

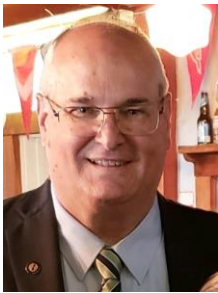


**2010 – 2011 – 2012 – 2013 – 2014 – 2015 – 2016 – 2017 – 2018 – 2019**

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**SERVING MEMBERS AND THEIR COUNTRY \*\*\* NEVER STOP SERVING \*\*\* Nov 2020**



**PRESIDENT’S CORNER** We did it!!!

We recently held our first chapter dinner meeting since last December and had a very enjoyable afternoon. It was great to see some friendly faces again, albeit mask covered. If you are sorry you missed it, you are in luck; we are planning on hosting our annual chapter holiday dinner on Sunday December 6, 2020, at Brook Lea Country Club in Rochester (Gates). Once again, due to the coronavirus, seating will be limited, so please RSVP as soon as you can. See the attached flyer for details. Please note the timing of the event! Masks are required.

However, under the current COVID-19 situation, if you are not comfortable stepping out in that type of environment, we certainly understand and would not expect you to do so.

**MOAA National Annual Meeting – Virtual**  
I “sat” in on the virtual MOAA National Annual Meeting Webinar recently, which was preceded by a very interesting and informative presentation on Scams and Frauds by Shane Ostrom, who also wrote the three articles I referenced on this subject back in our May newsletter. The presentation was fast-paced, but covered a wide array of threats from cyber to telephone calls. The bottom line is, YOU MUST BE ALERT! Criminal technology is cutting edge and the bad guys are ready to pounce on any vulnerability. Don’t be afraid to hang up or hit the delete button. Be cautious not to be tricked into offering up personal or financial information, including seemingly harmless social media posts. Furthermore, you will not get a phone call if the police are on their way to arrest you! Paying a purported debt or fine with gift cards is another clue; hang up! You won an all expenses paid vacation; uh, no you didn’t! There is a problem with your social security or taxes; uh, no there isn’t. You laugh, but it happens... way too often.

And lastly, insure you have current antivirus and security protection software.

<http://takeaction.moaa.org>

*MOAA National & the Genesee Valley Chapter are nonpartisan.*

**Wreaths Across America 2020 Theme  
“Be an American Worth Fighting For”**

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.

Once again, the GVC support of the Wreaths Across America campaign is under way. In addition to supporting this worthwhile mission, our chapter earns \$5.00 for every wreath purchased, and last year we earned nearly \$500. 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 19, 2020**

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

A Wreaths Across America (WAA) Sponsorship Form is attached at the end of this newsletter, but the easiest way to donate is online: [www.wreathscrossamerica.org](http://www.wreathscrossamerica.org).

Select “MENU”

Select “SEARCH LOCATIONS/GROUPS”

Select “Local Sponsorship Groups”

Type “Genesee Valley”

Click the Genesee Valley Chapter – Military Officers Association of America (NY0118P) Supporting Sampson Veterans Memorial Cemetery (NYSVMC)

Click the “SPONSOR WREATHS” Tab

Select Your Donation!

**New this year...** You may donate to other WAA participating locations. Search the WAA website for the participating cemetery you wish to donate to and enter the location code on the WAA Sponsorship Form (you will need to cross out “NYSVMC” on the included form).

**Federal Benefits Open Season is Here**

**November 9 – December 14, 2020**

Changes to your TRICARE or FEDVIP plans must be made during open season unless you have a Qualifying Life Event (QLE), which 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>

Most civilian businesses that offer healthcare options to employees also use the same open enrollment period, so if you are in that group, check with your employer to be sure.

**Monthly Fees Coming for TRICARE Select**

(Replaced TRICARE Standard in 2018.)

Are you a Group A retired beneficiary? You are in Group A if your initial enlistment or appointment or that of your uniformed services sponsor began before Jan 1, 2018.

If you are a Group A retired beneficiary, you’ll pay a new monthly TRICARE Select enrollment fee to maintain your TRICARE Select coverage. This is for coverage starting on Jan 1, 2020.

Call your regional contractor by Nov 20 to set up your automatic payments starting in January 2021. If you wait until after Nov 20, you may have to pay for one or more months up front if you don’t want a break in coverage. For GVC... TRICARE EAST Contractor:

Humana Military (800) 444-5445

<https://www.humanamilitary.com/selectfees>

If you fail to pay your enrollment fees by Dec 31, 2020, you’ll be disenrolled from TRICARE Select. You’ll have 180 days from your last paid through date to request reinstatement. You’re also responsible for past enrollment fees. You must contact your regional contractor to request reinstatement.

[www.tricare.mil](http://www.tricare.mil)

## **MOAA Matters... Take Action!**

MOAA has been and continues to be a leader on issues affecting the uniformed services, Public Health Service and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. MOAA plays an active role in personnel matters and especially proposed legislation affecting the career force, the retired community, and veterans of the uniformed services.

Join MOAA in the fight for your benefits and on other issues. Go to [www.moaa.org](http://www.moaa.org) or MOAA's Legislative Take Action Center, <https://takeaction.moaa.org/> to view and submit preformatted correspondence to your elected officials. Your voice and membership matters!

### **Fees at National Parks Waived for Veterans, Gold Star Families Starting Nov. 11**

U.S. Secretary of the Interior David L. Bernhardt announced Gold Star Families and U.S. military veterans will be granted free access to national parks, wildlife refuges and other Federal lands managed by the Department of the Interior starting on Veterans Day (Nov. 11) this year and every day onward.

Entrance fees for the National Park Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and standard amenity recreation fees for the Bureau of Land Management and the Bureau of Reclamation sites will be waived for veterans and Gold Star Families. They will have free access to approximately 2,000 public locations spread out across more than 400 million acres of public lands, which host activities to fit any lifestyle, from serene to high octane, including hiking, fishing, paddling, biking, hunting, stargazing and climbing.

For purposes of this program, a veteran is identified as an individual who has served in the United States Armed Forces, including the National Guard and Reserves, and is able to present one of the following forms of ID:

Department of Defense Identification Card  
Veteran Health Identification Card (VHIC)  
Veteran ID Card

Veterans designation on a state-issued U.S. driver's license or identification card

## **Do You Know About MOAA Vacations?**

MOAA Vacations is the official travel agency for the Military Officers Association of America. Our mission is to provide the very best vacation experience for every member. In addition to the opportunity to enjoy the camaraderie of traveling with your fellow MOAA members from across the country we have also negotiated special value-added offers to enhance your next vacation. Members receive lower prices, better service and more amenities plus the opportunity to join exclusive MOAA group departures.

Booking through MOAA Vacations also supports your chapter, as well. Chapters receive a rebate for travel booked through MOAA Vacations... a win-win for everyone!

Find MOAA Vacations here:

<http://brenco.com/MOAAVACATIONS/>

Or you can call, (800) 211-5107

### **Rochester VOC Needs Clothing**

The Rochester Veterans Outreach Center needs your help; the VOC needs underwear for the veterans they serve. Please donate a new package or packages of men's XL, XXL or XXXL, briefs or boxers, and/or women's L or XL, briefs to the VOC. Drop off at VOC, by appointment, or bring to chapter dinner on Sunday Dec 6, 2020. If you prefer, donate on VOC website: [www.veteransoutreachcenter.org](http://www.veteransoutreachcenter.org)  
VOC (585) 546-1081.

**Board of Directors Vacancies.** We are still in search of a permanent Legislative Chair and also in need of a TOPS (The Officer Placement Service) Liaison (essentially a transition officer liaison). If you think you might be a good fit, please contact me or any board member.

### **Surviving Spouses Resources & Information**

Check out the Oct 30, 2020 MOAA News article By Dr. Vivianne Cisneros Wersel, Surviving Spouse Advisory Council member, Surviving Spouse Corner: How Surviving Spouses Benefit from MOAA Membership.

<https://www.moaa.org/content/publications-and-media/news-articles/news-listing/>

**Spouses Club.** Spouses Club activities are on hold due to the COVID-19 situation.

**Address Change?** Has your contact information changed? If so, please notify Ken Carlsen at [kcarlsen@gvcmoaa.org](mailto:kcarlsen@gvcmoaa.org) or mail to:  
GVC/MOAA  
PO Box 20874  
Rochester, NY 14602-0874

**GVC Support Coordinators.** Need extra help or someone to listen? Although COVID-19 has impacted us in many ways and while it may affect our ability to help in person, we are only a phone call away. If you need help contact Nancy Swanson, (585) 905-0346, or myself, Tim Vaughan, (585) 412-6425. We may not be able to help you directly, but we both have “been around the block” so-to-speak and may be able to coordinate the help, support or information you are looking for or need.

**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
- Veterans Outreach Center

**Upcoming Events...**

Sun Dec 6, 2020: GVC/MOAA Dinner, Brook-Lea Country Club, Rochester, NY, 1pm/2pm

Sat Dec 19, 2020: Wreaths Across America, Sampson Veterans Memorial Cemetery, Romulus, NY, 10:30am/12pm

**For 2021...**

March & April dinner dates are TBD

Sun Jun 6, 2021: GVC/MOAA Dinner, Location TBD, 12:30 pm / 1 pm.  
New Chapter Officer Installations.

**GVC/MOAA BOARD MEMBERS  
2019-2021**

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

Email: [tvaughan@gvcmoaa.org](mailto:tvaughan@gvcmoaa.org)

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

Email: [jnielsen@gvcmoaa.org](mailto:jnielsen@gvcmoaa.org)

**2nd VP / Membership Chair:**

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

Email: [kcarlsen@gvcmoaa.org](mailto:kcarlsen@gvcmoaa.org)

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

Email: [wbrown@gvcmoaa.org](mailto:wbrown@gvcmoaa.org)

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

Email: [nswanson@gvcmoaa.org](mailto:nswanson@gvcmoaa.org)

**Treasurer / Legislative Chair /**

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

Email: [nweissend@gvcmoaa.org](mailto:nweissend@gvcmoaa.org)

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

Email: [lfeasel@gvcmoaa.org](mailto:lfeasel@gvcmoaa.org)

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

Email: [pingalsbe@gvcmoaa.org](mailto:pingalsbe@gvcmoaa.org)

**Past President:** Barbara Green, COL, USA  
(Ret) (585) 330-2708

Email: [bgreen@gvcmoaa.org](mailto:bgreen@gvcmoaa.org)

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

Email: [mmench@gvcmoaa.org](mailto:mmench@gvcmoaa.org)

**Spouses Club Liaison:**

Email: Signe Zale: [szale@gvcmoaa.org](mailto:szale@gvcmoaa.org)

**TOPS Liaison:** VACANT

**Remember... MOAA matters and to  
Never Stop Serving!**

**Tim Vaughan, Col, USAF (Retired)  
MOAA GVC President  
“Never Stop Serving”**

# GVC MOAA

**Annual Holiday Dinner**

**December 6, 2020**

**Brook Lea Country Club**

**891 Pixley Road, Rochester (Gates), NY 14624**

**1230 - Social Half-Hour (Cash Bar)**

**1300 - Dinner**

## **ENTRÉE CHOICES / \$35 each**

Petit Filet w/Sauteed Mushrooms or  
Classic Chicken French or  
Grilled Salmon w/Raspberry Sauce

All meals come with:  
Salad, Vegetable and  
Ice Cream w/Creme de Menthe Dessert  
Coffee and Cash Bar

**Reservations due ASAP, but NLT  
Monday November 30, 2020**

Cancellations also NLT  
Monday, November 30, 2020

**\*\*\* LIMITED SEATING!!! \*\*\***  
**Due to Social Distancing requirements,**  
**we are limited to 30 seats maximum.**  
**\*\*\* Masks are required unless seated! \*\*\***

**Rochester VOC needs Men's and  
Women's New Underwear...**  
**Please Donate to Support the VOC!**

Optional Gift Exchange... Maximum \$15!

**Questions: Norma (585) 727-6190**  
**PLEASE CLIP HERE AND SEND FORM BELOW**

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**RESERVATION FORM FOR Sunday, December 6, 2020 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:

Petit Filet Mignon w/Sauteed Mushrooms \_\_\_\_\_

Classic Chicken French w/Lemon Beurre Blanc \_\_\_\_\_

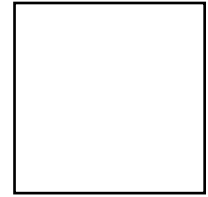
Grilled Salmon w/Raspberry Sauce \_\_\_\_\_

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**

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



**November 2020 Newsletter**

**First Class Mail**



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# 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](http://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
<b>Individual</b> = 1 Wreath	\$15.00		
<b>Mailed "In Honor" card</b> = 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		
<b>Family</b> = 4 Wreaths	\$60.00		
<b>Small Business</b> = 10 Wreaths	\$150.00		
<b>Corporate</b> = 100 Wreaths	\$1,500.00		
		<b>Grand Total</b>	

**\*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: \_\_\_\_\_