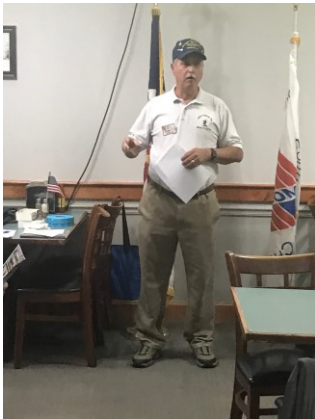




South Georgia Chapter  
 Military Officers Association of America  
 November 2023



October 2023 Meeting



Tim Oliver told us about the 9-week training classes that were held beginning in 1941 in Douglas, GA to train pilots before and during WWII. The most intact, complete, and original school left is now preserved at the WWII Training Museum in Douglas, GA.



He had displays on several tables with items about the training and the museum.

Installation of 2023-24 Officers



Pete Dominicis installed the officers of our chapter for 2023-24

- President: Don McArthur
- Vice-President: Larry Bostic
- Secretary/Treasurer: Don McArthur
- Board of Directors: Dan Tupy and Tim Oliver



Peter Strand, our newest member, and his wife, Rhonda, were present. Norm Conant was Peter's pilot instructor while at Moody AFB.

## The Georgia State MOAA Convention

The convention was held in Dahlonega, GA, September 28-Oct 1. On Saturday morning the members held the business meeting. Spouses were given a tour of downtown Dahlonega while the meeting was held.

The two major focuses of the meeting were membership and retention.

After the meeting commanders of North Georgia University ROTC spoke of expansion for the campus and the training given to the cadets.

There was a tour after lunch which included going into the Gold Mine of Dahlonega, panning for gold, and the Gold Museum which houses over 2 million dollars of gold coins minted in Dahlonega.

Larry Bostick, Sara and Don McArthur represented the South GA Chapter at the banquet that was held on Saturday evening.



The Patriot singers from the North Georgia University ROTC presented a musical program for everyone's enjoyment.



The 5-Star LOE (Levels of Excellence) Award was presented to Don McArthur, our chapter president by Jim Carman, MOAA VP for Council/Chapters and Member Support Department.



### 5 Star LOE for 2022

On Sunday morning a memorial service was held in view of the parade ground for the University ROTC.



### US Navy News Update

Question? Who do you think has the largest Navy in the world? If you guessed the US, you guessed wrong.

China has the largest with 730 military vessels, followed by Russia with 598, and North Korea with 519. The US comes in fourth with 484 naval vessels.

For your info, navies can have different functions, such as power projection, territorial defense, and maritime security.

### Some US Navy Trivia!

What is the most heavily armed warship? The Iowa-class battleships.

What is the most advanced warship in the world? *Zumwalt* is the lead ship of a class of next-generation multi-mission destroyers designed to strengthen naval power from the

sea. It was commissioned into active service in 2016. These ships will feature a state-of-the-art electric propulsion system, wave-piercing tumblehome hull, stealth design, and the latest war fighting technology and weaponry available.

However, the Navy cancelled the *Zumwalt* due to skyrocketing costs, lack of accountability, unrealistic goals, a flawed concept of operations, the perils of designing a warship around stealth, and the failure of the Advanced Gun System. From the Business Insider, Mr. Fredenburg stated the *Zumwalt* was an unmitigated disaster.

*(Business Insider 2023)*

The *Zumwalt* will go into dry dock in late 2023 for an 18-month maintenance and get outfitted with hypersonic missiles in 2024 and 2025 in Pascagoula, Mississippi.

### Air Force Tidbit

Davis-Monthan AFB located in Tucson, AZ, has recently been designated for a new power projection wing for Air Force Special Operations Command. The plan involves the 492<sup>nd</sup> Special Operations Wing moving from Florida where 3 A-10 Fighter Squadrons would be inactivated. The Air Force said a final decision was pending an environmental impact analysis.



Happy Thanksgiving!!!

Our next meeting is Thursday, November 9, 2023,  
at Mama June's on Perimeter Road, Valdosta, GA 31602.

We meet and greet from 6-6:15. The Pledge followed by the Invocation is at 6:15.

Then we proceed to the buffet.

*Introduce yourself to any guest or member you don't know.*

**Please, let Don McArthur, Chapter Secretary, know if you are coming or not **229-244-7498** or email [sararmcarthur@gmail.com](mailto:sararmcarthur@gmail.com)**

**PLEASE RSVP—"YES" or "NO".**

Submissions for consideration to this newsletter are welcomed and should be sent to [dandsmcarthur@bellsouth.net](mailto:dandsmcarthur@bellsouth.net) as soon as possible due to time needed for print.

Thanks to Don McArthur and Tim Oliver for contributions to this month's newsletter. SGAMOAA is a politically non-partisan, non-profit corporation affiliated with the Military

Officers Association of America (MOAA). National MOAA is also non-partisan. [www.moaa.org](http://www.moaa.org) will take you to the Legislative Update and their "Take Action" section. To join the South Georgia Chapter go to the website [www.sgamoaa.org](http://www.sgamoaa.org) and click on BECOME A MEMBER.

Our guest speaker will be Mr. Charles White, Congressman Austin Scott's Field Representative covering the Southern part of the Eighth Congressional District

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