



Middle Tennessee Chapter
A 2019 5 Star Level of Excellence Award Chapter
Military Officers Association of America



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

May 2021

Editor: Doug Minton

MOAA Monthly Meeting

25 May 2021; 11:30 AM-1:00 PM

"Coach Casey Alexander"

Belmont University
Men's Basketball Coach

Operation Stand Down TN

1125 12th Ave S, Nashville, TN 37203

Casey Alexander was introduced as Belmont University's 10th head men's basketball coach in program history on Wednesday, April 10, 2019.

He began his second season as head coach in 2020-21 and currently has a Belmont record of 26-7. Inheriting the Bruin program from hall of fame coach Rick Byrd, Alexander led Belmont to Ohio Valley Conference regular season and tournament titles, and the program's ninth NCAA Tournament bid since 2006. Alexander's 26 victories in 2019-20 represented the most by any first-year head coach in NCAA Division I history, and Belmont's victory at Boston College became the latest Power 5 Conference conquest.

Alexander, 47, spent six seasons as head coach at Lipscomb University. The Nashville native spearheaded a program renaissance, leading the Bisons to the best three-year stretch of their NCAA Division I era and the first NCAA Tournament appearance in school history. Lipscomb won 113 games during Alexander's tenure, including 72 over the final three campaigns. In addition, Lipscomb went 59-31 in Atlantic Sun Conference games and a sparkling 35-9 during the last three seasons.

Prior to Lipscomb, Alexander spent two seasons as head coach at Stetson University. He led the Hatters to an 11-7 conference mark in Year 2; equaling the most league wins for Stetson since 1987.

Prior to his first head coaching opportunity, Alexander spent two decades at Belmont; first as a player and later as a member of Rick Byrd's coaching staff.

Alexander and his wife, the former Sunni Dixon, also a 1995 Belmont graduate, are the parents of three children: Allie, Reed

Advocacy In Action

There are important issues that require your support. Please visit the MOAA website and send your elected officials a MOAA-suggested message today on the three issues that MOAA is advocating for during this congressional session.

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info@mtcmoaa.org

May 25 Meeting RSVP Request

We request that everyone planning on attending our upcoming meeting provide us with advance notice at the email address above.

We will have a seating limitation of 40 at this meeting due to space constraints and Covid concerns.

Our Chapter has a lengthy history of supporting OSD TN, and since they have graciously offered to provide lunch for this event it stands to reason that we in turn should be responsible guests and provide them with an accurate estimate of the number of members who will be present.

We would appreciate receiving all RSVP confirmations NO LATER THAN 19 May, 2021.

President's Letter

This month, we will hold our membership luncheon at the Operation Stand Down TN facilities located at the corner of Edgehill and 12th Avenue South - and there is plenty of parking. Brig. Gen. (Ret) Eden Murrie, OSD TN CEO, is a member of our Chapter and she is excited to have us visit their recently renovated spaces. You will not pay for this lunch. If you desire, there will be a donation bowl for those who want to contribute to OSD TN to support their veteran programs. There is no expectation that anyone should donate. We will still be expected to wear masks when not seated for our meal. Our presenter will be the men's basketball coach from Belmont University, Casey Alexander. Let me emphasize that we will resume our meetings at the Old Natchez Country Club in June.

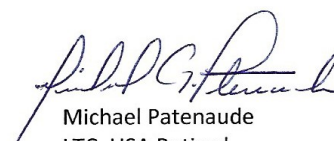
We celebrated a special milestone at our April meeting when we wished a Happy 100th Birthday to our member Jerry Neal, who served as a bomber pilot in Europe during WWII to include flying a mission on D-Day. We had a good crowd for an enjoyable luncheon and an informative report on Tennessee Veteran initiatives from TN Senator Heidi Campbell.

I am happy to report that May is a busy month for our chapter, and I suspect many of you appreciate the feeling of returning to normal. I certainly do. I want to invite you to attend our Chapter Memorial Ceremony on Saturday May 29th at the Middle TN Veterans Cemetery on McCrory Lane at 1000 hours. We will be conducting a ceremony to honor those who have served and made the ultimate sacrifice. We will convene at the flagpole in the northern section of the cemetery. Uniform or civilian attire are appropriate.

Also, in the month of May, I want to thank our chapter members who took their time to present the MOAA Medal to our ROTC and JROTC units in the Middle TN area. My personal thanks to Lt.Col. (Ret.) Karon Uzzell-Baggett and CAPT (Ret.) Larry Cotton for all their work in the coordination of the awards and the event presenters.

Our special thanks to COL Doug Minton for all his work managing the Middle TN Chapter website. MOAA recognized our chapter this month with the Colonel Marvin J. Harris Communication Award at the 5-Star level for our website. If we have any members who feel they can contribute their time toward maintaining our website, please contact Doug Minton at our Chapter email address (center section of the newsletter).

I look forward to seeing many of you on 25 May and on 29 May!


 Michael Patenaude
 LTC, USA Retired
 President

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



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Upcoming Programs & Events

25 May 2021; 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

MTC Monthly Luncheon Meeting

"Coach Casey Alexander"

Belmont University Men's Basketball Coach

(Please note special LOCATION change)

Operation Stand Down Tennessee

1125 12th Ave S, Nashville, TN 37203

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29 May 2021 - 10:00 AM

"MTC Memorial Day Remembrance"

Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery

McCrory Lane

-

1 June 2021; 7- 8:00 AM

"MTC Monthly Board Meeting"

NGATN Office, 4332 Kenilwood Dr., Nashville, TN

-

22 June 2021; 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

MTC Monthly Luncheon Meeting

"Tennessee State Representative

COL Sam Whitson, USA Retired"

District 65

MTC Member

Old Natchez Country Club, 115 Gardengate Drive,

Franklin, TN 37069

-

6 July 2021; 7- 8:00 AM

"MTC Monthly Board Meeting"

NGATN Office, 4332 Kenilwood Dr., Nashville, TN

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21 July 2021; 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

"TN Council of Chapters Meeting"

(Location or Zoom - yet to be determined)

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27 July 2021; 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

MTC Monthly Luncheon Meeting

"MOAA National Speaker"

(To be Announced)

Old Natchez Country Club, 115 Gardengate Drive,

Franklin, TN 37069

Legislative Update

STATE

HB 442/SB 793

Enacts the Major Trevor Joseph Act, which requires the Department of Veterans Services (DVS) to provide burial services for a person who dies in the line of duty or while on active duty with the United States Armed Forces, the Tennessee National Guard, or the Tennessee Air National Guard and is being interred in a state veterans' cemetery on a date required by the family members of the deceased veteran, if the Department is given notice of the burial at least 72 hours prior to the burial service. Signed by both Speaker of the House and Senate.

HB 0769/SB 0763

Veterans Services, Dept. of - As enacted, removes requirement that department veteran service officers be combat veterans. - Amends TCA Title 58, Chapter 3. Became Pub. Ch. 63.

The 21st Army National Hiring Days are 10 May-14 June. This event includes all three components of the Army (Active, Reserve, NG). There is a \$2K bonus for joining during these times for eleven different MOS's, if the recruit can ship to basic training by 30 September.

Fort Campbell Retiree Appreciation Day is 19 June.

U.S. Army Reserve Brig. Gen. Robert S. Powell Jr. was honored by his alma mater Monday as the 17th graduate of Middle Tennessee State University's Army ROTC in its 71-year history to reach General officer rank. He is the Army Reserve's first cyber officer promoted to brigadier general.

FEDERAL

The Army Reserve turned 113-years old on 23 April 2021.

President Biden will withdraw all American troops from Afghanistan over the coming months, U.S. officials said, completing the military exit by the 20th anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks that drew the United States into its longest war.

Officially, there are approximately 2,500 U.S. troops in Afghanistan, although the number fluctuates and is currently about 1,000 more than that. There are also up to an additional 7,000 foreign forces in the coalition force in Afghanistan, the majority of which being NATO troops.

President Biden said the spending plans he proposed in his address to Congress were needed to keep up with China, which he and his administration sees as a major strategic challenger. "China and other countries are closing in fast," he said, adding that he has spent a lot of time talking to Chinese President Xi Jinping. "He's deadly earnest about becoming the most significant, consequential nation in the world. He and others, autocrats, think that democracy cannot compete in the 21st century with autocracies. It takes too long to get consensus."

LTC Doug Gilbert, USA Retired, MTC Legislative Affairs Liaison