



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

2010 – 2011 – 2012 – 2013 – 2014 – 2015 – 2016- 2017

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SERVING MEMBERS AND THEIR COUNTRY

***** NEVER STOP SERVING *****

March 2019



PRESIDENT'S CORNER Spring is just around the corner. I hope that you were able to visit some place warm the past few months. Cindy and I will head to Florida as you receive this newsletter. That being said this Chapter has only three more meetings before we break for the summer. March 23rd we will return to Brook-Lea Country Club, April 28th we will meet at Nolan's Restaurant in downtown Canandaigua and June 2nd at the Canandaigua Yacht Club. Please try to attend all of these meetings as we have to guarantee each location a certain number of meals to serve.

Storming the Hill; LTC. Peggy Phillips and Major Skip Bebenitz will be our New York MOAA representatives for this year's Storming of the Hill. The April 10th event will have MOAA members from all over the country visit each House Representative and Senator office to present MOAA priorities. They will bring Veteran Issues to each visit hoping to make a difference. I look forward to hearing from our state representatives and to learn more of their experiences.

Next Chapter Dinner; Brook-Lea Country Club, Saturday March 23rd. Cost is \$35.00 try to bring a friend. Our guest speaker is Mr. Frank Ryan, vice-president for Eagle Housing with their newest location in Farmington, NY. Their Goal of the Safe Haven Program is to remove homeless veterans from the street or habitation unfit for veterans and place them in community-based, residential environments with sufficient services to meet the needs of those Veterans. Eagle Star Housing provides the safe haven services as a specialty model of housing services to eligible beneficiaries of the Canandaigua VAMC. I hope that you sign up for this dinner to learn much more about the services provided by Eagle Star Housing.

Board of Directors update: Your Board has been busy of late. We recently approved a donation of \$200.00 to the Canandaigua All Stars team for the June 5-10, 2019 National Veterans Golden Age Games in Alaska. These are local Veterans that want to compete in June and are now actively seeking donations to defray travel expenses. The Board also voted to make a donation to Honor Flight, \$500.00 and a donation to the Batavia DAV for vehicle assistance \$250.00. We are also working on plans to visit the Batavia and Canandaigua VAMC and giving out some yet to be determined service memento to the Veterans housed at those locations. This year our ROTC awards will be given out at the three college's during their local awards ceremony, there are three in April and one in May. We are looking for more ideas from our membership to help veterans and as always, we welcome your participation.

I would like to personally thank Col (Ret.) Bob Zale for his many years of dedication to the ROTC / JROTC program representing this chapter.

The following Board of Director vacancies will exist starting with our June meeting;

Vice-President (2) positions

Secretary

Member at Large

Jim Nielsen will fill one of the Vice-Presidents positions if there is someone interested in taking over the treasure position. It is now time for members to step-up and volunteer to fill these vacancies! We need you.

Wreaths Across America Update; 2018 was another successful year due to your donations. This Chapter raised \$378.33 for local Veterans. Chair Norma Weissend is a Happy person because of your efforts. Thank you so much!

Lastly, I would ask that everyone be involved in some way to support our Military.

COL Peter Ingalsbe, USA Retired,
President GVC/MOAA
"Never Stop Serving"

GVC UPCOMING EVENTS:

Wednesday 19 March; Next GVC Board of Directors meeting, 4:30 pm Location MRB Group 145 Culver Road Armory, second floor conference room. Trata restaurant menu and drinks can be ordered the night of our meeting.

Sunday 28 April 2019 Chapter Dinner meeting. New location Nolan's on the Lake, Main Street, Canandaigua, NY

Saturday 18 May 2019 The 23rd annual Armed Forces Day Luncheon, is at the Diplomat Party House. Guest speaker is Captain (06) Joseph S. DuFresne, Commander of Coast Guard Sector Buffalo. The honorary chairman is Gary Craig, investigative reporter for the Rochester Democrat and Chronicle.

Sunday 2 June 2019- Last Chapter dinner meeting before summer break, Location Canandaigua Yacht Club, this will be the installation of Chapter officers and we expect a MOAA national Representative to be Present.

A Message from the MOAA National President:

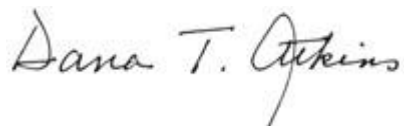
On Feb. 23, 1929, when Col. Arthur T. Marix, USMC (Ret), and 62 other officers gathered to start The Retired Officers Association (which would of course evolve into MOAA), they couldn't have imagined how their legacy would enrich the lives of millions of servicemembers and veterans, and their families.

Birthdays are an ideal time to reflect on the milestones of past achievements — like 1985, when we joined 15 military associations to form The Military Coalition; or 2001, when we helped establish TRICARE for Life; or 2017, when we won a 2.4-percent pay raise for active duty troops and helped extend the Special Survivor Indemnity Allowance.

We also take this opportunity to look to our future. This April, we're looking forward to mobilizing our members to achieve more wins for the military and veteran community; we'll "Storm the Hill" and educate lawmakers on why we need to eliminate the Survivor Benefit Plan-Dependency and Indemnity Compensation offset (also known as the widow's tax), stabilize TRICARE fees, and maintain compensation for currently serving troops.

There's no need for any Hallmark cards poking fun at getting older — with more than nine decades of advocacy experience now under our collective belt, we can proudly say youth is overrated.

Thank you for helping to make the past 90 years so successful. Here's to the next 90!



Lt. Gen. Dana T. Atkins, USAF (Ret)
President

Name Tag anyone? (Repeat)

"If you would like to order a GVC name badge for yourself or your spouse, please contact LTC Russ Green (<russgreen@aol.com> or [585-425-4292](tel:585-425-4292)). Badges for members will include name, rank, service and status, while spouses badges will include name only. (See the sample photo). Cost of the badges is \$12.00, payable in advance. (Please note that badges for Life Members, are gold in color and include the line "Life Member" under the rank. These are provided at no cost to the member.) Please provide the name(s) as you wish them to appear on the badge. Badges may be picked up at the next dinner meeting following the order, or by contacting LTC Green to make other arrangements"



Spouses Club: The Spouses Club of GVC MOAA normally tries to meet on the third Wednesday of each month. Location to be determined. Contact Joan Tierney or Signe Zale at the email or phone number listed below for the next meeting date.

Address Change or E-mail change? Have you moved? Have you changed your email address? If so please contact Ken Carlsen or Nancy Swanson at the email address below or write us at PO Box 20874, Rochester, NY 14602-0874

GVC/MOAA BOARD MEMBERS 2017-2019

President: Peter Ingalsbe, COL, USA (Ret) 585-749-3390 (cell)
Email: pingalsbe@gmail.com

1st Vice President : Timothy Vaughan, COL, USAF (Ret) 585-412-6425
Email: tvaughan1@aol.com

2nd Vice President: Ken Carlsen, CDR, USN (Ret) 585-377-5665
Email: kcarlsen32@gmail.com

3rd Vice President: Russ Green, LTC, USA (Ret) 585-425-4292
Email: russgreen@aol.com

Transition Liaison: [Dave Szczygiel](#)
(see below)

Member-at-Large: William O'Donnell, CW3 USA (Ret) 585-754-3948
Email: will.p.odonnell@gmail.com

Secretary: Nancy Swanson, CAPT, USN (Ret) 585-905-0346
Email: gns92649@hotmail.com

Treasurer: James Nielsen, Commander,
USN (Ret) 585-768-7249
Email: jim99n@gmail.com

Past President: Norma Weissend, Lt Col, USAF (Ret) 585-727-6190
Email: normaweis@roadrunner.com

Past President: Dave Szczygiel, BG, USA (Ret) 585-346-3736
Email: mszczygiel1@rochester.rr.com

Past President: Barbara Green, Col, USA (Ret) 585-330-2708
Email: bgreenanc@gmail.com

Spouses Liaison: Marion Mench
585-217-1779
Email: mosimpli@rochester.rr.com

Spouses Club : Co-Chairs

Joan Tierney: jtierney41@yahoo.com

Signe Zale: sigbobzale@aol.com

Legislative Information from MOAA:

Multiple pieces of legislation have been introduced this session to address one of MOAA's key advocacy issues - retirees who are forced to relinquish all or a portion of their retirement pay to receive VA disability compensation. MOAA needs your support to get the House and Senate to make these bills a priority.

[TAKE ACTION: Ask your lawmakers to support H.R. 333, along with H.R. 303 and S. 208]

MOAA and other advocacy groups have long targeted members of this group and have since 2001 expanded the pool of retirees who are eligible to receive full DoD retirement and VA disability benefits. Current law exempts combat-injured retirees from the offset, for example, as well as those who served more than 20 years and have a disability rating of 50 percent or higher.

That still leaves several groups of veterans who must part with their earned retirement benefit, dollar for dollar, to receive VA compensation. These bills seek to right that wrong:

- The **Disabled Veterans Tax Termination Act** (H.R. 333), introduced by Rep. Sanford Bishop (D-Ga.), addresses retirees with more than 20 years of service and disability ratings of 40 percent or lower, as well as medical retirees with less than 20 years of service - so-called "Chapter 61 retirees."
- The **Retired Pay Restoration Act** (H.R. 303), introduced by Rep. Gus Bilirakis (R-Fla.), would eliminate the offset for 20-year retirees with disability ratings at 40 percent or lower, but would not address those with less than 20 years in uniform.

The Senate version of the **Retired Pay Restoration Act** (S. 208), introduced by Sen. Jon Tester (D-Mont.), uses slightly different language to achieve the same ends as the House version with the same name. MOAA President and CEO Lt. Gen. Dana T. Atkins, USAF (Ret), offered similar guidance in a letter to Tester and Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska), an original co-sponsor of S. 208. "Expanding eligibility for

concurrent receipt of earned retirement and disability compensation is an issue of great importance to our members,” Atkins wrote. “MOAA supports any effort to secure concurrent payment of retirement pay and disability compensation for our disabled servicemen and women, such as the Retired Pay Restoration Act. ... Although I know that full resolution to issues of concurrent receipt may not be achieved by any single bill, I look forward to working alongside you and others in Congress to provide further relief by securing concurrent receipt for all disabled veterans who have lost their retirement benefits.”

More Legislature News: To find out more of what is new from MOAA use the following web link that will take you to MOAA’s Legislative Action Center.

<http://www.moaa.org/takeaction/?tab=Legislative-Action-Center#Legislative-Action-Center>

Veterans Memorial Council News: First off, in October 2018, the Veterans Memorial and Executive Council/United Veterans (VM&E) officially changed its name to the Veterans Memorial Council (VMC). A little less cumbersome, I think. On a snowy Saturday, January 19, they hosted their annual Legislative Breakfast. GVC was represented by your President, COL Peter Ingalsbe and LTC Russ Green, 3rd VP and Legislative Liaison and his wife Kathy. In attendance were John Pellito, representing Congressman Joe Morelle (D-NY), , County Executive Cheryl Dinolfo, State Senators Rich Funke and Joe Robach, Assemblymen Mark Johns and Harry Bronson, and County Court Judge John DeMarco. Among the issues discussed were the County Veterans Court (Judge DeMarco), the new VA Outpatient Clinic on Lehigh Station Rd (John Pellito), various NY legislative bills of concern to veterans (Harry Bronson), the removal and subsequent replacement of flags and poles on Interstate 490 (Cheryl Dinolfo), and the Dwyer Veterans Peer Support Project (Cheryl Dinolfo).

Russ Green, LTC, USA (Ret)
3rd VP and Legislative Liaison

It is the policy of the Genesee Valley Chapter of MOAA and MOAA National to be nonpartisan

2019 Member Dues: The Board of Directors has kept the annual dues to \$20.00 for 2019. If you would like to pay for Lifetime see the chart below. Send your dues payment with your reservation or mail your payment to Jim Nielsen. 17 Woodward Drive Leroy, NY 14482-1247. Those that are not paid by our April meeting will get a notice from Jim.

Age	Life dues	Age	Life Dues	Age	Life Dues
<45	\$360	61-65	270	81-85	55
46-50	350	66-70	210	86-89	35
51-55	330	71-75	160	90+	Life – no charge
56-60	310	76-80	110		

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

Saturday March 23, 2019

Brook-Lea Country Club

891 Pixley Road, Rochester, NY 14624

585-247-3242

1300 - Social Hour - cash bar

1400 - Dinner

ENTRÉE CHOICES

Petit Filet Mignon with Mushrooms

Grilled Salmon with raspberry Sauce

Chicken Cordon Blue with Supreme sauce

Entrees served with potato, hot vegetables, salad, rolls and butter.

Reservations due ASAP but NLT Thursday March 14th

Please clip use form provided below

Cancellations NLT 1200 hours, Thursday March 21st

Questions: Call Russ 585-425-4292 or Peter 585-749-3390

CLIP HERE AND SEND

RESERVATION FORM FOR Saturday March 23rd dinner Brook-Lea Country Club

ALL Name(s) Attending: _____

Please indicate number of each meal desired:

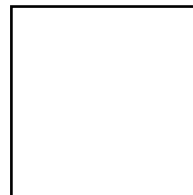
Filet Mignon _____ Chicken Cordon Blue _____ Grilled Salmon _____

Check for _____ meal(s) at **\$35.00 each**

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

**GVC MOAA
c/o Russ Green
2 Winding Brook Dr. Fairport, NY 14450**

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



March 2019 Newsletter

First Class Mail

