



## **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 \*\*\* March 2023**



**PRESIDENT'S  
CORNER**

I hope this message finds you in good health!

The Genesee Valley Chapter spring program is getting started. Our first program will be Sunday March 26 to host Army, Navy and Air Force ROTC Cadets/Midshipmen from UR, RIT & SUNY Brockport and JROTC Cadets from Greece Athena HS, Rochester ECI HS & Rochester Leadership Academy. The dinner is being held at the Ferris Goodridge American Legion Post #330 Spencerport. Come and congratulate these outstanding youth for supporting our Country. The dinner reservation form is attached.

Our April dinner will be at the Rochester Yacht Club on Sunday April 30,  
The June dinner will be on Saturday June 10 at the Le Roy American Legion. *(Note the change*

*of day and date due to schedule conflicts.)* This will be the election of officers for July 2023 to June 2025.

**Scheduled Board Meetings:** All GVC members are welcome to participate in Board meetings. The Spring meeting schedule is March – 3/15/2023 – for April Dinner – meeting at MRB Group @ 4:30 PM  
April – 4/26/2023 – for June Dinner – meeting at MRB Group @ 4:30 PM

**Special Recognition** – We extend our thanks to **Wegmans** for there continued support of Wreaths Across America, to the **MRB Group** for use of there conference room for our Bard meetings, and **Copy Town Enterprise** for printing our newsletters.

**CONDOLENCES** - I and the Chapter extend our condolences to the family and friends of Art Cohen who passed away this year and our condolences to friends and family of Thomas Moore who passed away last Sept at the age of 104.

### **The MOAA Foundation**

The MOAA Foundation creates, enhances, expands, or supports high-impact, proven-successful programs and services for service members and veterans of all ranks, and their families. GVC is sending special donations from members to the MOAA Foundation.



You may donate a Wreath any time to honor a veteran. For each Wreath donated under our Sponsorship Group ID (NY0118P) the chapter receives \$5.00. An easy way to donate is on the web - [WWW.WreathsAcrossAmerica.org/NY0118P](http://WWW.WreathsAcrossAmerica.org/NY0118P). The web site main page should say "Genesee Valley Chapter ---".

**Surviving Spouse Liaison – Name Misnomer**

Any spouse can serve as the Chapter’s Surviving Spouse Liaison. Provide our chapter spouses the latest information from MOAA National concerning auxiliary members. Find out how auxiliary members can help the chapter. As an essential element of our One Powerful Voice®, spouses are an integral part of the Genesee Valley Chapter and MOAA and may participate in board meetings. If are interested in becoming our liaison contact me (Jim) or any board member.

**MOAA Legislative Action – (from our Legislative Chair Barb Green)**

A major focus of MOAA is advocacy. MOAA's experts in Washington are constantly reviewing and assessing any and all legislation that may impact the earned pay, benefits, and support programs of the uniformed services and veteran communities. Visit the Legislative Action Center to see current issues requiring your support by logging into [moaa.quorum.us](http://moaa.quorum.us). When taking action, be sure to fill in the Chapter block at the bottom of the form. Putting NY06 for Genesee Valley Chapter in the block helps us.

**Chapter Annual Dues** The chapter annual dues have been \$20.00 per year for over 10 years. The dues increas to \$25.00 was approved by the membership at the December Dinner meeting.



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**When Do I Need a New ID Card?**

DoD officials have yet to set a specific date for the complete changeover to a new, more secure type of ID card in the coming years, but retirees with “indefinite” cards of the old variety can have them replaced at their convenience.

The transition to the Next Generation Uniformed Services Identification Card began in July 2020, replacing paper-based cards with plastic ones boasting updated security features. It's set for completion in 2026.

**Late Start to Budget Process Puts Your Pay and Benefits at Risk**

The Biden administration will send its FY 2024 budget to Congress on March 9, missing the federally mandated deadline of the first Monday in February by nearly a month. Once the budget reaches Congress, lawmakers will begin a process they haven’t finished on time since FY 1997, resulting over the decades in costly continuing resolutions, federal funding lapses, and very real threats to the all-volunteer force and the earned benefits of those who’ve served.

**Shutdown Fears.** While DoD

servicemember pay would continue under a funding lapse, special pays and other allowances could run dry. And uniformed personnel in, and retirees from, the Coast Guard, U.S. Public Health Service, and NOAA lack any protections – while MOAA continues to fight for their protection in this circumstance, they could miss paychecks early next year if a late budget leads to a funding standoff.

**NDAA Improvements.** The annual National Defense Authorization Act

(NDAA) has become the primary driver for pay and benefits improvements in recent years, covering everything from [access-to-care concerns](#) to [improved spouse and family programs](#) and [much more](#). But without appropriations to pay for the authorizations, these changes can't be enacted.

**Unwelcome 'Solutions':** Lawmakers often threaten a full-year continuing resolution in lieu of a budget – a move which would compound problems stemming from shorter funding fixes and prevent DoD and the VA from launching critical new programs over a 12-month span. A full-year continuing resolution could cost DoD billions, per a [Government Accountability Office](#) report. A prolonged budget debate could also bring more proposals to the table designed to reduce costs, but doing so at the expense of [service-earned benefits](#).

### **Millions of TRICARE Users Must Approve Mail-Order Refills Starting Now**

*Editor's note: This article by Amanda Miller, with contributions from Amy Bushatz, originally appeared on [Military.com](#), a leading source of news for the military and veteran community.*

[Tricare](#) users who receive prescriptions by mail now need to confirm their refills before they are sent, a change that could cause disruptions for millions of beneficiaries if they don't immediately respond to the confirmation messages and take the needed steps.

Express Scripts, Tricare's pharmacy benefits manager, [let patients know in December](#) that the [Tricare Mail Order Pharmacy Program](#) would stop sending refills automatically without any confirmation.

### **TRICARE Will Pay for More Dialysis Services After Rise in Kidney Disease**

Patients with failing kidneys will have more care charges covered at dialysis clinics under a Tricare rule change triggered by the COVID-19 pandemic. *MOAA Editor's note: This article by Amanda Miller originally appeared on [Military.com](#), a leading source of news for the military and veteran community.*

### **Pentagon Rethinking \$65.1 Billion TRICARE Management Contract**

*Editor's note: This article by Patricia Kime originally appeared on [Military.com](#), a leading source of news for the military and veteran community.*

The Defense Department is reconsidering its decision to award a \$65.1 billion contract to run [Tricare's](#) West Region to a different company than the one that currently manages it.

### **[MOAA Virtual Chapters](#)**

Virtual chapters promote camaraderie among affinity groups. Learn more about joining (or starting) one. The number of virtual chapters keeps expanding. The following is a list of the current virtual chapters.

- Nurse Advocates
- Surviving Spouse
- Public Health Services
- Chaplains
- Judge Advocate
- Advocacy for Servicewomen and Military Families

### **What SECURE Act 2.0 Means for Your Retirement**

Tuesday, March 07, 2023 | 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM EST

The SECURE Act 2.0 is now law, ushering in sweeping changes to our retirement system. Some of the more prominent changes include:

- Increasing the age to start taking required minimum distributions (RMDs).
- Lowering the penalty for missed RMDs.
- Enhancing the features, benefits, and accessibility of employer plans.
- Increasing catch-up contribution amounts.
- Doing away with RMDs from Roth accounts in employer retirement plans.

## **GVC/MOAA BOARD MEMBERS**

### **2021-2023**

**President:** James Nielsen, CDR, USN (Ret)

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

Email: [jim99n@gmail.com](mailto:jim99n@gmail.com)

Phone: (585) 305-1142 (Mobile)

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

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

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

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

**3rd VP:** Russ Green, USA (Ret)

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

**Secretary:** Jean Vaughan

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

**Treasurer / Membership / Past President:**

Norma Weissend, Lt Col, USAF (Ret)

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

**Member-at-Large:**

Preston Pierce, MAJ, USA (Ret)

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

**Surviving Spouse Liaison:** VACANT

**Past President & TOPS Liaison:**

Tim Vaughan, Col, USAF (Ret)

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

**Past President:**

Peter Ingalsbe, COL, USA (Ret)

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

**Legislative Chair & Past President:**

Barbara Green, COL, USA (Ret)

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

**Spouses Club Liaison:** Signe Zale

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

**Remember... GVC MOAA matters!**

**Never Stop Serving!**



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

**Sunday, March 26, 2023**

**Ferris Goodridge American Legion Post #330 Spencerport  
691 Trimmer Rd, Spencerport NY 14559**

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

**Buffet Dinner / \$30 each**

Sliced Roast Beef w/Gravy,  
Chicken French,  
Pasta w/Meatless Marinara Sauce

All meals come with:  
Salad, Vegetable, Mashed Potatoes and  
Dessert Cake  
Coffee, Tea and Cash Bar

**GVC MOAA ROTC/JROTC  
AWARDS DINNER  
Honoring Army, Navy & Air Force  
Cadets/Midshipmen  
from  
UR, RIT & SUNY Brockport;  
Greece Athena HS, Rochester ECI HS &  
Rochester Leadership Academy**

**Reservations due ASAP, but NLT Friday March 17, 2023**  
Cancellations NLT 1200 hours, Monday, March 20, 2023  
**Questions: Norma (585) 727-6190**

**PLEASE CLIP HERE AND SEND FORM BELOW \*\*\* DRESS: Business \*\*\***

**RESERVATION FORM FOR SUNDAY March 26, 2023 GVC MEETING at  
Ferris Goodridge American Legion, 691 Trimmer Rd, Spencerport, NY 14559**

**ALL Name(s) Attending: \_\_\_\_\_**

Check included for \_\_\_\_\_ meal(s) at \$30.00 each, **Dinner(s) Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**Sponsor ROTC/JROTC Cadets/Families Dinner \$ \_\_\_\_\_;**

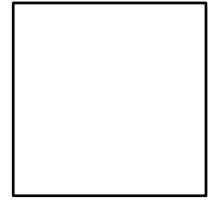
**MOAA Foundation Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_; Grand Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

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

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

**\*\*\* DRESS: Business \*\*\***

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



**May 2022 Newsletter**

**First Class Mail**



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