

Upcoming Events

**OUR BOARD WILL MEET AT
1000 on:
+ 07 NOVEMBER
+ 05 DECEMBER
+ 02 JANUARY 2020**

**LUNCHEON
MEETING WILL BE HELD AT
1130
AT SURF'S EDGE CLUB ON
MACDILL AIR FORCE BASE ON
14 NOVEMBER**

**Reserve your seat by
11 November by call-
ing: (813) 676-4676 and fol-
lowing the prompts.**

**MENU:
GARDEN SALAD
ROASTED TURKEY AND GRA-
VY MASHED POTATOES
GREEN BEAN CASSEROLE
DINNER ROLLS AND BUTTER
PUMPKIN PIE**

**PUBLICATION
DEADLINE FOR THE
DECEMBER ISSUE IS
25 NOVEMBER 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.moaaatampa.org/>.

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



**PRESIDENT
COL ZIERES USA RE-
TIRED**

In an ongoing effort to keep you informed on the most current chapter news and activities, I'm pleased to announce we have added yet another electronic portal where you can now access the RETROSPECT newsletter on FACEBOOK social media. If you don't already have a Facebook account, just GOOGLE "Facebook" and set it up. It's simple and it's totally free! As a Facebook user, you can search, "MOAA Tampa Chapter," then connect by clicking the word, "Like" in the lower left hand corner of the Facebook page. Soon thereafter you should receive automatic updates in your news feed and you will also be able to interact with the Chapter's Facebook page by leaving comments, if you so desire. I want to remind everyone that MOAA and its affiliated chapters and councils are non-partisan. As a nonprofit Veterans organization, we do not support endorsements of any political candidate running for office, whatsoever! With that said, we strictly adhere to this policy during all events hosted by Tampa Chapter MOAA, whether on or off MacDill Air Force Base. Aside

from being an election month, November also opens the window for our chapter dues renewal. To remain an active chapter member in good standing, I ask that you pay your dues (a personal check or money order is preferred in the amount of \$25) no later than JANUARY 1, 2020. A dues renewal instruction letter will be sent to you very soon, either by e-mail or mailed to your home address on file. Your continued support of the Tampa Chapter is very much appreciated. We strive to make our luncheons meaningful, educational, and fun – "Camaraderie with a Purpose." Our Programs officer is always seeking guest speakers and topics that are of interest to you for our monthly luncheons. If there is a particular topic you would like to hear or you know of someone whom you think we should contact as a potential future guest speaker, by all means please speak up! We are open to suggestions for calendar year 2020.

At our October luncheon, we were privileged to have as our guest speaker FBI Agent TIMOTHY BONARSKI, who, with a generous use of visuals, provided a non-technical overview of the FBI in our national defense. Another highlight of the luncheon included honoring two new SNR Coalition Officers, accompanied by the Chairman of the Coalition, BGEN HENRIK LARSEN, who also joined us for lunch: MAJ GEN SIMON HUMPHREY - Senior British Military Advisor from the UK, and COL KHALID ALKHAYAREEN from Qatar. It is always a pleasure to have this unique opportunity to meet some of our foreign allies from USCENTCOM who stand with the United States in the continuing fight of the Global War on Terrorism. Just a couple of reminders for our upcoming November luncheon; the dress code is our fall/winter business casual dress (Coat with tie optional). Since November is our special Thanksgiving luncheon, I'd like you to also consider bringing a guest. Planning ahead, we are looking for volunteers to help out with our Christmas luncheon on 12 December. Dolores Incremona is our chairperson and is coordinating donations for the Christmas raffle/silent auction and table decorations. Please contact her at afocelanlady@verizon.net if you have a special item (i.e., piece of artwork, needle craft or other handcrafted item, gift basket, etc.) that you would like to donate for this event. I am also pleased to announce that FIRST COMMAND Financial Services Inc. (Tampa Office) is a co-sponsor of the Chapter Christmas/Holiday luncheon this year and has already pledged a donation to help defray some of the costs, such as the musical entertainment (violinist) and will be holding a table decorating contest judging the best dressed table, giving away a nice prize! So, Ladies, and gentlemen too, bring in your finest round Christmas table cloths and centerpieces with you to the Surf's Edge Club early (and by early, I mean by 1000 hrs) on December 12th.....let's make this the most festive holiday luncheon we've ever had! I wish you all a Happy Veterans Day and a very Happy Thanksgiving to you and yours. Thank you for your service.

"AS ALWAYS, WE'VE GOT YOUR BACK"

"—NEVER STOP SERVING —"

"TAKING CARE OF OUR TROOPS IS A LIFETIME COMMITMENT"

NOVEMBER SPEAKER: MR. WILLIAM Y. ARCURI



Born on August 7, 1947 in Tallahassee, Florida and raised in an Air Force Family, Bill Arcuri attended the USAF Academy Preparatory School prior to attending West Point. He graduated from the United States Military Academy at West Point in June 1970 and was commissioned a second lieutenant in the US Air Force. Bill attended Graduate Pilot Training at Moody AFB, GA and received his pilot wings in July 1971. He was then assigned to the 744th Bomb Squadron, Beale AFB, CA as a SAC B52G Co-Pilot.

Mr. Arcuri flew the B52G from Anderson AFB, Guam in support of Line Backer I/II from May 1972 to December 1972. He was flying his 44th mission when his aircraft was shot down on December 20, 1972 over Yin Ven, North Vietnam and he was captured and interned at the Hoa Lo Prison known as the "Hanoi Hilton". As a result of injuries, Mr. Arcuri was released in the first group of POWs on February 12, 1973. He later upgraded to Aircraft Commander in the B52G and served as an Officer Controller in the SAC Command Post at Beale AFB. Arcuri resigned from the USAF in July 1976 as a Captain. He worked as a System Engineer for Ross Perot's EDS and then Perot Systems until he retired in 2011.

His awards and decorations include the Distinguished Flying Cross with Valor Device, the Bronze Star with Valor Device, the Purple Heart, the Air Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster and the POW Medal. He continues to be very active with Veteran organizations including Project 425—Vietnam Huey Crewmember, Forgotten Soldiers Outreach, Inc. Board Member, Renewal Coalition Jupiter/Tequesta, Wounded Veteran Commemorative Project—West Point Class of 1970.

He is also a Trustee for the Friends of Andersonville which is the site of the National POW Museum.



Oakland Tribune, front page pictures of Bill and his wife on Valentines Day, 2/14/1973.



Just Released from Hanoi and arriving at Clark AFB.

His Distinguished Flying Cross w/Valor Citation reads: First Lieutenant William Y Arcuri distinguished himself by heroism while participating in aerial flight as a B-52 Copilot near Hanoi, North Vietnam, on 20 December 1972. On that date, while engaged in one of the largest conventional bombing raids ever amassed in the recent history of aerial warfare, Lieutenant Arcuri was forced to bail out over hostile territory due to significant battle damage to his aircraft as the result of extremely heavy hostile fire. Lieutenant Arcuri and his crew were in quest of massed supplies, communications equipment, and transportation lines in order to eliminate the aggressor's capacity to initiate an offensive, and, despite receiving heavy battle damage and incurring grave personal danger, Lieutenant Arcuri and his crew were able to destroy the target before being forced to abandon their aircraft. The outstanding heroism and selfless devotion to duty displayed by Lieutenant Arcuri reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Air Force.

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR



CAPT DVORNIK

Happy Marine Corps Birthday to all of our Marine Corps Tampa Chapter Members. Last month we did an expanded story from the Department of Defense. This month we are featuring two stories. One story reports our Exchanges will no longer carry vaping products and another is about the strategic imperative to start a Space Force.

If you can proof read and have longed to be connected with some form of journalism then you can become Editor of the Retrospect. I will be stepping down after publication of the December issue. I have said it before and will say it again – the new Editor whomever he or she may be -- will find that it is a pleasure to work with a total professional like Melissa Marison who pulls everything together each month. She makes the Editor position easy and we are indeed fortunate to have her services. Please contact me at DSDvornik2@msn.com for more information. Looking forward to welcoming you aboard

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



Daylight Savings Time ends on 3 November and so does our informal dress. Please remember to wear a coat (tie optional) to the November Luncheon at the Surf's Edge on 14 November.

LEGISLATIVE LOWDOWN

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

Greetings to all of MOAA's Tampa Chapter members and those aspiring to join our great chapter. I thank you all for your continued support of MOAA's legislative agenda. As mentioned a few weeks ago at our October luncheon, your engagement has been both acknowledged and impactful. Your voice is shaking the Hill. Let's continue to sound off by closing the year with a large and powerful wave of letters to our legislators that address the critical issues MOAA continues to tackle. Of which, there are two top issues MOAA's leaders are asking for your support and immediate action this month.

The first critical concern remains the approval of the FY2020 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). Beyond authorizing over \$733 billion in defense spending, the Act contains three embedded provisions we must follow closely:



COL Charles
Dalcourt, USA RET
Legislative Affairs
Liaison

the provision addressing the "widow's tax," wherein survivors of deceased servicemembers must forfeit part or all of their purchased SBP annuity when they are awarded the VA's Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC);
the provision seeking to stop the proposed cut of nearly 18,000 medical billets, roughly 20% of our military medicine positions, that will undoubtedly impact health care on the battlefield and at our local facilities; and
the legislation focusing on the myriad issues with privatized military housing.

You can make a difference by logging on today and submitting a prepared message to your Congressional Representative. It is easy to do. Here is the link: <http://takeaction.moaa.org/app/write-a-letter?6&engagementId=502302>.

The second issue is the consolidation of the Commissaries and the Military Exchanges as recommended in the study conducted by the Reform Management Group, titled "Study to Determine the Feasibility of Consolidation of the Defense Resale Entities" and dated December 4, 2018.

You can read Sections 631 and 632 of the FY2020 NDAA for more detailed information at the following: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/2500/text#toc-H4EB39C2CA39B406DAF7A9B0A3B0AA4B0>.

Succinctly, these sections call for the Government Accounting Office to conduct an independent review of the business case analysis supportive of merging the Defense Commissary Agency and Military Exchanges and requires the Secretary of Defense to submit to the congressional defense committees a report regarding management practices of military commissaries and exchanges not later than 180 days after the enactment of the FY2020 NDAA.

In addition to the aforementioned issues, please keep an eye on all of the legislative priorities for 2019 using the following link: <https://www.moaa.org/content/publications-and-media/news-articles/2018-news-articles/advocacy/2019Goals/>.

See More:

MOAA Legislative Action Center

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

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





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



2019 BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

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SENIOR MEMBER: MAJ GEN JAMES JONES USAF RET



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SURF'S EDGE LIAISON: LT COL RICHARD SIEGMAN USAF RET

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Post Office Box 6383, MacDill AF
Tampa, FL 33608-0383
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NOVEMBER 1
COL THOMAS BOWMAN USMC RET
COL JOSEPH BRICKLEMYER USMC RET
LT COL WILLIAM P FARNHAM USAFR RET
LCDR NAVIN GRIFFIN USCG AD
AUXILIARY MEMBER DORIS SANDERS
NOVEMBER 5
LT COL JACQUELINE BOULANGER USAFR RET
LCDR LARRY CAREY USN RET
AUXILIARY MEMBER PATRICIA LAUNIKITIS
NOVEMBER 6
MAJ SCOTTY CLELAND USAF RET
MAJ WILLIAM E HALL USAF RET
NOVEMBER 8
MAJ EUGENE T HAND USA RET
COL SIDNEY STUBBS USMC RET
NOVEMBER 9
MAJ PHIL SCHWARTZ USAF RET
NOVEMBER 10
COL CHARLES J DALCOURT USA RET
NOVEMBER 13
LTCOL GERARD LYONS USMC RET
BG JAMES VOGEL AIR NATIONAL GUARD RET
NOVEMBER 14
LT COL ANNIE BOHANDY USAF RET
AUXILIARY MEMBER BETTY HUDDLESTON
NOVEMBER 15
COL RICHARD RHYNE SR USAF RET
LT GEN MARTIN R STEELE USMC RET
NOVEMBER 16
AUXILIARY MEMBER MARIE DIXON
MAJ JAY KENT USAF RET
NOVEMBER 17
CAPT HECTOR QUILES USN RET
NOVEMBER 24
COL GARRY TENNEY USA RET
NOVEMBER 25
LT COL THEODORE F COCHEU USAF RET
NOVEMBER 27
COL DARVIN SUTER USAF RET
NOVEMBER 28
LTC FRANCIS SMITH USA RET
NOVEMBER 29
COL KENNETH CULL USA RET
MAJ SAMUEL R SLAUGHTER USA RET
MAJ DARREN SPENCER USAF AD
NOVEMBER 30
FORMER NAVY LT ROSS CUTLER
CAPT B J KEEPERS USN RET
CDR LUD MCKAY USN RET
Is your NOVEMBER birthday missing?
JUST SEND A NOTE TO: CW2 THOMAS SOUTH USA RET
south1811@gmail.com



Harry Livingston, LTC USA (Ret) passed away on
September 18, 2019

Mrs. Hester Daly, Surviving Spouse member of the
chapter passed away on July 13, 2019

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.



Palm Beach-Martin Counties Chapter
 Military Officers Association of America

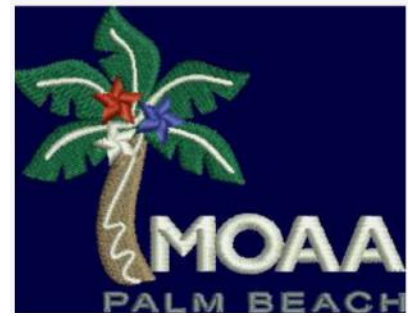
FCOC Convention 2020!

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.

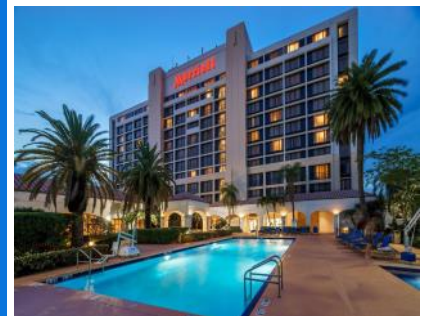


**C2020:
 Thur-Fri-Sat-Sun
 May 28, 29, 30, 31**

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
moaapalmbeach@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.



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, *CW3 Bill Farrow, USA, Sick Call Chairman*



The Marines Corps birthday will take place on Sunday, November 10, 2019. The Marine Corps turns 244 years old.

The birthday itself was formally recognized in 1921 at the behest of Major General John Lejeune, who ordered November 10, 1775 to be officially recognized service-wide as the Marine Corps birthday.

The origins go back to the Revolutionary War in October of 1775. At that time the Continental Congress developed an official plan to use Marines to oversee a mission to intercept ammunition shipments from Britain. This, and a November resolution to create an official standing Marine Corps force, were key in building what eventually became the modern U.S. Marine Corps. Thus 10 November, 1775, the day the Continental Marines were created serves as the official Marine Corps birthday.

Read more: <https://militarybenefits.info/marine-corps-birthday/#ixzz63VHKv6Zz>

November Dates to Remember...

National Military Family Month—Entire Month
Warrior Care Month—Entire Month
National Family Caregivers Month—Entire Month
Daylight Savings Time Ends—November 3
Marine Corps Day/Birthday—November 10
Veterans Day—November 11
Armistice/Remembrance Day—November 11
Thanksgiving Day—Fourth Thursday in November



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 sincere thanks and appreciation to KINDRED HOSPITAL for sponsoring our OCTOBER DINNER. Also, our thanks to the great crowd of volunteers who made the evening a fantastic event. RALPH LUPTON'S folks provided an excellent dinner.

Our NOVEMBER DINNER sponsor is BOOZ|ALLEN| HAMILTON. Over many years they have been invaluable to the overall success of OPERATION HELPING HAND. The COLUMBIA RES-

TAURANT will be this month's caterer. As always, MIKE'S PIES and BLUEBELL ICE CREAM provided a very tasty dessert. You both are greatly appreciated!

As our administrative notes state in our monthly invitation: "our dinners are not the place to network or push your products or business services." I would also add that our dinners are not the place to push any political agenda. Both MOAA and OPERATION HELPING HAND are considered to be APO-LITICAL. We push agendas that are 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. Every year MOAA members send hundreds of thousands of postcards and phone calls to members of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES and US SENATE informing them of the very important issues that are supported by the MOAA MEMBERS.

As always, a 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 of our local business community and their commitment to sponsor our dinners and golf tournament, and provide generous donations throughout the year, along with the individual support we receive from numerous donors every month by 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 CHAPLAIN (COL) BERNARD H LIEVING JR USA RET



CINDY AND CHAPLAIN (COL)
BERNARD H LIEVING JR USA RET

The month of November provides us with numerous opportunities to be thankful for our lives, for men and women who serve or have served in the uniforms of our nation, and, of course, for the special day set aside for "Thanksgiving."

On the 10th we honor the 244th anniversary of the establishment of the United States Marine Corps. Again, this month there is a verse of the hymn "Eternal Father, Strong to Save" for the Corps: "Eternal Father, grant, we pray, to all Marines, both night and day, the courage, honor, strength, and skill their land to serve, thy law fulfill; be Thou the shield forevermore from every peril to the Corps."

The 11th gives us the opportunity to honor those who have served and are still with us. I remember from my youth when this day was called Armistice Day as a way of commemorating the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month in 1918 when the armistice between Germany and the allied nations was signed ending World War 1. In 1954 it officially became Veterans Day. Then its celebration got bounced around a bit with Congress in 1968 moving it to the 4th Monday of October and then, thankfully, in 1975 President Ford signed a law moving it back to November 11th. So, on November 11, 2019 we honor, give thanks, and pledge our support for all who have served.

The 28th is set aside as a day of national thanksgiving officially recognized by Presidents Washington, Adams and Madison and then there was a twenty-seven year absence until 1863 when President Lincoln's Proclamation set the 4th Thursday of November as Thanksgiving. Since then every President has issued a Thanksgiving Proclamation.

Most worshipping congregations appropriately sing an 1844 hymn written by an Anglican priest, "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come." Henry Alford wrote: "Come, ye thankful people, come, raise the song of harvest home; all is safely gathered in ere the winter storms begin; God, our maker, doth provide for our wants to be supplied; come to God's own temple, come, raise the song of harvest home."

Let's all take advantage this month to say "thank you" on these special days set aside for commemoration and celebration.

Sen. Rick Scott Applauds Decision to Keep Coast Guard Contract in Florida's Panhandle

Friday, October 11, 2019

Read this article [online](#)

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Today, Senator Rick Scott released the statement below after the announcement that the U.S. Coast Guard will grant an extension to Panama City-based Eastern Shipbuilding's Offshore Patrol Cutter contract. Eastern Shipbuilding requested this extension following the devastating impacts of Hurricane Michael to its shipbuilding facilities and available labor last year.

Senator Rick Scott said, "Since Hurricane Michael hit last year, I've been fighting to make sure Florida families and businesses have everything they need to fully recover and get back to their normal lives. I applaud the Coast Guard's decision to continue the Offshore Patrol Cutter project in Panama City as the community keeps working to rebuild from the storm. This is incredible news for the local economy and the many families who depend on these jobs, and ensures the Coast Guard has the resources it needs to protect our national security."

Earlier this year, Senator Scott and Senator Marco Rubio introduced the Restore Coast Guard Capabilities Act to give the U.S. Coast Guard the authority to take into account the impacts of Hurricane Michael to modify this contract with Panama City-based Eastern Shipbuilding. Senator Scott also worked with Senator Rubio and his colleagues on the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation to include their proposal in the Coast Guard Reauthorization Act of 2019, passed by the Committee in July.

**Read this bulletin sent by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security
10/11/2019 11:00 AM EDT**

[READ ONLINE](#)

DHS extends contract relief for Offshore Patrol Cutter
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
Office of Public Affairs

**DHS extends contract relief for Offshore Patrol Cutter**

WASHINGTON – The Department of Homeland Security, after extensive analysis by the U.S. Coast Guard and further review by a Contract Adjustment Board chaired by the Department's Deputy Under Secretary for Management, has granted limited extraordinary contract relief to Eastern Shipbuilding Group (ESG) for the Offshore Patrol Cutter (OPC) contract under the authority of Public Law (P.L.) 85-804.

ESG submitted a request in June 2019, for extraordinary contract relief after their shipbuilding facilities sustained significant damage resulting from Hurricane Michael, a Category 5 storm, in October 2018.

After review of the request for relief, Acting Secretary of Homeland Security Kevin K. McAleenan made the decision to grant extraordinary contract relief limited to the first four hulls on the basis that ESG's performance on the OPC contract is vital to the national defense.

P.L. 85-804 was enacted in 1958 and extended to DHS through Presidential Executive Order in 2003. Under this law, an existing contract may be amended or modified when such actions are necessary to facilitate the national defense. The Coast Guard will immediately transition to a follow-on competitive contract for the remaining OPC program of record.

The OPC program remains one of the Department's highest acquisition priorities. This decision will ensure critical capabilities for our national and homeland security, and delivery for service to the American public as expeditiously and responsibly as possible.

Read More on this topic:

[Rubio Applauds Commerce Committee Passage of the Restore Coast Guard Capabilities Act to Build Offshore Patrol Cutters](#)

Defense Official Builds Case for Creating Space Force

Oct. 11, 2019 | By David Vergun

Read this story [online here](#)



The U.S. military and the commercial sector rely heavily on space-enabled capabilities, and the Defense Department must protect those assets and maintain U.S. superiority in the space domain, the deputy assistant secretary of defense for space policy said.

Stephen L. Kitay spoke as part of a panel discussion at an AFCEA luncheon in Arlington, Va. AFCEA is a nonprofit organization that serves as a forum for advancing professional knowledge and relationships in communications, information technology, intelligence and security.

"U.S. interest in space is expanding, and the threats are correspondingly expanding," Kitay said, noting that China launched an anti-satellite weapon against one of its own satellites in 2007 to

demonstrate that it can knock out satellites. In December, he noted, Russia boasted that it has a ground-based laser that can take out satellites. Cyber threats also figure into the equation. "The threat is real and here," he said.

DOD is no longer viewing space as a support function, but as a warfighting domain -- a domain of potential crisis and conflict, he said. The department advocates for the creation of a sixth branch of the armed forces to meet that mission, he added. "We believe we have a strategic imperative to create a Space Force," he said. The Space Force would unify space-related activities within DOD, he explained.

Kitay noted that the Air Force, which used to be part of the Army, became a separate service in 1947 because it had become clear that in addition to supporting ground forces, air power also is necessary to maintaining air superiority.

In similar fashion, he said, the nation needs to maintain space superiority and protect freedom of operations in that domain. "Future operations will likely start or extend into space," he added, "and we have to be ready for that." A space-centric identity and culture would be another important aspect of creating a sixth military branch, Kitay said.



Funding legislation for creating a Space Force is pending in Congress. Kitay said additional money would go toward supporting the warfighter from the space domain, not toward adding more layers of bureaucracy.

Much of the Space Force could be built from existing structure within the services and DOD, he said. For example, the Space Development Agency most likely would be merged into the new service at an appropriate time after the Space Force is stood up. Some space assets residing in each of the services and the department would not be incorporated into the Space Force, he said, citing the National Reconnaissance Office as an example.

U.S. Space Command, which activated in August, would remain as a combatant command, focused on warfighting aspects, he said.

Military Exchanges Extinguish Vape Sales

OCT. 15, 2019 | BY C. TODD LOPEZ

Read this story [online here](#)

The Army and Air Force Exchange Service and the Navy Exchange have temporarily stopped selling vape-related products. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention statistics report that 1,299 lung injury cases and 26 deaths are related to e-cigarette or vaping product use.

AAFES temporarily removed vape-related products from its shelves Sept. 30. Navy Exchange Service Command temporarily removed products from NEX retail shelves and directed NEX concessionaires and vendors to temporarily discontinue the sale of vaping products after Oct. 1.

Vape products, including e-cigs, e-cigarettes, vapes and e-hookahs, are electronic nicotine delivery devices that heat a sometimes flavored nicotine-infused liquid into a vapor that users inhale. In recent months, there have been reports of illnesses and deaths that are believed to be associated with the use of vape products.

"The vapor that users inhale can contain ultrafine particles, carcinogens, volatile organic compounds and heavy metals," said Public Health Service Capt. Kimberly Elenberg, director of Total Force Fitness for the undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness. "Vaping is not harmless, and researchers are still trying to understand the long-term impacts and health effects from inhaling the vapor."

“ Vaping is not harmless, and researchers are still trying to understand the long-term impacts and health effects from inhaling the vapor.”

~Public Health Service Capt. Kimberly Elenberg, director of Total Force Fitness for the undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness



NEXCOM officials said Navy exchanges carried two vape-related products in the tobacco sale area of their stores. Those products, "e-cigarettes," have been temporarily removed from shelves. Additionally, NEXCOM directed Navy Exchange concessionaires and vendors to temporarily discontinue the sale of vaping products in any NEX location.

AAFES officials said their stores' offering of vape-related products already was limited, and that its exchanges had already stopped offering flavored vape liquids because of Food and Drug Administration concerns with the appeal of the products to underage customers. By the end of September, AAFES had removed products from two manufacturers from its shelves.

While proponents of vape products argue that vaping is safer than using traditional tobacco products such as cigarettes, Elenberg said it's actually too early to tell. "E-cigarettes generally contain less chemicals compared to traditional products like cigarettes, but since the long-term effects of vaping are unknown and not understood, there is not enough information at this time to make a determination on whether it is safer or healthier than other tobacco products," she said.

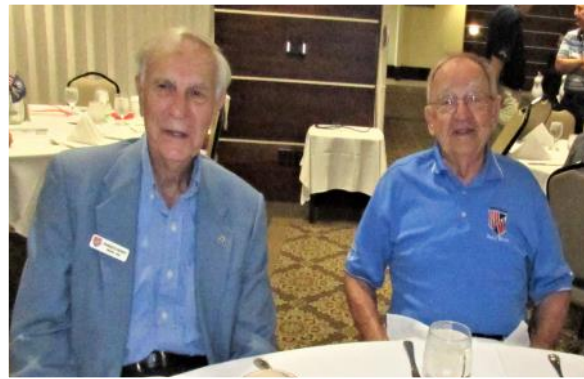
Even if the ingestion of nicotine is deemed safer through vaping than through traditional products, nicotine itself is still a dangerous chemical, said Dr. Donald Shell, the director of disease prevention, disease management and population health policy and oversight in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Services Policy and Oversight.

"Nicotine is an extremely addictive, naturally occurring toxic chemical derived from the tobacco plant that affects the nervous system and the heart," Shell said. "Nicotine is a teratogen, as it is capable of causing birth defects. Other developmental or reproductive toxicities associated with the use of nicotine are unknown."



While current information regarding nicotine as a carcinogen is inconclusive, Shell said, nicotine is highly addictive, and young adults and adolescents are especially vulnerable to its addictive properties.

OCTOBER LUNCHEON PHOTOS



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2019 Star Spangled Art Event

You are invited to attend the Seventh Annual Star Spangled Art Exhibits at St. Petersburg College Tarpon Springs Campus November 12th to December 10th.
Sponsored by Operation Helping Hand, Tarpon MOAA and St. Petersburg College, Tarpon Springs Campus

Reception
Saturday, November 16th, 3-5PM
Refreshments provided

St. Petersburg College, Tarpon Springs Campus
800 E. Klosterman Rd., Fine Arts Building FA132

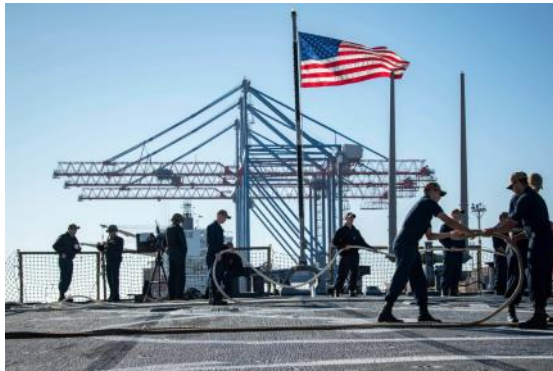
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OCTOBER OPERATION HELPING HAND DINNER PHOTOS



PHOTOS FROM AROUND THE WORLD—Photos Found [Online at Defense.Gov](https://www.defense.gov)



Sailors aboard the USS Porter handle line during a sea and anchor detail in Odessa, Ukraine, Oct. 16, 2019.



A Navy MH-60S Seahawk helicopter hoists search and rescue swimmers during a training exercise in the Arabian Sea, Oct. 13, 2019.



Air Force Staff Sgt. Tomas Gonzales screws fins onto a BDU-50 practice munition at Royal Air Force Fairford, England, Oct. 16, 2019.



Marine Corps Staff Sgt. Taylor C. Coughlin fires a GAU-17/A machine gun out of a UH-1Y Huey helicopter at Col. Ernesto Ravina Air Base, Philippines, Oct. 13, 2019, during Exercise Kamandag 3. The exercise aims to enhance military-to-military relationships and multinational coordination.



An airman reunites with his daughter upon returning to Aviano Air Base, Italy, Oct. 8, 2019, following a deployment.



A soldier fires an M17 pistol from the prone position during training at McGregor Range, N.M., Oct. 10, 2019.



Soldiers assigned to the Presidential Salute Battery of the 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment, known as “The Old Guard,” fire a cannon at Arlington National Cemetery,



Soldiers test M1A2 Abrams tanks during a live-fire accuracy screening test at Fort Bliss, Texas, Oct. 18, 2019.



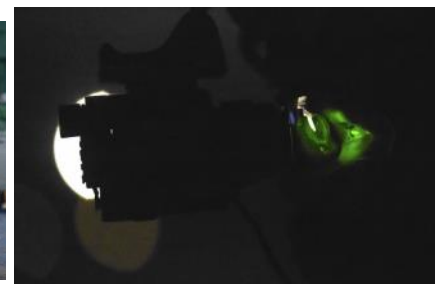
Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class Alexis Maldonado moves munition aboard the USS Milius in the Sea of Japan, Oct. 11, 2019.



An explosive ordnance disposal technician prepares a remote-controlled robotic for a mission during Exercise Northern Coasts in Putlos, Germany, Sept. 13, 2019.



A Navy explosive ordnance disposal technician searches a pier for simulated improvised explosive devices in Keflavik, Iceland, Sept. 17, 2019, during Northern Challenge, an annual exercise hosted by the Icelandic coast guard.



Marine Corps Cpl. Jeffrey Starnes conducts night platoon operations during training at Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center Twentynine Palms, Calif., Oct. 9, 2019.

Why Not Join MOAA?

If you're already a Tampa Chapter member in good standing (you paid your 2020 dues, \$25.00), you should also consider becoming a member of MOAA National, if you're not already. You might be wondering, "What's in it for me?" The Military Officers Association of America is the most highly regarded organization providing unparalleled advocacy on behalf of all military service members. Membership includes all of the uniformed service branches: active duty, former, retired, National Guard and Reserve commissioned and warrant officers and their surviving spouses.

MOAA offers three levels of membership: **BASIC**, **PREMIUM** and **LIFE**. The following is a brief summary of each level:

BASIC: this level of membership costs you *nothing*. Just sign up on the MOAA website at www.MOAA.org. What do you get with your membership at this level? You'll receive electronic newsletters on current military subjects and will have opportunities to assist in MOAA's wide ranging efforts to make military life even more fulfilling. Moreover, you'll receive discounts on products and services, including travel and entertainment. You'll get access to the digital version of the monthly magazine, Military Officer. There's also the spouse support program, career assistance, scholarship opportunities and other networking events to keep you informed of the top issues affecting you.

PREMIUM: this level of membership costs \$48 annually. In addition to the benefits of Basic membership, you also have access to member books and guides, financial education and consumer advice, advice on military pay & benefits, career transition resources and a subscription to the Military Officer magazine.

LIFE: the cost for this level of membership is based on your age at time of enrollment. This level of membership is the best value and showcases your commitment to the goals of MOAA with full benefits which are also transferable to surviving spouses of deceased MOAA members.

To fully explore the advantages of membership in the Nation's leading advocacy organization protecting the rights of military service members and their families, go to the MOAA website, www.MOAA.org. You'll be joining over 350,000 officers who, together with you, add their voices in support of legislation that benefits the entire military community and fights to stop legislation that threatens their livelihood and benefits. MOAA's promise to the country, and yours too: **Never Stop Serving.**





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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.

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2019
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Painting by Carol Zieres



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