



July-August 2026 Newsletter



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 SROTC/ 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 SROTC/JROTC cadets, 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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Letter from the President

CDR Ted Jewell USN (RET)



The Chapter enjoyed a busy spring and early summer season. In May, the Chapter participated in Chattanooga's annual Military Day parade and the Chattanooga Area Veterans Council (CAVC) luncheon that followed. Also in May, several members visited the Coker Automobile Museum and 20 members attended the Chattanooga Lookouts game on Sunday, May 31, Military Appreciation. The Chapter was formally recognized as special guests. Chapter member VADM Ron Eytchison threw out the first pitch.

On 23 June, the Chapter held a dinner meeting with two guest speakers. The guest speakers were local Times Press Press sportswriter, David Paschall and National Park Service Ranger, Luke Dixon from Chickamauga National Battlefield Park. Both gave excellent presentations. The dinner was attended by 40 individuals. Council president Pete Warner and wife Sandy attended as guests of honor. Planned upcoming events include a site visit to Chickamauga Battlefield in July and a tour of a collection of vintage military aircraft to be displayed at Chattanooga Airport in early August. Our next scheduled speaker will be August 25 featuring well-known Chattanooga historian and celebrity Linda Moss Mines.

Officers and Directors Reports

First Vice President – Programs

For our June Chapter dinner meeting, we had two speakers, David Paschall sportswriter for the Times Free Press and National Park Ranger Luke Dixon from the Chickamauga National Battlefield.



Park Ranger Luke Dixon serves as a park ranger at the Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park where he leads tours and public programs at the Chickamauga and

Lookout Mountain Battlefields. Growing up just twenty miles east of Gettysburg in York, Pennsylvania, Luke developed an interest in Civil War history from an early age. While completing his Bachelor's and Master's degrees in history at Liberty University, Luke began his career working with the National Park Service.

After completing internships at the National Mall and Memorial Parks and at Gettysburg National Military Park in 2018, he began working as a park ranger at Appomattox Court House National Historical Park, where he worked from 2019-2024.

Luke and his wife, Jesselyn, moved to Chickamauga, Georgia, in 2024 when he began in his current position at Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park.

When he is not exploring historic sites and studying history, Luke enjoys playing board games, reading, and cheering on his favorite sports teams.



David Paschall has been a fixture in Chattanooga sports journalism for more than three decades. He joined the Chattanooga Times Free Press in 1990, when it was known as the News-Free Press, and has built a distinguished career covering college athletics and telling the stories of some of the region's most prominent programs. From 2000 to 2019, he primarily covered the University of Georgia, and since 2020 he has focused on the University of Tennessee.

A graduate of Baylor School and Auburn University, Paschall has earned numerous writing awards and has served as a Heisman Trophy voter since 2003. He is also a longtime voter in the Associated Press weekly college football poll.

Since 2014, he has been an analyst on the SEC Network's *Classic Rewind* series, and in April 2024 he became co-host of *SportTalk*, following an 11-year run on ESPN Chattanooga.

A Chattanooga native, Paschall lives on Lookout Mountain with his wife, Kelly, and their three children, Conner, Emily, and Spencer.

Second Vice President – Membership
COL Donald McLean, USA (RET)

MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS		
<i>Type Member</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Regular	102	62.58%
Emeritus Regular	28	17.18%
Honorary	0	0.0%
Surviving Spouse	13	7.98%
Emeritus Surviving Spouse	8	4.90%
Spouses (Reg & Emeritus)	12	7.36%
TOTAL	163	100.0%

Please Note: The Chattanooga MOAA Membership application is on the last page of this Newsletter.

New Members



CPT John D. Crowley

A GRAND MOAA welcome to CPT John D. Crowley, and his wife Anita, our newest members. CPT Crowley was an Army Infantry, Airborne, Ranger officer, with time served in Germany, Fort Campbell, KY, and Princeton University as the Assistant Professor of Military Science. CPT Crowley is also a Gulf War veteran. John was commissioned via ROTC in 1986 from Rider University. He and Anita have two children, Laura and Ryan. They relocated to Ooltewah in May of 2023 and are glad to be residents of the Volunteer State of Tennessee. Please welcome John and Anita to our Chattanooga MOAA Chapter.

Surviving Spouse - Coordinator

Susan Hardin

Once a month, something extraordinary happens at the Chattanooga Golf & Country Club.

No, it's not a board meeting. No, there's no fundraiser. And despite what our husbands may suspect, we are not plotting world domination or a shopping spree.

We're simply gathering for lunch. Imagine a room full of military spouses who have spent years mastering the fine art of adapting, improvising, and surviving military life. Put good food in front of them, add a little laughter, stir in a few stories, and you've got the recipe for one very enjoyable afternoon.

Our meetings have no agenda. There are no officers calling the meeting to order. No one is taking attendance. No one has volunteered you for a committee before you've finished your salad. Instead, conversations bounce from grandchildren to travel adventures, doctor appointments to funny husband stories, favorite restaurants to recipes we'll probably never make. We solve the world's problems one bite at a time—whether the world asked us to or not.

There is always someone who says, "I wasn't going to come today, but I'm so glad I did." That's because this group isn't really about lunch. It's about friendship. It's about catching up with women who understand veterans events and activities without needing a long explanation. It's about welcoming newcomers, celebrating good news, offering encouragement during difficult times, and laughing until someone snorts sweet tea through their nose.

The country club staff has probably figured out that we're not just ordering lunch, we're ordering another month's worth of memories. If you listen closely as we're leaving, you'll hear the same promises every month:

"We've got to do this more often.", "See you next month!", And my personal favorite...

"It was good catching up and seeing you."

If you're looking for a group with rules, bylaws, committees, or assignments, that's not us. If you're looking for good food, great conversation, and friends who will save you a seat at the table, we'd love to have you join us. After all, calories shared with friends don't count... or at least that's the policy we've unanimously adopted—without ever holding a vote.

Aloha my peeps and looking forward to seeing everyone in August. You will be hearing from me in July for your head count. Talk about me--good or bad. As long as I'm mentioned, I'm not forgotten. Mahola 🌺 🏡



Susan Hardin

423-779-7005

susanhardin@epbfi.com



Treasurer
MAJ Jack Mullinax III, USA (RET)

STATUS OF FUNDS

as of: 15 Feb 26

Banking

Account	Balance 15 Feb 26	Increase / (Decrease)	Balance 29 Jun 26
Chapter (C)	\$7,353.09	\$3,825.01	\$11,178.10
Scholarship (S)	\$14,889.60	\$4,867.10	\$19,756.70
Total:			\$30,934.80

Major Transactions:

(C) MOAA National Grants	\$7,800.00
(C) Dental grant distribution	(\$1000.00)

Investments

Account	Balance 15 Feb 26	Gain / (Loss)	Balance 29 Jun 26
Chapter (C)	\$30,241.97	\$518.45	\$30,760.42
Scholarship (S)	\$43,968.49	\$643.82	\$44,612.31
Total:			\$75,372.73

Grand Total: \$106,307.73

Director of Scholarships
LTC Bill Brooks USA (RET)

No new update as of the publication of this newsletter.

Legislative Affairs
CAPT BJ Keepers, SEAL, USN (RET)

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS – NONPARTISAN VOTER ASSISTANCE

If you are looking for information to assist you to decide and to vote, look no further than
Ballotpedia.org

This website provides you with customized information to help you decide based on accurate and unbiased information. They strive to educate and inspire United States voters on candidates and issues. You can see a sample voting ballot based on your address.



In Chattanooga, the next Elections are on Thursday, August 6 (9 candidate races and no ballot measures) and Tuesday, November 3 (4 candidate races and three ballot measures-- see graphic below). Details of candidates and details of ballot measures are easily found and have both for and against information.

Chaplain's Corner
CDR Phil Sumerall USN (RET)

No new update as of the publication of this newsletter.

VETERANS CORNER

TAPS

No new update as of the publication of this newsletter.

Ft. Campbell Retiree Appreciation Day

Fort Campbell

RETIREE APPRECIATION DAY

19 SEPTEMBER 2026

DOORS OPEN AT 09:00

OPENING CEREMONY AT 10:00

EVENT CLOSES AT 14:00

SOLDIER SUPPORT CENTER

2702 MICHIGAN AVE, FORT CAMPBELL, KY

- RETIREMENT BENEFITS INFORMATION
- HEALTH FAIR
- GUEST SPEAKERS
- DOOR PRIZES

OPEN TO ALL BRANCHES OF SERVICE



Chapter News

Chattanooga Area Veterans Council (CAVC)

No new update as of the publication of this newsletter.

DONATE TO THE MOAA SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The MOAA Chattanooga Chapter Scholarship Fund needs your donations to continue awarding Scholarships to JROTC/ROTC cadets who enroll in a college or university ROTC program. The award of JROTC/ROTC Scholarships is a major activity of our Chapter with 11 Awards for \$13,000 in the last 3 years. The plan this year is to award 4 scholarships at \$1,500 each. The Scholarship is endowed with about \$44,000 in investments. Over the next three years, the

Chapter wants to leverage the growth in investments to provide more long-term financial stability and increased funds for scholarships. Your donations are needed to increase investment value and enable withdrawal of funds from the investments' market growth.

There are several ways to contribute to the Scholarship Fund. The traditional way is cash or check.

- Cash may be given to the Chapter Treasurer, Jack Mullinax, at the regular dinner meeting.
- A donation can be included in the check used to pay for the regular dinner meeting.
- A check can be made out to the MOAA Chattanooga Scholarship Fund and sent/given to the Treasurer.

There are 2 new ways to contribute by **credit card** or a QCD.

- The Scholarship Fund Donation website is active enabling credit card donations on-line. The site uses the Cheddar Up software provided by MOAA national which pays all administrative and credit card fees, so all donations go to the Scholarship Fund. Login using the link below.
<https://moaa-chattanooga-chapter-scholarship-fund.cheddarup.com>
- **A Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD)** is a nontaxable distribution made directly by the trustee of an IRA to [organizations that are eligible](#) to receive tax-deductible contributions. It reduces taxable income, which is reported on the IRS Form 104SR, so there is no need to worry about itemizing deductions. Taxpayers must be at least 70½ years old on the day of the distribution. Financial institutions report on [Form 1099-R](#) for the calendar year of the distribution.

The MOAA Chattanooga Chapter Scholarship Fund is an IRS 501(c)(3) Qualified Charitable Organization so all donations are tax deductible. The Chapter provides an [acknowledgement of all contributions](#).

Please make a donation today.

Make checks payable to Chattanooga Chapter MOAA Scholarship Fund
Mail to Chattanooga Chapter MOAA
PO Box 24482
Chattanooga, TN 37422

CALENDAR/EVENTS				
July-August 2026				
MOAA Chattanooga Chapter Annual Calendar				
Month	Date	Day	TIME	Event
July	4	Saturday	4:00	America 250 Celebration, on the Riverfront.
July	7	Tuesday	18:00	American Legion Post 14 Meeting, Four Squares, Mountain Creek Road. (First Tuesday of the month)
July	10	Friday	TBD	Honor the Sacrifice Dinner at the Trade Center (second Friday in July)
July	15	Wednesday	11:00	MOAA TN Council of Chapters Meeting - Third Wednesday of every third month (Jan/Apr/Jul/Oct), Lebanon, TN
July	16	Thursday	TBD	Fallen Five Memorial Service, monument off Amnicola Highway
July	16	Thursday	18:00	American Legion Post 95 Meeting, East Ridge, TN. (third Thursday of the month), Ringgold Road.
July	21	Tuesday	17:30	MOAA Board Meeting (Second Tuesday of every other odd month (Jan/Mar/May/Jul/Sep/Nov), Four Squares
July	21	Tuesday	TBD	American Legion Post 107, Soddy Daisy, TN (every third Tuesday of the Month), Depot Street
July	21	Tuesday	11:30	MOAA Spouses Luncheon - Chattanooga Golf and Country Club (third Tuesday each month), Riverview Road
July	23	Thursday	19:00	MOAA National Monthly Leaders Chapter Virtual Roundtable
July	29	Wednesday	8:30	Southeast Tennessee Coalition Meeting. Advantage Funeral Home, McCallie Ave. (Last Wed. each month)
August	4	Tuesday	16:00	American Legion Post 14 Meeting, Four Squares, Mountain Creek Road. (First Tuesday of the month)
August	6	Thursday	TBD	Navy League Executive Board Meeting. (Calvary Bible Church, Mountain Creek Rd, Red Bank
August	14	Friday	12:00	Wally's lunch with Area Veterans (every Friday at Walley's)
August	17	Monday	18:00	VVA 203 Meeting, 2025 MAC Building, McCallie Ave. (3rd Monday every month)
August	18	Tuesday	17:30	American Legion Post 107, Soddy Daisy, TN (every third Tuesday of the Month), Depot Street
August	18	Tuesday	11:30	MOAA Spouses Luncheon - Chattanooga Golf and Country Club (third Tuesday each month), Riverview Road
August	18	Tuesday	18:00	Navy League Quarterly Dinner Meeting. Location TBD
August	20	Thursday	18:00	American Legion Post 95 Meeting, East Ridge, TN. (third Thursday of the month)
August	21	Friday	12:00	Wally's lunch with Area Veterans (every Friday at Walley's), McCallie Avenue.

August	25	Tuesday	18:00	MOAA Chapter Dinner Meeting, fourth Tuesday of even months (Feb/Apr/Jun/Aug/Oct). New Board/Officers, Walden Club
August	26	Wednesday	8:30	Southeast Tennessee Coalition Meeting. Advantage Funeral Home, McCallie Ave. (Last Wed. each month)
August	27	Thursday	19:00	MOAA National Monthly Leaders Chapter Virtual Roundtable

Hamilton County and Area Junior ROTC (JROTC)

No new update as of the publication of this newsletter.

RESERVATION FORM - Tuesday, August 25, 2026, Dinner Meeting

ADVANCE RESERVATIONS REQUIRED by Thursday, August 20

Social Period:1800 Program:1830 Dinner:1900

The Walden Club

633 Chestnut St., Chattanooga, TN

Make Reservations by mailing this reservation form with check to

MOAA Treasurer

P O BOX 24482

Chattanooga, TN 37422

Name/Rank: _____

Spouse/Guest: _____

Email: _____

_____ Dinners @ \$35.00

\$ _____ Total for Dinner (s)

\$ _____ Scholarship Fund Contribution

\$ _____ Total Overall

Make checks payable to **MOAA, Chattanooga Chapter.**

Reservations can also be e-mailed to treasurer.chatt.moaa@gmail.com with payment mailed separately or payment at the meeting with a check or cash. No credit cards.



My Name: _____ Spouse name (if applicable) _____
 Address _____ City _____
 State _____ ZIP _____
 Cell Phone _____ Home Phone _____
 Email _____
 Rank _____ Service Branch _____
 Date of Birth ____/____/_____
 Status: Active _____ Retired _____ Former _____ Reserve _____ National Guard _____
 NOAA _____ USPHS _____

Membership is 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: _____

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:

Treasurer Chattanooga Chapter

C/O MAJ Jack Mullinax

PO Box 24482

Chattanooga, TN 37422

☐ **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

2026 OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

President: Ted Jewell, CDR, (Ret)
Phone: (202) 251-8723
Email: edward.w.jewell@gmail.com

1st Vice President: VACANT
Phone:
Email:

2nd Vice President: Donald McLean, COL, (Ret)
Phone:
Email: don@dtmcleanassociates.com

Chapter Secretary: Steve Whitley, COL, (Ret)
Phone: (518) 810-9804
Email: deltawhiskey4@gmail.com

Chapter Treasurer/Reservation Secretary: Jack Mullinax, MAJ
Phone: (423) 364-8777
Email: Jack.Mullinax@comcast.net

Chapter Past President: Raymond Mitchell, LTC (Ret)
Phone: (423) 667-3892
Email: mitchll9603@epbfi.com

Director of Chapter Services: B.J. Keepers, CAPT, (Ret)
Phone: (619) 332-5620
Email: bjkeepers@hotmail.com

Director of Scholarship: Bill Brooks, LTC (Ret)
Phone: (423) 504-3704
Email: wbrooks@comcast.net

Director of Interagency Coordinator: Tony Crowder LtCol (Ret)
Phone: (202) 498-9120
Email: crowdert01@gmail.com

Director of Communications: Janet Meyer, Captain
Phone: (813) 416-3503
Email: janetmeyer96@hotmail.com

Director of Awards and Recognition: Judi Davenport, COL, (Ret)
Phone: (703) 980-9637
Email: davenportj2@gmail.com

Spouse & Surviving Spouse Liaison: Billy Hewitt, CAPT, (Ret)
Phone: (423) 894-3568
Email: blhewitt@aol.com

Spouse & Surviving Spouse Representative: Susan Hardin
Phone: (423) 779-7005
Email: susanhardin@epbfi.com

Chaplain: Phil Sumrall, CDR, (Ret)
Phone: (423) 903-1938
Email: phil.sumrall@gmail.com



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 email and posted on the MOAA website to Chapter members to inform them of national issues and to stimulate local support of Veteran and other issues of interest.

Newsletter Editors:
John Harbison,
Susan Hardin



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