names by all is now a common practice in many organizations.</p> <p>The key is to match these cultural factors into the equation as to what fits for you. The analogy plays back to your first days in the military. Only there is one huge difference. You had basic or officer training, no matter the branch or entry, to become oriented with the military. It was designed to take you back to a point where the military could then build in their culture. It's not like that in the civilian world. You may have anything from a one hour orientation to a multi-day, not week, intro to the company. You are then on your own to learn how to fit in to the work group and company.</p> <p>I've talked to a number of transitioning folks that have said that the company was not what they thought it would be. A US Chamber of Commerce "Hiring Our Heroes" Foundation research identified six reasons a transitioning military left civilian employment in the first year. Five out of six of those could be related to culture fit.</p> <p>The first recommendation is not to be intimidated. Do the research, both internally and externally, to determine what works for you and then look for opportunities that match.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Kitty</i> Kathryn "Kitty" Meyers LtCol USAFR (ret), SPHR, SHRM-SCP MOAA-Alamo Chapter Transition Liaison Officer</p>

# **Alamo Chapter Scholarship Opportunities**

## **Colonel Clarence T. Torrey Community Service Scholarship**

This is named in memory of Colonel Clarence T. Torrey, USA (Ret), a past President of the Alamo Chapter. Upon his death, a donation to initially fund the scholarship was made to the chapter by his wife. The scholarship in the amount of \$500 is awarded annually to a graduating high school senior whose parent, stepparent or grandparent served on active duty in any of the uniformed services represented in MOAA. All details of the scholarship selection process – except for selection of the final recipient – are handled by the Bexar County Scholarship Clearing House (BCSCH)/Minnie Piper Foundation. Scholarship applications are available from Bexar County school counselors in the fall. BCSCH receives the applications, makes preliminary evaluations and creates a recommended order of merit list. The MOAA AC Scholarship Committee interviews the top 5 candidates and selects a winner. The winner will be presented at the March Chapter luncheon.

## **The General Herring JROTC Scholarship and The Colonel McCarthy JROTC Scholarship**

Two \$500 scholarships are available to a graduating high school senior ranked in the top half of his/her class, who has participated for at least three years in a ROTC Program supported by the MOAA-AC. Selection will be based on financial need, academic record, test scores, citizenship, leadership, community involvement and outstanding professional ability. Applications for this scholarship are currently available through the Senior Military Instructors, online at [www.alamomoaa.org](http://www.alamomoaa.org) or from the Scholarship Chair. A maximum of one scholarship application will be accepted from each supported ROTC program.

## **The Alamo Chapter Scholarship.**

One \$500 scholarship is available to a graduating high school senior ranked in the top half of his/her class, who is a child, stepchild, and/or grandchild of a member in good standing of the Military Officers Association of America and the MOAA-Alamo Chapter. Selection will be based on financial need, academic record, test scores, citizenship, leadership, community involvement and outstanding professional ability.

## **ROTC Scholarship**

A total of \$13,000 will be available to university students enrolled in Army or Air Force ROTC. The Air Force ROTC Scholarship will be presented in honor of LtCol & Mrs. Edward Marvin USAF (Ret). Selection will be coordinated between the Chapter Scholarship Committee and the Unit Commanders based on performance and financial need.

Applications for JROTC and the Alamo Chapter scholarships are available on our website ([www.alamomoaa.org](http://www.alamomoaa.org)) or from the MOAA-AC office. The deadline is February 15. Email to [moaa-ac@sbcglobal.net](mailto:moaa-ac@sbcglobal.net) or mail to MOAA-AC, P.O. Box 340497, Ft Sam Houston, TX 78234. Direct any questions to the MOAA-AC Scholarship Chair, Col (Ret) Peter Hunt, [peterhunt2012@gmail.com](mailto:peterhunt2012@gmail.com) or (210) 867-0418.



## Medical Minute

### Lightning Safety

Winter storms can be severe. If you hear thunder, know that lightning isn't far behind. You can tell by the distance between how soon the rain will come. Twice I have seen lightning hit a telephone pole. The flash was like one gigantic firecracker. Usually it knocks out the electricity in the area. I had a friend who was hit by a bolt as she was getting out of the swimming pool. She does not know how long she lay there inert, and fortunately she didn't sustain any real damage.

Lightning can be very dangerous, splitting large trees and causing house fires. The effects of it hitting you include pain, burns, concussion, memory loss, dizziness, sleep problems, depression, migraine headaches, back problems, sexual dysfunction, damage to internal organs, and even thoughts of suicide.

The following are some helpful tips to stay safe around lightning:

- ♦ When you hear thunder, go to a substantial shelter or car with windows rolled up.
- ♦ Stay inside for at least 30 minute until you no longer hear thunder.
- ♦ Stay off cord telephones, computers, or other electrical equipment connected to electricity.
- ♦ Stay away from windows, doors and off porches.
- ♦ Do not lie on concrete floors and do not lean against concrete walls.

If caught outside with no safe shelter:

- ♦ Get off elevated areas such as hills, mountain ridges or peaks.
- ♦ Don't lie flat on the ground.
- ♦ Never shelter under an isolated tree or a cliff or overhang
- ♦ Get away from ponds, lakes and other bodies of water.
- ♦ Stay away from barbed wire, power lines or anything that can conduct electricity.

Source: Dan Vaughan, Military Officer magazine.  
The Weather channel

*Col Irene Collier (Ret)*



## Solitaires



### SOLITAIRES 2017

Another new year still finds us wishing more of our single MOAA members would join us....not only for the support and companionship we offer, but to keep our singles still connected to the Military Community.

I know you all have heard this....our membership numbers are continuing to decline as we age, and our health concerns become more plentiful. If you are not a current member, please consider meeting with us to find out what our group does.

We continue to have our First Tuesday meetings at the Ft. Sam Golf Club, at 11:00am. We enjoy catching up on each other's lives, but always enjoy seeing friends. We welcome having our Members suggest and arrange interesting speakers or programs for our Tuesday lunches. And most of us take advantage of being at Ft. Sam to do our looking and shopping....

Our Sunday Brunch meetings are on the Fourth Sunday of each month at the Parr Club at Randolph AFB, except over Holidays. This is a delicious lunch, a great atmosphere, and even champagne or Bloody Marys. We tend to stay a couple of hours, munching and socializing, usually to excellent background music. We meet at 11:00am.

Reservations are requested for each of these events. If you have email, you will be notified easily, if you need a caller to remind you please let me know. Anyway, mark your calendars, and give me a heads-up if you will be able to attend.

We also have an annual Christmas Pot Luck in December. Fortunately, Moyra Jardon has offered for the last 4 years to host this party at her house, we very much appreciate this. This is the only event we hold in a private home.

Since we are mostly all retired now, (younger singles don't have the inclination or the time to join us) we find that outside activities help us continue

to remain as active and healthy as we can. The old adage "To keep moving, you have to keep moving!" applies to any endeavor, and friends are very important at any point in our lives.

We wish all our current and future members a healthy and productive new year, hope to see more of you joining us for events this year, and PLEASE contact us for more information.

*Pat Shecter*

Solitaires Coordinator

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

*This is a wonderful opportunity to enjoy camaraderie with other single men and ladies whose backgrounds and experiences are with the military.*

*Make that resolution to get out and about and come have some fun!! The group meets for lunch at the Ft Sam Golf Club each 1st Tuesday of the month and for Brunch at The RAFB Parr Club the 4th Sunday of the month. Other activities are planned through out the year.*

*Call the office (210) 228-9955 to be put into contact with the group's coordinator.*

## UPCOMING RESEARCH STUDY: HAVE YOU TOLERATED A NEGATIVE OR A TOXIC LEADER?

### WHAT?

Felix Santiago, a veteran and a doctoral student with the University of Phoenix, (and Chapter member) will be conducting a study about the rationale for tolerating negative or toxic leaders.

### PURPOSE:

The purpose of this study is to explore the stories of the harmful effects of tolerance rationale for enduring negative leadership by former U.S. Army noncommissioned and commissioned officers. The study findings may assist expanding knowledge about the effects of enduring negative or toxic leadership.

### WHO?

- Former U.S. Army commissioned and non-commissioned officers.
- Discharged, retired, or separated within the last 10 years.
- Endured or tolerated a negative or toxic leader.

### WHEN?

Interviews with selected voluntary participants will be conducted during the month of January and February 2017.

### WHERE?

Interviews will be arranged at a location and time convenient to the participant. Considerations for privacy and confidentiality are a priority. Participants' responses will be kept confidential and there are no

expected risks associated with the interview. Veterans volunteering may withdraw at any time.

### HOW?

The expected duration of a semi-structured interview will be between 30-60 minutes with a follow up, if required. All data collected will be verified by the participant prior to its use in the formal study.

### CONTACT:

If you are interested in participating in the study and meet the specified criteria please contact Felix Santiago by email:

**[felix.santiago01@gmail.com](mailto:felix.santiago01@gmail.com)**

or by phone: (762) 241-1047.

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# Speaker Bio - Sheriff Elect, Javier Salazar



## Native - Born & Raised in Our Community

I was born in Bexar County, I have raised my family in Bexar County, and one day I will retire here. In the meantime, I want to make a difference in the community that has given so much opportunity to my family and me. I was born into a military family as the youngest of six kids on December 7, 1970 at Fort Sam Houston. My dad, a Purple Heart and Bronze Star recipient, was a proud member of the United States Air Force. My mom stayed at home to raise the family and helped Dad make ends meet by sewing and selling cosmetics. As a kid, I played sports, got into acting, and made friends of all kinds. Growing up in a military community in Military City, USA, I was exposed to a wide variety of cultures and races. I learned early on the value of family and how to respect people for what is inside.

I graduated from Samuel Clemens High School in 1989, and started working on a Bachelor's Degree in the Alamo Community College District. I worked my way through college, knowing I wanted to enter public service, but unsure how. I kept at my job and my education, working at night and attending college courses during the day. It was not easy, but that's where I learned that hard work and perseverance pay off.

## Career Law Enforcement Officer

At 21, I joined the San Antonio Police Department. In the beginning of my career, I served as a patrolman in several areas of the city, as well as on Downtown Bike Patrol, and was one

of the first members of the SAFFE Unit, a specialized division focused on community policing. That's where I learned about the importance of community engagement, and how a true police-citizen partnership can address and prevent crime. Over the next ten years, I moved up through the ranks, first being promoted to Detective, then to Sergeant in the elite Narcotics Unit.

I participated in undercover operations at every level and eventually supervised groups of detectives in some of the most hazardous operations known to police work. That's where I learned to lead my fellow officers into calculated risk while making sure everyone goes home at the end of the day.

In 2008, I went to work in the Office of the Chief, handling many of the day-to-day operations and supervising the Executive Protection Detail. I was charged with ensuring the security of City Hall, top-level government officials, and visiting dignitaries. It was a big responsibility but one I really enjoyed. That's where I learned that rank and responsibility are two different things.

I left the Chief's Office to become an Internal Affairs Investigator. My job was to investigate allegations of officer misconduct. I worked with a group of dedicated professionals who worked just as hard to uncover false allegations as they did to hold the culpable officers accountable. That's where I learned that seeking the truth is the ultimate goal in the pursuit of justice, even when it is not the easiest thing to do.

In 2012, I became the spokesman for the SAPD. I jumped into every assignment with enthusiasm. As the face of the department, I realized that I had a special role to play in fostering trust and cooperation between law enforcement and the public. That's where I learned how to be an approachable public servant, to ensure transparency, and to earn and maintain the public trust.

## Man of God & Family

Along the way, I was blessed to meet my wife of the past 16 years, Sarah.

Together, we have raised two daughters, Brooke, 21, and Isabella, 14. Sarah works as an elementary school teacher and we rely on each other for guidance and encouragement. Like other parents across Bexar County, we want nothing more for our children than happiness and success, and we try everything in our power to give them everything they need. As a family, we enjoy antiquing, Dallas Cowboys Football, Spurs Basketball, fellowship at OLPH Catholic Church, our many pets, and each other's company. Our girls are our pride and joy, and we try to support and guide them in everything they do. I have to admit they have taught me a few things along the way. That's where I've learned that sometimes the teacher becomes the student.

*Javier Salazar*

## January

- January's birthstone is the garnet, which represents constancy.



- Its birth flower is the cottage pink carnation.



- January (in Latin, *Ianuarius*) is named after the [Latin](#) word for door (*ianua*), since January is the door to the year.
- The zodiac signs for the month of January are Capricorn (until January 19) and Aquarius (January 20 onwards).





## Make Your Voices Heard

The successful outcome of the MOAA Alamo Chapter's efforts to influence the actions taken by our members of the US Congress with regards to active military, retirees, veterans and surviving spouse issues requires the support of all of the members of the MOAA family.

As members we need to step up and make our voices heard. The following are a few things we as individuals and members of veterans groups can do to make a difference:

1. Stay current on key and significance veterans issues being worked in the congress
2. Subscribe to and read the Military Officers Magazine every month.
3. Go online to the MOAA website (<http://www.moaa.org>) and request to be added to the list of members receiving Chapter and legislative updates.
4. When letters to Congress are at-

tached to copies of the magazine, read, sign and mail those back to the recommended congressional addressees

5. Call or email our senators and representative to voice your concern on key issues.

6. If you are a member of other active military/veterans support groups, employ the influence of those groups to support the MOAA efforts. It is the power of numbers!!

Listed below are the names, local telephone numbers, and website addresses of our two US Senators and the 6 members of the House of Representatives from the Alamo Chapter catchment area:

Senator John Cornyn 210-224-7485  
<http://www.cornyn.senate.gov>

Senator Ted Cruz 210-340-2885  
<http://www.cruz.senate.gov>

Vicente Gonzalez (D 15<sup>th</sup>) (Contact Info TBD)

Joaquin Castro (D 20th) 210-348-8216  
<http://castro.house.gov>

Lamar Smith (R 21st) 210-821-5024  
<http://lamarsmith.house.gov>

Will Hurd (R 23rd) 210-921-3130  
<http://hurd.house.gov>

Henry Cuellar (D 28th) 210-271-2851  
<http://cuellar.house.gov>

Lloyd Doggett (D 35th) 210-704-1080  
<http://doggett.house.gov>

Emails can be send directly from each representatives website.

*For more information on MOAA legislative efforts please visit the Take Action section of the MOAA website at*

*<http://www.moaa.org/takeaction/>*



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## 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.moaa.org/email](http://www.moaa.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) ☐ Visa ☐ Discover ☐ MasterCard ☐ AMEX

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Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Billing Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_ CVV: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

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

## MOAA LOCAL ALAMO CHAPTER ENROLLMENT

☐ YES! Sign me up as a new Alamo Chapter Member  
Member of National? ☐ Yes ☐ No

☐ YES! Renew my Alamo Chapter Membership

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Branch of Service \_\_\_\_\_ Rank \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Retired ☐ Active ☐ Former

☐ Reserve ☐ National Guard

☐ 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 \_\_\_\_\_

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

☐ One Yr Printed newsletter \$25

☐ Three yrs Printed newsletter \$70

☐ One Yr Electronic newsletter \$15

☐ Three yrs Electronic newsletter \$40

☐ Auxiliary 1 yr \$15 ☐ 3 yr \$40

☐ Printed ☐ Electronic



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# Chapter Events Calendar

## JANUARY 2017

### 1 New Year's Day

*1 Volunteer Hours Due*

### 3 Solitaire's Luncheon 11am Ft Sam Golf Club

*5 Staff Meeting 10am Chapter Office*

### 7 US Army All American Bowl

*11 Board Meeting 10am Chapter Office*

*11 Scholarship Cmte Mtg 1:30pm Chapter Office*

### 16 Martin Luther King Jr. Day

### 22 Solitaire's Sunday Brunch 11am Randolph Parr Club 11am

### 26 Chapter Luncheon 11am Ft Sam Golf Club with speaker Javier Salazar, Bexar County Sheriff elect

Events pertaining to **general membership** are **bolded** and *italicized for the volunteer leadership team*, though regular Members are always welcome!  
Please call the office for details (210) 228-9955.

**Ongoing Events: Cookie Angels deliver cookies, snacks and personal care items to the Warrior & Family Support Center.**

**Call Susie Tolman for details (210) 654-0351**

## JULY

(No Staff/Board Meeting or Chapter Luncheon)

23 Solitaire's Sunday Brunch 11 am Randolph Parr Club

## AUGUST

1 Solitaire's Luncheon 11am Ft Sam Golf Club

3 Staff Meeting 10am Chapter Office

9 Board Meeting 10am Chapter Office

24 Chapter Luncheon 11am Ft Sam Golf Club

27 Solitaire's Sunday Brunch 11 am Randolph Parr Club

## SEPTEMBER

5 Solitaire's Luncheon 11am Ft Sam Golf Club

7 Staff Meeting 10am Chapter Office

15 MOAA-AC Golf Tournament River Crossing 1pm

24 Solitaire's Sunday Brunch 11 am Randolph Parr Club

29 Oktoberfest 6:30pm

## OCTOBER

3 Solitaire's Luncheon 11am Ft Sam Golf Club

5 Staff Meeting 10am Chapter Office

11 Board Meeting 10am Chapter Office

22 Solitaire's Sunday Brunch 11am Randolph Parr Club

28 Chapter Luncheon 11am Blue Skies of Texas

## NOVEMBER

2 Staff Meeting Chapter Office 10am

7 Solitaire's Luncheon 11am Ft Sam Golf Club

16 Annual Business Meeting Luncheon 11am Ft Sam Golf Club

19 Solitaire's Sunday Brunch 11 am Randolph Parr Club

## DECEMBER

7 Annual Chapter Planning Meeting 9:30am-Noon  
MOAA-AC Office

8 Christmas Dinner Dance 6:30pm Ft Sam Golf Club

*Maybe you have been to an event,  
gathering or meeting where you  
thought the speaker/program was re-  
ally good?*

*Let us know! We'd welcome your  
suggestions for future speakers and  
programs.*

## Highlights for 2017

### FEBRUARY

2 Staff Meeting 10am Chapter Office

7 Solitaire's Luncheon 11am Ft Sam Golf Club

23 Chapter Luncheon 11am Ft Sam Golf Club

26 Solitaire's Sunday Brunch 11 am Randolph Parr O Club

### MARCH

2 Staff Meeting 10am Chapter Office

7 Solitaire's Luncheon 11am Ft Sam Golf Club

23 Scholarship Luncheon 11am Ft Sam Golf Club

26 Solitaire's Sunday Brunch 11 am Randolph Parr O Club

### APRIL

4 Solitaire's Luncheon

6 Staff Meeting 10am Chapter Office

8 Retiree Appreciation Day RAFB

12 Board Meeting 10am Chapter Office

23 Solitaire's Sunday Brunch 11 am Randolph Parr Club

27 Chapter Luncheon 11am Ft Sam Golf Club

### MAY

2 Solitaire's Luncheon 11am Ft Sam Golf Club

4 Staff Meeting 10am Chapter Office

25 Chapter Luncheon 11am Army Residence Community

28 Solitaire's Sunday Brunch 11 am Randolph Parr Club

### JUNE

1 Staff Meeting 10am Chapter Office

6 Solitaire's Luncheon 11am Ft Sam Golf Club

23 Summer Celebration Dinner Dance 6:30pm Petroleum Club

25 Solitaire's Sunday Brunch 11 am Randolph Parr Club



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**Go to [www.moaa.org](http://www.moaa.org) for more details.**



## ALAMO CHAPTER

### VOLUNTEER STAFF:

PRESIDENT	MAJ James R. Cunningham <a href="mailto:jimbob48@sbcglobal.net">jimbob48@sbcglobal.net</a>
EXEC VP OPERATIONS	LTC Bill Goforth <a href="mailto:bagofoth@yahoo.com">bagofoth@yahoo.com</a>
VP ADMINISTRATION	LtCol Jim Webb <a href="mailto:noslacksir@gmail.com">noslacksir@gmail.com</a>
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VP LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS	LTC Robert Blake
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ADVERTISING COORD.	(Open)
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BSTE LIAISON	(Open)
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Admin Support Trish Meserve

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### Statement of Publication

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

MOAA-AC is a non-profit organization 501c 4 within the state of Texas organized to represent the membership and to support the activities of the Texas Council of Chapters and MOAA National.

MOAA and its affiliated chapters and councils are non partisan.

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

MOAA-AC P.O. Box 340497 San Antonio, TX 78234  
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ALAMO CHAPTER

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**Postmaster — please deliver by January 2nd  
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**Thursday January 26, 2017  
Chapter Luncheon  
Spkr: Javier Salazar  
Bexar County Sheriff Elect**

Ft Sam Golf Club  
1050 Harry Wurzbach, San Antonio TX 78209  
Meet & Greet begins 11am - Lunch served approx 11:45am

### Menu

A) Roast Beef w/gravy    B) Chicken Picatta  
Garlic Mashed Potatoes, Buttered Green Beans  
Fresh Mixed Greens Salad, Dinner Rolls  
Sherbert Ice Cream  
Coffee, tea or water, honor wine bar

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

RSVP by Noon Monday 23 Nov  
Reservations not cancelled by noon Tuesday 24th will be billed  
Non member Officers & guests are welcome with paid reservations

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Guest(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Call (210) 228-9955 to make your reservation or send check made payable to MOAA-AC to P.O. Box 340497, Ft Sam Houston, TX 78234 Or contact us by email [moaa-ac@sbcglobal.net](mailto:moaa-ac@sbcglobal.net) to hold a reservation or reserve and pay on-line at [www.alamomoaa.org](http://www.alamomoaa.org)

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