



It is a great time to be a member of MOAA, and with our potential upcoming State convention in August here in Birmingham, it will be a very busy time too, along with our usual summer events.

I hope you all enjoyed the May presentation about injuries, fire prevention and things our First Respondents do for us! Our guest speaker certainly covered all the bases there.

For June 2025, remember we will meet not at the Danberry, but at “Veterans Park” on Valleydale Rd, around 1630. We will plan to have, as always, some delicious BBQ and sides/fixins, along with Tea, so please mark your calendar for the afternoon of 5 June, 2025.

Thanks to everyone in our chapter for helping make the Birmingham MOAA Chapter a place where all of our fellow Officers and spouses feel welcome, and can share comradeship and fellowship.

With your invaluable help, I hope to continue growing our chapter, and making us proud to be part of something bigger than each of us as individuals, an organization such as the Military Officers Association of America, which strives to support and defend our hard-earned benefits, such as Tricare for Life (TFL) and Veteran’s benefits.

Feel free to reach out with any ideas and suggested Speakers, topics of interest, or simply things that matter to you.

Thanks for being a member of our Birmingham MOAA Chapter! Stay safe out there!

Harold A. Coghlan  
CW4, U.S. Army (Ret)

# Officers’ Call

- President:* Harold Coghlan, CW4 USA (Ret)
- 1st VP:* vacant
- 2nd VP:* vacant
- Secretary:* Margie Argo, LTC, USAR (Ret)
- Treasurer:* Donna Martin
- Membership/*
- Past Pres:* Don Lehman, LTC, USMC (Ret)
- Director:* Mark Melanson, Col USA (Ret)
- Director:* Jeff Newton, BG, ANG (Ret)
- Director:* Doug Markham, CPT, USN (Ret)
- Director:* James Oliver LTC, USA (Ret)
- Chaplain:* Dan Phifer, LTC, USA (Ret)
- Board:* Mark Rubino
- Personal*
- Affairs:* Anne Hartline
- Surviving*
- Spouse* Lynn Phifer
- Liaison*
- Newsletter:* Jimmy Langley, 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](mailto:newsletter@moaabirmingham.org).



**Jun 5, 2025 MEETING**

**4:30**

**Veteran's Park  
Valleydale Rd.  
Hoover, AL 35242**

**MENU**

**Full Moon BBQ and Fixins**

**Dinner cost will be \$20 per person.  
Reservations must be made by noon Monday, June 2, 2025.**

**Preferred method:  
RSVP and pay by credit/debit card at:  
(AND NOW YOU DO NOT PAY ANY CREDIT CARD FEES!)**

<https://june-2025-reservations.cheddarup.com/>

**or alternate method:  
Email / call Donna Martin at [contact@moaabirmingham.org](mailto:contact@moaabirmingham.org) or 205-876-6274.**

**MOAA nametag order:**

A MOAA nametag order will be placed soon. If you or your spouse would like one, please let me know ASAP. They are very professional and display your service information along with your name. The cost will be about \$15 each. Please send me an email at [don.lehman1@gmail.com](mailto:don.lehman1@gmail.com) or let Anne know at Danberry and we will put you on the list.

**FBI's headquarters from Washington, D.C. to Huntsville, Alabama?**



There are proposals to relocate the FBI's headquarters from Washington, D.C. to Huntsville, Alabama, specifically to Redstone Arsenal. The FBI already has a significant presence at Redstone Arsenal, with over 1,300 personnel working there. The idea is supported by some politicians, according to Congressman Gary Palmer. Redstone Arsenal is a 38,000-acre federal research, development, testing, and engineering center.

## 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.

To join or renew, please complete the application below or join/renew online at:

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



### CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

I love Birthdays. When we were kids we always looked forward to having a party to celebrate another year on this beautiful earth we inhabit. I remember when it got close to my 16th birthday with the prospect of taking the Driver's Exam which the police supervised. My dad lived through the tortuous teaching time to get me ready to test my driving with the officer. Of course, we lived through the anxiousness of taking the exam and passing! Then there were others in our family who took that exam and joined the ranks of "Licensed Drivers" in the neighborhood.

On June 14th this year we shall be celebrating another birthday. The U.S. Army will be 250 years old on that day. President Trump will also be celebrating his birthday on that day. There will be a great parade with the Army's finest showing off in celebration of 250 years of defending our nation.

The Army will place large metal plating at key points on Washington's streets. That's to better protect the streets from the thunderous movements of 25 M1 Abrams main battle tanks set to roll through the capital in a military parade on June 14.

We celebrate with all those who have served in any branch of service defending this great nation. Long live peace and preparedness! Happy Birthday on this 250th!

Blessings,

Dan Phifer  
Chaplain (LTC-Retired)

## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

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



### Alabama Congressional delegation wastes no time in making pitch to Trump for Space Command Headquarters

- **U.S. Department of Defense inspector general report on the selection process for the U.S. Space Command headquarters. Here are the key takeaways:**
- **Competing Locations:** The Air Force favored Redstone Arsenal in Huntsville, Alabama, for cost-efficiency, while Space Command leaders preferred Peterson Space Force Base in Colorado Springs due to operational readiness and workforce retention concerns.
- **Personnel & Infrastructure Concerns:** Space Command leaders argued that many personnel would not relocate to Alabama, and constructing operational facilities in Huntsville would take three to four years.
- **Political Debate:** The decision to relocate Space Command was scrutinized for possible political motivations. Trump initially decided to move it to Alabama, but Biden later reversed the decision, keeping it in Colorado.
- **Lack of Transparency:** The inspector general was unable to interview key officials due to legal restrictions imposed by the White House.
- **Congressional Reactions:** Lawmakers from Colorado and Alabama interpreted the report differently, each claiming it supported their state's position. Colorado leaders emphasized national security risks in relocating, while Alabama leaders pointed to cost savings and criticized Biden's decision as politically motivated.
- **The report does not provide a definitive answer on the best location, fueling further political and strategic debate over the issue.**

## Legislative Action



Four ways to get there:

**Direct link:** [MOAA.quorum.us](http://MOAA.quorum.us)

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

**Go to:** [MOAA.org](http://MOAA.org) > Advocacy > Legislative Action Center

**Or scan** the QR code to the left with your phone:



## Musical Journey to Northwest Alabama

MOAA Military Officer Magazine recently published an article about the areas one can visit to enjoy iconic spots of the American Music Triangle. These spots are familiar such as New Orleans, Nashville, and Memphis, however, there are several more spots to enjoy, not as well known.

If you are an Elvis fan then plan a trip to his birthplace, Tupelo, MS. On your way to his home there are several more places to visit. First stop should be in Muscle Shoals, AL to FAME studios. Fame and Muscle Shoals Sound helped propel artists such as Aretha Franklin, Wilson Pickett, and Otis Redding. You will tour the studio and hear stories of the musicians. A fifteen-minute drive from Fame will take you to Helen Keller's home located in the small town of Tuscumbia, AL. You will tour the home and see the well where Helen learned to speak the word "water."

Whether you are a country music fan or have lived in Alabama for years you must stop at the Alabama Music Hall of Fame on Hwy 72. This is a new museum filled with information on only Alabama musicians such as Lionel Richey, Nat King Cole, and the group Alabama. You will find many more musicians than you think. This is an excellent museum to visit...take it from a military wife who has visited many museums in her life!

Now head to Tupelo! When you plan your trip please call these museums for days and hours they are open, what days are the tours on etc.

**Cynthia Cox**  
**Military Spouse**  
**GBSMOAA**



# GREATER BIRMINGHAM CHAPTER INFORMATION

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Donald Brooks	1
JD Crawford	6
Helen Green	8
Frank Palme	10
Pat Singletary	10
George Lord	11
David Hicks	15
Joel Maxwell	18
Harb Moore	19

## 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](mailto:donnamaemartin@aol.com).

 <p><b>Killian, III, Sam P.</b> 4545 Magnolia Drive Birmingham, AL 35242 Email: <a href="mailto:spkiii@bellsouth.net">spkiii@bellsouth.net</a> Spouse: <i>Martha T. Killian</i> <a href="mailto:marthak36@gmail.com">marthak36@gmail.com</a></p>	<p>USN Ret CDR Life 205-408-7721 (h) 205-903-6638 (c) BD: 8/28 BD: 11/10</p>	
 <p><b>Lehman, Donald D. (Don)</b> 1204 Greystone Parc Drive Birmingham, AL 35242 Email: <a href="mailto:don.lehman1@gmail.com">don.lehman1@gmail.com</a> Spouse: <i>Patricia A. Lehman</i> <a href="mailto:islandmomma1@gmail.com">islandmomma1@gmail.com</a></p>	<p>USMC Ret LTCOL Life 404-441-3882 (c) BD: 7/10 BD: 11/20 404-725-7152 (c)</p>	

### MOAA program & speakers for remainder of 2025:

Also available on our website at <https://www.moaabirmingham.org/meeting-dates/>

- June 5 – Annual chapter picnic, Veterans Park on Valleydale Rd
- July 10 – Casual lunch, no program, BYO, location TBD
- August 7 – Casual lunch, no program, BYO, location TBD
- August 22-24 – MOAA Alabama Council of Chapters State meeting, Birmingham, hosted by GBC Birmingham
- September 4 – No meeting in September
- October 2 – Col Ed (Raymond) Yielding, USAF (ret), Flying the Lockheed SR-71 Blackbird coast-to-coast setting speed record of 67 minutes and 54 seconds on March 6, 1990
- November 6 – Speaker/topic TBD
- December 4 – Speaker/topic TBD



## Alabama's First Quantum Computer



- **Alabama's First Quantum Computer:** Huntsville is preparing to launch the state's first quantum computer, considered one of the most advanced in the world.
- **Defense & Research Applications:** The system will support missile defense, biomedical research, and supply chain optimization. The Department of Defense is particularly interested in its ability to rapidly process complex data.
- **Davidson Technologies & D-Wave Partnership:** Huntsville-based Davidson Technologies, in collaboration with D-Wave Quantum Inc., has installed the D-Wave Advantage2 quantum system at Davidson's headquarters near Redstone Arsenal.
- **Performance Capabilities:** Officials claim the quantum computer can complete tasks in minutes that would take traditional supercomputers millions of years.
- **Impact on Huntsville & Security Sectors:** The technology is expected to enhance national security, support NASA, FBI operations, and attract further research and development to the area.
- **Upcoming Milestones:** Final preparations are expected to take around two months, with initial applications already being explored, particularly for defense-related tasks.



APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

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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

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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!**



Meeting Jun 5, 2025