

Good morning, my name is Lee Norton, and today I have the distinct pleasure of introducing a veteran and community leader, Woody Woodside.

Woody is a native North Carolinian, hailing from the small town named Clinton. After Graduating high school from Fishburne Military Academy in Waynesboro, Virginia, Woody followed in his father's footsteps and attended the Citadel graduating in 1970.

Following a few years on Active duty Woody took a congressional staffer position with Congressman Bo Ginn and continued with Congressman Ginn's successor Congressman Lindsay Thomas.

After more than a dozen years of Congressional staff experience, Woody began his 30-plus-year tenure at the helm of the Brunswick Golden Isles Chamber of Commerce. Through his leadership, he has overseen an expansion of and now leads one of the largest chambers of commerce in the region boasting over 1,200 members.

Woody retired from the Army National Guard in 1996 with 26 years of combined service on Active duty and in the Georgia National Guard.

On top of serving as President of the Chamber, he serves on numerous boards including the Glynn-Brunswick Hospital Committee and Glynn County Transportation Policy Committee. Some of his notable awards include: Georgia Trend Notable Georgians 2008-16: National Guard Association Liberty Bell Award; and the Emory Dawson Humanitarian Award.

Only one percent of our nation serves in our Armed Forces and everyday it seems like we as a nation are facing an unprecedented challenge to our Democracy and our way of life. It makes me feel safe and secure that men that like Woody and the other members of that valiant one percent stand guard at the gates of freedom ready to defend our vast and wonderful home from people who wish to do us harm. Please welcome Woody Woodside.