



# The INTERCOM

MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA  
Cape Canaveral Chapter, Inc.



## *Honoring Outstanding Local Military Cadets from Brevard County* FIT ROTC, Burrell College, JROTC, Sea Cadet & Civil Air Patrol Units



MOAACC Photo by Amir "Pish" Pishdad

### *Cadets:*

*Front Row L to R: Josey Knight, Elaina Rivera, Emmalee Olds, Tommy Henderson, Maximus Hogan, Neleha Prada, Samuel Patarroyo, Cheyanne Ricks, Lillian McBee*

*Back Row L to R: Lacy Pulkinnen, Liliana Brough, Mason Eaton, Mikaela Zentz, Zachary Van Lue, Adeline Garvey, Dylan Crespilho, Brooklyn Stellato (FIT), Alexander Khrapunov*

### *Instructors:*

*Front Row L to R: CSM Branham, LTC Pavone, LTC Irick, Maj Ramsey, 1SG Colon, MSG Spry-Sapp, Dr. Piccioptti*

*Back Row L to R: SGM DeYoung, MAJ Celeste, SMSgt Werner, LTC Fish, LTC Balog, LtCol Therriault, LTC Stilings*



MOAACC Photo by Amir "Pish" Pishdad

More on page 10



To take action with MOAA, visit: <https://moaa.quorum.us/>  
MOAA and MOAACC are non-partisan organizations



## PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

**Rosa M. Reich, Capt, USAF (Former)**

On 18 April several of us from the chapter attended the Retiree Appreciation Day held on the UCF campus, hosted by Ft. Stewart. I was there primarily to staff the MOAA table with my counterpart, MAJ (ret) Lorraine Holland, USA, President of the Central Florida Chapter. During a break, I took a tour of the hallways to check out the other vendors. One of the tables was for AAFES Exchange, their giveaway items were buttons and decals commemorating the 50th anniversary of the end of the Vietnam war in 1975. The wording on those items was: "Thank & Honor Vietnam Veterans and Their Families."



Perhaps they were simply clearing out inventory since the 50th anniversary took place last year. I thought it was perfect timing since in two weeks it would be May – National Military Appreciation Month. Designated by Congress in 1999, this month-long observance encourages public appreciation for troops past and present and show support to military families and veterans. Throughout May, there are multiple military-related observances, ending with the solemnity of Memorial Day.

Thanks to all who have served our nation, to those who are currently serving, and to all the loved ones who support them.

**STAY UP TO DATE - VISIT:**

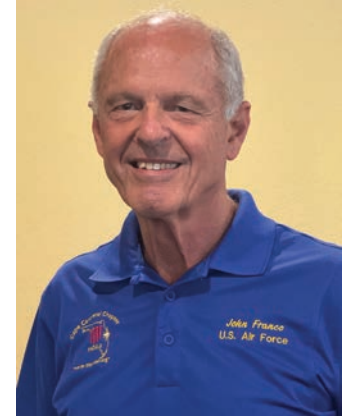
[www.MOAACC.org](http://www.MOAACC.org)



## EDITOR'S NOTE

**John Franco, COL, USAF (ret)**

April was hard not to feel proud and blessed to be a MOAACC member in Brevard County. Our Good Deeds Foundation was active as always supporting youth and veterans' programs; the second annual enlistment ceremony was a great success with over 240 new enlistees; and a record-size luncheon crowd gathered to honor outstanding JROTC/ROTC award winners. As of this writing, we are looking forward to the grand opening of the Brevard Veterans Memorial Park and Amphitheatre. All this in addition to the great camaraderie and fellowship we share each week on Thursday morning. It's just great!



### Health of the Chapter

Do you know of a member who is ill,  
in the hospital or in rehab?

Let Ellie Joy know and she will be happy  
to send them a card from the chapter.

Ellie Joy, SSM • [eajoy1012@gmail.com](mailto:eajoy1012@gmail.com) • (321) 757-0193

## MAY EVENTS

- 5/7 38th Annual All Veterans Reunion  
@ Wickham Park - Melbourne
- 5/7 TMBC - 8 AM  
@ Indian River Colony Club, 19th Hole - Melbourne
- 5/7 Joint ASCF & AFIO Luncheon – National Defense Strategy - 11:30 AM  
@ Double Tree - Indialantic
- 5/x TMBC - 8 AM  
@ Indian River Colony Club, 19th Hole - Melbourne
- 5/12 On-The-Go Luncheon - 11:30 AM  
@ Fujiyama Steak House - Melbourne
- 5/14 Current Affairs Forum - 8 AM  
@ Indian River Colony Club, 19th Hole - Melbourne
- 5/19 MOAACC B.O.D. Mtg. - 9:30 AM  
@ Indian River Colony Club, Chapel - Melbourne
- 5/19 MOAACC Luncheon to Honor Students With Service Academy Appointments or ROTC Scholarships - 11:30 AM  
@ Indian River Colony Club, Colony Hall
- 5/21 TMBC - 8 AM  
@ Indian River Colony Club, 19th Hole - Melbourne
- 5/22 Rolling Thunders Ride for Freedom  
@ BVMC - Merritt Island
- 5/28 TMBC - 8 AM  
@ Indian River Colony Club, 19th Hole - Melbourne

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](mailto: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 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](mailto:intercom@moaacc.org)

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## LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

John R. McMahon, BG, USA (Retired)

### April Countdown

Congress returned to Capitol Hill mid-April facing a mountain of government funding work. The uphill slog will involve getting House and Senate Republicans on the same page about the party-line tax and spending bills they plan to pass by June 1 to fund immigration agencies and potentially other partisan priorities. Then, the House could take up the Senate-passed fiscal 2026 Homeland Security bill, which would provide fresh funding for FEMA and other beleaguered DHS agencies for the first time in nearly two months. While those processes play out, appropriators will finally be able to start picking through the White House's fiscal 2027 budget request, welcoming agency heads and other administration officials to the Capitol to question them on their funding proposals. These three priorities will dominate much of the legislative agenda over the course of the next month.

The month of April brought the culmination of tax season as well as MOAA's annual Advocacy in Action (AiA) campaign in which our leaders meet face-to-face with members of Congress and their staffs to promote awareness and support for our priority issues. These are: End the Wounded Veteran Tax; Protect Servicemember Pay During Federal Shutdowns; Stop Predatory VA Claims Agents and Protect Veterans' Earned Benefits; and Improve Access to Care at Military Facilities.

As in any successful campaign, a multi-prong attack provides the best chance for success which translates into us members "taking action" in the form of reinforcing the in-person interface with cards and letters, made easy by accessing the AiA page on the MOAA website: [moaa.quorum.us](http://moaa.quorum.us). From there, it's a simple process of reviewing the letter drafts provided by MOAA, making any edits, additions or deletions you deem appropriate, and then hitting "send" to our 2 US Senators and Congressman Haridopolos. I did this yesterday in less than 15 minutes, and today received a response from Senator Moody already touting her support for "the Pay Our Military Act of 2025 (S. 3030) to ensure pay for all members of our Armed Forces in the event of a government shutdown, and the Eliminate Shutdowns Act of 2025 (S. 2806) to automatically extend the previous congressionally approved budget". In any event, our MOAA president and CEO, Lt. Gen. Brian T. Kelly, USAF (Ret), suggests we register for MOAA's Legislative Action Center to stay connected to our lawmakers, and review all four Advocacy in Action topics on the AiA website and

share these issues with your network.

MOAA also announced a recent court ruling that prevents the VA from downgrading disability ratings based on effective medical treatment. The U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims ruled in favor of an Army veteran that "unless the VA's own rating schedule says otherwise, the VA must not give a lower disability rating to a veteran because they take medication that helps treat their condition". MOAA and other veteran advocacy groups called for the VA to end its legal fight in February, after the department published, then rescinded, a rule the VA said would "clarify existing policy and protect veterans' benefits in the wake of an ongoing court action." MOAA disagreed with that interpretation of the rule, saying instead that it "fails to account for treatment burdens, creates harmful incentives, destabilizes access to benefits, and was promulgated without adequate public input." That's another example of advocacy in action, this time in the courts.

As a follow-up to last month's Legislative Update on The War Powers Resolution (WPA) of 1973, another (the 4th) vote was taken in the Senate on a resolution to block President Trump from ordering further strikes on Iran after the two sides reached a fragile ceasefire. The law requires presidents to remove U.S. forces from any conflict that Congress has not authorized within 60 days. The president can obtain a 30-day extension if he certifies to Congress that it is an "unavoidable military necessity," but the White House has not said whether he would seek a 30-day extension. The 60-day threshold occurs on 1 May. With most Senate democrats (except Senator Fetterman, D-PA) supporting the resolution, it's notable that two previous Democrat presidents, Clinton and Obama, ignored the law and violated the 60-day threshold. Clinton failed to comply with the WPA when he ordered the bombing of Kosovo in 1999, though his administration argued that Congress implicitly authorized the strikes because it passed legislation to fund them within 60 days of the start of the campaign. And Obama did not seek authorization from Congress before ordering strikes on Libya in 2011, which continued beyond the 60-day threshold.

Precedent seems to rule the day. Whatever your political leanings, we should endeavor to influence our government, and especially our Congressional representatives in the House and Senate, through strong advocacy, a no-brainer as active members of MOAA.



## SCHOLARSHIP

**Col D Brent Baysinger, USAF (Ret)**

### 2026 Application Season is Open

As April 15 kicks off our new 2-month scholarship application season, I'd like to thank the MOAACC community for making 2025 another successful year for the MOAACC Scholarship Corporation. This was our largest total annual award--\$82,500—and it supported 11 worthy college students. Hopefully we can meet or beat the total award this summer.

This year we continue to strive to reach as many qualified scholarship applicants as possible. Over the last few years, we have expanded the pool of eligibility from prospective college sophomores all the way up to PhD candidates. I'd like to ask you, fellow MOAACC members, to all to be on the lookout for potential scholarship candidates. As MOAACC members, both YOU and YOUR families represent the greatest audience for which the scholarship exists to serve. In addition, eligible candidates can also be the children or grandchildren of retired veterans residing in Brevard County. We hope you will consider the scholarship opportunity and share it with eligible members of your families, fellow MOAACC members, and those in Brevard who may not have a MOAACC sponsor.

Lastly, inflation and specifically the cost of college remains elevated. You can also support the Scholarship Corporation with your generous contributions. You can become a 'Distinguished Donor' by donating \$1,000 or more and you can become a 'Named Scholarship' donor by donating \$10,000 or more. Both contribution types are recognized on our website as well as put on display at the annual luncheon. In addition, you can support the Scholarship Corporation with your time. If you are interested in getting involved, please reach out to a Scholarship board member. We are always on the lookout for motivated individuals, especially within the Selection Committee.

### MOAACC 2026 Scholarship Program Open through June 15, 2026

**By Lt Col Michael Jaeger, USAF (Ret)**

I am honored to serve as the Chair of the Cape Canaveral Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAACC) Scholarship Selection Committee for 2026. Since 1984, MOAACC has proudly awarded scholarship grants to exceptional students pursuing higher education.

Scholarships are available to prospective college sophomores, juniors, seniors, and graduate or doctoral students for the upcoming fall semester. For detailed eligibility requirements and application information, please visit the scholarship page at [www.MOAACC.org](http://www.MOAACC.org) website.

MOAACC members play a vital role in the success of the scholarship program. As members, you and your families represent our largest pool of potential applicants. In addition, eligible candidates may include the children or grandchildren of retired veterans residing in Brevard County. We encourage all members to help spread the word and actively promote this opportunity to eligible students. I believe our scholarship program is one of the best but perhaps least known of the many benefits of becoming a member of MOAACC.

The application period opened on April 15, 2026, and closes on June 15, 2026. Applicants are strongly encouraged to apply early to ensure their applications are complete and received by the deadline. Based on our experience, we anticipate an outstanding group of applicants this year. The Scholarship Selection Committee is consistently impressed by the high level of academic achievement, leadership, sportsmanship, and extracurricular involvement demonstrated by our candidates, and I and the selection committee look forward to reviewing another exceptional pool of applications in 2026.

**See more scholarship information, such as eligibility, criteria, and deadlines in our online section on Page 23.**

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## POINTS TO PONDER

MAJ (Chaplain, USAR Ret.) Bill Adams

### The Honor of Our Service Mottos

You hear a “Semper Fi” and immediately know a Marine is in the area. Hats off to the USMC that drills its members to know, recite, and live by its motto, in uniform or not.

How about the rest of us? As an Army guy, I admit that I didn’t know my own motto and had to look it up. It’s ironic I could wish a Marine colleague a hearty “Semper Fi” but couldn’t greet an Army buddy with our motto since neither of us know it! May we each be able to sound off with our motto in pride of the service we’ve had the privilege of joining. See if you recognize your own from this list...

**U.S. Army: “This We’ll Defend.”** As the oldest branch of the military, the Army’s motto is steeped in a long history of national service. It was first used in 1778 by the Continental Army War Office during the American Revolution.

**U.S. Marine Corps: “Semper Fidelis.”** Established in 1883, the phrase is Latin for “Always Faithful” The motto embodies the Marine Corps’ forever loyalty and commitment to both their fellow Marines and the country.

**U.S. Navy: “Non-Sibi Sed Patriae.”** The Navy does not have an official motto, but many sources claim this as the unofficial one. “Not self, but country” is inscribed with sacred honor since 1908 above the chapel doors of the Naval Academy.

**U.S. Coast Guard: “Semper Paratus.”** “Always Ready” is appropriate for a service on call 365 days a year to protect our waterways and citizens. The motto was first bestowed by a newspaper in 1836 in praise of the Guard’s action off the Texas coast.

**U.S. Air Force: “Aim High...Fly-Fight-Win.”** Adopted in 2010, the Air Force’s motto is both a call to action and a promise in response. The Air Force pushes itself to new heights in guarding America’s skies and taking the fight to any place on the globe.

**U.S. Space Force: “Semper Supra.”** Our newest service’s motto meaning “Always Above” was established in 2020. Just as space is unending in time and depth, so is the Space Force’s commitment to protect and monitor space. The motto is both the act of looking up and wondering what is beyond.

And this last note to my Army compatriots: Take a closer look at our official emblem. Our motto is there, in ALL CAPS, being uttered by a vigilant rattlesnake! Indeed... THIS WE’LL DEFEND.

## SURVIVOR ASSISTANCE

Colonel Gary Eppler USAF (ret)

### SURVIVOR ASSISTANCE REBIRTH

The recommended concept for the rebirth of the MOAACC Survivor Assistance Program was approved by the MOAACC BOD. The concept is to concentrate on raising awareness of the membership to PREPARING for the passing of the first spouse. When this is done the initial notifications to government agencies can take place in an efficient and timely manner. The second part of this effort is to build a Surviving Spouse Liaison (SSL) awareness program for all MOAACC members to better understand & perhaps get better organized. Having everything in one secure location &/or in a portable device; guide/booklet, laptop or cell can really make it easier for the surviving spouse.

Some of the problems which have been found are: no preparation, only limited understanding of what a Surviving Spouse needs to do and why; not sharing passwords; missing key critical information; misunderstanding when certain tasks need to be done; keeping their personal information current; and not identifying a person to close out the estate after both spouses have passed. All of these can cause wasted time and effort, frustrations and emotions to surface unnecessarily. We should get PREPARED and review our plans to make sure they are still current. It does not take long to get PREPARED; it’s just getting started!

Good Luck!

### SURVIVOR ASSISTANCE PREPARATION

There are considerable sources of information when gathering information as you PREPARE your plan of action (checklist) prior to losing a spouse. The more detailed your plan the better and easier it will be when it comes time to use it.

One source is:

One Senior Place  
8085 Spyglass Hill Rd.  
Viera, Florida 32940  
OneSeniorPlace.com  
321-751-6771

In the month of April their calendar had 56 events for seniors to attend plus a day filled with many informational booths in their parking lot. Some of the events repeat during the month. Pick up one of their monthly calendars at their facility or where people shop.

Dear Fellow MOAACC Chapter Members,

Our Good Deeds Foundation VyStar Veterans Recognition Dinner Committee is asking for your help to make this year's event even stronger than last year's. MOAACC has always shown up for our community, and this dinner is a clear way to make that support even more visible. When members attend and invite others, we turn appreciation into direct support for programs that serve Veterans, youth, and active-duty military throughout the year.

As a reminder, the MOAACC Good Deeds Foundation (GDF) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that provides direct financial support to youth, active-duty military, and Veteran programs in Brevard County. For more than twelve years, GDF has helped thousands of students and service members, supported Veterans, and assisted families of fallen military members by meeting real needs here at home. (More information is available on the MOAACC website.)

Launched in November 2025, the VyStar Veterans Recognition Dinner brings Brevard County together to honor the organizations, projects, and volunteers who support Veterans year-round. The event gathers community leaders, Veteran advocates, businesses, and citizens—and it raises funds that strengthen local programs. The 2026 Veterans Recognition Dinner (VRD) will take place on November 7, 2026, at the Hilton Rialto in Melbourne. Please see the flyer in the Intercom for event details.

The Committee is inviting chapter members to support the dinner by choosing at least one concrete way to help:

- Attend (and bring a guest)
- Help fill a table
- Introduce a potential sponsor
- Donate an item or experience for the live or silent auction
- Purchase an ad in the program book
- Make a charitable donation, e.g. tax-free IRA RMD

One introduction, one auction item, or one additional ticket can make a meaningful difference. If you'd like to sponsor a table for yourself and nine guests, the standard table sponsorship is \$1,250 (ten seats at \$125 each). Chapter members may sponsor a table for \$1,000.

The chapter's support makes this dinner possible. Please make your commitment this week by choosing at least one action—attend, sponsor, donate, or provide an auction item. Then invite at least one guest or colleague to join you on November 7 at the Hilton Rialto so we can expand our impact for the worthwhile programs in our community.



## *Mark Your Calendar!*

### *Save the Dates for Upcoming MOAACC 2026 Events:*

**(See our website events calendar for details)**

19 May 2026: MOAACC Luncheon to Honor Students with Service Academy Appointments or ROTC Scholarships

15 June 2026: Scholarship Application Process Closes

21 July 2026: Scholarship Award Presentations

7 November 2026: GDF 2nd Annual Heroes for Veterans Dinner

17 November 2026: MOAACC Luncheon & Annual Member Business Meeting

11 December 2026: MOAACC Annual Christmas Dinner Dance

17 December 2026: Annual Spouse & Surviving Spouse Christmas Tea



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# MOAACC MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

# WELCOME

Welcome our New Members!

Member's Sponsor (C)	Last Name	First Name	Prefix	Service (C)	Membership Start Date
Steve Bond	Abell	Matthew	2LT	Army	04/08/2026
Steve Bond	Bailey	Kenton	2LT	Army	04/08/2026
Steve Bond	Burns	Kerrigan	2LT	Army	04/08/2026
Steve Bond	Guerrero	Gus	2LT	Army	04/08/2026
Steve Bond	Leonard	William	2LT	Army	04/08/2026
	McDowell	Mark	CAPT	Navy	04/17/2026
Dave Kobey	Miller	Rebecca	Mrs	Spouse	04/06/2026
Hans Hunt	Orndorf	Michael	CPT	Army	04/12/2026
	Ramirez	Alexies	Lt Col	Air Force	04/15/2026
Steve Bond	Stellato	Brooklyn	2LT	Army	04/08/2026
Steve Bond	Watson	Blair	2LT	Army	04/08/2026

## TAPS

**Dr. Carolyn Finlay, MOAA Surviving Spouse, died on March 22, 2026**

**Helen M. Hutcherson, MOAA Surviving Spouse, died on April 7, 2026**

**Henry Harrison died April 17, 2026.**

**Thomas Traver died April 15, 2026**

**Patricia Tilson, wife of CAPT Paul Tilson, USN (deceased), died on April 18, 2026**



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## MOAACC Website Transition Complete

### *Improved Performance—Same Familiar Experience*

The Military Officers Association of America Cape Canaveral Chapter (MOAACC) has successfully completed a major transition to a new website platform.

While most of the work occurred behind the scenes, the goal was simple: **improve performance, reliability, and long-term capability**—without changing the look and feel our members are familiar with.

As a result, you should experience a smoother, more efficient website, even though everything appears largely the same on the surface.

### What You Need to Know

- **Use the correct website address**

Please be sure to access the site using:

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

Including the “www” is important, as the new platform is optimized specifically for this format.

- **Security prompt message**

Due to recent updates and changes to the website—particularly related to accessing **moaacc.org** (without the “www”)—some users may encounter a browser security alert when attempting to access the site.

This appears to be related to how the new platform is being recognized by certain browsers. If you see this message, you may choose to proceed based on your own discretion; no issues have been reported.

**Best practice:** Always access the website using [www.moaacc.org](http://www.moaacc.org) to help avoid this issue.

### We're Here to Help

If you experience any issues or have trouble accessing the website, please let us know at [webmaster@moaacc.org](mailto:webmaster@moaacc.org).

We appreciate your continued support and patience as we modernize our systems to better serve our MOAACC community.

## Current Affairs

### TMBC & Current Affairs Forum

April 7, 2026

By John Franco

Captain Donn Weaver, U.S.A. (former), a MOAACC member and President of the Good Deeds Foundation, was the featured speaker for our April 7 Current Events program. Many members gained a deeper appreciation for Donn's service in South Korea as an Army captain, as well as his extensive State Department experience in 139 countries. His talk focused on current U.S. involvement in Iran. He explained how, over the years, Iran has used covert missile, drone, and other programs to pressure its neighbors and the West, with the goal of resurrecting a new Persian Empire. Many members stayed past the official meeting end to ask questions.



### Making WWII Real to JROTC Cadets

By: CPT Donn A. Weaver USA (Former)



Each year, for over 25 years, three Air Force and one Space Force JROTC programs in Brevard County come together to stage a ruck march of 14 KM in March to remember the sacrifices in WWII during the Bataan Death March. This year the event was held at Space Coast High School and was joined by the Palm Bay USMC cadets. Almost 200 cadets marched and learned about the event and other sacrifices in WWII. Hats off to the JROTC instructors who organized and the cadets who participated in this important way to never forget American military history and sacrifices.

# 21 April MOAACC Luncheon ROTC & JROTC Awards Ceremony



Photo by Amir Pishdad, Sr.



Photo by Amir Pishdad, Sr.



Photo by Amir Pishdad, Sr.



Photo by Amir Pishdad, Sr.

L to R: MOAACC IVP LtCol Hans Hunt, (Ret) Master of Ceremonies, Capt Donn Weaver, USA (former) presents MOAACC Challenge Coin, Col Steve Bond, President Florida Council of Chapters, CWO Dan McIntyre, USCG (Ret) shares the history of MG John Cleland/McIntyre Bugler Trophy



Photo by Amir Pishdad, Sr.



Photo by John Franco

Luncheon Attendees



Photo by John Franco

JROTC Luncheon Honor Guard, Rockledge High School



Photo by John Franco

The Award Certificates

L to R: Cadet Millie Brough, Cadet Tim Phillips, Cadet Kylie Jones, Genesis Orellana

*Award Winners (C) Pictured With  
Donn Weaver (L), President, Good  
Deeds Foundation and Rosa Reich  
(R), President, MOAACC  
Photos by John Franco*



*C/CDR Elaina Rivera, Bayside HS*



*Cadet 1Lt Emalee Olds, Cocoa Beach HS*



*Cadet Tommy Henderson, Cocoa Beach HS*



*Cadet LtCol Maximus Hogan, Eau Gallie HS*



*Cadet 1SG Cheyanne Ricks, Merritt Island HS*



*Cadet LtCol Lacy Pulkinen, Pal Bay Magnet HS*



*Cadet Liliana Brough, Rockledge HS*



*Cadet Capt Mason Eaton, Space Coast HS*



*Cadet Major Mikaela Zentz, Satellite HS*



*Cadet Zahary Van Lue, Titusville HS*



*Cadet Adeline Garvey, Viera HS*



*Dylan Crespilho, Civil Air Patrol*



*Brooklyn Stellato, FIT ROTC*



*Major General John Cleland Bugler Award  
Alexander Khrapunov, FIT ROTC*



*Burrell College, Military Student Doctor of the Year  
Dr. Lillian McBee*



*Major General John Cleland Best Overall Performing Unit  
L-R: Rosa Reich, Lacy Pulkinen, SGM DeYoung, Dan McIntyre*



*Dr. Mark Rendell, Superintendent, Brevard Public Schools,  
thanks MOAACC for its support of youth programs*

## Over 240 Celebrated at Viera High School Stadium Enlistment

By: CPT Donn A. Weaver USA (Former)

On 17 April, a warm and beautiful day, more than 3000 gathered at the Viera High School Football Stadium to welcome and celebrate over 240 graduating and recently graduated high school students. They had made the decision and been accepted into all branches of our uniformed military services. One by one their names and service branches were read, while family friends and the crowd applauded their selfless decision.



*National Anthem sung by LTC Cynthia Watkins-Pishdad, USA, (Ret) with Congressman Mike Haridopolos, Sheriff Wayne Ivey and BPS School Board Chair, Matt Susin, along with other dignitaries*

County Sheriff Office helicopter made a flyover. The Sons of the American Revolution of Brevard joined the Viera High School Army JROTC Color guard in a special America 250 presentation of the colors. The Naval Ordnance Test Unit Saluting Submarine Deck Gun Battery ended the festivities with a 10-round salute to the enlistees.

The enlistees were escorted into the stadium by over 200 JROTC cadets from all 14 BPS JROTC programs. A special motorcycle review by Rolling Thunder FL-1, American Legion Riders, Combat Vet Riders and Patriot Guard Riders saluted the enlistees with a roaring entry into the stadium. Family, friends and veterans in the bleachers applauded every enlistee in a shared community event that all hoped the enlistees would never forget. Each enlistee received an Enlistment Ceremony Challenge Coin from Col Chatman and funded by 8 Brevard veteran organizations. It was their first of many, as the community showed in a very positive way how they, less than one percent of the American population who chooses to serve, are appreciated and respected. Many from the media were there to record and share the special event. Good luck to our newest enlistees into the best military Services in the world.



*200 JROTC escort the arriving enlistees*



*Col Chatman congratulates and presents an Enlistment Challenge Coin to a new enlistee*



*Revolutionary Regimental Color Guard*



*MOAACC members attending the April 14 Enlistment Ceremony*



## MOAACC GOOD DEEDS FOUNDATION

**CPT Donn Weaver, USA (Former) – President, Good Deeds Foundation**

### Supporting Youth Highlights GDF Missions

**CPT Donn A. Weaver, USA (Former)**

April was an amazing month showcasing how much MOAACC and Good Deeds Foundation (GDF) have impacted our county. The April Luncheon featured recognition of 20 cadets from JROTC and other cadet programs including a cash stipend from GDF. Look for full details in a separate story next month. GDF also provided significant funding and many hours to help make the Second Annual Space Coast Military Enlistment Ceremony at Viera High School very successful. Check out that article in this issue. GDF provided support to a Sea Scout Ship 501 for summer camp and Sea Cadets Courageous Division for a special training program with the Melbourne Police Department. GDF was also a big part of the sponsoring and expenses of the 23 April Ribbon Cutting and Grand Opening of the \$8.2 M Veterans Memorial Park and Amphitheater expansion.

We began planning for our annual meeting and major support program for all JROTC units now set for 5 August at the Brevard Veterans Memorial Center (BVMC) Museum. GDF hopes to set another record for the 2026-27 school year surpassing the \$57,000 donated last year to 14 JROTC programs and six other cadet units in Brevard.

The GDF Board finalized plans, posters and letters in April to advertise and register sponsors and encourage MOAACC members to purchase tables for our Second Annual Veterans Recognition Dinner at the Hilton Rialto in Melbourne on 07 November. Please check out the information in this issues and contact Larry Jackson, our VRD Event Chairman, if you have any questions. We need MOAACC members to help make this year's event and event better success than 2025.

Speaking of Larry Jackson, thanks for his and Lynda's \$2,000 donation to GDF from the 2026 cruise through their company, Cruise Holidays of Viera. With so many plans for the rest of 2026 and into the next FY, having the resources to do all we plan to accomplish is the determinant of success.

Have a great month of May with your family and veteran-related plans.

### A Final Welcome Home: Reading the Names of Vietnam Vets

**CPT Donn A. Weaver, USA (Former)**



*With photos courtesy of SC/CCNC, pictured above are the volunteers (l to r): Meg Cox, Kenna McFall, Lynne Cowart, Helen Hanesworth, Priscilla Southworth, Donn Weaver, Peggy Moynihan, Sue Easterling, JB Kump, and Cathy Riley. Standing behind are Chop Hanson (Chaplain) and Tom Fitzgerald (MC).*

On 27 March volunteers from the Support Committee of the Cape Canaveral National Cemetery (SC/CCNC) read aloud all 796 names of Vietnam veterans laid to rest in 2025. This tradition began years ago by the Veterans Administration (VA) and will continue at CCNC even after the 25th Anniversary of the Fall of Saigon. Of the 19,500 total veterans and spouses buried at CCNC, there are more than 8,000 from the Vietnam Era. The number has grown each year. About 60 people attended the ceremony with many hearing the names of veterans they know.

## Good Deeds Foundation (GDF) Supports Special JROTC Air and Space Force Drill Meet

By: CPT Donn A. Weaver USA (Former)



The Melbourne High School Football Field was the scene on 18 April of a unique drill meet for JROTC units. Twelve high school JROTC Air Force and our own Space Coast High School competed in a state-wide drill meet. Graded events included Squad, Platoon, Color Guard and individual weapons demonstration drills. Teams came from Tampa, the Miami area and many other sections of the state. Winners will go to regional and national USAF JROTC Drill tournaments in early May. Melbourne High School did a great job of setting up the meet with all 137 cadets on duty or drilling. GDF provided the \$2,500 needed to pay for all trophies that would be awarded. During the meet, GDF President Donn Weaver, who took the photos, spoke with dozens of cadets and instructors about the event and all seemed enthusiastic to be there. He had a chance to talk with five cadets who had just enlisted in the Air Force, Navy and Marine Corps the day before!!! See the Enlistment Ceremony article in this issue. Good luck to our four Brevard USAF/USSF schools: Melbourne, Eau Gallie, Satellite and Space Coast.

## Good Deeds Foundation (GDF) Supports Naval Sea Cadet Courageous Division

By: CPT Donn A. Weaver USA (Former)



Your GDF was asked to provide special support to the 35-member Naval Sea Cadet Courageous Division for a unique new program they are working through the Melbourne City Police Department. Cadets will learn marksmanship, basic first aid, and other police outreach programs as well as observe SWAT and other PD training drills. Above GDF President Weaver presents \$800 to support the year long program to Sea Cadet leaders David Wilson (far right), Paul Julian (l) and Heather Owen.

## Vietnam Veterans Organize Welcome Home Dinner & Reunion

By: CPT Donn A. Weaver USA (Former)



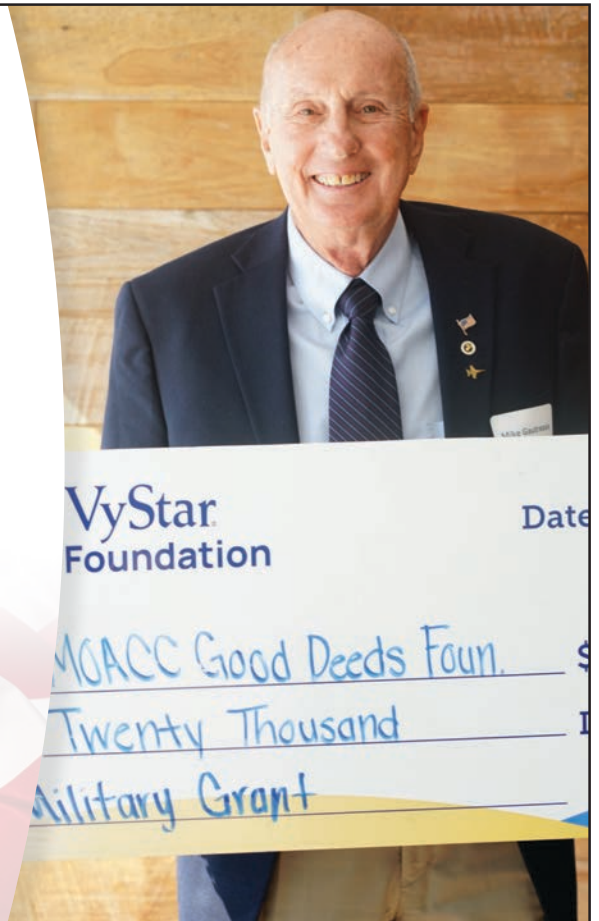
On 26 March at the Captain's House in Palm Bay, several Vietnam Veteran groups decided to organize their own Welcome home dinner and reunion. More than 160 people attended the event, which is planned for each year around 29 March, even though the official USG/VA Welcome Home program ended in 2025, fifty years after the fall of Saigon. MOAACC's Good Deeds Foundation provided \$500 for the event toward programs and other expenses. Pictured above, GDF President Donn Weaver, (center) presents the GDF check to Ben Bydalek (l) of Vietnam Veterans of America and another Chapter Officer, David Wilson.

## 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.

### Mike Gautreaux

Colonel, USMC (ret)  
Vice President, MOAACC Good Deeds Foundation



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## Brevard County a Purple Heart County



At the 7 April Brevard County Commissioners Meeting, the Military Order of Purple Heart (MOPH) Chapter 453 received the County Proclamation making Brevard a Purple Heart County. MOPH 453 Commander Keith Van Buren (center with proclamation) accepted the award and spoke on behalf of the Chapter. Dave Clayton, Brevard Veterans Memorial Center Treasurer (far right) and Donn Weaver, MOAACC Good Deeds President (second on left) were among the members attending. About two thirds of Florida counties are now listed as Purple Heart Counties.

STAY UP TO DATE - VISIT:

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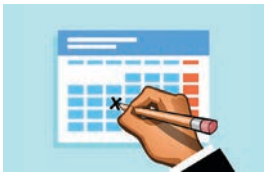
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#### **MOAACC Good Deeds Foundation**

PO Box 320358

Cocoa Beach, FL 32932



# Unofficial Brevard VMC Veteran Events Calendar

## MAY - AUG 2026

Contact BVMC for any additions or other information.

*NOTE: Some Events change in between our monthly mailing of the BVMC Calendar. Keep up to date with those changes using our web link:*

<https://veteransmemorialcenter.org/upcoming-veterans-events/> or [donnweaver2020@gmail.com](mailto:donnweaver2020@gmail.com) for more information or to participate.

*SPECIAL NOTE: Grand Opening of the Amphitheater and Expanded Veterans Memorial Park on Merritt Island his expected in Early April. Brevard Parks and Rec Central in Cocoa schedules and approves all events for the Park.*

### MAY

**3 May** — Hero Fest by Back Brevard Heroes to honor all first responders. 1000-1600. BVMC Plaza and Gray Hall. BBQ, displays, kids games and much more to honor First Responders and families. Contact Back Brevard Heroes for more information. bbh.org

**3-10 May** — Florida's 38th Annual "All Veterans Reunion" at Wickham Park. Sponsored by Veterans Memorial Reunion Inc. Wall escort and set up 03 May. Wreath Laying Ceremony at the Vietnam and Global War on Terror Moving Walls. Register wreaths from 1530-1800. Ceremony starts at 1800. The full reunion featuring vendors, food, live music, beverages, moving walls, static displays and much more daily from 07-10 May into the evenings. Visit <https://travelingwall.us> and VMRL.org web site for more information and to sign up as vendors.

**16 May** — Space Coast Honor Flight #2 of 5 2026 visits by veterans to see their monuments and memorials in Wash DC. It starts at 0400 hours at Melbourne International Airport Main Terminal with Welcome home set 2030 hours same evening. Come out and honor these veterans, some from the Korean War era and their Guardians that will travel with them. Many veteran organizations and community groups support this amazing program. MOAACC Good Deeds funds FIT ROTC cadets and veterans in the VA sponsored FIT Psych PhD program to serve as guardians throughout the year. Contact [schf.org](http://schf.org) for more information and to sign up on the waiting list for both honorees and guardians.

**22-24 May** — Florida-wide RIDE FOR FREEDOM presented by Rolling Thunder FL- 1.

#### 22 May:

1700-1930 — Gold Star Family Dinner provided by Texas Roadhouse BVMC Gray Hall.

1900-2000 — Ride in from Fishlips and Sandbar to BVMC Plaza and Park

2000-2100. — Flame of Freedom Walk

**23 May** 0900-2000 — Thunder Alley all day at BVMC Park and Amphitheater with special flag raising, vendors, music, food trucks and much more.

1730 - 2130. — Concerts with VINTAGE, THE BAND, SHEEPDOGS

**23 May** — Merchant Marine Day - Navy League and Propeller Club Cape Canaveral - Rusty's at the Port - 1000 program - 1030 Boat tour of port, lay wreath - 1200 lunch at Rusty's

#### 24 May

0700 - 1030 — Register for Freedom Ride at BVMC Plaza and Mall Parking Lot. Briefing at 1030.

1100-1230 — Ride for Freedom KSU with B52H Flyover! Check [RTFL1.org](http://RTFL1.org) for route and more information about this three-day event which is planned at the new BVMC Park for several more years over Memorial Day Weekend.

**25 May** — BVMC Memorial Day Ceremony BVMC Plaza 0930-1100. See Poster in late April.

**25 May** — Memorial Day Observance - CAPE CANAVERAL NATIONAL CEMETERY. 0900-1030, 5525 US Highway 1, Mims. The annual Remember and Honor Memorial Day ceremony will be held at the Flag Assembly Area. Keynote Speaker is Kayla Giuliano, a USMC Combat veteran of Iraq and Afghanistan. The MC is Mindy Levy of IHeart Radio Morning Show. Pastor Wintley Phipps will perform the National Anthem. A limited number of chairs are provided, lawn chairs welcome, water available.

**25 May** — Cocoa Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony at Cocoa Village and Riverfront Park. Parade begins at 1530 with the Ceremony at 1700. The keynote speaker is combat veteran Jason Madrigale, an Army Calvary Scout and Purple Heart recipient, who served in Iraq and now works with St Francis Hospice to support other veterans. The Chaplain will be Jonelle Capitano of St Francis who was a Captain in the Air Force and former Army Spec4. Cocoa JROTC will provide support including folding the flag. Cocoa Police and Fire Units will also be engaged in the ceremony. Contact MC Donn Weaver 757-871-6576 for details.

### JUNE

**6-7 Jun** — Merritt Island FEST at VM Park (1500-2200) with food trucks, music and much more. Paid admission, Sponsored by Space Coast Daily.

**12 Jun** — Celebration and Lunch for our Military Women at the Avenues in Viera 1130-1300. Contact [www.avet-project.org](http://www.avet-project.org)

**13 Jun** — Space Coast Honor Flight #3 of 5 2026 visits by veterans to see their monuments and memorials in Wash DC. It starts at 0400 hours at Melbourne International Airport Main Terminal with Welcome home set 2030 hours same evening. Come out and honor these veterans, some from the Korean War era and their Guardians that will travel with them. Many veteran organizations and community groups support this amazing program. MOAACC Good Deeds funds FIT ROTC Cadets and Veterans in the VA sponsored FIT Psych PhD program to serve as guardians throughout the year. Contact [schf.org](http://schf.org) for more information and to sign up on the waiting list for both honorees and guardians.

**13 Jun** — Celebrating America 250!! Red, White and Blue Ball — Tides Club PSFB 1700-2200. Formal/Semi Formal Dress- \$95 per person Special Guests— George and Martha Washington!!!

**19-21 Jun** — American Space Museum in Titusville - Shuttle Fest — More info in May.

**20 Jun** — Memorial 5K Run honoring Christian Bellmore , MIHS Graduate who served in the USAF, Veterans Memorial Park — 0700-1100. Contact Donn Weaver for more info.

### JULY

**04 July** — BCSO/BVMC Independence Day Parade and America 250 Celebration. (1000 - 1300). Check BCSO web site to register in the parade in May. Parade starts at Merritt Island High School (1000 with set up (0830-1000) and continues to Edgewood Jr/Sr High School and the BVMC Plaza and Park where we plan food trucks and music to celebrate 250 years of America and Veterans who created, protected and continued America as we know and love it.

**11 Jul** — Veterans Appreciation Day at DAV Chapter 109 in Titusville 1500-1800 at 435 N. Singleton Ave. Food, drinks, games, movies and camaraderie!!!

### AUGUST

**09 Aug** — Annual Military Order of Purple Heart Recognition Ceremony at the BVMC Museum (1400-1600) with special recognition of 10 Purple Heart Recipients. Their stories of courage and sacrifice will be told. Quilts of Valor are also presented along with recognition from several officials. Contact Donn Weaver for more information.

## Easter Bunny Visits Vet Kids Early

By: CPT Donn A. Weaver USA (Former)



On 28 April American Legion AUX Post 344 organized an Easter Egg hunt at Kiwanis Park on Merritt Island for kids of veterans facing hard times. For the past 7 years this event has been held at BVMC Park but was shifted because the Park was not quite ready for its grand opening. About 10 families and 20 kids attended the event and received many gifts and a special Easter bag in addition to the eggs they found. MOAACC's Good Deeds Foundation contributed \$300 to the event to help make it a success. Thanks AUX ladies!!!

## Marine Safety Unit Port Canaveral Sailor of the Quarter



*Dan McIntyre presents a "Million Dollar Bill" to Sailor of the Quarter to YN2 David Lyle*

YN2 David B. Lyle demonstrated exceptional dedication, adaptability, and drive daily while providing critical and mission essential services to for 33 Active Duty and Reserve unit members. This included, travel, benefits counseling, and records management tasks for Station Port Canaveral and personnel aboard USCG Cutters ALERT, VIGILANT and SKIP-JACK. His diligent efforts positively impacted 314 USCG members with administrative and human resources support, a demand that is unmatched by any other member of his rank or grade. He continuously maintained the highest standards to maintain the credibility of the YN rating.

## Previous Sailor of the Quarter Recipient Receives All Coast Guard Award



The active-duty Fireman First Class Paul Clark Outstanding Engineer Award recipient is MK3 Colby Ventura of Station Port Canaveral. On May 10, 2025, MK3 Ventura demonstrated remarkable composure and skill during a high-stress search and rescue operation.

Transferring to the sinking 28-foot fishing vessel Harvey, he expertly managed a chaotic scene, directing the panicked crew to shift weight and dewater the vessel amid perilous six-foot seas. When the primary dewatering pump failed, MK3 Ventura diagnosed a broken internal choke linkage under hazardous conditions, showcasing his technical mastery and quick thinking.

In another capsizing incident, MK3 Ventura's courage and commitment to others were evident. He was the last to abandon ship, and once in the water, he rescued a civilian struggling to stay afloat before assisting two additional individuals to safety.

MK3 Ventura's leadership, technical proficiency, and unwavering dedication to the US Coast Guard's mission have made a significant impact on Station Port Canaveral and the broader maritime community. His actions exemplify the highest standards of service and inspire those around him.



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# April On The Go Luncheon



April's On the Go Luncheon was held at Niki's Rainbow Restaurant on Tuesday, April 14, 2026. This Greek food restaurant is a favorite of many of MOAACC members and as always, the food and service were outstanding. (Photos and comments by Jose Prieto)

## Still Serving: MOAACC Needs You Now More Than Ever

At MOAACC, service never stops—it simply changes mission.

As military officers, veterans, retirees, and spouses, we have spent our lives answering the call. That commitment to service didn't end when we hung up the uniform—it continues today through the strength and impact of our chapter.

And right now, MOAACC needs you.

Across our organization, we are doing meaningful, visible, and life-changing work—but we cannot sustain or grow these efforts without active member involvement. From supporting our Good Deeds Foundation and Scholarship Corporation, to assisting surviving spouses, to strengthening our outreach across the community, the opportunities to serve are everywhere.

Our chapter is more than luncheons and camaraderie—we are a force for good in our community:

**Good Deeds Foundation** – Providing direct support to veterans and military families in need through emergency assistance and community partnerships

**Scholarship Corporation** – Opening doors for students pursuing their educational goals by awarding meaningful scholarships to deserving applicants

**Survivor Assistance** – Standing beside those who stood beside our heroes, offering guidance, resources, and a continued sense of community

**Community Outreach & Events** – Representing MOAACC across Brevard County and building strong connections with local organizations and partners

**Charitable Initiatives** – Supporting a wide range of causes that align with our mission of service and giving back

**JROTC & Youth Programs** – Inspiring and mentoring the next generation of leaders and responsible citizens

Each of these efforts reflects who we are—and what we stand for.

### Your Role Matters

We need members willing to step forward—whether in a small way or in a leadership role. That might mean:

Serving on a committee

Helping with events or logistics

Assisting with outreach or communications

Mentoring students or supporting JROTC programs

Participating in fundraising efforts

Supporting survivor assistance initiatives

### Join Us. Step Up. Continue to Serve.

If you are interested in volunteering or learning more about where you can make an impact, please reach out to MOAACC leadership at [admin@moaacc.org](mailto:admin@moaacc.org).

For a current list of volunteer positions, committees, and opportunities, visit: <https://www.moaacc.org/about/leadership#LiaisonsandCommittees>

We will help you find the right fit based on your interests, experience, and availability.

Because in MOAACC, service never ends—it just takes on a new mission.

**Never Stop Serving.**



# 21st Annual Good Deeds Foundation MOAACC Fundraiser Cruise



**\$50 per Cabin  
Donation to  
Good Deeds Foundation**

**FEB 26 TO MAR 8  
2027**



**Celebrity ASCENT**

**10 Day Southern Caribbean**  
**Roundtrip Fort Lauderdale**  
Visiting  
**St Maarten, St Lucia, Granada, Barbados,  
Antigua**

**AQUA CLASS (BLU RESTAURANT)**

**\$3,000\* per person**

**Balcony Cabin**

**\$2,500\* per person**

**(Includes military discount,  
gratuities)**

**\*Prices are subject to change**

**\$900 per cabin**

**Non Refundable Deposit**

Date	Ports of Call	Arrival Time	Departure Time
Fri 26Feb2027	Fort Lauderdale, Florida	-	3:30 PM
Sat 27Feb2027	Cruising	-	-
Sun 28Feb2027	Cruising	-	-
Mon 01Mar2027	Philipsburg, St.Maarten	8:00 AM	5:00 PM
Tue 02Mar2027	Castries, St.Lucia	9:00 AM	6:00 PM
Wed 03Mar2027	St.George's, Grenada	8:00 AM	6:00 PM
Thu 04Mar2027	Bridgetown, Barbados	7:00 AM	4:00 PM
Fri 05Mar2027	St.Johns, Antigua	9:30 AM	5:00 PM
Sat 06Mar2027	Cruising	-	-
Sun 07Mar2027	Cruising	-	-
Mon 08Mar2027	Fort Lauderdale, Florida	7:00 AM	-

**ROUNDRIP  
BUS TRANSPORT  
FROM IRCC  
AVAILABLE**

**\$150 PER PERSON**

**TO RESERVE YOUR CABIN  
CALL  
CRUISE HOLIDAYS OF  
VIERA**

**321-242-1331**

# MOAA SIGNATURE GROUPS

**Join MOAA Leadership and your fellow MOAA members on these hosted cruises and land tours.**

July 12-21, 2026	<b>Highlights of Eastern Europe River Cruise</b>	9-nights from <b>\$3,999</b>
October 1-10, 2026	<b>Western Europe Yacht Cruise</b>	9-nights from <b>\$4,999</b>
April 25-May 2, 2027	<b>Castles Along the Rhine River Cruise</b>	7-nights from <b>\$4,199</b>
July 19-27, 2027	<b>France &amp; Spain Yacht Cruise</b>	8-nights from <b>\$5,799</b>
September 14-25, 2027	<b>Circle Iceland Yacht Cruise</b>	11-nights from <b>\$8,999</b>
Sept. 25-Oct. 4, 2027	<b>Battlefields of WWI &amp; WWII Tour</b>	10 days from <b>\$6,495</b>

**GUARANTEED LOWEST PRICES** from The Official Travel Agency of MOAA



**Toll-Free Telephone: 1-800-211-5107**

**Email Address: mail@MOAAvac.com**



**For complete details, including detailed day-by-day itinerary, please visit us online**



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Cape Canaveral Chapter  
MOAA  
"Never Stop Serving"

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## JOIN MOAA CAPE CANAVERAL CHAPTER (MOAACC)

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

### NEVER STOP SERVING

Visit us at: [www.MOAACC.org/membership](http://www.MOAACC.org/membership)

As Military Officers, our shared experience of service forms a bond like no other. An while MOAA is based in Washington, D.C., the heart and soul of our organization lies in our local community.

For more information about us and what we do, visit our website at [www.MOAACC.org](http://www.MOAACC.org)

## MOAACC Scholarship Program Now Open for 2026 Applications

The Military Officers Association of America Cape Canaveral Chapter (MOAACC) Scholarship Corporation is proud to announce that applications for the 2026 scholarship program are now open.

For more than 40 years, MOAACC has remained committed to supporting the educational aspirations of students within our military community. Since 1984, the program has awarded over \$1,069,500 in scholarships to 327 students attending 85 colleges and universities nationwide—a legacy that continues to make a meaningful difference in the lives of deserving students and their families.

### Who Is Eligible?

To be eligible for consideration, applicants must be able to answer YES to all of the following questions:

1. Are you a descendant or ward of a currently serving active duty or retired member of the Uniformed Services of the U.S. (includes Regular, National Guard or Reserve; enlisted and officers of the Army, Marines, Navy, Air Force, Space Force, Coast Guard, NOAA or USPHS) OR are you a descendant or ward of a deceased member of the Uniformed Services of the U.S., who died while on active duty or in retired status, OR are you a descendant or ward of a current member (or was, if deceased) of the Cape Canaveral Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA)?
2. Are you or your sponsor a legal resident of Brevard County, Florida, OR are you a descendant or ward of a current member (or was, if deceased) of the Cape Canaveral Chapter of MOAA?
3. Are you or will you be a rising Sophomore, Junior or Senior in college this year (undergraduate); OR entering/working on your graduate studies OR working on your doctorate degree?
4. Are you accepted by an accredited college in a full time bachelors program (minimum 12 credit hours), OR a part-time/full-time graduate/doctorate program?

### Selection Criteria

Applicants are evaluated based on the “whole person” concept, which includes:

- Academic achievement
- Leadership and citizenship
- Work experience
- Extracurricular involvement

*Please note: Previous scholarship recipients are not eligible to reapply.*

### Scholarship Awards

Scholarship funds are awarded directly to selected students to support their continued education.

### How to Apply

Students can learn more and begin the application process by visiting:

[www.moaacc.org/scholarships](http://www.moaacc.org/scholarships)

To get started, applicants must first complete the Scholarship Eligibility Certification & Application Request Form available on the website.

### Important Deadline

All application materials must be submitted no later than **June 15, 2026**

The MOAACC Scholarship Program represents a long-standing tradition of investing in the next generation of leaders. Eligible students are strongly encouraged to apply—and members are encouraged to help spread the word throughout our community.

**Apply today and be part of a legacy of excellence and support.**

# 2026 VyStar Veterans Recognition Dinner



**Saturday, November 7, 2026 Melbourne**

**Hilton Rialto**

**5:00 PM Reception**

**6:00 PM Dinner**

**\$125 per person**



**Keynote Speaker:**

**Congressman Mike Haridopolos**

**\$5,000 Gold Sponsor**

**1 Table, 1 Full Page Ad in Souvenir Program Booklet**

**\$4,000 Auction Sponsor**

**1 Table, 1 Full Page Ad in Souvenir Program Booklet**

**\$3,000 Souvenir Program Booklet Sponsor**

**1 Table, 1 Full Page Ad in Souvenir Program Booklet**

**\$1,250 Table Sponsor (10 Seats)**

**\$500 Full Page Souvenir Program Booklet**

**(\$300 Half Page Ad)**

**\$300 Full Page In Memoriam Ad**

The Good Deeds Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization that provides monetary support to youth, active duty military, and Veteran programs in Brevard County. All net proceeds from this event will be used to support: (1) local high school JROTC programs and the Florida Institute of Technology ROTC program; (2) active duty junior enlisted programs at Patrick Space Force Base, Port Canaveral Coast Guard Station, Naval Ordnance Test Unit, and local National Guard and Reserve Units; and (3) Veteran programs that include Honor Flight, Veterans Treatment Court, Cape Canaveral National Cemetery Ladies, Solemn Pride Caisson, and North Brevard Honor Guard.

# 2026 VyStar Veterans Recognition Dinner

Honoring the Brevard County Organizations, Projects, and Volunteers Who Support Our Veterans

**Please Join Us and Become a Sponsor**

**for an Evening of Recognition, Inspiration, and Community Impact**

- **Date:** Saturday, November 7, 2026
- **Time:** 5:00 PM – Cocktail Reception | 6:00 PM – Dinner & Program
- **Location:** Hilton Rialto Place, Melbourne, FL
- **Tickets:** \$125 per Seat (*Tables of 10 available for purchase*).

## **Highlights of the Evening:**

- **Prestigious Awards:** Celebrating Brevard County Veterans Organizations, Projects and Outstanding volunteers
- **Inspirational Program:** Featuring Veterans Day videos, the official GDF video presentation, and heartfelt stories of service.
- **Live Auction:** Exciting items to bid on – your support makes a difference!
- **Silent Auction**
- **50/50 Drawing**
- **Gourmet Dinner:** Multi-course Buffet dinner prepared by Hilton Rialto's award-winning chefs.
- **Commemorative Program Booklet:** 40+ pages of stories, ads, and sponsor highlights (\$500 ad opportunities available).

## **Sponsorship Opportunities:**

- **Gold Sponsor:** \$5,000 – Complimentary table + full page ad
- **Live Auction Sponsor:** \$4,000 Complimentary table + full page ad
- **Awards Sponsor:** \$2,000 Complimentary table
- **Booklet Sponsor:** \$3,000 Complimentary table.
- **Table Sponsor:** Purchase a table for \$1,250
- **Souvenir Booklet Ad:** \$500 Full Page Ad, \$300 Half Page Ad
- **Silent Auction Items**

## **The Importance of Antiterrorism Awareness for Retired Soldiers**

**By U.S. Army Office of the Provost Marshal General, Antiterrorism Division**

Retired Soldiers, having dedicated a significant portion of their lives to national security, possess a unique understanding of potential threats and vulnerabilities. Their training and experience make them valuable assets in the ongoing effort to combat terrorism. Maintaining antiterrorism awareness is not only a matter of personal safety for these veterans, but also a civic responsibility.

Retired Soldiers are often familiar with military installations, security protocols, and common indicators of suspicious activity. This knowledge can be invaluable in identifying and reporting potential threats in their communities. They may also be more likely to recognize the subtle signs of radicalization or recruitment efforts within their social circles. Their past experiences can also aid them in quickly assessing a situation and taking appropriate action, whether it's reporting suspicious behavior or activity to law enforcement or helping those in need.

Moreover, Retired Soldiers often maintain close relationships with active-duty personnel and military communities. This connection can facilitate the flow of information regarding potential threats or security vulnerabilities. Their insights can help bridge the gap between the military and civilian sectors, fostering a more cohesive and effective national security enterprise. In an age where threats can evolve rapidly, this continued vigilance and awareness is crucial.

The threat of terrorism extends beyond traditional battlefields. Retired Soldiers can play a key role in community-based initiatives aimed at preventing violent extremism. They can volunteer in local organizations, participate in neighborhood watch programs, or mentor young people who may be vulnerable to radicalization. By staying informed and engaged, Army veterans can help build resilience within their communities and reduce the appeal of extremist ideologies.

In addition to their community involvement, Retired Soldiers must also prioritize their personal security. Terrorists may target individuals with military backgrounds due to their perceived symbolic value or specialized knowledge. Therefore, it is essential for Retired Soldiers to remain vigilant in their daily lives, practice situational awareness, and take precautions to protect themselves and their families. This includes being mindful of their online presence, avoiding the disclosure of sensitive information, and reporting any suspicious activity they encounter.

Continuing education and training are also vital for Retired Soldiers. Antiterrorism tactics and strategies are constantly evolving, and it is important for veterans to stay abreast of the latest developments. Army installation antiterrorism officers can help to keep Retired Soldiers informed through antiterrorism awareness outreach programs.

In conclusion, Retired Soldiers possess a unique combination of skills, knowledge, and experience that makes them invaluable assets in the fight against terrorism. Their continued awareness, vigilance, and community involvement are essential for protecting both themselves and the nation. By staying informed, remaining engaged, and prioritizing personal protection measures, these veterans can continue to serve their country long after they have left active

# BUDGETS ARE NEGOTIABLE. EARNED BENEFITS ARE NOT.



Combat operations remind us of the immense sacrifices those in uniform, their families, and their survivors make on behalf of our nation. Safeguarding the benefits they've earned is a sacred promise to those who are serving and have served. Today, members of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) are coming to Capitol Hill from all across the country, asking lawmakers to keep our nation's promises. Learn more at [MOAA.org/AiA](https://MOAA.org/AiA).





FLAME OF FREEDOM®



**Brevard Veterans Memorial Center (BVMC)  
and new \$8 million Amphitheater**  
400 S Sykes Creek Parkway | Merritt Island, FL 32952

**FRIDAY, MAY 22**

- 8 AM BVMC Kickstands Up (KSU) Ride to Mike Erdman Toyota **OPENING WEEKEND CEREMONY**
- 5 PM FISHLIPS and SANDBAR Ride registration begins.
- 6 PM **GOLD STAR FAMILY DINNER CATERED COMPLIMENTARY BY TEXAS ROADHOUSE**
- 7 PM FISHLIPS ride to SANDBAR
- 7:15 PM SANDBAR KSU Ride to BVMC
- 8 PM **CANDLELIGHT VIGIL AT BVMC with the "FLAME OF FREEDOM"**

**SATURDAY MAY 23**

- BVMC Amphitheater **THUNDER ALLEY** Numerous vendors all day. Ride registration location.
- AM Possible flag raising ceremonies and more. Monitor RTFL1.org "RFF Events".
- 5:30 PM **CONCERT BEGINS; VINTAGE, THE BAND, SHEEPDOGS**

**SUNDAY, MAY 24**

- 7-1030 AM BVMC - MALL PARKING LOT
- 10:30 AM **RIDE FOR FREEDOM BRIEFING**
- 11 AM RIDE FOR FREEDOM KSU with B52H Flyover! See RTFL1.org for route.**



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**\$20 BIKE REGISTRATION, \$10 CO-RIDER**  
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## VETERAN RESOURCES

### ANY VA-RELATED QUESTIONS

call  
**1-800-MyVA411**  
24/7/365

or submit your  
question to  
**ask.va.gov**

### VETERANS CRISIS LINE

Are you a Veteran in crisis  
or concerned about one?

**Dial 988 and  
press 1.**

It's confidential and  
available 24/7/365.

For more information, visit  
**veteranscrisisline.net**

### VETERAN HOMELESSNESS

If you are a Veteran  
at risk of homelessness or a  
family member, friend, or advocate,

call  
**1-877-4AID-VET**  
24/7/365

Or chat online:  
**va.gov/HOMELESS/NationalCallCenter.asp**

### BENEFITS RESOURCES

Log in to  
**www.va.gov**

Use the  
**VA Health &  
Benefits App**

to directly message your  
health care provider  
or schedule 1-on-1 help  
with a VA benefits expert at  
**va.my.site.com/VAVERA**

**TO FIND A VA FACILITY NEAR YOU: visit [va.gov/find-locations](http://va.gov/find-locations)**






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**Every 1st Wednesday  
10am**


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**VETERANS  
HISTORY  
PROJECT**



**MISSION**  
The Brevard Veterans Memorial Center (BVMC) offers a special Veterans History Project (VHP) in coordination with the Library of Congress (LOC) at no charge. The VHP mission is to collect, preserve, and make accessible the personal accounts of American veterans of all services and periods of history. Thus, future generations may hear directly from veterans and better understand the realities of war and other military service. After the recorded interview the veteran and family will receive a link to the interview on the BVMC YouTube Channel and (upon request) their own digital copy uploaded to a USB Flash Drive. A digital copy will also be provided to the LOC.



SCAN ME

**TO PARTICIPATE**  
If you are a veteran, simply contact us and we will arrange a video recorded interview in the BVMC library (400 South Sykes Creek Parkway, Merritt Island, 32952) or, in special cases, at your home. The conversation can last thirty minutes or up to two hours depending on your preference. The story can include your service and how your life was spent after the military. Remember hundreds of veterans have told their stories which are preserved forever on the BVMC YouTube Channel and in the LOC.

**CONTACT US**  
To arrange an appointment please contact:

Jim Pirotti	732-690-8353	Jim.P-Midstate@hotmail.com
Paul Julian	321-452-9414	pjulian54@gmail.com

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## Legislative Action Center Card



### TAKE ACTION!

#### GROUND ZERO

Open your browser and go to [www.moaa.org](http://www.moaa.org)

#### STEP 1

Click Log In and enter your MOAA username and password **\*IF this is your first time, you must enter correct address that is displayed in the box that is shown.\***

#### STEP 2

From the top menu, click Advocacy

#### STEP 3

Select Legislative Action Center from the dropdown

#### STEP 4

Browse the list and choose a campaign you support **\*IF responding to a "Take Action" Alert, the campaign will appear on screen.**

#### STEP 5

Review the pre-written message and personalize if desired

#### STEP 6

Click Send to submit your message to Congress

#### STEP 7

Look for the confirmation screen – your action is complete

**\*IMPORTANT: Make sure cookies are enabled in your browser or the site may not load properly.**

NEVER STOP SERVING

## Is Your Email Address Still “@cfl.rr.com”? Here’s What You Need to Know

Many of our members have used Roadrunner-style email addresses (such as cfl.rr.com, @rr.com, or roadrunner.com) for years. These accounts were originally created through Bright House and Time Warner Cable and are now part of Spectrum. While these email addresses still work today, they are considered legacy accounts, and several changes in recent months have affected their reliability.

### What’s Happening?

- Spectrum no longer creates new Roadrunner-style email addresses. Some users have reported trouble connecting these older accounts to email apps like Outlook, Apple Mail, or smartphones. Spectrum support has indicated that parts of the old Roadrunner system are being phased out or migrated to newer platforms. In some cases, if a customer stops Spectrum internet service, the old “rr.com” mailbox may be shut down.

### Why This Matters

For many long-time users, the cfl.rr.com address has been stable for decades. But as the legacy system ages, the risk of service interruptions grows. Losing access to an email account can also mean losing password recovery options, contacts, subscriptions, and important messages. Additionally, within MOAACC we are now seeing a noticeable increase in “bounce-backs” when sending out chapter communications. Emails sent to cfl.rr.com addresses—including the Intercom, Five Things, event notices, and other important updates—are bouncing at a higher rate than in the past. When an email “bounces,” it means the message did not reach the member. As a result, some members may not be receiving critical chapter information without realizing it.

### Recommendations

If your cfl.rr.com email is still working, you do not need to give it up immediately. However, now is an excellent time to begin preparing for the future:

1. Set up a new, modern email account. Consider creating a free and reliable account such as Gmail (Google), Outlook.com (Microsoft), or Yahoo Mail. These are well-supported and are not tied to your internet provider.
2. Update your important accounts gradually. Begin updating your email address with banks, medical portals, Social Security, recurring bills, and newsletters. Take your time—this transition does not need to happen all at once.
3. Save or forward your important messages. Make sure any vital information stored in your old Roadrunner mailbox is backed up or forwarded to your new address.
4. Keep your Roadrunner address active if it works. Continue checking it for any notices from Spectrum and for messages from contacts who have not yet updated their records.

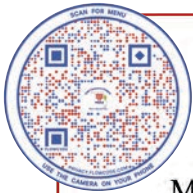
### Bottom Line

Your cfl.rr.com address may continue to function for now, but it is part of an older system that could eventually be discontinued. Taking a proactive approach—while the account is still working—will help ensure you don’t lose important messages or miss essential chapter communications. If you need help setting up a new email address or forwarding your old messages, please [click here](#) for step-by-step instructions, or reach out to us directly. We’re happy to assist.

## 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”**
  4. When Shopping Cart appears, verify your item, and click **“edit”** below shirt information on left.
  5. Enter your name and Branch (U.S. Air Force, etc.), click on the color of shirt you desire, select your size by placing the number of shirts you are ordering in the box of the appropriate size. Click **“Add to Cart”**
  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”**.
  9. Select **“Pick up at Your School”**(for store pickup) or **FedEx Shipping** (additional charge shown) Select **“Proceed”**.
  10. Go to Payment info and complete. Click **“Proceed to Check Order Info”**
  11. Confirm that all information is correct and click **“Complete Order”**
- If you are interested in long sleeve shirts, sweaters, jackets or other apparel, please email Bartman Enterprises, [papanole@aol.com](mailto:papanole@aol.com), and they will send you catalog pictures and prices.

## Renew Your Membership!



The Military Officers Association of America  
Cape Canaveral Chapter (MOAACC)  
P.O. Box 254186, Patrick SFB, FL 32925-4186

### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/ INFORMATION UPDATE.

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](http://MOAACC.org). Dues and Fees include subscription to **THE INTERCOM** News Magazine and Five Things e- Newsletter.



# Cruise Holidays of Viera

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**YOUR SUPPORT WILL ALLOW US TO CONTINUE HONORING VETERANS AND FIRST RESPONDERS FOR ANOTHER 10 YEARS!**



### \$10 AND A SHARE CAMPAIGN

Support our nonprofit initiative in honoring veterans by donating \$10 and/or sharing this link.

**Use the QR code or [Solemnpride.org](http://Solemnpride.org) (support tab)**



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Four Revolutionary soldiers  
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# MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA CAPE CANAVERAL CHAPTER (MOAACC)

## MOAACC Needs Your Support – Advertise!

The MOAACC is comprised of over 1,000 members of active, retired, former officers, their spouses and auxiliary members. The Chapter is the largest in Florida and one of the largest in the United States.

*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](http://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.

These publications provide a unique opportunity for advertisers to reach military professionals throughout Brevard County.

### ADVERTISEMENT ORDER FORM

	Size	Per Issue	12 Issues/12 months
Quarter Page Package <sup>1</sup>	~3 1/2" W x 4" H	\$100	\$1,000
Half Page Package <sup>1</sup>	~7 1/2" W x 5" H	\$200	\$2,000
Website Ad Only <sup>2</sup>	<a href="http://www.moaacc.org">www.moaacc.org</a>		\$500

1. Includes publication in *The Intercom* printed/mailed version, website version and posted to our sponsor page/banner (12 months). Includes sponsor table at monthly luncheons.
2. Website ads posted to our sponsor page/banner (12 months).

Size of Ad: \_\_\_\_\_ Mo/Yr to Begin \_\_\_\_\_ Mo/Yr to End \_\_\_\_\_ # of Ads \_\_\_\_\_

Rate: \_\_\_\_\_ Total: \_\_\_\_\_ Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Company Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel #: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax # \_\_\_\_\_

- Submit Ads in .pdf or .jpeg file format.
- Email Ad & completed order form to [moacapecanaveral@gmail.com](mailto:moacapecanaveral@gmail.com).
- Ads must be submitted by the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month preceding the first month of publication.
- Please make check payable to **MOAACC**.
- **Mail check and order form to:** MOAACC, PO Box 254186, Patrick SFB, FL 32925.
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