



PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Greetings, All

As you all know, Veterans Day is quickly approaching along with the annual Veterans Day parade on Monday 11 November, once again sponsored by the Stan Parker Foundation. Kickoff time will be at 11:00, synonymous with the oft-used quote, "the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month", which signified the moment when World War I officially ended with the signing of an armistice between the Allied forces and Germany on 11 November 1918 at 11:00 AM, making it a widely recognized symbol for remembering those who served and died in the war. Gary Urban will be representing the Vietnam Veterans Association of America along with Congressman Pete Sessions and I will be representing HOTMOAA in separate parade entries.

Speaking of Veterans:

The annual Vets Fest hosted a BBQ lunch on 16 October at VFW Post 6008 in Hewitt with a number of chapter folks attending to offer their support and enjoy a tasty meal. KWTX was there and featured a spot about it on the 10:00 nightly news.

On Wednesday November 6 at 11:00, HOTMOAA will be presenting the Baylor Vets with a donation of \$1000 at the Sid Richardson Building on the Baylor Campus at their office in the basement.

Finally, let us continue to remember the weekly Veterans Lunch at the Veterans 1-Stop, 2010 La Salle Avenue, every Thursday from 11:00 to 1:00. Donations are always welcome!

The clock continues to tick in the countdown to the 2024 Presidential election. By the time this newsletter is published, it will be less than 4 days before we elect a new President and Vice President to lead our Nation. Again, please get out and VOTE! (if you have not voted early already)

The initial planning for our June 7, 2025, golf tournament fundraiser will commence soon with the goal of increasing membership and Waco community support for the event. This requires full

team effort. Latest ideas are always welcome on how to attain success for 2025!

Challenge Coins. We still have HOT MOAA challenge coins available. Pick up one or two at the registration table. The proceeds go toward our fundraising efforts. Finally, please continue to pray for our leaders to support and defend the Constitution and to reestablish trust in our institutions to restore civility and sanity. Thank you for your excellent work and support. I look forward to seeing you at our November 21st dinner - come out and enjoy!

Duty, Honor, Country – Always Serving

v/r

Bill Porter

INSPIRATIONAL THOUGHTS FROM OUR FOUNDING FATHERS

"Associate yourself with men of good quality if you esteem your own reputation; for 'tis better to be alone than in bad company." – George Washington

"There are two ways to conquer and enslave a nation. One is by the sword. The other is by debt." – John Adams

"An investment in knowledge pays the best interest." – Benjamin Franklin

"The constitution shall never be construed... to prevent the people of the United States who are peaceable citizens from keeping their own arms." – Alexander Hamilton

"To be prepared for war is one of the most effective means of preserving peace." – George Washington

"Happiness and moral duty are inseparably connected." – George Washington

"I predict future happiness for Americans, if they can prevent the government from wasting the labors of the people under the pretense of taking care of them." – Thomas Jefferson

"Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other." – John Adams

Source: <https://spreadgreatideas.org/quotes/founding-fathers/>

THINGS TO REMEMBER AND REFLECT ON IN NOVEMBER:

Nov 1, 1848 - The first medical school for women opened in Boston.

Nov 4, 1979 - About 500 young Iranian militants stormed the U.S. Embassy in Teheran, Iran, and took 90 hostages, including 52 Americans.

Nov 6, 1860 - Abraham Lincoln was elected as the 16th U.S. President and the first Republican.

Nov 7, 1811 – Shawnee Indians defeated the at the Battle of Tippecanoe

Nov 7, 1837 - A pro-slavery mob attacked and killed American abolitionist Elijah Lovejoy at his printing works in Alton, Illinois.

Nov 8, 1942 - Operation Torch, the Allied landings in North Africa, began as 400,000 soldiers under the command of General Dwight D. Eisenhower landed at Morocco and Algeria

Nov 9, 1989 - The Berlin Wall was opened after standing for 28 years. The 27.9 mile wall had been constructed in 1961.

Nov 10, 1775 - The U.S. Marine Corps was established as part of the U.S. Navy. It became a separate unit on July 11, 1789.

Nov 11th - Veterans Day (formerly called Armistice Day) celebrated.

Nov 11, 1972 - Direct American military participation in the Vietnam War ends.

Nov 13, 1942 - The five Sullivan Brothers were lost in the sinking of the cruiser *USS Juneau* off Guadalcanal causing the U.S. Navy to prohibit close relatives from serving on the same ship.

Nov 13, 1956 - The U.S. Supreme Court ruled that racial segregation on public buses was unconstitutional.

Nov 15, 1864 - Union troops under General William T. Sherman captured Atlanta.

Nov 15, 1969 - 250,000 people gathered in Washington, D.C., to protest the Vietnam War.

Nov 19, 1863 - President Abraham Lincoln delivered the Gettysburg Address

Nov 19-20, 1990 - The Cold War ended as leaders of NATO and the Warsaw Pact signed a Treaty on Conventional Forces in Europe

Nov 20, 1943 - The Battle of Tarawa began.

Nov 20, 1962 - The Cuban Missile Crisis ended.

Nov 22, 1963 – President Kennedy assassinated in Dallas, Texas

Nov 25, 1863 - The Battle of Missionary Ridge – Union forces soldiers assaulted and overran Confederate army.

Nov 26, 1789 - The first American holiday, proclaimed by President George Washington to be Thanksgiving Day, a day of prayer and public thanksgiving in gratitude for the successful establishment of the new American republic.

Nov 29, 1864 – Sand Creek Massacre - Without orders, Colorado Volunteer Infantry and Cavalry led by Col John Chivington attacked and killed at least 400 Cheyenne and Arapahoe Indians

Sources:

<https://www.historyplace.com/specials/calendar/november.htm>; https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Missionary_Ridge; <https://www.nps.gov/sand/learn/historyculture/index.htm>

RECAP OF OUR OCTOBER SPEAKER - LT COL KEN STERLING



Lt Col Sterling provided 30 of us with an insightful and entertaining update of the progress that has been made at the Baylor Air and Space Force ROTC program. Lt Col Sterling explained how the program has grown over the last few years and the standards by which only the best cadets continue through the four year program leading to commissioning as Air and Space Force officers. Lt Col Sterling has been selected for promotion to Colonel and will be leaving Baylor next summer. We wish him fair winds and continued success.

OUR NOVEMBER GUEST SPEAKER WILL BE HENRY HERNANDEZ

Henry Hernandez was born in Lockhart, Texas. He joined the U.S. Marine Corps in 1963. He served two tours of duty in Vietnam, 1965 – 1967. He received numerous awards and recognition during his military service. Following his honorable discharge from the Marine Corps in 1969, he joined the Marine Corps Reserve unit in Austin, Texas.

While attending school, he worked with the Texas Department of Transportation Mapping and Photogrammetry Department, flying low-altitude aerial photography. He worked for three years with the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers Survey Department. Most of his career was in surveying and mapping, including high-altitude aerial photo image interpretation for the Department of Defense. He

worked on many government projects in the U.S. and overseas. He retired from the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California Engineering Department in 2003.

Henry will be making a presentation at the November 21 dinner meeting on “The Grunt Padre”, the service and sacrifice of the late Father Vincent Robert Capodanno, Vietnam 1966 – 1967.

Vincent R. Capodanno was a U.S. Navy chaplain who earned the Medal of Honor while serving with the Marines during the Vietnam War. He joined the U.S. Navy Chaplain Corps in 1966 and, after completing Officer Candidate School, was immediately posted to Vietnam, where he was attached to the U.S. Marines Corps. During his service Capodanno established a reputation for selfless dedication to the men, sharing their hardships and working for their spiritual and practical welfare. He was so beloved by the men that he acquired the moniker “The Grunt Padre.”

On September 4, 1967, Capodanno embedded himself with one of the companies taking part in the mission. During a bloody firefight, Capodanno repeatedly exposed himself to retrieve wounded soldiers, deliver last rites, and bring comfort and aid in the heat of the battle. Capodanno was severely wounded twice and refused treatment or requests to withdraw. Finally, going to aid a wounded medical corpsman under enemy fire, he was killed in action. His posthumous Medal of Honor was presented to his family on January 7, 1969.

Source: <https://mohmuseum.org/vincent-r-capodanno/>

THIRD THURSDAY DINNER MEETING, NOVEMBER 21, 2024 IN THE MEDIA ROOM AT MCLANE STADIUM – 5th FLOOR.

- - Enter the stadium parking lot through gate 1, off of MLK Blvd and bear right. Continue onto I-35 side and look for double door with Media Entrance located above door. This is before the Baylor Club main entrance. Go through the double door and take the elevator to the fifth floor. There is normally a placard sign next to the white column. You can park in any numbered space.

DINNER SCHEDULE

**** 5:00 P.M. Registration Table Opens and
Social Period.**

**** 5:35 P.M. Call to Tables.**

**** 5:40 P.M. Intro & Announcements**

**** 5:50 P.M. Dinner.**

**** 6:50 P.M Multiple Drawings. Guest speaker
Henry Hernandez, aide to the late
Father Vincent Capodanno,
Vietnam War Medal of Honor
recipient.**

MENU: Fresh fruit salad tossed salad with balsamic and ranch dressings, Artisan Bread, Salisbury Steak, Grilled Tilapia, Fiesta Corn, Red Roasted Potatoes, Desserts, Iced Tea and Water. Coffee will be available at the beverage bar.

A bar will be available, and payment will be debit or credit card only due to Baylor Club policy.

**The dinner cost is \$40 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, 14 November, Noon for sign-ups.**

Early RSVPs are welcome and appreciated. After the 14th, please contact Vince Tobola as soon as possible if you are planning to attend and we will update the attendee list to accommodate you at the dinner meeting.

NOTE: Winter dress code will be in effect, gentlemen, casual business attire with collared shirts and coat and optional for tie and ladies' casual business attire.

HOT CHAPTER BOARD MEETING DATE

The next Board meeting will be on **Tuesday,
November 26, 2024**, 5:00 p.m. at Uncle Dan's BBQ that is located at 1001 Lake Air Drive. Our thanks to Uncle Dan's for providing the corner meeting room at no charge.

CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP

We are always looking for prospects to join the chapter; please contact Lew Arend, or Vince Tobola, with prospect names.

Reminder that our website, hotmoaa.org, does have the chapter membership application form plus copies of newsletters. There is also a national MOAA membership form; basic membership is free. Newsletters are provided to members monthly, by e-mail or regular mail.

Please note the Heart of Texas Chapter of MOAA is a member of the National MOAA organization of over four hundred chapters and together we are the

nation's largest and most influential association of military officers. We are an independent, nonprofit, politically nonpartisan organization.

NOVEMBER SPECIAL DAY RECOGNITION

Birthdays: Joe Augeri, Dawn Bowles, Jerrie Buehrig, Lyn Anderson, Tony Raineri, Ray Sancton, Don Speed, Matt Urban, and Martha West

Anniversaries: Ted and Julie Croy.

Congratulations to All

2024 CHAPTER MEETING SCHEDULE

- **12 December 2024, Thursday dinner meeting in the Media Room at McLane Stadium.**
Chapter election for 2025 and entertainment will be by the band, the Morticians for music and dance.
- **SAVE THE DATE –** Saturday, June 7, 2025, for the Annual Scholarship Fundraiser Golf Tournament at Waco Cottonwood Creek Golf Course.

DONATIONS NEEDED: Please bring a non-perishable food item to our dinner meeting and receive a free drawing ticket. The grocery collection is being made for donation to the Veteran's One Stop. We will continue collecting each month in 2024.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT – PAST PRESIDENT, COL WILLIAM HENRY MILNOR, JR., M.D.



Bill was born into a military family; his dad, William Henry Milnor, graduated from the United States Military Academy on June 6, 1944 (D-Day), became a pilot and served 23 years in United States

Air Force. So Bill experienced a lot of moves at a young age.

Bill graduated high school in Starkville, Mississippi. After high school, he earned a Biology degree from the University of the South, in Sewanee, Tennessee (TN). After graduating, he was accepted into the Baylor College of Medicine in Houston where he earned his Doctor of Medicine (MD). It was while here that Bill started becoming a Texan. From Houston, Col Milnor moved to Memphis, TN and completed his surgical internship.

After his internship, Bill entered the United States Army in 1972 and served 3 years (1972-1975) as an artillery brigade surgeon and then clinic commander in Wertheim, Germany. Next, from 1975-1978, he received Orthopaedic Surgical Residency training at Walter Reed Army Medical Center. After Walter Reed, his “fun” assignment (1978-1979) was at the Ft Campbell, KY hospital with the 101st Airborne Division, where he earned his Air Assault Wings! Then 1979-1980 and 1982- 1983 he had fellowships in Hand and Micro-surgery.

From 1980-1987 Bill was assigned as Faculty Orthopaedic Surgeon, Brooke Army Medical Center. In 1987, he returned to Germany as Chief Orthopaedic Surgeon and Chief Surgeon at Landstuhl Army Medical Center. In 1993, Col Milnor left Germany to become the Chief of Orthopaedic Surgical Residency Training, Tripler Army Medical Center, Hawaii.

During his assignments Colonel Milnor treated active duty, retired military members and dependents including those injured in combat in Vietnam, Grenada, the Middle East: also those pilots and spectators injured in the 1989 Ramstein (Germany) military airshow, and Russian civilians evacuated to Landstuhl after a major earthquake.

His last assignment (1993-1995) was in Washington, DC as Chief Orthopaedic and Surgery Consultant to the US Army Surgeon General with responsibility for force development and surgical residencies. Colonel Milnor retired in January 1995 after nearly 23 years of service. His awards and commendations include the Surgeon General's “A” MOS (professional military occupational specialty designation), the Commendation Medal, Meritorious Service Medal and Legion of Merit. Professional memberships include the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons, American College of Surgery, and American Society for Surgery of the Hand.

After Army retirement, Bill entered private practice of Orthopaedic and hand surgery with another retired Army Colonel (who trained Bill) in Owensboro, KY. Then from 2005-2018 Col Milnor entered administrative practice of surgical utilization review out of Dallas, TX, with multiple medical and surgical specialists.

While Colonel Milnor was an Orthopaedic surgeon and teacher at Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio, he met and married Gerry Caperton of Stockdale, Texas.

MOAA NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP

If needed, there is a MOAA national membership form at the chapter website: hotmoaa.org. **Basic MOAA membership is free**, and fees are shown for annual and life MOAA memberships. This is separate from the chapter membership fee.

ELECTION DAY IS APPROACHING

Early in-person voting is from Monday, October 21 to Friday, November 1. Any registered voter can cast a ballot at early voting sites in the county.

- McLennan County Elections Admin Office at 214 N 4th Street, Suite 300, Waco
- Waco Multi-Purpose Community Center, 1020 Elm Ave, Waco
- Hewitt City Hall/Library, 200 Patriot Court, Hewitt
- Robinson Community Center, 106 W Lyndale, Robinson
- First Assembly of God Church, 6701 Bosque Blvd, Waco

Election day is Tuesday, November 5, 7 am – 7 pm. You will need to present one of seven acceptable forms of ID: Texas Driver's License, Texas Election Identification Certificate, Texas Personal Identification Card, Texas Handgun License, US Military Identification Card, US Citizenship Certificate or US Passport.

COMMENDATION

The **Congressional Veteran Commendation** is a nominations-based program designed to recognize **both** the military service and community service of Veterans living in the 31st Congressional District of Texas. These honorees are exceptional Americans who served our country as a former member of the United States Armed Forces (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Space Force and Coast Guard).

Rep. Pete Sessions was host and one of many present who honored the 2024 Heart of Texas recipients of the Congressional Veterans Commendation on Friday night, October 11. The event took place at the Lee Lockwood Library, located at 2801 W Waco Drive.

The event started with an invocation by Chaplain William Brock, and a Presentation of the Colors by La Vega High School's Navy JROTC.

The keynote speaker for the dinner was Lt. Gen. Kevin D. Admiral, who is the Commanding General of III Armored Corps and Fort Cavazos. According to the Office of Pete Sessions, Lt. Gen. Admiral has led soldiers at all levels across four divisions in the United States and overseas.

There were eight recipients of the Congressional Veterans Commendation. Three were Heart of Texas Chapter MOAA members. They were Robert Rochell, Jimmie Hanes, and Harold Rafuse.



On the left of each is Lt Gen Admiral and on their right is Congressman Sessions.



The Congressional Veterans Commendation says it is a nominations-based program which recognizes veterans for their military service and

community involvement. The program believes honorees are exceptional Americans in every way. These remarkable veterans have not only served our country with distinction, but they have continued to dedicate themselves to service by making a positive impact in our community after their active-duty careers.

The stories of these remarkable individuals tell of inspirational sacrifice for others around them, both on the battlefield and in civilian life. We thank them for their service, and for being shining examples of leadership and resilience

MOAA OCTOBER NEWSLETTER ITEMS

Check Out These 2024 Veterans Day Discounts

By: Blair Drake

OCTOBER 22, 2024

This story will be updated in advance of Nov. 11 with more Veterans Day offerings.

Restaurants, businesses, and attractions are extending their thanks to veterans and active duty military personnel by offering freebies and discounts on and leading up to Veterans Day.

Food and Dining

Applebee's Grill and Bar: All veterans and active duty military members receive a free entrée from a special menu Nov. 11 at select locations.

California Dreaming: Veterans and active duty service members get 50% off any entrée Nov. 11 at locations in Augusta, Ga.; Charleston, S.C.; Columbia, S.C.; Greenville, S.C.; Spanish Fort, Ala.; and Surfside Beach, S.C.

California Pizza Kitchen: All veterans and active duty service members receive a complimentary non-alcoholic beverage and a choice of one entrée from a prix-fixed menu on Veterans Day. Offer is for dine-in only.

Golden Corral: Active duty service members and veterans get a free dine-in meal Monday, Nov. 11 from 4 p.m. to close.

McCormick & Schmick's: Service members, veterans, Gold Star spouses, and Gold Star parents can receive a half-priced entrée from a special menu Sunday, Nov. 10 at participating restaurants. The offer is for dine-in only.

Mission BBQ: Veterans and active duty service members get a free sandwich Nov. 11.

MOD Pizza: On Nov. 11, all veterans and active military personnel and their spouses get the all-new Mega Cookie for free.

New York Prime: Veterans and active duty service members get 50% off any entrée Nov. 11 at locations in Atlanta; Boca Raton, Fla.; and Myrtle Beach, S.C.

Red Robin: All veterans and active duty service members get a free Red's Tavern Double burger with free refills of Bottomless Steak Fries when they dine-in Nov. 11.

[More discounts: Military.com]

Shopping, Products, and Services

Academy Sports: Service members and first responders get 10% off in store and online Oct. 20-Nov. 12.

Great Clips: Veterans and active duty service members can visit a salon Nov. 11 and receive either a free haircut that day or a free haircut card to use at a future visit. In addition, non-military customers who get a haircut on Veterans Day will receive a free haircut card to give to an active service member or veteran they know as a way of saying thank you.

Rack Room Shoes: Service members and their families get 20% off their entire in-store purchase with valid ID.

Sports Clips: Many participating Sport Clips locations are offering free Veterans Day haircuts for those with military ID.

Target: Active duty service members and veterans as well as their spouses and children get a 10% discount, which guests can use twice — in store or online — during the promotional period of Oct. 27 through Nov. 11. To redeem the offer, guests must verify eligibility by registering at Target.com/circle/military.

[More discounts: Veteran.com]

CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN 2025 COST OF LIVING ALLOWANCE UPDATE

The 2025 cost of living allowance increase for retiree and social security pay will be 2.5%

VINCE'S DINING NOTES

The renovation for new restaurant, Casa Do Brazil, is slowly progressing. It will be located near the intersection of S. 11th Street and Webster Avenue in the former Diversified Products Building. The building has a new exterior finish, and the interior will eventually also have retail vendors. The restaurant is at the end of the building facing Webster and has various food graphics displayed in the windows. There is not an estimated opening date yet.



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

Address label

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1st Vice President

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Jane Winston, Lt, USAF 979-777-8076

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Barbara Purselley 254-716-4572

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Norma Thronburg 254-749-2146

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Robert Baugh, MAJ, USA (ret.) (Gayle) 254-772-4651

Stanley Brubaker, Col, USAF (ret.) (Lori) 254-772-7405

ELECTED OFFICIALS

U.S. Senator John Cornyn

517 Hart Senate Office Building

Washington, DC 20510

Website: www.Cornyn.senate.gov

202-224-2934

221 West Sixth St, Suite 1530

Austin, TX 78701

512-469-6034, FAX 512-469-6020

U.S. Senator Ted Cruz

167 Russell

Washington, D.C. 20510

202-224-5922

300 E. 8th, Ste 961

Austin, TX 78701

512-916-5834

U.S. Rep. Pete Sessions

2204 Rayburn HOB, Washington, D.C. 20515

202-225-6105.

400 Austin Ave,
Suite 302

Waco, TX 76701

254-633-4500

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MOAA Capital switchboard hotline 1-800 272-6622

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