



Middle Tennessee Chapter

A 2016 5 Star Level of Excellence Award Chapter



Military Officers Association of America

Web Site: mtcmooa.org

January 2018

Editor: Doug Minton

MOAA Monthly Luncheon

23 January 2018; 11:30 AM
"MTC MOAA Annual Report"
 CAPT (Ret.) Larry Cotton, USN
 President

Martin Center (50 Forward)
960 Heritage Way
Brentwood, TN 37027

Our January meeting provides an opportunity for our Chapter President to provide a "state of the Chapter" report covering the variety of activities and initiatives in which we have invested both time and funds during 2017 calendar year. It also provides an excellent time to review our programs, and then take a look at what our Program Chair has begun to put together for the upcoming year. This is the ideal time for our members to make suggestions for topics/speakers of interest to them!

Hopefully we can also hear from you on how we can expand the reach of the chapter, from suggestions to involvement with organizations that we are not currently touching to new ideas for items like the creation of a chapter Facebook presence so that we can continue to reach the new generations of officers that we hope to have join our ranks.

And finally this meeting will provide an opportunity to express our appreciation to CAPT Larry Cotton for the outstanding job that he has done in presiding over the Chapter over the past eighteen months, and then welcome our incoming President, CAPT Dale Lewelling.
Please Join Us For This Meeting!

January / February Reminder:

Old Natchez Country Club is in the middle of an extensive renovation that will not be finished until early March 2018.

So, we have made arrangements to meet at the **Martin Center located at 960 Heritage Way , Brentwood, TN for the January and February 2018 meetings.** The Martin Center is located just off of the Concord Road Exit on I65 South and is very easy to reach.

Our temporary meeting location closes whenever **Williamson County** schools have a weather closure, so please pay attention to closures for that school system during the January/February meeting dates!

Officers

President

CAPT (R) Larry Cotton, USN

1st Vice President

CAPT (R) Dale Lewelling, USN

2nd Vice President

LTC (R) Mike Patenaude, USA

Secretary

COL (R) Doug Minton, USA

Treasurer

Capt. Hal Sauer, USAF

Directors

Mrs. Patricia Bergquist

CDR (R) John Ohlinger, USN

LTC (R) Wanda Bruce Graham, USA

Lt.Col. (R) Karon Uzzell-Baggett, USAF

COL (R) Kent Crossley, USA

Surviving Spouse Liaison

Mrs. Patricia Bergquist

Transition Services Coordinator

Lt.Col. (Ret.) Arlie Haddix, USAF

Chapter Contact Information

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<http://www.mtcmooa.org>

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info@mtcmooa.org

Scholarship Update

Lipscomb University approached us in mid-2017 with an opportunity to assume responsibility for a scholarship initiative that had gone adrift over time. We were given the chance to redirect these funds towards a veterans initiative and continue to build upon them in order to create an endowed scholarship at Lipscomb University. We embraced the opportunity and will discuss this further at our January meeting.

Many of you will remember LTC (Ret.) Charles Fleming, USA a long-time, active Chapter member who died at 102 years of age in 2013. LTC Fleming *continues to serve* through the most generous gift of \$1000 made to the Chapter by the Trust established in his name (see President's letter). This gift has enabled the Chapter to make a significant increase to the funds that we are calling the MTC MOAA Endowed Veterans Scholarship and we are most appreciative of the gift!

President's Letter

I researched US military anniversaries to see what important events happened in January and initially thought that nothing important happened this month in history, but there are actually too many to list! Several jumped out at me: the Battle of Cowpens (Revolution), the Battle of New Orleans (War of 1812), and the beginning of the Tet Offensive (Vietnam).

On the scholarship front, we had an unexpected and extremely generous gift from The Charles A. Fleming Jr. Trust for \$1,000. That brings our 2017 annual scholarship total to nearly \$5,000. We had already distributed the funds for the \$1,000 scholarships to veterans at Lipscomb and Belmont, \$1,000 to the MOAA scholarships for dependents and \$1,000 to the new endowment fund at Lipscomb. We decided to apply the Col. Fleming trust amount toward the new endowment fund. Thanks to everyone who participated in this year's scholarship campaign!

We have several opportunities for members of our chapter to serve on the chapter board. If you have time and the desire to continue serving, please contact one of the board members for any questions. Our succession plan ensures that you will not be immediately placed in an officer's role! We do not want to over-tax the current members, many of whom have been serving in their positions for several years and some, like me, continue to hold down full-time jobs. We encourage you to seek out one of these opportunities!

January's program will be focused on presenting our traditional annual report to the membership on the activities of the chapter and its board for 2017. Please remember that this month's luncheon will be at the Martin Center in Brentwood on Heritage Drive at the regular time.

During this luncheon, I will also pass the chapter presidency to CAPT (Ret.) Dale Lewelling, USN.

It has been a distinct honor to serve as President of the Middle Tennessee Chapter of MOAA. Together, we have continued to serve our nation and community. Thank you for making this a great year!

L. S. Cotton, Jr.
 CAPT, U. S. Navy (Ret.), President, MTC

MIDDLE TENNESSEE CHAPTER
Military Officers Association of America
P. O. Box 50252
Nashville, TN 37205-0252

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Upcoming Programs & Events

23 January 2018; 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

MTC Monthly Luncheon Meeting

“Middle TN Chapter Annual Report”

(NOTE Temporary LOCATION CHANGE)

Martin Center, 960 Heritage Way , Brentwood, TN

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6 February 2018; 7-8:00 AM

“MTC Monthly Board Meeting”

NGATN Office, 4332 Kenilwood Dr., Nashville, TN

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27 February 2018; 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

MTC Annual Personal Affairs Meeting

“Cyber Security”

Richard Littlehale

TBI Agent in Charge, Technical Services Unit

(NOTE Temporary LOCATION CHANGE)

Martin Center, 960 Heritage Way , Brentwood, TN

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6 March 2018; 7-8:00 AM

“MTC Monthly Board Meeting”

NGATN Office, 4332 Kenilwood Dr., Nashville, TN

-

27 March 2018; 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM

MTC Monthly Luncheon Meeting

“Secret Squirrel Ops”

CDR (Ret.) Dave Winters, USN

Old Natchez Country Club, 115 Gardengate Drive,
Franklin, TN 37069

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3 April 2018; 7 - 8:00 AM

“MTC Monthly Board Meeting”

NGATN Office, 4332 Kenilwood Dr., Nashville, TN

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24 April 2018; 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM

MTC Monthly Luncheon Meeting

“OSDTN Update”

COL (Ret.) John Krenson, USA

Old Natchez Country Club, 115 Gardengate Drive,
Franklin, TN 37069

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1 May 2018; 7-8:00 AM

“MTC Monthly Board Meeting”

NGATN Office, 4332 Kenilwood Dr., Nashville, TN

Legislative Action Center Update

Federal:

The FY 2018 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) was completed by both the House and Senate. The NDAA specifies the annual budget and expenditures for DoD. This and defense appropriation bills are how money is spent for defense. The big movements are the 8,500 personnel increases in active duty Army and Marines. The Reserve and National Guard will increase a total of 1,000 personnel. Expect TRICARE cost shares to increase, primarily in retail pharmaceutical co-payments. 2018 may be the last year you can obtain your medications at military pharmacies free. For those affected by the Survivor Indemnity Allowance (SSIA) the program was extended for another year. This is the dollar-for-dollar offset. The NDAA does not address a permanent fix to this continual problem.

State:

The FY 2018 legislative session is not expected to be a very active session of the Tennessee General Assembly on veteran's issues for a couple of reasons as I understand them. They include:

- The general feeling among legislators and many members of the veteran's advocacy community is that the major issue - property tax exemption restoration - was addressed last session, and the attention of the legislature will move to other constituencies.
- Being an election year, this session will be a short one. There will be very little appetite for protracted battles. However, unforeseen issues could arise.

TVET intends to take up three issues that should not be controversial:

- Standardization of the process for naming veteran's homes.
- Creating a state law criminalizing the impersonation of a Veteran. The only potential obstacle could be the cost – for example if this is a crime that necessitates incarceration.
- Requiring the appointment of Veterans to state boards and commissions. This could encounter opposition. In general, there is a large block of legislators who oppose codification of board and commission appointments.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Kent Crossley

COL. Kent Crossley, USA Retired

Board Member, Legislative Affairs Liaison