



HALIFAX AREA CHAPTER OFFICERS CALL November 2024



In this Issue

<u>President's Message</u>	<u>Page 1</u>
<u>Chapter Minutes</u>	<u>Page 2</u>
<u>Chapter Planning Board</u>	<u>Page 4</u>
<u>Chapter Action Plan</u>	<u>Page 6</u>
<u>Legislative Affairs</u>	<u>Page 7</u>
<u>Personal Affairs / Benefits</u>	<u>Page 9</u>
<u>Speaker/Reservations</u>	<u>Page 10</u>
<u>Membership Application</u>	<u>Page 11</u>
<u>Contact List/Donations</u>	<u>Page 12</u>
<u>Salute/Looking Ahead</u>	<u>Page 13</u>
<u>Chapter Benefits</u>	<u>Page 16</u>

~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 I write this message, I join you and other citizens anxiously awaiting the results of the 2024 presidential elections. May God bless our newly elected officials and guide them toward the best solutions for our country while making the United States and the world a better place.

Please join me and other citizens as we take a moment on Monday, November 11th to honor all of our Veterans and thank them for their service to our country. Veterans hold a very special place in our hearts as members of MOAA. To all of these veterans, I extend a very heartfelt thank you.

We all have a very critical task as members of this great organization – spread the word and invite other retirees, former members, and a spouse of retirees/former members to become a member of our chapter. You are our best recruit for new membership!

If you missed the October luncheon meeting, you missed an outstanding presentation from Pierre Louis on the critical need for all our members to assist MOAA and its members with one of our primary functions as an organization – advocacy for issues and benefits affecting military members, retirees and spouses of military members/retirees. I'm sure you've seen many notices of "Advocacy in Action" or notices asking you to help get the word of support to our representatives in Washington. What you may not know is how easy it is to add your "vote" to the call for a particular issue. As Pierre pointed out, it's as easy as 1-2-3. The "work" is all done...all you need to do is click on the link and forward the support for a particular issue – the rest is handled through the formatted letter to your specific representative. A "letter" will go out to the appropriate representative stating your support. The mailing is "signed" by you and soon after you will receive a personal response from your elected official.

I can't believe it's already time to talk about the holidays and what it means to us at the Halifax Area Chapter of MOAA. First, and most importantly, it's time for us to remember those less fortunate and do a little extra shopping – it's **TOYS FOR TOTS** time. So, bring a gift, or two, to our November meeting that can be given to an area child so they can enjoy the Christmas season. The toy(s) are not to be wrapped. If you bring the toy(s) to the luncheon meeting, Skip Keating can accept them and bring them as a group giving around Thanksgiving. Please – no cash or checks can be accepted.

The second important message is sort of a "Save the Date" notice ... our annual Christmas Holiday Gala planning is well underway and has been scheduled for December 19th with a choice of dinner and an evening of dancing with "Sha boom". This is a great opportunity to dust off those dress uniforms and long evening gowns. Look for more details in the OC.

Finally, I want to extend to all a very Happy Thanksgiving. We are truly blessed to live in these United States and be able to give thanks for so much in our lives. And, remember, our November meeting is on Wednesday, November 20th so we can enjoy Thanksgiving with our family and friends.

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	lrgardner@att.net
Secretary	Tina Dixon-Bartlett, LTC USA (Ret)	352-476-8032	joyfultina@aol.com

Secretary's Report – March Board of Directors' Meeting

Secretary's Report – October 1, 2024 - Board of Directors Meeting

The September 2024 Board of Directors Meeting for the Halifax Chapter of MOAA met on October 1, 2024, at the Halifax Yacht Club, in Daytona Beach, FL. The meeting was called to order by Andrew Hoffman at 10:01 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, and John Higgins

Quorum requirements met.

Reports of Officers/Committees

The following items were discussed:

1. The minutes of the May Board of Directors meeting - were distributed by email during the month of September 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 \$2399.34. There is \$150 in petty cash, making a total balance of \$2549.34. There was a discussion as to what to do with the checks collected for the September luncheon which was canceled. Lon stated that he had called most people to find out if they wanted their check to be deposited for the October luncheon or if they wanted it destroyed. Drew asked how many checks were already deposited and he wants Lon to provide a list of those people so that the treasurer's report can be finalized. The report is pending acceptance awaiting the answers to these questions.
3. Membership – Jon was not at the meeting but had sent an email with the October report. He stated there were no changes since the September report. There are ninety-four regular members, and fourteen surviving spouses, making the total membership one hundred and eight members.
4. Officer Call Report – Joe Peabody stated that the October Officer Call was emailed out this morning. He also mentioned that Pierre has helped him a lot in preparing the newsletter and he is feeling more comfortable with creating it. He asked Anita which version of Word-Press did Pierre recommend. She stated the premium version. Drew stated that Pierre will submit a proposal for which to purchase. Joe stated that Pierre had mentioned that between November and January, the application for the Harris Award needs to be submitted which can be done online.
5. Surviving Spouse Update – Patti stated that we have one new surviving spouse. She had spoken with the spouse and sent a card. Next month is Surviving Spouse Appreciation Month. Patti has invited all spouses to attend the November meeting. Patti stated that she would not be able to be the Surviving Spouse Chairperson next year. She is actively looking for someone to replace her. She asked for recommendations. Patti has invited Patricia Green to be the guest speaker at our October meeting. Mrs. Green is the chairperson for surviving spouses in the Florida Council of Chapters.

Old Business

6. Bagels and Bingo – Skip was not 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 was not present.
8. VA Coffee and Donuts – Patti stated that she and John provided coffee and donuts last month. Sharon Miller volunteered with them. Patti stated that they are still trying to get Dunkin Donuts to donate the donuts, and we would place a free ad in our newsletter. November is Veterans Appreciation and Patti states that the VA clinic will be giving us “goodie bags” and she wanted to know if there was anything that we wanted to put in the bags. There was a suggestion that we put our MOAA poker chip in the bag. Lon will check on the number of chips we have available.

New Business

9. Call to Action Responses – Pierre was to have given a presentation on the new “Advocacy in Action” program at the September meeting which was canceled due to hurricane warnings. He will give the presentation at the October meeting. This program is designed to assist the National MOAA with a new way to get responses from members, help with marketing, and provide information on each chapter’s participation. This new method is thought to be easier, and the hope is that more members will be able to provide responses to their legislators. Currently, our chapter is one of the highest responding chapters, although we are only at 17%. Pierre is the Legislative Affairs/National MOAA Advocacy in Action Officer.

10. Toys For Tots – Toys will be accepted during the months of October and November. Please only bring unwrapped new toys, no checks or cash will be accepted. Joe will send an email blast about this activity.

11. Christmas Holiday Gala – Drew stated the ticket for the Christmas Gala will be \$56 which is the same price as last year. The meal choices will be broiled salmon or filet mignon, holiday salad, and bread pudding. Drew asked Anita to send an invitation to the Deland Chapter.

From The Floor

12. Drew mentioned that the scholarship balance is low. There were several suggestions as to ways to bring the fund to the desired level. One suggestion was a silent auction. Another suggestion was to ask each couple to donate \$25 per couple. Another suggestion was to increase the ticket for the gala and use the difference. Drew stated that he will mention the shortfall at the October and November meeting and ask for donations.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:49 a.m. Our next meeting is on November 5, 2024, HRYC.

Respectfully submitted,
Tina Dixon-Bartlett

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 10/01/2024)

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 20, 2024 Date moved due to Thanksgiving Holiday	- Guest Speaker 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

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Halifax Area 2024 Action Plan (As of 10/01/2024)

	<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-Jeff Feasel- Pres & CEO Halifax Hospital
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 5-01-2024
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
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 - 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

In October, I had the privilege of presenting a demonstration on using the MOAA Legislative Action Center at our monthly luncheon. It was wonderful to see the enthusiasm from many of you in learning how we can make a difference by simply clicking a few buttons. This powerful tool is a quick, effective way for each of us to support legislation that protects and advances the benefits we've earned. And believe me, it's as easy as 1, 2, 3!

Here's how it works:

1. Log in with Ease

First, go to the MOAA website and access the Legislative Action Center. If you're already a member, all you need are your login credentials. For those who haven't created an account yet, registration only takes a few minutes, and it's well worth it.

2. Select an Advocacy Issue

Once you're in the Legislative Action Center, you'll find a list of the top advocacy priorities MOAA is championing. These issues are critical, touching on topics from military compensation and healthcare to securing earned benefits for veterans and their families.

3. Take Action with Just a Few Clicks

MOAA makes advocacy as simple as filling in a few details and clicking "Send." You have the option to personalize the message if you'd like, adding your voice to emphasize how these issues impact you, your family, and our military community.

Why Every Action Matters

Whenever you receive a "Take Action" request in your email, I encourage you to respond promptly. Each message we send is counted and recorded. This means that every time we click "Send," we add weight to MOAA's advocacy and amplify the voices of veterans across the nation.

Together, We Can Make a Difference

If you missed my demonstration in October or have any questions on how to use the Legislative Action Center, please don't hesitate to reach out. I'd be happy to walk you through it one-on-one or answer any questions you may have. Let's keep up the momentum, respond to those "Take Action" emails, and ensure our voices are

"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

Is my Vote Safe & the Electoral College



Whether you vote by mail or in-person, processes are in place to ensure **your vote is secure**. While some protocols vary, all states have systems in place to: ensure only eligible voters vote, count votes correctly & securely, certify results before they are made official, and partner with federal agencies to protect against outside interference.

Over 98% of voters cast a paper ballot. Election officials keep detailed records of the numbers & location of ballots before, during, and after Election Day. When Election Day ends, ballots, records, and equipment are secured & transported to election offices. Ballots must be stored for 22 months after federal elections in case they are needed for recounts or other post-election processes. States offering mail voting ensure all returned ballots are official & filled out by the eligible voter they were sent to through signature matching, information checks, barcodes, watermarks, and precise paperweights.

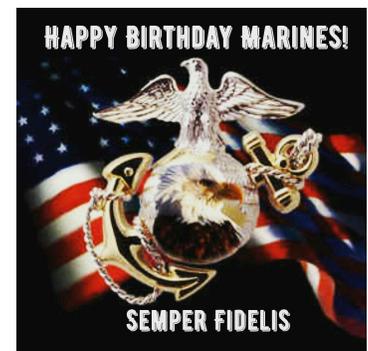
Election officials test voting & ballot-counting machines regularly to ensure they work properly. Almost all states & territories perform “logic and accuracy” tests on voting & ballot-counting machines. In most states, voting systems must also be certified by the Election Assistance Commission (EAC) and/or tested by an EAC-accredited Voting System Test Laboratory before use.

The **Electoral College** decides who will be elected president & vice president of the United States. It is a process that includes the: selection of electors, meeting of electors to cast votes for president & VP, and counting of the electors’ votes by Congress. Each state gets as many electors as it has members of Congress (House & Senate). Including 3 electors for Washington DC, there are currently 538 electors in all. Each state’s political parties choose their own slate of potential electors.

After you cast your ballot, your vote goes to a statewide tally. In 48 states & Washington DC, the winner gets all electoral votes for that state. Maine & Nebraska assign their electors using a proportional system. A candidate needs the vote of at least 270 electors — more than half of all electors — to win the presidential election. In most cases, a projected winner is announced on election night in November after you vote. But the actual Electoral College vote takes place in mid-December when the electors meet in their states.

Unusual Electoral College scenarios. It is possible to [win the Electoral College but lose the popular vote](#). This happened in 2016, 2000, and 3 times in the 1800s. If no candidate receives the majority of electoral votes, [the vote goes to the House of Representatives](#). This has happened twice: in 1800 when the House chose Thomas Jefferson and in 1824 the House selected John Quincy Adams as president. The Electoral College process is in the US Constitution and it would take a constitutional amendment to change the process.

Happy 249th Birthday to the US Marine Corps



November Luncheon

Guest Speaker: Senator Tom Wright



Tom Wright was born in Rochester, Minnesota. Wright graduated from Stewartville Public Schools in 1970. His career experience includes working as a businessman. Wright has served on the boards of Volusia County Code Enforcement, the Volusia County Affordable Housing Authority, and the Domestic Abuse Council. He currently serves as the representative for Florida's 8th District. His current term ends on November 3, 2026.

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

Date: November 20, 2024

Social Hour starts at 1100
Lunch served at 1130

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 November 15, 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:

irgardner@att.net
Or call 775-721-0967

1. Salmon Salad, GF: Grilled salmon on a bed of mixed greens with strawberries, raisins, toasted walnuts, cherry tomatoes, and goat cheese. Tossed in a cider vinaigrette, and topped with a strawberry balsamic reduction.

2. Mediterranean Gnocchi, V: Gnocchi, asparagus, cherry tomatoes, spinach, olives, mushrooms, fresh basil and Parmesan cheese. Finished with extra virgin olive oil and lemon juice.

3. Chicken Bruschetta, GF: Sautéed chicken breast with a lemon beurre blanc sauce. Topped with chopped tomato, basil, and red onion mix and drizzled with a balsamic reduction. Served with garlic mashed and vegetable du jour.

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)

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 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

Lonnie Gardner	Romain Bastian	John & Patti Higgins	Drew Hoffman
Ed Kufeldt	Bancroft McKittrick	Joe Peabody	

Vet Outreach

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~

Dec 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](#)



2024 Veteran Day Activities:

Veterans Day Tribute at Ormond Memorial Art Museum & Gardens: Held annually during the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month, this tribute in Ormond Beach offers patriotic music, inspirational speakers, and opportunities to send letters and cards to local military veterans.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Veterans Day at Ponce Inlet Lighthouse and Museum: Held on November 11, special activities will take place at the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse and Museum that will honor U.S. active duty, auxiliary, veterans, and their families of the Coast Guard. In addition, there will be a Veterans Day ceremony at 10 a.m. at Davies Lighthouse Park.

[LEARN MORE](#)

United States Air Force Airmen of Note at Peabody Auditorium: The Airmen of Note will perform a free concert at Peabody Auditorium on November 19 at 7:30 p.m., delivering an eclectic program ranging from big band hits of the 1940s to brand new compositions. As part of the U.S. Air Force Band, the Airmen of Note honors those who have served, inspires American citizens to heightened patriotism and service, and connects the global community on behalf of the U.S. Air Force and the United States. The concert is free with general admission. A ticket is required for entry. Free tickets can be picked up at Peabody Auditorium, Daytona Beach City Hall Front Desk, and all Daytona Beach Community Centers.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Volusia County Veterans Day Parade: Set for Saturday, November 9, this parade through the heart of downtown DeLand will feature veterans representing all branches of the U.S. armed forces, military vehicles, marching bands, patriotic floats, and more.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Women's Army Corp exhibit at Halifax Historical Museum: Learn about the Women's Army Corps history in Daytona Beach in World War II in a new exhibit at the Halifax Historical Museum. Daytona Beach was one of three training sites in the country for the Women's Army Corps, formerly the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps. At one time, there were 14,000 recruits in Daytona Beach and swearing-in ceremonies took place on the Boardwalk.

[LEARN MORE](#)

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

<i>Name</i>	<i>Size</i>	<i>Yearly</i>	<i>Selection</i>
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

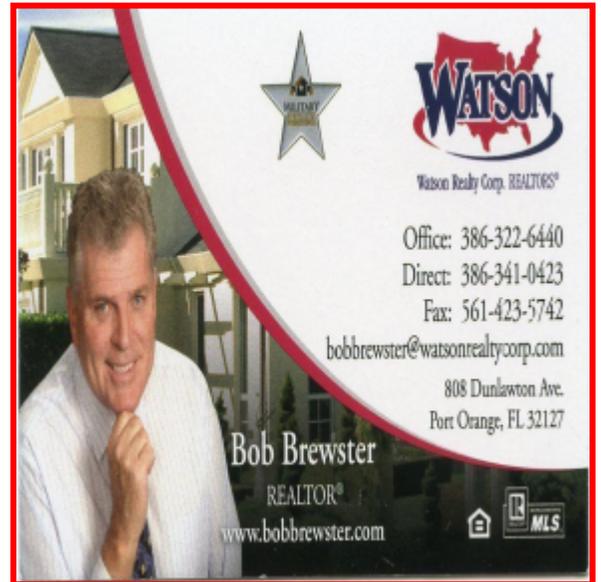
Gray-area reservists: (866) 827-5672

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.



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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**