

The Chattanooga MOAA Volunteer

VOL 24

JANUARY – FEBRUARY 2024

ISSUE 1



MOAA Mission/Purpose

To foster communications and mutual support among retired, active, reserve, National Guard, Public Health Service, NOAA, and former officers of the uniformed services. Assist community organizations that support service member, patriotic and veteran organizations and their families; provide scholarship opportunities for area high school senior JROTC cadets; conduct fund raising events to support other service member and veterans' programs; conduct annual awards banquet and awards ceremony honoring local area's leading JROTC/ROTC cadets, senior ROTC scholarship Recipients, Service Academy appointees, and their guests; maintain a proactive chapter affairs program that supports members and their families during health and other family emergencies; promote the aims and objectives of The Military Officers Association of America; and the aims and objectives of the Tennessee MOAA Council of Chapters.

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Message from the President



First off, I am extremely honored to have been nominated and selected as the new President of the Chattanooga Chapter. It will be a great honor to serve you. But I have to say a little about how we got here. When MAJ Carol Grohn assumed her new duties as the President of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA), Chattanooga Chapter in January of 2023, one of her first duties was to interview and recommend nominations for the incoming leadership that supported her ideals for the Chapter. The new leadership develop a formalized organization structure included expectations and responsibilities of the leadership team. Soon to follow were detailed job duties of each Officer and Board member. The next accomplishment was to better define the Chapter's "Mission Statement" with goals and objective that created path to move the chapter forward. With these clear guidelines, the Chapter became energized. We saw five new members join our ranks this year and several were much younger having recently retired.

The Chapter became more involved with the veteran community renewing relationships with old organizations and expending collaborations with new organizations such as the local Veterans Administration. For the first time in several years, the chapter hosted two social events where the area veterans were invited, Veteran Day Picnic at the local AA baseball game and a Veterans Classic Golf Tournament to raise money for our JROTC Scholarship Fund. One of the chapter's highlights was to host a celebration dinner for selected Medal of Honor recipient, Captain Larry Taylor, one of our own members. The event was attended by most of the area veteran's community as well as representation from the Federal, State and Local government. Also in attendance was MOAA National's CEO, Commanders from the Aviation Brigade at Fort Novel, Freedom Sings USA along with many more. We now have a succession of potential chapter leaders that will continue to create a path for the Chapter to become even better in the future. All these accomplishments in less than a years' time is something that should be celebrated and is an example of what can be done when the team focuses its goals. I only hope I can live up to the expectations you have entrusted me with.

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS REPORT

PAST PRESIDENT MAJ CAROL GROHN USA (RET)

Carol Grohn Farewell to MOAA

From your new Past President *"Fare thee well"* was a well-known theme used by the Grateful Dead—they sang of people who 'hope and dream and see and think and fail and win and want.' Many years ago when (yes!) Ray Adkins (who else?) went on and on about MOAA and suckered me to my first meeting, it was a dream come true. I met people with pride in their military history, people kind of like me with hopes and dreams and who wanted to win and demonstrate pride in America and wave flags at parades. Ray threw me on the board with the likes of the infamous Bobby Crates. I was smitten with MOAA.

I really really thank you, Chattanooga Chapter, for believing in me enough to allow me to be one of your past presidents. (She's just a Major was only heard in my own head; no one ever disrespected me with any such litany -you might have thought it but you never said it to my face). To get out when I did was my choice.

Many of you who were brave enough to nominate me to be an officer on the board following my 2 year hiatus in Texas ("that girl") post-covid knew that we barely had a table full of masked and unmasked attendees at that first scraggly dinner meeting including the speaker(!). We knew that regaining a respectful number of active members again to fill several tables was a ways off. We also knew one of our members was a distant possibility for the Medal of Honor, Larry Taylor. Wars were still raging in the Middle East. There were rumors of long covid. Two feet forward...three feet back.

So, I had been in long enough to observe a well-run MOAA. And I had some ideas. I had a civilian business background as well as hospital administration background. To pull this off we needed good people with history with this chapter and who could bring new insights to flesh out and help develop a solid plan. That, my friends, is exactly what happened. We met at my dining room table multiple times and TOGETHER, we put it together: the old MOAA with a new business model. Papers were flying across the table as we re-constructed the old J/SROTC from the original model that Chris found on one of his old computers. I wanted our board's help to design a business model. We needed to determine who was still among us – and who had passed – and we did a celebration of their lives during one of our meetings.

Some brand new concepts such as having a director in charge of ensuring proper recognition and issuing of awards was highly successful and John Harbison and he added tremendous new structure to develop a book of policies and other semi-permanent content to go on our brand new developing website. Ray Mitchell had raw insight into providing us with insightful speakers and – yes – sheer determination to pull off our first golf tournament.

As always, it was all about the people. And new people heard about us and we had new members pour in last year and that continues on now.

So, folks, we're baaaaaaack—with gusto. There's no credit here. It was all you. You got rope and you ran. And Your and Our MOAA is baaaaaaack. I leave you in great hands. All the best going forward.

Carol



OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS REPORT

FRIST VICE PRESIDENT – PROGRAMS

LT COL TONY CROWDER USAF (RET)

Let Your MOAA Light Shine

MOAA shipmates, it seems we have survived another orbit around the sun. We have many new sunrises to anticipate, and with them, opportunities for our chapter. We did a bunch of stuff last year that we can build upon and use to get our voice of service out to Chattanooga. From a membership lens, I encourage everyone to be in the recruiter mode. It takes manpower to get stuff done or at least someone willing to kick some cash into our various endeavors. I have heard that Hamilton County has 22,000 veterans in residence. I know that not all of them will qualify to be MOAA members, but surely more than the approximately 170 members / 140 regular members we have is available to join our team. Step out on a SAR mission: (Search and Recruit).

Shine your MOAA light. 22,000, beyond adding to our ranks, that is a lot of veterans to whom we can be of service. I would call this a target rich environment. At our last meeting, the membership voted on a host of social activities and this voting resulted in three majority supported events. As these activities get organized, you can do two things. One, help. Two, recruit. Let us have some fun orbiting the sun in this coming year by making new friends and taking care of old friends.

Don't forget your sunglasses.



Ballots were collected at December's Dinner Meeting. The following three activities received the most votes by members. Activities dates will be posted in the newsletter. Tentatively Springtime would be for the Baseball outing, Mid-summer the Battlefield tour and Fall for the Train ride.



The Chickamauga Battlefield Tour



Train Ride through the famous Hiwassee Loop



Lookout's Baseball Outing.

Chickamauga Battlefield Tour:

Ranger-led programs differ on a daily basis, are approximately 30 minutes to 1 hour in length. Ranger-led car caravan tours are offered at 2 pm. Join a park ranger for a 90 minute to 2 hour car caravan tour of the battlefield. At each stop, the ranger will share stories about what happened in that area. There are no admission fees for programs.

Train Ride:

Ride Through the Famous Hiwassee Loop. 50-mile round trip through the beautiful lower Hiwassee River Gorge. This is a 5-hour round trip, so you will be on the train for the duration of the trip.

Prices: Adults \$48, under 13 = \$34.

Lookouts Picnic: Enjoy a group picnic at AT&T Field. Adults \$25.

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS REPORT

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT – MEMBERSHIP

LTC SCOTT BRYANT (RET)



NEW MEMBER PROFILES

Janet Meyer was a Supervisory Special Agent with the U.S. Department of State – Diplomatic Security Service. She has spent the last twenty years as a federal agent working in U.S. Embassies and Consulates overseas protecting American citizens and U.S. interests abroad. Prior to her role at the State Department, Janet served as a Marine Corps Intelligence Officer from 1997 until 2003.

She graduated from Texas A&M University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in history in 1997. She earned a Master of Science degree in leadership from The Citadel College in 2015 and earned a Master of Arts degree in Strategic Security Studies from the National Defense University in 2017. When she's not working, Janet loves to travel and has been to 70 countries on six continents. She has one son who is in 6th grade at McCallie School. Janet has returned home with her recent retirement from government service, but she remains enthusiastic about serving and is considering taking on responsibilities in our MOAA chapter.



Don Rixie, LTC, U.S. Army (ret), was commissioned as an armor officer and demonstrated exceptional field leadership.

This brought the attention of the special operations community and he was recruited to join them. He has always been athletic. The remainder of his career was in this community. He focused on the Middle East region and he has certainly had plenty of time deployed. He retired from U.S. Special Operations Command in Tampa and started his own business in Florida. After a few years in Florida, he and his wife, being familiar with Chattanooga and for many reasons, decided to build a new home and move here (Signal Mountain). He could keep his Florida business running and expand his business in this area. (Rixie Services). He has a passion for serving and he has jumped right into our MOAA Chapter as our new Legislative Liaison.



MOAA CHATTANOOGA CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP

Type Member	Number	Percent
Regular	114	66.7%
Emeritus Regular	31	18.1%
Surviving Spouse, Spouse	13	7.6%
Emeritus Surviving Spouse	4	2.3%
Spouses & Emeritus Spouses	9	5.3%
TOTAL	171	100.0%

Membership application at the end of the Newsletter

"May the new year bring everything you wished for and more."

SURVIVING SPOUSE- COORDINATOR

SUSAN HARDIN

The MOAA Wives, connoisseurs of monthly merriment, convened on Tuesday, December 19, 2023, in our prestigious third-Tuesday-of-the-month soirée. A refined 11:30 AM start time at the esteemed Mountain City Club – where discussions span the culinary arts to the finer points of health benefits. No agenda, no officers – we're basically a social experiment in anarchy with excellent taste in meeting venues. Now, prepare for a plot twist – the Mountain City Club is pulling a real estate makeover. Sold! Fear not, dear associates, as we shall gracefully relocate our spouse symposium in March, ensuring our intellectual property endures. Plus, rejoice, for free parking remains our cherished birthright – because why pay for parking when you can spend that money on something better? I do love me a freebie.

Our ambition? Growth! If you possess a passion for culinary delights or can appreciate the art of a well-timed joke, congratulations, you're practically an honorary member already. And if you find yourself lacking in either foodie enthusiasm or comedic appreciation, fear not, for we shall be your culinary and comedy compass. These remarkable ladies have woven me into their social tapestry, and I implore you to experience the magic by joining us one Tuesday – because life's too short not to indulge in good food and laughter! Please feel free to call or text me. You can email me but since retirement, yeah I don't check it like I should.

Susan Hardin

423-779-7005

susanhardin@epbf.com



OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS REPORT

TREASURER CDR JIM HARGROVE USN (RET)

MOAA NL 2024 Jan Feb Treasurer Input

TREASURER'S REPORT
STATUS OF FUNDS
as of 12/31/2023

Chapter Operating Funds

Accounts Status	Balance 1/1/23	Income/Gain	Expenses/Los s	Balance 12/31/23
Checking	\$11,573.51	\$24,405.61	\$20,978.36	\$15,550.81
Investments	\$23,782.26	\$0	\$491.65	\$23,290.61
TOTAL	\$35,355.77	\$23,241.06	\$15,823.95	\$39,783.93

Chapter Scholarship Fund

Accounts Status	Balance 1/1/23	Income/Gain	Expenses/Los s	Balance 12/31/23
Checking	\$4,997.49	\$7,205.55	\$5,499.04	\$6,929.00
Investments	\$27,476.43	\$535.15	\$0	\$28,011.58
TOTAL	\$32,473.92	\$7,740.70	\$5,499.04	\$34,940.58

The above amounts include the initial distribution of income and expenses from the Golf Tournament to the Chapter and Scholarship accounts. They will change some with the final accounting and distribution of the income and expenses. THANK YOU for your exceptionally strong personal and financial support of Chapter activities. You can be very proud of what your contributions are helping your Chapter accomplish. We could not do it without you.

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Contributions from Members	2023 YEAR	NOV – DEC 2023
	\$ 3,800.00	\$1,349.00

We had a great 50/50 raffle at the December dinner meeting raising \$169. A most sincere Thank You to the following members for their generous donations to the Ray Memorial Scholarship Program during the last two months.

LTC Ray Adkins	Ms. Stephanie Bailey	LTC Scott Bryant	LTC Chris Cole
COL Judy Davenport	Lt Col Tony Crowder	MAJ Jules Doux	LTC Tom Durham
LTC Fred Faery	MAJ Carol Grohn	CAPT Billy Hewitt	LTC Ray Mitchell
CAPT Mickey McCamish	LTC Carl Poston	CDR Tom Shipley	CPT Jerry Sloan
COL Bill Todd	CW2 Chet Tschetter	Col Rick VanVleet	LTC Joe V. Williams

2024 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Annual Chapter Memberships expire on December 31 of each year. Some members have paid for multiple years in advance and those members 85 and older do not have to pay annual dues. If your current membership has expired, you were sent an e-mail from our treasurer, CDR Jim Hargrove, advising you that 2024 dues are payable. THANK YOU to those members that have already renewed their membership. Member Dues are: 1 year \$20.00; 3 year \$50.00; 5 Year \$80.00. Spouse/ Surviving Spouse Dues are: 1 year \$10.00; 3 Year \$25.00; 5 year \$40.00 You can pay by check made out to Chattanooga Chapter MOAA and mailed to

Treasurer, MOAA Chattanooga Chapter
c/o CDR Jim Hargrove
1739 Bayfront Drive
Soddy Daisy, TN 37379

You can pay by credit card through the MOAA National website www.MOAA.org under "Chapter Leader/Member," "VIEW MY RESOURCES." Note the 5-year option is not available on MOAA.org.

If you have any questions, please contact CDR Jim Hargrove at jhargrove@epbf.com or phone/text at 423-710-6095. THANK YOU FOR YOUR MEMBERSHIP.

OFFICER AND DIRECTORS REPORT



DIRECTOR OF SCHOLARSHIPS
LTC BILL BROOKS USA (RET)

COLONEL WILLIAM L. RAY, USA, MERIT AWARD/SCHOLARSHIP GRANT PROGRAM

The purpose of the Colonel William L. Ray, USA, and Merit Award/Scholarship Grant Program is to encourage highly qualified Junior and Senior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC/SROTC) cadets and/or midshipmen for a career in the Armed Forces of the United States by awarding merit awards/ scholarship grants to assist them with costs associated with their college or university education.

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

CDR PHIL SUMRALL USN (RET)



Today's a new day, a chance for a new start. Yesterday is gone and with it, any regrets, mistakes, or failures I may have experienced. It's a good day to be glad and give thanks, and I do, Lord. Thank you for today, a new opportunity to love, give, and be all that you want me to be.

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

To learn about MOAA's top legislative issues and its Legislative Action Center, please go to the MOAA Website at www.moaa.org and click **ADVOCACY** and then click on Legislative Action Center for a list of Take Action issues and legislation.

The MOAA Website also provides a very effective way for you to send your Senators and Representative an e-mail urging their support and action on MOAA-supported positions. To keep connected, ensure you are signed up for The MOAA Newsletter and register as an advocate at the Legislative Action Center.

VETERANS CORNER

Chattanooga Area Veterans Council



The Executive Board of the Chattanooga Area Veterans Council

Awards Dinner 15 March 2024. MOAA will get two tables for this event. Contact Jim Hargrove for reservations.



WHAT WE DO

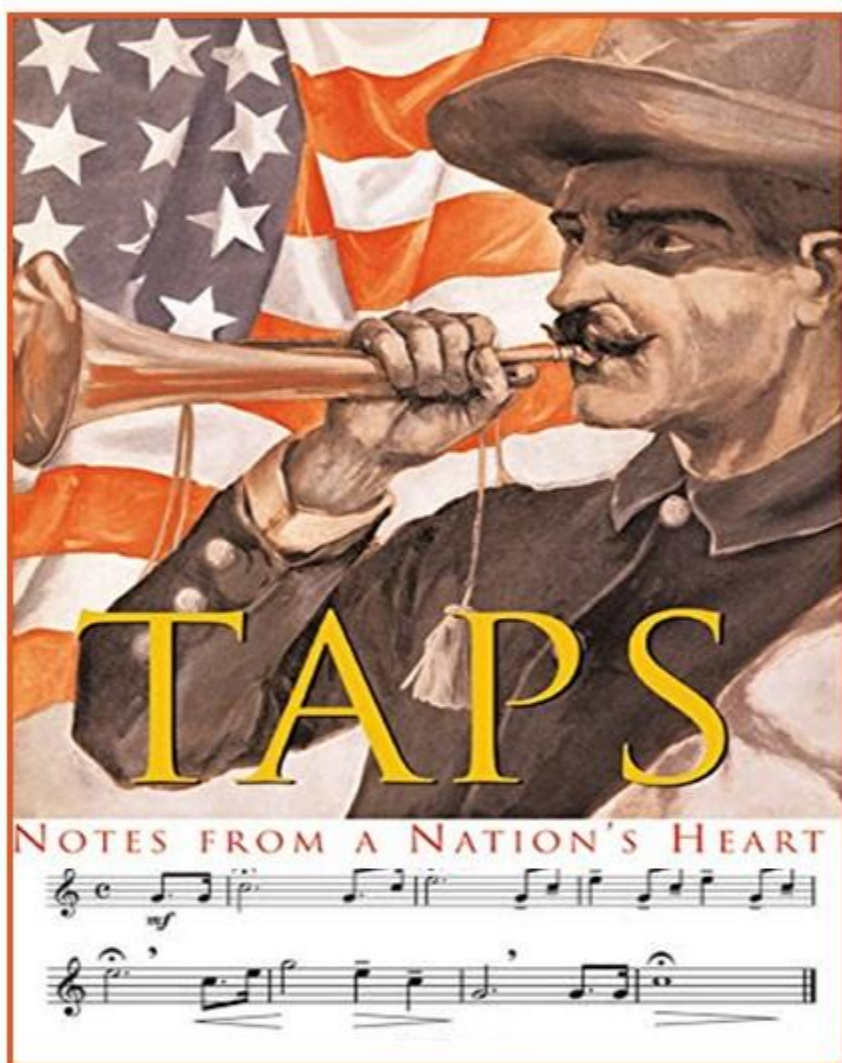
Hearty Hog's Veterans BBQ Camp is a veteran run nonprofit 501c3 organization that is supremely passionate about its mission. We take pride in providing all interested veterans with the opportunity to learn the therapeutic skill of cooking BBQ. This includes but is not limited to everything from selecting the proper cuts of meat, preparing the meat and the most gratifying part, serving it to friends and family. Oh yeah, don't forget the sides. Sides are an integral part of the BBQ experience and will be covered at the camp.

<https://veteransbbqcamp.org/>

VETERANS CORNER

Justice For Vets - Foundational Training 2024 Representatives from the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) and the Justice for Vets (JFV) will provide three days of training on-site in Hamilton County, with 10 pre-training E-Learning Modules and follow-up support with JFV staff and faculty. Each of these modules are required to complete for all team members to attend and participate. The three-Day Onsite Training Dates are June 25 – 27, 2024. Additional information will be forthcoming.

TAPS



Carolyn Jennings Cofer, 5 December 2023

MOAA Chattanooga Chapter mourns the recent passing of surviving spouse member Carolyn Jennings Cofer, wife of deceased member Capt. Joseph Cofer, USN. Carolyn was known for her wisdom, keen wit and sense of humor and her deep well of kindness, warmth and charity. Carolyn was a lifelong resident of Chattanooga. She was a graduate of UT Knoxville and a passionate fan of the Tennessee Vols. She was an accomplished fisherman and skeet shooter and a world traveler. She dearly loved her many pets. Carolyn was a deeply religious active member of St Paul's Episcopal Church. Carolyn is survived by seven daughters, five sons and a host of grandchildren and great grandchildren and will be profoundly missed by all.

CALENDAR / EVENTS

HISTORICAL DATES AND EVENTS

February 2, 1848 - The war between the U.S. and Mexico ended with the signing of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo.

February 3, 1943 - An extraordinary act of heroism occurred in the icy waters off Greenland after the U.S. Army transport ship *Dorchester* was hit by a German torpedo and began to sink rapidly. When it became apparent there were not enough life jackets, four U.S. Army chaplains on board removed theirs, handed them to frightened young soldiers, and chose to go down with the ship while praying.

February 9, 1943 - During World War II in the Pacific, U.S. troops captured Guadalcanal.

February 15, 1898 - In Havana, the U.S. Battleship *Maine* was blown up resulting in a declaration of war against Spain on April 25, 1898, amid cries of "Remember the Maine!"

February 19, 1942 - Internment of Japanese Americans.

February 23, 1942 - During World War II, the first attack on the U.S. mainland occurred as a Japanese submarine shelled an oil refinery near Santa Barbara, California, causing minor damage.

February 27, 1991 - In Desert Storm, the 100-hour groundwar ended as Allied troops entered Kuwait just four days after launching their offensive against Saddam Hussein's Iraqi forces.

February 28, 1994 - NATO conducted its first combat action in its 45 year history as four Bosnian Serb jets were shot down by American fighters in a no-fly zone.



March 2, 1943 - a Japanese convoy was attacked by 137 American bombers as the Battle of Bismarck Sea began. The convoy included eight destroyers and eight transports carrying 7,000 Japanese soldiers heading toward New Guinea. Four destroyers and all eight transports were sunk, resulting in 3,500 Japanese drowned, ending Japanese efforts to send reinforcements to New Guinea.

March 6, 1836 - Fort Alamo fell to Mexican troops led by General Santa Anna.

March 12, 1999 - Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic became full-fledged members of NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization)

March 19, 2003 - The United States launched an attack against Iraq to topple dictator Saddam Hussein from power.

March 21, 1918 - During World War I, the Second Battle of the Somme began

March 28, 1979 - Near Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, the Three Mile Island nuclear power plant accident occurred



CHAPTER DATES/ TIMES AND EVENTS

January 16 Tuesday	11:30	Spouses Luncheon - Mountain City Club (third Tuesday each month)
January 17 Wednesday	11:00	TN Council of Chapters Meeting - Third Wednesday of every third month (Jan/Apr/Jul/Oct) at Lebanon, TN
January 25 Thursday	19:00	Monthly Leaders Chapter Virtual Roundtable
February 20 Tuesday	11:30	Spouses Luncheon - Mountain City Club (third Tuesday each month)
February 27 Tuesday	18:00	Chapter Dinner Meeting, Swearing-in of Officers, and Board Members; fourth Tuesday of even months (Feb/Apr/Jun/Aug/Oct)
February 29 Thursday	19:00	Monthly Leaders Chapter Virtual Roundtable
March 11 Monday	18:00	Board Meeting (Second Monday of every other month / odd month (Jan/Mar/May/Jul/Sep/Nov)
March 13 Wednesday		Virtual Leaders Training Workshop, New Leaders (13th and 14th)
March 15 Friday		CAVC Awards Banquet
March 19 Tuesday	11:30	Spouses Luncheon - Mountain City Club (third Tuesday each month)
March 28 Thursday	19:00	Monthly Leaders Chapter Virtual Roundtable

CHAPTER NEWS

FEBRUARY'S DINNER



Judge Boyd M. Patterson graduated from Hixson High School and later UT-Chattanooga, where he received his Bachelors' degree in Psychology. He earned his Masters' degree in Psychology from the State University of West Georgia and counseled delinquent youth for two years. Judge Patterson later attended Duquesne Law School, graduating in 2000. In 2002, Judge Patterson joined the District Attorney's Office, serving as a prosecutor for fifteen years. During this time, he also served as Gang Task Force Coordinator for the City of Chattanooga. Before taking the bench, Judge Patterson served as an Assistant Public Defender for five years. He has published professional articles and conducted legal trainings at the local, state and national levels, mostly regarding topics within the intersection of law, crime and psychology. With numerous community partners, Judge Patterson helped establish Hamilton County's first Mental Health Court, Juvenile Recovery Court and other programs serving at-risk youth. He currently presides over Division III of Criminal Court, as well as Mental Health Court.

DECEMBERS DINNER

MOAA Chattanooga Chapter celebrated the holidays with their annual Holiday Party on 12 Dec 2023. The evening was well attended by Chapter members, spouses and several VIP guests. There was a visit by Santa and we were entertained with holiday singing courtesy of local vocal ensemble The Choo Choo Chorus.

Attendees brought food items for the Chattanooga Area Food Bank. In total 85 pounds of food was generously donated to the Food Bank. Attendees also contributed many gift items for the Marine Corps Toys for Tots drive.



DECEMBER BELL RINGING

DECEMBER 9 2023



From : Major Randy Sisk with the Salvation Army

Between 11:00 and 7:00, (8 hours) MOAA earned \$282.93. That's just over \$35 per hour. Doesn't sound like much but, that was the most earned in a 8 hour period at this door last year and this year.

Across the nation they average \$80 per hour per pot so we have a ways to go.

I really appreciate you folks that volunteered.

Thank you all who came out and rang the Bell

CHAPTER NEWS

WREATHS ACROSS CHATTANOOGA

WREATHS ACROSS CHATTANOOGA



2023 WREATHS ACROSS CHATTANOOGA RECAP

I am pleased to share with you the significant achievements of Wreaths Across Chattanooga (WAC) at the Chattanooga National Cemetery during the year 2023. Commencing on Saturday, December 9, our dedicated team, in collaboration with Wreaths Across America (WAA), undertook a commendable initiative that concluded on Saturday, December 16. This marked a pivotal moment for WAC, encapsulating a year marked by strategic changes, operational enhancements, challenges, and, most notably, major successes. In the spring of 2023, WAC made the strategic decision to separate from WAA, a move that paved the way for transformative developments. In January, we procured 4,500 wreaths from WAA before a pricing adjustment raised wreath costs to \$17 each. Grateful for an established relationship between Mickey McCamish and Food City, we successfully negotiated a deal for wreaths at \$10 each, resulting in the acquisition of an impressive 22,000 wreaths. Diligence and commitment were the driving forces behind obtaining these wreaths. Our outreach efforts spanned locations such as Elder's Ace Hardware, Food City stores, Ooltewah Farmers Market, Hamilton County Fair, and various Walmart establishments. Almost every Saturday was dedicated to these tireless endeavors. A momentous achievement unfolded as WAA generously supplied wreaths for December 16, ensuring, for the first time ever, full coverage of the Chattanooga National Cemetery. The visual spectacle is a testament to the love and respect bestowed upon every resting place within the cemetery.

I extend heartfelt gratitude to all who supported us through donations, word of mouth, and physical assistance in placing wreaths. Your contribution, though expressed in the simplicity of a "thank you," played an indispensable role in realizing our ambitious goal. As we look ahead, preparations for the upcoming year have already commenced, and your continued support is paramount. In the spirit of future success, we invite you to join us in the endeavor to secure the necessary resources—"show me the money," as the adage goes. Additionally, we are in the process of seeking approval for Saturday, December 7, 2024, as the next significant date for our noble cause. Your ongoing support will be instrumental in making this vision a reality. Thank you for being an integral part of Wreaths Across Chattanooga's success.

Sincerely,
Susan Hardin
Development Director
Wreaths Across Chattanooga

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO RETIRE THE WREATHS

Chattanooga, TN---With a wreath on each grave at Chattanooga National Cemetery, it's the most respected and beautiful site in all of Chattanooga.

For the first time ever, the decision to skip a section didn't

have to be made. The grave of every veteran was Remembered and Honored with the placement of a live wreath.



On Saturday, January 20, 2024, at 8:30 am, these wreaths will be retired (removed). Volunteers are needed; no registration required, just come to Chattanooga National Cemetery. Volunteers may park at the Cemetery. Anyone desiring to remove a wreath from a loved one's grave, please remove the wreath prior to January 20, 2024.

So many "Thanks" to all those that donated financially, donated their time or donated their services and can proudly state: "Mission Accomplished-A Wreath Was Placed on Each Grave At Chattanooga National Cemetery Here in 2023."

Media Contact: Captain Mickey McCamish, U. S. Navy (Retired) Cell: 423-394-0024 Email: Mickey@riverbendfestival.com
Website: Chattanooga Area Veterans Council/WAC

CHAPTER NEWS

MEMBERS IN ACTION



General B.B. Bell has gifted \$50k towards MOHHC education program in honor of his late wife Mrs. Katie Fields Bell.

POSITIONS NEEDED



The following are positions that we as an organization, MOAA, need to fill to help our Mission and Vision of supporting the Veteran Community.

If you are interested or know of a family member who would be willing to donate their time to assist MOAA, please contact Ray Mitchell at Phone (423) 667-3892 Email- mitchell9603@epbfi.com

Web Master – creates and manages the content and organization of our website, manages the computer server and technical programming aspects of a website or does both.



Social Media Specialist/ Manager – develops strategies to increase followers, creating and overseeing social campaigns, producing content, and communicating with key stakeholders in MOAA. Primary focus is Facebook.



Grant Writer – researches, drafts, and submits proposals that help MOAA receive grant funding for our JROTC Scholarships and other Veteran related objectives.



Newsletter Editor – researching, proofreading, and publishing both traditional and online media for MOAA web site.
Responsible for editing and publishing the Bimonthly newsletter.



CHAPTER NEWS

BIRTHDAYS

JANUARY

DR Tom Shipley 08 January
 CPT TJ Jordan 10 January
 MAJ Gene Wright 12 January
 CAPT Charles Carpenter 13 January
 Maj Lloyd Thomas 14 January
 2LT Bo Cline 20 January
 LTC Brian Taylor 20 January
 CPT Grady Rhoden 23 January
 Col Paul Fagan 25 January
 LTC Stacy Stewart 25 January
 1LT Fred Brown 26 January
 BG Carl Levi 26 January
 CPT Jack Martin 27 January

SPOUSE/SURVIVING SPOUSE
 Mrs. Iris Daniels 14 January

FEBRUARY

Lt Col Morgan Adams 02 February
 CAPT Bruce Thompson 06 February
 CPT Larry Taylor 12 February
 CPT Patrick Rhyne 14 February
 CAPT Edgar Todd 17 February
 LTC Scott Hardin 20 February
 COL Mike McCorkle 26 February

MARCH

CPT Lee Earl 04 March
 LTC Joe V. Williams 04 March
 1LT Jim Wade 07 March
 LTC Tom Swanson 10 March
 CAPT Jerry Howell 11 March
 RADM Noah Long 15 March
 LTC Johnny Jackson 18 March
 LTC Jacki Staples 27 March
 LTC Russell Baxley 29 March
 COL Paul Christopher 29 March
 COL John Davenport 31 March



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!

...Daddy knows you wanted a bicycle...
 But I know you will get a lot of use out of this surface to air missile.

Extra Very Special Birthday Greetings to the following members have reached the special emeritus age of 85 and deserve our heartiest congratulations on this very special occasion.

JANUARY

2LT Bo Cline 105 on January 20th
 BG Carl Levi 94 on January 26th
 1LT Fred Brown 90 on January 26th
 CPT Jack Martin 94 on January 27th
 CAPT Charles Carpenter 93 on January 13th
 CPT Grady Rhoden 88 on January 23rd

SPOUSE/SURVIVING SPOUSE

Mrs. Iris Daniels 88 on January 14th

2024 OFFICER AND DIRECTORS

President: Raymond Mitchell, LTC (Ret)

Phone: (423) 667-3892

Email: mitchll9603@epbf.com

1st Vice President: Tony Crowder, Lt. Col, (Ret)

Phone: (202) 498-9120

Email: crowdert01@gmail.com

2nd Vice President: Scott Bryant, LTC, (Ret)

Phone: (715) 309-9343

Email: s.j.bryant.mail@gmail.com

Chapter Secretary: Edward (Ted) Jewell, CDR, (Ret)

Phone: (202) 251-8723

Email: Edward.w.jewell@gmail.com

Chapter Treasurer/Reservation Secretary: James

Hargrove, CDR, (Ret)

Phone: (423) 760-8787

Email: jhargrove@epbf.com

Chapter Treasurer/Reservation Secretary: James

Hargrove, CDR, (Ret)

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CAPT, (Ret)

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Spouse & Surviving Spouse Representatives: Mary

Rhoden

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Email: gradyrhoden123@gmail.com

Chaplain: Phil Sumrall, CDR, (Ret)

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Email: phil.sumrall@gmail.com

The Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) and its affiliated chapters and councils are nonpartisan and nonprofit veteran associations dedicated to a strong national defense and ensuring our nation keeps its commitments to currently serving, retired, and former members of the uniformed services and their families and survivors. The Chattanooga Chapter is one of more than 400 local chapters officially certified as an affiliate of MOAA. The chapter and individual members' active involvement and grassroots support help ensure a strong voice in local community matters affecting the uniformed services as well as local active, retired, and reserve personnel. The Chattanooga MOAA Volunteer is published bi monthly by the Chattanooga Chapter of MOAA and distributed by e mail and postal mail to its members



Chattanooga Chapter
Military Officers Association of America
P. O. Box 24482
Chattanooga, TN 37422



The Chattanooga MOAA Volunteer is published bi-monthly and is distributed by e-mail and posted on the MOAA web-site to Chapter members to inform them of national issues and to stimulate local support of Veteran and other issues of interest.

Newsletter Editors:

Scott Bryant,

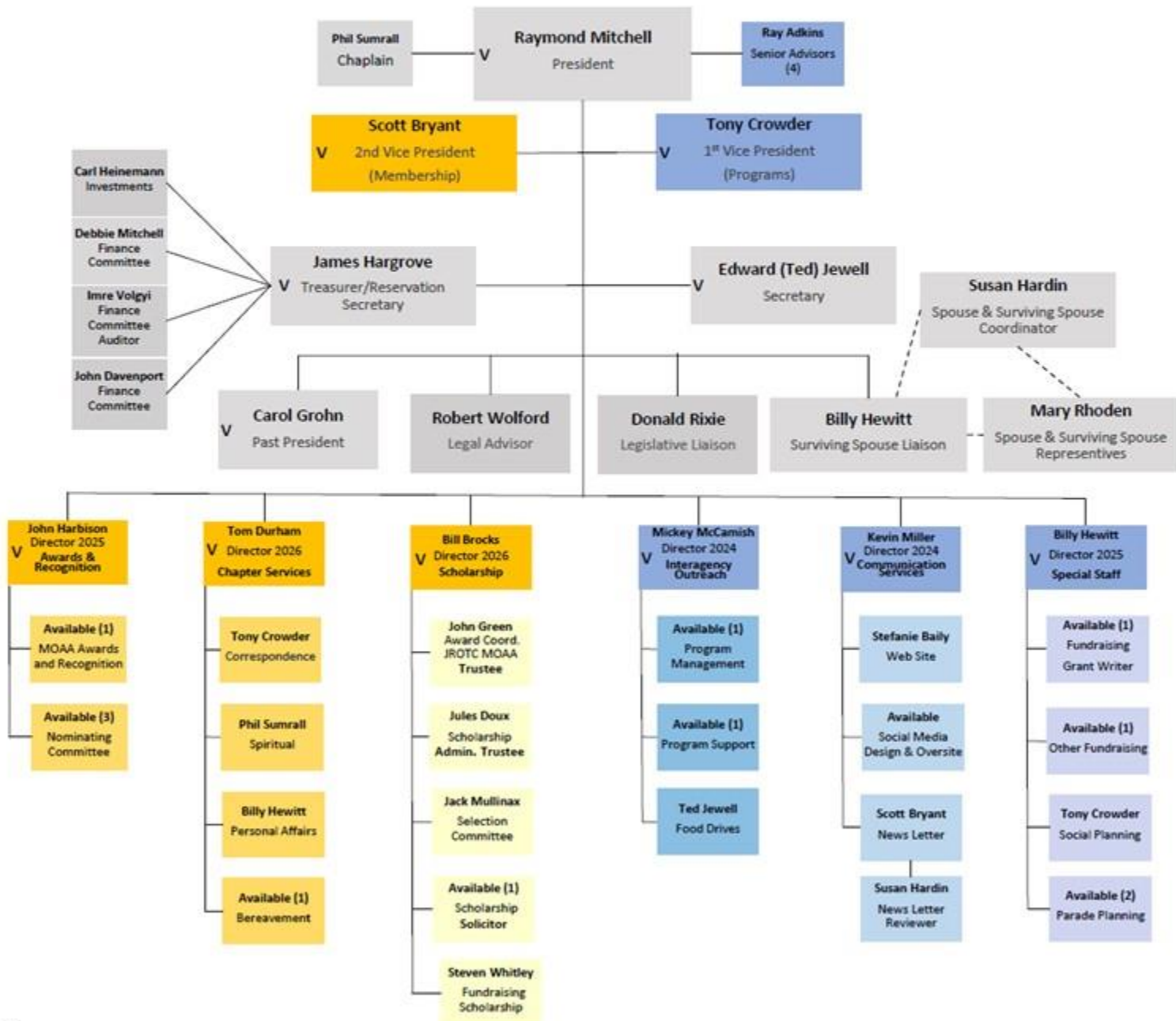
Susan Hardin



Chattanooga Chapter Organization Chart

As of 9 Jan 2024

"A Living Document"



V = Voting Board Member



RESERVATION FORM – Tuesday, February 2024 Dinner Meeting

ADVANCE RESERVATIONS REQUIRED by Thursday February 7, 2024

Judge Boyd M. Patterson - Speaker

Social Period: 1800

Program: 1830

Dinner: 1900

Name/ Rank: _____

Spouse/Guest _____

Email: _____

___ Dinners @ \$35.00

\$___ Total for Dinner (s)

\$___ Scholarship Fund Contribution

\$___ Total Overall

Make checks payable to MOAA, Chattanooga Chapter.

Mail Reservations form with Check to:

CDR Jim Hargrove
1739 Bayfront Dr
Soddy Daisy, TN 37379

Reservations may also be emailed to - jhargrove@ebfi.com



My Name: _____ Spouse name (if applicable) _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Cell _____ Home _____ Work _____

Membership available to spouses of active, retired, and deceased chapter members.

Spouse date of birth: _____ Spouse email: _____

I am a Surviving Spouse: Yes _____ No _____ Location of interment: _____

E-mail _____ Rank _____ Service Branch _____

Date of Birth ____/____/____

Status: Active _____ Retired _____ Former _____ Reserve _____ National Guard _____ NOAA _____ USPHS _____

I am a Spouse who chooses membership: _____; I am a Surviving Spouse who chooses membership: _____

Combat / Missions: WWII _____ Korea _____ Cold War _____ Vietnam _____ Grenada _____ Persian Gulf War _____

Iraqi Freedom _____ Bosnia _____ Enduring Freedom _____ Panama _____ None _____ Other _____

Are you a member of MOAA National? Yes _____ Basic: _____ Premium: _____ Life: _____ No _____

If yes, please provide your national membership number: _____

Signature _____ Date ____/____/____

Recruited by _____

Our Chapter meets on the fourth Tuesday of the even months. Meetings start at 1800, \$35.00 for dinner at the Walden Club, 633 Chestnut St. #2100, Chattanooga TN. 37450

Chattanooga Chapter Dues

(Circle Choice)

Regular Member Dues: Spouse/Surviving Spouse Member Dues:

1 Year Regular \$20.00 1 Year Spouse \$10.00 Emeritus (no charge age 85+)

3 Year Regular \$50.00 3 Year Spouse \$25.00

5 Year Regular \$80.00 5 Year Spouse \$40.00

Make checks payable to MOAA, Chattanooga Chapter and mail to:

Treasure Chattanooga Chapter
C/O CDR Jim Hargrove
1739 Bayfront Dr
Soddy Daisy, TN 37379

____ Yes, please email me the latest copy of the bi-monthly newsletter.

____ Yes, I look forward to hearing from the Membership Chair and my Ambassador.

National MOAA Membership Program Information

National MOAA Dues (separate application)

Visit moaa.org/join to learn more