



**HALIFAX AREA CHAPTER  
OFFICERS CALL  
MAR 2024**



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**~MISSION STATEMENT~**

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



***President's Message***

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



It's been a busy month with lots of balls in the air as we settle into the 2024 membership year. Since we have entered a new "membership year" (the year goes from January through December) your annual dues may need refreshing. At last count there were nearly 60 members whose dues are now delinquent. Please help us clear this item from the books. If you are unsure of your status contact Lon Gardner and he will help you understand your options. If your annual dues expired in December 2023, you've received reminders by email, this Officers Call newsletter and personal phone calls from one of our board of directors members. If you haven't sent in your payment, please do this now so your membership doesn't lapse.

We've also been negotiating with the Veterans Administration and the manufacturer of the designed memorial plaque for the new VA Clinic (introduced at the February luncheon). We are currently at an impasse with the size of the plaque and the pricing.

Preparations are underway and reservations are being accepted to attend the annual Florida Council of Chapters Convention. This year the convention is being hosted by our friends in the West Volusia chapter and will be held at Daytona Shores. Information on attending was made available at the March luncheon and can be obtained by contacting your board of directors.

You may recall the theme of my January message was our tagline, "Never Stop Serving"! Well, we have a new opportunity to, once again, step forward and offer assistance. We need a chairperson/organizer for this year's Holiday Gala. Please contact me directly and let me know you want to help!

***NEVER STOP SERVING! Drew***

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

# Secretary's Report – December Board of Directors' Meeting

## Secretary's Report – February 6, 2024 - Board of Directors' Meeting

The February 2024 Board of Directors Meeting for the Halifax Chapter of MOAA met on February 6, 2024, at the Halifax Yacht Club, in Daytona Beach, FL. The meeting was called to order by Andrew Hoffman at 10 a.m.

The following board members (showed with an asterisk) and guests were present: Andrew Hoffman\*, Bancroft McKittrick\*, Kim Ramos\*, Lon Gardener\*, Don Needham\*, Skip Keating\*, Steve Maas\*, Patti Higgins\*, Steve Becker, Pierre Louis, and Anita Williams.

### **Quorum requirements met.**

### **Old Business**

The following items were discussed:

1. **The minutes of the January 2023, Board of Directors meeting** - were distributed by email during December. Acceptance of these was nominated, seconded, and approved via email.
2. **Treasurer's Report** - Lon Gardener summarized the report and said that the current checking balance is \$ 4951.68. There is \$150 in petty cash, making a total balance of \$5101.68. Lon stated that he may start to keep a running balance from month to month in the treasurer's report. Drew asked that all future treasurer's reports include a copy of the PNC Bank statement for balancing purposes. Lon agreed. Lon asked if a decision had been made on compensation for Kevin Tobias, the Gala DJ. Drew stated that once we have a chairperson for the Gala Committee, this issue will be addressed. Kim asked if there had been a financial audit recently. There was a discussion, and it was concluded that we need to get clarification on the requirement for an audit. Kim and Drew stated that an audit had been done when they had assumed the job of president and treasurer. Pierre stated he would check with national MOAA on this matter. There was a question whether members can get a receipt of their donations for tax purposes. It was pointed out that we are a non-profit organization and can provide receipts. Bancroft made a motion to accept the report, Skip seconded, and all approved.
3. **Membership** – Steve B. stated that we have 127 members; we had one new member and one member passed. He stated that there are still sixty people that have not renewed their dues. Drew asked Pierre to send an email to those members reminding them that the deadline for renewing their dues is the end of December each year. Drew also informed Lon that a check needs to go to FCOC to cover the chapter's annual dues of seventy-five cents per member.
4. **Officer Call Report** – Pierre introduced our new member, Anita Williams, CDMR USCG. He stated that Joe Peabody will be managing the Officer's Call Report and our new member, Anita Williams, will manage the website starting in March. He also stated that Joan will oversee the social media activity for the newsletter. He requested that if you have social media information, please share it on our Facebook page.
5. **Surviving Spouse Update** – Patti stated that January was a busy month. She was able to attend the virtual chapter meeting and the speaker provided must-needed advocacy information to the spouses. Pat Green, an FCOC trainer, has authored an article in the February MOAA magazine about the surviving spouses group. Patti wanted to know if the surviving spouse must pay dues when their spouse passes. It was pointed out that if the deceased spouse was a lifetime member the spouse does not have to pay local chapter membership dues.
6. **Bagels and Bingo** – Skip Keating stated they met yesterday and there were fourteen veterans, 7 MOAA volunteers, and 2 DAR volunteers. This activity takes place at Emory Bennett Veterans Nursing Home in Daytona Beach at 10 am on the first Monday of each month.
7. **VCVC Update** – Skip Keating stated that there will be a Chili cookout at Embry Riddle on February 24, 2024, from 2-4 p.m. He also told the story of what happened in 1943 when the USAT Dorchester was crossing the Atlantic Ocean, and a German submarine fired a torpedo at the ship. Four Army chaplains sacrificed their lives to save others who were onboard the sinking ship. Four Chaplains Day is celebrated on February 3 every year in recognition of their heroic act.
8. **VA Coffee and Donuts** – Patti Higgins stated they served donuts and coffee last Thursday. Patti also read an appreciation letter from the clinic to MOAA for their service. Skip mentioned that the clinic is asking for jeans donations to give to veterans who need them.
9. **FCOC Convention** – West Volusia MOAA Chapter will be hosting the Council of Chapters Convention, which is being held May 12-15, 2024, at Daytona Beach Shores.

### **From The Floor**

10. **Halifax Gala Chair** – Drew stated that the BOD is still looking for a chairperson for the Holiday Gala.

11. **Halifax River Yacht Club** -- Drew stated that there is another new banquet manager, the sixth one in a year. This person is just getting orientation and we will need to coordinate the April Scholarship dinner and pricing quickly with the new manager.
12. **Baseball Game Outing** – Kim informed the BOD that there are tickets to a baseball game on the following dates: 9-14 April, 23-28 April, and 7-12 May. The ticket for each game is \$11. We need to have at least twenty people to purchase as a group. We feel strongly that we will have that number and have asked Kim to check to see if we can make reservations for Sunday 14 April.
13. **VA Clinic Plaque** – Drew stated that we are still accepting donations for our VA clinic plaque. We have collected at least \$500 and will know the actual total as soon as Lon has a chance to tally the checks he has received. We are still accepting donations.
14. **Barracks of Hope**—Skip stated that there is a new facility that was dedicated on 23 December to house homeless veterans. The facility needs a lockable medicine cabinet which costs approximately \$1200. He asked if we would be able to contribute \$100, from the scholarship fund, to assist with this. A motion was made by Skip, Steve M. seconded and all approved.
15. **Upcoming Speakers**—Don reported that Sheriff Chitwood will be the speaker for February and Port Orange mayor, Donald Burmette will be the speaker for March. He is actively canvassing the area for potential speakers and expects to have other names by the next meeting.
16. **Outstanding Vendors**—Bancroft stated that the Outstanding Support to Veterans Award Committee will meet this month to start reviewing companies for this award. The award is presented at the May Luncheon Meeting. Committee members include Ben Taylor, Skip Keating, and Bancroft McKittrick.

The meeting was adjourned at 10: 57 a.m. Our next meeting is on March 5, 2024, HRYC.

Respectfully submitted,

Tina Dixon-Bartlett

Secretary, Halifax Chapter of MOAA



**\*2023-2024 Outstanding Support to Veterans for Profit Award Winner\***



**\*2023-2024 Outstanding Support to Veterans Nonprofit Award Winner\***



## Halifax Area 2024 Chapter Planning Board

<b>BOD Date</b>	<b>Luncheon Date</b>	<b>Speaker and/or Event</b>	<b>Supporting Elements /P.O.C.'s</b>
January 2, 2024	Thursday, January 25, 2024	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Dr. Paul Johnson – Guest Speaker</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Price: \$27 Location: Halifax River Yacht Club</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- FCOC Leadership Forum</li> <li>- Initiate the write-up of Level of Chapter Excellence - Complete</li> <li>- Start Ordering Gold Bars – In progress</li> <li>- Submit Marvin Harris Communication Award – Due February 1, 2023 - COMPLETE</li> </ul>
February 6, 2024	Thursday, February 22, 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Volusia County Sheriff Michael J. Chitwood</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;">Price: \$27 Location: Halifax River Yacht Club</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Submit to USAA for Council Sponsorship application for ROTC Dinner in April to MOAA</li> <li>- Submit Mercer Ad</li> </ul>
March 5, 2024	Thursday, March 28, 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Port Orange Mayor Don Burnette</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;">Price: \$27 Location: Halifax River Yacht Club</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Negotiate Entertainment Contract for Holiday Gala</li> </ul>
April 2, 2024	Thursday, April 25, 2024	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>ROTC Scholarship Dinner</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Price: TBD Location: Halifax River Yacht Club</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cadet Introductions and Recognition</li> <li>Obtain 2<sup>nd</sup> half of 2024 Menus from HRYC</li> </ul>
May 7, 2024	Thursday, May 23, 2024	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Presentation of the Outstanding Support to Veterans Award</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Price: TBD Location: Halifax River Yacht Club</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Level, of Excellence Submission - <b>May 1st</b></li> <li>- FCOC FL State Conference, Daytona Beach, FL</li> </ul>
	****	<b>***Chapter on Summer Break***</b>	July 4 <sup>h</sup> Volusia Veterans Parade
September 3, 2024	Thursday, September 26, 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Guest Speaker</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;">Price: TBD Location: Halifax River Yacht Club</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Agree on Nominating Committee (45 days out)</li> <li>- Obtain 2024 – 2025 Lunch Menu</li> <li>- Obtain Holiday Menu</li> </ul>
October 1, 2024	Thursday, October 24, 2024	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Surviving Spouse Appreciation Program</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Guest Speaker</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;">Price: TBD Location: Halifax River Yacht Club</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Begin Toys for Tots Campaign. Include in Officers Call and at BOD Meeting</li> <li>- Announce the Holiday Gala</li> </ul>
November 5, 2024	Thursday, November 21, 2024 <b>Date moved due to Thanksgiving Holiday</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Guest Speaker</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;">Price: TBD Location: Halifax River Yacht Club</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Advertise the “Holiday Gala” Membership Month</li> </ul>
December 3, 2024	Thursday December 19, 2024 <b>Date moved due to Christmas Holiday</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>“Holiday Gala Dinner Dance” Music and Entertainment</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Price: TBD Location: Halifax River Yacht Club</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- ERAU Fall Commissioning to Ensigns and 2ndLts</li> <li>- “Holiday Gala”</li> <li>- MOAA “CM” Modifications</li> </ul>

# LOOKING FOR A REAL ESTATE AGENT?



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## Halifax Area 2024 Action Plan

	<b>Chapter Goals and Objectives</b>	<b>Sponsor/Update/Follow-up</b>
	<b>LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS</b>	
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
2	Publish a local veteran related article in local newspaper on MOAA legislative efforts	Pierre Louis
	<b>RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION</b>	
3	The goal is for 25% of the membership to attend a luncheon/dinner.	Everyone Jan=51, Feb=, Mar=, Apr=, May=, Sep= , Oct=, Nov= , Dec=
4	Net gain of 15 members for 2024	Everyone 1 new members as of 2-01-2024
5	Identify and develop potential leaders from the Chapter membership to serve on the Board of Directors (BOD).	Bancroft McKittrick and committee
6	Feature New Members Highlights, in the Officer Call (OC)	Pierre Louis/Joe Peabody
	<b>PERSONAL AFFAIRS</b>	
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
	<b>BASE COMMUNITY</b>	
9	Present an annual “Outstanding Support for Veterans Award” to a local business or organization	Bancroft McKittrick/Skip Keating/Ben Taylor
10	Continue Spring and Fall Scholarships for Army/Navy/Air Force cadets/midshipmen, and one high school scholarship in the Spring.	Kim Ramos, Glenn Harmon
11	Enhance the ROTC Dinner Event to recognize the cadets and encourage support for the Scholarship Program	Drew Hoffman
12	Bagels and Bingo at Emory Bennet Nursing Home	Skip Keating
13	Coffee and Donuts at VA Clinic	John Higgins
14	Provide Gold Bars to all newly commissioned O-1s	Drew Hoffman/Kim Ramos
15	Host an annual “Holiday Gala”; Invite Guest Chapters	To Be Determined
16	Continue to offer Cyber Security 101 workshops to community organizations, as requested	Kim Ramos, Pierre Louis, Mary McLendon, Bancroft McKittrick
	<b>OTHER</b>	
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

### TRICARE For Life, Star Act, Housing Help Will Anchor MOAA's Spring Advocacy Push

February 07, 2024

Illustration by John Harman/MOAA

By MOAA Staff



The three issue areas comprising this year's Advocacy in Action (AiA) campaign show the range of MOAA's legislative priorities – not just for officers, not just for retirees, and not wavering on our commitment to long-term advocacy goals.

Here's a quick look at each of the issues, which were approved by MOAA's board of directors Jan. 19. Want to get involved? [Click here for details.](#)

#### **Concurrent Receipt**

What's at Stake: The Major Richard Star Act (H.R. 1282/S. 344) would end an unjust offset for combat-injured veterans who lose a dollar of service-earned retirement pay for every dollar of VA disability compensation. The bill has a supermajority of bipartisan support – more

than 325 House co-sponsors and more than 70 in the Senate – thanks in part to past grassroots efforts from MOAA and partners in [The Military Coalition](#).

MOAA's Mission: We need to keep up this momentum and secure the bill's inclusion in the FY 2025 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). It's time for lawmakers to push this long-delayed step toward concurrent receipt for all past the finish line.

[TAKE ACTION ONLINE: [Ask Your Legislators to Support Combat-Injured Veterans](#)]

#### **Full Housing Allowance**

What's at Stake: The BAH Restoration Act (H.R. 2537/S. 1823) reverses DoD policy capping the Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) at 95% of local rental and utilities costs – a policy that's placing a financial burden on servicemembers and families in the middle of a nationwide rental shortage and ongoing recruiting challenges. Restoring this benefit – it was cut by Congress incrementally beginning in 2015 – would make a difference in the quality of life for all who serve, but especially among junior enlisted members and their families, who rely on this allowance as a large percentage of their compensation.

MOAA's Mission: Language requiring an incremental increase reached the late stages of the FY 2024 NDAA process but ultimately was not included in the final bill. We must send a message to lawmakers that close isn't good enough – servicemembers deserve a full housing allowance, and more progress must be made this legislative session.

[TAKE ACTION ONLINE: [Ask Your Legislators to Support Full BAH for Servicemembers](#)]

#### **TRICARE For Life**

What's at Stake: Protecting TRICARE For Life (TFL) remains a key issue for all MOAA members – those already covered by TFL and Medicare, along with those who'll use the benefit when they turn 65. MOAA remains concerned about a [Congressional Budget Office \(CBO\) report](#) suggesting two measures which would severely weaken the

benefit – enrollment fees topping \$1,100 per family, and cost-sharing requirements including an \$850 deductible and up to \$4,675 in potential yearly medical bills.

MOAA's Mission: Legislators seeking solutions to budget gaps must hear a clear message: Maintaining TFL is not just a national obligation to those who spent decades in uniform, it's also critical to ensuring key influencers in the recruiting process aren't discouraged from recommending uniformed service to future generations. While TFL fees or cost shares aren't part of any current legislation, we must counter CBO's misguided options with our grassroots advocacy efforts. The next CBO release is slated for December of this year, following the elections; MOAA will update our members as soon as we get the report.

Take Action Online: MOAA's last online advocacy effort addressing potential TFL fees resulted in nearly 49,000 messages to lawmakers. Register for [MOAA's Legislative Action Center](#) today so you can be part of upcoming campaigns.

**Pierre Louis, Legislative Chair**

Source: [www.moaa.org](http://www.moaa.org)

***“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](#)**

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MLS



**2023 TAPS - Part 2**  
*Let's remember our Shipmate who passed away*

Wesley James McMillan  
March 1942 – August 2023

Wesley James McMillan, of Daytona Beach, and a proud veteran of the US Army, passed away 21 August 2023. The son of Joseph Sr & Bennie Lee McMillan, Wesley was born in March 1942 in Apalachicola, FL.



After high school, Wesley enlisted in the US Army. He achieved the rank E5, then enrolled at Florida A&M. While in college, he continued his Military aspirations in ROTC. He completed college in 1965 with a BS in Mathematics & Engineering and was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant. In 1968 he married his college sweetheart, Alma McNair, a marriage that lasted 55 years. To this union one son was born.

Wesley's career spanned 31 years which included a tour in Vietnam & the following assignments: Associate Professor US Military Academy, West Point; Deputy District Engineer, Riyadh Saudi Arabia; US Central Command (CENTCOM); and JOBS Director of Engineering & Housing Fort Eustis VA. Wesley retired as a Lieutenant Colonel & settled in Daytona Beach. Wesley cared for his Dad in Apalachicola and loved to play sports, fish, and relax. So, relax now, Soldier, we have the watch.

\*\*\*\*\*



**Who doesn't love a good baseball game?**

Calling everyone to the Jackie Robinson Ballpark in Daytona to eat, drink, be merry and cheer the Tortugas on to victory over the Cardinals!

The game is 14 April at 1700, the tickets are \$11. Tickets must be purchased by 9 April to sit in the MOAA / Team RWB section.

You can purchase tickets through Lon Garner, (386) 672-4578, or Mary McLendon, (386) 847-3239.

\*\*\*\*\*

March 2024 is Women's History Month. Women's History Month is a celebration of women's contributions to history, culture and society & is observed annually in the month of March in the US. So salute a female Veteran today!

***"If they don't give you a seat at the table, bring a folding chair."***

Shirley Chisholm (1924-2005), US Congresswoman

**Speaker: The Honorable Don Burnette**  
**Topic: City Government**

**About Don,**

Don graduated from Spruce Creek High School in 1985 and earned his Bachelors and Master of Business Administration from UCF. A lifelong resident of the area, he and his wife Anita decided to start a family here and now have 2 boys, Matthew and Patrick, both in college.

With dedicated community involvement, Don was first elected to serve District 2 on the Port Orange City Council in 2010. He then served as Vice Mayor for 2 years and was elected Mayor of the city in 2016 in addition to his day job as a Senior Loan Officer.



**Date: MAR 28, 2024**

**Social Hour starts at 1100**  
**Lunch served at 1130**

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

Please indicate choice(s) and number of the following entrees  
 Reservations are due by 1800 MAR 22, 2024

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**FOLLOW LINK FOR  
 ONLINE RESERVATION**

or

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

EMAIL:

[lrgardner@att.net](mailto:lrgardner@att.net)  
 Or call 775-721-0967

**1. Salmon Salad**-\*GF-Grilled salmon on bed of mixed greens w/strawberries, craisins, Walnuts, cherry tomatoes & goat cheese. Tossed in a cider vinaigrette. Topped w/ a strawberry balsamic reduction

# \_\_\_\_\_

**2. Chicken Piccata**-Egg battered chicken breast, w/fresh mushrooms, capers & lemon butter. Served w/ wild rice pilaf & mixed vegetables

# \_\_\_\_\_

**3. Stuffed Bell Pepper**- Stuffed w/Jasmine rice, assorted vegetables & basil. Served w/a red pepper hummus sauce

**Total Food: \$27**

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Scholarship Donation

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Veterans Outreach Donation

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Fund Donation

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total**

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership Application**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



**Halifax Area Chapter of MOAA  
Membership Application**



NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF BIRTH: \_\_\_\_\_

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

(MM/DD/YYYY)

RANK: \_\_\_\_\_ BRANCH OF SERVICE: \_\_\_\_\_

STATUS: \_\_\_\_\_

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

STREET ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

SPOUSES NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE (indicate (H)ome or (C)ell): \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

I am applying for  CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP

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

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

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

**\*WE APPRECIATE THE FOLLOWING OFFICERS FOR THEIR VOLUNTEERISM\***

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

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

Ed Kufeldt	Pierre Louis	Don Amiotte	Roman Bastian
Dr. Ronald & Kay Carroll	Tina Dixon-Barlett	John & Patti Higgins	Bancroft & Kathleen McKittrick
Robert Martin	Wendy Keller	Steve & Judy Maas	

**Vet Outreach**

Don Amiotte	Gary & Anne Anderson	Tina Dixon-Barlett
Dr. Ronald & Kay Carroll	John & Patti Higgins	

**Membership**

Tina Dixon-Bartlett	John and Patti Higgins	Don Amiotte
Dr. Ronald & Kay Carroll	Skip Keating (Veterans Plaque)	

**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](mailto: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~

**APR 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



### *Batter up!!!!*

Come join us for some fun and relaxation on **14 April at 5 PM for a baseball outing.** We have reserved seats behind first base at a Daytona Tortugas game. The Tortugas are a minor league team for the Cincinnati Reds. Tickets are \$11. Provide cash or check payable to Halifax Area MOAA to Lon Gardner. Payment must be received no later than 9 April. If you have any questions contact **Kim Ramos** at **228-447-7802** or **karamos@att.net**.



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](mailto: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**

<b><i>Name</i></b>	<b><i>Size</i></b>	<b><i>Yearly</i></b>	<b><i>Selection</i></b>
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Blue	Full Page	\$250	

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**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](mailto: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](mailto:halifaxareamoaa@gmail.com).

***Thank You For Your Support!!!***

**NEVER STOP SERVING.®**

## [Why Join Our Chapter?](#) **[BENEFITS of Chapter Membership](#)**

Halifax Area Chapter membership is open to all men and women who are or have ever been commissioned or warrant officers in any component of the seven uniformed services: Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, Public Health Service, and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Individuals can elect to become life members of the Association or to renew their membership yearly. Surviving Spouses are automatically eligible for membership in the Association. The Board of Directors may grant Honorary Membership to foreign officers who apply for such membership. Membership in National MOAA The basic National MOAA membership is free. We encourage anyone that is not a member, to take the time to register. To sign up for National Basic Membership, all you need is a valid email address and, of course, the desire to join National MOAA.

To join, follow this link: [National MOAA Basic Membership](#)

Chapter Dues -\$20 for one year, \$33 for 2 years, or \$44 for 3 years. Dues for Chapter membership with electronic distribution of "Officers Call" can also be paid online via credit card at [CHAPTER DUES](#)

Halifax Area Chapter Talking Points

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

Scholarship Information:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



## READY REFERENCE CONTACT INFORMATION

**Air Force Retiree Services:** (800) 531-7502; [www.retirees.af.mil](http://www.retirees.af.mil)

**Arlington National Cemetery:** (703) 607-8000;

[www.arlingtoncemetery.org](http://www.arlingtoncemetery.org)

**Armed Forces Retirement Home:** (800) 422-9988; [www.afrh.gov](http://www.afrh.gov)

**Army & Air Force Exchange Service:** (214) 312-2011;

[www.aafes.com](http://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/](http://www.va.gov/resources/combat-related-special-compensation-crsc/)

**DEERS:** (800)-538-9552, Fax: (831) 655-8317;

[www.tricare.osd.mil/deers](http://www.tricare.osd.mil/deers)

**Defense Commissary Agency:** [www.commissaries.com](http://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](http://www.fra.org)

**Gulf War homepage:** [www.gulflink.osd.mil](http://www.gulflink.osd.mil)

**I.D. Cards Benefits and Eligibility:** (866) 827-5672;

**Internal Revenue Service:** (800) 829-1040; [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov)

**Marine Corps Retired Affairs:** (800) 336-4649; [www.usmc.mil](http://www.usmc.mil)

(Hover over "Marine Services" then click on "Retired Services")

**Medicare:** (800) 633-4227. TTY: (877) 486-2048; [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov)

**Military Officers Assoc. of America:** (800) 234-6622; [www.moaa.org](http://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](mailto:MILL_RetiredActivities@navy.mil)

**Navy Retired Activities Offices**

**Navy Uniform Shop:** (800) 368-4088; [www.navy-nex.com/uniform](http://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](http://www.trdp.org)

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

[www.insurance.va.gov](http://www.insurance.va.gov)

**Naval Historical Center:** (202) 433-2210; [www.history.navy.mil](http://www.history.navy.mil)

**Social Security Administration:** (800) 772-1213; [www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov)

**TRICARE:** [www.mytricare.com/mtc](http://www.mytricare.com/mtc)

**TRICARE East:** [www.humanamilitary.com/beneficiary](http://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](http://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](http://www.tricare-overseas.com)

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

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

[www.tricare.mil/pharmacy](http://www.tricare.mil/pharmacy)

[www.express-scripts.com](http://www.express-scripts.com)

**VA:** [www.va.gov](http://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](http://www.insurance.va.gov)

**Burial information:** (800) 827-1000; [www.cem.va.gov](http://www.cem.va.gov)

**GI Bill:** (888) 442-4551; [www.gibill.va.gov](http://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](http://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](mailto: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 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.

## Community Support Alert

At the recent Veterans Council Of Volusia County, Skip Keating, reported that the Barracks Of Hope needs a lockable nurses medical cabinet that would cost about \$1200. **Our chapter board decided at the last meeting to support this worthy cause and donated \$100. Great support Halifax Area Chapter!**

The Barracks of Hope provides transitional housing for up to 9 months to male and female veterans who have struggled with homelessness, addiction, and mental health. Single occupancy rooms are provided, along with mental health counseling, case management, and three meals per day. In 2019, Barracks of Hope served 52 veterans and helped move 28 into permanent housing.

The Barracks of Hope provides transitional housing for single homeless veterans (male and female) who are struggling with mental health and/or substance abuse. Veterans receive a single occupancy room, three meals each day, mental health counseling, case management, group sessions, and assistance with locating permanent housing.

Source: <https://halifaxurbanministries.org/about-hum.html>

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