



SURVIVING SPOUSE SUPPORT PROGRAM

PRESENTATION

to the

Luke Chapter Military Officers Association of America Board





Our Lost and Forgotten Heroes

I love the term “Lost and Forgotten Heroes”. That is certainly an appropriate description. I was certainly lost when my husband LTCol USMC (Ret) Doyle Douglas passed unexpectedly in 2016. I think we were more prepared than most, but all that turned out to be just the tip of what needed to be done. Then as time goes on there is the possibility of being kind of forgotten. All of our friends and family who had drawn near to help console us in the beginning, go back to their lives. They are well intentioned but have their own obligations and as Surviving Spouses (SS) we may be reluctant to reach out” *Ms. Sharon Douglas (SS) President Northern Arizona, MOAA.



WE CAN HELP

We have the:

1. Chapter MOAA Mission
2. SSp Mission
3. SSp Functions

We have the Heart

We organize to function within these guidelines





LUKE CHAPTER

MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

CHAPTER MISSION

1. To perpetrate the traditions of the American Military with emphasis on Chapter members and their families;
2. To undertake charitable, social and similar events
3. To support legislation favorable and beneficial to members, spouses and survivors of all military personnel; and
4. To work with our members and selected veteran's organization to attain Chapter objectives.

Military customs and courtesies are based on very old traditions. They convey greetings, understanding and respect to those that are junior or senior to you.

SSP MISSION



[*Benefits of teamwork](#) March 17, 2021

- Connect with Chapter Surviving Spouses and Care-giver Spouses for support, friendship, encouragement, education, grief-sharing, and mutual benefit.
- Educate and Inform the Chapter concerning issues of interest and import to this group.



SSP FUNCTIONS

Organize the SSp's

Provide support, friendship, encouragement, education, grief sharing, and mutual benefit

Provide Out-Reach for any SSp who is incapacitated, homebound, or nursing facility that may qualify as a member





HOW WE ORGANIZE

- Liaison and Co-Chair
 - Linda Wolverton, Liaison
 - Rosemary Eaton, Co-Chair
- Board Coordination/Reporting
 - Board Liaison
- Steering Committee
 - Gather SSp membership input, provide program direction, and manage outreach
 - 3-4 SSp's from the membership and the 2 Co-Chairs
- Membership
 - Luke Chapter Membership will identify needs and direction ideas





HOW WOULD WE ORGANIZE MEMBERSHIP

Current Chapter MOAA member SS's
Spouses caring for incapacitated, or homebound
Chapter member

Out-Reach for any SS who is incapacitated,
homebound, or nursing facility that may qualify as a
member





HOW WOULD WE ORGANIZE

MEETINGS

Steering Committee:

Sets its own meeting schedule as needed

Members:

Regular lunch meetings during Luke Chapter MOAA meeting year for social interaction and planned presentations

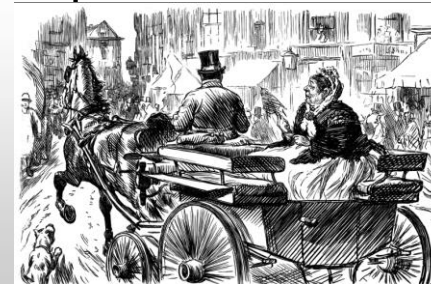
Special meetings may be called to work on group-determined projects

Virtual meetings:

- SS monthly meetings for those as stated above
- Luke Chapter MOAA monthly touch base and/or meet the incapacitated or other homebound persons, as need is determined

Transportation:

Facilitate ride-share for those needing it for SS meetings



RESOURCES

- Chapter Website
- National MOAA
 - SS Virtual Meetings
 - Publications:
 - Help Your Survivors Now, a guide to Planning Ahead
 - Estate Planning Guide
 - Turning the Corner: Surviving the Loss of a Loved One
- Grief Share Programs Church and Other Related
- Casualty Assistance Programs Information
 - Be Connected
 - Military Service Related:
 - Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine, Coast Guard, NOAA, USPHS



IMPLEMENTATION

- **Phase I**

- Identify Current Luke Member Surviving Spouses
- Develop Steering Committee
- Identify Program Presentation Ideas
 - Example:
 - Mentoring Programs
 - Accessing Casualty Assistance
- Initiate Member Communication Program
 - New SS Buddy program – Mentoring (listening, coaching)
 - Birthday, Thinking of You, Other Cards
 - Monthly member contact (phone calls, etc.)
 - Monthly Newsletter/snail mail to those without email

Team Work Ideas

1. Meeting each member of SS's
2. Where to meet?
3. Do we have seekers?

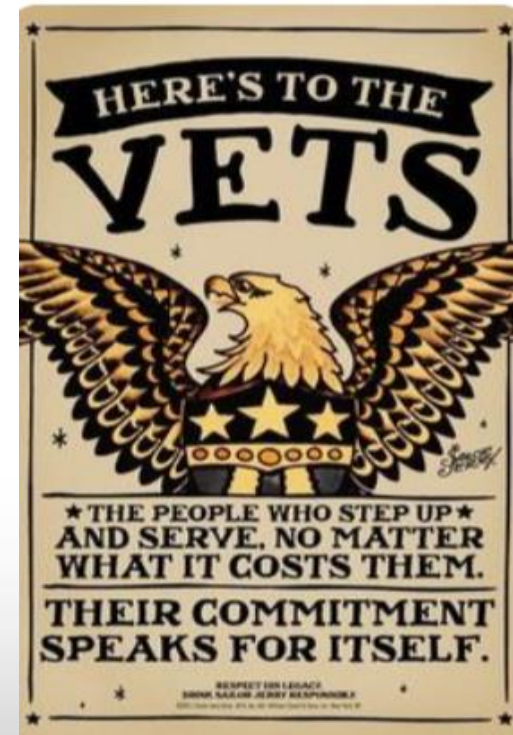




IMPLEMENTATION

- Phase II **OUTREACH**

- Identify qualified Surviving Spouses, Ambulatory, Homebound/Nursing Communities
- Present Chapter SS program
- Work with Activities Director of the Care Organizations
 - Share website – Casualty Assistance Programs as needed
 - Share Personal Contact Information, as needed for those who are unskilled with computers



* Cubebik Jewelry



BOARD REQUEST

- Approve Program
- Present Future Enhancements prior to implementation:
- Present Annual Goals & Objectives achievement reports



We remember
Omaha Beach, Normandy

LUKE CHAPTER

MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA



THE SURVIVING SPOUSE -
WE ARE STILL SERVING

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