



August 2019



Our August MOAA meeting will be a luau party, so come dressed in your favorite Hawaiian shirt, grass skirt, coconut bra, leis, or any fun colorful attire.

The party starts at **4:00 pm** with piña coladas, margaritas, macadamia nuts, and tropical fruit as some of the appetizers. And yes, there will be spam!

The Hawaiian dinner will be served at 5:00 pm, and there will be plenty of pineapple and coconut.

After dinner we will have a short business meeting followed by hula dancing, coconut contests, and more piña coladas. Aloha!

Next Dinner Meeting 1600 –Saturday– 17 August 2019

The location for the meeting this month is at the

Grove Hill Club House

Turn into Grove Hill Subdivision off Moores Mill Rd.

Club house is on the left by pool.

Please RSVP at 334-826-1107 or by email to

bohler1107@charter.net by Thursday, 15 August 2019 by 2100.

Cost:

\$20 per person

Time:

1600--Social

1700--Dinner

If you need a ride, or have questions, please call 826-1107.

This month's meeting is a **membership drive**, so if you know of a retired officer, reservist, or officer on active duty who is not a member of our organization please invite them to attend. Send an email to the RSVP address with their email address and a newsletter will be sent to them. **We have 83 members at this time.**

Menu

Salad

Chicken Teriyaki w/ Pineapple

Hawaiian Pulled Pork

Rice/ Sweet Potato

Green Beans

Dinner Rolls

Coconut Cake

Tea & Water

May Meeting Minutes

- Pledge by Earl Allen
- Prayer by Mike Kosolapoff
- Dinner
- Welcome: Sam Walden, Mike Vinzinski, Tim and Michy Aja, Samuel Edge, Meg Burritt, Wynell Davis, and David Culpepper
- Mike Golden gave a chapter update and that our chapter is a community group.
- He introduced LTC Marc Oliveri, Director on the board of National MOAA in D.C.
- Oliveri talked about the leadership of National MOAA, Lt. Gen. Dana Adkins, and the 5 Topics he wanted to highlight.
 - Advocacy
 - Membership
 - Chapters
 - Engagement
 - Resources
- Advocacy: What we Fixed
 - Closed 13.5% pay-raise gap
 - Stopped BAH cuts
 - Saved commissaries from cuts
 - Obtained TRICARE for Life and TRICARE for Reserves
 - Introduced GI Bill transferability, ended 15-year limits & restored stolen benefits
 - Lowered G/R Retirement Age with credit for active duty service
 - Secured Concurrent Receipt for most disabled
 - Eliminated Social Security offset on SBP
- Advocacy Key Results from FY 2019
 - Topline budget of \$717 billion
 - 2.6% active duty pay raise to match ECI-Third year in a row... residual gap remains 2.6%
 - BAH calculation unchanged-First year, out of last three, Senate left the allowance intact-Added 5% to privatized housing contractors
 - Blocked TRICARE fee increases-Averted Senate's intended repeal of FY17 grandfathering
 - Authorizes 15,700 additional active troops
- Advocacy: Concerns
 - Sequestration; Recruiting and Retention; SBP/DIC; TRICARE fees; Concurrent Receipts; Veteran Healthcare
- Advocacy: Storming the Hill 2019
 - Eliminate the Widow's Tax
 - Ensure 3.1% military pay raise
 - Stabilize TRICARE from disproportional fee increases
 - Blue Water Navy

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- Membership 350,000 strong
 - 50% Life Members; 25% Premium Members; 25% Basic Members- Nationally
 - 1/4 of National members are in a chapter or council
 - Life Membership fees vary by age: \$851 (50 and under), \$801 (51-55), \$757 (56-60), \$692 (61-65), \$615 (66-70), \$529 (71-75) and \$434 (76-80)
- Chapters and Councils
 - 45,000 strong
 - Assistance: Technology, Sponsor and Revenue, and Leadership– Quarterly Leadership Workshop
- Engagement
 - Keeping members informed: Military Officer magazine
 - Website enhancements
 - Newsletter Redesign
 - Social Media; Facebook/Twitter
 - Accelerating member success
 - Products and Servicing: MOAA insurance plans, USAA financial services, PenFed banking & mortgage, MOAA Vacations and Stores
 - Scholarship Fund: 70th anniversary-100% of funds go to students- \$8.2 million to 1300+ students
 - MOAA Foundation: Career Transition, Community Grant Program (29 Applications-19 Grants Approved), Prof. Ed. Outreach, Military Spouse Prof. Development
 - Publication Updates: Marketing Yourself, Survivor’s Checklist, booklets Marilyn has for our chapter
- Resources– Finances
 - Investment Portfolio
 - Member Dues
 - Advertising
 - Affinity Partnerships– Mercer, USAA, PenFed
- Renovations of Building in Washington D.C. and timeline
- Board Service Opportunities in 2020- Never Stop Serving
- Q&A
- **Mike Golden on the left presented LTC Marc Oliveri on right with a Chapter Coin and MOAA mug in photo.**
- Tickets for the Mayor’s Memorial Day Breakfast are available.
- Charlie Block announced the Maxwell main gate closing and the Day St entrance will be open 24/7
- Judy Bohler gave a membership update that 95% emailed or called with a yes or no response to the meeting tonight. Five couples were at AHS for an event. Most of our members are doing well.
- Raffle won by John Hughes.



Survey for Future Speakers:

<https://survey.sogosurvey.com/r/oCFcxC>

Please take the time to go to this link and answer two questions. Thanks.

Some topics from the board meeting were

Someone from the Naval Aviation Museum in Pensacola, FL

Someone from the National Civil War Naval Museum in Columbus, GA



Find ECAC-MOAA on Facebook and Linked In



If you are interested in joining our Facebook group, you can use the following link:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/300482473982236/>

If you are interested in joining our LinkedIn group, you can use the following link:

<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/12227504/>



Right: Sam Walden with his wife, Claudia.

Left: Timothy Aja with his wife, Michy, and daughter, Anna.



Above: Mike Vinzinski with his wife, Julie.

Six New Members

Meg Burritt and Waynell Davis photos will be in the next newsletter.



Above: Sam Edge with his wife, Sue.

Auburn MOAA Surviving Spouse and Legal Benefit Information Sheet (February 2019)

Casualty Assistance/Survivor Assistance Offices

Fort Benning

1-706-545-4116/4606

Maxwell AFB

1-334-953-5048

Both of these offices provide services for retirees of all services with valid DD-214.

Entitlement to military retired pay stops at midnight on the date of the services member's death. Any overpayment after that point is required to be repaid back to DFAS.

- Therefore, it is critical that the surviving spouse contacts the Survivor Assistance Office listed above ASAP for help in settling final military pay.
- The surviving spouse should activate the annuities for the Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) if they were enrolled.
- Upon the service member's death, the Surviving Dependent's military ID card is required to be re-issued as soon as possible. Survivor must be enrolled in DEERS. If not in DEERS, the surviving spouse must present a marriage certificate. If you already have a current Dependent ID card, you are enrolled in DEERS.
- Veterans are entitled to be buried in any national cemetery that has available space. Your spouse and minor children are also eligible for burial in the same grave or niche. All eligible veterans, including military retirees, are entitled to military funeral honors. Your Survivor Assistance Office will help with all of this. This benefit significantly reduces funeral expenses.
- Important Paperwork: DD-214 (Report of Separation from the military). Know where this is!

Legal Services: Wills/ Living Wills/ Power of Attorneys/Notary Services/Legal Assistance

Free legal services are provided to retirees of all services at the following locations:

Fort Benning

1-706-545-3281

Maxwell AFB

1-334-953-2786

Each year, owners and heirs lose millions of unclaimed dollars, as banks and dividend-paying corporations cannot identify and locate the proper payees. Unless your spouse or some responsible family member knows about all of your investments, these funds or property might never be discovered. If you think it's too early to worry about things like this, consider the possibility that you become disabled to the extent that you are unable to conduct necessary day-to-day financial transactions. If you have not executed a general or durable power of attorney, giving your spouse or other responsible person authority to act on your behalf is important.

- Have a folder of your important paperwork describing your assets in one place and tell someone where it is.**

Surviving Spouse Liaison: Marilyn Horsefield

Current Executive Board for 2019:

President— Mike Golden
 Vice President—Gary DeMars
 Treasurer— Earl Digman
 Secretary/Newsletter—Judy Bohler
 Directors— Caleb Pipes and Bob Recknor

Chair Positions:

Auxiliary Liaison—Marilyn Horsefield
 TOPS—Mike Horsefield
 ROTC Banquet—Bill Broome
 Membership—Jeff Bohler
 Legislative—Cathy Golden
 Webmaster—Bill Broome
 AL Council Liaison—Charlie Block

Future Meeting Dates, Times, and Locations

2019

September 17, 2019 Tue 6-8 PM Saugahatchee
 October 15, 2019 Tue 6-8 PM Saugahatchee
 November 19, 2019 Tue 6-8 PM Saugahatchee
 December 14, 2019 Sat 11 AM-1 PM Saugahatchee

2020

January 21, 2020 Tue 6-8 PM Saugahatchee
 February 18, 2020 Tue 6-8 PM Saugahatchee
 March 21, 2020 Sat 11 AM– 1 PM
 Saugahatchee or Old Towne Buffet
 April 21, 2020 Tue 6-8 PM Saugahatchee
 Ball Room for ROTC Banquet
 May 19, 2020 Tue 6-8 PM Saugahatchee

A joint service transformation initiative has resulted in the first official online vacation travel site, American Forces TravelSM, with Priceline[®] as the service provider. The site offers travel deals and benefits just for you! American Forces TravelSM provides access to a wide selection of discounted rates on hotels, air fare, rental cars, vacation packages, cruises and much more!

<https://www.americanforcetravel.com/>

MWR Resources



Challenge Coin On Sale \$5

Representing MOAA's

East-Central Alabama Chapter

Side One: A salty dog sitting in front of the Alabama flag with the state outlined in the top right.

Side Two: MOAA's logo with the different services represented.

Our AL-03 chapter covers the following counties: Lee, Tallapoosa, Chambers, Macon, and Russell.

Next meeting on Sept. 17, 2019 at 6 PM at Saugahatchee.

Some of the articles on these pages are gathered online from various MOAA websites and newsletters. They are attributable to their reporters and personnel. Contact the club secretary with any questions.

ECAC-MOAA
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