



**Middle Tennessee Chapter**  
*A 2019 5 Star Level of Excellence Award Chapter*



**Military Officers Association of America**

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

November 2020

Editor: Doug Minton

**MOAA Luncheon Meeting**

**17 November 2020; 11:30 AM–1:00 PM**

*"Naval Sea Cadets Corps and  
Wreaths Across America"*

**Sheryl Tannahill**

CDR, USN (Ret.), Director of Region 8-9, Naval Sea Cadets, MTC Member

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

United States Navy Commander (Ret) Sheryl Tannahill is the Director, Region 8-9 of the Nashville (LPD-13) Division of the United States Naval Sea Cadet Corps (USNSCC) and will be this month's speaker. She will discuss her USNSCC role and the upcoming Wreaths Across America program. Sheryl is a Naval Academy Graduate (class of 1990) who retired in October 2017, following 27 years of service.

USNSCC is a national youth leadership development organization that promotes interest and skill in naval disciplines while instilling strong moral character and life skills through leadership and technical programs modeled after the Navy's professional development system.

In 2014 the US Naval Sea Cadet Corps, Nashville LPD 13 Division (TN0130P) undertook the Wreaths Across America event as a service project. You can support them in this ongoing project by sponsoring/funding wreaths for this event. Wreaths are provided through the support of individual sponsors, and we urge our membership to get involved by sponsoring the Sea Cadets in this endeavor.

On Saturday, 19 December, 2020 at 11:00 AM, Middle Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery (7931 McCrory Ln, Nashville, TN 37221) a Wreaths Across America ceremony will begin to Remember and Honor our veterans by laying Remembrance wreaths on the graves of our country's fallen heroes. The Middle TN Chapter has long supported and individually participated in this event.

**To learn more about sponsoring wreaths please go to the following website:**  
<https://www.wreathscrossamerica.org/pages/43584/Overview/?relatedId=17154>

**PLEASE NOTE: All wreaths for the ceremony must be ordered by 30 November to ensure that the wreaths arrive in time for the ceremony.**

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**Chapter Contact Information**

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<https://www.mtcmoaa.org>

Contact Phone: **(615) 415-6816**

Contact Email:

**info@mtcmoaa.org**

**RSVP for 17 November Meeting**

We request that everyone planning on attending our November meeting notify us accordingly. We imagine that as long as the Covid-19 precautions are in place at ONCC we will need to forecast attendance, so that adequate seating can be set up and more importantly that adequate food can be ordered for the event attendees.

We ask that if you plan to attend, you RSVP by email ([info@mtcmoaa.org](mailto:info@mtcmoaa.org)) accordingly by 12 November.

**Covid 19 Luncheon Reminder**

This meeting will keep the same social distancing safety precautions in place that we used in September and October.

As a reminder, our precautions are as follows: **For those of you who feel comfortable attending, we ask everyone to wear a mask into the club and when you are not seated at your table.** Seating will be limited to 6 per table. In place of the buffet, our meals will be plated and brought to our tables. Tea and coffee will be available.

**President's Letter**

I thank each of you for your service as we all remember our veterans this Veterans Day, November 11. And of course, the day prior we will celebrate the Marine Corps birthday, so I wish Happy Birthday to our Marine Corps brothers and sisters.

As we enter the holiday season this November with the challenges of 2020, we have much for which we can be thankful. We earned our 6th consecutive Five Star Award, and we were fortunate to restart our monthly meetings two months ago. I mentioned last month your strong scholarship contributions this year, and additionally, our Middle TN chapter was able to contribute to our local service and veteran charities at the same level as previous years.

We had a fun and engaging presentation at October's meeting from Brig. Gen. (Ret.) Eden Murrie, the CEO of Operation Stand Down Tennessee and a member of our chapter. Her passion for our military and our veterans was evident as she updated us on OSDTN's new facilities, new initiatives, and their continued focus on a broad spectrum of veteran empowerment.


We have been fortunate during our monthly meetings for the quality and relevance of our presenters. If any of you feel you know of a potential presenter, please provide that information for consideration to our first vice president, Lt. Col. Karon Uzzell-Baggett.

Don't forget to mark your calendars for our EARLY November 17 meeting where we will hear about Wreaths Across America and Sea Cadets from Ms. Sheryl Tannahill, CDR (Ret.) USN and Chapter Member. Remember we conduct the November meetings a week early to avoid interfering with the Thanksgiving week.

And while we are acknowledging upcoming dates, for the military retirees amongst us please note that the FEDVIP open season for changes in your Vision and Dental plans begins 9 November and ends 14 December.

Don't forget to bring your unwrapped small (no bicycles please!) new toy to our November meeting for Toys for Tots. Just bring it in with you and we will collect them outside the dining room.

As we look to the final months of 2020, I wish you all a renewing and joyful holiday season, with faith and hope for 2021.

  
 Michael Patenaude  
 LTC, USA Retired  
 President

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



Veterans Day, while first celebrated in 1947, became an official US holiday in 1954.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

### Upcoming Programs & Events

12 November 2020

***"OSDTN Virtual Annual Heroes Breakfast"***

17 November 2020; 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

MTC Monthly Luncheon Meeting

***"Sea Cadets and Wreaths Across America"***

**Ms. Sheryl Tannahill**

CDR (Ret.) USN and Chapter Member

and

***"MTC Toys for Tots Toy Drive"***

**Marine Corps Toys for Tots Program**

***Please bring New Unwrapped Toys  
to our November meeting!***

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

20 November 2020; 11:00 AM- 1:00 PM

***"OSDTN Tour/Luncheon"***

(9 slots still available)

*Sign up at the 17 November luncheon if interested,  
or contact the Chapter via our email address on the  
front page.*

1 December 2020; 7 - 8:00 AM

***"MTC Monthly Board Meeting"***

NGATN Office, 4332 Kenilwood Dr., Nashville, TN

19 December 2020; 11:00 AM

***"Wreaths Across America Ceremony"***

**Middle TN State Veterans Cemetery**

7931 McCrory Ln, Nashville, TN 37221

No Meeting in December 2020

***"Merry Christmas"***

5 January 2021; 7 - 8:00 AM

***"MTC Monthly Board Meeting"***

NGATN Office, 4332 Kenilwood Dr., Nashville, TN

13 January 2021; 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM

***"TN Council of MOAA Chapters Meeting (Virtual)"***

26 January 2021; 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

MTC Monthly Luncheon Meeting

### **Legislative Update**

#### STATE

- Tennessee reportedly will distribute its allotment of virus vaccine based mostly on population, not severity of recent outbreaks.
- Since March, the Tennessee National Guard has been working diligently alongside Tennessee's Department of Health, Tennessee Emergency Management Agency, and various other state and local agencies to successfully administer COVID-19 tests to fellow Tennesseans. By Oct. 8, Tennessee guardsmen have successfully tested over 400,000 of their fellow citizens.
- Nearly 60 Soldiers assigned to the Tennessee National Guard's 168th Military Police Battalion in Dyersburg returned home Saturday, Sept. 26, after a 10-month deployment to the Middle East.

#### FEDERAL

- Download the Army's new Digital Garrison app onto your personal cell phones. It's a great resource for anybody living on, working, or visiting Fort Campbell. It provides all sorts of information related to facility services including hours or operations, phone numbers, links to maps/directions and websites. It will also push emergency notices to you like closure of Gate 10 etc. The app is available FREE in in Apple and Google Play stores. (Icon looks like a camouflage box with big white DG over Army Star)
- The National Museum of the United States Army will open to the public for the first time on November 11, 2020, Veterans Day.
- The House and Senate Appropriations and Armed Services committees have approved the Defense Department's request to reallocate \$2 billion. The funds will go toward pay increases and retirement contributions in the Air Force and the US Space Command and SPACE-COM programs.
- The House passed its version of the FY 2021 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) on July 21 by a strong bipartisan vote of 295-125, and the Senate followed suit July 23, passing its version by an 86-14 margin. Rep. Mac Thornberry (R-Texas) said the conference report between the House and the Senate on the NDAA is likely to come out "pretty quickly" after the election. Despite the success of MOAA's Virtual Storming the Hill, efforts to include a halt to military medical end strength cuts and the realignment of military treatment facilities (MTFs) in the NDAA remain at risk. While the House version has language supporting these provisions, the Senate version does not.