

# THE BORDER BULLETIN

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A MOAA affiliate from January 23, 1956 - El Paso Chapter of Military Officers Association of America - Our 58th Year

## Inside this issue:

3

President's Message

5

Luncheon Menu  
Program

Guest Speaker

6

Events Schedule

7

Chaplain's Corner

9

Buffalo Soldiers

10

Legend of Airman ...

11

Personal Affairs

12-13

EP MOAA Images

15

Membership

18

Scholarship information

20

Legislative

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**El Paso Chapter, MOAA**

P.O. Box 6144, El Paso, TX 79906-0144

publications@elpasomoaa.org

## EL PASO CHAPTER NATIONAL AWARDS

### Category 1 Outstanding Chapter

Runner-up

**Five-Star Chapter**

**Communications Award Print Newsletter**

Winner

Runner-up

**Communications Award Print Legislative Coverage**

Winner

**Communications Award Website**

Winner

Runner-up

**Special Communications Award**

2000 and 2001

2001 thru 2013

2004 and 2012

2008 thru 2011

2008, 2009, 2011 and 2012

2010, 2011 and 2012


2009

2007



## Chapter Staff Emeritus

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| Mrs. Penelope Cochran           | 778-5723 |
| Mrs. Hedy Forcier               | 751-2638 |
| LTC Rafael G. Garcia            | 593-1469 |
| CWO Emiliano Gorgas             | 594-0444 |
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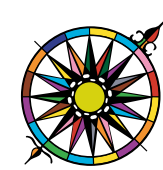


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# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

COL Lennie Enzel, USA, Retired

I hope you have been enjoying our wonderful weather. We are so lucky to live in El Paso far from the blizzards and freezing temperatures affecting much of the Nation. I was sorry that because of family commitments I had to miss our February meeting. I heard that Jan Rasmussen was a wonderful hostess and that Mayor Leeser gave a great presentation. Most importantly, we were delighted to have several new members and their guests join us at this luncheon. As always, our "Day at the Races" proved to be a time of great fun and fellowship with our sister organizations NAUS, MOWW, SMW, and MOAA-Las Cruces. I hope that at least a few of you also found it to be a profitable day.

Your Board has been quite busy since our last newsletter. We believe that we finally jumped through all the proper hurdles to create our El Paso MOAA Outreach Foundation 501c3. When all final approvals are received, we are anxious to financially support military and community activities. With help from MOAA, National created a MOAA-El Paso Challenge Coin. This was truly a group effort, and we hope you will like them. We will have them available for viewing at our next meeting and will soon make them available for purchase. Also, through MOAA National, we received a \$500 grant from USAA to use for membership activities. We are very grateful to USAA for their financial support of our chapter. I am eagerly awaiting our 12 April lunch meeting at the Underwood Golf Course. Our keynote speaker will be COL Mike Heimall, Commander of William Beaumont Army Medical Center. I, for one, am anxious to hear about upcoming changes at the current facility as well as the progress with the new hospital. With Spring, comes the award presentations to local JROTC students as well as our support of the UTEP ROTC graduation and commissioning ceremonies.

On the legislative front, our earned benefits continue to be attacked. The FY 2015 defense budget contains several proposals to cut pay and benefits, and dramatically deprecate end strength. There are plans to:

- Consolidate TRICARE options and increase deductibles, co-pays, and enrollment fees
- Modify TRICARE-for-Life Annual Family (Two Individuals) Enrollment Fees\*

| Retired Pay                     | FY 2014 | FY 2015 | FY 2016 | FY 2017 | FY 2018 | FY 2019 |
|---------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Percentage of Gross Retired Pay | N/A     | 0.50%   | 1.00%   | 1.50%   | 2.00%   | 2.00%   |
| Ceiling                         | \$0     | \$150   | \$300   | \$450   | \$600   | \$614   |
| GO/Flag Ofcr Ceiling            | \$0     | \$150   | \$400   | \$600   | \$800   | \$818   |

- Cap active duty pay raise to 1 percent; .8 below private sector wage growth for the second consecutive year
- Reduce the commissary budget by \$1 Billion over three years and reduce our CONUS commissary savings from 30% to 10% meaning that, on average, a family of four would lose nearly \$3,000 worth of commissary savings annually
- Increase active duty out-of-pocket housing costs; future BAH will not exceed 95 percent of housing rental and utility costs
- Increase the already approved active duty drawdown of 124,000 active and reserve service members by an additional 78,000 necessitating the use of reduction in force (RIF) boards, selected early retirement boards (SERB), and reenlistment limitations.

I conjecture these initiatives will positively affect readiness and retention and jeopardize our national security. If you believe as I do, I ardently urge you to stay connected with MOAA's fight to retain our benefits and; hence, our Nation's readiness. Remember, only 1% of our population currently serves in the military. To protect our benefits, we need "all hands on deck". Consistently, MOAA is designated the top lobbying organization on the Hill, but they need each of us to contact our Congressional representatives and make our views known; for that is the only way to ensure the legislative branch of our government truly represents their constituents.



## Mine was earned in Vietnam. By my dad.

Barbara Q., USAA member

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<sup>1</sup>Based on 2011 Member Communications Trend Survey.

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## April Guest Speaker: Colonel Michael S. Heimall

Colonel Michael S. Heimall is a native of Sussex, New Jersey. A Distinguished Military Graduate, Colonel Heimall earned his commission from Norwich University in 1987. His most recent assignment was as Assistant Chief of Staff, TRICARE Transition, Western Regional Medical Command, Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington.

Previous assignments include; Deputy Commander for Administration, US Army Medical Department Activity & Blanchfield Army Community Hospital, Fort Campbell, Kentucky; Congressional Liaison, Office of The Surgeon General; Assistant Executive Officer to the Surgeon General and Commanding General, US Army Medical Command; Senior Health Policy Analyst, Office of The Surgeon General; Director of Business Operations for the North Atlantic Regional Medical Command, Walter Reed Army Medical Center; Chief of Managed Care and Resource Management, US

Army Medical Department Activity, Fort Meade, Maryland; Chief of Managed Care and Clinical Support, US Army Medical Department Activity, West Point, New York; Executive Officer, US Army Dental Activity, Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri; Administrator, Department of Radiology, Dwight D. Eisenhower Army Medical Center, Fort Gordon, Georgia; Aide de Camp to the Commanding General, Dwight D. Eisenhower Army Medical Center; and Executive Officer, Headquarters & Headquarters Company, 18th Medical Command and 121st Evacuation Hospital, Seoul, Korea.

Colonel Heimall's command experience includes serving as the Commander, US Army Medical Department Activity & Irwin Army Community Hospital, Fort Riley, Kansas; Medical Company Commander, 93rd Evacuation Hospital and the Detachment Commander, US Army Dental Activity, Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. He deployed as the Medical Operations Officer for the Combined Forces Special Operations Command Central.

Colonel Heimall holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in International Studies from Norwich University, Northfield, Vermont; a Master's Degree in Healthcare Administration from Baylor University, Waco, Texas; and a Master's Degree in Strategic Studies from the US Army War College. He is a graduate of the US Army Command and General Staff College and the US Army War College.

His awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Joint Service Commendation Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, the Army Achievement Medal, the Armed Forces Reserve Medal, and the Army Staff Identification Badge. Colonel Heimall is a member of the Order of Military Medical Merit and is a Fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives.

## Lunch Menu April

Italian Chicken  
w/angel hair pasta,  
roma tomato,  
pine nuts & pesto  
Sautéed Broccoli Almandine  
Tossed Green Salad  
w/Dressing, Roll & Butter  
Water, Coffee, and Iced Tea

## April Membership Meeting Program

**Saturday, 12 April  
Underwood Golf Course**

|             |                    |
|-------------|--------------------|
| 1100 - 1200 | SOCIAL HOUR        |
| 1200 - 1215 | OPENING CEREMONY   |
| 1215 - 1230 | BOARD UPDATES      |
| 1230 - 1315 | MEAL SERVICE       |
| 1315 - 1345 | PROGRAM            |
| 1345 - 1355 | DOOR PRIZE DRAWING |
| 1355 - 1400 | CLOSING            |
| 1400        | ADJOURNMENT        |

**Please submit your Brunch  
Reservations no later than  
Wednesday, 9 April.**

Treasurer: MOAA  
PO Box 6144  
El Paso, TX 79906-0144

All lunch reservations  
with payment to our  
postal mail box

**\$20** Per Person

**REMITTANCE  
ENVELOPE ENCLOSED**



2nd Vice-president Jan Rasmussen and Guest Speaker, Mayor Oscar Leeser, cut the cake at the February luncheon.



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## Casualty Assistance Center

**Monday - Friday:**

**0730 - 1700**

**915-568-2903/3093/6338**

**After Hours (Installation)**

**915-569-6950/6951**



## 2014 EL PASO CHAPTER MOAA EVENTS SCHEDULE

|                   |                                      |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------|
| April 12, 2014    | April Membership Meeting & Lunch     |
| June 14, 2014     | June Membership Meeting & Lunch      |
| August 9, 2014    | August Membership Meeting & Lunch    |
| October 11, 2014  | October Membership Meeting & Lunch   |
| December 13, 2014 | December Membership Meeting & Brunch |

## Retiree and Annuitant Pay Dates for 2014

| Entitlement Month | Retiree Payment Dates        | Annuitant Payment Dates    |
|-------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| January 2014      | Friday, January 31, 2014     | Monday, February 3, 2014   |
| February 2014     | Friday, February 28, 2014    | Monday, March 3, 2014      |
| March 2014        | Tuesday, April 1, 2014       | Tuesday, April 1, 2014     |
| April 2014        | Thursday, May 1, 2014        | Thursday, May 1, 2014      |
| May 2014          | Friday, May 30, 2014         | Monday, June 2, 2014       |
| June 2014         | Tuesday, July 1, 2014        | Tuesday, July 1, 2014      |
| July 2014         | Friday, August 1, 2014       | Friday, August 1, 2014     |
| August 2014       | Friday, August 29, 2014      | Tuesday, September 2, 2014 |
| September 2014    | Wednesday, October 1, 2014   | Wednesday, October 1, 2014 |
| October 2014      | Friday, October 31, 2014     | Monday, November 3, 2014   |
| November 2014     | Monday, December 1, 2014     | Monday, December 1, 2014   |
| December 2014     | Wednesday, December 31, 2014 | Friday, January 2, 2015    |

## MOAA Spouse Blog:

Making it in the MilLife®  
Making it in the MilLife™ is the blog where you can get deeper insight on current issues affecting military spouses and families, follow our spouse programs and read interviews with community leaders. Spouses are each other's best resource, so if you would like to be considered for a guest blog entry, contact us at [moaaspouse@moaa.org](mailto:moaaspouse@moaa.org).

## Fort Bliss Gate Operating Hours

Alabama Gate, WBAMC, is open Monday through Friday from 5 a.m. to 9 p.m. and is closed weekends and federal holidays.  
IBCT North Gate is open Monday - Friday 5am - 0900 Closed on holidays.

## WBAMC Pharmacy Services

### Main Hospital Pharmacy

|                                      |                   |              |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Monday through Wednesday and Friday: | 7:30 AM – 6:30 PM | 915-742-2793 |
| Thursday                             | 8:30 AM – 6:30 PM |              |
| Saturday, Training Holidays:         | 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM |              |
| Closed Sundays and Federal Holidays  |                   |              |

### Freedom Crossing PX Pharmacy

|                                     |                   |              |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Monday – Friday                     | 8:30 AM – 6:00 PM | 915-742-9017 |
| Saturday & Training Holidays        | 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM |              |
| Closed Sundays and Federal Holidays |                   |              |

### Soldier and Family Medical Clinic (SFMC) Pharmacy

|   |                   |              |
|---|-------------------|--------------|
| Monday – Friday                                 | 7:30 AM – 6:30 PM | 915-742-1802 |
| Closed Saturdays, Sundays, and Federal Holidays |                   |              |

### Soldier Family Care Clinic (SFCC) Pharmacy

|   |                   |              |
|---|-------------------|--------------|
| Monday – Friday                                 | 7:30 AM – 6:30 PM | 915-742-1400 |
| Closed Saturdays, Sundays, and Federal Holidays |                   |              |
| Pharmacy Refill Services                        |                   | 915-742-1400 |



# Chaplain's Corner

LTC John H. G. Rasmussen  
Chaplain



I've been thinking about angels lately—particularly the ones we call Guardian Angels. I've been thinking about them for two reasons.

First, it's the season of the Christian Church Year that we call Lent—when we tell the story of the One who literally fought the Devil himself—all the way to his death on the cross. The Bible says that when Jesus was tempted to give up or abandon his mission, when he was in danger, God sent angels to minister to him (Mark 1:13).

Second, we have Service Members all around the world who stand in harm's way to protect us. In a very real sense they are our guardian angels, standing between us and the danger. There's not a day that goes by that you will not meet one (Active Duty, Retired, Reserve, or National

Guard). You may not even recognize them as such. Sometimes Guardian Angels look just like you and me. They blend in. But that's what warriors... or Guardian Angels are supposed to do, isn't it.

It occurs to me that our Guardians need protection too. They need, desperately need, our support, our love, our prayers, our thanks, our loyalty. They need to know that we'll not leave them in the lurch—ever. And just so, we can become their Guardian Angels in return.

A great biblical scholar named Claus Westerman wrote a small book entitled *God's Angels Need No Wings*. In it he says, "When we talk about guardian angels, especially in children's songs, it is not by accident. Nor is it a matter of making belief in angels something 'cute,' for it is precisely with children that

the guardian, protecting angel has his special task" (Claus Westerman, *God's Angels Need No Wings* [Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1979], 105.).

What comfort it is to know that each of us, especially our Service Members "is hidden and surrounded by one who belongs to that individual alone, and who means him only well" (Westerman, 106).

That is what I believe as your Chaplain. It's what I mean when I say now, May God hold you in the hollow of his hand."

O God. Let your holy angel have charge of all your children, that the wicked one may have no power over them. Amen.

## JUNIOR ENLISTED FAMILY CENTER, YMCA FOOD PANTRY

The YMCA Food Pantry provides services to E-5s and below and is located in building #1717 (the old commissary) on Marshall Road. The entrance for the Food Pantry is behind the building by the loading docks near Pleasonton Road. The hours of operation are Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday from Noon to 1700 hours.

In an emergency, occasionally a Jr. Grade Officer or a Retiree is helped. To receive food, a form must be signed by a chaplain or someone in authority in the soldier's unit. Families must show a military I.D. The center focuses

on helping truly needy families.



The pantry accepts any sealed non-perishable food. Items that routinely run out of are peanut butter, canned tuna, cereal, pasta, and pasta sauce.

Disposable diapers in all sizes, baby formula and baby food are, also, in need.

If you are redecorating your home and you have furniture, or other household items in good condition

that you would like to donate, please phone Nina Carey, Coordinator, Junior Enlisted Family Center, YMCA at 915/564-0009 during the hours of the center's operation. Please don't leave things on the loading dock without contacting Nina first as the items left are often "lost."

Should you elect to give a monetary donation for the Food Pantry, please draw your check payable to: Armed Services YMCA (ASYMCA) and put "Junior Enlisted Family Center (JEFC)" on the memo line. Additionally, a collection box for your checks or cash will be on the donation table.

Thank you for your consideration of helping our needy families at Fort Bliss.

**April 2014 Membership Meeting & Lunch**  
**The General George V. Underwood, Jr. Golf Course**  
**3200 Coe Ave., El Paso, TX 79904**

**Date:** Saturday 12 April 2014

**Time:** 1100 - 1400

**Guest Speaker:** Colonel Michael Heimall  
Commander, William Beaumont Medical Center

**Menu:**

Italian Chicken w/angel hair pasta, roma tomato, pine nuts & pesto  
Sautéed Broccoli Almandine  
Tossed Green Salad w/Dressing, Roll & Butter  
Water, Coffee, and Iced Tea

**Dress:** Casual



Brunch Secretary: [secretary@elpasomoaa.org](mailto:secretary@elpasomoaa.org)

Membership or email queries: [membership@elpasomoaa.org](mailto:membership@elpasomoaa.org)

Mail To: El Paso Chapter MOAA, Attn.: Secretary, PO Box 6144, Fort Bliss, TX 79906-0144

Please fill in this acceptance slip and return to the Secretary by Wednesday, 9 April 2014 with a check for \$20 per person, the cost of the brunch. **Late Reservations**, call Bob Pitt, 915-533-5111 or Bill Moore, 915-842-9650, by Noon, Thursday, April 10, and pay at the door.

Lunch will be on Saturday 12 April 2014 at 11:00 a.m.

Please print guest names clearly to ensure the correct spelling on the registration listing.

I will / will not attend the lunch and there will be \_\_\_\_\_ attendees in my party.

My check for \$ \_\_\_\_ (\$20.00 per person) made payable to the "El Paso Chapter" is enclosed.

Name of Member: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) of Guests:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



**Donnie W. Brown Chapter  
9th & 10th (Horse) Calvary  
Association**

**“ The Buffalo Soldiers”**

**National Visits El Paso, Texas**

On 10 January, 2014 the National President Trooper Willie Edley visited the Donnie W. Brown Chapter of the Buffalo Soldiers, the purpose of Trooper Edley's visit was to attend the installation banquet of the chapter's new officers.

Trooper Edley's visit started with a tour of The Buffalo Soldiers Monument, located just inside of the Robert E. Lee gate on Fort Bliss.



The monument is a statue of a mounted buffalo soldier on his horse. This monument was built from local donations and it stands guard over the entrance to Fort Bliss (see picture). The good news for the community of El Paso is that on 20 February, 2014 at 12:30PM, the gate's name will be changed from Robert E. Lee to “Buffalo Soldiers Gate”.

The Donnie W. Brown Chapter celebrated its Biannual Installation of Officers at the Centennial Club on Fort



Bliss, Texas 10 January, 2014. One hundred and fifty guests were treated by our keynote speaker, National President of the Buffalo Soldiers Trooper Willie Edley. The installation ceremony was a candle lighting event which symbolically challenged each incoming officer to support the Constitution and Bylaws and each subsequent incoming officer was required to light their candle from the



president's candle and pledge their support to the same.

The highlight of the event was the National President's speech. He gave a brief history of the association and some of the national programs. His speech challenged each member to help promote community service and the spirit of the Buffalo Soldiers. His major concerns were recruiting new members; informing the public of the deeds of these brave men; and the visibility of the Buffalo Soldiers in our communities. Finally, he talked about attracting young people to the National Forestry Service. Trooper Edley thanked the chapter and the people of El Paso for their hospitality



On Saturday January 11, 2014 Trooper Edley was given a tour of Fort Bliss and the surrounding El Paso area, highlighted with a tour of Concordia Cemetery. On or about ten years ago an extensive research project was launched to explore the possibility of Buffalo Soldiers grave sites in the El Paso area. Forty seven buffalo soldiers were discovered to be interred in Concordia Cemetery, four grave sites were found at Fort Bliss National Cemetery, and an additional eight grave sites were located in the Mexican State of Chihuahua.

The local community came together with one goal, to build a memorial for the buffalo soldiers buried in Concordia Cemetery. Several local groups volunteered to support this major endeavor. The Donnie W. Brown Chapter Buffalo Soldiers, Buffalo Soldiers Motorcycle Club, Probation

Department and the Concordia Heritage Association came together to build this tribute to these brave soldiers with one common mission, build a memorial which would reflect the pride of El Paso.

The forty seven headstones represent the forty seven soldiers interred in the cemetery (see picture). The names of the soldiers buried in



other locations, were placed on a plaque which is a living memorial.

Future grave site names will be placed on this plaque. Each headstone has the name of the soldier that is buried in the cemetery with the name of the individual who sponsored the headstone on the opposite side of



the stone.

The last stop on our tour was the Neighborhood Mc Call Center which housed local artist Bob Snead's Gallery. Bob Snead's Buffalo Soldiers paintings, drawings, prints, and lithographs have been sold all over the world. His gallery not only houses buffalo soldier's exhibits, but other black history art and painting as well. For example, paintings of The Tuskegee Airmen and the Black Cowboy. Each of his paintings is numbered with a certificate of authenticity.

El Paso is a treasure chest of Buffalo Soldier's history and all of these sites are located within ninety miles of El Paso. For example, Fort Davis, Fort Stanton, Fort Wingate, Fort Selden, Fort Stockton, Fort Hancock, Fort Bliss, and Camp Concordia, just to name a few. We really appreciate the National President's visit and we look forward to our fellow troopers visiting some of these wonderful historical sites.

## **Legend of Airman Snuffy: The Maynard Smith story** *by Senior Airman Reggie Manning 341st Missile Wing Public Affairs*

The term 'Airman Snuffy' has been a part of traditional jargon used by Military Training Instructors to describe bad troops on the verge of trouble, but many people don't know that Airman Snuffy actually existed--and he was the first enlisted member to receive the Medal of Honor.

Maynard Smith was born in the small town of Caro, Mich., on May 19, 1911. He was the son of a school teacher and a successful attorney, and had the reputation early in life as being spoiled, trouble prone, and an absolute nuisance to others around him. He lived off of an inheritance and worked as a tax field agent until his misconducts caught up with him. A failure to pay child support charges caused the judge to offer Smith two options: jail or the military.

"When I went into the Army, a group of 30 of us assembled on the courthouse steps for a picture. While we were lining up, the sheriff came down the steps with Maynard Smith beside him... in handcuffs," quotes author/researcher Allen Mikaelian.

At the age of 31, Smith hated taking orders from men who were usually 10 years younger than him. Smith shocked his basic training instructors by volunteering for Aerial Gunnery School in Harlington, Texas. Since this field was the quickest route to gaining rank, Smith was promoted to staff sergeant after completion of training and assigned to the 423rd Squadron, 306th Bomb Group in Turleigh, England.

When his aircraft was hit repeatedly by flak and cannon fire from FW-190s, Smith stepped up to the plate rendering first aid to the wounded crewmen. In the heat of combat, he also manned machine guns desperately throwing exploding ammunition overboard. The aircraft suffered from severe damage, cutting the wing tank off and causing gasoline to pour inside the plane catching it ablaze.

"At this point, I had lost my electrical controls and I knew something was wrong," said Smith. "I manually cranked the thing around, opened the armored hatch and got back in the airplane when I saw it was on fire. The radioman became excited and jumped out the window without a parachute. "

With the oxygen system and intercom shot, and crew members bailing out, Smith stayed aboard and assisted an injured tail gunner.

With a fire onboard burning violently and melting everything in sight, Smith wrapped himself in protective clothing and completely extinguished the flames by hand. Alternating between manning the available machine guns, applying first aid to his comrade and fighting the fire that had began to weaken the B-17's fuselage, Smith commenced to throw everything out of the rear of the plane that wasn't too hot, too heavy or bolted down.

Because of his heroic efforts and saving the lives of six remaining wingmen, the aircraft made it out of the 'hot' zone and landed safely near the southwest tip of England.

"Somehow we got the plane back," Smith said. "The plane was riddled with about 3,500 bullet holes. It was all burned out in the center. There was nothing but the four main beams holding it together. Ten minutes after we landed, the plane collapsed."

For his actions, Smith was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor by the Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson. This would be the first Medal of Honor presented to a living Airman, the first awarded to an Airman for heroism in the European theater, the first awarded to an enlisted Airman and the first Medal of Honor to be presented by the Secretary of War in the theater of action.

During the preparation of the ceremony, leadership failed to inform Smith of the presentation, which lead to an embarrassing moment for everyone involved. With the band in place, the Secretary of War waiting at the podium and the bombers prepared for their flyover, 'Airman Snuffy' was nowhere to be found. A search party was released to find the war hero, and he was eventually located scraping leftovers from breakfast

trays after being placed on KP duty for disciplinary reasons. This scenario, reported by the Stars and Stripes, shocked the world, but was nothing new to the men of the 306th Bomb Group.

"In the real military such men are the misfits that cannot be changed, only tolerated; until they can be transferred elsewhere and become someone else's problem. They are certainly not the kind of soldier one expects to become a genuine hero as had Sergeant Maynard Smith. Perhaps no one in the 306th Bomb Squadron was more surprised that Snuffy Smith had become a hero to the Air Force and a household name back in America, than the disheveled little man himself," said Andy Rooney, a fellow Airman and author of the book 'My War.'

After completing four more combat missions, Smith was seen by the medical board and diagnosed with "Operational Exhaust" and was reassigned to a non-combat clerical post with reduction of rank to Private. For a Medal of Honor recipient to be demoted is still hard for many to comprehend.

Smith died on May 11, 1984, and was buried in Arlington National Cemetery. The trials and tribulations of Sgt. Maynard Smith lived decades after his death. His troublesome persona became a typical label of Airmen after him who were branded as difficult troops. With legends and myths circulating Air Force-wide, as well as throughout the entire armed forces, many never knew that Airman Snuffy was a real person, a real Airman, a Medal of Honor recipient and a national hero.

So the next time an Airman is called 'Snuffy' as a means of slander, he or she should simply smile and say, "thank you."

Content in this article was taken from the following websites: [www.af.mil](http://www.af.mil), [www.nationalmuseum.af.mil](http://www.nationalmuseum.af.mil), and [www.arlingtoncemetery.com](http://www.arlingtoncemetery.com).



In the days where B-17's had a 50 percent survival rate, Smith went out on his first mission and significantly made history. On May 1, 1943, stepping in as a replacement, his mission was to bomb St. Nazaire, France, better known to bomber crews as 'Flak City.' Smith's small physique made him perfect for the position in the ball gunner turret.





## Common (Medicare) Scams and Identity Theft

### Common scams

Be suspicious of doctors, health care providers, or suppliers who:

- Ask for your Medicare number:
  - In exchange for free equipment or services
  - For “record keeping purposes”
- Tell you that tests become cheaper as more of them are provided
- Advertise “free” consultations to people with Medicare
- Call or visit you and say they represent Medicare or the federal government
- Use telephone or door-to-door selling techniques
- Use pressure or scare tactics to sell you expensive medical services or diagnostic tests
- Bill Medicare for services you never received or a diagnosis you do not have
- Offer non-medical transportation or housekeeping as Medicare-approved services
- Bill home health services for patients who are not confined to their home, or for patients who still drive a car
- Bill Medicare for medical equipment for people in nursing homes
- Bill Medicare for tests you received as a hospital inpatient or within 72 hours of admission or discharge
- Bill Medicare for a power wheelchair or scooter when you don’t meet Medicare’s qualifications

### Identity theft

Identity theft happens when someone uses your personal information without your consent to commit fraud or other crimes. Personal information includes your name, Social Security, Medicare, or credit card numbers.

The crime takes many forms. Identity thieves may rent an apartment, obtain a credit card, or establish a telephone account in your name. You may not find out about the theft until you review your credit report or a credit card statement and notice charges you didn’t make—or until you’re contacted by a debt collector.

Identity theft is serious. While some identity theft victims can resolve their problems quickly, others spend hundreds of dollars and many days repairing damage to their good name and credit record.

Protect yourself. Keep your personal information safe. Don’t give your information out over the Internet, or to anyone who comes to your home (or calls you) uninvited. Give personal information only to doctors or other Medicare approved providers.

**To see if a provider is Medicare approved, call:**

- **800-MEDICARE (800-633-4227)**
- **877-486-2048 (TTY users)**

### Report Fraud

If you suspect errors, fraud, or abuse when you use Medicare—or if someone tries to sell you a product or service you don’t need—report it. Learn what to look for, and get details



about preventing and detecting fraud.

### What do I need to have to report errors, fraud, or abuse?

Before you report errors, fraud, or abuse, carefully review the facts and have the following information ready:

- The provider’s name and any identifying number you may have.
- Information on the service or item you are questioning.
- The date the service or item was supposedly given or delivered.
- The payment amount approved and paid by Medicare.

• The date on your Medicare Summary Notice.

• Your name and Medicare number (as listed on your Medicare card).

• The reason you think Medicare should not have paid.

• Any other information you have showing why Medicare should not have paid.

### Where do I report errors, fraud, or abuse?

To report suspected errors, fraud, or abuse, you can contact either:

**HHS Office of Inspector**

**General Call: 800-447-8477 TTY:**

800-377-4950 Online: Report Fraud

Online Mail: HHS Tips Hotline P.O.

Box 23489 Washington, DC 20026-3489

Or

**Centers for Medicare & Medicaid**

**Services Call: 800-633-4227 TTY:**

877-486-2048 Mail: Medicare

Beneficiary Contact Center P.O. Box 39 Lawrence, KS 66044

• The Medicare fraud you report is substantiated as potential fraud by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Program Safeguard Contractor or the Zone Program Integrity Contractor. It must be formally referred to the Office of Inspector General for further investigation as part of a case.

• You are not an “excluded individual” (for example, you cannot receive a reward for reporting a fraud in which you were a participant).

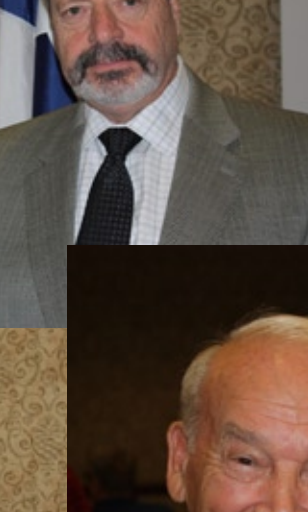
• You cannot qualify for another reward under another government program.

• The person or organization you are reporting is not currently under investigation by law enforcement.

• Your report leads to the direct recovery of at least \$100 of Medicare money.

-----  
SOURCE: Medicare website at  
<http://www.stopmedicarefraud.gov/aboutfraud/index.html>













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### TAPS



**Paulette B. Lagouros**, 87, passed away Feb. 3, 2014.

She was a resident of El Paso since 1956. Preceded in death by her husband Lieutenant

Colonel (Retired) John E. Lagouros,

She is survived by son, John O. Lagouros and grandson, Gabriel K.,

both of Orange County, California and sister, Mignon Ganne of NYC. Paulette was an active member of the Woman's Club of El Paso, Woman's Department Chamber of Commerce and the Retired Officer's Wives' Club.

Visitation was from 5-9 pm Sunday, February 9, 2014 at Hillcrest Funeral Home, 1060 Carolina Drive with a Vigil Service at 7 pm. Funeral Service took place at 9:30 am Monday, February 10, 2014 at Hillcrest Chapel. Interment followed at 11 am Monday, February 10, 2014 at Fort Bliss National Cemetery.

Con'td on page 21

#### New Members

Colonel Maureen Lofberg

#### Renewals

LTC Webster Powell  
Mrs. Dorothy Smith  
CW4 Michael Seitz  
Col Steve Barrett  
Mrs. Dagmar Becker

LtCol Clinton Rutherford  
Mrs. A Foster  
Mrs. Betty Barter  
Mrs. Louisa Pullen  
Mrs. Katherine LaBounty

Mrs. Colette Petty  
LTC Martha Caldwell  
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LTC (R) Joe Gollasch  
Membership Chairman



## El Paso MOAA Membership



Membership is open to Active Duty, Retired, Former Officers, Reserves, National Guard, and Warrant Officers of the seven uniformed services: Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, Public Health Service and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Spouses, Widows and Widowers may also join.



The Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) is dedicated to preserving the hard-earned benefits of service members. The more members we have, the stronger our voice. Our mission is urgent and we need the support of all beneficiaries.

Welcome to our new members. Please help us spread the word that MOAA needs to recruit additional active duty members to continue our advocacy for your benefits, force strength, and readiness.

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Help keep MOAA strong and the most influential military lobbyist on the Hill. Encourage a friend or colleague to [join our chapter](#) and continue our support of the Fort Bliss and El Paso communities.

**MOAA BASIC MEMBERSHIP:** MOAA'S new no-fee electronic BASIC Membership gives busy officers the opportunity to experience what MOAA is all about. You'll stay current with our e-newsletters and have opportunities to participate in grassroots activism effort.

**MOAA PREMIUM MEMBERSHIP:** Get full access to everything MOAA has to offer with our PREMIUM Membership, including our full spectrum of our career resources (one-on-one career counseling, résumé reviews, and interviewing advice and critiques), countless discounts on products and travel, and access to all MOAA exclusive publications and news updates.

**MOAA LIFE MEMBERSHIP:** MOAA LIFE Membership remains the most elite level of membership for military officers and their spouses. When you become a LIFE Member of MOAA, you not only make us a stronger advocate for America's military officers, but you also make a lifetime investment for yourself and your loved ones.

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|---------------|-----|---------------|
| 22 March 2015 |     | Sydney        |
| 23 March 2015 | 1   | At Sea        |
| 24 March 2015 | 2   | Melbourne     |
| 25 March 2015 | 3   | At Sea        |
| 26 March 2015 | 4   | Hobart        |
| 27 March 2015 | 5   | At Sea        |
| 28 March 2015 | 6   | At Sea        |
| 29 March 2015 | 7   | Milford Sound |
| 30 March 2015 | 8   | Dunedin       |
| 31 March 2015 | 9   | Akaroa        |
| 1 April 2015  | 10  | Picton        |
| 2 April 2015  | 11  | Wellington    |
| 3 April 2015  | 12  | Napier        |
| 4 April 2015  | 13  | Tauranga      |
| 5 April 2015  | 14  | Auckland      |



**Cruise Ship:** Holland America Oosterdam  
**Cruise Agent:** Bonnie Jordan, MOAA Travel  
**Group ID:** TNP0516  
**Phone Number:** 866-724-4462 ext 4255  
**Fax Number:** 602-896-4720

- \* First deposit of \$1750/person due 21 February 2014
- \*\* Balance due NLT 12 December 2014
- \*\*\* Air fares and insurance not included

| Cabin Rates |            |             |             |           |           |           |
|-------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Category    | VA Balcony | EOcean View | FOcean View | J Inside  | K Inside  | L Inside  |
| Per Guest   | \$3493.14  | \$2733.14   | \$2703.14   | \$2433.14 | \$2403.14 | \$2373.14 |
| Dbl Total   | \$6986.28  | \$5466.28   | \$5406.28   | \$4866.24 | \$4806.28 | \$4746.28 |





# MOAA

Military Officers Association of America



## THE 1ST ARMORED DIVISION EL PASO CHAPTER SCHOLARSHIP

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Miss Elma Rodriguez

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Members and friends of the El Paso Chapter, MOAA are encouraged to donate to this worthy cause for eligible children of soldiers assigned to the 1st Armored Division.

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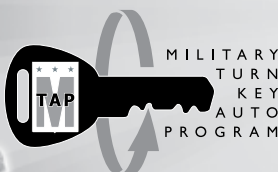
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## Snuffy Smith Deep in the Weeds Feeling a Little Abused and Smelling Chicken-stuff

Snuffy Smith has evolved into legend from a real story about a B17 ball turret gunner named Maynard Smith. Sergeant Smith performed heroically on his first mission in a bombing mission in 1943 against St. Nazaire, France, with such acts resulting in him receiving the Medal of Honor. His is a story of a troubled soul who rises to greater heights out of the exigency of the moment. In my mind, Snuffy Smith has come to represent many of us who have served. You may find his story reprinted in this issue of The Border Bulletin.

So, what is Snuffy looking for in leadership? Most likely, he's looking for the leadership exhibited by command in the rescue of Roger Locher who was shot down and spent over twenty days in escaping and evading capture in North Vietnam. The story is told by BG Steve Ritchie, USAF, Retired: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QvRcP4go-eg>. Succinctly, Roger Locher was shot down and missing for over twenty days somewhere in the vicinity of Yen Bai Airfield around 60 miles northwest of Hanoi. After the twenty-first day on the ground, Locher picked up friendly aircraft on his survival radio and got off a message. The first attempt at rescue failed. The second succeeded with the leadership allocating everything to Locher's rescue. Google "Roger Locher;" and, read about the rescue.

Roger Locher had his, Benghazi had none.

If Snuffy is going to put "it" on the line in carrying out the Nation's bidding, he wants to know that the leadership will put their "credentials" on the line in support of him.

Let's tie the need for leadership into the COLA cuts authored by Senator Patty Murray and Representative Paul Ryan's bipartisan budget reducing retirees, current and future, who are under 62 Cost of Living (COLA) increases by an annual rate of 1%. It should never have seen the light of day...a super-load of chicken-stuff from the get-go.

The COLA reduction was reversed for currently serving and those retirees now under 62. The Senate's version included all new military personnel accessions, too, while the House's did not...the House's version made it to the Senate...Snuffy suspicions that the Senate decided to go with what the House passed rather than brave a few more days in the deep freeze weather to do the right thing by including all future military volunteers.

If this Country wants to get military manpower on the cheap, let the civilian leadership reestablish universal conscription. With the draft, those within the belt-way can treat their military personnel like indentured Irish servants of old..."feed 'em peanuts and work 'em to death"...a program this Snuffy is not advocating.

Snuffy has his eye on another raft of the conditions of his military service to our Country: Cap pay raises or even freezing pay; Make additional end-strength cuts; Cut basic housing allowances; Reduce the commissary benefit savings; Means-test TRICARE fees and establish TRICARE For Life/TRICARE Standard enrollment fees; and, more... <http://www.moaa.org/militaryretirementwin/>

Heads up, Snuffy, more chicken-stuff on the way! SECDEF Hagel says he's going to reduce the military to pre-WWII levels. What a load!

MOAA is on The Hill's Top Lobbyists list for the seventh year in a row: [http://www.moaa.org/Main\\_Menu/Multimedia\\_and\\_Press\\_Room/News\\_Releases/MOAA\\_on\\_The\\_Hill%E2%80%99s\\_Top\\_Lobbyist\\_list\\_for\\_seventh\\_consecutive\\_year.html](http://www.moaa.org/Main_Menu/Multimedia_and_Press_Room/News_Releases/MOAA_on_The_Hill%E2%80%99s_Top_Lobbyist_list_for_seventh_consecutive_year.html)

MOAA can provide the leadership needed. Join the fight to preserve our country and military from harm: <http://www.moaa.org/join/>

For information regarding membership in the El Paso Chapter contact [membership@elpasomoaa.org](mailto:membership@elpasomoaa.org).





❧ TAPS ❧



**Lt. Col.  
(USAF Ret)  
Juan J.  
Provencio**, 93,  
a member of  
The Greatest  
Generation  
of veterans,  
passed away  
at his home  
on January  
24, 2014,  
surrounded by  
his wife and  
family.

Juan was born in El Paso, Texas on May 28, 1920, to Manuel and Paulina Rey Provencio. He grew up in Sunset Heights where he shared many adventures with his five brothers, four sisters, and friends he would have for life. He attended St. Patrick Catholic School and graduated from Cathedral High School, where he played baseball, basketball, and was a yell leader for the Irish. He attended the College of Mines (UT El Paso) but left when he was accepted to the air cadet program with the U.S. Army Air Corps in 1942.

Juan was commissioned a Second Lieutenant and awarded his pilot's wings on May 24, 1943. He was assigned training as a B-17 co-pilot and sent to join the 8th Air Force in England. He flew 21 missions as a co-pilot and 4 as a pilot, including strategic forays over Norway, and Schweinfurt and Berlin, Germany. He was awarded four Air Medals during his tour and decorated with the Distinguished Flying Cross by General Curtis LeMay. He worked as the pilot aide de camp to both General LeMay and General Earl E. Partridge before returning to the States. Juan was recalled to active duty as a captain in 1952, attended Command and Staff College, held several posts in Alaska, Missouri, Louisiana, and Nebraska before serving as an Air Commando Squadron Commander in Panama. In 1968 he

served as an ALCE Commander in Pleiku, Vietnam. He retired from the USAF in 1972. He was awarded the Bronze Star, the Meritorious Service Medal and three Commendation medals.

After completing his BBA at the University of Texas El Paso, Juan served as a director of Goals for El Paso, a non-profit organization engaged in long term strategic planning for the El Paso community. He also worked as a sales representative for Rudolph Miles and Sons.

He was an active volunteer at the War Eagles Air Museum and a member of the Daedalians, a group of retired pilots with whom he shared many stories over the years.

Juan was preceded in death by his daughter Maria Luisa and sons Edward, and Philip. He is survived by his beautiful wife of 68 years, Maria Luisa (Samaniego) Provencio, whom he married in June 1945. He loved recounting stories of how they met and fell in love. Maria Luisa Lou was his strength throughout their long marriage and lovingly devoted to him until his last day. Also left to carry on are daughters Marti, Teeni, and Teresa Provencio Messerli (Brent), sons Jim (Royal Walker) and Rick. Grandchildren include Kelli of San Antonio, Kari (Brandon) Hansen of Cypress, Texas and grandson Eddie.

Visitation for Juan was on Sunday, February 2, 2014 at Martin Funeral Home on Resler from 6pm to 9 pm, with a vigil service commencing at 7pm. Funeral Mass was celebrated at St. Patrick Cathedral on Monday, February 3, 2014 at 11:30am. A service at Fort Bliss followed the mass.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made in Juan's name to the St. Patrick Building Fund, the scholarship fund for Los Que Van Quedando at Cathedral High, or to the Sacred Heart Parish Building Fund.

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# Add your own voice to the fight.

# I'm a Telemarketer. Here is How to Get Rid of Me (Part 1)

## How Telemarketers Get to You



Not all companies run exactly the same way, but most calls follow a similar pattern. Successful telemarketers generally have a 96% chance of getting turned down. With such terrible odds, they will be relentless in trying to keep you on the phone.

Each telemarketer has their own username and password, so all the information they gather during their shift stays linked to them.

Depending on the company calling you, the lead will display a little or a lot of information. I work for an arts organization, so we can see the customer's entire history: subscriptions, added ticket purchases for friends, donations, and sometimes even notes on who their assistants or friends are. In other cases, they may just have your phone number.

Anything relevant you mention will be added to your lead profile: an email address, best time to call, or your objections to the product. Don't say anything to the telemarketer unless you want it written down on your profile.

If the caller doesn't reach you, they mark your lead as "no answer" and the system programs it so you get called again a few days later. If the company does not have a large lead pool, you may get called as soon as 12 hours later. If you're dealing with this kind of aggressive campaign, it's actually better to answer then to let them keep calling you. (More on how to handle that later.)

If the caller does speak to you, they will do their best to sell to you on the first call. A good telemarketer uses the "Three Nos" rule: don't let the customer go until they have said "no" three times during the phone call. This technique has actually worked for me several times. After the first two no, the client often runs out of reasons and becomes more persuadable. Telemarketers try to keep you on the phone as long as possible because they can eventually wear you down and get money out of you.

If you don't purchase on that initial phone call, the telemarketer will log everything you've said and suggest calling you back another time. These are logged as "call backs"—tiny gold nuggets for telemarketers. Selling to a call back is more likely than selling to a first call because you've already established a rapport. This process may take weeks, and sometimes results in a sale simply because the patron wants to stop the calls.

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