



**HALIFAX AREA CHAPTER
OFFICERS CALL
December 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).

As it is difficult for me to fathom that we have already reached the midpoint of my term in office. December brings to close the first of two years serving as your president and I am grateful for the trust you have placed in me to lead this group dedicated to "NEVER STOP SERVING". Thank you too, for all of the efforts each of you members have made to make this another great year for our chapter.

This also marks the month when our meeting moves to the evening with a formal Christmas Gala. Please see the flyer later in this OC to get the particulars for the event and the reservation form.

As you may have heard, our scholarship funding is seriously in jeopardy of failing to meet the minimum requirements for this year's ROTC scholarships. To help increase our funds, the board of directors has established a Scholarship Silent Raffle to take place during the Christmas Gala. Members and businesses are being solicited for items to be raffled that evening. I am very grateful to Anita Williams for stepping up to take the role of Chairman of the Scholarship Raffle. If you have an item or know of a business that would like to add to the raffle please contact Anita to arrange entering the item into the raffle.

During the November membership meeting we unanimously elected the slate of officers for 2026. Thank you to those who stepped up to serve. The full slate is provided later in this OC.

Thank you to all of our very generous members who brought items for our **TOYS FOR TOTS** drive. Your giving will allow young children in the area to celebrate Christmas in the true spirit.

Finally, I want to extend to all a very Merry and Blessed Christmas. We are truly blessed to live in these United States and be able to celebrate this day.

NEVER STOP SERVING!

Drew

	<i>Chapter</i>	<i>Officers</i>	
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	Anita Williams, CDR, USCGR (RET)	954-650-9532	williams.aann@gmail.com
Treasurer	Lonnie R. Gardner, LTC, USA, (Ret)	386-672-4578	lr Gardner@att.net
Secretary	Tina Dixon-Bartlett, LTC USA (Ret)	352-476-8032	joyfultina@aol.com

Secretary's Report – March Board of Directors' Meeting

The November 2024 Board of Directors Meeting for the Halifax Chapter of MOAA met on November 5, 2024, at the Halifax Yacht Club, in Daytona Beach, FL. The meeting was called to order by Andrew Hoffman at 10:00 a.m.

The following board members (showed with an asterisk) and guests were present: Andrew Hoffman*, Anita Williams*, Tina Dixon-Bartlett*, Kim Ramos*, Lon Gardener*, Patti Higgins*, Joe Peabody, Bancroft McKittrick, Don Needham, Jon Bateman, Steve Maas, Skip Keating, and John Higgins.

Quorum requirements met.

Reports of Officer/Committees

The following items were discussed:

- 1. The minutes of the October Board of Directors meeting - were distributed by email during the month of October 2024. Acceptance of these was nominated, seconded, and approved via email.**
- 2. Treasurer's Report** - Lon Gardener provided a copy of the bank statement which showed the current checking balance is \$2433.34. There is \$150 in petty cash, making a total balance of \$2758.34. Drew said that we had made reservations for forty-eight people for lunch and 10 were no-shows. He asked if all 10 had paid for their meals, because we must give the club our numbers 2 days prior to the meeting, and we must pay for the number given. Lon was not sure and will check to see if all paid. Drew also mentioned that the 50/50 amount should be \$90 because the winner had donated winnings back to the chapter. Lon will get answers to the questions and make corrections. The report is pending awaiting further action.
- 3. Membership** – Jon stated that we have ninety-four regular members and fourteen surviving spouses, totaling one hundred and eight members. He said that he did not have a May, September, or October report. He was told the reports are in the Officer's Call. He also said that he has the challenge of being unable to access the National MOAA members database, as well as FCOC membership data. Kim and Drew said that the FCOC is creating another database which is supposed to be ready in January 2025. Drew mentioned that membership dues are due at the end of November. He said that those who are delinquent may need to be notified via email.
- 4. Officer Call Report** – Joe mentioned that he is still working with Pierre on a few details of the newsletter, and he feels more comfortable with the position. Patti stated that two members were not getting their newsletters. They both have been getting the paper newsletter. Joe said that he would see that they got their copy. Anita mentioned that we have a subscription to Word Press as of yesterday. We have one year free and then it will be \$99 per year. The free year is November 2024 through 2025 then we start to pay.
- 5. Surviving Spouse Update** – Patti stated we had a great lunch and Pat Green presented much needed information for the group. Pat told a story about traveling and getting sick while overseas and how MOAA Emergency Insurance had been extremely helpful at getting her home and covering the bill. There are pictures of the October meeting on our Facebook. Pierre gave a presentation of the new Advocacy in Action response system. He showed us how to use the system and asked if we would try it out. Patti said that she would not be the surviving spouse liaison next year, Sharon Miller is taking the position. Patti will manage getting name badges for members. Patti wanted to know if we had more ceramic coins, she wanted to give them to the veterans comfort group.

Old Business

6. Bagels and Bingo – Skip stated that they met yesterday. There were 19 veterans, 12 volunteers: 4 MOAA members, 3 DARs, 5 Hospice volunteers. He said that some veterans do not eat the cream cheeses that they bring, and he is thinking of providing bagels and donuts for those that do not want bagels. This activity takes place at Emory Bennett Veterans Nursing Home in Daytona Beach at 10 am on the first Monday of each month.

VCVC Update – Skip mentioned that there are 20 military bases in Florida and there are 116 homeless veterans. He said that DeLand presented \$1K to Barracks of Hope. Our annual dues of \$25 are due to the VCVC. Lon will give Skip a check.

Skip provided upcoming events:

- 9 Nov – DeLand West Chapter MOAA – Veterans Day celebration
- 11 Nov – Holly Hill Box Car 40-8 (Ceremony at City Hall)
- 19 Nov -Air Force playing at Peabody.

7. VA Coffee and Donuts – Patti stated they provided coffee and donuts last month. They will meet again next Thursday.

New Business

8. Toys For Tots – There were thirty-five toys brought to the October lunch. Toys will be accepted at the November lunch. Please only bring unwrapped new toys, no checks or cash will be accepted.

9. **Christmas Holiday Gala** – Drew stated the ticket for the Christmas Gala will be \$57 which is the same price as last year. The meal choices will be broiled salmon or filet mignon, holiday salad, and bread pudding.

From The Floor

- 10. Drew and Bancroft provided information on what is needed for the annual meeting at the November lunch. There will be input from the treasurer, membership chair, and the 2025 board candidates will be voted on. Senator Tom Wright will be the guest speaker.
- 11. Anita asked if there would be a silent auction at the Christmas Gala. There was much discussion, and it was decided that there would be, and four items have already been pledged. Anita agreed to chair this activity.
- 12. Kim reminded us that an audit was due at the beginning of the year, and it has not been done. Drew said he would plan for it during the next year.
- 13. Steve Maas stated that he’s been invited to go with NSB mayor, Fred Cleveland, to Advent Health NSB, in their dress blues, to visit the Veterans on 7 November.
- 14. Pierre will be the speaker at Ormond Beach Senior Center Lunch, on 7 November 12-2pm
- 15. Drew said that the Leadership summit will be held in January 2025. There are thirty-eight chapters there for training and updates. The yearly convention, usually held in late spring, will be added to the Leadership summit. Right now, we have about seven people attending from our chapter.
- 16. Bancroft said that he will update the pdfs needed for the annual meeting. Those will be sent to Drew, Lon, and Jon to update for the business meeting.
- 17. Patti sent around a bracelet that Pat Green had given to the surviving spouses.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 a.m. Our next meeting is on December 3, 2024, HRYC.

Happy Thanksgiving!!!

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

2023-2024 Outstanding Support to Veterans for Profit Award Winner



2023-2024 Outstanding Support to Veterans Nonprofit Award Winner



Halifax Area
2024 Chapter Planning Board (As of 11/01/2024)

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	- Port Orange Mayor Don Burnette Price: \$27 Location: Halifax River Yacht Club	- Negotiate Entertainment Contract for Holiday Gala
April 2, 2024	Thursday, April 25, 2024	ROTC Scholarship Dinner Price: \$27 Location: Halifax River Yacht Club	Cadet Introductions and Recognition Obtain 2 nd half of 2024 Menus from HRYC
May 7, 2024	Thursday, May 23, 2024	Presentation of the Outstanding Support to Veterans Award Price: \$27 Location: Halifax River Yacht Club	- Level, of Excellence Submission - FCOC FL State Conference, Daytona Beach, FL
	****	*** Chapter on Summer Break ***	July 4 ^h Volusia Veterans Parade
September 3, 2024	Thursday, September 26, 2024	Jeff Feasel– Guest Speaker Price: \$27 TBLocation: Halifax River Yacht Club	- Agree on Nominating Committee (45 days out) - Obtain 2024 – 2025 Lunch menu
October 1, 2024	Thursday, October 24, 2024	Surviving Spouse Appreciation Program Pat Green FCOC VP SS Price: \$27 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	Wednesday November 20, 2024 Date moved due to Thanksgiving Holiday	Senator Tom Wright, DL 8th District– Price: \$27 Location: Halifax River Yacht Club	- Advertise the “Holiday Gala” Membership Month
December 3, 2024	Thursday, December 19, 2024, 1700 hrs Date moved due to Christmas Holiday	“ChristmasHoliday Gala Dinner Dance” Music and Entertainment Price: \$56 Location: Halifax River Yacht Club	- ERAU Fall Commissioning to Ensigns and 2ndLts MOAA “CM” Modifications

LOOKING FOR A REAL ESTATE AGENT?



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Halifax Area 2024 Action Plan (As of 11/01/2024)

	<i>Chapter Goals and Objectives</i>	<i>Sponsor/Update/Follow-up</i>
	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, March – Port Orange Mayor Don Burnette, April - Cadet's Night, May - Outstanding Business and Not-for-Profit, Sep-Cancelled;Weather, Nov-Senator Tom Wright
2	Publish a local veteran-related article in the local newspaper on MOAA legislative efforts	Pierre Louis
	RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION	
3	The goal is for 25% of the membership to attend a luncheon/dinner.	Everyone Jan=51, Feb=48, Mar=41, Apr=44, May=51, Sep=0 , Oct=48, Nov= , Dec=
4	Net gain of 15 members for 2024	Everyone 2 new members as of 11-15-2024
5	Identify and develop potential leaders from the Chapter membership to serve on the Board of Directors (BOD).	Bancroft McKittrick and committee - In Progress for 2025 BOD
6	Feature New Members Highlights, in the Officer Call (OC)	Joe Peabody
	PERSONAL AFFAIRS	
7	Surviving Spouse Program, Surviving Spouse Team/Spousal Affairs Officer	Patti Higgins, October Membership Meeting dedicated to SSM
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 COMPLETE May 2024
10	Continue Spring and Fall Scholarships for Army/Navy/Air Force cadets/midshipmen, and one high school scholarship in the Spring.	Kim Ramos, Glenn Harmon- Spring COMPLETE
11	Enhance the ROTC Dinner Event to recognize the cadets and encourage support for the Scholarship Program	Drew Hoffman, Skip Keating - Complete
12	Bagels and Bingo at Emory Bennett Nursing Home	Skip Keating
13	Coffee and Donuts at VA Clinic	John & Patti Higgins
14	Provide Gold Bars to all newly commissioned O-1s	Drew Hoffman/Kim Ramos- COMPLETE
15	Host an annual "Holiday Gala"; Invite Guest Chapters	Drew Hoffman, Board of Directors
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 communication within the Chapter	Pierre Louis/Anita Williams
18	The goal is to generate three (3) additional OC paid advertisements	Everyone

Legislative Affairs/National MOAA Advocacy in Action **CWO2 Pierre Louis, Legislative Affairs Chair**

As we close out 2024 and prepare to usher in the 119th Congress, members of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) have a unique opportunity to reflect on the accomplishments of the 118th Congress while looking ahead to new challenges and opportunities for advocacy on behalf of our earned benefits.

Reflecting on the 118th Congress-The 118th Congress faced various challenges, including an evolving geopolitical landscape, a continued focus on military readiness, and addressing the needs of service members transitioning to civilian life. Key accomplishments included:

- **Increased Defense Spending:** The 118th Congress approved significant investments in military personnel programs, including pay raises and housing and health care improvements funding.
- **Advancements in Veterans' Benefits:** Efforts like the PACT Act demonstrated bipartisan support for addressing the health care needs of veterans exposed to toxic substances.
- **Family Support Initiatives:** Expanded access to childcare services and education benefits highlighted the growing awareness of military family needs.

While progress was made, several unresolved issues, such as addressing the military recruiting crisis and modernizing the TRICARE system, remain high on MOAA's advocacy agenda.

Priorities for the 119th Congress-The incoming 119th Congress brings new faces, perspectives, and potential for action. With a fresh legislative calendar and priorities, MOAA's mission remains steadfast: to ensure the voice of the uniformed services community is heard loud and clear.

Key areas of focus for the 119th Congress include:

1. **Modernizing Military Pay and Benefits:** As inflation continues to impact service members, MOAA will advocate for pay raises that keep pace with the rising cost of living and ensure competitive compensation.
2. **Advancing Health Care Access:** The transition to new TRICARE contracts and addressing long-standing gaps in mental health care access will be critical issues.
3. **Protecting the All-Volunteer Force:** Legislative solutions to address recruiting challenges and enhance retention efforts are urgently needed to maintain force readiness.
4. **Strengthening Support for Survivors:** MOAA will continue its fight for concurrent receipt of military retirement pay and VA disability compensation, as well as expanded survivor benefits.
5. **Investing in Military Families:** Comprehensive solutions to address housing shortages, child care access, and spousal employment challenges are essential to maintaining morale and quality of life.

What MOAA Members Can Do-The success of MOAA's advocacy efforts relies on the active engagement of its members.

- **Stay Informed:** Follow updates on MOAA's website and in newsletters to track legislative developments and understand the impact on our community.
- **Engage with Legislators:** Reach out to your representatives and senators to share your personal stories and express support for MOAA's key initiatives.
- **Participate in Advocacy Campaigns:** Join MOAA's annual Advocacy in Action event and other campaigns that amplify the voices of service members, veterans, and families on Capitol Hill.

"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](#)

ADVOCACY IN ACTION

★ ★ ★ ★ MOAA.ORG/AIA ★ ★ ★ ★



SERVICEMEMBERS MAKE A
LOT OF SACRIFICES. THEIR BENEFITS
SHOULDN'T BE ONE OF THEM.



MOAA ADVOCATES FOR ALL RANKS ACROSS ALL SERVICES.

The Military Officers Association of America is the nation's largest military service association. With more than 360,000 members, we're able to support and advocate for all ranks across the eight uniformed services.

On April 17, MOAA members from across the U.S. are visiting Capitol Hill to maintain the viability of the all-volunteer force – today and in the future. We'll ask lawmakers to ensure our nation keeps its promises to servicemembers and their families by supporting combat-injured veterans through the Major Richard Star Act, restoring the Basic Allowance for Housing to 100% of rental and utility costs, and protecting the TRICARE For Life health benefit.

Learn more about these issues and other ways MOAA supports those who serve and have served, along with their families and survivors, at MOAA.org/AIA.



MOAA Advocacy in Action Ad appearing in *The Hill*, April 17th

How TRICARE Covers Vaccines



Vaccine coverage under TRICARE can be somewhat confusing; TRICARE covers vaccines differently when they are given at a TRICARE network pharmacy or given at your doctor's office.

[Vaccine coverage](#) also depends on whether you are a member of an active duty military family, on TRICARE Prime or Select, or are on Medicare & TRICARE For Life (TFL). Regardless of your plan or type of coverage, the least expensive and most convenient option is typically to receive covered vaccines at a TRICARE network pharmacy. TRICARE covers age-appropriate doses of vaccines as recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). You can find a list of covered vaccines (updated Nov 2024) [at this link](#). TRICARE only covers vaccines needed for travel outside the US for active-duty family members who are traveling with their sponsor on permanent change-of-station orders or other official travel.

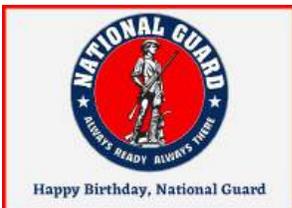
You can get TRICARE-covered vaccines from any TRICARE-authorized provider. It's important to note the vaccine itself is covered at no cost, but you may have to pay a copayment or cost share for the office visit or other services received depending on your plan:

- If you are using TRICARE Prime, you can get a vaccine from your primary care manager (PCM) or any network provider without a referral or authorization.
- If you are using TRICARE Select, you can get vaccines from any TRICARE-authorized provider, whether they are in or out of network.
- If you are using TFL, you can get a vaccine from any TRICARE-authorized provider, whether in or out of network. However, you will be liable for the TRICARE deductible & cost share because Medicare does not cover vaccines under Parts A or B. Vaccines fall under Part D, which most military retirees do not have because they use their TRICARE pharmacy benefit instead. That means *retirees on TFL who get their vaccinations at a doctor's office will have to pay the \$150 TRICARE deductible (\$300 for families) plus a cost share for the office visit.*

You can get covered vaccines for free at participating network pharmacies. You can find a network pharmacy [at this link](#). You will want to verify that it is the pharmacist who is giving the vaccine. If a provider gives it, you may face out-of-pocket costs.

Happy Birthday to the National Guard Service

13 December 1636



Established in 1636, the National Guard is the oldest military organization in America.

Happy Birthday to the Space Force

20 December 2019



Five years securing our Nation's interests in, from and to space.

Kevin Tobias SHBOOM Entertainment



Date: December 19, 2024

1700 -2100

**Location: Halifax River Yacht Club
331 S Beach Street, Daytona Beach, FL**

**Please indicate choice(s) and number of the following entrees
Reservations are due by December 13, 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**

**Choice 1: Oven Poached Salmon, Shallots, Grand Marnier and finished with butter.
Garnished with Toasted Almonds. Served with Rice Pilaf and Baby Carrots.**

**Choice 2: Pan Seared Filet Mignon, Pink Peppercorn, Cognac, Demi-Glace and
finished with fresh cream. Served with garlic mashed potatoes and sauteed
asparagus.**

**Both meals are served with a Holiday Salad - Winter greens, toasted walnuts, chevre
cheese, dried cranberries and grape tomatoes with raspberry vinaigrette and Holiday
Bread Pudding for dessert.**

Total Food:\$56

\$ _____

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)

Not a member of the National MOAA? Become part of our nationwide "One Powerful Voice" organization. Join now at <http://www.moaa.org/>.

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 CHA

**REMINDER THAT DUES ARE DUE AT THE END OF DECEMBER.
PLEASE CHECK YOUR MEMBERSHIP STATUS TO SEE if THIS AFFECTS YOU!!
WE APPRECIATE YOUR COOPERATION.**

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

WE APPRECIATE THE FOLLOWING OFFICERS FOR THEIR VOLUNTEERISM

****Contact information listed below****

<p>Membership Chair LTC Jon Bateman USA (Ret) 309-678-5359</p>	<p>Immediate Past President Bancroft McKittrick, Col., USMC, (Ret) 603-548-6558</p>	<p>Personal Affairs / Benefits CAPT Mary McLendon, USN (Ret.) 386-847-3239</p>
<p>Chaplain Maj Calvin Gittner, USAF (Ret.) 386-451-1008</p> <p>Transition Liaison* TBA*</p> <p>Awards Committee Chair Lt Col Glenn Harmon, USAF (Ret) 386 682-3064</p>	<p>“Officers Call” Editor CPT Joe Peabody, USA (Ret.) 913-244-2564</p> <p>Webmaster CDR Anita Williams, USCGR (Ret.) 954-650-9532</p>	<p>Surviving Spouse Team Patti Higgins, Surviving Spouse Liaison 386-341-5035 Spousal Affairs Officer, TBD Billie Krueger, Lt., USN (Ret.)-Chair Maj Calvin Gittner, USAF (Ret.) Joan Jankauskas, Surviving Spouse</p>
<p>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</p>	<p>Legislative Liaison CWO2 Pierre Louis, USMC (Ret.) 386-320-3283</p> <p>Veterans Council Representative COL Skip Keating, USA (Ret.) 386-672-4536</p>	<p>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</p>

Donations

Scholarships

Lon Gardner	Romain Bastian	John & Patti Higgins	Tina Dixon-Barlett
Ed Kufeldt	Bancroft McKittrick	Joe Peabody	Joe Favaloro
Drew Hoffman	Steve Becker		

Vet Outreach

John & Patti Higgins	Tina Dixon-Barlett	

Membership

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 ~

Jan 2025

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](#)



December 21, 2024 at 6 pm

The Annual Christmas Boat Parade remains one of the area's great traditions, bringing together family and friends to celebrate the Holiday Season. It is the pleasure of the Halifax River Yacht Club to organize and promote this event on behalf of the Daytona Beach community. Proceeds benefit the Veterans Support Fund (veterans.support.fund.org)

The success of the parade is dependent upon sponsorships and donations from the community, businesses and individuals.

We are seeking parade sponsors, monetary donations and/or other contributions that can be part of the Captains bags or awarded as part of the prizes. Parade sponsors and donors are recognized in all online promotions. All sponsorship money and donated prizes are used exclusively for the event and do not support the Halifax River Yacht Club. [Click here for Sponsorship & Donation Information.](#)

You do not need to be a HRYC member to take part in the parade! All are welcome to participate. The entry fee is only \$20 and, if this is your first time entering, the registration fee is waived. [Click here for Entry Form.](#) Captains meetings will be held in the Club's Chart Room at 6 p.m. on Thursday, 12/19 & Friday, 12/20. Attendance at one of these meetings is mandatory.

Parade Route & Viewing

Boats will assemble north of the Seabreeze Bridge at 5:45 p.m. for 6 p.m. start, heading south down the channel. Final parade route will be posted as soon as it is confirmed. The parade can be seen from pretty much anywhere along the banks, City Island, Manatee Island, Riverfront Esplanade, Halifax Marina... Remember to bring a chair or blanket as seating is not provided. Off Street Parking is available behind the stores on Beach Street.

Please email christmasboatparade@hryc.com with any questions.



Eric C. Matteson

Cell: (386) 333-1200



386-269-5554

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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 from June through August)
- Our website is <https://halifaxchaptermoaa.wordpress.com/>
- 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
- Frequently 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
- The Chapter's Outstanding Support to Veterans Award is presented annually to the local area company or organization making the most significant contributions to veterans and their families.

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 an 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: MLL_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

BAGELS & BINGO

THE MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA ENTERTAINED 19 VETERANS AT THE EMORY BENNETT VETERANS NURSING HOME. WE PROVIDED BAGELS AND BINGO FIVE DOLLAR WALMART GIFT CARDS TO THE VETERANS.

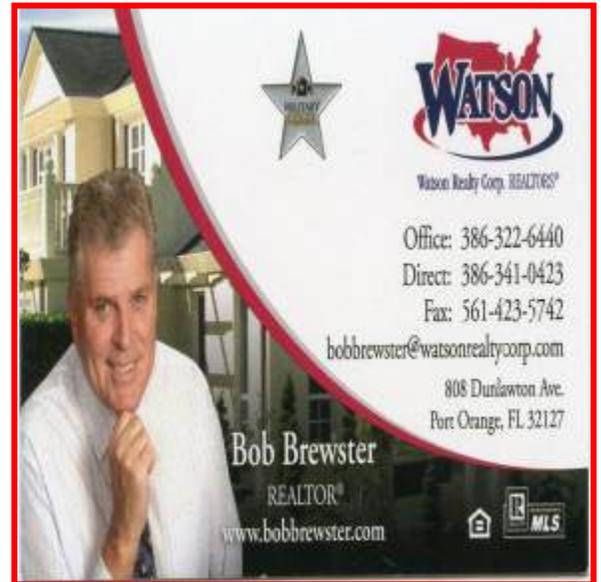


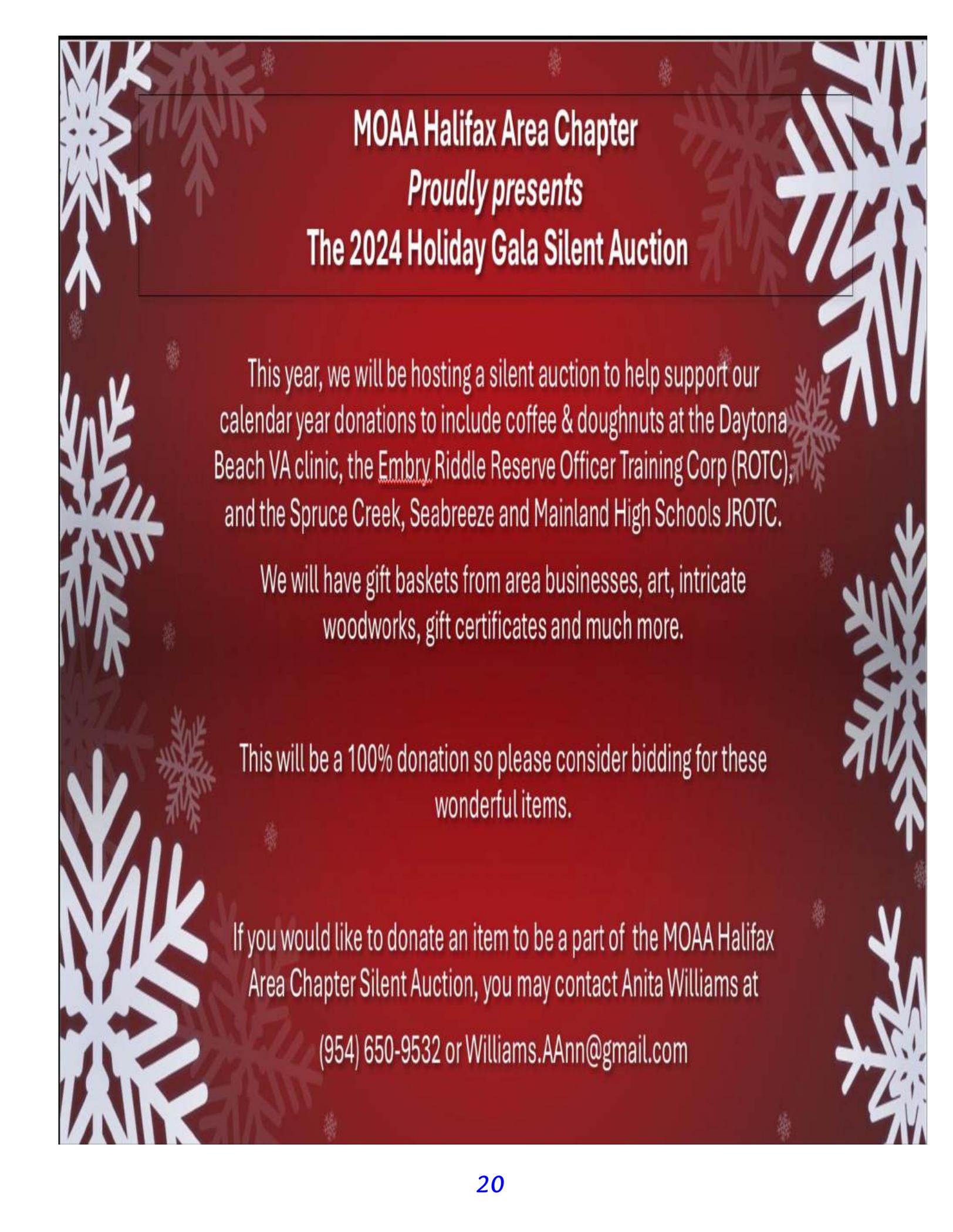
Our chapter is seeking a motivated volunteer for the position listed below. Please inquire
By contacting our Chapter President at drewhoffman49@gmail.com.
Thank you in advance for assisting in this effort.



Transition Liaison/Networking Coordinator -The transition liaison's responsibilities are:

- provide transition assistance to servicemembers;
- serve as the 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.





MOAA Halifax Area Chapter
Proudly presents
The 2024 Holiday Gala Silent Auction

This year, we will be hosting a silent auction to help support our calendar year donations to include coffee & doughnuts at the Daytona Beach VA clinic, the Embry Riddle Reserve Officer Training Corp (ROTC), and the Spruce Creek, Seabreeze and Mainland High Schools JROTC.

We will have gift baskets from area businesses, art, intricate woodworks, gift certificates and much more.

This will be a 100% donation so please consider bidding for these wonderful items.

If you would like to donate an item to be a part of the MOAA Halifax Area Chapter Silent Auction, you may contact Anita Williams at

(954) 650-9532 or Williams.AAnn@gmail.com



HOLIDAY GALA

**WHEN: DECEMBER 19, 2024
SOCIAL HOUR @ 1700**

COST: \$56.00

MENU:

BROILED SALMON

or

FILET MIGNON

**SERVED WITH A HOLIDAY SALAD AND
BREAD PUDDING**