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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.



Veterans Day. The USPTO Military Association (UMA) cordially invites you to attend our Veterans Day Tribute beginning at 10:00 a.m. on the 8th of November in Madison Auditorium (South) with keynote speaker, Retired

Army Lieutenant General David Halverson. General Halverson is currently the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Cypress International, a corporation which specializes in the business development, marketing of defense and aerospace products and services, and homeland security. His most recent military assignments included: U.S. Army Assistant Chief of Staff for Installation Management and Commanding General of the U.S. Army Installation Management Command; Deputy Commanding General, U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command, Fort Eustis, Virginia; and Commanding General of the U.S. Army Fires Center of Excellence, Fort Sill, Oklahoma.

Vote for the 2019 Board of Directors! Voting for the 2018 Board of Directors will be open from November 5-16th. Coordinate with the Secretary for absentee voting.

UMA Annual Meeting and Award Presentations. Please join us for our UMA Annual Meeting on December 11th (Time and location TBA). We will introduce the 2019 Board of Directors as well as hand out the 2018 UMA Annual Awards.

Veterans Keepsake Project. From October 29th thru November 19th, please stop by Gallery 600 to see keepsakes and stories of military service from USPTO employees and their loved ones at the Veterans Keepsake Project exhibit, located on the concourse level of the Madison building on the east side of the auditorium.



The exhibit is sponsored by the USPTO Military Association (UMA) in partnership with the Office of the Chief Communications Officer.

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.

Calendar of Events:

- November (National Military Family Month)
 - o November 8 USPTO Veterans Day Event
 - o November 10 Marine Corps Birthday
 - o November 11 Veterans Day
- December
 - o December 11 UMA Annual Meeting

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.

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.

Shop at the Exchanges online! Honorably discharged Veterans can now shop on all online exchanges. <u>Click here to get verified.</u>

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 <u>website</u> 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.

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

- <u>US Department of Veterans Affairs Alexandria</u> 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
- <u>Loudoun Therapeutic Riding</u> 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.

- <u>Semper K9</u> 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.
- <u>Make the Connection</u> Effects of Traumatic Brain Injury
- Top 10 Charities that Support Veterans from CNBC
- <u>Charity Watch</u> is also a good resource. You may search "Veterans" in the search box for a listing of Veteran-related charities that could help you.

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? <u>Click here to find out about your state.</u>

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.

Did You Know? The Veterans Day National Ceremony is held each year on November 11th at Arlington National Cemetery. The ceremony commences precisely at 11:00 a.m. with a wreath laying at the Tomb of the Unknowns and continues inside the Memorial Amphitheater with a parade of colors by veterans' organizations and remarks from dignitaries. The ceremony is intended to honor and thank all who served in the United States Armed Forces.

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 <u>website</u> 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.

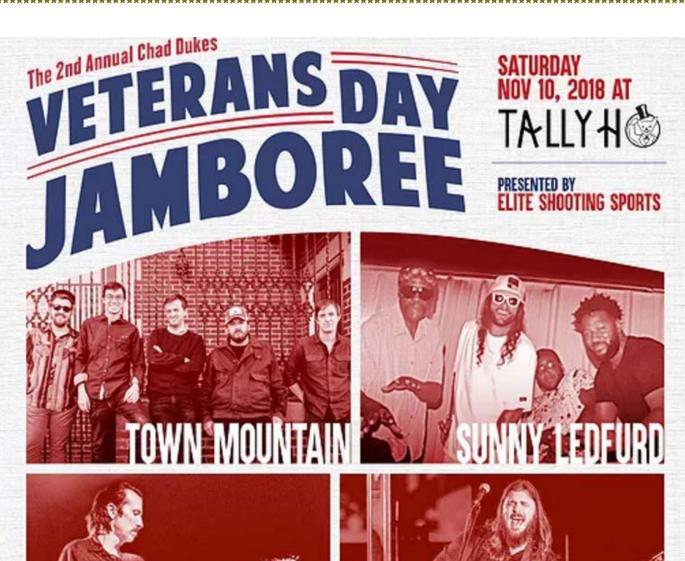


December 8th at 7pm 600 Dulaney St, Alexandria, VA Madison Auditorium

\$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

 $Purchase\ Tickets\ at\ www. PTOMilitary Association. or g/Chips-For-Charity$









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The Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers at the USPTO Alexandria campus will be hosting its annual *Noche de Ciencias* (Science Night) in the Madison Auditorium/Atrium on Wednesday, November 7, 2018 from 5:30-8:00 PM. We are partnering with the Alexandria City Public Schools (ACPS) and the USPTO Office of Outreach and Education. There will be about 20 vendors, as well, to promote STEM education and careers, including NIST, NSA, Howard University, Georgetown Chemistry Club, etc. Last year we had approximately 600 attendees who were ACPS students and their parents. Currently, we have about 400 people pre-registered for this event and expect to see a similar number of attendees this year as we had last year or slightly more (~600-700 people). Information about this event, including registration, can be found here.

Please contact Omar Casillas if you are able to volunteer. Volunteers will be needed from 4:30 PM to 9:00 PM on Wednesday, November 7, 2018, however, volunteers do not need to stay for the entire event.

