



CHATAHOOCHEE VALLEY CHAPTER

MOAA



Chapter Formed March 1959

OCTOBER 2025 NEWSLETTER

MOAA CHAPTER PRESIDENT'S NOTES

OCTOBER, NAVY CELEBRATED ITS 250TH ANNIVERSARY

It was 250 years ago that the Continental Congress, faced by the British, and Taxes, and by the French north in what we now call Canada, and Indians along our western edge of our fledling states, the Second Continental Congress was determining what to do to protect our nation. This year we will celebrate some of the events put in motion 250 years ago that produced the original Army, Navy and Marines, and our HERITAGE, and laid the foundation for today's Armed Forces. With the Spirit of the Infantry, Armor and Cavalry, MOAA and Georgia should see us as the State's leading Chapter.

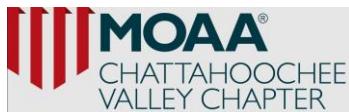


Our meeting was a discussion on the MOAA notice and request for signature sponsors for a Congressional Bill "PAY THE TROOPS" Act. Servicemembers and their families can't be held hostage to pay at the whim of Congress. Their pay and allowances and health care are essential to maintain a strong defense for our nation. Anything less is reprehensible. David Cripe provide an update on our financials. Ed Summey received his Chapter Life Member name tag. Richard Williams who has returned to Columbus after 7 years of serving on the DOD Vietnam Service Recognition Team, handed out a commemorative coin to five Vietnam Veterans (Bobby Goolsby (Army Avn), Gerry Springer (USAF, Fighter Pilot), Rob StClair (USMC Inf), Jay Wilkoff (Army Soldier & Avn), and myself (SF & Inf).

SPECIAL EVENTS: Oct 13-17, the Special Forces Annual Convention and Special Operation Annual Reunion (SOAR), are going on Las Vegas. We have George Sommerfield, Vince Hartmann, and Sam Seetin, attending. Oct 22-24 the Georgia MOAA Convention was held in Kennesaw, GA.

Our **next meeting is Tuesday, NOVEMBER 10**, a lunch meeting, and Our Guest Speaker COL (Ret) Rob StClair, USMC, will discuss the creation of the Marines.

Mayo "Biff" Hadden, President



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2026 CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP - UPDATE

THANK YOU - 2026 CHAPTER MEMBER RENEWALS

David Cripe, Darin Nunn

WELCOME NEW CHAPTER MEMBERS

Richard Williams, moved 7 yrs ago and returned to Columbus recently

Chattahoochee Valley Chapter – CHAPTER LIFE MEMBERS

Cleveland Ashley; Jim Brinson; John Bush; Roger Buterbaugh; Myles Caggins Jr; Bobby Goolsby; Jim Grimshaw; Biff Hadden; John Hargrove; Seth Harp; Vince Hartmann; Bob Hoidahl; John House; James Jackson; Joe Kmiecik; Patricia Krause; John Mitchell; Sam Nelson; Steve Patillo; Mac Plummer; Martin "Marty" Reyna; Tom Royer; George Scruggs; Sam Seetin; Guy Smith; George Sommerfield; Rob StClair; Ed Summey; Jack Tidwell; Ray Wagner; Duke Walsh; Jay Wilkoff; Honorary: Ga Sen Ed Harbison.

NEW CHAPTER LIFE MEMBER:

COL (Ret) Richard D. Williams

SURVIVING SPOUSES LIFE MEMBERS:

Betty Burns; Pauline Fabrigar; Glenice Myers; Stacy Poydasheff.

TAPS:

CW4 (Ret) Anthony Tony Chavana (Oct 17, 2025)



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ACTIVITIES SUPPORTED IN OCTOBER

During the month of October we had members support the following:

MOAA Chapter meeting. October _.

Georgia MOAA State Conference in Kennessaw, Georgia. Participants in the 22-24 October event were Darin and Lisa Nunn, and myself.

Warrior Set Free special lunch and program at the St Luke Ministry Center. Supported by Tony Mayne, Mark Hollis, and myself.

Our members are also giving time and support to the following, just to name a few:

MEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

Tim Maggart

One of our members, Tim Maggart, is highlighted in the November issue of MOAA Magazine. He wrote a song honoring Gold Star Mothers and families and it was showcased by him at their invitation at their National Convention. See page 11 of the MOAA Magazine. Congratulations Tim.

Lauren Byrd

Lauren Byrd, one of our members has made the USA Olympic Team in Kayaking. She has been training and competing. Her recent successes include:

- 10th - worlds - masters - plattling Germany
- 3rd - natural games -France - masters
- 2nd - national games - France - masters jam fest
- 3rd- Age Nationals - Boater Cross- Bryson City, NC

We all need to cheer her on. This is a great accomplishment. Congratulations Lauren.



MOAA's Legislative Action Center

Advocacy involves communication with local, State, and Federal Legislators, as well as DOD and VA officials, on each issue. We need volunteers to prepare draft letters on each issue that can be sent by our members to Federal and State Legislators, by our Chapter and our members. The Link:



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[This Week's Top Issues >](#)

Active Advocacy Campaigns

Fix TRICARE's IVF Coverage Gap for Servicemembers and Their Families

Provisions in the House and Senate versions of the FY 2026 NDAA would require TRICARE to cover assisted reproductive technology, including in vitro fertilization (IVF), for active duty servicemembers and their families.

Some Retired Officers Could Miss Their Next Paycheck

Thousands of retired officers from the U.S. Public Health Service (USPHS) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Commissioned Officer Corps may not be paid at the end of October or for the remainder of the shutdown.

The Real Cost of Service: Your Story Matters

Share your story to help MOAA defend the integrity of the VA disability system and protect the pay and benefits you have earned through service and sacrifice.

No Shutdown Should Stop Servicemember Pay

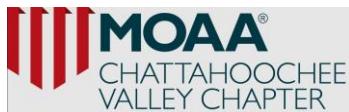
During a government shutdown, our dedicated uniformed servicemembers continue to safeguard our national security – at the risk of not being paid. Congress must ensure their financial security.

Halt TRICARE's Plan to End GLP-1 Coverage for TRICARE For Life

Support MOAA's efforts to protect GLP-1 weight-loss medications for retirees covered by TRICARE For Life.

Military Spouses Can't Wait - Add Them to the Work Opportunity Tax Credit

Military spouses face a 21% unemployment rate, five times the national average, due to frequent moves and challenges tied to military life. Congress must incentivize employers to hire military spouses by adding them as a target group under the Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC) program.



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Ask Congress to Address the Hazardous Unaccompanied Housing Conditions Rampant in the Military

Thousands of servicemembers live in unsafe, substandard military housing due to years of underfunding and lack of oversight. Congress must require DoD to publicly report the condition of unaccompanied housing and ensure funding is used for necessary improvements.

Stop the 34-Year Wait - Deliver Toxic-Exposed Veterans the Care They've Earned

Millions of veterans exposed to toxic substances during their service are forced to wait decades – more than 34 years, on average – before they can access VA care and benefits for service-connected illnesses. Congress must pass legislation to bolster the legal framework for creating presumptive conditions, ensuring toxic-exposed veterans receive timely care.

Honor Veteran Caregivers - Pass the Reeducation, Reemployment, and Retirement Act

Veteran caregivers make profound personal and financial sacrifices to care for aging and disabled loved ones. Congress must pass the Veteran Caregiver Reeducation, Reemployment, and Retirement Act to provide these caregivers with the education, employment, and retirement support they deserve.

Fix the TRICARE Young Adult Coverage Gap

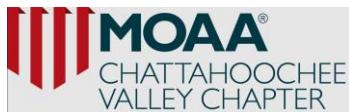
This bill would expand TRICARE eligibility to young adult dependents up to age 26, bringing TRICARE in line with commercial plan requirements.

Ensure Servicemembers Can Afford Housing—Restore Full BAH

Our troops don't get to choose where they serve—but they should always be able to afford a home. Tell Congress to restore full Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) and support military families.

Urge Lawmakers to Resume CFPB Operations for Servicemembers

Contact your representative and urge them to support the continued work of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) in conducting supervisory examinations for the Military Lending Act (MLA) and resuming work in the Office of Servicemember Affairs, which protects military families from predatory financial practices.



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Stand with Our Wounded Warriors: Advocate for the Major Richard Star Act

Contact your representative and senators and urge them to support the Major Richard Star Act, which would authorize combat-injured veterans to receive their full DoD retirement pay earned for years of service and their full VA disability compensation for lifelong injury.

Chapter Advocacy Opportunities

Homeless Veterans – we support local homes that provide for Homeless Veterans, and other solutions for the homeless, like a Tiny Home project. Grant writers needed and if you would like to volunteer please let one of our Board know. (Mac Plummer, Jim Crosse, & others)

Support relocating the VA Clinic on Ft Benning to vacant space on Martin Army Community Hospital - moving from the temporary VA facility. (Advocate Jay Wilkoff) (See article on similar action at Ft Campbell Military Hospital partnering with VA, below)

Support Expanding VA Clinic patient support capabilities in Columbus, to include minor surgery, colonoscopy, and pharmacy.

Support the new VECTR Site and Facility which will be built just to the right and next to the Troops To Transportation location on Benning Road just before entering the installation old gate.

VA News (Jay Wilkoff)

As you may be aware, funding for some government agencies, including portions of the Department of Veterans Affairs, expired at midnight this morning.

President Trump opposes a lapse in appropriations, and on September 19, the House of Representatives passed, with the Trump Administration's support, a clean continuing resolution to fund the government through November 21. Unfortunately, Democrats are blocking this Continuing Resolution in the U.S. Senate due to unrelated policy demands.



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During the current lapse in funding, the vast majority of VA benefits and services will continue uninterrupted, but the government shutdown is not without consequences to VA. Here is what you need to know:

The following critical Veterans care and assistance programs will be impacted by the government shutdown:

- VA will not provide Veteran career counseling or transition assistance program activities.
- The GI Bill Hotline will be closed.
- VA regional benefits offices will be closed.
- VA will cease public affairs and outreach to Veterans.
- VA will not permanently place headstones or maintain the grounds at VA national cemeteries.
- VA will not process applications for pre-need burials.
- VA will not print new presidential memorial certificates.

Thankfully, the government shutdown will not impact the following VA services:

- Veteran health care is not impacted. VA Medical Centers, Outpatient Clinics, and Vet Centers will be open.
- VA benefits will continue to be processed and delivered, including compensation, pension, education, and housing benefits.
- Burials will continue at VA national cemeteries. Applications for headstones, markers, and burial benefits processing will continue.
- The Board of Veterans' Appeals will continue decisions on Veterans' cases.
- VA Contact Centers (1-800-MyVA411) and the Veterans Crisis Line (Dial 988, Press 1) are open 24/7.



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OCTOBER MEETING PICTURES



Richard Williams Presenting Coins to Vietnam Vets



Ed Summey new Life Member



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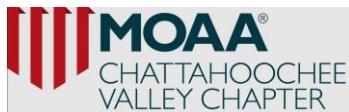
Chapter members Vince Hartmann and wife, and George & Glenda Sommerfield and Sam Seetin attended and participated in the 2025 Special Forces Convention in Las Vegas.

GEORGIA MOAA 2025 CONVENTION – KENNESSAW, GA



We are going to work on getting all photos onto our web site so you can download these and others.

www.CVCMOAA.org



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MEMBER SUPPORT

Some of our members operate small businesses. We encourage you to consider supporting them.

Chattahoochee Valley All About Fitness Family, Inc. AAF Ministry

STARTING MARCH 4TH!

Dewayne Webb, President, AFAA-Certified Trainer

MISSION:
Encourage our global communities to live totally fit – physically, mentally, financially, legally, relationally and, most importantly, spiritually – lives.

VISION:
A Global Fitness Family dedicated to improving our communities worldwide. We aim to serve as a root of positive global change through our dedication to giving back to our global communities.

Say Good to AAF Social Media for inclement weather workout locations

Tuesday & Wednesday Mornings:
6:30am (Intermediate) & 8:30am (Beginners)
Columbus Karate Academy International
5770 Milgen Rd
Former Kroc Center's Columbus location

Monday & Tuesday Evenings:
8:30pm (Advanced) & 9:30pm (Beginners)
Ranger Outreach Center
3022 2nd Ave

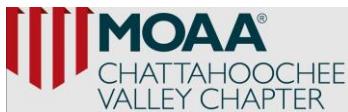
Thursday Mornings:
6:30am (Intermediate)
Lakebottom Park Track
Paved by Meachers near bathrooms

Thursday Evenings:
9:30pm (Advanced) & 10:30pm (Beginners)
Lakebottom Park Track
Paved by Meachers near bathrooms

HELP US CELEBRATE 250 YEARS OF OUR ARMED SERVICES!!

ALL NEWSLETTERS ARE AVAILABLE VIA EMAIL AND CAN BE DOWNLOADED FROM OUR WEB SITE;

2026 MEMBERSHIP DRIVE HAS STARTED. PLEASE RENEW AND INVITE AN OFFICER ACTIVE/GUARD/RESERVE/RETIRED/FORMER TO JOIN



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THE 2026 CVC MOAA MEMBERSHIP /RENEWAL FORM

Chattahoochee Valley Chapter MOAA

CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM – PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE

Date _____; **2026** RENEWAL _____ NEW _____

Name (Last, First, MI) _____

Spouse _____ Nick Name _____

E-Mail _____

Mailing Address _____

Home Phone _____ Cell # _____

Birth Date _____ Widow(er) _____

Rank _____ Service _____ Active Duty () Retired () Former Off ()

Dates of Military Service: (Yr-Yr) _____
(Qualify as a War Veteran Chapter, treated like 501.c.3)

Regular () Reserve () NG () Retired () Date Commissioned _____

Member of MOAA National – Yes () No () Member # _____

Thank You for your dues & supporting the Chattahoochee Valley Chapter. We are proud of Your service. Annual Membership Dues are \$25. **Chapter Lifetime Dues option at Age 70; \$250 for member; \$100 Surviving Spouse. Mail to: MOAA-CVC, PO Box 6613, Columbus, GA 31917-6613.**

If you have a little time and would like to volunteer to serve on a committee and/or special project please, let us know. We always need and welcome volunteers.

If you are willing to volunteer, we need you:

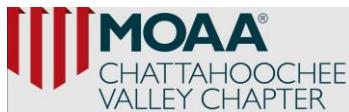
Membership _____
Fund Raising _____
Legislative Advocacy _____

Programs _____
ROTC/JROTC Awards _____
Newsletter/Web Site _____

www.MOAA.org

NEVER STOP SERVING Take Action

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CVC MOAA Chapter Leadership

CVC MOAA 2025 – Officers

President/Chairman	COL Biff Hadden	706-615-2455
Vice President, Programs	MAJ Darin Nunn	706-763-7125
Vice President, Membership	LTC Carlos Lock	703-576-7840
Secretary	LTC George Sommerfield	770-417-0280
Asst Secretary	LTC Roger Buterbaugh	706-587-1910
Treasurer	LTC David Cripe	706-505-5450
Asst Treasurer	Need a Volunteer	
Staff Judge Advocate	MAJ Bill Ward	706-587-8793
Chaplain	MAJ Tony Mayne	813-981-3840

Directors:

LT Bobby Goolsby	OCS
LTC Darrell O'Steen	Speakers/Programs
LTC Carlos Lock	ROTC/JROTC Coord/Membership
COL Dick Nurnberg	Installation Retiree Council
LTC Sam Nelson	CVVC & Veteran Groups
LTC Ben Stahl	Scholarships
CPT Jay Wilkoff	VA, Legislative Affairs

Committee Chairs – (Information on Key Volunteers)

Surviving Spouses	Liaison Betty Burns	706-563-0740
CVVC/FMC	Sam Nelson	706-568-4592
Flags/Special Spt	George Sommerfield	770-417-0280
Legislative	Darrell O'Steen	
Membership	Carlos Lock	703-576-7840
Newsletter		
Personal Affairs	William Ward	706-464-0538
Retiree Council	Dick Nurnberg	706-329-0038
ROTC/JROTC	Carlos Lock	703-576-7840
Transition Asst	Biff Hadden	706-615-2455
Scholarships	Ben Stahl	706-464-0538
Webmaster	Tony Mayne	813-981-3840

Social Media

[Editorial Policy: "MOAA CVC" Newsletter is published by the MOAA Chattahoochee Valley Chapter, an affiliate of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) and the Georgia Council of Chapters (GCOC). It is published for information for our members. MOAA and its affiliated chapters & councils are non-partisan]



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“Professional Leaders belong to Professional Organizations.”

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“Never Stop Serving....Take ACTION “

Mayo (“Biff”) A. Hadden III, COLONEL (RETIRED) SF

President MOAA CVC Chapter