



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



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

December 2021

Editor: Doug Minton

“Next”

MOAA Monthly Meeting

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

No Meeting in December of 2021!

“Happy Holidays!”

Over the past years we have noticed that our members have found it increasingly difficult to attend a December meeting given all of the competing holiday activities. As a result your Board has chosen to defer on our December meeting, and clear up a free Tuesday on the fourth week of this month for our members.

Please enjoy and plan on attending our next meeting which will be on 25 January, 2022.

Officers

President

LTC (Ret) Michael Patenaude, USA

1st Vice President

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

2nd Vice President

COL (Ret) Kent Crossley, USA

Secretary and Membership Chair

COL (Ret) Doug Minton, USA

Treasurer

1LT Deryl Bauman, USA

Directors

Mrs. Patricia Bergquist

CDR (Ret) John Ohlinger, USN

LTC (Ret) Wanda Bruce Graham, USA

CAPT (Ret) Larry Cotton, USN

CAPT (Ret) Dale Lewelling, USN

Surviving Spouse Liaison

Mrs. Patricia Bergquist

Transition Services Coordinator

Lt.Col. (Ret) Arlie Haddix, USAF

Legislative Liaison

(vacant)

Chaplain

President’s Letter

It was great to see many of you at our 30 November meeting where we learned more about the United States Space Force. Thanks to OSDTN for allowing us to use their facilities for the meeting. Don’t forget that we will not meet in December, but will resume our meetings at the Old Natchez Country Club on 25 January 2022. I look forward to seeing you there.

I hope everyone had an enjoyable Thanksgiving and are enjoying their preparations for the Hanukkah, Christmas, and Kwanzaa celebrations.

This has been an eventful and interesting year for our chapter. We began on a positive note with vaccinations and continued to welcome several new members who are making our chapter better. My special thanks to Lt. Col. Karon Uzzell-Baggett for her outstanding work lining up an interesting and informative group of guest speakers while navigating COVID restrictions and their effects on speaker availability. And I’m thankful to all the board members who worked so hard to keep us on track for yet another 5 Star Chapter award! Our chapter additionally won our first MOAA Communications Award for our website this year.

My personal and official thanks for the tremendous generosity of each of you who contributed to our MTC Scholarship drive. To date our 2021 contributions have totaled \$8124. That means once again we will be able to donate \$1000 each to Belmont and Lipscomb scholar veterans, as well as toward our fourth MOAA National scholarship endowment, while continuing to grow our scholarship endowment at Lipscomb.

A small bit of good news for military retirees and surviving spouses; we will see a COLA increase in January of 5.9% on retired pay and Social Security. Don’t forget to check out your emailed MOAA Newsletter and your Military Officer magazine for more info on advocacy issues, active force updates, and benefits news.

If your schedule permits, please consider participating in the 18 December Wreaths Across America ceremony at the Middle Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery, 7931 McCrory Lane Nashville, TN 37221. For more information go to <https://www.wreathscrossamerica.org/pages/17154/Overview/?relatedId=150000>

I pray for you all to experience a joyful and renewing holiday season and look forward to seeing you in 2022!

Michael Patenaude
LTC, USA Retired
President

January Dues Reminder

Just a quick reminder that come 1 January 2022 you can pay your Chapter Dues online at the MOAA National Website: <https://chapterdues.moaa.org/Membership.aspx>.

The dues application is membership year specific so you will have to wait until January to renew for 2022.

This capability is available to both Chapter surviving spouse members and officer members. Surviving spouse member dues will continue to be \$5.00 and regular member dues will continue at \$20.00 for 2022.

National MOAA and local affiliate membership are two distinct memberships. Submitting your dues payment through this online application is for chapter dues (joins/renewals) only.

If you are attempting to join/renew for National MOAA, please go to www.moaa.org/join.

The Chapter membership renewal notice is normally sent out in February of each year, so if you are planning to renew online it would be appreciated if you do so in January so that we can avoid sending you a renewal notice.

Happy Birthdays!

To the **National Guard** which is formerly recognized as 13 December 1636, when the first militia regiments in North America were organized in Massachusetts.

To **Space Force** which was established as an independent military branch on 20 December 2019.

Chapter Contact Information

Mailing Address:

**Middle TN Chapter, MOAA
P. O. Box 50252
Nashville, TN 37205-0252**

Website:

<https://www.mtcmoaa.org>

Contact Phone: **(615) 415-6816**

Contact Email:

info@mtcmoaa.org

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 also be cancelled.

We have members coming from all over Davidson and Williamson Counties as well as a number of surrounding counties. For this reason, Davidson is used as a bell weather for road conditions in consideration of everyone’s safety.

Upcoming Board Vacancies

We have three Chapter officer vacancies upcoming in 2022:

Treasurer,
2nd VP,
and 1st VP

If you are interested in learning more about these opportunities to serve please see a current Board member .

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



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Upcoming Programs & Events

18 December 2021; 11:00 AM

"Wreaths Across America"

Middle Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery
7931 McCroy Lane Nashville, TN 37221

(No monthly meeting in December)

Happy Holidays!

4 January 2022; 7- 8:00 AM

"MTC Monthly Board Meeting"

NGATN Office, 4332 Kenilwood Dr., Nashville, TN

19 January 2022; 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM

"TN Council of Chapters Meeting"

Sammie B's Restaurant, Lebanon, TN

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

1 February 2022; 7- 8:00 AM

"MTC Monthly Board Meeting"

NGATN Office, 4332 Kenilwood Dr., Nashville, TN

2 February 2022

"TNVET Day on the Hill"

Cordell Hull Building, Nashville, TN

(More Details to Follow)

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

Nashville Metropolitan Police Department

OSDTN, 1125 12th Ave S, Nashville, TN 37203

1 March 2022; 7- 8:00 AM

"MTC Monthly Board Meeting"

NGATN Office, 4332 Kenilwood Dr., Nashville, TN

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

MTC Monthly Luncheon Meeting

"Nashville International Airport Update"

Ms. Traci Holton

Legislative Update

The House-passed NDAA (H.R. 4350) includes many MOAA-backed provisions for the military community likely to carry over into the Senate version – a pay raise in line with legislative requirements and a much-needed step toward ending hunger in the ranks, for example. But other items on MOAA's priority list didn't make the House NDAA, and the only chance for them to be included in this legislation, which has passed both chambers annually for 60 years, is for the items to be part of the Senate version and be included in the final bill via the joint conference committee.

Congress, not just the Senate, is facing an overwhelming agenda, which includes addressing several time-sensitive crises in the coming weeks: the Dec. 3 continuing resolution deadline, dealing with the debt ceiling prior to Dec. 15, and the president's Build Back Better Act. Unfortunately, it is difficult to predict how legislators will prioritize these other legislative issues relative to the FY 2022 NDAA – hearing from their constituents could make all the difference. Keep up with these and other NDAA issues at MOAA's Advocacy News page.

Below are details on four such provisions. Go to the MOAA Advocacy Page to send a message to your legislator, but also consider a phone call via MOAA's dedicated congressional hotline, (866) 272-6622, which can connect you directly to your senators.

- **Reversing Planned Eligibility Changes at Arlington National Cemetery.** MOAA members have been among the thousands of veterans and others who've registered major concerns with the flawed, discriminatory changes proposed to Arlington National Cemetery eligibility that would force many 20-year-retirees to change long-held burial plans. A Senate amendment (SA 4297) would require a joint DoD/VA report on the issue and prohibit any eligibility changes until the report's filing.

- **Fixing the TRICARE Young Adult Coverage Gap.** MOAA has long advocated for this much-needed improvement – one that would bring TRICARE in line with commercial plans and save military families thousands of dollars in health care costs for dependent children up to age 26.

- **Helping Military Survivors.** MOAA's work on behalf of surviving spouses has been among its greatest recent legislative successes. The fix included in the Military Retiree Survivor Comfort Act – which has been introduced as a Senate NDAA amendment – seems minor compared with ending the so-called "Widows Tax," but it would make a significant difference in the days and weeks after a loss.

- **Addressing Concurrent Receipt.** MOAA's support for the Major Richard Star Act dates to the bill's inception, but budget concerns prevented the House from including the text of the act in the NDAA via the amendment process. However, Sens. Jon Tester (D-Mont.) and Mike Crapo (R-Idaho) plan to submit a Senate amendment with similar language. © MOAA 2021