



# The INTERCOM

MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA  
Cape Canaveral Chapter, Inc.



MOAACC Photo by Pish Pishdad



To take action with MOAA, visit: <https://moaa.quorum.us/>  
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## MAY EVENTS

(Click Event for Details)

- 5/2 **Current Affairs & TMBC - 8 AM**  
@ Indian River Colony Club - 19th Hole
- 5/5 **First Responders Appreciation Day (Hero Fest) - 11 AM**  
@ Veterans Memorial Park
- 5/9 - 5/12 **Florida's 36th Annual All Veterans Reunion @ Wickham Park**
- 5/9 **TMBC - 8 AM**  
@ Indian River Colony Club - 19th Hole
- 5/14 **On-The-Go Luncheon - 11:30 AM**  
@ Grills Riverside
- 5/16 **TMBC - 8 AM**  
@ Indian River Colony Club - 19th Hole
- 5/18 **2024 Retiree Appreciation Day**  
@ UCF - Central Florida's Student Union Center
- 5/21 **MOAACC B.O.D. Meeting - 9:30 AM**  
@ Indian River Colony Club - Chapel
- 5/21 **MOAACC Luncheon - 11:30 AM**  
@ Indian River Colony Club - Colony Hall
- 5/23 **TMBC - 8 AM**  
@ Indian River Colony Club - 19th Hole
- 5/27 **Memorial Day Observance - 10 AM**  
@ Cape Canaveral National Cemetery
- 5/27 **19th Annual City of Cocoa Memorial Day Tribute - 4 PM @ Cocoa Riverfront Park**
- 5/28 **Veterans Outreach & Claims Assistance for Women Veterans! - 10 AM**  
@ Pine Castle Woman's Club - Orlando
- 5/30 **TMBC - 8 AM**  
@ Indian River Colony Club - 19th Hole  
To see details for these events, visit  
<https://moaacc.org/events>

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## PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE



**Rick Kniseley, Colonel, USAF (Ret)**

### It's the People

The other day when I was at the doctor's office the assistant cheerfully wished me a Happy National Volunteers' Month. When I inquired what she meant my that, she smiled and informed me that the month is dedicated to recognize people who give of themselves to others. She mentioned that she learned about volunteering when she moved to Viera and often asks the patients how they volunteer. To that, I told her about MOAACC and how our members volunteer each day. She thanked me for informing her about MOAACC and the member volunteers. I further explained about how the MOAACC volunteers make things work, such as:

- Bill Vanasse volunteers weekly to assist veterans at the VA Clinic to ensure their appointments are accurate and timely.
- Liz Whalen and many others spend countless hours at the Cape Canaveral National Cemetery as Canaveral Ladies at all funerals ensuring all are dignified and shown the respect each individual has earned. Even if the veteran has no one to observe the burial a Canaveral Lady is always there.
- Skip Taylor gives endless hours as a mentor to veterans who have "made a mistake" and are working hard to correct their record in Veterans Treatment Court.
- Rita Shapiro can be found at the Patrick Space Force Base Clinic in the Pharmacy making sure all prescriptions are accurate and dispensed timely.
- Grace Catron and her assistants spend hours ensuring RSVPs for MOAACC luncheon reservations are accurate, meal orders are correct, and greeting our guests.
- Toni Lowe is the head of the On-the-Go Lunch and makes sure the lunch at local restaurants offers a pleasant and friendly experience both for the restaurant and the MOAA members, spouses, and friends.
- Mike Schroeder gives an unbelievable amount time to resolve myriad of financial issues and maintain outstanding records for the organization. Provides technical expertise and support, and offers assistance to anyone who needs help.

Never forget MOAACC members, spouses, and friends give volunteer support to military, families, retirees and veterans in our community daily. They know how important volunteering is with the motto "Never Stop Serving" in the forefront.

Happy Volunteer Month – it always **is the people!**

## 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.
- Submit one photo per article, or more if absolutely necessary.
- All photos must have "captions" of who, what, when, where and why.

### ARTICLES:

- Articles must be in Microsoft "Word" format (Times New Roman, font 11).
- LIMITS: One article per email, not more than 375 words. Each Article must include Author Name & Rank

### NEW DEADLINE & SUBMISSION EMAIL:

- **Photos & Articles are DUE NO LATER THAN the 15th of each month, to give our staff enough time for editing. Do not send your submission to Jeremiah, Rita, or Pish. Please send ALL submissions to the following email address:**

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

### 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: pish104@bellsouth.net

#### 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 • [ejoy@cfl.rr.com](mailto:ejoy@cfl.rr.com) • (321) 961-2962

## EXECUTIVE EDITOR & PAO

Amir M. Pishdad, CW3, USA (Ret)



### When the U.S. Stood Still

What a spectacular show! Magnificent in all respects.

The Solar Eclipse: A show of Celestial Wonder, requiring no scripts, no actors, no editors, lights or reflectors, no scene changes, or commercials. Yet with millions of viewers with cameras from many corners of earth rushing to view our awesome solar system, without buying a ticket.

Reminding us as humans and earthly creatures of the greatness and vast ocean that is our universe...

See a full page of photos in the electronic section of your Intercom by visiting [moaacc.org](http://moaacc.org).



### PUBLIC RELATIONS & MARKETING COMMITTEES

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WEB LINK AND ELECTRONIC DISTRO: Mike Schroeder

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## LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

**John R. McMahon, BG, USA (Retired)**

### The Speaker of the House

Despite facing a shrinking majority and internal opposition from some members of his own party, Speaker of the House Mike Johnson (R-LA) seems to be excelling in his role as a leader after less than six months on the job.

Apart from successfully passing the remainder of the FY2024 budget in the House prior to the looming 22 March deadline, thereby avoiding another debilitating government shutdown, the Speaker has accomplished several commendable victories on various contentious bills that carry substantial national security implications. It is worth mentioning that Congressman Posey and Senator Rubio both voted against the \$1.2 Trillion bill, while Senator Scott chose not to participate in the voting process.

A factor contributing to Johnson's achievements is his recent meeting with former President Trump during which Trump praised him for his effective work despite resistance from fellow lawmakers. Representative Greene (R-GA) had previously sought to oust Johnson from the Speaker's role. Evidently, the Speaker demonstrates a deep understanding of contemporary politics and a talent for utilizing it to accomplish tasks.

The House passed a two-year reauthorization of Section 702 of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) on April 12th, preventing the provision from expiring on April 19th. This law enables the government to collect data from foreign individuals through U.S. companies such as AT&T and Google, for intelligence and counterterrorism purposes without a warrant even if they are communicating with Americans. Speaker Johnson compromised on a shorter two-year extension instead of the initially proposed five years. The final vote was split, with 273 in favor and 147 against, with support from both Republicans and Democrats. Congressman Posey once again opposing.

The House reviewed a series of proposed changes, one of which was a suggestion to prohibit officials from using Americans' identifiers (such as email addresses) to search messages without first obtaining warrants. Unfortunately, this proposal was defeated in a tied vote of 212 to 212, with Mr. Johnson breaking the tie with a decisive "no" vote. The amendment caused a division between the two parties, with 126 Democrats and 86 Republicans voting against it, while 128 Republicans and 84 Democrats voted in favor.

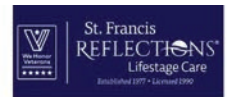
Despite causing discontent among many members of his party, Speaker Johnson occasionally relies on his Democratic counterparts to accomplish the tasks. However, the House did approve several significant modifications to the bill, including allowing the Section 702 program to gather intelligence on foreign narcotics trafficking organizations and screen potential foreign visitors to the United States. Furthermore,

they grant congressional leaders the opportunity to observe classified hearings before the national security surveillance court and expanding the types of companies required to participate in the program.

On other pressing matters, Speaker Johnson has been considering how to address the \$95 billion emergency national security spending package for Ukraine and Israel passed by the Senate in February—how to cobble together a coalition of mainstream Republicans and Democrats who will support the bill. Two options are under consideration; structuring the aid as a loan, an idea Mr. Johnson has publicly floated and that former President Trump previously endorsed. Another is to move it through the House in tandem with a second bill containing policies endorsed by the conservative wing of his party, a separate package geared toward mollifying G.O.P. critics. The Speaker is also running into growing opposition from Democrats concerned the soaring civilian death toll and humanitarian catastrophe unfolding in Gaza as well as the strike by the Israeli military that killed seven aid workers in Gaza. These actions will truly test the Speaker.

Meanwhile, this is the week (15-19 April) of the annual MOAA campaign to execute its "Advocacy in Action" lobbying efforts. Our own Steve Bond will participate in person and has been assigned to meet with all three of our key members in Congress and the Senate: Senators Rubio and Scott and Congressman Posey. We will get the full-blown account of how those meetings and the rest of the campaign unfolded directly from Steve in next month's edition of the INTERCOM. Stay tuned.

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## FINANCIAL LITERACY

**CAPT Arnold Lim, USNR (Ret)**

### Adult Children and Family Finances

At what age should a couple tell their child about family finances? At what age is it appropriate to let the child know about the family's assets, documents, etc?

There is no definitive answer. Like so many questions about finance, the answer is probably "it depends." The answer could be when the child is in his 20's (when he has gained some financial maturity himself), or in his 50's (as you the parent get older and maybe need assistance), or never (if it's uncomfortable or you desire privacy). Obviously, the decision is purely yours.

Curious on what people think, I did some research. Some common remarks:

"What would be the purpose of letting the child know about your finances? What is it that you intend to accomplish?"

"I doubt we'll tell our kids details about our finances until there is a good reason to. What can be gained from your kids knowing what they do not need to?"

One other common remark: "Let them know before they need to take over."

In my opinion, one wise course of action is it's less important to tell him about exact dollar balances of assets, but it's critical that he knows exactly what's going to happen if something happens to both you and your spouse, and where to find whatever he needs (documents, etc.) Hopefully, one's estate plans have been fully addressed, and you have all of the important documents that COL John Murphy in this Financial Literacy forum so fervently advises.

You don't necessarily need to tell the adult child the exact numbers of your assets, but just casually mentioning that you're planning for retirement and are set can help him to plan for his own future/estate planning and might mean he comes to you for financial advice in the future.

This entire topic is directly related to the Survivors Assistance Team (SAT) and their monthly articles on Survivor Assistance Lessons Learned. But just to touch just the surface on the topic:

Every family is undoubtedly different. But two great steps are to create and maintain the "in case of emergency" notebook (whether it's a physical folder

stuffed with paper, and/or in electronic form as groups of files) and, very importantly, share where this important folder is located. Some candidate contents are: a list of contacts (family accountant; the lawyer who prepared your wills/trust; fee-only financial planner); your wills; durable powers of attorney; a list of all your financial accounts, including a printout from each financial institution; pension details; insurance policies; and in this modern world, a list of user names/passwords for pertinent digital accounts.



## SURVIVOR ASSISTANCE LESSONS LEARNED

**Lt Col Chuck Shaw, USAF, (Ret)**

A few years ago, I attended a "Virtual TMBC" (using Zoom) followed by a presentation and presented by Capt Robin Peterson and LtCol Roger Klaffka on "Contingency Estate Planning for Uncertain Times." I learned a LOT! I have always stressed in these Survivor Assistance Lessons Learned articles, the importance of making preparations for losing a spouse long before anything happens. These gentlemen addressed the question "what can go wrong with our preparation planning", and do our preparations include dealing with things going wrong?

An example is if both you and your spouse pass away, and so does your Beneficiary (i.e., a car crash that takes the lives of all three of you), do you have a "contingency Beneficiary" named. Do you even have Beneficiaries (and backup Beneficiaries) named for all your financial accounts of ALL types, and life insurances? Do these Beneficiaries know what the responsibilities (and liabilities) of being a Beneficiary are?

Did you know there are four main ways to pass on assets, and each has pros and cons that need to be evaluated in light of your needs. And each have ways to plan for contingencies in your plans...

Do you realize the importance of having "Power of Attorney" set up for different situations? Like for finances, and for health care, and the different aspects of those situations?

It is good to at least be aware of these options so you can make an informed decision about them!

The Financial Literacy Committee and the Survival Assistance Team are going to team up together for a couple of articles in the near future in the Intercom since both have the goal of dealing that MOAACC members have a good future!!!! Don't miss it!!!!

## HEALTHY LIVING

**CAPT (ret) Rita Shapiro, MA, DPT**

### May is National Physical Fitness and Sports Month

**Move Your Way®** is a campaign of Office of  
Disease Prevention and Health Promotion

#### **Walk. Run. Dance. Play. What's your move?**

Everyone needs physical activity to stay healthy. But it can be hard to find the time in your busy routine. No matter who you are, you can find safe, fun ways to get active — to move your way.

- **Kids and Teens**

Ages 6 to 17 should aim for 60 minutes of activity every single day, including a variety of activities that strengthen bones, build muscles, and make your heart beat faster!

- **Adults**

All adults should strive for at least 150 minutes of moderate-intensity activity per week and do muscle-strengthening activities on at least 2 days per-week.

- **Older Adults**

Older adults have similar recommendations to younger adults, including 150 minutes of moderate-intensity activity per-week and do muscle-strengthening activities on at least 2 days per week. In addition, older adults should incorporate activities that focus on improving balance each week.

### May is also the Military Medicine Appreciation Month

The Military Medicine's is managed by the Defense Health Agency whose motto – Procura Militis speaks for itself that as an agency for soldiers the military medicine is dedicated to the health care and wellbeing of All military personnel and their families.



## POINTS TO PONDER

**MAJ (Chaplain, USAR Ret.) Bill Adams**

### *I Pledge Allegiance*



MOAACC members faithfully recite the Pledge of Allegiance at functions where our Nation's flag is displayed, presented, or posted. But do we appreciate the origins of those hallowed words? It was U.S. Army Captain George Balch who in 1887 proposed the wording: "We give our heads and hearts to God and our country; one country, one language, one flag!" Balch nationally promoted teaching children loyalty to country, distributing flags to every school.

Rev. Francis Bellamy published a significant revision in the late 1800's for the national public-school celebration on the 400th anniversary of Columbus's arrival: "I pledge allegiance to my Flag and the Republic for which it stands, one nation, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

In 1906, the DAR blended the wording: "I pledge allegiance to my flag, and the republic for which it stands. I pledge my head and my heart to God and my country. One country, one language and one flag." In 1923 the National Flag Conference changed "my Flag" to "the Flag of the United States" then added the words "of America." In the thick of WWII, Congress affirmed: "I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

That sounds very familiar, but what is missing? Another chaplain brought the pledge to its fullness. Louis Albert Bowman was Chaplain of the Illinois Society of the SAR. He recited the pledge including "under God" from Lincoln's Gettysburg Address: "That the nation shall, under God, have a new birth of freedom."

During the Cold War, many Americans wanted to distinguish the U.S. from the state atheism of communist countries. Through the 40's and 50's, The Knights of Columbus (Catholic), Rep. Louis Rabaut (D-Mich.), Rev. George MacPherson Docherty (Protestant), and Rep. Charles Oakman (R-Mich.) promoted the essentiality of Americans recognizing our God in our pledge.

The message was heard in Congress which passed legislation signed by President Eisenhower on Flag Day, 1954 with these words: "Millions of our school children will daily proclaim in every city and town, every village and rural schoolhouse, the dedication of our nation and our people to the Almighty...In this way we are reaffirming the transcendence of religious faith in America's heritage and future; in this way we shall constantly strengthen those spiritual weapons which forever will be our country's most powerful resource, in peace or in war."



# Mark Your Calendar!

## MOAACC Luncheon

To Honor Outstanding Local Students With Service  
Academy Appointments or ROTC Scholarships  
At Indian River Colony Club, on  
21 May 2024, 11:30 AM - 01:00 PM



Join us in the Chapter's celebration on Tuesday, May 21st at the regular monthly luncheon when we will honor the Brevard County students that have received an appointment to a military academy or an ROTC Scholarship at a college or university. These students have gone through a rigorous selection process and represent the top performing students in the local area. During the program, each student will receive a personalized letter of congratulations from the MOAACC President and a MOAACC challenge coin in recognition of their achievement. Chapter members are encouraged to attend the luncheon and celebrate with these future officers.

### Luncheon Details (Cost: \$25):

Meal choices are:

1. Spaghetti and Meatballs
2. Chef Salad
3. Vegetarian meals available upon request

All meals include rolls & butter, coffee & tea, and the Chef's sweet choice for dessert. Cash bar available.

Please **RSVP/cancel by 15 May 2024**, online, or by contacting Grace Catron at [events@moaacc.org](mailto:events@moaacc.org), or (417) 294-0798. You can pay online with credit card, pay at the door, or mail payment with RSVP to:

MOAACC  
c/o Michael J Schroeder, Treasurer  
PO Box 254186  
Patrick SFB, FL 32925

## SPACE COAST NAVY WIVES' CLUB

Please join us for our last meeting of the season on Friday, May 17th at **THE TIDES**. Social hour begins at 11:30am and lunch is served at noon.

Our May program is **BINGO and installation of officers**. We always have fun at Bingo, especially if you're a lucky winner.

The menu choices are Bruschetta Chicken with roasted potatoes and spinach or Chef Salad. Dessert is Key Lime Pie.

For information and reservations, please call or text Rebecca Kersey at (207) 607-0006. Reservations must be made no later than noon, Tuesday May 14.

Remember friends and spouses are always welcome.

Ellie Joy (321) 757-0193

## MOAACC On-the-Go Luncheon

The May On-the-Go luncheon will be on  
Tuesday 14 May 2024 at 11:30 a.m. at  
Grills Riverside Seafood Dock & Tiki Bar, 6075  
N US 1 Hwy, Melbourne FL 32940.  
Please sign up during TMBC or contact Toni  
Lowe at 321-474-6889

## Save the Dates for upcoming MOAACC Events:

**21 May 2024**

MOAACC Luncheon to Honor Students with  
Service Academy Appointments or ROTC  
Scholarships

**16 July 2024**

Scholarship Award Presentations

**5 October 2024**

Past Presidents Dinner Dance

**16 November 2024**

MOAACC Annual Golf Tournament

**19 November 2024**

Annual Membership Business Meeting

**7 December 2024**

Annual Christmas Dinner Dance



## MOAACC GOOD DEEDS FOUNDATION

**Donn Weaver, Cpt (USA) fmr**

### **The Good Deeds Foundation Continues Impact**

As May begins, your Good Deeds Foundation (GDF) remains in High Gear. Working closely with MOAACC's Students Affairs Committee of Hans Hunt, Mike Ticker and Mike Borski GDF funded the April ROTC and JROTC/Other Cadet Luncheon where each MOAA Medal winner received \$500 and each lead Sea Cadet (2) Civil Air Patrol (2) and the Sea Scout Ship (1) received \$250.

In May the ceremony to honor Military Academy Appointees and College ROTC Scholarship winners will be supported as well by GDF.

Planning for our 16 November Golf Tournament Fundraiser at IRCC on 16 November is ahead of schedule with several sponsors already lined up and the details of our contract with the IRCC Golf club signed and finalized. More details in the summer for golfers and other MOAACC members who would like to support this crucial GDF effort.

GDF has been blessed with several major donors who are MOAACC members as well as major Golf sponsors. We plan to recognize them with unique GDF Partner Award Plaques over the next clips months. Thanks totem and all in MOAACC who contribute whatever amount to our missions.



### **MOPH**

Brevard Chapter 453 of the Military Order of the Purple Heart includes many MOAACC members. Good Deeds Foundation supports the Chapter with many of their projects. Here GDF Pres Donn Weaver (Blue shirt) presents Chapter Commander Carl Miller with a check for \$1000 to fund monthly meals for more than 30 veterans and their children at the transitional facility where they are working to avoid homelessness. MOAACC Member Pat Keane® is MOPH Treasurer. Marc Gaston, a veteran of Afghanistan holds the MOPH Flag.

*See more GDF content in the online section, starting on page 21*

## Advice for the life you lead

### Advice. Beyond investing.

As a U.S. Navy Veteran, I thank you for your service! You have a vision for how you want to live for today, tomorrow and beyond. I start by asking the right questions to uncover what's most important, and then work with you to create a plan to help you pursue it. Along the way, I offer advice that addresses every aspect of your financial life, at every stage of your life. It's what we call: Advice. Beyond investing.

For some of life's questions, you're not alone. Together we can find an answer.



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## USCG Sailors of the Quarter



*The MOAACC Sailor of the Quarter Award winners were:*

*Left: DC2 Joseph L. Harris USCG, USCGC VIGILANT*

*Right: CS1 Tyler I. Styrwold USCG, USCGC VIGILANT*



*Sailor of the Quarter Certificate and cash award presented to CS1 David Franklin by CWO4 Dan McIntyre USCGR (Ret) for the MOAACC Good Deeds Foundation. Petty officer Franklin was also selected as Sailor of the Quarter for USCG Sector Jacksonville because of his outstanding performance of duty*

## TMBC



# April MOAACC ROTC/JROTC Luncheon



Air Force JROTC  
Eau Gallie HS Color Guard



ROTC top annual unit award for best overall performing winner was Cocoa Beach High School. (L-R: Pin Powers, principal, Cadet Rhys Gallant, LTC James Desgardin SAI)

Making the presentation were LTC Hans Fritz Hunt and Capt Donn Weaver from MOAACC

## Pictured at right:

Front Row (L-R): Cadet Alexis Martinez, Astronaut HS;  
Cadet Alexandra Castaneda, Palm Bay HS; Cadet Ariana  
Gallentine, Cocoa HS; Cadet Ayla Gordon, Bayside HS; Cadet  
Elianna Sanchez, Heritage HS

Back Row (L-R): Cadet Rhys Gallant, Cocoa Beach HS;  
Cadet Zaley Werling, Merritt Island HS; Cadet Thomas Good,  
Eau Gallie HS



## Pictured at left:

Front Row (L-R): Cadet Nathan Gribble, Patrick Civil Air  
Patrol; Cadet Olivia Troisi, FIT; Cadet Emma Johnson,  
Space Coast HS; Cadet Paina Romeus, Melbourne HS

Back Row (L-R): Cadet Jayden Krekow, Bugler Award FIT;  
Cadet Gideon Pike, Satellite HS; Cadet Connor Hoffman,  
Viera HS; Cadet James Captain, Titusville HS

Missing from the photo: Cadet Sarah Closson, Melbourne  
HS

## Space Coast Honor Flight



Many volunteers and congress man Bill Posey , Left, were on hand at 3 am on 6, April to see 30 Space Coast honor flight members were sent off on buses with police and bikers escorting to Orlando international air port for their flight to Washington DC. Where they will be escorted to various military and civilian displays on the National Mall.

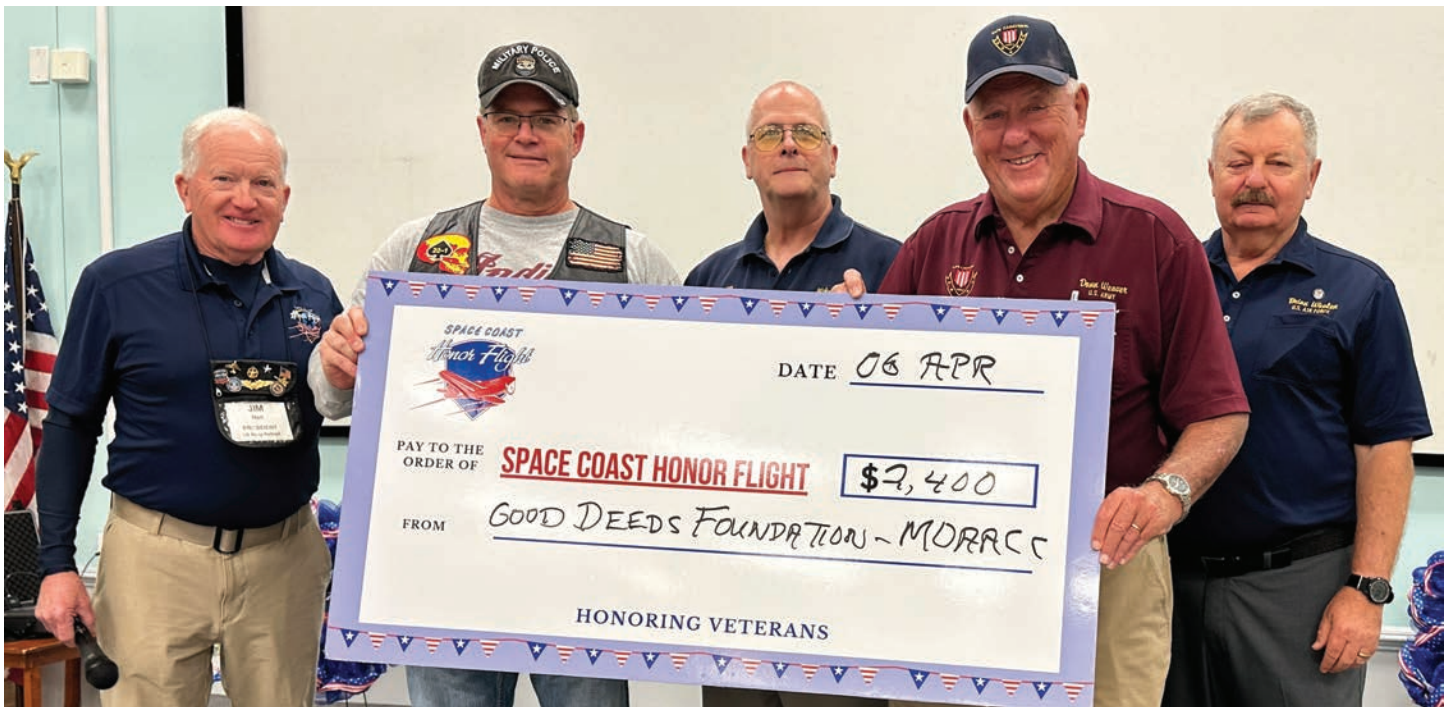


Among the group were IRCC MOAACC member, USMC Captain Joseph ALAN Giddings, with his wife Sue.



MOAACC Photos by Fish Pishad

More photos on page 12



Donn Weaver presents \$2,400 check to SCHF from MOAACC-GDF





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

### Supporting the next generation

In case you missed it we've been experiencing generational highs in inflation over the last two years. This price-increasing journey began in 2021, peaked in 2022, but has remained stubbornly elevated through 2024. If you are reading this article, I'm sure you are vexed by the cost of eggs and meat at the grocery store compared to pre-Covid. However, you are probably far more secure financially than many of your non-MOAACC peers and possibly some of your children or grandchildren.

As college costs continue to rise, the importance of the MOAACC Scholarship Corporation awards remains a vital, meaningful source of funds to help the next generation prepare to enter the workforce. With 6 weeks remaining in the application process, we reiterate to all MOAACC members to help spread the word in reaching eligible candidates. This year we have expanded the scholarship to include prospective college sophomores up all the way through doctoral students. As a reminder, a scholarship candidate can be eligible through his or her MOAACC sponsor (parent/grandparent); or through a retired military sponsor (parent/grandparent) where the candidate or sponsor resides in Brevard County. It is not too late to apply.

Lastly, a financial contribution to the MOAACC Scholarship Corporation will support future generations and relieve some of the worry students face while reaching for their goals. Not only that, but since the Scholarship Corporation is a 501(c)3 organization, your contributions are fully tax deductible, and can help to optimize your tax strategy for the year. Always consult with your financial planner to see how this would work best for you, and contributions of any amount are welcome, but please consider becoming a Distinguished Donor (\$1,000 or more) or a Named Donor (\$10,000 or more). Thank you for your consideration!

### MOAACC SCHOLARSHIP DONORS

#### Distinguished Donors

- Jean and Charles Baldwin

#### Donors

- Dawson and Charlotte Molyneaux

*Thank you*



## MEMBERSHIP BRIEF

# WELCOME

### Welcome 8 new members:

The following members were approved at the April 16 2024 BOD Meeting:

Name	Category	Sponsor
Mrs. Patricia Koontz	Surviving Spouse	
Mrs. Roberta LeMoine	Surviving Spouse	
Maj. Douglas Gautreaux	Army, Retired	
LTC Timothy Thomas	Army, Retired	
ENS James Vuille-Koing	Coast Guard, Active	Dan McIntyre
CW2 Chester Young	Army, Retired	
Col Andrew Steffen	Air Force, Active	Steve Bond
Col Gregory Billman	Air Force, Retired	

## TAPS

**MOAA CAPE CANAVERAL CHAPTER  
MEMBER, AUXILIARY, and SPOUSE DEATHS**  
**March 2024 Deaths listed for May 2024 Intercom**

**Edward D. Baker, Col, USMC Ret**  
**5 March 2024**

**William C. Hiestand, LTC, USA Ret**  
**11 March 2024**

**Norman E. LeMoine, CWO3, USGC Ret**  
**14 March 2024**



# ★ ★ EVERY DAY IS VETERANS DAY! ★ ★



Every day is Veterans Day at One Senior Place and its trusted affiliate, Senior Partner Care Services. On site, you'll find a full-time VITAS veterans liaison, a large selection of veterans benefits & resources and your personal invitation to our annual salute to veterans event!

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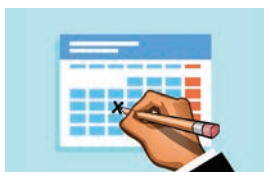
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# Unofficial Brevard VMC Vets Calendar

## MAY 2024 AND 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/>

or contact [donnweaver2020@gmail.com](mailto:donnweaver2020@gmail.com) for more information or to participate.

### MAY 2024

**05-12 May** — Traveling Wall and Reunion at Wickham Park. Details in March. See above 15 April to register and for info.

**05 May** — Back Brevard Heroes (BBH) Hero Fest Celebration and BBQ to honor first responders and veterans at the VMC Plaza, Buildings and Park. 1000 – 1600. See details in April.

**18 May** — Space Coast Honor Flight to Wash DC for selected veterans to visit their memorials. Guardian volunteers and other supporters welcome for ceremony to launch the flight — 0130 hours at the Senior Center in Wickham Park, Melbourne. Contact SCHF on 321-456-7031 or [info@spacecoasthonorflight.org](mailto:info@spacecoasthonorflight.org) for more information.

**21 May** — Senator Rubio's Staff Mobile Office Hours at the VMC, 1300-1500, specifically for Veterans and their families.

**28 May** — VMC Library Discussion Program 1800-1930 "Adventures of the Rebel Raider Tallahassee: The Ship, the Captain, and Their Stories." presented by Wayne Rowe.

### JUNE 2024

**08 Jun** — Space Coast Honor Flight to Wash DC for selected veterans to visit their memorials. Guardian volunteers and other supporters welcome for ceremony to launch the flight — 0130 hours at the Senior Center in Wickham Park, Melbourne. Contact SCHF on 321-456-7031 or [info@spacecoasthonorflight.org](mailto:info@spacecoasthonorflight.org) for more information.

**08 Jun** — Zachary M. Martin Memorial 5 K Run/Walk at Viera Regional Park (2300 Judge Fran Jamieson Way) in Melbourne 0800-1000. Proceeds will benefit Stop Soldier Suicide and help Brevard County veterans with PTSD. visit [zacharymartinmemorial.com](http://zacharymartinmemorial.com) to register and for more information about this 501c3.

**12 Jun** — Military Women Veterans Recognition Day Celebration and Luncheon 1130-1330 at the Nyami Nyami River Lodge at the Brevard Zoo, 8225 N. Wickham, Melbourne. Details and sponsorship information at [info@avet-project.org](mailto:info@avet-project.org).

### JULY 2024

**04 Jul** — Annual BCSO and VMC Merritt Island Independence Day Parade. 1000-1200 with details in May. Start at Merritt Island HS and finish at Veterans Memorial Center with food and festivities.

### AUGUST 2024

**04 Aug** — Annual Purple Heart Recognition Ceremony at the VMC Gray Hall 1400-1600 sponsored by Chapter 453 of the Military Order of the Purple Heart. Special recognition of 10 PH recipients and ceremony to tell their stories and recognize their sacrifices. Contact Donn Weaver, 757-871-6576 for more information.

**09 Aug** — 9th Annual Rescuing Veterans Lost in America

Dinner. For more information on any event go to [nvhs.org/events](http://nvhs.org/events)

**14 Aug** — Senator Rubio's Staff Mobile Office Hours at the VMC, 1100-1300, specifically for Veterans and their families.

**24 Aug** — Seminar for High School Soph's, Juniors and Seniors on Military Academy, ROTC Scholarships and other military paths to education and leadership. VMC Gray Hall, Foyer and Library 1300- 1700. Details in June.

### SEPTEMBER 2024

**07 Sep** — Space Coast Honor Flight to Wash DC for selected veterans to visit their memorials. Guardian volunteers and other supporters welcome for ceremony to launch the flight — 0130 hours at the Senior Center in Wickham Park, Melbourne. Contact SCHF on 321-456-7031 or [info@spacecoasthonorflight.org](mailto:info@spacecoasthonorflight.org) for more information

### OCTOBER 2024

**12 Oct** — Space Coast Honor Flight to Wash DC for selected veterans to visit their memorials. Guardian volunteers and other supporters welcome for ceremony to launch the flight — 0130 hours at the Senior Center in Wickham Park, Melbourne. Contact SCHF on 321-456-7031 or [info@spacecoasthonorflight.org](mailto:info@spacecoasthonorflight.org) for more information

**31 Oct** — BCSO Shred Event in VMC Park 0900-1030. BSCO conducts monthly shred services at various locations and will release their 2024 schedule in January.

### NOVEMBER 2024

**10 Nov** — 7th Annual Homestretch 5K for At-Risk & Homeless Vets. For more information on any event go to [nvhs.org/events](http://nvhs.org/events)

**11 Nov** — Veterans Day Ceremony at VMC Plaza 0930 – 1100 (pending)

**16 Nov** — Annual MOAACC Good Deeds Foundation Golf Tournament Fundraiser at the Indian River Colony Club 0800-1300. Save the date. Details this summer. Looking for sponsors. Contact Donna Weaver, 757-871-6576.

**25 Nov** — Senator Rubio's Staff Mobile Office Hours at the VMC, 1400-1600, specifically for Veterans and their families.

### DECEMBER 2024

**14 Dec** — Wreaths Across America Day in many Brevard Locations. Cape Canaveral National Cemetery 1000-1200 with details on all WAA events in October.

**14 Dec** — Second Annual Merritt Island Community and Gold Star Family Tribute Christmas Tree Illumination and Holiday Party. VMC Park 1500- 2000

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



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### **MOAACC SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

P.O. BOX 254708

Patrick AFB, FL 32925-4708

### **MOAACC Good Deeds Foundation**

PO Box 320358

Cocoa Beach, FL 32932



## Advocacy in Action—2024

### Colonel Steve Bond, US Army-Retired

On April 17th, MOAA's annual signature legislative event—Advocacy in Action or AiA—occurred on Capitol Hill. Team Florida was out in front to meet with our twenty-nine elected Congressional Representatives or their staffers in their Washington offices. The five Florida Teams were led by Florida Council Vice President, Steve Bond, John Murphy incoming Council Vice President, Pierre Louis—Council Legislative Affairs Chair, Tony LaVecchia—NE Florida Area Vice President, Dan Hill—Mid-Central Florida Area Vice President, and ably assisted by MOAA Board Members--Marc Oliveri, Rick Buchanan, and Mike Hewitt, and MOAA Virtual Chapter Representatives--Joe Gollasch and Stephanie Rose. Team Florida represented our thirty-eight chapters and all 38,000 MOAA Members in Florida. Our mission was to advocate for all veterans and their families to ensure the promises made to veterans are kept and to highlight MOAA's strength in numbers.

Advocacy in Action started well before our team arrived on Capitol Hill. There were "Calls to Action" where MOAA's 363,000 members were asked to TAKE ACTION by sending email messages or by calling their representatives to voice support for the issues. Proudly, Florida sent the most email messages through MOAA's Legislative Action Center. There were over 1,700 messages from Florida alone of a total nationally of 6,750.



*AiA Team Florida from Left Front: Stephanie Rose, John Murphy, Steve Bond, Pierre Louis, Marc Oliveri, Dan Hill with Bear; Back Row From Left: Mike Hewitt, Tony LaVecchia, Rick Buchanan, and Joe Gollasch.*



*Steve Bond (Left) and Rick Buchanan (Right) met with Congressman Posey, FL-8, Center in his Capitol Hill office to discuss passing the Richard Star Act, Restoring the active-duty housing allowance, BHA to 100%, and Protecting Tricare for Life.*

*Congressman Posey was well versed and supportive of the three measures, largely due to the many emails he received from Cape Canaveral Chapter members*

The day on Capitol Hill was long and tiring (I logged over 15,000 steps or about six miles!) for meetings held in four of the congressional office buildings on Capitol Hill. Lt Gen Brian Kelly (USAF, Ret), MOAA President and CEO commented after the event--"It is days like today that show the strength of what MOAA can do... The power of this organization is our ability to marshal our members to speak with one voice."

It was exciting to be part of the AiA efforts on Capitol Hill and see the firsthand results of our collective advocacy efforts. I was proud to be a MOAA member, making a difference and protecting the earned benefits for all veterans and their families! However, our work is not done. We need all our members to participate in Advocacy in Action this year, and every year. If you have not done so, we need you to TAKE ACTION. Register and contact our elected representatives by going to this link: <https://moaa.quorum.us/>.

Legislative Advocacy is MOAA's primary mission and one way we show we "Never Stop Serving"!

## *Celebrating Hal Gibson's 100th Birthday*

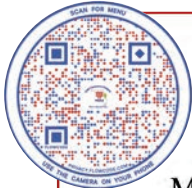
Col. Hal J. Gibson 2005 United States Army Field Band Washington, D.C. Special Award Division Col. Hal Gibson has conducted concerts in all 50 states and in 36 foreign countries. The first person to be named Conductor Emeritus of the U.S. Army Field Band, Gibson also is the only person to be named Professor of Music Emeritus by the Georgia Board of Regents for Columbus College. He resided in the military community of IRCC.

For his 100 year birthday the Melbourne Municipal band presented a two nights of musical salute for his honer. Hal was presented with Special award presented by Melbourne Mayor and vice Mayor.

He also received a life membership to Military Officers of America Cape Canaveral Chapter and a challenge coin.



## Please Renew Your 2024 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.



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## More GDF!

### GDF Supports Many in a Variety of Ways

During March and April your Good Deeds Foundation reached out to impact many.

- A. The Cape Canaveral Ladies (CCL), who attend EVERY ceremony of the more than 2000 every year at the Cape Canaveral National Cemetery (CCNC) in Mims, needed some help. GDF provide \$1200 to purchase an entire year's worth of their special condolence cards handed to survivors and a new display for the CCNC lobby. According to the VA National Cemetery Administration (VA/NCA), CCNC has the only such organization, outside the Arlington Ladies at Arlington National Cemetery, that covers every ceremony nationwide. Hats off to founder Cozette Merritt, current President LaRue Fleming, and all of their more than 40 volunteers who make that happen.
- B. The Space Coast Top 3 of Patrick Space Force Base every year hosts a gala to celebrate the promotions from all services station on the base to the Chief Master Sergeant or equivalent rank. DoD does not fund the event so GDF became a \$500 sponsor to recognize those selected and their families at the 22 March event at the Tides. Congratulations to them. GDF is happy to support our active-duty forces and families in many ways each year.
- C. GDF supports several other veteran related 501 c3's including two that support events at the CCNC. GDF provided \$900 to purchase a canopy for the Support Committee of CCNC and \$2000 for the Solemn Pride Inc, a Caisson with mules managed by Tom and Denise Fitzgerald which operates at numerous funerals and ceremonies at CCNC each year and which is also noted by the VA as the only such regular volunteer mission in the US outside ANC, which is handled by the US Army.



*The New CCL Sign - left to right the CCL ladies-Cindi Brewer, Cecelia Palma, Fay Lamb and LaRue Fleming*



*GDF-Supported Funds for Casson at CCNC*



*GDF-Supported New Canopy For CCNC*



*GDF-Supported PSFB-Promotion Ceremony*



*Members of Rush Construction Team, led by Mike Lipinski (center with glasses) after they completed installing 8 large poles at Cocoa HS for the JROTC Raider Challenge Program, JROTC Instructor LTC Joe Pavone, USA, RET is kneeling in center. Rush has now helped four high schools, all at no cost. They installed the "river crossing" poles at the Veterans Memorial Center Park in use for 8 years for county and district meets every fall. Thanks to Rush support to the VMC and JROTC!!!*

## 16 April ROTC/JROTC and Other Cadet Luncheon Ceremony Has Special Additions

MOAACC's Student Affairs Committee (SAC) and Good Deeds Foundation (GDF) added some new twists to our annual ROTC/JROTC and other Cadet Award Luncheon.

The pictures in this Intercom edition reflect a great event hosted by SAC member Hans Hunt with GDF in a supporting role. During the past year the MOAACC JROTC Medal Grant Program received \$7000 in donations. This allowed MOAACC to present \$500 in cash to all JROTC MOAA medal winners, most of whom were rising to seniors and 2024-25 JROTC leadership positions. At least five will advance to becoming cadet commanders for their respective units.

GDF Board members Mike Gautreaux, Larry Jackson and Donn Weaver presented the envelopes to the winners including \$250 to one of the five other cadet winners from Patrick Space Force Base Civil Air Patrol Composite Squadron.

As the ceremony concluded, the first ever MOAACC/SAC/GDF JROTC Program of the Year MG John Cleland and CWO4 Dan McIntyre Award was handed out. The criteria for selection included service hours, grade point average, special projects and events, JROTC competition results, members enlisting or going on the military related higher education and much more. The first ever winner was the Army JROTC Program of Cocoa Beach Jr/Sr High School which proudly took home the trophy. Their name will be added to a plaque on the base of the Trophy with many blank plates to honor future winners.

## Special GDF Grant to AFJROTC at Satellite JDS Makes a Big Hit



On 01 April, GDF President Donn Weaver visited the third period Satellite HS Air Force JROTC Class. The students were just returning from Spring Break and only too happy to show off their new desk top Flight Simulator, a second one of which has been funded by GDF with a \$1200 Grant.

When the installation is complete, not only will JROTC Cadets be able to go beyond the usual teen video games to practical STEM, Military and Flying skill learning, but the lab will be open to more students from around the county. Classes will be available during the summer and to home schoolers linked to the JROTC programs. One of the cadets constructed the hardware and installed the software as part of his JROTC Service Hours. He is teaching cadet leaders from each class on their use. Eventually

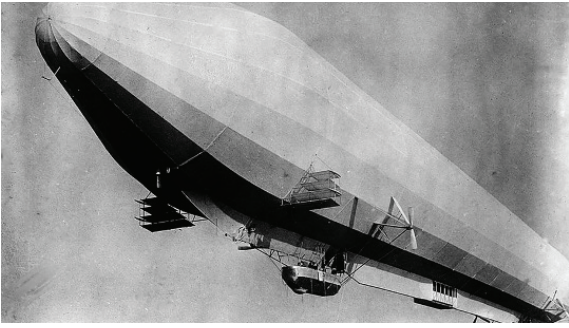
all cadets will be able to practice flying private aircraft, airliners many types of military aircraft and even helicopters.

The Unit Cadet Commander showed their appreciation to GDF and presented their newly designed Challenge Coin to Weaver as he left after an uplifting hour spent with future American Leaders.



## THE ROLE OF AIRCRAFT IN WWI (Part 4)

By Bill Muckler, Captain USMC (ret)



*LZ-70 German Zeppelin*

At the start of World War I the German armed forces had ten zeppelins and three smaller airships. This impressive offensive capability was offset by the highly explosive nature of the hydrogen gas that gave the zeppelins their lifting power. After losing three zeppelins in daylight raids over heavily defended areas in the first month of the war, the German army abandoned airship operations. However, the German Navy, its battle fleet blockaded in port by the British Royal Navy, mounted a night bombing offensive which became the first aerial strategic bombardment campaign in history.

The most formidable zeppelin was the LZ-70 Schwaben, which was a floating rigid airship that was 720 feet long and able to fly higher than 16,000 feet with a range of 7,500 miles. There were about 21 zeppelins in circulation at the start of World War I, 14 of which were operated by the German military. The LZ-70

was shot down late in the war, however, and large rigid (metal-framed) airships were never again employed as combat aircraft.

Smaller, nonrigid airships were used throughout World War I by the British for antisubmarine patrol, convoy escort, and coastal reconnaissance, achieving a remarkable record of protecting coastal convoys from German submarines. They were revived by the U.S. Navy during World War II for the same use.

World War I is remembered for its dreadful combination of technological ingenuity and strategic indecisiveness. The growth of army sizes, and the introduction of new weapons like long-range heavy artillery and chemical gas, turned combat into mechanized carnage on an unprecedented scale. It also made it more essential than ever for armies to gather information about enemy troops and weapons. Stationary balloons were used for observation and artillery spotting as early as the American Civil War. Use of balloons was widespread during World War I.

Unpowered, captive balloons also were used extensively for observation and artillery spotting in World War I. They had become so vulnerable that they were used only as unmanned antiaircraft barrage balloons by World War II. Anchored to the ground or ships by cables, they compelled attacking enemy aircraft to fly high to avoid the cables. (Next month: The Lafayette Escadrille: Part 1)

### USCG-Recruiting at Merritt Island High School

USCGC VIGILANT Crew members shared their USCG experiences and work specialties on May 5th for 114 JROTC Cadets during 6 class periods at Merritt Island High School. They did an excellent job of representing the USCGC VIGILANT and the United States Coast Guard.



*Left to right: HS2 Julian B. Salido, MK3 Alberto E. Badillo, CWO4 Dan S. McIntyre, BM1 Christopher W. Demers, ENS James R. Vuille-Kowing.*

In addition, CS3 Michael H. Sherman, MK2 Cameron C. Lee, and OS2 Evan I. Tellado participated in the afternoon classes. 12 cadets requested information on applying for the Coast Guard Academy and 3 requested additional information on enlisting in the USCG.

### Honoring Vietnam Veterans



*MOAACC members CWS (ret) Mike Tucker, COL (ret) Jeff Rogers and CW4 (ret) Jose Prieto participate in VFW Post 10131's dinner to honor Vietnam Veterans in the evening of April 6, 2024. COL Rogers was the key note speaker during the ceremony honoring Vietnam Veterans. CWS Tucker and CW4 Prieto are VFW members who volunteered to make this event a success*

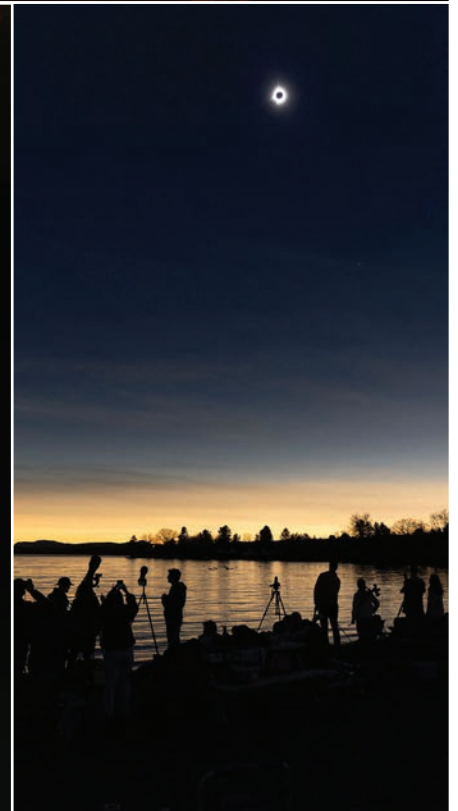
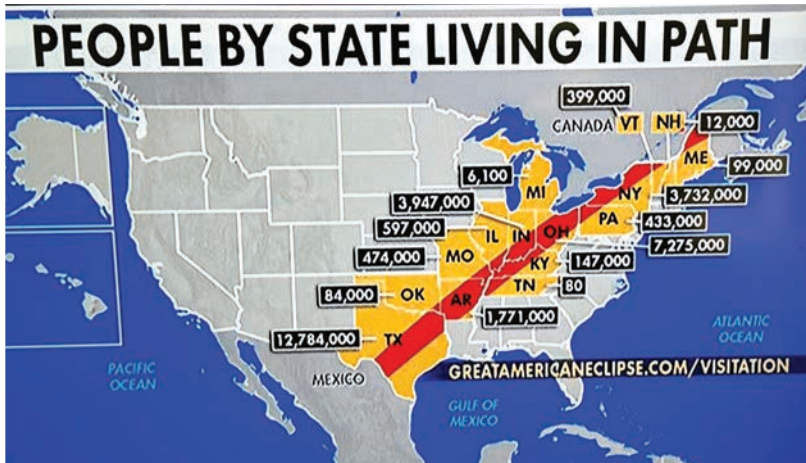
# *Happy Birthday To You!*



MOAACC Photos by Pish Pishdad



# America's Solar Eclipse (Next Solar Eclipse for FL in 2045)





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<b>DAY 4</b>	At Sea - Cruising Tue, Jan 28, 2025	<b>DAY 5</b>	Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic Wed, Jan 29, 2025 Docked: 8:00AM to 6:00PM	<b>DAY 6</b>	Labadee, Haiti Thu, Jan 30, 2025 Docked: 7:00AM to 4:00PM
	<b>DAY 7</b>	At Sea - Cruising Fri, Jan 31, 2025	<b>DAY 8</b>	Orlando (Port Canaveral), Florida Sat, Feb 1, 2025 Arrival: 7:00AM	

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### MOAA ADVOCATES FOR ALL RANKS ACROSS ALL SERVICES.

The Military Officers Association of America is the nation's largest military service association. With more than 360,000 members, we're able to support and advocate for all ranks across the eight uniformed services.

On April 17, MOAA members from across the U.S. are visiting Capitol Hill to maintain the viability of the all-volunteer force – today and in the future. We'll ask lawmakers to ensure our nation keeps its promises to servicemembers and their families by supporting combat-injured veterans through the Major Richard Star Act, restoring the Basic Allowance for Housing to 100% of rental and utility costs, and protecting the TRICARE For Life health benefit.

Learn more about these issues and other ways MOAA supports those who serve and have served, along with their families and survivors, at [MOAA.org/AiA](https://MOAA.org/AiA).





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

## MOAACC Needs Your Support – Advertise!

The MOAACC is comprised of 1,200 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.

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