The South Georgia Voice



South Georgia Chapter Military Officers Association of America January 2023



Happy New Year!!!



Veterans Day



The Veterans Day Program was held at the Lowndes High School Auditorium at 10 a.m. Members of the Lowndes AFJROTC and Valdosta High NJROTC attended also.



Lunch was served for all Veterans at the American Legion Building with BBQ and a Birthday Cake for the Marines



The program was designed by students at Wiregrass Technical College.

GA State Convention November 18-20 2022



Larry Bostic, Don and Sara McArthur represented our chapter at the Georgia State Convention held at the University of Georgia, Continuing Education Convention Center.



Astranaut Shane Kimbrough, US Army and NASA astronaut was the guest speaker at the banquet. He shared his experience aboard the International Space Station. He shared that the station circles the earth every 90 minutes, so they go from daylight to dark every 45 minutes. They sleep in sleeping bags but have to strap their arms down as they

do not need their arms to dangle while they sleep. They have to keep an exercise routine to avoid losing bone density. Water is precious on board and all liquids are filtered to provide water for them. They do not get to take showers. Each tenure aboard the space station is 6 months. They speak Russian and English. He has spent 4 different terms on the space station and has done numerous space walks. He has spent 388 days in space and flown 3 different space craft.



Astronaut Shane Kimbrough (Picture from Athens Banner-Herald)



Roses were placed by each Chapter President at the Memorial Service on Sunday morning. The names of all those the chapters had lost in the past year were read and a bell was rung as each name was called. Certificates were awarded for South GA Chapter 5 Star for the Website and 4 Star for the Newsletter. They were presented at the business meeting on Saturday morning.



Just as a reminder, we will be meeting at Mama June's beginning with our January meeting. Our agenda will remain basically the same except we will meet and greet from 6-6:15 followed by the pledge and invocation before proceeding to the buffet.

Farewell to CEO/President of National MOAA

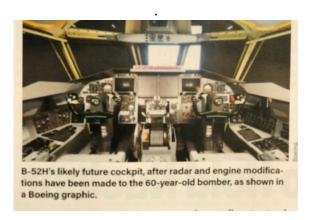
After 7 years of being MOAA's CEO/President, Lt Gen Dana Atkins has stepped down effective December 31, 2022. Under his leadership, MOAA maintained an association wide focus on pay raises for the troops, preventing medical billet cuts, and protecting TRICARE for Life.

Preserving other benefits included Legislative victories in health care spanned generations. These included the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2019, signed by the President, helped 90,000 veterans who served off the coast of Vietnam but were exposed to Agent Orange. In 2022, landmark legislation was passed in the form of the PACT Act which benefited millions of troops from Vietnam-era veterans to those serving today.

During Gen Atkins early active duty days he served in Europe on the A-10 Demonstration Team. He later applied and was accepted into the elite Thunderbirds after being checked out in the F-16. He stated at the National MOAA Convention in Kansas City in October that he will surely miss being on the MOAA team but will remain active as a MOAA member.

Boeing Illustration shows how B-52 will look after a series of modification.





The picture of the B-52 above shows what the modification will look like at the end of this decade. Some of the updates include new Rolls-Royce engines, new radar and a new streamlined cockpit. With these changes, they are significant enough to warrant redesignating the B-52H configurations as the B-52J or K.

Exterior images were rendered from a digital prototyping model but should closely resemble the final version. The larger-diameter fans in the new Rolls-Royce North America F130 engines are prominent, set higher and farther forward in their nacelles than are the Pratt & Whitney TF-33s that have powered B-52s since 1962. The new engines are set higher to provide more ground clearance. Flight-testing will seek to determine precisely how the new engines and their positioning will change the way the wing and flap system performs.

Our meeting is Thursday, January 12, at Mama June's, Perimeter Road at 6 p.m. We meet and greet from 6-6:15. *Introduce yourself to any guest or member you don't know.*

Please make your reservations through chapter Secretary, Don McArthur 229-244-7498 or email sararmcarthur@gmail.com PLEASE RSVP "YES" or "NO"

Submissions for consideration to this newsletter are welcomed and should be sent to dandsmcarthur@bellsouth.net as soon as possible due to time needed for print. Thanks to Don McArthur, Wiregrass Tech, the MOAA Magazine, and Air & Space Forces Magazine for info for this 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 will take you to the Legislative Update and their "Take Action" section.

The speaker for January is Valdosta Police Chief, Leslie Manahan.

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