



Middle Tennessee Chapter
A 2020 5-Star Level of Excellence Award Chapter
Military Officers Association of America



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

November 2021

Editor: Doug Minton

MOAA Monthly Meeting

30 November 2021;
11:30 AM-1:00 PM

"Space Force"

Operation Stand Down TN,
 1125 12th Ave S,
 Nashville, TN 37203

The United States Space Force (USSF) was established as an independent military branch of the United States armed services on 20 December 2019. It is organized under the USAF in a manner very similar to how the Marine Corps is organized under the USN. The USSF is responsible for organizing, training and equipping Guardians to conduct global space operations that enhance the way our joint and coalition forces fight, while also offering decision makers military options to achieve national objectives.

Our Speakers:

Lt. Col. (Ret.) Michael Lane Gilchrist is a USAF officer and currently serves as Program Manager for Alpha Omega Group LLC. He is a 1993 graduate of the United States Naval Academy, the Air Force Institute of Technology and the Universities of Colorado and Tennessee. In his current capacity, he supports the Space and Missile Systems Center's Strategic Planning Division located at Los Angeles Air Force Base. He will join us remotely via Zoom to discuss the heritage and mission of USSF.

Lt. Col. Michael R. Wilson, USSF is an Assistant Professor of Aerospace Studies for Air Force ROTC Detachment 790, Tennessee State University, Nashville, TN. He is responsible for recruiting and overseeing the preparation of officer candidates through a comprehensive college program encompassing 11 geographically separated universities spread across the middle Tennessee region. Prior to his current position, Lt. Col. Wilson served as the Director of Operations, 20th Space Control Squadron, Eglin AFB, FL where he was responsible for leading 245 military and civilian personnel to execute 24/7 space surveillance of more than 27,000 U.S., Allied, and other Earth orbiting satellites by employing a \$2 billion global sensor suite of 2 high power radars and 9 optical telescopes to provide precise battlespace characterization for USSPACECOM. This Nashville native has spent his entire career in Space and will discuss current operations.

Please remember this meeting is at OSDTN!

Officers

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LTC (Ret) Mike Patenaude, USA

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

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Transition Services Coordinator

Lt.Col. (Ret) Arlie Haddix, USAF

Legislative Liaison

(vacant)

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CDR (Ret) Ted Edwards, USN

Chapter Contact Information

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RSVP and Mask Requirements for the November 2021 meeting.

No requirement to submit an RSVP for the November meeting.

If you have been vaccinated for Covid-19 there is NO mask requirement for this meeting; however, **if you have not been vaccinated we ask that you wear a mask in the meeting, with the exception of when you are eating.**

If you have been vaccinated and still feel more comfortable wearing a mask, then please do so.

Open Season Reminder for Tricare Programs and for FEDVIP Dental and Vision Programs.

If you are a retired officer or are currently serving, this is yet another reminder that the open season for plans for 2022 runs from Nov. 8 to Dec. 13. If you take no action, you will remain under your current plan(s) for 2022. Any changes you make will take effect on Jan. 1, 2022.

President's Letter

I will begin with some key changes for our meeting this month. It will not be on the usual 4th Tuesday, and it will not be at the Old Natchez Country Club. **Because of Thanksgiving, our meeting will be on November 30. Also, we will be meeting at Operation Stand Down Tennessee located at 1125 12th Ave S, Nashville, TN 37203.**

Speaking of Operation Stand Down, our chapter was well represented at the annual Heroes Breakfast November 4 with twenty-two members in attendance.


As we enter the holidays, we have much for which our chapter can be thankful. We earned our 7th consecutive Five Star Award which was presented to our First VP, Lt.Col. (Ret.) Karon Uzzell-Baggett last month in Arlington, Virginia. And we were also awarded the 2021 MOAA Communications Award for our web site. I mentioned last month your strong scholarship contributions this year, and our chapter was able to contribute to local service and veteran charities at the same level as previous years.

It's amazing to remember all the COVID restrictions that kept many of us from family and friends during the 2020 holidays, so in that regard I am most thankful to be celebrating with others in person this year. I am reminded to thank each of you for your service on Veteran's Day. And of course, the day prior we will celebrate the Marine Corps birthday, so I wish Happy Birthday to our Marine Corps brothers and sisters.

This year, two additional MTC scholarship recipients at Lipscomb and Belmont Universities received awards, thanks to the generosity of our member COL (Ret.) Irene Wheelwright. These scholarships were awarded through Brentwood Rotary on behalf of her late husband, General Roger Wheelwright, who had passionately chaired the Rotary education committee. We are also grateful to our member, LTC (Ret.) Tom Carr who was on point for this initiative from inception, through coordination and final awarding of these scholarships.

Don't forget your socks and t-shirts for Operation Stand Down and new unwrapped children's toys for Toys for Tots. See this newsletter for more information.

I'm looking forward to our final 2021 meeting on November 30, where we will hear from the United States Space Force while enjoying lunch from Mission BBQ. And as we look to the final months of 2021, I wish you all a renewing and joyful holiday season.


 Michael Patenaude
 LTC, USA Retired
 President

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



Happy 246th Birthday to the
U. S. Marine Corps
10 November 1775

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Upcoming Programs & Events

30 November 2021; 11:30 - 1:00 PM
(Please note date and location change!)

MTC Monthly Luncheon Meeting
"Space Force"

Lt. Col. (Ret.) Michael L. Gilchrist (via Zoom)

Lt. Col. Michael R. Wilson, USAF,

TSU AFROTC Instructor

Operation Stand Down TN

1125 12th Ave S, Nashville, TN 37203

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7 December 2021; 7- 8:00 AM

"MTC Monthly Board Meeting"

NGATN Office, 4332 Kenilwood Dr., Nashville, TN

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18 December 2021; 11:00 AM

"Wreaths Across America"

Middle Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery

7931 McCrory Lane Nashville, TN 37221

(For more information on sponsoring wreaths go

to: [Wreaths Across America](#))

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(No monthly meeting in December)

Happy Holidays!

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5 January 2022; 7- 8:00 AM

"MTC Monthly Board Meeting"

NGATN Office, 4332 Kenilwood Dr., Nashville, TN

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25 January 2022; 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

MTC Monthly Luncheon Meeting

"Middle TN Chapter Annual Report"

LTC (Ret.) Michael Patenaude, Chapter President

Old Natchez Country Club

115 Gardengate Drive, Franklin, TN 37069

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1 February 2022; 7- 8:00 AM

"MTC Monthly Board Meeting"

NGATN Office, 4332 Kenilwood Dr., Nashville, TN

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22 February 2022; 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

(Please note location change!)

MTC Monthly Luncheon Meeting

"Metro Nashville Police Department Update"

Chief John Drake

Chapter Items of Note

- Please remember that we will be collecting **NEW, Unused and Unwrapped toys** for the USMCR Toys for Tots Drive at our November meeting. If you want to make a financial contribution in lieu of a toy, you will have to go online and do so at their website.

We will also be collecting new undergarment items for men and women veterans for OSDTN at this meeting. As a suggestion, gender neutral tube socks have been mentioned on the wish list, as well as unopened travel toiletry items (shampoo, lotion, etc.). If you want to make a financial contribution instead, you can do so at the meeting.

- **We have a number of Board Vacancies upcoming in the new year as a result of officers coming off the Board due to other obligations as well as an awareness of our need to periodically bring new members onto the Board. If you are interested in learning more about the upcoming vacancies please see a current Board member . Upcoming opportunities:**
 1. Treasurer
 2. 2nd VP
 3. 1st VP
 4. Legislative Liaison

- The Middle TN Chapter actively supports three ROTC Detachments in our geographic area: the Air Force ROTC Detachment at Tennessee State University, and the Navy and the Army ROTC Detachments at Vanderbilt University. Lt. Col. (Ret.) Karon Uzzell-Baggett , USAF and CDR (Ret.) Ted Edwards, USN met with the Commanders and/or other representatives of each program at the end of October/ beginning of November to discuss our support for the units and meet new cadre members. The Chapter offers complimentary memberships to officers assigned as cadre for the three programs for the duration of their assignment. CDR Edwards will assume responsibility for ROTC support in January, when Lt. Col. Uzzell-Baggett steps up to the position of President. One of the primary support activities that we provide is presentation of the MOAA Leadership Medal to outstanding Cadets/Midshipmen for each program during spring graduations. If you would be interested in participating in this program, please let CDR Ted Edwards know so that he can schedule accordingly for the graduations as their schedule becomes known.