



**ECAC**

# ECAC Newsletter

ecacmoaa.com

AUGUST 2020



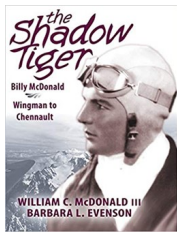
## The President's Corner:

Greetings everyone from my underground bunker of quarantine safety! It appears as though 2020 is not quite done with us yet and we have a little more hunkering down to do. I am going to be shocked if we get together in person for anything this year. That said, I haven't given up on the thought, but things are what they are. In a new twist, we are going to try a new idea for a virtual meeting for next month with a virtual meeting where everyone can join via their computer with via a zoom conference. Its fairly easy to do in that all you'll have to do is click on a link we provide from an email and everything after that should happen automatically. The meeting will last 30 minutes to an hour and feature a guest speaker who wrote a book on Claire Chennault who commanded the Flying Tiger squadron during World War 2. I hope you will be able to attend this meeting and catch up a little on your MOAA chapter and perhaps see a few faces (virtually) that you haven't seen in a while. Your MOAA board members have been busy coming up with new ways to keep things rolling. In the meantime, I wish everyone the very best and would like to send out as much love as I can to our group, because this is a lot more difficult than I imagined it would be. Take care and I look forward to seeing you in September! Brighter days are ahead of us!

Respectfully,

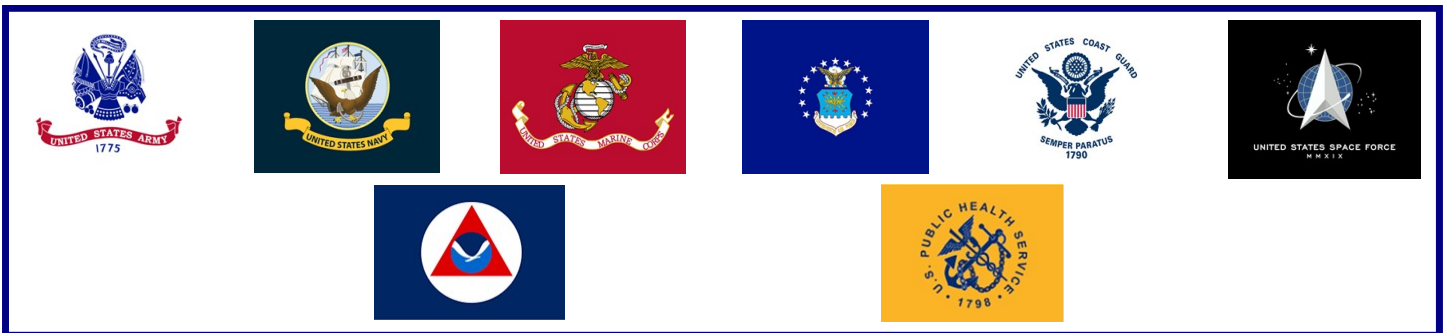
Mike Horsefield

President, East-Central Alabama Chapter MOAA



Billy McDonald, our proposed guest speaker sent books back in the Spring for his guest speaking appearance that did not happen: otherwise, he would have signed the books at the meeting. Since he was unable to travel, he has offered the hardcover books he sent to the ECAC-MOAA group. The books sell for \$39.95 on Amazon Prime; however, we can buy them for **\$20**. There are seven copies available at this price. Please contact Jeff Bohler at [jeff.bohler@gmail.com](mailto:jeff.bohler@gmail.com) or (334) 559-4242 for more information.

**The Chapter is going to take a shot at a Zoom virtual meeting on Tuesday, September 15, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. Our speaker will be Billy McDonald and he will be discussing his book: "the Shadow Tiger". Please bear with us as we work thorough the technical challenges that lie ahead. Jeff Bohler will be handling the technical aspects of the meeting. Please mark your calendar and more information will be available in the September ECAC**



**Editorial Policy. The East-Central Alabama Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) and national MOAA provide their advocacy in a nonpartisan manner. Any conveyance of partisanship is unintended.**

**ECAC-MOAA's 2020 Meeting Dates**

Jan 21 <sup>st</sup>	Tuesday	6 PM	Moores Mill Club
Feb 18 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday	6 PM	Moores Mill Club
Mar 24 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday	6 PM	Cancelled COVID-19
April 21 <sup>st</sup>	Tuesday	6 PM	Cancelled COVID-19
May 19 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday	6 PM	Cancelled COVID-19
June	None		
July	None		
Aug 15 <sup>th</sup>	Saturday	4 PM	Cancelled COVID-19
Sept 15 <sup>h</sup>	Tuesday	6 PM	Cancelled COVID-19
Oct 20 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday	6 PM	Moores Mill Club
Nov 17 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday	6 PM	Moores Mill Club
Dec 15 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday	6 PM	Moores Mill Club

**"Happy Birthday" SEMPER PARATUS ALWAYS READY**

Created by the U.S. Congress on 4 August 1790 at the request of Alexander Hamilton as the Revenue-Marine, it is the oldest continuous seagoing service of the United States.



# COVID-19

Protect yourself and loved ones

Help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases like COVID-19

**+ WASH YOUR HANDS**  
Wash your hands with soap and warm water regularly.

**+ COVER A COUGH OR SNEEZE**  
Cover your cough or sneeze with your sleeve, or tissue. Dispose of tissue and wash your hands afterward.

**+ DON'T TOUCH**  
Avoid touching eyes, nose or mouth, especially with unwashed hands.

**+ KEEP YOUR DISTANCE**  
Avoid close contact with people who are sick.

**+ STAY HOME**  
If you experience respiratory symptoms like a cough or fever, stay home.

**+ GET HELP**  
If you experience symptoms of COVID-19 (cough, fever, shortness of breath), call your health care provider or local health department before seeking care.








**MORE INFORMATION**  
Follow the California Department of Public Health:  
@calpublichealth and www.cdph.ca.gov/covid19



**Who Can Join?**

Membership in the East-Central Alabama Chapter is open to any National MOAA member who is on active duty, reserve, retired, or a former commissioned officer or warrant officer in any component of the Seven Uniformed Services of the United States (U.S. Army, U.S. Marine Corps, U.S. Navy, U.S. Air Force, U.S. Space Force, U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Public Health Service, or the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration). The Surviving Spouse of these individuals are also eligible to join and participate as regular members. Additionally, we offer Associate memberships to 4th year ROTC cadets at Auburn University and Tuskegee University as well as to the living spouse of a regular Chapter member.



**Why join MOAA or a Chapter?**

The Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) is the country's leading organization protecting the rights of military service members and their families. Those who belong to MOAA not only lend their voices to a greater cause, but they also gain access to extensive benefits tailored to the needs and lifestyles of military officers. Click on or go to <https://www.moaa.org/whymoaa/> for a short video on why you should join MOAA.





**August is National Immunization Month.** It's also the beginning of back-to-school preparations and a good time to make sure your children are properly vaccinated before they head back to school. There is no one preventive health measure more important than immunization. As the World Health Organization notes, the international medical community has endorsed the use of vaccines and immunization to prevent and control a number of infectious diseases, as well as chronic diseases caused by "infectious agents." Vaccinating your child can avoid suffering and death associated with afflictions like diarrhea, measles, pneumonia, polio and whooping cough. The American Academy of Pediatrics says vaccines are 99% effective. Every vaccine goes through a series of tests before being approved to ensure safety. Vaccines are necessary to prevent the spread of infectious diseases. Some diseases that many had thought eradicated have reappeared, as polio did in Venezuela in 2018. Vaccines are studied intensively by the FDA, the CDC and many other organizations that vigilantly in keep watch over existing vaccines for possible complications. Herd immunity is when a certain percent of immunized people in a community reaches a level where everyone (including those who are too young or too sick to be immunized) get some degree of protection. It's important that as many people as possible get immunized. It's very risky to the health of other children to rely on herd immunity to protect your non-immunized child. By forgetting or opting to skip booster vaccinations, you are undercutting the effectiveness of herd immunity for both your own family and the community at large.

**HOW TO OBSERVE**

Check with your doctor about the vaccination needs for your family. Find out how to spread the word about the importance of vaccination and immunization in your community.

**HISTORY**

The Centers for Disease Control says National Immunization Month was founded by the National Public Health Information Coalition "to highlight the importance of vaccination for people of all ages."



<https://nationaldaycalendar.com/national-immunization-awareness-month-august/>

**ADULTS, TAKE NOTES. VACCINES AREN'T JUST FOR KIDS.**

EVERY YEAR, MILLIONS OF ADULTS FALL ILL FROM PREVENTABLE DISEASES.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT ADULTS GET VACCINES TO PREVENT SERIOUS DISEASES LIKE INFLUENZA, SHINGLES, AND HEPATITIS.

PROTECT YOURSELF. CHECK WHAT VACCINES YOU NEED TODAY.

YOUR LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT

## Secretary's Report

*August 2020*

**As of May 19, 2020, the chapter has:**

**2020 Dues**

67 Regular Members	<b>\$20</b>	Per regular member.
12 Surviving Spouse Members	<b>\$15</b>	Per dual member.
2 Associate Members	<b>\$5</b>	Per Surviving Spouse/Associate/ROTC
<b>81 Total Members</b>		

Please mail a check to ECAC-MOAA, P.O. Box 124, Auburn, AL, 36830-0124. Or, bring your check to a dinner meeting.

*Per Chapter By-laws, you must become a member of National MOAA to belong to the chapter.*

The Annual Luau has been canceled due to the COVID-19 health restrictions.

On July 7th, Colonel William Luther, USA (Ret) passed away.

The August Board of Directors met on Tuesday, August 4th at 1300 by Zoom videoconference.

**If you have any information that has changed, please contact Bill Broome at [wjbroome@gmail.com](mailto:wjbroome@gmail.com) or 703-395-4317.**

## Treasurer's Report

June/July 2020

**Summary of Activity 06/01/2020 to 06/30/2020**

Balance Forward from 06/01/2020	\$5,229.73	
Deposits/Credits		\$00.00
Withdrawals/Debits		\$100.00
Service Charges	.00	
<b>Ending Balance as of 06/30/2020:</b>		<b>\$5,229.73</b>

**Summary of Activity 07/01/2020 to 07/31/2020**

Balance Forward from 07/01/2020	\$5,229.73	
Deposits/Credits		\$00.00
Withdrawals/Debits		\$00.00
Service Charges	.00	
<b>Ending Balance as of 07/31/2020:</b>		<b>\$5,229.73</b>



**FYI:** If you are wearing a non-disposable cloth mask to prevent the spread of Covid-19, be sure to wash your mask in hot water and soap, scrubbing at least 20 seconds. Tumble the mask in the dryer on high heat to further sanitize, and store in a clean place. Cloth face masks should be worn in public settings where social distancing measures are difficult to maintain, such as in grocery stores, especially in areas of significant community-based transmission.

You are invited to participate in the 2020 election of the MOAA. The deadline to cast your ballot is August 31, 2020, so please take a moment to vote now. This is your opportunity to shape the future of our organization. MOAA depends on the active involvement of members like you to accomplish our vitally important mission of advocating for our military community and connecting it to the nation we serve.



# MOAA News

## MOAA Seeks 12-Month Grace Period for New TRICARE Select Enrollment Fee

By: Karen Ruedisueli

August 04, 2020



As the Defense Health Agency (DHA) works on implementation plans for the new TRICARE Select enrollment fee, MOAA is advocating for a 12-month grace period for impacted beneficiaries to ensure no retirees lose TRICARE coverage because they were unaware of the new enrollment fee requirement. “Military retirees have undeniably earned the TRICARE benefit via decades of service and sacrifice. The loss of health care coverage during a pandemic is an unreasonably harsh penalty for missing communications on an unprecedented enrollment fee,” Lt. Gen. Dana Atkins, USAF (Ret), MOAA President and CEO, asserted in a letter sent to DHA last week.

“A 12-month reinstatement period will minimize the number of military retirees who suffer this unintended consequence.”

**Please note:** The new TRICARE Select enrollment fee impacts only Group A retirees (those who entered service before Jan. 1, 2018.) It does not affect TRICARE for Life (TFL) or TRICARE Prime beneficiaries. It also does not apply to active duty family members, medically retired servicemembers and their families, and survivors on TRICARE Select. Starting Jan. 1, 2021, Group A retirees and their families must pay a monthly TRICARE Select enrollment fee to maintain TRICARE Select coverage. The charge for an individual plan is \$12.50 per month or \$150 annually. For a family plan, the enrollment fee is \$25 per month or \$300 annually. Later this summer, TRICARE will announce the process for setting up an allotment or making other arrangements to pay the fee. If you don’t take action to pay the enrollment fee, you will be disenrolled from TRICARE Select on Jan. 1, 2021, for failure to pay. Current policy states you will have 90 days to request reinstatement.

### Why a Grace Period?

MOAA believes it is important to extend the reinstatement period from three months to 12 for these four reasons: Past transitions suggest it is impossible to reach every beneficiary with updates about TRICARE benefits and requirements. Inevitably, some beneficiaries only learn about a new requirement when they try to use their benefit and find out they no longer have coverage. The COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted almost every facet of life, making it even more difficult to catch the attention of beneficiaries with critical enrollment fee information. TRICARE annual open enrollment messaging over the past two years has created a hurdle to effectively communicating the new enrollment fee by emphasizing beneficiaries who want to stay in their current plan don’t have to take any action. This message is still being conveyed on the official TRICARE website. A 12-month grace period for the Select enrollment fee would be consistent with the 12-month grace period offered when the TRICARE annual enrollment requirement was established in 2018.

### Why Isn’t MOAA Fighting This Fee?

Congress passed this new Select enrollment fee as part of comprehensive MHS Reform legislation in the FY 2017 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), but it is just now being implemented. During the FY 2017 NDAA process, MOAA opposed and defeated several proposals for even higher beneficiary cost sharing, including enrollment fees up to \$900 and a proposed TRICARE for Life enrollment fee that would have charged Medicare-eligible retirees an annual enrollment fee equal to 2% of gross retirement pay (capped to \$632) for TFL participation. Because the TRICARE Select enrollment fee has been in law for several years and represents a compromise relative to higher fee increases proposed by Congress and the administration budget during the FY 2017 NDAA process, MOAA is focused on ensuring there is an effective communications plan and adequate grace period so beneficiaries do not lose coverage for the 2021 calendar year if they fail to pay the enrollment fee. MOAA will continue to update its members and others in the military community as TRICARE announces details of the fee-collection process. Access the latest news from MOAA here.

<https://www.moaa.org/content/publications-and-media/news-articles/2020-news-articles/advocacy/moaa-seeks-12-month-grace-period-for-new-tricare-select-enrollment-fee/?ite=1785&ito=2538&itq=2e9f8e28-fa62-42ab-a36e-3d08e572e83c&itx%5Bidio%5D=617731>

## Legislative Chair—Charlie Block

## National, State & Local News



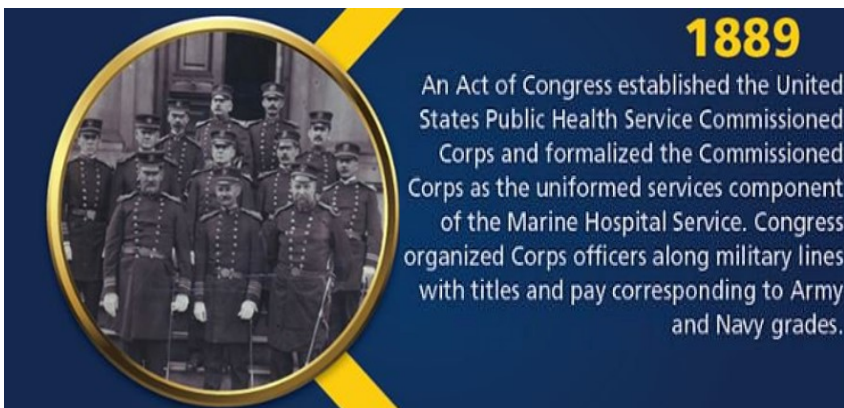
Governor Kay Ivey issued her fifteenth supplemental emergency proclamation containing an amended Safer at Home Order that includes a statewide mask requirement. Individuals will be required to wear a mask or other facial covering when in public and in close contact with other people, as described in the order. This amended order extends until August 31, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.

Governor Kay Ivey on Friday awarded \$100 million of the Coronavirus Relief Fund to support two grant programs of up to \$50 million each for nursing homes and hospitals for the purpose of responding to and mitigating the COVID-19 public health emergency.



City Council asked for everyone to continue practicing social distancing and wearing masks to help slow the spread of COVID-19. In addition, to resolution of support for Governor Ivey's amended Safer at Home order.

**County Commissioner Johnny Lawrence dies after fight with COVID-19:** Johnny was a long-time supporter of the military and veteran organizations and functions. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family and friends.



**1889**

An Act of Congress established the United States Public Health Service Commissioned Corps and formalized the Commissioned Corps as the uniformed services component of the Marine Hospital Service. Congress organized Corps officers along military lines with titles and pay corresponding to Army and Navy grades.

The Public Health Service Commissioned Corps had its beginnings with the creation of the Marine Hospital Fund in 1798, which later was reorganized in 1871 as the Marine Hospital Service. The Marine Hospital Service was charged with the care and maintenance of merchant sailors, but as the country grew, so did the ever-expanding mission of the service. The Marine Hospital Service soon began taking on new expanding health roles that included such health initiatives that protected the commerce and health of America. One such role was quarantine.

**The stated mission of the Commissioned Corps of the U.S. Public Health Service** is "Protecting, promoting, and advancing the health and safety of the Nation" in accordance with the commissioned corps's four Core Values: Leadership, Excellence, Integrity, and Service. Officers execute the mission of the commissioned corps in the following ways:

- ◆ Help provide healthcare and related services to medically underserved populations: to **American Indians**, **Alaska Natives**, and to other population groups with special needs;
- ◆ Prevent and control disease, identify health hazards in the environment and help correct them, and promote healthy lifestyles for the nation's citizens;
- ◆ Improve the nation's mental health;
- ◆ Ensure that drugs and medical devices are safe and effective, food is safe and wholesome, cosmetics are harmless, and that electronic products do not expose users to dangerous amounts of radiation;
- ◆ Work with other nations and international agencies on global health problems and their solutions.

The commissioned corps uses the same commissioned officer rank structure as the United States Navy and Coast Guard: from ensign to admiral (O-1 through O-10). Commissioned Corps officers are typically appointed via direct commission, and receive the same pay and benefits as other members of the uniformed services. There are no enlisted members in USPHS. The commissioned corps is authorized to use warrant officer ranks W-1 to W-4 but does not currently use these ranks.



**The Health Services Officer (HSO) category comprises over 50 allied health specialties, including audiology, social workers, physician assistants, optometrists, statisticians, computer scientists, dental hygienists, medical records administrators, medical technologists and others.**

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United\\_States\\_Public\\_Health\\_Service\\_Commissioned\\_Corps](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_Public_Health_Service_Commissioned_Corps)

## **MEMBERS AND EVENTS**

**Ollie Edwards passed away on June 21, 2020. He leaves behind Virginia, his loving wife of 65 years. Please keep Virginia and family in your thoughts and prayers.**

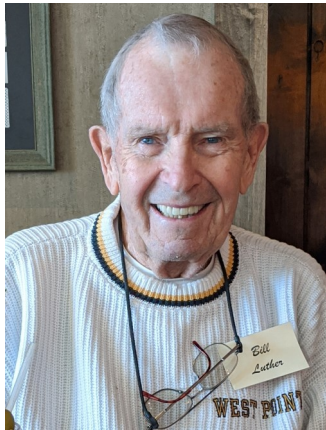


Colonel Ollie Herbert Edwards grew up in West Point, Mississippi and after graduating, he attended the University of Mississippi for two years in pharmacy school before becoming a cadet at Lackland AFB, San Antonio, TX. In 1954, he was commissioned as a lieutenant at Ellington AFB in Houston, Texas. His first assignment after being commissioned was at the then-under-construction Little Rock AFB, where he was the first lieutenant on base and served in multiple positions. As the new base expanded, he became a crew member of a B-47. During his 24 year military career his favorite assignment was being part of the Strategic Air Command at Columbus Air Force Base in Columbus, MS, and serving as a warfare officer on B-52s for six years. During this time he enjoyed a special camaraderie with crew members as they flew 24 hour chrome dome missions during the Cold War years with the Soviet Union. He delighted in telling the story of the midnight adventure of ejecting from an out-of-control B-52, along with all crew members except the pilots who were able to get control and land on base. He was stationed at Takhli AFB in Thailand during the Vietnam War where he was an electronic warfare officer on EB-66 airplanes. Upon returning from Thailand, after flying 123 combat missions, he was stationed at Wright Patterson AFB in Dayton, Ohio, and worked in various electronic warfare research and development divisions, ending his career with the prestigious assignment of Chief of the Avionics Research and Development Lab. During his military career, Edwards logged approximately 4300 flight hours and received numerous medals, including the Legion of Merit, a Distinguished Flying Cross, and seven Air Medals. Edwards retired on March 31, 1977. During his military service, Ollie received a Bachelor of Science degree in Math and a Master of Science in Mechanical Engineering, both from Auburn University. After retiring from the Air Force, the Edwards family returned to Auburn where Ollie flew for the University as an instructor pilot, and served as an assistant professor in the School of Aviation. He retired from AU in 1993. During his retirement years, Ollie obtained two degrees from Alabama Aviation College to become a certified airplane mechanic, and served as a consultant with the University Aviation Association and FAA helping American universities develop aviation programs. Col. Edwards was a man of deep faith, a member of Auburn United Methodist Church, and Harvesters. In honor of Col. Edwards, you may send any memorial gifts to the Wounded Warrior Project or St. Jude’s Children’s Hospital.



## MEMBERS AND EVENTS

**Colonel William "Bill" Arthur Luther, Jr., passed away on Tuesday, July 7, 2020 while vacationing with his family in Panama City Beach, Florida. He leaves behind Carol, his loving wife and soul mate, a son, a daughter & a son-in-law and five grandchildren. Please keep Carol and the family in your thoughts and prayers.**



Colonel Luther was 83 years old and he was born on December 9, 1936 in Charleston, West Virginia. Bill was the only child of Colonel William Arthur Luther, Sr. and Pauline Tallichet Luther. Growing up in the Army, he was no stranger to patriotism and the sacrifices of a military family. He knew early on that his life's purpose was to serve his country, so Bill worked very hard as a young man to receive an appointment to the United States Military Academy at West Point, graduating with the class of 1959. The emotional bond to West Point, his Classmates and the ideals of Duty, Honor, Country were enduring constants that Bill held dear for all the days of his life. Over the course of a thirty-year military career, Bill served two tours in Viet Nam. He had assignments in Florida, North Carolina, Kansas, Washington D.C., and the Panama Canal Zone, where he commanded the 193rd Combat

Support Battalion, the largest unit of its type in the Army. He also received a Master's Degree in Political Science from Auburn University. His many military assignments in Intelligence, Infantry Units and the Department of the Army Staff uniquely qualified him as an expert in military science and research. His final assignment was at Auburn University, where he served as the Professor of Military Science until 1985. After his retirement from the Army, he remained at Auburn as the Director of Research Development. Proficient at many sports in his younger days, Bill especially loved to scuba dive the island waters of Panama. He was a true die-hard Auburn Football fan, who tried never to miss a home game unless it was to give up his seat for a friend. He could be found every October at the Hale Koa Barefoot Bar on Waikiki Beach, watching the sunset with a Mai Tai in his hand and a smile on his face. A pet lover, Bill was extensively involved with all aspects of the Lee County Alabama Humane Society. He was on the Board of Directors and also President for many years. A tireless advocate for animals, Bill saved the lives of many homeless, abandoned and abused dogs and cats. Bill is survived by his wife and soul mate, Carol; his son William A. Luther, III and wife Cheryl; and his daughter, Leslie Williams and husband Mark. He is also survived by five grandchildren; James Pearson, Paige and Brooke Luther, Casey and Luke Williams. Burial will be held at a later date at Arlington National Cemetery. A celebration memorial will be announced when circumstances permit. In lieu of flowers, Carol and the family request that donations may be made to the Lee County Alabama Humane Society.





## Come and Join Us at One of Our Monthly Dinner Meetings.

Dinner meetings are held on the third Tuesday in January, February, March, April, May, September, October, November and December at The Moore's Mill Club in Auburn.

The meetings begin at 6:00 pm with a social time and usually adjourn by 8:00 pm.

We do not meet in June & July. Our annual August Luau is at a separate location.

Due to COVID-19, Chapter face to face meetings are on hold until safe conditions can be guaranteed.

**Join ECAC Online!**  
<https://ecacmoaa.com/join-ecac>

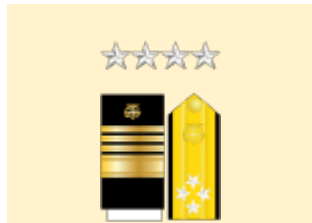
### ECAC Mission Statement

The East-Central Alabama Chapter is an affiliate of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) and was chartered in 1970. It serves the cities of Auburn and Opelika, Alabama, as well as the surrounding areas of Lee, Chambers, Russell, Tallapoosa, and Macon counties in Alabama.

The mission of the East-Central Alabama Chapter is to benefit the members of the uniformed services, their families and survivors, and to advocate for a strong national defense, while providing needed support to the community and its members.

The **Assistant Secretary for Health (ASH)** serves as the U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services's primary advisor on matters involving the nation's public health and, if serving as an active-duty officer in the regular corps, is the highest ranking uniformed officer in the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps (PHSCC). The ASH oversees all matters pertaining to the U.S. Public Health Service (PHS), the main division of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), for the Secretary as well as provide strategic and policy direction for the commissioned corps.

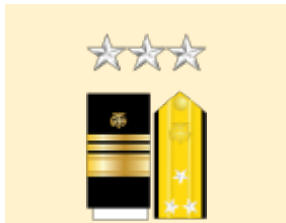
**Admiral**  
O-10



**Assistant Secretary for Health**



**Vice Admiral**  
O-9



**Surgeon General**



The **surgeon general of the United States** is the operational head of the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps (PHSCC) and thus the leading spokesperson on matters of public health in the federal government of the United States. The Surgeon General's office and staff are known as the **Office of the Surgeon General (OSG)** which is housed within the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health.

## Executive Officers and Chair Positions for 2020-2021

### Executive Board

- President: Mike Horsefield
- Vice President: Jeff Bohler
- Secretary: Bill Broome
- Treasurer: Earl Digman
- Director Chapter Affairs: Marilyn Horsefield
- Director Communication: Cathy Golden
- Director Program & Banquet: Mike Golden
- Director Legislative: Charlie Block
- Past President: Mike Golden

### Chair Positions

- Surviving Spouses Liaison: Marilyn Horsefield
- Tops: Mike Horsefield
- Membership: Judy Bohler
- Personal Affairs: Marilyn Horsefield
- Newsletter: Cathy Golden
- Web Site: Bill Broome
- Digital Com: Jeff Bohler
- News Release: Bill Broome

### Chair Positions– cont.

- ROTC Awards: Mike Golden
- Monthly Mtg: Mike Golden
- Guest Speaker: Jeff Bohler
- By-Laws: Charlie Block
- State Council: Charlie Block
- Legislative Updates: Charlie Block
- MOAA News: Charlie Block
- Chaplain: Mike Golden

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# Alabama Absentee Voting During State of Emergency General Election 2020



(1) Pursuant to 17-11-3(e) of the *Code of Alabama*, and without limitation, due to the State of Emergency issued by the Governor of Alabama on March 13, 2020, as amended, any qualified voter who determines it is impossible or unreasonable to vote at their voting place for the General Election on November 3, 2020 due to the declared states of emergency, shall be eligible to check the box on the absentee ballot application which reads as follows:

**"I have a physical illness or infirmity which prevents my attendance at the polls.**

(2) Any qualified voter of this state who applies and successfully submits an application, with proper identification, for an absentee ballot pursuant to this Emergency Administrative Rule shall be eligible to vote an absentee ballot for the General Election on November 3, 2020.

(3) All Absentee Election Managers and any other election officials of this state are hereby directed and instructed to follow this Emergency Administrative Rule and accept all absentee ballot applications filed hereunder immediately.



## Alabama Absentee Ballot Deadlines

- ◆ **In Person:** Received 5 days before Election Day.
- ◆ **By Mail:** Received 5 days before Election Day.
- ◆ **Voted ballots are due:** Postmarked 1 day before Election Day, received by noon on Election Day.

## Alabama Absentee Ballot Directions

- ◆ Use our [Absentee Ballot Tool](#) to prepare your application.
- ◆ Sign and date the form. This is very important!
- ◆ Return your completed application to your [Local Election Office](#) as soon as possible. We'll provide the mailing address for you.
- ◆ All Local Election Offices will accept mailed or hand-delivered forms. If it's close to the deadline, call and see if your [Local Election Office](#) will let you fax or email the application.
- ◆ Double-check the deadlines and be sure to cast your voted ballot on time to be sure it is counted.
- ◆ Please contact your [Local Election Office](#) if you have any further questions about the exact process.

## Tracking Your Ballot

- ◆ You can [track your ballot](#) directly with your state.

## Once You Receive Your Ballot..

- 1) Once you receive the ballot, carefully read and follow the instructions.
- 2) Provide a copy of an acceptable form of photo ID with your voted ballot. (You must provide a copy of one of the forms of ID listed when you mail back your voted absentee ballot.)
- 3) Sign and date the affidavit where indicated.
- 4) A notary public or two witnesses must sign your absentee ballot envelope to verify your signature of the affidavit.
- 5) Mail your voted ballot back to the address indicated on the return envelope.
- 6) Double-check the deadlines and be sure to cast your voted ballot on time to be sure it is counted.



Find ECAC-MOAA on Facebook and LinkedIn



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/>

## Alabama Voting Offsite Links

- 1) [State Election Website](#)
- 2) [Local Election Office](#): This is the government office responsible for running elections in your region. These are the best people to contact if you have any questions at all about voting in your state.
- 3) [Find your polling place](#)
- 4) [Absentee ballot tracker tool](#)
- 5) [Learn more about absentee voting](#)
- 6) [Learn more about voter ID](#)
- 7) [State Election Code](#)



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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