



The Council Communiqué

Florida Council of Chapters
Military Officers Association of America



October 2022

Issue 172



President's Message

CDR Patrick R (Pat) Kluever, USN, Ret.
Naval Aviator (1320) - Navy Test Pilot School Graduate
(Class-71)

DC Ball Cap

Son-in-Law Navy Captain Matt Powel, USN was CO of USS Donald Cook (DC) - DDG-75 when the ship was forward depleted to Rota Spain - I received the ball cap at his change of command as he was turning over that command to his relief.

President's Message	1
V P Message	3
12 Month Calendar	5
Immediate Past President Message	5
Chaplains Message	6
Personal Affairs	8
Surviving Spouse	11
Legislative Affairs	12
FL Veterans' Council	18
FDVA Update	19
Chapter Activities	23-39
FCoC Information, Chapters, Board & Committee Chairs	43-47

Greetings MOAA Members and Friends,

We watched the news as Category 1 hurricane Ian quickly developed into a category 4 monster barreling toward Florida's southwest coast. Ian promised terrible ripping winds, devastating tidal surges and potential for historic levels of death and destruction. Our most dense group of MOAA Chapters on Florida's southwest coast lay squarely in the path of this incredibly menacing storm.

One account from a Chapter member shortly after Ian's passage; "We had 12 hours of HELL, 155 mph winds and 2 days of rain ... next time we may evacuate.....21 hours without power; Cape Coral, Naples Beach, Marco Island, Captiva, Sanibel, all got devastated - complete homes in the river and bay, the causeway bridge to Sanibel and Captiva destroyed, so the only way onto or off is by helicopter or boat."

Ian continued across Florida passing within a mile of Mike Border's home in Sebring where he, Diana

and the South Central Chapter experienced passage of the eye wall. Ian's rain and wind kept moving North over our Middle and East Central Area Chapters, and then East to exit Florida near Ron and Nancy Birchall's Ancient City Chapter where St. Augustine's downtown was deluged with flooding from rain and tidal surge, and the historic Flagler Beach pier was destroyed.

As I write this article on Sunday 2 October, several days after Ian pummeled our southwest coast and much of Florida, our Chapters are still trying to contact members to assess injuries and damage. We hope for good news, anxiously await any report, and hang on the details of accounts by survivors. May all of our MOAA members and their families come through this ordeal alive and well.

In the following pages Immediate Past President (IPP) Mike Borders provides his personal experience with hurricanes and Vice President Steve Bond provides articles on assessing and improving Chapter

Submit Input to:
Randall Fiebrandt, CDR,
USCG (Ret) - Editor:
rfiebs1953@gmail.com

health and the MOAA Foundations Crisis Relief Program, which has been offered to Florida MOAA members and veterans impacted by hurricane Ian.

Even as we assess the damage of Ian we must look forward for ways to leverage opportunities to bring our cadre together for the betterment of all our members and their communities, especially those who have suffered losses.

At our 10 October virtual FCoC Board meeting we will conduct necessary business, but also we will get our initial reports from Area Vice Presidents about the status of their Chapters and members.

Our 6-7 January 2023 Leadership Training Seminar (LTS) will be our first opportunity to assemble the leadership of our Florida cadre in person to not only train, but to assess and plan how to regenerate the strength and resilience of our Chapters across Florida, especially Chapters on Florida's southwest coast and all those Chapters impacted by hurricane Ian.

We expect MOAA's new Chairman to be at our January 2023 event and I know he will be anxious to hear what our surviving leaders have endured and understand what help these Chapters need. Then as a team MOAA, FCoC and our Chapters can rebuild and regenerate using the partnership and camaraderie that we military officers bring to the fight.

Now More Than Ever - "Never Stop Serving"

BOTTOM LINE: We need every Florida Chapter to be represented at the 6-7 January 2023 event at Orlando's Rosen Center to ensure that as a group we know what has happened, what needs to be done, and how we can apply the skills and resources of our joint team to bring all our Florida Chapters back to full capability for continued service to our communities. Registration is planned to open soon (8 October) with guaranteed room availability running through 15 December 2022.

YOU DO want to be there! Register as soon as the website opens to make sure you can reserve a room!
Carry On Shipmates! - Pat K.

General quarters - All Hands On Deck for This One!

SIGNIFICANT DATES FOR OCTOBER & NOVEMBER

October is [Agent Orange Awareness Month](#)

October 13th – US Navy's Birthday

October 26th – [National Day of the Deployed](#)

October 27th – Navy Day

November is

- [National Veterans & Military Family Month](#)
- [Warrior Care Month](#)
- [National Family Caregivers Month](#)

November 1 – 5 - National Veterans Small Business Week

November 6th - Daylight Savings Time Ends

November 8th - Election Day

November 10th- Marine Corps Day/Birthday

November 11th - Veteran's Day/WWI Armistice Signed (1918)

November 23rd - USCG Women Reserve (SPAR's) Established (1942)

November 21st - Grenada Campaign Ended (1983)



Vice President's Message

COL Steve Bond, USA (Ret)

As a chapter leader, I really did not have a good understanding of what the council did. I am sure many in our chapters feel the same. Serving in the council leadership, I now understand the importance of the council and the important work it does for our chapters and for MOAA National as well. The council is a key element in MOAA's affiliate organizations. Its' purpose is to be an intermediate level "Command and Control" headquarters between MOAA National and our State's thirty-nine chapters. The council leads and coordinates our legislative advocacy efforts at the State-level and supports MOAA's National-level lobbying efforts. We also facilitate the exchange of information and educate chapter leaders, to sustain and build strong, healthy chapters.

One of our unifying missions is Legislative Advocacy. MOAA is a lobbyist organization and they do an excellent job lobbying Congress. At the State-level, the council has the lead to coordinate the efforts of our chapters, providing "grassroots" advocacy for MOAA's legislative initiatives. For example, we are the constituent faces for MOAA's annual Advocacy-in-Action where we coordinate the State-wide efforts to meet with all Florida's 27 Congressional Representatives and our two Senators to ensure they understand what is important to us. We muster support for MOAA's "Calls to Action." A prime example of why numbers matter and the power of uniting members for a specific cause was evident in the recent passing of the "Pact Act." Our collective voices were heard in Congress and resulted in the successful passage of that key legislation. We have a great council legislative team that works to ensure Florida remains veteran and military friendly and monitors State legislation affecting veterans, the serving military, and their families, and issues calls to action to provide support for State legislation when needed.

The council helps sustain and build strong chapters by supplying training for Chapter Leaders and information to conduct chapter business. The primary means to connect the chapters across the state is through this publication and our website. The council also puts a great deal of work into holding Leadership Training Seminars and annual Conventions. At these events, we bring together MOAA reps, council, and chapter leaders to provide training for leaders to run chapters. Why? Because running a chapter (and the council) is like running a business, and leaders need to understand the legalities, policies, procedures, and expectations for conducting the business of the organization. Our Leadership Training Seminar coming up in January is one of the most important events we hold each year, and we encourage all chapter leaders to take part!

This brings me back to our on-going Membership Campaign. The purpose of the campaign is to increase our numbers and build strong chapters. More members mean more depth, with chapters able to provide greater community outreach services, and support for our members. As the slogan goes— "The greater our numbers, the louder our voice!" At our October Board meeting, we will be working with the Area Vice Presidents on implementation of the next steps of the campaign. We also have a session for chapter leaders planned at the January Leadership Training Seminar to share results and ideas among the chapter representatives. The campaign charts and video recording of the 2 August campaign zoom meeting are available for all leaders and chapter

members on the council membership webpage at <https://www.moaafi.org/Membership.aspx>. I encourage all chapter leaders and members to review the charts as YOU are key to our success—Every member is on the membership committee!

The council is a key element of the MOAA affiliate organization. It coordinates our State-wide activities for legislative engagements, supplies information and training for chapter leaders, and ultimately builds strong chapters. Numbers matter to ensure our voices are heard in Congress or Tallahassee. Strong chapters mean key leaders are trained and implementing MOAA's policies and procedures, are engaged in our communities, and take care of members. The success of our Membership Campaign is key to our ability to do all these things.

If you have questions or comments, contact me at vpfcoc@gmail.com.

MOAA Foundation Grants for Hurricane Ian Relief

With the wide-ranging impacts across Florida from Hurricane Ian, our hearts go out to those that were in the storm's path. Here is one way we can help our members and other veterans impacted by Ian--The Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) charitable organization, [The MOAA Foundation](#) (TMF) is offering crisis relief grants of up to \$500 to all veterans, serving military and families financially affected by Hurricane Ian.

To receive a relief grant, impacted veterans need to fill out the Crisis Relief Fund Grant application form found at <https://www.moaa.org/crisisreliefapp>. Once the application is completed, a MOAA Council/Chapter Member will need to verify the applicant's military/veteran status, current financial need, complete and submit the application and accompanying verification form found at <https://www.moaa.org/crisisreliefverify>. The completed forms may be either submitted online or mailed. More information on the program can be found on the MOAA website at <https://www.moaa.org/relief-verification>.

We appreciate The MOAA Foundation for providing this much needed and timely support for Florida Veterans affected by Ian. The Council directly supports the efforts of the Foundation and just presented MOAA President and CEO, Lt Gen Dana Atkins with \$5,000 at our June Convention. We are planning another donation to the Foundation at the MOAA Convention in Kansas City this month earmarked for Hurricane Ian relief. We also encourage all Florida MOAA members to support the MOAA Foundation's relief efforts as able. Your generous contributions will directly aid those veterans, serving military and families that were financially impacted by the storm. To donate, go to the MOAA website at <https://www.moaa.org/content/forms/donate-now/>.

This is just another way we can show leadership in a time of adversity and how we "Never Stop Serving"!

Steve

1
2
M
O
N
T
H
C
A
L
E
N
D
A
R

CONSTANT BEARING, DECREASING RANGE

- 10 OCT 2022 - Fall FCoC virtual Board meeting starts at 1400 with the expectation of completing business and statusing of Florida Chapters
- 17-21 OCT 2022 - FCoC President will visit Northwest Area Chapters
- 20 OCT 2022 - MOAA Roundtable (Virtual) 1900 - Transition Services
- 27-28 OCT 2022 - MOAA National Annual Meeting in Kansas City - All Chapter Presidents winning LOE awards for 2022 will be invited.
- 17 NOV 2022 - MOAA Roundtable (Virtual) 1900 - Retention
- 17-20 NOV 2022 - Georgia State Convention in Athens, GA - We will renew our close ties with our friends in the Georgia Council of Chapters.
- 29 DEC 2022 - MOAA Roundtable (Virtual) 1900 - EOY Review
- 6-7 JAN 2023 - Leadership Training Seminar at the Rosen Center in Orlando. All Chapters are expected to send representatives from their leadership team for critical training, for the FCoC Board meeting, and to participate in recovery planning for Florida Chapters impacted by Ian.
- 18-21 MAY 2023 - FCoC Convention, St Augustine - featuring a charity golf tournament at World Golf Village, and opportunities to “Explore the Ancient City” - pirates, ghosts, great music and an array of attractions.



Immediate Past President’s Message

COL Mike Borders, USA., Ret.

Foremost on everyone’s mind is Hurricane Ian and the aftermath. Hardly a Floridian was unaffected in a direct way. All of us know someone who lost most or almost everything. We know folks who “dodged the bullet.” We all worry for our fellow Floridians, our Florida veterans, and of course, our MOAA members, especially those in the path of the storm. I am a Texan, so tornadoes are what I am most familiar with. But not unlike hurricanes, you tend to hunker down and hope for the best. I did live on the Alabama gulf coast as a child, and remember a hurricane in 1968 that really clobbered us. Hurricane Irma in 2017 went right over my neighborhood. It was amazing. This time, Ian made a return trip. With the

eye so large, our winds were high, and then suddenly there was nearly no wind at all. The other side caught up, but the wind speeds weren't as high. Even though I live inland at nearly an equal distance from both coasts, my county was at 87% with no electricity. This time I was lucky, and among the 13%. Last time, I had no juice for nine days. Still, in both instances, I came out relatively okay. I did have to get a new roof after the 2017 storm. Both times I lost trees, and both times there was massive cleanup to do. Mother nature is quite a force to behold. President Kluever and Vice President Bond mention some of the relief possibilities offered by MOAA National. While it may not be enough to pay for a new roof, every little bit helps. Take advantage of it if you deem it appropriate. Let your fellow veterans know about it.

And life goes on, in spite of the hurricane. Soon the FCoC board of directors will be holding the annual October board meeting by Zoom. The Leadership Training Seminar in Orlando is coming up in January, and we all have the important work of MOAA to do. Whether it be advocacy (MOAA's "Main Battery"), service projects, membership, or your local service projects, we must move forward.

Thanks to all of you for all you do for your veterans and their families. *Never Stop Serving* is all about "Giving Back." Officers are servant leaders whether still in uniform or not. Taking care of the troops is a task never quite finished.

MOAA'S 2023
FLORIDA COUNCIL OF CHAPTERS CONVENTION

May 19 to 21 –SAVE THE DATE!!

In historic St. Augustine.
"Discover the treasures of the ancient city."



Chaplain's Message

By CH (COL) Anthony P. "Tony" Clark, ARNG, Ret.

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.
 Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved, and though the
 mountains be toppled into the depths of the sea;

Though its waters rage and foam, and though the mountains tremble at its tumult.

The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold. Psalm 46:1-4

As the Chaplain for the Florida Council of Chapters, my monthly reflections for our St. Petersburg Area Chapter are occasionally read by MOAA members across the state of Florida. And this month, with Ian a very vivid memory, is one of those months.

As Floridians, we all experienced Ian differently. For some, it was a distant event that we watched on the Weather Channel. For others, it was more personal, and involved possible evacuation, loss of power for a short while, and cleaning up limbs and branches in the yard. But for others, Ian was a nightmare: massive flooding, loss of power for a significant period, and devastation of homes and businesses in the area.

If you experienced Ian as a distant event or minor inconvenience, I encourage you to find a way within your community to help those still recovering from the storm. For many areas in Florida, this recovery will be long term (think marathon, not sprint) and assistance will need to be long term as well.

A good rule of thumb in helping after a major disaster is knowing what's needed in the affected area. For example, the victims of Katrina DID NOT need winter clothes. Yes, I was in Mississippi after Katrina and saw that. What might your MOAA chapter, service club, or community of faith offer to assist these devastated areas?

If you experienced Ian as a nightmare, my heart breaks for you. As a member of the Florida Army National Guard, I saw firsthand the devastation left by hurricanes. I know the primary focus is tangible recovery: insurance claims, restoration of power, daily living. My job as your chaplain is to remind us about our emotional and spiritual recovery.

With that emotional and spiritual recovery in mind, here are two suggestions. One, take time to grieve and mourn the loss of home, business, and memories after the storm. And by the way, it's OK to be angry with God. The psalms are loaded with the full range of human emotions, including anger.

Two, stay in touch with friends and family and "process" how you are reacting to the recovery. Pay attention to your emotional and mental health and if you sense you need some help, ASK FOR IT. Many organizations will likely deploy people skilled in offering a listening ear and broad shoulder on which to cry in the significantly affected areas. Give yourself grace and space during this marathon recovery.

I leave you with this prayer from the Evangelical Lutheran Church:

Loving God, we come to you trusting in your mercy and knowing that your steadfast love endures forever. Look with mercy on those who are harmed or displaced by Ian. Give them your strength to meet the days ahead, your peace which passes all understanding and new hope in you. Move in those who can give aid, that we may be your hands and heart on earth. Be with all who offer assistance, may your Spirit uphold them. As you have made water a sign of your kingdom, and of cleansing and rebirth, grant your people vision to see new life on the other side of disaster. Amen.



Personal Affairs

Col Paul Loschiavo, USMCR (Ret)

After-the-fact: What do you need to do?

Sometimes, a spouse passes on rather unexpectedly. Obviously, there's a major emotional loss. The problem is... there's suddenly a bunch of things that need to be done and it can quickly become overwhelming.

The following is a list of things that *should* to be done. They are listed pretty much in the order that they should be accomplished. If you've found yourself in this situation, please accept my most sincere condolences. I hope that this list gets you going in the right direction and it saves you some heartburn.

First thing... set up the **funeral** or celebration of life. Take care of you and the rest of the family. The rest is just... paperwork.

The next thing to do if at all possible, is find his **DD-214**, the form that the military issues when someone leaves active duty. You will need it for anything having to do with the military.

Take a blank piece of paper and, at the top, write his **SSN** and yours. Write down the date of death. You will need all of these... repeatedly.

Write down a **list of every financial institution** with which you deal. This is the minimum number of *death certificates* you will need. All life insurance companies will need a long-form death certificate *with* the cause-of-death. The short form should be acceptable for the remainder. Banks, brokerages, and insurance companies will most likely keep the actual certificate. Add four or five death certificates for other uses. The funeral director will arrange these for you. It will take ten days to two weeks to get the actual documents.

Write down a second **list of every company** with which you deal. Think cell phones, cable TV, power companies, and *the county* for jointly held property. Try to find a bill showing your account number and a phone number. These companies will also need to be notified. Your electricity will remain working as long as you pay the bill. But at some point in the distant future, you or your kids will be shutting down the account. If there is any cash remaining, the refund check will be made payable to *both* of you. This can be a real pain.

Write down a list of every **social organization** with which he participated. Think MOAA, college alumni groups, and other veterans groups. Write down every **social media platform** with which he participated. You may want to post something there, assuming you have his password. There's no requirement that you notify these, but it will reduce future mailings from them.

If your spouse was receiving military retired pay, you need to **notify DFAS**, the Defense Finance and Accounting Service. You can call DFAS at 888-332-7411. They will, of course, ask for his SSN and date of death. (Have your paper handy.). They will send you a package of paper to claim the SBP (Survivor's Benefit Plan) payments if he signed up for it.

If your spouse was drawing **VA Disability**, call the VA at 800-827-1000 and report his passing. If he was receiving any corporate pension or federal civil service pension, contact them. The Federal Office of Personnel Management's (OPM) number is 888-767-6738.

If you would like to have your spouse interred at the local **Veteran's cemetery**, the funeral director should be able to make this happen. Or, you can set it up yourself. Fax the DD-214 to the VA at 866-900-6417 or email it to NCA.scheduling@va.gov. (Personal opinion: fax it if possible. Email is totally unsecure. UPS Stores will fax it for less than ten dollars.) If you don't have a DD-214, the VA accepts numerous other documents as proof of service. See the VA cemetery website for the complete list. I would include basic information on the cover sheet such as your contact data with the DD-214 plus a statement to the effect that "Colonel John Benotz passed away on March 20, 2021. We will be requesting internment in a National cemetery."

1. Download the cemetery checklist from cem.va.gov. This checklist includes all the questions the scheduler will ask. It includes things such as SSN, service, rank, and desired cemetery. Fax the DD-214 and fill out the checklist before calling them.
2. Call the VA Scheduling Office at 800-535-1117. This can be done by a family member or a funeral director. The scheduling office is open seven days a week from 8am to 730pm east coast time. (I called this number while writing this article. Having something else to do while you are on hold for 30-40 minutes is a good idea...)
3. Internments are done Monday through Friday.
4. If you and your family desire "military honors," the funeral director will request it. DOD requires at least forty eight hours' notice for providing a burial detail. The detail will include two service people in uniform, at least one of which will be from the veteran's service. The detail will fold the flag and present it to the family.

If you want to go for **Arlington National Cemetery**, check their website. It is excellent. Keep in mind that it takes about six months before the burial or inurnment will occur. The phone number at ANC is 877-907-8585.

There is some legal reporting that must be done. Among other things the Will must be "deposited" with the probate court. I understand that one need not use a **lawyer** to do this. I always used a lawyer, though with minimum "probate" items (things titled in the deceased's name alone), the cost was reasonable and the process pretty simple. Among other things, if you own your home jointly with your now deceased spouse, the attorney will prepare and file a "quit claim deed" to put it in your name.

If your spouse was receiving **Social Security**, the Social Security Administration should find out very quickly and turn off his benefit payment automatically. They will also recoup the payment for the remainder of the month after the date of death. Expect to see a withdrawal from your checking account. You can apply for a \$255 death benefit by calling 800-SSA-1213 (800-772-1213) or by going to SSA.gov.

Your status as a spouse of a military person has also changed. You need to update your **military ID**. By far, the best way to arrange this is go to idco.dmdc.old.mil and set up an appointment to get a new ID card. (I really wish they'd change that to "militaryID.gov" but what do I know?)

Now... it's time to start working that list of **financial institutions**. There's no easy way of doing this. Just start with the biggest and notify them of your spouse's passing. Each will have their own paperwork requirements. Expect it to be tedious and be happy if it isn't. The important thing is to get them all so that the accounts are in your name.

If your spouse had a **life insurance policy**, contact that company. They will normally send you a claim package with instructions on how to initiate a payout. Back in the *olden days*, they would simply mail you a check. Now, they will ask you if you'd like to do direct deposit or mail a check. If you do direct deposit, make sure it's going to an account for which you are the primary or sole owner. If you send it to a joint account that has your now deceased husband's name getting top billing, it might get lost in no-man's-land. You'll eventually get it, but it will be only after a boatload of heartburn.

Some other comments on life insurance: Some insurance companies will give you the choice of a check or a *checkbook*. (They want to *keep* the money...). You probably have enough accounts already. Take the money. Some will offer you an annuity. I'd still take the money.

Also, if your spouse also retired from a **major corporation**, check with the HR department. Most big companies offer something like two times one's salary as life insurance to current employees. They might have a life insurance benefit on retirees. I checked the website for my father-in-law's company and *son-of-a-gun*, they sent fifteen grand to my wife.

Once the financial institutions are done or in-the-works, start on the **companies** with whom you deal. Interestingly, as long as you pay the bill, your cell company, your cable company, and your electric company will continue providing service. The problem comes if it's necessary to settle *your* affairs. Most of these companies will make refund checks payable to both your names, even if one spouse died years ago. If these companies require a death certificate, they will normally accept a photocopy.

Then it's time to start working on **social organizations**. Be sure to contact your local chapter of MOAA as well as **MOAA National**. You can call National at 703-549-2311. If your spouse was a life member of MOAA National, that membership transfers to you. College Alumni organizations will normally list your spouse's name in their bulletin.

There's no requirement that you do anything about **social media**, such as Facebook. On the other hand, I know that I have managed to connect on Facebook with a lot of people around the planet with whom I served forty years ago. *We're not as lean, nor not as mean*, but we now share pictures and exploits of our grandkids. I hope that when it comes time to settle my affairs, those I leave behind will post on my Facebook page that I've "departed on my final deployment." My buddies will appreciate it.

None of this is easy, and it should be done sooner than later. At the same time, you just went through an incredible emotional shock. Don't drive yourself crazy getting it done.

If you are a golfer, you should be excited to note that there will be a Golf Tournament featured as part of the next FCoC Convention in May. Mark it on your calendar (May 19th 2023).

Question: Who are the only two service academy graduates to play on the PGA Tour?

Read on in the Communiqué' for the answer on page 40.



Surviving Spouse Corner

Patricia Green, Surviving Spouse Liaison

Has your Chapter recently had a program, publication or activity that focused on your Surviving spouses or your potential Surviving Spouses? I have been receiving reports and invitations to Chapter meetings highlighting this area of MOAA's membership.

The photo shown contains a Master Board of Surviving Spouse information that was created by the Halifax Chapter. Billie Kreuger, Vice President of the Chapter, and her committee pulled information together during the Chapter summer respite and created this visual aid for display at meetings and events. I am in the photo because she said that the tri-flyer (created by my Central Florida Chapter Committee) that I gave her was the inspiration for the Information Board. The Halifax Chapter is also planning a special program for their next luncheon honoring Surviving Spouses.

The South Central Chapter Surviving Spouse Liaison, Craig Smith, creates a special edition of their Chapter newsletter each October dedicated to Surviving Spouse news and information.

These are just two examples of the many efforts of Chapters throughout our state. Is your Chapter using the talents of your Surviving Spouse members? I'd like to hear about your efforts. Send me a note. My contact information is at the end of this publication or on the Committee Chair page of the website.

On the national level, there were two webinars recently offered by MOAA; one on Estate Planning and the other on Preparing a Spouse for Survivorship. They were broadcast on October 6 and 8 respectively. Recordings should also be available soon. Search the website for access.



Also on the national level, the Surviving Spouse Advisory Council is holding a panel discussion addressing Surviving Spouse issues as a part of the program at the Annual National Member’s meeting in Kansas City, MO the on October 27-29, 2022.

The nationwide Surviving Spouse Virtual Chapter held an information exchange last month on engagement and incorporation of Surviving Spouses and Spouses into the leadership of the local Chapter unit. Many sparks of enthusiasm were ignited at this program. Membership in this Virtual Chapter offers lots of information. There are no dues. The application for membership is on the MOAA website.

Explore all these events and opportunities and tools for preparedness at every level of MOAA.

Legislative Affairs

Lt Col Bob Bienvenue, USAF, Ret., Legislative Chair



	<p style="text-align: center;">MOAA Legislative Update: Read about the latest MOAA Advocacy News and Calls-to-Action here.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">https://moaa.quorum.us/</p>	
--	--	--



Spouse Licensure, School Policies Top DoD-State Liaison Group’s 2023 Priorities

Improved spouse licensure laws and military-friendly school policies top the 2023 priorities for the [Defense-State Liaison Office](#) (DSLO), which works to *alleviate barriers resulting from military life and harmonize the differences in state and federal laws*.

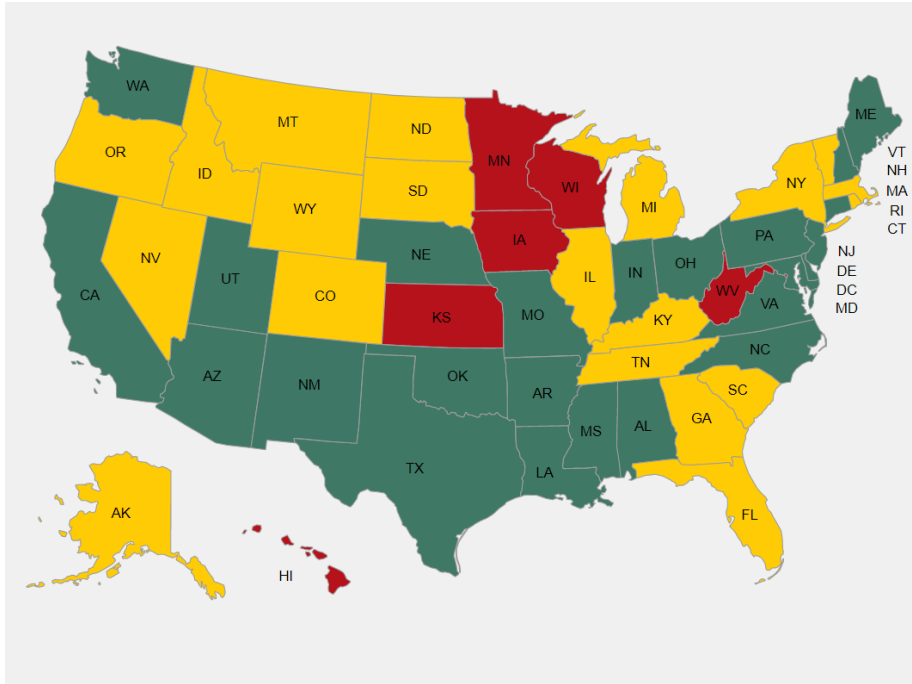
DSLO’s efforts at the state level have led to 33 states enacting supportive licensure laws and providing expedited processes to achieve a baseline of a license within 30 days with minimal upfront paperwork from licensed military spouses.

DSLO, in conjunction with licensing boards, has developed eight interstate compacts (nursing, advanced practice registered nursing, emergency medical services, physical therapy, audiology/speech-language pathology, licensed professional counseling, occupational therapy, and psychology). At least 44 states have signed on to at least one of these compacts, with 35 states signed on to three or more compacts.

The office is continuing work to develop compacts for teaching, social work, dentistry/dental hygiene, massage therapy, cosmetology/barbering, school psychology, and dietetic nutrition.

State Status on DSLO Issues Affecting Currently Serving Troops and Families

Yellow: State has passed or introduced legislation to address, at least in part, 4-6 of the 10 issues tracked by the DSLO



Go here to see the details for Florida

[Florida Military Legislation & Policies | Military State Policy \(militaryonesource.mil\)](https://militaryonesource.mil/military-state-policy)

You may recall that during the 2022 Florida Legislative session the FCoC promoted an advocacy campaign targeted on our state senators and representatives for several bills addressing barriers to military spouse licensure when transferred to the state upon their service-members assignment here. Each of those bills were in line with the MOAA supported DSLO priorities for 2022.

We may never know what impact our campaign had on the legislators’ votes, but we do know that at the committee levels as well as in the floor votes in each chamber, **three bills were passed unanimously**. Despite that success, there is still more that needs to be accomplished.

None-the-less the Florida record depicted on the map above is better than it looks. The work to introduce additional legislation on licensure of military spouse professionals continues.

In August our regional DSLO representative, Eric Sherman briefed the **Florida Defense Support Task Force (FDSTF)**, including the **Family Support Working Group** on the benefits to military families of state supported Professional Licensure Compacts to facilitate Military Spouse employment opportunities. The briefing addressed

- *License Portability* for Emergency Medical Services Professionals
- *Interstate Compacts* for Occupational Therapy Professionals, Psychology Professionals, and Audiology Speech Language Pathology professionals.

The FDSTF (with members from both houses of the Legislature on the committee) are planning to find sponsors to introduce at least two bills to address the open issues on the DSLO priorities list.

One of the elements in the FDSTF mission is:
Strengthening state support for military families and veterans with a focus on education, health care, employment and family programs

The FCoC will again be promoting an advocacy campaign to request support from our legislators when the new bills enter the committee hearings process and then through the floor votes leading to the governor's signature. A process very much like what we do at the federal level.

Advocacy engagement with our state legislators is an important mission complimenting the DSLO's efforts with the FDSTF.

NDAAs and Budget Bills Stalled as the Fiscal Year Wraps Up

Without the necessary authorizations and appropriations, federal agencies can't operate properly. An authorization bill establishes new policies and programs for a federal agency and can reauthorize programs set to expire, while appropriations provide the funding for those authorizations.

Until Congress passes those bills, federal agencies overseeing the eight uniformed services lack the authorizations or funding needed for the annual military pay raise, quality health care coverage, and quality-of-life programs for servicemembers and their families, along with many other support programs and benefits necessary for an all-volunteer force.

The last time Congress and the White House enacted the necessary legislation on time to fully fund the government for the upcoming fiscal year was for **FY 1997**. With the start of FY 2023 upon us, followed by midterm elections, it's very likely the government will again miss the mark with its budget process.

The National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) affects DoD policies and programs. The House passed its version of the NDAA on July 14 by a vote of 329-101. The Senate has yet to take up never mind pass its version. So the House version remains in limbo.

For a quarter of a century, Congress and the White House have failed to enact the necessary legislation to fully fund the federal government on time, and the ones who ultimately suffer the most are servicemembers, veterans, survivors, and their families.

[Take Action: Ask Your Senators to Preserve Key Benefits in the FY 2023 NDAA](#)

STANDBY for URGENT MOAA requests on messaging to pass those appropriations and for the subsequent votes for extensions to the temporary deadlines.

And ... Another FY Starts Under a Continuing Resolution

The day before the end of FY-2022, the Senate passed HR 6833, the Continuing Appropriations and Ukraine Supplemental Appropriations Act, on a bipartisan vote of 72-25, extending government funding until December 16th. For the record Senator Rubio did not vote and Senator Scott voted No.

The House took up the Bill on September 30th, which passed on a 230-201 vote. For the record, the Florida delegation voted strictly along party lines.

In addition to extending government spending at current levels, the Bill included more than \$12 billion in security and financial assistance for Ukraine, an additional \$18.8 billion for the FEMA Disaster Relief Fund, \$2.5 billion for wildfires in New Mexico and \$1 billion for home heating assistance.

President Biden signed the Bill before the midnight deadline thereby avoiding a government shut down until December 16th.

Ask Our Lawmakers to Join their Colleagues who have Already Shown their Support on Hiring Incentives for Military Spouses

While DoD and military family nonprofit organizations provide programs designed to give military spouses opportunities for enhanced education, professional development, and upskilling, *the other side of the equation is **incentivizing businesses to hire someone they know will likely move within two to three years.*** Adding military spouses as a target group under the Work Opportunity Tax Credit laws should be the next step.

The **Military Spouse Hiring Act H.R. 2974 & S.3909** will create a new WOTC target group for military spouses, which will provide employers with a \$2,400 tax credit to help offset hiring and onboarding costs. MOAA is working closely with the National Military Family Association to gather as many co-sponsors as possible before December in the event Congress puts forth an end-of-year tax-extenders package, which could include this bill.

Visit MOAA's [Legislative Action Center](#) to send a message to our Florida legislators urging them to co-sponsor the Military Spouse Hiring Act. ***Is your representative among the 256 cosponsors in the House?*** Look here [Cosponsors - H.R.2974 - 117th Congress \(2021-2022\): Military Spouse Hiring Act | Congress.gov | Library of Congress](#) **Senator Rubio is not among the 47 cosponsors in the Senate**

Preserve Burial with Full Military Honors for Military Retirees

MOAA's work to preserve the national cemetery benefit for military retirees continues, however, the need for grassroots action remains: Reach out to your elected officials ask them to become original co-sponsors on legislation to expand options for honors at a VA cemeteries under the Expanding America's National Cemetery Act.

“Arlington National Cemetery in-ground burial will not reach capacity for 42 years with the current standards,” said Gen. Walter L. “Skip” Sharp, USA (Ret), MOAA’s chairman of the board. “This leaves time to **develop a new location** and to slowly transition **while maintaining current eligibility for all those who have planned for in-ground burial at Arlington.**”

There are 155 VA-run national cemeteries, with many adjacent to a military installation. The **Expanding America’s National Cemetery Act** will authorize DoD and the VA to transform an existing VA-run national cemetery into the next location that will afford interment with full military honors as ANC reaches capacity.

Time is running short this legislative year, with many lawmakers focused on midterm elections. Ask your lawmakers to sign on as an original co-sponsor to protect this important benefit.

TAKE ACTION: [MOAA | Ask Your Lawmakers to Support the Expanding America's National Cemetery Act \(quorum.us\)](https://www.moaa.org/ask-your-lawmakers-to-support-the-expanding-america-national-cemetery-act)

What’s Happening on Concurrent Receipt for Medically Retired Members

The Major Richard Star Act HR 1282 & S-344 have been on MOAA’s Legislative Priorities agenda since the early spring when the **Advocacy in Action** Campaign kicked-off. There have been several Calls-to-Action from MOAA and from the FCoC asking that we contact our legislators to support the Bills and sign on as co-sponsors. **Over 10,660 actions have been taken so far through MOAA’s messaging system.**

STATUS in the House

On August 9th The Major Richard Star Act reached a milestone goal of 290 co-sponsors in the House with 6 new co-sponsors (including Jose Diaz-Balat FL-25). Cong Gus Bilirakis (FL 14) who introduced the bill announced this achievement saying

“Pursuant to House Rules, I filed a petition [on August 12th] to have my Major Richard Star Act placed on the House Consent Calendar because it reached the required threshold of garnering 290 cosponsors.

This critical legislation will rectify an injustice that keeps combat disabled Veterans from receiving full military benefits. Currently, over 50,000 medically retired veterans are forbidden from receiving their full retirement pay and disability compensation.

My bill will repeal this unfair offset, allowing these disabled Veterans to receive both their retirement pay and their disability compensation.... I look forward to getting this bill across the finish line!”

As of September 22nd the bill now has 314 co-sponsors – among the latest to sign on are Val Demings (FL10) and Ted Deutch (FL 22).

Lt. Gen. Dana T. Atkins, MOAA’s president and CEO, was quoted in a Press Release from Cong Bilirakis’ office saying:

*“MOAA and other ardent supporters have diligently carried this torch to garner support and make way for those injured in combat to be eligible for their retirement pay. **We encourage the 117th Congress to solve this injustice this year – we still have time to get it done.**”*

Twenty members of the Florida congressional delegation have signed on in support of this Bill. Check here to see if your representative is among those: [Cosponsors - H.R.1282 - 117th Congress \(2021-2022\): Major Richard Star Act | Congress.gov | Library of Congress](#)

STATUS in the Senate

Sen. Jon Tester (D-Mont.), chair of the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs, will submit the Star Act as an amendment to the chamber's version of the FY 2023 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). **The Star Act is his top priority for amendments to this year's NDAA.**

The push is on to increase the number of co-sponsors in the Senate to show support for the Chairman's legislative strategy to deliver this remedy to the 50,000+ medically retired servicemembers and their families that have been paying the burdensome "tax" on their retired pay. **Neither of Florida's Senators have signed on**

Combat-injured veterans would benefit from long-sought changes to unjust compensation practices if the Star Act becomes law, either as a standalone measure (a possibility in the House) or as an NDAA amendment in the Senate.

If this approach is successful, the joint committee charged with reconciling the differences between the already approved House NDAA and this Senate version will likely include the provision in their version which goes back to both chambers for a final up or down vote

TAKE ACTION: [Ask Your Lawmakers to Support the Major Richard Star Act](#)

IMPORTANT NOTE

Be sure to read *The MOAA Newsletter* (manage your newsletter preferences [at this link](#)) and visit [MOAA.org](#) for the [latest updates](#) on the NDAA and MOAA's other advocacy initiatives.

Could Congress Come for Your COLA?

By: Dan Merry

Congress has an enduring history of tapping into COLA at the expense of your retired pay, and it could very well happen again.

As we inch toward what could be the largest growth in COLA since 1982, when it came in at 8.7%, we remain guarded as to any current attempts by Congress to reduce, in any fashion, the legislated protections of the purchasing power of retired pay, survivor and veteran benefits, and Social Security. We have many reasons to be wary of such covert efforts. Check out this link [the history of COLA attacks is well documented](#).

Projected CPI increases based on the August 2022 Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) is 8.6% above the FY 2022 COLA base line. The significance of this annual adjustment warrants a close look on two fronts:

1. Congress could channel some of the increase into their efforts to control outlays in response to the growing national debt.
2. The high COLA holds broad personal implications -- after all, the increase is tied directly to inflation, which results in higher costs across the board, including your TRICARE benefits.

Stay tuned for updates and potential calls to action. MOAA will continue to work with TMC to ensure all of our eight uniformed services continue to receive COLA increases per current legislation.



Florida Veterans Council Update

MAJ Lorraine Holland, USA (Ret), FCoC Committee Chair
Florida Veterans Council

I sit as the Florida MOAA Veteran Service Organization (VSO) Representative on the Florida Veterans and Florida Department of Veteran Affairs (FDVA) Council. MOAA Florida Chapters have a unique opportunity to partner with the Florida Department of Veteran Affairs (FDVA) and help sponsor a location to hold Town Hall Vietnam

Veterans meetings around the state of Florida. Topics include Toxic Exposure Awareness and help with benefit information for those Vietnam Veterans who have been exposed to a toxic environment, to include Agent Orange and illnesses outlined in the PACT Act. MOAA National's successful advocacy efforts helped pass the PACT Act that has been signed by the President. This is a great opportunity for a MOAA Florida Chapter to work together as a team with FDVA to help our Vietnam Veterans who have been exposed to Agent Orange, Burn Pits, and Camp Lejeune water and other toxic environments. MOAA Chapters that have a high population of Vietnam Veterans who have been exposed to Agent Orange illnesses and other illnesses outlined in the PACT Act will work with the FDVA in securing a place to hold the Vietnam Veteran Town Hall meetings. The MOAA Chapter will help get the word out to their local community, and if we have any experienced Veterans who can speak on the legislation and VA benefits, that would be an added plus. This initiative is coming from MG (ret) Hartsell, the Executive Director of FDVA, and the FDVA Communications Directorate will take the lead for presenting information and logistics of running the Town Halls. So far, we have two MOAA Chapters who have stepped-up to host a future Town Hall. There are other VSO's who have been asked to hold a Town Hall, but with 40 MOAA Chapters in Florida, we hope to take the lead on hosting the Town Halls.

FDVA is looking to have 12 Town Hall Vietnam Veteran meetings around the state and is relying on various VSO organizations to help scout out areas with a high population of Vietnam Veterans. If your Chapter fits this criteria and wants to apply to host a Town Hall, please forward your details

ASAP to participate in this great opportunity. Become the voice for Vietnam Veterans who are either totally unaware or not up to date on the new benefits they have rightly earned by serving our great nation! Please contact me for further information and I hope to hear from some of you soon!



Florida Department of Veterans Affairs Update

Lt Col R. Steven Murray, USAF (Ret.)
Communications Director, Florida Department of Veterans Affairs

Ten Florida Veterans Inducted Into Hall of Fame

TALLAHASSEE -- Gov. Ron DeSantis and the Cabinet voted unanimously to induct 10 Veterans into the Florida Veterans' Hall of Fame. The names for the Class of 2022 were presented for a formal vote during the Aug. 23 Cabinet Meeting by FDVA Executive Director James S. "Hammer" Hartsell.

The Florida Veterans' Hall of Fame recognizes and honors those military Veterans who, through their works and lives during or after military service, have made a significant contribution to the State of Florida through civic, business, public service or other pursuits. The hall of fame focuses on post-military contributions to the State of Florida.

"It was my honor to endorse and submit the names of these 10 distinguished Veterans for inclusion in the Hall of Fame," said Hartsell, a retired Marine Corps Major General. "These former service members join nine previous classes in representing the best of our Veteran community and we look forward to honoring them in person later this year. Honoring our distinguished inductees each year helps reinforce Florida as the most veteran sought after state in the nation."

The Florida Veterans' Hall of Fame Council met earlier this year to review and select nominees submitted from the general public. Following a formal report and audit, the results were transmitted to the Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs, which submits the nominations to the Governor and Cabinet. The Aug. 23 vote formally approves the selection.

The Class of 2022 is the 10th class to enter the Florida Veterans' Hall of Fame.

Inductees include:

Mike Bousher, U.S. Army Veteran - Palm Harbor
Jeffery Cathey, Captain, U.S. Navy (Ret) – Tampa
Anthony D'Aleo, U.S. Army Veteran - Jacksonville
John Gionet, Sergeant Major, U.S. Marine Corps (Ret) - Orlando

Greg Holder, Colonel, U.S. Air Force (Ret) - Tampa
Don Lanman, U.S. Army Veteran - Rivera Beach
John Leslie, Commander, U.S. Navy (Ret) - St. Augustine
Gordon Lightfoot, U.S. Marine Corps Veteran - Tallahassee
Maxine Reyes, Captain, U.S. Army (Ret) – Tampa
Glenn Sutphin, Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Army (Ret) – Tallahassee

Governor Encourages Veterans to Apply for Temporary Teaching Certificates

TALLAHASSEE -- Gov. Ron DeSantis announced Aug. 11 the launch of a new webpage to help recruit qualified military Veterans to join schools across the state. The State Board of Education passed a rule Aug. 17 to formally implement a program for veterans to receive a five-year temporary education certificate while they finish their bachelor's degree, provided they meet certain criteria. The rule implements SB 896, which Governor DeSantis signed earlier this year after it received unanimous bipartisan support throughout the 2022 Session.

"Florida is the most Veteran- and military friendly state in the nation," said Gov. Ron DeSantis. "We also know that our Veterans have talents and skills that they can offer our students. This new opportunity expands Florida's existing programs that help our Veterans take their talents to our schools, and it will help Florida remain a national leader in education."

Military Veterans Certification Pathway

The State Board of Education rule allows military Veterans to obtain a 5-year temporary teaching certificate without a bachelor's degree, providing the following criteria are met:

- Minimum of 48 months of military service with an honorable/medical discharge;
- Minimum of 60 college credits with a 2.5 grade point average;
- Passing score on a Florida subject area examination;
- Employment in a Florida school district, including charter schools; and
- Cleared background screening.

Per SB 896 (2022), which unanimously passed the Florida House and Senate, Veterans who successfully obtain their 5-year temporary teaching certificate will be assigned a mentor teacher for a minimum of two years to support their classroom teaching endeavors. They must also earn their bachelor's degree during the 5-year period to be eligible for a full professional certificate. Veterans utilizing this temporary certificate may not teach subject areas that require a master's degree. The temporary certificate cannot be renewed once it expires, nor does it apply to military spouses or families.

To learn more about the program, visit www.fldoe.org/veterans.

Proudly serving those who've served us all

At GEHA, we value everything veterans like you have done for our country. In fact, your service inspires us every single day. That's why everything we do is just for military retirees, federal employees and your families. Thank you.

DENTAL BENEFITS FOR MILITARY RETIREES

     /gehahealth
 /company/gehahealth

©2022 Government Employees Health Association, Inc. All rights reserved.



GEHA.



**WE GIVE YOU THREE
FREE CLEANINGS.
SO YOU CAN
SMILE MORE.**

With Blue Cross Blue Shield FEP DentalSM, retired uniformed service members and their families enjoy free exams and cleanings, plus no deductible for in-network services.



Indian River Colony Club

"The Place Patriots Call Home"SM

Active 55+ Military Veterans Community in Melbourne, FL

- 2-4 Bedroom Individually Owned Homes
- Extensive Maintenance Program
- Close to Shopping, Beaches, VA Center, and Patrick SFB
- 18 Hole Par 72 Golf Course, Clubhouse, Pro Shop, Pool, Tennis Courts, Banquet/Event Venue & More!

Military Retirement At Its Best!

3 DAY / 2 NIGHT FLORIDA GETAWAY! ONLY \$129* PER PERSON
*Transportation not included

LEARN MORE AT COLONYCLUB.COM/MOAA OR CALL 321-255-6000

**MOAA Take
Action**

Florida Council of Chapters “Chapter News”

Bradenton Chapter

Gill Ruderman, COL, USA (Ret)

Three members of the Bradenton Chapter, Florida’s oldest, have recently completed accumulating a series of honors that clearly exemplify the “still serving” creed.

Don Courtney, US Army CWO-4, (Ret), a Life member, has been the Chapter President for over 15 years and has also served as the Chairman or Vice Chairman of the Manatee County Veterans Council for over 15 years. In recognition of his volunteer service, he was selected Manatee County’s Veteran of the Year in 2012, honored by the County Commissioners with a “Don Courtney Day” in 2016, inducted into the Florida Veterans Hall of Fame in 2019, and has just been awarded the President’s Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of more than 5500 hours of volunteerism in support of veterans, only the fifth Floridian to receive the honor.



CWO4 Courtney and COL Ruderman

Gill Ruderman, US Army COL, (Ret), a Life member, has been an officer of the Bradenton Chapter for over 15 years. In recognition of his volunteer service in support of veterans and several local non-profit organizations, he was selected Manatee County’s Veteran of the Year in 2016, and has been inducted into the Florida Veterans Hall of Fame as a member of the Class of 2021. As an additional honor, he was selected for the University of Florida Rugby Hall of Fame in 2021, in its second class, for his performance while stationed there in the 1970’s.

Michael Hartford (US Navy CAPT-R) has worked with the Veterans Administration for over 22 years continually advocating for veterans, especially in the field of brain trauma. He belongs to Manasota Veterans and is a leader in the Florida Department of Health in Hillsborough County. He has been inducted into the Florida Veterans Hall of Fame as a member of the Class of 2021.



CAPT Hartford

The Florida Veterans Hall of Fame recognizes those veterans who have made significant post-service contributions at National, State and/or local levels. It is worthy to note that Manatee County has had four Florida Veteran Hall of Fame honorees and the Bradenton Chapter has three of them.

Cape Canaveral Chapter

Marilyn M. Sanford, MOAACC Media Relations

Captain Jason Schneider - MOAACC Guest Speaker

The August MOAACC luncheon speaker was Captain Jason Schneider, who is the Commanding Officer of the Naval Ordnance Test Unit (NOTU). NOTU provides a key component of the nation's strategic nuclear deterrence mission and supports naval activity above, at, and below the surface of the sea. The command has operated for over 65 years, supporting strategic deterrence and systems production for the Navy, through both ground-based and missile flight-testing and support.



*Lt Col Brian Whalen, USAF (Ret), Capt. Jason Schneider,
LCDR Daniel Levy, USN (Fmr)*

Every generation of the submarine launched ballistic missile system---- Polaris, Poseidon, and Trident-----has been tested at the NOTU facility, from the design and development phase all the way through sustainment and operational support. NOTU's Strategic Weapons System Ashore Facility supports testing for current OHIO-class submarines, as well as future engineering needs for systems pertaining to COLOMBIA-class submarines, which is the Navy's most important acquisition priority today.

NOTU also operates the Navy's port at Port Canaveral, supporting submarines and surface ships of the US Atlantic Fleet, foreign navies, and assets of the Military Sealift Command.

Captain Schneider is a graduate of the US Naval Academy, and earned Master's degrees from George Washington University and the US Naval War College. He qualified in submarines as a junior and Executive Officer aboard several nuclear submarines. Ashore, he served as the Submarine SONAR Sensors Team Lead and Operational Test Director on the staff of Commander, Operational Test and Evaluation Force; as a legislative fellow on the staff of Senator Jack Reed; as a capability developer at US Joint Forces Command (USJFCOM); and as Commander, Submarine Forces Atlantic.

MOAACC Good Deeds Foundation (GDF) Presents Grant to Florida Prep Air Force JROTC

CPT Donn Weaver USA (Former), President of MOAACC's Good Deeds Foundation (GDF), and Dan McIntyre, MOAACC's Student Affairs Chair and GDF Board Member, presented a 2022-23 JROTC Grant for \$1,800 to Florida Prep Air Force JROTC Instructor LtCol Dean Fitzgerald for his program on the Florida Prep campus. Originally founded as Florida Air Academy in 1961, Florida Prep is one of the few non-military schools in the country to host an Air Force JROTC wing. LtCol Fitzgerald has been in charge of the program for 9 years.



Dan McIntyre, Dean Fitzgerald, Donn Weaver

Florida Tech Panther Battalion Commissions New Army Second Lieutenant

The Florida Institute of Technology ROTC Panther Battalion commissioned the newest Second Lieutenant in the United States Army in ceremonies at the Florida Tech All Faiths Center on Friday, September 2nd. Cadet Regina Gaglione took the oath of office and pinned on the rank of an Army Second Lieutenant, with Florida Tech Panther Battalion Cadets, Cadre, family, and friends in attendance.



Major Daniel Gil, Asst. Professor of Military Science; Second Lieutenant Regina Gaglione; Col Steve Bond, US Army Retired; Dean Robert Taylor.

Dean Robert A. Taylor, Ph.D., Professor of History and Dean of the College of Psychology and Liberal Arts at Florida Tech was the guest speaker. Colonel Steve Bond, US Army Retired, Senior Vice President for the Florida Council of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA), welcomed her to the Officers Corps on behalf of the 350,000 members of MOAA and wished her well on her journey as an Army Officer. He presented Gaglione with a "Gold Bar Commissioning Set", the rank insignia of Second Lieutenants in the Army, from the MOAA Cape Canaveral Chapter (MOAACC).

Second Lieutenant Gaglione graduated from Florida Tech with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Forensic Psychology. While at Florida Tech, she served in multiple leadership positions in the Panther ROTC Battalion, including on the Battalion Staff and in the Color Guard. She earned a competitive three-year ROTC scholarship and was the President of the Florida Tech Rugby Club. She is currently awaiting her service branch assignment to start her Army career.

LTC Ken Harris, USAR - MOAACC Guest Speaker

The September MOAACC luncheon speaker was LTC Ken Harris, who provided insights into the Joint Task Force (JTF) Guantanamo Bay (GITMO). He discussed the two separate parts of Guantanamo, the actual Naval Base and the Center for Detainees. These detainees are Muslim militants and suspected terrorists captured by U.S. forces in Afghanistan, Iraq, and other places. Harris described how attempts are made to satisfy their cultural dietary and religious requirements to the extent possible.

LTC Harris has enjoyed a varied military career. He enlisted in the US Navy in 1982. After some time at sea, he attended and graduated from the US Naval Academy in 1989, completing 4 years of Active Duty aboard a new destroyer. Reorienting his goals, he enlisted in the Army National Guard in Hawaii, where they set him on the path of commissioning again through OCS. After a dozen years in the Guard, he transitioned to the US Army Reserve. His Army assignments have included Military Intelligence, Ordnance (Maintenance), Logistics, Engineering, Instructing, and Information Operations. He was deployed to Iraq from 2003-2004 in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) and to JTF GTMO from 2011-2012.



*Lt. Col Joe Tichlich, Lt Col Brian Whalen,
Lt Col Ken Harris*

In addition to his Army Reserve commitment, Ken is active in the Army Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC). He joined the ROTC Team in 2005 at Florida Atlantic University (FAU), worked in Boston from 2015-2020, and joined the Florida Institute of Technology's Panther Battalion's Cadre in August 2020. Ken is an active chapter member, supporting youth activities and is a familiar face at the JROTC events at the Veterans Memorial Center. He was instrumental in planning and coordinating the September 17 seminar at the Brevard Veterans Memorial Center to familiarize high school students with the admissions process for US military academies and College ROTC scholarships.

Citrus County Chapter

By COL Mark Bodenheim USAR (Ret), Communications Director

Veterans in The Classroom Program - Register Now To Educate Children About Military Service

The Veterans In The Classroom (VITC) program needs Veterans to give presentations about their military service to Citrus County school children from Monday, Oct. 31st through Thursday Nov.

[Find & Join
a Chapter](#)



Marine Veteran Charles Wiggins gives a VITC presentation to Crystal River Middle School 7th graders. He is a Vietnam War veteran.

10th. The VITC program is one event in a series of events during Citrus County Veterans Appreciation Week. The theme of the 2022 Veterans Appreciation Week is “Citrus County Honoring our Afghanistan and Iraq Veterans”. With over 20 years of strong support by the Citrus County School District, the VITC program has educated thousands of our county’s children on the importance of our Veterans military service. The VITC program is managed by the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) Citrus County chapter and the program manager is COL Mark Bodenheim, USA (Ret), a 39 year military service veteran with three mobilization tours. He states, “Since 2019, we have lost over 20% of our Veteran presenters due to illness, death or moving out of the county. In a county with over 20,000 Veterans, we should have a lot more than the 60 Veterans on our current contact list. We need to get the message out there that we need Veterans to step up to this mission.”

In coordination with Mr. Al Balk, the Citrus County School District, Social Studies Teacher On Special Assignment (TOSA), COL

Bodenheim developed a digital registration process which makes it easier to match Veterans with teacher requests for particular skill sets. COL Bodenheim states, “ I have teachers requesting cooks, band players, helicopter pilots, accountants or foreign language speaking Veterans. The digital registration process permits me to match the Veteran’s skill sets to a teacher’s request.”



Air Force Veteran Arlena Newson gives a VITC presentation to Inverness Middle School 8th graders. She was deployed to Afghanistan two times.



VITC manager and Army Veteran Mark Bodenheim shows the digital VITC registration website where Veterans can register using a computer or smartphone.

To register for the VITC, go to the Citrus County School District website at: <https://www.citruschools.org/home>. Scroll down to the red circles. Then click the arrow right or left to the “Veterans in the Classroom” flag icon. Click on the icon to read about the VITC program and complete the registration process. Registration is open until Friday, Oct 14th.

**Find & Join
a Chapter**



The Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) Citrus County Chapter speaker event on September 13, 2022, at American Legion Post 155, featured Citrus County Property Appraiser, Mr. Cregg E. Dalton, CFA, MBA. Mr Dalton is shown here presenting information on the property appraisal process as well as property tax exemptions available to Veterans.

MOAA Citrus County Chapter President (right), COL Pete Tan, USA (Ret), presents a certificate of appreciation to Citrus County Property Appraiser, Mr. Cregg E. Dalton, CFA, MBA, for his presentation at the September 13, 2022, MOAA speaker event which was open to all Veterans and the public. The next MOAA speaker event will be January 10, 2023, at American Legion Post 155.



Kingdom of the Sun Chapter

LTC Arlo Janssen, USA (Ret), Editor of the Sunbeams, KOS/MOAA

The Kingdom of the Sun (KOS) Chapter of MOAA held their early fall monthly meeting on Thursday, September 1, 2022, at the Braised Onion restaurant in Ocala, FL. The KOS Chapter members and guests enjoyed the camaraderie and the selection of assorted menu items for the luncheon. The speaker was Dennis Rose, an Affiliate Member of our KOS Chapter. His topic was Project FUEL, which stands for "Full Utilization and Employment Logistics" and is cutting edge technology. Our speaker suggested that the KOS members in attendance work as a team at their tables during this

**Find & Join
a Chapter**

luncheon. He wanted us to be creative and think outside the box. After we finished our meal, Mr. Rose provided a summary of our creativity and a very informative slide show of Project FUEL.



Project F U E L

Full Utilization and Employment Logistics of cutting edge technology, reporting to the DOD and to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Your MOAA group has been volunteered to serve as one of our think tanks.

We will present a new cutting edge technology to you.
Your mission is to think of various ways to use the technology.

You may work individually or in teams. Experience has shown that working in teams is more creative and productive. Please keep in mind that we are looking for fresh approaches and all ideas are welcome.

Select a spokesperson for your team. The spokesperson will report your team's top two or three collective ideas to the entire group after lunch. You will have the lunch hour to collaborate and uncover your ideas.

The months of July, August, and September 2022 were dedicated by KOS Chapter members to our "Stuff the Bus" program. The KOS "Stuff the Bus" team is led by COL Ham, USA (Ret). Additional backpacks were delivered to homeless and needy children over the summer in Marion County. COL Ham reports he has

received a \$50,000 grant which will be distributed over three years. He also reported that the "Give4Marion" special charity project operated on Tuesday, September 20 and ran through 7:00 PM on Wednesday, September 21, 2022.

The KOS Chapter annual meeting luncheon will be held at the Braised Onion on November 3, 2022, with an election of chapter officers. A Memory Service will be held for those deceased KOS Chapter members as part of this annual meeting. Our KOS Chaplain, LTC Carolyn Smith, will conduct this special KOS service.

Historic Mayport Chapter

CDR Pat Kluever, USN (Ret)

CONGRESSMAN JOHN RUTHERFORD'S UPDATE

Tuesday 30 August: Over 100 Fleet Landing residents, staff, Atlantic Club members and MOAA Historic Mayport Chapter members attended this meeting to hear our elected representative from Florida's 4th district, Congressman John Rutherford, share his perspective and positions on items of interest and proposed legislation. After the Congressman's opening address a dialogue ensued on issues of interest to attendees. Known for his preference for a bi-partisan legislative approach whenever possible, and his staunch support to military, veterans and their families, Congressman Rutherford shared his views on several diverse topics and intimated some plans for the next congress in 2023. Thanks to Congressman Rutherford and district office manager Colonel Chris Miller, USA (Ret) for visiting Fleet Landing for an annual update.



(L-R) Pat Kluever - John Rutherford - (L-R) Alice Stratton - John Rutherford-Dick Stratton-Patrick Stratton

USO Mayport No-Dough-Dinner (NDD)

Wednesday 14 September: Many thanks to Mary Kluever, Dave & Mary-Pat Lynch, Bruce & Cyndee Osborne, Carol Smith, and Cindy Tomlin for assisting at the USO Mayport No-Dough-Dinner (NDD) on Wednesday 14 September. MOAA's Historic Mayport Chapter teamed with DAR representatives from Ponte Vedra to serve Mission BBQ sandwiches, baked beans, coleslaw, chips and desert to enlisted military families from 4:30 to 6:30 pm. This was an old fashion NDD with families dining inside USO Mayport picking up meals from the kitchen and visiting stations for sides, drinks and finally deserts (the favorite table for children with a blue ticket!). Nothing goes to waste at USO Mayport and left overs were delivered to the 24/7 security staffs at Naval Station Mayport and at Fleet Landing. Thanks again to all who helped out!! - BZ!!



(L-R Mary Kluever, Pat Kluever, Cyndee Osborne, Bruce Osborne, Carol Smith, Cindy Tomlin, Mary-Pat Lynch, Dave Lynch)

POW-MIA Recognition Day FLAG RAISING

Friday 16 September: The 0800 Flag raising at Fleet Landing Flag Plaza was well attended by over 35 residents. Thanks to John Lones for handling the lanyard and Larry Rose for helping handle the flags. The U.S. and POW-MIA fans were raised to full staff in honor of our Returned POWs and Missing In Action.



The following morning the U.S. Flag was raised to full staff and retreated to half staff in honor of Queen Elizabeth. Thanks to Randy McDonald for helping retrieve the POW-MIA Flag and raise the U.S. Flag Saturday morning at 0800. Also on hand for the Saturday event were Beryl and Carolyn Hubbard and Ken and Chris DeVries - Thanks for attending.

POW-MIA Recognition Day OBSERVANCE PROGRAM

Friday 16 September: The observance program started at 1030 with Retired Navy Captain Marty Kosiek explaining how a cell and parts of the torture chambers from the Hanoi Hilton had been recovered by a local business man, and how that gentleman had decided the recovered items would be installed in the future "Wings Of Gold" Aviation Museum near NAS Jacksonville.

Thanks to Master of –Ceremony CDR Randy McDonald, USN (Ret); Guest Speaker CAPT Mickey Miefert, USN (Ret); Chaplain Beryl Hubbard, COL USAF (Ret), Presidential Proclamation Reader LtCol Joe Ruthenberg USMC (Ret) - In Uniform; and Jean Ribault MCJROTC Senior Instructor Major Alan Crouch, USMC (Ret) and color guard Cadet Majors Ty'Quez Heyward, the Marine Corps Flag Cadet 2nd Lt. Nathan Toson, and rifles – Cadets Staff Sergeant. Nyayla Taylor & Corporal Martinique Albury. All who participated have received many comments about the impact of last Friday's program and **75 PLUS RESIDENTS SHOWED BY ATTENDING! "THEY ARE NOT FORGOTTEN!"**

Well Done to all and a special Thanks to Fleet Landing for their support and for providing lunch for our USMC participants!



(L-R) Mickey Miefert-Color Guard, Eileen Theis-Rev Beryl Hubbard, Color Guard-Pat Kluever & Joe Ruthenberg, Marty Kosiek-Eileen & Giles Norrington)

HAPPY 75TH BIRTHDAY UNITED STATES AIR FORCE



Flag Raising at Fleet Landing's Flag Plaza Sunday 18 September 2022

ASK THE NEW MAYOR!

TUESDAY 27 September: A sizable crowd of about 65 persons assembled to watch the three mayoral candidates for the upcoming 8 November 2022 election introduce themselves, make an opening statement, answer 10 questions and then make a closing statement. The questions ranged

[Find & Join
a Chapter](#)

from strategic issues to parking fees.

Candidate Curtis Ford highlighted his experience as a local successful business leader, his longevity and commitment to the community, and his ability to work with people at all levels at the beaches and in Jacksonville.

Candidate Sean Keane highlighted his experience as a leader over his 31-year career in military Special Forces to work with local leaders and populations to address issues and strengthen communities, and his commitment to his family and Atlantic Beach.

Candidate Brittany Norris stressed her experience and success serving Atlantic Beach as a community leader over the last five years, and her ability to immediately engage and make a difference in leading Atlantic Beach from day one.



(Back Row L-R) Bruce Osborne, Ivy Suter, John Lones, Louise Lones, Dante Capurro, Meg Capurro, Mary Kluever, Pat Kluever (Front Row L-R) Candidate Curtis Ford, Candidate Sean Keane, and Candidate Brittany Norris.

All three candidates were engaging and articulate as they addressed the attendees. The 90-minute event allowed sufficient time for residents to learn key positions and goals of each candidate, assess each candidate's ability to clearly communicate their thoughts, and to get a feel for each candidates commitment to serve the City of Atlantic Beach.

Our MOAA Chapter's 501-C-19 Veteran's Association status and Fleet Landing's 501-C-3 Charitable Organization status allow us to hold this debate under Florida Laws - one of only two planned for this election.

Thanks to Fleet Landing's Wellness team (Jennifer Joy, Mary Faria, Brandon and Kempton) for their support to configure Johnson Hall for the event. Thanks to our moderators Ivy Suter and Bruce Osborne, time-keeper Jon Lones, question screener Meg Capurro, and our messengers Dante Capurro, Mary Kluever, and Louise Lones - Well Done Team!

Clearwater Chapter

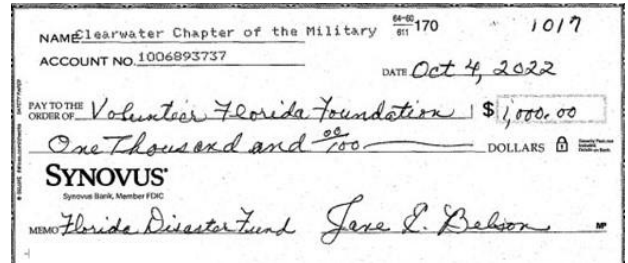
Robert J (Jim) Souders, Maj USAF Ret

Clearwater Chapter Approves Donation to Florida Disaster Relief

The chapter made a \$1000 donation to aid those unfortunate Floridians whose lives were devastated by Hurricane Ian.

Below is the link for members to individually aid these folks. Remember next time it could be us.

www.FloridaDisasterFund.org



Clearwater Chapter Memorial Bench Donated To K9 Partners For Patriots



Tallahassee Chapter

Cheryl Walters, President

Cheryl Walters began her Presidency like a rocket ship, starting with a social featuring NASA astronaut Dr. Norman Thagard. The highly successful event welcomed all veteran service organizations to share and enjoy the life of Dr. Thagard. The Marines who attended were proud of one of their own. Such is the rich history of military service bantering.

[Find & Join
a Chapter](#)



A distinguished member of the Florida Veterans Hall of Fame, Dr. Norman Earl Thagard, is an American scientist, former U.S. Marine Corps Fighter Pilot who flew combat missions in Vietnam, and a NASA astronaut. He is the first American to ride to space on board a Russian vehicle and the first American cosmonaut.

Read more about his distinguished career here:

www.fvhofsociety.org/thagard.html

At our August dinner meeting the chapter hosted Ralph (Gunny) Salvas, USMC(Ret) - Veterans Case Manager with the Florida Veterans Foundation. He delighted the assembly with an excellent presentation on the recent changes to our earned veterans benefits, the Veteran's Administration Thomas Clinic and the Tallahassee National Cemetery. We were all informed and entertained by Gunny's lively manner and spot-on replies to the subjects we had raised.



MOAA Tallahassee's President Cheryl Walters, CWO5 Henry Lowery, CDR Dennis Baker, and speaker Gunny Ralph Salvas

Our next social meeting is planned for Monday, 17 October at the Tallahassee Elks Lodge. We look forward to hosting Patrick Kluever, Florida Council of Chapters President. We are already gearing up for our holiday party in December featuring another fine feast from the Elks Lodge and musical interludes courtesy of local guitarist Jon Capps.

As we all advance through life's journey, it's invaluable to understand aid and attendance and beyond. We hope to continue to serve as a font of meaningful guidance. We will continue to listen to our members to ensure a bright, successful, and informative experience.

Tampa Chapter

Sara Marks, CAPT NC USN (Ret)

2022 ANNUAL WINTER GALA UPDATE

By Tom Kuhar, CDR USCG RET and Winter Gala Chair

The days to the Winter Gala continue to count down. The registration link is:

<https://www.moaatampa.org/winter-gala/>. The deadline for purchasing tickets is **December 3**, so secure your spot for this terrific event (or when seats run out).

For your \$140 event price you will receive:

- Entry to the beautiful venue we enjoyed last year
- 2 beverages of your choice from the bar during the cocktail hours featuring passed hors d'oeuvres
- An art show
- A silent auction and raffle of fantastic items to help raise money for our Chapter's outreach efforts
- Live music throughout the evening
- A glass of wine for the evening's ceremonial toasts • Your choice of one of the following meal options:
 - Grilled Petite Filet Mignon
 - Chicken Picatta
 - Fresh Grouper topped with crab meat - Vegetarian entree (Chef's choice)
- Dessert platter consisting of three individual dessert servings (Chef's choice)

Beginning with the October luncheon, we will collect new, unwrapped toy donations for the Toys for Tots drive in conjunction with the Gala. We will collect toys at the October and November luncheons and will have USMC representatives present at the Gala to collect any additional toys as well as cash donation. You can also make donations on our website to Toys for Tots.

So pull out your fancy clothes, make sure they fit and mark your calendars for December 16th at 6:00PM for a terrific evening supporting Tampa Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America.

2ND ANNUAL WINTER GALA
TAMPA CHAPTER OF THE MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

Please join us for the 2nd Annual Winter Gala.
Our principal fundraising event, the Winter Gala provides vital support to our numerous outreach programs in the Greater Tampa Area:

Transition Seminars • JROTC Programs • Veterans Affairs
National Guard & Reserve Outreach
Operation Helping Hand • Support Scholarships

Cocktail Hour with Hors d'oeuvres • Plated Dinner • Live Music • Silent Auction • Raffle
Chapter Awards Presentations • Art Show & Sale • Military Fellowship • Toys-for-Tots

This evening of elegance
will raise funds critical to allow the Chapter to expand the tremendous services we provide to the Tampa Bay Veteran Community

Private Country Club - Tampa, FL
Ticket cost \$140
Formal attire

Friday, December 16, 2022
To register: <https://www.moaatampa.org/winter-gala/>
Questions: events@moaatampa.org

MOAA TAMPA'S TRANSITION EVENT "THRIVING AFTER MILITARY SERVICE"

By Paul McAneny, COL, USAF, RET

On Tuesday, August 23rd, the MOAA-Tampa Chapter hosted its fifth ever quarterly event for transitioning military members and their families. The popular event is titled "Thriving After Military Service" and, rather than the typical transition events focused on, job skills, resume writing, networking, etc., the MOAA event addressed leading fulfilling lives following your military service.

Why are we doing this? Simple...because nobody else is.

The theme of the morning portion of this unique seminar was "a focus on the family" with speakers from TRICARE and the Veterans Administration as well as local Financial Advisors and Attorneys.

The afternoon was dedicated to "a focus on the community" with representatives and volunteers from organizations such as MOAA's own Tampa Chapter, Association of the US Army-SunCoast Chapter, the Hillsborough County Veterans Treatment Court Mentors Group, 1st US Volunteer Cavalry Regiment – Rough Riders, Tampa Sports Authority, EoS Fitness, and charity organizations addressing both veteran homelessness and mental health.

All that plus free drinks and snacks all day including lunch and a chance to meet other great transitioning military families.

THIS IS NOT A VIRTUAL EVENT...you must be in Tampa to attend.

Attendees included a variety of ranks (officer and enlisted) from all military services. One enthusiastic attendee stated, "Extremely valuable! I'm in the middle of my transition now and this was the only venue I've seen that covered these topics."

We are continuing to work with our full time partners, Tampa's own FIVE Labs/USbioskills Lab and Conference Center. The FIVE Labs CEO comes from a military family and also a member of our local South Tampa Chamber of Commerce; he wanted to participate in an event supporting our local military and veteran community.

The MOAA-Tampa Transition Seminar is held every quarter with the next event scheduled for Tuesday, 15 Nov 2022. Sign-ups are now open at this link:

<https://MOAA Tampa Thriving Transition Seminar.eventbrite.com>

Halifax Area Chapter

Pierre Louis, CW2, USMC (Ret)

At our September 22nd meeting, Col Jeri Graham, USA (Ret) spoke to our chapter on the importance of advocacy, membership recruitment, surviving spouse representations, and a host of other critical national priorities.



Chapter President Col McKittrick presents a copy of the Chapter Leadership book to Col Graham. This book was created by members of the chapter, and a copy is presented to the scholarship recipients at the annual scholarship dinner.

(L-R) Chapter President Col R. Bancroft McKittrick, USMC, Ret and Col Jeri Graham, USA, Ret

Col Graham enjoys a moment of camaraderie and laughter with Chapter members.

(L-R) Col Kim Ramos, USAF, Ret; Captain Mary McLendon, USN, Ret; Col Jeri Graham, USA, Ret; Surviving Spouse Ellie Dittmar



Indian River Chapter

Terry Treat, 1st VP, IRC MOAA

The Indian River Chapter Buccaneer Bird Killers honorably represented our chapter for the third consecutive year at the Veteran's Council of Indian River County Sporting Clays Shoot on September 24th. Our team of steely-eyed shooters downed 256 clay pigeons of the 400 which passed across our trusty shotguns. Yes, that means we allowed about 35% of them to live. That was, of course, completely intentional. As environmentally responsible sportsmen, we understand the importance of maintaining a healthy breeding population to ensure the species *Claytamus Pigeonine* does not go extinct.

The weather was favorable, and the tournament was well managed and very successful at about 175 shooters. The event raised \$25,000 to support the work of the Veteran's Council to assist veterans in our county.



Chapter Member Dale Content, Honorary Affiliate Ken Dale (our top shooter!), 1st VP Terry Treat, and Friend of the Chapter Tom Watson.

Dale Content draws a bead on a hapless clay





Answer: Billy Hurley III was the first service academy graduate (Naval Academy (Class of 2004) to play on the Professional Golf Association Tour. LT Hurley served 5 years in the navy, on two ships and on the USNA faculty. He played on and off the PGA Tour for a number of years and had one victory in 2016. He runs the Billy Hurley III Foundation whose mission is to support, honor, and enhance the lives of military families; serving those who serve along side. And ... Kyle Westmoreland, Air Force Academy Class of 2014, just earned his PGA Tour card in August, has now played in two PGA Tour Events and earned his first paycheck at the Sanderson Farms Championship.



And in case you are interested





NAVY Football at University of Central Florida – November 19th TBA

[Ticket Info](#) (As UCF will switch to the Big12 next year, this may be the last time Navy football comes to Florida in some time).

Upcoming Air Shows in Florida

October 22-23, 2022	NAS Jacksonville Air Show - Birthplace of the Blue Angels	NAS Jacksonville
October 29-30, 2022	Central Florida Air and Space Show	Orlando Sanford International Airport
November 11-12, 2022	NAS Pensacola Open House, Blue Angels Homecoming Air Show	Sherman Field, NAS Pensacola
November 11-13, 2022	Stuart Air Show 2022	Witham Field, Stuart

Find & Join a Chapter



Former, Active, Retired Military Officers, Warrant Officers & Surviving Spouses

JOIN A FLORIDA CHAPTER

- Advocacy from the National to the State and Local levels
 - Philanthropy and Community Service
 - Comradery with a Purpose

NEVER STOP SERVING

Find a chapter at www.MOAAFL.org/Membership.aspx



November 8th, 2022



[Find & Join a Chapter](#)



Get a vision plan that's focused on you

- Convenient access with 122,000 providers nationwide
- Discounts on trendy frames from brands like Warby Parker, LensCrafters, GlassesUSA and Costco
- \$200 frame allowance and discounts on other vision products

When and how to enroll

Sign up during Federal Benefits Open Season, or if you are a new hire, you have 60 days from your start date to enroll. Sign up at [BENEFEDS.COM](https://www.benefeds.com) or call 1-877-888-FEDS (3337).

Learn more

Check up on the details at [uhcfeds.com](https://www.uhcfeds.com)



**United
Healthcare
Vision**



Federal Employees Dental and Vision Insurance Program

All trademarks are the property of their respective owners.

© 2022 United HealthCare Services, Inc. All Rights Reserved. ES22-1502191

MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA (MOAA) FLORIDA COUNCIL OF CHAPTERS (FCOC)

The MOAA Florida Council of Chapters (FCOC) is comprised of 40 Chapters with nearly 5,000 members and their families. FCOC is one of MOAA's largest Councils. MOAA has a membership of over 380,000 members in all 50 States.

The FCOC's primary communication vehicles are our bi-monthly publication, *The COUNCIL COMMUNIQUÉ* and our Website www.MOAAFL.org. Ads run for one year.

The *COMMUNIQUÉ* is distributed electronically to all our chapters, MOAA Headquarters in Virginia, and our influential contacts across the state of Florida.

The *COMMUNIQUÉ* provides a unique forum for businesses to reach a select segment of the population. The membership is patriotic and professional. We encourage your business to reach out to our members by advertising in *The COUNCIL COMMUNIQUÉ*.

In appreciation of Businesses that also support the FCOC Annual Convention with Ads in the Convention Souvenir Program Book within the last year the FCOC offers a discount for the same size Ad shown on the following Order Form.

Thank you!

FCOC

Advertise with Us!

Submitting Articles and Pictures for *The Communiqué*

Articles can be attached to an email. Microsoft Word works best (Arial 12). You can also type your information into the body of an email where it can be copied and pasted into the newsletter. PDF files can also be used but without photos.

Pictures should have a .jpg or .png extension. If you are sending pictures from your chapter, please include the chapter name and the names of those in the picture. A few words on what the event is about will help interest the readers.

If you have questions about your submission, contact

Randy Fiebrandt
rfebs1953@gmail.com

**Find & Join
a Chapter**



The Council Communiqué' ADVERTISING ORDER FORM



<u>Size of Ad</u>	<u>Per Issue</u>	<u>Annual Placement (6 Issues)</u>
Quarter Page (4" x 3.5")	\$75	\$300 (Save \$150)
Half Page (8" x 3.5" or (4" x 7.5"))	\$150	\$600 (Save \$300)
Full Page (9" x 7.5")	\$300	\$1200 (Save \$600)

Size of Ad: _____ No. of Issues: _____ Annual: _____

Note: Annual is from Jan-Dec. Six issues are published electronically on the 10th of the even months. Mid-year placement for a recurring annual placement can be pro-rated for the remainder of the year.

(Ad placement in the printed Annual Convention Program in the spring is handled separately by the Convention Committee: POC's are listed under the Committee Chairs on the last page of the Communiqué')

Amount: \$ _____ Make check out to: Florida Council of Chapters and mail with this form to: Treasurer – FCoC, P.O. Box 60603, Fort Myers, FL, 33906.

Business Name _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Business Contact: _____ Email: _____
 Tel/Cel #: _____ Fax #: _____

Submit PDF or JPEG file of ad(s) or ad update via email with a scanned copy of the completed order form to vpfcoc@gmail.com

Copy is due by the first day of February, April, June, August, October and December.

Please notify the Council Vice-President if you plan to change the ad copy. Address questions to Col Steve Bond at 321-831-7572 or to vpfcoc@gmail.com.

Florida Chapters & Web Sites (if available)

[Ancient City Chapter](#)

St. Augustine
Area: Northeast
[View Website](#)

[Bay County Chapter](#)

PANAMA CITY
Area: Northwest

[Bradenton Chapter](#)

Bradenton
Area: South West
[View Website](#)

[Broward County Chapter](#)

Deerfield Beach
Area: Southeast
[View Website](#)

[Cape Coral Chapter](#)

Cape Coral
Area: South West
[View Website](#)

[Cape Canaveral Chapter](#)

Patrick AFB
Area: East Central
[View Website](#)

[Central Florida Chapter](#)

Orlando
Area: East Central
[View Website](#)

[Charlotte Harbor Chapter](#)

Punta Gorda
Area: South West
[View Website](#)

[Clearwater Chapter](#)

CLEARWATER
Area: West Central
[View Website](#)

[Flagler County Chapter](#)

Palm Coast
Area: Northeast
[View Website](#)

[Florida Gold Coast Chapter](#)

Coral Gables
Area: Southeast

[Florida Keys](#)

Islamorada
Area: Southeast
[View Website](#)

[Gainesville Chapter](#)

Gainesville
Area: Mid Central
[View Website](#)

[Halifax Area Chapter](#)

Daytona Beach
Area: East Central
[View Website](#)

[Imperial Polk County Chapter](#)

Lakeland
Area: Mid Central

[Indian River Chapter](#)

Vero Beach
Area: East Central
[View Website](#)

[Kingdom Of The Sun Chapter](#)

Ocala
Area: Mid Central
[View Website](#)

[Lake & Sumter Counties Chapter](#)

Lady Lake
Area: Mid Central
[View Website](#)

[Lee Coast Chapter, MOAA](#)

Sanibel Island
Area: South West
[View Website](#)

[Mayport Chapter](#)

Jacksonville
Area: Northeast
[View Website](#)

[Mid-Florida Gulf Coast Chapter](#)

Palm Harbor
Area: West Central
[View Website](#)

[Military Officers Association of Sarasota, Inc.](#)

Sarasota
Area: South West
[View Website](#)

[Military Officers Association of South West Florida](#)

Naples
Area: South West
[View Website](#)

[Military Officers Club of Volusia County](#)

Orange City
Area: East Central
[View Website](#)

[MOAA of Citrus County](#)

Lecanto
Area: Mid Central
[View Website](#)

[Nassau County](#)

Fernandina Beach
Area: Northeast
[View Website](#)

[Northeast Florida Chapter](#)

Jacksonville
Area: Northeast
[View Website](#)

[Find & Join a Chapter](#)

Florida Chapters, Continued

Northwest Florida Chapter

Fort Walton Beach
Area: Northwest
[View Website](#)

Palm Beach Area Chapter

Boynton Beach
Area: Southeast
[View Website](#)

Palm Beach-Martin Counties Chapter

Jupiter
Area: Southeast
[View Website](#)

Pensacola Chapter

Pensacola
Area: Northwest
[View Website](#)

Santa Rosa Chapter

Milton
Area: Northwest

St. Petersburg Area Chapter

St. Petersburg
Area: West Central
[View Website](#)

South Central Florida Chapter

Sebring
Area: South West
[View Website](#)

South Dade Chapter

Princeton
Area: South East

Sun City Center Chapter

Sun City Center
Area: West Central
[View Website](#)

Suncoast Chapter

Port Richey
Area: West Central
[View Website](#)

Suwannee River Valley Chapter

Lake City
Area: Northeast
[View Website](#)

Tallahassee Chapter

Tallahassee
Area: Northwest
[View Website](#)

Tampa Chapter

MacDill AFB
Area: West Central
[View Website](#)

Treasure Coast Chapter

Fort Pierce
Area: East Central
[View Website](#)



Standing with you
at every stage.

97017

1-800-247-2192 • www.moainsurance.com/plans



Florida Council of Chapters

Military Officers Association of America



OFFICERS

- President:** CDR Patrick R (Pat) Kluever, USN (Ret) 540-775-4955 presfcoc@gmail.com (Mary)
- Vice President:** COL Steve Bond, USA (Ret) 321-831-7572 vpfcoc@gmail.com (Jane)
- NE Area Vice President:** LTC Ron Birchall, USA (Ret) 904 794-2883, rebirch@comcast.net (Nancy)
- NW Area Vice President:** Don Panzenhagen 850-420-1654 dpanzenhagen@aol.com (Carol)
- EC Area Vice President:** MAJ Lorraine Holland, USA (Ret) 407-221-1388 lorraine holland@hotmail.com
- MC Area Vice President:** LTC Dan Hill, LTC, USA (Ret) 863-212-5036 h.daniel.hill@gmail.com (Josie)
- WC Area Vice President:** LTC Benny Blackshire, USA (Ret) 813-260-3105 bwblacks@aol.com (Janet)
- SE Area Vice President:** COL Paul Loschiavo, USMC (Ret) 561-310-4769 moaa.fcoc.sef@gmail.com
- SW Area Vice President:** COL Gary Nolan, USAF (Ret) 618-407-6945 gnolan0219@gmail.com (Cindy)
- Secretary:** COL Jon Gordon, USA (Ret) 941-923-2302 jmkpl@aol.com (Mary)
- Treasurer:** Marilyn Leehan 440-812-0100 mlfcocreas@gmail.com (Terry)
- Membership:** COL Steve Bond, USA (Ret) 321-831-7572 vpfcoc@gmail.com (Jane)
- Immediate Past President:** COL Mike Borders, USA (Ret) 863-402-8292 mbor57@aol.com (Diana)

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

- Budget & Finance:** Marilyn Leehan 440-812-0100 mleehan@gmail.com (Terry)
- Bylaws & Resolutions:** COL Bancroft McKittrick, USMC (Ret) 603 548-6558 rbancroftmc@gmail.com (Kathleen)
- Communiqué Editor:** CDR Randall Fiebrandt, USCG (Ret) 954-806-7854 rfiebs1953@gmail.com (Joan)
- Legislative Affairs:** Lt Col Robert Bienvenue, USAF (Ret) 352-775-2183 rbienven@sprynet.com (Barbara)
- Florida Veterans Council:** MAJ Lorraine Holland, USA (Ret) 407-221-1388 lorraine holland@hotmail.com
- Florida Legislative Affairs:** Lt Col Steve Murray, USAF (Ret) 850-668-1645 murrayr@fdva.state.fl.us (Beth)
- Personal Affairs:** COL Paul Loschiavo, USMC (Ret) 561-310-4769 moaa.fcoc.sef@gmail.com
- Religious Activities:** COL Anthony "Tony" Clark, ARNG (Ret) 407-496-5249 chclark1995@gmail.com
- Web Site & FMMC/IMMC Ed:** LCDR John Snyder, USN (Ret) 904-859-6099 jhsnyder41@gmail.com (Donna)
- FCOC Convention Coordinator:** LTC Marc Oliveri, USAR (Ret) 561-753-7565 ltcolmarc@gmail.com (Jenine)
- Surviving Spouse Liaison:** Patricia Green, 407-774-7933 deg06@aol.com

The
Communiqué
is on the web:
<http://moaafi.org/>

The **Council Communiqué** is the newsletter of the Florida Council of Chapters (FCOC), Military Officers Association of America, and is published bimonthly: February, April, June, August, October, and December. MOAA, it's Councils and Chapters are non-partisan organizations. The Communiqué is intended for wide distribution via e-mail within the FCOC including Chapter Leaders and all Chapter Members in Florida. A current issue of **The Council Communiqué** can be found at the Florida Council of Chapters Web Site: <http://www.moaafi.org/>, drop down menu Events/News.

Opinions expressed by contributors are their own and may not express the positions of FCOC or the MOAA.