



President's Message

Happy Birthday to our National Guard! December 13, 2021 will mark 384 years of service by an organized militia to the defense of this great nation!

The resilience of The Greatest Generation is captured in print, film, and monuments for all to see and consider, the evidence of the paramount struggle being displayed at the memorial for the sailors of the USS Arizona in Pearl Harbor. We owe them a tremendous amount of respect and honor for their service in the face of an enemy that sought to rule selfishly and mercilessly over many peoples and nations. In the same manner, we owe that same respect and honor to those who choose to stand in the gap today, ready to run to the sound of guns in order to preserve, in accordance with our Declaration of Independence, the basic entitlements of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness endowed to us by the Creator. Their service has been no less honorable or noteworthy having sprung from the heart of what being an American is all about. Thank you—those who have served, are serving now, and continue to serve—to provide the

Continued on page 3

Treasurer's Report

Checking Account Balance ...	\$685
Savings Account Balance	\$6,528
Certificates of Deposit	\$14,257
Total	\$21,470



Visit us on Facebook! (click logo on left)

Visit our website: www.moaa-swil.org

Send your comments to moaa.swil@gmail.com

Take Action!

(Note: for more details about issues you can carry to our legislators, see the Take Action article in Council and Chapter News, or go to:

takeaction.moaa.org/moaa/?0

[Urge Your Elected Officials to Fix the TRICARE Young Adult Coverage Gap](#)

MOAA continues efforts to build support for The Health Care Fairness for Military Families Act of 2021, H.R. 475 in the House, and S. 1972 in the Senate. These bipartisan and bicameral pieces of legislation would expand TRICARE eligibility to young adult dependents up to age 26, bringing TRICARE in line with commercial plan requirements.

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Program News

Please Join Us for our December Meeting!

Where: Cardinal Creek Golf Course Clubhouse

When: **Saturday, 18 Dec 2021**, 6:00 pm Cocktail Hour, Dinner at 7 pm

Menu: Turkey Dinner **Cost:** \$28.00

Attire: Holiday Attire

RSVP: NLT **Thursday, 13 Dec** (see meeting announcement for details)

Email Yasemin Koss at bykoss72@gmail.com, or call her at 618-628-2968

We will not be holding our Annual Christmas Auction this year. Please consider donating what you would spend in the auction directly to the Chapter Scholarship Fund.

(Note: Everyone Must Wear a Mask Indoors Regardless of Vaccination Status, per DoD Policy.)

Turkey Dinner

Roast Breast of Turkey Baked Cod Mashed Potatoes with Gravy Vegetables	Tossed Salad Rolls Dessert Soft Drinks, Tea, Coffee
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Upcoming Programs (all are tentative due to pandemic restrictions)

Date	Venue	Topic
9 Jan 2022	In-Person Venue	Who Knows, But It'll Be Great!
20 Jan 2022	Global Brew Tap House	Chapter Happy Hour
13 Feb 2022	In-Person Venue	Who Knows, But It'll Be Great!
13 Mar 2022	In-Person Venue	Who Knows, But It'll Be Great!
Apr 2022	In-Person Venue	Who Knows, But It'll Be Great!
21 Apr 2022	Global Brew Tap House	Chapter Happy Hour
8 May 2022	In-Person Venue	Chapter Business Meeting

If you normally receive the newsletter via email, but received it in the mail, then we don't have your correct email address. Send your name and correct email address to moaa.swil@gmail.com.

President's Message (continued)

promise of liberty to a grateful nation.

In October, I was blessed to participate in the MOAA National Meeting and represent our outstanding Chapter at the Level of Excellence Award dinner in Washington DC. This year, only 5-Star awards were handed out to over 160 Councils and Chapters affiliated with MOAA National. It was humbling, indeed, being part of those proceedings. When we choose to serve our country, we usually enter at a young age and serve for 4 to sometimes more than 30 years. Yet, there are many who choose to continue serving as is evidenced by the age of our Chapter membership across the affiliates. With over 351,000 members, and over 25% being active duty age, the average Chapter membership age is 74.5 years, evidence that those who have served CONTINUE to serve in a capacity to provide a voice to Congress that is heeded! Thank you for your continued participation. We need your one vote to ensure that the entire military community receives the promises of their service. God bless you, all the men and women who serve and have served this great nation, our elected leaders, and the United States of America!! More than ever.

Legislative News (continued)

[Urge Your Senators to Support Legislation to Repeal the TRICARE Select Enrollment Fee](#)

Urge your Senators to support the TRICARE Select Restoration Act, which is an important first step to repeal the enrollment fee for grandfathered retirees.

[Urge your Legislators to Support Concurrent Receipt](#)

Contact your representative and senators and urge them to support The Major Richard Star Act, which would provide concurrent receipt for servicemembers unable to complete 20 years of service due to combat-related injuries. Help ensure these men and women get their full service-earned retirement, as well as their disability compensation from the VA.

[Support Health Care for Children of Disabled Veterans or Veterans Who Have Died Due to a Service-Connected Disability](#)

Did you know many adult children of veterans who are disabled or who died from a service-connected disability lose access to their parent's health well before the age of 26?

[Urge Your Senators to Support Legislation Extending TRICARE Coverage to Certain 'Gray Area' Retirees](#)

The TRICARE Fairness for National Guard and Reserve Retirees Act (S. 829), introduced by Sens. Rob Portman (R-Ohio) and Elizabeth Warren (D-Mass.) and the House companion bill (H.R. 1997), introduced by Reps. Bill Johnson (R-Ohio) and Dean Phillips (D-Minn.) would ensure these "gray area" retirees who qualify for retirement pay before age 60 are eligible for the TRICARE retiree benefit.

[Ask Congress to Preserve Arlington National Cemetery and Eligibility for 20-Year Retirees](#)

Help MOAA stay in the middle of this important conversation – Contact your representative and urge them to designate in the FY 2022 NDAA the next national cemetery as ANC reaches capacity.

[Ask Your Lawmakers to Support the Military Retiree Survivor Comfort Act](#)

Financial concerns and stress can be a terrible burden on top of an already stressful situation for a newly widowed spouse. For some, when they discover DFAS may take part or all of that last retirement check back, it can be an overwhelming event. The Military Retiree Survivor Comfort Act (H.R. 2214 and S.1669) will allow survivors to gradually repay the amount over the next 12 months and have an opportunity to request for debt forgiveness through DoD.

Continued next page

Legislative News (continued)

[Help MOAA Secure Health Care for Servicemembers in the Selected Reserve](#)

The National Guard and Reserve play critical roles in our national defense and emergency response missions. In the past year, our nation has relied on the Reserve Component to assist with responses to wildfires, natural disasters, civil disturbances, the COVID-19 pandemic, and global operations. Yet, its members lack health care and dental coverage to maintain their readiness. The Healthcare For Our Troops Act would provide medical and dental care for Selected Reserve members at no out-of-pocket cost, bringing their coverage in line with their active duty counterparts.

[Help MOAA Support the Representation for Exceptional Military Families Act](#)

Progress continues on efforts to improve the Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP) with the introduction of the Representation for Exceptional Military Families Act.

[Ask Your Lawmakers to Support the Retained Skilled Veterans Act](#)

This bipartisan legislation would end the so-called “180-day rule,” which imposes a waiting period on those leaving service before they can take on certain types of DoD civilian employment. Many of these jobs are empty as qualified applicants with security clearances are forced to look elsewhere to start their careers. Ask your representatives to help today.

[Support National Guard and Reserve Incentive Pay Parity in the FY 2022 NDAA](#)

Closing gaps in incentive pays for the reserve component is vital after all these servicemembers have done to support our country. Please take the time to contact your lawmakers and ask them to support the National Guard and Reserve Incentive Pay Parity Act of 2021 – introduced in the House as H.R. 3626 by Reps. Tim Ryan (D-Ohio) and Steve Pallazo (R-Miss.) and in the Senate as S. 1859 by Sen. Tammy Duckworth (D-Ill.).

[Urge Your Lawmakers to Support Legislation to Stop Cuts to Military Medicine](#)

Act now to urge your lawmakers to support FY 2022 NDAA legislation that will halt cuts to military medical billets. Section 721 of the House bill – which has already passed its chamber – would halt DoD’s plan to cut medical billets for a year following the enactment of the FY 2022 NDAA. It also would require a Government Accountability Office (GAO) report on the analyses used to support billet cut plans, including

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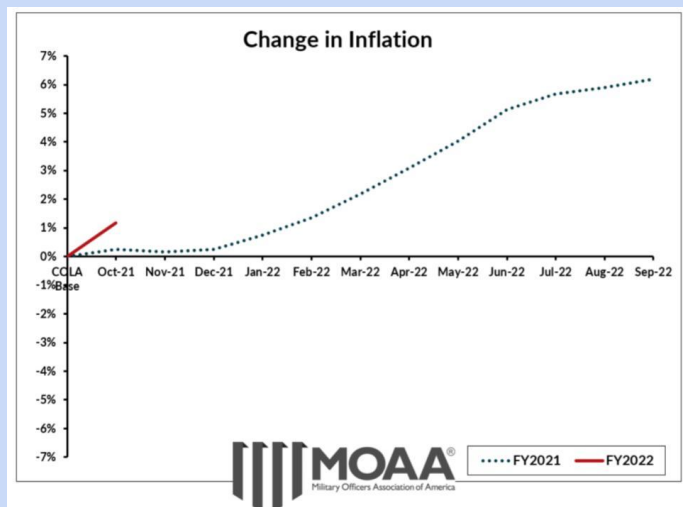
COLA Watch

moaa.org/content/take-action/cola-watch

The October 2021 CPI is 271.552, 1.2 percent above the FY 2022 COLA baseline.

The Consumer Price Index for November is scheduled to be released Dec. 10. The CPI baseline for FY 2022 is 268.421.

The calculation is made by comparing the average CPI from July through September of the current fiscal year to the average for the same months of the year prior. Remember, active duty pay raises are calculated differently.



Legislative News (continued)

an evaluation of medical manpower requirements and the effect of billet cuts on local health care networks.

[Ask Your Legislators to Address Gender Inequity in Military Uniform Costs](#)

Women who serve pay disproportionately higher costs for their uniforms – an unfair system long past due for correction. The Military Fatigues Act of 2021 would address this disparity and better align the cost of uniforms for enlisted personnel across the services.

[Ask Your Legislators to Adjust SGLI and VGLI for Inflation With the Supporting Families of the Fallen Act](#)

Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance (SGLI) and Veterans' Group Life Insurance (VGLI) coverage amounts have not been updated since 2005. This law would raise the level from \$400,000 to \$500,000 – a necessary move to preserve the value of this program in the face of inflation.

[Ask Your Lawmakers to Support the Jobs and Childcare for Military Families Act](#)

The military spouse unemployment rate is not a new concern, but like many ongoing problems, it's been made worse by the economic fallout from the COVID-19 pandemic. Pre-pandemic, the military spouse unemployment rate was 22 percent or higher for over a decade. The pandemic has had a significant impact on this community, with 34 percent of military spouses reporting the loss of a job and 25 percent reporting reduced hours. The Jobs and Childcare for Military Families Act would expand the Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC) to incentivize businesses to hire military spouses and create dependent care flexible spending accounts (FSAs) for military families to reserve pre-tax dollars from their paychecks to cover out-of-pocket child care expenses.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT

December 3rd is the next “Red Letter Day” in the timeline for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). If you think you've heard this song before, you are correct ... it is the same message as was given last month. Hopefully, there will be progress before this column is distributed at the end of November, but confidence is low. From the MOAA website, the following article—Still No Budget and No NDAA For FY 2022: Here's Why It Matters—provided in early November, states that the “...last year Congress and the White House enacted the necessary legislation on time to fully fund the government for the upcoming fiscal year was for FY 1997.” A sad record indeed, especially when the only one thing that Congress must complete each year is to provide a budget. And unlike other appropriations provided by

Continued next page

Chapter Officers	
President	Col (ret) Bob Norman
2nd VP/Comm	Maj (ret) Rick Sunner
Secretary	Lt Col (ret) Ann Morey
Treasurer	LTC (ret) Bob Koss Col (ret) Phil Yavorsky
Membership	Maj (ret) Sabrina Luttrell-Andrews
Programs	Yasemin Koss
ROTC Liaison	CDR (ret) Tim Grout
Spouses Liaison	Narni Cahill

Call for Articles! If you want to submit an article for the Eyes to the Skies, just send the draft article to moaa.swil@gmail.com. Please keep these things in mind:

- Submit your article by the 10th of the month prior
- The article must be in MS Word or text format

We reserve the right to edit the article so it fits in the newsletter and meets our (and MOAA's) editorial policy.

Editorial Policy

The Southwest Illinois Chapter Newsletter is published monthly by the Southwest Illinois Chapter which is an affiliate of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA). MOAA and its affiliated chapters and councils are nonpartisan.



Legislative News (continued)

Congress, “the NDAA does not provide funding for the programs it authorizes.” The Defense Appropriations Bill and the Military Construction-Veterans Administration (VA) Appropriations have to accompany the authorizations. In the last 20 years, Defense Appropriations have been approved prior to October 1st six times. VA appropriations have only closed out three times in the last 20 years prior to October 1st. Since 1997, there has usually been agreement on the NDAA around 90 days after October 1st, so sometime in December or January we may expect a budget for FY2022. For the Defense Department, and VA, the turmoil created by the Continuing Resolution Act (CRA) that is used to continue funding the government delays new programs, prevents modifying or discontinuing programs from last FY, and burdens leadership with an unpredictable budget. NDAA passage is not guaranteed, especially in this environment of political partisanship and division, political grandstanding, the decline of military experience in Congress, and other environmental factors. For more information on this topic, visit this [link](#).

MOAA NATIONAL GETS INVOLVED FOR ILLINOIS

The reputation of MOAA National to be able to impact an issue for the veteran or military community was displayed back in October. Our Illinois Council President—Col (ret) Bob Tyler, USMC—and a former Chapter President—Col (ret) Mike Peck, USA—sat down with Col (ret) Dan Merry, USAF, Vice President, Government Relations, to discuss oversight responsibilities for the Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery. The issue being addressed was crowding of the area around the National Cemetery by growth in the trucking industry, creating inability of the truck drivers to navigate the area and oftentimes run their vehicles over graves and headstones. Equally distressing to those families who are involved in graveside services is the constant noise and traffic in the area. There is also discussion about moving some of the graves. The Governor has remained silent on questions about the situation. Read more about this issue at this [link](#).

Col Merry contacted a staff member of Congresswoman Elaine Luria’s office (D-VA) who serves as Vice Chair of the Committee on Veteran Affairs to determine who might be the appropriate contact in the House of Representatives to help bring this issue to a favorable consensus solution for the veterans and their loved ones.

UNIFORM COST DISPARITY

In an era of equality, there is now a call to reform the inequality of uniform costs between men and women. The Military FATIGUES Act of 2021, S. 3016 ([link](#)), recently introduced by Senators Maggie Hassan (D-NH) and Joni Ernst (R-IA), finally seeks to correct this problem.

A recent Government Accountability Office (GAO) study found the military services made 18 uniform changes over the last decade that have disproportionately increased out-of-pocket costs for women officers and found other inconsistencies for enlisted servicemembers across the services. This is not a surprise for those currently serving.

“It is absurd that we are forcing servicemembers to fork over thousands of dollars in order to pay for necessary clothing items that they wear while serving our country,” Hassan said. Representative Joe Wilson (R-SC) soon will introduce the House version of the FATIGUES Act and is working to make it a bipartisan effort in that chamber as it is in the Senate. Read more about this issue at this [link](#).

STATE LEGISLATIVE NEWS

SJR 28 – the Medal of Honor Highway Resolution – was assigned to a House Committee on Thursday, October 28. The resolution “... designate[s] the entire portion of US Highway 20 in Illinois beginning at the Illinois/Iowa border and ending at the Illinois/Indiana border as the “Illinois Medal of Honor Highway”, honoring current and future Medal of Honor recipients from Illinois ...” In case you missed it, President

Legislative News (continued)

Abraham Lincoln signed legislation into law establishing the Medal of Honor in 1861 and 1862. Illinois is the birthplace of 108 Medal of Honor recipients and two earned awards for valor in Vietnam. This Resolution will likely be signed by the Governor during the current legislative session. Suitable copies of the resolution will be provided to the Director of the Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs and the President of the Council of Chapters of the Military Officers Association of America.

YOUR MONEY ([Link](#))

These 2 Charts Show Why MOAA's COLA Fight Must Continue

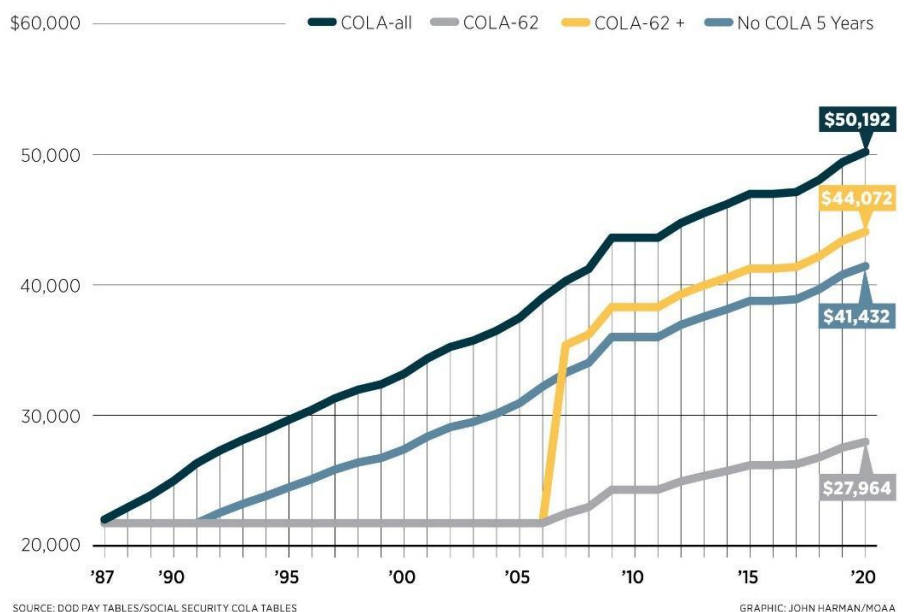
By Dan Merry | 27 Oct 2021

Your cost-of-living adjustment of 5.9% is the largest in decades, and as that figure rises, the potential for Congress to leverage COLA reductions in your earned benefit to pay for other programs grows alongside it. ... [In] real numbers, what could a change to the system mean to your bank account – not just this year or next, but in the coming decades?

Let's map out four scenarios, all with roots in COLA history:

- COLA All: COLA as prescribed in law, no decrements – this charts the current system, made possible by a 1986 victory by The Military Coalition, a group formed in response to the 1985 COLA crisis and co-founded by The Retired Officers Association, which became MOAA in 2003.
- No COLA for 5 years (1987-1991): What would've taken place had the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings Act, otherwise known as 1985 Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act, remained on the books.
- COLA-62+: This plan would've eliminated COLA until age 62, reinstating the adjustment from 62 forward with the addition of cumulative COLA percentages (but no back pay). This setup was recommended in a 2010 report by the National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform, a group of experts tasked by President Barack Obama ([link](#)) to improve the nation's fiscal situation.
- COLA-62: Like the above plan, this setup would eliminate COLA until age 62, but with no adding back of cumulative COLA percentages – simply a restarted COLA. This was one of several COLA reductions considered by the George H.W. Bush Administration in the early 1990s, per a January 2004 Congressional Research Service Report at this [link](#) (Page CRS-6).

ANNUAL RETIREMENT PAY

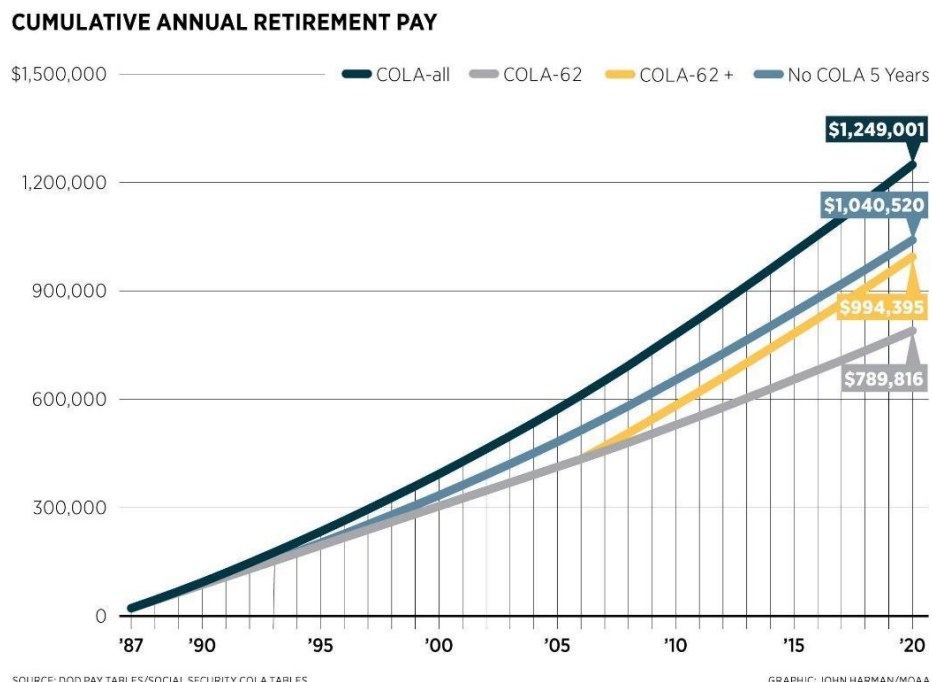


Many factors affect retirement pay, so it's difficult to represent every retiree's compensation in a single chart. But if we use the scenario of an O-5 retiring in 1987 after 20 years of service, plotting the impact over 34 years to the present day with actual Consumer Price Index and COLA data through 2020, we get the breakdown to the right:

Your Money (continued)

But that chart doesn't tell the whole story. The cumulative impact of these decrements is startling and looks like the chart to the left.

From the case described above, the work of MOAA and the coalition stopping the planned 1985 changes saved this retiree over \$200,000 over 34 years. Plans in play since then could've cost retirees even more money – you can see what the damage would've looked like for the past few decades, but with rising inflation, it'd be worse in future years.



Stay tuned to MOAA.org and your newsletter for updates and potential calls to action, as MOAA continues its work with TMC to ensure all of our eight uniformed services continue to receive COLA increases per current legislation.

SURVIVING SPOUSE CORNER ([Link](#))

Know Your Former Spouse's Benefits

By Shane Ostrom | 20 Oct 2021

A variety of benefits are available to former spouses of servicemembers: TRICARE; access to exchanges, bases, and MWR facilities; retired pay; Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) pay; and Social Security. Here's what you need to know about qualifications for these benefits.

20/20/20 Rule and Service Benefits¹

For a former spouse to get service benefits, the following must be true:

- The spouse had been married for 20 years or more to the servicemember,
- The servicemember served at least 20 years, and
- The marriage and the military service overlapped by at least 20 years.

If so, a former spouse can remain eligible for TRICARE. Two things will disqualify a former spouse from TRICARE:

1. The former spouse is covered by an employer health plan
2. The former spouse remarries.

Once TRICARE is lost for these reasons, it is permanently lost.

An ID card allows the former spouse access to bases, which grants them access to exchanges, commissaries, and MWR facilities.

¹20/20/20 Rule applies in the case of divorce; for information related to death of a sponsor and TRICARE benefits, click this [link](#).

Surviving Spouse's Corner (continued)

Retired Pay

Retired pay of the service retiree can be split by the divorce court between the servicemember and the former spouse.

The marriage must have lasted at least 10 years, and the service time and marriage must have overlapped by at least 10 years. If these conditions are met, a divorce court can divide the retired pay between the parties.

The amount of military retired pay considered as divisible property is directly linked to the member's pay grade and years of service at the time of the divorce and then adjusted by COLAs for each year since that date. In other words, just because the service continued beyond the cessation of the marriage, those subsequent years' contribution to final retired pay are not to be considered divisible property between the servicemember and former spouse.

Remarriage of the former spouse does not stop the payments if the court order did not stipulate a remarriage feature. Retired pay reverts to the retiree when an amended court order states such or after the death of the former spouse. Retired pay for all parties stops at the death of the retiree.

SBP

SBP is DoD's version of a corporate pension protection plan. Upon the death of a service retiree receiving retired pay, a spouse can receive up to 55% of the retiree's full gross retired pay amount as a survivor benefit for life with COLAs.

SBP has only one beneficiary, typically a spouse. A divorce court can rule that the SBP beneficiary be changed to a former spouse. If so, the retiree's SBP beneficiary will be changed to the former spouse by the service pay agency upon notification of the divorce decision.

Once awarded to a former spouse, a retiree cannot change the beneficiary without:

1. An amended court order releasing the beneficiary status back to the retiree,
2. The former spouse voluntarily releasing the beneficiary status back to the retiree with amended court order,
3. The former spouse's death.

Social Security

A former spouse can collect Social Security spousal retirement benefits from an ex-spouse. They must have been married at least 10 years.

The spousal benefit amount can be up to 50% of an ex-spouse's Full Retirement Age (FRA) amount. The former spouse must be at their FRA at the time of application to get the 50% amount. Any age less than the FRA of the former spouse will receive less than the 50%.

Former spouses born in 1954 and later must apply for their combined personal Social Security and the spousal benefit at the same time. They will be paid the greater benefit amount - not both.

Former spouses born in 1953 or earlier can claim a spousal benefit alone, thus allowing a delay in collecting their own personal benefit until age 70. The personal retirement benefit amount increases up to age 70.

The former spouse benefit has no impact on the ex-spouse benefit or the ex-spouse's current spouse benefit.

Former spouses can also be eligible for Social Security survivor benefits from an ex-spouse. A former spouse survivor benefit has no impact on the benefit to the current spouse of the ex-spouse.

COUNCIL AND CHAPTER NEWS

News from National MOAA

For more information about the articles in this month's newsletter and how you can get more involved in other issues, visit the MOAA [Take Action Center](#) or [News](#) webpages.

- **MOAA's 2021 Legislative Priorities** ([link](#)) MOAA's focus remains on all eight of the uniformed services and their service-earned entitlements.
- **MOAA In Action: Major Legislative Accomplishments** ([link](#)) MOAA engages with Congress on all manner of issues related to the uniformed services community.
- **New Program Offers Veterans, Military Spouses Access to Free Tech Training** ([link](#)) A new program plans to give veterans/military spouses interested in the tech industry free education, paid fellowships at 1 of 400 employers nationwide, and access to a network of employers looking to hire.
- **Make Your Voice Heard to Help End Hunger in the Ranks** ([link](#)) Ask your lawmakers to support the Military Hunger Prevention Act and help ensure the basic needs allowance is included in this year's NDAA without BAH included in the calculation of gross household income.

SW IL VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE

The [VSO](#) provides free assistance to veterans, their dependents, and survivors in navigating complex services and benefits. The nearest VSO is in Belleville, and can be contacted at 618-233-8445/5140.

Visit the Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs by following this [link](#).

For information on services available to the aging population, please visit the [Illinois Department on Aging](#).

Use the links below to read some timely veteran-related articles.

- [Operation HerStory](#) -- Gwen M. Diehl, Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs Veteran Home Coordinator joined the Operation HerStory all-female honor flight on October 6th.
- [Free Legal Aid for IL Veterans](#) -- Active Duty Servicemembers, Veterans, Guard, Reserve, and spouses/dependents can receive free legal aid through the IL Armed Forces Legal Aid Network.
- [Send a Vet a Message](#) -- Send a message of support to Illinois Veterans' Homes residents or staff.
- [Illinois Veterans Newsletters](#) -- Award-winning email newsletter created by IDVA, delivers important news and information to the Illinois veteran community. (March 2020 edition at this [link](#).)
- [Operation Rising Spirit](#) -- Challenges service organizations, volunteers, and patriots of Illinois to raise the spirits of military veterans and the heroic staff who care for them at state veterans' homes.
- [Veterans Drivers License](#) -- Veteran's designation helps ensure military veterans receive the services and benefits for which they are entitled.

Take a moment to help our veteran community!!

Illinois House Bill 2378 is the amendment to the standard Homestead Exemption Act. This amendment will allow the surviving spouse, who is receiving DIC, Dependents Indemnity Compensation, to apply for the Homestead Exemption.

How can you help? Please call or e-mail your state representative(s) and tell them we need them to co-sponsor HB 2378. Use this [link](#) for the 'Illinois Policy' web site, then enter your address to show contact information for your state representative.

For details about the bill, visit the Illinois General Assembly web site at this [link](#).

HONORING VETERANS AT THE O'FALLON PUBLIC LIBRARY

By: Col (ret) Kim Dalrymple and Maj (ret) Rick Sunner | 18 Nov 2021

If you've visited the O'Fallon IL Public Library in the past month or so, you might have seen the really cool Veterans Display.

The photo on the right shows the beautiful display. Most of the display models were built by USAF Retired Colonel Andrew Colon, a MOAA member. He is Kim Dalrymple's neighbor and he loves military history and building models.

The second shelf is dedicated to the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. 11 Nov 2021, marks the 100th Anniversary of the Tomb. That replica was built by Master Sergeant (USA, Retired) Bruce Haas and his wife Suzie at Kim's request. Suzie, a member of Kim's¹ chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), is pictured below with Andrew Colon. Isn't it great that MOAA and the DAR worked together on this!!



History of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier

(Source: [Wikipedia](#)) The Tomb is located at Arlington National Cemetery and is dedicated to deceased US service members whose remains have not yet been identified. The first "Unknown" interred in the Tomb was from WWI, who was later joined by Unknowns from WW2, Korea, and Vietnam; all are recipients of the Medal of Honor. The Unknown from Vietnam was later identified as AF 1LT Michael Joseph Blassie.

The Tomb is guarded 24 hours a day by members of the US Army's 3rd Infantry Regiment, known as "The Old Guard." Fewer than 20% of the volunteers for the guard are selected and even fewer pass the training.

Visit this [website](#) for additional information.

¹ Kim Dalrymple is the Vice Regent of the Looking Glass Prairie Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

SOUTHWEST IL CHAPTER, MOAA
INEZ PETERS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION
CWO3 CHARLES E. NALLEY SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

NAME _____
HOME ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
PHONE NUMBER _____ E-MAIL _____
PARENT/GUARDIAN _____
ADDRESS IF DIFFERENT FROM ABOVE _____
NAME OF CHAPTER SPONSOR _____ RELATIONSHIP _____
HIGH SCHOOL/COLLEGE CURRENTLY ATTENDING _____
HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION DATE _____ GPA _____ CLASS STANDING _____
COLLEGE OR SPECIAL TRAINING CREDIT: HOURS _____ SEMESTERS _____
NAME OF COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY ATTENDING or PLANNING TO ATTEND: _____

APPLICANT SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

APPLICATION PACKAGE MUST INCLUDE:
(Incomplete packages will not be considered)

- Legibly completed application.
- Two one-page essays, one side, single space, font Times New Roman 12.
 - One-page essay outlining career goals and why the applicant chose or plans to pursue a particular field of study.
 - One-page essay on the applicant's participation in a particular extracurricular, school, or community activity highlighting accomplishments and explaining personal benefit from the activity.
- A letter of recommendation from a member of the school faculty or staff who can comment on your qualifications for your career choice.
- A letter of recommendation from an adult leader of an extracurricular, school, or community activity, organization, club, or employment in which the applicant was active.
- Official high school transcript, reflecting at least three years of high school and including any college credits as applicable. If you are currently enrolled in a college, also include your official college transcript.
- A copy of any and all of your ACT and/or SAT scores.
- A listing of all school and community clubs, organizations, and/or groups to which you are or were a member. Include any leadership positions, honors, and/or awards as applicable with the listed activities. This should also include participation identified in the one-page essay above.
- Forward the completed package to:
Southwest Illinois MOAA
PO Box 735
O'Fallon, IL, 62269
Attn: Ann Morey

APPLICATION MUST BE POSTMARKED NOT LATER THAN 1 MAR 2022

MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA
SOUTHWEST ILLINOIS CHAPTER
INEZ PETERS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
CWO 3 CHARLES E NALLEY SCHOLARSHIP

The Southwest Illinois Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA), in accordance with the Association's goal to further the education of children of service personnel, will award two scholarships for the academic year 2020-2021. The scholarship may be used by the winner for his/her tuition, books, or general college expenses.

ELIGIBILITY: The applicant must be a high school senior or a currently enrolled undergraduate, full-time student of an accredited college or university in the award year. The applicant must be the child or grandchild of a current dues paying member for at least one year in the Southwest Illinois Chapter of MOAA. Scholarship winner must be enrolled and attending college by 30 September of the award year. Applicants will be considered for both scholarships. The top ranked applicant will receive the Peters scholarship and the second ranked applicant will be awarded the Nalley scholarship. Students that apply for these scholarships are not eligible to apply for the JROTC Freedom Scholarship also offered by this Chapter.

AWARD: The scholarship will be awarded based on leadership qualities, ability, academic merit, character, and sincerity of purpose in reaching his/her goals.

SUBMISSION: An application is attached. Complete all items and forward the application, transcripts, and other required information to:

Southwest Illinois MOAA
PO Box 735
O'Fallon, IL, 62269
Attn: Ann Morey

THE PACKAGE MUST BE POSTMARKED NOT LATER THAN 1 Mar 2022.

SELECTION: Award winner will be announced in April 2022 of the application year. Selected students may be awarded a Southwest Illinois Chapter of MOAA scholarship only once.

PAYMENT OF SCHOLARSHIP: The award will be sent to the college of enrollment upon the Chapter's receipt of verification of enrollment in good standing at an accredited college/university. Winners will receive further instructions.

Direct any questions to Ann Morey, 618-628-0286, 618-409-9966, or ram204@att.net.

Thank you,

Southwest Illinois MOAA Scholarship Committee

Southwest Illinois Chapter
Military Officers Association of America
P.O. Box 735
O'Fallon IL 62269

Meeting Announcement

This month's meeting is Sat, 11 Dec 2021 at Cardinal Creek Golf Course Clubhouse, Scott AFB IL.
(See Program News for details.)

Reservation deadline (mail, e-mail, or phone call received by): 6 Dec 2021.

To RSVP, send e-mail to bykoss72@gmail.com, call Yasemin Koss at 618-628-2968, or complete this form and mail it to:

Southwest Illinois MOAA

P.O. Box 735

O'Fallon IL 62269

to be received by the deadline.

RESERVATION FORM FOR SW IL MOAA CHAPTER MEETING

Number of Reservations Desired: _____

Member's/Spouse's Name(s): _____

Guests: _____