Military Outreach USA
Stand By Me Heroes

700 Florsheim Drive Ste 11, Libertyville IL 60048

Spring Review 2026

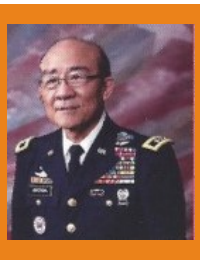
TO VIEW THE FULL VERSION OF OUR NEWSLETTER AS A WEBPAGE
Click *View as Webpage*

OUR MISSION

Military Outreach USA is a faith-based Judeo-Christian organization focused on Veterans and First-Responder Communities, regardless of their denomination or beliefs, demonstrating the compassion, love and healing of Christ our Lord.



WHEN YOU CAN'T RUN YOU WALK,
WHEN YOU CAN'T WALK YOU CRAWL
AND WHEN YOU CAN'T CRAWL
WE WILL CARRY YOU



A message from our Founder

Major General (Ret) James H. Mukoyama
U.S. Army 1964-1995

Chairman & CEO of Military Outreach USA

Our nation is now totally involved in the Iran Conflict, civic unrest in numerous large cities, unstable economic conditions and the upcoming mid-term elections.

As a result of Operations Midnight Hammer, Epic Fury, and the Naval Blockade of Iran, we are on the cusp of a possible settlement, one way or another, with Iran. Having destroyed Iran's ability presently to develop a nuclear weapon when they were literally within weeks of accomplishing - that is alone a significantly historical accomplishment and gift to the world.

There is a movement within our borders to downplay and even withdraw from celebrating the 250th Anniversary of the birth of the strongest nation in the world in terms of freedom, opportunity, militarily, and economically now and ever since the beginning of recorded history. Without the United States of America with its Judeo-Christian foundational values and exceptional sacrifice and aid to the rest of the world, democracy, health

and standards of living enjoyed by billions of people today would not exist.

And the accomplishments are a result of the commitment of our citizens to our nation's core principles of unalienable rights conveyed to us by our Creator, not the government; the right to pursue life, liberty and happiness; and a republic of individuals dedicated to our unified nation. The stopping of an imminent nuclear power Iran, together with peace settlements between numerous countries in the world due to diplomatic efforts and economic pressures of the United States has demonstrated our firm commitment for a peaceful coexistence among nations.

I ask that you join in praying for our national leaders --- for their wisdom and safety --- and for our service members, first responders and their families. And please pray for God's continued blessings to Military Outreach USA in our efforts to serve our Veterans, first responders, and their families in need.

Blessings.
Major General (Ret) James H. Mukoyama, Jr.



A message from Chappy

Chappy Ferrer, President

OPERATIONS UPDATES

Go to our new website, smartphone friendly, review the General's short presentation and see number of impacts we are having across our nation.

This is an historic year for America. Despite a loud minority, America remains and will always remain beautiful, even beyond her 250th birthday. Our faith, patriotism and pursuits of saving and impacting our communities remain constant in our hearts and minds as a faith-based organization. We discriminate against none, as all who served this great nation deserve respect and honor for their sacrifices. Those in support roles are heroes as much as any combat veteran. Our grass-roots approach remains our primary methodology and we have expanded to small groups across this nation. We will always be focused on interceding on behalf of our Veterans, Active Duty, First Responders and their families, all heroes of this grateful nation! Our partnerships continue to grow as we selectively seek doers, not talkers, to make a lasting difference; an example we emulate in our commitments.

Pvt Martin A Treptow left his business to fight in France WWI with the 42nd Division known as the Rainbow Division and was eventually killed by enemy fire. In his diary he had written this pledge to America, "**We must win this war! I will work, I will save, I will sacrifice and I will endure. I will fight cheerfully and do my utmost as if the whole issue of our struggles, our freedom depends on me alone**."

I delayed our MOUSA Newsletter until after the Memorial Day as we remember those who gave all! In every speech I first honor the Gold Star families who daily live Memorial Day. Only then do I acknowledge leaders that came to honor our heroes. This should be our standard and most especially on Memorial Day. If you do not agree, then you have not lived with a great loss. We honor these families who gave their blood to our Judeo-Christian nation. As long as we tell their stories none are forgotten.

Ø **Stand-by-me Heroes (SBMH)**. In March we held an SBMH Workshop at AL964 in Lake Zurich. General Mukoyama, board members Al Lynch, Dr John Bair and I spoke focused on Suicide & Solutions. We continue to expand our efforts across this nation. We welcomed civilians, veterans, first responders and their families. Our focus is on mind, body and soul as well as expanding our Foxhole Soul Counselor (FSC) teams across this nation. Note, we do not record names, information or contact information from any who we help!

Additionally, we are adding and expanding our SBMH focus to Moral Injury & Trauma Research activities led by Dr John P. Bair and his growing team to further impact our heroes.

Recruitment. We seek civilians, retired officers and NCOs, counselors and doctors across this nation following a grass-roots, after hours, peer-to-peer approach to reduce the daily veteran suicide rate of 22+. The VA meets with our heroes for one hour per month; FSCs are known as the after-hours support team.

Ø **Veterans Exiting Homelessness (VEH)**. To date we have purchased and provided over 3,122 Beds-for-VETS. We continue our partnership with regional VA HUD-VASH teams and Veteran Service Organizations. Beds cost an average of $210. Jim Dunne, our Director, and his team remain focused on our Move-in-Essentials project supplying basic items our heroes need when moving into a residence and off the streets, cars or woods. Houses of worship, businesses, neighborhoods, organizations and others have supplied $1,618,046 worth of donated Move-In-Essential items since 2016.
Interested in starting a VEH project and team in your area or state? Please contact our office as we have the trainers and efficient processes to get you started wherever your location.

Ø **Moral Injury Research & Trauma**. Dr. John P Bair and his team are focused on multiple research activities publishing research papers and expanding our Foxhole Soul Counselor teams to reach those struggling with the 'Invisible Scars of War.' ***If this interests you please contact MOUSA as we look to expand financially and physically.***

Ø **Townhall**. We are in the process of revising our Townhall and expanding our training and teaching of various issues regarding Suicide & Solutions, Moral Injury and Trauma research. There are a variety of subjects as well as confusions in the veteran community and we can assist. Veteran Service Organizations desire to know more about subjects many appear to avoid. Our communities want folks not afraid of controversy. Let us know what you would like to discuss in this online format.

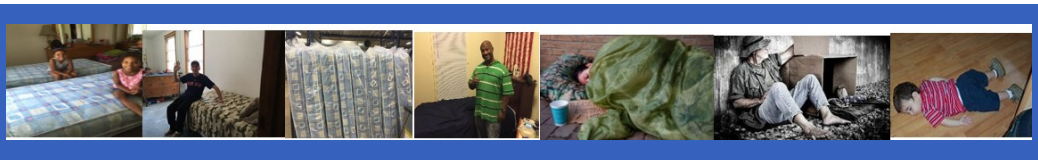
Ø **Stand-By-My-Heroes Veterans Community Center.** This initiative is also focused on reducing the daily suicide rate of 22+ per day. We seek sponsors with a vision of "A Grateful Nation" to intervene with our veterans suffering from the "Invisible Scars of War".

Using our experiences from West Plaines, Missouri, we will get homeless veterans off the streets and provide help to our heroes and their families restoring mind, body and soul. This will be a 24/7 facility supplying housing and a path to restoration including females, males and their children. We continue to partner with the VA HUD-VASH teams, Veterans Service Organizations, businesses and civilians.

Vision Donation: Call me with questions. Send one-time, monthly or annual contribution to SBMH Veterans Community Center, 1138 Cypress Lane, IL 60007 or click on Militaryoutreachusa.org/donate/SBMHVeteransCommunityCenter

Chappy Ferrer MBA, PMP, FSC1
MILITARY OUTREACH USA
Voicemail: 877-734-4244
chappy@militaryoutreachusa.org

Veterans Exiting Homelessness Program (VEHP)



Beds-for-Vets Program

Our Veterans Exiting Homelessness Program includes our **Beds-for-Vets**. Since 2016, we have supplied **3,122 beds** and **$1,618,046** worth of Move-In-Essential items to veterans across our nation, thanks to the support of people like you!

Thank you to all who hold this program in prayer and to those of you who financially support this way of honoring the men and women who served us so well.

If you know of potential opportunities to fund this program and allow qualified Veterans to sleep in their own beds, please let us know. For some, these "Welcome Home" gifts are the first beds of their very own they have ever had, and it is a great way to show our nation's appreciation for their service and sacrifice.

Many companies want to reward employees (or retirees) who volunteer at non-profit organizations - by matching or giving cash to the organization! It is as simple as asking your employer. Or ask a family member and your friends if they work for an organization that rewards volunteering or matches donations. Contact **TomasaReis@militaryouteachusa.org** for more information.

Move-in-Essentials Collections

Many individuals, organizations, houses of worship, businesses and schools and neighborhoods organize collections of basic items needed to ensure Veterans transitioning out of homelessness into housing feel honored for their service and sacrifice.



Please leave a message for our coordinator Jim Dunne at 877-734-4244 if you would like more information on how you can help."



How you can reach us!

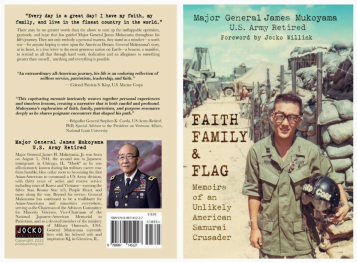
SBMH Help line - 877-734-4244

For additional information please email us at Info@militaryoutreach.org or leave us a message on our website by clicking here.

Stand by me Heroes (SBMH) Chapters



SBMH NORTHERN ILLINOIS



Faith, Family and Flag:
Memoirs of an Unlikely American Samurai Crusader

by Major General (ret) James H Mukoyama, Jr..

Military Outreach USA's founder, General Mukoyama, is well known for his strong faith, his love of family and his country. He has written an inspiring and personal recounting of his youth, his military career and his work among the Asian American community and his continuing dedication to the veterans who have given so much for our country.

The book is getting lots of publicity from podcasts including interviews by Dennis Prager and Jocko Willink. For a podcast with John St. Augustine: Listen Here

Books are available through Amazon with all net proceeds given to the General's home church and to Military Outreach USA





Illinois Rolling Thunder 2 attended several events this spring to honor our servicemen and women.



American Legion supports our fallen at Memorial Day Parade in Roselle IL.





Medal of Honor recipient Allen J Lynch provided the keynote address at the

Chappy and his wife Chris at Fort Sheridan National Cemetery in Highwood IL. Chappy gave the keynote at the Memorial Day Ceremony on the shores of Lake Michigan.

Arlington Heights annual Memorial Day Parade this year. Lynch is a board member and partner with Military Outreach USA to reduce the 22+ daily suicide rate by veterans and among first responders.



Our recent fundraiser at the Schaumburg Boomer Baseball Game was a success thanks in part to the enthusiasm of these Navy Recruits from the Great Lakes Navy Base in North Chicago who volunteered to help us promote ticket sales at the stadium.

They had a good time and so did we!



Here's our fundraising chairperson, Angela Walker, with the Mascot and a Schaumburg Boomers fan and employee.

We appreciate all the support from fans, family and friends to help us continue our work to enhance and save the lives of veterans and first responders.



Congratulations to **Support Over Stigma** and founder Zoeie Kriener for their new location in St. Charles IL. God's hand was in so many of the blessings of this move!

Click here for more information

Support Over Stigma (SoS) is dedicated to saving the lives of military service members, veterans, first responders and their families by providing essential tools and resources to overcome mental health challenges.



UPCOMING EVENTS FOR VETERANS



June 14: Happy 251st Birthday, U.S. Army



June 27, 2026 Noon - 4 PM VAC-Veterans Assistant Commission100th Birthday Party @ Antioch VFW Post 4551, Antioch IL Public Event, Prizes, Food and Drinks.

June 27 10th Annual Lake County (IL) 22 km (13.6 mile) Ruck March to raise funds and awareness for veteran suicide prevention at Nippersink Preserve in Round Lake, IL. Sponsorships are available. Visit to learn more and buy tickets



July 1 1 PM - 6 PM, Downers Grove Sportsmen's Club, Morris IL 60450 12th Annual Sporting Clays Event Shooting in the company of heroes. A fun but challenging 10-station circuit of sporting clays, Long Bird, Long Rabbit and Annie Oakley competitions plus Silent Auction. All donations received are used to directly support and impact the lives of veterans in need.



July 11 Gary Sinise Lt. Dan Band returns for another unforgettable Rockin' For Our Vets Concert at Cantigny Park, Wheaton IL!

Call West Suburban Foundation for Disabled Veterans 630-567-8988 for more information



July 22 9 AM-3 PM 250th American Celebration honoring our **women Veterans and their families**. Free hot lunch provided for women veterans and their children. This day is dedicated to support, healing, empowerment and appreciation for our women veterans.
Contact Brittany.michor@dupagecounty.gov for more information



September 16 9 AM-3 PM DuPage County Veteran Suicide Prevention Seminar Lunch included, CEU's available. Free event with powerful speakers and discussions. 4231 North County Farm Road, Wheaton IL To register and for further information: https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/dupage-county-suicide-prevention-seminar



October 3, 2026 1-5 pm at the Dole Mansion, Crystal Lake IL to remember McHenry Country's brave heroes for Gold Star Remembrance Day. Save the Date!



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October 17 11 AM-3 PM Brookfield Zoo Discovery Center celebrates veterans, service members and their families. A family friendly day designed to connect our community with valuable services while enjoying all the zoo has to offer.

Recurring Meetings for Veterans

Quarterly at Veterans Assistance Commission
Monthly/Quarterly meetings of Veterans of Foreign Wars
Monthly meetings Local American Legion Chapters
Monthly meetings Disabled American Veterans, Addison IL 6 PM
1st Friday each month - Naval Station Great Lakes Community event - Epicenter (Bldg. 525) at 4:30 pm CST.

Greater **Chicago Veterans Food Pantry at Hines VA Hospital**, building 9, auditorium. **Every Thursday f**rom 10 am to noon. Providing food for those who served. DD214 & photo required.

Animal Therapy for Veterans and their families. Last Sunday of each month 10:30 AM to Noon. SoulHarbour Ranch, Barrington IL www.soulharbourranch.com RSVP: Jodie@ 855-408-7685 or call Veteran Liaison USAF Pilot, Lt. Colonel Gina Stramaglio 316-708-9788.

Military Families - 3rd Monday of each month at 6:30 pm CT in person or via Zoom. New expanded location in Gurnee: Maria's Tribe, a support group for veterans' spouses, caregivers, partners and loved ones offers an opportunity for members to share personal experiences, feelings and coping strategies. Maria's Tribe and Bodyworks for Vets, 135 N Greenleaf St, suite 210, Gurnee. 312-818-9721

Veterans Pet Supply Pantry: 4th Thursday of every month 10AM to Noon at Hines VA Hospital, Bldg 9, 5000 5th Avenue Hines IL in conjunction with Hinsdale Humane Society. Includes cat/dog food, cat litter, cat/dog toys 630-323-5630 **Click here for more information**



SBMH Florida



Chapter director Phil Jelen is in Englewood, FL. He is a proud member of American Legion Post 113, Rotunda West, FL, and VFW Post 5151 in Streamwood IL.

Chapter Directors Rick and Gwen (Leah) McCool are in Seminole FL. Leah serves on the MOUSA Board of Directors, writes the *Worthwhile Women* articles for our quarterly newsletter.





Phil Jelen's good friend Butch entrusted his American Flag to Phil and said, "Phil, I'm giving you my flag that has never seen darkness or rain to fly for me when I'm gone."



Each year Phil hoists this flag when the weather permits and removes it before darkness the same day over Memorial Day weekend and then says a prayer for a fallen soldier, "Welcome Home Brother."



An army of volunteers place 23,000 American flags at the Sarasota National Cemetery and say a prayer, thanking each soldier by name for their service and sacrifice for our country.



The Chaplain's Corner

Chappy Ferrer - Founder, Stand-by-me Heroes, Stand-by-My-Heroes and Our Priority Family

Memorial Day is focused on those who gave their all. First we recognize, above leaders and governments, our God Star families who live this out every day. We honor and thank you for your sacrifice. Let me also take a second to educate others who say, "Have a Happy Memorial Day." Our words should be "Have a blessed Memorial Day."

Academics and others call America an experiment; this diminishes the truth of the matter. Folks from many nations fled to America because of brutal leaders

and lack of reform from governments and state religions. When you read the history of those who came to America, their focus was to live free and be free to worship God. Faith is not an experiment and its results are always favorable.

Our Judeo-Christian foundation is recorded in our nation's and states' Declarations of Independence. America has risen and become innovative, charitable, prosperous, crazy and most powerful. Despite our may mistakes, we preferred God: He blessed our efforts and therefore we have overcome. The are facts above reproach. The inexperienced and dark-hearted deny these truths.

To our heroes who gave all, to those still above ground, to those still guarding the gates of our freedom today, focus on our traditions with a cheerful and focused heart. Be thankful for our collective faith and hearts of steel. Press onward and continue, for this is integrated in our DNA.

Walking the fields of Arlington, Fort Sheridan and our national cemeteries we find symbols of white crosses and Star of David and others. Why so many different symbols? These men and women died for what America would become. They gave all defining freedom from sea to sea, the northern mountains to the American Gulf. Our faith and steel have overcome by sacrifice, love, blood, sweat and many tears. Traveling to many countries folks would speak of the hope of America and our sacrifices for freedom. We continue to be a nation sacrificing and giving to the downtrodden, demonstrating our love and hopes for their freedoms. Our military call their sacrifices a job. We remember them for their constant heroism, even against all odds.

We remember places like Ardennes Forest, Omaha Beach, Guadalcanal, Pork Chop Hill, the rice paddies of Vietnam, the oceans from Hawaii to Japan, the three canopied forests of Latin America, the deserts of the Middle East and more. Our freedom reigns continuously and our faith and steel will never fade.

The Challenge of Today comes from the past. Pvt. Martin A. Treptow left his business to fight in France with the 42nd Division, a.k.a. 'The Rainbow Division." After being killed by enemy fire, his diary was found while preparing his body to return home. On the pages of the diary he had written his pledge to America. "We must win this war. I will work, I will save, I will sacrifice, and I will endure. I will fight cheerfully and do my utmost as if the whole issue of our struggles, our freedom depend on me alone." America's foundation is faith in God and the steel to face our enemies, no matter the personal outcome. Does this faith and steel still burn within? Our battle days are over for some but who better to teach history than those who gave so we can honor our brothers and sisters who did not return alive.

Patrick Henry stated, "I know not what course others may take, but as for me, give me liberty or give me death." Does this remain true in our hearts? Those who served or are still serving have made a commitment before God and man potentially giving their all to defend our constitution and battle against any enemy, foreign or domestic. Will we yield to other doctrines or remain vigilant in the cost of our freedom? Do not allow academics or others to redefine our truths, the foundation of our America. If we do so, all those who have made the ultimate sacrifice will have done so in vain.

To the Gold Star families, from our hearts, we remain a grateful nation and will always honor your loved ones and family. We will continuously tell their stories, and so they will remain alive in our memories. This is what makes the foundation and peoples of this great nation - America the Beautiful. God bless the USA! **God Bless the U.S.A./YouTube Music**

CONTINUING EDUCATION:
Foxhole Soul Counseling



Foxhole Soul Counselors (FSC) from our SBMH Chapters attend events and engage with anyone who asks for 1:1 Soul Counseling. Not only are those who lost comrades continuing to hurt, but we must not forget their families and friends.
We hear souls crying out for someone to 'Stand-by-me.' Our Foxhole Soul Counselors are there to speak with anyone suffering from a soul pain, moral injury or PTSD. Foxhole Soul Counselors focus on faith, not religion, to restore one's whole person and to walk with them as friend, as family.

These men and women, intervening for others, are making a difference resulting in wounded men and women choosing life instead of suicide. We are grateful for those who befriend those calling out for someone to Stand-by-me!

HELP LINE (877) 734-4244.

Conversations are private, names are never released & you can use your call sign.

SUICIDE AWARENESS & PREVENTION

Are you worried a Veteran or service member in your life is considering suicide? **ASK.** Asking about possible suicidal thoughts opens communication, breaks isolation, and validates emotions, reducing stigma and providing an opportunity for immediate support. Then, **SEEK HELP.**

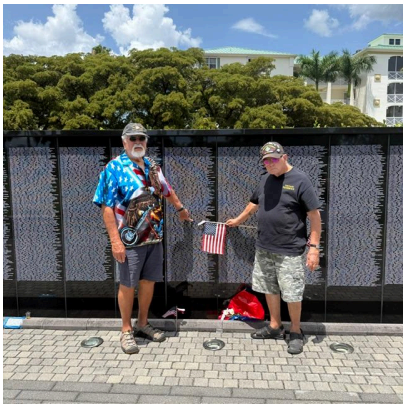
Moral Injury and PTSD Medical Studies

John P. Bair, Ph.D, Clinical Psychologist, Retired
Captain James A. Lovell Federal Health Care Center, Active WOC Researcher.
Adjunct Faculty, National Louis University.

Moral Injury Research, John P. Bair, PhD. The professional team based at the Rosalind Franklin University in North Chicago, IL continues their focused Moral Injury research in partnership with Military Outreach USA. They continue to plan education for First Responders in Ukraine.

Dr. Bair has become a reviewer for the Journal, Counseling and Psychotherapy Research in addition to his work as Lead of the Trauma Research Team at Lovell FHCC in North Chicago IL.

OUR HEROES



Honoring the patriots who have given their all for our country

Memorial Day provides annual parades and cemetery ceremonies across the country to remember and honor the men and women who gave their lives so we could continue to live in freedom.

Every year Phil Jelen and his friend Dan visit the replica of The Wall in DC at Patriots Park in Punta Gorda FL and place flags for veterans we lost in Vietnam. Dan's brother was 18 when he was KIA on March 30, 1967.

MONTHLY TOWN HALLS VIA ZOOM

4th Mondays quarterly via Zoom
at 6:30 pm central



Focus always on issues of importance to veterans
Donna Adams, Behavioral Specialist 40 years (retired) BSBA, BSN, MSPsy, BYS, FSC, Director of Education for Foxhole Soul Counselors

Let us know what you would like to discuss 877-734-4244

Need Help?

SBMH Help line - 847-734-4244

For additional information please contact us at Info@militaryoutreach.org

To receive our newsletter electronically every quarter, Click here or on the Newsletter box on our website at Military Outreach USA

To support our efforts financially, click Donate

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