



**Nine Consecutive Years
of
5-Star Levels of Excellence!**

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VISIT US AT GVCMOAA.ORG

SERVING MEMBERS AND THEIR COUNTRY * NEVER STOP SERVING *** November 2019**



PRESIDENT'S CORNER What a fantastic dinner meeting we had at the Farmer's Inn and Tavern in Le Roy! Our guest speaker, Patrick Weissend, gave an incredibly informative and entertaining presentation on the history of Western New York, and it was clear he just barely scratched the surface. Thank you, Patrick, for an amazing presentation!

Well, we're starting to see weather patterns and temperatures that are leading to what will inevitably lead to our first snow event. Sure would be nice if we could kick that can down the road until, say, December 25!

November will be a busy month, with Veterans Day activities, other veteran related meetings and of course, Thanksgiving, which marks the official beginning of the Holiday Season. Although if you've been in any retail

stores since Labor Day, you'd think that was the beginning of the Holiday Season!

All of this leads us into December, where we will have our next dinner meeting on Sunday, December 8, at the Brook Lea Country Club. This dinner meeting will wrap up our very successful Rosemary Luzum Honor Flight Rochester Challenge where we have recently been able to fund an additional two veterans to go on a mission to Washington, DC. In addition, it is a time for the annual, and optional, gift exchange. If you would like to participate, please keep your gift under \$15.

We are also going to ask for donations for Hats for Heroes, to support the Rochester Veterans Outreach Center (VOC). This will help support VOC's homeless veterans. Please bring new men's or women's, or both(!) winter knit hats for donation.

There are many reasons why you don't want to miss our December dinner meeting, such as the camaraderie, the food (and drink!), the entertainment by Bob Neusatz, but there will be a free drawing for a USS Arizona Memorial Challenge Coin, which comes in clear plastic case and displayed in a blue velvet jewelry box. Please join us and I hope to see you there!



Honoring America's Veterans
With Free Flights to Washington DC to Visit and Reflect Together at Memorials Built in Their Honor

Oct 14, 2019

Genesee Valley Chapter - MOAA
Norma Weissend, Treasurer
4587 Ridge Road
Canandaigua, NY 14424

Dear Ms. Weissend:

Thank you for the combined donation. This will fund the travel of two veterans to Washington, often described as "trips of a lifetime."

Honor Flight Rochester is in our eleventh year and has flown 3,318 heroes over 68 missions since 2008. With each Honor Flight mission, veterans of the more senior generation are provided a long delayed thank you from the younger generation for sacrifices made so many decades ago defending our freedoms. HFR's tagline is, "We Leave No Veteran Behind." We are in this for the long haul. The first decade went by very quickly and we all look forward to honoring veterans for many years to come. Your support makes a big difference and helps sure that our veterans will never be forgotten.

Enclosed are two 2019 Proud Donor ovals. These are in recognition of your support of HFR and to help spread the word.

Very truly yours,

Rich Stewart
President & CEO
Honor Flight Rochester

Honor Flight Rochester Letter Acknowledging Combined GVC Donations

Honor Flight Challenge. Rosemary Luzum's Honor Flight Rochester Challenge is still ongoing but will wrap up at our December dinner meeting. We recently received the letter pictured above from Honor Flight Rochester President, Rich Stewart, who spoke to us at our September dinner, acknowledging our multiple donations, from you, enabling us to support two veterans on Honor Flight missions, which are described as, "Trips of a Lifetime!" Please help us wrap up this challenge on a high note and consider a donation toward this challenge. You can send your check, made out to Honor Flight Rochester, to:

Norma Weissend
GVC Treasurer
4587 Ridge Rd
Canandaigua, NY 14424

For those that have already participated in the challenge... THANK YOU!!!

Board of Directors Vacancy. We still have an opportunity to serve on our chapter board as the Legislative Chair. If you are interested, please contact me or any board member.

Spouses Club. The Spouses Club of GVC MOAA will meet for lunch at Phillips European, 26 Corporate Woods, Rochester (Henrietta), on Thursday November 21, 2019 at noon. I hear they have fabulous desserts! Signe hopes you will be able to join them for a great lunch and to discuss some donations as well as make a few plans for the upcoming December 8 GVC MOAA dinner at Brook Lea Country Club. Please contact Signe Zale via email sigbobjale@aol.com or (585) 594-8422 to RSVP.

Wreaths Across America

- **"Everyone Plays a Part"**

Wreaths Across America is a 501(c)(3) corporation whose mission is to:

REMEMBER our fallen U.S. veterans.

HONOR those who serve.

TEACH your children the value of freedom.

GVC support of the Wreaths Across America campaign is under way. Our chapter earns \$5.00 for every wreath purchased, and last year we earned nearly \$400. This directly supports our chapter's ability to support veteran programs each year (see the list below under "Your Dues at Work").

In addition to wreath donations, you can join us on National Wreaths Across America Day:

Saturday, December 14, 2019

Wreath laying begins at 10:30 am

Ceremony begins at 12:00 pm

Sampson Veterans Memorial Cemetery

6632 New York Route 96a

Romulus, NY 14541



Sampson Veterans Memorial Cemetery

A Wreaths Across America donation form is attached at the end of this newsletter, but the easiest way to donate is online:

<https://www.wreathsassamerica.org/>

Select “MENU”

Select “SEARCH LOCATIONS/GROUPS”

Select “Participating Locations”

Type “NYSVMC”

OR

Select “Local Fundraising Groups”

Type “Genesee Valley”

Click the “VIEW” Tab for either Sampson

Veterans Memorial Cemetery or Genesee

Valley Chapter – Military Officers

Association of America (NY0118P)

Click the “SPONSOR WREATHS” Tab

Select Your Donation!

Address 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:

GVC/MOAA

PO Box 20874

Rochester, NY 14602-0874

MOAA Legislative Issues.

‘Skinny’ NDAA Leaves Out several MOAA-supported issues that are addressed in either the House or Senate NDAA versions, or in both.

Contact Congress Now... Go to www.moaa.org and search “SKINNY NDAA.” After clicking on the link to the article and reading through it, go to the last paragraph where there is a “CLICK HERE” link that will lead you to MOAA’s Take Action page to contact your elected officials... it’s easy and fast. And most importantly, IT MATTERS!

Women Veterans’ Services

New York State’s Division of Veterans’ Services has a designated Women Veterans Program Coordinator (WVPC). To contact or to receive more information about events in New York State specific to Women Veterans contact her directly at dvawomen@veterans.ny.gov.

Additionally, each VA hospital and Community-Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC) has a designated Women Veterans Program Manager who is dedicated to ensuring women get the care they need at any VA facility. Tammy Franklin is the Canandaigua VA Medical Center/Rochester VA Outpatient Women Veterans Program Manager (WVPM). You can reach Tammy at (585) 393-7621. The VA also maintains a Women Veterans Call Center which can be reached at (855) VAWOMEN, (855) 829-6636.

Federal Benefits Open Season is Here

November 11 – December 09, 2019

Changes to your TRICARE or FEDVIP plans must be made during open season unless you have a Qualifying Life Event (QLE). A qualifying life event (QLE) includes: retirement, move, marriage, divorce, birth of a child, death of a beneficiary.

If you make no changes during Open Season your current enrollment will continue into the next year. However, you may want to review your plan for benefits and premium changes against other plans offered for 2020. Go to:

<https://www.opm.gov/healthcare-insurance/open-season>

Changes to Arlington Cemetery Burial Eligibility Frequently Asked Questions

MOAA recently published an article of FAQs on what you need to know about proposed changes to burial eligibility, such as How do these proposals differ from current eligibility?, Which groups won’t see significant changes?, Which groups would be most affected by the proposed changes?, and My spouse is already buried at Arlington. Will I be able to be buried with him/her? This article by Caitlin Hamon provides some great insight into what is likely to be adopted as policy for future burials at Arlington.

Go to: www.moaa.org and search “Arlington FAQs” to find the article dated Oct 23, 2019.

GVC Member Participates in Repatriation Ceremony in Papua New Guinea

In the accompanying pictures, U.S. Army Chief Warrant Officer 3 Ryan Boas, a team leader assigned to the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA), and a soldier with the Papua New Guinea Defense Force (PNGDF), participate in a repatriation ceremony in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea, Sept. 23, 2019. The ceremony, which consisted of two transfer caskets containing the possible remains of service members lost during WWII, was conducted in support of DPAA's mission to provide the fullest possible accounting of our missing personnel to their families and the nation.

In Fiscal Year 2019, DPAA accounted for 218 formerly missing persons from past conflicts, the highest yearly total reached by the agency or its predecessor organizations. Of the 218 newly accounted-for, 140 were from World War II, 73 from the Korean War, and 5 from the Vietnam War, including two civilians who flew for Air America.

CW3 Boas enlisted in the Army in 2003, was later accepted into Warrant Officer Candidate School in 2011 and is currently assigned to the DPAA at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam in Hawaii. He previously had assignments at Ft Huachuca, AZ, Ft Campbell, KY, Ft Jackson, SC, Ft Sill, OK and in Vicenza, Italy.

Additionally, CW3 Boas has deployed four times, two each to Iraq and Afghanistan.

CW3 Boas has been a member of the Genesee Valley Chapter since he became a Warrant Officer, with the encouragement of his Aunt Barbara Green and Uncle Russell Green.

Thank you CW3 Boas for the dedication, professionalism, respect, and compassion while supporting DPAA's mission to provide the fullest possible accounting for our missing personnel to their families and the nation.

GVC is honored to have you as a member!

You can find many more pictures of this repatriation ceremony at the Defense Visual Information Distribution Service (DVIDS) website:

<https://www.dvidshub.net/image/5773728/dpaa-team-holds-repatriation-ceremony-papua-new-guinea>



CW3 Ryan Boas in Repatriation Ceremony
(USAF photo by Staff Sgt. Emily Kenney)



CW3 Ryan Boas in Repatriation Ceremony
(USAF photo by Staff Sgt. Leah Ferrante)

Your Chapter Dues at Work – We Support...

- Honor Flight Rochester
- U of R, RIT and Brockport ROTC Cadets
- Veterans Memorial Committee
- Rochester Armed Forces Day Luncheon
- National Veterans Golden Age Games
- Battlefields to Ballfields
- Batavia DAV

Upcoming Events.

Dec 8, 2019: GVC/MOAA Holiday Dinner,
Brook Lea Country Club, Rochester, NY,
1pm/2pm

Dec 14, 2019: Wreaths Across America,
Sampson Veterans Memorial Cemetery,
Romulus, NY, 10:30am/12pm

Mar 22, 2020: GVC/MOAA Dinner, Brook Lea
Country Club, Rochester, NY, 1pm/2pm

GVC/MOAA BOARD MEMBERS 2019-2021

President: Tim Vaughan, Col, USAF (Ret)
(585) 412-6425

Email: tvaughan1@aol.com

1st VP: James Nielsen, CDR, USN (Ret)
(585) 768-7249

Email: jim99n@gmail.com

2nd VP / Membership Chair:

Ken Carlsen, CDR, USN (Ret)
(585) 377-5665

Email: kcarlsen32@gmail.com

3rd VP: Willard Brown, COL, USA (Ret)
(585) 442-8996

Email: wgbrown@frontiernet.net

Member-at-Large: Larry Feasel, COL, USA
(Ret) (585) 381-6604

Email: LFEASEL1@rochester.rr.com

Secretary: Nancy Swanson, CAPT, USN (Ret)
(585) 905-0346

Email: gns92649@hotmail.com

Treasurer / Legislative Chair /

Past President: Norma Weissend, Lt Col,
USAF (Ret) (585) 727-6190

Email: normaweis@roadrunner.com

Past President: Peter Ingalsbe, COL, USA
(Ret) (585) 749-3390 (Cell)

Email: pingalsbe@gmail.com

Past President / Transition Liaison:

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

Surviving Spouse Liaison: Marion Mench
(585) 217-1779

Email: mosimpli@rochester.rr.com

Spouses Club Liaison:

Email: Signe Zale: sigbobzale@aol.com

2019 GVC Member Dues

Annual dues are ONLY \$20!

Send your dues payment to:

GVC MOAA

c/o Norma Weissend

4587 Ridge Rd

Canandaigua, NY 14424

Check out GVCMOAA.ORG for special
Life Member rates.

Surviving Spouses Resources & Information

MOAA publishes brochures on many subjects.

Three that are particularly relevant to me as the
Surviving Spouse Liaison are:

Help your Survivors—Now: A Guide to
Planning Ahead

Survivor's Planning Guide: A Handbook for
One of Life's Toughest Assignments

Survivor's Checklist: First Steps for Moving On

At our next meeting in December, I will have
copies of these brochures available. If you are
not planning on attending and wish a copy of
any of these brochures, please phone me at
(585) 662-5954, and I will be sure you will get
them.

Please be aware these, and many other helpful
brochures, are available free of charge from
MOAA to all but Basic members. Check the
MOAA website, www.moaa.org, for a complete
list of publications.

Marion Mench

Surviving Spouse Liaison

Remember... MOAA matters!

Tim Vaughan, Col, USAF (Retired)

MOAA GVC President

"Never Stop Serving"

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

**Annual Holiday Dinner
December 8, 2019
Brook Lea Country Club
891 Pixley Road, Rochester (Gates), NY 14624
1300 - Social Hour (Cash Bar)
1400 - Dinner**

ENTRÉE CHOICES / \$35 each

- House Salad, Rolls & Butter
- Strip Loin of Beef w/ Sautéed Mushrooms
- Chicken French
- Grilled Salmon w/ Raspberry Sauce
- Crème de Menthe Parfait

ARIZONA MEMORIAL CHALLENGE COIN DRAWING

HATS FOR HEROES

BRING A KNIT CAP TO SUPPORT THE VOC

Rosemary's Honor Flight Rochester Challenge

Last Chance to Donate!

Entertainment by Bob Neusatz

Optional Gift Exchange... Maximum \$15!

Reservations due ASAP but NLT Monday December 2, 2019

Cancellations NLT 1200 hours, Tuesday, December 3, 2019

Questions: Norma (585) 727-6190

PLEASE CLIP HERE AND SEND FORM BELOW

**RESERVATION FORM FOR December 8, 2019 GVC MEETING at
Brook Lea Country Club, 891 Pixley Rd, Rochester (Gates), NY 14624**

ALL Name(s) Attending: _____

Please indicate number of each meal desired:

Strip Loin of Beef _____ Chicken French _____ Grilled Salmon _____

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

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

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



WREATHS *across* AMERICA

Wreath Sponsorship Form

Sponsored wreaths are placed on grave markers at state and national veterans' cemeteries, as well as at local, community cemeteries each December. Wreaths may also be sponsored online at www.WreathsAcrossAmerica.org. If you wish to make your sponsorship with a credit card, please visit our website for a secure online transaction.

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____
State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____

Please make checks payable to:
Wreaths Across America
PO Box 249
Columbia Falls, ME 04623

Call 877-385-9504 with any questions.
Thank you for your sponsorship and joining us in our mission to Remember, Honor and Teach!

Sponsorship Type	Price	Quantity	Total
Individual = 1 Wreath	\$15.00		
Mailed "In Honor" card = If you wish to send a physical honor card telling someone of your sponsorship, please see "In Honor" section below. The \$2 fee is required for this mailing.	\$2.00		
Family = 4 Wreaths	\$60.00		
Small Business = 10 Wreaths	\$150.00		
Corporate = 100 Wreaths	\$1,500.00		
		Grand Total	

****GRAVE SPECIFIC REQUESTS ARE NOT ACCEPTED ON THIS FORM****

In Honor of:

Below, please provide email or mailing address of "In Honor of" recipient so we can notify them of your sponsorship in their honor. If you have a specific message please write it on the back of this sheet.

Email address: _____
Mailing address: _____

In Memory of:

This name will be listed on our online memory wall. Below, please provide name, rank, branch of service and state resided.

Branch of Service: _____
Rank: _____
State: _____

Please note, ALL sponsored wreaths are shipped directly to the location and NO wreaths are sent to the individuals purchasing sponsorships.

Location ID: NYSVMC Fundraising Group ID: NY0118P

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Cash: _____ Total: _____ Date Received: _____

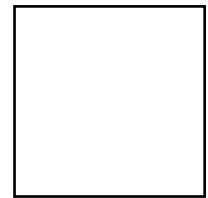
Total No. Checks: _____ Reconciled: _____

MO: _____

Entered: _____

GEN: _____

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



November 2019 Newsletter

First Class Mail

