



Tis still the season!

Christmas may be here, but we have another week to go to the new year. I trust that everyone is/will have a great Christmas and are looking forward to 2024. Our MOAA chapter had another great year; the board of directors and me wish to thank all of you for your participation and support throughout 2023. We are only as good and strong as our members!

Everyone should have received the news on the passing of our MOAA member/director, Bob Barefield. A giant of a man; highly decorated Vietnam veteran, husband, father, and dedicated veteran advocate. He was the driving force for the Alabama National Cemetery Support Committee as well as leadership for many other veteran causes in the Birmingham area. May Bob and his family be in our prayers during this difficult time.

We have a great slate of guest speakers lined up for 2024, starting with Col Chris Moulton from the Hoover HS Air Force Junior ROTC program at our January 4th meeting. He will have several cadets to join us, and it should be very informative and fun. This is one of the programs that we support each year, so please come out to meet and greet Col Moulton and his hard charging students. A calendar for other planned speakers and events is included herein, plus available on our website at:

<https://www.moaabirmingham.org/calendar/> .

We had a great turnout for our December meeting to hear Ray Reach perform and get us all into the holiday spirit. It was our largest turnout of the year and from the feedback, we will probably try to schedule him again for next year. Carrying on the tradition, we had several of our members who still fit into their uniforms and some photos are included below.

Chapter dues renewal reminders were recently sent out, so if you have received one, your renewal and support would be greatly appreciated. Chapter dues are our primary source of funds and enables us to keep supporting the local veteran community. Thank you in advance.

Here is to a great 2024 and seeing all of you soon! Take care.

Respectfully,
Don & Patricia



Volume 124 Issue 1 January 2024

Officers' Call

President Don Lehman, LTC, USMC (Ret)

1st VP Harold Coghlan, CW4 USA (Ret)

2nd VP Michael Walker, LTC, USA (Ret)

Secretary Margie Argo, LTC, USAR (Ret)

Treasurer Doug Markham, CPT, USN (Ret)

Past Pres. Wes Cox, Col, USA (Ret)

Director Mark Melanson, Col USA (Ret)

Director Vacant

Director Jeff Newton, BG, ANG (Ret)

Chaplain Dan Phifer, LTC, USA (Ret)

Legislative Affairs Vacant

Personal Affairs Anne Hartline

Surviving Spouse Liaison Lynn Phifer

Newsletter Linda DeMarco, LTC, USA (Ret)

Statement of Publication

Officer's Call is the newsletter of the Greater Birmingham Chapter—Military Officers Association of America. It is published once each month to inform the membership of issues and activities of interest to all.

GBC MOAA is a non-profit 501(c)19 entity in the state of Alabama organized to represent the membership and to support the activities of the Alabama Council and MOAA National.

MOAA and its affiliated chapters and councils are non-partisan.

Advertising contained in the newsletter is not endorsed by MOAA or its affiliate the Greater Birmingham Chapter and does not represent any recommendation to the membership. Opinions expressed in articles contained herein are not necessarily those of the membership as a whole or the Chapter. Questions should be directed to newsletter@moaabirmingham.org.

JANUARY 4TH MEETING

Danberry at Inverness
235 Inverness Center Drive
Birmingham, Al 35242
205-443-9500
Social 6:00 pm, Dinner 6:30 pm

Menu

Salad with Veggies
Chicken Tetrizzini
Green Beans
Key Lime Pie
Garlic Biscuits
\$25.00

NOTE CHANGE: Reservations must be made by noon Monday, January 1, 2024, with Don Lehman at don.lehman1@gmail.com or 404-441-3882

SPEAKER

Colonel (retired) James C. Moulton
Hoover HS Air Force Junior ROTC Commander.

{Biography is on page 11}

Topic is: "JROTC: Challenges on the Horizon".

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Recently I heard about a Scotchman who was admitted to Oxford University. He moved into a dormitory. His clan was excited that one of their own made it into such an exclusive school. His mother worried, though, how he would do with all those snobbish Brits in a strange land. She gave him a month to settle in, and then called him. **"How do you find the English students, Donald?"** she asked. **"Oh Mother,"** he said, **"they are strange and noisy people. The one on this side bangs his head on the wall all night and won't stop. The one on the other side screams and curses until the sun comes up at dawn."**

"Oh Donald," said his mother, **"How do you put up with such rude, noisy people?"** **"I ignore them, Mother,"** said Donald. **"I just sit here quietly each night, playing my bagpipes."**

Are you playing any bagpipes which make the ones you love want to bang their head against the wall and scream and curse? Simply knowing that some behavior "bothers" others and then changing that behavior can work miracles in a relationship. Thank God we do have the ability to change.

Blessings,
Dan Phifer
Chaplain (LTC-Ret) U.S. Army

RECRUITER'S CORNER

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Eligibility: Honorably serving, former, or retired Warrants, Chief Warrants, or commissioned officers of the armed forces (Regular, Reserve, National Guard) as well as current, former, or retired USCG, NOAA, USPHS commissioned officers and surviving spouses from all branches are eligible to join MOAA. If you know of anyone who may qualify to belong to the chapter, have them contact us or better yet, invite them to an upcoming meeting.

Dues: Until it changes, 1-Year dues are still only \$20 (2 Years = \$35). The 3-Year chapter renewal option is the best bargain at \$50.

Complete application in newsletter or complete at <https://chapterdues.moaa.org/Membership.aspx>



MOAA speakers for 2024:

- **January 4** – Col Chris Moulton and cadets, Hoover HS AF ROTC. Topic: JROTC, Challenges on the Horizon
- **February 1** – Col Tomas (Jay) Skinner, ANG. Topic: Update on Alabama National Guard activities and the cooperation programs with European Allies, like Romania.
- **March 7** – Tim Nagy, retired UAB, amateur sports car racer. Topic: TBD; Sports car racing at Barber Sports or medical.
- **April 4** – Niki Sepsas, history/travel lecturer. Topic TBD.
- **May 2** – Spouse appreciation – Speaker/venue TBD.
- **June 6** – Annual picnic, no speaker – Veteran's Park on Valleydale Rd.
- **July, August** – Lunch meetings, BYO, no speaker. Locations TBD.
- **September 5** – TBD
- **October 3** – TBD
- **November 7** – TBD. Possible National MOAA site visit.
- **December 5** – TBD. Holiday program. Tentative, Ray Reach, vocalist/pianist.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

visit Legislative Action at <http://www.moaa.org>)

No report this month

DECEMBER MEETING

Don and Patricia Lehman



Col Joe Maxwell and
Col Joe Gartner



Capt. Wally Womack,
LTC Charlie Marvin,
CWO4 Harold Coghlan and
Col Joe Gartner.

Legislative Action Center



Four ways to get there:

Direct link: MOAA.quorum.us

Text "MOAA" to 1-855-547-6921

Go to: MOAA.org > Advocacy > Legislative Action Center

Or scan the QR code to the right with your phone:

MILITARY SPOUSE'S CORNER



Hello dear friends,

Happy New Year! Happy 2024!

This is the time of the new year to make resolutions. People usually say they will lose weight. They will exercise more. They will complete that project they started five years ago. Most of us can relate to these well- intended promises and relate to forgetting about them by February!

Let's focus on the positive. What can we do in 2024? Well, we can call our family and friends. We can text our grandchildren (the favorite communication of the young!) We can send cards and notes to wish a Happy Birthday to a friend. We can ask God to continue watching over us and keeping us safe. Whatever lies ahead in 2024 is unknown to us. We can face each day with confidence. Maybe instead of "Happy New Year", we should say have a "Blessed New Year ".

Sincerely,
Lynn M. Phifer
Surviving Spouses Liaison

GREATER BIRMINGHAM CHAPTER INFORMATION

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

| | |
|-------------------|----|
| Steve Driggers | 4 |
| Anne Hayes | 8 |
| Wes Cox | 11 |
| Sumter Coleman | 12 |
| Lynette Broxson | 17 |
| Pat Marvin | 18 |
| David McCrorie | 21 |
| Doug Markham | 22 |
| Heidi Mueninghoff | 24 |
| Wayne Hay | 25 |
| Don Broxson | 27 |
| Bob Roper | 28 |
| Carolyn Bellamy | 29 |
| Jack Ferrick | 29 |

MOAA on-line photo directory

Below is a sample of our chapter on-line photo directory, available via a private link to our members only on our website. It can be found at: <http://moaabirmingham.org/#>. You will need to request a log-in/join if you have not already in order to access the "Members Only" page. If you and or your spouse do not have and would like to have your photo(s) in the directory, please send a selfie or photo to Donna Martin at: donnamaemartin@aol.com.



Killian, III, Sam P.
4545 Magnolia Drive
Birmingham, AL 35242
Email: spkiii@bellsouth.net
Spouse: Martha T. Killian
marthak36@gmail.com

USN Ret CDR Life
205-408-7721 (h)
205-903-6638 (c)
BD: 8/28
BD: 11/10



Lehman, Donald D. (Don)
1204 Greystone Parc Drive
Birmingham, AL 35242
Email: don.lehman1@gmail.com
Spouse: Patricia A. Lehman
islandmomma1@gmail.com

USMC Ret LTCOL Life
404-441-3882 (c)
BD: 7/10
BD: 11/20
404-725-7152 (c)



ID CARDS

If your ID card has an expiration date that is past or expires this month, you need to renew it ASAP. There are several locations in the Birmingham area, just google "military ID card renewal near me." Some may require an appointment and be sure that you have the needed documentation when you go; they can tell you what you need when you call.

Greater Birmingham MOAA Coins

The new Greater Birmingham Chapter MOAA Challenge Coins are now available to order for only \$10 per coin! This coin will make a wonderful gift and must-have for any challenge coin collection. You can also order coins by contacting:
LTC (ret) Don Lehman at don.lehman1@gmail.com.
Display cases are available for \$1 each, and orders to be mailed should add \$1 per coin.



BIOGRAPHY: Colonel (retired) James C. Moulton

Commissioned from the U.S. Air Force Academy in 1983 and attended Undergraduate Flight Training-Helicopters at Fort Rucker, Alabama. His first operational assignment was to Detachment 6, 37th Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Squadron (ARRS), McConnell Air Force Base, Kansas, flying missile support operations. Following upgrades to Instructor and Flight Examiner, he was assigned to Detachment 10, 37th ARRS, FE Warren AFB, Wyoming, where he served as the unit Chief of Standardization and Evaluation.

Colonel Moulton then attended Fixed Wing Qualification Training at Vance AFB, Oklahoma in 1989. He was then assigned to the 50th Tactical Airlift Squadron, Little Rock AFB, Arkansas from December 1989 to July 1994. During this time he flew combat and combat support missions throughout Operations DESERT SHIELD and STORM, and upgraded to Instructor, Flight Examiner, and Chief of Standardization and Evaluation.

Colonel Moulton then served as the Executive Officer to the Commander, Eighth Air Force, as speechwriter for the Commander, Air Mobility Command, and as Branch Chief, War Plans Division, Plans and Programs Directorate, United States Transportation Command.

He is a distinguished graduate of the U.S. Marine Corps Command & Staff College, a graduate of the U.S. Marine Corps School of Advanced Warfighting, and a graduate of the Industrial College of the Armed Forces. He served as the Commander, 61st Airlift Squadron, 463rd Airlift Group, from June 2000 through June 2002, and as the Commander of the 407th Air Expeditionary Group, Ali Base, Iraq, from September 2006 through January 2007.

EDUCATION

1983 Bachelor of Science degree, Human Factors Engineering, USAF Academy, Colorado Springs, CO

1988 Squadron Officer School, in residence, Maxwell AFB, AL

1994 Master's degree in Human Resources Development, Webster University, MO

1997 Distinguished Graduate, USMC Command & Staff College, MCS Quantico, VA

1998 Graduate, USMC School of Advanced Warfighting, MCS Quantico, VA

2003 Master's degree in National Resource Strategy, Industrial College of the Armed Forces, Ft. McNair, Washington D.C.

ASSIGNMENTS

1. August 1983 - May 1984, student, Undergraduate Flight Training-Helicopter, Ft. Rucker, AL

2. August 1984 - July 1986, aircraft commander, instructor, and flight evaluator, Detachment 6, 37th ARRS, McConnell AFB, KS

3. July 1986 - January 1989, Chief of Standardization and Evaluation, Detachment 10, 37th ARRS, F.E. Warren AFB, WY

4. February 1989 - November 1989, student, Fixed Wing Qualification Training, Vance AFB, OK

5. December 1989 - July 1994, pilot, instructor, flight evaluator, and Chief of Standardization and Evaluation, 50th Tactical Airlift Squadron, 314th Tactical Airlift Wing, Little Rock AFB, AR

6. August 1994 - June 1996, Executive Officer to the Commander, Eighth Air Force, Barksdale AFB, LA

7. July 1996 - June 1997, student, USMC Command and Staff College, MCS Quantico, VA

8. August 1997 - June 1998, student, USMC School of Advanced Warfighting, MCS Quantico, VA

9. July 1998 - February 2000, Speechwriter, Commander's Action Group, HQ Air Mobility Command, Scott AFB, IL

10. June 2000 - June 2002, Commander, 61st Airlift Squadron, 314th Airlift Group, Little Rock AFB, AR

11. August 2002 - June 2003, student, Industrial College of the Armed Forces, Ft. McNair, Washington D.C

12. August 2003 - June 2005, Planner/Chief, Future War Plans Branch, War Plans Division, Plans and Programs Directorate, United States Transportation Command, Scott AFB, IL

13. June 2005 - April 2007, Deputy Commander for Operations, 314th Airlift Group, Dyess AFB, TX (Commander, 407th Air Expeditionary Group, Ali Base, Iraq, September 2006 - January 2007)

14. May 2007 - August 2008, Senior Controller, Tanker Airlift Control Center, Scott AFB, IL

FLIGHT INFORMATION

Rating: Command Pilot

Flight Hours: 3,600+

Aircraft: HH-1H, U/TH-1F, UH-1N, C-130E, C-130H, C-130H3

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION

Second Lieutenant June 1983

First Lieutenant June 1985

Captain June 1987

Major April 1995

Lieutenant Colonel October 1999

Colonel October 2005

Date of Retirement: 1 November 2008



APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

First Name (Preferred name) MI Last Name Rank / Grade Spouse

Member of National MOAA? ☐ Yes ☐ No Mem # (if known) _____

| Branch of Service | | Status | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Army | <input type="checkbox"/> Marines | <input type="checkbox"/> Active Duty | <input type="checkbox"/> National Guard |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Air Force | <input type="checkbox"/> Navy | <input type="checkbox"/> Retired | <input type="checkbox"/> Former Member |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coast Guard | <input type="checkbox"/> Other | <input type="checkbox"/> Reserve | <input type="checkbox"/> Surviving Spouse |

Postal Address City State Zip Code Home Phone #:

Date of Birth Cell phone # Email Address

Member: _____

Spouse _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Local Membership (Greater Birmingham Chapter) runs by calendar year.

The remainder of your first calendar membership year is complimentary.

Following yearly membership dues: ☐ \$20/year ☐ \$35/2 years ☐ \$50/3 years)

Mail to:

Greater Birmingham Chapter MOAA, P.O. Box 530153, Birmingham, AL 35253

Thank you for your support!

