



# HELIOGRAM

The Military Officers Association of America  
Coronado Chapter

March 2023  
Volume 50 Number 3



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2023 Member Fees are due nlt the end of March.  
Please remit your renewal either online or via mail.

*Premium and Life members can access all MOAA publications. Learn more about membership benefits, and how to upgrade, [at this link.](#)*

### CORONADO CHAPTER, MEMBERSHIP

168 Total Chapter Members

Life Members: 80

Basic and Annual Members: 59

Surviving Spouse 25

Honorary Members: 4



## PRESIDENT

JAMES CLENNEY

LCDR, USN (Ret.)

Welcome to March. There are many things to celebrate and remember this time of year. We have lost and gained members in February. We grieve with several members for their loss. We also search for ways to aide or support them. This month has been full of work to that end.

Most notably we have formed a Surviving Spouse Steering Committee to guide the Interim Surviving Spouse Liaison/Director in developing and managing our duties toward our Surviving Spouse members. I thank the committee members and encourage all chapter members to let me know if you have any recommendations for this effort. This group is focused on three main duties: Preparing the SS Director for their duties; Serving as an educated and active advisory group; and Preparing the current and future survivors for what they face. I am very excited about the support and comfort this group will bring to future and current survivors.

We continue to reach out to veteran service organizations whose mission is complementary to Coronado Chapter's. Your recommendations are critical in this activity. Our mission is broad and doesn't lend itself to providing one-on-one support to veterans and veteran families. Your personal involvement in such organizations in the local area is of great importance. Your knowledge of the good that is done by your work for veterans and vet spouses can be impactful. I ask you to recommend ways to support organizations who support veterans. Please review our goals on page one and consider how your volunteer work can enhance our mission; and therefore your fellow community members.

I took an opportunity to address the Democratic Women of Southeastern Arizona regarding our role and mission. It was rewarding to share our mission and means. Speaking to groups and individuals about our activities and our focus is a great way to gain community support and new members. Never hesitate to bang the drum about our Advocacy efforts (to pass quality legislation); our Scholarship efforts (providing thousands of support dollars to local students); and our common drive to better the lives of Veterans and families.

Your Chapter has chosen the following statements to express our values and vision. **CORONADO CHAPTER MOAA VALUES:** Expressed by our commitment to "Never Stop Serving" and articulated through four tenets: service, leadership, inclusion, and professionalism. **CORONADO CHAPTER MOAA VISION:** Become the foremost local organizational advocate for veterans' services and military family members at the State and local level. These statements are not set as a goal. Rather, they attempt to capture the essence of why we do what we do as a group. I encourage your assistance and advice, as the Board and I navigate the ins and outs of embodying our values and striving toward our vision.

v/r

Jim C

**PAST PRESIDENT****TOM DAY****CHAPLAIN (COL) USA (RETIRED)**

This month I had the opportunity to present the MOAA Distinguished Honor Graduate Award to the Military Intelligence Captains Career Course. The speaker was retired US Marine Rob Jones. He was a Combat Engineer in the Marines and in July 2010 he lost both legs above the knee as a result of an IED explosion.

He adapted to his amputation by learning a new way of being a leader. He turned to the world of sports and in 2012 he competed in the Paralympic Games in London, England, bringing home a bronze medal in rowing. He became the first double above the knee amputee to ride a bicycle across the United States, riding 5,181 miles from Maine to Camp Pendleton, California. Then in 2017 he ran 31 marathons in 31 consecutive days. Amazing.

He has relied upon the principles taught by Echelon Front, an organization that teaches how to turn the darkest moment of one's life into a life of impact. He emphasized two principles. First, don't let can't be part of your vocabulary. He certainly has lived up to that principle. The second principle is take Extreme Ownership and overcome the challenges that life gives you.

Both principles are great advice for each of us as we face new and challenging situations each day of our lives. I was challenged by his talk.

Tom



CPT Erica J. Forktus. was awarded the MOAA DISTINGUISHED HONOR GRADUATE AWARD upon graduation from the Military Intelligence Captain Career Course 22-008 at Fort Huachuca, Arizona from Chaplain (COL) Tom Day, Retired.





**LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR**

**CDR Merle L. Kilpatrick,  
USNR (Retired)**

**Deficit-Cutting Options Would Cost Military Members Thousands**

A biennial report from the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) offering options to cut the deficit includes several proposals that could weaken or eliminate earned benefits for nearly all members of the uniformed services and veteran communities.

The CBO provides a 10-year overview of deficit-reduction measures once every two years, before the start of a new congressional session. The report includes ways to reduce both mandatory and discretionary funding, as well as ways to increase federal revenue, but it considers neither long-term implications nor impact on significant challenges such as military recruitment and retention.

These proposals, if enacted, could cost services members past and present- and their families, survivors, and caregivers- thousands of dollars every year. Retirees and survivors would face TRICARE For Life (TFL) enrollment fees and increased medical costs and receive smaller cost-of-living increases for their retirement pay and survivor benefits. Veterans would see significant reductions in available VA care and reduced benefit payments. Servicemembers and their families would suffer from a cap on pay raises and cuts to a critical housing benefit.

MOAA has identified 13 options from the CBO report that could inflict such harm; and will continue to fight to ensure proposals like these are not enacted:

**Mandatory spending**

- Introduce enrollment fees for TFL.
- Introduce minimum out-of-pocket requirements in TFL.
- Means-test VA disability compensation for veterans with higher income.
- End the VA’s individual unemployment payments to disabled veterans at the full retirement age for Social Security.
- Reduce the VA’s disability benefits for veterans who are older than the full retirement age for Social Security.
- Limit eligibility for VA disability compensation by excluding those with low disability ratings.
- Use an alternative measure of inflation to index Social Security and other mandatory programs.

**Discretionary spending**

- Cap increases in basic pay for military servicemembers.
- Replace some military personnel with civilian employees.
- Reduce the basic allowance for military housing to 80% of average housing costs.
- Increase prescription drug copayments for all veterans.
- End enrollment in VA medical care for veterans in priority groups 7 and 8.

**Revenues**

- Include VA disability payments in taxable income.

**How you can help**

We need to let congress know where beneficiaries stand on these issues. Look for updates in *The MOAA Newsletter* and on *MOAA's Advocacy News page*.

Article by Allison Reilly, associate director for Government Relations, MOAA National Headquarters



## SCHOLARSHIP

### DIRECTOR

**Susan Atchison-Day,  
Ed D.**

As I sit down and write to you this evening, I am awaiting the first scholarship applications for this year.

Since application packets must be post marked by March 1, or in my hand by March 6, the Scholarship Committee will begin reviewing submissions by this year's scholars in only two weeks.

A last minute reminder was sent to all thirteen area high schools in January. And now we wait . . . Expectantly. After viewing all applicants and weighing their submissions, some or all will be invited to an interview in mid-March. The Committee will then chose scholarship recipients and determine the size of their award.

Our April MOAA dinner will again be dedicated to the presentation of scholarships. This will be a chance for recipients to thank you for your important and continuing support of our scholarship program. We hope you will come out for the April dinner to meet the promising young people.

For his year April's awards, we have \$12,000 already budgeted for our military-family scholars. Each year the fund must be renewed, however. Please consider including the MOAA Coronado Chapter Scholarship in your giving plans

Program in your giving in order to keep the available funds continuing and growing. Thank you for your thoughtfulness and generosity. Applications must be dated March 1, 2023 and received by March 6, 2023, 6pm.

Susan

**WE NEED YOUR HELP! WE NEED YOUR HELP! WE NEED YOUR HELP!****We need your help in filling our vacant Director and Deputy Director positions.**

If you or someone you know may be interested in one of these positions, please call us.

The members on the committee are Tom Day, Wendy Breen, Tom Hessler, Ed Wozniak and John Black. Give one of us a call if you have a possible volunteer.

**The Public Relations Director**

The Public Relations Director will provide information to local media outlets on the outcome of newsworthy chapter activities (e.g., veteran support projects, community service, scholarship award winners, etc.) and work with the Webmaster to keep our webpage, Facebook, and other accounts current.

**The Webmaster/Facebook Deputy Director**

The Webmaster/Facebook Deputy Director will keep the chapter's website up-to-date with current news about our chapter, will post our Board of Directors minutes, and post the Heliogram to our webpage. They will also review the Chapter Communications section of the National MOAA website for information pertinent to our Coronado Chapter membership.

**The Transition Liaison and ESGR Director**

Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) Director will be familiar with ESGR at <http://www.esgr.mil/az> and participate in activities that both educate and recognize employers who are supportive of veterans, Guardsmen, and Reservists. They will help promote job fairs and facilitate, coordinate, and schedule ESGR provided Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA) training to employers on employment and reemployment rights of veterans, Guardsmen, and Reservists.

**The Chapter Historian**

The Chapter Historian will assist with the preservation of the chapter's key documents and historical records and submit articles for the chapter newsletter.

**MEMBERS AND SPOUSES ARE ELIGIBLE FOR ANY OF THESE POSITIONS!**

Past President Tom Day, Nomination Committee

**SCHOLARSHIP DONORS LIST 2023****SUSTAINING LEVEL (Cumulative Donations of more than \$300)****2022 GOLD LEVEL (Cumulative Donations of \$200 to \$299)****2022 SILVER LEVEL (Cumulative Donations of \$100 to \$199)**

Harris, Joe

**CHAPTER DONORS (Cumulative Donations Up to \$100)**Gill, Steve Goodman, Allen  
Hicks, William**TOTAL TO-DATE: \$196.50****GOAL: \$10,000.00**

**Scholarship Donations are now available** for those who prefer to use a credit card to pay and record payment of donations or your membership! Direct your search engine to <https://chapterdues.moaa.org/Membership.aspx>





Tom Hessler



2-VP

#### Upcoming Programs

Social at 1800, Dinner at 1830,

and Program about 1915.

16 MAR '23 Honoring Our Surviving Spouses

20 APR '23 Honoring Our Scholarship Recipients

18 MAY '23 Jeff Jennings, former Deputy to the CG

No Dinners in Jun, Jul or Aug

21 SEP '23 MG Christopher Eubank, CG, NETCOM

19 OCT '23 Agent Howard Bolick

Homeland Security Investigations, DHS

#### Deputy Programs Director

I am looking for a Deputy Programs Director. This is someone to understudy and back me up. As your Chapter 2VP in charge of programs, I have been acting essentially alone for many years. If you might have any interest in assisting me as a Deputy Programs

Director, please feel free to call my cell at 520-227-0545, email me at [tjhessler@cox.net](mailto:tjhessler@cox.net), or approach me at a dinner meeting.

Thank you.

Tom Hessler

## News you can use

Coronado Chapter Website: <http://moaacoronado.org/>

Coronado Chapter Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/MOAACoronadoChapter/>

MOAA: TAKE ACTION <http://takeaction.moaa.org/home?1>

Spouse Issues: MOAA [http://takeaction.moaa.org/spouse\\_issues](http://takeaction.moaa.org/spouse_issues)

Arizona Department of Veteran Services Update <https://dvs.az.gov/legislative-updates>

Afghan Attaché to U.S. Military Families: The Afghanistan People Will Never Forget <https://www.moaa.org/content/publications-and-media/news-articles/2021-news-articles/afghan-attach%C3%A9-to-u.s.-military-families-the-afghanistan-people-will-never-forget/>

Dear Coronado Chapter, MOAA Members,

**Online Dues Payment and Scholarship Donations are now available** for those who prefer to use a credit card to pay and record payment of annual or multi-annual Chapter dues! Direct your search engine to <http://www.moaa.org>.

**March's Dinner Meeting:** is scheduled for March 16<sup>th</sup> at PDS. We will be welcoming all to our celebration of our surviving spouse members. We hope you can attend! The Chapter is paying the tab for SS Members. Surviving Spouse Members should submit the reservation for this Dinner Meeting, but not submit payment.



## THURSDAY, March 16, 2023 DINNER RESERVATION FORM

Pueblo Del Sol Country Club, 2770 South Saint Andrews Drive, Sierra Vista

Social Hour 1800 - Dinner 1830-Program 1915

My Name \_\_\_\_\_ Guest Name \_\_\_\_\_

Check Information: Make checks payable to Coronado Chapter, MOAA and mail to: Reservations,  
Coronado Chapter, MOAA, P.O. Box 1685, Sierra Vista, Arizona 85636-1685

Amount for meal at \$36.00 each \_\_\_\_\_

MENU

Amount for Operating Funs \_\_\_\_\_

Fresh Caesar Salad

Amount for Scholarship Fund \_\_\_\_\_

Dressing

Check Total \_\_\_\_\_

Garlic Bread

Baked Ziti with Meat Balls

Green Beans

Number of vegetarian meal desired (if any) \_\_\_\_\_

Tiramisu

Reservations must be postmarked by March 3, 2023

Please change the following information for me: Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

For more Information about Reservations contact Tom Hessler at 459-0093, [tjhessler@cox.net](mailto:tjhessler@cox.net)**A note about reservations.**

We MUST give a final reservation count to PDS 5 days before the dinner. Your reservation should be post-marked 14 days prior to the dinner to be sure we receive it in time.

If you even think you will be coming, you should make your reservation as early as convenient. We can take cancelations up to 8 days before the dinner. We can either return the check, destroy it or credit it toward the following dinner.

If for some reason you missed the deadline, give me a call (459-0093) or email me ([tjhessler@cox.net](mailto:tjhessler@cox.net)) to be placed on a waiting list. We sometimes have an unavoidable last-minute cancellation.

## SUICIDE PREVENTION

The Coronado Chapter has “Support the United Arizona Veterans in helping to find ways to reduce veteran suicides in Arizona” as one of our five Chapter Goals. Below are ways we can help:

**Publicize “Be Connected,”** a program “Connecting Arizona service members, veterans, families & helpers to information, support and resources.” Their website is <https://beconnectedaz.org/> or call 1-866-4AZ-VETS (429-8387). We are now “Be Connected” Partners.

**Support “22 a Month to End 22 a Day.”** At the Warrior Healing Center, they are fighting this problem innovatively to restore hope. You can get more information at <https://chuffed.org/project/22-a-month-to-end-22-a-day>.

**Emory Healthcare Veterans Program**, free to qualified **post-9/11** military servicemembers and Veterans. This program is designed to treat conditions such as **post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)**, **traumatic brain injury (TBI)**, **military sexual trauma (MST)**, **anxiety**, and **depression** related to past military service. More information can be found at <https://www.emoryhealthcare.org/centers-programs/veterans-program/index.html>.

**DoD’s Annual Suicide Report Shows a Troubling Trend**      **By: Mark Belinsky**

[https://www.moaa.org/content/publications-and-media/news-articles/2021-news-articles/advocacy/dods-annual-suicide-report-shows-a-troubling-trend/?utm\\_source=newsletter&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=TMNsend&utm\\_content=NC+AFHRM+1+ERet+L+NC](https://www.moaa.org/content/publications-and-media/news-articles/2021-news-articles/advocacy/dods-annual-suicide-report-shows-a-troubling-trend/?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=TMNsend&utm_content=NC+AFHRM+1+ERet+L+NC)

**Suicide Rate Among Veterans Up Again Slightly, Despite Focus on Prevention Efforts** <https://www.moaa.org/content/publications-and-media/news-articles/2020-news-articles/suicide-rate-among-veterans-up-again-slightly,-despite-focus-on-prevention-efforts/>





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info@sierravistasymphony.org  
http://sierravistasymphony.org  
https://facebook.com/svsymphony

**Support these organizations who support Coronado Chapter.**



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**2023 CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP  
APPLICATION/RENEWAL**

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First \_\_\_\_\_ Initial \_\_\_\_\_ Rank \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth MM \_\_\_ DD \_\_\_ YYYY \_\_\_\_\_ National MOAA # \_\_\_\_\_

National MOAA Number \_\_\_\_\_ Life Member Y/N

Please Circle all that apply:

Status: Active - Former - Retired - Surviving Spouse

Service: Army – Navy – Air Force – Marine Corps – Coast Guard – Space Force – NOAA — USPHS

Branch: Active – Guard – Reserve

Spouse Full Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth MM \_\_\_ DD \_\_\_ YYYY \_\_\_\_\_

**Regular members** \$15 per year \$50 for five years \$150 for Life membership.

**Surviving Spouse members** \$10 per year \$40 for five years \$100 for Life membership

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Make your check payable to: Coronado Chapter, MOAA, P.O. Box 1685, Sierra Vista, AZ 85636-1685

**For further Membership questions contact:  
President Jim Clenney at 520-234-5286 or coronadomoaa@gmail.com**

Visit us on these Social Media sites:

Coronado Facebook Page: SVCoronadoMOAA

Coronado Instagram: Coronado Chapter Moaa

Coronado Website: <http://moaacoronado.org/>

**2022 OFFICERS**

- President:** LCDR Jim Clenney, USN (Ret.)  
j2k2c4@cox.net.....234-5286
- Past Pres/Colors Sgt** COL (Chaplain) Tom Day,  
USA, (Ret.) tday500@yahoo.com.....  
(915)588-9281
- 1st Vice President** .....LTC Ed Wozniak, USA,  
(Ret.).....520-249-0926
- 2nd Vice President** COL Tom Hessler, USA (Ret.)  
tjhessler@cox.net .....459-0093
- Secretary** COL Joe Puett, USA (Ret.)  
jmpuett1@aol.com.....895-9292
- Treasurer** Col Robert Kellock, USAF (Ret.)
- Assistant Treasurer** Samantha Carlson  
dryctallships@hotmail.com.....394-0177
- Chaplain** COL (Chaplain) Tom Day, USA, (Ret.)  
tday500@yahoo.com.....(915)588-9281

**DIRECTORS**

- Legislative Affairs,** CDR Merle Kilpatrick, USN  
(Ret.) mlkplk@hotmail.com.....(325) 200-8200
- AZTOPS/ESGR** .....**VACANT**
- Scholarship** Susan Atchison-Day, Ed.D.,  
mtnridinglady@yahoo.com.....(915) 588-9282
- Membership** CW2 Allen Goodman...(719)440-1105
- JROTC** CW3 Lori Wysong, USA (Ret.),  
lolowysong6@gmail.com .....227-9402
- Public Relations** .....**VACANT**
- Personal Support** COL Theresa Walsh, USA (Ret.),  
coltjwalsh@gmail.com .....(703) 898-8861
- Surviving Spouse Liaison** .....**VACANT**

**DEPUTY DIRECTORS**

- Community Liaison** COL Tom Hessler, USA (Ret.),  
tjhessler@cox.net .....459-0093
- Historian** ..... **Vacant**
- Webmaster/Facebook Mgr**..... **vacant**
- Heliogram Editor** Harry Mallory, editor19MOAA@  
gmail.com .....803-1572

Area codes are (520) unless otherwise noted.

**About the Coronado Chapter of the  
Military Officers Association of America.**

The Heliogram is published nine times each year by the Coronado Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA). We don't publish in June, July, or August. If you require a hard copy of the Heliogram, please contact the Chapter President. Our chapter is a not-for-profit organization registered with the Arizona Corporation Commission and recognized by the federal Internal Revenue Service under 28 U.S.C. 501 (c) (19). MOAA and its affiliated chapters and councils are nonpartisan. Visit [www.moaacoronado.org](http://www.moaacoronado.org), our website. Look for us on Facebook at: MOAA Coronado Chapter Sierra Vista, Arizona. Visit the MOAA legislative website to "Take Action" and receive legislative updates: <http://www1.MOAA.org/Legislative>. Our post office address is: P.O. Box 1685, Sierra Vista, Arizona, 85636-1685. A complete list of our officers and directors appears on the last page of this issue. We welcome your calls and emails. Our email address for general inquiries is [coronadomoaa@gmail.com](mailto:coronadomoaa@gmail.com) According to MOAA Bylaws, our membership shall be composed of: (a). Men and women who are or have been officers — that is, commissioned or warrant officers — of the regular, reserve or National Guard of the United States in one of the eight US uniformed services of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Public Health Service, and Space Command. (b). Widows and widowers of deceased members or of any deceased individual who would, if living, be eligible for membership. (c). Individuals elected as Honorary Members as set forth in Section 2 (e) of this Article. (d). There shall be no discrimination in membership or participation in the affairs of the Association by reason of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, handicap, or age.

**WE NEVER STOPPED  
SERVING!**