

UMA SCUTTLEBUTT

April 2016

Issue #16-03



<http://ptomilitaryassociation.org>
<https://www.facebook.com/USPTOMilitaryAssociation>

UMA Mission: To provide *fellowship, mentorship, and advocacy* for military Veterans working at the USPTO, and to *help educate others* on the important contributions that Veterans have made and continue to make to the workforce and our nation at large. UMA membership is open to Veterans and non-Veterans alike.

Welcome to our new UMA Members! Kristal Dekleer, Arlene Jones, Calvin Moore, John Schneider, and Amando Carigo!

UMA Survey: Please take a minute to tell us your thoughts on the UMA. [Click here to take the 10 question survey.](#)

Coffee Break: We would like to thank you to all of the new faces that have been coming out and enjoying the coffee and donuts with a side of good old fashioned fellowship. The weekly UMA coffee breaks are across from Innovation Grounds on Tuesdays from 9-10. If you would like to share some war/sea stories, please drop by, even if only for a couple of minutes to say "Hi".

DoD Warrior Games Representative: We had a great meeting with Crystal Ariaga and Becky Wardwell from the DoD Warrior Games. Their contact information is rebecca.n.wardwell.ctr@mail.mil and Crystal.N.Arriaga.ctr@mail.mil. [Click here to learn more about the DoD Warrior Games.](#)

Wounded Warrior Letter Writing Campaign: The UMA is sponsoring a letter writing campaign for wounded, ill and injured service members who are recovering at Walter Reed and Fort Belvoir and their families. If you are interested, please stop by during our weekly Coffee Break, or contact Jill Wolf or Gair MacKenzie. We plan to deliver the letters during Military Appreciation Month in May. Please see attached flyer.

Wreaths Across America: The UMA is coordinating the 2016 WAA 25th Anniversary Planning Summit on April 26th from 4-7 pm at the Fort Myers Officers Club. We are hoping for an absolutely wonderful turnout from our UMA membership in support of the 25th Anniversary! For more information contact Troy Tyler or Catherine Ferreira.

Semper K9 Assistance Dogs. On April 12th, the owner of [Semper K9 Assistance Dogs](#), a local charity, will drop by during our weekly coffee break with one of his assistance dogs. Their mission is to enhance the quality of life for wounded, critically-ill and injured members of the U.S. Armed Forces and their families by providing them assistance dogs. If you are interested in learning more or just want to meet a new furry friend, please drop by.

PATENTS WANTS YOUR PHOTOS IN UNIFORM! The PEET initiative is looking for photos of Patents Veterans in uniform. Patents employees from all business units are encouraged to submit photos (e.g. "selfies" or group shots) in uniform. Deadline for photo submissions is Friday, May 13, 2016. Please note ONLY USPTO employees can appear in the photos. [Click here to submit your photos.](#)

Did You Know? Lewis Burwell "Chesty" Puller is the most decorated U.S. Marine in history. Chesty fought guerrillas in Haiti and Nicaragua, and fought in World War II and the Korean War. He is the only person to have received *six* of the nation's second-highest military awards for valor.



UMA Board Member Clifton B. Randolph Sr. recently participated in the St Patrick's Day Parade with his US Naval Sea Cadet Corps, Alexandria Division. Clifton is a Navy Instructor drilling volunteer.

“My Veteran Story – DNA Match!” by Anne Imrie

In 1950, my Uncle, Corporal Robert Imrie, was declared killed in action in North Korea. His remains were not found. Corporal Imrie was awarded the Silver and Bronze Star for alertness and courage in the line of duty, and the Distinguished Service Cross for his “gallant and intrepid actions ... saving his comrades from annihilation...”.

In 1992, I read about the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command and the Armed Forces DNA Identification Lab and their efforts to recover and identify missing soldiers. I volunteered to participate in the identification process by providing DNA samples from our family in the hope that one day my Uncle would be identified and returned home.



In 2000, the remains of soldiers were identified during a joint US/North Korea excavation. The anthropologist leading the recovery noted the burial grounds on a farm in Kujang held the remains of three soldiers and other non-biological material evidence consistent with the Army infantry equipment of 1950. Between 2000 and 2007, the US and North Korea negotiated the return of the remains. The research, analysis, and DNA matching process was conducted.

On July 23, 2007, my family was notified that Corporal Imrie was one of soldiers whose remains were identified and that he would be returning home. The Army proceeded to provide Corporal Imrie and our family with the full complement of support and honors befitting Corporal Imrie's sacrifice. After 57 years, he was buried with full honors in Arlington Cemetery. I relay this story so that others who are serving and/or who have lost a loved one in war will know that our Government will not stop working to bring them home, no matter how long it takes.

This article was submitted by Frank Murphy, Deputy Chief Financial Officer. His wife, Anne Imrie, wrote the article about the successful identification and return of her uncle, who had been classified as KIA during the Korean War.

UMA Calendar of Events:

- Weekly Coffee Break every Tuesday across from Innovation Grounds from 9-10. POC Dean Dominique.
- Monthly Board of Directors Meeting (second Tuesday of the month from 1200-1300). POC Dean Dominique.
- April 12 - Semper K9 Assistance Dogs will join us during the UMA Coffee Break. POC Dean Dominique.
- April 26 - UMA is coordinating the 2016 Wreaths Across America Planning Summit from 4-7 p.m. at the Fort Myers Officers Club. POC Troy Tyler or Catherine Ferreira.
- April 28 - USPTO Wellness Fair from 10:00-2:00 p.m. in Madison Auditorium.
- May is Military Appreciation Month. POC Dean Dominique.
- May 3 (Tentative) - Deliver Letters to Wounded Warriors at Walter Reed. POC Jill Wolf and Gair MacKenzie
- May 4- UMA display at PaTH Training May 4 from 12:30-2:30 p.m. POC Mark Booker.
- May 12 - USPTO Community Day. This year's theme is "Diversity Coast to Coast".
- May 16 - "Heroes," an original play in Remembrance of our Fallen Heroes from 11-12 in the Madison Auditorium.
- May 25 - Memorial Day Walk of Thankful Recognition from 11-12:00 beginning on the Madison Atrium and ending at the Alexandria National Cemetery. POC Sherry Anderson and Arlene Jones.
- May 31 - Quarterly Membership Meeting from 12-1 p.m. in the Jefferson Conf. Center. POC Dean Dominique.
- June is [PTSD Awareness Month](#). POC John Menkaure.
- June 14 - Army Birthday.
- August 4 - Coast Guard Birthday.
- September (Date TBD) - Quarterly Membership Meeting. POC Dean Dominique.
- September 16 - National POW/MIA Recognition Day.
- September 18 - Air Force Birthday.
- October 13 - Navy Birthday.
- November (Date TBD) - Quarterly Membership Meeting. POC Dean Dominique.
- November (Date TBD) - UMA Sponsored Blood Drive. POC Dean Dominique.
- November 10 - Veteran's Day Celebration. POC Dr. Olivia Wise.
- November 10 - Marine Corps Birthday.

Veteran Events:

- Veterans Upward Bound is a TRiO program at Prince George's Community College that provides short-term remedial and refresher courses for Veterans who have delayed pursuing a post-secondary education. [Click here for more details.](#)
- The U.S. Army Warrior Transition Command will be hosting the [2016 DoD Warrior Games](#) at the United States Military Academy in West Point, New York, June 15-21, 2016 and are looking for volunteers. You can check out the [Facebook page](#) for more information as it becomes available. A representative will join us during our coffee break on a date to be determined to discuss it with anyone who is interested in learning about the DOD Warrior Games. See attached flyer as well.
- Stratford University's Woodbridge Campus is hosting a free Veterans' Resource & Job Fair for Veterans, Active Duty and the Military Dependent population on Saturday, April 9 from 10am – 2pm. [Click here for more details.](#)
- Semper K9, a local charity that provides assistance dogs to Wounded Warriors, is hosting an open house on April 16th. [Click here for more information.](#)
- Gary Sinise and the Lt. Dan Band will be performing live in DC on May 21st. [Click here for more details.](#)
- 4 June, Sat: D-Day Remembrance Event, Old Town Alexandria, VA from 1400-1700. There will be music, reenactors and displays, and dancers.
- From the Front Lines to the Home Front commemorates our country's war experience with a focus on Loudoun County. Free to active duty personnel and retired Veterans. July 9-10. [Click here for more information.](#)
- 9/11 Heroes Run event in Alexandria on Saturday, Sep 10th. IHOP is expected to provide FREE pancake and bacon breakfast to all participants. And Starbucks will be back again with unlimited coffee. A very patriotic event complete with pancakes, bacon and coffee...life doesn't get much better than that!
- Loudoun Therapeutic Riding provides quality equine-assisted activities and therapies for wounded military and Veterans. [Click here to find out more about their "Equine Services for Heroes" program.](#)
- If you know of any other Veteran-related events, please send an email uma@uspto.gov and we will include it in the next update.

Volunteers needed: The UMA is looking for members to help us with the following activities:

- Community Day Committee Lead
- Wellness Fair Committee Lead
- Memorial Play. Sherry Anderson needs the following:
 - A female to play the part of Patty who is a very sensitive motherly figure who tries to diagnose the problems of others. She is very easily disturbed especially after losing her son to war.
 - 4 volunteers to help with the event. 2 volunteers to pin ribbons on the attendees as they arrive and another 2 volunteers to pour drinks into flutes.
- Communication Committee Lead
- Service Birthday Leads
- National POW/MIA Recognition Day Lead
- Satellite Office LNOs
- The UMA depends on our membership to make our great ideas come to reality, so if you're interested in leading a committee, helping out on a committee or event, volunteering or just have a great idea about something, please contact us at uma@uspto.gov .

The 2016 UMA Board members are President Dean Dominique, Vice Presidents Asghar Bilgrami and Anhtuan Nguyen, Treasurer Albert Gagliardi and Secretary Melissa Wiley. Members at large are Eric Atkisson, Aretha Grayson, Hank Macdonald, Clifton Randolph, Neal Sereboff, Keith McCray, Paul Kloberg, Mark Booker and Catherine Ferreira. Sieg Chencinski serves as a special nonvoting member. Mr. Fred Steckler is our Executive Sponsor.

UMA Volunteers:

- Webmaster - April Blair
- Facebook Admin - Greg Kuron
- Wounded Warrior Letter Writing Campaign - Jill Wolf and Gair MacKenzie
- Wreaths Across America Committee - Troy Tyler and Brian Simpkins
- Memorial Day Event Committee - Sherry Anderson and Arlene Jones
- Social Coordinator and Veteran's Day Committee Lead – Dr. Olivia Wise
- PTSD Awareness Month – John Menkaure

UMA membership is open to all USPTO employees, Veterans and non-Veterans alike. If you are not currently a dues paying member, we invite you to join us. Simply fill out the four highlighted blocks of the [Membership Form](#) and return it to us via email.

If you haven't already done so, please like our [Facebook page](#) and check out the [UMA website](#).

The Scuttlebutt may include stories, links and references not directly connected to the USPTO Military Association, but which may be of interest to our Veteran community. If you have questions or comments about anything appearing (or not) in the UMA Scuttlebutt, please contact us at uma@uspto.gov.

Military Appreciation Month: Join our letter-writing campaign!

The USPTO Military Association (UMA) is running a letter-writing campaign. Help us write and deliver 300 letters by May 1.

May is Military Appreciation Month, a time to recognize and honor those who are serving, or have served in the military.

Take a moment to show your appreciation:

- Stop by a UMA Coffee Break, Tuesdays at Innovative Grounds from 9 -10 a.m. to write a letter for a Service Member, Veteran or supportive caregiver.
- Volunteer to help hand out or deliver these handwritten notes.
- Sign up to help plan next year's event.

Letters will be delivered to:

- Wounded, ill and injured Service Members and their families at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center at Bethesda May 3 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Veterans and Service Members in our local community. Dates in May to be determined.

Interested in writing, but you can't make it to our Tuesday meetups? We'll meet you another time. Email jill.wolf@uspto.gov.

Sample topics:

- Thank you for volunteering to serve
- We appreciate your sacrifice
- Happy Military Appreciation Month
- Share a personal story
- (For family members) Thank you for supporting our nation's military members

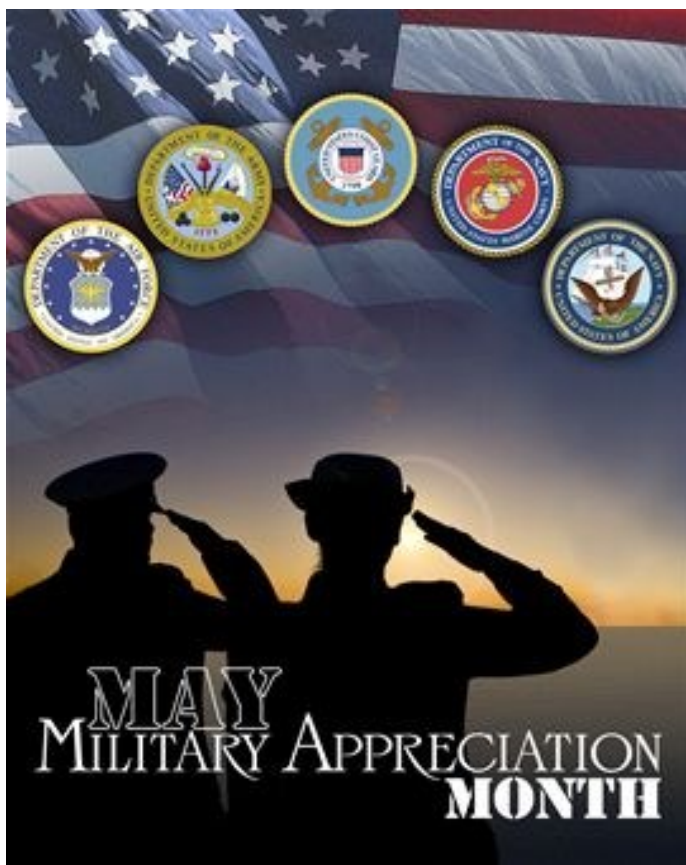


Photo: militarybenefits.info

UNITED STATES
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Looking for volunteers to support the wounded service members, veterans and their families during the 2016 Department of Defense Warrior Games.

WHERE West Point, New York

WHEN June 15th - 21st

WHAT 250 athletes representing teams from each branch of the armed forces competing in eight sporting events



-  [Facebook.com/WarriorGames](https://www.facebook.com/WarriorGames)
-  [@WarriorGames](https://twitter.com/WarriorGames)
-  DODWGvolunteers@mail.mil
-  [HTTP://WarriorGames.DODlive.mil](http://WarriorGames.DODlive.mil)



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