



HALIFAX AREA CHAPTER OFFICERS CALL January 2025



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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).

Happy New Year to all of you and welcome to another exciting year with the Halifax Area Chapter of MOAAA.

A huge thank you to the organizers of our 2024 Christmas Gala. If you weren't there to experience this joyful event you missed an exciting night full of laughter, dancing and fun. First, though, we had to take care of some official business. Anita Williams, CDR, U.S. Coast Guard Reserve was sworn in to the position of Second Vice President, by Pat Green, FCOC SSM Chair. (Check out the article later in this OC for Anita's bio).

The night was highlighted by our first ever Christmas Gala Silent Auction. A huge shout out Anita Williams, chair of the Silent Auction, and her band of merry elves (Joe Peabody, Skip Keating and Bancroft McKittrick) who put together a wide variety of items for the auction which raised \$1,955 (less expenses) for our scholarship fund. A very successful auction!

We had a very good year as a chapter in 2024 highlighted by some excellent speakers, enthusiastic cadets who received our scholarships and the largest number of recipients of "gold bars" in a very long time.

We enter 2025 in high gear as the largest contingent ever will be representing our chapter at the FCOC Sponsored Annual Training Seminar in Orlando's Rosen Center. This year combines this training with the annual convention into a single event in Orlando. Look for a report on the activities in the February OC.

As with every January we are all deciding what we are going to do or not do for the new year. These resolutions always have the best intentions but rarely make it beyond the first month of the year. My challenge to each of you is twofold:

* First, if you haven't been to one of our monthly luncheons in a while why not honor us with your presence? The cost is minimal and is far outweighed by the camaraderie and information shared by others.

*Second, and most important to the future of our chapter, reach out and bring a new member to the organization. We should be rich in veterans, so the target area is wide....

Finally, I want to extend to all a very rich and rewarding 2025. We are truly blessed to live in these United States and be able to celebrate our past, present and future.

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	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 – December 3, 2024 - Board of Directors' Meeting

The December 2024 Board of Directors Meeting for the Halifax Chapter of MOAA met on December 3, 2024, at the Halifax Yacht Club, in Daytona Beach, FL. The meeting was called to order by Kim Ramos at 10 a.m.

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

Quorum requirements met.

Reports of Officer/Committees

The following items were discussed:

- 1. Secretary's Report** - The minutes of the November Board of Directors meeting were distributed by email during the month of November 2024. Acceptance of these was nominated, seconded, and approved via email. The annual membership meeting was held on November 20, 2024. At that meeting, the nominees for the board of directors were presented, and a motion was made by Jose Vagas, seconded by John Higgins, and unanimously approved to accept the nominees. Attached is a copy of the slate of the 2025 officers.
- 2. Treasurer's Report** - Lon Gardener provided a copy of the bank statement which showed the current checking balance is \$2530.24. There is \$150 in petty cash, making a total balance of \$2680.24. Lon states there were six checks totaling \$312, that were deposited on 1 December and are not included in the report. These six checks were from the October luncheon meals. Lon stated that he has health issues and may need to step down as treasurer if these issues do not improve. He requested help with 50/50 collections, and it was agreed that this will be brought up at the Gala and at the next luncheon. He also mentioned that he and Joe are in the process of scheduling an audit. The scholarship fund is less than \$600 and we usually need at least \$3000 to be able to give each cadet a check of \$500. We are hoping that we will be able to collect the \$3000 through donations and the silent auction at the Gala. If unable, we will have to decrease the amount that is given to each person. A motion was made by Bancroft, seconded by Skip, and approved by all to accept the treasurer's report.
- 3. Membership** – Jon stated that the membership numbers remain the same, ninety-four regular members and fourteen surviving spouses, totaling one hundred and eight members. Jon has reviewed the membership list and states that there are fifty-two members that need to renew their dues. He will send a renewal notice to these members. Jon also stated that he will be attending the leadership summit in January. Skip made a motion, it was seconded by Bancroft, and all approved the acceptance of the membership report.
 - 1. Officer Call Report** – Joe mentioned that the “for profit” companies that place an ad in the Officer's Call will need to be contacted to renew their ad by the end of January. It was also mentioned that several of these companies have not paid for their 2024 ad. Joe and Lon will reach out to those to get their payment.
 - 2. Surviving Spouse Update** – No report.

Old Business

- 3. Bagels and Bingo** – Skip stated that they met yesterday. There were eighteen veterans, ten volunteers: 4 MOAA members, 2 DARs, and 4 Hospice volunteers. Skip stated that they tried something new yesterday. Instead of the bagel and cream cheese, they decided to serve donuts because the bagels were not being widely received. Having served donuts, they found that they had the same response, and donuts were more expensive than bagels. There was a Christmas Party and Vitas gave out pillows, blankets, and other gifts. This activity takes place at Emory Bennett Veterans Nursing Home in Daytona Beach at 10 am on the first Monday of each month.

4. **VCVC Update** – Skip reported that we gave 105 gifts to Toys for Tots. He also said he would be attending a practice session on 11 December for 4 Army ROTC cadets and at that time he will have them complete the MOAA application process. Kim mentioned that she will be giving 7 Air Force cadets their Lieutenant bars and will have them sign up for MOAA membership at that time.

5. **VA Coffee and Donuts** –. No report.

New Business

6. **Christmas Holiday Gala** – Anita stated that she would be meeting with the HRYC manager to finalize the details for the Gala. Lon asked why the cost was \$1 less than last year. Anita will check because there has been something mentioned about additional cost for the filet mignon upgrade. So far, there are only fourteen reservations for the Gala. Joe will send an email to everyone asking them to send in their reservation as soon as possible. The meal choices will be broiled salmon or filet mignon, holiday salad, and bread pudding.

7. **Christmas Gala Silent Auction** – Anita is coordinating this activity. She stated that there have been many items donated for the auction, including a \$200 gift card to Coast and Creek, \$150 gift card to Thirty-one Supper Club, a handmade wooden birdhouse, an oil painting, handmade soaps, five baskets, and several other gifts. Anita was advised that a table would need to be set up over by the tree to place the items for auction.

From The Floor

8. Bancroft made a motion to send \$150 to the FCOC to support the Leadership Training Seminar in Orlando, FL. 17-19 January 2025. The motion was seconded by Jon and approved by all.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 a.m. Our next meeting is on January 7, 2024, HRYC.
Merry Christmas, and Happy Holidays!!!

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
2025 Chapter Planning Board (As of 01/01/2025)**

BOD Date	Luncheon Date	Speaker and/or Event	Supporting Elements/P.O.C.'s
January 7, 2025	Thursday, January 23, 2025	Ben Eby, Halifax Health – 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, 2025
February 4, 2025	Thursday, February 27, 2025	- 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 4, 2025	Thursday, March 27, 2025	- Speaker TBD Price: \$27 Location: Halifax River Yacht Club	- Negotiate Entertainment Contract for Holiday Gala
April 1, 2025	Thursday, April 24, 2025	ROTC Scholarship Dinner Price: \$27 Location: Halifax River Yacht Club	Cadet Introductions and Recognition Obtain 2 nd half of 2024 Menus from HRYC
May 6, 2025	Thursday, May 22, 2025	Presentation of the Outstanding Support to Veterans Award Price: \$27 Location: Halifax River Yacht Club	-Level ExcellenceSubmission - May 1, 2025 -FCOC FL State Conference Daytona Beach, FL
	*****	CHAPTER on SUMMER Break	*****
September 23, 2025	Thursday, September 25, 2025	- Speaker TBD Price: \$27 Location: Halifax River Yacht Club	-Agree on Nominating Committee (45 days out) - Obtain 2025-2026 Lunch Menu - Obtain Holiday Menu
October 7, 2025	Thursday, October 23, 2025	Surviving Spouse Appreciation Program - Speaker TBD 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 4, 2025	Thursday, November 20, 2025 Date moved due to Thanksgiving Holiday	-Guest Speaker TBD Price: \$27 Location: Halifax River Yacht Club	-Advertise the “Holiday Gala” - Membership Month
December 2, 2025	Thursday, December 18, 2025 1700 hrs Date moved due to Christmas Holiday	“Christmas Holiday Gala Dinner Dance” Music and Entertainment Price \$56 Location: Halifax River Yacht Club	-ERAU Fall Commissioning to Ensigns & 2nf LT’s -MOAA “CM” Modifications



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Joe Peabody

BROKER ASSOCIATE

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request to be added to our real estate blog
where we talk about the latest trends in the real
estate market.**

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Halifax Area 2024 Action Plan (As of 1/01/2025)

Halifax Area Chapter – 2025 Action Plan <i>As of 1/1/2025</i>		
	<u>Chapter Goals and Objectives</u>	<u>Sponsor/Update/Follow-up</u>
	<u>LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS</u>	
1	<u>Continue the Guest Speaker Program to include the following areas: military, community, business and health and wellness</u>	<u>January:</u>
2	<u>Publish a local veteran related article in local newspaper on MOAA legislative efforts</u>	<u>Board of Directors</u>
	<u>RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION</u>	
3	<u>The goal is for 25% of the membership to attend a luncheon/dinner.</u>	<u>Everyone</u> <u>Jan=</u>
4	<u>Net gain of 10 members for 2025</u>	<u>Everyone</u>
5	<u>Identify and develop potential leaders from the Chapter membership to serve on the Board of Directors (BOD).</u>	<u>Bancroft McKittrick and committee. Need new slate NLT October 2025</u>
6	<u>Feature New Members Highlights, in the Officer Call (OC)</u>	<u>Joe Peabody</u>
	<u>PERSONAL AFFAIRS</u>	
7	<u>Surviving Spouse Program, Surviving Spouse Team/Spousal Affairs Officer</u>	<u>Patti Higgins, October Membership Meeting dedicated to SSM</u>
8	<u>Maintain joint events with other local MOAA Chapters</u>	<u>Chapter Members; Transfers; Special Events</u>
	<u>BASE COMMUNITY</u>	
9	<u>Present an annual “Outstanding Support for Veterans Award”: one to a local business or organization and one to a Not-for-Profit Organization</u>	<u>Bancroft McKittrick/Skip Keating/Ben Taylor – Completed May 2025</u>
10	<u>Continue Spring and Fall Scholarships for Army/Navy/Air Force cadets/midshipmen, and one high school scholarship in the Spring.</u>	<u>Kim Ramos, Glenn Harmon, Skip Keating, John Higgins</u>
11	<u>Enhance the ROTC Dinner Event to recognize the cadets and encourage support for the Scholarship Program</u>	<u>Drew Hoffman, Skip Keating</u>
12	<u>Bagels and Bingo at Emory Bennet Nursing Home</u>	<u>Skip Keating</u>
13	<u>Coffee and Donuts at VA Clinic</u>	<u>John and Patti Higgins</u>
14	<u>Provide Gold Bars to all newly commissioned O-1s</u>	<u>Drew Hoffman/Kim Ramos</u>
15	<u>Host an annual “Christmas Holiday Gala”; Invite Guest Chapters</u>	<u>Drew Hoffman, Board of Directors</u>
16	<u>Continue to offer Cyber Security 101 workshops to community organizations, as requested</u>	<u>Kim Ramos, Pierre Louis, Mary McLendon, Bancroft McKittrick</u>
	<u>OTHER</u>	
17	<u>Standardize electronic media for ease of communications within the Chapter</u>	<u>Pierre Louis/Anita Williams</u>
18	<u>Goal is to generate three (3) additional OC paid advertisements</u>	<u>Everyone</u>

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

Looking Ahead to 2025 Advocacy Efforts: As we step into 2025, MOAA is ramping up efforts to advocate for legislation that protects the earned benefits of our military community and strengthens the well-being of servicemembers, veterans, and their families. Our voices matter more than ever, and your active participation in MOAA's Legislative Action Center is crucial to ensuring our priorities are heard on Capitol Hill.

Why the Legislative Action Center Matters: The Legislative Action Center is a simple yet powerful tool that allows you to contact your elected representatives and voice support for critical legislation. Whenever you receive a "Take Action" email, responding helps show Congress that we stand united in advocating for the needs of our community. These actions are tallied and tracked, providing tangible proof of our collective impact.

Top Ongoing Advocacy Campaigns for 2025

Here are the key legislative campaigns we are actively supporting:

1. Support TRICARE Pregnancy Qualifying Life Event (QLE)
 - Goal: Create a pilot program in the FY 2025 NDAA to designate pregnancy as a qualifying life event under TRICARE, improving access to prenatal care.
 - House Bill: H.R. 5987
 - Senate Bill: S. 3145
 - Take Action: [Support TRICARE Pregnancy QLE](#)
2. Fix the TRICARE Coverage Gap for Alzheimer's Treatment
 - Goal: Address TRICARE's non-coverage of Leqembi, an FDA-approved treatment for Alzheimer's disease.
 - House Bill: H.R. 7264
 - Senate Bill: S. 4092
 - Take Action: [Fix TRICARE Coverage Gap](#)
3. Urge Congress to Support a Pay Raise for Junior Enlisted Troops
 - Goal: Advocate for a substantial pay raise for junior enlisted servicemembers as proposed in the House version of the FY 2025 NDAA.
 - House Bill: H.R. 5826
 - Take Action: [Support Pay Raise](#)
4. Restore Full Housing Costs for Servicemembers
 - Goal: Advocate for the restoration of the Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) to cover 100% of housing costs for servicemembers.
 - House Bill: H.R. 4512
 - Take Action: [Restore Full Housing Costs](#)

How You Can Make a Difference

Let's make 2025 a year of impactful advocacy. Visit MOAA's Legislative Action Center regularly to stay informed about ongoing efforts and take immediate action when new campaigns are launched. Together, we can ensure that our voices resonate in the halls of Congress and continue to safeguard the benefits and quality of life for our military community. Thank you for your continued dedication to MOAA's mission and our shared commitment to advocacy. Let's stand strong together as we take on the challenges of the year ahead!

"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.

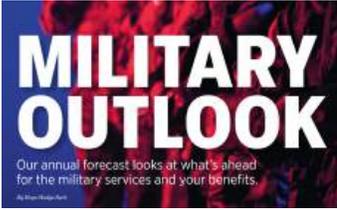
On April 17, MOAA members from across the U.S. are visiting Capitol Hill to maintain the viability of the all-volunteer force – today and in the future. We'll ask lawmakers to ensure our nation keeps its promises to servicemembers and their families by supporting combat-injured veterans through the Major 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

Military Outlook for 2025 by MOAA



For the US military in 2025, change is the key theme: The new year will see a new presidential administration, a fresh defense policy bill, and overhauled approaches to recruiting to reach a new generation of prospective enlistees. Both active duty servicemembers and Veterans can look forward to pay raises as inflation rates stabilize. Big investments in futuristic weapons & technology will make the military better prepared to face future conflicts.

Former Marine Corps combat cameraman JD Vance makes history as the first post 9/11 Veteran to hold the office of Vice President. Vance is expected to bring his military background to bear as an advisor to returning President-elect Donald Trump. On the campaign trail & in private life, Vance has expressed caution about the Nation getting involved in foreign conflicts. He's also said he'd consider changes to the VA, including greater privatization of health care services.

Recognizing that pay in the lowest military ranks hasn't kept up with living standards as well as it has for all other troops, Congress is moving to add an extra pay bump for the most junior servicemembers, E1-E4. For those above E-5, a decent pay raise is still expected: the FY 2025 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) calls for a bump of 4.5% across the board. Disabled Veterans and military retirees can expect a 2.5% COLA increase in monthly pays in 2025.

For servicemembers seeking to grow their families, provisions in the House & Senate versions of the FY 2025 NDAA would require TRICARE Prime & Select to cover assisted reproductive technology, including IVF. If this is included in the final bill, it would bring TRICARE in line with employer-sponsored coverage for fertility treatments & the Federal Employee Health Benefits Program.

This year will see a major milestone for the Space Force, with the launch of its first geosynchronous earth orbit missile warning satellite. In development, the planned pair of satellites, made by Raytheon & Lockheed Martin Corp, will help the force detect & respond to a greater range of threats from space, including hypersonic weapons, which travel at least five times the speed of sound. Officials say the first satellite, NGG-1, is set to launch from Florida in December 2025.

Your TRICARE Benefit Will Change in the New Year: Here's What to Know

The new year will mark the launch of "T-5" – [\\$136B worth of contracts](#) with health care providers to manage TRICARE. MOAA will monitor this rollout as part of its overarching priority to protect earned benefits for those who serve and have served, and their families. Good news for most of us: If you are living outside the US or use **TRICARE For Life**, you will not be affected by the changeover. If you are living in the TRICARE East Region, Humana Military will retain your regional contract. Those beneficiaries should see no changes brought on by T-5.

Regardless, the new year is a good time to confirm your contact information in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS): Inaccurate or outdated information may result in missing out on important TRICARE communications. [Click here](#) to learn how to check your DEERS record.

What Will I Pay for My TRICARE Benefit in 2025?

- See 2025 costs and premiums [at this link](#).
- Pharmacy costs [will remain the same](#) through 31 Dec 2025.
- Get a full breakdown of costs by plan, including a plan comparison tool, at [TRICARE.mil/Costs](#).

Guest Speaker: Ben Eby, Halifax Health Hospice Director



Ben holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Thomas Edison State University in New Jersey and a Masters of Business Administration, Healthcare Management from the Florida Institute of Technology. In addition, Ben holds a Chartered Professional Accountant (CPA) and Certified Management Accountant (CMA) license through the Chartered Professional Accountants of Canada. Prior to relocating to Florida in 2013, he had eight years of progressive management experience with a Toronto-based national healthcare company.

Date: January 23, 2025

11:00 Social

11:30 Lunch Served

**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 January 17, 2025.

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**

Choice 1: Classic Chicken Caesar Salad: Grilled Chicken breast on romaine hearts with herb croutons and Parmesan cheese tossed with our Caesar dressing.

Choice 2: Spicy Salmon Rice Bowl: Salmon pieces sauteed with sesame oil and ginger. Tossed with cucumbers, carrots, and tomatoes, Jasmine rice and spiced aioli. Topped with cucumber wasabi crema.

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

Total Food:\$27

\$ _____

Scholarship Donation

\$ _____

Veterans Outreach Donation

\$ _____

Membership Fund Donation

\$ _____

Total

\$ _____

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Anita Ann Williams

Professional Law Enforcement Officer & Military Reservist



Anita Williams is a retired Federal law Enforcement Officer with continuous professional experience that spans over 30 years. She has held positions as a State, Local and Federal Law Enforcement Officer with ten years as a State Officer and Deputy Sheriff, ten years as a Federal Air Marshal and her last ten years as a Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF) Special Agent having served the Middle District of Florida since 2012.

Academically, Anita holds achievements and honors with a Master's in Professional Studies in Executive Emergency & Disaster Management from Georgetown University, a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice from Lynn University, and a Master's Certificate in Explosives Technology from Missouri University of Science and Technology.

Professionally, Anita's expertise is in criminal investigation and program management. Having a widely varied law enforcement resume at the Federal Air Marshal Service, she held assignments in the Federal Flight Deck Officer program, the FBI Joint Terrorism Task Force, Category X Airport Liaison, and global response teams. Notably, she regulated policy, training, and credentialing leading to the certifications of over 12K federal officers.

As an ATF Special Agent, she specialized in long-term global criminal investigations and emergency response with expertise in gun trafficking, asset and forfeiture, investigative techniques, surveillance, operational response/planning and crime scene to courtroom processes and testimony. Before retiring in 2022, she earned the 2020 National Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force award (OCDETF) from the US Attorney's Office in the Southern District of FL. She has investigated and responded to hundreds of gun trafficking and violent crime cases between the US, Central and South America and the Caribbean.

Anita has successfully balanced her civilian career with an ongoing commitment to the US Coast Guard Reserves. In 2006, she graduated from the Reserve Officer Candidate Indoctrination school at the US Coast Guard Academy in New London, CT and has since been promoted to the rank of O-5, Commander. She has supported numerous emergency and disaster responses to include Deepwater Horizon, Guantanamo Bay-Joint Task Force, the Operation Allies Welcome- 2021 Kabul Airlift, the 2020 initial COVID cruise ship response at Sector St. Petersburg, and numerous natural disasters to include Hurricanes Matthew, Havery, and Ian.

Currently, Anita is assigned to the Coast Guard Reserve Unit at US SOUTHCOM in Doral, FL. She has held the lead law enforcement maritime planner and department head for two years in the J7/9 Directorate and has recently transferred as the Department Head to the J1/3 Directorate to support Manpower and Personnel for over 2000 Reservists assigned. Her missions have involved extensive planning and organization to execute DoD maritime planning in support of SOUTHCOMs Tradewinds exercise. This exercise encompasses more than 1500 domestic and foreign military members, stakeholders, and non-government organizations where, as a maritime subject matter expert, she has contributed her time-tested professional abilities to enhance all 24-Caribbean countries' regional defenses and response supporting the SOUTHCOM Campaign Plan (SCP) with particular focus on Countering Transnational Criminal Organizations (CTCO).

As Anita moves into the next chapter of her life after retirement, she volunteers her time to support different organizations to include the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA), Halifax Area Chapter, and the Team Rubicon organization. CDR Anita A. Williams can be followed at [linkedin.com/in/anita-a-w-033ab1227](https://www.linkedin.com/in/anita-a-w-033ab1227).

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

Romain Bastian	Joe Favalro	John & Patti Higgins	Ed Kufeldt
Bancroft McKittrick	Mary McLendon	Robert Martin	

Vet Outreach

John & Patti Higgins		

Membership

John & 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 ~

FEB 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](#)



SCHOLARSHIP NEWS

Cadet Racquon Brown expresses his thanks to the Halifax Area MOAA Chapter for the \$500 MOAA scholarship. He is prior enlisted and will graduate in May 2026 with a degree in aeronautical science technology. He hopes to earn a pilot slot. Please save the date to reserve a seat at the April chapter dinner to meet Cadet Brown and congratulate him in person.



Thanks to the donations from our members, seven new USAF 2Lt's from Det 157 received rank donated by the members of the Halifax Area MOAA chapter.



Eric C. Matteson

Cell: (386) 333-1200



386-269-5554

1451 N. NOVA RD • HOLLY HILL, FL



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

<i>Name</i>	<i>Size</i>	<i>Yearly</i>	<i>Selection</i>
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Company Name: _____ **Company Contact:** _____

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- 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

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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

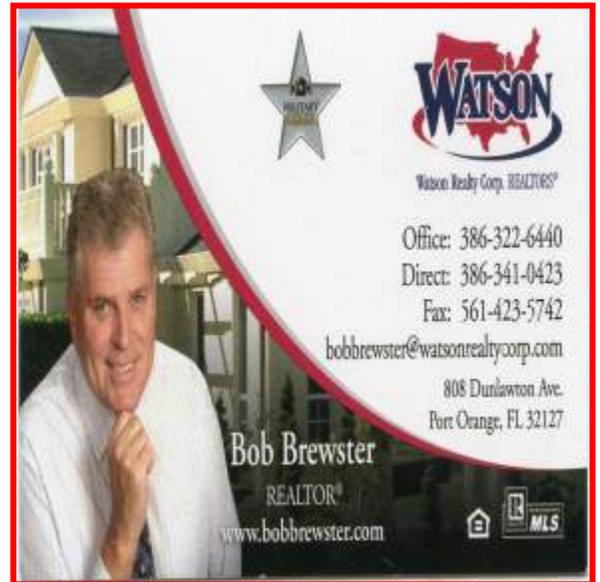
Gray-area reservists: (866) 827-5672

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.



2025 Gala



HALIFAX MOAA

WOULD LIKE TO THANK THESE LOCAL BUSINESSES FOR THEIR
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11. FRAMED PRINT WINGS OVER THE DESERT: TINA DIXON BARTLETT.
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13. 4 BASEBALL TICKETS AND SHIRT: BOBBY LATMORE , DAYTONA TORTUGAS DAYTONA TORTUGAS
14. 2 GIFT CERTIFICATES : DR. JOHN JEPMA, ANORA INTERGRATIVE HEALTH. ANORA INTEGRATIVE HEALTH.
15. OIL & VINEGR GIFT BASKET: PATTY HIGGINS
16. GIFT BASET: VITAS HEALTHCARE: VITAS HEALTHCARE