

ATTENTION:
SAVC MEETING
September 22, 2026
10:00 - Lunch
Chatom Community Center
233 Dixie Youth Dr
Chatom, AL 36518
Lunch: \$5.00



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

email: support@info.com
Website: SAVC.info

PRESIDENT

LTC Robert Frank Barrow USA (Ret)
251-423-0437

VICE PRESIDENT

COL Phillip Quigley, USA (Ret)
251-709-4942

SECRETARY/NEWSLETTER

Fran Barber-Bruyn
251-605-1290

TREASURER

Tom Schwarz, USN Veteran
251-649-8459

VICE PRESIDENT OPERATIONS

Robert Davidson, USA (Ret)
985-264-3471

VICE PRESIDENT LOGISTICS

Beverly Moritz
251-605-2621

MEMBER AT LARGE

COL Louis Lartigue, Jr. USA (Ret)
251-422-6686

CHAPLAIN

Lloyd Michael Austin, USA Veteran
251-391-8176

LIAISON OFFICER / MC

CDR Pete Riehm, USN (Retired)
251-442-4349

Spiritus Emeritus SAVC

Capt Hal Pierce
Bill Atkison
Sy Lichtenfeld

President Spiritus Emeritus

LTC Lou Lartigue, Sr

Emeritus

COL Patrick Downing

SAVC Meetings - 8:00 a.m.

3rd Tuesday monthly, Jan - Nov

Denton Drake American Legion Post 88

2663 Halls Mill Rd., Mobile, AL

Breakfast \$5.00



Mobile Bay Area Veterans Commission
P.O. Box 2187 | Mobile, AL 36652
vetsdaycommission@gmail.com

PRESIDENT

Col Steve Carey, USAF (Ret)
251-406-9799

PRESIDENTS CORNER

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

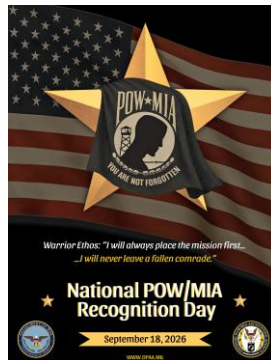


Fellow Veterans!

Football season and cooler weather are on the way! School is back in session, and parents everywhere are glad to have their children back in the classroom. We have been blessed thus far with no major hurricane activity... let's keep praying it stays that way! We had a great turnout for our August meeting, and Ms. Courtney Ralston's invitation to host more veteran reunions was well received. We hope that the Military Order of the Purple Heart will host their national convention in Mobile next summer!

As you should know by now, our next meeting is being held in Chatom, Alabama on September 22nd! The mayor is excited to host us, and our guest speaker is our very own Rear Admiral Kent Davis. Admiral Davis is currently the Chief Executive Officer for Vets Recover and has many family members in Washington County. Lunch will be served after our meeting, so come and join us for this momentous event!

My wife and I will have had the opportunity to tour the famous battlegrounds of Normandy, France, by the time we see each other again...I have never been to this historic site and am eager to make the journey. I wish all of you the best as we enter the last few weeks of summer...stay safe and God Bless!



MOBILE, ALABAMA, Friday, September 18, 2026 – 7:00 p.m. — USS ALABAMA Battleship Memorial Park will host a POW/MIA Candlelight Ceremony on the evening of Friday, September 18, in honor of National POW/MIA Recognition Day. The ceremony will take place at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial on the park's grounds at 7:00 p.m. and will be conducted by the South Alabama Veterans Council.



Greetings!

It's A prayer for our Nation; Read Proverbs 33:12

"Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord; and the people whom he has chosen for his own inheritance."

One nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all... Father, in the mighty name of Jesus Christ, we come before you humbly asking you to bless our Nation. Help us to love, respect, and treat each other with common human dignity. It doesn't matter what color the skin is, all of our blood is red. Help us focus on the contents of the character, instead of the pigmentation of the skin.

After all, there's only one true Race. "THAT'S THE HUMAN RACE"
In JESUS Name, Amen!

Pastor Lloyd Michael Austin
Chaplain, SAVC



WE ARE TAKING SAVC TO CHATOM



SAVC Executive Board



LTC Robert F Barrow, USA (Ret)
President



COL Phillip Quigley, USA (Ret)
Vice President



Robert Davidson, USA (Ret)
Vice President Operations



Beverly Moritz
Vice President Logistics



Fran Barber-Bruyn
Secretary



Tom Schwarz
Treasurer



Louis Lartigue, Jr
Member at Large

SAVC BEGINNINGS

Founded by a group of Veterans in 1998. The first meeting was held at the Denton-Drake American Legion Post 88. SAVC was designed to serve as a clearinghouse of information for various Veterans' groups across Mobile, Baldwin, Clarke, Conecuh, Escambia, Monroe, and Washington counties.

The SAVC is a coalition of Veterans Organizations, supporters, and friends, working together to advance the cause of Veterans and their families throughout the South Alabama region. SAVC is an apolitical organization functioning as a think tank or incubator, generating ideas on how Veterans Support Organizations (VSOs) and the community can recognize the contributions of Veterans and their families.

Anyone interested in supporting the SAVC mission is encouraged to join the Council. SAVC has grown and matured into a respected group of Veterans and friends who confidently advocate with our local, state, and federal government representatives. SAVC is an apolitical organization; the council does not endorse candidates, but it encourages a well-informed public to vote. SAVC serves as a think tank or incubator, generating ideas on how Veterans Support Organizations (VSOs) and the community can acknowledge the contributions of Veterans and their families.

SOUTH ALABAMA VETERANS COUNCIL SEPTEMBER GUEST SPEAKER



Rear Admiral W. Kent Davis, U.S. Navy (Ret.)

Rear Admiral W. Kent Davis, U.S. Navy (Ret.), is a career military officer, attorney, and public servant whose professional life spans more than 30 years of distinguished service. The son of a combat-wounded World War II veteran, Davis served nearly 31 years in active and reserve duty, culminating his Navy career in 2016 as the Vice Chief of Information.

He began his service aboard the historic battleship **USS Missouri (BB-63)** and went on to hold key operational, legal, and strategic communication roles at Naval Air Station Atlanta; aboard **USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN-72)**; within the Navy Office of Information; at **U.S. Central Command**; **U.S. Joint Forces Command**; **U.S. Sixth Fleet**; and the Pentagon. In the 1990s, he completed an interservice transfer to the U.S. Army, serving as a military attorney at the rank of Major. He later deployed for extended ground tours during the wars in **Iraq** and **Afghanistan** in 2006 and 2012.

Following retirement, Davis continued his commitment to veterans as **Commissioner of the Alabama Department of Veterans Affairs**, leading statewide modernization efforts. His civilian career includes senior roles with **Air University at Maxwell AFB**, the **City of Anniston**, and 14 years with the **U.S. Department of Homeland Security**. He previously practiced law with **King & Spalding** in Atlanta.

Davis currently serves as **Chief Executive Officer of Vets Recover** in Mobile, Alabama, a nonprofit dedicated to veteran recovery and mental health services. He is active in numerous civic and veterans organizations, including Rotary, the River Region Veterans Coalition, South Alabama Veterans

Council, VFW, DAV, Marine Corps League, Navy League, MOAA, and the Mobile Bar Association.

A native of Montgomery, Davis grew up in Atlanta and New Orleans. He holds a **B.S. in Business Administration** from Louisiana State University and a **Juris Doctor (magna cum laude)** from Georgia State University, where he served as **Editor-in-Chief of Law Review**. He and his wife Lisa, a retired Navy veteran and former special education teacher, have been married 37 years and reside in Montgomery. They have two adult children.

PURPLE HEART SALUTE:

*"What a magnificent Purple Heart Day event in Daphne. I was honored to be the official host for the reception for the Purple Heart recipients who were recognized. VIPs such as U.S. Congressman Barry Moore, State Representative Phillip Ensler, former U.S. Congressman Jerry Carl, Troy University President Dr. Jack Hawkins, Military Order of the Purple Heart National Senior Vice Commander Dr. Andrew Del Gaudio, Major General (and former Alabama Adjutant General) Mike Sumrall, officials from Quilts of Valor, and many others participated in the reception festivities, and my brothers and sisters from the local Veterans Commission and the **South Alabama Veterans Council** did an outstanding job planning and executing the entire evening. So proud of the Vets Recover team for staffing a table at the event, and we even got to honor Vets Recover employee Kurt Brooks (a Purple Heart recipient) for his service. **AWESOME all around!!**"* Admiral Kent Davis

Rear Admiral Kent Davis will be the guest speaker at the SAVC September 22 meeting in Chatom, AL





VETERANS SPOTLIGHT

BROTHERS

Anthony Michael Naman (101)

WWII and Korea Veteran

Louis James Naman (98), Korea

Anthony Naman was born in South Alabama and graduated from McGill Institute and Auburn University. He joined the U.S. Army to serve his country in Europe and Korea. He fought in combat as a rifleman and earned the three Bronze Stars, Purple Heart, Army Good Conduct Medal, Victory Medal, and Army WWII Occupation Medal, among many others. In Korea, he earned the National Defense Ribbon and the Armed Forces Reserve Medal with silver M for Mobilization. His final rank was Major Sergeant.

In civilian life, he owned Naman's Supermarkets. He has served his community through the Parish Council, St. Vincent de Paul, the Little Sisters of the Poor, and the Palm Society. He and his wife have 6 children and are active at St. Pius X Catholic Church.



Anthony Naman is 101 years old and served in the Army during both World War II and the Korean War.

His younger brother, Dr. Louis Naman, is 97 years old and served in both the Marines and the Navy. He served in the Korean War.

But they aren't the only two brothers in their family to be touched by war.

These men are just two of six Naman brothers to serve in the United States military.

Their parents, George and Helen Naman, were Lebanese immigrants and moved to Mobile in the early 1900s.

They came here to make a life better than what they left.



Anthony (101) and Louis Naman (98), (2026)

Louis James Naman (98) was born in Brewton, AL, and joined the US Navy during the Korean War. He began his service at Treasure Island in San Francisco, CA. He served as a Lieutenant Commander and assistant dental officer in Korea and Japan.

In Mobile, he practiced privately for many years, pioneering implant dentistry in Alabama. He has spent much of his spare time on the water, fishing and boating. He and his wife have 5 children and are active at Corpus Christi Catholic Church.



*Anthony Naman / Dr. Jack Hawkins
Purple Heart Salute*

THE SOUTH ALABAMA VETERANS COUNCIL

Considerations and Guidelines for Grants for Veterans Service Organizations (VSO) in South Alabama

The South Alabama Veterans Council offers small grants, typically \$300–\$500, to qualified Veterans Service Organizations that support Veterans in South Alabama. Eligible VSOs must be recognized as 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(19) organizations and provide a brief request outlining their program, impact, and service to local Veterans. Selected organizations may be invited to an SAVC meeting to share their mission and examples of program success.

The following considerations should be used in the selection process for Grants for VSO. While these are recommendations, Council Members should apply good judgment regarding the organization's mission and the level of support for our Veterans in South Alabama. A VSO is any organization that contributes to the support of Veterans in South Alabama and has shown its program mission and level of support to our Veterans and community.

1. The VSO should be a 501(c)(3) or C-19 recognized organization to be considered. The request for funds should include the following: length of service of the organization, levels of support from other donors, number of Veterans supported, and testimony of support, among other relevant details.
2. The VSO should submit a request (verbal or written) for funds to support specific programs and provide a detailed description of that support to the Council for consideration.
3. The VSO should report examples of its efforts, their effects, or how they will impact the VSO mission and the Veterans.
4. These organizations, upon request or award, attend the SAVC meeting to present their request and/or examples of past program success.

If you meet these qualifications and wish to apply for a grant, visit the SAVC website, savc.info complete the Grant Application, and submit your application to the SAVC council via email: support@info.com



Visit Mobile, Courtney Ralston and Michael Dorie; RDML Kent Davis, Dr Del Gaudio; and Lisa De Shazo grant



MOPH Andrew Del Gaudio presented certificates to Steve Carey, Frank Barrow, Phil Quigley, and Fran Barber, the Purple Heart Salute team



Col Barrow and Col Carey thanked Dr Del Gaudio for his contribution the the Purple Heart Salute

The Mobile Bay Area Veterans Commission is gearing up for the Veterans Day Events on Wednesday, November 11.



FLAG RAISING CEREMONY:

0700 Battleship Memorial Park, Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

PARADE:

Mobile's Veterans Day Parade will begin at Canal Street at 10:00 a.m. The 2026 parade will include the University of South Alabama Marching Band, along with local government officials and our Patriot and Veteran of the Year. The nearly 2-mile-long parade features civic, fraternal, and veteran organizations marching or riding in support of our veterans. It will also include area high school marching bands and over 1,000 JROTC / LOTC Cadets, as well as personnel and equipment from the U.S. Coast Guard and members of the 226th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, Alabama National Guard.

LUNCHEON:

Following the downtown parade, the Veterans Commission will host a luncheon at Fort Whiting. The program will start at noon, with doors opening at 11:30.

PARADE OF FLAGS:

The staff at the USS Alabama Battleship Memorial Park always plays a key role. Fourth-grade students from Mobile and Baldwin County schools will present the Parade of Flags.

CONCERT:

The final event of the day will be the 7:00 p.m. concert, featuring the Mobile Symphonic Pops band, at the Battleship Alabama's Aircraft Pavilion.

The Mobile Bay Area Veterans Commission invites your organization to participate in Veterans Day activities on Wednesday, November 11, 2026. Mobile, Alabama, is a Regional Site for the celebrations.

Each year, many organizations participate with floats, marching units, bands, flag details, or military equipment. To register for the 2026 parade, complete and return the enclosed form by October 15, 2026.

Due to high turnout, some categories may be

limited; each entry may include up to 5 vehicles. All vehicles must be insured.

Participants assemble along Canal Street from Monroe to Claiborne Street by 8:45am. on parade day. The route goes west on Canal, north on Broad, east on Government, and south on Claiborne. A week before the parade, we will send assembly and sequence details. Recognizing veterans is a community tradition. We appreciate your support. Questions? To request an application Contact Pete Riehm or Fran Barber at

vetsdaycommission@gmail.com.



Quilts of Valor honored World War II

veteran Robert Ownby, 100, during the weekly Thursday night senior dance at the Tillmans Corner Community Center. Libby Davis and Joyce Reed, QOV



National Naval Aviation Museum Service and Sacrifice: Remembering September 11, 2001

A 250th Anniversary Commemoration honoring the lives lost, courage shown, and sacrifices made on September 11, 2001.

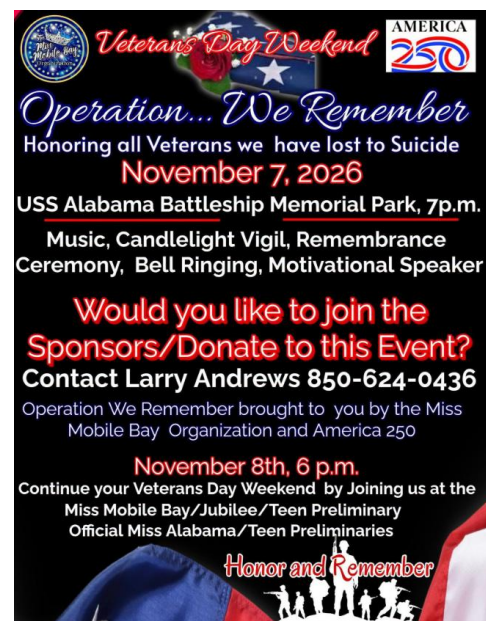
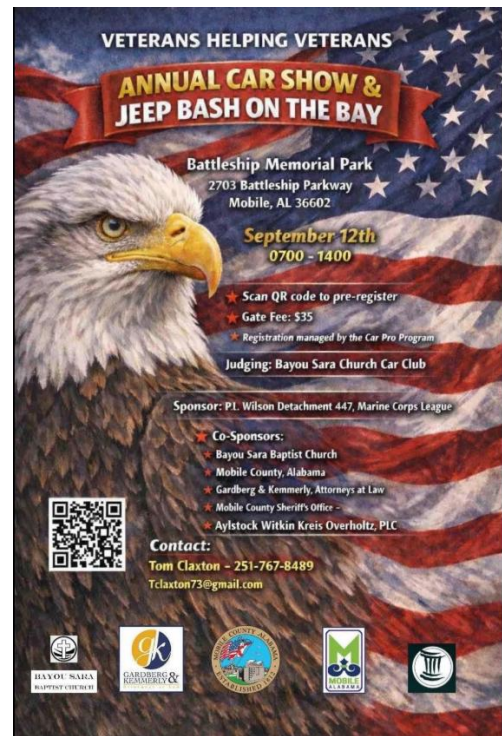
Featuring reflections from CDR Steve Scheibner, USN (Ret.), retired American Airlines Captain, and VADM John B. Totushek, USN (Ret.), Pentagon Survivor, with performances by the Naval Aviation Alumni Choir. The event concludes with a wreath-laying and the sounding of Taps.

Friday, September 11, 2026 Pensacola Strings: 9:00 a.m. Commemoration Ceremony: 9:30 a.m. Blue Angels Atrium, National Naval Aviation Museum Complimentary admission; all are welcome.

Register: <https://naval-aviation-museum-foundation.idloom.events/>



I'm still looking for vendors and volunteers
You can text me 251-200-3661 Thank you Cheryl





South Alabama Veterans Council

[www/savc.info](http://www.savc.info)



Central Alabama Veterans Collaborative (CAVC)

www.facebook.com/AlabamaCAVC/



North Alabama Veterans & Fraternal Organizations Coalition (NAVFOC)

www.navfoc.com



River Region Veterans Coalition –
Central Alabama in and near Montgomery, AL 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.



AYLSTOCK WITKIN
KREIS OVERHOLTZ



sunpaws
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GARDBERG &
KEMMERLY &
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**AUGUST 7, PURPLE HEART SALUTE,
THANK YOU TO ALL WHO MADE THIS
EVENT POSSIBLE**

Purple Heart Salute & PFC Joseph "Dial" Chancery's Presentation of his Purple Heart to his family. Guest Speaker's Purple Heart Recipient's Troy University Chancellor & Vietnam Marine Vet Dr Jack Hawkins & U.S. Senior Vice Commander of The Military Order of Purple Heart & Marine Veteran Dr Andrew Del Gaudio. Thank You Retired Admiral Kent Davis, Retired Major General Mike Sumrall, Retired Colonel John Kilpatrick & 199 Post Commander Dale [Dale Curtis Taylor](#) for Hosting the PH Recipient VIP Room. Thank You SAVC President LTC Frank Barrow & Veterans Commission President Colonel Steve Cary for Allowing [Fran Barber](#) and this retired Army Col. & VP of both the organization in hosting and working hard on this event. Quite an honor

Saturday, September 5, 2026 at 12 PM – 6 PM

USCG CPOA-Mobile Chapter 46th All-Hands Picnic

Walters Park

For 46 years, Coasties of every generation have gathered for food, family, fellowship, and plenty of fun at the annual CPOA-Mobile Chapter All-Hands Picnic and Fundraising event from all over the country.

This tradition was started by BMCS Jack Crowley, who crossed the bar in 2017. His vision of bringing the Coast Guard community together continues today, and we are proud to carry that tradition forward.

Whether you're a brand new Coastie, a seasoned Chief with decades of sea stories, retired but still salty, or part of our Coast Guard family, this picnic is for you!

Bring your families for an afternoon of fun and Coast Guard camaraderie!



SAVC Meeting Minutes August 18, 2026

1. Publix provided pastries, and Post 88 AUX chefs Sophie McGill and Paulette Flynn prepared breakfast \$5.00.

Welcome and Call to Order: President Frank Barrow, COL USA (Ret), called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m., with 40 in attendance. The meeting was held at American Legion Post 88.

2. Opening Prayer & Pledge: Chaplain Michael Austin. Pledge: VP Phil Quigley.

3. **Newsletter & Minutes:** Fran Barber-Bruyn, Secretary –July minutes are in the newsletter; special section for Chaplain Austin available 24/7 for prayer requests.

4. **Treasurer** – Grant to Mobile Exchange Club for flags at Battleship during Veterans Day, SAVC provided names. \$450, balance \$19524.00. From Devoted for Breakfast, \$323 hat collected. Secretary reported on the meeting in Chatom.

5. **Barrow introduced Guest Speaker Visit Mobile, Courtney Ralston and Michael Dorie**

6. **Navy & Veteran News:** No report.

7. **Current Veterans Activities and AL News:**Jim Jeffries gave a report on the 15th Annual POW/MIA Remembrance ceremony in Montgomery, AL, Sept 19; Col Pat Downing is the guest speaker. American Legion Post 199 is the 3rd largest in Alabama.

8. **AL State Veterans Cemetery: Joe Buschell.** Reported on the progress of the new Veterans cemetery in North Alabama, 5134 internments in Spanish Fort Cemetery.

9. **USS Alabama Battleship Memorial Park:** Genavese Harris, BMP, reported on the statues being placed and upcoming events.

10. **Alabama Department of Veterans Affairs:** No report,

11. **J Gary Cooper, MPM Chapter 33:**

12. **Alabama Chapter 92nd Buffalo Soldiers:** No report

13. **Topics of Interest:** Ross Sykes reported on IGY6 run on 9/26 at 8:00 a.m. Tom Claxton reported on car show on 9/12 at BMP, and Radio guest. Vets Recover reported that their Golf Tournament plans have been changed to Magnolia Grove on 11/4; RDML Endel Lee reported on Patriots Day, 9/11. Dr. Andrew Del Gaudio presented citations to the Veterans Commission and SAVC for their extraordinary work on the Purple Heart Salute, Col Carey, Col Barrow, Col Quigley, Admiral Davis, and Fran Barber. Special presentation to Andrew Del Gaudio from the Veterans Commission and SAVC. SAVC and Veterans Commission will be placed on the Purple Heart Trail.

14. **Good of the Order: Vote in November election!**

15. **The meeting adjourned at 9:40 a.m.**

Fran Barber, Secretary