



Middle Tennessee Chapter

A 2025 5-Star Level of Excellence Award Chapter
Military Officers Association of America



Web: https://www.mtcmoaa.org			October 2026			Editor: Doug Minton		
Next MTC Monthly Meeting: 27 October 2026; 11:30 AM-1:00 PM MTC Monthly Luncheon Meeting “Operation Stand Down TN (OSDTN)” Lt Col Arlie Haddix, USAF (Ret) OSDTN CEO & MTC Member - OSDTN, 1125 12th Ave S, Nashville, TN 37203 - Lt Col Arlie Haddix, USAF (Ret) is the Chief Executive Officer at Operation Stand Down Tennessee. Prior to assuming his current role as Chief Executive Officer, Arlie was the organization’s Chief Programs Officer. Arlie is a retired United States Air Force intelligence analyst. A former flight, squadron and group commander, he has led small teams and large teams in multiple dynamic, complex, high-risk and high-stakes environments. After 22 years of service, Arlie retired from the Air Force in 2014, re-located to Nashville and began Vanderbilt’s MBA program. He completed the MBA program in 2016 and worked on a start-up with an MBA classmate throughout 2017. Arlie then started at Operation Stand Down Tennessee in early 2018 and continues his passion – helping other Veterans transition into civilian life. Since then, Arlie has also continued his professional development by obtaining Project Management Professional, Senior Professional of Human Resources and Six Sigma certifications. Arlie is active with the Nashville Chapter of the Project Management Institute, the Middle Tennessee Chapter of the Society for Human Resource Management, the Middle Tennessee Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America and the Air Force Academy’s Association of Graduates (<i>and a special note from our speaker: Arlie is a graduate of the Air Force Academy, the service academy that actually wins the Commander-in-Chief’s Trophy</i>).			Officers <u>President</u> Col Dale Kiser, USAF (Ret) <u>1st Vice President</u> LCDR Majella Stevenson, USN (Ret) <u>2nd Vice President</u> MAJ Gary Ward, USA (Ret) <u>Secretary and Membership Chair</u> COL Doug Minton, USA (Ret) <u>Treasurer</u> LCDR Bea Henderson, USN (Ret) <u>Directors</u> Mrs. Patricia Bergquist CDR Ted Edwards, USN (Ret) CDR John Ohlinger, USN (Ret) LTC Wanda B. Graham, USA (Ret) CAPT Dale Lewelling, USN (Ret.) LTC Mike Patenaude, USA (Ret) Lt Col Karon Uzzell-Baggett, USAF (Ret) CAPT Larry Cotton, USN (Ret) <u>Surviving Spouse Liaison</u> Mrs. Patricia Bergquist <u>Chaplain & Legislative Liaison</u> CDR Ted Edwards, USN (Ret) <u>Transition Services Coordinator</u> Lt Col Arlie Haddix, USAF (Ret)			Presidents Letter On September 25th, five MTC members and three spouses participated in Operation Commissary at OSDTN. In about 1 hour, a palette of food was sorted, and 150 food bags were packed for needy veterans and military families to be delivered the following week. Thank you to all who helped, please join us next year (date TBD). At the July 2026 meeting, we announced that Wanda Graham is seeking a replacement for the chapter Personal Affairs Director position. Wanda has been involved for many years in various roles for the chapter, and we are very appreciative of the work that she has done. Please let us know if you are willing to take this on, we need your participation to continue having a thriving chapter. We have had many chapter members pay the \$30 chapter dues for 2026, but not all. If you haven’t paid your 2026 dues yet, please do so right away. We rely on your dues to fund the chapter’s operations After being a chapter member for about 6 years now, I feel that the monthly luncheons are the lifeblood of the chapter. Members have a chance to socialize, tell war stories and have camaraderie with fellow servicemembers from other services and careers. I have been told that prior to 2020, the meeting attendance was predictably higher than it is now. Recently, the luncheon attendance has been 35-40 members and spouses. That’s an15%-18% attendance rate, we’d really like to boost that number! I ask you and any potential guests to please make your best effort to attend as many luncheons as possible. A big thank you goes out to all the regular attendees. The Old Natchez Country Club (ONCC) has held lunch buffet prices steady for us for the past 5 years or so. We will be meeting with the management in November to discuss 2027 pricing. Additionally, ONCC has a new owner. They plan to conduct a full renovation of the clubhouse that will have an impact on our meeting location. We are currently waiting for more information on timing of these changes. Your chapter board is exploring alternate venues (lunch pricing may be impacted by going to alternate locations). We will keep you informed as developments progress. Dale Kiser, Chapter President		
Please make note of the upcoming MTC schedule changes: Our November meeting is always scheduled to avoid the Thanksgiving Holiday; however, this year, it is also going to be re-scheduled to allow our Officers and several members of our Board to attend the MOAA National Affiliated Council & Chapters Southeast Regional Workshop being held in Chattanooga, TN on 16 – 17 November. At this point we are not exactly sure which members of our leadership team will be attending, but we felt it best to reschedule our meeting for 10 November. We will still meet at ONCC. This schedule change also means that our Annual Toys for Tots Collection will be held on 10 November. Most years several of our members forget this event and arrive at the meeting without a toy so please make note of this event, and plan on bringing a new, unwrapped toy to contribute to the local Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Collection (no bikes or large toys please).			 Engage. Equip. Empower. Veterans.™					

MIDDLE TENNESSEE CHAPTER
Military Officers Association of America
P. O. Box 50252
Nashville, TN 37205-0252

10/26/2026
National Day of
the Deployed

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

<u>Upcoming Programs & Events</u> 21 October 2026; 11:30 AM – 2:00 PM <i>“TN Council of MOAA Chapters Meeting”</i> Lebanon, TN - 27 October 2026; 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM MTC Monthly Luncheon Meeting <i>“Operation Stand Down Tennessee”</i> (Speaker TBD) OSDTN, 1125 12th Ave S, Nashville, TN 37203 - 4 November 2026; 7-8:00 AM <i>“MTC Monthly Board Meeting”</i> NGATN, 4332 Kenilwood Drive, Nashville, TN 37204 - 5 November 2026; 7 – 10:00 AM <i>“16th Annual OSDTN Nashville Heroes Breakfast”</i> https://www.osdtn.org/nhb Music City Center, Nashville, TN - 10 November 2026; 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM MTC Monthly Luncheon Meeting <i>“Disaster – Financial Reaction”</i> MAJ Gary Ward, USA (Ret) Retired Financial Planner & MTC Chapter Member ONCC, 115 Gardengate Drive, Franklin, TN 37069 - 10 November 2026; 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM MTC Monthly Luncheon Meeting <i>“MTC Annual USMCR Toys for Tots Collection”</i> ONCC, 115 Gardengate Drive, Franklin, TN 37069 - 11 November 2026 <i>“Veterans Day Events”</i> (We will publish as the timing becomes available.) - 16 - 17 November 2026 <i>“MOAA Southern Region Leader’s Workshop”</i> Chattanooga, TN (This event is scheduled for Chapter leaders in the region every two years. The November timing of this session, as well as the Thanksgiving Holiday necessitated quite a few changes to our normal schedule.) -	<u>Legislative Update</u> Back in April when three of us from Tennessee visited our members of Congress, we each specialized in one MOAA initiative and piece of legislation and took turns briefing those who would listen. Mine was the Shutdown Fairness Act – designed to provide continuity of pay and benefits during government shutdowns at the expiration of continuing resolutions. Surely you have heard about those wherever you get news. The Senate bill was S.3168 sponsored by Sen. Ron Johnson of Wisconsin with 8 cosponsors, none of whom come from Tennessee. Three reasons to advocate for that one right now: 1 - This is the time of year to work on the budget, so reminders about pay continuity need to be sent as budget authorizations end at 30 September. 2 - No progress on S.3168 has been achieved, and there is no matching bill in the House. 3 – The bill is in need of an amendment to include all the uniformed services. When we met with leading staffers, I alerted them to the need for a bill amendment to include the other uniformed services of US Coast Guard, US Public Health Service, and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration who are represented among us. That is an important reminder to be repeated, and repeated, and repeated again. To the matter of General Elections on 3 November and congressional district realignment: It is important to double-check your district and learn about your candidates for the Senate, House of Representatives, and other critical offices. Early voting will begin in October bringing opportunities for us. Certainly, in an organization like ours, an encouragement to get out and vote would not be necessary. Finally, here is a piece of wisdom in our MOAA Culture: MOAA Will Never Stop Serving from the Earliest Days in Uniform to Retirement and Beyond. CDR Ted Edwards, USN Ret MTC Legislative Liaison MOAA Legislative Action Center www.moaa.org/takeaction
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