

MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA ALAMO CHAPTER

THE



LARIAT

Volume 35, Number 8

"Five Star ★★★★ Chapter"

August 2015



President's Message

Amid all the noise that is going on with other issues and the lead up to the presidential election next year, there remain a very important set of issues that will affect the lives of our military, veterans and families. That being in the form of the National Defense Authorization Act of 2015. After some contentious testimony and wrangling, the House and Senate passed their versions of this bill, which is now in conference committee to iron out the differences in the bill before it goes to the President.

The Military Coalition, which MOAA is the co-chair of, in Washington, sent a letter to the Chairs and Ranking Members of the House and Senate Armed Services Committees pointing out some issues that would directly affect the volunteer force. In the area of compensation and benefits we are looking at:

- A third year of capping military pay raises below private sector wage growth. (with four more years planned)
- A second year of reducing the commissary subsidy (with one more year planned)

Inside This Edition:

- Pg 2 Chapter News & Notices
- Pg 3 State Legislature Wrap Up
- Pg 7 Solitaires
- Pg 10 Open Letter re Golf Tourney
- Pg 11 2015 Golf Tournament Flyer
- Pg 14 Calendar of Events

- A second year of slowing the active duty basic allowance for housing (BAH)
- An additional increase in pharmacy co-pays (already tied to COLA) for the third time in four years (with an additional 9 years of increases planned)

The long term effect of these plans for cost cutting will lead us back to the same retention problems that we had in the 1990's when service members endured a 13.5% pay gap and 20% out of pocket expenses for housing.

What does this mean to our soldiers in the San Antonio area? With the overall reduction of 5% in the BAH rates, an E5 will have BAH reduced \$14,760 while a Captain will lose \$19,476 annually. In Texas, there are approximately 859,222 personnel who will be affected.

Commissary reductions will occur if the Senate version of the bills are within what come out of the conference committee. There is still a lot of discussion about moving the Commissaries out of its present Title 10 status and making it a unit of the AAFES system. This would take major legislation that is not part of this NDAA.

The other issue of Tricare Pharmacy Fees, if passed would double pharmacy co-pays over the next 10 years. Cost sharing would increase from \$240 to \$720 annually.

Where the issue of retirement is concerned, both the House and Senate adopted recommendations from the Military Compensation and Retirement Modernization Commission, accepting a hybrid system. This will provide a retirement benefit for those who do not want to serve 20 years or more along with financial literacy training. This is endorsed by the Military Coalition. The Coalition, however, sees several areas that need to be improved to increase the effectiveness of the new system. These include:

- Increase the multiplier to 2.5 for disability retirees
- Continue the TSP match beyond 20 years of service
- · Provide a govt TSP match of 5%
- Eliminate the COLA -1% penalty for future entrants
- Retain a minimum continuation payment while still giving the Pentagon flexibility to provide the payment between 8-16 years of service.

(Continued on Page 9)



Chapter Wreath presented at Independence Day Ceremony at Ft Sam Houston National Cemetery

Chapter News & Notices



Thank You!

To each of our members listed below who have donated a little (or a lot) to either the Scholarship Fund, Chapter Operations, or both!

LTC Bob Blake USA (Ret) LTC Anton Blieberger USA (Ret) Col Bruce Creller USAF (Ret) LtCol Eugene Culp USAF (Ret) Col Karen Currie USAF (Ret) Araceli Davis BG Charles Elia USA (Ret) CAPT Lori Frank USN (Ret) LTC Jerry Gonzales USA (Ret) Helen Grizzard Col Art Jackson, Sr ANG (Ret) Col Harry Long USAF (Ret) LtCol Roy Mackrell USAF (Ret) COL David Malave USA (Ret) COL Edgar Marshall, Jr USA (Ret) Col Jay R. Maust USAF (Ret) LtCol Scott McCabe USAF (Ret) Maj Terrence Mish USAF (Ret) Lolly Orlowski Col Paul Parker USAF (Ret) Elva Parks LtCol Bill Polasek USAF (Ret) LtCol William Pollock USAF (Ret) Col Christopher Powers NG CAPT James O Rice USN (Ret) Alice Riggs Jeanette Rowen Col Russ Sanders USAF (Ret) **Betty Shelton Mills** MajGen Bruce Smith USAF (Ret) LtCol Orange Steffey USAF (Ret) Betty Tarbox Col Steve Thompson USAF (Ret)



Grateful thanks to those who either baked and or took items to the wounded soldiers at Ft Sam Houston's Warrior and Family Support Center.

If you were able to give this month on behalf of the Alamo Chapter please call Susie at (210) 654-0351, so we may add your name to our list. Thank you.

Maryada Artiglia Irene Collier Nita Felder Susan Filipini Joe & Adele Genualdi John Gibbs Sue McCarthy Mac and Lori McDonald Goldie Monroe Lolly Orlowski Phyllis Smith Lou Strong Brenda Tobey Susie Tolman Dot Wise Tom & Evelyn Woods

TAPS

We have received information that the following member has passed away and we wish to convey our sincere condolences and best wishes to their family and loved ones:

Miriam Dykes (date of passing unknown)

Bobbie Hollingsworth 2-11-15

Corporate Partners

Abby Consulting
Air Force Federal Credit Union
Army Residence Community
Beldon Roofing Company
Blue Skies of Texas
The Jacobson Law Firm, P.C.
Medical Services International
Mortgage of Texas & Financial
LLC

Randolph Brooks Federal Credit Union

Security Service Federal Credit Union

Silverbridge Realty
Spectrum Technologies, Inc

See links to these companies on our website www.alamomoaa.org

We encourage each of you to remember our Corporate Partners in your business and daily activities because we truly appreciate their support.

If your business or organization would like to join us as a Corporate Partner, please contact us at (210) 228-9955. Thank you for your consideration.

Save The Date

Friday Sep 11th
8th Annual Golf Tourney
River Crossing Golf Club
Spring Branch, Tx

Friday Dec 4th

Chapter Christmas Party
Ft Sam Golf Club
Dancing to Two For The Road

COL Louis Vogler USA (Ret)



84th Texas Legislature Wrap Up

Hazlewood Education Act: SB 1735: Birdwell: was targeting to significantly change the eligibility for access to Hazlewood, limit the time that the benefits can be used, and significantly reduce the credit hours for degree completion. SB 1735 was heard on the House floor 5/22/15 and again on Sunday 5/24/15. The bill was gutted when it reached the House floor on May 24th.

After hours of debate, the bill's House sponsor, Rep John Zerwas, R-Richmond, offered an amendment eliminating nearly all the new restrictions Senator Birdwell proposed. The only significant change that remained was a rule requiring veterans to live in Texas for eight years before they or their children were eligible for Hazlewood benefits.

Senator Birdwell refused to accept those minor changes, saying it was better to take no action than to make limited changes that wouldn't address long term cost growth. Any legislative action affecting the Hazlewood education benefit is dead for the 84th Texas Legislature.

It is anticipated that both Senate and House will have interim charges to study the Hazlewood and make recommendations for the 85th Legislative session.

Property Tax Relief for Veterans Disabled Less Than 100%: HB 683 (Rep Sheets) proposes to change the set dollar amounts for four levels of VA disability ratings to a percentage figure. The proposed % figures would be used to determine the annual property tax exemption dollar reduction when compared to the average appraised value of a principal residence in Texas. HB 683 was placed on the 5/13/15 General State Calendar but was not heard in the House by midnight 5/14/2015 and is dead for the 84th Legislature.

This issue will definitely come up again in the 85th Legislative session.

Surviving Spouse Ad Valorem Taxation: an exemption from property tax for the total appraised value of the principal residence/homestead of the surviving spouse of a 100% or totally disabled veteran regardless of when the veteran died, and conditional that the spouse has not remarried. Both HB 992 and HJR 75 have been approved by the House and Senate and were signed by Governor Abbott and will appear as a constitutional amendment on the November ballot.

Military Absentee Voting (MOVE Act implementation): SB 1115 (Senator Campbell): creating a program allowing military voters on active duty overseas to cast a ballot electronically. SB 1115 passed the Senate and the house and was signed by Governor Abbott.

Veterans Preference and Employment: legislation requir-

ing State agencies to increase the number of Veterans they hire to a 7% hiring rate. SB 805 (Campbell) passed the Senate on 3/30/15. Placed on the 5/8/15 House General State Calendar. 5/11/15: read 2nd and 3rd times; passed as amended. 5/13/15: Senate: passage in the House as amended reported; signed in the Senate and the House on 5/20/15. SB 805 was signed by Governor Abbott.

Mesothelioma Trust Fund: legislation that deals with Law Firms that file lawsuits against the Mesothelioma Trust Fund on behalf of Veterans. Currently close to 30% of the money awarded goes to Law Firms unnecessarily since the class action lawsuit has already been decided in favor of Veterans and their families. Bill wording needs to make clear that the Veteran or his/her family received the trust fund awards without going through a Law Firm. Bill filed: HB 1492 filed by D. Miller: placed on 5/8/15 General State Calendar, passed to engrossment as amended, read 3rd time, and passed the House. 5/19/15 heard in public hearing in State Affairs Committee, reported favorably without amendments, and placed on the Local & Uncontested Calendar. 5/22/15 heard and passed in the Senate. HB1492 has been signed into law.





The 1.65% APR is our best rate available when applying for an RBFCU Auto Loan to purchase a new or used vehicle, or refinance an existing auto loan from another financial institution based on your credit rating and other factors. Auto loans are subject to credit approval and rates are subject to change. Loan term will be based upon amount financed, collateral and mileage. Longer loan terms are available at different rates. Some restrictions may apply. Contact our Consumer Lending Center for more details. Membership eligibility required.

THANK YOU! Renewing Members:

LtGen Steven Polk USAF (Ret) MajGen Bruce Smith USAF (Ret) BG Charles Elia USA (Ret) COL John Alvarez USA (Ret) Col Robert Barnhardt USAF (Ret) Col Gerald Beverly USAF (Ret) Col Bruce Creller USAF (Ret) Col Karen Currie USAF (Ret) Col Bill Faucher USAF (Ret) CAPT Lori Frank USN (Ret) COL Stanford Hickman USA (Ret) Col Art Jackson, Sr ANG (Ret) COL Richard Lantry USA (Ret) Col Harry Long USAF (Ret) COL David Malave USA (Ret) Col Thomas Marks USAF (Ret) COL Edgar Marshall, Jr USA (Ret) Col Jay R. Maust USAF (Ret) COL Douglas McCary USA (Ret) COL Nickey McCasland USA (Ret)

Col Dean Messelheiser USAF (Ret)
Col Christopher Powers NG
COL Thomas Rozanski USA (Ret)
Col Sherrell Russell USAF (Ret)
COL Sylvia Sanchez USA (Ret)
Col Lisa Schmidt USAF (Ret)
Col Tim Stanford USMC (Ret)
COL Mary Anne Svetlik USA
(Ret)

Col John Tedor USAF (Ret)
Col Steve Thompson USAF (Ret)
COL Ermine Todd USA (Ret)
COL Louis Vogler USA (Ret)
COL Stephen Walker USA (Ret)
Col Gerald Wiest USAF (Ret)

LTC Anton Blieberger USA (Ret) LtCol James Bray USAF (Ret) LtCol Jackie Collins USAF (Ret) LTC Mark Cravens USA (Ret) LTC Thomas Crumal USA (Ret) LTC Jerry Gonzales USA (Ret) LTC Clayton Hadick USA (Ret) LtCol Richard Hall USAF (Ret) LtCol Loretta Henderson USAF (Ret) LtCol Dale Johnson USAF (Ret) LTC Lawrance Maul USA (Ret) LtCol Scott McCabe USAF (Ret) LtCol Kathryn Meyers USAF (Ret) LtCol Richard Newbury USAF (Ret) LTC Brian Niday USA (Ret) LTC Joseph O'Leary USA (Ret) LTC Kerry Reyna USAR (Ret)

LTC Marilyn Ruth USA (Ret)

LtCol Jerry Salazar USAF (Ret)

LtCol Ruben Silva USAF (Ret)

(Ret) LtCol Ralph Stearman USAF (Ret) LtCol John Ward USAF (Ret) MAJ Joel Gage USA (Fmr) Maj Willia Humiston USAF (Ret) Maj Clara Johnson USAF (Ret) Maj John Markovetz USAF (Ret) Maj Waynard Nelson USAF (Ret) Capt Jerome Kozar USAF (Ret) CPT John Miterko USA (Fmr) Cpt Clifford Noble USAF (Ret) **CPT James Taylor USA** CPT Andrew Ullmann USA (Ret) 1LT Tom Pierce USA (Fmr) 1Lt Mary Tener Hall USAF (Fmr) CW3 James P. Manzo USA (Ret) CW2 Bill Strout USA (Ret) Araceli Davis Priscilla Heard Catherine Huston Irene Nikolewski

LtCol Winston Shaffer II USAF



WANTED!

All Active Duty or Retired Job Seekers

If you would like to be added to the regular email blast that lists job opportunities in San Antonio and Texas please contact the Career Transition Coordinator - Texas, *David Patrick Col USAF (Ret)*dwpatrick01@gmail.com

If you are an area **employer** who is interested in hiring career transitioning officers or their spouses.

or if you are a MOAA member who is interested in helping a career transitioning officer or spouse as a **San Antonio Networker**. or if you are a MOAA-AC member **Job Seeker**, please contact **Kitty Meyers LtCol USAFR (Ret)** Chapter Transition Liaison Officer at meyers.kathryn@yahoo.com.

WELCOME! New Members

COL Jeffrey Baker USA (Ret) COL Don Mills USA (Ret) COL Clinton Schreckhise USA LTC Bob Cairns USA (Ret) LtCol Jim Conner USAF (Ret) LTC Patricia Daris USA (Ret) LTC Joe Genualdi USA (Ret) LTC James Lowe USA (Ret) LTC Eileen Moxley USA (Ret) LtCol Dale Offield USAF (Ret) LtCol Ross Robinette USAF (Ret) LTC Harry Truman USA (Ret) LTC Brad Wallace USA (Ret) Maj Ramil Ascano USAF (Ret) Maj Jon Dalasta USAF (Fmr) Maj William Friedrich USAF (Ret) MAJ Kevin Scott USA (Ret) Maj James Venters USAF (Ret) MAJ Charlotte Wells USA (Ret) Cpt Leonel Rodriguez USA (Fmr) 1Lt Erica England USAF (Ret) Dona Burwell Mrs. Joseph Hope Mickey Lyons Patricia McLaughlin Estelle Perry Mary Sidorsky

MOAA-AC Mission Statement

Vision:

To be the primary advocate for the military community

Mission:

- To be a major source of information, support and social engagement for the membership;
- To provide programs and services for the common good of our military community;
- To be a powerful voice supporting MOAA at the local, state and national levels.

It Was a Great Cruise . . . Even Without the Ship!



The 4th Annual *Cruising into the Summer Party* on June 26th at the Petroleum Club was a resounding success and loads of fun for the 80 or so attendees.

Hawaiian shirts and cruise casual attire were the uniform of the day and contributed to the cruising atmosphere. There was a lot of buzz, camaraderie and "war stories" during the cocktail hour as attendees gazed out their portholes from the top of the Petroleum Club building.

Entertainment and dancing music was provided by the always popular "Two for Road" – Chris and Jerry were at their best and played tunes for all ages. A cruise style buffet – second to none – was provided by the Club's renowned chef and staff and enjoyed by all. "This was the best cruise party ever" said Ed Marvin, MOAA Board Member and past Chapter President . . "and I didn't even get sea sick!" he said.

Mark your calendar for June 2016 – date to be announced – for the 5th Annual summer party. We might be going with a Western theme next time and instead of "Cruising" into the summer we will be "Riding" into the summer.

Stay tuned Cowboys and Cowgirls for another hoot'en and hollering time!!

Col David Patrick (Ret)

Got Etiquette?

Want to help our future MOAA members succeed in social situations?

Air Force ROTC Detachment 842 at UT-San Antonio will be hosting an Etiquette Dinner the evening of 18 Sep 2015.

The objective of the dinner is to prepare senior-level cadets to interact with other military officers when they become commissioned.

UTSA has an etiquette "trainer" who will be teaching throughout the dinner, but they would like 3-4 former or current officers (with their spouses if desired) to provide pre-dinner experiences and guide the dinner conversations.

Cost will be no more than \$20 per person and the location is to be determined.

If MOAA members would be interested, our POC is Angel Millman call (210) 458-4624, or email

angel.millman@utsa.edu.

If there is any interest, we would love to have your support. Thank you!

Lt Col Lisa Thiem Commander, AFROTC Det 842

ON THE ROAD TO RETIREMENT, IT'S IMPORTANT TO HAVE GOOD DIRECTIONS.

Your goals. Our guidance.

Now's the time to see if your investments can fuel your life's most anticipated adventure: retirement. Consider getting an IRA from USAA to help plan for what's ahead. Call us for guidance on building a strategy that could fit your needs now and down the road.

GET STARTED TODAY.

800-IRA-USAA | usaa.com/ira



Financial planning services and financial advice provided by USAA Financial Planning Services Insurance Agency, Inc. (known as USAA Financial Insurance Agency in California, License # 0E36312), a registered investment adviser and insurance agency, and its wholly owned subsidiary, USAA Financial Advisors, Inc., a registered broker dealer.

Investments provided by USAA Investment Management Company and USAA Financial Advisors, Inc., both registered broker dealers. © 2015 USAA. 216896-0415



Medical Minute

Solitaires



Stress Management

The latest buzz word in medical therapy today is "relaxation technique".

If you have high blood pressure, insomnia, tired, stressed out and worried, rapid heart beat and are short of breath, try the relaxation technique.

By combining the relaxation technique with life style changes such as sodium reduction, weight loss and exercise research studies show this is effective in controlling the above symptoms.

Dr. Robert Benson with the Robert Henry Institute affiliated with Harvard and the Massachusetts General Hospital tells us how to master the relaxation technique.

- Select a word (such as "one", or "peace") or a short phrase or prayer to focus on
- Sit quietly in a comfortable position and close your eyes.
- Relax your muscles progressing from your feet to your calves, thighs, abdomen and up to your neck and face.
- · Breathe slowly through your nose.
- Silently say your word, phrase or prayer to yourself as you exhale.
- When other thoughts come to mind, don't worry, simply return your attention to your word, phrase or prayer.
- · Do this for 10 to 20 minutes.
- Sit quietly for a minute or so, then open your eyes.
- Practice the relaxation response once or twice daily.

Source: Harvard Heart Letter

Col Irene Collier (Rel)

King Ranch

The King Ranch at Kingsville is one of the largest ranches in the US. The original purchase by Captain Richard King was for 15,500 acres. Over the years with subsequent purchases it grew to one and a half million acres--larger than the state of Rhode Island. Today with inheritance divisions and sales it is down to 825,000 acres.

It originally started as a cattle ranch. With selective breeding they developed the Santa Gertrudis breed which is better adapted to hot and humid climates. They also have a small herd of longhorns, a variety of wildlife including the Crested Caracara, deer, turtles, hogs, sheep, and goats. The horse breeding program resulted in a triple-crown winner named Assault-the only Texas horse to ever achieve this honor.

Depression and massive debt forced them to become a corporation and expand their business interests. The cattle business dwindled. They started issuing hunting licenses, investing in oil and minerals, turf grass farming, farm equipment and making furniture. They own a publishing house, railroad, and ecotourism. Next they bought orchards of oranges and grapefruit in Florida and still own Tropicana Juice plant. Foreign land purchases were made in Australia, Argentina, Brazil, Mexico, Morocco, Venezuela, Spain, Kenya, and Pennsylvania.

Today the King Ranch is one of the premier game areas of North America. Main hunting is of bobwhite quail and white tailed deer. They have a full time wild life biologist to look after the wild-life populations. It is very biologically diverse.

So who was Richard King, the founder of the dynasty? (1864-1883) He was born in New York City to a poor family. He was indentured to a jeweler who was a cruel taskmaster. At age 9 he ran away and stowed away on a boat going down the Mississippi. When the crew discov-

ered him, they adopted him and taught him navigation. At age 16 he was commissioned as a stern boat pilot. He started his own company with two friends. On a horseback trip from Brownsville to Corpus Christi he was impressed with the beautiful grassland so he bought land from Spain and Mexico.

In 1849 on a riverboat trip to Brownsville he rammed a houseboat which was the home of a Presbyterian minister named Chamberlain. Chamberlain had lived in Kentucky and moved to Brownsville after his wife died. His daughter Henrietta was 17. When she heard the loud noise and foul language on deck she came up and soundly berated Captain King. They were married four years later by her father the minister.

The honeymoon was a horseback trip from Brownsville to Corpus Christi to King's ranch. She says it was a wonderful honeymoon. If she got tired, he would find a nice tree, spread a blanket and let her take a nap.

If she was disappointed in her first home, she did not show it. It was a mud and branch hut. It was so tiny she had to hang her cooking utensils outside. Six months later her home was completed. But unfortunately it burned down. So she stayed in Corpus Christi with the children until another home was built. By now they had five children.

King was an ambitious, hard worker. He rode the range from dawn till dusk on horseback along with his Mexican manager, Tito. He managed the ranch using the Mexican Padrone system where by Mexican families lived on the estate and were taken care of completely. He became a heavy drinker, and when Henrietta could no longer tolerate his drunken rages, she moved to St. Louis with the children. Daughter Alice stayed behind to look after her dad.

He was becoming ill with stomach pains. Henrietta returned to the ranch.

(Continued on Page 8)

Solitaires

(Continued from Page 7)

When she saw how sick he was she insisted he go to San Antonio to see a doctor. He died at the Menger Hotel of stomach cancer. All of his family was at his bedside. He willed everything to Henrietta and asked his lawyer to ensure that none of the ranch was split up and sold.

The best eulogy for Captain Richard King came from one of his ranch managers—a lifelong friend. "He was a rough man but a good man. I never knew a rougher or better man."

After his death she wore only black clothing. Not only did Henrietta inherit the estate, but a million dollars in debt. She knew she could not manage such a large estate by herself so made her son in law, Robert Kleberg, as manager. Kleberg was married to their daughter Alice. He was a Harvard grad and lawyer. When he saw what a mess the finances were in and foreclosure eminent he had to take drastic measures. There was a drought in Texas, so he sent 225,000 of their famed Santa Gertrudis cattle north to Indian country for forage. Cattle brands had come in to being because most of Texas was open range land. He had the Mexican workers collect the dead cattle, harvest and process the skins and send them north for manufacture. Meanwhile oil and gas were found on the lands. An artesian well was located on land which saved the grass and cattle. They were wealthy again. Two of the siblings sold their non productive lands back to the estate.

The current King Ranch house was built in 1883. She told her son-in-law to build a beautiful mansion Mexican Hacienda style. Her only stipulation was that the floor would be the kind that a man in boots could walk on. Hollywood stars and presidents were visitors at the mansion.

Dinner was announced by three bells. The first bell told you to come to dinner. The second told you to dress for dinner. Men wore coat and tie and ladies wore lovely dresses. At the sound of the third bell, she led the procession into the elegant dining room. After din-

ner they adjourned to the music room and sang hymns.

Henrietta ruled with an iron hand from her rocking chair on the veranda. She used a cane because of painful arthritis.

Texas was premiere hunting land, so they sold land leases to companies, and wealthy individuals. They hired a wild life biologists to care for lands and animals. Today only 10% of land is in cattle. They have an outlet store for leather goods, a museum, and offer tours. The city tried to put in windmills, but they successfully fought it. Annually the family meets there as a board on vacation to discuss estate affairs.

Source: Texas Highways May 2003; Texas Monthly August 2009; My tour of the ranch May 2015

Col Irene Collier (Ret)

President's Message

(Continued from Page 1)

Further refinements will probably need to be made to incentivize members to continue beyond 20 years' service. In addition, the reserve component retirement system will probably need revisions because reservists drilling for point may be disadvantaged in terms of contributing to TSP. It also appears that there may be an opt out provision, where the service member can simply opt for a traditional 20+ year retirement rather than the TSP option.

The overriding recommendation to the Chairs and Ranking Members was that Sequestration must be done away with! This is considered the biggest threat to our National Security. Arbitrary budget cuts that it imposes are threatening the very existence of the AVF.

I visited with Representative Castro's office to talk about these issues. The Representative is on the conference committee so hopefully armed with this information, he will be able to have some effect on the final bill that goes to the President. All of the readership should contact their representatives as well to voice concern about these issues. Committee hearings to iron out differ-

ences in the bill appear to have been delayed until September, at this writing.

Where state legislation is concerned, about 68 veteran related bills were passed before the session ended. A bill removing the date restriction from the ability for some surviving spouses of 100% disabled veterans from getting ad valorem tax relief passed and a constitutional amendment will be on the November ballot. Attempts to change that Hazelwood act that would have severely cut the ability of dependents of veterans to use it, failed. What will happen now is that interim committees in the House and Senate will be taking testimony before the 85th session to formulate ideas for new legislation that we hope will protect the Hazelwood and the state.

I wanted to tell you about some events that are coming up that may be of interest to you. First of all, JBSA Ft. Sam Houston will be having a Transition Information Program (TIP) on September 10 for transitioning or soon to transition active military members. This will be followed the next day by the "backblast" program sponsored by USAA and then finally, a mini-job fair sponsored by DoD on the 12th.

On Sept 11th the chapter will be hosting our 8th Annual Warrior and ROTC Scholarship golf tournament that benefits the Warrior & Family Support Center and our ROTC scholarship program. If you are interested in playing and need information, see Page 12.

The Retiree Appreciation Day will be taking place at JBSA Ft. Sam Houston on October 3rd. There will be many exhibits, speakers and, of course flu shots. More information will be coming about this

On October 31 and November 1, JBSA Randolph will be having an open house that will feature the Air Force Thunderbirds, the Wings of Blue, the US Army Golden Knights, vintage warbirds, the Tora, Tora, Tora reenactment and much more. Go to www.facebook.com/JBSARandolph for further information.

Maj Jim Cunningham (Rel)

SENIOR LIVING NEVER LOOKED THIS GOOD



Blue







At Blue Skies of Texas, we offer a variety of independent living options with access to higher levels of care within the community - for that seamless transition later in life.

You've worked hard in your career now treat yourself to the lifestyle you deserve. Call us today for your personal tour.

Blue Skies East • 4917 Ravenswood Dr. • San Antonio, TX. 78227 Blue Skies West • 5100 John D. Ryan Blvd. • San Antonio, TX. 78245 800.891.6029









"Five Star Chapter of Excellence"

Dear Chapter Member,

Your Alamo Chapter is conducting its 8th Annual Golf Tournament on September 11, 2015 at the same location as previous years - the River Crossing Golf Club in Spring Branch. The tournament raises funds for the Warrior& Family Support Center on JBSA Ft Sam Houston and for our Chapter's JROTC Scholarships. Last year's tournament raised \$8415... thanks to many of you! This year we are excited to have a title sponsor in Randolph-Brooks Federal Credit Union.

The funds we donate will help Warriors and their families make the transition back to some degree of normalcy and, in the process, be less of a burden on them and their family. The funds donated to our Scholarship Fund will assist promising local high school students (JROTC and military children or grandchildren) afford a college education.

If you have been a donor is the past, we are very grateful for such support and we need your help again this year. If you have not provided support in the past, please consider doing so. Here are the ways you can help:

- Be a sponsor by selecting one of the many options as noted in the attached flyer.
- Be a golfer -- submit an entry form for yourself or a team using the enclosed registration form.
- Be a **contributor** please consider donating an entry fee of \$125 and give a Warrior an opportunity to play free of charge.
- Be a supporter by providing a monetary donation of any amount, an item or service as a prize (gift certificates from local restaurants, or vendor products, etc.) for our tournament.
- Be a **volunteer** to help during the tournament collecting money for special events, selling tickets for Special Prizes or witnessing certain events.

Your support of this funding-raising event will be greatly appreciated. Please feel free to distribute this information and flyers to any of your family, friends, co-workers and fellow golfers who may desire to support this worthy cause. If you wish to contact us about a sponsorship, donations, prizes, or being a volunteer, please call Frank Rohrbough at cell (703) 868-8006 or call our MOAA Office at (210) 228-9955.

Information, sponsorships and registration/donation forms are attached to this email. Alternatively you can sign up and/or donate on line at our website and pay using our secure Paypal option. Go to www.alamomoaa.org.

Thank you.

Frank Rohrbough

Co-Chair. Golf Committee

Frank Rohrbough







Post 35

Randolph-Brooks Federal Credit Union Presents

8th Annual MOAA-AC Golf Tournament

Military Officers Association of America - Alamo Chapter
Benefiting

The Warrior and Family Support Center

& MOAA Alamo Chapter JROTC Scholarships

River Crossing Golf Club, 500 River Way, Spring Branch, Tx Friday, September 11th, 2015

\$125 per player (limit 120 players - sign up early!)

Includes green fees, cart, lunch & dinner



SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Title Sponsor \$5,000 (Sold - RBFCU)

Tournament named in your honor, Club House Banner, Promotional recognition, Tee Box signage, Green Fees & Cart for 8 players.

Platinum Sponsor \$3,000

Club House Banner, Promotional recognition, Tee Box signage, Green Fees & Cart for 6 players.

Gold Plus Sponsor \$2,000

Club House Banner, Promotional recognition, Tee Box signage, Green Fees & Cart for 4 players.

Gold Sponsor \$1,000

Club House Banner, Promotional recognition, Tee Box signage, Green Fees & Cart for 2 players.

Hole In One Sponsor \$750

Hospitality Cart Sponsor \$500

Hole Sponsor \$250

Warrior Player Sponsor \$125

CONTACT INFORMATION

Tournament Co Chairs: Frank & Stephen Rohrbough Frank: 703-868-8006 Stephen: 210-262-7026

MOAA Office: 210-228-9955 Email: moaa-ac@sbcglobal.net

REGISTRATION & LUNCH begin 11:30am

Shotgun Start 1pm (4 person teams or individual players)

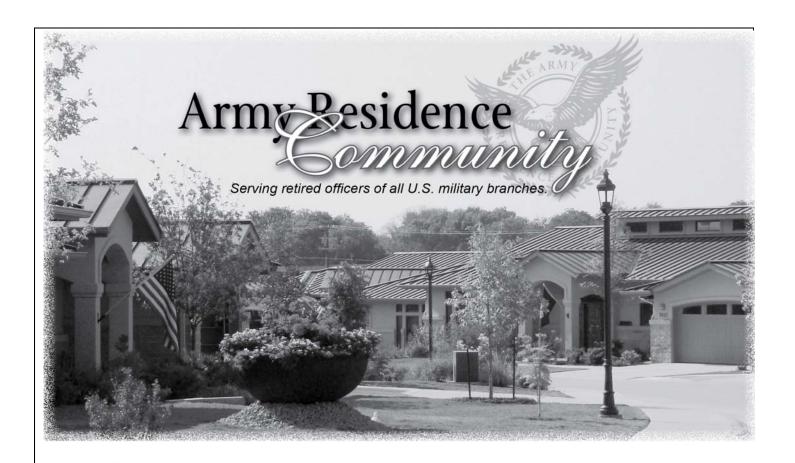
Player 1 Name:	* 100.00
Email:	
Player 2 Name:	
Email:	
Player 3 Name:	
Email:	
Player 4 Name:	
Email:	
	udes 2 Mulligans, 2 Beverages, Door Off Game, Closest to Pin Entry, Putving for \$100,000).
Credit Card #:	
	Billing Zip Code:
	300 99
Golf Fee Amt: \$	Donation Amt: \$
Super Ticket Amt: \$	Total Amount: \$

GOLFERS: Make checks payable to: MOAA-AC and mail to: P.O. Box 340497, Ft. Sam Houston, TX 78234. If you prefer, you may also register and/or donate by credit card on our website: www.alamomoaa.org. Call Trish at 210-228-9955 for questions on tournament registration, to pay/donate by phone with your credit card.

Benefits of Membership of MOAA and the local chapter

- Our monthly newsletter, *The Lariat*, which includes a calendar of events, is sent to each member (or made available on-line), and includes both MOAA and Alamo Chapter news. Stay informed!
- Monthly luncheons, which rotate between the Randolph Parr Club, Fort Sam Houston Golf Club, and Lackland service clubs, feature informative speakers and are also open to guests.
- Benefit information of all kinds is provided through the Alamo Chapter. We have an experienced Vice President of Personal Affairs who can give quick answers to your and family members' questions, or who can research the more complex issues.
- The opportunity to enjoy the camaraderie of meeting fellow chapter members and their guests. We also plan for various social events, open to families and guests. In addition, our chapter features a singles group called the Solitaires, some of who are surviving spouses. The Solitaires have a busy social calendar.
- Make your voice heard on proposed state and national military legislation which may affect you and your family. Both the Alamo Chapter and MOAA national welcome your views!
- Enjoy many benefits, discounts, and services, to include career planning through our Transition Liaison Officer.
- The Alamo Chapter also provides college scholarships to those who qualify.

Check preferred Membership: \$25 Membership with harde \$15 Membership with electr	ony of newsletter	Renewal	
\$15 Membership with electr	ony of newsletter		Initial Application
6.2	opy of newsietter		
	onic copy of newsletter, or Survi	ving Spouse (auxiliary) membership
M	embership App		
Are you a	member of MOAA Nat	tional?	
FFFF	5.76	<u> </u>	78
MOAA	tary Officers Asso Alamo Cha		nerica
Circle Status: Commission		•	ina Dassensa
	ired, National Guard, NO.		
*Name			
(Print) Last	First	MI	Spouse
Residence Address	City	State	Zip
Rank/Grade	Service	Dat	te of Birth
Home phone	Email		
	r monthly newsletter (The		ebsite versus having
Would you like to assist in eadership meetings the firs Sam, or if you would like a please indicate below: Yes – please call me: (chaping and moving the control of the month is member of the Executive chapter of the Executive	shapter forward? from 10-12pam at Staff to call and Circle Interest:	Come join us at our the Chapter office of discuss how you can JROTC, Members
Would you like to assist in leadership meetings the firs Sam, or if you would like a please indicate below: Yes – please call me: (chaping and moving the control of the Executive control of the Executiv	shapter forward? from 10-12pam at Staff to call and Circle Interest:	Come join us at our the Chapter office of discuss how you can JROTC, Members
Would you like to assist in eadership meetings the first Sam, or if you would like a please indicate below: Yes – please call me: (Programs, Recruiting, Paffairs, Other/wherever the	chaping and moving the control of the Executive control of the Executiv	chapter forward? from 10-12pam at Staff to call and Circle Interest: fficer, Personal	Come join us at our the Chapter office of discuss how you can JROTC, Members
Would you like to assist in leadership meetings the first Sam, or if you would like a please indicate below: Yes – please call me: ((Dues reduce to shaping and moving the cost Thursday of the month is member of the Executive	chapter forward? from 10-12pam at Staff to call and Circle Interest: fficer, Personal Date	Come join us at our the Chapter office of discuss how you can JROTC, Members Affairs, Legislativ
would you like to assist in eadership meetings the first sam, or if you would like a please indicate below: Yes – please call me: ((Dues reduce to shaping and moving the cost Thursday of the month is member of the Executive) ublic Relations, Duty O e need is greatest.	chapter forward? from 10-12pam at Staff to call and Circle Interest: fficer, Personal Date Card Exp Date:	Come join us at our the Chapter office of discuss how you can JROTC, Members Affairs, Legislativ
would you like to assist in eadership meetings the first sam, or if you would like a please indicate below: Yes – please call me: (Programs, Recruiting, Paffairs, Other/wherever the Signature Card Number: Signature Billing Zipcode:	(Dues reduce to shaping and moving the cost Thursday of the month is member of the Executive) ublic Relations, Duty O e need is greatest.	chapter forward? from 10-12pam at Staff to call and Circle Interest: fficer, Personal Date Card Exp Date: CV	Come join us at our the Chapter office of discuss how you can JROTC, Members Affairs, Legislativ
Would you like to assist in eadership meetings the first Sam, or if you would like a please indicate below: Yes – please call me: (chaping and moving the control of the month of the Executive of the Execut	chapter forward? from 10-12pam at e Staff to call and colored interest: fficer, Personal Date Card Exp Date: CV H PROGRAM	Come join us at our the Chapter office of discuss how you can JROTC, Members Affairs, Legislativ
Would you like to assist in eadership meetings the first Sam, or if you would like a please indicate below: Yes – please call me: (chaping and moving the control of the Executive of the Ex	chapter forward? from 10-12pam at estaff to call and concentrate in the call and conce	Come join us at our the Chapter office of discuss how you can JROTC, Members Affairs, Legislativ
Would you like to assist in leadership meetings the firs Sam, or if you would like a please indicate below: Yes – please call me: ((Dues reduce to shaping and moving the cost Thursday of the month is member of the Executive ublic Relations, Duty O e need is greatest. Payment by Credit of Amount: Amount: scholarships and other characteristics are considered applications.	chapter forward? from 10-12pam at Staff to call and Circle Interest: fficer, Personal Date Card Exp Date: CV H PROGRAM to (check charitable program is to:	Come join us at our the Chapter office of discuss how you can JROTC, Members Affairs, Legislativ
Would you like to assist in leadership meetings the first Sam, or if you would like a please indicate below: Yes – please call me: ((Dues reduce to shaping and moving the country of the month is member of the Executive	chapter forward? chapter forward? from 10-12pam at staff to call and control of the call and control o	Come join us at our the Chapter office of discuss how you can JROTC, Members Affairs, Legislativ V: k one) s and services. X 78234 lobal.net
Would you like to assist in eadership meetings the first Sam, or if you would like a please indicate below: Wes – please call me: (chaping and moving the control of the Executive of the Ex	chapter forward? from 10-12pam at estaff to call and concentrate in the call and conce	Come join us at our the Chapter office of discuss how you can JROTC, Members Affairs, Legislativ



"No other neighborhood in the world will provide you with friends of such shared values." – Sandra Hicks

At the ARC, you'll find everything you've ever wanted in retirement living — camaraderie with friends who've served their country ... modern, beautiful residences ... delicious dining options ... multiple activities ... resort-style services and group transportation.

A recent expansion has created spectacular new residences and amenities including the new Lakeside Landing complex with a restaurant, theater, assisted living apartments, small store, banking and medical and dental services. And residents love the state-of-the-art Wellness/Fitness Center with alfresco dining.

As a Continuing Care Retirement Community,

the ARC offers peace of mind to residents and their families.





ARMY RESIDENCE COMMUNITY

7400 Crestway San Antonio, Texas 78239-3098 (210) 646-5316 (800) 725-0083 www.armyresidence.com

Chapter Events Calendar 2015

AUGUST

- 1 Volunteer Hours Due
- 4 Coastguard Birthday
- 4 Solitaire's Luncheon 11am Ft Sam Golf Club
- 6 Staff Meeting 10am Chapter Office
- 12 Board Meeting 10am Chapter Office
- 14 Victory in Japan Day
- 23 Solitaire's Sunday Brunch 11 am Randolph Parr Club
- 27 Chapter Luncheon 11am Army Residence Community

Events pertaining to general membership are bolded and italicized for the volunteer leadership team, though regular Members are always welcome!

Please call the office for details (210) 228-9955.

Ongoing Events: Cookie Angels deliver cookies, snacks and personal care items to the Warrior & Family Support Center. Call Susie Tolman for details (210) 654-0351.

SEPTEMBER

- 1 Volunteer Hours Due
- 1 Solitaire's Luncheon 11am Ft Sam Golf Club
- 4 Staff Meeting 10am Chapter Office
- 4 VA Volunteers Mtg 1pm VA Hospital
- 7 Labor Day
- 10-12 MOAA President's Meeting Kansas City, MO
- 11 Patriot Day
- 11 MOAA-AC Golf Tourney River Crossing 1pm
- 13 Grandparents Day
- 18 Air Force Birthday
- 18 POW/MIA Recognition Day
- 24 Chapter Luncheon 11am Ft Sam Golf Club
- 27 Gold Star Mother's Day
- 27 Solitaire's Sunday Brunch 11 am Randolph Parr Club



Indian River Colony Club

"The Place Patriots Call Home"

An active, 55+ community where you'll find lifelong friends. Leave the maintenance to us and take the hassles out of everyday life. How can we be certain that you'll love Indian River Colony Club? What's not to love about resort style living, safety and security, peace of mind, gorgeous scenery, delicious gourmet food, a private golf course with 28 lakes, and...

having the time to enjoy it?





Come enjoy the camaraderie!



2-4 BR, Single Family Homes on 453 Acres with First Class Amenites

Call: 877-253-2199

* Airfare not included

Learn More! www.IndianRiverColonyClub.com/us-military

Indian River Colony Club • 1936 Freedom Drive • Viera (Melbourne), FL 32940

DO YOU WANT TO RECEIVE THIS LARIAT FASTER AND IN **FULL COLOR ON-LINE?**

Just send your email address to **moaa-ac@sbcglobal.net** with the subject line "OLLO". We'll gladly remove you from this printed version mailing list and notify you each month by email when the new issue is available for viewing. Saves the chapter paper and postage and you get to see it sooner!

HERE TODAY. HERE TOMORROW. HERE FOR GOOD.

Switch to a bank that will always be here.



Colonel Charles E. Cheever

In 1941, Colonel Charles E. Cheever Sr. started Broadway Bank to serve the financial needs of military personnel and their families. * We opened our first banking center at Fort Sam in 1973. And since that time, we've added two more at AMEDD and BAMC. * If your current financial institution has gone AWOL, switch to the bank that's here today, here tomorrow and here for good.



We're here for good."

210.227.7131 | 888.777.0740 | broadwaybank.com STANLEY RD. | BROOKE ARMY MEDICAL CENTER | AMEDD 39 NEIGHBORHOOD LOCATIONS | Member FDIC | 🔰 👔



Alamo Chapter

VOLUNTEER STAFF:

PRESIDENT MAJ James R. Cunningham

jimbob48@sbcglobal.net

EXEC VP OPERATIONS LTC Bill Goforth

bagoforth@yahoo.com

VP ADMINISTRATION LtCol Jim Webb

beaubien43@gmail.com

VP PROGRAMS

VP MEMBERSHIP LTC Randy Hoff

randyhoff106@hotmail.com

SECRETARY Col David Patrick

dwpatrick01@gmail.com

TREASURER Col Vaughn Caudill

vaughn.caudill@us.army.mil

SCHOLARSHIP Col Peter Hunt

VP PERSONAL AFFAIRS Col Stuart Myers

DEPUTY PA (Open)

VP LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS LTC Bob Blake

DEP LEG AFFAIRS (Open)

VP PUBLIC RELATIONS LTC Charles Poole

VP LOGISTICS LtCol Fred Koechley LEGAL COUNSEL Jacobson Law Firm

SOLITAIRES Pat Shecter CONSULTANT Maj Len Mull CONSULTANT Lt George Frecsko EDITOR Col Kerry Green CHAPLAIN LTC James Taylor CHAPLAIN Alt LtCol David Leas PX/VAV/VAC Rep Susie Tolman ASST JROTC Coord. Col Peter Hunt

TRANSITION LIAISON LtCol Kitty Meyers

WEB MASTER Col Bill Hudson HISTORIAN LTC Kerry Reyna VOLUNTEER COORD. LTC Jerry Gonzales ADVERTISING COORD. Maj Fernando Carreon AFV SATELLITE COORD. CAPT Bill Knehans ARC SATELLITE COORD. MG Charles Honore

CONTRACTOR:

Admin Support Trish Meserve

DIRECTORS:

Chairman: MAJ Jim Cunningham LTC John Gibbs LTC Jim Finch Mrs. Susie Tolman **BG** James Doty Col Mac McDonald LtCol Ed Marvin

Col Frank Rohrbough

DIRECTORS EMERITUS HONORARY DIRECTORS **BG** Robert Herring

Gen William McBride

Statement of Publication

The Lariat is the newsletter of the Military Officers Association of America-Alamo Chapter. It is published once each month to inform the membership of issues and activities of interest to all. MOAA-AC is a non-profit organization 501c 4 within the state of Texas organized to represent the membership and to support the activities of the Texas Council of Chapters and MOAA National Advertising contained in the newsletter is not endorsed by the Chapter and does not represent any recommendation to the membership. Opinions expressed in articles contained herein are not necessarily those of the membership as a whole or the Chapter. Questions should be directed to the Editor, at the Chapter office.

MOAA-AC P.O. Box 340497 San Antonio, TX 78234 (210) 228-9955 moaa-ac@sbcglobal.net

www.alamomoaa.org



THE LARIAT

National Award Winning Newsletter

U.S. Postage Paid San Antonio, Texas

Permit No. 1553

MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA ALAMO CHAPTER

FOR INFORMATION REGARDING OUR BY-LAWS, STRATEGIC PLAN, EVENTS CALENDAR AND PAST ISSUES OF THE LARIAT PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE:

WWW.ALAMOMOAA.ORG

P.O. Box 340497 Ft Sam Houston, TX 78234-0497 Phone: 210-228-9955 Email: moaa-ac@sbcglobal.net www.alamomoaa.org

Postmaster — please deliver by August 7th Time Sensitive Material



Thursday, Aug 27, 2015 Chapter Luncheon

Army Residence Community

7400 Crestway, San Antonio, TX 78239 Meet & Greet begins 11am - Lunch served approx 11:45am

Spkr: MG Charles E. Honore

Menu

A) Savannah Meatloaf B) Chicken Jambalaya Petit Greek Salad, Whipped Parmesan Potatoes, Broccoli, Dinner Rolls, Boston Cream Pie Coffee, tea or water, Cash Bar available

Cost per person \$20 (ARC residents will be have their meal plan account charged) Enclosed: \$_____

RSVP by Noon Friday 22 May Reservations not cancelled by noon 22nd Tuesday will be billed Non member Officers & guests are welcome with paid reservations

Name	 	 	
Guest:			

Call (210) 228-9955 to make your reservation or send check made payable to MOAA-AC to P.O. Box 340497, Ft Sam Houston, TX 78234 Or contact us by email moaa-ac@sbcglobal.net to hold a reservation or reserve and pay on-line at www.alamomoaa.org



Thursday, Sept 24, 2015 Chapter Luncheon

Spkr: Will Garrett

San Antonio Chamber of Commerce

Ft Sam Golf Club
Meet & Greet begins 11am - Lunch served approx 11:45am

Menu

A) BBQ Brisket B) Grilled Pork Chop Garden Salad, Scalloped Potatoes, Green Beans & Carrots Dinner Rolls Sherbert Ice Cream Coffee, tea or water, Cash Bar available

Cost per person \$20 Enclosed: \$______
RSVP by Noon Monday 21 Sept
Reservations not cancelled by noon 22nd Tuesday will be billed
Non member Officers & guests are welcome with paid reservations

Name	 	 	
Guest:			

Call (210) 228-9955 to make your reservation or send check made payable to MOAA-AC to P.O. Box 340497, Ft Sam Houston, TX 78234 Or contact us by email moaa-ac@sbcglobal.net to hold a reservation or reserve and pay on-line at www.alamomoaa.org