



South Alabama Veterans Council

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

Lou Lartigue * Pat Downing * Bill Atkeison * Tom Schwarz * Pete Riehm
471-4322 751-6619 649-2281 649-8459 442-4349
Council President • Council VP • Secretary / NewsLetter • Treasurer / Chambless Fund • LNO/MC

CAPT HAL PIERCE, SPIRITUS AMERITUS SAVC

on the web - savc.net Facebook — [South Alabama Veterans Council](http://SouthAlabamaVeteransCouncil)

The next Meeting will be Tuesday, July 20, 2021 — 8:30AM
— at Saucy Q —

Electronics is wonderful stuff ... many marvelous things have been wrought through the use of electronics. The semiconductor transistor was invented in 1947 by scientists at Bell Labs. It was the start of the electronic revolution. Hearing aids, burglar alarms, small radios, flat screen TVs and more are attributable to electronics.

They also provide excuses.

I wrote my first SAVC NewsLetter in October 2006. I found that taking notes during the meetings was actually a distraction and I didn't participate much. SO I bought a small electronic voice recorder. By recording the meetings then using that as notes to write the NewsLetter things went better.

Until they didn't ...

At the June Meeting, it only recorded 41 seconds. I don't know why. It reinforces a saying I've heard said many times (paraphrasing); "Stuff Happens."

"The Second Day of July 1776, will be the most memorable Epocha, in the History of America. I am apt to believe that it will be celebrated, by succeeding Generations, as the great anniversary Festival. It ought to be commemorated, as the Day of Deliverance by solemn Acts of Devotion to God Almighty. It ought to be solemnized with Pomp and Parade, with Shews, Games, Sports, Guns, Bells, Bonfires and Illuminations from one End of this Continent to the other from this Time forward forever more."

—John Adams, 2 July 1776

However, it's not the 2nd of July we remember - it's the 4th. The declaration of Independence was written and read before the Continental Congress and all present proclaimed it good. After more debate and discussion it was signed by those present and independence from Great Britain was declared on July 4, 1776.

Thomas Jefferson and John Adams, both signatories of the Declaration and both of whom served as President of the United States, both died on July 4, 1826, the 50th anniversary of the signing. Another Founding Father, James Monroe, who also served as President, died on July 4, 1831. Calvin Coolidge is the only President to be born on July 4, 1872.

It's time once again to choose the Veteran of the Year. The purpose of this selection is to recognize a living Veteran in the Mobile Bay Area who has served his (or her) Nation and has helped to better the Community through selfless volunteer service. This award may be presented for a single act or for continuous service.

From the Mobile Bay Area Veterans Day Commission:

- 1) Must be a resident of the Mobile Bay area which includes Mobile and Baldwin Counties.
- 2) Must be a living Veteran of any of the five recognized military services whether active duty, reserve or National Guard.
- 3) Must have demonstrated outstanding patriotism, leadership and selfless service as a Veteran and a volunteer in community or civic service.
- 4) May be awarded for a single action or for continuous service to the community.

BEHIND EVERY SUCCESSFUL MAN STANDS A SURPRISED MOTHER IN LAW.



5) May NOT be a previous awardee.

Nominations are accepted from July 15 through August 27. The nominations will be reviewed and the selection made by the Veterans Day Commission. The award will be presented at the Honors luncheon on Veterans Day, November 11, 2021.

Additional information: veteransday-mobilebay.com

Nominations must be postmarked no later than midnight, August 27. The nomination, not to exceed three type-written pages, must include at a minimum:

- 1) a resumé not to exceed two typewritten pages, minimum of 11-point font, including:
Period(s) of military service and branch of service (including USMM);
Military awards and decorations;
Membership in nationally recognized Veterans organizations;
Community and/or civic organization membership;
Community and/or civic organization awards or special recognition;
Nominee's address and telephone number.
- 2) A one-page statement which describes why the nominee should be chosen as the Veteran of the Year. This should describe the outstanding patriotism, leadership, and selfless service of the Veteran as a volunteer contributor to the betterment of the Mobile Bay Area through community or civic service.
- 3) Proof of military service - DD 214 or verification by a nationally-recognized Veteran's organization.
- 4) Nomination must be mailed to: Steve Carey, Mobile Bay Area Veterans Day Commission, PO Box 321, Daphne, AL, 36526-0321



Michael Austin, Chaplain for SAVC, has a ministry: Love Me Anyway Ministries, begun July 1, 2018. Since opening, the ministry has prepared and served more than 7000 meals for homeless in Mobile. They have collected and given out clothes, shoes, socks, blankets, hygiene items. Now they need our help.

If you can bring a few items to the meeting it will be appreciated. Of course, you can mail a check or money order (tax deductible) to Love Me Anyway Ministries, 1398 Azalea Rd, Mobile, AL, 36693-4705. Their EIN number is 81-1241867.

They need: shampoo; conditioner; soap; shaving cream; mouth wash; feminine hygiene products; deodorant; razors (male and female); lotion; sani-



Zero is the only number that cannot be represented by Roman numerals.

tizing wipes; wash cloths; socks; bottled water; tooth paste; large zip-lock bags; paper lunch bags.

Bring what you can to the meeting or take items to Azalea Rd. "We sincerely pray that you will be able to support us in this endeavor and share this plea with others who will be willing to support also. We know that the people who are reached as a result of your generosity and kindness shall truly be blessed." —Lloyd Michael Austin, Pastor, LMA

Now, a special message from the Chaplain ...

Good morning, Be Grateful.

Read Ephesians 5:20 "Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ"

Heavenly Father, we are grateful for all that you have done, and we are grateful for all the victories that you have won. Father there is no doubt that you have been very good to us down through the years; and we are truly grateful. So we say thank you for all the love, all the grace, all the mercy, all the salvation, all the forgiveness, all the blessings, all the kindness, all the healing, all the deliverance, and so much more...

In Jesus Name Amen!

Pastor Lloyd Michael Austin, Chaplain

The following is almost a month old since it came out after our last meeting but it's still important.



LTC Robert F. Barrow, Mobile County Public Schools Director of Army Instruction, has been named the JROTC Director of Army Instruction of the Year, a nationwide honor that encompasses all JROTC

leaders in the United States and at Department of Defense schools overseas.

The honor recognizes not only the fine work LTC Barrow does in Mobile County, but in his leadership on the state and national levels. He is a past President of the JROTC Section of the Alabama Association of Career and Technical Education, past Chairman of the U.S. Army Cadet Command JROTC Program Advisory Committee, past president of the South Alabama Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America and the current president of the Alabama Association of Career and Technical Education.



The VA is the world's leading research and educational center of excellence on PTSD and traumatic stress.

PTSD is a mental health problem that some people develop after experiencing or witnessing a life-threatening event, like combat, a natural disaster, a car accident, or sexual assault. It's normal to have upsetting memories, feel on edge, or have trouble sleeping after this type of event. If symptoms last more than a few months, it may be PTSD. The good news is that there are effective treatments.

We are called 'a nation of inventors' and we are. We could still claim that title and wear its loftiest honors if we had stopped with the first thing we invented which was human liberty.
—Mark Twain

Military History in July

Jul 01 1863 – Civil War: Battle of Gettysburg - Gen. Lee's northward advance is halted.

Jul 01 1898 – Spanish American War: Battle of San Juan Hill is fought in Santiago de Cuba.

Jul 08 1959 – Vietnam: First Americans killed in Vietnam.

ARMY

14 July 1775, The Second Continental Congress formed the Continental Army as a means for the 13 unified American colonies to fight the forces of Britain.

5 JULY 1950: Near Sojong, South Korea, Private Kenneth Shadrick, a 19-year-old infantryman from Skin Fork, West Virginia, becomes the first American reported killed in the Korean War. Shadrick, a member of a bazooka squad, had just fired the weapon at a Soviet-made tank when he looked up to check his aim and was cut down by enemy machine-gun fire.

July 1960: The ballistic missile submarine USS *George Washington* (SSBN-598) conducts the first submerged launch of a Polaris missile. The missile hits the target over 1,000 miles away. The nuclear-tipped Polaris is capable of accurately delivering three 200 kiloton warheads 2,500 nautical miles downrange.

July 1918: Brigadier General John A. Lejeune assumed command of the 2d Division, U.S. Army in

France. He was the first Marine officer to hold an Army divisional command, and following the Armistice, he led his division in the march into Germany

July 1943. Coast Guard commissions the *Governor Cobb*, a former coastal passenger steamer acquired by the service.

The *Cobb's* superstructure was cut down and a 38-foot by 63-foot flight deck was added aft to accommodate a helicopter, thus becoming the first US helicopter carrier.

USAF/AAC

Jul 01 1907 – World's first air force established (U.S. Army).

July 1953: Just days before the armistice ended combat between the United States and North Korea, Air Force Lt. Col. Vermont Garrison scored his 10th kill of the war, becoming a "double ace." When war broke out in Vietnam, the 51-year-old "Grey Eagle" commanded the 405th Fighter Wing, flying 97 combat missions over Laos and Vietnam.

Founded in 2005 to shield families of fallen heroes from those that would disrupt the funeral services of their loved ones, the Patriot Guard Riders has grown to include thousands of members across all 50 states in the US. They are a 100% volunteer 501(c)(3) organization.

As the membership has grown, so has the scope of their mission; They also honor first responders as well as our military veterans. Additionally they have an active Help On The Homefront (HOTH) program, which provides assistance to our veterans and their families. The Patriot Guard Riders participate in two broad categories of mission types - Honor Missions and HOTH Missions. Honor Missions are typically funeral requests, or a memorial service for a hero or heroes that have passed.

HOTH (Help on the Homefront) Missions include those that are meant to honor a group or a living individual; such as a parade on Veterans Day, a send off for a military unit, and escorts to a Veteran's event. Basically any military or first responder event that is not a funeral.

Standing for Those Who Stood for Us

Peanut oil is used for cooking in submarines because it doesn't smoke unless it's heated above 450F.

It is our honor to stand in respect for the families of those active military, veterans, and first responders who stood for us, and for our country

Dixie Region: AL; FL; GA; LA; MS; TN

In the Mobile/Baldwin County area contact:

Lloyd Pursley, ASC

AL Patriot Guard Riders

Combat Vietnam Vet

(251) 422-0696 cell



Richard Ullo

Lloyd Pursley



Greg Selman

members of
the local PGR



Lloyd drives
the support
vehicle

Dixie Rear Detachment:

"We have been slower since COVID-19, but we are planning on picking back up full speed in September. This year we supported the SOCOM Religious Support, which forwards all the care packages to our SOCOM troops deployed in FOB locations. They were in Qatar and served more than 3,000 service members. We still are working closely with them, but their operation has been reduced as well with the redeployment from Afghanistan. We also had the chance to support a unit from the Air Force Special Operations during one of their mission. We still have a couple of small companies on deployment for the next three months to send miscellaneous feel-good snacks and goodies. I am working on adding a ship to our adoptee



list. Because of the intense heat during the summer months, the only things we usually send are coffee and personal items that can survive the high temperatures.

We are optimistic that we will be able to start our large packing events during the Fall. Even though our troops are coming back from Afghanistan, we are far from having a scarcity of deployed service members in a dangerous and challenging situation. Our mission is still relevant, and we are not planning on stopping our essential work.

Thank you for checking with us; let us know if you are aware of any local service members who could use our support while deployed."

Sincerely,

Sylvie Rihner - DRD President

Sylvie and Dixie Rear Detachment are morale boosters. They collect -or buy with donated funds- tooth paste, dry socks, snacks, whatever items a unit specifically requests and these are shipped to units deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan. "From a single person to entire Battalion, we sent packages all across the globe supporting the men and women who are safeguarding our safety and the liberties we often take for granted."

And they're on Facebook ...

The Eastern Shore Post 199 main building remains closed until further notice. While the building is being repaired, current Post 199 members may use the facilities of the Elks Lodge across the street from the Post .

Planning continues for Flags of Glory, a week-long celebration of the American Flag leading up to and encompassing Veterans Day. 250 3'x5' American Flags mounted on poles will be displayed along the central roadway in Mobile Memorial Gardens cemetery in Tillman's Corner. Opening ceremony for the event will be at 2:00PM, Sunday, November 7, 2021. The Flag display will be open for drive- or walk-through during normal working hours through Sunday, November 14.

These Flags will be sponsored by individuals and by businesses. The Flags' sponsor will be identified by a small tag listing the sponsor and the per-

The Swine Flu Vaccine in 1976 caused more death and illness than the disease it was intended to prevent.

son being honored by the Flag including his/her service branch and years. These tags will be given to the sponsor after the event concludes.

"I used to pray that God would feed the hungry, or do this or that, but now I pray that He will guide me to do whatever I'm supposed to do, what I can do. I used to pray for answers, but now I'm praying for strength. I used to believe that prayer changes things, but now I know that prayer changes us and we change things."

—Mother Teresa

Bill Bergman flew Dust Off missions in Vietnam with the 236th Medical Detachment; their motto was "Strive to Save Lives" Bill is currently president of Military Order of the Purple Heart, Chapter 2206.



Talmadge Cain is also a member of 2206; he served with 1st BN, 50th Infantry Regiment.
"Fix Bayonets"




Marine Veteran Elbert Wingfield served in Vietnam. He now owns and manages Saucy Q BBQ Restaurant. He and the staff make special arrangements for us to meet there each month. We're grateful.




Chief Jason Lewis was at the June Meeting and he let slip that he would be retiring from the Navy in July and he could possibly be talked into "doing something." We all smiled. There was some mention of helping with the work going on in Africa Town. The Navy Recruiting Orientation Unit (NORU) is the Navy's sole recruiting school-house responsible for the instruction of Enlisted and Officer Recruiters.

Ben Reynolds is a candidate for Mobile City Council, District 4. Current District 4 Councilman John Williams has decided to retire.









South Alabama Veterans Council
"The Voice of Veterans in South Alabama"



MOBILE MEMORIAL GARDENS CEMETERY
MEMORIALIZING MEMORIES



2021








This is a week-long tribute in honor of America's military service personnel organized by **Mobile Memorial Gardens** and **The South Alabama Veterans Council**. More than 250 full-sized U.S. Flags will be placed along the central roadway as a *free* drive-through display. Each Flag may be sponsored as a tribute to a Military Veteran or current Service Member. **Your participation** honors those that have served and helps support Veteran-related causes such as aid to sufferers of PTSD/TBI, VSO services to families, and other important needs and projects. Each Honoree will have a keepsake Laminated ID Card attached to one of the flags as a tribute. The ID Card(s) will be yours to keep. The names of those honored will also be added to the Flags of Glory Online Honor Roll. **Sponsorship levels are: Gold (\$100, up to 4 honorees), Silver(\$50, 1 or 2 honorees) & Bronze(\$25, 1 honoree).** Silver sponsors also get a certificate for each honoree, Gold sponsors get the certificates plus a photo Collage of the event.

Opening award ceremony: Sunday, November 7th, 2 PM/ Flags displayed Nov. 7th - 14th
Mobile Memorial Gardens Cemetery 6100 three Notch Rd, 36619

www.flagsofglory.org

2021

George M “Mike” Callahan, Jr will be at the July Meeting to tell us about a new healthcare option — Oak Street Health — coming soon to 3065 Dauphin Street in Mobile. There’s a location now in Birmingham.

Richard Lender, Medicare
 Shoppe in Bay Minette.
 The One Stop Medicare Shoppe
 Medicare supplements
 251-239-8389
medicareshoppe.org



It’s no secret that a majority of people flock away from middle America in favor of living on either the eastern and western seaboard to live. But it might be a surprise to see the population of both coasts in comparison to a vast majority of the country’s middle states. The total population in the orange-shaded areas along each coast is equal to that in the red areas in the middle of the continent.



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)

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

Amount of contribution: \$ _____ (Make check payable to Flags of Glory)

Flag Sponsor Information

Your Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City _____ St _____ 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

☐ I plan to attend the ceremony

