



One Powerful Voice.®

Middle Tennessee Chapter

Military Officers Association of America



Web Site: mtcmooa.org

June 2009

Editors: Doug, Gus and Paul

MOAA Monthly Luncheon

June 23, 2009
11:30 AM

Old Natchez Country Club
115 Gardengate Dr
Franklin TN 37069

LTG Garry Trexler USAF (Ret)

Insights on North Korea

We continue our international focus with a very timely presentation of LTG Garry Trexler's insights on North Korea.

LTG Trexler retired from the US Air Force in early 2007 following 36 years of service. His last assignment was as Deputy Commander, United Nations Command; Deputy Commander, U.S. Forces Korea; Commander, Air Component Command, Republic of Korea, and Commander, 7th Air Force, Pacific Air Forces; making him eminently qualified to address the subject of North Korea.

LTG Trexler has been a member of our Middle TN Chapter since his retirement and relocation to Middle TN; and you will remember that he addressed the Chapter in October of 2007 on his experience in Korea.

LTG Trexler has stayed busy since his retirement, and if time permits as an added bonus he will attempt to bring us up to speed on future plans for unmanned aerial platforms in the Air Force.

This will be another meeting that you definitely do not want to miss!

Officers

President
COL Doug Minton
1st Vice President
CAPT Dale Lewelling
Secretary
LCDR Gus Gustafson
Treasurer
LTC Michael Patenaude
Past President
CDR John Ohlinger
Directors
BG Jeremiah Brophy
LTC Wanda Graham
1st Lt John Manley
CAPT Dana McLendon
CAPT Charles Stewart
CAPT Dennis Witzenburg

Memorial Day 2009

Our Chapter conducted its annual Memorial Day Ceremony on Saturday, 23 May 2009 at 1000 hours at the TN State Veteran's Cemetery on McCrory Lane.

Under the direction of COL Paul Fleenor and 1LT Joe Blanks, and with BG Pat Harrison as the senior officer present, we remembered those who have made the ultimate sacrifice for our nation. The ceremony was well attended and appropriate honors were rendered during the ceremony.

ILT Joe Blank arranged for photos to be taken again this year, and he has advised that he will have them available at the June meeting for those who participated.

Members of our Chapter also participated in the Memorial Day Ceremony at Fort Donelson conducted by the Women's Veteran's of America Chapter 20; of which our own LTC Wanda Graham serves as Chaplain.

MTC Board Notes

We continued our international theme last month as Maj Mike Nave of the TN Air National Guard took us through the program and the process in which the Tennessee National Guard became the State Partner for the Country of Bulgaria. Maj Nave did an excellent job of describing the process of military to military and then civilian to civilian exchanges that have assisted the Bulgarian military in transitioning from a Warsaw Force puppet military force to a newly approved member of NATO and the European Union. This is a little known program that has had a very big payoff in a relatively short fifteen year time span. Our thanks to Maj Nave, and we wish him well in his new assignment within the TN National Guard Joint Force HQ.

In the last month we lost three longtime members who at one time or another played a very active role in the operation of our chapter, in addition to their distinguished military careers:

COL Richard Kinney, USA (Ret)
Past Chapter President
May 13, 2009

Col Clarence Evans, USAF (Ret)
Past Chapter Board Member
May 20, 2009

Col Sam Hollins, USAF (Ret)
May 23, 2009

Our thoughts and prayers go out to their families during this time of loss.

We have a new email address for the chapter, info@mtcmooa.org. This is the first step in being able to reduce our monthly mailing costs by offering the newsletter and other relevant items via email for those who have email addresses. Our next step will be to validate the addresses that we have now to see how many are still good. But don't worry if you don't use email, we will give you the option to choose which delivery method is best for you, and we will continue mailing newsletters to members where that is the option of choice.

See you at the June meeting!

Doug Minton, President, MTC

Middle Tennessee Chapter
Military Officers Association of America
P. O. Box 50252
Nashville, TN 37205-0252

Upcoming MTC Programs

June 23

Lt Gen Garry Trexler, USAF Ret*
North Korea

July 28

CPT(P) Matt Smith, TN ARNG*
Preparation for 2nd Deployment to Iraq

August 25

Col Gus Schettler, TN ANG*
TN Air National Guard Roles & Missions

September 22

Annual Military Recruiting Meeting

* Current Middle TN Chapter Members.

Change Your Email Recently?

We are working on an email distribution list, so send your name and new address to Doug Minton at

info@mtcmooa.org

Road Trip

The decision has been made; we are taking a road trip to Arnold Air Force Base in Tullahoma, TN as our October meeting this year. It truly is "rocket science" and makes for a very interesting tour! You will remember that Col Art Huber, Commander Arnold AFB gave a 30 minute glimpse into the activities at Arnold last October. We will begin taking RSVPs at the August meeting, so think about whether you would be interested and available.

Our Annual Joint ROTC Picnic is in the planning phase, with a *September* date and venue to be published soon!

TRICARE Update

Are you a TRICARE Prime Participant enrolled at a Military Treatment Facility (MTF)?

A new DoD policy aimed at "cleaning up" TRICARE Prime enrollment at military treatment facilities (MTF) could mean some significant changes for many Prime enrollees.

TRICARE has long had established travel access standards to help beneficiaries receive timely health care. The standards require that enrollees shouldn't be assigned a primary care manager (PCM) at a military hospital or clinic that's more than a 30-minute drive from the beneficiary's home address.

As a practical matter, DoD never really enforced that policy. But it will be enforced now. If they want to continue to be seen in the MTF, current Prime enrollees in the U.S. who live farther away than a 30-minute drive from the MTF will have to request a waiver of the drive-time standard from the MTF commander or the TRICARE Regional Office. Drive times will be determined by a computer program similar to MapQuest. Approved waivers will have to be renewed annually from now on.

Unless they apply for and are granted a waiver before October 1, enrollees who live more than 30 minutes (but less than 40 miles) from the MTF will be assigned a civilian primary care manager closer to their residence.

Absent a waiver, those who live more than 40 miles from the MTF will be disenrolled from Prime and revert to TRICARE Standard as of October 1.

TRICARE contractors are mailing letters to all affected beneficiaries, providing detailed instructions on the waiver process.

For more information visit <http://www.tricare.mil> or contact your TRICARE Area representative.

Happy Birthday to the U. S. Army!
234 years old and still going strong!
June 14, 2009