

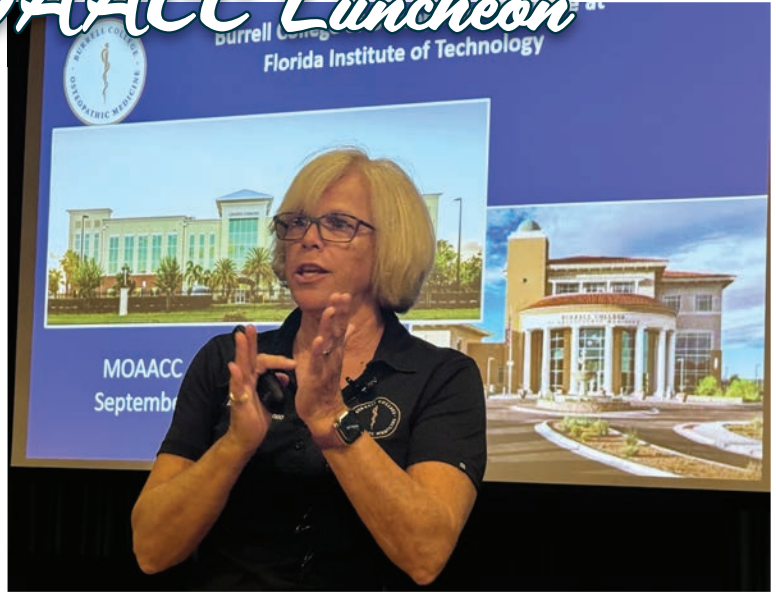


The INTERCOM

MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA
Cape Canaveral Chapter, Inc.



September MOAACC Luncheon



Guest Speaker, Dr. Doris Newman - More on Page 10

MOAACC's 1,000th Member!

TMBC Guest Speaker, Rose Bobier



More on Page 9



More on Page 12

MOAACC Photos by Pish Pishdad



To take action with MOAA, visit: <https://moaa.quorum.us/>
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PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

Steve Cusick, Captain, USN (Ret), President, MOAACC

Your MOAA Chapter Connection

Fall Program Underway

Hello again and welcome to the October 2025 edition of the INTERCOM.

WE DID IT - Now our Chapter has over 1000 members.

A BIG WELL DONE to Hans Hunt and **ALL HANDS** who enabled us to meet this lofty goal! A recent photo of our newest member, Lillian McBee, a 2nd Year Med Student at the Burrell College of Osteopathic Medicine follows in this issue. There is no question that we are indeed the **BIGGEST** and **BEST** MOAA Chapter in the country, and it is all because of your strong participation and dedicated service.

As we move into our busy FALL program, I'd like to point out a very special event coming soon.

MOAACC Good Deeds Foundation

VyStar Veterans Day Recognition Dinner

Saturday, November 8, 2025 at Holiday Inn Viera Conference Center

Cocktails: 5:15 PM - Dinner: 6:00 PM

Please join us for an evening of honor and gratitude as we recognize those individuals, associations and projects that make a significant impact on military veterans in Brevard County. Your participation will make a lasting impact on the lives of local veterans, active-duty service members and their families. For more information, please go to the website: <https://gdfd.org> or contact event chair Larry Jackson at larryj59@gmail.com

By the way, each Thursday morning at 0800 we have a great time at our **Thursday Morning Breakfast Club (TMBC)** meeting at the IRCC 19th hole lounge. Please put this on your calendar and bring a friend to keep up with all the latest MOAACC happenings.

As always, thank you so much for the Honor of serving as your President!

Looking forward to seeing you soon!



EDITOR'S NOTE

John Franco, COL, USAF (ret)

In this issue we acknowledge and celebrate the birthdays of three of our elite services: United States Air Force (September 17), United State Navy (October 13) and United States Marine Corps (November 10). Happy Birthday and God bless the service men and women, and their families, who have served and who are serving today.



OCTOBER EVENTS (Click Event for Details)

- 10/2 Current Affairs Forum - 8 AM
@ Indian River Colony Club - 19th Hole
- 10/3 10th Annual Rescuing Veterans Lost in America
Gala - 5 PM
@ Raddison Resort at the Port - Cape Canaveral
- 10/9 TMBC - 8 AM
@ Indian River Colony Club - 19th Hole
- 10/14 On-the-Go Luncheon @ Salt & Sweet Restaurant
- 10/14 250th Navy Birthday Celebration Dinner - 5:30 PM
@ Indian River Colony Club - Colony Hall
- 10/16 Join Us to Wish George Rosenfield a Happy 100th
Birthday! - 5 PM
@ Sonata at Viera
- 10/17 Patriot Night - 6 PM
@ Viera High School
- 10/21 MOAACC BoD Mtg. - 9:30 AM
@ Indian River Colony Club - Chapel
- 10/21 MOAACC Luncheon - 8 AM
@ Indian River Colony Club - 19th Hole
- 10/23 TMBC - 8 AM
@ Indian River Colony Club - 19th Hole
- 10/30 TMBC - 8 AM
@ Indian River Colony Club - 19th Hole
- To see details for these events,
visit <https://moaacc.org/events>

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See more in the online version
at <https://moaacc.org>

INTERCOM Photo & Article Submission Rules

PHOTOS:

- Photos must be in "High Resolution" in .jpg format and sent as an **"Attachment."**
- When sending photos, select "actual size" on computer or cell phone and send as **"Attachment."**
- Submit only up to two photos per article. More photos may be accepted if necessary.
- All photos must have "captions" of who, what, when, where and why.

ARTICLES:

- Articles must be in Microsoft "Word" format in Times New Roman 12 font. **PDF NOT ACCEPTED**
- LIMITS: One article per email, not more than 375 words. Each Article must include Author Name & Rank

DEADLINES & SUBMISSION EMAIL:

- Photos & Articles are **DUE NO LATER THAN the 15th of each month or sooner.** Please send ALL submissions **ONLY** to the following: intercom@moaacc.org
- **DO NOT SEND Cc TO EVERYONE**

INTERCOM PUBLICATION:

- THE INTERCOM is published 12 times annually by the Cape Canaveral Chapter, Inc. (MOAACC), an affiliate of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) Alexandria, VA
- Contents of the Intercom articles are opinions solely of the authors and do not express the policy or official views of MOAA or The Cape Canaveral Chapter (MOAACC)
- The advertisements that appear in this publication do not reflect an endorsement by MOAA or by MOAACC
- Comments and suggestion are welcome. Contact EXECUTIVE EDITOR: intercom@moaacc.org

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FINANCIAL LITERACY

CAPT Arnold Lim, USNR (Ret)

Impact of the Big Beautiful Bill Act's Passing on Your Taxes

The One Big Beautiful Bill (OB BB) Act passed on 03 July 2025 and was signed by the president the next day. It is a thousand pages long. Undoubtedly, there are a lot of financial and tax details to digest. But it is an impact summary that follows below, and in next month's article, we will summarize the impact on Roth IRA conversion strategies.

Let's start with recognizing that a majority of tax provisions that were implemented in 2017 as part of the Tax Cuts and Job Act (TCJA) were only temporary in nature; they were set to automatically expire on 31 December 2025. However, due to the OB BB's passing, many of these provisions have now instead been made permanent, or at least until the next law affecting the tax code rolls through.

1) Perhaps the most important aspect is that the lower tax rates of the TCJA have been extended as permanent. Specifically, we maintain the seven (7) tax brackets of: 10; 12; 22; 24; 32; 35; & 37% tax brackets, and importantly, the dollar boundaries of each tax bracket will continue to increase each new tax year, as indexed to inflation rates. For comparison, the seven (7) tax brackets from prior to the TCJA were mostly a few points higher at: 10; 15; 25; 28; 33; 35; & 39.6%. These are the brackets that would have been reverted to if the OB BB had not been approved.

2) The larger standard deduction is maintained. For 2025, the standard deduction on federal taxes for single filers is \$15k and for MFJ is \$30k; these numbers are expected to increase in 2026, versus standard deductions prior to 2017 were considerably lower.

3) The larger estate exclusion is maintained. Effective as of 01 January 2026, the federal estate and gift tax exclusion and the generation-skipping transfer (GST) tax exemption will increase slightly to \$15,000,000 per person. This means that in 2026, an individual can transfer \$15,000,000 (increased from \$13,990,000 in 2025) free of any federal estate, gift, or GST taxes either during their lifetime or at death (a combined \$30,000,000 for married couples, increased from \$27,980,000 in 2025). So in summary, the average taxpayer will continue to benefit from a lower federal tax payment.

4) State and Local Taxes (so called SALT) deduction was increased from \$10k per year to \$40k. Prior to 2017, we used to be able to deduct all our state taxes and property taxes on federal taxes. Then in 2017 with the TCJA bill, it was reduced to \$10k as a maximum. With OB BB, the maximum is now increased up to \$40k, but that deduction starts phasing out as taxable income rises single filers above \$250k and for marrieds above \$500k. So, if you're below those levels, you can deduct up to \$40k of taxes. That will be a huge benefit for some, particularly those that live in high tax states like California and New York.

Some new tax provisions came with OB BB:

Senior Bonus Deduction: One brand new provision is the so-called Senior Bonus Deduction of \$6k/person. This is the deduction that reportedly takes the place for the president's campaign promise to eliminate taxes on Social Security (SS) benefits. Congress' OB BB obviously didn't do that, but the idea behind this Senior Bonus Deduction is that it will effectively eliminate some of it. Note: One really shouldn't think about this Senior Bonus Deduction in terms of SS because the deduction has nothing to do with whether you're receiving SS benefits or not. You could be 65 and not yet started taking SS. You may not even qualify because you never paid into the SS program. You can still get this Senior Bonus Deduction. However, you do have to be 65 or older, and it only lasts four years right now (2025 through 2028) and so, unless it's extended, it expires after 2028, and you must be 65 or older. If you're married, you can both qualify for it if you're both 65 and older. Important to the question of Roth IRA conversions is that this deduction does phase out. So, if you're single, it starts to phase out at \$75k, and if you're married filing jointly, at \$150k; for married filing jointly, it completely phases out at \$250k. If you're single, it completely phases out at \$175k.

One thing to keep in mind is that if you itemize your tax deductions, normally you can't take the standard deduction: it's either one or the other. But if you itemize your deductions, you still can take this Senior Bonus Deduction of \$6k per person, so up to \$12k for married couples if both spouses qualify.

Trump Accounts

The One Big Beautiful Bill Act adds a new type of individual retirement account called "Trump Accounts" to the current complex mix of savings vehicles. The accounts include a one-time \$1k deposit made by the government for certain children born in 2025 through 2028 (born as a US citizen with Social Security numbers). This one-time deposit must be claimed through a bank or other qualified financial institution. These accounts permit up to \$5k of annual after-tax contributions (typically by the child's parents). These Trump accounts allow savings to grow tax deferred and for the child to use after attaining age 18.

Tips and Overtime

For tax years between 2025 and 2028, your tips can be tax-free, up to \$25k per year of tips and then that starts phasing out at about \$150k of taxable income. Overtime income up to \$12.5k of overtime can be exempted from income tax, with similar phase outs.

Car Loans

Interest on car loans is potentially deductible up to \$10k. The loan must be for a new car for personal (versus commercial) use purchased after 31 December 2024. And the final assembly needs to be in the United States.

So that summarizes the changes of the OB BB. Next month's article, we'll look at the impact on Roth IRA conversions: to convert or not to convert?



LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

John R. McMahan, BG, USA (Ret)

Another Shutdown Showdown?

Since Congress returned from its summer recess in August, the looming crisis du jour is the never-ending saga of another potential government shutdown. Recall the last one ended in March after Senator Chuck Schumer (D-NY), the Senate Minority Leader, rallied enough Democratic Senators to vote in favor of a Republican plan to avert a shutdown, voting with the majority of Senate Republicans to pass a Continuing Resolution (CR) to fund the government another 3 months. CRs are notoriously inefficient at funding the government mainly because the rules prohibit any “new starts” and limit governmental spending to the last year’s appropriated levels. Consequently, governmental operations hobble along at the previous year’s spending levels until new appropriations bills are passed, albeit late again as usual.

Senator Schumer caught a lot of flak from his fellow Democrats for supporting the Republican devised CR because many in his party saw his position as capitulation without any sought-after gains for the Democrats through compromise. Schumer argued that a government shutdown would play into the hands of President Trump and his Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) efforts to reduce the size of government; hence, it was better to avoid the shutdown then. Now, the debate inside the Democratic caucus is heated, with many in the House minority suggesting they must receive some quid pro quo for their support. Specifically, they seek the restoration of funding for keeping Affordable Care Act (ACA) (also known as Obamacare) subsidies. These were eliminated in the recently passed Big Beautiful Bill, President Trump’s sweeping tax-cut law. With about 24.3 million Americans enrolled in Obamacare, 22.4 million of them received these subsidies in the past.

Meanwhile, House and Senate Republicans have proposed a simple solution. They are generally not opposed to restoring these subsidies but need more time to work out the details with their Democratic colleagues. Hence, they propose a short-term CR until 21 November which would also allow more time to complete the FY2026 appropriations bills. While a simple majority is needed in the House, the Senate rules require 60 votes to approve such an extension; as long as House Republicans stick together, Speaker Johnson is confident of passage by the 1 Oct deadline. In the Senate, Democratic votes are needed again. The Republican plan is further complicated by the fact that insurers, regulators, and consumers of Obamacare subsidies need to know what the Congress/government will allow as insurers set their new rates for 2026, and consumers shop for their coverages and premiums.

In other news from Congress, Senate frustration with getting many of President Trump’s nominees approved is causing Majority Leader John Thune to change Senate rules (again) by “going nuclear”, a tactic used in the past by both Democratic and Republican majorities to alter the Senate’s rules in favor of easing the thresholds for Senate confirmations. The move is a response

to Democrats’ refusal to allow President Trump’s nominees to be considered, which has slowed their confirmations and frustrated the president. But its consequences will reach beyond President Trump’s tenure, effectively whittling down the ability of the minority to register any opposition to executive branch nominees below the cabinet level. Democrats used the tactic in 2013 to lower the vote threshold on most nominees to a simple majority rather than 60 votes, a response to Senate Republicans systematically blocking a series of Obama administration judicial appointees. Republicans then retaliated in 2017 to lower the threshold for Supreme Court nominees, allowing Mr. Trump to install three justices during his first term.

And, on top of another looming government shutdown, the White House is challenging the Congressional power of the purse through impoundments, or unilateral moves to cancel legally mandated spending. Impoundments became illegal under a 1974 law which has a loophole. When the president asks Congress to rescind certain funding, those resources are frozen for 45 days. By sending such a request to Congress within 45 days of the end of the fiscal year, the president can essentially run out the clock on that funding and cancel it even if lawmakers don’t act, through what’s known as a “pocket rescission.” In this case, the Administration is attempting to cancel \$4.9 Billion in foreign aid, the first time since 1977 when a president used a pocket rescission to curb Congressional spending authority.

With regard to another government shutdown, MOAA sees CRs as “costly stopgaps” while at the same time advocating for it as “less disruptive than a shutdown. A shutdown is “the far worse option,” effectively halting federal operations, even though servicemembers must report for duty while their paychecks are delayed. Will the Congress ever get back to doing its business routinely?



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POINTS TO PONDER

Ch, LtCol, Thomas Unrath

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, NOAA, history goes back to 1807. President Thomas Jefferson founded the U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey to provide nautical charts for the safe passage along the coast and ports. The Weather Bureau was founded in 1870, and in 1871 the U.S. Fish and Fisheries. The three were brought together in 1970 when NOAA was established. The NOAA commissioned corps was founded in 1917 and uses the same rank and insignia as the Navy and Coast Guard. There are no enlisted members, civilians make up the rest of NOAA. The mission is very well summed up in the NOAA song:

Into the deep blue we go sail,
cast the nets and watch them trail.
sort the samples, weigh the fish,
save the sea, that's Neptune's wish.
From Georges bank to the Bering Sea,
We're the NOAA corps and proud to be!

Into storms we love to fly.
buckle in, we'll reach the eye.
We survey the mountain tops,
predicting floods and saving crops.
From the peaks to the coasts, we do soar.
We are the NOAA corps!

Into the oceans and the air,
for corps and country we do swear.
President Jefferson set us on our way:
Survey the coast. go without delay! AYE

Into the deep blue we do go,
heave out the lead and chart below.
fix your benchmarks with some pride;
we are the sailor's guide.
We are the NOAA Corps!

From the depths of the ocean
to the surface of the sun,
on the front lines of science
we will never be outdone.
PATHFINDER's courage charts the way.
We're the NOAA corps and proud to say!

Into the oceans and the air,
for corps and country we do swear.
President Jefferson set us on our way:
Survey the coast. go without delay! AYE!

Into the deep blue we do go,
heave out the lead and chart below.
Fix your benchmarks with some pride;
we are the sailor's guide.
We are the NOAA corps!

HEALTHY LIVING

CAPT (ret) Rita Shapiro, MA, DPT

October is National Physical Therapy Month

Since I am a physical therapist and served on active duty in that capacity for more than 21 years, I felt it was pertinent that I bring awareness to the importance of physical therapy though the continuum of life.

This October, the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) will highlight the importance of physical therapy across one's health span. The theme will focus on the role of physical therapy in optimizing movement and function at any age to support resilience and allow us to enjoy the freedom of movement into our golden years. Specifically, as military officers, we know the amount of physical activity required from the beginning of our careers through the completion. Hence, why stop after we retire?

"Motion is Lotion" is one of my favorite quotes that I always posted in the clinic on various bases. This applies through our life. We must keep moving to:

1. Keep our joints mobile and lubricated
2. Keep the muscles flexible and strong to do our daily activities and then some.
3. Keep the cardiovascular system in good and healthy condition.
4. Keep the pain away by production of body's natural pain relievers – Endorphins. If not for above reasons, keep moving to remain happy, as many studies have reported exercise as an excellent anti-depressant.

So be Happy and KEEP MOVING!!

Reference: www.apta.org

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Mark Your Calendar!

Save the Dates for upcoming MOAACC 2025/2026 Events:

(Click Event for Details)

- 2 October 2025: Current Affairs Forum w/ Jose Prieto – Operation Urgent Fury (Grenada)
- 3 October 2025: 10th Annual Rescuing Veterans Lost in America Gala
- 16 October 2025: George Rosenfields 100th Birthday
- 8 November 2025: 1st Annual VyStar MOAACC Veterans Day Recognition Dinner**
- 9 November 2025: NVHS 8 th Annual Sk for Veterans
- 18 November 2025: MOAACC Luncheon & Annual Membership Business Meeting
- 5 December 2025: Annual Christmas Dinner Dance
- 11 December 2025: Surviving Spouses & Spouses Christmas Tea
- 13 December 2025: 4th Annual Space Force 10-Miler
- 10 January 2026: MOAACC Installation Banquet (New Leadership Installation Ceremony)
- 29-31 January 2026: Florida Council of Chapters Leadership Training Seminar and Convention
- 31 January 2026: 20th Annual MOAACC Good Deeds Foundation Fundraiser Cruise

October Upcoming Events

- The October **Current Affairs Forum (CAF)** is Thursday, October 2nd, and our guest speaker is our own Jose Prieto. His subject is Operation Urgent Fury on the island of Grenada where he was a participant in October 1983. See the “Upcoming Event” list below for additional information. CAFs start at 8:30 AM and immediately follow an abbreviated **Thursday Morning Business Meeting (TMBC)**. TMBCs are our weekly business meetings, held every Thursday in the 19th Hole at the Indian River Colony Club starting at 8 AM. All members are invited and encouraged to attend. If you cannot attend in person, we also ‘Zoom’ the meetings. *Reservations are not required for CAFs or TMBCs.*
- The October **On-the-Go Luncheon** (No Business!) is Tuesday, October 14th at Salt and Sweet Restaurant at 3092 Lake Washington Road in Melbourne. Phone Toni Lowe at 321-474-6888 for reservations. Mark your calendars as our On-the-Go Luncheons always meet the second Tuesday of each month for an informal lunch and an enjoyable time with friends! *RSVPs are required by Friday, October 10th!*
- Our **October Luncheon** guest speaker is Mrs. Pat Green. Pat is a MOAA Surviving Spouse Advisory Board member, the Surviving Spouse Liaison for both the MOAA Florida Council of Chapters and the Central Florida Chapter, and she is President of the MOAA Surviving Spouse Virtual Chapter. Her important topic is “Survivorship and the Importance of Preparing.” The luncheon is on Tuesday, October 21st in Colony Hall at the Indian River Colony Club. You can find Pat’s bio, luncheon choices, and reservation information by clicking on the “Upcoming Events” link below. The luncheon begins at 11:30 AM for check-in and seating. The Call-To-Order is promptly at 12 Noon. Lunch will be served at 12:05 PM and the program begins at 12:25 PM. Reservations are required by Thursday, October 16th. *Make your reservations today!*

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MOAACC MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

WELCOME

Welcome our New Members!

Last Name	First Name	Prefix	Service	Component	Duty Status	Membership Level	Member's Sponsor
Brown	Ray	WO1	Army	Regular	Retired	Annual	Mike Schroeder
Cleveland	Barbara	Mrs	Surviving Spouse	Other	Surviving Spouse	Surviving Spouse (Auxiliary)	Ellie Joy
Crane	Jim	1LT	Army	Regular	Former	Annual	Ellie Joy
Donohue	Joan	Mrs	Surviving Spouse	Other	Surviving Spouse	Surviving Spouse (Auxiliary)	
Dressback	Avir	ENS	Coast Guard	Regular	Active	Annual	Dan McIntyre & Amir Pishdad Sr
Fenech	Paul	LCDR	Navy	Regular	Retired	Annual	Ellie Joy
Franco	Suzanne	Mrs	Spouse	Other	Other	Spouse	John Franco
Haynes	Kenneth	COL	Army	Regular	Retired	Annual	
Hemphill	Gregory	CH (LCDR)	Navy	Reserve	Retired	Annual	
Hester	Josh	MAJ	Army	Regular	Former	Annual	Hans Hunt & Steve Bond
Howarth	Gary	CDR	Navy	Regular	Retired	Annual	Bob Motley
Keeney	Eileen	Mrs	Surviving Spouse	Other	Surviving Spouse	Surviving Spouse (Auxiliary)	
Lim	Eva	Mrs	Spouse	Other	Other	Spouse	Alan Lim
Lim	Janet	Mrs	Spouse	Other	Other	Spouse	Arnold Lim
Marquez	Sydney	ENS	Coast Guard	Regular	Active	Annual	Dan McIntyre
Palazuelos	Carlos	ENS	Coast Guard	Regular	Active	Annual	Dan McIntyre & Amir Pishdad Sr
Pivello	Eden	ENS	Coast Guard	Regular	Active	Annual	Dan McIntyre
Sherby	Stephanie	COL	Army	Reserve	Retired	Life	Don Reott
Staubs	Jeffrey	CWS	Army	Regular	Retired	Annual	Rosa Reich
Staubs	Rebecca	CPT	Army	Regular	Former	Annual	Rosa Reich

MOAACC's 1,000th Member!

MOAACC Membership Reaches 1,000

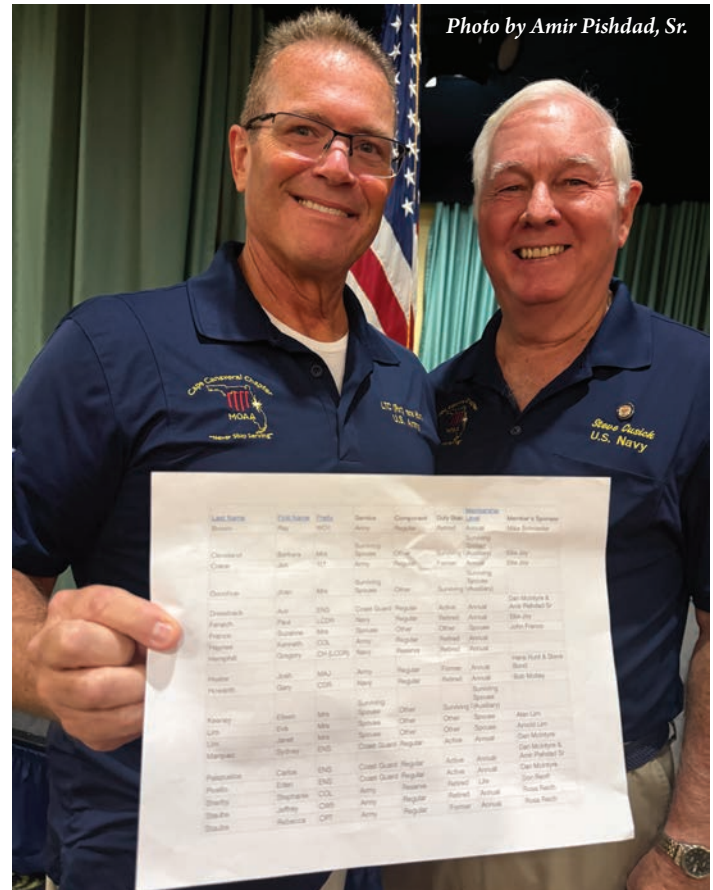
LTC (Ret) Hans F. Hunt, MOAACC 2nd Vice President



2VP Hans Hunt (left) and MOAACC President Steve Cuscik(right) recognize LT Lillian McBee, an Active-Duty Navy Lieutenant and student at Burrell College, as our 1,000th member.



The Cape Canaveral Chapter of MOAA has reached its 1,000th member and we are currently at 1,006 thanks to the efforts of the chapter members recruiting. The goal was set by MOAACC President Steve Cusick to reach a minimum of 1,000 members. LT Lillian McBee was our 1,000th member and is an Active-Duty Navy Lieutenant currently attending the Burrell College of Osteopathic Medicine, located on the FIT Campus in Melbourne, FL. Since 1 Jan 2025 to present, we have had 112 new members added to our organization. This is more than some chapters have in their entire chapter. Recruiting members for MOAACC is not only the responsibility of the 2nd Vice President, but also the responsibility of all MOAACC members. We encourage each member to always carry a membership application with them in their pocket, wallet, purse, car, and gym bag, etc. At any given moment, members of MOAACC engage with other officers in various places around our community. It is encouraged to talk about our organization and encourage all those from the various branches of service who served in the officer or warrant officer ranks to join. Spouses of members can also become members and are also encouraged to join. So, let's keep up the great job in recruiting! Hooah!



2VP Hans Hunt presents the latest list of new members that puts MOAACC membership over 1,000.

September MOAACC Luncheon

Editor John Franco

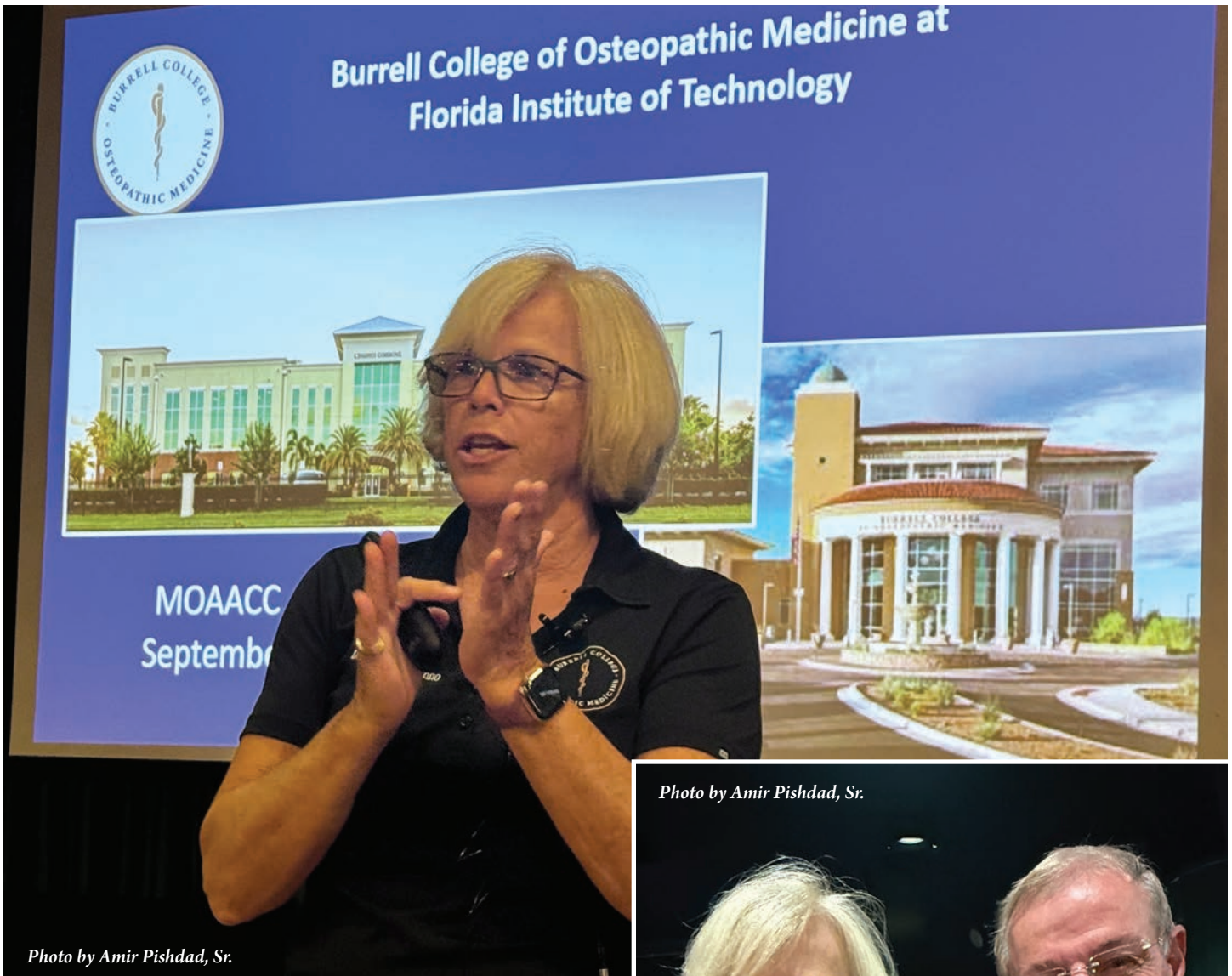


Photo by Amir Pishdad, Sr.

Dr. Doris Newman, Dean the Burrell College of Osteopathic Medicine Campus at Florida Institute of Technology, provided a presentation on the mission of the college and the difference between regular physicians and osteopathic physicians. Burrell College operates two campuses, one in Las Cruces, New Mexico and the one here in Melbourne. Dr. Newman stated that in the world, MDs and Dos are required to be licensed are required to have completed medical school. The difference between thee two is that Dos provide “hands-on” treatment which involves skeletal and muscular manipulation. The school campus at FIT began in July 2020 followed by its four-year medical school class in July 2024.



Steve Bond, Florida Council of Chapters (FCoC) President and MOAACC member present MOAACC Challenge Coin to Dr. Newman.

September MOAACC Luncheon



Dr. Doris Newman addresses the crowd.



*Sep 16 Honor Guard from Heritage High School
Left to right: Captain Addison Hall, LtCol Nelchia Prada, Command Sergeant Major Timothy Sevko, Captain Nicholas Gonzales. Instructor not pictured, First Sergeant Carlos Colon.*

TMBC Guest Speaker, Rose Bobier

Photo by Amir Pishdad, Sr.



ClinCloud Managing Director, Rose Bobier, provided and information presentation on Clincloud's mission at our recent Thursday Morning Breakfast Club meeting.

Clincloud was established in 2017 to provide clinical trial opportunities, health consultations and counseling services. People in the community can participate in research studies that provide free liver scans, memory loss evaluations and more. She stressed the importance of the liver scan as the results may indicate other health problems not otherwise known.



Photo by Amir Pishdad, Sr.

Left to right: Steve Cusick, MOAACC President, Rose Bobier, ClinCloud Managing Director, Mike Kahanca, Current Affairs Chairman

Photo by Amir Pishdad, Sr.





MOAACC GOOD DEEDS FOUNDATION

Donn Weaver, CPT USA (fmr), President Good Deeds Foundation

First Annual VyStar Recognition Dinner

Captain Larry Jackson, USAF (Fmr) Recognition Dinner Chair

On Saturday, November 8, 2026, the MOAACC Good Deeds Foundation (GDF) will host a dinner at the Viera Holiday Inn Conference Center. The purpose of this event is to raise community awareness by recognizing the Brevard County Veteran's Project, Veteran's Organization, and Veteran's Volunteer of the Year.

Our guest speaker will be a Congressman Mike Haridopolos. Admiral Wayne Justice will serve as Master of Ceremonies, and Sheriff Wayne Ivey will be our auctioneer. This event will be GDF's major fundraising event, replacing the annual golf tournament.

We invite all MOAACC members to participate and help make this event a success. You can support us by:

- Purchasing a table for \$1,250 and inviting friends and family to join you.
- Purchasing an ad for \$125 in our dinner booklet to commemorate a veteran relative.
- Sharing our flyer with your church, civic organization, doctor, or dentist, and encouraging them to purchase a table for \$1,250 or an ad for \$250.

Please visit our website: GDFD.org or contact me at larryj59@gmail.com.

The Good Deeds Foundation needs your support to continue our mission of supporting youth activities (JROTC, ROTC), active-duty military members and their families, veterans organizations, and veterans at risk.

GDF Supports Brevard Schools STEM Program



The teachers with spouses are: Kelly Georgelis of Merritt Island High; Cheryl Hanneman of Quest Elementary; Samantha Fischer of Cocoa High; and Sarah James of Lewis Carroll Elementary. BPS Superintendent Mark Rendell is at far right.

There are many JROTC programs in Brevard that have special STEM related connections like the HELM program at the Navy JROTC units in Titusville and Bayside and the UASF flight simulator programs at Satellite. This year the GDF Board voted to fund three events at \$300 each through STEM programs at Brevard Public Schools to support these cadets and other students. The first program started with Science Teachers receiving BPS and Space Coast Science and Education Alliance Awards on 13 September.

MOAA Cape Canaveral GOOD DEEDS FOUNDATION

FIRST ANNUAL VETERANS DAY RECOGNITION DINNER

Please Help Us to Celebrate Veterans Day
And to Honor

2025 Outstanding Veterans Project
2025 Veteran Volunteer of the Year
2025 Outstanding Veterans Organization

**Saturday
November 8, 2025**
5:00 to 6:00 PM Cocktails and Live Auction
6:00 PM Dinner
Holiday Inn Viera Conference Center
\$125 Per Person*

Congressman Mike Haridopolos, Keynote Speaker
Rear Admiral Wayne Justice, USCG, (ret),
Master of Ceremonies Sheriff Wayne Ivey, Auctioneer

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Logo feature in event advertisements

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VETERANS MEMORIAL CENTER UPDATE

Always Remember; Never Forget: 9/11 Commemoration at BVMC



In front of about 350 onlookers, the 24th Annual Ceremony to Commemorate the Events and Aftermath of 9/11/2001 was conducted the Brevard Veterans Memorial Center on Merritt Island. The event was led by Club 1013, which operates all over the country and is made up of retired NYPD officers. Marco Calderon, 1013 Brevard President and Al Boettjer worked with BVMC and the Good Deeds Foundation of the Cape Canaveral Chapter of MOAA to make sure the event reflected solemn remembrance and honor. All remembered the nearly 3000 killed that day and the many thousands since who perished from toxic exposure, from combat casualties (7,053 through this year) and because of military and first responder service combating terrorism. More than 80 Brevard County Sheriff, City Police, Fire Department and EMT personnel participated in the hour-long ceremony. Speakers included Al Boettjer who spoke about the events and toll in life then and over the 24 years since; from former NYFD Fire Captain Bruce Happaage, whose Long Island Unit rushed to help within minutes after the attack and stayed on for weeks; from RADM Wayne Justice, USCG Ret, a NYC native, who was near the Pentagon that day and recounted sacrifices of his high school friends then and USCG Honor Guards and Color Guards from Club 1013 BCSO, Police and Fire Units, the Knights of Columbus as well as the Brevard Police and Fire Pipes and Drums Corps made the event and remembrance very special. BFD sent their hook and ladder engine



with the giant American Flag and Lonnie and Delinda's Beach

Band provided great sound and music, including Delinda Griffis singing the National Anthem. Retired NYFD member John Diegnan and the BCSO Honor Guard offered TAPS and the 21 Gun Salute to end the solemn but important day. There were at least four other major 9/11 events in Brevard as all promised to re-stage an even better event for the 25th Anniversary of the "Pearl Harbor of our Generation" in 2026 at the new BVMC Park Amphitheater. Members in the aftermath; from Sheriff Wayne Ivey who spoke about why we must remember and the crucial roles of first responders and our military as we go forward; and from Donn Weaver, BVMC VP and Gold Star Dad whose son fell in combat in Afghanistan.

VyStar Foundation is a proud sponsor of MOAACC

On behalf of The Military Officers Association of America (MOAACC), we extend our heartfelt gratitude for VyStar Foundation's support of The Good Deeds Foundation, allowing us to continue our mission of service and camaraderie. As Vice President of the Good Deeds Foundation and a VyStar member for four decades I am proud of their unwavering support of the military community. Thank you for standing with us as we serve and support those who have served our nation.

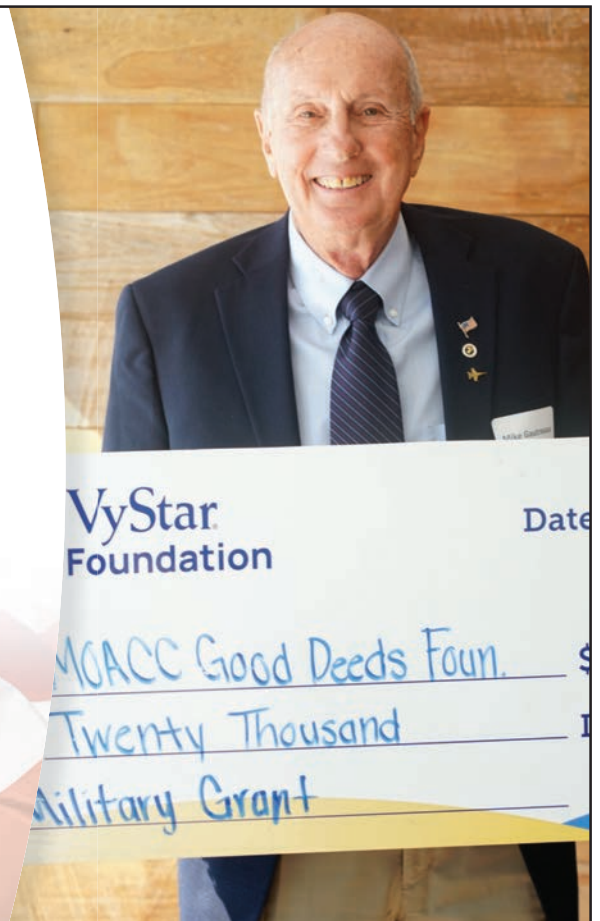
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SCHOLARSHIP CORPORATION

Col D Brent Baysinger, USAF (Ret)

Feedback from our Scholarship Recipients

As we enter October and the final quarter of the year, the MOAACC Scholarship Committee takes the opportunity to assess the most recent award season. In addition, the committee continues to review eligibility criteria to ensure we effect the maximum impact for our MOAACC members and veteran community. This month we will highlight messages received from two recent Scholarship awardees, Katie Hibbard (2024) and Hadlee Fuller (2025).

MOAACC,

I want to extend my gratitude to the entire chapter for selecting me as a 2024 Scholarship recipient and supporting my future! MOAA is allowing me to pursue my dream of becoming a physician and giving back to the community! Thank you for recognizing my accomplishments and believing in my future! I will remember the generosity of this chapter and help I have been awarded for a long time! The luncheon was very nice and I thank you for inviting my family and myself to be a part of the day! I am extremely grateful for all you have done!

THANK YOU!

Katie Hibbard (Florida State University)

Dear Members of the MOAACC,

I am honored to receive the scholarship from the Military Officers Association of America, Cape Canaveral chapter. Your generosity will significantly support my studies in Microbiology at the University of Florida as I pursue my goal of becoming a pediatric oncologist. I am truly grateful for your confidence in me and your investment in my education and future!

Sincerely,

Hadlee Fuller (University of Florida)

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Thank you

Your future. Our focus.



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CAREER SUPPORT Transition (TCS)

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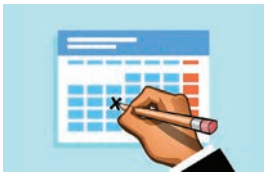
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Patrick AFB, FL 32925-4708

MOAACC Good Deeds Foundation

PO Box 320358

Cocoa Beach, FL 32932



Unofficial Brevard VMC Vets Calendar

October 2025 & Beyond

Contact VMC for any additions or other information.

NOTE: Some Events Change in-between our monthly mailing of the VMC Calendar.

Keep up to date with those changes using our web link:

<https://veteransmemorialcenter.org/upcoming-veterans-events/>

Contact donnweaver2020@gmail.com for more information or to participate.

OCTOBER

11 Oct — NEW TIME AND VENUE Space Coast Honor Flight Send Off 0400 -0530 hrs at Melbourne Airport Terminal. Honors 30 plus veterans and guardians travel to Washington, DC to visit their monuments and memorials. MOAACC/Good Deeds will present annual SCHF and FIT guardians support checks at this event. See SCHF.org for more info.

11 Oct — Second JROTC County Raider Challenge Invitational Meet at BVMC Park 0630-1230. Expect 12 schools from three counties and over 300 JROTC cadets. While the Amphitheater project will still be underway, the 3.5 K long pathways and plenty of other field space will be available. Veteran organizations pass out trophies and are welcome to support our youth. Most action including awards ceremony takes place 1030-1230. Contact Donn Weaver of BVMC on 757-871-6576 for any questions.

17 Oct — Annual Patriot Night Honoring Veterans at the Viera HS Football Field 1800-2100. Veterans get in free and will be honored at halftime. All vets and first responders should be on the track seven minutes before halftime to be honored at mid-field. Contact Donn Weaver 757-871-6576 for more information or to get a poster.

28 Oct — BVMC Discussion Series at the Library 1800-1930. The US Marine Corps 250th Anniversary will be explained and celebrated including tables of Marine memorabilia and a commemorative cake cutting ceremony. Marine Corp League Members will be there to answer questions and discuss Marine History and ethos. Vinnie Howard is organizing the evening.

NOVEMBER

1 Nov — District Championship JROTC Raider Challenge Invitational Meet at BVMC Park. 0630-1300. Veteran organizations pass out trophies and are welcome to support our youth. Most action including awards ceremony takes place 1030-1300. Contact DonnWeaver of BVMC on 757-871-6576 for any questions.

8 Nov — Space Coast Honor Flight Send Off 0400 -0530 hrs at Melbourne Airport Terminal. Honors 20 plus veterans and guardians with travel to Wash DC to visit their monuments and memorials. Check out SCHF.org for more info.

8 Nov — Annual St Francis Reflections 5K Fundraiser at VMC Plaza and Park. 0800 - 1200 Includes veteran recognition and pinning. More Details in September.

8 Nov — Veterans Day Recognition VyStar Dinner at Holiday Inn Viera Conference Center 1715-2030. Sponsored by MOAA Cape Canaveral Chapter Good Deeds Foundation. To honor and express our and community gratitude to individuals, associations and projects that make a significant impact on military veterans in Brevard County. Sponsors at levels from \$10K, to \$5K to Tables of 10 at \$1250. Seats are \$125 and are now available. To register and get more information go to GDFD.ORG or contact event chair Larry Jackson on 321-242-1331 or larryj59@gmail.com.

8 Nov — Annual VFW Post 10131 and City of Cape Canaveral Veterans Day Parade 1000-1130. Entry Details in September This year VFW Post in Cape Canaveral is hosting and managing the event. Food and music at the Post after the parade.

8 Nov — The Support Committee at the Cape Canaveral National Cemetery will hold their annual Fall Fundraiser at the American Legion Post 1 in Titusville on 1281 N. Washington St. 1730- 2100. Includes a silent auction, 50/50 raffle, music and fellowship. Funds from the event will help build a storage shed to house Flags For Fallen Veterans which are placed on individual graves at CCNC around every Memorial Day every year. Contact SC/CCNC for more information and to sign up through the Secretary Priscilla Southworth: saavik31324@yahoo.com or 321-543-4563. Tax deductible donations are welcomed if you cannot attend the event.

9 Nov — 8th Annual Homestretch 5K for Veterans by NVHS for Homeless and at-Risk Veterans. 0800-1100. Eau Gallie Arts District at the Square Park. Sponsors, Volunteers, Runners needed. Last day to sign up as a sponsor is 10 October. SEE: runsignup.com/Homestretch5K

11 Nov — BVMC (and many other) Veterans Day Ceremony. 0930 - 1030 VMC Plaza/Park. Details in September with possible Parade of Colors that afternoon in the new Amphitheater/Park. That Date may also serve as Ribbon Cutting for the Amphitheater and expanded VM Park if weather permits and construction stays ahead of schedule.

15 Nov — Brevard County Marine Corps League Detachment 513 250th Marine Corps Birthday Ball 1800- 2200. Space Coast Convention Center, 301 Tucker Lane Cocoa. Guests Business Casual dress. Dinner includes two choices with cash bar, music and dancing. Cost \$50 per person payable in advance by 08 November. Advanced paid reservations only with no payment at the door. Contact MCL or VMC on 321-453-1776 to learn more and how to register.

16 Nov — Heroes United to Heal Designer Bag Fundraiser at Merritt Island Moose Lodge, 3150 N. Courtney 1500-1800. Admission is \$40 per person or \$200 for table of 6 with \$300 and \$650 Vender sponsorships. Silent auction, music, food, door prizes, raffles , etc. Check out www.hu2h.org email contact@huth.org or phone 850-919-4824.

DECEMBER

13 Dec — Holiday Illumination 5K at Brevard Veterans Memorial Center Park 0700-1000. Sponsored by CAMI and managed by Running Zone. Registration and Information in September. Includes portions of the Mall and newly upgraded BVMC Park with Amphitheater.

13 Dec — Merritt Island Community Holiday Grand Illumination. (1600-2030) Includes Community and Gold Star Family Tree Illumination at the expanded Brevard Veterans Memorial Center Park/Amphitheater. Food Trucks, Games, Kids Events and much more . Sponsored by CAMI. Details in September.

13 Dec — National Wreaths Across America Day at the Cape Canaveral National Cemetery and four other Brevard Locations. Details in September.

**Please help us spread the word
and advise of any new events.**

Donn Weaver

Vice President , Veterans Memorial Center

757-871-6576 | donnweaver2020@gmail.com



Military Officers Association of America Florida Council of Chapters (FCoC)

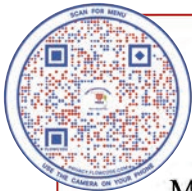


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☐ New Chapter Annual ☐ New Chapter Life ☐ **ANNUAL RENEWAL** ☐ Change of Information

Name _____ Spouse's Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

Rank _____ Service _____ Member DOB _____

Check appropriate box:

☐ Retired ☐ Active Duty ☐ Widow (er) ☐ Spouse of Member

☐ Regular ☐ Reserve ☐ Nat'l Gd ☐ Former Officer

Member of National MOAA? Y / N Member

If No, may we sign you up for a no-charge MOAA National Basic Membership? _____

Signature _____ Date _____



Chapter Membership \$20
Active Duty/Drilling Reserve:
First Year - No Cost

Life Membership

Age	Fee	Age	Fee
40-49	\$460	80-89	\$155
50-59	\$400	90-99	\$75
60-69	\$330	100+	No cost
70-79	\$235		

Life membership payable over three consecutive months. Make checks payable to MOAACC or pay online at MOAACC.org. Dues and Fees include subscription to **THE INTERCOM** News Magazine and Five Things e- Newsletter.

Help Wanted, Volunteers Needed!

Our chapter runs on volunteers, and the Nominating Committee has been busy at work filling key positions for 2026. However, we still need willing volunteers to serve in our various committees and key positions:

- We are launching a new enhanced website, transitioning from WordPress to Neon Website—a modern platform that will strengthen and enhance our services, streamline operations, and expand our impact. This project must be completed in 120 days, and we need **volunteers to help review content, update pages, test, and more.** Volunteers with some tech experience needed and training will be provided.
- A **chapter photographer is needed** to record our activities and provide photos for our monthly news magazine, The Intercom, and website. Training is available and equipment provided if needed.

There are other committees, activities, and leadership positions available in the Chapter too. Most positions only require a few hours (or less) of work a week but are critical to our ability to perform our chapter's mission. The degree to which we can make an impact depends on members willing to take an active role in the chapter as embodied in our motto—"Never Stop Serving." See the Leadership and Committees page on our website here or the Directory page of The Intercom to find areas where you can contribute. If you are interested in serving in any of these positions, contact us at admin@MOAACC.org. We need you!



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The Crew of Coast Guard Cutter Vigilant

Dan McIntyre



The crew of Coast Guard Cutter Vigilant (WMEC 617) returned home to Cape Canaveral, Aug. 19, following a 59-day patrol in the Caribbean Sea and Windward Passage.

During the patrol, Vigilant's crew interdicted 3,100 pounds of illicit drugs in the Caribbean Sea while underway in the Coast Guard Southeast District's area of operations. Vigilant's crew deployed in support of the Joint Interagency Task Force – South (JIATF-S) mission of detecting and monitoring illegal drug shipments in the maritime domain for subsequent interdiction and apprehension. These drug seizures contributed to the Coast Guard's largest drug offload in history.

Vigilant's crew initially deployed in support of Operation Vigilant Sentry (OVS), a Department of Homeland Security-led operation comprised of federal, state and local partners responsible for preventing and responding to maritime migration. While on patrol in the Windward Passage, Vigilant worked alongside other Coast Guard assets to deter illegal alien migration along the coast of Haiti. Crew members executed maritime intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance operations while maintaining a continuous presence in the region.

OVS is. OVS, previously known as Homeland Security Task Force – Southeast, was established in 2003 and is comprised of more than 50 federal, state, and local agencies.

Vigilant is a 210-foot, Reliance-class medium endurance cutter. The cutter's primary missions are search and rescue, counter-drug operations, alien interdiction and enforcement of federal fishery laws.

For information on how to join the U.S. Coast Guard, visit [GoCoastGuard.com](https://uscg.edu) to learn about active duty, reserve, officer and enlisted opportunities. Information on how to apply to the U.S. Coast Guard Academy can be found at <https://uscg.edu>.



Sailer of the Quarter, CS3 Kenny J Carpio-Lazo, USCG



Sailer of the Quarter, MK1 Kaleb M. Mullin, USCG

Happy Birthday, Airmen, Sailors, and Marines



September 18, 1947

Editor note:

This was a message from the Commandant of the Coast Guard to all coastguardsmen wishing the United States Air Force, "Happy Birthday." This demonstrates Joint Force comradery right from the top. Thank you ADM Kevin Lunday for your well wishes on the 78th birthday of the United States Air Force.

R 181318Z SEP 25 MID120012064282U
FM COMDT COGARD WASHINGTON DC
TO ALCOAST

BT

UNCLAS

ALCOAST 389/25

SSIC 1000

SUBJ: 78TH BIRTHDAY OF THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

1. Congratulations to the United States Air Force on your Birthday.

2. For seventy-eight years, the Air Force has stood as America's shield in the sky, a testament to innovation, unwavering vigilance, and unmatched airpower. More than just marking another year, this anniversary celebrates a legacy of global reach, technological dominance, and the relentless pursuit of excellence that defines every Airman.

3. The Air Force's commitment to rapid global mobility, precision strike capabilities, air superiority, and information dominance has been vital to safeguarding our nation and our way of life. The Air Force's unwavering dedication and ability to "Fly, Fight, and Win" ensures that America remains secure. Like the Coast Guard's dedication to maritime security, the Air Force's mastery of the skies ensures freedom of operation and action across domains.

4. Today, we honor the pioneers who dared to dream of flight, the dedicated Airmen who stand watch around the clock, and the innovative leaders who continue to push the boundaries of

what's possible. Your commitment to Integrity First, Service Before Self, and Excellence in All We Do resonates far beyond the flight line, inspiring confidence in our nation's ability to meet any challenge. On behalf of the United States Coast Guard, I extend our best wishes to the United States Air Force on your 78th Birthday. We are proud to serve with you as part of the Joint Force.

5. ADM Kevin Lunday, Acting Commandant (CCG), sends.



October 13, 1775



November 10, 1775

VBC at No Limits Academy for 9/11 Presentation

Donn Weaver



Photo courtesy of Donn Weaver

For the first time since Vets Back to Class was founded in 2014, VBC was invited to present a class on the impact of 9/11 to over 20 students and as many staff at the No Limits Academy in Melbourne on 12 September. The students run from elementary to high school age and are faced with challenges they work hard to overcome. During the 40 minute presentation they paid close attention and had some great questions. Thanks to Lead Teacher Savannah Moffett and the entire staff for the invite and for what they and the parents do for these amazing children.

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Donation to
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**January 31-Feb 7,
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***Prices are subject to change.**

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***Prices are subject to change.**

**\$500 per cabin non-refundable
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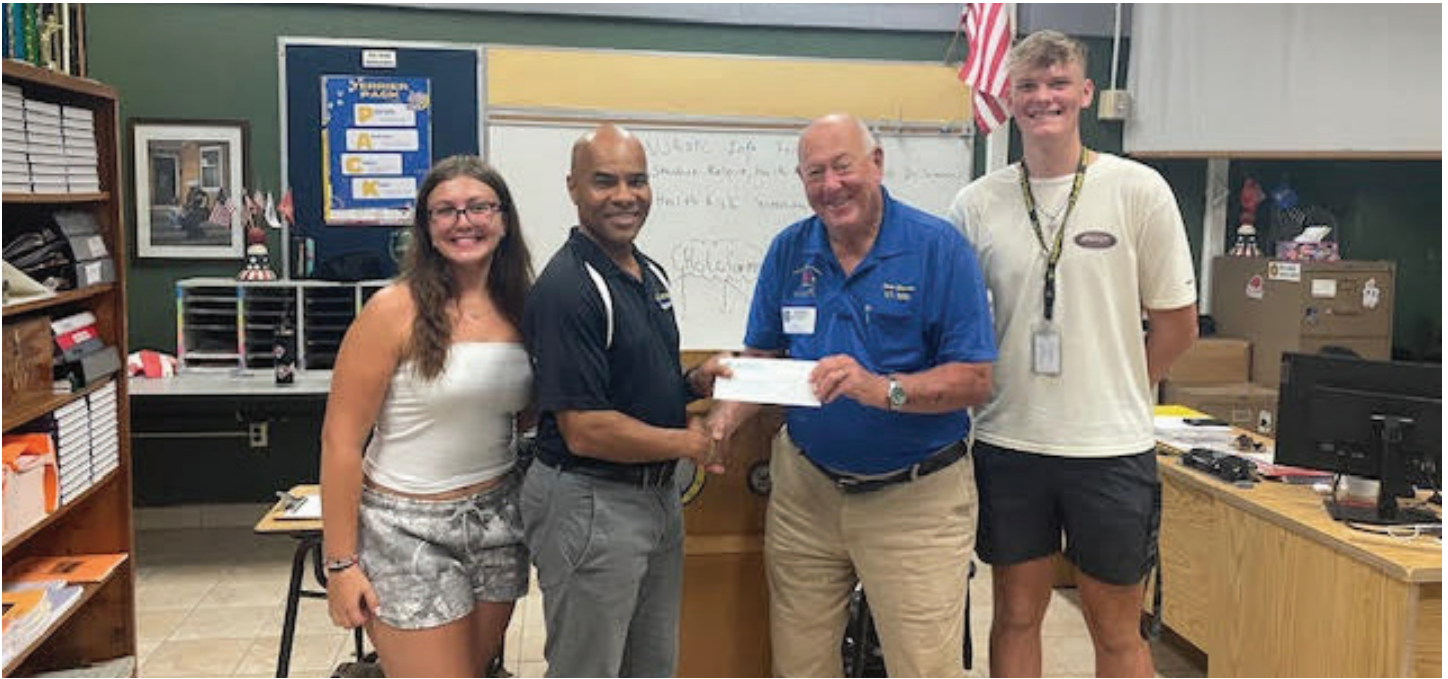
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GDF check to NROTC

Donn Weaver



On 14 August Donn Weaver (the old guy) presents GDF check for \$3000 to support the Navy JROTC program at Titusville HS for the new year. Chief Petty Officer David Thrush accepts the donation with the unit's cadet commanders joining — first week of school so no uniforms yet!!

The two Navy schools, Titusville and Bayside could not attend our 6 August JROTC Launch meeting at the BVMC which appears in this issue, so we wanted to waste little time before catching them up.



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MOAACC Good Deeds Check Presentation



Photo courtesy of 2VP Hans Hunt

On 3 September 2025, MOAACC 2nd Vice President Hans Hunt presented a \$1500 check from the MOAACC Good Deeds Foundation to the Civil Air Patrol (CAP) TiCo Composite Squadron in Titusville. This check will give the CAP great start for the new fiscal year. In the picture from left to right, Hans Hunt presents the check to Captain Rhonda McMillan who is the senior officer for the CAP unit. Cadets and other leaders in the background.

Calling More MOAACC Members to Step up

We are only about one month away from your Good Deeds Foundation ONLY fundraiser of the year. We need your help to donate for tables, buy chairs and place ads in Memoriam or otherwise in our program. Please check. GDFD.org for more information and to donate. All donations are tax deductible.

Last month GDF completed our FY 2026 Budget and provided special donations to Wreaths Across America at Cape Canaveral National Cemetery (\$4,000); to the Florida Tech ROTC program for a special "Gold Bar" display and commissioning sets (\$984) and to National Veterans Homeless Support to sponsor their Eau Gallie 5 K event in November. In that process we also looked at our records of donations received in FY 2025.

Here is where we need your HELP: Only 36 of 1000 MOAACC members contributed to the GDF Mission last year with direct dollar donations. Of those, 6 major contributors accounted for over 85 percent of our funds available. While we gained \$23,000 from the GDF Golf Tournament in 2024 and hope to get more than that from our 08 November Veteran Recognition Dinner, without the help of many more MOAACC Members, we will not meet our FY 2026 Goals. So, please consider mailing a check of \$50 or more; a possible RMD donation; tables or chairs at the GDF dinner or other ways you can help GDF take another step forward in 2026. We want to ensure we are the best organization of any MOAA Chapter in the country. We need your help to continue being just that. Thank You.

9/11 Ceremony at Private School in Melbourne is Special



On an early morning, 24 years later, Saint Paul's Classical School held a moving Ceremony of Remembrance of 09 Sep 2001. The event included student efforts , led by 8th grader Anthony Toffler (above) to preposition 2977 small flags representing those killed on 9/11 at the three locations. All 100 students and over fifty parents attended. Vets Back to Class was invited and Donn Weaver (right) offered reflections for the diverse audience. It was great to learn about many such events in schools and across Brevard this year.



MOC

MEMBERS ONLY CORNER

On-the-Go-Luncheon October 14, 2025

Salt & Sweet Restaurant

3092 Lake Washington Rd
Melbourne, FL 32934

This month's 'On-the-Go' we will meet at Salt & Sweet Restaurant. For reservations or additional information phone Toni Lowe at (321) 474-6888. Cut off for reservations, cancellations is the Friday prior, so she can inform the restaurant on how many are coming. Cost: Per individual. As always, please honor your reservation or call Toni if you cannot attend so she can inform the restaurant in a timely fashion. Everyone is invited so please join us.

MOAACC Spouse/Surviving Spouse Annual Christmas Tea

Save the date. December 11, 2025 at 1pm will be our annual Christmas Tea at IRCC. We look forward to seeing you there, For more information, and if you would like to help, please contact Ellie Joy at (321) 961-2962 or eajoy1012@gmail.com.

Photos submitted by MOAACC members.

Get your photos featured in the Intercom!

- Send us your high resolution photos
- Please provide names and captions
- Send to: intercom@moaacc.org



Happy 94th Birthday Gloria Makowski,
1st Lt USAF RET

Ordering MOAACC Shirts

1. Click on this link: <https://moaacc.deco-apparel.com/>
2. Click "Start Shopping" below the MOAACC Logo
3. Select your shirt: men's or women's, pocket/no pocket and then click "Add to Cart"
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6. Click "Check Out" in black box in center of screen.
7. Review Product (price, color, size) and click "Check Out"
8. Complete Shipping/Billing Info, check first two blocks at bottom of page and then click "Proceed to Shipping Method".
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11. Confirm that all information is correct and click "Complete Order"

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JROTC POW-MIA Walk



On 19 September, the Space Coast Jr/Sr High School (SCHS) led by Space Force Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (SFJROTC) hosted a campus ceremony in honor of National Prisoner of War and Missing in Action Recognition Day. Along with all 14 Brevard JROTC programs, MOAACC/Good Deeds and the BVMC support JROTC Units throughout the year and applaud this kind of teaching and ceremony.

The event featured a memorial walk with more than 90 cadets rotating and carrying the POW/MIA flag in continuous motion around the track for the entire school day. The cadets were joined by more than 70 students, community leaders, and SCHS administrators. The event also included a remembrance ceremony and performances of the National Anthem and TAPS.

Brevard Veterans Memorial Center Amphitheatre Progress



BVMC Amphitheatre 18 Sep

US Navy Men of Freedom Drive

Fran Majcher



Photo by Jeremiah Zeleny, Indian River Colony Club Marketing

Back Row: CDR Eric Gardner, CW3 Michael Benedict, CAPT Joe Bradley, LCDR Jeff Malone

Front Row: CAPT Ed Dieterle, CAPT Bruce Foerster, RADM Jack Garrow

Not Pictured: LCDR Mark Majcher, CAPT Mike Nordeen, CAPT Bill Krieg

America's Navy has sailed our globe's maritime waters for 250 years in defense of freedom. Ten retired Naval officers settled on Freedom Drive in Melbourne, Florida after together serving close to 250 years of military service. Their years of service occurred from 1960 to 2004, with the longest time of service being thirty-six years. Most of the men joined during the Viet Nam War era. These men joined due to service of fathers and grandfathers. One resident has had a family member serving in the Navy since 1770. Others joined to see the world, two desired a Naval Academy education, while one fulfilled a childhood dream of becoming a naval aviator. While serving to ensure freedom for all Americans, one achieved rank of Rear Admiral, four become Captain, two were Commanders, two were selected to Lieutenant Commander, and one was promoted to Chief Warrant Officer³. The designators our neighbors served were two naval flight officers, two naval aviators, speech writer for a four-star general, weapons officer, commanding officer of the aircraft carrier USS Constellation, supply, cryptology, comptroller, admiral's aide, and security. One was the Navy's Chief of Information in Washington, D.C., where he earned the Navy Distinguished Medal. Some were able to have accompanied tours in Yokosuka, Japan, Cubi Point, Philippines, Holylock, Scotland, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and the Azores. Long deployments included European countries of Spain, Portugal, Italy Greece, the Western Pacific, Indian Ocean, and South China Sea. Duties at sea involved submarine patrols and providing support aboard aircraft carriers, amphibious ships, destroyers, and supply ships. The soul of our nation is strong due to all those who gave their best, including the men of Freedom Drive, who answered when America called for their service.

Nominating Committee Results

MOAACC OFFICERS/DIRECTORS

Reich, Rosa	President
Hunt, Hans	1 VP
Prieto, Jose	2 VP
Gardner, Eric	Secretary
Lim, Arnold	Asst Secretary
Schroeder, Mike	Treasurer
Vanasse, Bill	Asst Treasurer
Notely, Mike	Master at Arms
Wright, Larry	Asst Master at Arms

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Term Jan 2026

Cusick, Steve	BoD, Past President
Joy, Ellie	BoD
Franco, John	BoD
Wright, Larry	BoD 1 yr Term

Term 2026-2027

Kobey, Dave	BoD
Lowe, Ken	BoD
Tharp, Denny	BoD

CHAPTERS LIAISONS & COMMITTEES

Cusick, Steve	Awards Chair
Majcher, Fran	Awards
Schaaf, Dean	Brevard Vets Resources
Schroeder, Mike	Budget & Finance
Merritt, Cozzette	Cape Canaveral Ladies
Unrath, Tom	Chaplain
Vacant	Chaplain
Schaaf, Dean	Cocoa Beach Chamber
	Military Affairs Committee (MAC)
Kahanca, Mike	Current Affairs Forum
Majcher, Fran	Entertainment/Events
Joy, Ellie	Health of the Chapter

McMahon, John	Legislative Affairs National (Chair)
Pierce, Chuck	Legislative State/Local
Franco, John	INTERCOM
Catron, Grace	Luncheon Coordinator
Taylor, Skip	Medical; VA Clinic
Hunt, Hans	Membership Chair
Clark, Jan	Membership
Kniseley, Rick	Nominating Committee 2026 (Chair)
Eppler, Gary	Nominating Committee
Whalen, Brian	Nominating Committee
Lowe Toni	On-the-Go Luncheon Coordinator
Bond, Steve	Service Liaison US Army
Gautreaux, Mike	Service Liaison US Marines
Keane, Pat	Service Liaison US Navy
Whalen, Brian	Service Liaison US Air Force
Dabrowski, Suzie	Service Liaison US Space Force
McIntyre, Dan	Service Liaison US Coast Guard
Vacant	Service Liaison USPHS & NOAA
Gill, Jerry	Store
Keane, Pat	Store
Taylor, Skip	VA Clinic/PSFB Medical Clinic
Wilson, Dan	Student Affairs
Kearsey, Rebecca	Survivor Assistance
England, Don	Survivor Assistance
Unrath, Tom	Survivor Assistance (Chaplain)
Joy, Ellie	Surviving Spouse Liaison & Auxiliary Committee
Reich, Rosa	Thursday Morning Breakfast Club
Weaver, Donn	Vets Back to Class (Joe Foss)

NOTE: This slate of MOAACC Officers and Directors has been approved by the Board and will be presented for official, final vote by the general membership during the Annual Business Meeting and Luncheon on 18 November 2025.

RESEARCH STUDY PARTICIPANTS NEEDED



RESEARCH EXAMINING HOW MILITARY CULTURE, BELIEFS ABOUT MENTAL HEALTH AND STIGMA, AND PERSONALITY TRAITS LIKE GRIT AFFECT WILLINGNESS TO SEEK MENTAL HEALTH TREATMENT AMONG VETERANS.

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?

U.S. military veterans, including student veterans, who are 18 years of age or older.

PROCEDURES:

Complete a brief online survey lasting approximately 10-20 minutes.

WHY PARTICIPATE IN THIS STUDY?

Help inform mental health providers to provide better quality of care for veterans, understand how to best tailor outreach programs for treatment engagement, and contribute to research.

Scan this QR Code or visit this link:
https://fit.col.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_7X4K90rsTq4Zhe6



QUESTIONS?

Contact Maddie Maroney, M.S. at mmaroney2022@my.fit.edu



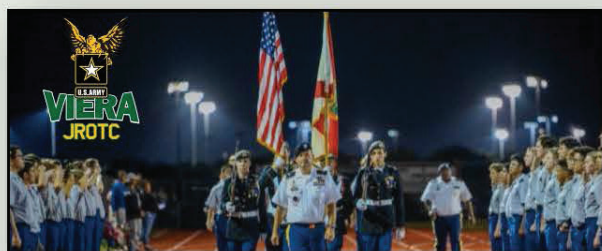
PATRIOT NIGHT

6103 STADIUM PKWY, MELBOURNE

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17TH 2025 ★ 6-10PM

The October 17th Varsity Football game is our Patriot Night! All military veterans, active duty, and first responders will receive free entry upon showing their credentials! We have an exciting game filled with ceremonies to celebrate our Patriots!

With 7 minutes remaining in the second quarter, we will request any active military, veterans, and first responders who desire to take part in our special recognition ceremony at halftime to report to the east endzone.



As a result of 9/11 and the Global War on Terror, this special "Patriots Night" game will serve as a moment of reflection and memorial for all those first responders and service members who served their nation and state and those who made the ultimate sacrifice.



FEATURED EVENTS

- Veterans, Active Duty Military, First Responders free admission to game and will be asked to participate in a ceremony to honor them at half-time.
- Brevard County Fire Rescue will provide a ladder truck on display near field.
- This will be a wonderful night to honor and reflect upon the events of 9/11.

We would be honored if you joined us!





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GOOD DEEDS FOUNDATION**



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The INTERCOM is the primary communications vehicle for the Chapter. Copies are mailed to members, friends and other MOAA Chapters throughout Florida and the United States. Additional copies are disseminated at facilities on Patrick SFB and throughout Brevard County. *The INTERCOM* is also posted to our award-winning website (www.moaacc.org) and distributed to over 1,500 email subscribers. Members are patriotic and professional. We encourage our members to support businesses that support MOAACC.

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