



Military Officers Association of America
Northeast Florida Chapter
Monthly Membership Newsletter
March 2024 Edition



P.O. Box 442022,
Jacksonville, FL 32222-2022

"Chapter website"
<http://moaafi.org/Chapters/NEFLMOAA/>

"Chapter FB Page"
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NOR'EASTER Editor
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MOAA Legislative Action Center
<https://moaa.quorum.us/>

This publication is intended for the benefit of our membership and to provide a form of communications to the members by the Officers and Board of Directors of the chapter.

The "Nor'easter" is a newsletter of MOAA Northeast Florida Chapter (FL-18); published by the Northeast Florida Chapter, 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 also do not reflect an endorsement by MOAA or this affiliate.

CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION & RENEWAL

If you would like to join our chapter or renew your current membership go to <https://chapterdues.moaa.org/> by doing so you will be able to pay online using your credit/debit card. Annual membership is ONLY \$25.00 or \$12.50 if you are a surviving spouse. If you have any questions please contact our chapter Membership Chair, David Mosley, by email at dlynnmosley@gmail.com.



The President's Corner

CDR Paul Werring, USN (Ret)

We have resumed our in-person Board of Directors meetings; they'll be held in the Main Brace at the River Cove Conference Center. Starting with the March meeting they will be held on the 2nd Wednesday of the month (one week prior to our regular meetings). We felt by doing this we could discuss issues pertinent to the Chapter and then bring them to the regular meetings. In case you didn't know, all members of the Chapter are invited to attend the Board meetings and participate in the discussions, but only Board Members are able to vote on items brought up at the meeting.

I want to thank Wayne Elliott, Moe Brown, and Bruce Carawon for stepping up to take over the Scholarship committee. We plan to give two \$1,000 scholarships to JROTC members at area high schools. If you know of a student you think would be good candidate for a scholarship, encourage them to apply. Also, as we approach the JROTC award season, Bruce will be asking for volunteers to help with presentations. This is a great opportunity to talk up our Chapter and recruit potential new members.

The Florida Council of Chapters (FCOC) annual Convention will be held at the Shores Resort and Spa in Daytona Beach from Monday, 13 May through Wednesday, 15 May. The Shores is located right on the beach and the FCOC has reserved the entire hotel for our use. FCOC has arranged for members to stay on after the convention ends and enjoy the beachfront accommodations at the event rate. I encourage you to attend; it is shaping up to be a great event! The FCOC website, www.FLMOAA.org, has more information.

One idea I brought back from the Leadership Training Seminar I attended in January is holding socials once a quarter. I raised this subject at both the regular Chapter meeting and Board meeting in February and received positive feedback on the concept. Now we need to decide day of the week, time, and location. I would love to hear your suggestions.

Lastly, our Chapter received a check for \$100 along with the FCOC's "GREEN" award. This award recognizes our Chapter for being rated green in every metric FCOC uses to measure its Chapters' health. I want to thank David Mosley for his tireless efforts as Secretary to keep us on top of these requirements.

As always, if you have any thoughts or concerns on any issue, you can always e-mail them to me at pgwerring@gmail.com. Thanks again for your support.

Paul

From Your 2nd Vice President

LT David Faehnrich, USN (Ret)

MEETING UPDATES. We held our February Meeting / Luncheon on the 21st at the River Cove Conference Center on NAS JAX, where we had 28 people in attendance.

Our guest speaker, LCDR Joe Snowberger, USN (Ret), Director of the United Way's Mission United program), provided a presentation of the Mission United program. Mission United is a community-based collective impact initiative that acts as a Veteran-peer support concierge to leverage United Way Northeast Florida's connections to human, social and Veterans' services and resources to help military, Veterans, and their families navigate and address barriers to living their best lives.

Our chapter Chaplain, CWO4 (Ret) David McCuistion assisted by LT (Ret), David Mosley conducted the "Two Bells" Ceremony to honor and remember chapter members and spouses who passed away during the past year. Following the solemnity of the Two Bells observance, Chapter President, CDR (Ret), Paul Werring presented Florida Council of Chapters Leadership Awards to CWO5 (Ret) Marc Manor, COL (Ret) Wally Bransford, and LT (Ret) David Mosley. He also presented the Level of Excellence (LOE award for 2022) to Past President CWO5 Manor and announced MOAA of NE Florida received a GREEN Chapter award for being top rated in all areas of our operations. The GREEN award came with a \$100 check to support our programs.

Our 20 March Meeting/Luncheon will also be at River Cove on NAS JAX. The social will begin at 1100 and lunch will be served at 1130. In recognition of Saint Patrick's Day, our menu will start off with an Irish Flag Salad (Spinach, Pears, Feta and Mandarin Oranges) with a Citrus Honey Herb Dressing, to be followed by the main course of Bangers and Mash (Beer Braised Brat on Buttered Mashed Potatoes), accompanied by Fried Cabbage. For dessert, we'll be treated to Bailey's Irish Cream Cupcakes.

We will begin our business meeting at approximately 1200, and our guest speaker will be CDR (Ret) Tom Brennan (new member) of the NAS Jacksonville Retired Affairs Office (RAO). Tom will be discussing Retired Affairs topics that affect our members.

I have been elected to be your new Chapter 2nd Vice President, and am taking over for CDR Paul Werring - who is stepping up to be our new Chapter President. He leaves some pretty big shoes to fill, but I am looking forward to the challenge, and in supporting all of my fellow members, and from what I've seen since joining it - as of the finest MOAA Chapters in Florida - I'm proud to be a member of it. Finally, if you have any thoughts or concerns on any issue, you can always e-mail me at dcfrich@gmail.com. Thanks again for your support, and I hope that all of you have a blessed and prosperous 2024!!

Surviving Spouse Corner Wanda Bosworth

Surviving spouse members of our MOAA of NE Florida Chapter seeking information about MOAA's Surviving Spouse program can contact Wanda at wpbosw@bellsouth.net (phone 904-654-6945).

An additional resource is Virtual Surviving Spouse Virtual Chapter 02 – Membership continues to grow with 285 members from 38 states. The chapter now meets monthly on the 3rd Tuesday of each month. Every other month is a business meeting with a speaker and the other months are an informal social gathering to exchange information and ideas. Attendance varies, but usually includes 30 at the social meetings and about 60 at a more formal meeting. MOAA SSAC member, Barb Smith, is president, Gail Joyce is vice president and Pat Green is in charge of membership. Vivianne Werscel is the Newsletter Editor. For more information, check out the Surviving Spouse section of <https://www.MOAA.org>.

FEBRUARY 2024 Meeting

Wednesday, 20 March 2024

Please join us for our monthly Member Meeting & Luncheon on Wednesday, 20 March 2024, at the River Cove Conference Center, directly across Mustin Avenue from the Golf Club at Naval Air Station, Jacksonville.

Our social hour starts at 1100 hours, and the meeting will begin at 1130 hours.

Dress is civilian business casual or duty uniform.

Our menu will feature Irish Flag Salad (Spinach, Pears, Feta and Mandarin Oranges) with a Citrus Honey Herb Dressing, to be followed by the main course of Bangers and Mash (Beer Braised Brat on Buttered Mashed Potatoes), accompanied by Fried Cabbage. Dessert will feature Bailey's Irish Cream Cupcakes.

Make your luncheon reservations on line at <https://moaaf1.org/Chapters/NEFLMOAA/Calendar.aspx>.

Please make your reservation as early as possible so we can provide the caterer an accurate headcount to properly set up the facility and have enough meals prepared. You must have a reservation to eat. The actual hard deadline/cutoff date for making reservations is midnight on Thursday, 15 February. You can also make your reservations by calling LT David Faernrich at 904-463-0482, dcfrich@gmail.com. Cost is \$25 per person, payable upon arrival by cash, check or credit card.

Cancellation Policy: All reservations are binding financially unless they are cancelled by the cutoff date for making reservations or due to a last-minute hardship that is accepted by the Board of Directors.



Left: MOAA of NE Florida Chapter Secretary LT David Moseley, USN (Ret) accepts a MOAA Leadership Award recognizing his contributions to recruiting and membership programs.



Left: MOAA of NE Florida Immediate Past President CWO5, USN (Ret) Mark Manor accepts a MOAA Leadership Award for his sustained contributions to the programs of the NE Florida Chapter and to achieving the objectives of MOAA.

From Your Secretary

LT David Mosley, USN (Ret)

“Come Get Your Nametag”

If you see your chapter nametag in this picture, it is requested that you contact me (David Mosley) by calling (252) 469-1824 or emailing me at dlynnmosley@gmail.com and advise me how and when you would like to pick up your nametag. Obviously, we hope you can attend the March luncheon meeting and pick it up there.



“Thank you in advance for taking care of this.”

“Please Pay Your Dues”

I will be sending out the third and final 2024 dues notices early in March. Please respond as soon as possible and send in your dues if you receive a notice. I will send them out via email and postal mail. It is imperative that we maintain our membership numbers and having to drop someone from the rolls for non-payment of dues is not what your chapter wants to do. Out of 157 chapter members we have 62 members who have not paid their 2024 dues. If you do not receive a notice and you think you owe dues, please contact me and I will check the chapter records to confirm.

“Welcome Aboard”

Please join me in welcoming aboard two of our newest chapter members and give them a warm hello the next time you see them.

CDR Tom Brennan, USN (Ret)
LCDR Todd Lunsford, USN (Ret)



Chaplain's Corner— David McCuiston, CWO , USN (Ret)

Growth – Renewal – Transformation

You have probably noticed that the days are getting longer, and, on some days, the temperatures are beginning to warm – sometimes. My mother used to say, “March winds brings April showers.” Of course April showers bring May Flowers, and so on to June and July. Although here in Florida where the lines are somewhat blurred between the four seasons, the spiritual significance of March awakens us with a new energy for growth spiritually, mentally, and physically.

March is considered a time of opportunity for a rebirth of our consciousness as we observe the changes from the dreary days of winter to nature's rebirth of the environment around us. As we notice the changes, we realize the need to embrace our daily routines with renewed optimism of new possibilities for growth, improvement in our attitudes, and outcomes of intrinsic value. We are motivated to cleanse our winterized thoughts and actions to embrace the transformative powers of nature and the month of March.

March is the month of becoming someone different in several aspects of our lives, awakening consciously to changes occurring around us, returning to the fitness programs we set aside, educating ourselves with new subject matter, and making transformative changes in our spiritual value system, creating a new person impacting the world around us. The opportunities for us are endless, all we have to do is make a conscious decision to become a new person.

As spiritually-driven individuals, we reflect on past experiences to identify ways and methods of interactions with others and with the God within, seeking wisdom to transform our lives toward new endeavors of enlightenment from a higher power. I'm reminded of a quote of Henri Bergson, which says, “To exist is to change, to change is to mature, to mature is to go on creating oneself endlessly.”

Happy Saint Patrick's Day!



Image by Freepik

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

By Patty Bransford

As promised in the February *Nor'easter*, we intend to help you learn to use MOAA's tools for influencing the things you and MOAA care about most. The first step in contacting our members of Congress is knowing who they are. You can write them by simply addressing a letter as follows, being sure it has a return address:

For Senators:

The Honorable (Name)
United States Senate
Washington, DC 29510

For Representatives:

The Honorable (Name)
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 29510

Marco Rubio is the senior senator from Florida; the other is Rick Scott.



Florida has 28 House districts. Most of our chapter's members live in Districts 3, 4, 5, and 6. The Representatives for those districts are the following:



Obtaining phone numbers and local (home town) office addresses is as simple as typing www.house.gov or www.senate.gov and searching for your representative's name.

MOAA national's website (www.moaa.org) makes it easy for members to learn about issues and contact their elected officials. Here's how you do it:

- 1—Find your MOAA membership number (one place to look is on the mailing level of *Military Officer* that you get every month or on your membership card. You will need it to create an account.
- 2—Go to www.MOAA.org and log in. If you have never done it, you can easily set up an account using your e-mail address and a password you create.
- 3—Once you are in the site, click on the "ADVOCACY" button, then click on the "Legislative Action" button. There will be a form to fill out, but once you do it, the site will remember you when you come back, and it will remember your legislators, too.
- 4—Clicking those buttons will take you to <https://moaa.quorum.us/> where you can select an issue you want to contact your elected officials about, and you will be able to read about it and edit a pre-written letter to that Member of Congress. You can also write your own letter if you like.

—Never Stop Serving!—

Transition Events



SAVE the DATE

Saturday, 23 March 2024

(0900 – 1500)

What?

- ***NAS Jacksonville Annual Military Retiree Seminar***

Where?

- ***River Cove Center – NAS JAX on Mustin Rd across from Golf Club***
- ***Also Available via Facebook Live on the NAS Jacksonville Facebook Page (www.facebook.com/NASJacksonville/events)***

Who?

- ❖ ***ALL Military retirees***
- ❖ ***ALL Retiree Family Members***
- ❖ ***Active/Reserve Personnel Planning to Retire***

Presentations on:

- **Defense Finance & Accounting Service (DFAS) – First time in JAX since 2019!**
- **TRICARE/TRICARE for Life** - **Financial/Legal Advice** - **VA Programs**
- **Scams Targeting Seniors** - **FEDVIP Insurance** - **SS/Medicare**
- **Military Medical Support** - **Advisory/Support Svcs available to Retirees**

There will be a Health & Wellness Fair on site as well as numerous experts at Info Tables with even more Information...

[Check for periodic updates on the NAS Jacksonville Facebook Page](#)

For further information, contact Jacksonville Retired Activities Office – 904-542-5790

Northeast Florida Chapter, FL-18
Elected Officers/Board Members, Appointed Committee Chairs and
Support Staff

Chapter Officers/Directors (Note: Changes will be posted after installation of new officers on 17 JAN)

President: CDR Paul Werring, USN Ret, 571-274-6570, pgwerring@gmail.com
1st Vice President: Vacant
2nd Vice President: LT David Faernrich, USN Ret, 904-463-0482, dcfrich@gmail.com
Treasurer: COL Ken Kirkpatrick, USA Ret, 904-718-9789, kenneth.m.kirkpatrick@gmail.com
Secretary: LT David Mosley, USN Ret, 252-469-1824, dlynnmosley@gmail.com
Immediate Past President: CWO5 Marc Manor, USN Ret, 904-874-1030, manor.marc@gmail.com
Director: CWO5 Wayne Elliott, USN Ret, 904-282-9604, elliottwf@att.net
Director: Mrs. Kathy Spain, SS, twin_oaks@comcast.net
Director: CDR Bruce Carawon, USN Ret, 904-610-6366, brcar1@comcast.net
Director: LTC Lee Grannis, USA Ret, 203-627-3715, grannis@nhcleancities.org

Appointed Committee Chairs

Legislative Affairs: Mrs. Patty Bransford, SS, kitchensage@aol.com
Membership: LT David Mosley, USN Ret, 252-469-1824, dlynnmosley@gmail.com
Transition Liaison: CDR David Kennett, USN Ret, 904-790-1630, ddkennett@yahoo.com
ROTC/JROTC: CDR Bruce Carawon, USN Ret, 904-910-6366, brcar1@comcast.net
Scholarship: Vacant
Personal Affairs: Mrs. Wanda Bosworth, SS, 904-634-6945, wpbosw@bellsouth.net
Public Affairs: Vacant
Surviving Spouse Liaison: Mrs. Wanda Bosworth, (phone 904-654-6945), wpbosw@bellsouth.net

Chapter Support Staff

Chaplain: CWO4 David McCuiston, USN (Ret), 423-402-1643, davidmcc44@outlook.com
Newsletter Editor: COL William Bransford, USA Ret, 904-297-4928, bransfordwm52@gmail.com
Webmaster: LT David Mosley, USN Ret, 252-469-1824, dlynnmosley@gmail.com
Official Greeter: Mrs. Elizabeth Meux, 904-268-5008, Elizfmeux@gmail.com

MOAA is an independent, nonprofit, politically nonpartisan organization, widely acclaimed as the leading voice in Congress on compensation and earned benefit concerns for all members of the military community.

Chapter Achievements:



Paul Werring accepted a Leadership Award on behalf of the MOAA Chapter of NE Florida at the annual Florida Council of Chapters meeting in Orlando.

Mark Manor, outgoing NE Florida Chapter President, received a Leadership award for his outstanding service in support of



Outgoing MOAA of NE Florida Chapter President Marc Manor passes along the 5 Star Level of Excellence Award to Nor'Easter editor, Wally Bransford.

David Mosley received a 5 Star LOE award for the Chapter's outstanding website.

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A Note From The Editor

Each chapter member can help with the publication of the “Nor’Easter”, our chapter newsletter, by providing content and articles that they feel would be informative. The preferred format for your input is WORD doc for written input and jpg for pictures. I will make every effort to include your input in the next monthly newsletter if content is appropriate and timely.

The deadline for input to the April 2024 issue of the Nor’Easter is COB Friday, 29 March 2024



Thank you for reading and supporting our monthly
membership newsletter

“The NOR’EASTER”



 Northeast Florida Chapter
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