



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

The Buccaneer

October 2026

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Greetings! This is the second month of our home stretch for 2026. October is a reprieve of sorts between the September kick-off and the full-tilt dash of the November and December veteran and federal holiday schedule.

Please take pride in the role our chapter is playing in Indian River County. September was a case in point. We brought together stellar JROTC students from Sebastian River and Vero Beach High Schools. We supported multiple Patriot Day recognition events. A distinguished local veteran advocate was highlighted. We honored the National POW/MIA Day. Plus, we promoted civic education by hosting Vero's city manager.

Your time is **valued**. Together we build a better community and a better future.

Tony Young

Happy Birthday, US NAVY!



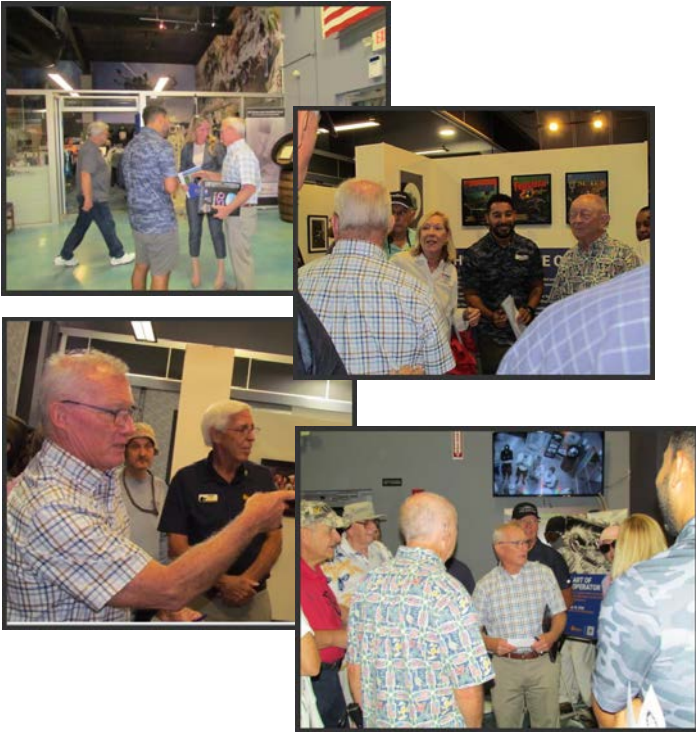
As a chapter we are anticipating many fall highlights.

A major milestone is the 3 November midterm election, accompanied by the state, county, and city campaigns. Be sure to act now to discern the nature of the candidates and referendums. They bring significant potential consequences. **VOTE!**

Next is a midweek Veterans Day observance. On Wednesday this year we will have ceremonies across the county. Our chapter leads the effort on Veterans Memorial Island Sanctuary. It will be a highlight of our autumn activities.

Thanksgiving is the week following our November luncheon. The October membership meeting is the preface. It complements our tradition of local advocacy and November preparation. We will feature Navy veteran, public servant, military strategist, and author US Navy Reserve Captain Dan Green.

RECENT HAPPENINGS



Navy SEAL Museum

2 September

Nearly two dozen chapter members and friends attended the "Art of the Operator" exhibit at the National Navy SEAL Museum in Fort Pierce. Lloyd Lasenby joined museum staff in providing an amazing afternoon of enlightenment, education, and entertainment. Plus we donated to advance the museum's mission.



POW/MIA Proclamation

8 September:

The City of Vero Beach honored our nation's POW/MIA veterans with a proclamation, along with the placement of POW/MIA flags on local veteran cenotaphs.

Patriot Day

11 September

Chapter members joined with Next Generation Veterans in a Barber Bridge patriotic procession led by the Vero Beach Veterans.



Family Day

27 September

The chapter supported the Gold Star Mothers and the Family Day ceremony at Veterans Memorial Island Sanctuary.

Luncheon Meeting

18 September:

Bob Albrecht led a luncheon meeting "Missing Man" Table remembrance for the National POW/MIA Day observance.

Local USN and USAF JROTC students participated and were recognized for their achievements.

Vero Beach city manager Monte Falls served as guest speaker, discussing Amendment 3 and various city matters of interest to all.



John Palazzolo; SMSGT Shawn Rhude, USAF; VBHS USAF JROTC Cadets Aura Castellanos and Katia Sataude; SRHS USN JROTC Cadet Kaden Chapin; CDR Peter Bissonnette; Eric Chapin; Capt. Maryann Grodin



Each item on the "Missing Man" Table plays a symbolic role in honoring our POWs and MIAs, their sacrifices, and the pain of their loved ones.



Kaden and Eric Chapin, Bissonnette, Young



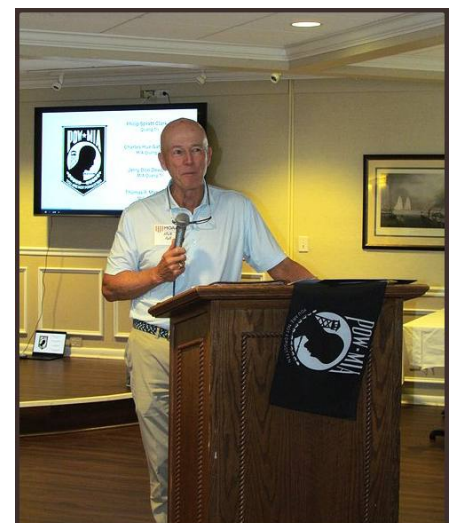
Rhude, Sataude, Col. Young, Castellanos



Sataude, Castellanos, Rhude



Castellanos, Grodin, Sataude



Monte Falls



The Buccaneer



MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Our membership continues to grow steadily, one member at a time. Currently we have 98 members and seem to hover around the 100 mark. We are proud to welcome our newest member, John D. McGhee, who joined our chapter over the summer recess. John is a former Army captain and resides in Vero Beach.

NEVER STOP SERVING!

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**.

LEGISLATIVE NEWS

Traditional Medicare Prior Authorization Trial Causing Treatment Delays

This article reports that the [traditional] Medicare pilot program that uses artificial intelligence to help review prior authorization requests has led to “lengthy treatment delays” and concerns about inadequate testing, according to newly released government records.

The Wasteful and Inappropriate Service Reduction (WiSeR) model launched in January and operates in six states [AZ, NJ, OH, OK, TX, WA] covering 13 medical services. Providers must obtain authorization through technology platforms operated by private contractors that use AI tools to help evaluate requests. The NRLN has opposed the six-year trial program with Action Alerts to members of Congress.

Medicare’s AI prior authorization pilot is reportedly causing “lengthy treatment delays”; one request went unanswered for 83 days, records show.

Many legislators are actively campaigning for reelection and advancing their constituents’ priorities. Indian River County is now part of Florida’s 9th Congressional District. Early voting begins 19 October and ends 31 October. Election Day is 3 November. Visit voteindianriver.gov for election information.

We need you to [Take Action](#) now on the following MOAA campaign:

Take Care of America's Veterans Act

A comprehensive veterans legislative package would advance more than 20 standalone MOAA-supported bills, bringing reforms the association has championed in the 119th Congress (and in several previous sessions) on behalf of servicemembers, veterans, caregivers, survivors, and their families. Add your voice and ask your lawmakers to support swift passage of the [Take Care of America's Veterans Act](#).

More than 60 provisions in the Take Care of America's Veterans Act address veterans benefits, health care, education, transition assistance, caregiver support, and survivor benefits. Four of these provisions are long-standing priorities for MOAA:

- Major Richard Star Act
- Veteran Caregiver Reeducation, Reemployment, and Retirement (3R) Act
- Love Lives On Act
- Justice for ALS Veterans Act

MOAA's Lt. Gen. Brian Kelly and Maj. Gen. April Vogel walk through the Act in this short, informative video: [Watch the video »](#)

Click here>> ["Take Action"](#) to make your voice heard.

moaa.quorum.us



**Legislative
Action Center
Card**
TAKE ACTION!



GROUND ZERO
Open your browser and go to www.moaa.org

STEP 1
Click Log In and enter your MOAA username and password "If this is your first time, you must enter correct address that is displayed in the box that is shown."

STEP 2
From the top menu, click Advocacy

STEP 3
Select Legislative Action Center from the dropdown

STEP 4
Browse the list and choose a campaign you support "If responding to a "Take Action" Alert, the campaign will appear on screen."

STEP 5
Review the pre-written message and personalize if desired

STEP 6
Click Send to submit your message to Congress

STEP 7
Look for the confirmation screen – your action is complete

"IMPORTANT: Make sure cookies are enabled in your browser or the site may not load properly."

NEVER STOP SERVING

HONORED IN OCTOBER

PVT Lonnie **Hamilton**, USA 5 October 1918, WWI

TSGT Fred D. **Coleman**, USA 7 October 1944, WWII

PVT Fay R. **Taylor**, USA 12 October 1918, WWI

Y2C Robert E. **Harlock**, USN 12 October 1943, WWII

EW2 Ronald Scott **Owens**, USN 12 October 2000, Terrorist Attack

1LT William C. **McCully**, USA 20 October 1944, WWII

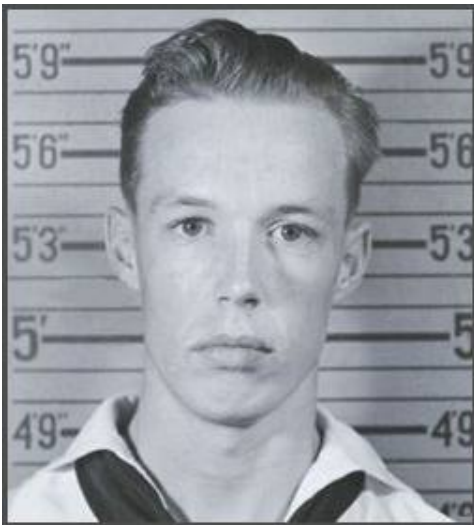
MSG Ernest **Hayward**, USA Special Forces 25 October 1965, Vietnam

CAPT Joel Preston **Keen**, USAAF 28 October 1947, WWII

1LT Mark **Jackson**, USA 28 October 1969, Vietnam

B2C Gene **Evans**, USN 31 October 1941, WWII

FYI



On Monday, 5 October, the Winter Beach Historical Society will honor the Harlock brothers. A presentation will be made by Peggy Hamilton and Karen Vatland, whose uncles, Robert (shown here) and Charles Harlock both served in the US Navy in WWII. The brothers, aged 22 and 20 respectively, perished within two months of each other in 1943.

A third Harlock brother, Arthur, also served in the Navy, but survived the war and lived to the age of 83.

Treasurer's Report

The Board on 7 September unanimously approved a \$500 donation to the Indian River Gold Star Mothers. This sustains a record of many years of assistance to their mission which includes PTSD support for IRC.

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 July for **\$26,145.67** and the other CD was renewed in June for **\$10,356.35**. A new CD was obtained for **\$15,000**, check received from Cultural Council. All CDs are escrow accounts.

Business account balance is unchanged at **\$9036.51**.

Liability insurance due in September. Solicited another bid which is substantially less expensive with same coverage from last year. Waiting for the invoice from the existing insurance firm to compare.

Special Account

Receipts:

Cultural Council \$15,000

Expenditures:

1018 FDACS \$65.00

CD Seacoast Bank \$15,000

Business Account

Both business bank and checking account balance are \$9036.51.

Business Account:

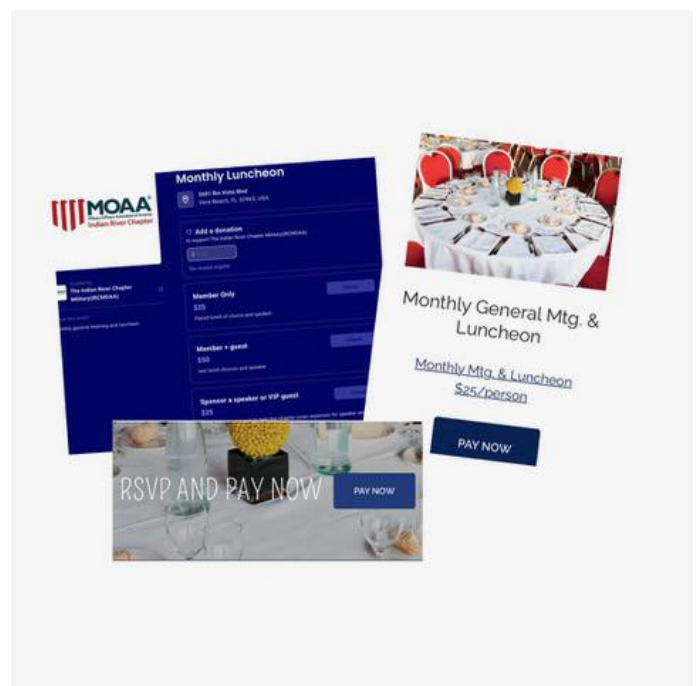
No activity

Roger Grubic, Treasurer

The treasurer highly encourages everyone 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

5 OCT: 1300 IRC MOAA BOD Meeting, United Way Bldg. 1st floor

5 OCT: 1330 WWII Harlock Brothers Presentation, Winter Beach Historical Society, 4425 71st St.

7 OCT: 0930 Memorial Island Committee Meeting, City Hall

13 OCT: US Navy Birthday

16 OCT: 1200 IRC MOAA Members Luncheon, VB Yacht Club

20 OCT: Navy League Luncheon and USN Birthday observance

1 NOV: 0900 Gold Star Mothers Walk-A-Thon, Riverside Park

11 NOV: 0900 Veterans Day Ceremony, Veterans Memorial Island Sanctuary

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

RESILIENCE: FROM SERVICE TO STRENGTH

A MORNING OF INSPIRATION, CONNECTION & HOPE
— INTENDED FOR —
FIRST RESPONDERS, VETS, & ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY

9:00 AM – 12:00 PM | **OCTOBER 27, 2026**

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

MAJ. GEN. GREGG MARTIN (RET.)
U.S. Army (Retired)
Combat Veteran | Leadership Expert
Inspirational Speaker

FEATURED SPEAKERS

AMANDA PACKAL
Business Development
Oak Ridge Treatment at
Hero's Mile

MIGUEL FERNANDEZ, LCSW
CEO
Palm Point Behavioral Health
Licensed Clinical Social Worker

MIKE RONDISVALLE, PSY.D.
Founder & CEO,
LIVWELL Behavioral Health
Licensed Clinical Psychologist

**STRENGTHEN
RESILIENCE**
Tools for mental,
emotional & spiritual
well-being

**BUILD CONNECTIONS
& COMMUNITY**
Connect with others
who serve and
understand

**FIND HOPE
& HEALING**
Encouragement for the
journey from service
to strength

EVENT LOCATION
Space Coast Health Foundation
1100 Rockledge Blvd
Rockledge, Florida 32955

SCAN TO REGISTER
Space is limited.
Reserve your spot today!

**HONOR. HEAL. EMPOWER.
TOGETHER, WE RISE STRONGER.**

ANNUAL WALK-A-THON

FOR
**MILITARY/VETERAN
SUICIDE AWARENESS**

Sunday, November 1, 2026
Registration 8:30-9:00am, Ceremonies 9:00-9:30am, Walk 9:30am

2.2 MILE WALK & VETERANS EXPO

Join Gold Star Mothers of Indian River County
for a community walk to
help **END Military/Veteran Suicide!**

REGISTER NOW!
SCAN QR CODE

Riverside Park
Registration at the Grand Pavilion 8:30a-9:00a
\$35 / person online ~ \$40 / person - day of walk

DJ ★ Gift Raffle ★ 50/50 Raffle ★ Wall of Valor

T-SHIRTS: Available for the first 200 registered walkers

EARLY SHIRT PICK UP: (if registered)
Thursday 10/29 from 10am-3pm at American Legion Post 39 • 1535 Old Dixie Hwy

Proceeds Benefiting:

michdaleircgoldstarmoms@gmail.com
[@ircgoldstarmoms](https://www.ircgoldstarmoms.org)
www.ircgoldstarmoms.org
 570-885-2811
 Please note our Mailing Address is:
 7855 14th Lane, VB 32966

A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Division of Consumer Services by calling toll-free (800-435-7352) within the state. Registration does not imply endorsement, approval, or recommendation by the State. Registration #07N0348471. American Gold Star Mothers of Indian River County, Inc. is a non-profit tax-exempt organization as described under Internal Revenue Code 501(c)(3). Federal ID #85-0423376.

**UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
2026 BIRTHDAY BALL**



*Celebrating the
251st Anniversary
of the
United States Marine Corps*



*Presented by the
**Indian River Detachment
Marine Corps League***

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2026
The Club at Pointe West
7500 14th Lane • Vero Beach, FL 32966

5:30 PM - Cocktails
6:15 PM - Presentation of Colors
6:45 PM - Dinner of Prime Rib and Stuffed Shrimp

followed by
**Traditional Cake Cutting Ceremony
Toast "To The Corps" with Marine Corps Punch
Music for Dancing**

Reservations required by November 1st
\$75.00 per Person • Semi-Formal
Public is Welcome

1775-2026 "Once A Marine, Always A Marine"

TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE UNTIL NOV 1

To purchase please go to our website or scan QR
Code
<http://www.mclirc.org>





MOAA
Military Officers
Association of America

Save the Date

MOAA
Christmas Party

Vero Beach Yacht Club

December 9th
Doors open at 5 pm
Dinner served at 6 pm


*Tune up your singing voice for
our special rendition of the
"12 Days of Christmas"*


★
Please bring a gift for
TOYS FOR TOTS

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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)



MONTHLY CHAPTER LUNCHEON REGISTRATION

IRC-MOAA Luncheon, 3rd Friday of Month

3601 Rio Vista Blvd.

Vero Beach Yacht Club, 12:00 PM



Guest Speaker: Captain Dan Green, USN Reserve

Daniel R. Green grew up in Indian River County. He was born in 1976, the son of an Army veteran and a teacher. He was working at the Pentagon during the terrorist attack of September 11, 2001. That motivated him to join the military. He joined the US Navy Reserves in 2003. He is still in the Reserves today. He is in command of a unit assigned to Hampton Roads VA. He was promoted to Captain this year. He has been mobilized for four tours in Iraq and Afghanistan. Two were with SEAL deployments: Fallujah and Southern Afghanistan. And two in addition to Baghdad and Kabul. In addition, he completed a tour with the Department of State as a civilian political advisor to a Provincial Reconstruction Team in the Uruzgan Province, Afghanistan from 2005-06.

Dan was appointed as the Deputy Sec Def for Strategy & Force Development in 2019-2021. The Office helped shape the National Defense Strategy during the first President Trump Administration.

Captain Green received his PhD in political science from George Washington University in 2017. He has authored four books. Three were related to Afghanistan and Iraq. The fourth addressed war, veterans, and the home front.

Send reservations and payment by 5:00 PM Wednesday before

\$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:

GREEK STYLE FLOUNDER: olives, tomatoes, cilantro, saffron rice, asparagus

SWEDISH MEATBALLS: potatoes dijon gravy, cranberry sauce, baby carrots

CHEF SALAD: Turkey, swiss, cheddar, egg, tomato, cucumber, bacon, green goddess dressing

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.