



Happy New Year! It is a great time to be a member of MOAA!

I hope you all enjoyed the December meeting at the Danberry. We especially want to thank Wes Cox for always doing a superb job of ensuring we have a great catered meal, and to Don Lehman for helping in Wes' absence. I certainly hope you all enjoyed the nice Christmas music, and hope and pray everyone will have a wonderful New Year!

For our January 2026 meeting we will meet at the Danberry on 8 January 2026, at 1800 hrs. for Social Hour. Our speaker will be USCG Commander Brian Barsanti (PhD), a member of the USCG Reserve and the Director of the Birmingham Museum of Flight, one of the premier Aviation Museums in the United States. I am sure you will enjoy hearing Brian.

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

It's not too early to start planning for 2026. Part of that is renewing your Birmingham MOAA membership for 1 to 3 years, with the convenience of paying with zero fees via the Cheddar Up link in a recent Chapter email.

With your invaluable help, we 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. We are also looking for a couple of members that wish to help in leadership roles by stepping up to the Board of Directors.

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

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

Volume 128 Issue 1 January 2026
Greater Birmingham Chapter
Military Officers Association of America

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)*
- Director: Mark Rubino, LDCR, USN (Ret)*
- Chaplain: Dan Phifer, LTC, USA (Ret)*
- 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.



January 8, 2026 MEETING

Danberry at Inverness
235 Inverness Center Drive
Birmingham, Al 35242
205-443-9500

Social 6:00 pm, Dinner 6:30 pm

MENU

Chicken Tetrazzini
Country Style Green Beans
Tossed Salad
Rolls
New Orleans Bread Pudding

Dinner cost will be \$25 per person.
Reservations must be made by noon Monday, January 5th

Preferred method: RSVP and pay by credit/debit card at:
(NO CREDIT CARD FEES!)

<https://january-2026-reservation-and-payment.cheddarup.com/>

or alternate method:

Email / call Donna Martin at contact@moaabirmingham.org
or 205-876-6274.



Speaker

Dr. Brian J. Barsanti was born in Detroit, Michigan, but he spent much of his early life in San Antonio, Texas.

Brian completed his undergraduate degree at Texas A&M, Corpus Christi, and a graduate degree in History from UAB. He also holds the Ph.D. from the University of Alabama and UAB. He serves as part-time faculty member at Huntingdon College, UAB and Miles College.

Brian is a graduate of a number of military schools, including the Army Airborne School, and he currently serves as an officer in the USGC Reserve. He has been recalled to Active Duty on multiple occasions. Most recently, he mobilized in support of several hurricane response operations along the Gulf Coast.

For 20 years, Brian has been a key member of the leadership team at the Southern Museum of Flight. Brian has served as Director of Education, Museum Administrator, and Deputy Director. He now serves as Executive Director, where he oversees exhibitions, education, and preservation, and its workforce development initiatives. In this role, he manages all aspects of the museum's operations as a branch campus of the Alabama Community College System in partnership with Snead State Community College.

Brian has been a resident of Alabama for over two decades. He and his wife have two daughters.

RECRUITER'S CORNER

2026-chapter renewal notifications have been sent out via email and letter!

Your continued support is much appreciated and allows us to support veteran initiatives and issues at the local, state, and national levels. You may pay your GBC chapter dues via debit/credit card at: <https://my.cheddarup.com/c/moaa-gbc-renewal/items?cart> with NO credit card fees!

If you have any questions about your dues renewal or membership, please email us at contact@moaabirmingham.org. Please note, chapter dues are separate from national MOAA dues! GBC Chapter dues are: 1-Year \$20, 2-Years \$35, 3-Years \$50

MOAA eligibility: All honorably serving, former, or retired warrant/commissioned officers of the armed forces (Regular, Reserve, National Guard), as well as USCG, Space Force, NOAA, and USPHS. Surviving spouses are also eligible to join MOAA and our chapter. If you know of someone interested in MOAA and our chapter, have them contact us at contact@moaabirmingham.org or better yet, invite or bring them to a meeting. Note, you must be a National MOAA member, at least the FREE Basic membership, to belong to the local chapter.

To join or renew your MOAA membership, you may also print, complete, and return the paper application below to the address on the form. You may also join/renew online at: <https://www.moaabirmingham.org/membership/>

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

We all enjoy the change of pace which the Holiday Season brings to our busy lives. We pause and try to look at life and our respective situation therein with reflective review and probable changes which may be needed. Celebration with others of like Faith and religion puts our minds at ease and ready for what is coming to us in the next year.

We prepare for that "New Year" trusting in our evaluation of last year and our desires and hopes for the new year.

I do my evaluation of what has happened which was valuable and good for my family and life and what was not so good. Naturally I plan to continue with what came out positive and change what needs to be changed.

Surely, we all go through that process and will try hard to make the changes needed!

I hope you are doing something like that process and will in turn enjoy every moment of the new year that includes those "revisions" only you can identify and make.

My prayer for you is that you will use the process and have an even more satisfying New Year. God bless you in your "self-evaluation" and "revised plan" for the New Year.

God's Blessings as we face 2026!

Chaplain Dan Phifer
U.S. Army Retired

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

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

Major Change for TRICARE Coverage of Breakthrough Alzheimer's Drug

November 25, 2025

A first-of-its-kind drug treating early stage Alzheimer's disease via in-home injection has been added to the TRICARE formulary.

Patients who receive the monoclonal antibody Leqembi via intravenous infusion every two weeks for 18 months now may continue treatment with similar infusions every four weeks or a weekly subcutaneous at-home injection. The Leqembi Iqlik (pronounced "I-Click") auto-injector is appearing in the TRICARE formulary as a Tier 3 drug with a 30-day supply available for a \$76 copay. Providing coverage for the at-home maintenance option will allow beneficiaries to avoid travel to infusion centers for follow-up care.

Beneficiaries must have prior authorization and submit a medical necessity form to verify coverage. The injector may be found at a retail pharmacy or a military treatment facility, but beneficiaries likely will need to obtain the Leqembi Iqlik via Accredo, which provides specialty pharmacy services to TRICARE beneficiaries. Coverage of the at-home treatment comes after the Food and Drug Administration approved the at-home maintenance dosing in August and after drugmaker Biogen introduced Leqembi Iqlik in the U.S. in early October. About a year earlier, MOAA and other advocacy groups successfully led an effort to secure TRICARE coverage for monoclonal antibodies Leqembi and Kisunla, closing a coverage gap faced by early Alzheimer's sufferers for more than a year.

TRICARE's coverage of monoclonal antibodies is provisional, and may last up to five years. MOAA will continue monitoring drug coverage changes as part of its overarching work to ensure a world-class health benefit for those who serve and have served, with care on par with Medicare, federal employee plans, and other benchmarks.

TRICARE beneficiaries with questions about the pharmacy program or their prescriptions should consult with their provider, visit TRICARE.mil for program details and forms, or reach out to Express Scripts at (877) 363-1303.

Legislative Action



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:

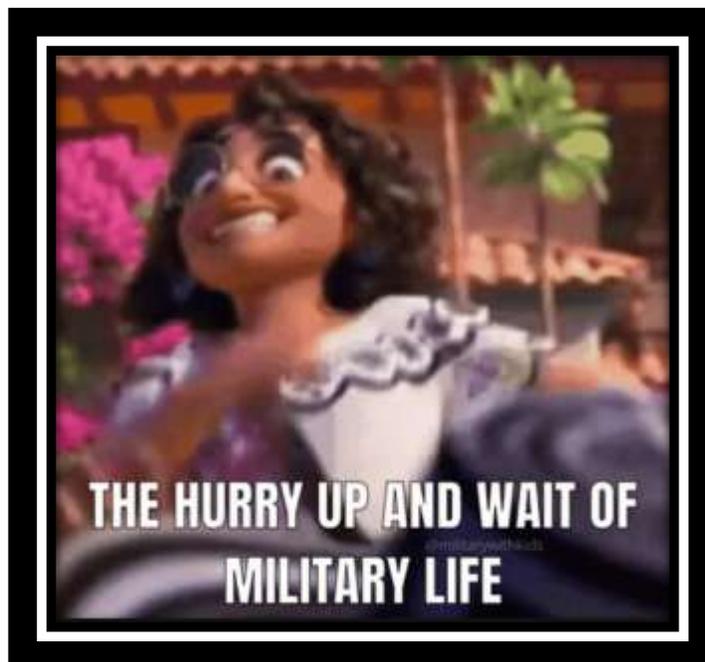


MILITARY SPOUSE'S CORNER



Happy 2026 to all the spouses of our Birmingham MOAA Chapter !

Cynthia Cox
GBC MOAA



GREATER BIRMINGHAM CHAPTER INFORMATION

HAPPY BIRTHDAY – JANUARY

Steve Driggers	4
Anne Hayes	8
Steve Driggers	4
Anne Hayes	8
Wes Cox	11
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 gave 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)



2026 mtg dates, speakers & topic:

- | | |
|------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| • Jan 8 - Dinner mtg. | Southern Museum of Flight |
| • Feb 5 - Dinner mtg. | What’s happening in Hoover? |
| • Mar 5 - Dinner mtg. | Niki Sepsas |
| • Apr 2 - Dinner mtg. | Alabama Historical Association |
| • May 7 - Dinner mtg. | Spouse/SS recognition. |
| • Jun 2 - Lunch mtg at local restaurant. | BYO. |
| • Jul 2 - Lunch mtg at local restaurant. | BYO. |
| • Aug 6 - Lunch mtg at local restaurant. | BYO. |



Key Military AI Applications & Examples:

- **Intelligence, Surveillance, & Reconnaissance (ISR):**
 - o **Project Maven:** Analyzes drone footage to quickly find and tag objects of interest, helping analysts process massive video streams.
 - o **Data Fusion:** Fuses satellite, drone, and communication data to build comprehensive, real-time battlefield maps.
- **Autonomous Systems & Drones:**
 - o **Loyal Wingmen:** AI-controlled drones (like the Valkyrie) fly alongside manned aircraft to extend capabilities.
 - o **Drone Swarms:** AI coordinates large groups of unmanned vehicles for surveillance or attack.
- **Targeting & Weapons:**
 - o **Smart Weapons:** AI improves precision and target selection, reducing collateral damage.
 - o **Automated Defense:** Systems like the Patriot missile defense use AI to track, classify, and intercept threats.
- **Logistics & Maintenance:**
 - o **Predictive Maintenance:** AI predicts equipment failures, reducing downtime.
 - o **Supply Chain Optimization:** AI manages complex logistics to keep forces supplied.
- **Cybersecurity & Space:**
 - o AI identifies cyber threats and potential attacks on satellites faster than humans.
- **Decision Support:**
 - o AI provides commanders with rapid analysis, threat assessments, and optimized strike plans, improving decision speed.
- **Training & Simulation:**
 - o AI-powered simulators (e.g., for MQ-9 Reapers) offer realistic training environments for pilots.

Real-World & Emerging Examples:

- **Ukraine Conflict:** AI-assisted targeting helped identify vulnerabilities in Russian bomber fleets.
- **Israel's Use:** AI algorithms analyze data to predict enemy positions and optimize strikes, notes the U.S. Army War College.
- **Kratos XQ58 Valkyrie:** An AI-driven stealth drone tested for single missions or swarms.
- **Integrated Visual Augmentation System (IVAS):** Uses AI to provide soldiers with enhanced battlefield information.



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!



PO Box 530153, Birmingham, AL 35253-0153