

THE



LARIAT

Volume 43, Number 6

“Five Star ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ Chapter”

June 2023



President's Message

Hello June. I'm writing this month's article on the Saturday of Memorial Day weekend. I'm thinking of high school classmates whose names are now on the Wall in DC. I'm thinking of the families that I worked with as mortuary affairs during Desert Storm. I'm reflecting on those we remember every time I'm either at or pass by Ft Sam Houston Cemetery. So many have given the last in service to our beloved country in the past centuries ... for a dream, for a vision that represents who America is. Blessed be to them and their families.

This weekend also marks the end of the Texas legislature's regular session. This biannual event is always a busy time for our chapter legislative team. Led by Jim Cunningham, VP for Legislative Affairs, they spent time in Austin walking the halls and connecting with the legislators and their staff regarding the proposed legislation that affects the military community. See his article on Page 3. However, I commend both him and Jessica Dunn for their efforts in Austin.

Advocacy is one of the primary responsibilities of MOAA and the local chapters. We are grateful to have such advocates as Jim and Jessica. This is one team that needs bolstering and we are seeking additions to it. Traveling to Austin or DC is not a requirement. Each legislative representative in Austin has a staffed office in your district.

Connections can also be made through an email, phone call or letter. To connect with federal legislators, MOAA has the Quorum through its website. I've chatted about the Quorum in previous messages. You can check this out at www.moaa.org. Our chapter number is TX16.

If you are interested in joining the legislative team connect with Jim or me. Experience is not required. And just because the 2023 session is ending doesn't mean that there aren't things to do. What happens in Austin and DC affects you and your family. Don't hesitate to get involved.

Kitty

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

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Chapter Volunteer of the Year



Through a staff vote, Brad Barnhart, Col USAF (Ret), was chosen as this year's Volunteer of the Year at JBSA Ft Sam Houston.

As Treasurer and Board Member of the MOAA - Alamo Chapter, Brad dedicated his expertise to improving the organization's financial situation and filing IRS tax documentation for both the Education Foundation and Operational activities. Successfully executed a \$50K operational budget supporting over 900 members to finish in the positive for the second year in a row. Coordinated the Educational Foundation budget of \$30K to ensure 29 scholarships were distributed to deserving high school seniors and college students.

As a Vice President of Special Activities for the AFCEA - Alamo Chapter Board, he coordinated with several VPs to update the organization's website, which in turn improved the value for over 1,300 members utilizing the AFCEA information. He also established the first-ever Chapter-level Career Center, providing an opportunity

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Notices

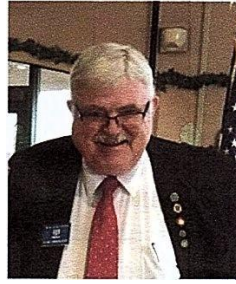


Thank You

to each 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!

Col Dale Addington, USAF (Ret)
 Lt Col John Bandy, USAF (Ret)
 Col Lucas Brennecke, USA (Ret)
 CAPT James Brotherton, USN (Ret)
 Col Donald Gleason, USAF (Ret)
 MAJ Bill Hertel, USA (Ret)
 Lt Col Dale Johnson, USAF (Ret)
 Brig Gen Jeffrey Kendall, USAF (Ret)
 Pamela Kroyer
 COL Tom McGuire, USA (Ret)
 Col Fred Ryder, USAF (Ret)
 Lt Col Wayne Shaw III, USAF (Ret)
 Sally Tallent
 Lt Col Wade Taylor, USAF (Ret)
 MAJ Patrick Tracy, USA (Ret)
 Col Dan Van Syoc, USAF (Ret)
 1Lt Kenneth Vitucci, USMC (Ret)
 Jeanette Wahl
 LTC Edie Weidemann, USA (Ret)
 CWO-4 John West, USN (Ret)
 CAPT Jerry Wiens, USNR (Ret)
 LTC Machielle Wood Denmon, USA (Ret)

Wishing all our members and their families a safe, relaxing and fun summer!



Congratulations!

Our very own Jim Cunningham, past chapter president and current VP Legislative Affairs was recently awarded the Community Builder Award 2023 by the Charles Anderson Lodge #1413 Ancient Free & Accepted Masons.

Given for his involvement in the advocacy for military members for over 20 years at both the Federal and State levels, and particularly for his work on developing the legacy portion of the Hazelwood Act that has allowed more than 40,000 Texas Veterans dependents to receive 150 credit hours in any Texas University free of charge.

The award is given to non-masons who follow the same precepts, ideals and standards that have been established for Masonic behavior.

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.*

Volunteer Excellence Award

This lifetime achievement award offered by JBSA Ft Sam Houston recognizes exceptional long-term community support that is significant in character, has tangible results, and reflects favorably on the United States Armed Forces.

We are very proud and honored that a long time chapter member, Ms Suzie Tolman, was selected for this award.

Suzie passed away on Christmas Eve 2022 at 96 years young. She was interred with her husband William at Ft. Sam Houston Cemetery. Their daughter Noreen accepted the award on her behalf.



Suzie was a survivor of the Nazi occupation of Czechoslovakia. She worked for the U.S. Military in Germany during the occupation after WWII. It was here that she met her husband, Major William Tolman (USA). Upon their return to the US in the late '40s, Suzie began a life long series of volunteer activity.

Suzie was on many volunteer boards and she and her daughter were regular supporters of the Folklife Festival in San Antonio, as well as the Alamo Chapter. She volunteered with the Catholic Women of Ft. Sam Houston and the Czech Heritage Society. Suzie was one of the Catholic Cookie Ladies for BAMC and the VA, where she was known to pass out cookies and margaritas. She was one of the original organizers of the volunteer program at

(Continued on Page 3)



Legislative Report

The 88th Texas legislative session has concluded, the efforts of the Texas Council of Chapters of MOAA under the leadership of LTC Ginger Simonson, the TCC State Legislative VP has seen a degree of success through her concerted efforts and those of key members of MOAA. Fellow members of the VFW, American Legion, VVA, TCVO and others have also shared in these successes. TCC went into this session with the following three priorities, supporting bills which fall into each category:

1. Improve Transition Support from Uniform to Civilian Life in order to increase skilled labor in the Workforce, Strengthen Economy, and Grow the Texas Veteran Population by making Texas the most Veteran friendly state in the nation.
2. Improve Mental Health Services & Reduce Suicides among SMVF by expanding timely access and availability of services and by expanding the workforce of trained and certified/licensed Professional Counselors, Clinical Social Workers, General Social Workers, Psychiatrists, and Peer Specialists who are culturally proficient to work with this population.
3. Improve the quality of life and economic conditions of vulnerable Veterans and surviving spouses who reside in Texas.

As is normal during each session, hundreds of bills are filed and very few make it all the way through the legislative process. One of the bills of note that did pass was HB90 which extended benefits such as workman's compensation, health insurance and life insurance to Texas National Guardsmen who are on state active duty.

Additionally, several bills having to do with mental health, PTS and suicide prevention passed.

Bills giving greater property tax relief to widows did not pass, but hopefully will in the special session the Governor just called. Additionally, several bills which would have given spouses of active duty members an easier ability to practice their professional jobs in Texas through interstate compacts, failed to clear the senate.

I will have a complete list of all the bills having to do with the military in the near future, which will soon be on our secure website www.alamomoaa.org.

On the Federal level, I want to encourage all to log on to the MOAA National website, go into the legislative priorities for the 118th Congress. These are outlined. If you have not already done so, you need to click the link to register as an advocate and be sure to show that you are part of TX16 the Alamo Chapter. You also will have the opportunity to subscribe to the MOAA newsletter, if you have not already done so.

Use the Advocacy section, select a category and it will lead you to bills that MOAA is supporting and where you can send your senators and representatives a letter requesting they help sponsor the bills that we are supporting. Issues such as the Richard Starr Act, expansion of Arlington cemetery, expansion of access to commercial pharmacies, and reduced or no fees for Tricare and Tricare for life.

Thank you for being part of the Alamo Chapter and its advocacy. Watch for more on our website!

Jim Cunningham

MAJ, USA (Ret)
VP Legislative Affairs



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Volunteer Excellence Award

(Continued from Page 2)

Audie Murphy VA Hospital. She began a program for many Christmases with volunteers from MOAA-AC and elsewhere to decorate the hospice unit at Audie Murphy for the holiday. This included creating and giving Christmas presents to the patients while visiting with them. Suzie was an active member and volunteer with the Alamo Chapter of the Military Officer Association of America. She represented the Chapter for many years with the VAC, where her work was recognized.

Membership Memos

WELCOME New Members:

BG Matthew Barker, ANG
 Col Gary Droubay, USAF (Ret)
 Col Frances Jacobs, USAF (Ret)
 COL Eric Kreitz, USA
 CAPT Jack Sotherland, USN (Ret)
 Lt Col Thad Brumfield, USAF (Ret)
 Lt Col Brian Clarke, USAF (Ret)
 Lt Col Sarah Coors-Davidson, USAF
 Lt Col Edward Cross, USAF (Ret)
 CDR Gregory Lawler, USN (Ret)
 Lt Col John Seaworth, USAF (Ret)
 MAJ Ryan Cannon, USA
 MAJ Frances Dennis, USA (Ret)
 CPT Amy Frank, USA (Ret)
 Capt Stephen Gonzales, USAF (Ret)
 CPT Cliff Lopez, USA (Ret)
 2Lt Robert Taylor, USAF
 CW4 Gregory Bentley, USAR
 CW4 David Kingsley, USA (Ret)
 CW3 Vernita Sneed, USA (Ret)
 Rudolph Rinas

THANK YOU Renewing Members:

Brig Gen Jeffrey Kendall, USAF (Ret)
 Col Dale Addington, USAF (Ret)
 Col Joseph Bock, Jr., USAF (Ret)
 Col Ward Boyce, USAF (Ret)
 Col Lucas Brennecke, USA (Ret)
 CAPT James Brotherton, USN (Ret)
 COL Francis Chance, USA (Ret)
 Col William Cook, USAF (Ret)
 CAPT Don Crumbley, USN (Ret)
 COL Hurst Douglas, USA (Ret)
 Col Donald Gleason, USAF (Ret)
 COL Tom McGuire, USA (Ret)
 Col Stoli Nikolai, USAF (Ret)
 Col Sherrell Russell, USAF (Ret)
 Col Fred Ryder, USAF (Ret)
 Col Dan Van Syoc, USAF (Ret)
 CAPT Jerry Wiens, USNR (Ret)
 Lt Col Kathie Estrada, USAF (Ret)
 LTC Michael Eason, USA (Ret)
 LTC Jerry Gonzales, USA (Ret)
 LTC Paul Ireland, USA (Ret)
 Lt Col Dale Johnson, USAF (Ret)
 Lt Col Wayne Shaw III, USAF (Ret)
 Lt Col Wade Taylor, USAF (Ret)
 LTC Edie Weidemann, USA (Ret)
 MAJ Bob Corbo, USA (Ret)
 Maj Alida Forbes, USAF (Ret)
 MAJ Bill Hertel, USA (Ret)
 MAJ Patrick Tracy, USA (Ret)
 CPT Charles Hobbs, USA (Fmr)
 1Lt Donna Baumann, USAF (Fmr)
 1Lt Kenneth Vitucci, USMC (Ret)
 CWO-4 John West, USN (Ret)
 Cathy Lyssy
 Sally Tallent

Upgrade Your MOAA Membership

Enhance your Basic MOAA national membership benefits by upgrading to Premium or Life member. Your Premium or Life membership also supports your local chapter's objectives by providing a stipend.

A Premium MOAA National Membership provides the following additional benefits:

- Résumé Critiques
- LinkedIn Profile Reviews
- Interview Prep
- Financial Education
- Military Benefits Education
- Advocacy & Legislative Insights
- Member Books & Guides
- Scholarships, Interest-Free Loans & Grants
- Discounts on Products & Travel
- Subscription to *Military Officer Magazine*

A Life MOAA National Membership gives you a lifetime investment for yourself and your loved ones. Plus, you'll have access to exclusive privileges and benefits:

- 1) Lifelong Recognition.
As a LIFE Member, you'll enjoy recognition as an ardent supporter of MOAA's legislative priorities.
- 2) Protection for Your Spouse.
LIFE Member privileges automatically transfer to your spouse after your death at no extra cost. Guaranteed! It's an easy way to ensure your spouse has help sorting through your military benefits.
- 3) Financial Security.
With one financial transaction, you can pay for a lifetime of valuable benefits and avoid future annual dues increases. MOAA will give you full credit for the unused portion of any current annual dues.

Membership Stats

Active Duty 84

Former Military 31

Friends of the Chapter 6

Retired 612

Surviving Spouse 136

Total 869



Soldiers' Angels

Providing Monthly Food Assistance For San Antonio Veterans

Veterans in need of food support can register to get approximately 75 lbs. of groceries at no cost. Volunteers are always needed to package and hand out the food. Veterans must register ahead of time to receive support.

To register for the upcoming San Antonio Veteran Food Assistance event, go to www.soldiersangels.org/San-Antonio

This event occurs on the third Thursday of every month:

June 15, July 20, August 17, September 21, October 19, November 16, December 21.

Location: Cowboys Dancehall, 3030 NE Interstate 410 Loop, San Antonio, TX 78218

To register for future events or inquire about volunteering or sponsoring, please email: Jana Evans at jevans@soldiersangels.org

This food pantry event is a drive-through and will follow all local and CDC guidelines to provide the safest possible environment for veterans and volunteers. Veterans do not need to get out of the car.

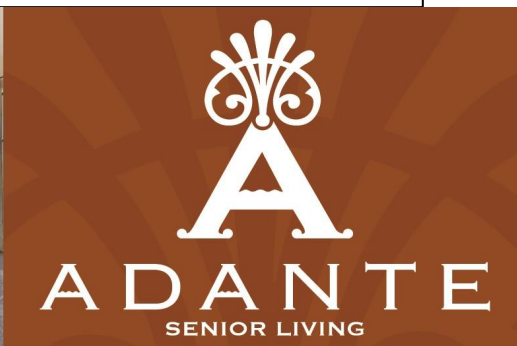
Warm Feet For Warriors



The Soldiers' Angels goal for this year's sock collection is 75,000. And the Alamo Chapter is doing its part!

The Blue Skies of Texas satellite of the Alamo chapter is placing collecting boxes at both east and west campuses and residents may drop their donated socks there. You can also stop by the chapter office on Ft Sam (appointment required) or directly at the Soldiers' Angels facility at 2895 NE Loop 410 #107, San Antonio (in the strip center adjoining Academy Sports & Outdoors on 410 & Perrin Beitel). Lastly, you can order socks from their wish list on Amazon and have them shipped direct, or set up a collection box at your own workplace!

Do let us know how many pairs you collected and dropped off or had shipped! Socks are the most requested items!



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Adante Assisted Living & Memory Care

(210) 864-1132 | AdanteLife.com | 2739 Cembalo Blvd. San Antonio, TX 78230

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Transition Tips

What To Do With A Job Offer

You've gotten through the interviews and guess what – you just got the call that you got the job. Well, sort of. HR says that this is a conditional offer of employment and that you will be receiving an offer letter. If you've not been in the civilian market for a while, this language is probably Greek. So, let's chat about the process.

The next step to the process is to go through the various steps prior to an official offer. From the employer's point of view, that means background and financial checks as well as, most likely, a drug screening. To accomplish these, you will complete the various forms that start this process. This should take anywhere from a couple of days to a couple of weeks.

This is also your chance to negotiate the salary and benefits package offered. Salary negotiation is an art unto itself. Again, your conversations with the hiring manager and especially HR will give you an idea of how open they are to changes. The best word of advice is to be realistic with the request. Understand that this is a give and take discussion. Use the relationships that you have built with the folks to know when and how far to press.

The next area of negotiations is the benefits. There is usually a greater opportunity for latitude here. Some of the
(Continued on Page 10)

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Name _____

Branch of Service _____ Rank _____

☐ Active ☐ Retired ☐ Former ☐ Reserve
☐ National Guard ☐ Spouse of Eligible Officer
☐ Friend of the Chapter

Email Address _____

(Please provide a personal email 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: _____

JBSA Identification Card Renewal



Military retirees and family members who have ID cards with no expiration date may want to consider upgrading to the next generation Uniform Service ID cards. While there is not an urgent requirement to upgrade, the Defense Department expects to phase out the old card by 2026. But if you are ready for a more durable card with increased security features, visit the RAPIDS ID Card Office online to easily find and schedule an appointment at a local ID card office. Contact information for the specific offices is below, but you will probably have on the rRAPIDS scheduling website. Visit <https://idco.dmdc.osd.mil/idco/>

Location Contact Information

JBSA-Fort Sam Houston:

Phone: 210-221-0415

Email: 802fss.fsps.fsh-id-cards@us.af.mil

Hours: Monday-Wednesday, Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. & Thursday, 7:30 a.m. to noon

Address: 2410 Jessup Road

JBSA-Lackland:

Phone: 210-671-6006

Email: 802fss.fsmps.idcard@us.af.mil

Hours: Monday-Thursday, 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. & Friday, 7:30 a.m. to noon

Address: 1561 Stewart Street

JBSA-Randolph:

Phone: 210-652-3036

Email: 802fssol-b.customersup@us.af.mil

Hours: Monday-Thursday, 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. & Friday, 7:30 a.m. to noon

Address: 550 D Street East

Online Services: Dependent/Retiree renewals, initial enrollment in DEERs, Replacement of lost/stolen Dep/Ret ID cards, Changes in affiliation (AD to Retired/Retired to 65/100% DAV/Age 21 to 23 full time student/Age 23 with Tricare young adult.

Additional Services: Walk-in & appointments are open for ALL services (**CAC Services limited to those expiring within 30 days**). NOTE: Should the office reach its in-person service capacity for the day, customers will be asked to return at a later date.

Appointments: RAPIDS appointment scheduler is open NOW for booking appointments at the locations listed above via the following link: <https://idco.dmdc.osd.mil/idco/>.

For more information please visit the JBSA website: <https://www.jbsa.mil/Resources/802d-Military-Personnel-Flight/ID-Cards/>.

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Speaker Bio - Tony Imondi



“Spirit 13”

First Strategic Air Command B-2 Pilot

Operations Group Commander for B-2 Combat Debut

Tony Imondi entered the USAF in 1976 via Officer Training School. After completing Pilot Training he was selected to become a bomber pilot, starting his career off in B-52s at Barksdale AFB in Louisiana. He soon went on to fly FB-111s at Plattsburgh AFB and Pease AFB.

In 1987 he was hand-picked to join the B-2 Operational Test Team at Edwards AFB. While supporting B-2 testing he became the voice of the Warfighter and made significant contributions to the test effort leading to improvements in many operational areas including: Cockpit design, Autopilot integration, Weapons delivery, Flight Control development, as well as Controls and Displays.



He supported the B-2 rollout ceremony in 1988 and the historic First Flight in July 1989. In September 1991 he became the first Strategic Air Command Pilot and first Non – Test Pilot School graduate to fly the B-2 Stealth Bomber. Tony went on to lead the Operational Test Team to complete all of the initial Operational Test (OT&E) missions before taking the “Spirit of Missouri” operational to the 509th Bomb Wing at Whiteman AFB in December 1993.

As Strategic Air Command’s first Instructor Pilot, Tony was instrumental in the successful integration of the B-2 into the USAF bomber fleet. Tony personally trained and evaluated all the Initial Cadre Pilots. He also spent countless hours showcasing the B-2’s awesome capabilities to many high level officials including the U.S. Congress and eventually flew with the Secretary of Defense.

After attending War College (ICAF) and a joint tour at the Pentagon, Tony returned to Whiteman as the Operations Group Commander in 1998. By this time Whiteman had a fleet of 8 Warfighting aircraft and 50 combat pilots. When the “Call to War” came in March 1999, the Bomb Wing was more than ready.

The B-2’s combat debut came in OPERATION ALLIED FORCE - in the skies over Kosovo – and was a huge success.

B-2 aircrews flew 32-hour round-trip combat sorties from the CONUS delivering more than 650 precision weapons with greater than 90% accuracy, over a 78-day constant war effort. The B-2 became the star of the war effort due to its robust design, inherent survivability and precision lethality. An operationally representative flight test program proved key to a nearly flawless B-2 combat debut.

In all Tony spent 13 years on the B-2 program encompassing “**First Flight to First Fight.**” It’s a rare occurrence that any one person has the opportunity to influence the design, participate in flight testing, take a new aircraft operational, and then be in a leadership position during its first combat engagement.

Tony retired from the USAF in 2006 as a Colonel, after 30 years of service, and has been working for Northrop Grumman ever since. He is currently involved in the development of the B-21 “Raider” Bomber. He has lived here in San Antonio since 2002.

Volunteer of the Year

(Continued from Page 1)

for separating military members to review local Information Technology jobs as well as receive free resume reviews.

Hand-selected as a member of the Comal Independent School District Bond '23 Committee where he helped identify the needs and priorities for the District's 30+ schools and 29,000+ students in the \$600M bond prepared for vote in May. Finally, he was recognized as the Volunteer of the Year for San Antonio Sports in 2022. He was recognized for significant participation and leadership at several critical events during the year. He was an integral volunteer for the setup and tear down of the 100+ participant South Texas All-Star Football game in the Alamodome; was a team host for the Texas State High School Girls Basketball Championships; was a team lead for the health and safety of over 600 bicyclists in the first annual Le'Tape race during the Fiesta Fitfest; and was an usher for the Hall of Fame dinner recognizing the greatest sports stars of the San Antonio area which raised over \$400K for after-school sporting activities in lower income areas of San Antonio.

We are proud to have him as one of our volunteers — Congrats Brad!

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| Assistance League of San Antonio <i>Community Programs</i> www.assistanceleague.org/san-antonio/ | 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 |
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| The Green Technology Group <i>IT Solutions Company</i> <i>Leave "IT" to us!</i> http://www.tgtgllc.com 202-285-4748 | Kelly Guerrero, Realtor <i>Coldwell Banker D'Ann Harper</i> <i>Guiding You Home</i> https://www.coldwellbanker.com 210-260-4889 | Leborne Health & Life Insurance <i>Jovi Leborne</i> www.lebornehealthandlife.com 619-778-5073 |
| Leonard Contracting Inc <i>New & remodeling construction</i> info@leonardcontracting.com www.leonardcontracting.com 210-493-8303 | Liquidation SA! <i>Pallets of goods at low prices</i> javier.g.bocanegra@gmail.com www.liquidationsa.com 210-360-0429 | MOAA Career Transition <i>Texas Coordinator</i> <i>David Patrick, Col, USAF (Ret)</i> dwpattick01@gmail.com 210-259-9867 |
| Our Lady of the Lake University <i>Nonprofit Management Graduate Online Degree</i> https://tinyurl.com/45je334w Chuck Rodriguez (MG Ret USA) Ph D 210- 504-7502 | Rover.com <i>Pet Services</i> <i>Dee Aslett</i> Rover.com/sit/DEEA17982 210-834-5750 | Sagora Senior Living <i>"Resident First" Philosophy</i> <i>Landon Ridge & The Adante</i> www.sagora.com 817-446-4792 |
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| Weisinger Law Firm PLLC <i>Estate Planning</i> https://weisingerlawfirm.com Charlie Weisinger 210-239-9150 | <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Your ad could be here!</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>We offer Corporate Partnerships (3 levels); Newsletter Advertising as well as annual Golf Tournament Sponsorships. Contact Col Lisa Skopal, USAF (Ret)</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>210-394-3885 Lskopal@ymail.com</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>If you use any of the folks listed here do tell them the Alamo Chapter of MOAA referred you - it'll show them their partnership with us is working!!</i></p> | |



HAPPY BIRTHDAY to those members born in the month of June.

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 or email us the information.

Uchenna Akukalia, CPT USA
Charles Anderson, BG USA (Ret)
Daniel Beard, Maj USAF (Ret)
Ronald Blackburn, Lt Col USAF (Ret)
Joseph Bock, Col USAF (Ret)
Thad Brumfield, Lt Col USAF (Ret)
Francis Burns, COL USA (Ret)
Kevin Crockett, LCDR USN (Ret)
Catherine Dikcis, Lt Col USAF (Ret)
David Dorger, Lt Col USAF (Ret)
Gary Droubay, Col USAF (Ret)
Jonathan Duncan, Col USAF (Ret)
Terry Duran, LTC ARNG (Ret)
John Geurin, COL USA (Ret)
Clay Hadick, LTC USA (Ret)
Ron Hannan, Col USAF (Ret)

Jean Heard
Lyn Henderson
Ronald Henderson, Col USAF (Ret)
Carlos Holt, CWO USMC (Ret)
Cisco Hornsby, Lt Col, USAF (Ret)
Chetan Kharod, Col USAF (Ret)
Mike Lyle, MG USA (Ret)
Irene Nikolewski
William Pollock, Lt Col USAF (Ret)
John Root, Col USAF (Ret)
Joan Ruttle-King, COL USA (Ret)
Ralph Stearman, Lt Col USAF (Ret)
Mark Sweeney, Lt Col USAF (Ret)
Wade Taylor, Lt Col USAF (Ret)
David Walker, Lt Col USAF (Ret)
John Westerbeck, Col USAF (Ret)
Ralph Williams, Lt Col USAF (Ret)
Steven Woods, COL USA (Ret)

Transition Tips

(Continued from Page 6)

benefits may be locked in due to ERISA, the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, that regulates how these programs are managed. These benefits include among others the medical, dental, and retirement plans.

Other programs offered may be voluntary. These include life insurance as well as short and long-term disabilities. These disability plans are valuable if, for medical reasons, you cannot work. The same goes with life insurance. Parental leave is usually covered by the federal program Family and Medical Leave Act and may be paid or unpaid.

Other benefit options that employers choose to offer include stocks and profit-sharing, Health Savings Accounts (HSA), leave benefits such as sick, vacation or paid-time-off (PTO), and/or bereavement. To add on to this list, there can be phones or phone-reimbursement, internet coverage, wellness benefits such as gym membership. This is the list of things that can keep growing. While working in hotels, I had drycleaning and parking included. This was a real benefit that I missed when I left them.

Working for the military or in government as a civilian, there weren't many opportunities to negotiate. Don't be afraid to flex and negotiate. Again, it's important to understand the business and the employer to understand the amount of flexibility that they have to negotiate. Best of luck.

Kitty

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



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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 Alamo Chapter Educational Foundation is a 501c 3.

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What Your Chapter Is Involved In

Currently, the Alamo Chapter has active representation with organizations in the following areas:

Career Transition:

JBSA Transition Alliance

University of Syracuse's Institute For Veterans and Military Families career training program called Onward to Opportunity (O2O)

Military Spouse Professional Network (MSPN) (US Chamber Hiring Our Heroes Program)

San Antonio and Texas Military Spouse Economic Empowerment Zone (MSEEZ) (US Chamber Hiring Our Heroes Program)

Alamo Workforce Solutions Hiring Fair (Red, White & You)

ETAP Panel at JBSA Randolph pre-retirement events

Advocacy:

San Antonio Chamber of Commerce

Military Affairs Committee and Senior Enlisted Advisory Committee

MOAA Texas Council of Chapters (TCC)

Army Chief of Staff's Retiree Council Washington DC

JBSA Ft Sam Houston Newcomer Orientations

Texas Coalition of Veteran Organizations (TCVO)

MOAA Advocacy Campaign

Community/Veteran Outreach:

Texas Veterans Commission Veteran Services Advisory Committee and two subcommittees - Homeless Veterans and Suicide Prevention

JBSA Retiree Council

Veterans of Greater San Antonio Area

JBSA Volunteer Advisory Council

JBSA Retiree Appreciation Day Planning Committee

Texas Veterans Network Advisory Committee

Want to help find out more about our involvement with these organizations and how we're making a difference? Want to help shape and move the Chapter forward??

If so, please join us at our next regular monthly chapter business meeting each first Thursday at 10am at the chapter office on JBSA Ft Sam Houston, or via Zoom. Contact us and we'll send you the meeting materials.

Tel: (210) 228-9955 (call or text)
Email: moaa-ac@sbcglobal.net

Board Member Emeritus



During the most recent Chapter Board Meeting held on May 25th, Acting Chair Ed Marvin honored long time Board Member Jim Finch, LTC USA (Ret) with the Board Emeritus distinction.

Thank you for your unwavering service Col Finch!



Scholarship Chair Peter Hunt, Col USAF (Ret) presenting \$1,000 Scholarships at the UTSA Air Force ROTC Awards Banquet.

L-R Peter Hunt, Cadet Jackie Harris, Cadet Frankie Rodriguez & Cadet Sophie Irizarry



MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA
ALAMO CHAPTER

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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
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THE LARIAT

National Award Winning Newsletter

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Tuesday, June 20

Happy Hour 4-6pm

**Come meet Tony Imondi,
Col USAF (Ret)**

Fmr Operations Group Commander of America's
only B-2 Unit

Petroleum Club

8620 N. New Braunfels, #700 San Antonio TX 78217

Price includes one complimentary beer/wine ticket, finger food
buffet with pay-as-you-go bar

\$18 pre-registration or \$23 at the door

Enclosed: _____

RSVP by 4pm Tuesday 13 June

Reservations not cancelled by noon Tuesday 13th will be forfeited/billed

Non member Officers & guests are welcome with paid reservations

Friends & Family (over 21) are welcome!

Name _____

Guest(s): _____

Call (210) 228-9955 to make/pay 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 to hold a reservation or
reserve and pay on-line at **www.alamomoaa.org**.

Upcoming Events

JUNE

6 D-Day
12 Women Veterans Day
14 Army Birthday
14 Flag Day
18 Father's Day
19 Texas Emancipation Day
20 American Eagle Day
21 June Solstice

JULY

(No meetings/social events in July)
4 Independence Day