



Tennessee Council of Chapters

Serving Tennessee since July 1978

Minutes of the Meeting 21 January 2026



Tennessee Council of Chapters, MOAA met 21 January 2026 in person and via zoom, 11:00 AM CST

Those in Attendance: Frank Michaels Senior Director ACC National MOAA – via zoom

CC Chattanooga (TN01)

Ray Mitchell Past Pres
Tony Crowder
Scott Hardin
BJ Keepers CoC 1st VP - via zoom

SMC Smoky Mountains Chapter (TN02)

Stephen Myers Pres – via zoom

MC Memphis (TN03)

NO REP

MTC Middle Tennessee (TN04)

Dale Kiser Pres
Larry Cotton Past Pres
Doug Minton, CoC MC
Karon Uzzell-Baggett NB MOAA
Patricia Bergquist, CoC SSL – via zoom

MEC Mountain Empire (TN05)

Don Thompson Pres – via zoom

UCC Upper Cumberland (TN06)

Robert Martin Pres
Mike DeLaurentis VP

FCC Ft Campbell (TN07)

Brian Lynch Pres
Ivan Adames CoC Past Pres
Monroe Gildersleeve CoC Trea

SRC Stones River (TN10)

Doug Gilbert Pres
Pete Warner CoC Pres
Sandy Warner CoC Sec
Keith R Prather CoC 2nd VP
Larry Ellis
Kay Ellis

SCC Sumner County (TN11)

Stewart Reeve, Pres
Debra Rice, VP

Gen Andrew Jackson (TN12)

Jeff Rice Pres
Bobbie Bell, Past Pres
Dan Sullinger
John Wade

Tennessee Council of Chapters MOAA had Senior Director from Affiliated Councils and Chapters National MOAA, Frank Michaels as a guest.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR: 2026 MEETING INFORMATION IN THE MINUTES!

Council President Pete Warner began the meeting at 11:00 AM and led the pledge of allegiance to the flag. Following the pledge to the flag Monroe Gildersleeve said a prayer of opening for the meeting

Installation of First and Second Vice Presidents by Frank Michaels Senior Director ACC National MOAA

Acceptance of Minutes

Minutes of the 15 October 2025 meeting had been sent out on 05 January 2026 for review to all the chapter presidents and Council members and approved unanimously.

Membership Chair Report – Doug Minton

- Every Chapter needs to ensure that their Membership Chair is entered as such in the Committee Module (CM). MOAA Affiliated Council & Chapters is sending updates to CM and Near Real Time (NRT) reports to the Membership chairs now and if you don't have someone listed in that role....no report.
- The Affiliated Council & Chapters has just published a "lengthy" directive on how to proceed with the NRT and the process to be followed when using this tool in recruiting chapter members. Since Frank Michael attended the January 2026 meeting via Zoom, I will defer to his remarks concerning the process.
- The MOAA Online Dues Payment System (Cheddar-Up) is available to all of our Chapters, but for some reason only a couple of Chapters are utilizing it. The process is free with MOAA picking up any transaction costs. Each Chapter must separately initiate the process, but once done it is amazingly simple. You identify your dues amount for the year and notify your members of its availability. Duplicate payments can be credited back to the payee. Please consider making use of this process!
- A reminder for all Chapters you should not let a Chapter meeting go by without your making mention of the MOAA Legislative Action Center (LAC). It is the most important action on national legislative issues that you can take (other than attending the MOAA Day on the Hill in person)! I have begun adding personal comments to each letter and I have received several responses that have mentioned my comments.
Please take action at the Chapter level!

Financial Report – written update provided by Monroe Gildersleeve as follows

The financial report for the period of October 1, 2025, to December 31, 2025.

The council had one disbursement during the quarter, to MOAA National Foundation for a charitable donation of \$500.00,

The council had one deposit from Pete Warner to match the MOAA National Foundation charitable donation.

Total funds on hand at the end of the quarter were \$3,842.19, which included restricted travel funds of \$226.67.

The council accepted the Treasurer's report and approved unanimously.

Surviving Spouse Report – Patricia Bergquist written update provided as follows:

All Tennessee MOAA Chapters have a Surviving Spouse Liaisons (SSL), except the East Tennessee Chapter. Please update Patricia of any Surviving Spouse Liaison changes. Chapter Surviving Spouse Liaisons who need assistance helping a surviving spouse, please contact Patricia at p_bergq@hotmail.com or (615-948-4960).

ADVOCACY/LEGISLATION

Please refer to the April 16, 2025 TN Council of Chapters Minutes for sponsors and more details about the legislation below:

- 1) **H.R.2055 and S.611- "Caring for Survivors Act of 2025"** are to expand Title 38, United States Code, to improve and expand eligibility for the Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) paid by the VA to surviving spouses and others whose veteran died on active duty or from a

service-related injury/illness. This legislation would increase DIC from 43% of a single, 100% disabled veteran's compensation to 55%.

H.R.2055 has 106 co-sponsors (1 TN: S. Cohen (TN-09)

S.611 as 7 co-sponsors (NONE from TN)

- 2) **H.R. 1004 and S.410 - "Love Lives on Act 2025"** would allow retention of Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) through the Department of Defense and Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) through the VA upon remarriage at any age; and allows remarried surviving spouses to regain their TRICARE benefits if their subsequent marriage ends due to annulment, divorce, or death. Currently, surviving military spouses are not allowed to remarry before the arbitrary age of 55 without losing ALL their benefits.

H.R.1004 has 127 co-sponsors (1 TN: Chuck Fleischmann (TN-03)

S.410 has 51 co-sponsors (NONE from TN)

Through the Legislative Director of TAPS, who leads advocacy on this bill, we have learned the following: "Half of the Senate are officially co-sponsors (35 Democrats, 12 Republicans, and both Independents).

This is the most co-sponsored bill before the Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs (by a lot) and second for the House Committee on Veterans Affairs (behind a bill for access to contraception at the VA).

There are 15 states where both Senators are co-sponsors: Arizona, Arkansas Colorado, Georgia, Hawaii, Kansas, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Nevada, New Hampshire, Oregon, Texas, and Vermont".

Please encourage all MOAA chapter members, spouses, and surviving spouses to contact their Congressmen and Senators to advocate for legislation impacting our surviving spouses as follows:

MOAA's Legislative Action Center at <https://www.moaa.org/takeaction> or <https://moaa.quorum.us> to send a MOAA prewritten message which you can personalize (recommended) to your Congressman and Senators.

Contact your Congressman and Senators, using the MOAA Capitol Switchboard (1-866-272-6622), ask to be connected to your Congressman or Senator's office, once connected ask to speak with the Military Legislative Assistant (MLA). Follow up your phone call with an e-mail to the MLA.

Please use the updated (3/20/25) TN Congressmen and Senators Contact List provided with the April TN Council of Chapters Minutes for the MLA name and e-mail.

You may also e-mail your Congressman or Senators directly via their website.

You may also request to visit your Congressman or Senators District Office any time and schedule an appointment with them personally during recess.

Please do not use USPS to contact congressional leaders. USPS mail is screened off site before delivery and prolongs delivery time!

The *most active* surviving spouses FaceBook groups following these bills are:

- "DIC Surviving Spouses/DIC Increase Advocacy"
- "Love Lives on Act of 2025 Advocacy"

Legislative Liaison Report Bill Summers/Steve Singleton – see website tnvet.org

Council Secretary Report – Sandy Warner

Has Everybody Signed In? The Presidents Calendar is now open if you want to request a date for a visit.

The Annual Council Newsletter launched Dec. 11, 2025, as your chapter navigates 2026, please be sure to send me pictures, write ups, and acknowledgements of the community branding your chapter gets involved with. Any chapters that do not have a newsletter, now has a platform to use while they continue to grow. This is your platform to shine please use it.

Please Make sure I have all the email addresses updated for those who are incoming or wanting to stay on the email group.

Thank you, for getting your quarterly reports for the January minutes to me early, (you know who you are). I eagerly await the rest of the reports.

Chapter Updates

Chattanooga TN01: written update provided by Ray Mitchell as follows:

Chartered: 17 February 1979

President: Ray Mitchell

moaachattanoogachapter.org

VP: Ted Jewell
SEC: Steve Whitley

2nd VP/MC: Brett Hale
TREA: Jack Mullinax

SEPTEMBER

1. Several members attended the Chattanooga Area Veteran Council (CAVC) meeting on 5 September.
2. Bi-monthly Chapter Board Meeting on 8 September
3. Several members attended the funeral of BG Carl Levi on 12 September at the Chattanooga National Cemetery. Carl was a long-time veteran's champion in the Chattanooga area.
4. Our Chapter Spouses and Surviving Spouses attended a Luncheon at the Chattanooga Golf and Country Club on 16 September. Our chapters coordinator, Ms. Susan Hardin, is the organizer of this monthly luncheon.
5. Many members attended the Hamilton County Constitution Day at the courthouse on 17 September.
6. Our newly elected 2nd VP, COL Don McClean was a major organizer of the Ft. Campbell's Veterans Appreciation Day on 20 September. The event was attended by thousands.
7. Several members attended the Southeast Coalition Meeting in Chattanooga on 24 September. This organization brings together veterans' organization with civilian service providers.
8. Set in on MOAA National Monthly Roundtable Zoom on 25 September. The subject was Chapter Mentoring.
9. Several members attend the Challenge 22 Event in Dunlap, Tennessee. This Run, Walk, Ride raised money for local veterans on 27 September.
10. The Medal of Honor Society held its National Convention in Chattanooga on 29 September through 4 October. The Chattanooga Chapter had 12 volunteers helping with various support duties such drivers, bus captains, hospitality, and various other duties.

OCTOBER

1. Many of our members attended the Medal of Honor Convention Reception at the Tennessee Aquarium on 2 October. Most of the 31 MOH recipients attended the event and interacted with the sponsors and workers.
2. Several of our members, because they had volunteered to help with the MOH Convention, attended a closed sponsor dinner at Happy Vally Farms in Walker County Georgia on 3 October. And these same members attended the Medal of Honor Patriots Dinner Gala on 4 October at the Chattanooga Convention Center followed by the LT Dan Band with Gary Stinise.
3. Several members attended the "Navy Ball" in Chattanooga hosted by the local Navy League on 18 October. Our very own CAPT BJ Keepers played a critical role and making this a success. It was very well done.
4. Long time Veteran's Supporter LTC Benny Adkins passed away on 9 October. A large number of Chapter members attended his funeral at the Chattanooga National Cemetery on 15 October.
5. Our Chapter Spouses and Surviving Spouses attended a Luncheon at the Chattanooga Golf and Country Club on 21 October. Our chapters coordinator, Ms. Susan Hardin, is the organizer of this monthly luncheon.
6. Set in on MOAA National Monthly Roundtable Zoom on 23 October. The subject was MOAA Charities.
7. Chapter Dinner Meeting on 28 October feathered speakers LtCol Paul Conroy and Ms. Inga Fricke. Lt Col Paul Conroy, USAF, has a most interesting life story. He attended Rhodes College in Memphis and after college was commissioned in the US Marine Corps. Paul served at Camp Lejune NC 2 nd Marine Division. After leaving the USMC he attended veterinary school at University of Tennessee, followed by vet practice in Kentucky. He re-entered active duty as a USAF Public Health Officer in 2006. He attended the Air War College and Air Command and Staff College. Lt Col Conroy had numerous tours of duty and deployments as an Air Force officer, most notably Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom in Iraq. He held several high-level administrative positions at Scott Air Force base and the position of Director of Programs Division at the School of Medicine at USUHS in Bethesda, MD. Inga Fricke is the Executive Director of the McKamey Animal Center in Chattanooga. Inga attended George Washington University Law School in Washington DC and has an impressive career in animal welfare initiatives. She worked for humane societies in Ohio and Virginia before accepting a position with the Humane Society of the US in DC. After leaving HSUS she joined the Humane Pennsylvania as Director of Community Initiatives. Inga was then named Executive Director of McKamey. In addition to her tireless work at McKamey Inga serves on the Board of the National Animal Control Association, the Access to Veterinary Care Coalition and is an adjunct professor at Canisius University.
8. Several members attended the Southeast Coalition Meeting in Chattanooga on 29 October. This organization brings together veterans' organization with civilian service providers.
9. MOAA's Total Force Conference was on 30 October.

NOVEMBER

1. Several members attended a Thank You Dinner for the Volunteers that help with the National Medal of Honor Convention last month on 6 November.
2. The chapter held its Board Meeting on 10 November
3. Several members participated in the Veterans Day Ceremony at the National Guard Armory on 11 November.

4. Our Chapter Spouses and Surviving Spouses attended a Luncheon at the Chattanooga Golf and Country Club on 18 November. Our chapters coordinator, Ms. Susan Hardin, is the organizer of this monthly luncheon.
5. Set in on MOAA National Monthly Roundtable Zoom on 20 November. The subject was Advocacy in Action.
6. Several members attended the Southeast Coalition Meeting in Chattanooga on 26 November. This organization brings together veterans' organization with civilian service providers.

DECEMBER

1. The Hamilton County Veterans Court graduated its first veteran on 4 December. This was a major milestone since the court began in November 2025.
2. Several members attended a concert at the local American Legion Post 14 sponsored by Freedom Sings USA. They write and perform songs for veterans by Nashville songwriters. Several of our court veterans had their song performed at this event.
3. Our Chapter held our Christmas Gala Dinner on 9 December. A great time was had by all with special performance by Ms. Clare Donoghue and Trio. During the dinner members brought in toys for the support of the Marines Toys for Tots Program. We also had a special surprise guest attend, Ms. Shanice Shantay. Shanice was one of the lead actresses in the recent movie 6888th a true story about an all-black, all-female Postal Unit during WWII. She currently lives in Chattanooga with her mother Ms. Andrea Scales.
4. Several members attended a ceremony to place wreaths on the memorial of the Fallen Five here in Chattanooga on 10 December.
5. Several members attended the Chattanooga Area Veteran Council (CAVC) meeting on 12 December.
6. December 13th hundreds of not thousands Chattanooga citizens, including many of our Chapter members, volunteered to place Wreaths on all the grave site at the Chattanooga National Cemetery. The event was sponsored by Wreaths Across America and Wreaths Across Chattanooga.
7. Set in on MOAA National Monthly Roundtable Zoom on 18 December. The subject was 2025 Review.
8. Many Chapter Members attended the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga's Senior ROTC Commissions Ceremony on 19 December.
9. Several members "Ring the Bell" for the Salvation Army at Hamilton Place Mall on 20 December.

Smoky Mountains Chapter TN02 – written update provided by SMC/sec Don Rifkin as follows

Chartered: 19 June 1977

President: Stephen Myers

2VP: Bill Smartt

SEC: Don Rifkin

MC: Tom Peck

TRS: Eric Nicholls

The Smoky Mountains Chapter continued rebuilding over the last quarter of 2025. The chapter accomplished the following:

- Recruited a 2nd Vice-President, a Surviving Spouse Liaison, and two Directors: an ETMAC Liaison and a JROTC/ROTC Director.

- Received 501(c) 3 status and has applied for a State Tax Exemption Certificate.
- Had name tags made for chapter members.
- Updated the TN CoC chapter website
- Created a new chapter email address (smcmoaa@gmail.com)

The chapter's future goals are to establish a permanent meeting schedule, invite guest speakers to meetings, increase membership, and officially engage with a community partner/project.

MOAA Memphis TN03: No Rep. Written updates provided by Kathy Desjarlais

Chartered: 22 June 1970

President: Kathy Desjarlais

2nd VP/MC: John Dixon

TREA: Jim Thomasson

SEC: DeBorah Luckett Day

Oct was Navy birthday month. Our speaker was a retired PHS pharmacist whose specialty is vaccines. He has traveled the country giving science-based presentations and has also taught college-level courses. He provided data from both sides of the vaccine argument.

Nov was Marine Corps birthday month. We collected checks and toys for the local Toys for Tots drive. Our speaker was a retired Marine who is the new director of the West Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery.

Dec was Space Force birthday month. Our speaker was one of our members who presented an enthralling historical account of the attack on Pearl Harbor.

Middle Tennessee TN04: written updates provided by outgoing Larry Cotton as follows:

Chartered: 30 March 1961

President: Larry Cotton

mtcmoaa.org

VP: Dale Kiser

TREA: Bea Henderson

SEC/MC: Doug Minton

I. Luncheon Meetings

- October 2025 – Monthly luncheon meeting held 28 October. Patrick Shehan, TN Director, "Tennessee Emergency Management Agency"
- November 2025 – Monthly luncheon meeting held 18 November. Judge Tommy Taylor, "Williamson County Veterans Court"
- December 2025 – No Monthly luncheon meeting held in December.

II. Advocacy

- Each monthly newsletter included a Legislative Update and the President's Letter discussing how to use MOAA's Legislative Action Center for individual advocacy.

Legislative Advocacy was also discussed at the end of each monthly luncheon with a summary of timely issues and emphasis on individual participation in the LAC.

III. Community Outreach

- The chapter participated in OSDTN's Holiday Market (informal market this year) and distributed \$2,000 of gift cards to Publix from MOAA's Community Outreach Grant program.
- Our 2025 Scholarship drive was completed in December. We gave one-time grants to a veteran-student at each of TN State, Belmont and Lipscomb Universities as well as a donation to the MOOA National Scholarship program.

Mountain Empire TN05: written update provided by Don Thompson as follows.

Chartered: 22 September 1979
President: Don Thompson
mecmoaa.org

VP:
SEC: Mary Shaw Van

MC: Mark Tipton
TREA: Bret Monette

We finally submitted the policy application for liability insurance so we will be eligible for grants to meet the needs of local veterans.

We are hearing some complaints from local veterans about a county Veterans Service Officer and poor support in filing his C&P claim to the VA. We will be looking at what is happening in neighboring counties since there is always more to the story. If anyone who has procedures and metrics for how they demonstrate their county VSO office effectiveness and can share them with me, I would appreciate it.

We continue to have occasional new members. We had two new members join at our last Membership meeting January 18, 2026, and we have another new member circling.

The Appalachian Veterans Fair will be held at the Bristol Motor Speedway March 25, 2026.

Our semiannual newsletter came out in late December.

Upper Cumberland TN06: written update provided by Robert Martin as follows:

Chartered 10 December 1990
President: Scott Jacobsen
ucc-moaa.org

VP/MC: Robert Martin
SEC: Jon Reiver

2nd VP: Dale Kiser
TREA: Doug Rauch

- The Upper Cumberland Chapter of MOAA participated in the annual Veterans Parade in Crossville TN in November. We had a float in the parade with chapter Members in uniform riding along and interacting with the parade viewers.

- At our annual Christmas Party in December, the Upper Cumberland Chapter presented a check for \$1320 to Terry & Derek Hamann who run the Deer Run Ranch. Selected as our charity for 2025, Deer Run Ranch provides equine therapy for Veterans, First Responders, at risk youth, special needs, and trauma survivors.

- At our annual Christmas Party Scott Jacobsen installed our new UCC MOAA officers. New officers: President Robert Martin, Vice President Mike DeLaurentis, Board member Charles Lusso for his second term and retiring Past President Locke Kelly. Our new President Robert Martin installed Scott Jacobsen as Past President.

Ft Campbell TN07/KY03: written update provided by Brian Lynch as follows:

Chartered TROA 01 October 1971 (off grid 1963)

President/MC: Brian Lynch

1st VP: Tim Powers

SEC: Todd Hannah

2nd VP: Nancy Mullens

TREA: Chuck Webster

October 2025

We met at Pablo's Authentic Mexican Restaurant for our monthly luncheon. Aaron Jones, the son-in-law of Steve Singleton, a Chapter member, gave a presentation on alternative treatments for PTSD and TBIs.

November 2025

The monthly luncheon was held at the Montgomery County Public Library. The meal was catered by the Hilltop Restaurant in Clarksville. Although the annual business meeting was scheduled to take place in lieu of a guest speaker, there required quorum wasn't present so the business portion was delayed until January 2026.

December 2025

The monthly luncheon, and our annual Dirty Santa Party, were held at the Ajax Turner Center in Clarksville. Following a meal of sliced turkey, sliced ham, cornbread dressing, green bean casserole, sweet potato casserole, pecan pie, pumpkin pie, dinner rolls, tea and water Jeff Yaeger, our traditional Dirty Santa, led the Chapter in what is usually one of the best events of the year.

Stones River TN10 – no report submitted.

Chartered 16 September 1995

President: Doug Gilbert

1st VP: Elizabeth Sharp

MC: Larry Ellis

SEC: Rachel Reynolds

2nd VP: Reese Burke

TREA: Jim Heuberger

Sumner County TN11 – Stewart Reeve: written update provided as follows:

Chartered TROA 27 July 1999

President: Stu Reeve

1st VP: Debra Rice

MC:

TREA: Stephen McLain

2nd VP: Jason Jones

SEC: David Moomy

As we look to 2026, we are positioned to be more aggressive on fundraising that will allow supporting four JROTC scholarships and MOAA medals at high schools in Sumner and Robertson counties and to support other veteran events and activities such as the Sumner County Veterans Home.

For the final quarter of calendar 2025 our chapter achieved status as a state non-profit, received our sales tax exemption and acquired chapter liability insurance.

(We had received our 501c status in September.)

Our October meeting was the first annual business meeting under our new bylaws enacted in 2025 and featured the election of our new officers, reports from the serving officers and a vote to raise annual dues. The newly elected officers will be installed at tomorrow night's meeting.

We had no meeting in November. In December, our chapter meeting was our annual Christmas meal. It was well attended by 31 members and guests and collected donations for the Toys for Tots program.

Closing out 2025 we gained 4 new members.

General Andrew Jackson TN12: written update provided by Bobbie Bell as follows:

Chartered 17 Nov 2007
President: Jeff Rice

VP/MC: Dan Sullenger
SEC: Jim Perkinson

2nd VP: Mickey Ponder
TREA: Allen Snyder

Luncheon Meetings

- a. November 2025 – our speaker was Mr. John Page who is a Social Worker with the VA Healthcare System with the Military to VA (M2VA) transition program.
- b. December 2025 – we did not have a speaker per se but instead had Margaret Jones, wife of one of our members, play some Christmas songs. We also sorted out our gifts for our veterans & after the meeting, took them to Gallatin to be given out at a time most convenient to the vets.
- c. January 2026– we had the installation of our new officers & board members. Our speaker was Ms. Kate Amara who is with TEMA

The chapter publishes a newsletter each month which is sent to each member & prospective new members & has continued spotlighting a member each month.

Membership

We are still averaging about 23 members per meeting. We added 1 new member in 2025 & several who have shown interest in joining but have not as of this date. Our membership chair posts a blurb in each of the local papers (Lebanon, Mt. Juliet, Hermitage, & Donelson) to notify the community of our existence with an invitation to visit our chapter. Additionally, calls are being made to members who are in arrears of dues or who have not attended a meeting in some time. Several members have been placed on the inactive roll due to either asking to be removed or for non-payment of dues after multiple calls & emails to them to remedy the situation.

Awards & JROTC

Our JROTC liaison, Dan Sullenger, has already corresponded with each of the schools we support and has met, in person, with the new leadership at Green Hills High School. He has provided each of the schools we support with information on the awards we give as well as the scholarship.

Our chapter has submitted a print newsletter to MOAA for the 2025 Marvin J. Jarris Communication Award.

Advocacy

Members have been reminded of the national issues & encouraged to contact their congressional representative. Our liaison sends out upcoming meetings/zoom meetings, & information to our membership throughout the month. Ways to access the MOAA site as well as the Tennessee Council of Chapters website are included in our monthly newsletter to each member.

Leadership

Our officers remained mostly the same as in 2025. The new chapter president is Jeff Rice & the former immediate past president, John Wade, took over Jeff's spot on the board. Bobbie Bell became the immediate past president. Installation of officers & board members took place at the January 2026 meeting.

Community Involvement

We had a very robust response to our winter community events. In November, our chapter was one of the sponsors of the Donelson-Hermitage Exchange Club's Field of Honor. In December, we brought in a large amount of nonperishable foods for the community food bank at the First United Methodist Church in Lebanon. We also contacted the members of the American Legion Post 17 in Gallatin that has housing for veterans who meet the residence criteria. As of December, they had 22 residents. We reached out to each veteran & asked them for their favorite snacks & their Christmas wish list. We met 100% of the snack requests & about 95% of the wish lists. The wish list was not 100% because several vets asked for items that exceeded our price point. There were three vets that did not ask for anything, but they were given gifts anyway. There was also a request for cat food & that was filled!

Council President's Report

Charter 15 April 1978
CoC President: Pete Warner
tncoc-moaa.org

1st VP CoC: BJ Keepers
CoC MC: Doug Minton
CoC TRS: Monroe Gildersleeve
Coc Chaplain: Eddie Sumblar

2nd VP CoC: Keith Prather
CoC SEC: Sandy Warner
CoC SSL: Position Open, Patricia Bergquist
TNvet: Bill Summers/Steve Singleton

President's Report

Nov. 7th & 8th - Pete was invited to attend the NC CoC Annual in Person meeting. At that meeting he was given a time slot to brief the Knoxville Rebuild. After the briefing he was presented the MOAA President's Award by General Kelly.

2026 Community Outreach Grant Program

Opens	Dec 1 2025 01:00 AM (EST)	Deadline	Feb 28 2026 11:59 PM (EST)
-------	---------------------------	----------	----------------------------

MOAA National requested nominations for the 2025 Change Makers. Council President submitted Ray Mitchell TN01 Chattanooga Chapter President, MOAA as a nominee.

2025 Medal of Honor Celebration at Courage & Commitment: Veterans' Reception. Held at 1 Broad Street – Aquarium Plaza, Chattanooga, TN on Thursday, October 02, 2025, 6-8 p.m. EST. This, by invitation only event

Conclusion of Meeting

Monroe Gildersleeve gave the closing prayer. The meeting was adjourned at 12:50 PM CST.

Next Meetings and Future Events

Important Dates 2026

Important Dates and Happenings (Includes 2026 Roundtable Schedule - subject to change)

- Dec. 1 – Jan 31, 2026: MOAA Major Awards window opens for Levels of Excellence, Harris Communications Awards, Strobridge Legislative Chair/Liaison Award, and Surviving Spouse Liaison Award.
- Dec 1 – Feb 28: MOAA Foundation Community Outreach Grants submission window
- Dec. 18, 7:00 PM EST: MOAA Roundtable, 2025 Year in Review/2026 Outlook
- Jan. 20, 8:00 PM EST: State Legislative Exchange Forum Meeting
- Jan 22, 7:00 PM EST: MOAA Roundtable, Privacy Policy Implementation Update
- Jan. 29-31: Florida Leadership Seminar and Convention, Orlando, FL
- Feb. 26, 7:00 PM EST: MOAA Roundtable, Committee Module/NRT
- March TBD: Virtual Council and Chapter Leadership Workshop for New Leaders
- March 26, 7:00 PM EDT: MOAA Roundtable, Advocacy in Action Logistics
- April 23, 7:00 PM EDT: MOAA Roundtable, Chapter Dues Pay Portal
- May 14, 7:00 PM EDT: MOAA Roundtable, Chapter Visit and Awards Program
- May 28-29: MOAA Western Region Council and Chapter Leadership Workshop, San Diego, CA
- June 25, 7:00 PM EDT: MOAA Roundtable, General Counsel Issues
- July 23, 7:00 PM EDT: MOAA Roundtable, Recruiting and Retention
- Aug. TBD: Virtual Council and Chapter Leadership Workshop for Experienced Leaders
- Aug. 27, 7:00 PM EDT: MOAA Roundtable, MOAA Virtual Chapters
- Sept. 24, 7:00 PM EDT: MOAA Roundtable, Council and Chapter Mentorship
- Oct. 22, 7:00 PM EDT: MOAA Roundtable, MOAA Foundation
- Nov. TBD: MOAA South Region Council and Chapter Leadership Workshop
- Nov. 19, 7:00 PM EST: MOAA Roundtable, MOAA Annual Awards
- Dec 17, 7:00 PM EST: MOAA Roundtable, Year in Review/2027 Outlook

Proposed 2026 future TN Council of Chapters Meetings:

Our next meeting is scheduled for April 22, 2026, at 11:00 AM CST. The meeting will be in person at Sammy B's in Lebanon, TN. 705 Cadet Ct, Lebanon, TN 37087-2648 615.547.4550

Future Meetings – at Sammy B's or on Zoom!

TN CoC Meeting
TN CoC Meeting

15 July 2026
21 October 2026

Minutes prepared and submitted by Sandy Warner, Secretary, TN Council of Chapters/MOAA
tncoc23sec@gmail.com 210.517.2057