



Middle Tennessee Chapter
A 2021 5-Star Level of Excellence Award Chapter
Military Officers Association of America



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

March 2023

Editor: Doug Minton

Our Next Monthly Meeting:

28 March 2023; 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM
MTC Monthly Luncheon Meeting

"The Mission Continues"

Mr. G. Daniel Collins Jr.
Nashville Platoon Chief

Old Natchez Country Club,
115 Gardengate Dr., Franklin TN 37069

"The Mission Continues" organization seeks to connect veterans to under-resourced communities in their area by providing critical resources to take on service projects. Veterans at all grade levels and from all armed services come together to work with non-profits and community partners on solutions to the most pressing problems in the area. The non-profit's vision is for all veterans with a desire to continue their service to be part of a movement to transform communities.

Dedicated veterans perform as members of a service platoon, which uses collective action to provide critical resources, capacity and team-based solutions to problems.

The Nashville First Service Platoon was recommissioned after the recent pandemic by Mr. G. Daniel Collins, Jr. and other dedicated veterans.

Mr. G. Daniel Collins, Jr. is a former United States Army Sergeant, who served as a Team Leader in various logistics positions. He supported Operation Enduring Freedom in a force protection position and supervised all levels of individual and team training.

He used the skills he acquired in the military to pursue success in the civilian world while promoting military interests. He served as Chairman of the UBS Veterans Network Nashville and Account Executive for FW Publishing LLC before sowing his entrepreneurial roots. He is the Founder of Whiskey Soldier, a lifestyle and apparel brand, and Founder/Principal of Wall of Fame Entertainment LLC. Besides managing these two growing brands, Daniel is also the Co-Founder and Vice Chairman of the Veterans Corporate Council and Nashville Service Platoon Leader for The Mission Continues.

Officers

President

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

1st Vice President (Vacant)

2nd Vice President (Vacant)

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CDR Ted Edwards, USN (Retired)

Surviving Spouse Liaison

Mrs. Patricia Bergquist

Chaplain & Legislative Liaison

CDR Ted Edwards, USN (Retired)

Transition Services Coordinator

Lt.Col. Arlie Haddix, USAF (Retired)

Chapter Contact Information

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<https://www.mtcmoaa.org>

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Vietnam War Veterans Day

March 29, 2023, marks the sixth observance of National Vietnam War Veterans Day.

This date was established by Presidential proclamation in 2017 to commemorate the day the last combat troops in Vietnam were withdrawn and the prisoners of war returned to U.S. soil.

The Department of Veterans Affairs estimates that there are 7 million U.S. Vietnam War veterans currently living in the U.S. and abroad, and our chapter has several.

On behalf of a grateful Nation and chapter, thank you for your service, sacrifice and patriotism.

President's Letter


The proverbial saying, "March comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb" definitely came true earlier this month when fierce winds blew through the Middle Tennessee area. Hopefully, if you or your family experienced wind damage or electrical power disruptions, everything is returning to normal. Hopefully, the rest of the month will be tranquil as Spring approaches.

Our February luncheon was a fitting way to commemorate Black History Month by learning more about the United States Colored Troops and their role in the Battle of Nashville and earlier Civil War engagements. Mr. Richard White, Chief Curator of the Tennessee State Museum, delivered an insightful lecture to over 45 attendees. If you would like to learn more about the museum and see its wonderful exhibits, we have a group tour scheduled for Thursday, March 23, 2023, at 3PM. Sign-up information is included in the RSVP link for the luncheon.

The March luncheon will provide an opportunity to learn more about The Mission Continues and its Nashville Platoon Leader, Mr. G. Daniel Collins Jr. The Mission Continues is a non-profit organization which gives veterans opportunities to serve their communities. We will hear about the work of the Nashville Platoon and hear from Mr. Collins who was instrumental in revitalizing the non-profit in this area. Captain Larry Cotton, USN, Retired, will lead this month's luncheon because I will be at a conference in Atlanta, Georgia.

Our chapter members certainly embody the high ideals of service in the local community. On March 4, 2023, six chapter members gathered at Matthew 25, a non-profit dedicated to helping homeless men regain hope and healing. We participated in the final 2022 MOAA Community Outreach Grant by providing career development advice to the residents. The men also received new computers, printers and supplies through a generous grant from the MOAA Foundation. We have submitted new grant proposals for 2023 and hopefully will hear good news in early May.

I would like to sincerely thank you for your support of me, as your Chapter President and of the chapter. We are maintaining strong membership numbers and embodying the MOAA mission to "never stop serving".


Karon Uzzell-Baggett, Lt Col (Ret), USAF
Chapter President

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



Please join with us as we recognize
Women in the U. S. Military

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Upcoming Programs & Events

23 March 2023; 3:00 - 4:00 PM
MTC Organized Group Tour
“Tennessee State Museum”
1000 Rosa L. Parks Blvd
Nashville. TN 37208

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4 April 2023; 7:00 PM
“Oh Tennessee, My Tennessee Concert”
(honoring 50th Anniversary of poem written by former
POW,VADM William Porter Lawrence)
Lipscomb University Music Recital, in affiliation with Mrs.
Patricia Wildrick in honor of RADM Lawrence
Collins Auditorium, Lipscomb University

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6 April 2023; 7:00 - 8:00 AM
“MTC Monthly Board Meeting”
NGATN Offices, 4332 Kenilwood Drive, Nashville

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25 April 2023; 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM
MTC Monthly Luncheon Meeting
Annual Personal Affairs Program
“Elder Care”
Mr. Chris Johnson
Major, USMC Retired
Lawyer, Takacs McGinnis Elder Care Law
Old Natchez Country Club, 115 Gardengate Dr., Franklin
TN 37069

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4 May 2023;7:00 - 8:00 AM
“MTC Monthly Board Meeting”
Zoom

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5 May 2023; 5:45 PM -
"A Soldier's Child Dinner Banquet"
Fundraiser for A Soldier's Child Foundation
Embassy Suites Conference Center, Murfreesboro, TN

Legislative Update

TNVET State Legislature Priorities Status:
Electronic Voting for Active Duty (Discussions ongoing with
TN Secretary of State).
Medical Cannabis (SB1104/HB1441) – (Bills were not ad-
vanced – issue is dead for 2023).
Restoration of the Second Free Auto License Plate for 100%
Disabled Veterans (SB1162/HB0700)
Identify and Implement Processes/Procedures on Veteran
Hiring (Discussions underway with TN Department of
Veterans Services on how to proceed).

Other Important Veterans Bill of Interest:
Veterans Bill of Rights (SB376/HB446) Focuses on six key areas:
Access to Jobs
Access to Mental Health Services
Access to Degrees, Certifications and Occupational Licenses
Access to Housing
Access to Healthcare
Annual Reports and Recommendations
We ask all Chapter members to reach out to their state legisla-
tors and ask that they support this piece of legislation. It has the
capability to provide extensive support to veterans in the state.

MOAA National Advocacy in Action Priorities :
Restore Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) to 100% - cur-
rently only 95% of housing costs are covered.
Reverse TRICARE Pharmacy Cuts – the TRICARE retail phar-
macy network shrunk nearly 25% recently due to con-
tract changes by the Defense Health Agency

**Please go to the MOAA Web Site (<https://moaa.quorum.us>) to
support action on the following National issues:**
Support Concurrent Receipt (Major Richard Star Act) (Bill
needs to be reintroduced).
Oppose TRICARE for Life Fees (discussions now underway –
need your voice).
Support the Expanding America’s National Cemetery Act (Ask
for protections to be included in FY2023 NDAA).
Fix the TRICARE Young Adult Coverage Gap (Support co-
sponsorship of The Healthcare Fairness for Military Fami-
lies Act (HR1045)).