

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



June 2022

Volume 38 Number 6

President's Message COL Eunice Patxot, USA (Ret)

Greetings to the Sun City Center Chapter family. If you didn't attend the May Chapter meeting, you missed a wonderful and informative political analysis from Ms. Susan MacManus. I cannot believe how quickly time passes by. We are preparing and gearing up for our June meeting, the last meeting before our summer break. Ms. Jerry Stube, nationally acclaimed quilter, Surviving Spouse, and supporter of Veterans programs will be our guest speaker. There will be a follow-on session after the chapter meeting for those individuals that want to speak with Ms. Stube in a small group setting. We encourage you to invite friends who may be interested in the presentation or the group session. Make sure they register by June 29th as required by all attendees.

Don't forget the Memorial Day event to honor our military and first responders that have fallen within the last year is scheduled on May 30th at the Veterans Memorial in Kings Point. There is still time to serve as an usher or living flag tribute. This is without a doubt a solemn but amazing tribute to our military and first responder heroes.

As mentioned in the May meeting, we are planning a visit to My Warrior's Place in July. We'll provide details within the next few weeks. Make plans to join us.

We look forward to seeing you at the next Chapter meeting on Wednesday, June 1st. Invite a guest or give a member who otherwise would not come to the meeting a ride. Let's enjoy each other's company, a delicious meal, and a great presentation.

Thank you for being a part of our Chapter family.

Until next time, be safe, be blessed, and *Never Stop Serving*.

JUNE PROGRAM NEWS

Jerry Stube



The Quilters Quarters & Jerry Stube Designs

I am the wife of an Airborne Ranger for 50 years, the mother of two beautiful and accomplished daughters, the owner of a quilt shop, and a quilt designer for 26 years. I'm retired civil service and a 26-year cancer survivor.

I began quilting in 1973 while still working in hospital administration for the Army and have never stopped.

My shop, The Quilters Quarters, in Leavenworth, Kansas, opened in 1996, and I began to design quilts that same year. In 2006 "The QQ" was recognized as one of the top ten quilts shops in North America.

I have been teaching quilting for about 40 years, both from home and in my store. I have traveled and taught guilds and organizations in many states, at the International Quilt Market in Houston, the Trends Quilt Market in Portland, and five quilt cruises. I continue to teach today.

After closing my brick-and-mortar shop in 2014 and moving to Lakewood Ranch, Florida, I continue to run a small online shop and design quilts for multiple fabric companies. Designing is my passion, and my 'brain game' as the math will definitely keep you on your toes.

My most recent project is organizing the donation of 110 quilts to be given to the Tunnels 2 Towers organization for the "Let Us Do Good Village" being built in Land O'Lakes, Florida. Each home should have a quilt as a thank you for the sacrifices made for our country.

I can be reached at: <u>Jerry@quiltersqtrs.com</u> or (913) 683-3324.

2022 Chapter Officers

PRESIDENT

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bwblacks@aol.com

Chaplain

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT Maj James Haney, USMC (Ret)......220-8758 jhhaney1@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP CORNER

✤ CHAPTER MEMBERS:

- --- 168 Chapter Members
- --- 98 Regular LIFE members
- --- 28 Regular ANNUAL members
- --- 37 Regular BASIC members
- --- 27 Surviving Spouses
- --- 5 Honorary members
- WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:

No new members this month

- MEMBERS RECENTLY LOST
 - GOD bless, everyone is still with us

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.

\$17.00 - 1 JUNE LUNCHEON - \$17.00

To Register: 813-924-1983

Florida Room, Atrium Building

945 North Course Lane , Sun City Center, FL 33573

Reservations no later than 6 p.m. Sunday, 29 May 2022

Please give full names of members and guests, total number attending. Cost is \$17.00/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:

- Fried Chicken—Hot Sauce
- Pulled BBQ Pork—Extra BBQ Sauce
- Bourbon Glazed Salmon

Mashed Potatoes & Gravy & Vegetable du Jour

Desserts: Chef's selected desserts

THE CHAPLAIN'S CORNER Benny Blackshire

Even though this is the June Newsletter, you should receive it before the Memorial Day Ceremony on May 30th. MOAA is the lead sponsor for this event so I hope that you will come out and attend the ceremony wearing your MOAA shirts. I know several of you have volunteered as ushers or flag bearers and that is greatly appreciated.

Our Memorial Day Ceremony honors all veterans in the Sun City Center community who have died since our 2021 ceremony. Each deceased veteran's name is read during the Living Flag Tribute. Our guest speaker will be Colonel D.J. Reyes, USA (Ret). The Trinity Baptist Church Choir will present a musical interlude and salute to the Armed Forces. The Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office will provide the Honor Guard.

I will share with you a Memorial Day prayer written by Chaplain (COL) Ocie I. Courtney, when he was stationed at Fort Sheridan, IL.

"Our Heavenly Father, on this Memorial Day, we stand in grateful acknowledgment of our past history. We thank Thee for those who have lived and worked to bring us to this present hour. We acknowledge our debt to those of our nation who have given their lives for their country, for freedom, justice, and liberty. May we never forget the value of their sacrifice, nor the nobility of courage nor the tenacity of endurance, which have purchased for us peace, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Now, O God, help us to prize and keep this heritage that we may be true as they were true, loyal as they were loyal. Grant unto us the wisdom to weigh and evaluate the greater issues of life and forever live, among nations, but among and within ourselves. Amen"

Surviving Spouse Corner Jean Bennet Stratis

Welcome June, and along with that, hot sunny days! Our Surviving Spouse group met in May to chat, socialize, and strategize! The Surviving Spouses host the June 1st luncheon and welcome Jerry Stube, an acclaimed quilter and military spouse, as the guest speaker. Jerry has a fascinating story, and it promises to be an entertaining luncheon. Following the luncheon, in an adjacent room, you will have an opportunity to speak with Jerry and ask any questions you may have.

In the Fall, the Surviving Spouses are planning an outing to MacDill Air Force Base to take care of any business, visit the Commissary and maybe have lunch out by the water. We are also adding some other fun events! If you are a Surviving Spouse and are not receiving the meeting information, please email Jeannie at jeanbennett.stratis@gmail.com, or call 813-758-7330.

See you at the luncheon!



Eunice Patxot, COL USA (ret), President of The SCC chapter of MOAA, presents a Certificate of Appreciation to Dr. Susan McManus on May 4th at the monthly luncheon. Dr. McManus, retired USF professor of Political Science, gave a compelling update on election demographics and trends influencing voters in the upcoming mid-term election. Dr. McManus is a renowned expert on



election politics and serves as the ABC network's go-to source on election matters at both the state and national levels. She hosts a daily early morning show on ABC that introduces the ABC network's national morning coverage. Dr. McManus is an honorary member of SCC MOAA, returning annually to update members on trends occurring in the electorate.



MOAA-Backed Bill Improving SGLI, VGLI Passes Senate

By: Kevin Lilley

A MOAA-supported bill increasing the amount of life insurance available to servicemembers and veterans via two popular VA plans took a major step forward last week, passing the Senate via a voice vote.

The Supporting Families of the Fallen Act (S. 2794) would increase the automatic maximum coverage under both the Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance (SGLI) and Veterans' Group Life Insurance (VGLI) plans from \$400,000 to \$500,000. It would be the first coverage-cap increase for either plan since 2005.

"This legislation is ultimately about supporting the families of servicemembers," said MOAA President and CEO Lt. Gen. Dana T. Atkins, USAF (Ret). "MOAA looks forward to growing bipartisan support for this important modernization of life insurance."

The bipartisan bill heads to the House for consideration. The House version of the bill (H.R. 3793), introduced in June 2021 by Reps. Chip Roy (R-Texas) and Mike Levin (D-Calif.), has 13 cosponsors. Sen. Tommy Tuberville (R-Ala.), who introduced the Senate version, told Military.com the bill "has good support" in the House.

The bill marks a major step toward adjusting SGLI and VGLI coverage for inflation. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics inflation calculator, \$400,000 coverage in January 2005 would represent more than \$595,000 in purchasing power in February 2022.

While the \$100,000 increase doesn't cover the entire amount, the legislation could set the stage for Congress to make further adjustments – moves necessary to protect the benefit of these insurance programs and preserve the financial security of military families.

REMEMBER AND HONOR

PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE SUN CITY CENTER MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY

Monday, May 30, 2022, 10:00 am at the Veterans Theater

Kings Point Clubhouse, 1900 Club House Drive, SCC

Attendees should be seated by 9:45 am.

Sun City Center will again observe our traditional Memorial Day Ceremony starting at 10:00 am Monday, May 30, in the Veterans Theater in the Kings Point Clubhouse, 1900 Club House Dr., Sun City Center. Doors will open at 9:00 am for open general attendance seating. The public is invited. All surviving family members and their guests may request reserved seating at the door. They are requested to be seated no later than 9:45 am.

This ceremony is sponsored by the combined military veterans' organizations of Sun City Center and is supported by the joint efforts of many participating community service organizations.

The guest speaker will be Colonel DJ Reyes, United States Army (retired), who served his country with over 33 years of faithful service to our great Nation. He earned his Bachelor's, Master's, and Juris Doctor degrees from the University of Notre Dame, the US Naval War College, and Temple University School of Law. Colonel Reyes commanded or served in primary staff positions in special operations, military intelligence, infantry, airborne, air assault, Joint/Interagency, and Multi-National organizations. His combat and contingency deployments included Afghanistan, Iraq, North Africa, Bosnia, Kosovo, and Haiti tours. DJ Reyes is currently a community advocate for veterans and continues his community service role as the Senior Military Advisor to the 13th Judicial Circuit's Veterans Treatment Court. He has received many awards for his services and in 2021 he was selected by the Florida Governor and Cabinet for induction into the Florida Hall of Fame.

The focus of this Memorial Day ceremony is to honor all former or present community military veterans who have died in the past year. They will be recognized and honored by the Roll Call of Departed Comrades held concurrently with our Living Flag Tribute. A musical interlude and tribute to the military services will be provided by the Trinity Baptist Church Choir of Sun City Center, directed by Rev. Bob Walker, a US Air Force Veteran. Colors will be posted by the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office Honor Guard. Our Grand Marshall, LTC Benny Blackshire, US Army (retired), a Vietnam War Veteran, accompanied by members of Boy Scout Troop 204, will be placing a wreath at the flagpole outside the auditorium.



MOAA Florida Conference Registration is now open!

The MOAA Florida Council of Chapters (FCOC) Annual Convention is set for June 9th - 12th at the West Palm Beach Marriott. MOAA Members from around Florida will have representatives at the Convention and all MOAA Chapter Members and Guests are invited. The fun will include a Mystery Dinner Theater Dinner and a Casino Night Fundraiser for the MOAA Foundation, along with optional trips, outings, and adventures! Join us for a great time with old friends or to meet new friends!

For more information and to register, go to the Florida Council Website at: MOAAFL.org.

MOAA LUNCHEON RESERVATIONS

RESERVATIONS, RESERVATIONS, RESERVATIONS.

What is all the fuss about making a reservation?

MOAA members are requested to make a reservation for the monthly luncheon by noon on the Sunday prior to the luncheon. **The reservation number is 813-924-1983**. Caller ID has your phone number, but you need to leave your name (clearly) and number of reservations required. If there are any questions, you will receive a call back.

There is a permanent reservations list for regular attendees. They only need to call if they cannot make the luncheon. If you would like to be added to the permanent list, notify Benny Blackshire to be added to this list.

If you make a reservation and do not show up, and do not cancel before the luncheon, you are expected to pay for the meal. Special cases may be excused.

Each month on the Monday before the Wednesday Luncheon, a call or an email is made at 9:00 am to the Community Association to request the number of tables and chairs required for the MOAA Luncheon. Normally, one additional table is requested to allow some separation for members. Also, a call or email is made at 9:00 am to the caterer to inform them the number of people to prepare for. This is the number the caterer will bill the chapter for the luncheon.

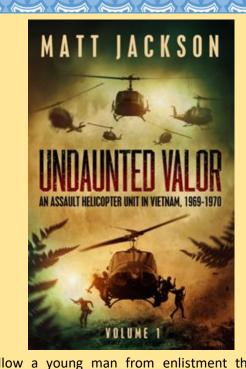
It is important that your reservation be received on time as there is a lot of planning that takes place to ensure a successful luncheon. **Emails to the Newsletter Editor do NOT reserve your spot!**

Sun City Center MOAA Website

Don't forget to visit our *5-star website*. <u>WWW.SCCM0aa.org</u>

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: <u>jhhaney1@gmail.com</u>





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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

2022 Memorial Day Sponsor



2022 Memorial Day Sponsor

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Funeral Director

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M info@sccfh.com

- 1851 Rickenbacker Dr Sun City Center, FL 33573
- Sun City Center Funeral Home
- Burial, Cremation, and Out of State Transfer



Memorial Day Ceremony Monday May 30th



Formalities start at 10:00 a.m. in the Kings Point Veterans Theater, North Club House, 1900 Clubhouse Dr. SCC

A Public Tribute to Greater Sun City Center Deceased Military Veterans

A Roll Call of Veterans who died during the past year will be held concurrently with our traditional Living Flag Tribute.

Guest Speaker: COL. DJ Reyes, USA (Ret)

A Musical Interlude will be presented by the Trinity Singers

Colors will be presented by the Hillsborough Co. Sheriff's Office Color Guard

Doors will open at 9:00 a.m. Free entry. The public is invited.

Guests are requested to be seated by 9:45 A.M.

Sponsored by the Combined Military Veterans Organizations of Sun City Center

PRESERVE YOUR MILITARY HISTORY.

A PROGRAM OF THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

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.

FRANS

PROIEC

3rd Wednesday of Each Month 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. By Appointment Only

If you are a Veteran or know Veterans who would like to share their stories, schedule your appointment now.

To schedule your recorded interview at Sun Towers Retirement Community call 813-634-3347.





American

Red Cross



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?	S - 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 a	at \$10.00? If Yes, what name?
Not a MOAA national member yerreceive a BASIC Membership at	
	e to PREMIUM membership, giving you immediate access to a rces, exclusive publications, college scholarships for roducts and travel.
How did you hear about MOAA Chapter in	volvement?
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 Chapter's address above. 	with your check made payable to "SCC MOAA Chapter" to the

• For additional information please email 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

Place Stamp Here

Or Current Resident

Florida House District 57 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 House District 59 Andrew Learned Offices and Addresses Local - 805 E. Bloomingdale Ave #390

Brandon, FL 33511 State - 1201 The Capital 402 South Monroe Street Tallahassee 32399-1300

Tel.

Local - 813856-1212 State - 850-7175059 Legislative Assistant – Brian Ontario

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MOAA Take Action link: http://takeaction.moaa.org/?1