



CenTex MOAA NEWS

The CENTEX Chapter promotes the purposes of the national MOAA.

Fosters fraternal relations among retired, active duty, former officers and warrant officers of the 7 uniformed services and their reserve components.

Advocates/protects the rights and interests of the 7 uniformed services and their dependents and survivors.

Provides useful service opportunities for members, their dependents and survivors to serve the community and nation.

Website:

<http://www.centexmoaa.org>

Special Interest Articles:

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Central Texas Military Officers Association of America

Outstanding Speakers

Guest speaker GEN J D Thurman in January spoke on the need for USA to be cautious when dealing with N. Korea. This is a period that is very dangerous because of resurgence of Russia, China power, Middle East/ISIS where any miscalculations on either side could rapidly escalate to war. US needs to ask: Will USA policy change with a nuclear power? After the Olympics what are the US military operation plan? Will N. Korea survive with the 21 sanctions? Will there be another conflict? Will the N. Korea and ROK relationship change? Will US and Chinese relations change? Will US and Japanese relations

change? Will the US and S. Korea relationships change? Will the S. Korea and Chinese economic relationships change? He used the TR Fehrenbach book "This Kind of War" as his reference to today's current events.

"USA needs to read, understand the environment, in the country, know the culture and understand it and know the terrain environment". We need to be ready to deal with these on a military basis."

In February, guest speaker. GEN PK Carlton, former surgeon of the Air Force. GEN Carlton talked about the need for communities to be more proactive on CPR/First

Aid Training because of all the recent natural disasters and domestic terrorist's activities.

March guest speaker was Lt GEN Dana Atkins, USAF (Ret) CEO of MOAA who gave us the newest information on the 2018 strategic plan of the organization. GEN Atkins, mentioned the establishment of the Virtual Surviving Spouse Chapter, where these valued individuals could come together and help the most in local activities and programs.



President's Actions

* Announced Ron Myer as the acting Secretary. Ron will link the membership list to our website and all social media.

* Placed online his "Official e-newsletter" as a means of instantaneous information for members.

* Began organizational meetings for a potential golf tournament to be held in the fall.

* Placed online another Facebook page for members and others to view.

* Determined the chapter

is not ready for a Financial Development Plan at this time.

* Determined the chapter is not ready for a Bingo contract at this time.

Next Speakers:

April 20, Judge Jon Burrows, Bell County.

May 18, Jerry Curtis, former VN POW.

June 15, Rep. Hugh Shine, Texas House of Representatives.

July 20, TBA

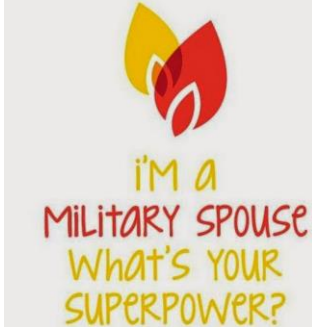
August 18, U.S. Congressman John R. Carter 31st District of Texas

September 21, TBA

President's 2018 Goal:
to be a relevant, respected local organization promoting MOAA's core values, comradeship among local officers, awareness of local and national issues, scholarship for deserving future officers, and relations with our community.

30 Ways Surviving Spouse and Auxiliary Members May Serve MOAA

Spouses Support
CenTex MOAA Scholarship Fund



1. Sponsor and organize CPR and First Aid Classes for members and community.
2. Recruit members by sending postcards to potential members and telling other organizations about MOAA.
3. Initiate and organize a Financial Planning class for your chapter.
4. Raise funds for scholarships via door prize ticket sales.
5. Write a quarterly article for the newsletter.
6. Record and track member volunteers give to CenTex MOAA in preparation for a grant proposal in the future.
7. Help surviving spouses know that they are not forgotten after a military spouse dies by calling them and bringing them to meetings.
8. Develop initiatives to meet chapter missions and projects and goals.
9. Offer volunteer opportunities not always evident for the chapter, such as visits to the VA hospital or organize an annual chapter donor recognition dinner.
10. Serve on Standing and Task Force committees.
11. Pay it forward by paying for a new member's first year dues of membership in the local chapter.
12. Initiate a "Call in and Write in" campaign to state officials calling attention to maintain spousal interest in jobs for military spouses, medical benefits for spouses, SBP and DIC issues.
13. Send an email to new surviving spouses and potential auxiliary members about chapter events. Better yet, call to give a personal tangible message to invite them to the event.
14. Contact the House and Senate Budget committee members to give their counterparts on the Armed Services Committee who have jurisdiction over military spouse survivor issues to get the necessary funding to end the widows tax thus helping the more than 67,000 surviving spouses.
15. Reach out person to person in true customer service to let members know of events. Offer to give them a ride to a meeting.
16. Be a real MOAA ambassador in the community to talk about MOAA to various military affiliated organizations.
17. Organize a "Volunteer for A Day", to work for a different charity each year. Wear your MOAA name tag and take brochures about what MOAA does for military families and surviving spouses.
18. Help coordinate the chapter's scholarship reserve fund program.
19. Take the lead to contact new surviving spouses from the SOS offices on Post and invite them to a chapter event.
20. Initiate and organize a recognition event for female business owners and entrepreneurs in the local area with proceeds going to the Scholarship Reserve Fund.
21. Wear your MOAA pin to show your support in the chapter and answer queries about MOAA.
22. Contact other surviving spouses who have to work extra hours because they are now the soul support of their families and offer encouragement in their endeavors.
23. Put the MOAA bumper sticker on your car and carry MOAA cards and brochures with you to give to people who ask what MOAA does.
24. Sponsor a "Gals Golf" Tournament for women in the community at the local post or municipal golf course with proceeds going to Scholarship Reserve Fund.
25. Initiate and organize a self-funding project or program such as purchasing the initial supply of bumper stickers, hats, shirts, etc., to be sold with proceeds going to the Scholarship Reserve Fund.
26. Contact other members who may feel isolated because they no longer drive and offer to bring them to meetings and events.
27. Volunteer to be a sponsor coordinator, photographer for social functions, greeters at meetings and social functions or a call coordinator.
28. Volunteer to participate in the presenting of gold bars and scholarships to ROTC graduates.
29. Every chapter needs a historian to record and keep all the chapter's records, and auxiliary members are great at organizing and assembling information.
30. Everyone who is a member is important and needed and this should be reflected in all meetings and correspondence. A simple thank-you, bless you, good to see you or see you later is always welcome.

Members Matter

Membership is the role of every member in the chapter to grow the chapter and help our military personnel and families. Send changes in your mailing address, email address, phone number to Ron Meyer. Applications are on website: <http://www.centexmoaa.org>.

Chapter dues \$25 payable in January every year. All votes are done in person at the November meeting for Board Officers. No proxies, no emails, no texts, no other method for voting.

Viet Nam Veterans of America are requesting that if you served in VN, that you fill out a form for the **Agent Orange Initiative** to record areas and types of exposure.

Desert Storm, Bosnia, Iraq, Afghanistan, as well as other military service areas may need you to do the same in time. Keep good records of: incidents, dates of service, transport and storage routes, locations of spills, leaking tanks and drums, chemical sprays, disposal sites, burn sites, crash sites and other relevant information.

It is up to the veterans to keep their own records, as all too often service records get lost or are destroyed in fire or in moving records from one place to another. Even in today's high digital use, there are always human error. Copy your records. Keep detailed notes. Contact fellow campaign buddies and share your information.

Faith's Corner

Celebrate Life

Don't wait--To plant those flowers in your garden, send or take flowers to loved ones. These small measures of love help to brighten the days of our special someone's near and far.

Don't wait---To see the sun already up and in full day. Get up to see the sunrise with a loved one and rejoice in a new day.

Don't wait---To take that trip to Paris, Italy or Israel or wherever you've promised yourself to go one day. Go while you can enjoy life to the fullest and share your experiences with others.

Don't wait---To go back to college, to learn, to teach and to touch other lives with wisdom and knowledge. Sharing our experiences is how we grow, thrive and survive.

Don't wait---To say, "I love you." Say it now, say it often. Say it with knowing you are enriching someone special's life as well as your own. Say, "I love you" to your spouse, your friends, your doctors, your church family and your family.

Advocacy is not a Spectator Sport

MOAA depends on you to advocate for our service members, their families and surviving spouses. The collective voices of CenTex MOAA members to all at the local, state and national levels and strengthens the efforts. CenTex members meet with legislators to discuss the issues that need action to help. Members call, send letters, emails and build relationships with representatives of US government to help them better understand the urgency to act responsibly to protect the rights, interests and benefits and future benefits of our service members.

We need to ensure that the threats to health care and benefits are taken seriously, that lawmakers and the public learn and know that our voices count to tell the world of any deterrent action that affect any military person and his or her family. From the first day of enlistment through every rank of service, there is a covenant with the government to treat the service member with respect and the rights of benefits promised. Congress and the administration should uphold this covenant and be accountable and not eliminate or diminish service benefits. CenTexMOAA as a 501(c) (3) nonprofit organization does this with advocacy.

MOAA has a great impact by turning ideas into resolutions that citizens may vote on to help the military members. CenTex MOAA members can help to develop a toolkit of educational materials on the legislative process and resources to help our members to advocate at every level.

“Officers never stop serving.”

Don't wait---Or squander opportunities to do something right and good. Teach a Sunday school class and feel class and feel the joy of seeing a child's, or an adult's, face when they discover that truly, "Jesus loves me."

Don't wait---To practice your faith, hope and charity with prayer. Giving time, talent and treasure to participate in our church community is our gift to God. Pray for our servicemen and women, and their families, our families, our friends. And don't forget to talk to God every day, just to keep in touch

Don't wait---To give your child, wife, husband, mother, father, family a hug. Do it every day, do it whether you think they need a hug or you need a hug. DO IT NOW!

GOD bless you and keep you.

Events and Activities

Holiday	January 1, 2018
Chapter Dues Due	NOW This month!
New Officers Swear In	January 19, 2018
Chapter Monthly meetings	Third Fridays, 11:30 hours Shilo Inn, Killeen, \$15. Register online
Spring Social	February 3, 6pm – 8pm, Stage Coach Inn, Salado, TX \$20
Executive Board meetings	Day before chapter meetings, 1700 hours Shilo Inn, Killeen
National Scholarship Applications due	March 1, 2018
Chapter Scholarship Applications due	April 1, 2018
Belton Lake Cookout	May 19, 2018, 11:30-1400, Pavilion next to Frank's Marina
ROTC graduates	June Present bars and medals



WE WANT YOU!

Fall social	Wildflower Country Club, Temple. Raffle tickets for Scholarship Fund
National MOAA Meeting	October 22-26, 2018, Sheraton Pentagon City Hotel, Arlington, VA
New Officers slate	November 16, 2018
No meeting December	Now would be a great time to visit the VA Home in Temple

Editor's Desk

Communicate and learn what are the most current initiatives of MOAA. Tell your career story such as basic officer training, further schooling and assignments.

To submit your 700 word or less article, send in 2 weeks prior to the next issue. Issues go out the first of **January, April, August and December.**

Some contributions may be edited to comply with newsletter space allocation.
.email:

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Auxiliary Memberships

Open to all spouses and surviving spouses of members who are paid up members of MOAA and CenTex MOAA.

Join the fun. Pay your Auxiliary membership dues now. Dues are \$25, payable to Tony Kosta, Treasurer.

Help raise funds for the Scholarships and spread the word about spousal military benefits.

Help plan events to benefit CenTex MOAA. Sign up today.

If you know of potential members, please invite them to join at our next meeting or invite them to the next social.

It's a great way to meet new people and see old friends.





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We're on the Web!

See us at:

<http://www.centexmoaa.org>

Facebook Page

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

Very Important People Quotes

"Duty, Honor, Country.
Those three hallowed words reverently dictate what you ought to be, what you can be and what you will be." -- Gen. Douglas MacArthur

"The tree of liberty must be refreshed from time to time with the blood of patriots and tyrants." -- Thomas Jefferson

"If we ever forget that we are One Nation Under God, then we will be a nation gone under." -- Ronald Reagan

"When soldiers have been baptized in the fire of a battle-field, they all have one rank in my eyes." -- Napoleon Bonaparte

"The patriot volunteer, fighting for country and his rights, makes the most reliable soldier on earth." -- Stonewall Jackson

"America was not built on fear. America was built on courage, on imagination, on unbeatable determination to do the job at hand." -- Harry S. Truman

Quotable Quotes

"You buy, I'll fly" = You buy the beer and I'll go to the PX to get it.

"Bag Your Bandit" = Shoot the SOB down -- Apache Warrior

"Dinki Daw" = crazy

"Plank Owner" = First crew members of a newly commissioned vessel.

"Never go anywhere without a knife" -- Infantry NCO

"Shellback" = Navy personnel that crosses the equator on a ship.

"Yellowlegs" = Calvary officers

"You are a rock!" = refers to your intelligence.

"Spoon" = A cook

"Get your hands out of your pockets, Marine" -- Drill Sgt.

"PFC" = Private F. Citizen.

FUNG = F. New Guy.

"FUBAR" = F. up beyond all recognition.

COB = Chief on Board on submarines.

"SNAFU" = Situation normal, all f...up.

DISCLAIMER

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