



# Middle Tennessee Chapter

A 2017 5-Star Level of Excellence Award Chapter



## Military Officers Association of America

Web Site: <https://www.mtcmoaa.org>

August 2019

Editor: Doug Minton

### MOAA Luncheon Meeting

**27 August 2019; 11:30 AM**  
**"Lessons Learned as an Army Chaplain"**

LTC Kevin Wainwright, USA  
 Deputy Division Chaplain,  
 Fort Campbell, KY

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

CH (LTC) Kevin Wainwright, originally from Albuquerque, NM, received his commission in the field artillery in 1991 upon graduation from the United States Military Academy. Following his initial term of service, Kevin left active duty, completed his seminary education at Union Theological in Richmond, VA, and served churches in South Carolina, Wisconsin, and North Carolina. While concurrently serving in the National Guard, his unit deployed to Iraq in 2004, and to New Orleans in support of Hurricane Katrina relief in 2005. CH Wainwright returned to active duty in 2006 and completed a second deployment to Iraq with the First Cavalry Division in 2006-2007.

*(Excerpt from an AP Article published when the U. S. military death toll in Iraq reached 4,000)*

*But for every number, there is a name, and for every name, a husband or son, wife or daughter whose life is remembered, often by a chaplain. "I'm the guy who knows all their stories," Wainwright says. "Of all the people in the battalion, the chaplain is the one who should know a little about everybody." In 14 months in Iraq, Wainwright comforted countless grieving soldiers, composed handwritten notes to families and conducted memorials. "I remember them all," he says. "My faith is not a stack of cards — it's rock solid," he says. "That doesn't mean I didn't grieve and think this guy is never going to know what it's like to be married or be a father. ... It hits home, too. You have those fears yourself. What would a loss be like for your own family? But if you dwell on that, it makes you less effective as a chaplain." ©AP 2008*

He has served at Fort Jackson, Fort Leavenworth, Fort Wainwright, the Pentagon, and currently serves as the 101st Airborne (Air Assault) Division Chaplain, Ft Campbell, KY. He and his wife Kim have three sons, two dogs, and spend most of their time trying to keep the boys and the dogs moving in a positive direction.

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#### Surviving Spouse Liaison

Mrs. Patricia Bergquist

#### Transition Services Coordinator

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#### Legislative Liaison

LTC (R) Doug Gilbert, USA

### Chapter Contact Information

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### Congratulations

To **Mrs. Patricia Bergquist** who received the MOAA Leadership Award last week as the first Surviving Spouse Liaison for the TN MOAA Council of Chapters.

At the National level, Patricia has been a strong advocate for our military, representing the Council at nine "Storming the Hill" events.

At the State level she has visited 7 of the 10 TN Chapters, engaging Surviving Spouse members in the activities of the Chapters, as well as reminding everyone of the value that our Surviving Spouses bring to our Chapters. The award signed by Lt.Gen. Dana Atkins is Patricia's second MOAA Leadership Award. She also received the Award from Adm. Norb Ryan in 2012 for her leadership at MOAA National in organizing what became the Surviving Spouse Advisory Council.

Another outstanding example of our members' "Continuing to Serve"!

### President's Letter

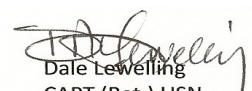
This summer has been busy and many of you have been traveling and taking vacations. For those of you who have been here we appreciate your attendance at our meetings. Our July meeting was excellent. Our guest speaker was Vice Chancellor Brett Sweet. Brett is a veteran having graduated from the Naval Academy and served his country in the submarine force as well as a couple of years at the NSA. His information on the Bass Military Scholars was very enlightening and highlighted a great program to support our veterans looking to get an advanced professional degree in Law, Medicine, Nursing, Education from the Peabody College or the Owen Graduate School of Management. The program is just starting with the first class of veterans beginning in September. To learn more about it go to the [BassMilitaryScholars@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:BassMilitaryScholars@vanderbilt.edu).

As most of you are aware, we have a long and successful history of contributions to the national MOAA Scholarship Foundation as well as our newer programs at Belmont and Lipscomb. Our criteria are that the funds be used for veterans. Our first objective is to get aid to disabled veterans but if there are none applying then we go to other veterans. Please watch your mail for our letter and return envelope for your contribution.

I put this out at our meeting in July but have been remiss in not recognizing Captain Art Jacobs, USA, for his selection as President of the Vietnam Helicopter Pilots Association. Art was installed at their annual Reunion in Kansas City. The organization has over 16,600 members who flew helicopters during the Vietnam conflict. Congratulations Art!

Also, congratulations to Ms. Patricia Bergquist who received her second MOAA Leadership Award as the first Surviving Spouse Liaison at the Tennessee MOAA Council of Chapters. Patricia has worked tirelessly over the years "Storming Hill" in Washington DC fighting for MOAA issues. Additionally, she has been a driving force in the efforts to correct the inequity surviving spouses suffer under the present laws governing disbursement of funds for SBP and DIC. Her leadership has been instrumental in getting the initiative to stop the reduction in SBP payment as an offset for the funds a surviving spouse receives when receiving DIC concurrently. Because of her leadership the correction is part of the recommended NDAA by the HASC. Now it goes to the conference committee for review and hopefully inclusion in the final budget. THANKS for your dedicated service.

This month we have another great program planned. Our guest speaker will be LTC Kevin Wainwright, Chaplain Fort Campbell. Mark your calendars for August 27<sup>th</sup>. Like all our meetings it promises to be special.

  
 Dale Lewelling  
 CAPT (Ret.) USN  
 President

MIDDLE TENNESSEE CHAPTER  
Military Officers Association of America  
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Nashville, TN 37205-0252



Happy 229th Birthday to the U. S.  
Coast Guard on 4 August 2019

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

### Upcoming Programs & Events

**9 August 2019; Time TBD**  
**"OSDTN Annual Heroes Breakfast"**  
Music City Center, Nashville, TN

**27 August 2019: 11:30 AM**  
**"Lessons Learned as an Army Chaplain"**  
LTC Kevin Wainwright, USA  
Deputy Garrison Chaplain, Fort Campbell, KY  
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Franklin, TN 37069

**3 September 2019; 7 - 8:00 AM**  
**"MTC Monthly Board Meeting"**  
NGATN Office, 4332 Kenilwood Dr., Nashville, TN

**5 September 2019; 11:00AM-3:00 PM**  
**"Nashville Veterans Job Fair"**  
Nissan Stadium, Nashville, TN  
<https://success.recruitmilitary.com/events/nashville-veterans-job-fair-september-5-2019>

**21 September 2019: 7:30 AM**  
**"Wounded Warrior - Carry Forward 5K"**  
Nissan Stadium, Nashville, TN  
<https://carryforward.woundedwarriorproject.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=donorDrive.event&eventID=519>

**24 September; 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM**  
MTC Monthly Luncheon Meeting  
**"The Weather"**  
Mr. Dan Thomas  
WSMV Meteorologist - Former USAF Officer  
Old Natchez Country Club, 115 Gardengate Drive,  
Franklin, TN 37069

**2019 Meeting Dates :**  
**(not shown above)**  
22 October 2019  
**19 November 2019**

**(PLEASE NOTE change to November date to accommodate the Thanksgiving Holiday)**  
No Meeting - December 2019

### MOAA Legislative Update

#### STATE

- More than 100 members of the TN Army National Guard have just returned home after a nine-month deployment overseas. Soldiers with the 1-230th Assault Helicopter Battalion, who are headquartered in Tullahoma, are returning from Kosovo where they were part of a NATO led mission that builds peace and maintains stability in the area.
- House Committee on Small Business members Representative Tim Burchett (R-TN) and Representative Andy Kim (D-NJ) introduced H.R. 3661, the Patriotic Employer Protection Act, which would strengthen Small Business Administration (SBA) programs that protect small business owners whose employees are members of the National Guard and Reserve deployed on active duty.
- Tennessee House Republican lawmakers have nominated Rep. Cameron Sexton (R – Crossville) to replace House Speaker Glen Casada, who is slated to resign over mounting scandals on August 2. Governor Lee has called for a special session of the General Assembly on Friday, August 23 at 10 a.m. for the election of a new Speaker of the House.

#### FEDERAL

- Senator's Blackburn and Manchin introduced a Bill Allowing Veterans to Receive In-State Tuition Rates. This bipartisan legislation gives student veterans access to in-state tuition rates at public institutions that receive GI Bill payments, regardless of whether the student veteran is a state resident. Previously, the provision required the student to be within three years of his or her discharge from active duty. This bill eliminates the existing three-year conditional requirement.
- On 7/23/2019 the Senate overwhelmingly confirmed Mark T. Esper as Secretary of Defense, ending the longest period by far that the Pentagon had been without a permanent leader. Mr. Esper, an Army infantryman who fought in the Persian Gulf war of 1991 before becoming a lobbyist for the military contractor Raytheon, replaces Jim Mattis who resigned in December.
- On 7/24/2019, Rep. Phil Roe, M.D. (R-TN), the Ranking Member of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and Rep. Collin Peterson (D-MN.), a Member of the Committee, introduced H.R. 3826, the Veterans 2nd Amendment Protection Act. This Act would prohibit the VA from sending information on veterans (or beneficiaries) who are assisted by a fiduciary to the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NCIS) without a judicial ruling that they are a danger to themselves or others. This would ensure that veterans are afforded the same due process that every other American receives before any action is taken that would deprive them of one of the constitutional rights that they fought to protect.

Doug Gilbert, LTC, US Army Retired; Legislative Affairs