

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



Volume 39 Number 9

September 2023

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

Greetings to our Sun City Center Chapter family,

It seems like we haven't seen you in months! Well, it has been months, and we are excited to be seeing you in about 4 weeks. Hope you have enjoyed the summer break and are just as excited as we are to return to our monthly meetings on September 6.

At the next meeting, we are excited to have Dr. Sarah Tillman from the VA Audiology as our guest speaker. Although we try to incorporate military topics at most of the meetings, it is also important to invite guests who will address practical topics that are relevant to our personal lives. I am sure she will bring a dynamic presentation with useful and pertinent information. We'll make sure to raise the microphone volume I.

The year goes by quickly and, when we return, we'll be winding down the year's activities while getting ready for what the new year will bring with regard to speakers, new advocacy commitments, and special activities/events. December is right around the corner, so we'll also start planning the transition to the new board. Speaking of the new board. Did you read the latest chapter email? If not, scan your inbox for the July 28th email, subject, 'From The President'. We are still looking for someone to step up to the challenge as the Membership Chair. It's not too bad. Walt Cawein served as the Membership Chair for 4 years and he survived 🙂! In all seriousness, all the volunteer positions are important, but we need someone to keep the pulse on our recruitment and retention of our members. Our goal is to continue to grow at least 12 members every year. And to all the members who have already said 'Yes', THANK YOU!

Enjoy the rest of the break. Call a fellow member and make plans to attend our next meeting on Sep 6 together and remember, *'Never Stop Serving'*.

September 2023 Program Dr. Sara Tillman, Clinical Audiologist, James A. Haley VA

Dr. Sara Tillman received a B.A. from Florida State University, Tallahassee in 2003. She completed an Au.D. Degree (Doctorate of Audiology), from the University of Texas at Dallas in May 2010 and accomplished an Au.D. Externship, at the San Diego Veterans Affairs Medical Center, San Diego, California, June 2009-June

2010.

The American Academy of Audiology oversees all the requirements of the Au.D. degree. Every student pursuing a degree in audiology must complete a full rotation of clinical experience, which includes working with experienced audiology professionals, in a wide variety of clinical settings and with a wide variety of patients.



Dr. Tillman has specialized in Vet-

eran's Affairs Health Care. She started out completing comprehensive audiological examinations and Compensation and Pension exams for veterans. She counsels Veterans with hearing loss, their families, and caregivers regarding the effectiveness of devices and aural rehabilitation. She has integrated psychological conditions into aural rehabilitation programs and ongoing counseling with mental health professionals.

Her resume includes work at San Diego Veterans Affairs Healthcare System, North Texas Veterans Affairs Healthcare System, and James A. Haley Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Tampa, FL. In addition, Dr. Tillman has supervised, instructed, and evaluated the performance of Au.D. students and externs.

The topic of Dr. Tillman's presentation will be Audiological Care at the VA.

2022/2023 Chapter Officers	MEMBERSHIP CORNER
PRESIDENT	CHAPTER MEMBERS:
COL Eunice Patxot, USA (Ret)(301) 529-4301	160 Chapter Members
niche.patxot@gmail.com	94 Regular LIFE members
1st VP	24 Regular ANNUAL members 37 Regular BASIC members
CDR Bill Kirkpatrick, USN (Ret)(805) 506-3269	26 Surviving Spouses
ualav8tor@yahoo.com	5 Honorary members
Program Chair	WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:
2nd VP	 Resnick, Cole, 2nd Lt., USAF
Lt Col Walter Cawein, USAF (Ret)(813) 340-0533	✤ MEMBERS RECENTLY LOST
waltcawein@gmail.com	
Membership Chair	 Burden, Donald, Captain, Dropped Morrow, Constance, Colonel, USA, Dropped
TREASURER	Morrow, William, LTC, Dropped
Lt Col Bill Patterson, USAF (Ret)	 Tuthill, Dallas. Colonel, USA, Deceased
bill@wwpat.us	The Chapter reimburses \$100 to members who upgrade To LIFE when LIFE certificate is presented to the treasurer.
SECRETARY	·
Ms. Harriet Jordan,	The Sun City Center MOAA Chapter is an IRS 501(c)(19) non-profit Charitable organization and therefore donations
hmj1215@yahoo.com	may be eligible for deduction on your federal Income tax.
IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT	
LTC Benny Blackshire, USA (Ret)	
bwblacks@aol.com	\$19.00 - 6 September LUNCHEON - \$19.00
Chaplain	To Register: 813-924-1983
DIRECTOR	Reservations no later than 6 p.m. Sunday, 3 September 2023
CW3 Bob Pitcher, USA (Ret)(813) 857-8196	Florida Room, Atrium Building 945 North Course Lane , Sun City Center, FL 33573
rpitcher6666@gmail.com	Please give full names of members and guests, total number attend-
Webmaster	ing. Cost is \$19.00/person payable at the door (cash, check, or credit
DIRECTOR	card). Social hour begins at 11:00 a.m. Business meeting at 11:15
CDR Cliff Korn, USNR (Ret)	followed by a speaker and lunch.
cliff@kornhouse.net	Remember, if you make a reservation and do not attend, you are expected to pay. Bring payment to next meeting or send check to:
Newsletter Editor	Military Officers Association of America
DIRECTOR	Post Office Box 5693
Lt Col Ferris Garrett, USAF (Ret)(813) 841-0532	Sun City Center, FL 33571-5693
garrett4@tampabay.rr.com	Buffet Luncheon Menu
DIRECTOR	Garden Salad Bar with Dressing Assortment, Rolls & Butter
Jean Bennett Stratis(813) 758-7330	Entrees:
jeanbennett.stratis@gmail.com	BBQ Ribs Extra Sauce
Surviving Spouse Liaison	BBQ Chicken
DIRECTOR	Bourbon Glazed Salmon
Lt Col Joseph Muhlberger, USAF (Ret)(701) 509-3883	Starch & Vegetable du Jour
joseph.muhlberger@gmail.com	Desserts: Chef's selected desserts
Legislative Affairs	Beverages: Decaf Coffee, Iced Tea, and Ice Water

The Chaplain's Corner

Benny Blackshire

Greetings! I hope everyone enjoyed their summer and tried to keep cool when possible. We took a break in July and August but now we are getting ready for the next chapter meeting on September 6^{th} , in the Florida Room, from 11:00 am – 1:00 pm.

We still need some volunteers to sit at the luncheon reception table to check people in. June was Bob and Marion Pitcher's last month at the table. If you are a regular attendee or just come occasionally, you can still volunteer. We hope to have several volunteers so you will only be needed when you are coming to the luncheon. Volunteers would start at 10:30 am on the day of the luncheon. Contact Benny Blackshire, at 813-260-3105 if you can be a backup receptionist.

Here is an article titled, "Smiling at the Past" from DAILY DE-VOTIONS FOR SENIORS, by Christine A. Dallman.

A peek into the past can reveal tidbits that can make us smile. One amusing story dates back a century to the town of Evanston, Illinois (nicknamed "Heavenston" for the religious zeal of its citizens). The town officials were concerned about the fountain store's effects on piety. To curb patronage of these stores on Sunday, these leaders made it a regulation that no ice cream sodas could be sold on that day (Sunday). Complying with the ordinance, but having the savvy to sidestep it, some of the fountain store owners successfully promoted a new dessert; ice cream served with a flavored syrup but with no soda. It was called the "Sunday soda" and was a favorite with many customers. When the popular treat was ordered on weekdays, a number of people voiced opposition to its being named for the Lord's Day. In compliance with this concern, the spelling was changed and has remained as the dessert we know today as the "Ice Cream Sundae."

History is full of interesting and humorous events. Even our personal history has its laughable moments. Reading books about the lighter side of history and reflecting on our own misconceptions, foibles, and silly mistakes can enliven our day with laughter.

Prayer: God, thank you for the funny side of life that is often seen more clearly in hindsight. I hope to see everyone at the September 6 meeting/luncheon.



See our website for everything you ever wanted to know about our chapter!

https://moaafl.org/chapters/SCCMOAA/



Find us on **Facebook**

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.

Like what you see in this newsletter? There's even more in the Florida Council of Chapter's newsletter at this link!

https://moaafl.org/communique.aspx

Surviving Spouse Corner Jeannie Stratis

Hello MOAA members and friends!

Hopefully, everyone is enjoying the last few weeks of summer and of course in air conditioning! It has been a fairly quiet couple of months in Florida, and knock on wood, no hurricanes. I am looking forward to seeing all of your familiar faces at our September luncheon!

MOAA National has been busy gathering support from our elected officials for the following Senate and House Bills. Below is a summary of some of the Bills that were introduced to the House and Senate. There are links to each of the Bills along with a link to find your elected officials.

Here is the new TAKE ACTION tutorial (click Take Action).

MOAA's Take Action is a simple tool that allows members to write their elected officials regarding MOAA''s Legislative priorities. Easy to navigate.

What are the legislative bills regarding military Surviving Spouses? Call or write your elected officials and ask them to cosponsor these bills. Click on the links below to become familiar with the legislation.

Senate Bill 414: <u>Click Here Caring for Survivors Act of 2023</u> - Senator Jon Tester- (D-MT) To amend title 38, United States Code, to improve and to expand eligibility for dependency and indemnity compensation paid to certain survivors of certain veterans, and for other purposes.

House Bill: H.R. 1083: <u>Click Here: Caring for Survivors Act of 2023</u> HR Rep. Jahana Hayes(D-CT) To amend title 38, United States Code, to improve and to expand eligibility for dependency and indemnity compensation paid to certain survivors of certain veterans, and for other purposes.

Senate Bill 1266: <u>Click here: Love Lives On Act of 2023</u> Jerry Moran, (R- KS) To amend titles 10 and 38, United States Code, to improve benefits and services for surviving spouses, and for other purposes.

House Bill: H.R. 3651: Rep Dean Phillips (D-MN): <u>Click here: Love</u> <u>Lives On Act of 2023</u> To amend titles 10 and 38, United_States Code, to improve benefits and services for surviving spouses, and for other purposes.

Contact and connect with your Representative to support the House Bills; ask your Senators to support the Senate Bills. <u>Click here to find your elected officials.</u>

Stay well,

Jeannie Stratis

Director, Surviving Spouse Liaison



Lawrence (Larry) V. Rivera is more than just a member of MOAA Sun City Center Chapter. Larry has become a trusted friend and an amazing resource for our military members, surviving spouses, caregivers, and really anyone who crosses his path. Larry has a 24-year military record with service in the Army's Active, Reserve, and Guard components. The common thread throughout his military and civilian life has been his activism in military/veteran family support initiatives. His avocation as a military activist began amidst his veteran support activist parents and grandparents. Lawrence grew up as a bilingual advocate for veterans and military families and remains active with the American Red Cross program of "Service to the Armed Forces."

Larry is a member of various veteran fraternal organizations and is currently serving as an adjutant for the DAV Sun City Center. He previously served as a volunteer mentor with the Veterans Treatment Court of the 13th Judicial Circuit Court. He is employed as a recovery care coordinator for wounded, ill, and injured military personnel, and a special case advocate for Gold Star, Blue Star families, and military family members with special needs at the Warrior Care Program at MacDill AFB.

Larry was instrumental in the success of our Military Spouse Forum that took place in April and worked alongside the Surviving Spouses to create an outstanding presentation and Q&A for our community. Larry is an invaluable member of our community. There is no one who cares more for our military families.

Hillsborough County Military Organizations

American Legion Post #5, 3810 W. Kennedy Blvd, Tampa, 33609 American Legion Post #26, 2207 W. Baker St., Plant City, 33567 American Legion Post #111, 6918 N. Florida Ave. Tampa, 33604 American Legion Post #138, 5535 W. Prescott St., Tampa, 33616 American Legion Post #139, 3818 W Bay Vista Ave, Tampa 33611 American Legion Post #147, 17413 W. Gunn Hwy., Odessa, 33556 American Legion Post #148, 7240 US Highway 301S, Riverview, 33568 American Legion Post #152, 11211 N. Sheldon Rd., Tampa, 33626 American Legion Post #167, 2504, 29th St., Tampa, 33594 American Legion Post #246, P.O. Box 5803, Sun City Center, 33571 American Legion Post #334, 829 East 139th Ave., Tampa, 33613 Amvets Post #4, 1014 Skipper Road, Tampa, 33613 Amvets Post #44, 5521 SR60, Plant City 33567 Bob's Vets, Bob Evans Rest. SCC Thursday mornings at 0730 AM DAV Chapter #4, 2612N. Tampa Ave., Tampa. 33602 DAV Chapter #110, Jim Taylor, 217.725.1572 Fleet Reserve Association #188,815 Providence Rd., Tampa, Hillsborough County Vet Service Office, 311 Pauls Dr., Suite100, Brandon, 33511 Hillsborough County Vets Council, PO Box 3317, Brandon ,33509 James Haley VA Medical Ctr., 15000 Bruce B Downs Blvd, Tampa KWVA Chapter 175, <u>kwva175@tampabay.rr.com</u>, Temple Terrace MacDill Air Force Base, 813.828.1110 Marine Corps League #1226, PO Box 1831, Riverview, 33568 Marine Corp League Angus, 6918 N. Florida Ave, Tampa, 33604 Military Order of World Wars Chapter 226, PO Box 6309, Sun City Center, 33571 Military Women of Tampa Bay, PO Box 6305, Brandon, 33508 Military Officers Assoc. of America, PO Box 5693, Sun City Center, 33571 MOPH #89, 3011 W. Patterson St., Tampa, 33614 Navy Seabee Veterans of America, X-16, 813.672.4388 Paralyzed Veterans of America, 121 W. 122nd Ave, Tampa, Silver Osprey Squadron, Sun City Center, 813.260.3221 Tampa Bay Chief Petty Officers Assoc, 3904 S. Dale Mabry, Tampa, Tampa Vet Center, 8900 N. Armenia Ave. Suite 312, Tampa. TREA Tampa Bay Chapter 58, PO Box 6676 MacDill AFB, 33608. SS American Victory, 705 Channelside Dr., Tampa 33602 VFW Post 424, 105 Broad St., Tampa, 33604 VFW Poet 4321, 2010 W. Morrison Ave., Tampa, 33606 VFW Post 4590, 3709 US Hwy 92 E., Plant City, 33566 VFW Post 6287, 5120 US41 N., Ruskin, 33572 VFW Post 8108, 2504 Riverview Dr., Riverview 33525

VFW Post 10140, 8414 N. 40th St., Tampa, 33604

VA South Hillsborough (SOHI) Clinic, 12920 Summerfield Crossing Blvd. Vietnam Veterans of America, PO Box 89247, Tampa, 33689

Veterans Memorial Museum, 3602 Hwy 301 N., Tampa 33619

Sun City Chapter Honorary Member Bill Hodges has an award winning podcast that has information that will interest you. To listen to this Veteran's Corner Radio podcast, click on the link below.

https://feeds.buzzsprout.com/952243.rss

Historic Military Dates

August:

- 6th Atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima, 1945
- 7th US Marines land on Guadalcanal, 1942
- 9th Atomic Bomb dropped on Nagasaki, 1945
- 15th Hirohito announces Japanese surrender, 1945

September:

- 2nd V-J Day, 1945
- 3rd Allies land at Salerno, 1943
- 13th US Forces assault the Siegfried Line. Germany's western defenses, 1944



What is the Meaning of Patriot Day?

Patriot Day on September 11th is a holiday observed in the United States to commemorate and honor the nearly 3,000 innocent victims who lost their lives in the 2001 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center in New York City and the Pentagon in Virginia and those who perished when the hijacked United Airlines Flight 93 crashed in Pennsylvania. It also honors the many first responders who risked their lives to save others.

While September 11th is not a federal holiday, Congress in 2001 dubbed it a National Day of Service and Remembrance and named it Patriot Day.



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- Service Dogs for veterans with PTSD and other traumatic injuries

 Homeless Prevention for Women Veterans: help with rent, child care and licensing training

Operation Warm Heart, administered by the 1st Sargeants 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

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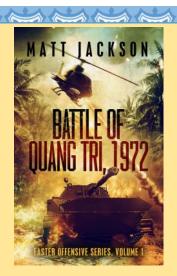
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Available on Amazon and Kindle. <u>https://www.amazon.com/</u> Battle-Quang-Tri-Easter-Offensive-ebook/dp/B0B9HLYGFM/ ref=sr_1_1?

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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

2023 Memorial Day Sponsor



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FRANS

PROIEC

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

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For additional information please	e email waltcawein@gmail.com	
Other:		
	are \$20.00, and \$15.00 for Surviving Spouses. Spouses and significant others	
 are welcome and free. Chapter luncheons/meetings an speakers on multiple topics d 	e held the 1st Wednesday of the month except July and August. Guest uring 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:

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

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Legislative Assistant: Amanda Romant romant.amanda@flsenate.gov

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U.S. Senators Marco Rubio Offices and Addresses:

Local - 501 E. Polk Street Suite 601 Tampa, FL 33602

DC - 284 Russell Senate Office Bldg. Washington, DC 20510 Local – 813-947-6288

Tel. Local – 813-947-628 DC – 202-224-2573 Fax – 202-224-3041 Legislative assistant: Taylor Sanchez

Rick Scott Offices and Addresses:

Local -801 N. Florida Ave Suite 421 Tampa, FL 33602

DC - 716 Hart Senate Office Bldg. Washington, DC 20510 **Tel.** Local – 813-225-7040

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Kyle Joshua Hill

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