



**HALIFAX AREA CHAPTER
OFFICERS CALL
January 2026**



In this Issue

<u>President's Message</u>	Page 1
<u>Chapter Minutes</u>	Page 3
<u>Chapter Planning Board</u>	Page 5
<u>Chapter Action Plan</u>	Page 7
<u>Legislative Affairs</u>	Page 8
<u>Personal Affairs / Benefits</u>	Page 11
<u>Speaker/Reservations</u>	Page 12
<u>Membership Application</u>	Page 13
<u>Contact List/Donations</u>	Page 14
<u>Salute/Looking Ahead</u>	Page 15
<u>Chapter Benefits</u>	Page 18

~MISSION STATEMENT~

- ***The 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

Anita Williams, CDR, USCGR

Happy New Year to MOAA's Halifax Area Chapter.

I am honored to serve as your new President and lead this dedicated Chapter. As we begin this year, my priority is clear: to build on our solid foundation by growing our membership and strengthening our collective voice.

For those I may not yet know, I am Commander Anita A. Williams, United States Coast Guard Reserve. My professional life has been dedicated to a dual path of service. Alongside my 19 ½ years in the military, I am also a retired federal law enforcement officer with over 30 years of experience. My military journey, with a second retirement planned for June 2026, has been distinctly Joint. It includes nine years of assignments with the U.S. Army, U.S. Navy, and within the Joint community at U.S. Southern Command with the Deployable Special Forces units of the U.S. Coast Guard. Having spent over half my military career working closely with each of these services, I have gained a deep appreciation for their unique cultures. I am confident this background prepares me to understand and effectively serve the varied needs of our Chapter and the entire MOAA community.

I want to thank Capt. Drew Hoffman, USAF (Ret), for his steady leadership. Our chapter's success has always been driven by teamwork, and this year, I ask each of you to also become a champion for membership. Your dedication and personal stories are our most powerful recruiting tools.

My presidency will be guided by one primary objective: growing our membership. We will focus our efforts on active recruitment, demonstrating the value of MOAA, and expanding our community presence. We will refine our Chapter Action Plan with specific membership goals at our January meeting, and I encourage your input.

Our upcoming events and speakers are prime opportunities to introduce prospective members to the value of our chapter. As we navigate operational realities like increased costs, your participation—and especially your help in recruiting, it is critical to ensure the financial health and strength of our chapter.

I am excited for what lies ahead. Together, we will grow our numbers and continue to embody our motto-

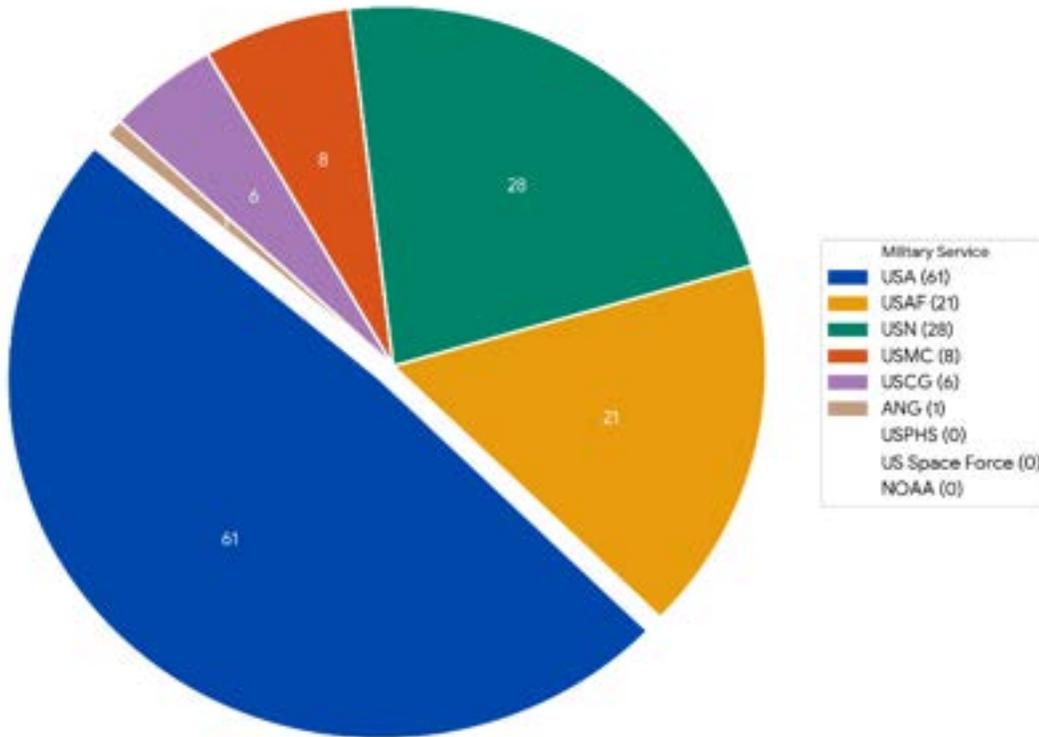
... Never Stop Serving.

Anita A. Williams
CDR, USCGR
President, Halifax Area Chapter MOAA

Chapter Officers

President	Drew Hoffman, Capt. USAF (Ret)	386-562-3325	drewhoffman49@gmail.com
1st Vice President	Anita Williams, CDR, USCGR	954-650-9532	williams.aann@gmail.com
2nd Vice President	Joe Peabody, CPT USA (RET)	913-244-2564	jpeabody65@gmail.com
Treasurer	Jose Vargas, LCDR, USCG (RET)	360-813-4444	jlvargascdfm@aol.com
Secretary	Bancroft McKittrick, Col, USMC (Ret)	603-548-6558	rbancroftmc@gmail.com

Distribution of Halifax Area Chapter MOAA Members by Service Branch



RESIDENTIAL • LAND • BUSINESS
MILLION DOLLAR PRODUCER

REAL ESTATE SERVICES
US Army Aviation (RVN)
MOAA Member



WATSON
Watson Realty Corp. REALTORS®

Bob Brewster
386-341-0423
BobBrewster@WatsonRealtyCorp.com

CALL/TEXT
386-341-0423

Email bobbrewster@watsonrealtycorp.com



MOAA
 INSURANCE
 PLANS

Standing with you
 at every stage.

1-800-247-2192 • www.moaainsurance.com

Secretary's Report – December 2, 2025 - Board of Directors' Meeting

The MOAA Board of Director's Meeting for the Halifax Chapter of MOAA met on December 2, 2025, at the Halifax Yacht Club, in Daytona Beach, FL. The meeting was called to order by Bancroft McKittrick at 10 am.

The following board members (showed with an asterisk) were present: Bancroft McKittrick*, Anita Williams*, Tina Dixon-Bartlett*, Lon Gardner*, Patti Higgins*, Joe Peabody*, Jon Bateman*, Kim Ramos*, Steve Maas*, Skip Keating*, Arnold Leeks, and Jose Vargas.

Quorum requirements met.

Reports of Officer/Committees

- **Secretary's Report** - The minutes of the November Board of Directors meeting were distributed by email during the month of November 2025. Acceptance of these was nominated, seconded, and approved via email.
- **Treasurer's Report** – Lon stated that there is \$1792.88 in the checking account along with \$150.00 petty cash for a total of \$1942.88. Bancroft asked about the scholarship fund which has \$1557.00. Kim stated that we will need \$3250 each year to cover the scholarship that we give. Lon mentioned that included in the report was \$150 for 2 tickets to the gala. He also stated that coffee and donuts for the VA Clinic usually total \$116 and we have it budgeted for \$100. Lon suggested that we increase the budgeted amount to \$125. Skip made a motion to increase the amount to \$125, Steve seconded, and all agreed. Anita stated that there is a contractor that wants to donate to the gala or to valet parking. Since we do not usually have valet parking it was agreed that we suggest a donation of \$450 for the DJ, Sha-Boom. A motion was made by Kim and seconded by Joe and all agreed, motion carried.
- **Membership** – Jon had sent the membership report via email. Jon mentioned that we have 104 members and 2 surviving spouses passed during the year. He also stated that this is annual membership renewal time, and we have 57 members that still need to renew their membership. Jon wanted to know how he would know if new members had joined because he cannot find them on the national website. He needs to have this information to keep our statistics up to date. He was instructed to contact Pierre for this information.
- **Officers Call Report** – Joe said that the December OC has been sent out. He stated that he appreciated all the pictures that have been provided. He also mentioned that Anita did an outstanding job with information sent to the Communique.
- **Surviving Spouse Update** – Patti also mentioned the two surviving spouses that passed and stated that we have another one that is quite ill. She also stated that she spoke with Dave Wheel, who is still in New Hampshire following a triple bypass. He was incredibly grateful for the card we sent.

Old Business

- **Bagels and Bingo** –Skip states they met yesterday, and there were 18 veterans and 8 MOAA members and volunteers. They had a Christmas party for the veterans and gave out \$200 worth of \$5 gift cards. The cards were not only given to the veterans that played bingo but also to those non-ambulatory veterans in the nursing home. The money for the cards came from an endowment given by the Halifax Yacht Club book club. A note of thanks has been sent to them.
- **VCVC Updates** – Skip stated that last month meeting was held in Deland. He also stated our annual dues of \$25 has been paid.
- **VA Coffee and Donuts Update** –Patti stated that she and John had been looking for someone to take over this position at the beginning of the year. Arnold has volunteered to take job. Patti noted that they have been getting a lot of participation and they go through 4 dozen donuts, 50 munchkins, 2 small pots of coffee and 2 additional containers from the donut shop. A question came up as to why they do not use a large percolator and the answer is that the clinic no longer provides an area to store their equipment and the large pot would be too much to carry with all the other items they bring.

New Business

- **Christmas Gala** – Anita stated that there have been 29 articles donated for the silent auction, items such as stain glass picture, soaps, pictures, and baskets. For the gala, Lon said that 33 tickets have been purchased of which 6 are for guests from the Deland chapter. It was suggested that an email blast be sent to remind people of the gala and the deadline for getting their ticket. A discussion was had on the increase of the price for the gala from \$58 last year to

\$75 this year. Anita explained that \$55 is for the meal and the other \$20 will go to the tip, wait staff, and the DJ. She is collaborating with the new manager of the club to get a clearer understanding of what our charges/expenses are.

- **Basket of Booze** – Patti and John are working on the basket/wagon of booze. So far, they have approximately 8 bottles of wine and 23 bottles of liquor. It was suggested that instead of one basket to make 3 baskets with a mix of both wine and liquor. These will be raffled off, and the tickets will be \$10 each.
- **Chapter Shirts** – Anita brought in 4 t-shirts, for purchase, each of which has the name of our chapter, location, and byline, “never stop serving”. There were 2 designs, one for \$25 and the other for \$30. She has 61 shirts ready for sale, and we can recoup approximately \$400 for the scholarship fund.
- **FCOC – Convention and Training:** The January FCOC convention and training will be held 29-31 January in Orlando. Bancroft presented the itinerary and stated that several of our chapter members will be attending.

From The Floor

- Bancroft will be the speaker at the Wreaths Across American ceremony which will be held December 13, at 9 a.m. at the Hillcrest Cemetery in Ormond Beach. Several of our members will carry wreaths representing their branch of service; Army- Skip Keating, Air Force-Glenn Harmon, and Marines-Bancroft McKittrick.
- Kim stated that 17 Air Force cadets will be commissioned this Friday and an even larger group is projected for the April ceremony. She has enough 2Lt bars for this ceremony but will need more bars in the spring. Kim presented AFROTC scholarship on Monday night.
- Anita mentioned that Sugar Works Distillery has presented a possible fund-raising activity for the chapter. We can buy a barrel, let it age for a year, then bottle it and sell it. This will be discussed in the new year.
- Kim mentioned that she met a veteran who is a member of Tunnels to Towers Foundation and he would like us to donate \$200 to the organization. The foundation operates as a tax-exempt non-profit organization and helps families of September 11, first responders and veterans rebuild in part from funds raised through nationwide charity runs. The decision on donating has been tabled until January, pending the results of the gala.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:59 a.m. Our next meeting is on January 6, 2025, HRYC.

Respectfully submitted,
Tina Dixon-Bartlett, LTC (R), ANC
Secretary

2025-2026 Outstanding Support to Veterans for Profit Award Winner



2025-2026 Outstanding Support to Veterans Nonprofit Award Winner



Halifax Area - 2026 Chapter Planning Board (As of 1/1/2026)

BOD Date	Luncheon Date	Speaker and/or Event	Supporting Elements/P.O.C.'s
January 6, 2026	Thursday, January 22, 2026	Speaker – Brig Gen Ernie Audino, USA, (Ret) Price: \$ 28 Location: Halifax River Yacht Club	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - FCOC Leadership Forum - Initiate the write-up of Level of Chapter Excellence - Start Ordering Gold Bars - Submit Marvin Harris Communication Award – Due February 15, 2026
February 3, 2026	Thursday, February 26, 2026	Speaker – LTC David Freeman, USA (Ret) Price: \$ 28 Location: Halifax River Yacht Club	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Submit to USAA for Council Sponsorship application for ROTC Dinner in April to MOAA - Submit Level of Excellence, Surviving Spouse, Legislative Liaison and Web/Newsletter nominations
March 3, 2026	Thursday, March 26, 2026	Speaker – DB Mayor Derrick Henry (In process for scheduling-Pierre) Price: \$ 28 Location: Halifax River Yacht Club	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Negotiate Entertainment Contract for Holiday Gala - National MOAA CM Modifications
April 7, 2026	Thursday, April 23, 2026 Dinner Meeting – 1700 hrs start	ROTC Scholarship Dinner Price: \$ TBD Location: Halifax River Yacht Club	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Cadet Introductions and Recognition -Obtain 2nd half of 2026 Menus from HRYC
May 5, 2026	Thursday, May 28, 2026	Presentation of the Outstanding Support to Veterans Awards Price: \$28 Location: Halifax River Yacht Club	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Obtain Sept-Dec menus from HRYC
	****	***Chapter on Summer Break***	
September 1, 2026	Thursday, September 24, 2026	Speaker - TBD Price: \$TBD Location: Halifax River Yacht Club	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Agree on Nominating Committee (45 days out) - Obtain 2026 – 2027 Lunch Menu - Obtain Holiday Menu - Save the Date Card - Gala
October 6, 2026	Thursday, October 22, 2026	Surviving Spouse Appreciation Program Speaker - TBD Price: \$TBD Location: Halifax River Yacht Club	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Toys for Tots Campaign. Include in Officers Call and at BOD Meeting - Announce the Holiday Gala- INTERNAL ONLY
November 3, 2026	Thursday, November 19, 2026 Date moved due to Thanksgiving Holiday	Membership Meeting and Speaker – TBD Price: \$ TBD Location: Halifax River Yacht Club	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Advertise the “Holiday Gala” Membership Month -Launch Silent Auction effort for Christmas Gala -Annual Group Picture
December 1, 2026	December 17, 2026, 1700Hrs Date moved due to Christmas Holiday	“Christmas Holiday Gala Dinner Dance” Music and Entertainment Price: \$ TBD Location: Halifax River Yacht Club	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ERAU Fall Commissioning to Ensigns and 2nd Lt - MOAA “CM” Modifications for new Officers



GET IN TOUCH



WWW.JOEPEABODY.EXPREALTY.COM



913-244-2564



JOE.PEABODY@EXPREALTY.COM



196 S. YOUNGE ST, ORMOND BEACH, FL

BROKERED BY
exp[®]
REALTY

Halifax Area 2026 Action Plan

Halifax Area Chapter – 2026 Action Plan		<i>As of 1/1/2026</i>
	Chapter Goals and Objectives	Sponsor/Update/Follow-up
	LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS	
1	Continue the Guest Speaker Program to include the following areas: military, community, business and health and wellness	January Ernie Audino, USA BG (Ret), February LTC Daved Freeman, USA (Ret), March DB Mayor Derrick Henry, Apr – ERAU Cadets, May – Vet Support Winners, Sep – Oct - Nov – Chapter Business Meeting and, Dec – Christmas Gala
2	Publish a local veteran related article in local newspaper on MOAA legislative efforts. Increase AIA participation	Board of Directors
	RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION	
3	The goal is for 25% of the membership to attend a luncheon/dinner.	Everyone Jan= , Feb = , March = , April = , May = , Sep = , Oct = , Nov = Dec =
4	Net gain of 10 members for 2026	Everyone
5	Identify and develop potential leaders from the Chapter membership to serve on the Board of Directors (BOD).	Committee. Need new slate NLT October 2026.....new board elected at the November Mtg
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. LDS and FCOC Convention – January Veterans Stand Down – March, West Volusia Picnic- May, July 4 th Volusia Parade, Christmas Gala
	BASE COMMUNITY	
9	Present an annual “Outstanding Support for Veterans Award”: one to a local business or organization and one to a Not-for-Profit Organization	Bancroft McKittrick/Skip Keating/Ben Taylor
10	Continue Spring and Fall Scholarships for Army/Navy/Air Force cadets/midshipmen, and one high school scholarship in the Spring.	Kim Ramos, Glenn Harmon, Skip Keating, John Higgins
11	Enhance the ROTC Dinner Event to recognize the cadets and encourage support for the Scholarship Program	Anita Williams, Glenn Harmon, Skip Keating, Drew Hoffman, John Higgins
12	Bagels and Bingo at Emory Bennet Nursing Home	Ongoing all year - Skip Keating
13	Coffee and Donuts at VA Clinic	Ongoing all year - John and Patti Higgins
14	Provide Gold Bars to all newly commissioned O-1s	Drew Hoffman/Kim Ramos/Skip Keating/John Higgins
15	Host an annual “Christmas Holiday Gala”; Invite Guest Chapters	Anita Williams, 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 communications within the Chapter	Pierre Louis/Anita Williams
18	Goal is to generate three (3) additional OC paid advertisements	Everyone

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

“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 at a Crossroads: Wins to Celebrate, Fights to Finish

As we step into 2026, our advocacy efforts are squarely focused on turning last year's progress into lasting results. Thanks to your powerful voice, we secured significant victories in the annual defense bill, but Congress now faces a critical deadline that will test its commitment to our military community.

The State of Our Advocacy: A Quick Look

Here is where our top priorities stand as the new year begins:

Priority Issue	FY 2026 NDAA
 Current Status	Signed into Law
 Key Details	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 3.8% military pay raise - Extended ban on military medical personnel cuts - New basic allowance for housing (BAH) oversight
 Advocacy Impact	A major victory from 2025 advocacy. Focus now shifts to oversight of implementation and preparing for the FY 2027 NDAA.
Priority Issue	FY 2026 Government Funding
 Current Status	Under a Continuing Resolution (CR)
 Key Details	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Short-term CR funds government through mid-to-late January 2026 - Full-year appropriations for Defense, VA, and other agencies are pending
 Advocacy Impact	MOAA's #1 priority. A shutdown or further CR would harm readiness, delay projects, and hurt families. We must demand full-year funding on time.
Priority Issue	Major Richard Star Act

 Current Status	Active in Budget Negotiations
 Key Details	- Text filed as an amendment to the must-pass budget bill (H.R. 4016) - Would fix the unjust pay offset for combat-injured, medically retired veterans
 Advocacy Impact	Most urgent current campaign. Its passage depends on inclusion in the final budget package. Contact your Senators now!
Priority Issue	Military Pay Outlook
 Current Status	Future Raises May Be Smaller
 Key Details	- The FY 2026 3.8% raise may be an anomaly - Future increases are projected to be lower, tied to the Employment Cost Index (ECI)
 Advocacy Impact	Makes long-term advocacy on compensation parity and opposing cuts to housing allowances even more critical.

The Fight Ahead: From CRs to the Star Act

While we celebrate the NDAA victory, the work is far from over. The government is operating on a short-term Continuing Resolution that expires this month. This irresponsible brinkmanship directly threatens military construction, family programs, and VA modernization. MOAA's message is clear: Congress must fund the government on time.

This must-pass funding bill is also the vehicle for our most urgent priority: the Major Richard Star Act. After years of advocacy, the fix for combat-wounded retirees is closer than ever, but it is not yet law. We must ensure it is not left behind in final negotiations.

Our Chapter's Momentum is Our Power

Our top-tier finish in 2025 proves our collective strength. This year, our goal is to be Florida's #1 chapter. We get there by turning news into action. Every letter you send in response to these updates strengthens our standing and our influence.

Let's start 2026 by defending our wins and finishing our fights. Contact your lawmakers to demand full-year funding and the passage of the Major Richard Star Act.

****Disclaimer:** Content created using a combination of trusted sources — including www.moaa.org approved articles, Google search engine tools, generative Ai tools and human research. All content has been reviewed and approved to ensure accuracy and clarity**



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

Personal Affairs / Benefits
Mary B. McLendon, CAPT, US Navy (Ret)

A New Year Means
Increases in Medicare Part B &
Increases in TRICARE Prescription Drugs



How Much Will Your Medicare Part B Premium Rise in 2026? Medicare Part B enrollees will pay at least \$202.90 a month in 2026, up from the \$185 monthly premium this year. Part B covers doctor visits, outpatient services, some home health services, and other health care products not covered by Medicare Part A, which deals primarily with hospital, nursing facility, hospice, and inpatient care.

Part B premiums for 2026 will be determined by an Income-Related Monthly Adjustment Amount (IRMAA) based on income levels from 2024 tax filings. Those with a modified adjusted gross income of less than or equal to \$109,000 (for individual filers) or \$218,000 (for joint filers) will pay the base amount of \$202.90. Then, the monthly premium amounts for 2026 for those with higher modified adjusted gross incomes will include a supplement. For example, income between \$109,001 to \$137,000 (individual) or \$218,001 to \$274,000 (joint) will pay \$284.10, up from \$259 in 2025. Overall, the 2026 premiums will rise about 9.7% from this year's levels across all brackets.

Changes to your TRICARE prescription drug copayments in 2026:

TRICARE Home Delivery (Up to a 90-day supply)

- Tier 1 Generic Formulary drugs will increase from \$13 to \$14.
- Tier 2 Brand-Name Formulary drugs will increase from \$38 to \$44.
- Tier 3 Non-Formulary drugs will increase from \$76 to \$85.

Retail Network pharmacies (Up to a 30-day supply)

- Tier 1 Generic Formulary drugs will remain at \$16.
- Tier 2 Brand-Name Formulary drugs will increase from \$43 to \$48.
- Tier 3 Non-Formulary drugs will increase from \$76 to \$85.

Here's When You Can Access Your 2025 Tax Statements: Some year-end tax documents are available via the Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) [myPay portal](#). Those who receive the forms via postal mail will have a longer wait. Military retirees, former spouses, and annuitants should have access to their IRS Form 1099-R via myPay as of Dec. 17.

President Donald J. Trump and SecNav John C. Phelan, alongside SecWar Pete Hegseth, announced their intent to construct a new class of American-designed battleships that will be the most lethal surface combatant ever constructed. The future USS DEFIANT (BBG 1) will be the first Trump class battleship and will be an unambiguous statement of American commitment to maritime superiority with capability to distribute more firepower across the fleet than any other class of ship, for any Navy, in history. These new battleships will stand as the centerpiece of the Navy's Golden Fleet initiative and will be the first of its kind providing dominant firepower and a decisive advantage over adversaries by integrating the most advanced deep-strike weapons of today with the revolutionary systems of the years ahead.



Guest Speaker Brigadier General Ernest Audino, USA, (RET)



Brigadier General Ernest C. Audino, US Army (Ret)

General Audino serves as Executive VP for the CEO Business Alliance. He simultaneously hosts America’s largest military radio talk show. He is also a member of the Defense Advisory Panel at the Heritage Foundation and a Senior Military Fellow at the Gold Institute for International Strategy. He previously served as District Director for U.S. Congressman Michael Waltz (FL6). He has contributed to the National Review, the Washington Times and many other media outlets, national and international, where he provides commentary and analysis on national security, foreign policy, strategy, leadership, and the Middle East. He is the only US general officer to have previously served a full year as a combat advisor embedded inside a Kurdish *peshmerga* brigade in Iraq. He is completing a book on that experience. It

expresses key portions of the remarkable Kurdish story of triumph over atrocity, endurance under chemical weapons and freedom after genocide.

General Audino graduated from the United States Military Academy at West Point in 1983 and retired from the Army in 2011. He served multiple assignments in armor, cavalry, infantry and Stryker units. Other key assignments include service as an Army Congressional Fellow in the US Senate, duty as the Executive Assistant to the Vice Chairman of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff, and Director of Nuclear Support at the US Defense Threat Reduction Agency. His last assignment was as the Deputy Director of Operations for Headquarters, US Army, in the Pentagon.

Date: January 22, 2026

**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 16, 2026.**

Name _____

Salads can be made without meat, please specify “no meat or vegetarian” in the comments for salad choices if desired.

**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:
jlvargascdfm@aol.com
Or call (360) 813-4444

Choice1 : Sautéed Chicken Breast with Shallots and raspberries, deglazed with cognac and finished with fresh cream. Served with rice pilaf and baby carrots.

Choice 2: Oven-Poached Salmon with Shallots and Grand Marnier finished with butter and garnished with toasted Almonds. Served with rice pilaf and buttered asparagus.

Choice 3: Vegetarian Pesto Tortellini- tri-colored cheese tortellini with roasted tomatoes, mushrooms, onions, asparagus, spinach and artichokes. Tossed with Pesto olive oil.

******Note Change>>>Total Food:\$30**

\$ _____

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><u>Membership Chair</u> LTC Jon Bateman USA (Ret) 309-678-5359</p>	<p><u>Immediate Past President</u> Andrew Hoffman, Capt., USAF, (Ret) 386-562-3325</p>	<p><u>Personal Affairs / Benefits</u> CAPT Mary McLendon, USN (Ret.) 386-847-3239</p>
<p><u>Chaplain</u> VACANT</p> <p><u>Transition Liaison*</u> TBA*</p> <p><u>Awards Committee Chair</u> Lt Col Glenn Harmon, USAF (Ret) 386 682-3064</p>	<p><u>“Officers Call” Editor & 2nd Vice President</u> CPT Joe Peabody, USA (Ret.) 913-244-2564</p> <p><u>1st Vice President & Webmaster</u> CDR Anita Williams, USCGR 954-650-9532</p>	<p><u>Surviving Spouse Team</u> Patti Higgins, Surviving Spouse Liaison 386-341-5035 Spousal Affairs Officer, TBD</p> <p>Billie Krueger, Lt., USN (Ret.)-Chair Sharon Miller, Surviving Spouse Joan Jankauskas, Surviving Spouse</p>
<p><u>Directors</u> RADM Steven Maas, USN (Ret.) 386-847-1356</p> <p>COL Skip Keating, USA (Ret.) 386-672-4536</p> <p>Col Kim Ramos, USAF (Ret.) 228-447-7802</p>	<p><u>Legislative Liaison</u> CWO2 Pierre Louis, USMC (Ret.) 386-320-3283</p> <p><u>Veterans Council Representative</u> COL Skip Keating, USA (Ret.) 386-672-4536</p>	<p><u>ROTC Liaison</u> CDR John Higgins, USN (Ret) 914-589-9036</p> <p>COL Skip Keating, USA (Ret.) 386-672-4536</p> <p>Col Kim Ramos, USAF (Ret.) 228-447-7802</p>

Donations

Scholarships

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 ~

February 2026

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](#)



Speakers Corner

LP 2026-2027 Speakers

Speakers Schedule

Jan 2026	Mr. Ernie Audino, BG USA (Ret) – Volusia County Business & Community Development – Read his Bio here!
Feb 2026	Mr. David Freeman, Lt Col USA (Ret) – Adventurer and Veteran Connections
Mar 2026	TBD
Apr 2026	No Speaker – Cadet dinner
May 2026	No Speaker – Outstanding Support to Veterans Awards

To read more on our speakers' stories click [here](#) 

<https://halifaxchaptermoaa.com/news-events/speakers-corner/speakers-corner/>

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>
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: MILL_RetiredActivities@navy.mil

Navy Retired Activities Offices

Navy Uniform Shop: (800) 368-4088; www.navy-nex.com/uniform

Report the Death of a Retiree: (800) 321-1080

Reserve Component SBP: (866) 827-5672 ask for PERS-912

Retiree Dental — Delta Dental: (888) 838-8737; www.trdp.org

Servicemembers Group Insurance (SGLI): (800) 419-1473;

www.insurance.va.gov

Naval Historical Center: (202) 433-2210; www.history.navy.mil

Social Security Administration: (800) 772-1213; www.ssa.gov

TRICARE: www.mytricare.com/mtc

TRICARE East: www.humanamilitary.com/beneficiary

AL, AR, CT, DC, DE, IL, IN, KY, FL, GA, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MS, NC, NH, NJ, NY, OH, OK, PA, RI, SC, TN (except 35 Western zips), TX (except the extreme Western area) VT, VA, WI, and WV

TRICARE West: www.tricare-west.com

AK, AZ, CA, CO, HI, ID, IA (except 82 zips near Rock Island), KS, MO (except St. Louis area), MN, MT, ND, NE, NM, NV, OR, DE, SW TX, UT, WA, WY some zips in IA, MO, TN

TRICARE Overseas: (888) 777-8343; www.tricare-overseas.com

TRICARE For Life: (866) 773-0404; www.tricare.mil/tfl

TRICARE mail order pharmacy: (877) 363-1303;

www.tricare.mil/pharmacy

www.express-scripts.com

VA: www.va.gov

Regional offices: (800) 827-1000 (overseas retirees should contact the American Embassy/consulate), TDD (800) 829-4833

Insurance:

VA Regional Office and Insurance Center

PO Box 7208 (claims inquiries) -ORPO

Box 7327 (loans) -ORPO

Box 7787 (payments)

Philadelphia PA 19101

(800) 669-8477; www.insurance.va.gov

Burial information: (800) 827-1000; www.cem.va.gov

GI Bill: (888) 442-4551; www.gibill.va.gov

Records:

For replacement DD 214s, service records, medical records, award information:

Retired prior to 1995:

www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records

Retired after 1995:

Navy Personnel Command

PERS-312E

5720 Integrity Drive

Millington, TN 38055-3120

Fax requests to: (901) 874-2664

Gray-area reservists: (866) 827-5672

Our chapter is seeking a motivated volunteer for the position listed below. Please inquire
 By contacting our Chapter President at williams.aann@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;
- 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 chapter transition news and issues to the newsletter and performing other duties the president might assign.

Membership Dues List

Sandra Outerbridge	12/31/2023
Gabriel Sanchez	12/31/2023
Rob Ehrhardt	12/31/2024
James Ellzey	12/31/2024
Donna Fries	12/31/2024
Diane Kucha	12/31/2024
Stephen Lancaster	12/31/2024
Douglas Lynch	12/31/2024
Ellen Powers	12/31/2024
Steven Sandoval	12/31/2024
James Wyatt	12/31/2024
Barnet Alpert	12/31/2024
Don Amiotte	12/31/2025
David Atkin	12/31/2025
Robert Barker	12/31/2025
Glenn Barrick	12/31/2025
Romain Bastian	12/31/2025
Steve Becker	12/31/2025
Robert Brewster	12/31/2025

Paul Bucceri	12/31/2025
Rick Butler	12/31/2025
Ronald Carroll	12/31/2025
Winston Churchill	12/31/2025
William Davidson	12/31/2025
Joseph DiBlasi	12/31/2025
Frank Farmer	12/31/2025

Lonnie Gardner	12/31/2025
Jack Halsey	12/31/2025
David Harper	12/31/2025
Robert Henin	12/31/2025
John Howell	12/31/2025
John Ives	12/31/2025
Billie Krueger	12/31/2025
Terri Lynch	12/31/2025
Lorenzo Malcolm	12/31/2025
Robert Martin	12/31/2025
John McClellan	12/31/2025
Bancroft McKittrick	12/31/2025
Michael Miglioranzi	12/31/2025
Daniel Molthen	12/31/2025
Dale Particelli	12/31/2025
Joe Peabody	12/31/2025
Keith Prewitt	12/31/2025
John Redigan, Jr.	12/31/2025
Fany Rivera	12/31/2025
Jean Rivera	12/31/2025
Clifford Smith	12/31/2025

Gordon Sparks	12/31/2025
John Stovall	12/31/2025
Earl Tingle	12/31/2025
Rudy Trembl	12/31/2025
Jerome Unatin	12/31/2025
Jose Vargas	12/31/2025

William Vivian	12/31/2025
Thomas Weigieitner	12/31/2025
David Wheel	12/31/2025
Hans Wolfer	12/31/2025

Membership renewals are available at \$20 for one year, \$33 for two years, or \$44 for three years. Please make your check payable to “MOAA Halifax Chapter” and mail it to the Chapter Treasurer, Jose Vargas, at 544 Good Life Way, Daytona Beach, FL 32124.

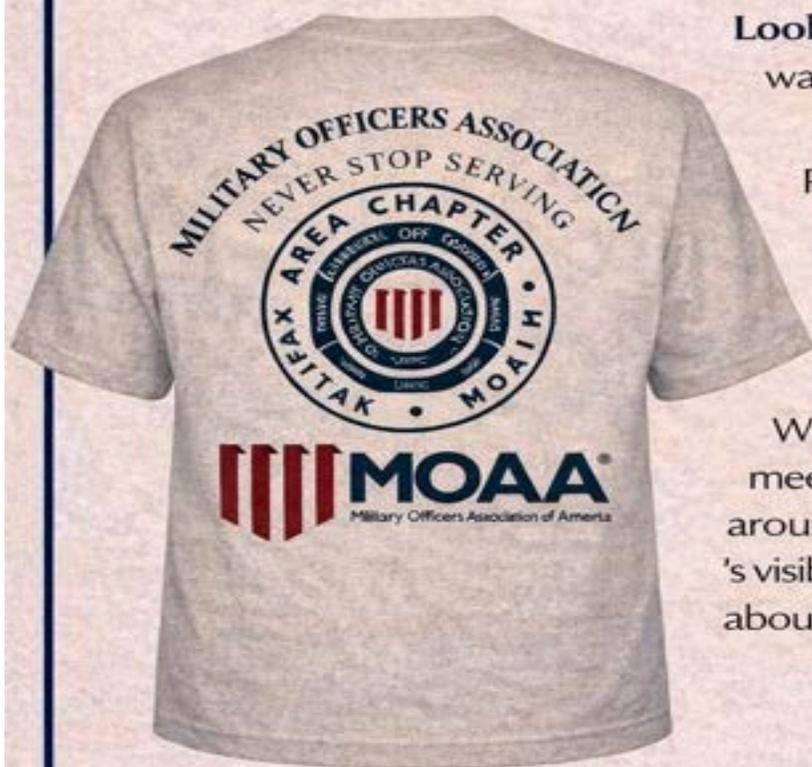
Thanks for your cooperation!!

Board of Directors

Show Your Chapter Pride and Support Our Mission!

Get Your Official Halifax Area Chapter T-Shirt Today!

\$25



Looking for a simple yet powerful way to show your support for **the Halifax Area Chapter?**

Purchase and wear our official chapter T-Shirt! It's more than just apparel; it's a statement of your commitment to our community and our mission.

When you wear your shirt to meetings, volunteer events, or around town, you increase our chapter's visibility and help spark conversations about the important work we do.

Your Purchase Makes a Difference

Each T-shirt purchase includes an average **\$5.00** donation that directly supports our vital programs and operating expenses.

Future Leaders:

- Funding scholarships and purchasing cadet rank for local JROTC/ROTC units



Community & Fellowship:



Veteran Care:

- Sponsoring the "Bagels & Bingo" event at the Emory L. Bennett State Veterans' Nursing Home
- Providing the monthly "Coffee and Doughnuts" event at the Daytona Beach VA Clinic

T-shirts will be available for purchase at our **next luncheon.**

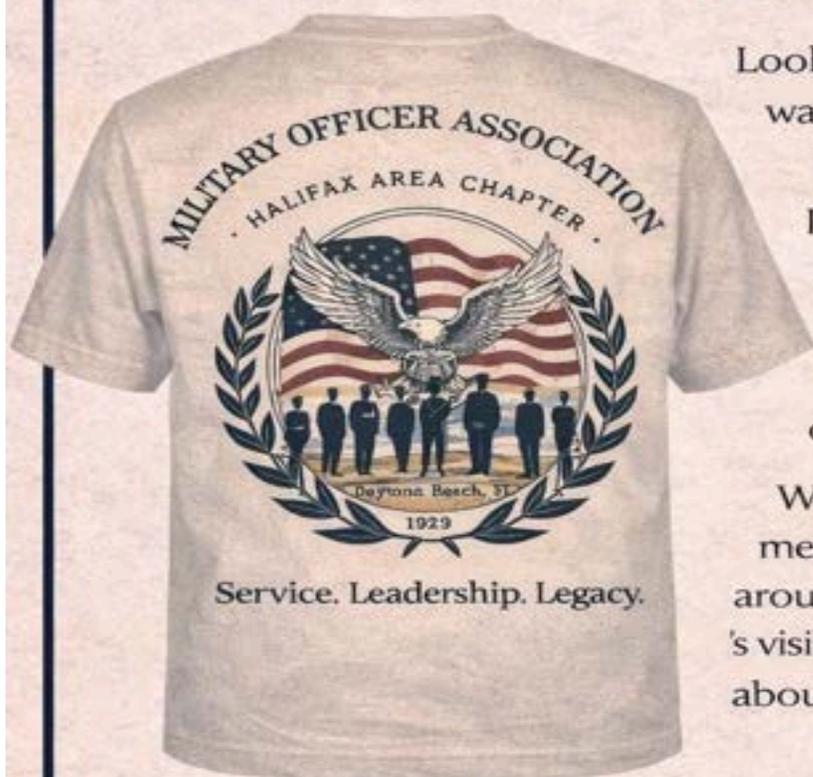
Never Stop Serving.

Halifax Area Chapter, We've Got You Covered.

Show Your Chapter Pride and Support Our Mission!

Get Your Official Halifax Area Chapter T-Shirt Today!

\$30



Looking for a simple yet powerful way to show your support for **the Halifax Area Chapter?**

Purchase and wear our official chapter T-Shirt! It's more than just apparel; it's a statement of your commitment to our community and our mission.

When you wear your shirt to meetings, volunteer events, or around town, you increase our chapter's visibility and help spark conversations about the important work we do.

Your Purchase Makes a Difference

Each T-shirt purchase includes an average \$5.00 donation that directly supports our vital programs and operating expenses.



Future Leaders:

- Funding scholarships and purchasing cadet rank for local JROTC/ROTC units.



Veteran Care:

- Sponsoring the "Bagels & Bingo" event at the Emory L. Bennett State Veterans' Nursing Home



Community & Fellowship:



- Providing the monthly 'Coffee and Doughnuts' event at the Daytona Beach VA Clinic.

Never Stop Serving.

Halifax Area Chapter, We've Got You Covered.