



Middle Tennessee Chapter
A 2018 5-Star Level of Excellence Award Chapter

Military Officers Association of America



Web: <https://www.mtcmoaa.org>

January 2020

Editor: Doug Minton

MOAA Luncheon Meeting

28 January 2020; 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

**" Middle TN Chapter Annual Report
& 2020 Officer Installation"**

*Old Natchez Country Club,
115 Gardengate Drive, Franklin, TN 37069*

Our January meeting provides an opportunity for our Board to provide a "state of the Chapter" report covering the variety of activities and initiatives in which we have invested both time and funds during 2019 calendar year. This meeting is significant in that it allows the membership to participate in a review of how our funds were allocated, how our scholarship initiative is progressing, and as an opportunity to provide input on programs for the upcoming year. We need your attendance and voice at this meeting in order to ensure that our Chapter is addressing the needs of our community.

Hopefully we can also hear from you on how we can expand the reach of the chapter, from suggestions to support for organizations that we are not currently touching, to new ideas for reaching the current generation of officers that we hope to have join our ranks.

And finally, this meeting will provide an opportunity to express our appreciation to CAPT Dale Lewelling for the outstanding job that he has done in presiding over the Chapter over the past two years, and then welcome our incoming President, LTC Mike Patenaude.

Please Join Us for This Meeting!

(The complete report will be posted on our website, and members who do not have access to the internet can procure a copy by contacting any of your Board members.)

Inclement Weather Reminder

Members are reminded that if Davidson County Schools experience a weather closure (Schools are Closed the entire day) on our meeting date, then our meeting will be also be cancelled.

We fortunately have members coming from all over Davidson and Williamson County as well as from a number of the surrounding counties. Davidson is used as a bell weather for road conditions in consideration of everyone's safety.

Officers

President

CAPT (R) Dale Lewelling, USN

1st Vice President

LTC (R) Mike Patenaude, USA

2nd Vice President

Lt.Col. (R) Karon Uzzell-Baggett, USAF

Secretary

COL (R) Doug Minton, USA

Treasurer

Capt. Hal Sauer, USAF

Directors

Mrs. Patricia Bergquist

CDR (R) John Ohlinger, USN

LTC (R) Wanda Bruce Graham, USA

CAPT (R) Larry Cotton, USN

COL (R) Kent Crossley, USA

LTC (R) Doug Gilbert, USA

Surviving Spouse Liaison

Mrs. Patricia Bergquist

Transition Services Coordinator

Lt.Col. (R) Arlie Haddix, USAF

Legislative Liaison

LTC (R) Doug Gilbert, USA

Chapter Contact Information

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<https://www.mtcmoaa.org>

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ROTC / JROTC Award Season

We are rapidly approaching the season of MOAA Leadership Medal Award Ceremonies/Events for both ROTC and JROTC units in our area. On the ROTC side, we actively support the Air Force ROTC program at TSU, and the Army and Navy ROTC programs at VU. Each of these programs involve interested students from other area universities as well. On the JROTC side we support an Air Force JROTC program, a Naval JROTC program and eleven Army JROTC programs.

Lt. Col. (Ret) Karon Uzzell Baggett does an exceptional job scheduling presenters on the ROTC side, and CAPT (Ret.) Larry Cotton does the same on the JROTC side of the board; however because we have so many units we need your assistance to cover all the award presentations. If you would be interested in learning more about the process or know you can help, please contact Larry at larrycotton29@gmail.com or Karon at ku.baggett@comcast.net.

Your assistance will be greatly appreciated!

President's Letter

Happy New Year to all our members. First let me thank everyone for your support and attendance at our meetings in 2019. We had an excellent year in every respect. We had excellent programs that informed us on Education, Law Enforcement, Government, Weather and remembrances from World War II as a bomber pilot over Europe. This year promises to be another very topically informative year of presentations.

In 2019 we continued our 5 Star Chapter status and had another outstanding Scholarship fund drive raising over \$5300. We continued to support scholarships/grants at both Lipscomb and Belmont Universities as well as a donation to the MOAA National Scholarship Fund. Finally, we added over \$2300 to the Middle Tennessee MOAA Endowment at Lipscomb University. Thanks for your outstanding support.

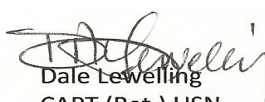
If you have read my last couple of letters you will know we are placing increased emphasis on both Chapter membership as well as National membership. We have been making a concerted effort to reach out to local members who are not national members. As a result, we have added 14 National members through the free Basic Membership program. To date we still have 48 members, 24% of our chapter, who are not members at the national level. One of the goals that we will carry forward into 2020 will be to reduce that percentage to as close to zero as we can. It is important at the local level in helping us retain our 5 Star recognition as well as helping MOAA National be a strong voice on the hill speaking for our services and service members during the legislative process. So, if you are not a National member log on to MOAA.org or contact our membership chair, Colonel Doug Minton for assistance in joining.

I want to thank our board members for their faithful service during the last two years of my tenure as President. It has an honor to be your President and see all the hard work that goes on behind the scenes to make all the events, meeting and programs come together. Special thanks to our outgoing treasurer Captain Hal Sauer for his dedicated service. I would also like to welcome 1st Lieutenant Deryl Bauman to the board as our new Treasurer.

Mark your calendars for 28 January as we start the new year with our annual business meeting. It will be the opportunity for you to hear the board members give you an update on their respective areas of responsibility as they give a brief overview and answer any questions you might have.

Finally, we will install our new President Lt. Colonel Mike Patenaude. Mike has been your 1st Vice President for the past two year. Welcome Mike, I know you will do a great job.

Also, the Event Calendar on our website has turned the year to 2020, so please check there to see what we have happening in the coming months.


Dale Lewelling
CAPT (Ret.) USN
President

MIDDLE TENNESSEE CHAPTER
Military Officers Association of America
P. O. Box 50252
Nashville, TN 37205-0252



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Upcoming Programs & Events

15 January 2019: 11:00 AM - 1:30 PM
"TN Council of Chapters Quarterly Meeting"
Sammy B's Restaurant, Lebanon, TN
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28 January 2020; 11:30 AM—1:00 PM
MTC Monthly Luncheon Meeting
"MTC Annual Report & Officer Installation"
CAPT (Ret) Dale Lewelling, USN
Chapter President
Old Natchez Country Club, 115 Gardengate Drive, Franklin, TN 37069
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4 February 2020; 7 - 8:00 AM
"MTC Monthly Board Meeting"
NGATN Office, 4332 Kenilwood Dr., Nashville, TN
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5 February 2020; Time TBA
"TN Veterans Day on the Hill"
Cordell Hull Building, Nashville, TN
Sponsored by TVET; Registration at:
<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdOo6X1r3XcaiO4Bs54sFbKJaYUXDqU7vV7L8UGkqte-iPsDw/viewform?vc=0&c=0&w=1>
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25 February 2020; 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM
MTC Monthly Luncheon Meeting
"Thoughts of a National Board Member"
Col. (Ret)/ Dr. Don Thompson, USAF
MOAA Board Member (elected 2018)
Member of the Mountain Empire Chapter
Old Natchez Country Club, 115 Gardengate Drive, Franklin, TN 37069
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3 March 2020; 7- 8:00 AM
"MTC Monthly Board Meeting"
NGATN Office, 4332 Kenilwood Dr., Nashville, TN
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24 March 2020; 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM
MTC Monthly Luncheon Meeting
"Military Women's History Month"
Brig. Gen. (Ret) Eden Murrie, USAF
CEO, OSDTN and MTC Chapter Member
Old Natchez Country Club, 115 Gardengate Drive, Franklin, TN 37069
-

Legislative Update

As displayed on our calendar, the TVET **"TN Veterans Day on the Hill"** will be held on 5 February 2020 in the Cordell Hull Office Bldg in Nashville. PLEASE go online and register to attend!

The following primary bills will be promoted at the event:

- 2nd Free Disabled Veteran License Tag** [SB0852](#) by Crowe/ [HB1146](#) by Ragan
As introduced, increases (restores) the number of free plates from one to two for the Purple Heart and disabled veteran license plates issued to veterans with disabilities.
Action deferred in Senate Finance, Ways, and Means Committee to 2/4/2020
Action deferred in House to s/c cal Finance & Ways and Means Subcommittee
Note: Allowance was changed from 2 to 1 for DV tag in 2014. Saying restore instead of increase emphasizes we are not asking for anything new. Drop 2nd Purple Heart tag because there was not 2 to begin with and it increases loss of state revenue.
- Mental Health Training for TDVS staff** [HB0787](#) by Hall/ [SB0673](#) by Briggs
As introduced, requires the department to provide training in mental health crisis management to the employees of the department who directly interact with veterans for the purposes of assisting veterans with mental health issues. Placed on s/c cal Finance, Ways and Means Subcommittee for 4/29/2019. Held on House desk.
Note TDVS offices (Commissioner Courtney Rogers) presented their financial impact statement requiring two weeks of training for all employees interacting with veterans. Training should require 2-3 hours to recognize veterans at risk for suicide. This training can be provided by the Tennessee Suicide Prevention Network (TSPN) staff. Bill has almost no chance of passing with unrealistic financial impact.
- Standardized naming of TN Veteran Homes** [SB1145](#) by Akbari/ [HB1167](#) by Camper
As introduced, authorizes the Tennessee state veterans' homes board to name, subject to the governor's approval, the campus, buildings, facilities, and grounds of any state veterans' home; authorizes the administrator of each veterans' home to name any portion of the state veterans' home.
Assigned to General Subcommittee of Senate State & Local Government Committee
House passed to Naming, Designating, & Private Acts Committee
- Women Veterans Recognition**
Process of identifying a sponsor to get a resolution recognizing Women Veterans role in our nation's defense. It is a resolution and we will talk to Rep Moon to remind him of commitment to get this resolution completed this year.

LTC Doug Gilbert, MTC Legislative Affairs