



A monthly publication of the Northwest Florida Military Officers Association www.nwfmoa.org

Vol. 26 No. 07

Serving All Branches of The Uniformed Services

JULY 2020

Lunch Meeting & Discussion

When: Thur, 2 July 2020

Reservation Mandatory!

Time: Gathering 1130, Lunch 1200

Program to follow

Place: Ft. Walton Bch. Yacht Club

180 Ferry Road, NE, FWB

Program: Maj Gen (Ret)
Michael Snodgrass

Please:

- RESERVATIONS ARE MANDATORY
- Wear a name tag
- Bring proper change: \$14.00 for everyone

Reservation deadline is Friday at noon prior to meeting. Go online at www.nwfmoa.org and select the link where it says "Click here to make reservations", or email Fred Westfall at nwfreservations@gmail.com, or call 850-609-8075 if you are attending.

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Welcome Back!

By Nick Marotta

WE'RE BACK! Welcome one and all to the Northwest Florida Military Officers Association July issue of the Defender. The Front Page article is generally reserved to introduce the guest speaker for our next meeting; however, the last three months of our lives has been anything but the usual. The last three months, due to the COVID-19 Pandemic we have not had general membership meetings. This month, once again, I will have the honor of introducing a guest speaker for the July general membership meeting Major General Michael Snodgrass, USAF, retired.

At our March 5, 2020, meeting of the Northwest Florida Military Officers Association, we were pleased to host Colonel (Dr.) Matthew Hanson as our guest speaker. Colonel (Dr.) Matt Hanson is the Commander, 96th Medical Group, 96th Test Wing, Eglin Air Force Base, Florida.

Dr. Hanson gave our audience an overview of the mission of the Eglin hospital, and explained the objectives of the hospital's three mission areasthe challenges of managing healthcare for active duty and retired members throughout the Panhandle, and future issues and challenges facing the hospital. Dr. Hanson concluded by saying Eglin is facing unprecedented growth, but the hospital was not going to reduce privileges to retired members. While



Maj Gen (Ret) Michael Snodgrass

active duty members are priority one, Dr. Hanson said retirees will continue to receive excellent medical care at the hospital. Dr. Hanson touched on the COVID-19 epidemic, little did we know at that time how this virus would consume our lives for the next 3 months. He then answered several questions from the audience.

Our July 2nd guest speaker, Mike Snodgrass is the MOAA Florida Council of Chapters Area Vice-President for Northwest Florida. Mike is a member of the Tallahassee Chapter and will speak on a timely topic based on recent events.

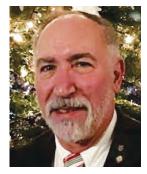
Michael Snodgrass is President SG Strategic Solutions LLC, a Senior Associate at Burdeshaw and Associates, an Air Force Adjunct Professor, and an Adjunct professor of Leadership

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From the President's Pen

By Nick Marotta

Welcome to the July 2020 issue of the Defender. On March 5, 2020, the Northwest Florida Military Officers Association held its last monthly meeting at the Fort Walton Yacht Club. It is hard to believe, but we have not met as an organization for three months, but good news for July. The NWFMOA will hold its general membership meeting on July 2, 2020,



Nick Marotta

1200 hours, at the Fort Walton Yacht Club; welcome home ladies and gentlemen!

First off, HAPPY BIRTHDAY AMERICA. In a couple weeks we will be celebrating the birth of the United States. We will celebrate 244 years of independence.

I am certain I am the first president to preside over three non-meetings. Trust me; I am looking forward to the July 2, 2020 meeting. Florida is slowly opening, so let's do it and have a July meeting; so keep your face masks handy! What a way to celebrate (safely of course) the birth of our great nation. What a day to have the grand reopening of the NWFMOA, July 2 being World UFO Day!

During our time-out for the COVID-19 pandemic, I did convene a Board of Director meeting for each of the three months. In April, we also did a series of wellness phone calls. Every member that had a valid phone number was called by a Board member. If you weren't called, we don't have a good phone number for you. Please ensure your member information is up to date. The NWFMOA website has an area to update your information. In May, Scott Berry and Fred Westfall went on a mission to update our membership rolls using ancestry.com. A total of 16 members who have passed have been removed from our membership rolls and MOAA was notified.

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EDITORIAL POLICY

The Defender is a monthly publication of the Northwest Florida Military Officers Association. The purpose of this publication is to communicate with, inform, and educate chapter members. The national MOAA, this local chapter, and this publication are totally nonpartisan.

From MOAA Headquarters

As an association of current and former officers who took an oath to support and defend the Constitution of the United States, MOAA is troubled by the on-going events across our nation.

As MOAA members we share the universal principle that all people are created equal and entitled as Americans to life, liberty, and pursuit of happiness. We know there is no place in the military community or in American society for racism, bigotry, and hatred.

There is no taking sides when it comes to these fundamental principles. The way ahead will require all of us to work together as a country to heal the divides and address the root causes of these incidents so we can ensure a free, safe, prosperous, and secure country for future generations.

COVID-19 Statistics

As of June 11, more than 7,400 military members, 1,213 family members, 1,691 civilian DoD employees and 771 defense contractors have tested positive for the coronavirus. Thirty-six, including three service members, have died. (source: Military.com)

PUBLIC RECORD

New Members: None

In Memorium

Bonnie Gardner, Surviving Spouse, 5/20/2020 Michael Mitchell, Lt Col, USAF (Ret), 6/8/2020

Welcome Back! (cont.)

Continued from page 1

and Management at California Lutheran University. He retired from the US Air Force in 2011 as a Major General. He has extensive experience in a wide range of disciplines including Defense and Aerospace, Technology Development, Government Acquisitions and Requirements, Foreign Military Sales and Leadership Coaching. SG Strategic Solutions assists defense industry and partner air forces in Strategic Planning, Capabilities Based Risk Assessment, Force Structure Analysis, Acquisition Program Review and Analysis, Foreign Military Sales, and C4ISR programs. As a Leadership coach he instructs classes ranging from first time managers to senior VP and CEOs on Leadership techniques to improve company bottom line, retention, communication skills, and strategic planning. He has taught Leadership in uniform and in civilian life for over 25 years.

Recently, he was Vice President, International Business Development at Raytheon Corp, prior to that he was Director of Air Force and FAA programs at Engility Corporation. He retired from the USAF in December, 2011 with over 33 years of distinguished service in several capacities overseas and in the United States. His last position was Assistant Deputy Under Secretary of the Air Force for International Affairs (SAF/IA), responsible for formulating and executing US Air Force Policy, Strategy and Programs for Building Partnerships around the globe, and integrating Air Force policy with international partner goals and expectations totaling over \$40 billion total program value.

From 2007 to 2010 Maj Gen Snodgrass served as Chief of Staff, US Africa Command. In that position, he was responsible for the construction of America's newest Unified Geographic Command. As Chief of Staff, he directed the Command in the full range of activities with 53 African nations including military to military training, education, exercises, community relations, Foreign Military Sales totaling over \$3.5 billion, on-going military operations in support of the war against extremism, and overseeing planning and execution of an annual budget for the command in excess of \$500M per year. From 2005 to 2007 Maj Gen Snodgrass was Director of Plans, Programs and Analysis for US Air Forces Europe. He has commanded at the squadron, group and wing levels and served at every staff echelon in operations, requirements, acquisitions and international affairs while in uniform. He has over 3500 flight hours in various aircraft including the F-16, F-15, F-4, C-130 and

President's Pen (cont.)

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I was planning on attending the Annual Florida Council of Chapters Annual Convention in May; however, since it was canceled, the Council convened the Board of Directors Meeting and General Council Membership meeting by Zoom. Lt Gen Dana Adkins, MOAA President and CEO, swore in the newly FCOC Officers and spoke to the attending members. General Adkins spoke of MOAA establishing a relief fund for people affected by COVID-19. I am attaching the link from the MOAA website for your convenience. Please read the eligibility requirements carefully. If you know of someone in need meeting the requirements, let's get them nominated for one of these grants. Most important, read the eligibility requirements. The application will be submitted through the chapter.

https://www.moaa.org/content/campaigns/moaa-foundation-covid-19-relief-grant-application-chapters/

As previously mentioned our next meeting is July 2, 2020 at the Yacht Club. On June 2, Don Panzenhagen and I visited the Fort Walton Yacht Club to work out details for the July meeting. The meeting room is approximately 2,600 square feet and operating under the Yacht Club restaurant license. Using a 50% occupancy criteria, they can seat 64 people using proper social distancing. We are limiting attendance to 60 people. **Reservations are Mandatory**. We cannot accommodate anyone at the door. Make your reservations early to ensure a seat!

The meal will NOT be a buffet but a boxed chicken lunch with mashed potatoes, coleslaw, a biscuit and a brownie served on a paper plate with disposable utensils. Seating will be 4 to a table. Drinks will be coffee, tea and water served by wait staff. If you want a meatless lunch, a salad is available, but please note on your reservation. There will still be social time beginning at 1100. Please wear a face covering and practice social distancing during social time. We will have the check-in table in the lobby for your convenience.

Make your reservations and look forward to seeing 59 members.

Be Safe!! Nick Marotta

Chaplain's Corner

By: Chaplain Thomas Azar

"FOLDED ON THE FOURTH OF JULY"

At a recent flag folding ceremony in Shalimar last month many veterans and widows inquired about the meaning of each fold as some had never heard it before. The following is my rewrite and used for many services I conducted in both military and civilian events.

Introduction

"Our flag represents the democratic and religious principles on which our country was founded. Our flag inspires passion and recalls history. We wear and fly it at work, home, abroad and in our barracks. Every evening at the ceremony of retreat our flag is lowered, folded and kept under watch throughout the night as a tribute to our nation's honored dead. The next morning at reveille, it is run aloft as a symbol of our belief in the new life and the resurrection.

The blue color represents authority and justice. The stars are in the heavens and the white lines are the pure light emanating from there. The red color is the blood shed for our nation's ideals by our military men and women.

(The honor guard is unraveling it while the above introduction is read.)

- 1-The first fold represents Almighty God, who creates, guides, heals and sustains us with truth and grace. The first fold is the integral cornerstone for all others.
- 2- The second fold embodies our solid belief in both our personal and military family- known to those with the lived experience of service to country.
- 3- The third fold denotes the 3 committed roles of every Airmen-"Wingman, Warrior and Leader." The mission of every airmen and his or her family is to be freedom's light to those in a dark world.
- 4- The fourth fold constitutes our mental, physical, emotional and spiritual dimensions, that when united under the Laws of God and country, yield victory over self and the enemy.
- 5 The fifth fold is our unswerving allegiance to the sacred oaths and traditions of honor that one will not lie, cheat or steal, or allow others too, both on and off duty, so we can fly, fight and win with integrity.

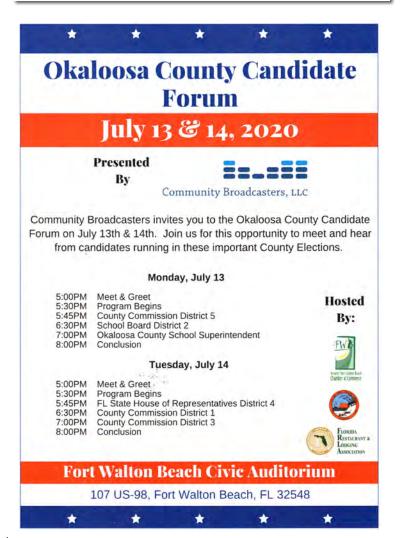
Welcome Back! (cont.)

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HH-60 as well as over 100 combat missions in Operation Desert Storm. Mike currently donates his available time to providing Leadership Coaching and Training to Florida State University Air Force ROTC as well as a board member for the Florida Veterans Foundation.

Maj Gen Snodgrass holds an MBA from the Florida Institute of Technology and a Master of Science in National Security Policy from the US Army Command and Staff College. He graduated from the US Air Force Academy in 1978. He has attended numerous additional educational programs at Harvard/MIT, the Defense Security Cooperation Agency and others. He is a lifetime member of both the Air Force Association and Military Officers Association of America.

Community Outreach



Chaplain's Corner (cont.)

Continued from page 4

6 The sixth fold portrays our proud heritage and remembrance of veterans who gave a very major portion of their life for the defense of our country to attain peace throughout the world and at home.

7-The seventh fold is for where the heart of our airmen and family lies-"Duty Honor and Country"--values formed by patriots and the Constitution, and underscored in the SOF motto "This we do that others may live."

8-The eighth fold depicts America's unfaltering tribute to all courageous guardians of freedom, justice, and human rights; these are based on truth, wisdom, moral good, beauty and the principles of democracy.

9-The ninth fold is our heartfelt tribute to mothers because they exemplified unending faith, love and devotion to our men and women who have made this country the greatest.

10-The tenth fold is a tribute to fathers who molded their sons and daughters for the defense of our United States since they were first born.

11-The eleventh fold is for the forgotten: widows, their children, POW's, MIA's, religious prisoners and the many unsung first responders and heroes who have run the good race.

12-The twelfth fold signifies the future blessings of God and the fruits of our high calling-love, kindness, peace, patience, goodness, faithfulness and self control.

When the flag is completely folded, the stars facing the sky, remind us of the heavenly Trinity and the three cardinal virtues of faith, hope and charity.

The flag I use was from my retirement and flown over Tomb of the Unknown Soldier where the powerful words are etched-"Here rests in honored glory an American soldier known but to God."

I pray this will add to your already deep commitment to God and country. Feel free to use and share it.



Scholarship Fund

by Dave Parisot

NWFMOA Holds Scholarship Luncheon (Finally!)

Firstly, I sincerely hope each of you and your family members are safe and healthy. Who could have thought the impact the COVID-19 (or Corona Virus) would have on our lives since early March. I am looking forward to attending the Chapter luncheon on July 2nd at the Fort Walton Yacht Club. Our Chapter officers have worked hard with the Yacht Club to make this happen under their COVID-19 criteria.

Well, we finally did it! We actually put on a luncheon to honor and recognize our eight scholarship winners for 2020, although on a much smaller scale. It was held on the large outdoor covered patio at the Fort Walton Beach Golf Course and catered by Two Trees Restaurant. Under COVID-19 criteria, attendance was limited to 40 people to provide social distancing. By the time we seated the eight scholarship winners and their parents, the Scholarship Fund board members, Chaplain Steve, the Gold Club Scholarship Fund donors, JROTC instructors, and our Platinum and Gold Business Sponsors, the 40 available seats were filled. I sincerely hope this did not offend any other Chapter members. I will have Fred Westfall post photos of the luncheon on the website at www.NWFMOA.org on the Scholarship Fund pages.

This year we awarded eight scholarships totaling \$21,500 to JROTC cadets of local high school units. This year's scholarship winners, scholarship amount, local high school, and intended college and major are as follows: (Please see the photo included with this article.)

- 1. Cadet Jesse Pearson: winner of the \$4,000 "Lt. Col. James (Jim) and Mrs. Una Heavener Memorial Scholarship"; Navarre High School Navy JROTC; Embry Riddle Aeronautical University with major in Aeronautical Science.
- 2. **Cadet Donna Yi Arnold**: winner of the \$2,500 "*Chong Cha (Kim) Parisot Memorial Scholarship*", Choctawhatchee High School USAF JROTC; Tallahassee Community College with major in Dietetics.
- 3. **Cadet Jordyn Bree Elder**: \$2,500 scholarship; Baker School US Army JROTC; University of West Florida with a major in Computer Science.

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Scholarship Fund (cont.)

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- 4. **Cadet Logan Sullivan**: \$2,500 scholarship; Baker School US Army JROTC: University of West Florida with a major in Engineering.
- 5. **Cadet Anthony Rodas**: \$2,500 scholarship; Crestview High School US Army JROTC; University of West Florida with a major in Criminal Justice.
- 6. **Cadet Brandon Grant**: \$2,500 scholarship; Fort Walton Beach High School USAF JROTC; University of West Florida with a major in Journalism/Communication.
- 7. **Cadet Sean Ripley**: \$2,500 scholarship; Niceville High School USAF JROTC; Blinn University with a major in Business Management.
- 8. **Cadet Kayla Renee McCarthy**: \$2,500 scholarship; Navarre High School US Navy JROTC; University of South Florida with a major in Biology with a Pre-Med emphasis.

My sincerest congratulations to each of this year's scholarship recipients. They have had a tough final semester of high school under COVID-19 distance learning criteria.

June Century Club donors to the Scholarship Fund were Col. **Keith Kulow**, MD, and Major **Dave Parisot** (in memory of recently deceased member Lt. Col Mike Mitchell). Thank you Keith and Dave. Please see the "**BG Frank Glunn Century Club**" donor list below to see who donated in the past twelve months. Of course, we are very much open to donations from those not currently in the Century Club. Will you be the next Century Club donor?

Here is the complete list of <u>Gold Century Club</u> members (\$500 cumulative minimum donation since 2015) and <u>BG</u>

<u>Frank Glunn Century Club members</u> (\$100 minimum donation) for the most previous 12 months of 2019 and 2020 along with our <u>Business Donors</u>. Your support is greatly appreciated. Remember, <u>all of these donations are used to fund our scholarships to JROTC cadets</u>. [Note: (R) means Renewal of membership.]

Gold Century Club: Bill Ryan (Feb 2016); Ruth Cullen (Oct 2016); Dave Parisot (Feb 2017); Janet Taylor (Mar 2017); Chris Beam (Mar 2017); Bob Garcia (July 2017); Rod Gerdes (Nov 2017); Larry Bush (Nov 2017); Dr. Howard Fisher (Nov 2017); Eileen Arpke (Feb 2018); Fred Westfall (Apr 2018); Clyde Locke (Apr 2018); WWII, Korea, and Vietnam Veteran Sam Lombardo (July 2018);

Dennis Phillips (Aug 2018); Karl Eschmann (Oct 2018); Carol Baker (Jan 2019); Ann Adelsperger (Feb 2019); Don Litke (August 2019); Fred Boyer (August, 2019).Dr. Keith Kulow (Nov 2019); Al Bills (Nov. 2019); and Kay Dent (Nov. 2019) [Note: 22 total members]

BG Frank Glunn Century Club (past 12 months) (R=Renewal): June 2019: Joy Houck (R) (In memory of Major Stanley Houck); July 2019: Larry Bush (R) and Don Litke (R) (In memory of Kay Litke); August 2019: Scott Berry (R); Janet Taylor (R) (In honor of Bill Ryan); and Fred Boyer (R) (In honor of Paul L. High, Jr.); October 2019: Bob Garcia (R); George Colton (R); Doug Hardin (R) (In memory of Gen. Bill Kirk), and Dick Solt; November 2019: **Keith Kulow** (R); **Al Bills** (R); **Kay Dent** (R) (In memory of Troy Dent, Larry Ketter, and Mark Berg); Larry Tashlik (R); Joe Stevens (R); Dennis Phillips (R); and, Kathy and Jake Bush (R); Karl Eschmann (R) (In memory of B/Gen Bud Day and Mrs. Kay Litke); Jim Tucker; Jean Dutton (R); **Howard Fisher** (R); **Bob Gramm** (R). December 2019: **Doris Day** (R) (In memory of B/Gen Bud Day); **Pete** Peterzen (R); Les Matheson (R); Christine Hallion (R); B/ Gen Patrick Boab; Dr. Roger Riggenbach (R) (In memory of Jan Riggenbach); January 2020: Fred Westfall (R); Nick Marotta (R); Dave Parisot (R) (In memory of Chong Parisot); Janet (Ryan) Taylor (R) (In honor of Maj. Bill Ryan); February 2020: **Rod Gerdes** (R); **Ginny Mills**. March 2020: **Joy Houck** (R) (In memory of Maj. Stanley Houck); April 2020: Larry Bush (R); .Carol Baker (R) (In memory of Col. David Baker); Mike Mitchell (In memory of Frank Harrison); June 2020: Dr. Keith Kulow (R); Dave Parisot (R) (In memory of Mike Mitchell).

2019/2020 Business Platinum Donor (\$750 minimum donation): **October 2019: Shalimar Cheers Pub** (\$1,000) (R).

2019/2020 Business Gold Donor (\$500 - \$749): December 2019: Eglin Federal Credit Union (R); Merrill Lynch (Chris Beam & Tess Bass, Senior Financial Advisors) (R); Silver Slipper Casino Hotel (Bay St. Louis, MS) (In-Kind).

<u>2019/2020 Business Silver Donors</u> (\$250 - \$499): <u>November 2019</u>: <u>Indian Bayou Golf & Country Club</u> (In-kind, R); <u>December 2019</u>: <u>Rocky Bayou Golf Course</u> (In-kind, R).

2019/2020 Business Bronze Donors (\$100 - \$249): April 2019: Eye MD of Niceville (R); November 2019: Gator Lakes Golf Course (In-kind, R); Mary's Kitchen (FWB & Destin) (In-kind, R); Buffalo's Reef Restaurant (FWB) (In-kind, R); Shalimar Cheers Pub (In-kind, R); Shalimar Pointe Golf Course (In-kind, R); December 2019: Popeyes

Scholarship Fund (cont.)

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Louisiana Kitchen (FWB) (In-kind, R); Tammy's Journeys (FWB) (In-kind, R); Painting With A Twist (FWB) (In-kind, R); Destin Party Boat Fishing (In-kind, R); Slick Mick's Deli & Grille (FWB/Niceville/VPS) (in-kind, R); Connect with Flowers (Shalimar) (In-kind, R); Lee Nissan (FWB) Iin-kind; R)

Please support our local businesses that have contributed to our scholarship program.

NWFMOA Scholarship Fund: "HELPING TO BUILD FUTURE MILITARY OFFICERS AND LEADERS."

SCHOLARSHIP DONATION FORM

Please accept this gift of \$_____ to support the NWFMOA Scholarship Fund (Donations of \$100 or more will be recognized in the B/Gen Frank Glunn Century Club).

Donor Information (if not printed on check): Name

Address

Gift is tax decuctible to the extent allowed by law.

- This gift is a memorial in honor of:
- Please inform the following of this gift:

Name

Address

City, ST ZIP

Make payable to: NWFMOA Scholarship Fund, mail to David Parisot, President; 56th 11th St, Shalimar, FL 32579

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SUPPORT MOAA

Do what you can to support our national organization. To learn what's going on and to find out what you can do go to: http://www.moaa.org/takeaction/ We all will benefit from your efforts.



2020 NWFMOA Scholarship Award Winners
Cadets Anthony Rojas (Crestview), Kayla McCarthy
(Navarre), Jesse Pearson (Navarre), Donna Arnold
(Choctaw), Brandon Grant (Fort Walton),
Jordyn Elder (Baker). Not Shown Logan Sullivan
(Baker) and Sean Ripley (Niceville)



Cadet Jesse Pearson (Navarre), winner of the \$4,000 "Lt Col James (Jim) and Mrs. Una Heavener Memorial Scholarship", Cadet Donna Arnold (Choctaw), winner of the \$2,500 "Chong Cha (Kim) Parisot Memorial Scholarship"

Got a Chapter question?
Change in personal info?
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Email: info@nwfmoa.org
We'll get an answer for you.



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AN INVITATION TO YOU: The membership of NWFMOA extends a sincere invitation to join us in our social cultural, professional and service activities that extend for the local to national levels.

		Today's Date		
Last Name	3	First Name	Initial	
Spouse		Phone		
Address		City	State & Zip Code	
Email Add	ress			
Rank	Service		MOAA Member Number	
□Regular	Reserve Nation	onal Guard	Outy Retired	
Life Men			ving Spouse Other	
Make Check	s payable to NWFMO	A or to Northwest Florid	a Military Officers Assn. Inc.	

Check here is you do not want your __lame, __phone number, or __lemail address listed in the printed chapter directories. Membership includes a subscription to *The Defender* for the dues period. We are a charter member of MOAA and recommend that our members belong to the national organization. Our association is also a member of the Florida Council

of Chapters, itself an affiliate of MOAA.
**The spouse of a deceased life member is automatically an auxiliary life member

Membership Application/ Renewal

New Members joining this year receive membership through December 31 next year for \$25.00

Membership Renewal 1 yr--\$25.00, 2 yr--\$48.00, 3 yr--\$65.00

Life Membership Dues**

Age	Dues	Age	Dues
101+	Free	71-75	240.00
96-100	50.00	66-70	275.00
91-95	75.00	61-65	295.00
86-90	110.00	56-60	335.00
81-85	150.00	51-55	360.00
76-80	195.00	-50	395.00

Surviving Spouses
Pay half of the above rates

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