



Heart of Texas Chapter
Military Officers Association of America
P.O. Box 23964 Waco, TX 76702-3964



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May 2025

Chapter Website: hotmoaa.org

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Greetings All!

Before I start, I apologize to you and regret that the April dinner had to be cancelled. We realized that the day it was to be held was Holy (Maundy) Thursday, specifically the Thursday of the Lord's Supper just before Good Friday. As for my AI 101 presentation, I'll plan to give that at some later date.

Our annual fundraiser golf tournament is just a few short months away on Saturday morning, June 7. Please consider making a financial contribution to the fundraiser. I plan to give my normal cash donation of \$300. Only \$150.00 will make you a hole sponsor. Moreover, if you have a favorite restaurant, please consider asking them for a donation, either cash or gift cards. You all have a bank that you deal with; consider asking them for a donation. Sponsor and donation forms and the golf registration form are posted on the website: hotmoaa.org. New ideas are always welcome on how to attain success for 2025! More info on the chapter website at **hotmoaa.org**. Click on website, then click on Fundraising and then click on Golf Fundraiser.

On 30-31 March, several of us traveled to State Capitol building in Austin as a part of the MOAA Texas Council of Chapters (TCC) for the beginning of the 89th Texas Legislative Session to advocate for Veterans benefits and needs throughout the state, also known as "**Advocacy in Austin.**" We visited with numerous senators and representatives and discussed priority areas and bills before they went to the floor for vote. Priority areas included VA benefits, quality of life for vulnerable Veterans and surviving spouses, affordable housing initiatives, reasonably priced childcare, and intern programs for transitioning Veterans.

On 2-3 May, I'll be attending an **MOAA Leaders Workshop for the Central Region** in Oklahoma City, OK. This workshop will provide an important forum to receive updates and ask questions of MOAA leadership and attend break-out sessions on Chapter Management, Legislative Training, and Surviving Spouse Liaison Training. I will update

you on the results of this workshop in next month's newsletter.

Congratulations to all **Graduates** out there! I'm sure that some of your relatives and friends are celebrating this momentous milestone in their lives. HOTMOAA wishes all of them the best of good fortune as they begin this next chapter of their lives.

Donations Needed: Please bring a non-perishable food item to our dinner meeting and receive an extra ticket for our nightly drawing. Collection being made for donation to the Veteran's One Stop.

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 with the new Presidential administration. Thank you for your outstanding work and support. I look forward to seeing you at our May 15th dinner.

Duty, Honor, Country – Always Serving

v/r

Bill Porter

INSPIRATIONAL THOUGHTS FROM OUR FOUNDING FATHERS

"Liberty must at all hazards be supported. We have a right to it, derived from our Maker. But if we had not, our fathers have earned and bought it for us, at the expense of their ease, their estates, their pleasure, and their blood." – John Adams, 1765

"In Europe, charters of liberty have been granted by power. America has set the example ... of charters of power granted by liberty. This revolution in the practice of the world, may, with an honest praise, be pronounced the most triumphant epoch of its history, and the most consoling presage of its happiness." –James Madison, Essays for the National Gazette, 1792

"I consider the foundation of the Constitution as laid on this ground that 'all powers not delegated to the United

States, by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the states, are reserved to the states or to the people.’ To take a single step beyond the boundaries thus specially drawn around the powers of Congress, is to take possession of a boundless field of power, not longer susceptible of any definition.” – Thomas Jefferson, Opinion on the Constitutionality of a National Bank, 1791

“[T]he general government is not to be charged with the whole power of making and administering laws: its jurisdiction is limited to certain enumerated objects, which concern all the members of the republic, but which are not to be attained by the separate provisions of any.” – James Madison, Federalist 14, 1787

“The accumulation of all powers, legislative, executive, and judiciary, in the same hands, whether of one, a few, or many, and whether hereditary, self-appointed, or elective, may justly be pronounced the very definition of tyranny.” – James Madison, Federalist 47, 1788

“The principle of the Constitution is that of a separation of Legislative, Executive and Judiciary functions, except in cases specified. If this principle be not expressed in direct terms, it is clearly the spirit of the Constitution ...” – Thomas Jefferson, letter to James Madison, 1797

“We may define a republic to be ... a government which derives all its powers directly or indirectly from the great body of the people and is administered by persons holding their offices during pleasure for a limited period, or during good behavior.” – James Madison, Federalist 39, 1788

“A wise and frugal government, which shall leave men free to regulate their own pursuits of industry and improvement and shall not take from the mouth of labor the bread it has earned — this is the sum of good government.” – Thomas Jefferson, First Inaugural Address, 1801

“The moment the idea is admitted into society that property is not as sacred as the laws of God, and that there is not a force of law and public justice to protect it, anarchy and tyranny commence.” – John Adams, A Defence of the Constitutions of the Government of the United States of America, 1787

“One of the most essential branches of English liberty is the freedom of one’s house. A man’s house is his castle.” – James Otis, on the Writs of Assistance, 1761

“Pure democracies have ever been spectacles of turbulence and contention; have ever been found incompatible with personal security, or the rights of property; and have, in general, been as short in their lives as they have been violent in their deaths.” – James Madison, Federalist 10, 1787

“The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are

reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.” – Tenth Amendment, 1791

Source: <https://billofrightsinstitute.org/founders-quotes>

THINGS TO REMEMBER AND REFLECT ON IN MAY:

May 1, 1960 - An American U-2 spy plane flying at 60,000 feet was shot down over Sverdlovsk in central Russia on the eve of a summit meeting between President Eisenhower and Soviet Russia's Premier Khrushchev

May 2, 2011 - U.S. Special Operations Forces killed Osama bin Laden during a raid on his secret compound in Abbottabad, Pakistan

May 4, 1970 – At Kent State University, four students were killed, and 11 others were wounded by National Guardsmen who opened fire on a crowd of 1,000 students protesting President Richard Nixon's decision to invade Cambodia.

May 5, 1961 - Alan Shepard became the first American in space piloting *Freedom 7* during a 15-minute 28-second suborbital flight that reached an altitude of 116 miles above the earth.

May 6, 1937 - The German airship Hindenburg burst into flames at 7:20 p.m. as it neared the mooring mast at Lakehurst, New Jersey

May 7, 1915 - The British passenger ship *Lusitania* was torpedoed by a German submarine off the coast of Ireland, killing 1,198 passengers

May 7, 1954 - The French Indochina War ended with the fall of Dien Bien Phu, in a stunning victory by the Vietnamese over French colonial forces in northern Vietnam. The country was then divided in half at the 17th parallel, with South Vietnam created in 1955.

May 7, 1992 - The 27th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was ratified, prohibiting Congress from giving itself pay raises.

May 8, 1942 – The Battle of the Coral Sea began in which Japan would suffer its first defeat of the war

May 10, 1869 - The newly constructed tracks of the Union Pacific and Central Pacific railways were first linked at Promontory Point, Utah

May 11, 1969 - During the Vietnam War, the Battle of "Hamburger Hill" began. After finally securing the objective, American military staff decided to abandon the position.

May 12, 1949 - Soviet Russia lifted its blockade of Berlin

May 13, 1846 - At the request of President James K. Polk, Congress declared war on Mexico. The controversial struggle eventually cost the lives of 11,300 U.S. soldiers

and resulted in the annexation of lands that became parts of Oklahoma, New Mexico, Arizona, Nevada, California, Utah and Colorado. The war ended in 1848 with the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo.

May 14, 1942 - During World War II, an Act of Congress allowed women to enlist for noncombat duties in the Women's Auxiliary Army Corps (WAAC), the Women Appointed for Voluntary Emergency Service (WAVES), Women's Auxiliary Ferrying Squadron (WAFS), and Semper Paratus Always Ready Service (SPARS), the Women's Reserve of the Marine Corp

May 17, 1954 - In Brown v. Board of Education, the Supreme Court unanimously ruled that segregation of public schools "solely on the basis of race" denies black children "equal educational opportunity" even though "physical facilities and other 'tangible' factors may have been equal. Separate educational facilities are inherently unequal."

May 20, 1927 - Charles Lindbergh took off at 7:52 a.m. from Roosevelt Field, Long Island attempting the first solo nonstop flight between New York City and Paris.

May 20, 1932- Amelia Earhart became the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic.

May 21, 1881 - The American Red Cross was founded by Clara Barton.

May 24, 1844 - Telegraph inventor Samuel Morse sent the first official telegraph message, "What hath God wrought?"

May 29, 1865 - Following the American Civil War, President Andrew Johnson issued a proclamation granting general amnesty to Confederates.

May 30, 1943 – During, the Aleutian Islands off the coast of Alaska were retaken by the U.S. 7th Infantry Division. US casualties – 552 killed & 1,140 wounded. Japanese killed – 2352

May 31, 1889 - Over 2,300 persons were killed in the Johnstown flood in Pennsylvania. Heavy rains throughout May caused the Connemaugh River Dam to burst sending a wall of water 75 feet high pouring down upon the city

Source: <https://www.historyplace.com/specials/calendar/may.htm>

APRIL 2025 DINNER MEETING WAS CANCELLED FOR EASTER SERVICES

THURSDAY DINNER MEETING MAY 15, 2025, 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 stadium I-35 side and look for double door with Media Entrance located above door. This is well before the

Baylor Club six door 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 – Dr. Daniel J. Pack, Dean of Baylor's School of Engineering and Computer Science, will speak on military applications of 3-D printing and communications networks.

MENU:

Fresh fruit salad tossed salad with balsamic and ranch dressings, Artisan Bread, Chicken Fried Steak, Parmesan Crusted Chicken, Sautéed Seasonal Vegetables, Garlic Mashed 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 the 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, 8 May, Noon for sign-ups.

Early RSVPs are welcome and appreciated. After the 8th, 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: Summer dress code will be in effect, gentlemen, casual business attire with collared shirts and coat and/or tie optional and ladies' casual business attire.

OUR MAY 15 GUEST SPEAKER – DR. DANIEL J. PACK, DEAN, BAYLOR SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND COMPUTER SCIENCE

Dr. Pack will speak on military applications of 3-D printing and communications networks.

Dr. Pack holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering from Arizona State University, a Master of Science degree in Engineering Sciences from Harvard University, and a Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering from Purdue University. He spent a year as a visiting scholar at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology-Lincoln Laboratory.

He previously served as the Dean of the College of Engineering and Computer Science at the University of Tennessee, Chattanooga (UTC). Dr. Pack was also a Professor and Mary Lou Clarke Endowed Chair of the Electrical and Computer Engineering Department at the University of Texas, San Antonio, and a Professor (now Professor Emeritus) of Electrical and Computer Engineering at the United States Air Force Academy (USAFA), CO, where he directed the Academy Center for Unmanned Aircraft Systems Research.

With over 25 years of experience in autonomous systems and related technologies, Dr. Pack has earned numerous awards and has co-authored seven textbooks on embedded systems and published over 160 scholarly works on unmanned systems, cooperative control, robotics, pattern recognition, and engineering education

HOT CHAPTER BOARD MEETING DATE

The next Board meeting will be on **Tuesday, May 20, 2025**, 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 Michael Slavens, or Vince Tobola, with prospective names. Remember every member can help in recruiting more members.

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, political nonpartisan organization.

2025 dues are now due. Dues are \$25 for current members and can be paid at the regular dinner meetings or mailed to HOT Chapter MOAA, P.O. Box 23964, Waco, TX 76702. Thank you for your continued support of the chapter on your renewal.

HOTMOAA.ORG

Our new and revised website is online at <https://hotmoaa.org>. Be sure and register to access the new members' only section.

MAY SPECIAL DAY RECOGNITION

Birthdays:

Sandy Corwin, Bob Corwin, Rick Swann, Samuel Wright and Jane Winston.

Anniversaries:

Tim and Nancy Pfanner and Doug and Pat Young

. CONGRATUATIONS TO ALL

Congratulations to All

2025 CHAPTER MEETING SCHEDULE

- **7 June 2025, Annual Scholarship Fundraiser Golf Tournament at Waco Cottonwood Creek Golf Course. More info is on the chapter website, hotmoaa.org , then go and click Fundraising, and then click on Golf Fundraiser for details and forms for cover letter on the fundraiser, donation and sponsorships and golf player registration.**
- **17 July 2025, Thursday dinner meeting in the Media Room at McLane Stadium.** It is proposed to have the awards presentations for the educational scholarships' selectees.
- **14 August 2025, Thursday dinner meeting in the Media Room at McLane Stadium.** Tentative guest speaker is State Senator Brian Birdwell.
- **18 September 2025, Thursday dinner meeting in the Media Room at McLane Stadium.** The proposed guest speaker is Felecia Mulkey, Baylor University Tumblin National Champions Coach.

- **16 October 2025, Thursday dinner meeting in the Media Room at McLane Stadium.** The guest speaker is pending.
- **20 November 2025, Thursday dinner meeting in the Media Room at McLane Stadium.** The guest speaker is pending.
- **11 December 2025, Thursday dinner meeting in the Media Room at McLane Stadium.** Election for 2026 officers and directors will be conducted and the annual dance.

DONATIONS NEEDED: Please bring a non-perishable food item to our dinner meeting and receive a free drawing ticket. The collection is being made for donation to Veteran's One Stop. We will continue collecting each month in 2025.

**MEMBER SPOTLIGHT – JACK ROCHELLE,
LT COL, USAF (RET)**



Jack Rochelle grew up in a small town in West Tennessee north of Memphis. His Mother was a 7th and 8th grade arithmetic teacher and his Dad was principal of the Elementary School. By the age of 14

Jack was delivering the morning Memphis newspaper in town and by age 15 Jack was working part-time as a radio Disc Jockey at the local radio station, a job he continued through college.

Jack was the Valedictorian of his high school class in 1961 and after graduation attended Memphis State University. At that time, all freshman and sophomore men were required to enroll in the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC), so Jack had a blue Air Force uniform in his closet four years before receiving his commission on graduation in 1965.

He completed pilot training at Randolph Air Force Base (AFB) flying the T-28 trainer, H-19 and H-43 helicopters. After graduation, his next assignment was to Grand Forks AFB for missile site support in the UH-1F helicopter. Then Jack had separate tours to Vietnam in 1967 and 1969-70 as a UH-1P helicopter pilot with the 20th Special Ops Sq. Those tours ended in December 1969 after Jack and crew were shot down and he evaded enemy troops with his injured crew until rescue.

After regaining flight status, his was assigned to Randolph AFB flying the T-38, then on to Charleston AFB as a C-141 pilot. In 1973, pilot drawdown resulted in a new assignment to Little Rock AFB as a Titan II site commander and later Chief of the Command Post. In 1977, a new assignment back to Charleston in the C-141, followed with new duty in Command and Control as Command Post Chief.

Following promotion to Lt Col in 1981, Jack was assigned to Military Airlift Command (MAC) Headquarters as a Senior Airlift Controller in the Command Center and later as Chief, Operations Systems Management. In that position, Lt Col Rochelle was responsible for Stan/Eval and functional management of MAC Base Operations, Command Posts, Airlift Control Element (ALCE) deployment and Airspace management.

In 1986, Jack became Airfield Manager at Scott AFB well as project director of the annual Scott Open House and Air Show, which hosted over 25,000 guests from the St. Louis area over the two day show. One of his project officers was Lt. Col Barbara Hair, a Family Practice nurse, AF flight nurse and the Health Promotion Coordinator for the Regional Hospital at Scott. She was the person responsible for maintaining the medical support for the base open house.

Following the open house in 1988, she brought her after action report in person to Jack's office. Jack's secretary, noticing that she was not wearing a wedding ring, called her and held out the phone and said "talk to her!" and as they say, the rest is history. We were married in July 1989.

We had planned to retire in June 1991, as we both had been accepted at professional schools, Barbara to University of North Texas Medical School in Fort Worth and Jack to Law school at Memphis. Due to the Mid-East war, medical personnel were extended a year, but her medical school held the position. Jack retired and started law school in 1991.

While in the Air Force, Jack and Barbara had obtained Masters Degrees and had graduated from the Air Force Air War College. At retirement, Jack was serving as liaison between Scott AFB and Illinois Department of Transportation in the potential development of a joint use plan with Scott AFB, which is now the Mid America Airport.

Jack graduated from law school with honors in 1994 and passed the Texas bar exam, and Barbara finished med school in 1996 with a residency at the University of Texas. During her residency, she completed her Masters of Public Health degree.

Jack was working with a law firm in Fort Worth and Barbara was hired by Scott and White in Waco following her residency. Following a move to Waco, Jack began working with the Veteran's Administration Regional office and retired in 2008. Jack was the Vice President of the HOT MOAA from 2002-2004 as well as member of Board of Directors. He also served as President of The Lone Star Retired Officers Club in Fort Worth in 1998. Jack has continued to participate with Baylor Law School at veteran's clinics and Texas lawyers for Texas veterans.

Barbara continues to work with Concentra Medical and is a member of the Board of Directors of the McLennan County Medical Society. Their blended family consists of four children, six grandchildren and three great grands.

On his 80th birthday 2 years ago, Jack was presented with a proclamation from the Mayor of Waco declaring "Jack Rochelle Day" in honor of his continuing volunteer work for the local veteran's community.

FREE WACO AREA EVENTS FOR MAY

- May 1, 8, 15, & 28 - Veterans One-Stop Meal for Veterans & Family at 1100 to 1300 Hours
- May 2 – Brazos Nights at Indian Springs Park 6:00pm to 11:00PM.
<https://www.brazosnightswaco.com/>
- May 3 – Community Opportunity Event (The COE). Saturday, May 03, 2025 | 10:00 AM - 01:00 PM at the Foster Pavillion.
<https://www.waco-texas.com/Departments/Police-Department/Community-Outreach/Waco-Police-Events/The-COE>
- May 3 - The 17th Heart of Texas Sertoma Kite Festival, Hotmac Field for 10:00am to 3:00pm.
<https://wacosertoma.org/>
- May 9 – Food Truck Friday. Friday, May 09, 2025, | 08:00 AM to 10:00 AM and 11:00Am to 2:00pm, Waco-McLennan Public Health Parking Lot, 225 West Waco Drive, Waco, TX,

76707. <https://www.waco-texas.com/Departments/Health-District/Health-Calendar/Food-Truck-Friday>

- May 17 – Saturday, 08:30am. Police Memorial Run. Redwood Shelter, 2300 Cameron Park Dr, Waco, Tx. <https://www.waco-texas.com/Departments/Police-Department/Community-Outreach/Waco-Police-Events/Police-Memorial-Run>
- May 17 - BRCC Cars and Coffee, 9:00am to 11:30 am. Hosted by Black Rifle Coffee Company (BRCC) at 2436 Greekview Dr, Waco, TX 76701. The event is organized by the I-35 Legends Car and Truck Club.
- May 17 – Sips, Snacks & Live Music form 11:00am to 3:00pm on the Patio at Magnolia Table. Events in Waco, Texas | Magnolia
- May 21 - HOT VVA Membership Meeting at 1200 Hours at VFW Post 6008 in Hewitt. Lunch will be served
- May 23 - Heart of Texas Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 1012 will hold the Annual Sunset Ceremony at 6 PM at the Waco Vietnam Veterans Memorial
- May 26 - The Doris Miller VA will hold a Memorial Day Ceremony
- May 28 - TOP Senior Expo – Waco TX, 9:00am to 12:00pm at the Waco Convention Center.
<https://allevents.in/waco/top-senior-expo-waco-tx/100001261226154379>

MOAA NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP

If needed, there is a MOAA national membership form at the chapter website: hotmoaa.org. You can join National MOAA for **free** with **Basic level MOAA membership** and a form is attached. For more membership amenities, the form also shows fees for the annual and life MOAA memberships. This is separate from the chapter membership fee.

MOAA LEGISLATIVE CONCERNS

"The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) has once again targeted TRICARE For Life (TFL) in its biennial report outlining options for reducing the deficit. The December 2024 report highlights savings that could be achieved by introducing a TFL enrollment fee or minimum out-of-pocket cost requirement. Similar concepts have been presented

in past CBO reports, which are issued every two years to provide information to lawmakers confronting budgetary challenges.” See last month’s newsletter for more information.

Be sure and contact your senators and congressmen and tell them NOT to support the CBO’s recommendation to increase TRICARE FOR LIFE fees, deductibles and coverage

RETIREE COLA PREDICTIONS REMAIN STEADY AS INFLATION FEARS LOOM

By: Kevin Lilley, April 22, 2025

Next month’s release of key inflation figures should offer military retirees, Social Security recipients, and other federal beneficiaries an early glimpse of what trade-policy changes could mean for their annual cost-of-living adjustment.

Two predictions based on the April release of March inflation data put the 2026 COLA increase at 2.3% and 2.2%, in line with previous estimates. However, both made clear the numbers did not reflect any price changes resulting from recent tariffs; the first figures to include even a small amount of that data will be released in May.

Doing the Math

A 2.3% COLA would require the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) to rise in the next few months from its current level of 1.5% over the annual baseline figure. The average of the last three monthly CPI-W figures of the fiscal year (July, August, and September) is used to calculate the COLA.

Last year, the CPI-W rose from 1.7% in March 2024 to an average of 2.5% over those last three months – much lower than previous years’ figures, which led to near-record COLAs.

Details Matter

No matter the eventual impact of trade policy on prices, it’s important to keep these factors in mind regarding inflation and the potential pay adjustment:

- **Watch the numbers:** Media reports on monthly inflation figures rarely mention the CPI-W, instead reflecting the CPI “for all urban consumers,” or CPI-U. These figures pull from different data sets, giving greater weights to different products.

- **Trends and timing:** While upcoming releases may offer a glimpse at a possible COLA, only the last three releases of the fiscal year determine the raise.
- **Personal spending:** While the CPI-W pulls from a “basket” of consumer spending designed to reflect overall purchasing power, an individual’s budget may not fully align with the data set. If food prices rise but other costs stay stable, for example, a retiree with a larger-than-average food budget may not see as much relief from their COLA increase.

Why MOAA Tracks COLA

Publishing monthly updates to the CPI-W at MOAA.org allows MOAA members and others to use the information in their financial planning. However, MOAA’s main interest in tracking COLA is to maintain the earned retirement benefit for those who served and their families.

Without continued inflation adjustment, this benefit would lose its value in short order. And while that may seem obvious, it hasn’t stopped lawmakers from attempting to change COLA calculations or make other budget-based decisions that would weaken retirees’ buying power.

Protecting this benefit has long been a top MOAA priority. And while no current legislation threatens these adjustments, ongoing budget constraints and an ever-present inclusion of COLA changes in a regular Congressional Budget Office report on deficit-reduction options means the issue simply cannot fall off the radar.

Keep up to date with COLA via MOAA’s COLA Watch page, and track our advocacy priorities by visiting [MOAA.org/advocacy-news](https://www.moaa.org/advocacy-news).

[Source: https://www.moaa.org/content/publications-and-media/news-articles/2025-news-articles/advocacy/retiree-cola-predictions-remain-steady-as-inflation-fears-loom/](https://www.moaa.org/content/publications-and-media/news-articles/2025-news-articles/advocacy/retiree-cola-predictions-remain-steady-as-inflation-fears-loom/)

GET ANSWERS TO YOUR MEDICARE AND TRICARE FOR LIFE QUESTIONS FROM MOAA

By: Kevin Lilley, April 23, 2025

Many retirees who leave service after 20 years will have been out of uniform for decades when they turn 65 and their TRICARE coverage ends.

And while DoD will mail out details on Medicare, TRICARE For Life, and related topics in the months leading up to a retiree's 65th birthday, planning for this major transition should begin many months – maybe even years – before those notices arrive. That's why MOAA has produced *Transitioning Into Medicare and TRICARE For Life*, a publication exclusive to Premium and Life members that covers:

- **Your Health Care Roadmap:** How the move into Medicare/TRICARE For Life coverage works, and what steps you'll need to take along the way.
- **Using Your Benefits:** Everything from how to file a claim to what forms you should bring to the doctor's office, plus details on using other insurance programs and finding care (and coverage) overseas.
- **Common Questions (and Answers):** Worried about your pharmacy benefit? Considering an insurance supplement? Unsure how to calculate your premium? MOAA has you covered.

Premium and Life members can download the full guide in PDF format or browse the contents online. Not a Premium or Life member? Learn more about joining MOAA or upgrading your membership.

More MOAA Resources

The guide is one of more than a dozen member-exclusive publications offering everything from financial guidance to family and survivor resources to details on your service-earned benefits. Members also have full access to MOAA's TRICARE Guide and can check for monthly updates to MOAA's TRICARE Toolkit.

Not seeing the answer you're after? Premium and Life members will find more resources, and can reach out with their specific questions, via MOAA's Ask the Experts website.

Source: <https://www.moaa.org/content/publications-and-media/news-articles/2025-news-articles/health-care-and-earned-benefits/get-answers-to-your-medicare-and-tricare-for-life-questions-from-moaa/>

SUNSET MEMORIAL OBSERVATION - WACO VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY PARKS DRIVE/WASHINGTON AVE. (BY THE RIVER)

Friday, May 23, 2025. At Sunset (6:00 P.M) Call out the names listed on the Memorial. Additionally, family and friends may call out the name of a Veteran who has passed on.

Sponsored by Vietnam Veterans of America, Heart of Texas Chapter.

MEMORIAM –WARNEY L. “BEAU” CROSBY, COL, USA (RET)

HOT MOAA long time member, Warney L. Crosby Jr., lovingly known as “Beau” and “Pa Beau,” passed away peacefully Friday, April 4, 2025, at the age of 80 after a long brave battle with bold cancer. A memorial service celebrating his life was held on April 26, 2025, at the Renew Church in Waco.

Beau is survived by his devoted wife, Kathy; children, Bret and Nikki Crosby, Casey and Michelle Crosby, and Ralene Simmons; grandchildren, Violet, Aven, and Coco Crosby, and Geoffery Simmons; and his sisters, Patricia Spillman, and Mari and Ronnie Huie.

VINCE'S DINING NOTES

The Brazos Landing, 100 N Interstate 35 frontage road, Waco. Serves Cajun and American food and drinks with patio seating and relaxing views on the river. Hours are Tuesday – Sunday, 11:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. and closed Monday. Previously was Buzzard Billy's.

Billie Bob's Burgers has three locations for their home cooked style burgers and other American foods and beverages. The downtown location is at 200 S. University Parks drive and phone number 254-630-6452. The China Spring location is at 10214 China Spring Road and phone number 254-836-5005. In Hewitt, the location is at 899 S Hewitt Drive (across from Post Office).



Heart of Texas Chapter TX07, MOAA
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Address label

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