



THE RETROSPECT

DECEMBER 2019

TAMPA CHAPTER — A FIVE STAR CHAPTER OF MOAA NATIONAL

VOL. 25, Number 12

Upcoming Events

OUR BOARD WILL MEET AT 1000 on:
+ 05 DECEMBER
+ 02 JANUARY 2020
+ 06 FEBRUARY 2020

LUNCHEON MEETING WILL BE HELD AT 1130 AT SURF'S EDGE CLUB ON MACDILL AIR FORCE BASE ON 12 DECEMBER

Reserve your seat by 9 December by calling: (813) 676-4676 and following the prompts.

MENU:
WINTER SALAD
BLACK FOREST HAM BEEF KABOB
AU GRATIN POTATOES
SAUTÉED BRUSSEL SPROUTS ROLLS AND BUTTER

PUBLICATION DEADLINE FOR THE JANUARY ISSUE IS 25 DECEMBER 2019

EDITORIAL POLICY

The Retrospect is electronically published monthly by members of the Tampa Chapter of the Military Officers' Association of America (MOAA), P.O. Box 6383, MacDill Air Force Base, FL 33608-0383 and is viewed on line at <http://www.moaa-tampa.org/>.

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PRESIDENT COL ZIERES USA RETIRED

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE FOR DECEMBER 2019 COL CAROL ZIERES, PRESIDENT, TAMPA CHAPTER

I hope everyone had a chance to enjoy a great Thanksgiving with family and friends and take a moment to give thanks for the gifts and remember the special moments that have added meaning to your life. As we prepare to celebrate the season of light (Christmas and Chanukah), I want to take this opportunity to look back on the year in review - 2019 will go down in history as a banner year for the Tampa chapter, having hosted a very successful convention for the Florida Council of Chapters in Safety Harbor, FL and the membership chair tells me that our cumulative recruitment efforts over the past three years of my chapter presidency have resulted in adding a total of 69 plus new members to the Tampa chapter! Much of this success is attributed to your chapter board of directors approving some changes in our business practices such as going to a fully digital newsletter and membership directory as well as revamping our website to make it more user-friendly. Changes such as these can only enhance our communication efforts and help to ensure this chapter remains financially solvent well into the future.

MOAA and our signature charity, Operation Helping Hand (OpHH), continue to make a tremendous impact on the Tampa Bay community through donations from fund raisers such as the annual golf tournament in March that raised over \$20K; funds which have already improved the quality of life of many military families who otherwise could not afford to visit their loved ones (wounded service members) undergoing extended medical treatment at James A. Haley VA Hospital (JAHVH). This was the first year that Tampa Chapter applied for a MOAA Foundation Grant and was awarded \$3700 by MOAA National. These funds were given to JAHVH's Art and Music Therapy Division, which was used to purchase needed supplies and equipment to treat the invisible wounds of combat veterans. Some other noteworthy initiatives include one of our chapter's own, Honorary member Mr. Ben Ritter's working with MOAA and other supporting advocates in drafting language for the resubmission of House bill (H.R. 2965, AKA the "Gas Pump Access Act") to be sponsored by a member of congress to place a telephone placard on all gas pumps nationwide for persons with physical disabilities who may then use their cell phone to call the listed phone number if they require assistance in pumping gasoline at filling stations. This initiative was first introduced as H.R. 7005 and the bill was passed and signed into Florida State Law back in 2014 and now advocates would like to see this law be made universal across the nation.

This past month, we celebrated Veterans Day at the annual JAHVH Veteran's Day parade and partnered with the St. Petersburg College Tarpon Springs Campus to host the 7th Annual Star Spangled Art Show, showcasing some beautiful artwork all done by military veteran artists. We've had a number of interesting guest speakers this past year, but our November luncheon truly captivated the audience with the former POW and highly-decorated Air Force Officer, BILL ARCURI, who gave an awe-inspiring talk and slide presentation that walked us through his arduous journey in North Vietnam, where after his plane was shot down and taken prisoner of war in 1972, he was held in captivity for 55 days at the Hoa Lo Prison, known as the "Hanoi Hilton". Particularly striking was his description of the "underground communications" used among his fellow POWs in solitary confinement and his survival on a dietary subsistence that consisted mainly of cabbage and pumpkin soup!

The chapter continues to support our annual scholarship program, junior ROTC, and Toys-For-Tots Fund-drive initiatives. This is the season of giving and we will do it all over again at our upcoming Christmas luncheon, which you won't want to miss! We'll be holding a silent auction raffle, have live music and good food and fellowship to usher in the spirit of the holiday season. It has been a great year for the Tampa Chapter and I wish you and yours a very MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY HEALTHY NEW YEAR!

"AS ALWAYS, WE'VE GOT YOUR BACK"

"—NEVER STOP SERVING —"

"TAKING CARE OF OUR TROOPS IS A LIFETIME COMMITMENT"

The University Village Continuing Care (UV) facility in Tampa, Florida, celebrated its 2019 Veterans Day celebration with Colonel Charles Dalcourt, USA (Ret) as guest speaker. He spoke to an attentive audience of UV resident veterans who served in nearly every military services including WWII. He centered his presentation on the importance of Veterans Day to honor all veterans who have served the nation’s military – lest we forget. Colonel Dalcourt was accompanied with his wife, Mildred (Millie) and later enjoyed a buffet lunch with UV residents. Colonel Dalcourt retired from service at Mac Dill AFB, Tampa.



He is selected to replace Colonel Carol Zieres, USAR (Ret), as President of the Tampa Chapter. The new Board of Directors will be installed in January 2020.

University Village has been a close associate of the Tampa Chapter for many years.



COL Charles Dalcourt, USA RET
Legislative Affairs

LEGISLATIVE LOWDOWN
For more information, visit [MOAA National’s Legislative Action Center!](#)

Greetings to all of our Tampa Chapter MOAA members and to all who have chosen to read this month’s newsletter. I pray that as this year closes, you will all enjoy the bounty you have enabled this great Nation to possess and that this Christmas season will be positive, peaceful and pleasant for both you and your families.

Looking back and leaning forward...

It has been an active year with respect to legislative affairs, activities, and actions. MOAA has tackled some of the toughest issues facing our military members, their families, retirees, and surviving spouses. Even more, MOAA has been very successful in doing so. You have served a vital role in these accomplishments.

I’d like to add that in its efforts to protect entitlements promised to those who have served, MOAA has vicariously set the conditions for aspiring servicemembers as well. Our efforts today also promote and support legislation that provides for the retention of benefits important to tomorrow’s follow-on generations of Coast Guardsmen, Sailors, Soldiers, Airmen, and Marines. You see, your advocacy beckons accountability for what was promised and ensures that your legacy provides a protected quality of service for those carrying the torch now and in the future.

Closing out the year...

Please take a few moments to view MOAA’s website and peruse MOAA’s Take Action Center (<http://takeaction.moaa.org/?2>). We need to remain attentive and continue to voice our concerns regarding measures included in the FY2020 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA).

Key legislative initiatives to continue monitoring include:

proposed cuts in military medical billets, roughly 20 percent reduction, as well as other reorganization measures; ending a financial penalty on military survivors known as the widows tax; delaying the merger of military commissaries and exchanges until the Government Accounting Office’s report is finalized; and legislation to address health threats in base housing.

MOAA’s national level leaders need you to continue providing extraordinary assistance to their efforts through engagement. Your input via calls, letters, emails, and visits with Congressional leaders has had a profound impact on several initiatives this year. Let’s close out strong! Let’s continue to advocate for this respected profession; one tangibly supported by past warriors that will fight for the rights and protections past servicemembers have earned, and our future National heroes deserve.

It is a pleasure to serve alongside you.

Thank you for your support...all the best!

Charles

See More:

MOAA Legislative Action Center

<http://www.moaa.org/Legislative/>

MOAA Capitol toll free hotline at 1-866-272-6622





Due to the Holidays, we will not have a Guest Speaker at the monthly MOAA Tampa Luncheon in December. Our time will be spent with each other, enjoying delicious food, good company and great conversation.

We look forward to celebrating the holidays with you!

HELPING OUR SURVIVING SPOUSES

By Ms. Renee Brunelle, Tampa Chapter Surviving Spouse Liaison

How do you navigate through all of the choices available to you for senior living facilities?

Often, people only look at their care needs during their “best days;” however, I would recommend you look beyond that to include your “worst days” as far as care needs are concerned.

The State of Florida has clear guidelines for Assisted Living and Nursing Homes listing the services they provide. Very often the line between Independent Living (no direct care) and Assisted Living is blurred (direct care). Even the limits of Assisted Living with an Extended Congregate Care License, versus Nursing Home (total care) are similar.

Finding help to decide what is the best fit can be difficult; especially when emotions are involved. That is when Placement Agencies can be a huge help and generally do not charge the client.

There are generally two types of offerings:

- Online services such as, A Place for Mom.com or Caring.com, can offer a list of communities that meet certain criteria you share. These are great online services because you conduct the research yourself and can easily find other resources and information with a click of a button. They will send your contact information to all communities that “match” your requirements.
- Local placement companies are more, “one-on-one,” and have a professional experience connection with the communities they recommend. Often, the agency will personally accompany you on a tour to help you narrow the choices and focus on the offerings that best suits your needs.

Fine Print Tip—Both options are generally paid for by the community when the resident moves in; therefore, you might find a community that is a good option, but may not be recommended since it is not in their “network.” Doing a general online search of places within your zip code range could uncover places you want to consider additionally.

AARP has some great resources and so does the Florida Department of Elder Affairs. AARP link is listed below:
<https://www.aarp.org/caregiving/basics/info-2017/assisted-living-options.html>



Renee Brunelle
Tampa Chapter
Surviving Spouse
Liaison

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR



**CAPT DVORNIK
EDITOR**

May you all have a wonderful and blessed Christmas holiday. I’m stepping down this month as Editor of the RETROSPECT. Unfortunately no one has come forward to take the title. Please let our President know if you are interested. The good news is that we are blessed to have Melissa Marison producing quality editions since she joined our MOAA Tampa Team. Her organizational skill and flair for design and layout makes the Editor’s job a pleasure.

I assumed the job of Editor when the late Captain Bob Silah asked me to temporarily fill in when LCDR Stan Ewanowski became ill. That was over five years ago. Stan held the job for nine years and passed away in August 2015. His dedication and hard work turned the RETROSPECT into an award-winning publication. I learned a lot from Stan and enjoyed his humor and hard work ethic. I also enjoyed working with Dick and Shirley Helveston who faithfully published, folded and mailed the RETROSPECT to our members. Along the way we won several communications awards for our Chapter. Because of Dick and Shirley and Melissa Marison we had a smooth transition from print to electronic. In short, I thoroughly enjoyed the role and look forward to seeing you at our informative luncheons.

Cheers. CAPT Donald F. Dvornik USN (Ret.)



**THE TAMPA CHAPTER OF THE
MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICA (MOAA)**



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 Post Office Box 6383, MacDill AF
 Tampa, FL 33608-0383
 E-Mail: moaatampachapter@tampabay.rr.com

DECEMBER 1

LTJG KEVIN G DOREMUS NOAA AD
 MAJ DOLORES INCREMONA USAF RET
 FMR 1LT JAMES G KALEMERIS USAF
 AUXILIARY MEMBER BETTY PURCELL
 FMR USAF CAPT BRUCE SNYDER

DECEMBER 9

MAJ B R HEWITT USAF RET

DECEMBER 10

COL JEFFERSON KASTER USMC AD

DECEMBER 13

LT COL JOHN F HALLGREN USAF RET

DECEMBER 16

CAPT SARA MARKS NC USN RET
 LTC MICHAEL NEWCOMB USA AD

DECEMBER 18

AUXILIARY MEMBER JOAN ADKINS
 LT COL THOMAS ALLEN USAF RET

DECEMBER 19

MAJ GENE FLANAGAN JR USAF RET

DECEMBER 21

MAJ JAMES S GARBETT USAFR RET

DECEMBER 22

LTCOL KENNETH MARTIN USMCR RET

DECEMBER 23

LT JOSEPH S ANTONETTI USNR RET
 AUXILIARY MEMBER OLGA ELLIS
 LT COL ROBERT FARKAS USAF
 LTC ROBERT PAYNE USA RET

DECEMBER 25

CAPT JOHN OVERTON USN RET

DECEMBER 26

CDR RICHARD R HELVESTON CHC USNR RET
 MAJOR CHIP HIGH USAF RET

DECEMBER 27

LCDR DOUGLAS MACINTYRE NOAA AD

DECEMBER 28

LTC WILLIAM GIBBONS USMC AD
 CAPT CHRISTOPHER HEATH USN RET
 AUXILIARY MEMBER HAZEL SAWYER

DECEMBER 29

CDR KENNETH BRIGHT USN RET
 LTC DAN DUKES USA RET
 LTC GEORGE LANGE JR USA RET
 CDR SEAN RYAN USCG AD

DECEMBER 30

COL DON OLDS USAF RET

Is your **DECEMBER** birthday missing?

JUST SEND A NOTE TO:
 CDR Geoff Harrington USNR Ret
fgharrington44@gmail.com

OUR MISSION:

The Tampa chapter is a Four-Star organization dedicated to supporting MOAA's primary purpose:
 To maintain a strong national defense and to ensure our nation keeps its commitments to currently serving, retired,
 and former members of the uniformed services and their families and survivors.



BULLETIN BOARD

CARING FOR OUR "SHUT-IN" MEMBERS

Our Chapter wants to become aware of members who are hospitalized, homebound, in care facilities or just plain sick and has provided a way for you to inform us. Please contact CDR Geoff Harrington USNR Ret at (813) 926-7988 so that he may call or send cards to let them know they are missed. Alternatively, you may send an **e-mail** to: moaatampachapter@tampabay.rr.com, CDR Geoff Harrington USNR, Ret, Sick Call Chairman



U.S. National Guard Birthday—December 13

Read Online: <https://www.military.com/national-guard-birthday>

They're not just weekend warriors.

In a move that would create the first militia on the North American continent, the Massachusetts General Court in Salem issued an order on Dec. 13, 1636, requiring all able-bodied men between 16 and 60 years old to create a standing Army for protection.

With that order, what we now know as America's National Guard was born. The idea was simple: Establish an Army of citizen-soldiers who could be called upon to fight when needed.

In 1636, that meant defending Massachusetts Bay. Today, it means answering the call of both state and nation, deploying overseas and responding to natural disasters in the assistance of friends and neighbors.

More December Dates to Remember...

Civil Air Patrol (USAF Auxiliary) Birthday—December 1
 #GivingTuesday—Tuesday after Thanksgiving
 National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day—December 7
 National Wreaths Across America—December 14
 Hanukkah Begins—December 22, Ends December 30
 Christmas Day—December 25
 New Year's Eve—Tuesday, December 31

Read more: <https://militarybenefits.info/military-calendar-holidays-events-observances/>



HOW TO JOIN THE TAMPA CHAPTER:

Come to a luncheon (2nd Thursdays) at 1115 at the Surf's Edge Club on MacDill Air Force Base and ask for COL William A Schneider USA OR [download our brochure](#) and mail the application accordingly with payment.

NOTE: to be eligible for membership in the Tampa Chapter, one must be a member of [MOAA National](#) or join National at the same time the Chapter is joined.

HAVE YOU SEEN OUR UPDATED WEBSITE?

WWW.MOAAATAMPA.ORG

The MOAA Tampa website is a comprehensive and valuable tool that you can use to make the most of your MOAA Membership. Some of the things you can find on our website include:

Events Calendar: We have a new "Events" page where you will find an updated calendar, displaying our upcoming MOAA events, as well as events happening with Operation Helping Hand. Click on our [Events Page](#) to check it out!

Photo Gallery of Events: This is our photo gallery, where you will see all of the photos during our luncheons, special meetings, conventions and more! If you've had your picture taken at our events, you can likely find it by scrolling through our [Photo Gallery!](#)

Newsletters: Here you will find the latest volume of The Retrospect, our award winning Tampa Chapter Newsletter. You can also access archived versions of The Retrospect for reference and research. In addition, you can find archived versions of the Military Spouse Newsletter, which has been merged into The Retrospect starting in August 2019. Visit [The Retrospect](#) page to read on!

Member Directory: You can access an electronic version of our Member Directory on our website. **The list is password protected** for safety of our private information, but MOAA Tampa Chapter Members can be provided the password to access. You can also download an Excel version of the list once permitted into the page. Check out the [Member Directory](#) now!

WWW.MOAAATAMPA.ORG

OPERATION HELPING HAND UPDATE

"As long as we are needed, Operation Helping Hand will be there..."



**LTC JIM GRIFFIN,
CHAIRMAN, OPHH**

Our NOVEMBER DINNER was a truly fantastic evening. The COLUMBIA RESTAURANT provided a spectacular dinner for the almost 300 attendees. Thank you very much BOOZ|ALLEN|HAMILTON for sponsoring the dinner. The honorees were shown a very warm, appreciative, and supportive crowd. The night was very special in that we were hosts to many dignitaries of the VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION. DR. RICHARD

STONE, EXECUTIVE IN CHARGE, VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION, DR. STEVEN LIEBERMAN, ACTING PRINCIPAL DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY FOR HEALTH, MR. JPN JENSON, ACTING DEPUTY VHA CHIEF OF STAFF, JUSTIN WARREN, HEALTH SYSTEM SPECIALIST, VHA CHIEF OF STAFF OFFICE, DR. MIGUEL LAPUZ, VISN 8 DIRECTOR, DR ED CUTOLO, VISN 8 CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER. It was an honor for us to host these folks and show them what SUPPORT FOR ACTIVE DUTY WOUNDED AND INJURED IS ALL ABOUT!- NOT JUST TALKING ABOUT IT-BUT DOING IT! Thanks to all who made it a great event for all attendees.

The DECEMBER DINNER on the 19th is sponsored by ARMA GLOBAL CORPORATION. The caterer for the CHRISTMAS DINNER will again be BOB EVANS by special request. SANTA has sent his RSVP and will attend to hand out toys provided by the MARINE CORPS LEAGUE OF THE VILLAGES, COL PHILLIP C. LONG DETACHMENT #1267.

As always, a very special thanks to our tireless volunteers which enables us to consistently provide 96.5% of all the monies donated to go to our wounded and injured and their families. The strong support for our local business community and their commitment to sponsor our dinner events, golf tournament, and provide generous donations throughout the year, along with the individual support we receive from numerous donors every month in the way of checks, or on our website (OPERATIONHELPINGHANDTAMPA.COM) insure that the support of our mission will not be interrupted for as long as our assistance is required.

VISITING FAMILY MEMBERS

Since the beginning of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom, the James A. Haley Veterans' Hospital has had a marked increase in the number of wounded and injured active duty members referred for treatment. Their Spinal Cord Injury and Comprehensive Rehabilitation Units have treated some of the most severely injured service members who have been in combat in these operations. The average stay for the injured is 45 days. Many of the families travel from all over the country and must provide for themselves while staying here in the Tampa Bay area.



CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

JR CHAPLAIN CDR RICHARD HELVESTON CHC USNR RET



**Dick Helveston, Jr. Chaplain, and
wife Shirley Helveston**

Once again, we come to the holiday season--a genuinely religious time in which each of us finds joy through sharing our love with family and friends. It is forgetting self and finding time for others. It is discarding the hollow and stressing our true values.

Best of all, Christmas means a spirit of love, a time when the love of God and the love of our fellow men prevail over all hatred and bitterness, a time when our thoughts and actions reflect our values. Christmas is the spirit of giving without a thought of getting. It is happiness because the spirit of our lives manifests the presence of God.



Photo by Margaret Burnett on Unsplash

Be sure to read the last edition of the **Military Spouses Newsletter**, produced each month by Shirley Helveston. Many thanks goes out to Shirley for many years of submitting such great content to our MOAA Tampa Chapter Newsletters. You can always view the [Military Spouse Newsletter archives on our webpage](#).

Palm Beach-Martin Counties Chapter
Military Officers Association of America

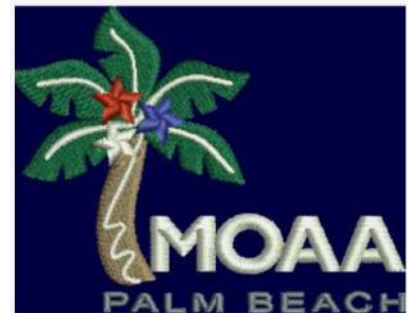
FCOC Convention 2020!

During the Convention in 2020, we will be offering some fun things in and around Palm Beach Gardens. Between now and then, we will be highlighting a few events. We ask that you do the same with your chapter. Here's another:

In 1993, Task Force Ranger was given the mission of locating and capturing a Somali warlord in Mogadishu, Somalia. During the mission, an Army Black Hawk was shot down. In the eighteen hour battle that followed, eighteen Americans were lost while an estimated eight hundred Somali rebels were taken out.

Hollywood eventually transformed the history of the mission into the critically acclaimed movie, *Black Hawk Down*.

Matt Eversman was a US Army Ranger First Sergeant in the mission. He is an accomplished speaker who has spoken at many events. During the MOAA Convention, he will be talking to conventional attendees about his experience in Somalia. This is an event that should not be missed.



C2020:

**Thur-Fri-Sat-Sun
May 28, 29, 30, 31**

At the PGA Marriott in Palm Beach Gardens.

Registration will open in January.

**This is the weekend
after Memorial Day 2020.**



CONTACT:

Paul Loschiavo
Chairman C2020
561-310-4769
moapalmbeach@gmail.com

**MARK YOUR
CALENDAR!**



MOAA Tampa Scholarship Information for year 2020 is available.

Visit our website and download the latest information. You can also find the application and details on Pages 17-18 in this newsletter.

[Scholarship Program](#)



MOAA MISSION STATEMENT

The Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) is a nonprofit veterans' association dedicated to maintaining a strong national defense and ensuring our nation keeps its commitments to currently serving, retired, and former members of the uniformed services and their families and survivors. Membership is open to those who hold or have ever held a warrant or commission in any component of the Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, Public Health Service, or NOAA and their surviving spouses.



Military Spouses News

There was no November Military Spouses News last month in *The Retrospect* because Shirley Helveston was down with pneumonia. "I am all well now and hope all of you are too."

However I will not be doing anymore pages in the newsletter in 2020. I have enjoyed doing a newsletter for several years but feel it is time to stop. I hope you will be able to read *The Retrospect* on their website and follow what MOAA is doing and attend a luncheon when you can.

Holiday Musings

Three men were met by Saint Peter at the pearly gates on Christmas Eve.

"In honor of this holy season," Saint Peter said, "You must each possess something that symbolizes Christmas to get into heaven."

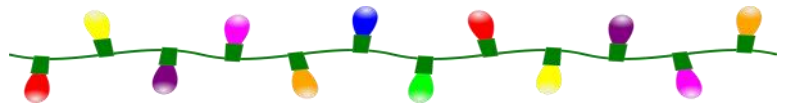
The first man fumbled through his pockets and pulled out a lighter. He flicked it on. "It represents a candle," he said. "You may pass through the pearly gates," Saint Peter said.

The second man reached into his pocket and pulled out a set of keys. He shook them and said, "They're bells." Saint Peter said, "You may pass through the pearly gates."

The third man started searching desperately through his pockets and finally pulled out a pair of women's glasses.

St. Peter looked at the man with a raised eyebrow and asked, "And just what do those symbolize?"

The man replied, "They're Carol's."



A Sign of the Times

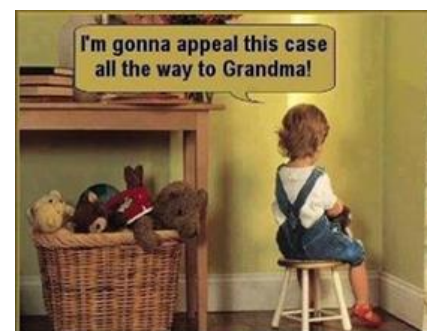
As a little girl climbed onto Santa's lap, Santa asked the usual, "And what would you like for Christmas?"

The child stared at him open mouthed and horrified for a minute, then gasped: "Didn't you get my E-mail?"

NIA

The National Institute on Aging is offering a free download of a book of exercises you can do at home

<https://order.nia.nih.gov/sites/default/files/2018-04/nia-exercise-guide.pdf>



Tea Was a Success

Theresa McKee hosted a Royal Tea to honor Hester Daly's life and love of the Military Officers Wives Club on Thursday Nov. 7 at the Empress Tea Room, 12924 Dale Mabry Hwy Tampa FL 33618.

At her request, Hester did not want a memorial service. She was a devoted member of MOWC since July 2006 until she was not physically able to attend anymore. Theresa chose a Garden Theme and requested that the guests wear florals.

Hester's daughter, Collette, was presented with a wreath symbolic of the circle of life for her mother and a white ceramic angel for her Christmas tree.

Collette told stories of her mother and was appreciative of the event. The ladies also shared stories of Hester.



New technology may protect hero military working dogs from hearing loss

By ELIZABETH MCLAUGHLIN, Nov 20, 2019, 3:06 PM ET

Read this [article online](#)

New technology has been developed to protect U.S. military working dogs from temporary and permanent hearing loss that can arise from high-decibel noise in training, transport and operations.

An Army small business innovation program provided a grant to Zeteo Tech, Inc., a Maryland-based company, to develop the Canine Auditory Protections System (CAPS) to prevent hearing loss in military working dogs, according to a press release from Army Combat Capabilities Development Command's Army Research Laboratory.

Military working dogs were thrust into the spotlight late last month when a team of U.S. special operators conducted a raid on the compound of ISIS leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi in western Syria. A Belgian Malinois chased Baghdadi into a dead-end tunnel where he ultimately detonated a suicide vest, killing himself and two young children as well as injuring the dog. That canine, later identified as Conan, was heralded by the White House and the Pentagon as a hero.



The technology has already been successful in tests with military and federal law enforcement working dogs, providing a "significant reduction in short-term hearing loss" for the canines, the Army said.

"Even a short helicopter flight can affect a dog's hearing, resulting in impaired performance and inability to hear the handler's commands, which can hinder the mission," said Dr. Stephen Lee, senior scientist at Army Research Office.



"This new technology protects the canine while on missions and can extend the dog's working life."

Current hearing protection for canines was described by the Army as "rigid, cumbersome and hard to put on the dog, with limited effectiveness in testing for the protection of canine hearing."

In contrast, CAPS uses lightweight, high-quality absorption materials to block noise. The final product is also flexible enough to conform to a dog's head, ensuring "proper sealing around the ear and maximum sound reduction."

"The snood-style headgear, resembling a close-fitting hood, uniformly distributes the pressure required to hold the hearing protection in place, while avoiding challenges associated with straps," the Army said. "At a little more than an inch thick, the device's low profile will not be a hindrance for dogs working in tight spaces. It is also compatible with other gear used by working dogs, such as goggles."

Zeteo partnered with Pete Scheifele M.D., Ph.D., a retired Navy lieutenant commander, professor at the University of Cincinnati and leading animal audiology expert, according to the Army.

Esper Asks SEALs, Navy to Focus on Standards, Ethics

NOV. 25, 2019 | BY C. TODD LOPEZ

Read this [article online](#)

Defense Secretary Dr. Mark T. Esper said he wants the Navy and the SEALs to focus now on professionalism and ethics following the resignation of Richard V. Spencer as Navy secretary.

"I want the SEALs and the Navy to move beyond this now and get fully focused on their warfighting mission, and I also want them focused on resetting their professional standards, ethics and conduct," Esper said Monday at the Pentagon. "These two issues are related and I know the service has plans to address this head-on."

Esper said he asked for Spencer's resignation because he had lost trust and confidence in Spencer, citing several rules of conduct for defense leaders that he said Spencer had violated.



Navy Seal candidates participate in "Hell Week," April 13, 2018, at Coronado, Calif. Photo By: Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Abe McNatt

Among those rules is a respect for the chain of command, supporting an agreed-upon decision in both public and private, being willing to resign if you don't like an agreed-upon position, and refraining from discussing "sensitive internal deliberations."

"Secretary Spencer broke these rules and, thus, lost my trust and confidence," Esper said.

The resignation came after Esper learned the Navy secretary had been working on a proposal different from one Pentagon leaders previously agreed upon regarding Eddie Gallagher, a Navy SEAL. Esper said he learned of that deal after meeting Saturday with President Donald J. Trump at the White House.

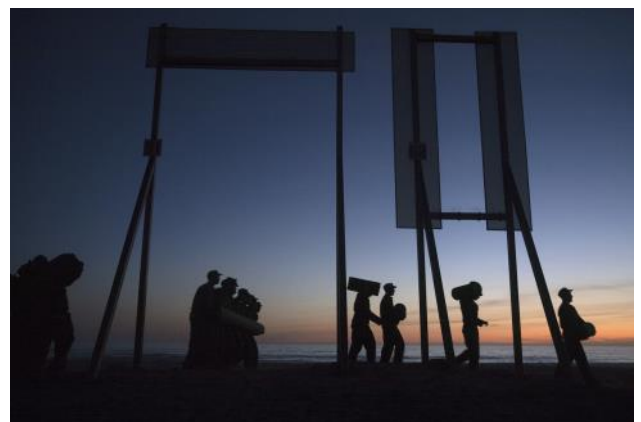
"We learned that several days prior, Secretary Spencer had proposed a deal, whereby, if the president allowed the Navy to handle the case, he would guarantee that Eddie Gallagher would be restored to rank, allowed to retain his Trident, and permitted to retire," Esper said. "This proposal was completely contrary to what we agreed to, and contrary to Secretary Spencer's public position."

He and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Mark A. Milley had been "completely caught off guard by this information, and realized that it had undermined everything we had been discussing with the president," Esper said. On Sunday, Esper contacted Spencer to ask for his resignation.

"He took it in stride and said he would have a letter to me in 30 minutes, and he did," Esper said.

Currently, Thomas B. Modly, the undersecretary of the Navy, is serving as the acting secretary. Esper said both Modly and Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Mike Gilday "are capable leaders and I am confident in their ability to lead the Navy."

Esper said the president told him on Sunday that Gallagher will keep his Trident. He is expected to retire at the end of the month.



Navy Seal candidates participate in basic underwater demolition training, April 10, 2018, at Coronado, Calif. Photo By: Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Abe McNatt

NOVEMBER LUNCHEON PHOTOS



Tampa Chapter

MOAA
 Military Officers Association of America

Chairman of the Joint Chief's
 Outstanding Public Service Award

5 Star Tampa Chapter 2012, 2014-2017



NOVEMBER OPERATION HELPING HAND DINNER PHOTOS



See photos from all of our events in the Photo Gallery on our website.

OperationHelpingHandTampa.com



VETERANS DAY PARADE AT THE JAMES A. HALEY VETERANS HOSPITAL



TOPPING OUT CEREMONY AT THE JAMES A. HALEY VETERANS HOSPITAL—21 NOVEMBER 2019



PHOTOS FROM AROUND THE WORLD (photos taken from <https://www.defense.gov/observe/photo-gallery/>)



The Thunderbirds, the U.S. Air Force's flight demonstration team, practice for a performance at the Aviation Nation air show at Nellis Air Force Base, Nev., Nov. 15, 2019. The show will be the last of the 2019 season for the Thunderbirds.



Coast Guardsmen aboard an aerial target launch ship prepare to be hoisted up into an MH-60S Seahawk helicopter during visit, board, search and seizure training in the Pacific Ocean, Nov. 12, 2019.



Army Sgt. 1st Class Shelby Bixler, a member of the Black Daggers, the U.S. Army Special Operations Command's parachute demonstration team, parachutes through the air with an American flag at Fort Stewart, Ga., Nov. 20, 2019.



First responders practice maneuvering their boats into rotor wash from a West Virginia Army National Guard UH-60M Black Hawk helicopter during a swift water search and rescue training exercise in the Kanawha River, W.Va., Nov. 15, 2019.



Army Sgt Vincent Loranty and Staff Sgt. Christopher Jung wave to other aircraft after flying over the NFL's military appreciation game in Nashville, Tenn., Nov. 10, 2019.



Navy Seaman Rakeem Williams stands watch aboard the USS John P. Murtha in the Pacific Ocean during a lightning storm, Nov. 18, 2019. The amphibious transport dock ship is on a regularly scheduled deployment.



Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Sarah Salazar reunites with a loved one as the guided missile cruiser USS Lake Erie returns to Naval Base San Diego, Nov. 18, 2019, after a deployment to the U.S. 3rd Fleet and U.S. 7th Fleet areas of operations.



U.S. Marines and Indian service members wade at to shore at Kakinada Beach, India, Nov. 19, 2019, during a disaster response training scenario. The training was part of Tiger Triumph, an exercise that aims to improve partnership, readiness and cooperation.



An M1128 Stryker Mobile Gun System engages mock enemy targets during live-fire training at Fort Irwin, Calif., Nov. 8, 2019.

Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class Timothy Hekker and Petty Officer 2nd Class Jackson Johnson prepare to use a lift balloon to recover a simulated mine during training in Rockingham, Australia, Nov. 13, as part of Dugong, an exercise with Australian, Canadian, New Zealand and British armed forces.



Sailors fight a simulated fire during a damage control training exercise aboard the amphibious dock landing ship USS Harpers Ferry in the Pacific Ocean, Nov. 9, 2019.



MOAA TAMPA CHAPTER 2020 DUES RENEWAL FORM

DUES: \$25.00

DEADLINE FOR RENEWING MEMBERSHIP IS 1 JANUARY 2020

HELP US MAINTAIN A CURRENT MEMBERSHIP ROSTER BY UPDATING INFORMATION THAT HAS CHANGED SINCE LAST YEAR:

RANK, NAME, SERVICE: _____

DOB: _____

ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

PHONE NUMBER: CELL/HOME: _____

SPOUSE/SIGNIFICANT OTHER: _____

NO CHANGES: _____

Dues may be sent to the Membership Chairman at the following address **OR** delivered in person at a Chapter Luncheon.

MAILING ADDRESS:
COL. WILLIAM SCHNEIDER, USA (RET)
15888 Sanctuary Drive
Tampa, FL 33647-1076

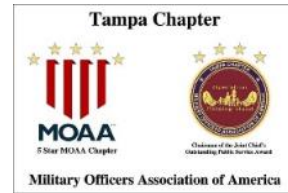
Consider donating to our scholarship fund.

Amount Enclosed:
Dues: \$25.00
Scholarship: \$ _____
TOTAL: \$ _____

Make check(s) payable to: MOAA Tampa Chapter

NOTE: MOAA NATIONAL DUES MUST BE PAID SEPARATELY (<http://www.moaa.org>)





November 8, 2019

MOAA Tampa Chapter Membership Survey 2020: Change in luncheon location and speaker/topic suggestions

Dear MOAA Tampa Chapter Member,

In order to bring you the best value and even greater social experience during the MOAA Tampa Chapter Luncheons, the Board of Directors is considering changing the meeting location for the Chapter’s monthly luncheons.

Some of the reasons for changing the location are to:

- eliminate the need for vetting base access to members and guests to get on base
- improve the quality of the food and beverage service for the cost involved
- enhance the audiovisual support
- provide greater flexibility to accommodate the growing needs of our Chapter

We are interested in knowing how the general membership feels about meeting off base.

Please take a moment to complete your response below:

If you are in favor of moving the location, please recommend off-post venue(s)for the Board to consider. Provide the name of dining establishment, contact person and phone number or email (if known):

We are interested in your suggestions for specific topics or guest speakers that the Tampa Chapter Programs Officer consider for the calendar year 2020. Provide a BRIEF description of topic, contact person’s name and phone number/email address:

Your Name and Contact information: _____

Send your completed form/information to: Dick Siegman at dicknick2@msn.com or bring to the next Chapter Luncheon.

THANK YOU for your input.
MOAA Tampa Chapter Board

**SCHOLARSHIP ELIGIBILITY AND REQUIREMENTS
MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA TAMPA CHAPTER**

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

Be a dependent or grandchild of a member of the MOAA Tampa Chapter who has been in good standing for a minimum period of one year prior to the date of application. Be a graduating senior from a secondary school.

Have a GPA of 3.0 or higher OR documented IEP/504 Status.

Complete the Scholarship Application Form.

Attend the June 11, 2020, Luncheon & Awards Ceremony. Attendance is required by the **recipient or immediate family member** in order to receive the scholarship award.

REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS:

Submission of proof of Military Affiliation (DD214 or Military ID) of the sponsoring MOAA Tampa Chapter member as the applicant must be a depend or grandchild of a member of the MOAA Tampa Chapter.

Submission of proof of 3.0 GPA in the form of the high school transcript OR transcript and IEP/504.

Submission of two written letters of reference from someone other than a relative. References may be from teachers, school counselor, clergy, work supervisor, etc.

An acceptance letter from an accredited college, community college, or university with Student ID number included.

A letter **written by the student** in which he/she explains his/her goals, academic experience, and extracurricular activities.

A completed Scholarship Application Form (see Application on the web page). **No late documentation will be accepted.**

A color photo head shot or student senior picture (or a scanned photo sent via email in jpeg format).

The selection committee reserves the right to limit the scholarship awards to one per sponsor.

Submit completed application package by 1 April 2020 to:

MGEN (Ret) James G. Jones
15824 Sanctuary Drive
Tampa, FL 33647

**MOAA TAMPA CHAPTER
SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION**

Date of Application: _____

Name of Sponsor: _____

Date sponsor joined chapter: _____ Sponsor MOAA National # _____

Student Name: _____

Student Address: _____

City State Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Graduating School: _____

College Accepted: _____ Student ID #: _____

Academic Awards & Honors (Name & Year Received):

School Activities (Clubs, bands, athletics, etc. – Name & Year):

Other Extracurricular Activities, Community Activities (scouting, volunteering, employment, etc. – Name & Year):

Late or incomplete applications will not be considered.