



U.S. PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE MILITARY ASSOCIATION

December 2018



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Email: UMA@uspto.gov

The USPTO Military Association (UMA) is a USPTO affinity group and 501(c)(3) non-profit charity whose mission is to ***provide fellowship, mentorship, and support*** 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. Membership is open to everyone and **prior military service is not required**. Contact the UMA for more information at uma@uspto.gov.

Welcome to our newest member Alexander Levy!

Chips for Charity. Please join the USPTO Military Association (UMA) as we host the 1st Annual UMA Chips For Charity Night on Saturday, December 8th beginning at 7pm in the Madison Auditorium.

We are raising money for [Serve Our Willing Warriors](#) (SOWW). SOWW is a local non-profit charity that provides no-cost retreats to wounded, ill, or injured military service members and disabled veterans.

- Cost is \$30 for players, \$20 for non-players
- Sponsor a Veteran and a guest for \$60
- Cash Bar (beer and wine)
- \$500 in “funny money”
- Black Jack, Roulette, Craps, Money Wheel
- Appetizers included
- Live DJ and dancing
- Silent auction

All proceeds benefit Serve Our Willing Warriors.

Purchase tickets at <http://ptomilitaryassociation.org/chips-for-charity>

No refunds after December 1, 2018. This event is open to the general public as well.

UMA Annual Meeting and Award Presentations. Please join us for our UMA Annual Meeting on December 12th in Remsen Conference Center from 11:00 am to 12:30 pm as we introduce the 2019 Board of Directors and hand out the 2018 UMA Annual Awards. Lunch will be provided.

Operation Wrapped in Love. Most of us will be experiencing the gift of family around us this holiday season. Many will not. Many families, especially children, will be feeling the emptiness and void of their loved this holiday season while they are away protecting our freedoms.

Wrapped in love is a small way for us to show our love and appreciation to families, especially children, experiencing the true sacrifice of what it takes to protect our freedoms ... having their loved one away during the holiday season.

We need your help. We would like to identify current USPTO families where a parent will be on active duty this holiday season. The UMA will provide the families with gifts as a small way to acknowledge the price of their service, dedication and sacrifice to our great nation.

If you know of a current USPTO parent on active duty who will be away for the holidays, please email UMA@USPTO.GOV ASAP but no later than Monday, December 12, 2017.

Wreaths Across America Day. Join us on National Wreaths Across America Day on December 15, 2018. Each December Wreaths Across America's mission to Remember, Honor and Teach is carried out by coordinating wreath-laying ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery, as well as at more than 1,400 additional locations in all 50 U.S. states, at sea and abroad.

- [Click here](#) for information about **Arlington National Cemetery**
- [Click here](#) for information about **Alexandria National Cemetery**
- [Click here](#) to find a participating cemetery near you

Calendar of Events:

- December
 - December 12 – UMA Annual Meeting
 - December 15 – Wreaths Across America Day

Tuesdays: UMA Coffee break. Join us for coffee every Tuesday from 9:30 –10 a.m. ET, in the cafeteria seating area closest to the Madison West Building.

Veterans Keepsake Project. The Veterans Keepsake Project is now online. [Click here](#) to view a web page that contains all of the images in the exhibit and the accompanying text.



The exhibit is sponsored by the UMA in partnership with the OCCO.

UMA Happy Hour. Join UMA members for a happy hour the third Wednesday of every month, from 4 – 6 p.m. ET at Foster's Grille. The UMA will provide appetizers and drinks for current members and any new members who sign up the event. For more information, [contact Michael Arguello](#).

Retiree Newsletters:

- Army Echoes. [Click here.](#)
- Navy Shift Colors. [Click here.](#)
- Air Force Afterburner. [Click here.](#)
- Marine Corps Semper Fidelis. [Click here.](#)
- Coast Guard Evening Colors. [Click here.](#)

Shop at the Exchanges online! Honorably discharged Veterans can now shop on all online exchanges. [Click here to get verified.](#)

Replacement Medals and Awards: Did you know that the military services may provide replacement medals at no cost? [Click here for more information.](#)

Cold War Recognition Certificate: If you served in the military or worked for the U.S. Government at any time during the Cold War era, Sept. 2, 1945 through Dec. 26, 1991, then you are eligible for the Cold War Recognition Certificate. [Click here for more information.](#)

DD-214s are now online. The National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) now has a [website](#) for Veterans to gain access to their DD-214s online. Alternate website is [here.](#)

VA Disability Claim Assistance. Need help filing a claim? [Click here to search for Accredited Attorneys, Claims Agents, or Veterans Service Organizations \(VSO\) Representatives.](#)

Pro Bono Resources for Veterans. The American Bar Association a great with listings for pro bono resources. [Click here for more information.](#)

State Veteran's Benefits. Everyone knows about the federal benefits available to veterans, but did you know many states also offer great benefits to their veterans? [Click here to find out about your state.](#)

Vet Tix. Vet Tix is a charity that provides tickets to all branches of currently-serving Military and Veterans. Vet Tix secures tickets to sporting events, concerts, performing arts, educational and family activities across the nation. VetTixers request tickets to events that interest them, then pay a small delivery fee to receive their free tickets. [Click here for more information.](#)

Veteran Resources: Below are some resources that are available for Veterans. This is not an exhaustive list but we hope it will help provide a resource to help you.

- Veterans Crisis Line 1-800-273-8255 – press 1
- [US Department of Veterans Affairs - Alexandria Clinic](#)
- [Employee Assistance Program](#) - It's free and confidential to help employees cope with problems that negatively affect their emotional well-being or their work performance or conduct. These problems may be marital, family, legal, or financial and may include substance abuse, emotional difficulties, health or behavioral issues, or child and elder care issues. The EAP provides assessment, counseling, referral, training and consultation to USPTO employees and their family members.
- [NAMI-Northern VA](#) - Where individuals living with a mental health condition, family members, youth and the Northern Virginia community find education, support and HOPE!
- [National Center for PTS](#) - The National Center for PTSD is dedicated to research and education on trauma and PTSD. We work to assure that the latest research findings help those exposed to trauma. Link for Veterans - <https://www.ptsd.va.gov/public/index.asp>
- [Loudoun Therapeutic Riding](#) which sponsors free horse-assisted activities and therapies for wounded military and veterans.
- [Mighty Oaks Warrior Programs](#) which assists our nations' military Warriors and families struggling with Post Traumatic Stress; Serve Our Willing Warriors which provides a "home away from home" environment for our Nations wounded, ill and injured Warriors currently residing at military hospitals in the DC area.
- [Semper K9](#) which seeks 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.
- [Make the Connection](#) – Effects of Traumatic Brain Injury
- [Top 10 Charities that Support Veterans](#) from CNBC
- [Charity Watch](#) is also a good resource. You may search "Veterans" in the search box for a listing of Veteran-related charities that could help you.

Did You Know? The USS Arizona Memorial at Pearl Harbor is built over the remains of the sunken battleship USS Arizona, the final resting place for many of the 1,177 crewmen killed on December 7, 1941 when their ship was bombed by the Japanese Naval Forces. This loss of life represents over half of the Americans killed during the worst naval disaster in American history.

Do You Know a Speaker? We are always looking for amazing guest speakers to come in and meet with us. If you know someone who may be a great speaker, let us know!



Have a story you want to share? Family members you want to note being deployed? Any special announcements to share (retirement, births, career achievements, etc.)? If you have an event, charity or community service you would like to share with other UMA members – let us know? This is YOUR Scuttlebutt. So please let us know how we may help communicate what's going on in YOUR world.

UMA memberships is open to USPTO employees, contractors and general public. Prior military service is not required. If you know someone interested in joining, please visit our [website](#) for the membership forms.

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.



**December 8th at 7pm
600 Dulaney St, Alexandria, VA
Madison Auditorium**



**\$30 Players - \$20 Non-Players
Cash Bar - Beer and Wine Only
\$500 in Funny Money**

**Black Jack - Roulette - Craps - Money Wheel - Raffle
Appetizers Included
Live DJ and Dancing**

**Silent Auction - NFL and Military Items
Proceeds benefit Serving Our Willing Warriors**

Purchase Tickets at www.PTOMilitaryAssociation.org/Chips-For-Charity

