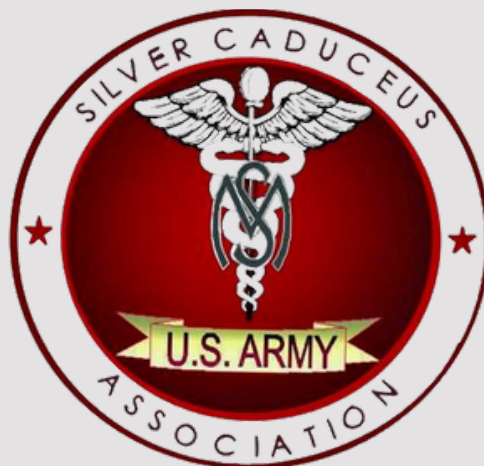




Monthly Newsletter

SILVER CADUCEUS
ASSOCIATION

♦
30 January 2026



SCA President's Remarks

As we welcome the new year, your Silver Caduceus Association Board members want to express our gratitude to an incredible team of volunteers, partners, and our Medical Service Corps community. With special thanks to Immediate Past President Kim Aiello and her distinguished board members - your dedication has set a course for the future, and we're excited to continue building, innovating, and serving in 2026.

In our first newsletter of 2026, we introduce your dedicated board members, advisors, and committee leads. All have distinguished themselves through their military and civilian careers. All are humbled and proudly serving every U.S. Army Medical Service Corps officer and warrant officer — past, present, and future.

We will balance continuation of exceptional services to our members with increasing member engagement and transparency, enhancing the value of membership, and exploring transformational initiatives.

From the front lines of healthcare to the boardroom, we envision a professional association that serves as the enduring professional home of the Medical Service Corps (MSC) and the philanthropic voice of the Army MSC community -- while supporting our Corps and honoring our Army Medical Department heritage.

The board will guide our strategic plan and ensure resources are in place to meet our objectives.

Our Vision is for the association to be universally recognized as the enduring professional home that delivers:

- Lifelong camaraderie, bridging generations of professionals
- Career-long advocacy and transition support
- Premier leader development
- Scholarships
- Charitable impact for our Community

We are deeply thankful for the trust endowed by our Silver Caduceus community, which inspires us to deliver excellence in all that we do.

Wishing everyone a safe, joyful, and prosperous New Year!

Lynn E. Herrington
President, Silver Caduceus Association

In this newsletter you can expect:

Committee
Member
Updates

Member
Spotlight &
Historian
Update

2026 Events

Scholarship
Information

Membership &
Dues Updates

Social Media
Highlights

Contact
Information



2026 Board, Advisory, & Committee



SCA Board



President Lynn
Herrington
COL, Retired
70K



President Elect
Dave Sloniker
COL, Retired, 70K
Former SES

- Future initiatives (2028 beyond)



Immediate Past
President
Kim Aiello
COL, Retired, 70H

- Board continuity



Vice President
Nelson So
COL, Retired
70H / A

- Chair, Industry Engagement Committee
- Chair, Scholarship Committee



Emeritus Advisor
James Vinci
COL, Retired,
70E

- Update and maintain Constitution & By-Laws
- SCA Continuity
- Advise board members



Director,
Reserve Affairs
Matt Paquin
LTC, 70H

- AMEDD RC Liaison
- RC outreach and engagement



Secretary
Sara Torres
COL, 70A

- Maintain official record of board & membership meetings
- Manage surveys
- Newsletter



Treasurer
Deepak Mathew
LTC, 70C

- Maintain multi-year budget forecast aligned to strategic plan
- Develop SCA funds management SOP
- Advise fundraising & investment strategies
- Revenue management plan (corporate sponsorship, philanthropy, membership)

Position in
Transition

Director,
Strategy &
Operations

- Update board operating procedures
- Work with board leadership to review Mission
- Mature the strategic plan
- Integrate & synchronize board activities
- Ensure alignment with strategic goals

Position in
Transition

Director,
Mentorship &
Outreach

- Recruitment strategy
- Professional development / career development and mentorship program with military and civilian focus
- Social media strategy
- Oversee management of communications, SCA
- social media, web site
- Newsletter



Engagements
William Gehlen
LTC, Retired, 70H

- Stakeholder engagement plan
- Recommend & forge strategic partnerships (MOAA, AUSA, SCS, DOD Skill Bridge, etc)
- Identify key events for SCA participation or sponsorship
- Identify corporate partners
- Chair, Active Duty Advisory Committee



SCA Board Advisory Group

(Membership Vote not required)



Principal Advisor
& Senior Mentor
David Rubenstein
(MG, Retired)

- Chair, Nominating Committee
- MSC Leader engagement
- Senior Board Alumni Rep
- Innovation / future focus



Chaplain
Vaughn Caudill
COL, Retired,
70C

- In Memoriam



Historian
Scott Woodard
MAJ(P), Retired,
70K

- Update the history of the association
- Document MSC Stories
- Liaison with AMEDD Historian office
- Assess partnerships with academia



Liaison to MS
Corps Chief, SCS,
and MEDCOE
Mike Story
COL, 72D)

- Assist the board in an advisory capacity with outreach, strategic planning, marketing and recruitment plans
- Ensure the SCA is aligned with MS Corps Chief

SCA Committee Positions

(Membership Vote not required)



Kenneth Canestrini
Audit
COL, Retired,
70A

- Chair, Audit Committee
- Compliance recognition program

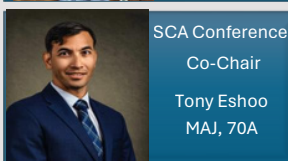


Member Relations
Committee
Nikki Davis
COL, 70K

- Maintain member list
- Member outreach
- Manage member relations



SCA Conference
Co-Chair
James Signaigo
COL Retired
70K



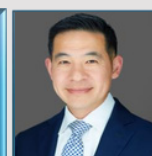
SCA Conference
Co-Chair
Tony Eshoo
MAJ, 70A

- Assume committee leadership
- Serve as the Event Promoters
- Responsible for Agenda & Events



Active Duty
Advisory
Committee
William Gehlen
LTC, Retired, 70H

- Stand up new committee
- Liaison with Active Duty members
- Advise SCA board plans & initiatives



Industry
Advisory
Committee
& Scholarship
Committee
Nelson So
COL, Retired
70H/A

- Stand up new committee
- Engage with/gain feedback from MSCs transitioned to industry
- Expand SCA network
- Build advocacy
- Evaluate future scholarship opportunities.
- Advise SCA board plans & initiatives



Dave Zimmerman
Audit
COL, Retired,
67J

- Audit Committee
- Compliance recognition program



Director of
Corporate Sales
& Resource
Development
James Signaigo
COL Retired
70K

- Responsible for corporate sales, Corporate Sponsorship Sales, Corporate donations



Member Spotlight: COL (Ret) Vaughn Caudill

We are thrilled to shine a well-deserved spotlight on our own SCA Chaplain, COL (Ret) Vaughn E. Caudill—a true exemplar of service, leadership, and unwavering commitment to our nation and community. With humble beginnings as a Kentucky boy graduating from Morehead State University, Vaughn himself humbly reflects, “Who would have ever thought this Kentucky boy would end up a Colonel and the Army’s Comptroller of the Year?” Yet, through dedication, intellect, and sheer determination, he rose to the rank of Colonel and left an indelible mark on military financial management. Entering the Army in 1975, COL Caudill forged a remarkable career blending active duty (1975–1988) and reserve component service. His final assignment before retirement was as Deputy Comptroller of the 502d Comptroller Squadron at Joint Base San Antonio, Texas, where he masterfully provided essential financial support to a sprawling installation encompassing Fort Sam Houston, Camp Bullis, Lackland, and Randolph.

Even in retirement, his service never truly ended. In 1996, as a Lieutenant Colonel, he was called back to active duty to author the groundbreaking correspondence course “Resource Management for AMEDD Officers”—a resource still in use today that has equipped countless Army Medical Department officers with vital financial skills. That same year, he earned the prestigious Distinguished Winner award from the American Society of Military Comptrollers (ASMC) in Education, Training, and Career Development. The call to duty rang again in 2003, when COL Caudill was recalled from the retired list to deploy in support of Operation Enduring Freedom as the J8 Comptroller for Joint Task Force Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. His exceptional performance earned him the title of Army’s Comptroller/Deputy Comptroller Under MAJCOM for 2004—truly the pinnacle of recognition as Army Comptroller of the Year.

COL Caudill’s accolades continue to reflect a lifetime of excellence: induction into the Morehead State University Alumni Hall of Fame in 2016, a National Leadership Award from the ASMC, the Albert Nelson Marquis Lifetime Achievement Award, and, most recently in 2021, the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants Outstanding CPA in Government Lifetime Contribution Award—a testament to his profound impact on military and governmental financial stewardship. Today, as our cherished SCA Chaplain, COL Caudill continues to inspire with his wisdom, compassion, and steadfast devotion. He embodies the very spirit of the Silver Caduceus Association: service above self, integrity in all endeavors, and a heart for community. Thank you, Colonel Caudill, for your extraordinary contributions to our Army, our nation, and our SCA family. We are honored to call you one of our own!



Historian Update

This Month in Medical Service Corps History

Heroism Above the Clouds **6 January 1968 | Vietnam War**

Major Patrick H. Brady, Medical Service Corps

The only serving Medical Service Corps officer to receive the Medal of Honor
On 6 January 1968, Major Patrick H. Brady demonstrated extraordinary heroism while commanding a UH-1H medical evacuation helicopter in the Republic of Vietnam. Volunteering for repeated rescue missions into enemy-held territory, he flew through dense fog, intense ground fire, and active minefields to evacuate wounded Soldiers.

Despite aircraft damage and the loss of multiple helicopters, Major Brady completed mission after mission—ultimately evacuating 51 seriously wounded personnel in a single day. His actions saved countless lives and stand as one of the most extraordinary examples of courage in Army Medicine history.

Why It Matters

Major Brady's Medal of Honor reflects the enduring Medical Service Corps commitment to:

- Selfless service under fire
- Innovation and skill in impossible conditions
- Putting patients first—always

His legacy continues to inspire MSC officers serving today.

Did You Know?

- Major Brady flew three different helicopters that day
- Two aircraft had already been shot down before he volunteered
- Many evacuated Soldiers would not have survived without his actions





2026 MSC Events

The Silver Caduceus Association has several exciting events coming up, offering opportunities to connect, learn, and engage with fellow members. From professional development sessions to networking and Association gatherings, we encourage all members to stay involved and participate.

Be sure to check event details, mark your calendars, and watch for additional information as dates approach. We look forward to seeing you there!



30 January 2026

Event Spotlight

MEDICAL SERVICE CORPS OFFICER LUNCHEON

Who: Members (*plus 1 guest*)

Where: The Towers on Park Lane

When: Friday, January 30, 2026. 1100-1300

- 1100-1130: Meet & Greet
- 1130-1230: Lunch
- 1230-1300: Guest Speaker- COL(R) Lynn Herrington

Cost: \$17 per person- Cash Only, Pay at the Door

Please **register** by January 28, 2026, to:
ldanielski@satx.rr.com, jjunderpar@att.net
or tmunley1@satx.rr.com



Upcoming Events

Meet the Chief Silver Caduceus Society Event

- **Who:** Past & Present MSC Officers
- **Where:** Breakaway Brewery 1518 E Grayson St. San Antonio
- **What:** Networking Event
- **When:** January 29, 2026 at 1600

2026 SCA General Membership Meeting

- **Who:** SCA Members
- **Where:** San Antonio Airport Marriot
- **When:** October 16-17, 2026

Note: This event, to include registration will be **PAPERLESS**- that's right folks, we're going strictly **digital**.
More Details to follow.



2026 SCA Academic Scholarship Program



History: One of the primary purposes of the Silver Caduceus Association (SCA) is to help enhance continuing education. The SCA Scholarship Program was established at the 2004 SCA reunion with the mission to promote that purpose among family members within its membership. COL(R) George E. Hammond Jr. chaired the scholarship committee from its' inception until 2018. The committee awarded the first scholarships at the 2006 reunion and continued to award scholarships at the biennial reunions through 2010. As a result of an extraordinarily successful donation campaign at the Colorado Springs 2010 reunion collecting over \$14,000, the SCA President, COL(R) George Waters, authorized opening the scholarship application process on an annual basis beginning January 2011. The program continues today, offering scholarship opportunities annually.



How to Apply: The SCA awards academic scholarships based on proven academic ability, exhibited leadership skill, community service, and financial need. The number of scholarships and the dollar value awarded depends on available scholarship funds. Scholarships are normally awarded in the amount of \$1,000.00.

Applications may be downloaded from
<https://www.silvercaduceusassociation.org/about/scholarships>

Application Timeline: Scholarship applications will be accepted between **February 1, 2026 and May 31, 2026.**

Questions regarding the application process may be directed to the, SCA Scholarship Committee Chairman at
[scascholarship2026@gmail.com.](mailto:scascholarship2026@gmail.com)



Eligibility

1. Applicants must be recommended by an SCA member who is in good standing with a Lifetime membership or is active and has completed at least two (2) years of membership with one or more years of active membership remaining.
2. Applicants must be related (spouse, child, grandchild, great-grandchild, sibling, child or grandchild of sibling) to the SCA member nominating them. Exceptions will be considered for those related members of former Army MSC officers who were killed in action or disabled in combat and retired from active duty for those disabling conditions.
3. A member may nominate one applicant no more than every two years.
4. Applicants may receive a maximum of two awards.
5. Applicants are not limited to high school seniors. They may be attending college at the time of application; an adult wanting to attend college for the first time or to continue their education after a break in attendance.
6. Applicants that win an SCA scholarship are required to submit an electronic photo of themselves and a paragraph or two about how they plan to use the scholarship. Their name, photo and information may be published in one or more SCA publications.



Membership & Dues Structure



The Silver Caduceus Association (SCA) exists to promote fellowship, professional development, and continued support of the United States Army Medical Service Corps community. Membership provides eligible individuals the opportunity to remain connected with fellow MSC officers and their families, support Association programs and philanthropic initiatives, and participate in SCA activities and events.

➤ For detailed membership eligibility, categories, and enrollment information, **please visit:**

<https://www.silvercaduceusassociation.org/members/renew-membership>

Effective 1 February 2026, the SCA Board of Directors unanimously approved an update to the Association's dues structure, as authorized under **Article II of the SCA**

Bylaws:


- **\$10** initiation fee
- **\$25** for a 1-year membership
- **\$45** for a 2-year membership
- **\$100** for a 5-year membership
- **\$400** for Lifetime membership
- **Free membership** for 2LTs, WO1s, and members over 80 years of age

Note: This marks only the second dues update in the Association's history, with the previous adjustment occurring in 2014.

****This will apply to all new members. Legacy members who renew before 1 March 2026 may renew at the prior rate.****



Stay Connected!

 The Silver Caduceus Association maintains an official presence on LinkedIn through the Silver Caduceus Association Group, providing members with an additional forum for professional connection and communication. The group allows members to share topics of importance to the Association, participate in discussions, post and search for job opportunities, and stay connected with fellow SCA members.

Members with a LinkedIn account may request to join by searching **“Silver Caduceus Association”** on LinkedIn, then emailing the Group Founder and Moderator, **Colonel (Ret) Jim Vinci**, at jamesvinci@icloud.com so the request can be approved. Those not currently on LinkedIn will need to create an account before requesting to join.



*The SCA LinkedIn Group currently includes **582 members**
All eligible members are strongly encouraged to join.*

Questions may be directed to Jim at 210-945-8797.



Contact Us



Newsletter:

Ashleigh Flanary
anflanary21@gmail.com



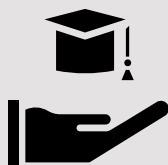
Memberships:

Nikki Davis
nikki.l.davis1@gmail.com



LinkedIn:

COL(R) Jim Vinci
jamesvinci@icloud.com
210-945-8797



Scholarships:

COL(R) Nelson So
nelson.so@gmail.com
or scascholarship2026@gmail.com

2026 Medical Service Corps Officer Luncheon:

COL(R) Jim Vinci
jamesvinci@icloud.com
210-945-8797



SCA Conference:

COL(R) Jim Signaigo
jim.signaigo@gmail.com
or
MAJ Tony Eshoo
tony_eshoo1@baylor.edu

