



PRESIDENT’S COLUMN

Greetings

Thank you for remembering the date – June 10, 2023! Our golf fundraising event was a great success!

There were total of 54 golf players, of these, seven were Baylor Vets. Overall funding results- 32 members donated a total of \$14,150 in cash donations and \$3,875 in player fees. Nine businesses and ten non-members donated \$5,820 and various donation-in-kinds have been received from multiple businesses and individuals.

Our scholarship committee reviewed 30 applications and selected nine of those for interviews on June 29th and July 6th. Of the nine, five are high school applicants and four were Baylor students. Scholarship awardees will be announced at our July membership luncheon.

Last month, our Board of Directors voted to increase the scholarship budget from up to \$13,000 to \$15,000 due to the large number of applicants and potential awardees.

Our scholarship and grant programs help prepare those who will lead in the future. Our donations to local and national veteran support organizations will assist those who are serving, have honorably served our nation and their dependents. This shows our commitment to Chapter/Foundation 2023 goals and objectives and lays our course to becoming a premier veteran’s support organization in Central Texas.

We are starting planning for our June 8, 2024 fundraiser with the goal of achieving continued membership support and increasing Waco community involvement in the event.

Our Board Nominating Committee has begun the selection process to replace Board Directors whose terms of service will expire at the end of this year. I encourage those interested serving on our Board of Directors to contact Bill Milnor. New Board

members are needed to bring fresh and innovative ideas to keep our organization dynamic and viable.

Things to remember in July

- July 1-3, 1863 – Battle of Gettysburg
- July 2, 1788 – US Constitution ratified
- July 4, 1776 – Declaration of Independence approved
- July 4, 1863 – Vicksburg Surrendered to Grant
- July 9, 1968 – 14th Amendment ratified
- July 10, 1943 – Allied Invasion of Sicily began
- July 20, 1969 – First man on the moon
- July 25, 2017 – National Hire a Veteran Day
- July 27, 1953 – Korean War Armistice Day
- July 28, 1992 – National Buffalo Soldiers Day
- July 28, 1932 – Bonus Marchers forced eviction
- July 29, 1775 – Army Chaplain Corps Anniversary

I personally thank all those involved in our fundraising and scholarship selection programs. This year we have exceeded last year’s effort, largely due to the financial commitment of our membership and the hard work of our committee leads.

Duty/Honor/Country---Always Serving

v/r

Michael Slavens

FOURTH ON THE BRAZOS

The City of Waco will have their annual Fourth on the Brazos celebration, featuring the H-E-B Fireworks Extravaganza and live music.

Fourth on the Brazos will be featured at Touchdown Alley (next to McLane Stadium). It is a Waco tradition with food trucks, live entertainment, family fund and fireworks. **Admission is free.** Gates open at 6 p.m. and the fireworks kick off at 9:15 p.m. There will be a patriotic ceremony by the Waco Community Band prior to fireworks starting.

There is a clear bag/purse policy to enter Touchdown Alley area. This is required for security reasons and to facilitate entry on security checks.

THURSDAY LUNCH MEETING JULY 20, 2023 AT MCLANE STADIUM – PRESIDENT’S SUITE, FIFTH FLOOR, HOSTED BY THE BAYLOR CLUB.

- Enter stadium parking lot thru gate 1, off of MLK Blvd and bear right. Continue on I-35 side to the end of parking lot past the Baylor Club entrance and Founder’s Club entrance and find the last inset doorway near the column;

- There will be a President’s Suite sign above the inset double door entrance located near the white column. There is usually a sidewalk placard against the column with President’s Suite name on it. Go thru the doorway and take the elevator to the fifth floor.

- The numbered spaces starting with rows 1-001, 1-025, 1-045 or 1-064 and up are across from the door entrance. You can park in any numbered space.

LUNCH SCHEDULE

**** 11:00 A.M. Registration and Social Period**

**** 11:35 A.M. Call to Tables**

**** 11:40 A.M. Intro & Announcements.**

**** 11:50 A.M. Lunch**

**** 12:20 P.M Multiple Drawings for Door Prizes**

**** 12:25 P.M. Guest Speaker – State Rep Charles “Doc” Anderson (depending on status of state special session)**

There will be scholarship award presentations.

MENU: Fresh fruit salad, tossed salad with balsamic and ranch dressings, artisan bread, Salisbury Steak, Chicken Picatta, Sautéed Seasonal Vegetables, Garlic Mashed Potatoes, Desserts with Fresh Brewed Iced Tea, water and coffee.

Lunch cost is \$35 per person, payable at registration table, cash or check made to HOT Chapter MOAA. Please call Vince Tobola, 254-709-5795 or e-mail vtobola@aol.com, NLT Thursday, 13 July Noon for sign-ups.

Early RSVP’s are welcome and appreciated. After the 13th, please contact Vince Tobola as soon as possible if then planning to attend and we will update the attendee list to accommodate you at the lunch meeting.

NOTE: Summer dress code will be in effect, gentlemen, collared shirts and pants, coat and/or tie optional and ladies attire as desired.

JULY SPECIAL DAY RECOGNITION

Birthdays: Jim Alexander, Bob Baugh, Jody Benson, George Brinegar, Larry Gee, Jimmie Hanes, Henry, Hacker, Dawn Jacques, Jon Ker, Helen Littell, Bill Milnor, Susan Patrick, Ken Ratajczak, Jack Rochelle, Michael Slavens and Shirley Wilson.

Anniversaries: Bill and Judy Bauer, Bob and Gaye Baugh, Wally and Voncycle Burns, Dennis and Debby DeGraff, Pat and Joe Herbelin, Jack and Barbara Rochelle, Will and Dee Rogers, Bobby and Donna Sammon, and Ennis and Kay Sullivan.

Congratulations to All

SENATE COMMITTEE HEARING

In June, the Senate Committee on Veterans’ Affairs held a hearing examining the effectiveness of VA’s Office of Integrated Veteran Care. VA Under Secretary for Health Dr. Shereef Elnahal and staff answered questions on the current status of its policies and procedures for integrated care.

FREE LEGAL ADVICE FOR VETERANS

There will be a free veteran’s clinic by Baylor Law on Friday, July 7, 2023, 2:00 – 5:00 p.m. at the Heart of Texas Veterans One Stop, 2010 La Salle Ave, Waco, TX. This is by **Appointment Only**, phone 254-710-4244, or e-mail:

LegalClinics@baylor.edu. Contact for the program is Joshua Borderud.



The advertisement features the MOAA Insurance Plans logo at the top, which consists of three vertical bars of varying heights followed by the text "MOAA INSURANCE PLANS". Below the logo, the slogan "Standing with you at every stage." is written in a large, white, sans-serif font. At the bottom of the ad, the phone number "1-800-247-2192" and the website "www.moaainsurance.com/plans" are listed in white text. A small number "97017" is visible in the bottom right corner of the ad area.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT – GARY J URBAN, PAST PRESIDENT, HOT CHAPTER, MOAA



In his distinguished United States Air Force (USAF) career, Gary Urban served as both a Senior Non-Commissioned and Commissioned Officer. During his 25 year career, he held positions that included Missile Crew Commander, Forward Air Control Intelligence Observer, Safety Officer, Command Post Controller, Operations and Resource Management Officer, and Chief of Base Intelligence. Gary served two tours in Viet Nam and held posts in Alaska, Nebraska, California, Texas, and Arkansas. Gary retired from active duty as a Major.

He was an Honor Graduate U.S. Air Force Alaskan Air Command Non-Commissioned Officers Academy, Distinguished Graduate of the U.S. Air Force Officer Training School, and graduate of the USAF Squadron Officers School. Gary has a Masters of Arts in Public Administration from Weber State University; a Bachelors of Arts in General Studies in Geomorphology/Geography/History from the University of Nebraska, Omaha; Associates in Risk Management for the Insurance Institute of America; and is a Texas Licensed Risk Manager.

After the Air Force, Gary held several positions with the city of San Antonio. From August 1992 to April 1996, he served as San Antonio's Safety Training Officer and Safety Program Supervisor where he developed a variety of safety training plans and managed the safety inspection and training programs for over 11,500 city employees. Gary assumed more responsibilities as the Special Projects Coordinator, Risk Management Division, City of San Antonio, where he developed and monitored a \$22,000,000 annual budget for self-insured workers compensation, liability and safety programs,

In 2002, Gary began his career with the City of Waco as Director of Risk Management where he was responsible for managing a \$4,200,000 risk management budget and protecting \$238,900,000 in municipal assets. By employing Risk Management techniques, he reduced the annual budget to less than \$3,000,000. In 2009, he became Director of General Services Department when General

Services (Fleet Services, Purchasing, & Facilities) was combined with Risk Management, Safety, and Employee Health Services. Gary was responsible for a workforce of 80 professional and technical employees.

Gary has spent several years volunteering and serving in veteran and public service roles - to name a few - Volunteer and PEER facilitator for the Waco Veterans One-Stop since 2005; Vice President of the Heart of Texas Vietnam Veterans of America Association. Past President and Board of Director's member of the State of Texas Public Risk Management Association, HOT MOAA Past President and member Board of Directors.

In 2016, Gary Received the Congressional Veterans Commendation from U.S. Congressman Bill Flores, Texas – 17 for service in the U.S. Air Force and service to the community in support of numerous veteran assistance programs

Gary is married to his wife Antoinette of 53 years and has two children and one grandchild.

2023 CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP DUES

Chapter member dues are still \$25 for renewing members. Member renewals can be paid at a chapter meeting or mailed to HOT Chapter MOAA, PO Box 23964, Waco, TX 76702.

We are always looking for prospects to join the chapter; please contact Bill Porter, 254-495-5601 or Vince Tobola, 254-709-5795 with prospect names.

Reminder that our website, hotmoaa.org, does have the 2023 chapter membership application form plus copies of newsletters. Newsletters are sent to members monthly, by e-mail or regular mail.

There is a MOAA national membership form at the chapter website: hotmoaa.org. **Basic membership is free** and the form shows fees for annual and life memberships. Note: MOAA National is the nation's largest and most influential association of military officers. The web address for MOAA's online legislative Take Action Center is www.moaa.org/takeaction.

HOT CHAPTER BOARD MEETING DATE

The next Board meeting will be on **Tuesday, July 25, 2023**, 5:00 p.m. at Uncle Dan's BBQ that is located at 1001 Lake Air Drive.

**2023 “FREEDOM IS NOT FREE”
SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISER
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Jack of All Trades

**THANKS TO ALL FUNDRAISER
SUPPORTERS**

We want to thank again all that contributed to the fundraiser in many ways to make it a success. We appreciate the volunteers that assisted in preparation Friday and during the morning golf scramble and the lunch awards ceremony. Again, thanks to all and we hope for another success on June 8, 2024.

Heart of Texas Chapter TX07, MOAA
P.O. Box 23964
Waco, TX 76702-3964

Address label

2023 H.O.T. MOAA OFFICERS & BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Michael Slavens, Lt Col, USAF (ret) (Marsha) 703-898-9173

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Bill Easley, 1LT, USAF (Bernie) 214-693-4085

Jim Milam, COL, USAF (ret) (Laura) 817-909-3588

Bill Hulsey, LTCDR, USN (ret) (Donna) 512-658-7173

Arend, Lew, 1LT, USA (Liz) 713-254-1334

Directors Emeritus

Jimmie Hanes, COL, USAF, (ret) (Mary) 254-848-5493

Dr. Harold Rafuse, LtCol, USAF (ret.) (RoseMary) 254-717-8112

ELECTED OFFICIALS

U.S. Senator John Cornyn
517 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
Website: www.Cornyn.senate.gov
202-228-2856

Chase Tower
221 West Sixth St, Suite 1530
Austin, TX 78701
512-469-6034, FAX 512-469-6020

U.S. Senator Ted Cruz
127A Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
202-224-5922

300 E. 8th, Ste 961
Austin, TX 78701

U.S. Rep. Pete Sessions
2204 Rayburn HOB, Washington, D.C. 20515
202-225-6105.

400 Austin Ave,
Suite 302
Waco, TX 76702

USEFUL NUMBERS

MOAA Capital switchboard hotline 1-800 272-6622
MOAA Membership 1-800 245-8762

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