



May 2021 Edition

## **New Look. New Name. Same Great Info.**

*From the desk of Mike Meese, AAFMAA President*

As you probably noticed in the banner above, AAFMAA's monthly eNewsletter has a new name: **The AAFMAA Flag**.

What's in a name? For us, it reflects the symbol of our Nation that we proudly represent in our logo, as well as all of you who are part of the military community. It embodies the spirit of communication that flows between us, remaining steady in its purpose. And it reinforces our commitment to you, our Members, to provide benefits beyond great insurance — including highly valuable information about all things military life, benefits, and personal finance.

As such, *The AAFMAA Flag* will connect you to current news and information that's important to you, as well as the events and activities going on at AAFMAA. Each month we will feature topics of interest in depth, as well as cover the "Did You Know" and "In the Community" segments you rely on. You'll also notice a new section highlighting dates of upcoming events where we plan to show the AAFMAA colors, along with other new features as *The AAFMAA Flag* evolves. And as always, we anchor these monthly updates with the [Learning Hub](#) on the AAFMAA website, where you can find the answers and solutions you need to help you achieve financial security and independence.

We hope you find this update valuable and look forward to serving you in more new and exciting ways in the future. If you have ideas for future topics you would like us to cover, please [contact our team](#).

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## **Should I Pay Extra on My Mortgage Each Month?**

## **Did You Know?**

**The red poppy is a symbol of support for America's Armed Forces.**

This symbol originated in the 1915 poem *In Flanders Field* by Canadian LTC John McCrae and appeared again in the 1918 poem *We Shall Keep the Faith*, written by American Professor Moina Michael.

The red poppy was officially named the flower of the American Legion in 1920. Poppies are still worn on Memorial Day as a symbol of remembrance and hope for a peaceful future.

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### **2021 AAFMAA Proxy Ballot voting is open.**

As an AAFMAA Member, we request your vote in the election of our Board of Directors and on proposed updates to the AAFMAA Constitution.

You can vote online at [www.AAFMAA.com/vote](http://www.AAFMAA.com/vote) or by mail if you requested a paper ballot.

Voting ends on June 4, 2021, so please [vote today](#).

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### **AAFMAA Mortgage Services LLC (AMS) is now licensed in the state of Texas.**

In addition to our new state license, AMS has opened a branch office in Dallas/Addison, TX to better serve local AAFMAA Members.



A lot of Members ask AAFMAA Mortgage Services LLC (AMS) what (if any) benefits they would reap by paying a little more toward their mortgage each month to reduce their principal loan balance. The simple answer is that it really depends on your individual situation and how that's likely to change in the coming years.

See the [pros and cons](#) in the Learning Hub.

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## Who Is Who?



*Above: AMS Chandler, AZ Branch Team*

Sometimes, people wonder about our “secret sauce” at AMS. They want to know how we work together and with them throughout their mortgage loan process. When we tell them the way we operate together, it may seem a bit obvious, but either way, it's certainly working and we're proud to say it's giving us a leg up on our competition.

See [who's on your AMS Mortgage Team](#) in the Learning Hub.

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## AAFMAA in the Community

[Meet our Texas Branch](#) team or give them a call at **972-707-1149** to discuss your mortgage options.

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### A financial plan can help ease your military transition.

Returning to civilian life after military service is a big decision that can impact nearly [every aspect of your finances](#).

[AAFMAA Wealth Management & Trust](#) can help you feel more confident as you enter a new phase with a financial plan designed to help you grow your wealth, enjoy your retirement, and protect your legacy.

Ready to get started? Call us at **910-390-1425** or visit [www.aafmaa.com/wealth](http://www.aafmaa.com/wealth) today.



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### In May, we celebrate Military Spouse Appreciation Day.

Each year in May, AAFMAA is honored to spend a day devoted to recognizing the contributions of military spouses. This year, on May 7, we highlighted nine of our AAFMAA and SpouseLink team members — who are also military spouses — on our [blog!](#)

Find out what makes them feel appreciated in their roles and what they have planned to celebrate themselves during the month.



TEAM RWB  
**MARCHING ORDERS**  
NATIONAL EVENT

**READY  
SET  
GO!**



**AAFMAA**  
COMPASSION • TRUST • PROTECTION



## Current Activities & Events

**April 30:** AMS proudly sponsored the [Association of Bragg Spouses](#) Spring Fling Golf Event to aid in their fundraising for scholarships and welfare grants.

**May 8-15:** Team AAFMAA took on the [Team RWB Marching Orders](#) virtual activity challenge to raise awareness and funds for Team RWB's health and wellness community for Veterans.

**May 18:** The latest episode of our military spouse podcast series, *At Home with SpouseLink*, premiered: "[Military Moves: So You've Received Orders. Now What?](#)"

**June 8:** The 142nd AAFMAA Annual Meeting will be held at 12:00 p.m. ET in Arlington, VA. RSVP to join the meeting in person or via our [Zoom livestream](#).

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