



South Alabama Veterans Council

An organization for all people, to serve all veterans.

A coalition of Veterans, Friends and Organizations working together to further the cause of Veterans in the South Alabama area



Lou Lartigue
251-471-4322
Council President

Pat Downing
251-751-6619
Council VP

Fran Barber
251-605-1290
Secretary / NewsLetter
Lloyd Michael Austin, Chaplain
251-391-8176

Tom Schwarz
251-649-8459
Treasurer / Chambless Fund

Pete Riehm
251-442-4349
LNO/MC

SAVC e-mail: support@savc.info

Capt Hal Pierce, Bill Atkeison, Spiritus Emeritus SAVC

NEXT SAVC MEETING - Tuesday-November 21, 2023 – 8:30 a.m. - Saucy Q

1111 Government St–Mobile AL

On the web – <http://www.savc.info> - Facebook – South Alabama Veterans Council

Presidents Corner:



"We are moving from Fall to Winter and all welcome the cool weather, especially after the hot summer. The Fall brings our day--Veterans Day. What a great celebration for all our Veterans.

We will celebrate Veterans Day on Friday 10 November 2023. The Day starts with the SAVC conducting the flag-raising at the Vietnam Memorial at Battleship Memorial Park at 0700 hrs. The activities follow with the parade, luncheon, youth celebration, and finally The Mobile Pop's concert. See the detailed list of events and times in this newsletter. We also encourage you to go to Mobile Memorial Gardens to see the Flags of Glory presentation from 5-12 November--it is a moving presentation of over 350 sponsored flags.

We hope all our Veterans are able and will be able to celebrate Thanksgiving with family and friends. If there is a Vet you know that needs to be thanked--invite them to your family celebration on that great day."

*Lou Lartigue, President US Army LTC (Ret)
South Alabama Veterans Council - (savc.info)*

Chaplains Corner:

PRESENT ARMS!

It's we salute them: Read Hebrews 11:34

"Quenched the violence of fire, escape the edge of the sword, out of weakness was made strong, became mighty in battle, and put foreign armies to flight."

On this Veterans Day, we Salute our Men and Women who have sacrificed for the freedom of our country. (OUR VETERANS)

So many of them go unnoticed. Many of them are homeless and don't receive the proper medical attention that they deserve. Let's continue to make it our business to help our Veterans in need. We honor the ones who made the Ultimate sacrifice for our freedom. Freedom is not free; it must be bought and paid for by blood, sweat, and tears.

"All gave some, but some gave All" We know that Jesus sacrificed his life for us so that we may be free. For whom the SON has made free, is free indeed. Today we thank God for our Veterans."

In Jesus's Name Amen!

In Jesus' Name Amen!"

*Pastor Lloyd Michael Austin,
Chaplain SAVC*



THIS FROM THE DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS, UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH ALABAMA

Dear Current or Former Member of the United States Military Service:

In recognition of Veterans Day, The University of South Alabama is proud to provide complimentary Jaguar Football tickets for current and former members of the military and their guests.

Please join us as we recognize and honor that service on **Saturday, November 11th at 4:00 p.m.** when the Jaguars host Texas State University at Hancock Whitney Stadium. Pertinent information is below:

Tickets:

- Follow this link to create an account and [secure your tickets](#).
- Use the promotional code "**MIL**". Customers are limited to six tickets.

Parking:

- Follow this link to a [campus parking map](#).
- Gold parking is complimentary and is a 10-20 minute walk to Hancock Whitney Stadium (Entry 8 & 9 off University Boulevard).
- Blue parking can be purchased for \$20 and can be purchased [here](#) (Entry 6 off University Boulevard).
- Red Parking is sold out.
- There is a paid handicap parking lot with shuttle to all gates at Red Lot 201 (Entry 2 off Stadium Drive and Old Shell Road)
- Rideshare, Lyft/Uber and Taxi drop off/pick-up at Bebo's Car Wash (6377 Old Shell Road).

Gameday Information:

- Follow this link for [gameday information](#).
- If you have any questions you please call 251-461-1USA (1872) or email tickets@southalabama.edu. We look forward to seeing you at Hancock Whitney Stadium.

Go Jags!

Joel Erdmann, Ph.D.
Director of Athletics
University of South Alabama
Athletics Administration Building
www.usajaguars.com

HONOR LUNCHEON TICKETS

South Alabama Veterans Council has purchased two tables at the Veterans Day Luncheon.

If you would like to reserve a seat at the South Alabama Veterans Council table contact:

Tom Schwarz 251-649-8459



The Mobile Bay Area Veterans Day Commission invites you and your organization to participate in the annual Veterans Day Honors Luncheon to recognize the Patriot of the Year and the Veteran of the Year on Friday, November 10, 2023.

Recognition of Veterans by the citizens of the Mobile Bay Area is a time-honored tradition and participation by service personnel, veterans, and private citizens is visible proof that we appreciate our Veterans and active military personnel.

The Luncheon follows the Veterans Day Parade and will be held at Ft. Whiting Armory, 1630 S. Broad St., from noon to 1:30 p.m.

**BRING AN UNWRAPPED GIFT
FOR THE TOYS FOR TOTS**

ORDER YOUR TICKETS ON EVENTBRITE

[Mobile Bay Area Veterans Day Luncheon Registration, Fri, Nov 10, 2023 at 12:00 PM | Eventbrite](#)



**Mobile Bay Area Veterans Day Commission
Presents The Captain Hal Pierce Memorial Award
is Presented to:**



Colonel Frank J. Calagaz, Jr.

Frank Calagaz distinguished himself by exceptional support of and dedication to our local veteran's community. Frank has been one of our most energetic champions of our veterans, enthusiastically supporting them in numerous organizations and projects.

Frank began his military career in 1959, serving in the United States Marine Corps until May 1963. He began his Army service in May 1963 after being commissioned as a 2LT from the Army Reserve Officer Training Program. He served three years on active duty and then joined the Alabama Army National Guard. Frank completed his military career with more than thirty-four years of service and was the recipient of the Alabama Distinguished Service Medal.

After his military career, Frank continued to serve his country and his state through a myriad of veteran activities.

Frank was a Life Member of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) and was a member of the South Alabama Chapter of MOAA for more than twenty years, serving as the Chapter Vice President and President. He was also a Life Member of the American Legion and served in various capacities in American Legion Post 3. Frank worked tirelessly and was vital to the resurrection and renovation of that historic Mobile, AL American Legion Post.

Frank served on the Mobile Bay Area Veterans Day Commission for more than ten years and was the Vice President responsible for the Patriots Dinner, an important part of Mobile's commemoration of Veterans Day.

He was proud of his military service and was proud to be a veteran. He would literally take the shirt off his back to help a fellow veteran and his passing in December 2022 left a giant hole in our veteran's community.

Colonel Frank J. Calagaz, Jr. displayed the same spirit of service, patriotism, love of community, and love of his country that Captain Hal Pierce exhibited throughout his entire life.

Therefore, it is an honor to present him with the Captain Hal Pierce Memorial Award for 2023.

**Mobile Bay Area Veterans Day Commission
Presents The Captain Hal Pierce Memorial Award
is Presented to:**



Lynne Price

Lynne Price has distinguished herself by exceptional support of and dedication to our local veterans' community. Lynne has been one of the most energetic champions of our veterans enthusiastically supporting numerous organizations and projects.

Chief among these is being the Administrator of the Navy League of Mobile where when selected as Administrator in 2015, she quickly became an indispensable part of that organization. Beyond completing all administrative duties, she does the planning for every Navy League event and she coordinates all aspects of these events ensuring all logistical and operational support is provided. She is literally the body and spirit of the Mobile Council of the Navy League. Lynne also keeps all members informed about Navy League activities such as the Mardi Gras Party for visiting Navy ships, the annual fish fry, and the Armed Forces Day Lunch at Battleship Alabama Memorial Park. As a former USS Alabama Crewmate and Miss USS Alabama, Lynne has managed the Crewmate program for almost 20 years. The USS Alabama Crewmates is a wonderful program for young women to learn about the military heritage of Alabama. Lynne ensures these young women have a fulfilling experience and represents the Battleship Alabama in a professional manner. She also plans and manages the activities of the USS Alabama Crewmates throughout the year. These activities include the annual Veterans Day Parade, Parade of Flags, Blue Star Salute, and this year she took them to Montgomery for the Governor's Inaugural Parade. Lynne has also accompanied the USS Alabama Crewmates on frequent visits to the William F. Green State Veterans Home in Bay Minette, AL.

Lynne is a member of the Executive Women International and has been a member of the Alabama Chapter of the Association for Fundraising Professionals.

Whatever job needed to be accomplished to support our veterans, Lynne has brought to it an unbounded initiative, versatility, and enthusiasm.

Lynne Price has and continues to display the same spirit of service, patriotism, love of community, and love of his country that Captain Hal Pierce exhibited throughout his entire life. Therefore, it is an honor to present you with the Captain Hal Pierce Memorial Award for 2023.

**MOBILE BAY AREA VETERANS
COMMISSION RECOGNISES TWO
OUTSTANDING CADETS EACH YEAR**



Air Force Outstanding Cadet of the Year

Cadet Lauren E. McGrady

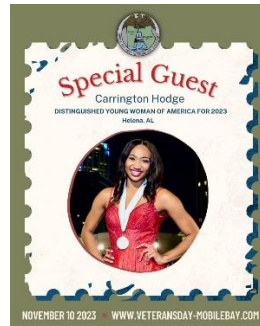
Cadet McGrady was born and raised in White Plains, AL. She came to the University of South Alabama on an Air Force scholarship after being accepted to the College of Nursing. Cadet McGrady holds a 3.61 GPA and is active in the College of Nursing as a senior student nurse. She is also a member of the Phi Mu Kappa Omega sorority and Air Force ROTC where she has held the position of flight commander, inspector general and now squadron commander.

In addition to maintaining her exceptional academic standing, Cadet McGrady enjoys running, being with friends and family, and any other activity that involves her pet dog. During the spring and summer terms of 2023, she contributed a total of 57 hours of community service and fundraising over the course of 6 events, leading to the donation of \$11,215.49 to Children's Miracle Network Hospitals.

Because of her superb record as a Cadet, we have the utmost confidence that Cadet Lauren McGrady is going to be an outstanding Air Force Officer and Nurse.

Army ROTC Outstanding Cadet of the Year
Cadet Jenna Lankford

Cadet Jenna Lankford is from Citronelle, AL. She received a 4-year ROTC National Scholarship to attend the University of South Alabama. As a senior, she is maintaining a 3.77 GPA and has been named to the President's list, Dean's list, and Dean's honor lists. Cadet Lankford is a member of South Army ROTC Ranger Challenge team, intramural championship football team, and is an overall great competitor during physical training. Jenna pushes her fellow cadets to become better physically every day. Jenna volunteers within the local Mobile community, at the William F. Green State Veterans Home, and at Camp Chandler to mentor troubled youths. Cadet Lankford also volunteers for all events that Army ROTC hosts for the University of South Alabama she is the epitome of a future Army officer.



Distinguished Young Woman of America for 2023 is Alabama native, Carrington Hodge, from Helena. Carrington will be attending on Friday, November 10, 2023, for our Veterans Parade and the Celebration of Flags events! Learn more about her many achievements on the Distinguished Young Women's website;

<https://loom.ly/DibqlJU>

[#DistinguishedYoungWoman](#) [#VeteransDay](#)
[#MBAVDC](#)

Mobile Bay Area Veterans Day Commission is proud to once again be recognized by the Department of Veterans Affairs Veterans Day National Committee as a Regional Site; one of only sixty-six in the entire nation.

Our Veterans Day activities, especially the support provided by the many organizations that participate and assist with the events, provide a unique opportunity to show our appreciation for the sacrifices our Veterans have made to maintain the freedoms that we enjoy in our nation.



The Mobile Bay Veterans Commission, a 501c(3) non-profit organization was established in 1986. The commission's mission is to increase public awareness of the many contributions of the area's veterans, active-duty personnel, the National Guard, and military reserve personnel.

If you are interested in supporting this commission, and its work, consider becoming a sustaining contributor to the commission. Please make donation checks payable to the Mobile Bay Area Veterans Day Commission and mail to:

Mobile Bay Area Veterans Day Commission
P. O. BOX 321
Daphne, AL 36526



ADVA ANNOUNCES SUPPORTING ALABAMA'S VETERANS GRANT

The Alabama Department of Veterans Affairs (ADVA) is excited to announce an opportunity for non-profit organizations and higher-education institutions to receive funding through the Supporting Alabama's Veterans Grant.

The grant will award one-time funding of up to \$500,000 for programs and services designed to positively impact the mental health of Alabama veterans and their families. The goal is to provide the accessible and quality support those who have served our nation, Veterans, and their families. Special consideration is to be provided to smaller organizations and to those targeting the underserved sectors of this population.

"We frequently say that one of Alabama's greatest strengths is its people," ADVA Commissioner Kent Davis. "This grant opportunity will only elevate the incredible work that so many non-profits and other organizations are already providing to the veterans community in our great state. We want to thank to the Alabama State Legislature for providing this funding opportunity through the American Rescue Plan and we look forward to seeing the services that it produces."

Proposals must be received at ADVA headquarters in Montgomery no later than 2 p.m. on Friday, December 1. For details or to apply, [click here](#).

ALABAMA STATE VETERANS MEMORIAL CEMETERY AT SPANISH FORT

The Alabama State Veterans Memorial Cemetery at Spanish Fort provides burials for veterans and spouses. It is a 106-acre cemetery and is expected to be active for 100 years. It features over 4,000 preplaced vaults and 700 columbarium niches for cremains. ADVA is currently completing the first of nine planned expansions, which will add 2,762 preplaced vaults, 960 columbarium niches, and a memorial wall that includes 100 sites.

The tentative date for a Cemetery Dedication/Consecration ceremony will be on Saturday, Feb 10, 2024, which is exactly 1 year after the groundbreaking, also proposing a second committal shelter to be built in 2024/2025 with SBVA and State Legislature approval.

Commissioner Kent Davis joined Alabama Bureau of Pardons and Paroles Director Cam Ward and other State of Alabama leadership this morning at Reentry 2030, a nationwide initiative aimed at scaling reentry success for people transitioning from incarceration to their communities. Commissioner Davis spoke about the benefits of this initiative, how it supports veterans, and the importance of transitioning effectively. Through Reentry 2030, Alabama aims to reduce recidivism by 50 percent by 2030.

NOVEMBER DATES TO REMEMBER

Nov. 10, 2023 – Marine Corps Birthday

Nov. 11, 2023 – Veterans Day – This is the anniversary of the signing of the armistice treaty, which ended World War I and is also a day to thank military Veterans for their service.

VETERANS DAY

(From the JOMAC Collections)

A Celebration of Friends

U.S.!) ALLIED AND COALITION FORCES,
FIGHTING WITH, FOR, AND ALONGSIDE US
THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

With memories that do not end,
Mental reunion of combat friend.
Take cover, the Point, and Flanks,
Each mission ends with "Thanks".

Today's Grunts, Back to GI Joe,
With you under fire from the foe.
Reliving the heat, rain and snow,
With a prayer to the God you know.

JOMAC - Poetry in Action



In partnership with the SAVC and Scuttlebutt Radio Network, we are creating a Veteran Owned Business List. Please register if you are a VOB or an organization helping veterans/military and share with other Veteran business owners. This effort aims to provide support to and increase awareness of Veteran Owned Businesses.

**The CAVC is the sister to SAVC
Located in the Birmingham area**

**Central Alabama Veterans Collaborative
From our co-heart Brian Crawford:**

EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY

ALL CORRESPONDENCE related to CAVC matters
should be directed to its new leader:

DUFFY TOWEY

205-500-6388

duffytowey2@gmail.com

**IT HAS BEEN MY HONOR and PRIVILEGE
to lead CAVC since its first meeting on Feb 1,
2019.**

A BIG thank you to everyone you who worked with
CAVC to provide a 'hand up' to our military brothers
and sisters in need!!

Individually and as partners on a team, you improved
the quality of life for many members of our military
community and their families.

A sincere WELL DONE is extended to all contributors
who:

delivered professional assistance, i.e. healthcare,
benefits, legal support,

provided funding to pay for temporary lodging, rent,
utilities, auto repairs, etc.,

- furnished and decorated apartments,
- briefed us during monthly meetings and
provided additional information to share
with the group on matters related to our
constituents,
- served as networking resources through your
inventory of contacts,
- attended meetings,
- READ my newsletters,
- provided advice counsel, & support to me,
- and everything else you did that I failed to
mention!!

THANK YOU!!!!

I challenge everyone who never got involved to get
active!!

**Not everyone can deliver the same type of
assistance, but everyone can assist!!!**

Brian

**Operation Iron Ruck Press Conference: A
United Front Against Veteran Suicide**

Samford Law

<https://veterans.auburn.edu/>

Join Auburn University's Veterans Resource
Center, Auburn Student Veterans Association, and
the Alabama Department of Veterans Affairs
(ADVA) for a crucial press conference focused on
Operation Iron Ruck. This initiative uniquely
brings Auburn University and the University of
Alabama together in a united front to combat the
devastating issue of veteran suicide.

About Operation Iron Ruck:

This impactful initiative features a march between
Tuscaloosa and Auburn, where student veterans
from both universities carry weighted rucksacks—a
symbol of the heavy emotional and psychological
burdens veterans often carry. Each rucksack is
loaded with 22 pounds of materials, representing
the 22 veterans who take their lives every day. The
materials are later donated to organizations aiding
homeless veterans.

The Message:

The goal isn't merely to raise awareness but to
create an action-oriented dialogue. It serves as a
dual message: urging those who may be
contemplating suicide to reach out while inspiring
the broader community to proactively offer their
support.

Speakers:

- **Admiral Davis**, Commissioner of the
ADVA, will share detailed insights into how
Operation Iron Ruck aligns with Alabama's
broader strategies to support veterans.
- *Potential Guest:* Preliminary discussions
are underway to have a special guest.

Highlights:

- **Informed Dialogue:** The conference aims
to empower attendees with actionable steps
to help curb veteran suicide.
- **Community and Media Presence:** Open
to Auburn University affiliates, community
members, and media representatives.

Stand united with us in this critical cause. Your
presence contributes to a powerful statement of
Auburn University's commitment to its military-
affiliated community and the larger, urgent issue of
veteran suicide.

**WE ARE SOMETIMES IN THE RIGHT PLACE
AT THE RIGHT TIME**

MGnySgt Cynthia House

“Sitting in parking lot 'cause I'm still a little too choked up to drive. Here's the story: I left physical therapy and decided to stop by the nursing home I'd just broken out of. A few days prior to my discharge, I'd learned there was a marine just down the hall. Grabbing my walker, I shuffled down to meet him and quickly learned he was a Vietnam vet.”

So, today I went back with the medallion. I CANNOT begin to tell you how touched he was. We never show pics of a Marine with tears, but I'm happy to share these.”



National Montford Point Marine Association, Inc.
Mobile Chapter #33

Celebrating the
248th Marine Corps birthday
and
Congressional Gold Medal Presentation

Saturday, 11 November 2023
Mobile Marriott
3101 Airport Blvd., Mobile, AL 36606

Guest Speaker
Major General
Janet Cobb
United States Army retired

Cocktails at 6p.m.
Ceremony at 7:00 p.m.
Tickets: \$65.00 Click here to order

For ticket sales information:
Mobile33@montfordpointmarines.org
Phone: 251- 327-3367

Attire: Formal (Appropriate military uniform is authorized)

**Vets Recover Community Work Day
On October 19**

Meet Melissa McKnight. She is leading the charge of Vets Recover's community programs. From volunteer clean-up opportunities to educational programs with our industry partners, she is working to make a difference in the lives of veterans, first responders, and their families. At Vets Recover, we are transforming the culture of care by removing barriers! Get involved today by volunteering or donating to the mission. <https://loom.ly/hRVmwQE>

For more information about Vets Recover, visit us at www.vetsrecover.org



Help us remove barriers to care! www.vetsrecover.org

Vets Recover
COMMUNITY SERVICE

When
July 27th, 8-10am

Where
Oaklawn Cemetery
1800 Holt Rd
Mobile, AL 36617

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

- ✓ Give back
- ✓ Beautify our community
- ✓ Create friendships

We look forward to you joining us!

**United States Coast Guard a Day of Caring
At Historic Oaklawn Cemetery**

We had a good day on Saturday, October 21, and made a huge difference in the area the USCG has adopted.
Thank you Coasties



Vietnam Veterans traveling Wall at Serenity Funeral Home, Mobile, AL

Cadet Benjamin Melson JROTC Baker Hi standing guard.



The Moving Wall – a half-scale replica of the revered Vietnam Memorial Wall in Washington, D.C. For 38 years, The Moving Wall has traversed our great nation, making its way through all 50 states, carrying with it the stories and sacrifices of those who served during a pivotal era in our history.

Finishing up with a brand-new Teak Deck, it's a new day for the mighty USS Alabama



Photo – Barry L. Booth

MOBILE MEMORIAL GARDENS CEMETERY
 MEMORIALIZING MEMORIES®



6100 Three Notch Rd., Mobile, Alabama 36619
 (251) 661-1333

Flags of Glory

Flags of Glory is a week-long tribute in honor of America's military service personnel presented by Mobile Memorial Gardens and The South Alabama Veterans Council. It officially begins with an opening awards and tribute ceremony under the oaks near the Three Notch entrance. More than 250 full-sized U.S. Flags are placed along the central roadway as an inspiring drive-through display during the week of Veterans Day. Each Flag may be sponsored in honor of a Veteran or active Service Member as your opportunity to participate in the tribute. You may pay tribute to one or more honorees. Sponsored Flags will have a keepsake ID tag attached to the pole with the name of the honoree on it and will also be added to the Flags of Glory Online Honor Roll. Flags of Glory, with your help, honors those that have served and sacrificed so much for our freedom. Sponsorships help provide financial support for local Veteran-related causes such as aid for sufferers of Post Traumatic Stress Syndrome, rehabilitation of homeless Vets, and other Veteran oriented programs and causes

Flags of Glory 2023 Opening award ceremony - 2 pm, Sunday, November 5th / Flags on display Nov. 5th - 12th
 Mobile Memorial Gardens Cemetery 6100 Three Notch Rd, 36619

Flags of Glory is a week-long tribute in honor of America's military service personnel presented by **Mobile Memorial Gardens** and **The South Alabama Veterans Council**. It officially begins with an opening awards and tribute ceremony under the oaks near the Three Notch entrance.



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Sponsored Flags will have a keepsake ID tag attached to the pole with the name of the honoree on it and will also be added to the Flags of Glory Online Honor Roll.

Flags of Glory, with your help, honors those that have served and sacrificed so much for our freedom. Sponsorships help provide financial support for local Veteran-related causes such as aid for sufferers of Post Traumatic Stress Syndrome, rehabilitation of homeless Vets, and other Veteran oriented programs and causes.

Three levels of sponsorship are available:

Level	Total Contribution	# Honorees	Keepsakes of Appreciation
Gold+	\$125 or more	1- 5 or more	Flag ID Card, Commemorative Certificate, 1 Photo Collage
Gold	\$100	1- 4*	Flag ID Card, Commemorative Certificate, 1 Photo Collage
Silver+	\$75	1-3	Flag ID Card, Commemorative Certificate
Silver	\$50	1- 2	Flag ID Card, Commemorative Certificate
Bronze	\$25	1	Flag ID Card



✂ **List the heroes you want to honor here (please print)**

Honoree (1): _____
 Primary Service Branch: Army, Navy, AF, Marine, CG, MM

Honoree (2): _____
 Primary Service Branch: Army, Navy, AF, Marine, CG, MM

Honoree (3): _____
 Primary Service Branch: Army, Navy, AF, Marine, CG, MM

Honoree (4): _____
 Primary Service Branch: Army, Navy, AF, Marine, CG, MM

Honoree (5): _____
 Primary Service Branch: Army, Navy, AF, Marine, CG, MM

Honoree (6): _____
 Primary Service Branch: Army, Navy, AF, Marine, CG, MM

2023 Flag Sponsor Information
 Name: _____
 Street Address: _____
 Zip Code: _____ Phone: _____
 Email: _____



Mail Completed Form & Check Before November 1st To:
 Flags of Glory - c/o Mobile Memorial Gardens,
 6100 Three Notch Rd., Mobile, AL 36619

Gold level = \$100 (up to 4 names); Silver+ = \$75 (up to 3 names); Silver level = \$50 (1 or 2 names); Bronze level = \$25 (1 name)
 *Gold+ add \$25 for each additional honoree (attach a separate list with details if honoring more than six)
 Amount of contribution: \$ _____ (Make check payable to Flags of Glory) I plan to attend the ceremony

[Flags-of-Glory-flier-bus-org-GENERIC-2022-download.pdf \(mobilememorialgardens.com\)](https://mobilememorialgardens.com/Flags-of-Glory-flier-bus-org-GENERIC-2022-download.pdf)

[Flags-of-Glory-flier-online-ltr-personal-2023v1.pdf \(mobilememorialgardens.com\)](https://mobilememorialgardens.com/Flags-of-Glory-flier-online-ltr-personal-2023v1.pdf)

THE 11TH HOUR OF THE 11TH DAY OF THE 11TH MONTH

Published Nov. 11, 2022

Air Force Life Cycle Management Center Public Affairs

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio (AFNS) -- Nov. 11, 1919, “Armistice Day” marked the first anniversary of the end of World War I. In 1926, Congress passed a resolution calling for an annual observance which then became a national holiday in 1938.

An armistice is a formal agreement to end hostilities. On the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, 1918, fighting in WWI officially stopped after Germany signed an armistice agreement with Allies earlier in the day.

In 1954, President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed legislation that changed the federal holiday’s name from Armistice Day to Veterans Day. The name change aimed to pay tribute to all Americans who served their country honorably during war or peacetime.

It’s not the powerful weapons or sophisticated technology that makes the Air Force and **Space Force** the greatest in the world. The true strength is the spirit and skill of its Airmen and Guardians, past and present.

While formally recognizing and honoring those who have worn — and now wear the nation’s colors on this one day — veterans are remembered by appreciating their experiences and building on their legacy of service. President Ronald Reagan once remarked, “Veterans know better than anyone else the price of freedom, for they have suffered the scars of war. We can offer them no better tribute than to protect what they have won for us.”



World War I: A Global Catastrophe

World War I was a global conflict that lasted from 1914 to 1918 and involved more than 30 countries and 70 million soldiers.

Images from WWI



Allied and German officials at the signing of the armistice that ended the fighting in World War I, November 11, 1918.



Armistice Day

Allied soldiers, sailors and Red Cross workers celebrating the end of World War I, November 11, 1918.



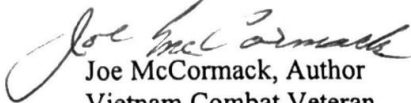
A giant Armistice celebration in Philadelphia, PA, includes a Statue of Liberty replica.

OUR HEROES DREAMS

Making a difference with Sport,
Providing Counsel, Retreats, and Support.
A Goal of a job for each Warrior Vet,
Every Employer to ensure it is met!

Rehabilitation second to none,
Not a "goal" but Priority One.
The same for their children and wives,
Whatever they need to sustain & improve their lives.

People who listen, understand, and care,
With their hearts and treasure they share.
To help Vets with nightmares and screams,
Become "Someone" with Hope and Dreams.



Joe McCormack, Author
Vietnam Combat Veteran

Inspired by Bill Adkeison, SAVC and
Dave Riley, DAV

South Alabama Veterans Council
October 17, 2023 Meeting
Breakfast was provided by
Ashley Strickland-Long,
Candidate for Circuit Court Clerk

CALL TO ORDER: President Lou Lartigue called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. with -38 in attendance - Location Saucy Q BBQ

Breakfast provided by

OPENING PRAYER: Chaplain Michael Austin

PLEDGE: Jim Jeffries led the pledge.

WELCOME: Lou Lartigue welcomed everyone, and recognized new attendees.

MINUTES: Minutes for then September meeting were mailed in the newsletter. Nine snail mail newsletters and 550 emails. Minutes approved as read.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Tom Schwarz - P L Wilson Car Show donation \$500.00, hat \$114.00., Purchased 2 tables for Patriot Luncheon \$400.00

GRANT: Grant program meeting in November

Pete Riehm - Reported on the Veterans Day Parade. There will be detailed information and special orientation meetings.

Cynthia House - Reported on the Patriot Luncheon on Veterans Day

Col Patrick Downing - Reported on Veterans Day events at BMP, reported on the 2 planes donated by Jimmy Buffet.

Lou Lartigue - Reported on the Flag raising at BMP Vietnam Veterans Memorial

VSO Report - Jim Jeffries Reported on the Fairhope Veterans Day parade, The Alabama War Memorial

Alabama Department of Veterans Affairs - Commissioner Kent Davis - Reported on the State Veterans Cemetery, he introduced the leadership team at the cemetery. All veterans homes in Alabama are in full occupancy. The scholarship fund is now digital. Davis announced Col Patrick Downing's retirement from the State Board of Veterans Affairs, after 12 years of service. Seeking funds for a second committal shelter at the cemetery. Adm will do a special recognition of Bob Horton at the Flags of Glory. He reported on operation Iron Ruck

Armed Forces Day/Blue Star Salute - Lou - will have first meeting after Thanksgiving

Flags of Glory - Sunday, Nov 5, 2:00 p.m. at Mobile Memorial Gardens

VMRT - VR adopted an area comes out 3rd Tues, USCG coming out on Saturday Oct 21.

92nd Infantry Buffalo Soldiers - Eddie Irby, Jr. - Reported on the 105th birthday party for Taylor Howard, SAVC presented him with a certificate of appreciation.

Lou Lartigue - Reported on **THE MOVING WALL** Col Downing was the guest speaker. Tom Claxton and Lou presented certificate of appreciation to Pete Blohm, and Nick DeManio at Pete's birthday party.

Guest Speaker - Ashley Strickland-Long
Candidate for Circuit Court Clerk

University of South Alabama - In recognition of Veterans Day, The University of South Alabama is proud to provide complimentary Jaguar Football tickets for current and former members of the military and their guests.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 am
Fran Barber
Secretary, SAVC
October 17, 2023