



Middle Tennessee Chapter
A 2022 5-Star Level of Excellence Award Chapter
Military Officers Association of America



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

March 2024

Editor: Doug Minton

MTC Monthly Meeting:

26 March 2024; 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

MTC Monthly Luncheon Meeting

"SCORE Nashville"

Ms. Lisa O'Dell

Nashville Chair

Old Natchez Country Club,

115 Gardengate Dr., Franklin TN 37069

SCORE Nashville is part of the national SCORE organization, a resource partner of the Small Business Administration (SBA) with over 348 chapters nationwide with 13,000 mentors.

SCORE's mission is to foster vibrant small business communities through mentoring and education. SCORE provides one-on-one mentoring to start-up enterprises and existing businesses looking to improve their chances of success. These services are provided at no charge to small business owners. Advisory boards can be provided for small businesses and meet on a quarterly or semi-annual basis to help guide business strategy. SCORE also provides a series of low-cost workshops on topics such as How to Start a Business, Business Plan Development, Marketing, Selling Skills, Social Media/Internet Marketing and Accounting Basics.

The Nashville chapter has 44 mentors, many of whom are retired business owners or executives, although a growing percentage are in-business volunteers looking to give back to the business community. Last year, the Nashville chapter mentors met with, counseled or trained over 1700 small business clients and conducted over 42 workshops which were attended by 347 business owners or potential entrepreneurs.

Lisa O'Dell joined the Nashville SCORE Chapter 6 1/2 years ago, volunteering as a mentor, chairing the Marketing Committee and now Chairing the Chapter. Prior to this, she spent 20 years as Vice President of Marketing and New Product Development for Wearwell, Inc., a global manufacturer specializing primarily in industrial products for automotive manufacturers and Tier I and Tier II suppliers. Branching out into a variety of new markets was instrumental to the company's growth, so she spearheaded successful forays into class 100 clean room operations and developed a line of products designed to eliminate damage due to static electricity. Prior to Wearwell, Inc., she honed her marketing skills through Product Management positions at a local direct mail marketing company and a psychological assessment resource firm in Tampa, Florida.

We hope you will be able to join us for this meeting!

Officers

President

CAPT Larry Cotton, USN Retired

1st Vice President (Vacant)

2nd Vice President

COL Jacque Tubbs, USA Retired

Secretary and Membership Chair

COL Doug Minton, USA Retired

Treasurer

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LTC Mike Patenaude, USA Retired

Lt Col Karon Uzzell-Baggett, USAF 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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Nashville, TN 37205-0252

Website:

<https://www.mtcmoaa.org>

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

Contact Email: info@mtcmoaa.org

Coming Soon - MOAA Online Account Changes

MOAA National is in the process of modifying their online account access process. In the very near future you should be receiving correspondence (email?) that will request you to verify your profile information and confirm your account email address. The email address will become your logon for the new system.

If you have modified your email address, since you originally established your MOAA membership, as you have moved or been reassigned, this will be an opportunity to put everything back in alignment. If you are unsure of what your email of record is, you can contact the Member Service Center (MSC) by a chat session at <https://www.moaa.org>, or by email at msc@moaa.org, or call them at 800-234-6622 on weekdays from 8 AM to 6 PM (EST).

President's Letter

Welcome to Spring! It seems like COVID impacts are continuing to affect us in unexpected ways. When our much anticipated speaker was closely exposed to an active case of COVID, she had to cancel her presentation for our February monthly luncheon. Fortunately our own Karon Uzzell-Baggett stood in with a fascinating presentation on the history of Black Women in the Military. It was perfectly timed for both Black History Month (February) and Women's History Month (March). We have so much talent in our chapter! Thanks again, Karon!

Historically, March is also noted for including the anniversaries of the founding of the Navy Reserve and the Seabees. Happy Anniversary! March 25th is National Medal of Honor Day and March 30th is Vietnam Veterans Day. Let's all remember these heroes and honorable citizens!

March is traditionally a month of renewal after a long season of cold weather while we re-focus on our families and close friends. However, MOAA has been busy preparing for the legislative season while it continues to advocate on behalf of all military interests. This month, please continue to use MOAA's active advocacy program through its Legislative Action Center (at <https://moaa.quorum.us>) to make your views on these important issues known while they are in competition with other non-military issues for attention (and funding!). You can reach the latest MOAA updates on these updates from the same MOAA link. I talked about our Tennessee Veterans Association (TNVET) Day on the Hill in last month's newsletter. Locally, the best way to advocate for military-related issues is directly through your local representatives that you may already know. Please take advantage of your network of neighbors and contacts to make a difference for veterans and their families!

If you haven't paid your annual chapter membership dues, please do so soon! The Executive Board plans the chapter's support for local military-related charities based on the funds available through membership. We do not run any special fundraising events! We have gained a few new members, but it remains important to recruit new members to keep our chapter healthy. Please recruit others and pay your dues by sending a check to MTC MOAA at P.O. Box 50252, Nashville, TN, 37205-0252 or on-line through MOAA national at the following link: <https://chapterdues.moaa.org/Membership.aspx>. You can also bring a check or cash to our next lunch meeting on 26 March.

Finally, at our next monthly meeting, we will hear about SCORE Nashville from Ms. Lisa O'Dell and learn how it mentors and supports local entrepreneurs. Please join us!

Larry Cotton
CAPT, US Navy (ret.)
President

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



Happy 109th Birthday
U. S. Navy Reserve
3 March 1915

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Upcoming Programs & Events

9:00 AM 16 March - 9:00 AM 17 March 2024
MOAA -TAAMAC Grant Event
“Operation Wind Down”

26 March 2024; 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

MTC Monthly Luncheon
“SCORE Nashville”
Ms. Lisa O’Dell

SCORE Nashville Chair
ONCC, 115 Gardengate Drive, Franklin TN 37069

4 April 2024; 7-8:00 AM

“MTC Monthly Board Meeting”

NGATN , 4332 Kenilwood Drive, Nashville, TN 37204

23 April 2024; 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

MTC Monthly Luncheon Meeting
Annual Personal Affairs Meeting

“Tennessee State Veterans Homes Update”

Ed Harries

Executive Director

OSDTN, 1125 South 12th Avenue, Nashville, TN 37203

2 May 2024; 7-8:00 AM

“MTC Monthly Board Meeting”

NGATN , 4332 Kenilwood Drive, Nashville, TN 37204

28 May 2024; 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

MTC Monthly Luncheon Meeting

**“My Life: From Nazi Occupation to
Democracy”**

Mrs. Dietlinde Spears

ONCC, 115 Gardengate Drive, Franklin TN 37069

6 June 2024; 7-8:00 AM

“MTC Monthly Board Meeting”

NGATN , 4332 Kenilwood Drive, Nashville, TN 37204

25 June 2024; 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

MTC Monthly Luncheon Meeting

“77 Letters”

Mrs. Susan Hunter

ONCC, 115 Gardengate Drive, Franklin TN 37069

Legislative Update

Here I am writing on 29 February – Leap Year Day. That date usually recalls how we are in a presidential election year, but today it ends our third continuing resolution and the lack of a federal budget at the 5-month point of the fiscal year. Why are we here, and what comes next? As if we were driving the action, moments ago came the news bulletin that a 4th continuing resolution was passed by a large margin, quickly through the Senate, and off to the President. What is shocking is how little mention of the situation has been reported in the news this week. Have you even heard it mentioned about the risks of a government shut-down or possible default on federal debt? Do they care out there?

On a much lighter note and off-topic but related to our own conditions of service and this 29 February date is the theme of the 19th Century Gilbert and Sullivan operetta “The Pirates of Penzance.” Within the plot is the plight of a young sailor who had been apprenticed to sea duty. His mother had misunderstood his apprenticeship to be a “pilot” instead of a “pirate” until his 21st birthday – assuming to the age of 21. On that date to finish the apprentice contract, which happened to be a February 28th, the error was discovered that he had not really reached his 21st birthday at all so he would be under the conditions until he would reach 84 years of age – his actual 21st birthday. The Pirates of Penzance is a lot of fun to watch, and you can probably find it streaming on TV. All very comedic and a reminder of our own conditions of commissioning and the need to pay attention to details. Remember that we who have retired are still within our chosen service and subject to some very detailed conditions.

Back on topic: It looks like there may not be a federal budget this fiscal year at all. Instead of finishing and passing a budget, pieces have been passed, four continuing resolutions have been passed instead, and it is now time to get busy to draft and negotiate next year’s budget. Even this 4th continuing resolution will not carry through March. One might expect some urgency now, but the urgency moves forward to the next deadline of 30 September. What will these coming months bring? Will there be no federal budget this year at all? And will all the urgency be swallowed up in the electioneering activities to come?

Without getting complicated about fiscal matters, this would be a great time to communicate to our representatives and senators about the importance to get America’s basic business done and to be attentive to the details of it all. Just some thoughts on 29 February...

CDR Ted Edwards, USN (Ret)
MTC Legislative Liaison