



News Release

**Military Officers Association of America
Southwest Virginia Chapter
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

RAIN FAILS TO DAMPEN SOUTHWEST VIRGINIA CHAPTER VOLUNTEERS AT THE 2015 VETERANS REBUILDING DAY

Despite rain and less than ideal working conditions, twelve volunteers from the Southwest Virginia Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA), the West Point Society and the Stonewall Jackson Chapter of the Association of the United States Army (AUSA) came together on Saturday 26 September 2015 to conduct repairs on the home of a Navy veteran's widow. Volunteers from the Southwest Virginia Chapter included, Colonel Thomas Dalzell, USMC (Ret), Captain Jim Karlen, USN (Ret), COL John Miller, USA (Ret) and CAPT Gary Powers, USN (Ret).

Col. Dalzell, who ran a construction company after retiring from the Marine Corps, leads the chapter's group of volunteer laborers. Even with precipitation throughout the day, the volunteers were able to remove the old wood flooring on her back porch and replace with new treated lumber. The effort also necessitated some structural repairs to the support structure as well. The remainder of the repairs, including water intrusion prevention for the basement and driveway sealing were postponed until more favorable weather conditions prevail.

Veterans Rebuilding Day is a part of a community wide effort known as Renovation Alliance which brings volunteers and communities together to improve the homes and lives of low-income homeowners by providing crit

cal home repairs for homeowners in need in the Roanoke Valley. The effort focuses on providing critical repairs to low-income homeowners in need with a special focus on homeowners over the age of 65, living with a disability, have children living in the home, and homeowners who are active or retired members of the armed services. Since operations began in 1999, Renovation Alliance has served more than 600 homeowners and their families.

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(Volunteers seek shelter from the rain while making repairs to the home of a veteran's widow)



(COL Tom Dazell, USMC (Ret) counsels CAPT Gary Powers, USN (Ret) on the fine art of hammer swinging.)- Photos courtesy of Deanna Crum, Capital Communications