



2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014

**GENESEE VALLEY CHAPTER  
MILITARY OFFICERS  
ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA  
NEWSLETTER**

VISIT US AT [GVCMOAA.ORG](http://GVCMOAA.ORG)

**SERVING MEMBERS AND THEIR COUNTRY \*\*\* NEVER STOP SERVING \*\*\* April 2016**

**PRESIDENT'S CORNER:**



Welcome to SPRING! Although this winter was extremely mild, I'm sure a lot of us enjoy the warmer temperatures ahead, as well as Daylight Saving Time. For

those of who are not fully retired yet, I really like arriving home from work before sunset and look forward to warm evenings playing golf!

It appears this election cycle might turn into quite a brawl before it's all said and done. Sometimes I am discouraged to think that for us in Upstate/Western New York, our votes for President of the United States don't really mean anything. Whatever the Big 5 want, so goes New York State. But it will never deter me from exercising my right to vote, and I hope you will all exercise your right to vote too, both in the Primaries and General Election in November.

You will need to examine all the candidates for their positions on the many issues that concern us inside our nation as well as outside. Since GVC and MOAA are organizations which focus on military areas of interests such as national security, defending the liberty of all Americans at home and abroad, and protecting national interests all over the world, we know these things do not just happen by "hoping" for them. It takes insightful and meaningful policies, and most of all, **PEOPLE** to execute those policies. We call many of these people Service-Members and Veterans.

Not many Americans would consider to serve for such noble causes if they cannot see a positive "return on their investment." In too many cases, their investment is their very life. Their ROI is not necessarily financial, (have you ever met a wealthy O-4 or E-5?) but is the satisfaction of doing what is right and just for others. There is a reason they are called **SERVICE** members.

So what can you do right now, while we are waiting to see who comes out the least-bloodied on November 8th? As the annually top lobby organization for military personnel issues, **MOAA's Top Ten Legislative Goals for MOAA this year are:**

- Ensure Tricare reform sustains top-quality care
- Prevent disproportional Tricare fee increases
- Sustain military pay comparability with the private sector
- Block erosion of compensation and commissary benefits
- Protect military retirement/COLAs
- Sustain Wounded Warrior programs and expand caregiver support
- End disabled/survivor financial penalties
- Fix Guard/Reserve retirement
- Improve spouse and family support
- Assure timely access to the VA, and eliminate the VA claims backlog.

You can read up on the specifics of each of these issues at [www.moaa.org](http://www.moaa.org). Click on the "Take Action - Take Legislative Action" tab. Take the time (JUST 10 SECONDS!) to send an email to your

representatives in Congress to urge them to "Take Action." You can send the pre-written email off as it is, or you can easily edit and modify the body of the letter as you see fit. Your voice IS heard through these messages! And in a large way, that makes up (sort of) for the frustration of not being heard in Presidential elections.

**HONOR FLIGHT ROCHESTER:** The Board of Directors approved to increase the Chapter's donation amount to \$500 to Honor Flight to fund the cost of sending one veteran on an Honor Flight Mission. There 3 spring missions: 30 Apr – 1 May, 21 – 22 May, and 18-19 June.

**VAMC DONATIONS:** Please do not forget to bring Personal Care items and puzzle books for our vets. There will be a donation box at the check-in table at every Chapter meeting. Socks and sweatpants/shirts are always needed as well. Please note: **The VAMC cannot accept any shaving razors.**

#### **COMING UP:**

**23 April 2016: NYS CoC Mid-Year Meeting**  
in Vestal NY

**24 April 2016: GVC Chapter Meeting at the Burgundy Basin.** Guest speaker will be David Price, Acting Associate Director of the Canandaigua VAMC. He will speak to us about upcoming construction projects at the VAMC and ROPC. See reservation form on the final page of this newsletter.

**21 May 2016: Armed Forces Day Luncheon**  
at the Diplomat Party House. Please contact Russ Green for information and reservations. Our own GVC member, MG Norbert Rappl, USA (Ret), will be making the welcoming and closing remarks. Guest Speaker: BG John G. Baker, USMC, Chief Defense Counsel, Military Defense Organization. Honorary Chair: Todd Baxter, Executive Director, Veterans Outreach Center.

**13 -15 September 2016: NYS Council of Chapters Annual Convention** at Fort William Henry Hotel and Conference Center, Lake George. Contact Norma Weissend for more info.

Norma E. Weissend, LtCol, USAF (Ret)  
[President](#)

#### **GVC AUXILIARY:**

It was noted in the September newsletter, MOAA was planning on bringing out a new publication, **The Survivor's Guide**. It is now available along with two other appropriate publications: **Help Your Survivors Now: A Guide to Planning Ahead** and **Survivor's Checklist: First Steps for Moving On**.

These are available as downloads from the MOAA website ([www.moaa.org/infoexchange](http://www.moaa.org/infoexchange)). They are also available from MOAA in hard copy. (Repeat from February issue)

Marion Mench, Auxiliary Liaison

**Spouses Club:** . Our next meeting will be April 20, visiting Zion House in Avon, NY. This is a women's shelter for veterans. We welcome any spouse to attend this meeting. Please contact Eileen Carlsen @ [ecarlsen32@gmail.com](mailto:ecarlsen32@gmail.com) , or 585-377-5665 if you are able to attend.

**New Members:** Please welcome four new members to our chapter.

Marvin Engle, 1LT, USA ® and spouse Candace James Haas, CPT, USA ® and spouse Linda Michelangelo Gallucci, LTC, USAF ® and spouse Ann, LTC, USAF ®  
William Carr LTC, USA and spouse Heidi

**GVC/MOAA BOARD MEMBERS 2015-2017**

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**Transition Liaison:** Dave Szczygiel  
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**Past President:** Barbara Green, Col, USA (Ret)  
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**Spouses Club Liaisons:**

Karen Murphy: [kcarlom@icloud.com](mailto:kcarlom@icloud.com)

Signe Zale: [sigbobzale@aol.com](mailto:sigbobzale@aol.com)

**FUTURE MEETING DATES:**

5 June 2016 – GVC Annual Meeting Dinner – Canandaigua Yacht Club

**FROM TREASURER JIM NIELSEN**

**Dues Reminder: 2016 chapter dues of \$20.00 are payable at the beginning of the year.**

There has been some confusion in the past between chapter versus MOAA National dues. The two are separate and distinct. MOAA National mails its dues notices separately. The Chapter, on the other hand, does not bill for dues, but rather gives notice in the Chapter newsletter when dues are payable.

If you are interested, you can stop all future dues payments entirely by becoming a Life Member. Life Memberships are based on your age, according to the following schedule:

<u>Age</u>	<u>Life Dues</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Life Dues</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Life Dues</u>
<45	\$360	61-65	\$290	81-85	\$150
46-50	350	66-70	270	86-89	110
51-55	330	71-75	230	90+	No charge
56-60	310	76-80	190		

You may send your check to Jim (see below) or include your payment with your dinner reservations. Make checks out to:

**Genesee Valley Chapter MOAA**  
c/o CRD James Nielsen  
17 Woodward Drive  
Le Roy, NY 14482

If you have questions concerning your dues payments, past or present, contact Jim at 585-768-7249 or email [JimNiels@Rochester.rr.com](mailto:JimNiels@Rochester.rr.com)

**Annual ROTC Awards Dinner** was well attended last month. Once again, Bob Zale did a terrific job organizing this year's batch of outstanding cadets from our local ROTC programs. It was a pleasure meeting these fresh, energetic, and youthful leaders of tomorrow. They were chosen for the awards for their leadership skills and academic excellence. Bob will later visit the colleges as their senior cadets are commissioned. Congratulations to this year's awardees:

RIT Army ROTC - **Cadet Matthew DiSavio**  
RIT AFROTC - **Cadet Kailee Lamphier**  
SUNY Brockport ROTC - **Cadet Colin Kerr**  
U of R NROTC - **MIDN Ryan Hubbs**  
Early College - **Cadet Akand Chilukuri**  
Int'l HS - **Cadet Tristan Mathews**

## **GVC Member Profiles**

This issue presents Lieutenant Colonel Russell L. Green, US Army-Ret., the GVC treasurer. Colonel Green, a Rochester native, grew up in the city's 19<sup>th</sup> Ward and Greece. A graduate of Greece Olympia High School and Niagara University, he received a B.S. and an ROTC commission in the Signal Corps from Niagara in 1968. He then entered active duty and completed Officer's Basic and MOS training at Ft. Gordon, Georgia. Assigned to the Strategic Communications Command, Europe, he spent a year each in Munich and Nuremburg, Germany working as a Communications Logistics Officer



Following his European assignment, Russ deployed to Vietnam, where he was assigned as the Transportation Plans Officer at the US Army Depot, DaNang. (It seems there was an excess of Signal Officers in Vietnam at this point!) The Army Depot was the central distribution point for all equipment and supplies (less ammo & fuel) entering the I Corps area (the far northern quarter of South Vietnam), and Russ was one of the officers responsible for overseeing that distribution, either by air, rail, convoy or watercraft. He was awarded the Bronze Star for conspicuous service during Operation Dewey Canyon, the US incursion into Laos in an attempt to choke off the Ho Chi Minh Trail.

Following Vietnam, Russ was reassigned back to the Strategic Communications Command, Europe as the S-4 of the 73<sup>rd</sup> Signal Battalion in Pirmasens, Germany. Here he met and married his wife, Kathleen, who was a teacher in the DOD Dependent School System.

Leaving active duty in 1975, Russ and Kathy settled in Salt Lake City. Russ earned an MBA at the University of Utah; Kathy worked for the Salt Lake City School District. While in the MBA program, Russ learned computer programming, and then joined Kathy at the Salt Lake City School District.

In Utah, Russ joined the Army Reserve as the Communications-Electronics Officer of the 96<sup>th</sup> Army Reserve Command. After eleven years in that position, he finished his military career as an Individual Mobilization Augmentee (IMA), with four year stints with both the Department of the Army, Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics at the Pentagon, and US Army Pacific Headquarters at Ft Shafter, Hawaii.

With twenty-six years combined active and reserve service, he retired from the Army in 1994. Russ and Kathy then returned to the Rochester area. Kathy retired as the Technology Director of the Wayne Central School District, and Russ retired as a Systems Analyst for MVP Healthcare (formerly Preferred Care).

Colonel Green joined MOAA/TROA and the Genesee Valley Chapter on returning to the Rochester area twenty years ago. He served eight years as the Chapter Treasurer, and is currently the Chapter 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President.

He and Kathleen have lived in Fairport for the past ten years. The Greens have two daughters, Christina and Angela. Christina, an Army and Afghanistan vet, obtained her teaching degree from Nazareth College and a Masters from Univ of Missouri and is currently employed by Hillside Children's Services as a Special Ed teacher. She has a seven year-old daughter, Molly. Angela received her Associates Degree in Business from MCC and a BS in Accounting from Walden Univ, and is employed by Strong Health in the Accounting Dept. She is currently working on an MBA at UR. Russ and Kathy perform with two fire department bands (Fairport & Rush). Kathy sings with the Rochester Oratorio Society, Russ fills up his time with the Knights of Columbus and the Rochester Genealogy Society.

**GENESEE VALLEY CHAPTER  
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**Sunday 24 April 2016**

**BURGUNDY BASIN INN**

*1361 Marsh Rd, Pittsford NY (Bushnell's Basin)*

**1300 - Social Hour** - Cheese and Crackers w/ cash bar

**1400 - Dinner**

**ENTRÉE CHOICES**

Sirloin Steak

Stuffed Chicken Breast

Poached Salmon

Entrees served with rosemary potatoes, vegetable, and tossed salad

**Reservations due ASAP but NLT Friday, 15 April 2016**

Please clip use form provided below

***Cancellations NLT 1200 hours, Thursday, 21 April 2016***

**Questions: Norma – 585.746.2904**

**CLIP HERE AND SEND**

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**RESERVATION FORM FOR 24 APR 2016 MEETING at  
Burgundy Basin Inn**

ALL Name(s) Attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate number of each meal desired:

Steak \_\_\_\_\_ Chicken \_\_\_\_\_ Salmon \_\_\_\_\_

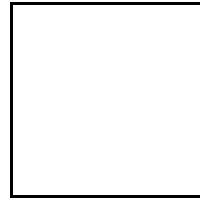
Check for \_\_\_\_\_ meal(s) at **\$30.00 each**

*(I encourage you to include your 2016 Dues of \$20 if you have not paid for this year yet!)*

Please make checks payable to **GVC MOAA** and mail to:

**GVC MOAA  
c/o Norma Weissend  
4587 Ridge Rd  
Canandaigua, NY 14424**

**Genesee Valley Chapter  
Military Officers Assn of America  
PO Box 20874  
Rochester, NY 14602-0874**



**April 2016 Newsletter**

**First Class Mail**

