

2023 | October



# THE BORDER BULLETIN

EL PASO CHAPTER OF MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA



Nationally Ranked Five-Star Chapter • MOAA Affiliate from January 23, 1956 • Our 67th Year

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### Sunset

White Sands National Monument

— William Oseles

### EL PASO CHAPTER NATIONAL AWARDS

#### Levels of Excellence

Runner-up 2000 and 2001

**Five-Star Chapter** 2001 thru 2018  
**Communications Award Print Newsletter**

Five Star 2015, 2016, 2018, thru 2020  
Four Star 2017

Winner 2004, 2012, 2013 and 2014  
Runner-up 2008 thru 2011

**Communications Award Print Legislative Coverage**

Winner 2008, 2009, 2011 and 2012  
**Communications Award Website**

Five-Star 2015 thru 2020

Winner 2010 thru 2013

Runner-up 2009 and 2014

## INPUT Deadline for December 2023 Border Bulletin 3 November

### The Border Bulletin Newsletter Committee

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**The advertisements that appear in this publication/website do not reflect an endorsement by MOAA or the El Paso Chapter.**

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**Editorial Policy**  
MOAA national and the El Paso Chapter (a MOAA affiliate) are independent, nonprofit, and politically nonpartisan organizations

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El Paso, Texas 79935

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### Report a Retiree Death

**Monday – Friday**

0730 – 1700

915-568-5207

After Hours (Installation)

915-569-6950/6951

Or visit:

<https://www.dfas.mil/retiredmilitary>





## President's Message

**COL Lennie Enzel, MS, RN**

Fall is almost upon us! I know we will be happy not to have any more triple digit days. Soon we will be complaining about it being too cold and getting dark too early.

Thank you to all who attended our September Luncheon. Mr. Froy Garza, the Director of the El Paso VA Health Care System was our guest speaker and did a fabulous job of providing an update about the many changes and improvements at our VA. The food was delicious and the service by the Centennial Club staff was great.

I am most appreciative of our members who brought other potential members to the luncheon and to our newest chapter member, CPT Yu, an Internal Medicine resident at WBAMC. It is imperative that each of us make recruiting new Chapter members our mission. Often when approached about joining our El Paso MOAA Chapter, people will say, "I already belong to MOAA." What many people do not realize is that unlike other organizations, when one joins MOAA National, they do not automatically join their local chapter. That requires a separate action. With dues only \$20/year to receive a hard copy of the Border Bulletin and \$15/year for the online Border Bulletin, it is a good deal. Please ask those eligible to join our Chapter to do so.

The majority of your Board members have agreed to return next year. However, CW2(R) Dave Garcia, our Legislative Director, must step down due to his numerous other Veteran advocacy positions. Having held the Legislative Director position in the past, I can tell you it is very interesting and not a lot of work. Please contact me if you are interested in that or any other position on our Board of Directors. Our Chapter cannot survive without everyone's participation and assistance.

I would also like to thank COL(R) Dodge who contacted us to lend his assistance to Board activities.

As you know, MOAA National's main thrust is lobbying for the preservation/expansion of the benefits we earned through our military service. It is important that you join these efforts by also lobbying our local and national Congressional representatives through in person meetings phone calls, and MOAA 'Take Action' communications.

All members should be registered on the MOAA Legislative Action Center website. Please check the MOAA Legislative Action Center at <https://moaa.quorum.us> to make sure you are registered. If you are registered, in the upper right-hand corner of the page it will read "Welcome (your name)" or "Sign Up". If it reads 'sign up', please complete the form and choose our Chapter from the list of MOAA Chapters in the dropdown menu.

Once registered (which takes seconds), it is very easy to weigh in on important issues by returning to <https://moaa.quorum.us> and sending your legislators a message supporting key advocacy issues. It literally takes less than 5 minutes.

The December Luncheon will be held on 16 December at 11:30am at the Centennial Club Pub. The guest speaker will be COL Lee C. Freeman, the Commander of William Beaumont Army Medical Center. Please plan to attend and bring a friend or two.



## Pharmacy Hours

Short notice changes to Pharmacy Operation Hours due to Command approved hospital activities will be posted to the WBAMC Facebook Page.

<https://www.facebook.com/WBAMC1>

**Closed on federal holidays**

### Hospital

**Monday - Friday 7:30 AM - 4:00 PM**

**Main Pharmacy - West Clinic Building 1st Floor**

18511 Highlander Medics St, El Paso, TX 79918,

**(for hospital discharge only)**

**915-742-9490**

### Mendoza

**Monday - Friday 7:00 AM - 4:00 PM**

**Every Third Thursday 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM**

11335 SSG Sims St, Fort Bliss, TX 79918,

**915-742-1400**

### Freedom Crossing

**Monday - Friday 9:30 AM - 1:00 PM**

**2:00 PM - 6:00 PM**

1611 Haan Rd, Fort Bliss, TX 79906

**915-742-9017**

**Note:** If a high volume of patients needing to be serviced for the day and not enough staff is available, the kiosk may be shut down early in order to ensure all patients that have a ticket can be serviced for the day.

East Bliss Closed

**SFMC Closed**

**Rio Bravo Closed**

**Desert Sage Closed**

## EL PASO VA HEALTH CARE SYSTEM PHARMACY

**There are four convenient options for refilling prescriptions which can then be mailed directly to your home. Choose any process that is easy for you to use:**

- Call the automated phone system at (915) 564-6100 ext. 6110 or 1-800-672-3782 ext.6110. Follow the directions to process your refill.
- Mail in your refill slips.
- Drop the refill slip in the mail-out box located in the pharmacy.
- Use the MyHealtheVet Website: [www.myhealth.va.gov](http://www.myhealth.va.gov)

**Please note, window service at the Pharmacy will be limited to new prescriptions only. So, for all refills, please use one of the 4 options listed above. Location: 2nd Floor, West Hallway.**

**Hours: Mon - Fri,  
8:00am-4:30pm; Except Tues.,  
9:00am-4:30pm**

<https://www.moaa.org/content/publications-and-media/moaa-publications/moaa-publications/>



## CHAPLAINS CORNER

### MRS CONNIE SULLIVAN

As we all know, there are God's laws, for believers, and laws of the land, that we have to abide by because there are consequences if we don't obey them.

One example is running a stop traffic signal. Most of us at one time in our lives have broken this law.

One Sunday morning, when I was going to church, I did not stop at the red light. I kept on going because I didn't want to be late since I am one of the choristers and it was my turn to direct the music for the

congregation.

As soon as I passed the light, I immediately went into a tremendous sense of guilt because I am a Chaplain. I could not believe that I had done that even though there were no cars anywhere at the time, but the camera that caught me red-handed and above all, my beloved God that was watching me the whole time, gave me an appalling feeling of disdain.

That act of disobedience caused me 70 dollars. The Traffic Department sent me a bill with the picture of my car passing through the red light, and made me very unhappy.

To say the least, my guilt was renewed when I heard the story I am about to tell. If I had heard it before I ran the stop light, I would not have done it because at the time I did it, I did not even think of the consequences of another car crossing through at the same time I was going forward at a high speed.

The story has to do with a man that was speeding and was stopped by a law officer that saw him driving at a very high speed.

The man was angry and frustrated that the policeman had caught him. He told the officer to give him a break since he had seen the officer at his church.

The officer did not respond, just went to the front of the car and was writing on his tablet and when he finished, he knocked on the window and gave the man the piece of paper and left.

The man thinking that it was a ticket saw that it was a note that said: I am giving you a warning, my 3 year old was killed, run over, by a speeder. Please slow down and drive safely.

When I heard the story, I was devastated because I thought that what if there had been a family in a car that was crossing and what if I had killed them or injured them for the rest of their lives.

What if I had gotten injured as well. The amount of time that I went through repenting with my Heavenly Father and my Lord is underestimated.

If we would get into a habit of stopping just a few seconds before making decisions and asking God for help, we, perhaps, could avoid a lot of mistakes in our daily lives. If we would allow our Supreme Being to guide us, life could be much more enjoyable and less stressful.

The key to getting safe to our destination at all times, is giving ourselves plenty of time so we don't have to rush to avoid mistakes and or fatalities. For believers, God is faithful and hears our

## KIWANIS FLAG FOUNDATION

"Let's Flag El Paso" ...we hope you will join our mission



The Kiwanis Clubs of El Paso dream that one day everyone in the Sun City will fly the U.S. flag on important national holidays.

On the 5 designated holidays a flag will be delivered early each morning, picking it up at sunset.

Memorial Day ~ Flag Day ~ 4th of July ~ Labor Day ~ Veterans Day

It's a convenient program and a wonderful display of neighborhood patriotism.

minimum annual contribution: \$30 per flag

Download a form: [elpasokiwanisflags.org](http://elpasokiwanisflags.org)

email: [info@starsandstripesdaily.org](mailto:info@starsandstripesdaily.org) or call us: 915-833-2269

Pay by credit card to subscribe: [pdnfoundation.org/Kiwanis Flag Fund](http://pdnfoundation.org/Kiwanis%20Flag%20Fund)

Thank you to these groups for their commitment and hard work placing these flags.






## EL Paso Chapter Outreach Foundation

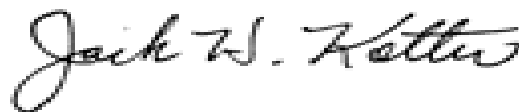
It is my pleasure to once again be the President of the Outreach Foundation. I am willing again to join the Foundation to provide assistance to the local community of soldiers and veterans.

A foundation Board Meeting was held on 25 August at the Centennial Club. A discussion was conducted in the New Business agenda item. Three donations were talked about. The first was the Welcome Home kit for Vets. This an initiative by the local Elks Lodge to purchase the necessary furniture for homeless vets to establish living in a new residence. Next was the White Cane Event. This in an on-going program to aid blind vets. This event has been supported for several years. The last donation was for the Veteran's Standdown that will be held on 15 Sep. This is another long-standing event that provides veterans with various articles of clothing, new bedding needs, and services such as educational, employment, and housing. These three donations totaled \$900.00. Previously this year there were donations to the VA 2k walk, VA Baby Shower, and the Solder Art Workshops on Ft. Bliss. These donations totaled \$1650.00. These donations were again given to previously supported events.

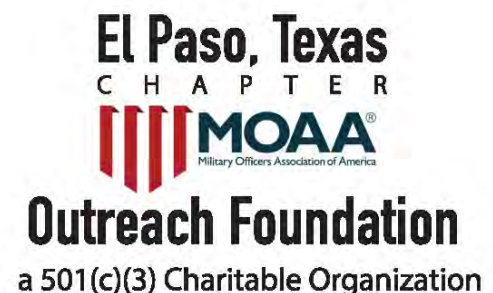
Once again, the foundations will participate in Giving Day on Tuesday after Thanksgiving. Also, the December meeting of the Chapter will collect food cans and packaging for the Junior Enlisted Family Center at Ft. Bliss.

WORKING FOR YOU----Your Foundation Board of Directors

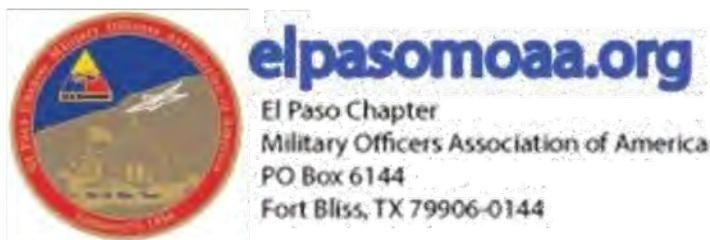
Never Stop Serving



Jack H. Kotter USA, BG, Retired







## Chapter MEMBERSHIP ENROLLMENT

### YES! Sign me up as an El Paso Chapter Member

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Branch of Service \_\_\_\_\_ Rank \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Retired ☐ Active ☐ Former

☐ Reserve ☐ National Guard ☐ Auxiliary\*

☐ Friend of the Chapter

\*Surviving spouse of eligible officer

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Unit \_\_\_\_\_

*To ensure deliverability of MOAA communications, please provide a personal email without a '.mil' domain if available.*

MOAA Number \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse Name \_\_\_\_\_

Your spouse has access to your El Paso Chapter MOAA member benefits

☐ One-Year Hard Copy Membership \$20

☐ One-Year Electronic Membership \$15

☐ Multi-Year Memberships— Contact Membership Chair

## Method of Payment

☐ Check (please make payable to El Paso MOAA) ☐ Visa ☐ Discover ☐ MasterCard ☐ AMEX

Charge my card \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_ CVS \_\_\_\_\_

*Dues to MOAA are not deductible as a charitable contribution for federal tax purposes.*

Send Check to: El Paso Chapter MOAA , PO Box 6144, Fort Bliss, TX 79906-0144

# Never Stop Serving!



**September Luncheon  
Centennial Banquet  
And Conference Center**











Opening Reception **SATURDAY, 4 NOVEMBER**  
2:00-4:00 PM

INTERNATIONAL MUSEUM OF ART 1211 Montana Street



## **SOLDIER ART WORKSHOPS**

**2023 EXHIBIT 4-30 November**

*SKIES Youth Art*

*Soldier/Veterans Art*



**El Paso Locomotive 22x28**

**By John Mackenzie**

**Over 60 Original Art Works by our  
Artist-Instructors for Sale.**

**Sales and Raffle Proceeds are used to support the  
Soldier Art Workshops for our Active Duty Soldiers  
and Families**

**Military, Veterans & their Families**



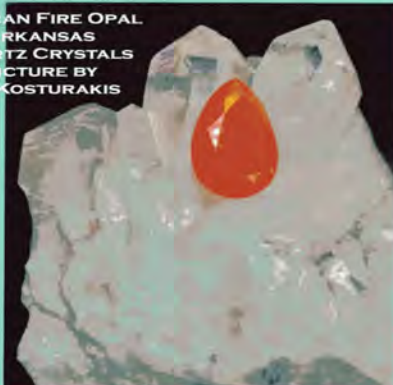
## **EL PASO TEXAS**

**2023 MINERAL, GEM, JEWELRY  
& BEAD SHOW**

**DECEMBER 1ST, 2ND, 3RD, 2023**

**FRI & SAT: 10AM - 6PM, SUN: 10AM - 5PM**

MEXICAN FIRE OPAL  
ARKANSAS  
QUARTZ CRYSTALS  
PICTURE BY  
LIZ KOSTURAKIS



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Cabochons, Beads, Flint Knapping, Designers & More!**

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WWW.EPMGS.COM**

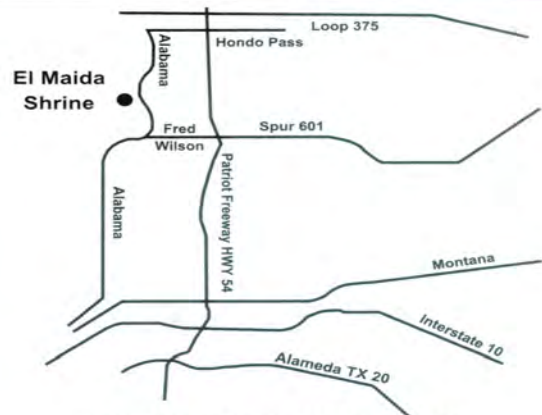
**Free admission, free parking, door prizes,  
kids table**



## **El Paso Mineral & Gem Society**

**P.O. BOX 31516**

**El Paso, Texas 79930**



**FOR SHOW INFORMATION VISIT:**

[www.epmgs.com](http://www.epmgs.com)

**THEME RELATED VENDORS WELCOME! CONTACT:**  
Liz Kosturakis (915) 328-5488 or [ekosturakis@gmail.com](mailto:ekosturakis@gmail.com)

**CLUB ACTIVITIES AND CLASSES HELD AT:**  
**MEMORIAL PARK SENIOR CENTER**  
1800 BYRON ST.  
EL PASO, TX 79930

**CLASSES:**  
Lapidary Art,  
Silversmithing,  
Casting, Creative Arts

**For information  
on meetings  
and classes call:**  
**(915) 212-0391**



## **Doc's Corner**

### **Daniel Washburn, M.D.**

Fall is now just around the corner. Although many vaccines can be taken anytime of the year, Fall is a common time to update vaccines, especially the Flu vaccine. Following is a brief summary of vaccines that are recommended for American adults.

**COVID-19:** Current recommendations for the COVID-19 vaccine are somewhat complicated and can't be fully explained in this brief article. See your primary care doctor to see if you need another COVID vaccine shot. Current vaccines are "updated" and protect against the original virus as well as Omicron variants. If you have not yet received an "updated" vaccine, it is recommended. The specifics of whether you need a vaccine update depends on your age, the health of your immune system, what type of vaccine you have already received and when it was given. It is possible that the COVID vaccine could eventually become like the Flu where each year or on a regular basis, a vaccine is developed against current virus variants and then is offered to

people to cover them for that time. Again, talk to your doctor to determine if you are up to date on your COVID shots.

**Flu:** the CDC recommends that all adults get the Flu vaccine every year. Older people and those with certain chronic medical conditions are at risk of developing sometimes serious Flu-related complications and the Flu vaccine is the best way to reduce this risk. This time of year, the Flu vaccine is readily available in pharmacies, doctor's offices and at Ft. Bliss.

**Shingles:** Shingles is caused by the chickenpox virus (varicella zoster virus). Most of us had chickenpox as children and after the disease clears, the virus lays dormant in our bodies. As adults, the virus can reactivate causing a shingles rash and can sometimes cause serious complications. The most common location for shingles is on the forehead and may damage the eye or cause chronic pain where the rash was. Two doses of the shingles vaccine (Shingrix) are recommended for everyone age 50 and over and also those ages 19-49 with a weakened immune system. The vaccine is more than 90% effective at preventing shingles and its complications. The vaccine is recommended even if you have already had shingles in the past and if you have received the chicken-pox vaccine. If you need the shingles vaccine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

**Pneumonia:** The Pneumococcal vaccine is recommended for those age 65 and older or age 19-64 with certain medical conditions. This vaccine protects against many, but not all types of the pneumococcal bacteria so it is effective but not 100%. The vaccine is safe, but side effects can occur.

**Other vaccines:** Most people received various vaccines in childhood, but if certain shots were never given, they are recommended in adulthood. The Tdap vaccine covers diphtheria, tetanus, and whooping cough or pertussis. MMR is to prevent measles, mumps and rubella. HepB is for the hepatitis B virus which can infect and damage the liver. All these vaccines can be given to adults if not already received in childhood. RSV is a virus that can cause respiratory disease. If you are over the age of 60, talk to your doctor to see if the RSV vaccine is recommended.

Daniel Washburn, M.D.  
Former Chief Eye Surgeon at WBAMC





## Auxiliary MRS CONNIE SULLIVAN

Dear Members, as always , it is a pleasure to write and share, not only thoughts, experiences and what is happening in current events but also the sad and appalling things that are affecting our country.

For us members, that had the privilege of having enjoyed the prosperity and great enthusiasm of patriotism years back, it is unbelievable for us Senior Citizens to see how much our nation has changed.

We, and I am sure some of you feel the same way, cannot help feeling nostalgic for our past happy, peaceful and incredibly great days and times of respect and compassion that was displayed for one another, for our fellow human beings.

It is so discouraging and disappointing to see the daily news and hearing about the violence and crimes happening, not only in our country but all over the world.

Also, the tragic news of what is occurring with the abducted children. It is despicable, unbelievable plain sinful and evil, to hear that these precious little souls are being hurt in any way.

Our prayers are with them, for believers, and know that God will respond in His due time to punish those responsible for the horrible actions of their awful crimes.



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- Aquatic Therapy (Trawood and Gateway)
- Blood Flow Moderation Training
- Women's Health Program

2280 Trawood • 915-595-3535  
836 E. Redd Rd. • Suite B • 915-845-4060  
4242 Hondo Pass • Suite 110 • 915-751-0599  
12801 Edgemere Blvd • Suite 102 B • 915-493-6795  
13650 East Lake • Suite 505 • 915-493-6798  
3215 Gateway Blvd. West • Suite 201 • 915-493-6799  
7411 Remcon • Suite A • 915-317-1131  
11380 Gateway North Blvd. • Suite 505 • 915-317-1145  
1300 Murchison • Suite 314 • 915-313-1294  
880 S. Telshor • Suite 202 • Las Cruces, NM 88011 • 575-339-1066  
3330 Rinconada Blvd. • Suite 5 • Las cruces, NM 88011 • 575-323-8077

# Why Join the El Paso Chapter of MOAA?

The local El Paso MOAA Chapter is the second oldest and continues to excel according to MOAA national standards. The local Chapter exists to promote the MOAA National's stimulation of love for our country and flag and to defend the honor, integrity, and supremacy of the national government and the Constitution of the United States. The Chapter aids members and member's interest in every possible way allowed by the Chapter By-laws. The Chapter supports El Paso area VSOs that provide services and protects the interest of the veteran community.

## Local Meetings

For over twenty-five years, the Chapter has enjoying membership luncheons at the Ft. Bliss Centennial Club in East Fort Bliss. the Centennial club has become our home for a time of comradery, a guest speaker, and Chapter meetings on a quarterly basis.

## Local Chapter Activities

The Chapter provides timely email alerts to educate and encourage participation in local and national legislative and health issues. The Chapter has initiated many important programs which are still honored to this day. The quarterly Chapter newsletter, *The Border Bulletin* and web site: <http://elpasomoaa.org> provide *timely information on Chapter activities, articles, and other items interests.*

## Local Community Action

The Chapter put into motion the development of the El Paso Chapter Outreach Foundation a nonprofit 501(c)(3) charitable organization to support, fund, and enhance El Paso MOAA Chapter activities with sponsoring of two college financial opportunities, support local service members, units' needs, events, and special requests for support from Active, Spouses, and Beneficiaries in the local El Paso and Ft Bliss communities.

### **New Members**

**CPT Ezra Yu**

### **Renewals**

**CDR William Rivera**

**CW3 Emiliano Gorgas**

**CW2 Theodore Swager**

**COL Ira Dodge**

**LTC John Uxer**

**CPT David Thackston**

### **Key Dates**

#### **MOAA Meetings & Luncheons**

**March 11, 2023**

**June 10, 2023**

**September 9, 2023**

**December 16, 2023**

#### **Input for the Border Bulletin**

**March 4, 2023**

**May 6, 2023**

**July 1, 2023**

**September 1, 2023**

**November 3, 2023**

## Retiree and Annuitant Pay Dates for 2023

Month	Retiree Deposit Date	Annuitant Deposit Date
January	Feb. 1	Feb. 1
February	Mar. 1	Mar. 1
March	Mar. 31	Apr. 3
April	May. 01	May. 01
May	Jun. 01	Jun. 01
June	Jul, 30	Jul, 30
July	Aug. 1	Aug. 1
August	Sep. 1	Sep. 1
September	Sep. 29	Oct. 2
October	Nov. 1	Nov. 1
November	Dec. 1	Dec. 1
December	Dec. 29	Jan. 1, 2024



### Foundation Officers 2023

**President** BG Jack Kotter  
**Vice-President** VACANT  
**Secretary** VACANT  
**Treasurer** LTC Dave Powell  
**Chapter Advisor** COL Lennie Enzel

### Board of Directors

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**Vice President** VACANT  
**Secretary** VACANT  
**Treasurer** LTC (R) Dave Powell  
**Director, Veterans Activities**  
 Col (R) Lennie Enzel  
**Ambassador, Military Org**  
 Cpt (R) David Thackston  
**Chaplain** Connie Sullivan  
**President, El Paso MOAA Chapter**  
 COL Lennie Enzel



## El Paso's Print Shop



We print:

- Office Stationary
- Posters
- Forms
- Brochures
- Manuals
- Books
- Business Cards

- DIGITAL
- OFFSET
- WEB





**2023 El Paso MOAA Chapter & Outreach Officers**

		Phone #	Email
President	COL (RET) Lennie Enzel	915-755-2325	<a href="mailto:lennieenzel@icloud.com">lennieenzel@icloud.com</a>
Vice President	<b>VACANT</b>		
Secretary - Treasurer	LTC (RET) Dave Powell	915-491-1272	<a href="mailto:lrc.ret.powell@outlook.com">lrc.ret.powell@outlook.com</a>
Chaplain	Mrs. Connie Sullivan	915-778-0948	<a href="mailto:spanishdancer4@gmail.com">spanishdancer4@gmail.com</a>
<b>DIRECTORS</b>	<b>NAME</b>		
Immediate Past President	COL (RET) Mike Hester	760-696-2102	<a href="mailto:MikeHester65@gmail.com">MikeHester65@gmail.com</a>
Past President	COL (RET) Forrest Smith	915-449-8944	<a href="mailto:tarableu@gmail.com">tarableu@gmail.com</a>
Legislative Liaison	CWO (RET) Dave Garcia	915-549-2775	<a href="mailto:mgarcia35@elp.rr.com">mgarcia35@elp.rr.com</a>
Membership Chairman	COL (RET) Bob Wagner	414-550-9215	<a href="mailto:rmwdmw@gmail.com">rmwdmw@gmail.com</a>
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