



**MILITARY OFFICERS CALL**  
**Sun City Center Chapter**  
**Military Officers Association of America**  
P. O. Box 5693, Sun City Center, FL. 33571  
Website: [www.sccmoaa.org](http://www.sccmoaa.org)



**Volume 39 Number 1**

**January 2023**

## President's Message

**COL Eunice Patxot, USA (Ret)**

Greetings to the Sun City Center Chapter family.

We had a wonderful December meeting. If you did not attend, you missed the installation of the new officers, a great meal, games, laughter, and fun. Mark your calendars. If possible, make no plans for the 1st Wed of every month between 11:00 AM and 1:00 PM except for July and August.

We have a very generous membership. A huge 'thank you' to those that brought gifts for the vets that get their care at the James Haley VA Medical Center. See the article and pictures in the newsletter for more information.

Let's start the year strong and make plans to get involved in planned events and activities. During the January to March timeframe, we will have a day (or hours) of service at My Warrior's Place (MWP). If you cannot get involved, enlist a family member to do so in your place. MWP is one of our advocacy organizations, and we want to do more than give them an annual donation. Also, Fun Fest is scheduled for Mar 11th. Consider manning the MOAA table and helping in the recruitment efforts for the chapter.

The Board and I wish you a wonderful and blessed Holiday season. May 2023 be filled with peace, happiness, and health. Till we see each other on Jan 4th, stay safe, be blessed, and *Never Stop Serving*.

## January Program

The January 4<sup>th</sup> MOAA presentation will feature CDR William "Bill" Kirkpatrick, USN (Ret), (Callsign: Bullet) and will include the genesis of the Navy Fighter Weapons



School, commonly known as "Top Gun." He will include an overview of little-known facts about the original *Top Gun* film (which was loosely based on the Navy Fighter Weapons

School) and information about the star of the movie, the F-14 Tomcat. Bill started flying the Navy's newest fighter airplane, the F-14 Tomcat, out of NAS Miramar, San Diego, CA after winning his Navy "Wings of Gold" in early 1976. He has accumulated over 3,500 flight hours in the Tomcat.

One of the highlights of his military career was being selected for the Navy Fighter Weapons School in April 1979.

After retiring from the Navy after 21 years, Bill was hired by United Airlines. During his 22 years with United, he flew every Boeing aircraft from the B-727 through the B-747 and B-777.



Unattributed quote and Bill's favorite: *"To many people, the sky is the limit. To aviators, the sky is home"*.

## 2022/2023 Chapter Officers

### PRESIDENT

COL Eunice Patxot, USA (Ret).....(301) 529-4301  
[niche.patxot@gmail.com](mailto:niche.patxot@gmail.com)

### 1st VP

CDR Bill Kirkpatrick, USN (Ret).....(805) 506-3269  
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Program Chair

### 2nd VP

Lt Col Walter Cawein, USAF (Ret).....(813) 340-0533  
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Membership Chair

### TREASURER

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### SECRETARY

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### IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

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Chaplain

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Webmaster

### DIRECTOR

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Newsletter Editor

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### DIRECTOR

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Surviving Spouse Liaison

### DIRECTOR

Lt Col Joseph Muhlberger, USAF (Ret)..(701) 509-3883  
[joseph.muhlberger@gmail.com](mailto:joseph.muhlberger@gmail.com)

Legislative Affairs

## MEMBERSHIP CORNER

### ❖ CHAPTER MEMBERS:

- 155 Chapter Members
- 94 Regular LIFE members
- 25 Regular ANNUAL members
- 33 Regular BASIC members
- 28 Surviving Spouses
- 5 Honorary members

### ❖ WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:

- ❖ James D. Brod, Major, USAF (Ret) Shirley
- ❖ Patrick L. Robinson, Lt Col, USAF (Ret) Bonnie

### ❖ MEMBERS RECENTLY LOST

- ❖ No members lost this month. 🍌

❖ The Chapter reimburses \$100 to members who upgrade To LIFE when LIFE certificate is presented to the treasurer.

❖ *The Sun City Center MOAA Chapter is an IRS 501(c)(19) non-profit Charitable organization and therefore donations may be eligible for deduction on your federal Income tax form.*

**\$19.00 - 4 JANUARY LUNCHEON - \$19.00**

**To Register: 813-924-1983**

**Reservations no later than 6 p.m. Sunday, 1 January 2023**

**Florida Room, Atrium Building**

945 North Course Lane , Sun City Center, FL 33573

Please give full names of members and guests, total number attending. Cost is \$19.00/person payable at the door in cash or check. Social hour begins at 11:00 a.m. Business meeting at 11:15 followed by a speaker and lunch.

Remember, if you make a reservation and do not attend, you are expected to pay. Bring payment to next meeting or send check to:

*Military Officers Association of America  
Post Office Box 5693  
Sun City Center, FL 33571-5693*

### Buffet Luncheon Menu

**Garden Salad Bar with Dressing Assortment, Rolls & Butter**

#### Entrees:

- Sugar Glazed Ham
- Fried Chicken
- Butter Crumb Baked Cod - Tarter Sauce
- Mashed Potatoes with Gravy & Vegetable du Jour

**Desserts:** Chef's selected desserts

**Beverages:** Decaf Coffee, Iced Tea, and Ice Water

## The Chaplain's Corner

**Benny Blackshire**

Congratulations to our new Board of Officers and Directors installed at the December luncheon/meeting. We are especially thankful for the new faces that have joined our chapter board. Others are encouraged to volunteer when asked to help. Our chapter motto is "NEVER STOP SERVING."

Several of your board members will attend the Florida Council of Chapters (FCoC) Leadership Seminar held in Orlando, January 5-7, 2023. This is an excellent opportunity to meet with other chapter leaders and share ideas and experiences. It is also a great learning experience as the FCoC and representatives from MOAA National will provide instruction.

Following is a New Year's Prayer from the "Book of Prayers for Military Chaplains" by Chaplain (Major) Thomas E. Cook, Jr., Fort Hood.

*Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, and Provider, we come before Your throne of Grace this day very much aware of our need for Your Providential care during this New Year. We pray that You will provide for us as You have so graciously done in the year which is now past. Help us not to be bogged down by anything which has happened in the past year. For the sins we have committed, we pray that You will provide us with forgiveness. For the mistakes and failures of the past, we pray that You will renew us with hope and optimism for the future. For those who can't seem to let go of the past, we pray that You will break their hold and help them to look to what lies ahead. For those with broken hearts and tearful eyes, we pray that You will provide true friendship and bring back joyful smiles. For those with confused minds and endless problems, we pray that You will provide clear judgment and the strength to endure. For those with physical injuries or bad health, we pray that You will provide Divine comfort and speedy recovery. For those parents who need help in raising their children, we pray that You will fill them with love and understanding for each other. For those couples whose marriages are in trouble, we pray that You will help them to see the good in each other instead of the bad. For our soldiers who face danger in times of peace, as well as in times of war, we pray that You will provide safety and protection. For those in positions of power whose decisions affect the lives of others, we pray that You will provide wisdom from above. For our country, which was founded on trust in You as our God, we pray for peace and a renewal of our faith. We give You thanks for our Lord Jesus Christ through whom we have the forgiveness of our sins and the gift of eternal life. Help us to move boldly into the future, knowing that our Lord will be with us every step of the way, for it is in His precious name that we pray, Amen.*

**HAVE A HAPPY & HEALTHY NEW YEAR!**

## IN LOVING MEMORY

**Colonel Dale Shatzer, USMC (Ret)**  
1927 - 2022

Colonel Shatzer was a member of the Sun City Center Chapter for 16 years and continued his membership even when he was no longer able to come to the meetings. Colonel Shatzer was the 2009 Memorial Day Grand Marshal.



Dale was born on February 6, 1927, in Hillman, Minnesota. He and his wife, Jean, moved to Freedom Plaza in 2006, when he first joined the MOAA chapter. Jean currently lives at the Freedom Plaza Assisted Living facility.

Dale is survived by his wife, Jean; his two sons, Clinton Shatzer of Gambrills, MD; Craig Shatzer of Liberty, IL; four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. Dale passed away on Thurs-

day, December 1, 2022.



Did you know we have a Facebook Page? We do! It's a great place to see what's happening in our chapter, and it allows you to express your opinions on our activities and keep in touch with other members. If you have a Facebook account, click the logo/link to "like" and follow our page. If you don't yet have a Facebook Account, Facebook makes it easy to establish one.



# IT'S THAT TIME OF THE YEAR AGAIN!



**YOUR 2023  
MEMBERSHIP  
DUES ARE  
NOW PAYABLE**

## CHAPTER 2023 ANNUAL DUES

- Officers: \$20.00
- Surviving Spouses: \$15.00
- Spouses: Free

### HOW TO PAY YOUR DUES

1. Cash or check at our Luncheon
2. Mail your check to:  
Sun City Center MOAA Chapter  
P.O. Box 5693  
Sun City Center, FL 33571-5693
3. Online
  - Go to [moaa.org](http://moaa.org)
  - Login if you have an ID and password. If not click on "Join" and create your account.
  - After you login click on "Chapters" Then Click on "Pay Dues Online" and follow the instructions.

When you pay your dues, please consider making a donation for one (or more) of the following Chapter advocacy programs:

- |                          |                      |          |
|--------------------------|----------------------|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | My Warrior's Place   | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | JROTC                | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Operation Warm Heart | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Scholarships         | \$ _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Surviving Spouses    | \$ _____ |

*Note: Chapter recognition for all members who pay their dues before 1 January 2023.*

## New Chapter Board Installed

The MOAA SCC FL 42 Chapter Board of Directors consists of six Officers and five Directors. The new Board for 2023 was installed at the December 7, 2022, luncheon. The Chapter President, Eunice Patxot, continues for another year, as do several other Officers and Directors. New to the Board are 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President - CDR Bill Kirkpatrick, USN (Ret); Secretary – Ms. Harriet Jordan, Surviving Spouse; Treasurer – Lt Col Bill Patterson, USAF (Ret); Director – Joseph Muhlberger, USAF (Ret). The installation ceremony was conducted by COL Steve Bond, USA(Ret), Vice President of the MOAA Florida Council of Chapters.

Chapter Board of Directors for 2023:



Front Row (L to R) Harriet Jordan, Eunice Patxot, Walt Cawein, Jean Stratis  
Back Row (L to R) Bill Patterson, Benny Blackshire, Cliff Korn, Bob Pitcher, Ferris Garrett. Not pictured:  
Bill Kirkpatrick and Joe Muhlberger.  
(Photo Courtesy of Charlie Collins)

# Legislative Liaison Corner

## January Update

### Joseph Muhlberger

Welcome to 2023! As we step into this New Year let's look at advocacy priorities of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) in the works at the close of 2022. If you're interested in making your voice heard on these issues, I've included appropriate links. Key to this month's message beginning this year with a look at where MOAA advocacy left off last year so we can keep pace in our ever-dynamic political environment regarding supporting our community, or Veterans.

#### 1. Concurrent Receipt

By contacting your representative and senators and urging them to support *The Major Richard Star Act* this would provide concurrent receipt for service-members unable to complete 20 years of service due to combat-related injuries. Additionally, this would help ensure these men and women get their full service-earned retirement, as well as their disability compensation from the VA.

<https://moaa.quorum.us/campaign/43784/>

#### 2. Pass the FY 2023 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) Before the End of the 117th Congress

Well, okay, the 118th Congress begins at noon on Tuesday, January 3, 2023, when the new Congress is sworn in. Here's where you may find your new (if applicable) legislators <https://www.congress.gov/members?page=2>.

Without the NDAA, the Department of Defense will not have the authorizations or funding needed for the annual military pay raise, quality health care coverage, and quality-of-life programs for servicemembers and their families, along with many other support programs and benefits necessary for an all-volunteer force.

Contacting your legislators during the transition to the new 118th Congress keeps this an active issue. <https://moaa.quorum.us/campaign/43445/>

#### 3. Help MOAA Fight Cuts to the TRICARE Pharmacy Network

The TRICARE Pharmacy Program/Express Scripts recently announced a 25% cut to the retail pharmacy network with the elimination of approximately 15,000 independent pharmacies. This cost-cutting measure creates barriers to accessing prescription medications and has a disproportionate impact on rural beneficiaries and the elderly.

<https://moaa.quorum.us/campaign/42988/>

#### 4. Share Your Story: Impact of TRICARE Pharmacy Network Changes

We want to hear from MOAA members who will lose access to their community pharmacy. Your feedback is vital to our advocacy with DoD leaders and on Capitol Hill as we continue our fight to preserve and improve the military health care benefit.

<https://moaa.quorum.us/campaign/42615/>

#### 5. Support the Expanding America's National Cemetery Act

A long-term legislative solution will preserve burial with full military honors for countless elderly and women veterans who could lose that earned benefit – but only if MOAA members and others encourage their lawmakers to act. Outreach to your elected officials, especially your two senators, will help improve the chances for the Expanding America's National Cemetery Act to be included in the FY 2023 NDAA.

<https://moaa.quorum.us/campaign/43785/>

#### 6. Fully Fund the Government

Once again, Congress failed to fund the government before the Sept. 30 deadline. While a stopgap measure was passed providing funds until Dec. 16, our nation deserves better. Continuing resolutions have become a crutch for Congress; you and your predecessors have only passed appropriations before the start of the new fiscal year four times since FY 1977. We need Congress to do better.

We need everyone to contact their representative and senators and urge them to find a way ahead toward common ground and a solution to fund the government. The use of continuing resolutions must end. Our country needs, and deserves, much better from our lawmakers.

<https://moaa.quorum.us/campaign/40000/>

# REPORTING A RETIREE'S DEATH\*

Submitted By Walt Cawein

Certainly, we are sorry for your loss. Although this will be a difficult time for you, it's crucial to report the death of a military retiree promptly. It is suggested that you follow the steps below to report the death as soon as possible.

You will need:

- Retiree's name, social security number and date of death
- Manner of death; natural, suicide, accident, homicide
- Retiree's marital status upon death
- Names and addresses of retiree's designated beneficiaries or next of kin, living and deceased

To report the retiree's death, call the Customer Care Center at the Defense Finance and Accounting Service, at 800-321-1080. You will receive further instructions from DFAS such as completing form SF 1174.

There are other Agencies you might need to contact.

Social Security Administration – **800-772-1213**

Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System – **800-538-9552**

Veteran's Administration (VA) – **800-827-1000** (if the retiree received disability compensation and for funeral and burial benefits)

Veteran's Administration (VA) – **800-669-8477** (if the retiree was enrolled in a VA-sponsored life insurance policy, such as Veteran's Group Life Insurance or National Service Life insurance)

Office of Personnel Management (OPM) – **888-767-6738** (if the military retiree also was a current or retired federal civilian employee)

Bureau of Navy Medicine (Burial at Sea information) – **888-647-6676**. (Option4)

Department of Defense (Military funeral honors) – **877-645-4667**

- Information obtained from the Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS)

## National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day

Monday 1/9/23

Submitted by Ferris Garrett

National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day is a holiday that falls on January 9th every year and helps citizens come together and show appreciation to their local law enforcement. It is a day on which citizens can take the time to show police officers that their work is appreciated and that they understand how difficult their job can be. It is also a good day for police officers and the community to come together and make safer communities. National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day (LEAD) was created in 2015 by multiple organizations to honor and express their gratitude for officers across the country every Jan. 9<sup>th</sup>. These organizations include Concerns of Police Survivors (COPS), International Association of Chief of Police, Officer Down Memorial Page and National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund, among others.

National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day can be easily celebrated by taking a moment to thank law enforcement. This can be done by wearing a blue shirt on this day, or by participating in **Project Blue Light** by displaying a blue light on your front porch, or outside your front door or garage door, or in a lamp post. Any time is a good time to send a thank you card or letter to your local law enforcement office. Feel free to contact Ferris Garrett, Cell 813-841-0532, for a list of mailing addresses for local law enforcement offices. Additional recognition and appreciation ideas are:

- Tell an officer "Thank You" for their service
- Share a story about a positive law enforcement experience on social media
- Turn your social media channel blue
- Fly a blue ribbon on your car antenna, mailbox, or anywhere to tie a ribbon
- Organize or participate in a Neighborhood Watch Program
- Volunteer or donate to local Crime Stoppers Program
- Donate to local, state, or national law enforcement service organizations


### Sun City Center MOAA Website

Don't forget to visit our *5-star website*.

[www.sccmoaa.org](http://www.sccmoaa.org)

You will find much membership information, photos, calendar of events, past newsletters and more. If you would like to suggest topics for inclusion contact the Webmaster:

[rpitcher6666@gmail.com](mailto:rpitcher6666@gmail.com)



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- Homeless Prevention for Women Veterans: help with rent, child care and licensing training
- Operation Warm Heart, administered by the 1st Sergeants Group at MacDill AFB, who provide commissary vouchers for soldiers in need
- Scholarships and Leadership Programs for students from military families
- Operation Helping Hand: monthly support for military families of wounded servicemen and women at the James A. Haley VA Hospital in Tampa

**For more information, call 813/634-4675 or log onto our website at [mfst.us](http://mfst.us)**

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## Member Spotlight

Are you involved in a community event, activity, or service? Send us a picture and a description of 'you' in action and we will highlight you in the chapter newsletter!

Newsletter Editor: Cliff Korn  
[cliff@kornhouse.net](mailto:cliff@kornhouse.net)

## 2022 Memorial Day Sponsor




**Simone M. Baillergeon**  
 Owner/Short Sale Logistics  
 307 S. Pebble Beach Blvd.  
 Sun City Center, FL 33573  
 Email: [simone@sccrealty.com](mailto:simone@sccrealty.com)  
[www.sccrealty.com](http://www.sccrealty.com)  
 Office: 813-633-3311 Cell: 813-917-3629

## 2022 Memorial Day Sponsor

## Louis DeSouva

Funeral Director

☎ 813-634-9900

📍 1851 Rickenbacker Dr  
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✉ [info@sccfh.com](mailto:info@sccfh.com)



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# VETERANS HISTORY PROJECT

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**T**his program captures through a video interview, firsthand account of Veterans who served in any branch of the US military in any capacity, from World War I through the present, and are no longer serving. Civilians who served in support of a US war effort in a professional capacity are also welcome to participate.

**3rd Wednesday of  
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share their stories, schedule  
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# SUN CITY CENTER CHAPTER

Post Office Box 5693  
Sun City Center, FL 33571-5693  
Website: [sccmoaa.org](http://sccmoaa.org)

## Sun City Center Chapter Enrollment Form

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Rank \_\_\_\_\_ Branch of Service \_\_\_\_\_

Active  Retired  Former  Reserve  National Guard  Surviving Spouse

Spouse Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a member of MOAA National?  YES  NO  UNKNOWN If Yes, MOAA number \_\_\_\_\_

Do you want a name tag at \$10?  YES  NO If Yes, what name? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you want a name tag for your spouse at \$10.00? If Yes, what name? \_\_\_\_\_

Not a MOAA national member yet? Check here to receive a BASIC Membership at no cost to you.



And, for only \$4 a month, you can upgrade to **PREMIUM** membership, giving you immediate access to a full spectrum of career and financial resources, exclusive publications, college scholarships for dependents, and countless discounts on products and travel.

How did you hear about MOAA Chapter involvement? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a member of any other Chapter(s)?  Yes  NO If yes, which one(s)? \_\_\_\_\_

### To complete enrollment:

- Print this application, fill it out and mail it with your check made payable to "SCC MOAA Chapter" to the Chapter's address above.
- For additional information please email [waltcawein@gmail.com](mailto:waltcawein@gmail.com)

### Other:

- Chapter annual dues are for officers \$20.00, for Surviving Spouse \$15.00 and for Spouse Free.
- Chapter luncheons/meetings are held the 1st Wednesday of the month except July and August. Guest speakers on multiple topics during each luncheon.



Sun City Center Chapter  
Military Officers Association of America  
P.O. Box 5693  
Sun City Center, FL. 33571-5693

### **Florida House District 70**

**Mike Beltran**

#### **Offices and Addresses:**

Local - 3618 Erindale Drive  
Valrico, FL 33596-6311

State - 303 House Office Bldg.  
402 South Monroe Street  
Tallahassee 32399-1300

**Tel.** Local - 813-653-7097  
State – 850-717-5057

Legislative Assistant - James Jacobs

### **Florida Senate District 20**

**Jim Boyd**

#### **Offices and Addresses:**

Local - 717 Manatee Ave.  
Suite 100  
Bradenton 34205

State - 312 Senate Bldg.  
404 South Monroe Street  
Tallahassee 32399-1100

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