



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

Robert Frank Barrow
251-423-0437
Council President

Pat Downing
251-751-6619
Council VP

Fran Barber
251-695-1290
Secretary / Newsletter

Tom Schwarz
251-649-8459
Treasurer / Chambers Fund

Pete Riehm
251-442-4349
LNO / MC

Robert Shawn Davidson
Deputy VP Operations

Lloyd Michael Austin, Chaplain
251-391-8176

*Capt Hal Pierce, Bill Atkinson, Sy Lichtenfeld, Spiritus Americanus SAVC
LTC Lou Lattigue, President Emeritus*

NEXT SAVC MEETING – Tuesday, April 15, 2025 – 8:30 a.m.
American Legion Post 88, 2663 Halls Mill Rd., Mobile, AL

On the web – <http://www.savc.info> - Facebook – [South Alabama Veterans](#)



Denton-Drake American Legion Post 88



The South Alabama Veterans Council was established in 1998 by Col Glenn Frazier and other Veterans in the Mobile Area. The first meeting was held in the Denton-Drake American Legion Post 88. Welcome Back.

Fellow Veterans!

We had a fantastic turnout for the Vietnam War Veterans Memorial Day Flag Raising Ceremony...if you were unable to attend, you really missed a moving speech by COL (Ret) Pat Downing. It was an honor to serve as the master of ceremony for the many Vietnam War Veterans in attendance. Earlier in the week, I had the distinct honor of serving as guest speaker for the Joe Birindelli Chapter 864 of the Vietnam Veterans of America in Silverhill! What a fantastic group of men and women serving in that chapter...I remain in awe of America's heroes!

For this month's meeting at American Legion Post 88 on 15 April, we will have the mayoral candidates for the City of Mobile share with us their vision for the future and how they deserve to have your vote! All candidates have been invited...please arrive early for breakfast and be ready to ask questions of our future city leaders! I want to remind everyone again that we are getting prepared for Armed Forces Day, which will take place this spring at Battleship Memorial Park. Mark your calendars for Saturday morning, May 17, 2025! The events will include a guest speaker, Gold Star family recognition, parachute jump by the Silver Wings jump team, and helicopter display! The highlight this year will be an MRE cookoff competition! We are challenging our VSO organizations to enter the competition to demonstrate your field skills at making the famous "Meals Ready to Eat" actually taste good! Be looking for the application to complete because slots will be limited!

Finally, I want to thank everyone for the condolences and well wishes we received at the recent passing of my father, CAPT Robert V. Barrow, US Coast Guard Reserves! He was ready to meet Christ and to be reunited with my mother! A special thanks to the Patriot Guard for the funeral escort to the Alabama State Veterans Memorial Cemetery as well as the US Armed Forces Honor Guard of Baldwin County, who rendered taps and a final salute. Also, thank you to the US Coast Guard for sending an honor detail for the flag folding ceremony...my sister, Audrey, received the flag on behalf of our family. Words alone cannot express how much the support of our veteran community meant to us during this difficult time. We are truly a family here in the South Alabama Veterans Council! See you in April!

Robert "Frank" Barrow
LTC (US Army Retired)
President, South Alabama Veterans Council



Chaplains Corner

Greetings

It's Love One Another Month;
Read John 15:12

"This is my commandment, that you love one another, even as I have loved you."

We should love one another, especially through our difficulties. Why, because love covers all of our shortcomings, mistakes, bad attitudes, disobedience, sins, stubbornness, laziness, and everything else can be covered by love. Please remember to love first. Jesus told us to love one another, even as he has loved us. Love is one of the most powerful forces on earth. It even goes beyond the grave and death. So, let's cover each other with love.

In the Name of Jesus, Amen!
Pastor Lloyd Michael Austin
Chaplain SAVC

EDITORS NOTE:

For 2 months in a row, we have broken our attendance at the SAVC meeting in February & March...Breakfast may be a contributing factor. Thanks to Judy and Sophia, our SAVC Chefs.

To all our first timers, you are a visitor only once, welcome, and we plan to see you in April.



Sophie McGill & Judy Ford
American Legion Auxiliary Post 88

APRIL GUEST SPEAKERS MOBILE MAYORAL CANDIDATES

The 2025 Mobile mayoral election will be held on August 26, 2025, with a runoff on September 23 if no candidate receives more than 50% of the vote in the general election. Candidates in alphabetical order



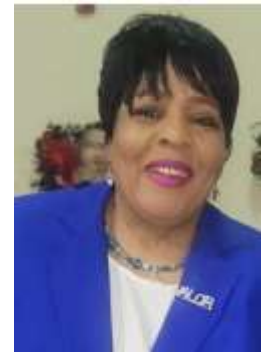
Lawrence Battiste



Jermaine Burrell



Spiro Cheriogotis



Barbara Drummond



Connie Hudson



Stephen Nodine



Paul Prine



South Alabama Veterans Council

Jim Jeffries, US Army Veteran



Jeffries served in the U.S. Army from 1965 to 1967 as a member of the 34th Signal Battalion, 7th Corps. As a civilian, according to a city news release, he was a championship-winning high school football coach before moving into the corporate world, where he worked for 28 years for Kraft Foods-Nabisco, ending his career as Worldwide Vice President of Ingredient Sales. In 2004, he retired with his wife, Amy, to the Eastern Shore, where he became active with Fairhope's American Legion Post 199 and has served as its commander.

Fairhope, AL, 2013 Veteran of the Year, Mobile Bay Area Veteran of the Year 2015, and the Vietnam Veterans Association Associate of the Year for 2015.

In addition to his work with Post 199, Jeffries has served as commander of the American Legion's District 33, as a member of the Alabama Department of Veterans Affairs, POW/MIA Recognition Committee, and is chairman of the board for the Alabama State Veterans Memorial Cemetery Endowment. He is a member of the South Alabama Veterans Council, Marine Corps League, Vietnam Veterans of America, Society of

the 3rd Infantry Division, Alabama Marine Corps Foundation, Blue Star Salute Foundation, Admirals Club of the Mobile Council of the Navy League, and the Gulf Coast Vietnam Veterans Salute Committee.



Quilt of Valor



Dedication of Freedom Horse 2011



Mobile Bay Area Veteran of the Year 2015



Glen Frazier patching Jim in the Rolling Thunder Chapter 1, Alabama 2011

HOW EXCITING IS THIS

VSO – EXPO

**ARMED FORCES DAY
MAY 17**

Table and chairs provided by Battleship Memorial
Park

BOOTHS ARE FREE TO VSO

SPACE IS LIMITED!!

make your reservations now @
armedforcesdaymobile@gmail.com

VETERAN SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

ARMED FORCES DAY

Battleship Memorial Park Aircraft Pavilion
May 17, 2025



EXPO

BOOTHS ARE FREE TO VSO's

Table and chairs provided by Battleship Memorial Park

Space is limited – make your reservations now @
armedforcesdaymobile@gmail.com

2703 Battleship Pkwy, Mobile, AL 36682

Hosted by

South Alabama Veterans Council & Battleship Memorial Park



ARMED FORCES DAY

Battleship Memorial Park

May 17, 2025



11:00 a.m.

MRE COOK-OFF CONTEST WITH:

Veterans Service
Organizations

National Guard
And Reserve Units

JUDGING BY:
Local Chefs

TO ENTER THE COOK-OFF REGISTER HERE:
afdmre.savc@gmail.com

2703 Battleship Pkwy, Mobile, AL 36682

Hosted by

South Alabama Veterans Council & Battleship Memorial Park



**ARMED FORCES DAY
CELEBRATION
MAY 17, 2025
USS ALABAMA BATTLESHIP
MEMORIAL PARK**

8:30 a.m.

EXPO

VSO's & Vendors

9:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

**Armed Forces Day
Ceremony**

**10:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
Gold Star Ceremony**

**10:30 a.m.
Silver Wings Parachute
Jump**

**"Helo & Equipment"
display**

**11:00 a.m.
MRE contest**

EXPO

**To reserve a booth
in the Pavilion**

email:

southalabamaveteranscouncil@gmail.com



11:00 A.M.

MRE COOK-OFF

CONTEST WITH:

Veterans Service
Organizations
National Guard
And Reserve Units

JUDGING BY:

Local Chefs

**To register for the
MRE Cookoff**

email:

afdmre.savc@gmail.com



The event is free and open to the public, and handicapped parking is \$5.



**South Alabama
Veterans Council**

An organization for all people, to serve all veterans.
A collection of Veterans Service Organizations working together
to better the lives of Veterans and their families.

**Armed Forces Day Celebration
Saturday, May 17, 2025
Vendor Application Form**

We invite your organization/business to host a table and distribute product samples, provide services, or distribute printed materials for the Armed Forces Day Celebration.

EXPO will be held inside the Aircraft Pavilion. A table and two chairs will be provided for each registered business/organization on a first-come basis. Please complete all sections of this form and return it **no later than Friday, 9 May 2025.**

If vendor is not a VSO or military non-profit organization, the application form should be accompanied by a taxable deductible minimum donation of \$25. Payments can be made by:

VENDOR: <https://account.veterans.com/ID-407TheDeep>

Checks should be made payable to and mailed to:

Out of the Deep Gulf Coast Veterans Service
Attn: Elijah Crawford
P.O. Box 191381, Mobile, AL 36619

Friday, May 16, 2025—You may set up your table in the pavilion between 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. If you wish.

Saturday, May 17, 2025—The doors to the aircraft pavilion will be open at 7 a.m. All Vendors MUST be set up in the pavilion no later than 8:00 a.m. If you arrive after 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, there is a \$5.00 parking fee.

NOTE: All vehicles must be moved to the event parking location after unloading on Saturday morning. Vendors are encouraged to remain until 2 p.m. for the general public.

Event Day Schedule • Saturday, May 17, 2025 – 8:30 a.m. to 1 a.m. Expo of Sponsors, VSOs, and Vendors • 9:30 a.m. Armed Forces Day Ceremony • 10 a.m. – Gold Star Ceremony • 10:30 Silver Wings Parachute Jump, Helo & Equipment Display • 11:00 a.m. MRE Cook-off • Post-event activities - Enjoy the day at USS Alabama Battleship Park. Join us in honoring our military service members: Those Who Serve, Those Who Have Served, and Those Who Have Fallen in Service.

For additional information, contact Cynthia House – 251-402-0203 Email: ArmedForcesDayMobile@gmail.com

Contact Information Company/Organization

Name: _____

Contact Number: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Website: _____

Vendor Information Type of Company/Organization: Non-profit: Yes _____ No _____

Describe your display: _____

Will you be providing free items/products? If yes, what items/products? _____

IMPORTANT: Due to limited space, Notification of acceptance will be emailed to you on or before the 9 May 2025.
Our event website is - <https://savc.org/armed-forces-day>

2025 ARMED FORCES DAY

MEALS READY TO EAT

MRE CONTEST

May 17, 2025

11:00 a.m.

The MRE Cook-off will be held outside, where teams from local VSOs, National Guard And Reserve Units will compete.

JUDGING BY Local Chefs

Location - **USS ALABAMA Battleship Park**

Contact us at (251) 209-3228 or [2025 Armed Forces Day MRE Cook Off](https://2025.ArmedForcesDayMRECookOff.com)

ONLINE REGISTRATION IS OPEN:

Click here to register and to find all the rules

savg.info/mre-cookoff-registration

MREs, or Meals Ready to Eat, are the main operational food ration for the United States Armed Forces. It originated from the C-rations and K-rations from World War II. This contest will challenge a team of up to 4 cooks to use their culinary experience and creativity to prepare a meal together.

Maximum number of teams 25, four people per team, teams can have more people than that, but only four people at a time cooking. Each team will only be presenting one entrée.

Each team must bring their tent and table, a small 1st aid kit, and a fire extinguisher.

SAVC will provide three surprise MREs per team.

**YOU GET WHAT YOU GET
AND DON'T PITCH A FIT!**

SAVC will also provide a container with a lid for presentation of the entree:

AWARDS – the Judging standards will be published the week before the event and at the event site.

CATEGORIES ARE:

1. Best Overall (Taste, Presentation, Creativity)
2. First, Second, and Third place for each of the following categories: Taste, Presentation, or Creativity
3. Best Out of the Box/“MRE Bag” award

THREE OF THE MRE JUDGES

HONORARY JUDGE AND HOST



Elbert Wingfield, USMC Veteran and owner of Saucy Q BBQ



Chef Pete Blohme



Chef Nick Dimario

MEMORIAL DAY FLAG RELAY - Alabama Gulf Coast Region - MONDAY 26 May 2025

To reserve your opportunity to participate as a running/jogging "Flag Carrier" for a one-mile leg along our designated 22-mile route, contact:

Endel Lee

(251) 649-1430/cell

Email: endellee@yahoo.com.

Advanced registration will occur from 15-30 APRIL, and then we will open registration to the general public on 01 MAY 2025.

RunSignUp will be the registration program we will use to process registration for each participant. There is NO COST to register -- just a commitment of your time & a promise to contact me ASAP, if your plans to participate change. We are also using the *MyWay APP* to assist you in selecting the particular mile you want to run/jog. Details about these new tools are available via the Memorial Day Flag Relay - Mobile, AL Facebook group page. Please follow this page to see periodic updates as we approach this Memorial Day Flag Relay, or call me anytime with any questions or suggestions.

www.facebook.com/groups/433558806694852



Volunteers Needed

- Flag Carriers (run or jog -- 1 mile leg) with a U.S. Flag or Military Services Flag
- Section Captains (organize participants)
- Safety Monitors (lead & follow vehicles)

3 Central Gulf Coast Region Routes

- From West Mobile to the USS Alabama
- From Loxley to Robertsdale
- From Robertsdale to "AL Point"/Orange Beach

All participants must be medically fit to enter this event and run/jog entirely at their own risk.

Starters' Ceremony: 0645-0700am, then relay

West Mobile's Starter Site: 9055 Tanner Williams Rd.
(Park next to Pierce Creek Cemetery)

For more information or to register for participation, contact a local Resource Partner at (251) 649-1430/cell, or like the Facebook pages: Memorial Day Flag Relay Mobile, AL OR Baldwin Co.

NO FUNDS are solicited or accepted in support of this event!

EVENT HOSTS: Cross the Divide, Veterans Recovery Resources, and the South Alabama Chapter of Military Officers Association of America (Donate Online!)

AMERICAN LEGION
501(c)(13)

2nd Annual Bicycle Ride to National Convention for PTSD

benefiting the Birdwell Foundation

BE THE ONE

SCAN HERE

Dallas, TX to Tampa Bay, FL

Aug. 2 - 22, 2025

Support our 1245 Mile ride to raise ONE Million Dollars.

Your donations will support the treatment for our veterans and first responders across the U.S. and the future home of the 1st ever Women's PTSD facility.

Q & A sessions will be held at all 6 branches of the Armed Forces during the ride to spread awareness about PTSD and available services.

AMERICAN LEGION POST 511 BICYCLE DRIVE – Dallas to Tampa August 2 – 22, 2025

The CPOA Mobile is planning an event for August 10th at USCG Sector Mobile to benefit the American Legion's Post 511 bicycle drive. The drive consists of the members of AL Post 511 riding bicycles from Rowlett, TX, to their National Convention to be held in Tampa, FL, this year. They did the drive last year to their convention in New Orleans and raised \$21,000 towards their "Be the One" and the Birdwell Foundation.

This year, they chose the USCG Sector Mobile as one of the military facilities they wanted to visit on their route and asked the CPOA to be their local POC. Their goal is to raise \$1 million. I am reaching out to all of you to request your assistance with planning and participation, respectfully. Some of the things we would welcome assistance with are the following:

- Fundraising (Ex, We are planning a ride-along from the State Line to Sector Mobile and charging a signup fee to donate to the cause)
- Media Requests
- Passing the word to other Vet Orgs.
- Planning with City

To participate or support the event, contact:
Pablo J. Rosa-Perez, CPOA President
mobilechapterpresidentcpoa@gmail.com

**YOU ARE A VISITOR ONLY ONCE
WELCOME:**

American Legion Post 99 Auxiliary, and Sharon Bunton, President, American Legion Auxiliary District 33. They drove from Foley to be at our March meeting, a special thanks to Sissy Cunningham for recording the pledge which will air on WKRG

**Veterans Resource Fair
Vendors Wanted!**

AMERICAN LEGION POST 99

2101 S. McKenzie St, Foley, AL 36535

 **Saturday, September 20, 2025**

 **10 AM – 4 PM**


Join us for a meaningful day dedicated to supporting our veterans and their families! The **Veterans Resource Fair** is all about raising awareness of suicide prevention, PTSD, and the resources available to those who have served. Help connect veterans, military members, and their families with the support they deserve! We're looking for vendors who offer:

- ☒ **Mental Health Services**
- ☒ **Community Resources**
- ☒ **Veteran Benefits (Federal & State)**
- ☒ **Veteran-Owned & Supportive Businesses**
- ☒ **In-Home Care & Assistance**
- ☒ **Legal & Insurance Services**
- ☒ **Medical & Healthcare Support**


 **Enjoy live music, exciting raffles, and delicious food for purchase!**

 **This event is FREE for attendees and vendors! **


 **Want to be a vendor? Reach out to any of these volunteers:**

 **Carla Biniecki:** 864-913-0656 Veteran Resource Chair & Membership Officer @ Auxiliary Post#199 ✉ VRF.CB@alpost99.org

 **Sharon Bunton:** 817-296-0984 American Legion Auxiliary Dist#33 President ✉ VRF.SB@alpost99.org

 **Van Hubbard:** 251-943-3114 American Legion Dist#33 President ✉ Commander@alpost99.org

 **Ron Dickerson:** 251-943-3114 American Legion Post#99 P.R. Officer ✉ PR@alpost99.org

Let's unite to make a difference—one resource at a time! 



THE AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY
www.alpost99.org
Foley, AL

Veterans Resource Fair
Saturday, September 20, 2025
10 AM – 4 PM
American Legion Post 99
2101 S. McKenzie St, Foley, AL 36535

- ☒ Mental Health Services
- ☒ Community Resources
- ☒ Veteran Benefits (Federal & State)
- ☒ Veteran-Owned & Supportive Businesses
- ☒ In-Home Care & Assistance
- ☒ Legal & Insurance Services
- ☒ Medical & Healthcare Support

Join us for a meaningful day dedicated to supporting our veterans and their families! The Veterans Resource Fair is all about raising awareness of suicide prevention, PTSD, and the resources available to those who have served.

Why Participate?
Help connect veterans, military members, and their families with the support they deserve! We're looking for vendors who offer:

 Enjoy live music, exciting raffles, and delicious food for purchase!
 This event is FREE for attendees and vendors! 

Post#99 2101 S. McKenzie St, Foley, AL 36535 | Post#199 700 S. Little St, Foley, AL 36532



THE AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY
www.alpost99.org
Foley, AL

VETERANS BREAKFAST
APRIL 26, 2025
Serving from 8:00 – 10:00 A.M.

Free to all Veterans
Guess eat for \$ 10 per plate

Serving:
Scrambled Eggs
Biscuits and Gravy
Cheese Grits
Sausage and Bacon

American Legion Post 99
Foley, AL

W F GREEN VETERANS HOME

MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE:

Veterans, their family members, and the public are invited to honor the men and women who died in service to their country at the Memorial Day Service hosted by the

Alabama Department of Veterans Affairs.
Guest Speaker at the Memorial Day Service
Monday, May 26, 2025

LTC Robert Franklin Barrow, USA (Retired),
President, South Alabama Veterans Council

WILLIAM F. GREEN STATE VETERANS HOME



PURPLE HEART

Some gave all

All gave some

KILLED IN ACTION • WOUNDED IN ACTION

Military Order Purple Heart

Chapter 2206

South Alabama Gulf Coast

The Military Order of the Purple Heart (MOPH) Chapter 2206 is a congressionally chartered (Title 36 USC Chapter 1406) United States war veterans organization, headquartered in South Alabama's Gulf Coast. It is unique in that its members are exclusively men and women who have received the Purple Heart award while serving as a member of the U.S. Military.

Mission

The MOPH's stated mission is "to foster an environment of goodwill and camaraderie among combat wounded veterans, promote patriotism, support necessary legislative initiatives, and most importantly, provide service to all veterans and their families."

Saturday, May 17, 2025 at 9 AM - 10 AM

Chapter Meetings. Every 3rd Saturday of every month except July, August and December.

USS ALABAMA Battleship Memorial Park

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH ALABAMA'S
OFFICE OF MILITARY SERVICES
PRESENTS



RESOURCE FAIR

THURSDAY, APRIL 3

10AM - 2PM | STUDENT CENTER BALLROOM

CAMPUS & COMMUNITY RESOURCES WILL BE REPRESENTED. ALL MILITARY-AFFILIATED STUDENTS, FACULTY & STAFF ARE INVITED TO ATTEND.

INTERESTED IN RESERVING A
TABLE AND RECEIVING MORE
DETAILS?

EMAIL LAUREN NEWMAN:
LSNEWMAN@SOUTHALABAMA.EDU



April

Month of the Military Child	Month of April
Military Saves Month	Month of April
Gold Star Spouses Day	April 5
National Former POW Recognition Day	April 9
Air Force Reserve Birthday	April 14
Army Reserve Birthday	April 23
National Military Brats Day	April 30

SAVC met Taylor and Payton Farley at the Vietnam War Veterans Flag Lowering Ceremony on March 29. Taylor is a USMC Veteran; he and his dad have a veteran-owned business. We enjoyed having breakfast with the P L Wilson Detachment MCL. SAVC appreciated, Tom Claxton, who organized the Flag Lowering event.



Stand Up Mobile recognized Beverly Cooper and Amelia Bacon, the amazing co-founders of Stand Up Mobile, who were awarded the John Lewis Courage Award by the @splcenter. Beverly and Amelia have done so much to uplift our communities in Mobile. Beverly is the wife of the late MG J Gary Cooper.



House Roasted Meats, Homemade Mozzarella, Killer Paninis & Burgers, Fresh Cut Fries, Pete's Famous Beignets



Featured on Food Network. Farm to Table, Local Fresh Seafood, Mixology Bar, Extensive Wine List, Award-Winning Waterfront Dining



Mob Town's Coolest Gastro Pub. Eclectic Eats & Drinks! Lunch, Brunch, Dinner & Cocktails! Located in Downtown Mobile, AL. Historic Eats on Dauphin Street.

Always looking to dig deep and give back, Pete is a founding member of The Messlords, a group of passionate chefs that travel around the world, cooking and entertaining American troops, as well as co-founder of the PR Foundation that works to help veterans, adults with developmental disabilities, and no-kill animal shelters.



"Doing Very Special Things for Very Special People"

From Founders, "Panini" Pete Blohme and Robert Kabakoff

Established 2019 – 501 (c) (3) Non-Profit Organization

Honoring Military Veterans, No Kill Animal Shelters, and People with Special Needs
(From Website)

[CHEF PANINI PETE – WORK HARD – DIG DEEP & DO GOOD THINGS](#)

"JOIN FORCES" (A Good Start)

A problem that cannot wait,
Or put off to another date.
The White House & Capitol Hill together,
Must get serious – make economy better.

An opportunity justly deserved,
Find jobs for those who served.
The VA, Companies & business groups,
Join forces – train, prepare, hire the Troops.

A home, a job, and proper care,
Will replace the "Thousand Yard Stare".
With respect, purpose, and appreciation,
And the debt repaid by a grateful nation.


Joe McCormack-Author/Veteran

Vietnam War Veterans Day Ceremony

The Vietnam War Veterans Day Ceremony, the 50th anniversary of the end of the Vietnam War, was carried out as planned on Saturday, March 29, at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, Battleship Park. The guest speaker was Col Patrick Downing, USA (Ret.), Vietnam War Veteran. The PL Wilson Detachment MCL Honor Guard performed the flag procedure, while Cuon Nguyen lowered the Vietnamese flag to half-staff. Col Frank Barrow Mc'd the event, and Janie Neal Bryant, the SAVC Vocalist sang the National Anthem. There was a good turnout, considering the threatening weather.

Cuong Nguyen served as platoon commander in the 10th. Armored Regiment, 25th. RVN Division, stationed in Cu Chi Hau Nghia province. The VC imprisoned Nguyen after the fall of Saigon in 1975. He was released in 1978 and was forced to live in a rural area away from Saigon, where his family was. He spent 19 years under Communist rule. In 1993, he was allowed by the US government to settle in the US. He now serves in the Vietnamese American community and runs the Council of Vietnamese Veterans in New Orleans, LA.

Fred James, USNRC, attended the event. It was good that he and his wife Paula could participate/ After a long series of debilitating surgeries, Fred now uses a wheelchair.



Fred James, Cuon Nguyen, Col Frank Barrow



Give Back to Veterans!

BE A SPONSOR FOR THE AVU TRAINING CONFERENCE ON MAY 21-23!

PLATINUM TIER - \$5,000

- SPEAKING OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS CONFERENCE
- SPECIAL MEETING ROOM AT AVU
- PLATINUM TIER
- TRAINING MATERIALS FOR ALL
- PUBLIC ADDRESS OPPORTUNITY
- PLATINUM TIER

GOLD TIER - \$3,000

- SPECIAL MEETING ROOM AT AVU
- PLATINUM TIER
- TRAINING MATERIALS FOR ALL
- PUBLIC ADDRESS OPPORTUNITY
- PLATINUM TIER

SILVER TIER - \$2,000

- MEETING ROOM
- COMMERCIAL LETTER AND PUBLIC ADDRESS OPPORTUNITY
- PLATINUM TIER

BRONZE TIER - \$1,000

- COMMERCIAL LETTER AND PUBLIC ADDRESS OPPORTUNITY
- PLATINUM TIER

PLATINUM TIER - \$5,000

GOLD TIER - \$3,000

SILVER TIER - \$2,000

BRONZE TIER - \$1,000

CONTACT: MAUREN MOHRISON

(214) 240-9377

Devoted to our Veterans:

Comfort and Care Drive

Comfort and Care Drive Mission:
Offering veterans a sense of
warmth, dignity, and appreciation.

MORE INFORMATION ON
WHERE AND WHAT TO DONATE FORTHCOMING



MOBILE MEMORIAL GARDENS CEMETERY

MEMORIALIZING MEMORIES®

6100 Three Notch Rd., Mobile, Alabama 36619

(251) 661-1333





Bill Bergman, MOPH State Commander, announced Andrew DelGaudio is the new CDR of MOPH Chapter 2206



Attention Pensacola, NWFL, and lower Alabama Employers: Here is an opportunity for you to invest in your Veterans and learn more about the challenges Veterans face when they return home and become part of the workforce. Veterans in Leadership is a conference designed for employers and their Veterans to learn together and grow stronger! There are only 150 tickets for this event, so employers, act fast to be a part of this great event!



SAVC Minutes March 18, 2025

BF provided by Sage Health - Pastries provided by Publix

1. **Welcome and Call to Order:** Patrick Downing called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m., with 62 in attendance. The Location was American Legion Post 88.

2. **Opening Prayer & Pledge** – Chaplain Austin, opening prayer. Pledge led by Neil Bruyn.

3. **Introduction of new attendees** — Patrick Downing, and 3 Flag Officers, ADML Kent Davis, MG Mike Sumrall, RDML Endel Lee.

4. **Newsletter & Minutes, Fran Barber-Bruyn, Secretary:** The February meeting minutes were included in the newsletter. The minutes were approved as read.

5. **Treasury & Grant Participation**

Grants were presented to American Legion Post 199, Building Fund, Quilts of Valor, Mobile, Joyce Reed, and Baldwin County Linda Tipp. National Flag Relay, Endel Lee.

6. **Navy & Veterans News:** Pete Riehm, Navy League, USS McFaul here for Mardi Gras, The Comfort leaving soon, Memorial Day coming up. Update on the Anti-Veteran Bill, SB67 and HB154, two bills that will completely overhaul the ADVA.

7. **Current Veterans Activities and AL News:** Vietnam War Veterans Flag Raising Ceremony.

8. **AL Veterans Cemetery Foundation:** Joe Buschell reported during his presentation.

9. **USS Alabama Battleship Memorial Park, Pat Downing** introduced Commander Mark Fields, the new Deputy Director of the USS Alabama Battleship Memorial Park. Eb Counts gave an update on BMP.

11. **AFD –Shawn Davidson** - Planning meeting after SAVC meeting, challenge to VSO MRE cook-off, and EXPO

12. **VMRT:** No report

13. **Alabama Chapter 92nd Buffalo Soldiers** – Jackie Barnett reported there will be a Gentiva Veteran Pinning at Revelation Baptist Church on March 29 at 7 pm

14. **Topics of Interest**— Ket Davis spoke about the River Region Veterans Coalition - RRVC www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61574462792355, RRVC is a non-profit/apolitical coalition of public and private sector organizations that serve military veterans in the River Region of central Alabama (in and near Montgomery).

Synergy Health Care: Georgianna Catrino reported on their services for Veterans

MOPH: Bill Bergman, State Commander, introduced new CDR MOPH Chapter 2206: Andrew DelGaudio
SAGE HEALTH: Phil Quigley introduced the Devoted to our Veterans Comfort and Care drive committee members

15. **Guest Speaker—Joe Buschell, Director, Veterans Cemetery**

16. **Good of the order** – The next meeting will be at the Denton Drake American Legion Post 88 on Halls Mill Rd, Mobile, AL, April 15, 2025

17. **The meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.**

Fran Barber - Secretary