HALIFAX AREA CHAPTER OFFICERS CALL
FEB 2024

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~MISSION STATEMENT~

- *Halifax Area Chapter is an affiliate of the Military Officers Association of America.*
- *Our mission is to maintain a strong national defense and preserve the earned benefits of the uniformed services and their families.*

President's Message

Andrew (Drew) Hoffman, Capt., USAF (Ret).

I don't know about you, but I find it hard to accept we are already into the second month of 2024. January was an important month for our chapter as key leadership joined other chapter leaders from throughout Florida at the annual Florida Council of Chapters (FCOC) Leadership Seminar in Orlando for three days of training, knowledge-sharing, and comradery.

We also were approached by the VA Clinic management to contribute to the "Wall of Heroes" with a plaque of our organization (an artist rendering can be found at the end of this message). As I outlined at the January luncheon, several military veteran organizations were approached for this project by the VA Clinic This will forever memorialize our commitment to the VA Clinic and provide lasting recognition of our efforts. The cost was only $1,300 (estimated) of which $500 was raised before the luncheon. Final donation totals were not available prior to this OC going to print. If you weren't at the luncheon and want to contribute to the cost of the plaque, please send a check made out to Halifax Area Chapter of MOAA with a "VA Clinic Plaque" in the "note" section to our treasurer - Lon Gardner. Any monies donated beyond the amount needed for the plaque will be added to our Veterans account.

Finally, we have entered a new "membership year" (the year goes from January through December) meaning your annual dues may need refreshing. At last count there were nearly 70 members whose dues are now delinquent. Please help us clear this item from the books. If you are unsure of your status contact Lon Gardner and he will help you understand your options.

NEVER STOP SERVING! *Drew*

	Chapter	Officers	
President	**Drew Hoffman, Capt. USAF (Ret)**	**386-562-3325**	drewhoffman49@gmail.com
1st Vice President	**Don Needham, LCDR, USN, (Ret)**	**386-383-8423**	fitron84@gmail.com
2nd Vice President	**Casey Lancaster, LT, USN (Ret)**	**386-956-5218**	StephenCason.Lancaster@gmail.com
Treasurer	**Lonnie R. Gardner, LTC, USA, (Ret)**	**386-672-4578**	lrgardner@att.net
Secretary	**Tina Dixon-Bartlett, LTC USA no no(Ret)**	**352-476-8032**	joyfultina@aol.com

Secretary's Report – December Board of Directors' Meeting

Secretary's Report – January 2, 2024 - Board of Directors' Meeting

The January 2024 Board of Director's Meeting for the Halifax Chapter of MOAA met on January 2, 2024, at the Halifax Yacht Club, in Daytona Beach, FL. The meeting was called to order by Andrew Hoffman at 10 a.m.

The following board members (showed with an asterisk) and guests were present: Andrew Hoffman*, Bancroft McKittrick*, Tina Dixon-Bartlett*, Lon Gardener*, Don Needham*, Skip Keating*, Steve Maas*, Patti Higgins*, and Steve Becker.

Quorum requirements met.

Old Business

The following items were discussed:

1. **The minutes of the December 2023, Board of Directors meeting** - were distributed by email during December. Acceptance of these was nominated, seconded, and approved via email.
2. **Treasurer's Report** - Lon Gardener summarized the report and said that the current checking balance is $4514.41. There is $150 in petty cash, making a total balance of $4664.41. Lon stated that there were seventy-two attendees at the gala. Lon also mentioned that Kevin Tobias, the Gala DJ, has been receiving the same compensation, $350, for 6 years. Kevin's usual compensation is $150 per hour. Carl and Billie Krueger have been personally adding a gratuity of $50 to each check. Lon suggested that we consider increasing Kevin's compensation. After much discussion, it was recommended that this item be tabled until we have a Gala chairperson and committee, and they could provide us with a recommendation. Don Needham made a motion to accept, Bancroft McKittrick seconded, and all approved.
3. **Membership** – Steve Becker stated there were no new members added in December. At the end of 2023, we had a total of 127 members. Drew Hoffman mentioned that each chapter is asked to self-report the total number of members and sent FCOC $0.75 per member.
4. **Officer Call** – The January Officer's Call has been emailed and is packed with valuable information.
5. **Surviving Spouse Update** – Patti Higgins mentioned that a couple of surviving spouses attended the gala. She also stated that she read an article which discussed support for recurring benefits for surviving spouses.
6. **Bagels and Bingo** – Skip Keating stated that they met yesterday and there were six volunteers and eighteen veterans present. This activity takes place at Emory Bennett Veterans Nursing Home in Daytona Beach at 10 am on the first Monday of each month.
7. **VCVC Update** – Skip Keating stated that we had five members attend the "Wreath Across America" activity at Lohman's cemetery. It was suggested that we participate again this year. He also mentioned that the WWII exhibit at the Museum of Arts and Sciences (MOAS), 352 S. Nova Rd, Daytona Beach is here through January 21, 2024. It is free to veterans.
8. **VA Coffee and Donuts** – Patti Higgins stated they did not provide coffee and donuts in December because there was another event scheduled at their usual time. They will be at the facility this Thursday.
9. **FCOC Leadership Development Training** – Drew Hoffman mentioned that the leadership seminar will be held January 24-26, 2024, in Orlando. He states that the seminar would be beneficial for all members. So far, Drew Hoffman, Bancroft McKittrick, Patti and John Higgins, and Pierre Louis are planning to attend. The FCOC annual convention will be in May at Daytona Beach Shores Resort.
10. **HRYC Pricing and 2nd Half 2024 Menu –** The price for the monthly MOAA luncheon has increased to $27 per meal. The menus for 2024 are planned through May. The menus for September through December will be selected later this year.

New Business

11. **Outstanding Dues** – There are sixty-three members with a renewal date of 12/31/23. It was suggested that an email be sent to those members. Bancroft McKittrick and Steve Becker stated that they would make calls to those members who still have not paid after receiving the email.
12. **Holiday Gala Chair** – There has been no one that has volunteered to be the chairperson for the gala. Billie Krueger has been the chair for the last few years. Bancroft stated that he would ask her about doing so again this year.

From The Floor

13. **January Luncheon Speaker –** Dr Paul Johnson will be the speaker for the January luncheon. He will be speaking on Hyperbaric Therapy. He is currently a Flight Surgeon and State Surgeon for the Montana Army National Guard. Dr. Johnson is passionate about veteran's health, especially TBI/PTSD.
14. **Leadership Books and MOAA Coins**– Drew Hoffman stated that Kim Ramos has ordered more books, and we have plenty for the year. Lon Gardner stated that we have plenty of coins. The monthly speaker receives a gold coin, and the cadets are given ceramic coins.
15. **Outstanding Support Award Committee** – Bancroft McKittrick mentioned that the committee is canvassing for groups to present an award for their support of veterans. The committee consists of Ben Taylor, Skip Keating, and Bancroft McKittrick.
16. **Monthly Speakers** – Don Needham will be looking for speakers for our upcoming meetings and Skip Keating asked him to consider Embry-Riddle professors. Don will meet with Billie for more information on the process of attaining speakers.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:43 a.m. Our next meeting is on February 6, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,
Tina Dixon-Bartlett
Secretary, Halifax Chapter of MOAA

VyStar Credit Union

2023-2024 Outstanding Support to Veterans for Profit Award Winner

ORMOND "SUPPORTING OUR SOLDIERS" "IN HONOR OF OUR VETERANS" STRONG.

2023-2024 Outstanding Support to Veterans Nonprofit Award Winner

Krispy Kreme DOUGHNUTS
980 International Speedway Blvd.,
Daytona Beach, FL

Halifax Area
2024 Chapter Planning Board

BOD Date	*Luncheon Date*	*Speaker and/or Event*	*Supporting Elements /P.O.C.'s*
January 2, 2024	Thursday, January 25, 2024	**Dr. Paul Johnson – Guest Speaker** **Price: $27** **Location: Halifax River Yacht Club**	- FCOC Leadership Forum - Initiate the write-up of Level of Chapter Excellence - Complete - Start Ordering Gold Bars – In progress - Submit Marvin Harris Communication Award – Due February 1, 2023 - COMPLETE
February 6, 2024	Thursday, February 22, 2024	- Volusia County Sheriff Michael J. Chitwood **Price: $27** **Location: Halifax River Yacht Club**	- Submit to USAA for Council Sponsorship application for ROTC Dinner in April to MOAA - Submit Mercer Ad
March 5, 2024	Thursday, March 28, 2024	**– Guest Speaker** **Price: $27** **Location: Halifax River Yacht Club**	- Sign Entertainment Contract for Gala
April 2, 2024	Thursday, April 25, 2024	**ROTC Scholarship Dinner** **Price: TBD** **Location: Halifax River Yacht Club**	Cadet Introductions and Recognition Obtain 2nd half of 2024 Menus from HRYC
May 7, 2024	Thursday, May 23, 2024	**Presentation of the Outstanding Support to Veterans Award** **Price: TBD** **Location: Halifax River Yacht Club**	- Level, of Excellence Submission - May 1st - FCOC FL State Conference, Daytona Beach, FL
	****	******Chapter on Summer Break******	July 4thParade
September 3, 2024	Thursday, September 26, 2024	**– Guest Speaker** **Price: TBD** **Location: Halifax River Yacht Club**	- Agree on Nominating Committee (45 days out) - Obtain 2024 – 2025 Lunch Menu - Obtain Holiday Menu
October 1, 2024	Thursday, October 24, 2024	**Surviving Spouse Appreciation Program** **– Guest Speaker** **Price: TBD** **Location: Halifax River Yacht Club**	- Begin Toys for Tots Campaign. Include in Officers Call and at BOD Meeting - Announce the Holiday Gala
November 5, 2024	Thursday, November 21, 2024 **Date moved due to Thanksgiving Holiday**	**– Guest Speaker** **Price: TBD** **Location: Halifax River Yacht Club**	- Advertise the "Holiday Gala" Membership Month
December 3, 2024	Thursday December 19, 2024 **Date moved due to Christmas Holiday**	**"Holiday Gala Dinner Dance"** **Music and Entertainment** **Price: TBD** **Location: Halifax River Yacht Club**	- ERAU Fall Commissioning to Ensigns and 2ndLts - "Holiday Gala"

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Halifax Area 2024 Action Plan

	Chapter Goals and Objectives	Sponsor/Update/Follow-up
	LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS	
1	Expand the Guest Speaker Program to include the following areas: military, community, business and health and wellness	January: Col. Paul Johnson, MD – Hyperbaric Medicine; February: Volusia County Sheriff Mike Chitwood
2	Publish a local veteran related article in local newspaper on MOAA legislative efforts	Pierre Louis, David Wheel
	RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION	
3	The goal is for 25% of the membership to attend a luncheon/dinner.	Everyone Jan=51, Feb=, Mar=, Apr=, May=, Sep= , Oct=, Nov= , Dec=
4	Net gain of 15 members for 2024up no	Everyone xx new members as of 1-01-2024
5	Identify and develop potential leaders from the Chapter membership to serve on the Board of Directors (BOD).	Bancroft McKittrick and committee
6	Feature New Members Highlights, in the Officer Call (OC)	Pierre Louis/David Wheel
	PERSONAL AFFAIRS	
7	Surviving Spouse Program, Surviving Spouse Team/Spousal Affairs Officer	Patti Higgins
8	Maintain joint events with other local MOAA Chapters	Chapter Members; Transfers; Special Events
	BASE COMMUNITY	
9	Present an annual “Outstanding Support for Veterans Award” to a local business or organization	Bancroft McKittrick/Skip Keating/Ben Taylor
10	Continue Spring and Fall Scholarships for Army/Navy/Air Force cadets/midshipmen, and one high school scholarship in the Spring.	Kim Ramos
11	Enhance the ROTC Dinner Event to recognize the cadets and encourage support for the Scholarship Program	Drew Hoffman
12	Bagels and Bingo at Emory Bennet Nursing Home	Skip Keating
13	Coffee and Donuts at VA Clinic	John Higgins
14	Provide Gold Bars to all newly commissioned O-1s	Drew Hoffman/Kim Ramos
15	Host an annual “Holiday Gala”; Invite Guest Chapters	tbd
16	Continue to offer Cyber Security 101 workshops to community organizations, as requested	Kim Ramos, Pierre Louis, Mary McLendon, Bancroft McKittrick
	OTHER	
17	Standardize electronic media for ease of communications within the Chapter	Pierre Louis/David Wheel
18	Goal is to generate three (3) additional OC paid advertisements	Everyone/Pierre Louis

Legislative Affairs/National MOAA Advocacy in Action

This month, I wanted to take the time to remind members to visit www.moaa.org and spend some time getting to know the Legislative Action Center again. This section was mentioned quite a few times at our recent FCOC Leadership Training in Orlando. The Legislative Action Center is a section on the national website that gives members the tools they need to effectively advocate for policy. This center is the most important part of our work to change policies that affect the benefits that veterans, current duty military (including the National Guard and Reserve), former officers, and their families have earned. Some of the most important things about the Legislative Action Center are:

1. The center keeps members up to date on important legislative problems that affect them. Members can get a better sense of the issues at stake by reading analyses of current bills, policy ideas, and government actions.
2. Members are notified quickly when important changes happen in the law. There are often calls to action in these alerts, telling members to talk to their chosen officials about important issues right away.
3. The platform has a number of tools that can help with lobbying. This includes notes and emails that have already been written and can be sent directly to lawmakers, as well as advice on how to talk to policymakers effectively and set up and run meetings with elected officials.
4. Members can see how MOAA's most important advocacy efforts are going. The center gives people up-to-date information on how new laws are doing in Congress, such as vote counts, bill amendments, and referrals to committees.
5. Members can make their advocacy efforts more specific by using the available tools. Members can find out how to get in touch with their individual congressional representatives, personalize their messages, and share personal stories or insights that show why the legislation being considered is important.
6. The Legislative Action Center of MOAA is also an educational resource. It has articles, webinars, and other materials that help members stay up to date on policy problems and advocacy strategies that affect the military.
7. The center invites members to work together and build communities. Members can have a bigger effect on policy decisions when we work together in a collective team for advocacy activities.

The Quorum area is the most important part of the LAC. This area shows a more advanced and data-driven part. It is a legislative tracking program that gives you actions taken and next level information so, we can keep an eye on and change the way policies are made. When it's added to the Legislative Action Center, it makes it much easier for us lobby in a number of ways:

1. Members can keep an eye on military-related bills at some stages of the legislative process. This means keeping an eye on things like new bills, changes to existing bills, committee orders, and votes on the floor. This is done by following the source links that are listed on the site.
2. The platform has strong analytics tools that look at data from the legislature. This can include things like sponsorship and co-sponsorship, and how likely it is that a bill will be passed.
3. The section, if used properly, can showcase the most important people in the legislative process, like committee members, and other groups whose goals are similar to yours.

4. National MOAA can get its members to move quickly by telling them about important legislative moments. For example, they can be told to call their representatives or join advocacy campaigns.
5. MOAA can use Quorum to make unique reports about changes in the law, the results of their lobbying efforts, and how involved their members are. This information is very important for figuring out how well their strategies are working and making choices based on facts.
6. Quorum makes it easier to talk to lawmakers in a focused way. If members wants to, they can use the platform to write and send lawmakers and their staff personalized messages, position papers, or testimonies about certain legislative problems.
7. The section can be used to teach members how laws are made, how to talk to lawmakers in a good way, and the details of current laws that affect the military.

Look for my "How to" video appearing on the FCOC website soon.

Pierre Louis, Legislative Chair

Source: www.moaa.org, OpenAI. (2024), ChatGPT (4.0 version)

"The Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) is the country's leading organization protecting the rights of uniformed service members and their families. MOAA's constituents proudly hail from every branch of the uniformed services. To them, we have made the same promise that they have made to their country: Never Stop Serving. MOAA's greatest mission is to improve the lives of those who serve and their families, which is achieved largely through the tireless advocacy efforts taking place in our nation's capital. For more than 90 years, MOAA has supported legislation that benefits the uniformed services community and has remained equally vigilant when fighting to stop legislation that threatens our livelihood. The larger our numbers, the greater our voice."

Please click on the following link to

TAKE ACTION

Let's take a moment to recognize our shipmates who passed in 2023. May their service and sacrifice not be forgotten.

Enid White
3 June 1932 – 4 May 2023

Enid Mary White, age 90, of Ormond Beach passed away on Thursday, 4 May 2023. Enid was predeceased by her husband, Chief Warrant Officer (CW4) Charles R. White, USAR Retired. A gathering of family & friends for Enid was held Saturday, 20 May 2023 at Volusia Memorial Funeral Home, in Ormond Beach.

Richard James Dixon-Bartlett
4 August 1945 – 2 November 2023

Husband of LTC Tina Dixon-Bartlett, US Army Retired. Richard James Dixon-Bartlett passed away on 2 November 2023. He was 78 years old and was born on 4 August 1945, in Buffalo, NY. Richard graduated from Corning/Painted Post High School and went on to attend Corning Community College for 2 years. Upon leaving college, he went to Rittners Floral Design School and became a Floral Designer.

In 1964, Richard was drafted into the US Marine Corps, and he served in Vietnam as a Combat Engineer. Returning from Vietnam, he joined the Army Reserves and served for 4 years.

Richard spent over 40 years working as a Floral & Interior Designer, managing shops in 8 states. He designed floral pieces for weddings, funerals, large hotels, party boats, etc. For over 15 years, he participated in designing floral designs for Los Angeles Home and Garden Shows, and he created floral designs for the Rose Bowls Parade floats.

Richard loved to be in nature and near the ocean. He was extremely creative and crafty; his home always looked like a showplace. He enjoyed making friends wherever he went. He is survived by his wife of 35 years, Tina Dixon-Bartlett, 3 sisters, and his brother. A military honors & interment event was held at the Cape Canaveral National Cemetery, Mims FL on 18 January 2024.

Plus, let's remember the sacrifice of 3 US soldiers killed 28 January in Jordan, and more than 40 other service members who were injured in a drone attack at a military base near the Syrian border. Those service members were in Jordan to support Operation INHERENT RESOLVE, the US & coalition mission to ensure the defeat of ISIS.

The three soldiers killed are SGT William Jerome Rivers of Carrollton GA; SPC Kennedy Ladon Sanders of Waycross GA; and SPC Breonna Alexsondria Moffett of Savannah GA. All three were assigned to the 718th Engineer Company, 926th Engineer Battalion, 926th Engineer Brigade, Fort Moore GA.

Speaker: Sheriff Michael Chitwood
Topic Law Enforcement

This month we present a familiar name to our chapter, Volusia County Sheriff Mike Chitwood!
He was elected in 2016 and reelected in 2020. Sheriff Chitwood has a B.S. in Organizational Management and an M.A. in Criminal Justice. He is a graduate of the FBI Academy in Quantico, VA.

He is a member of the International Police Chiefs, an adjunct professor at UCF, and has received 58 commendations for valor, heroism, and Bravery.

Please join us for an exciting program!

- Sheriff Chitwood, a police chief starting 2005
- Graduate of the Police Academy
- Graduate of 204th session, FBI
- On the Board of Police Executive Research
- Adjunct professor, UCF
- 58 commendations for Valor, bravery, heroism & Merit
- Attended Northwestern University School of Police Staff and Command

Date: FEB 22, 2024

Social Hour starts at 1100
Lunch served at 1130

Location: Halifax River Yacht Club
331 S. Beach St. Daytona Beach, FL

Please indicate choice(s) and number of the following entrees
Reservations are due by 1800 FEB 16, 2024

Name_____

FOLLOW LINK FOR
ONLINE RESERVATION
or
Make checks payable to
HALIFAX AREA CHAPTER OF MOAA
P.O. BOX 2093
DAYTONA BEACH, FL 32115-2093

EMAIL:
lrgardner@att.net
Or call 775-721-0967

1.Classic Chicken Caesar Grilled chicken breast on romaine hearts w/herb croutons & Parmesan cheese tossed w/Caesar dressing	#_____
2. Asian Meatloaf Fresh ground beef missed w/onions, carrots, ginger, hoisin soy & sesame oil. Served w/Jasmine rice, finished w/Asian BBQ	#_____
3. Spring Vegetables w/Israeli Couscous (V) Mushrooms, asparagus, spinach & tomatoes tossed w/couscous & fresh basil. Finished w/ housemade Pomodoro sauce	
Total Food:$27	$_____
Scholarship Donation	$_____
Veterans Outreach Donation	$_____
Membership Fund Donation	$_____
Total	$_____

Membership Application

Date: _____

Halifax Area Chapter of MOAA
Membership Application

NAME: _____

(First, Middle Initial, Last, Suffix if applicable)

DATE OF BIRTH: _____

(MM/DD/YYYY)

RANK: _____ BRANCH OF SERVICE:_____

STATUS: _____

Active, Reserve, Retired,
Former Officer, Auxiliary,
Surviving spouse of eligible officer
Show deceased's rank/service

STREET ADDRESS_____

CITY, STATE, ZIP:_____

SPOUSES NAME:_____

PHONE (indicate (H)ome or (C)ell):_____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

I ☐ AM ☐ AM NOT a member of National MOAA. My Membership No. is _____
(Shown on line 2 of the "Military Officer" magazine mailing label or visit MOAA website at http://www.moaa.org/)

Not a member of the National MOAA? Become part of our nationwide "One Powerful Voice" organization. Join now at http://www.moaa.org/Content/Join-moaa/Why-join-moaa.aspx

I am applying for ☐ CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP

(Select electronically and indicate the number of years of dues you wish to pay (1-3)).

Chapter Dues for membership with "Officers Call" is $20 for one year, $33 for 2 years, or $44 for 3 years.
SIGNATURE: _____

Mail application with a CHECK payable to "***HALIFAX AREA CHAPTER OF MOAA***" to:

HALIFAX AREA CHAPTER OF MOAA, P.O. BOX 2093, DAYTONA BEACH, FL. 32115-2093

Application can also be completed on our website at: http://www.moaafl.org/Chapters/Halifax/JoinUs.aspx

WE APPRECIATE THE FOLLOWING OFFICERS FOR THEIR VOLUNTEERISM

Contact information listed below

Membership Chair Lt Col Jon Bateman USA (Ret) 309-678-5359	***Immediate Past President*** **Bancroft McKittrick, Col., USMC, (Ret)** 603-548-6558	***Personal Affairs/Benefits*** CAPT Mary McLendon, USN (Ret.) 386-847-3239
Chaplain Maj Calvin Gittner, USAF (Ret.) 386-451-1008 ***Transition Liaison**** *TBA**	***"Officer Call" Publisher/Webmaster*** CWO2 Pierre Louis, USMC (Ret.) 386-320-3283 ***Awards Committee Chair*** Lt Col Glenn Harmon, USAF (Ret) 386 682-3064	***Surviving Spouse Team*** Patti Higgins, Surviving Spouse Liaison Spousal Affairs Officer, 802-272-5509 Billie Krueger, Lt., USN (Ret.)-Chair Maj Calvin Gittner, USAF (Ret.) Joan Jankauskas, Surviving Spouse
Directors RADM Steven Maas, USN (Ret.) 386-847-1356 COL Skip Keating, USA (Ret.) 386-672-4536 Col Kim Ramos, USAF (Ret.) 228-447-7802	***Legislative Liaison*** CWO2 Pierre Louis, USMC (Ret.) 386-320-3283 **Veterans Council Representative** COL Skip Keating, USA (Ret.) 386-672-4536	***ROTC Liaison*** CDR John Higgins, USN (Ret) 914-589-9036 COL Skip Keating, USA (Ret.) 386-672-4536 Col Kim Ramos, USAF (Ret.) 228-447-7802

Donations

Scholarships

Steve Becker	Tina Dixon-Bartlett	John and Patti Higgins	Joseph Favaloro
Mary McLendon	Edward Kufeldt	Robert Martin	Bancroft McKittrick
Bill Waters	Keller		

Vet Outreach

Tina Dixon-Barlett	John and Patti Higgins	Robert Martin
Bancroft McKittrick		keller

Membership

Tina Dixon-Bartlett	John and Patti Higgins	

Officers Call is published by the Halifax Area Chapter of MOAA, which is an affiliate of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA). MOAA and its affiliated chapters and councils are non-partisan. The advertisements that appear in this publication do not reflect an endorsement by MOAA or this affiliate.

Salute

*To our membership; we have created our new **Salute Section** to better serve you with recent **Veterans' interest stories, Veterans' Outreach,** and many other events happening in our area. If you are aware of a Veteran event/story you feel should be highlighted to the membership, please submit information to halifaxareamoaa@gmail.com*

All submissions will be reviewed by the President/1st VP before submission and must be submitted by the 15th of the month preceding the event

Article should be no more than 230 words in length and all photos should be in .jpg, .bmp or .jpeg format.

~LOOKING AHEAD/HELPFUL LINKS~

MAR 2024

Chapter Board of Directors Meeting
First Tuesday of each month
Halifax River Yacht Club
Starts at 1000

Coffee & Doughnuts
First Thursday of each month
William V. Chappell, Jr. Veterans' Outpatient Clinic
Starts at 0830

Bagels & Bingo
First Monday of each month
Emory Bennett VA Nursing Home
Starts at 1000

National MOAA Website

Florida Council of Chapters Website

Halifax MOAA Website

FOLLOW US ON YOUTUBE

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK

Significant Military Dates in February

February 3, 2023 - Four Chaplains Day
A day set aside to honor the four U.S. Army chaplains who gave their lives to save others when the troop ship USAT Dorchester sank during World War II. Learn more...

February 19, 2023 - Coast Guard Reserve Birthday

February 20, 2023 - President's Day
A day originally set aside to honor George Washington. Now, other presidents are also honored on this day. Learn more…

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK

Email us at ericssuperwash@gmail.com

Our chapter is seeking partners by advertising in our Officers Call!

Our chapter is composed of active, retired, and former officers, their spouses, and auxiliary members. The OFFICERS CALL and our website are the primary means to reach the 350,000 members of the non-partisan national Military Officers Association of America (MOAA). In addition, this communication is used to direct value-added content to other MOAA Chapters and military professionals throughout Volusia County and the state of Florida.

ADVERTISEMENT ORDER FORM

Name	*Size*	*Yearly*	*Selection*
Red	3” x 3”	$150	
White	Half Page	$200	
Blue	Full Page	$250	

Company Name: _____ **Company Contact:**_____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Email: _____ **Tel#:** _____

- Submit Ads in pdf, jpeg, jpg, or word file format.
- Email the Ad & completed order form to halifaxareamoaa@gmail.com
- Ads must be submitted by the 10th of the month preceding the first month of publication.
- Please make a check payable to HALIFAX AREA MOAA.
- Mail check and order form to ***HALIFAX CHAPTER OF MOAA, P.O. BOX 2093, DAYTONA BEACH, FL. 32115-2093***
- For assistance, please contact halifaxareamoaa@gmail.com.

Thank You For Your Support!!!

NEVER STOP SERVING.®

Why Join Our Chapter?
BENEFITS of Chapter Membership

Halifax Area Chapter membership is open to all men and women who are or have ever been commissioned or warrant officers in any component of the seven uniformed services: Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, Public Health Service, and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Individuals can elect to become life members of the Association or to renew their membership yearly. Surviving Spouses are automatically eligible for membership in the Association. The Board of Directors may grant Honorary Membership to foreign officers who apply for such membership. Membership in National MOAA The basic National MOAA membership is free. We encourage anyone that is not a member, to take the time to register. To sign up for National Basic Membership, all you need is a valid email address and, of course, the desire to join National MOAA.
To join, follow this link: National MOAA Basic Membership
Chapter Dues -$20 for one year, $33 for 2 years, or $44 for 3 years. Dues for Chapter membership with electronic distribution of "Officers Call" can also be paid online via credit card at CHAPTER DUES
Halifax Area Chapter Talking Points

- Our mission is to maintain a strong national defense and preserve the earned benefits of the uniformed services and their families.
- Meetings on the 4th Thursday of each month.
- Luncheons are from Sept to May at the Halifax River Yacht Club at 331 S. Beach Street, in Daytona Beach.
- At our luncheon, our social hour starts at 1100/lunch at 1200. For dinner events, normally meets at 1700/dinner at 1800.
- We conduct 2 monthly Community Outreach efforts, one at the local Emory L. Bennett Memorial Nursing Home by providing Bagels and Bingo and one at the Daytona Beach VA Clinic by providing Coffee and Doughnuts.
- We publish a monthly newsletter called the Officers' Call (except June thru Aug)
- Our website is www.moaafl.org/chapters/halifax
- We have a designated Legislative Chair that keeps us informed of ongoing and upcoming military legislation.
- We have chapter members serving on the Volusia County Veterans Council. Our representative is Skip Keating
- Sometimes we are listed in the News Journal, Hometown News, Orlando Sentinel, and the Florida Courier newspapers.
- Our chapter is an active member of the Florida Council of Chapters
- We support 3 Reserve Officer Training Corp Units (Army/Navy/Air Force at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University
- We award 6 scholarships a year to deserving cadets/midshipmen
- Each year we award a National MOAA Medal and a Challenger award at the Spring Color Parade Awards Ceremony
- Our chapter is an affiliate of the Military Officers Association of America
- Our chapter is the first Military Organization to spearhead the efforts of the Tom Staed Veterans Memorial Bridge and Plaza
- Each year we host our annual Christmas Gala to support veterans advocacy and to build camaraderie

Scholarship Information:

The Chapter supports the 3 Reserve Officer Training Corps Units (Army/Navy/Air Force) at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Daytona Beach, FL.

The chapter sponsors two $500 scholarships each year to a deserving, aspiring officer in each of the 3 ROTC Units.

We award 2 in the Fall (1 Air Force and 1 Navy) and 4 in the Spring (1 Air Force, 1 Navy, and 2 Army)

The Chapter has a separate Scholarship program sponsored by a Chapter member which makes an additional scholarship donation each year to a deserving Army ROTC student in memory of LTC Daniel Redner, USA (a former Chapter President).

The Chapter also supports the JROTC Unit at Mainland High School each spring with a $250 scholarship along with a MOAA Medal and Challenger Plaque.

Funding for the Chapter's annual scholarships is raised through regular donations at luncheon/dinner meetings, with dues contributions (by check and online) as well as through our major fundraising event, the ROTC Recognition Dinner held each April.

The Chapter also awards the National MOAA Medal and a "Challenger Plaque" to deserving midshipmen/cadets at each of the unit's Spring Color Parade and Awards Ceremonies

READY REFERENCE CONTACT INFORMATION

Air Force Retiree Services: (800) 531-7502; www.retirees.af.mil
Arlington National Cemetery: (703) 607-8000; www.arlingtoncemetery.org
Armed Forces Retirement Home: (800) 422-9988; www.afrh.gov
Army & Air Force Exchange Service: (214) 312-2011; www.aafes.com
Army Retired Services: (703) 571-7232; https://soldierforlife.army.mil/retirement
Burial at Sea Information: (866) 787-0081;
Combat Related Special Compensation: www.va.gov/resources/combat-related-special-compensation-crsc/
DEERS: (800)-538-9552, Fax: (831) 655-8317; www.tricare.osd.mil/deers
Defense Commissary Agency: www.commissaries.com
DFAS Casualty Assistance Branch: (800) 321-1080 or (216) 522-5955; (For Reporting a Retiree's death, option #1)
Fleet Reserve Association: (703) 683-1400; www.fra.org
Gulf War homepage: www.gulflink.osd.mil
I.D. Cards Benefits and Eligibility: (866) 827-5672;
Internal Revenue Service: (800) 829-1040; www.irs.gov
Marine Corps Retired Affairs: (800) 336-4649; www.usmc.mil
(Hover over "Marine Services" then click on "Retired Services")
Medicare: (800) 633-4227. TTY: (877) 486-2048; www.medicare.gov
Military Officers Assoc. of America: (800) 234-6622; www.moaa.org
National Burial Services: (800) 697-6940
Navy Reserve Personnel Management (PERS 9): (866) 827-5672;
Navy Casualty Assistance: (800) 368-3202
After duty hours call (901) 634-9279 for Casualty Watch Officer
Navy Retired Activities: (866) U-ASK-NPC (866-827-5672)
Email: MILL_RetiredActivities@navy.mil
Navy Retired Activities Offices
Navy Uniform Shop: (800) 368-4088; www.navy-nex.com/uniform
Report the Death of a Retiree: (800) 321-1080
Reserve Component SBP: (866) 827-5672 ask for PERS-912
Retiree Dental — Delta Dental: (888) 838-8737; www.trdp.org
Servicemembers Group Insurance (SGLI): (800) 419-1473; www.insurance.va.gov
Naval Historical Center: (202) 433-2210; www.history.navy.mil
Social Security Administration: (800) 772-1213; www.ssa.gov

TRICARE: www.mytricare.com/mtc

TRICARE East: www.humanamilitary.com/beneficiary
AL, AR, CT, DC, DE, IL, IN, KY, FL, GA, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MS, NC, NH, NJ, NY, OH, OK, PA, RI, SC, TN (except 35 Western zips), TX (except the extreme Western area) VT, VA, WI, and WV
TRICARE West: www.tricare-west.com
AK, AZ, CA, CO, HI, ID, IA (except 82 zips near Rock Island), KS, MO (except St. Louis area), MN, MT, ND, NE, NM, NV, OR, DE, SW TX, UT, WA, WY some zips in IA, MO, TN
TRICARE Overseas: (888) 777-8343; www.tricare-overseas.com
TRICARE For Life: (866) 773-0404; www.tricare.mil/tfl
TRICARE mail order pharmacy: (877) 363-1303; www.tricare.mil/pharmacy
www.express-scripts.com

VA: www.va.gov

Regional offices: (800) 827-1000 (overseas retirees should contact the American Embassy/consulate), TDD (800) 829-4833
Insurance:
VA Regional Office and Insurance Center
PO Box 7208 (claims inquiries) -ORPO
Box 7327 (loans) -ORPO
Box 7787 (payments)
Philadelphia PA 19101
(800) 669-8477; www.insurance.va.gov
Burial information: (800) 827-1000; www.cem.va.gov
GI Bill: (888) 442-4551; www.gibill.va.gov

Records:

For replacement DD 214s, service records, medical records, award information:
Retired prior to 1995:
www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records
Retired after 1995:
Navy Personnel Command
PERS-312E
5720 Integrity Drive
Millington, TN 38055-3120
Fax requests to: (901) 874-2664
Gray-area reservists: (866) 827-5672

Our chapter is seeking motivated volunteers for positions listed below. Please inquire by contacting our Chapter President at drewhoffman49@gmail.com
Thank you in advance for assisting in this effort

Website Coordinator

A Website Coordinator position generally involves managing and maintaining a website to ensure it functions smoothly, presents accurate information, and represents the chapter effectively online.

Key Responsibilities:

1. Website Management and Maintenance:
   - Oversee the operations of the website.
   - Ensure the website is always up and running
   - Perform regular updates as needed.
2. **Content Management:**
   - Coordinate with members to gather content.
   - Ensure that the website content is current, accurate, and aligns with the national and local chapter's objectives.
   - Update web pages with text, images, videos, and other multimedia content.
3. **Design:**
   - Work on the layout and design of the website.
   - Ensure the website is visually appealing and easy to navigate.
4. **Technical Support and Troubleshooting:**
   - Address technical issues related to the website.
5. **Compliance and Best Practices:**
   - Ensure the website complies with legal requirements.
6. **Feedback and Observance:**
   - Monitor website traffic
   - Collect and respond to improvement feedback.

Required Skills and Qualifications:

1. Technical Skills:
   - Proficiency in web content management systems (e.g., WordPress).
   - Basic understanding of HTML/CSS and website hosting.
2. Design Skills:
   - A good eye for web design and user experience.
   - Basic graphic design skills are advantageous.
3. Communication Skills:
   - Excellent written and verbal communication skills for content creation and coordination.

Summary

The Website Coordinator plays a crucial role in the chapter's online presence. This position requires a mix of technical know-how, design sensibility, and digital skills. As the digital face of the chapter, the website must be managed to onvey the right message of the chapter.

Social Media/Print Media Coordinator

Coordinator is focused primarily on managing and posting chapter content on Facebook/ Youtube and writing an article on a as needed basis if an event occurs.

Key Responsibilities:

1. **Page Management**:
   - Oversee the management of the chapter's Facebook page.
   - Ensure the page reflects the chapter's identity and is up-to-date with the latest information.
2. **Content Creation and Curation**:
   - Create and post images, videos, and Facebook stories.
   - Tailor content to the chapter's image.
3. **Audience Engagement**:
   - Monitor and respond to comments and messages on the page.
   - Foster a community of interaction.
4. **Strategy Development**:
   - Develop and execute strategies to increase page followers and engagement.
   - Stay informed about changes in Facebook.
5. **Print Media Duties**
   - Write any articles to the News Journal, Hometown News or other local papers on Chapter events.

Required Skills and Qualifications:

1. **Experience with Facebook**: An understanding of Facebook's platform.
2. **Content Creation Skills**: Ability to create compelling and appropriate content for Facebook.
3. **Communication Skills**: Strong written and verbal communication skills for engaging effectively with the online community.
4. **Attention to Detail**: Ability to monitor and manage the finer details of a Facebook page.
5. **Adaptability**: Staying up-to-date with the ever-changing features of Facebook.

Summary

The Digital Social Media/Print Media Coordinator plays a crucial role in harnessing the potential of Facebook for chapter engagement. By effectively managing content and posts on the world's largest social media platforms, they contribute to the chapter's online presence.

Transition Liaison/Networking Coordinator

The transition liaison's responsibilities are:

- provide transition assistance to servicemembers;
- serve as primary point of contact in the chapter for MOAA members and their spouses who are in the process of relocating to the chapter's geographic area;
- share all job opportunities with the state council's transition liaison and national MOAA; and
- perform other duties as are necessarily incident to the office of the transition liaison, such as:
    - serving as chapter point of contact for the transition liaison;
    - forwarding information deemed appropriate for dissemination to chapter members;
    - providing articles for chapter newsletter on transition news and issues; and
    - performing other duties the president might assign.