

2023 | December



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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**Barefoot Beach,
Naples, Florida**

4 Nov 2023

— 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 February 2024 Border Bulletin 5 January

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Report a Retiree Death

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After Hours (Installation)

915-569-6950/6951

Or visit:

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



President's Message

COL Lennie Enzel, MS, RN

Hard to believe the holiday season is already upon us! Amongst many other things, that means time for our holiday luncheon and a new slate of officers. We could really use your help in filling some of our Board of Director vacancies for both the Chapter and the Outreach Foundation. Too many people are wearing multiple hats and we don't want to burn them out. For the Chapter, we really need a Legislative Liaison (Dave Garcia has been promoted from regional to State roles and must step down). I had that position in the past and it is very interesting.

We also need someone for Programs/Door Prizes, as well as for Publicity. For the Outreach Foundation, we need a Vice President, Marketing Director, Secretary, and a Fundraising Director. Please find it in your heart to join us in keeping our 68 year old Chapter going. These positions do not require a big time commitment.

There is a lot going on in the legislative arena. I strongly urge each of you to sign up for the MOAA Take Action Center at <https://moaa.quorum.us/>. It is easy to sign up and once you do so, it will automatically populate your communications to our legislators. There is even a tutorial to help you sign up for the first time: <https://www.moaa.org/content/publications-and-media/news-articles/2022-news-articles/advocacy/meet-moaas-new-legislative-action-center>. When you sign up and send your letters, be sure to list the El Paso Chapter so MOAA National knows how engaged we are in protecting our earned benefits.

Here is just one example of the issues out there could affect you.

On July 26, the Senate Armed Services Committee (SASC) Personnel Subcommittee held a hearing on potential budgetary efficiencies. The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) submitted a written statement that includes concepts to raise TRICARE fees for military retirees, including seniors on TRICARE For Life (TFL). Recent TRICARE cuts such as the disproportionate copay increases for retirees and a smaller TRICARE pharmacy network have already negatively impacted active and retired service members and their families. Here is a quick look at the two proposals:

TFL Enrollment Fee

TFL beneficiaries pay Medicare Part B premiums, but TFL enrollment is automatic, and there is no enrollment fee or monthly premium for TFL coverage. A CBO proposal would require Medicare-eligible beneficiaries who choose to enroll in TFL to pay **an annual enrollment fee of \$575 for individual coverage or \$1,150 for family coverage**. The enrollment fees would be indexed to grow at the same rate as average Medicare costs in later years.

TFL Cost-Sharing

The other CBO measure would introduce minimum out-of-pocket requirements in TFL, including an \$850 deductible – TFL would not cover any of the first \$850 of a beneficiary's Medicare cost-sharing. After the deductible was satisfied, TFL would cover only 50% of the next \$7,650 in Medicare cost-sharing. This means TFL beneficiaries could face **up to \$4,675 in cost-sharing per year**. Similar to the enrollment fee proposal, cost-sharing requirements would increase annually at the rate of Medicare cost increases. The cost-sharing option would also require TFL beneficiaries seeking care from military treatment facilities (MTFs) to make payments roughly comparable to the charges they would face at civilian facilities.

MOAA will fight any attempts to reduce the TFL benefit for retirees, but they cannot do it alone. We must each join them by [telling our 2 Senators and 1 Congresswoman to reject the CBO's TFL proposals](https://moaa.quorum.us/campaign/44139/) at <https://moaa.quorum.us/campaign/44139/>. Lawmakers are influenced by communications from their constituents. You must engage before it is too late and you wonder how this happened. Moreover, at a time when all services are missing their recruiting goals, it will be hard for us to recommend military service to young people as we see our earned benefits erode.



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

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

Dear Members, hope you all are enjoying this cooler weather , after such a hot summer atmospheric condition.

A few weeks ago, I went to my doctor's office for my annual check up and was very grateful to God , that my physician, Dr M. Assi, gave me a good bill of health report and I was delighted since I had been so ill a few months ago.

While there, I asked him if he would share one of his hundreds of experiences that I could write about in one of my articles for the MOAA, The Military Officers Association of America, Bulletin.

He was very gracious and allowed me to write about his friend's father.

Dr Assi, is a kind, God loving man who cares deeply about his patients and is always very concerned about their well being.

My late husband loved him because he was there for his needs every step of the way in his very painful and difficult last days of his life.

The experience that Dr Assi shared with me was about his friend's father that had had a heart attack and complications from it, that left him in a ventilator for a long period of time.

After an extensive time, the doctors wanted to take him off of the breathing machine and his friend called my doctor and asked him for his opinion.

Dr Assi told him to wait longer and not to take him off.

Then a miracle happened, God heard their pleas and the father started getting better and now he is in a Therapy Center and is doing surprisingly well.

Because Dr Assi believes strongly in the power of our Supreme Being, he was able to help

his friend make the right decision for his father's condition.

We all have experienced miracles at one time or another and all it takes is to 'BELIEVE' in that power of Almighty God, that is ready to give us the aid that we desperately need. pleas.

KIWANIS FLAG FOUNDATION

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



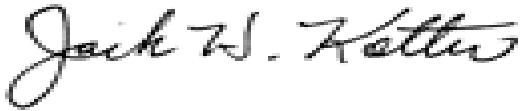
EL Paso Chapter Outreach Foundation

MOAA El Paso Chapter Outreach Foundation Donations

Giving Tuesday has been established to give donations to various charities. Unfortunately, this year that date has passed. If you made a donation to the Outreach Foundation, it greatly appreciated. The Foundation will utilize that gift to support needy veterans and active military with financial assistance. If you did not make a gift on Giving Tuesday and would still like to make a donation gift, you may still do so at: <https://www.elpasomoaa.org>, just click on the Giving Tuesday Logo, or by check mailing your donation to: El Paso MOAA Outreach Foundation PO Box 6144 Fort Bliss, Texas 79906-0144.

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

Never Stop Serving



Jack H. Kotter USA, BG, Retired

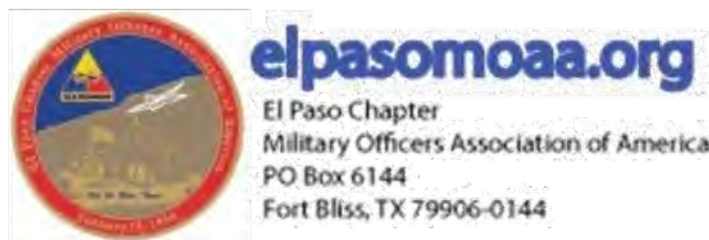


Why Day Of Giving?

The National Day of Giving is a global event conducted annually on the Tuesday after all the major events such as Thanksgiving, Black Friday, and Cyber Monday. This day encourages people to give back to their society by their act of giving as the year comes to an end.

How Can We Observe National Day Of Giving?

- Donate your time for charitable causes
You can get anything back but not the time that has passed away. Giving time for people shows your love and interest for them. Thus this day makes time to spend your valuable time to be charitable and make your community a good place to live in.
- Invest in charitable organizations
Another great way to celebrate the National Day of Giving is by investing in other people's futures. Be it for children's home, a shelter for the homeless, or an NGO working towards the community's less fortunate you can donate today and keep the spirit of giving throughout the year!
- Raise awareness about National Day of Giving on social media
Giving has transformed lives and given joy for the giver! Encourage family and friends to experience the joy of giving through social media! Share an inspiring story or your experience of giving using hashtags **#NationalDayOfGiving**, **#DayOfGiving**, **#GivingTuesday**.
- Raise funds with family and friends
This Giving Tuesday, you can also participate in giving as a family or with your close group of friends! You can have a bake sale or handcrafted products to raise funds for your community!



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 _____

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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!



Washington State MOAA Leader Is Passionate About Helping Surviving Spouses

By: Judy Christie

When Cheryl Toland's husband of nearly 47 years died of Agent Orange-related heart problems in 2018, she did not even know what a "surviving spouse liaison" was.

But the MOAA chapter where CW4 Robert Toland, USA (Ret), had been a member stepped up to help — and changed her life.

"I became a surviving spouse at only 68," she said. "I was afraid my life didn't have much of a direction, but my MOAA Mount Rainier Chapter helped bring me out of that fear."

Now age 74, she is not only the surviving spouse liaison for the [Mount Rainier \(Wash.\) Chapter](#) but also vice president for surviving spouse affairs for [MOAA's Washington State Council of Chapters](#). Honoring her relentless work to help others, Toland has been named council-level recipient of MOAA's 2023 Surviving Spouse Liaison Excellence Award.

Among those who praise her dedication is Col. David R. Casteel, USAF (Ret), president of the Washington State Council of Chapters, who said Toland is determined to keep MOAA members informed.

"I wish I could clone her passion and zeal to educate and advocate and infuse it into each chapter," Casteel said. "She has made a difference in our council and our chapters, but she knows more needs — and can be — done and is always looking for ways to do so."

Toland, a Life Member of MOAA, said her commitment springs from joyful days as the "proud wife of a warrant officer." She encourages everyone to pay attention to survivor benefits, no matter age or status. "You will need to know it someday," she said.

In any given week, she might speak to a neighboring MOAA chapter about what members need to know before becoming a surviving spouse, contact a widow or widower to offer guidance, update a presentation for a Mount Rainier Chapter meeting, or write her monthly column for the newsletter. She diligently researches legislation that affects active duty and retired members of the military and their spouses and frequently says, "You need to contact your congressman on this."

She also is a member of [MOAA's Surviving Spouse Virtual Chapter](#), helps surviving spouses in the U.S. Army Warrant Officers Association chapter at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, is a facilitator of a GriefShare program at her church, and is involved with the Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors, the Elizabeth Dole Foundation, the VA Caregivers Assistance Program, and Gold Star Wives. A retired hairdresser of 54 years, she squeezes in time to give free haircuts and perms at an assisted-living facility and goes for daily walks with her son who lives nearby.

Her experiences as a surviving spouse have led to hard-earned advice for surviving spouses. "I think it was one of the ways after Bob died that I survived," she said. "Part of healing is helping others through the things you have experienced. We are told in scriptures to serve others as we have been served. ... Don't become stagnant. Don't get stuck in your grief. The more you help others, the more it helps you heal."

(To follow the links, go to the El Paso MOAA Web Copy of the Border Bulletin—<http://www.elpasomoaa.org/bb>)

Make a Difference for Those in Need ... and Save on Medicare Premiums?

By: Kevin Lilley

The recent release of [2024 Medicare Part B premium rates](#), including adjusted rates for those in higher income brackets, may give some MOAA members the chance to consider charitable donations as a way to reduce their own health care costs.

It's one of several techniques for smart charitable giving – the subject of a recent MOAA webinar featuring Lila Quintiliani, ChFC, AFC, MOAA's program director for financial and benefits education and counseling, as well as Daniel Kopp, MA, MS, CFP, the founder of [Wise Stewardship Financial Planning](#) and longtime MOAA member.

Kopp discussed Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs) – payments directly from your IRA custodian to a qualified charity. Many retirees in their 70s and beyond are familiar with these payouts, as they can be used to help satisfy [Required Minimum Distributions \(RMDs\)](#).

QCDs also are excluded from your taxable income, which results in a lower Modified Adjusted Gross Income (MAGI) – the figure used to calculate the Income Related Monthly Adjustment Amount (IRMAA) added to your Medicare premium.

Nearing acronym overload? Here's the bottom line: Donating via a QCD will lower your income levels and could put you in line for a lower Medicare Part B rate in future years. IRMAA calculations generally rely on tax filings from two years ago, though [appeals are possible](#).

"QCDs can be extremely powerful if we are doing careful income tax planning on a year-by-year basis," Kopp said during the webinar. "We can save, in many cases, hundreds, even thousands of dollars a year in tax planning. ... QCDs can not just benefit you in the year that you get them, but they can also save you down the road."

Kopp suggested speaking with your financial adviser about the use of QCDs, especially as not all charitable donations will result in a MAGI deduction. Contributions to your retirement account may reduce the amount of QCD allowed. While MOAA cannot offer financial guidance specific to your situation, resources at [MOAA.org/Finance](#) will help prepare you for such a discussion.

The webinar also addressed Charitable Gift Annuities (CGAs), Donor-Advised Funds (DAFs), and other giving strategies. It also covered details on MOAA's charitable efforts, including ways to donate using these tools and others to support The MOAA Foundation's [Crisis Relief Program](#).

Need more? MOAA Premium and Life Members can watch the entire charitable giving webinar [at this link](#) (MOAA.org login required). Not a member? [Head here](#) to register and receive access to the recording.

(To follow the links, go to the El Paso MOAA Web Copy of the Border Bulletin—<http://www.elpasomoaa.org/bb>)

In Flanders Fields

poem by Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae, 3 May 1915

In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie,
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

In this time of Thanksgiving, Remembrance and looking forward to the New Year let us remember those that sacrificed so we may be free.



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ARKANSAS
QUARTZ CRYSTALS
PICTURE BY
LIZ KOSTURAKIS



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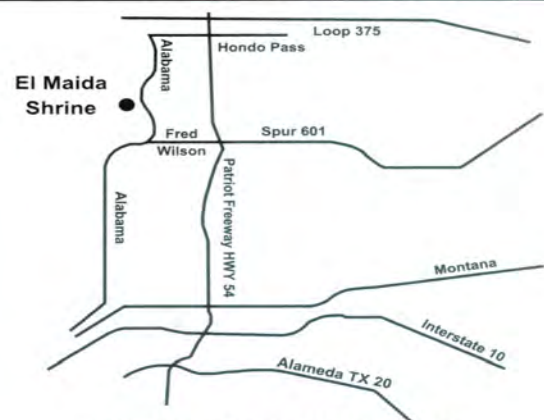
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Kansas Chapter Member Honored for Guiding Surviving Spouses Step-by-Step

By: *Judy Christie*

Lt. Col. Roy Yenchesky, USA (Ret), has been married for 47 years, yet offered to serve as surviving spouse liaison — a position often held by a widow or widower — when the [Wichita \(Kan.\) Chapter of MOAA](#) needed him nearly five years ago.

“I had been a financial advisor for eight years and helped several of my clients through the death of a loved one,” he said. When the longtime chapter surviving spouse liaison moved and after many months of not being able to find a replacement, Yenchesky spoke up and said, “I can do that.”

A Life Member of MOAA, he is driven to help by “the knowledge that our surviving spouses may need guidance through the maze of benefits they are entitled to. ... It is a very complex journey, and even after five years, I am still learning.”

Using checklists, he approaches survivors in a low-key manner and takes them through what needs to be done. “Everyone deals with grief differently,” he said.

For his dedication in assisting surviving spouses in small and large ways, Yenchesky has been named chapter-level recipient of MOAA’s 2023 Surviving Spouse Liaison Excellence Award.

Appreciation for him comes from both MOAA leaders and spouses, such as Sue Tanner, The Retired Officers Wives Club president and MOAA member, who benefited from his help after her husband died.

“It seems that Roy is always searching for more ways to simplify things for spouses as they are trying to navigate the military system alone once they have lost their spouse,” Tanner said. “He has made things so much easier for not only me but also many of the other spouses.”

Lt. Col. Michael R. George, USAF (Ret), president of the Wichita Chapter, agreed.

“Roy contacts surviving spouses and families of deceased members and assists them in contacting the applicable support agencies so that benefits are not interrupted or missed. ... When engaging members in conversation, his emphasis is that *now* is the time to take care of personal affairs. He beseeches members not to wait until there is a death to address these critical issues.”

Yenchesky served in the Army for 26 years and commanded units in Korea, Germany, and the U.S. He did a combat tour in Vietnam and trained future officers at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y., and in ROTC assignments. He started Junior ROTC in Wichita, now available in eight area high schools and 11 middle schools. He is treasurer and membership chair for the Badger State All Airborne Chapter of the 82nd Airborne Association and a member of the 173rd Airborne Association, AMVETS, and the American Legion.

Yenchesky centers his weekday schedule around babysitting his granddaughters, ages 6 and 3. “We play outside, build stuff with blocks, paint, color, do crafts, play family ... and do a lot of reading.”

His advice for his granddaughters? Exactly what he practices as a MOAA volunteer: “Be kind.”

(To follow the links, go to the El Paso MOAA Web Copy of the Border Bulletin—<http://www.elpasomoaa.org/bb>)



Colonel Lee C. Freeman

Colonel Lee C. Freeman is the Director, El Paso Military Health System, and Commander, William Beaumont Army Medical Center. He was born and raised in Indiana where attended the Virginia Military Institute and upon graduation was commissioned through the Reserve Officer Training Corps as a Medical Service Corps officer. He also holds master's degrees from the National War College in National Security Strategy and the Defense Intelligence Agency's National Intelligence University in Strategic Intelligence.

COL Freeman's initial assignment was as the Medical Platoon Leader for 2-6 Infantry Battalion, 1st Armored Division, Baumholder, Germany with a deployment in support of SFOR to Bosnia-Herzegovina. He was next assigned as the Executive Officer for US Army Health Clinic Baumholder. In July 2000 he was assigned to the Army Medical Department Center and School as an Officer Basic Course Instructor. In July

2002 he was assigned as the Combat Health Support Officer for 3rd Brigade, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), Fort Campbell, Kentucky and deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

At the midpoint of the yearlong OIF tour he took command of the 801st Main Support Medical Company, 101st DISCOM. During the Division's transformation to the modular design concept, he was selected for a second command, the Sustainment Support Medical Company in the 101st SB and deployed in support of OIF 05-07. In 2006 he was assigned as the Medical Operations Officer for the 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne) and deployed twice in support of OIF 07-09 and 08-10 at the Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force – Arabian Peninsula.

Upon graduation of a master's degree LTHET program he next served as the Executive Officer for the 115th Combat Support Hospital, Fort Polk and deployed to Operation Enduring Freedom. Upon his selection for the Combatant Command Internship, he was next assigned to the US Central Command Surgeon's Office, MacDill Air Force Base, FL and transitioned to serve as the Joint Medical Operations Officer from 2012 to 2014. In 2014 he was assigned as the Brigade S-3 for the 44th Medical Brigade, Fort Bragg, NC.

His next assignment was to the U.S. Army Medical Command serving as Deputy Chief for Current Operations, G3/5/7. From 2016 to 2018 he commanded the Brooke Army Medical Center Troop Command. Prior to his attendance at the National War College, he served as the Assistant Chief of Staff for Operations/G3 for the two-star level Regional Health Command-Pacific HQ. Post-NWC he commanded the 32d Hospital Center and deployed as the Task Force Medical 32 Commander, Role 3 Commander, and Command Surgeon for Combined Joint Task Force – Inherent Resolve. In his recent assignment, he served as the Deputy Commanding Officer for JRTC and Fort Polk, La. In June of 2023 Colonel Freeman assumed command of William Beaumont Army Medical Center.

COL Freeman's awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit w/1 OLC, Bronze Star Medal w/ 1 OLC; Defense Meritorious Service Medal w/1 OLC. He is authorized to wear the Combat Medical Badge; Expert Field Medical Badge; Airborne Badge; Air Assault Badge; the Australian Parachutist Badge. He is the recipient of the 2009 CPT John R. Teal 70H Leadership Award and is a member of the Order of Military Medical Merit.

Colonel Freeman is married to COL Rose L. Freeman, currently deployed to CJTF-OIR. Together they have five children.



elpasomoaa.org

El Paso Chapter
Military Officers Association of America
PO Box 6144
Fort Bliss, TX 79906-0144

December 2023 Membership Meeting & Lunch

Centennial Banquet and Conference Center

11199 Sergeant E. Churchill Street, Fort Bliss, TX 79916

Date: Saturday, 16 December 2023 **Time:** 1130 -1400 **Guest Speaker:**

Colonel Lee C. Freeman
Commander
William Beaumont Army Medical Center

Menu

Herbed Roast Beef

Whipped Potatoes

Sautéed Broccoli Amandine

Coffee, Iced Tea, and Water MOAA Cake

Note attendees needing a gluten free or vegan option must contact Dave Powell @ 915-491-1272 by 11 December.

Dress: Casual

Cost: \$22/person

Lunch Treasurer: treasurer@elpasomoaa.org

Membership or email queries: membership@elpasomoaa.org

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

Please fill in this acceptance slip, and return to the Treasurer by Wednesday, 13 December 2023 with a check for \$22 per person, the cost of the luncheon. **Late Reservations**, call Dave Powell, 915491-1272, by Noon, Thursday, December 14, and pay at the door.

Lunch will be on Saturday 16 December 2023 at 11:30 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 \$ _____ (\$22.00 per person) made payable to the "El Paso Chapter" is enclosed.

Name of Member: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Name(s) of Guests: _____

Name(s) of Guests: _____





Doc's Corner
Daniel Washburn, M.D.

Back in June 2023, when I talked about the active eyedrop recall, I thought that was an isolated incidence and we would not have any more problems moving forward. However, we now have another eyedrop recall put out in early November 2023. The following eyedrops cannot be guaranteed to be safe and should not be used:

CVS Health

Lubricant Eye Drops
Lubricant Gel Drops
Multi-Action Relief Drops
Mild-Moderate Lubricating Eye Drops

Rugby (Cardinal Health)

Lubricating Tears Eye Drops
Polyvinyl Alcohol Lubricating Eye Drops

Leader (Cardinal Health)

Dry Eye Relief
Lubricant Eye Drops
Eye Irritation Relief

Rite Aid

Lubricant Eye Drops
Gentle Lubricant Gel Eye Drops
Lubricant Gel Drops
Multi-Action Relief Drops

Target

Up&Up Dry Eye Relief Lubricant Eye Drops
Up&Up Extreme Relief Dry Eye Lubricant Eye Drops

Velocity Pharma

Lubricant Eye Drop

Walmart

Equate Hydration PF Lubricant Eye Drop

No known eye infections or harmful effects have occurred from these eyedrops, but as a precaution, they should not be used. These drops will quickly be cleared off pharmacy shelves but if you have any around your house, discard them and don't use them.

Despite the recent eyedrop recalls, almost all eyedrops are very safe to use. Some eyedrops for glaucoma and other treatments are critical and should still be used as directed. If you ever have any questions about eyedrops at the pharmacy, the pharmacist will be happy to help you.

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



Auxiliary MRS CONNIE SULLIVAN

Awe!!! Christmas time is here again. What a joy, for believers. For those that don't believe in this tradition and holiday, it is also very enjoyable because they participate in family gatherings, parties and many fun activities.

However, for believers, it is a very special time of the year because we celebrate our Faith in our Savior, our Redeemer.

We take great pride in decorating our homes to commemorate His

Birthday.

Christmas has a sacred meaning for Christians.

So, yes, we delight in rejoicing about the significance of that awesome event that happened 2000 years ago.

However, we are conscious of the people that have lost their loved ones and know that this is a very difficult time for them.

Our hearts go out to them because most of us have been in their situation.

At this time of the year, God radiates His love so strongly, that His grace is felt in the hearts of all those who follow Him.

His love transcends through every aspect of life and gives us hope, strength and fills that emptiness of loneliness with His divine treasured loving kindness, mercy and grace.

And with that love, comes peace, joy, comfort, happiness and a purpose of life.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!!! AND MAY WE ALWAYS BE BLESSED.



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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

Dr. Muneer Assi
Mr. Robert Jeskey

Renewals

COL Daniel Washburn
LTC Bruce Gramlich
CW3 Chris Saindon
Mrs. Christina Poessiger
COL Blake Wayman
Mrs. Doris Lekowski
LTC Donald Hughes
Mrs. Mary Wilke
MG James Maloney
LTC Frida Atwood
Mrs. Eva Haggard
Mrs. Laura Charity

Key Dates

MOAA Meetings & Luncheons

March 9, 2024

June 8, 2024

September 14, 2024

December 21, 2024

Input for the Border Bulletin

January 5, 2024

March 1, 2024

May 3, 2024

July 1, 2024

September 6, 2024

November 1, 2024

Retiree and Annuitant Pay Dates for 2024

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

President (Vacant)
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



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2024 El Paso MOAA Chapter & Outreach Officers

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President	COL (RET) Lennie Enzel	915-755-2325	lennieenzel@icloud.com
Vice President	VACANT		
Secretary - Treasurer	LTC (RET) Dave Powell	915-491-1272	lrc.ret.powell@outlook.com
Chaplain	Mrs. Connie Sullivan	915-778-0948	spanishdancer4@gmail.com
DIRECTORS	NAME		
Immediate Past President	COL (RET) Mike Hester	760-696-2102	MikeHester65@gmail.com
Past President	COL (RET) Forrest Smith	915-449-8944	tarableu@gmail.com
Legislative Liaison	VACANT		
Membership Chairman	COL (RET) Bob Wagner	414-550-9215	rmwdmw@gmail.com
Programs	VACANT		
Public Relations	VACANT		
Publications / Newsletter Editor	COL (RET) William Oseles	915-319-9048	William.Oseles@flash.net
Surviving Spouse Liaison	Mrs. Connie Sullivan	915-778-0948	spanishdancer4@gmail.com
COMMITTEES	NAME		
Database Manager/Chapter POC	LTC (RET) William L Moore	915-842-9650	wlm.elpaso@me.com
Marketing Manager	CPT (RET) Dave Thackston	915-479-4467	dcthackston@aol.com
Personal Affairs	VACANT		
TOPS	Col Chuck Wehmhoner	915-585-9106	CucknFrank@aol.com
ROTC / JROTC / Youth Activities	LTC Webster Powell	915-491-1272	lrc.ret.powell@icloud.com
Post Liaison	VACANT		
Thrift Shop Liaison	VACANT		
Door Prizes	VACANT		
Awards/Grants	VACANT		
EL PASO MOAA OUT-REACH FOUNDATION	NAME		
President	BG (RET) Jack Kotter	915-858-1875	bgkotter@sbcglobal.net
Vice President	VACANT		
Secretary	VACANT		
Treasurer	LTC (RET) Dave Powell	915-491-1272	lrc.ret.powell@outlook.com
Director, Marketing	VACANT		
Chaplain	Mrs. Connie Sullivan	915-778-0948	spanishdancer4@gmail.com
Director, VA Advisor	COL (RET) Lennie Enzel	915-755-2325	lennieenzel@icloud.com
Director, Ambassador, Military Organizations	CPT (RET) Dave Thackston	915-479-4467	dcthackston@aol.com
Chairman, Fund Raising/ Giving Day Committee	VACANT		
Chapter Advisor	COL (RET) Lennie Enzel	915-755-2325	lennieenzel@icloud.com



The Border Bulletin

Is the print newsletter of the
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(MOAA)

P.O. Box 6144, Fort Bliss, TX 79906-0144
<http://elpasomoaa.org>

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