



**HALIFAX AREA CHAPTER  
OFFICERS CALL  
MAY 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).*



This month we celebrate Memorial Day on which we set aside our daily routines to mourn and honor our deceased brothers and sisters who served this wonderful country! I hope everyone will take a moment away from the barbeque and ball games to pay special tribute to our brethren.

Take me out to the ball game! All of those who joined us and the cadre from "Team Red, White & Blue" were treated to a great game, albeit a loss, by our locals in ten innings. Next time we have a special event like this you should consider joining us. It's a great extension of our monthly gatherings and a good time of camaraderie for all. Thanks Kim and Mary for organizing this.

If you were unable to attend the April meeting – a dinner on April 25th – you missed the annual celebration and recognition of our scholarship winners from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University and Mainland High School. A wonderful celebration!

We will have a special table available at the next membership meeting (May 23rd) as we continue to try to keep our membership list current. You are invited to stop by the table and verify your information.

The annual Florida Council of Chapters (FCOC) convention is right around the corner, May 13-15. This year we are fortunate to have this very popular business/pleasure meeting right here at Daytona Shores. Our chapter looks to be very well represented but there is always room for more attendees.

Finally, a very special thanks to our Outstanding Support to Veterans awards committee. They have been working diligently, again, to select two recipients – A Not-for-Profit and a For-Profit entity to be recognized and honored at our May 23rd Luncheon.

If you are not able to join us at the May luncheon meeting, enjoy your summer months and consider joining us for the July 4th Volusia Veterans Parade. Remember

***NEVER STOP SERVING! Drew***

	<i><b>Chapter Officers</b></i>		
<b>President</b>	<b>Drew Hoffman, Capt. USAF (Ret)</b>	<b>386-562-3325</b>	<a href="mailto:drewhoffman49@gmail.com"><b>drewhoffman49@gmail.com</b></a>
<b>1st Vice President</b>	<b>Don Needham, LCDR, USN, (Ret)</b>	<b>386-383-8423</b>	<a href="mailto:fitron84@gmail.com"><b>fitron84@gmail.com</b></a>
<b>2nd Vice President</b>	<b>Anita Williams, CDR, USCGR (RET)</b>	<b>954-650-9532</b>	<a href="mailto:williams.aann@gmail.com"><b>williams.aann@gmail.com</b></a>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Lonnie R. Gardner, LTC, USA, (Ret)</b>	<b>386-672-4578</b>	<a href="mailto:lgardner@att.net"><b>lgardner@att.net</b></a>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Tina Dixon-Bartlett, LTC USA (Ret)</b>	<b>352-476-8032</b>	<a href="mailto:joyfultina@aol.com"><b>joyfultina@aol.com</b></a>

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

## Secretary's Report – April 2, 2024 - Board of Directors Meeting

The April 2024 Board of Directors Meeting for the Halifax Chapter of MOAA met on April 2, 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\*, Tina Dixon-Bartlett\*, Kim Ramos\*, Lon Gardener\*, Skip Keating\*, Steve Maas\*, Steve Becker, Joe Peabody, and Anita Williams.

**Quorum requirements met.**

### Reports of Officers/Committees

**The following items were discussed:**

- 1. The minutes of the April Board of Directors meeting** - were distributed by email during the month. 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 \$ 6421.82. There is \$150 in petty cash, making a total balance of \$6571.82. There were several questions relating to the report. Lon will recheck the figures, correct the report, and send it out to the members for review and acceptance. Lon mentioned that he had received an invoice for \$2800 from Moldova, which he was unaware of. It was agreed that this was a fraud and should not be paid. Lon suggested a policy that two signatures are needed to pay unusual invoices.
- 3. Membership** – Steve Becker stated that there were forty-one attendees at the monthly luncheon. He stated that the membership list shows 129 members; however, eighteen of those members were new cadets who signed up last year. He stated that he has been unable to contact them for their annual dues. It was agreed that we should remove them from the list. Drew said that we get \$10 from National for each new member, so we will continue to encourage them to join our chapter. Steve mentioned that an email, regarding dues, stated a fee for paper membership, however that was changed a couple of years ago.
- 4. Officer Call Report** – Joe reported that he is learning the process for creating the monthly Officer Call newsletter and Pierre is helping him. He announced that April's Cadet Dinner will only cost \$27. Drew confirmed this is the price, per the club manager.
- 5. Surviving Spouse Update** – Patti was not at the meeting.

Old Business.

- 6. Bagels and Bingo** – Skip stated that they met yesterday and there were eighteen veterans, and nine volunteers, of which two were Daughters of the American Revolution members. He also stated that there will be a Volunteers Luncheon at Emory Bennett on April 17th. Skip reported that we have received a thank-you card from the Barracks of Hope for the rolling medicine cabinet. This activity occurs at Emory Bennett Veterans Nursing Home in Daytona Beach at 10 am on the first Monday of each month.
- 7. VCVC Update** – Skip Keating reported that new Bingo cards had been purchased. And, that the Knights of Columbus had purchased the eight wooden chairs that had been needed. This organization meets on the third Saturday of the month.
- 8. VA Coffee and Donuts** – This activity is “on hold” until the VA Clinic has relocated.

New Business.

- 9. Outstanding Dues** – Steve passed out a letter for review. The letter will go out to members who still owe dues. It was reviewed and all agreed that the letter was ready to be sent and will state the last date to renew is April 30.
- 10. Membership List** – Anita stated that updating the membership list is going well. When she has completed the list, it will be sent to Steve and Jon. She will be meeting with Pierre to get familiar with managing the webmaster process. Drew mentioned that FCOC is transitioning to a new Website.
- 11. Baseball Game Outing** – Kim stated that we have thirty seats reserved for April 14 at 5 p.m. and 34 folks have already signed up. She will reserve an additional ten seats. Fifteen of our seats are reserved by Team Red, White & Blue. The tickets are \$11, and we will be sitting behind first base.
- 12. Halifax Gala Chair** – Drew stated that we still do not have a chairperson for the holiday gala. He stated that he has asked several members if they would be able to perform this job, but so far no one has accepted. Drew mentioned that we may not be able to have a gala if there is no chairperson. Kim suggested that we use the same format that we used for the April dinner. Everyone agreed that was a great idea. Lon will contact

the DJ for cost and Drew will collaborate with the club to create the menu. The attire will be formal. We will have the installation of officers and we will have dancing.

**From The Floor**

**13. Outstanding Vendors**—Bancroft stated that the winner of the non-profit vendor’s award is Vitas. The committee will meet this Friday to choose the “for-profit” Outstanding Support to Veterans Award. The award will be presented at the May Luncheon Meeting.

**14. FCOC** – Pierre is one of MOAA’s “Advocacy in Action” members and he will be in D.C. on April 14, 2024, for that meeting. He will also be the speaker at the Memorial Day service in Ormond Beach.

**15. Fourth of July Parade** – our chapter will be in the Volusia 4th of July parade. All are welcome to Participate.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 a.m. Our next meeting is on May 7, 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 (As of 3/23/2024)**

<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	<b>Dr. Paul Johnson – Guest Speaker</b>  Price: \$27 Location: Halifax River Yacht Club	- FCOC Leadership Forum - Initiate the write-up of Level of Chapter Excellence - Complete - Start Ordering Gold Bars – In progress - Submit Marvin Harris Communication Award – Due February 1, 2023 - COMPLETE
February 6, 2024	Thursday, February 22, 2024	- Volusia County Sheriff Michael J. Chitwood  Price: \$27 Location: Halifax River Yacht Club	- Submit to USAA for Council Sponsorship application for ROTC Dinner in April to MOAA - Submit Mercer Ad
March 5, 2024	Thursday, March 28, 2024	- Port Orange Mayor Don Burnette  Price: \$27 Location: Halifax River Yacht Club	- Negotiate Entertainment Contract for Holiday Gala
April 2, 2024	Thursday, April 25, 2024	<b>ROTC Scholarship Dinner</b>  Price: \$27 Location: Halifax River Yacht Club	Cadet Introductions and Recognition Obtain 2 <sup>nd</sup> half of 2024 Menus from HRYC
May 7, 2024	Thursday, May 23, 2024	<b>Presentation of the Outstanding Support to Veterans Award</b>  Price: \$27 Location: Halifax River Yacht Club	- Level, of Excellence Submission - FCOC FL State Conference, Daytona Beach, FL
	****	*** <b>Chapter on Summer Break</b> ***	July 4 <sup>h</sup> Volusia Veterans Parade
September 3, 2024	Thursday, September 26, 2024	- Guest Speaker Price: TBD Location: Halifax River Yacht Club	- Agree on Nominating Committee (45 days out) - Obtain 2024 – 2025 Lunch menu
October 1, 2024	Thursday, October 24, 2024	<b>Surviving Spouse Appreciation Program</b> - Guest Speaker Price: TBD Location: Halifax River Yacht Club	- Begin Toys for Tots Campaign. Include in Officers Call and at BOD Meeting - Announce the Holiday Gala
November 5, 2024	Thursday, November 21, 2024 Date moved due to Thanksgiving Holiday	- Guest Speaker Price: TBD Location: Halifax River Yacht Club	- Advertise the “Holiday Gala” Membership Month
December 3, 2024	Thursday December 19, 2024 Date moved due to Christmas Holiday	“Holiday Gala Dinner Dance” Music and Entertainment Price: TBD Location: Halifax River Yacht Club	- ERAU Fall Commissioning to Ensigns and 2ndLts - “Holiday Gala” - MOAA “CM” Modifications

# LOOKING FOR A REAL ESTATE AGENT?



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**BROKER ASSOCIATE/MOAA MEMBER**  
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## Halifax Area 2024 Action Plan (As of 3/24/2024)

	<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, April - Cadet’s Night, May - Outstanding Business and Not-for-Profit.
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=49, Mar=41, Apr=51, May=, Sep= , Oct=, Nov= , Dec=
4	Net gain of 15 members for 2024	Everyone 2 new members as of 5-01-2024
5	Identify and develop potential leaders from the Chapter membership to serve on the Board of Directors (BOD).	Bancroft McKittrick and committee
6	Feature New Members Highlights, in the Officer Call (OC)	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 Bennett 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	Drew Hoffman, Board of Directors
16	Continue to offer Cyber Security 101 workshops to community organizations, as requested	Kim Ramos, Pierre Louis, Mary McLendon, Bancroft McKittrick
	<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

## Legislative Affairs/National MOAA Advocacy in Action

**M**OAA's annual signature legislative event, Advocacy in Action (AiA), took place on Capitol Hill on April 17th. Team Florida took the lead in meeting with our twenty-eight elected Congressional Representatives or their staffers. The five Florida teams were headed by Steve Bond, the Vice President of the Florida Council; John Murphy, the incoming Vice President of the Council; Pierre Louis, the Chair of Council Legislative Affairs; Tony LaVecchia, the Area Vice President for NE Florida; and Dan Hill, the Area Vice President for Mid-Central Florida. They were supported by MOAA Board Members Marc Oliveri, Rick Buchanan, and Mike Hewett, as well as MOAA Virtual Chapter Representatives Joe Gollasch and Stephanie Rose. Our team served as the representative of the thirty-eight Florida chapters and the entire membership of 38,000 MOAA members in Florida. Our objective was to champion the rights of all veterans and their families, ensure that the commitments made to veterans are upheld, and showcase the formidable influence of MOAA through its large membership.

**P**articipating in the AiA efforts on Capitol Hill and witnessing the direct outcomes of our combined advocacy endeavors was exhilarating. I took great pride in actively contributing to the preservation of earned benefits for veterans and their families. Nevertheless, our task still must solicit your support by logging online into the Legislative Active Center and continuing to see letters of support to our Florida lawmakers. It is imperative that all of our members actively engage in Advocacy in Action this year, as well as in subsequent years. If you have not already done so, it is imperative that you take immediate action. To register and get in touch with our elected representatives, please visit the following link: <https://moaa.quorum.us/>.

### **Pierre Louis, FCOC Legislative Affairs Chair**



**Pierre Louis meets with Congressional staffers on the hill to discuss the Major Richard Star Act, the Basic Allowance for Housing, and the push to preserve the Tricare for Life from any future cuts.**

*“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](#)*



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](http://MOAA.org/AIA).



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





## **New Daytona VA Clinic**

The new Daytona Beach VA clinic represents a concerted effort by the VA to meet expectations for a growing community of Veterans in this area. On Thursday, community leaders, administrators & Veterans got to see the finished product: over 133,000-square-foot, tech-equipped building at 1776 N. Williamson Blvd with the capacity to treat as many as 30,000 patients in numerous areas of care. This beautiful new clinic officially opens its doors May 13.

The Clinic includes 23 departments such as dental, primary care, vision, laboratory, physical therapy & pharmacy. It will also house the homeless program & specialty services like cardiovascular diagnostics, neurology, vascular, chiropractic and orthopedics. Florida Sen Tom Wright said it is the 5th largest VA clinic in the world, and there is room for expansion. The facility is open to all Veterans, not just those from Volusia County. Patients will be accepted beginning 13 May. The clinic's regular operating hours (0800-1630, Monday-Friday) will remain the same.

\*\*\*\*\*

## **The Power of Prevention: Get Cancer Screenings With TRICARE**

According to the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#), catching cancer early is one of the best ways to protect yourself and your loved ones from cancer. That's where routine [cancer screenings](#) come in. Screening tests can find many common cancers before they cause symptoms. If you've been putting off a screening that's recommended for you, it's time to make it a priority.

TRICARE covers a wide range of cancer screenings at no cost to you when you follow [your plan's rules](#) for getting preventive care. Recommended cancer screenings depend on your age, sex, and risk factors.

For women, TRICARE covers: [Mammograms](#), usually starting at age 40 and [Pap tests](#) starting at age 21. For men, TRICARE covers: [Prostate cancer exams](#), usually starting at age 50 and [Testicular exams](#) for men ages 13-39 with certain risk factors.

For both men and women, TRICARE covers: [Colorectal cancer tests](#) starting at age 45, [Lung cancer screening](#) for certain smokers ages 50-80, [Oral cancer exams](#) for adults at increased risk due to tobacco or alcohol use, [Skin cancer exams](#) for people with certain risk factors including family history and frequent sun exposure, and [Thyroid cancer exams](#) for adults exposed to radiation.

If you show signs or symptoms that could mean cancer, see your doctor as soon as possible. Preventive screenings can help find cancer early, when it's most treatable. Please take advantage of these covered screenings. They could save your life.



**VETERANS SUPPORT AWARD**

**\*Veterans Support Award Winner\***

*Please join us for our annual Outstanding Support to Veterans Award! The award is presented to a local area company making the most significant contribution to veterans and their families. In the past, our chapter has given one award. This year we will be presenting two awards. One award is presented to a for-profit company and one award to a nonprofit. The winners will be selected by a panel of judges based on the following criteria:*

- *Such contributions will be in providing services that directly result in improving the health, morale, and welfare of individual service members and their families.*
- *Such contribution may be in providing US military forces with new and/or improved systems that significantly improve US military capability.*

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

Date: May 23, 2024

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

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

Please indicate choice(s) and number of the following entrees  
Reservations are due by May 17, 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. Chicken Cobb Salad, GF:** Grilled Chicken, chopped, mixed w/greens, tomatoes, bacon, hard-boiled eggs & blue cheese crumbles, w/ranch or blue cheese dressing

# \_\_\_\_\_

**2. Pork Loin, GF:** Stuffed w/spinach, cheese & herbs. Served w/wild rice pilaf.

# \_\_\_\_\_

**3. Vegetable Pesto Primavera, V,GF:** Assorted vegetables tossed in pesto & white wine. Served over penne pasta w/parmesan cheese.

**Total Food: \$27**

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

Scholarship Donation

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

Veterans Outreach Donation

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

Membership Fund Donation

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

**Total**

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

**Membership Application**

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



**Halifax Area Chapter of MOAA  
Membership Application**



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

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

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

(MM/DD/YYYY)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

I  AM  AM NOT a member of National MOAA. My Membership No. is \_\_\_\_\_  
(Shown on line 2 of the "Military Officer" magazine mailing label 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.moaafi.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**

Don Amiotte	Roman & Evelyn Bastian	Steve & Judy Becker	Tina Dixon-Bartlett
Lonnie Gardner	John & Patti Higgins	Robert Martin & Wendy Keller	Bancroft & Kathleen McKittrick
Sharon Miller			

**Vet Outreach**

Don Amiotte	Tina Dixon-Bartlett	Lonnie Gardner
John & Patti Higgins	Robert Martin & Wendy Keller	John & Patti Higgins Sharon Miller

**Membership**

Don Amiotte	Tina Dixon-Bartlett	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](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~

**SEP 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**



### ***NEW Daytona VA Clinic set to OPEN!***

The new Veterans Affairs (VA Clinic) multi-specialty clinic located at 1776 N. Williamson Blvd. in Daytona Beach, Florida, is set to open on May 8, 2024. This announcement marks the culmination of a significant \$60 million project that began construction in December 2021. At 131,000 square feet, the clinic will be more than twice the size of the current William V. Chappell VA clinic, offering a vast expansion of services and capabilities.



Eric C. Matteson

Cell: (386) 333-1200



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***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**

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Red	3" x 3"	\$150	
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- 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.gulfink.osd.mil](http://www.gulfink.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.

