



Twelve 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 *** September 2022



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

You did it again. The Chapter has been awarded the twelfth (12th) consecutive five star (5) Level of Excellence award. The Levels of Excellence (LOE) Award is one of MOAA's most prestigious awards earned by self-nominating Chapters. The award is a look-back on 2021 calendar year programs, initiatives and successful experiences shared by Chapter leaders.

Survey Results

Summary

- 83 surveys sent on 5/8/2022
- 33 responses (40%) received

Most Popular Response to Questions

1. Weekday/Weekend Event – Weekend
2. Preferred Day – Sunday
3. Lunchtime or Dinnertime Event – Lunchtime between 11:00 AM & 3:00 PM
4. Smaller Portions at Lower Cost – Yes
5. Local Restaurants vs Private Clubs – No preference

6. Agree to meals served buffet style – Yes
7. Maximum \$ amount willing to pay – Tie between \$45 to \$50 and none indicated
8. Maximum # miles willing to drive to event – 25 miles
9. Topics for presentation – Tie between Current World Events & Veteran Topics
10. Special Events – Boat rides on local lakes/canals with meal – most popular

Red Wings Game – We had an excellent turnout at the game on June 28th. We are planning on sponsoring other events in the coming year. We are exploring other events for GVC members.

Scheduled Chapter Dinner Events:

The Chapter has embarked on a process of Veteran organizations supporting Veteran organizations. As part of the process we are teaming up with local American Legions (AL) for our dinners. For this program year we are having dinners at the following AL's – Canandaigua, Spencerport and Le Roy. If you know of a Veterans group we can team up with please let a Board member know.

September – 9/18/2022, Canandaigua Yacht Club beginning at 1:00 PM, dress will be business casual. Speaker is Nick Stefanovic, Director of Monroe County Veteran Services. Dinner cost \$40.00

October – 10/23/2022, Canandaigua American Legion beginning at 1:00 PM, dress will be

casual. Speaker is tentative – C17 pilot from 2021 Afghan Mission.

December – 12/4/2022, Brook Lea Country Club beginning at 1:00 PM, This dinner will be themed encouraging attendees to dress in their *“ugly holiday sweater”* for the event. We also request in addition to monetary donations you donate hats, gloves and/or socks to the Veterans Outreach Center of Rochester.

March – 3/26/2023, Spencerport American Legion beginning at 1:00 PM. GVC will host our annual ROTC/JROTC dinner event. Dress for this event will be business attire and for the cadets/midshipmen should be ROTC formal.

April – 4/30/2023, Rochester Yacht Club beginning at 1:00 PM, dress will be business casual.

June – 6/4/2023, Le Roy American Legion beginning at 1:00 PM. Election of officers and MOAA representative as speaker. Dress code will be business.

Speaker – September Dinner

We have an outstanding speaker, Nicholas Stefanovic, Director Monroe County Veterans Service Agency (VSA). The agency educates and guides Veterans and their families on many issues including benefits and services. Mr. Stefanovic has an extensive background in military service, criminal justice, counseling, and Veteran’s affairs. He was deployed multiple times during Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Upcoming Honor Flight Rochester Dates

Mission 73 (60 vets) Sept 10 -11

Mission 74 (60 vets) Oct 1-2

Mission 75 (60 Vets) Oct 22-23

www.honorflightrochester.org

NY STATE COUNCIL OF CHAPTERS of MOAA 50TH ANNUAL CONVENTION

Sun 11 Sep – Thurs 15 Sep 2022, RIVEREDGE RESORT HOTEL, Alexandria Bay, NY



The New York Council of Chapters is celebrating 50 years of supporting MOAA goals and advocacy for a strong national defense and in representing the interests of military officers at every stage of their careers for all members of the military community.



MOAA’s 2022 Annual Meeting will take place Friday, Oct. 28, at the Sheraton Kansas City Hotel at Crown Center, with an optional tour of

historic sites at Fort Leavenworth, Kan., on Saturday, Oct. 29. Questions? Email MSC@moaa.org.

Spouses Club. Spouses Club activities continue to be on hold.

Marjory Denison - Our condolences go out to Stuart and the Denison family on the passing of Marjory on July 24. Marjory was active in the Wives Club, including as President of the Club and both Marjory and Stu were active in GVC dinners and events until they moved to N.C in 2019. I have a copy of her obituary. Send me an email if you would like a copy. Stu has indicated he would welcome remembrance from GVC friends. His email address is srdeni@frontiernet.net.

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.

Your Chapter Dues at Work...Chapter support activity has primarily focused on three or-

ganizations, Wreaths Across America, Honor Flight Rochester and the Veterans Outreach Center. Additionally, the chapter has been able to present MOAA ROTC awards to cadets/midshipmen at U of R, RIT and SUNY Brockport.

Surviving Spouse Liaison

We are in need of a volunteer to fill the Surviving Spouse Liaison position. 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! Please contact Jim Nielsen, or any board member, to discuss this opportunity.

Expansion of VA Caregiver Program to All Eras of Service Remains Set for October

Currently, the Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers which provides a monthly stipend to qualified full-time caregivers of seriously ill or injured veterans — is open only to veterans who served before 1975 or after 2001. But per a mandate from Congress, the program must be opened to all families by Oct. 1 of this year.

What Will Military Health Closures and Realignments Mean for Your Care?

With the recent release of the [Section 718 report](#) on military treatment facilities (MTFs) to be downsized or closed, MOAA continues its advocacy work to ensure impacted beneficiaries maintain access to quality health care. Pharmacy capacity at downsized MTFs will remain unchanged – retirees and other TRICARE beneficiaries still will be able to use the MTF pharmacy to fill prescriptions even if they receive medical care from civilian providers.

According to the report affected beneficiaries will be able to access health care services through the purchased care component of the TRICARE program.

Veterans Can Start Filing Claims Now for PACT Act Benefits

The Department of Veterans Affairs (<https://www.military.com/bebenefits/veterans-benefits>) has established a website explaining the details of the Sergeant First Class Heath Robinson Honoring Our

Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics, or PACT Act, and encourages veterans to file claims and apply for health care coverage.

MOAA Virtual Chapters - Virtual chapters promote camaraderie among affinity groups. Learn more about joining (or starting) one. *Virtual Chapters include – MOAA Uniformed Services Nurse Advocates, Surviving Spouse, United States Public Health Service, and Chaplain.* To learn more: <https://www.moaa.org/content/publications-and-media/news-articles/2019-news-articles/heres-why-you-should-join-or-start-a-moaa-virtual-chapter/>

Make a difference. Donate now.

The MOAA Scholarship Fund The Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) established the [MOAA Scholarship Fund](#) in 1948 and to this day continues to provide education assistance to children of both officer and enlisted personnel. Those dependents who meet the requirements and qualifications to receive these scholarships and further educational assistance benefits encompass one of the association's founding principles: *education is the cornerstone of a strong democracy.* It is funded by donations from MOAA members, Councils and Chapters, corporations, and others with a desire to help military families.

The MOAA Foundation The MOAA Foundation (TMF, EIN 46-4219250), a 501(c)(3) charitable subsidiary of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA), offers grants to MOAA, its councils and its chapters in support of career development and community outreach programs and services. These programs and services benefit more than 50,000 currently serving uniformed service members and veterans of all ranks, their families and their survivors each year.

To donate to either or both go to <https://www.moaa.org/content/forms/donate-now/>

Members community service. The following are examples of MOAA members providing community service. Send me a description of your community service and I will include it in

the Newsletter and forward it to MOAA national. I know many of you are providing exceptional service which should be acknowledged by the Chapter.

Member's Nonprofit Aiding Ukrainian Refugees, Troops



Through the Moldova World Children's Fund (<https://moldovawcf.org>), Capt.

Ray West, USN (Ret), is ensuring those who fled Ukraine and those fighting on the front lines have needed supplies.

Radio and Rodeo: How This Vietnam Veteran Helps Mentor Local Students



Lt. Cmdr. E.A. "Rex" King III, USN (Ret) and his wife, Donna Snow King, are both amateur radio license, mentor teens participating in

a local rodeo program, the North Texas Rodeo Foundation.

"We try to teach them good citizenship — physical, mental, and moral standards," King said. They also help guide them on their path forward, teaching them skills that might give them a leg up in the future endeavors, including helping many get their amateur radio licenses, something that King said could help them not only in college and careers but also in the military, as he experienced.

GVC/MOAA BOARD MEMBERS 2021-2023

President: James Nielsen, CDR, USN (Ret)

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Past President & TOPS Liaison:

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Past President:

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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... GVC MOAA matters!
Never Stop Serving!**

GENESEE VALLEY CHAPTER
MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

Sunday Sept 18, 2022

Canandaigua Yacht Club

3524 County Road 16 (West Lake Road), Canandaigua, NY 14424

1300 - Social Hour (Cash Bar)

1400 - Dinner

ENTRÉE CHOICES / \$40 each

Dinner Menu

Grilled Pork Ribeye w/ Baked Potato; or
Broiled Cod w/Wild Rice; or
Chicken Marsala w/Yukon Gold Mashed
Potatoes

***** Guest Speaker*****

Nicholas Stefanovic, Director,
Monroe County Veterans Service Agency
A combat Veteran, Nicholas Stefanovic served in the
Marine Corps through multiple deployments to Afghanistan

All meals come with: House Salad, Dinner Rolls & Seasonal Vegetables, Dessert & Coffee or Tea
* Cash Bar ** *Dress Code - Business Casual*

Reservations due ASAP, but NLT Sunday Sept 11, 2022

Cancellations: Monday, Sept 12, 2022

Questions: **Jean Vaughan 716-239-0383**

Please Clip Here and Send Form Below

**RESERVATION FORM FOR SUNDAY Sept 18, 2022 GVC MEETING at
3524 County Road 16 (West Lake Road), Canandaigua, NY 14424**

ALL Name(s) Attending: _____

Please indicate number of each meal desired:

Grilled Pork Ribeye _____ Broiled Cod _____ Chicken Marsala _____

Check included for _____ meal(s) at **\$40.00 each, Dinner Total \$**_____

Make a donation to Wreaths Across America \$ _____ **Grand Total \$**_____

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

GVC MOAA

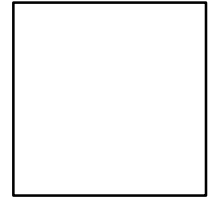
NOTE Address

c/o Jean Vaughan

3464 Lincoln Hill Rd,
Canandaigua, NY 14424

Or late RSVP email JVaughan@GVCMOAA.org

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



September 2022 Newsletter

First Class Mail



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A blue rectangular advertisement for MOAA Insurance Plans. The top left features the MOAA logo (four vertical bars) and the text 'MOAA INSURANCE PLANS'. The center contains the slogan 'Standing with you at every stage.' in white. The bottom right has the number '97017'. The bottom dark blue bar contains the phone number '1-800-247-2192' and the website 'www.moainsurance.com/plans'.

WWW.GVCMOAA.ORG

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