Indian River Chapter MOAA P.O. Box 644047 Vero Beach FL 32964-4047 ircmoaa.org

The Buccaneer

November 2026

President's Message



We are in the thick of it now! November is glorious in all of the many festivities. Smile, because we have made it through most of hurricane season, the midterm election, and Halloween! Plus, we have much to celebrate.

Thanks for making October a success.

The luncheon turned out beautifully. Colonel Carlos Halcomb did a masterful job as Dan Green was called away. His presentation of the special features of military and civilian life was thought provoking. We have been through the experience but seldom examine the implications. Dan may have the chance to share his strategic acumen in the months ahead. He had planned to be with us.

November is a crescendo of patriotic spirit. IRC Gold Star Moms host the eighth annual walk to address suicide awareness and PTSD. The local election will select three candidates vested with protecting our veteran-centric community amidst economic and cultural headwinds.

The Navy SEAL Museum hosts the muster on the 6th and 7th. On Wednesday 11 November, our chapter leads the Sanctuary Island Veterans Day ceremony.

Also on Veterans Day, you won't want to miss the reception for Vero Beach Museum of Art's Veterans Exhibition from 4 to 6 PM. This showcase of artistic talent, which includes some of our own members, celebrates creative expression and the resilience of our veteran community. The exhibition runs November 6–December 13.

Next, enjoy our role in the VBHS Red, White, and Blue Concert on the 12th. Then the Marines and guests celebrate the USMC birthday bash on Saturday 14 November.

We sustain the jubilant esprit with our November luncheon. Then we conclude with family and Thanksgiving. It will be gone in the blink of an eye! Be deliberate, plan ahead, savor the blessings we enjoy in our extraordinary community. Your values and veteran sacrifices sustain the liberties we gained 250 years ago.

Share your gifts, keeping our home by the sea strong!

Tony Young



RECENT HAPPENINGS

Luncheon Meeting
16 October

Colonel Carlos Halcomb filled in for scheduled guest speaker Dan Green, who was called away by other obligations.

Carlos introduced Meredith Egan and April Colvin. The Veterans Council is now powering United Way's Mission United. They want all to share the word!

Mission United, a new program of United Way of Indian River County, launched to carry forward the Veterans Council of Indian River County's more than 40 years of service to local veterans. Veterans can count on the same rides to VA appointments, case management, and direct financial assistance, with the same phone number and drivers, plus connections to housing, employment, legal, and health care resources through United Way's county-wide partner network. To learn more, call 772-410-5820 or visit UnitedWayIRC.org/mission-united.





Cadet Lieutenant Junior Grade Genevieve Bissonette and Commander Peter Bissonnette



Cadet Chief Master Sergeant Max Argila, Major Dean Rasdall, Captain Maryann Grodin

US Navy 251st Birthday
16 October

IRC MOAA celebrated with a dozen seafaring members at the luncheon singing a triumphant a cappella "Anchors Away!" Tail-Hookers and USMC aided the vocal assault.



At the membership meeting, **Dale Content** took the opportunity during the lull of legislative action to share the phenomenal feat of the USS Abraham Lincoln and its stellar role in Operation Epic Fury. Its contribution to combat operations and the naval blockade were crucial to success.

"**USS Abraham Lincoln** and the entire Carrier Strike Group team set a new standard of excellence through their extraordinary conduct during this historic deployment," said Rear Adm. Robert Loughran, commander, Carrier Strike Group 3.

The Abraham Lincoln departed its home port on Nov. 21, 2025, beginning a 321-day tour, since departing San Diego. The group arrived in the US Central Command area of responsibility in late January 2026 and spearheaded the US Navy's involvement in Operation Epic Fury.

In 40 days of major combat operations, involving nearly 4,000 combat sorties, it destroyed more than 100 Iranian drone, missile, and small boat attacks against the force. This concentrated firepower significantly degraded Iranian Navy capabilities. The ship's uninterrupted days at sea are record-breaking marks for modern aircraft carriers.



Navy League Celebration
20 October

Peter Petrelis, CAPT USNR, led the Navy League in the service celebration of the 251st anniversary of the US Navy.



Irish American Festival
22 October

Your fearless leader was designated as the 2027 Indian River County Irish American Festival grand marshal. Fred Jones conveyed the official sash and shillelagh with flowers to Sharon. The collaborative spirit is rampant!

Hyde Proclamation
27 October

At the behest of the chapter, the City of Vero Beach authorized a proclamation of Chief Engineer Michael Hyde, honoring his 30 years of veteran advocacy.





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MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Investing in Our Future: An Update on Membership Dues

Thank you for being a vital part of the Indian River Chapter of MOAA. As your membership chairman and board member, I want to thank you for your participation, engagement, and support, which allow us to thrive, innovate, and deliver meaningful experiences year after year.

To ensure we can continue providing the high-quality programming, resources, and events you rely on, our organization is proposing an adjustment to our membership rates. The board of directors strongly recommends this increase to support our ongoing operations. This proposal will be voted on by the membership at our upcoming annual December business meeting.

If approved, the updated annual dues structure will take effect **January 1, 2027**, as follows:

- **Standard Members:** Increasing from $30 to $50
- **Associate Members:** Increasing from $15 to $25
- **Surviving Spouse Members:** Remaining at $15

We do not make this recommendation lightly. Like many organizations, we are navigating rising operational and event costs. More importantly, this adjustment is a direct investment back into our core mission, allowing us to support military and veteran programs like the Gold Star Mothers, the JROTC programs at Sebastian River and Vero Beach High Schools, and scholarship programs.

We are incredibly grateful for your continued dedication and understanding. We encourage all members to attend the annual December business meeting to cast their votes. If you have any questions or feedback prior to the meeting, please reach out to me.

NEVER STOP SERVING!

Bob Albrecht

Help Us Grow

Do you know someone who is a retired or former military officer or widowed spouse of an officer but not a member of our Chapter or MOAA? If so, ask him or her to join and contact **Bob Albrecht** at **772-257-6678 or 919-616-3873.**







Honored In November

CPL Dale **Kridlo,** USA 7 November 2010, GWOT

PVT Willy **Williams**, USA 9 November 1943, WWII

PFC James **Donevant**, USA 11 November 1944, WWII

1LT Stanley **Broxton** Jr., USA 12 November 1958, Cold War

PFC Billy **Templeton**, USA 13 November 1967, Vietnam

PVT Nicholas **Jennings,** USA 13 November 1969, Cold War

PFC George **Button**, USA 17 November 1944, WWII

PFC James **Ohlinger**, USA 19 November 1966, Vietnam

PVT Robert **Raybeck**, USA 22 November 1944, WWII

2LT Edward **Hogan**, USAAF 24 November 1942, WWII

HM3 Edward Troy **Reynolds**, USN 26 November 1979, Cold War

FYI

The Indian River Chapter, Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) invites the community to attend the **Veterans Day** observance on Wednesday, November 11, 2026 at 9 AM on Veterans Memorial Island Sanctuary in Riverside Park. The event is free to the public. Veterans Day represents our collective tribute to the service and sacrifice of those who served in our armed forces to preserve our nation's freedom. May we never forget their courage and commitment.

MOAA is honored to welcome our speaker, Major General Robert Ivany, US Army, retired, PhD. After 13 years as president of the University of St. Thomas in Houston, he now serves as president emeritus.

During his 34 year Army career, General Ivany served our nation in a wide array of challenging assignments. A 1969 graduate of the US Military Academy at West Point, he fought in Vietnam, where he was awarded the Bronze Star for Valor and the Purple Heart for wounds received in action.

He commanded armored cavalry units from platoon to regiment, and, in addition to his service in Vietnam, completed overseas tours in Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and Germany. He observed firsthand the leadership of the president of the United States from 1984 to 1986 as the Army Aide and carried the "football' for Ronald Reagan. His final assignment as the commandant of the Army War College provided wide interaction with corporate CEOs and business school faculty engaged in leader development and change management.

The ceremony will start promptly at 9 AM, rain or shine, and will include full military honors, with the Parade of the Colors. The Vero Beach High School Band, directed by Sean Srigley, will perform. Ample parking is available at Riverside Park. Shuttle bus service is available. Please bring a lawn chair.

Terry Treat

Treasurer's Report
September 2026

Our Special bank balance and checking are **$3936.05**. A portion of this is being held for future improvements to WWII Memorial (**$2112.58**), thus our chapter balance **$1823.47**. One CD was renewed in September for $10,440.19, 3 months at 3.25%. Business account balance is **$7497.80**.

Special Account
No activity

Business Account

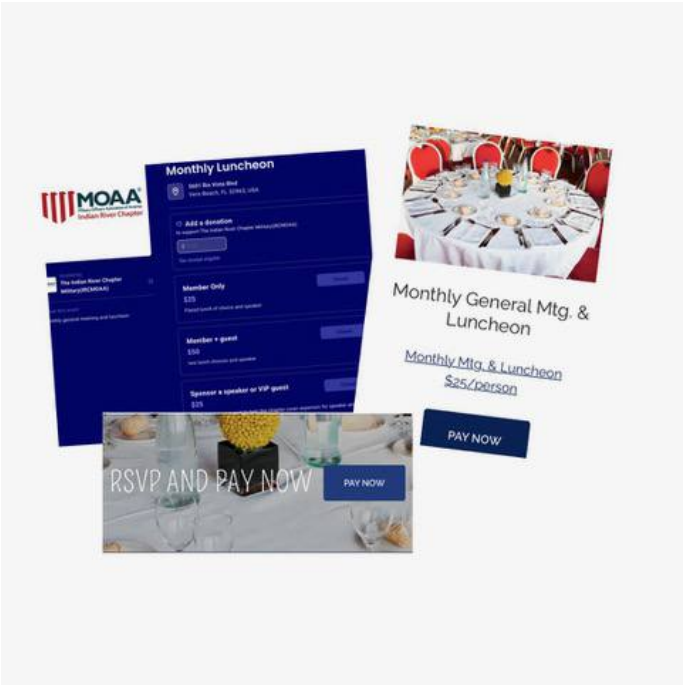
Receipts	
Luncheon	$1125.00 (Zeffy $550)
Donations & 50/50	312.00 ($242 cash)
Disbursements	
2107 Gold Star Mothers	500.00 (Donation)
2108 Vero Beach Yacht Club	1249.80 (Luncheon)
*2109 Indian River Detachment Marines	65.00 (Ad)
2110 United States Liability Insurance	479.75 (D&O insurance)
Lockton Affinity	746.16 (Liability insurance)

*Not yet cashed

Roger Grubic, Treasurer

The treasurer highly encourages every-one to use Zeffy, the online payment widget on our website, especially for our luncheons.

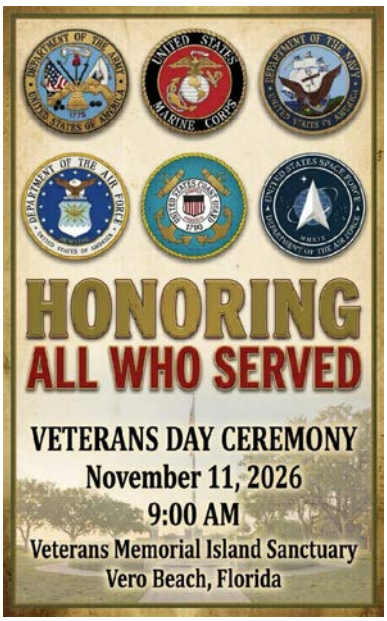
Did you know? We fundraise with Zeffy to ensure 100% of your purchase goes to our mission!



Schedule of Upcoming Events

LEGEND: Board Meetings, Member Luncheons, Chapter Events, Events of Interest
Historical Events

1 NOV: 0900 Gold Star Mothers Walk-A-Thon, Riverside Park
2 **NOV:** 1300 IRC MOAA BOD Meeting, United Way Bldg. 1st floor
4 NOV: 0930 Memorial Island Committee Meeting, City Hall
10 NOV: Marine Corps Birthday
11 NOV: 0900 Veterans Day Ceremony, Veterans Memorial Island Sanctuary
11 NOV: 1600 Veterans Art Exhibition Reception, Vero Beach Museum of Art
12 NOV: 1900 VBHS Red, White & Blue Concert
14 NOV: 1330 St. Helen Fall Festival Salute to Veterans
14 NOV: 1730 Marine Corps Birthday Ball, Pointe West Club, 7500 14th Lane
20 NOV: 1200 IRC MOAA Members Luncheon, VB Yacht Club
27 NOV: Thanksgiving
7 DEC: Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
9 DEC: 1800 Christmas Party, Vero Beach Yacht Club



Full military honors
with the Parade of Colors
Keynote Speaker:
Maj Gen Robert Ivany, USA
Rain or Shine
Ample Parking Available at Riverside Park
Please Bring a Lawn Chair





The Buccaneer

2026 OFFICERS & BOARD OFFICERS

President	COL Tony Young	772-321-2692
1st Vice President/Programs chair	CPT Marc Richard	772-532-7599
2nd Vice President/Legislative Affairs	LCDR Dale Content	772-713-4025
Secretary	Kim Palazzolo	954-806-1754
Treasurer	CPT Roger Grubic	386-589-3157
Membership Chair	LTC Bob Albrecht	772-257-6678
Chaplain	1LT John Palazzolo	954-675-7075
Immediate Past President	MAJ Terry Treat	703-304-4935

2026 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

LTC Bob Albrecht	772-257-6678
CPT William Duffy	772-532-6523
Bethany Fortunato	941-730-3476
Capt. Maryann Grodin	240-678-9494
Carolyn Riordan	239-272-1502
LtCOL Jay Torres	540-850-5113
LtCOL Jim Rannazzisi	703-303-2672

Indian River County Chapter, in keeping with national and state MOAA bylaws and requirements, is politically nonpartisan. However, our Legislative Affairs Chairperson makes a deliberate effort, per the responsibility of the role, to inform membership of candidates' positions. The Legislative Action Center can be found at moaa.quorum.us.

If you are interested in becoming a member of our chapter, please join us at our monthly luncheon and general business meeting on the third Friday of every month. For more information contact our Membership Chair, Bob Albrecht (ralbrecht1702@comcast.net; 772-257-6678)

VERO BEACH YACHT CLUB
For Fun and Friendship

MONTHLY CHAPTER LUNCHEON REGISTRATION
IRC-MOAA Luncheon, 3rd Friday of Month (20 November)
3601 Rio Vista Blvd.
Vero Beach Yacht Club, 12:00 PM



Paul Baribault, center

Guest Speaker: Paul Baribault

Paul Baribault was born 12 June 1946 in Connecticut, where he spent most of his life. He joined the Navy in 1964 and served as a sonar technician on the aircraft carrier USS Hornet. The ship deployed twice to Vietnam from 1965 through 1968.

After his military duty, Paul worked in the Southern Newland Telephone Company Engineering Department for 30 years. In 2000 he retired and moved to Sebastian. Then, in 2001, he joined the Sebastian Area Veterans Honor Guard and in 2023 became the unit's coordinator and treasurer.

Send reservations and payment by 5 PM Wednesday before (18 Nov)

$25 PER PERSON

IN ADDITION, PLEASE CONSIDER A DONATION TO OUR CHAPTER

please indicate if you would like it to go to a particular purpose

_____ amt. $_____

Name(s)_____ _____

MENU CHOICES AT $25 PER PERSON:

Crab Cake Salad: mango, pickled peppers, hearts of palm, spring mix, citrus vinaigrette

Chicken and Dumplings: rich chicken gravy, potato dumplings, fresh thyme, simply dressed salad

Grilled Salmon: jasmine rice, broccoli, dill butter sauce

Select your meal(s). Make checks payable to IRC-MOAA. Mail checks to:

Roger Grubic, Treasurer IRC-MOAA
2460 3rd PL SW
Vero Beach FL 32962
Also payable online at ircmoaa.org; Roger will collect checks at door with prior notice.