



Come on Spring!

Cannot be here soon enough; hopefully we will have sunshine and nice days soon. We had another great meeting in February with Col Jay Skinner speaking on the AL National Guard. Retired UAB research MD and amateur race card driver, Tim Nagy, will be our March speaker; his bio and topic are enclosed below. Tim is a great speaker, so don't miss it.

The chapter has been having to absorb the cost of no shows and last-minute dinner cancellations. We realize that things come up that can't be helped, but we would appreciate some assistance. We will be going to an online RSVP and pre-payment system soon, possibly for the April meeting, which will be more convenient and should help us all.

A calendar for other planned speakers and events is included herein, plus available on our website at:
<https://www.moaabirmingham.org/calendar/2024-02/>.

Donna Martin has taken over the Treasurer position while Doug Markham recovers from a heart transplant! We are all wishing Doug a speedy recovery and congratulations on a new lease on life. And thank you again Donna for all that you do for MOAA.

There are still a few members that are delinquent on their 2024-chapter dues. We appreciate your support; even if you do not attend meetings, your dues help us with the few local veteran initiatives that we assist each year. Thank you in advance. I have also decided to add a little humor to our monthly newsletters so read on to get a few laughs.

Easter will be here soon, so enjoy and hope to see you soon! Take care.

Respectfully,
Don & Patricia



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 Donna Martin
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Director Mark Melanson, Col USA (Ret)
Director Jeff Newton, BG, ANG (Ret)
Director: Doug Markham, CPT, USN (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.

MARCH 7TH MEETING

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

Menu:
Poppy Seed Chicken
Twice baked potato casserole
Roasted Brussels
Tossed Salad
Apple Cake.

\$25.00

NOTE CHANGE: Reservations must be made by noon Monday, March 4, 2024, with Donna Martin at contact@moaabirmingham.org or 205-876-6274

SPEAKER

Tim Nagy

PhD, retired UAB Scientist/Professor

Presentation topic:

"Tales of measuring body composition in everything from fruit flies to elephants".

Biography

Tim R. Nagy, PhD is a retired scientist/professor from the Department of Nutrition Sciences at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. He is best known for his work in the development and validation of methods for measuring body composition in animals ranging from fruit flies to elephants. Dr. Nagy has held NIH grants in the areas of obesity, cancer, diabetes, and aging, as well as serving as the Associate Director of the UAB Obesity Research Center for many years. Dr. Nagy has published hundreds of peer-reviewed publications and book chapters as well as acting as Editor-in-Chief of the International Journal of Body Composition Research. In addition to research, Dr. Nagy served in many administrative positions including Director of the PhD Program, Division Director, Vice Chair in the Department of Nutrition Sciences.

After nearly 30 years at UAB, Tim retired to have more time to pursue his other passions, racing, coaching, and all things cars. Tim has been actively engaged in automobile racing for nearly 20 years and works as a professional driving instructor for both Porsche and Mercedes Benz at Barber Motorsports Park. He is currently the President of the Alabama Region of the Porsche Club of America.



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>

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Sam Rayburn was Speaker of the House of Representatives longer than any other person. One of his friends lost a teenage daughter. Early the next morning Rayburn knocked on his door. ***"I just came by to see what I could do to help."*** The father replied that there was nothing to do. ***"Well,"*** Rayburn said, ***"have you had your coffee this morning?"*** The grieving father replied that they had not taken time for breakfast. While Rayburn was working in the kitchen fixing the coffee, the man came in and said, ***"Mr. Speaker, I thought you were supposed to be having breakfast at the White House this morning."*** ***"Well, I was,"*** Rayburn replied, ***"but I called the President and told him I had a friend who was in trouble, and I could not come."***

That is friendship. Friends do come through for friends, especially those who know God. There is an old hymn in the Christian Church which goes ***"What a Friend We Have In Jesus"***. Look up the words sometime and use those words as a meditation.

Blessings,

Dan Phifer

Chaplain (LTC) U.S. Army Retired

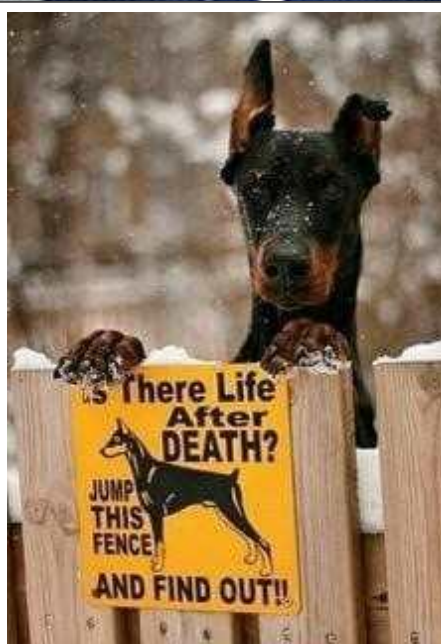
MOAA speakers for 2024:

- **April 4** – Niki Sepsas, history/travel lecturer. Twelve Hands and a Flag: The Raising of the Stars and Stripes Over Iwo Jima.
- **May 2** – Spouse appreciation – Speaker: Eloise Whritenour, Topic: Everplans
- **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

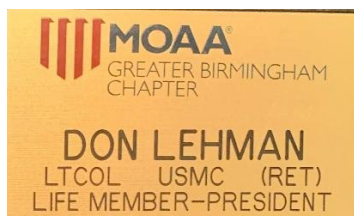
visit Legislative Action at <http://www.moaa.org>

No report this month



MOAA Nametag order soon:

We will be putting in a nametag order soon. The cost will be about \$16 each. If you would like one, please email me at don.lehman1@gmail.com. Life member tags are gold colored, non-life members white. Don



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 left with your phone:

MILITARY SPOUSE'S CORNER



Hello everyone,

The groundhog did not see his shadow on February 2, so we can expect an early spring. I believe we are ready! According to the Spring Equinox, spring officially starts on March 19. Traditionally, we say the first day of spring is March 21. Other important dates in March include our MOAA virtual zoom meeting on March 19 at 12 noon, ladies spring luncheon on March 20, and Easter on March 31.

The MOAA spring update is on, "Advocacy in Action." Please remember that our virtual meetings happen on the 3rd Tuesday at 12 noon for odd numbered months and at 4 PM for even numbered months. Stay informed!

Our MOAA ladies spring luncheon and event takes place on Wednesday, March 20 at the Hoover Country Club at 10:30 am. The program is entitled, "Age- Proof Your Home" and will be presented by a local female firefighter named Christine. Her intriguing topic will teach us all how to make our homes safe. The meal served after the program is Petite Lettuce Salad, London Broil, Red Potatoes, Green Beans and a combination dessert of Ghirardelli Brownie and Cheesecake. All of this for \$25.00. Please watch for the online invitations coming out soon.

Easter is early this year on March 31. We will celebrate the risen Christ on this day at our individual places of worship. Hopefully the weather will be warm enough for the little ones to enjoy an Easter egg hunt.

In closing I want to share, "Planting Your Spring Garden". The author is unknown.

Plant three rows of peas- peace of mind, peace of heart and peace of soul.

Plant four rows of squash- squash gossip, squash indifferences, squash grumbling and squash selfishness.

Plant four rows of lettuce- lettuce be faithful, lettuce be kind, lettuce be patient and lettuce love.

No garden is complete without turnips- turnip for meetings, turnip for service and turnip to help.

To conclude our garden, we must have thyme- thyme for each other, thyme for family, thyme for friends.

Water with patience and cultivate with love because we reap what we sow.

Sincerely,
Lynn M. Phifer,
Surviving Spouses Liaison

Please note the invitation on page 7.

GREATER BIRMINGHAM CHAPTER INFORMATION

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

David Bess	8
Harold Wehby	8
Deb Parker	9
ChrisAngel Fuller	12
Glenn Nivens	15
Nancy Todd	21
Chris Phillips	23
Tommy Carpenter	23
Linda DeMarco	23
Ruth Walker	25
Wally Womack	25
Richard McKinley	26
Mary Lou Matthews	28
Josephine Lassiter	29
Walt Sasser	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.





**Greater Birmingham Chapter of
Military Officers Association of America**

**Ladies Luncheon
for
Surviving Spouses
Female Officers
Spouses of Living Members**

**Wednesday, March 20, 2024
10:30 am**

**Hoover Country Club
3140 Club Drive, Hoover, AL 35226**

**"Age Proofing Your Home"
Lieutenant Christine Shores
Community Risk Reduction Officer
Cahaba Valley Fire District**

"MOAA Legislative Updates on Benefits"

Your check will be your reservation.

Make check payable to: MOAA GBC

Mail to: Donna Martin

140 Courtside Drive

Birmingham, AL 35242

donnaemaemartin@aol.com

Lynn Phifer - 205-919-9430

Cost: \$25 Reservation deadline: March 13, 2024



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!

