



Eleven Consecutive Years of MOAA 5-Star Levels of Excellence!

Serving All Military, Veterans and their Families in the Finger Lakes and

Greater Rochester Area * Never Stop Serving *** Mar 2022**



**PRESIDENT'S
CORNER**

If you know of a potential member, invite them to attend a chapter dinner! We will pay for one dinner. Engage current members to attend a chapter dinner!

Each chapter dinner will have a spotlighted veterans organization. The Chapter will make donations to; the dinner flyer will have space for you to add a donation for this cause... *thank you in advance for your generous support!*

Upcoming Events...

Sunday Apr 24, 2022: GVC/MOAA Dinner, Rochester Yacht Club, 5555 St Paul Blvd, Rochester, NY 14617, 1 pm / 2 pm.

Speaker: BG Isabel Smith, Director, Joint Staff, New York National Guard. She is responsible for coordinating operations and activities involving both NY Army National Guard, Air National Guard as well as NY Naval Militia and NY Guard. This will be an excellent presentation. **Come and join us.**

Wednesday April 27, 2022: GVC Board Meeting, at 4:30 at MRB Conference Room, 145 Culver Rd, Rochester, NY

Sunday Jun 12, 2022: GVC/MOAA Dinner, Canandaigua Yacht, 3524 County Rd 16 (West Lake Rd), Canandaigua, NY 14424, 1 pm / 2 pm.

Honor Flight: Rochester, New York is one of 130 established 'hubs' in the national Honor Flight Network. They are a not-for-profit created to honor America's veterans for their sacrifices. They fly our heroes to Washington, DC to visit and reflect together at their memorials. Honor Flight is free to all American veterans. Flights are filled with men and women from the earliest eras first. Go to <https://honorflightrochester.org/> for more information. The next flights are:

Mission 70 (58 vets) April 2-3

Mission 71 (59 vets) May 21-22



Board Meeting Attendance – All GVC members are encouraged to attend and participate in board meetings, except voting. If you have a subject you would like to discuss with us, please feel free to attend the next Board meeting or contact one of our Board members. We welcome your participation. The next Board Meeting is Wednesday, April 27 at 4:30 at MRB Conference Room, 145 Culver Rd, Rochester, NY

GVCMOAA.org
our Web Site?



Have you visited
GVCMOAA.org

GVC Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/genesee_valley_chapter_of_the_military_officers_association

ROTC Awards – In Person Again!

The chapter was fortunate to once again host our GVC ROTC Awards dinner in person this year and we'd like to recognize the 2022 awardees present at our March 26th dinner. The list below includes the awardees and the ROTC program commander or instructor.

The ROTC awards are used to recognize an outstanding cadet or midshipman in his or her next-to-last year in the program who has demonstrated exceptional potential for military leadership.

ROTC Awardees



University of Rochester Navy ROTC, Midshipman Kyle Sweeney
Commander, CAPT Nathan (Nate) York, USN

State University of New York Brockport Army ROTC, Cadet Alyssa Greaves
Commander, LTC Kurt Nelson, USA

Rochester Institute of Technology Army ROTC, Cadet Samuel Roberts
Instructor, CPT Douglas Munroe, USA

Rochester Institute of Technology Air Force ROTC, Cadet Nicholas Rosica
Commander, Lt Col Jason A. Turner, USAF

Congratulations to all!

2022 GVC Membership Dues REMINDER!

If you haven't already, it's time to pay your 2022 chapter dues. Annual dues are still ONLY \$20!

Please remember GVC dues are separate from MOAA National dues.

The chapter also offers Life Membership options, please check out www.gvcmoaa.org for Life Member rates. You can include your Chapter dues on the same form as submitting your dinner reservations.

Please send your GVC dues payment to:

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

Spouses Club. Spouses Club activities continue to be on hold due to COVID-19.

GVC Support Coordinators. If you need help contact Nancy Swanson, (585) 905-0346, or Tim Vaughan, (585) 412-6425. They may not be able to help you directly or in person, but may be able to coordinate help, support or information you are looking for or may need.

Surviving Spouse Liaison

We are in need of a volunteer to fill the Surviving Spouse Liaison position. Please contact Jim Nielsen, or any board member, to discuss this opportunity. Furthermore, you don't have

to be a surviving spouse either and it really doesn't involve that much work... but we could certainly use the help!

Your Chapter Dues at Work...

The chapter has made donations to Honor Flight Rochester and the Veterans Outreach Center. Additionally, the chapter has been able to present GVC ROTC awards to cadets/midshipmen at U of R, RIT and SUNY Brockport.

MOAA's 2022 "Advocacy in Action"

As noted in the last newsletter, MOAA's annual "Advocacy in Action" legislative push will take place virtually or locally, in the month of April.

Barb Green, Tim Vaughan and Norma Weissend will coordinate and lead the chapter's efforts supporting MOAA's 2022 Advocacy in Action.

More details from www.MOAA.org here: [MOAA - MOAA Announces Dates, Topics for Spring Advocacy in Action Campaign](#)

MOAA's New Legislative Action Center [Legislative Action Center](#)

MOAA's Legislative Action Center provides an easy way to take grass roots action to contact your elected officials on important issues across the currently serving and veterans spectrum. Please take the time to engage your elected officials using the Legislative Action Center. As you are likely aware, legislative issues that MOAA has had success with didn't happen overnight. In many cases, it can be a very lengthy process, perhaps years, to gain enough traction and support to become law. A persistent effort is needed, and that's where you come in!

VA Veteran Phishing Warning

If you receive a suspicious email from the Department of Veterans Affairs, **DO NOT** open the email or click on any attachments or links. VA does not send emails asking for personal information, threatening emails, or emails claiming to take adverse actions on claimants or beneficiaries (jail or lawsuits). If you receive any of these emails or are in doubt about any commu-

nications appearing to be from VA, please contact VA directly at 1 (800) 827-1000.

For more information, please see this [YouTube video](#) of VA's Office of Financial Management, Chief Financial Officer Charles Tapp II, on the proactive measures VA has taken to protect and prevent fraudulent activity and how you can protect your finances and personal data from fraud.

Supreme Court Case Challenges VA Rules on Filing Deadlines, Back Pay (Extract)

Patricia Kime, Military.com, February 28, 2022

The U.S. Supreme Court has accepted the case of a Navy veteran who believes his Department of Veterans Affairs disability compensation should have been paid starting from the date he left the military rather than the day he submitted his paperwork, a decision that could mean some veterans who waited years to file claims would be eligible for substantial back pay.

When the Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims denied Arellano's claim, he appealed. The Federal Circuit judges then split their decision on the case 6-6, with half saying the equitable tolling policy couldn't be changed, and the other half saying it should be eliminated.

As a result of the split, Arellano's attorneys petitioned the U.S. Supreme Court.

A ruling in Arellano's favor has the potential to affect "thousands of current and future veterans," according to his attorney, James Barney, a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy and partner in the D.C.-based firm Finnegan.

VA Intends to Propose Nine Rare Respiratory Cancers as Presumed Service-Connected Conditions, March 1, 2022

The Department of Veterans Affairs will propose adding certain rare respiratory cancers to the list of presumed service-connected disabilities in relation to military environmental exposure to particulate matter.

If you are a Veteran who has been diagnosed with one of these conditions the VA has specified, but have not filed a claim, please notify VA of your [intent to file a claim](#).

MOAA Joins Dozens of Organizations in New Partnership to Fight Cybercrime

Kevin Lilley, November 02, 2021

[MOAA - MOAA Joins Dozens of Organizations in New Partnership to Fight Cybercrime](#)

MOAA recently joined dozens of fellow military and veteran service organizations, along with other nonprofits and federal agencies, among the ranks of the Partnership to Fight Cybercrime. Cybercrime Support Network convened this Partnership to educate and mobilize the military and veteran community to recognize, report, and recover from cybercrime.

www.FightCybercrime.org

Travel Plans on Your Mind?

Are you planning to travel now that COVID restrictions are loosening up? Well, if you are, ask yourself this question, “Are you prepared for a medical emergency while traveling?” If you haven’t given it thought, you should. Medical and travel insurance aside, there are many other factors and issues that need to be addressed.

Of the options for assistance that are available, one to consider is Emergency Assistance Plus, available as a MOAA member. Emergency Assistance Plus gives you peace of mind with 24-hour emergency assistance. (MOAA.org/EAPlus)

Bottom line: *PLAN AHEAD & BE PREPARED!*

GVC/MOAA BOARD MEMBERS

2021-2023

President: James Nielsen, CDR, USN (Ret)

Email: jnielsen@gvcmoaa.org

Email: jim99n@gmail.com

Phone: (585) 305-1142 (Mobile)

1st VP: Richard LoTempio, CW5, USA (Ret)

Email: rlotempio@gvcmoaa.org

2nd VP: Paul (Keely) Costello, CAPT, USN

Email: pcostello@gvcmoaa.org

3rd VP: Russ Green, USA (Ret)

Email: rgreen@gvcmoaa.org

Secretary: Jean Vaughan

Email: jvaughan@gvcmoaa.org

Treasurer / Membership / Past President:

Norma Weissend, Lt Col, USAF (Ret)

Email: nweissend@gvcmoaa.org

Member-at-Large:

Preston Pierce, MAJ, USA (Ret)

Email: ppierce@gvcmoaa.org

Surviving Spouse Liaison: VACANT

Past President & TOPS Liaison:

Tim Vaughan, Col, USAF (Ret)

Email: tvaughan@gvcmoaa.org

Past President:

Peter Ingalsbe, COL, USA (Ret)

Email: pingalsbe@gvcmoaa.org

Legislative Chair & Past President:

Barbara Green, COL, USA (Ret)

Email: bgreen@gvcmoaa.org

Spouses Club Liaison: Signe Zale

Email: szale@gvcmoaa.org

Remember... MOAA matters!

Never Stop Serving!

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

**Sunday April 24, 2022
Rochester Yacht Club
8555 St Paul Blvd, Rochester, NY 14617**

**1300 - Social Hour (Cash Bar)
1400 - Dinner**

ENTRÉE CHOICES / \$45 each

Stockyard Steak or
Chicken Marsala or
Cornmeal Encrusted Cod

All meals come with:
Garden Salad, Mashed Potatoes &
Seasonal Vegetables
Dessert & Coffee
Cash Bar

***** Guest Speaker ***
BG ISABEL SMITH
Director of Joint Staff
New York National Guard**

Reservations due ASAP, but NLT Wednesday April 13, 2022
Cancellations NLT 1200 hours, Friday, April 15, 2022
Questions: Norma Weissend (585) 727-6190

PLEASE CLIP HERE AND SEND FORM BELOW

**RESERVATION FORM FOR SUNDAY APRIL 24, 2022 GVC MEETING at
Rochester Yacht Club, 5555 St Paul Blvd, Rochester, NY 14617**

ALL Name(s) Attending: _____

Please indicate number of each meal desired:

Stockyard Steak _____ Chicken Marsala _____ Cornmeal Encrusted Cod _____

Check included for _____ meal(s) at **\$45.00 each, Dinner Total \$** _____

Make an Honor Flight Donation to the chapter! \$ _____ **Grand Total \$** _____

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

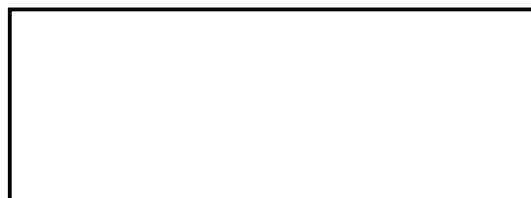
**GVC MOAA
c/o Norma Weissend
4587 Ridge Rd, Canadaigua, NY 14424**

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



March 2022 Newsletter

First Class Mail



WWW.GVCMOAA.ORG

Newsletter Printed by Copy Town Enterprise, Lima, NY