

## CHATAHOOCHEE VALLEY CHAPTER

### MOAA



Chapter Formed March 1959

JUNE 2025 NEWSLETTER

### MOAA CHAPTER PRESIDENT'S NOTES

#### JUNE 14, ARMY CELEBRATED ITS 250<sup>TH</sup> 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 this 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 laid the foundation for today's Armed Forces.



June was a very busy month. During this month we have a lot of volunteers and members to thank for their donation of time, dollars, and professional spirit. First we hosted a very successful Golf Tourament as a FUND RAISER, and this benefited two local non-profits. Our team solicited scholarship applications, and after review, we presented 9 each Scholarships, one to CSU ROTC Cadet and 8 to High School Seniors. In addition several members of our Chapter participated in the Army's 250<sup>th</sup> Birthday Ball, at the Trade Center, and we also had some members supporting the Army Birthday activities at the National Infantry Museum. In June we also had one of our members Tim Maggart, write and publish a song honoring Gold Star Mothers & Families and it was showcased at the their National Conference and was a major success.

**MEMBERSHIP:** Starting July 1 we collect 2026 Chapter Membership dues.

**MOAA Chapter Scholarships.** We sought up to 10 applications, awarded one to CSU, and the other 8 were presented at our June 11 Chapter Dinner.

Our **next meeting is JULY 8**, and Our Guest Speaker is coming in from MOAA National in Washington, DC, [Captain Frank Michael](#), USN (Ret), Senior Director, Affiliated Councils & Chapters. He will have some current comments from MOAA National and will do a Q&A, and take your questions about MOAA and how we are doing at the National Level. Please make it to this meeting, so we can have a good discussion and show him the Fort Benning style of leadership.

Mayo "Biff" Hadden, President



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## **2025 CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP**

### **WELCOME 2025 CHAPTER MEMBER RENEWALS**

Michael Woody

### **WELCOME NEW CHAPTER MEMBERS**

Mike Baka

### **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; 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; George Sommerfield; Rob StClair; Jack Tidwell; Ray Wagner; Jay Wilkoff; Honorary: Ga Sen Ed Harbison.

### **NEW CHAPTER LIFE MEMBER:**

**CDR Duke Walsh, USN**

### **SURVIVING SPOUSES:**

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

### **TAPS:**

**CAPT Stephen “Steve” Scott, USN Retired**



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### 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:

## Active Advocacy Campaigns

### 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.

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### 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.

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### 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.

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### 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.

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### 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.

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### Don't Let Veterans' Life Insurance Fall Behind Inflation

Contact your senators and urge them to support the Fairness for Servicemembers and Their Families Act, which will require the VA to regularly review and update life insurance coverage limits for servicemembers and veterans, ensuring they keep pace with inflation and rising market costs.

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### Parity for Surviving Spouses: Increase Dependency and Indemnity Compensation

Bipartisan legislation in the House (H.R. 2055) would align Dependency and Indemnity Compensation payments with other federal survivor benefits. Ask your legislators to show their support and make a long-overdue correction to this injustice.

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### Love Lives On: Protect Surviving Spouses' Right to Remarry

Contact your representative and senators and urge them to support the Love Lives On Act to secure the right for surviving military spouses to remarry at any age and retain their benefits.

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### Share Your Story: Have TRICARE Pharmacy Network Changes Impacted You?

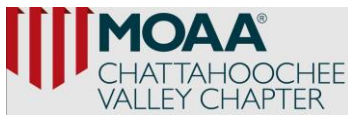
Will you be impacted when community pharmacies leave the TRICARE network? Please share your story.

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### Support Leave Parity for USPHS Servicemembers

MOAA is committed to addressing parity gaps in U.S. Public Health Service (USPHS) Commissioned Corps benefits and personnel policy. Please join us in urging members of Congress to support legislation

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that would align USPHS Commissioned Corps leave policy with that of the other uniformed services.

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### Support IVF Parity for Servicemembers and Their Families

The IVF for Military Families Act would require TRICARE to cover assisted reproductive technology, including IVF, for active duty servicemembers and their families. Urge your lawmakers to support this effort to give military families the same options as those that they have sworn to serve and protect.

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### Improve OB-GYN Access for Military Families

The TRICARE OBGYN Treatment and Access without Lags in Care Act (TOTAL Care Act) would launch a five-year pilot program allowing TRICARE Prime beneficiaries to receive obstetrical and gynecological care without a referral. Tell your lawmakers to support this effort to reduce delays and strengthen access within the TRICARE benefit.

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### Lend Your Support for the MOAA-Backed Bill to Support Military Sexual Trauma Survivors

Contact your representative and senators and urge them to support the Servicemembers and Veterans Empowerment and Support Act to improve essential care and services in the Veterans Health Administration and ensure greater assistance when military sexual trauma (MST) survivors are applying for disability benefits through the Veterans Benefits Administration.

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### Expand TRICARE Eligibility for Guard and Reserve

The Servicemember Healthcare Freedom Act would bring health care savings to thousands of servicemembers and their families by allowing Guard and Reserve members who are also federal employees to enroll in TRICARE Reserve Select.

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### Protect Veterans' Education Benefits from Predatory Practices

A recent House proposal included in the budget reconciliation bill would undermine protections for student-veterans by reopening the 90/10 loophole, allowing for-profit colleges to again target GI Bill and DoD education benefits. Congress closed this loophole in 2021 to prevent predatory institutions from exploiting those who serve and have served.

### 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



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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)


### **VA News (Jay Wilkoff)**

Veterans will soon find it easier than ever to access community care programs through VA. VA will remove secondary reviews previously required as part of the referral process to community or non-VA healthcare providers. Veterans will need only a review and approval from their referring VA physician after determining community care is in the veteran's best medical interest. Veterans can qualify for community care after meeting certain conditions, including care unavailable through VA, living in a state without a full-service VA medical center, or VA cannot meet wait time or distance standards. VA anticipates this policy change to increase health care access and flexibility—making care more convenient for veterans. BETTER ACCESS, BETTER HELP: VA UPDATES COMMUNITY CARE

### **Eastern Region Virtual Career Fair for Veterans**

#### **Upcoming Business Opportunity with Verizon Public Sector!**

Hosted by the **VA Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (OSDBU)**

 **Date:** Thursday, July 31, 2025

 **Time:** 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM EST

 **Location:** Virtual via Cisco WebEx

 **Register via. LinkedIn:**

<https://www.linkedin.com/events/businessopportunitywithverizonp7343384734036557826/https://www.vetbiz.va.gov/events/event-detail/?id=0cc16934-4c41-f011-b4cc-001dd80db51f>

Join **Verizon Public Sector** and the **VA Direct Access Program (DAP)** for an exclusive virtual session tailored to Veteran-Owned and other small businesses.

 **Verizon is seeking partners with capabilities in:**



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- Wireless & Wireline Networks
- Smart Campus & Physical Security Solutions
- Customer/Veteran Experience Enhancements
- Wireless Connectivity & Resale Programs

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## JULY ACTIVITIES

**July 8 is our regular lunch meeting, Tuesday.** It will be a lunch meeting at the Hilton Garden Inn. Check in at 11:30am and it will end around 1:00pm. CAPT Frank Michaels from MOAA National will be our guest Speaker, visiting from Washington DC.

### **June 9 – Golf Tournament**

We were able to raise funds and make a donation of \$3,000 to the Plummer Home and \$3,000 to the House of Heroes. We had ten teams compete and we were supported by two other non-profits; Golf 4 Life Ministries, and Warrior Golf Academy. **Thanks to Sponsors, Volunteers, and of course Golfers!**





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Volunteers



Team Banner Buildings



Team Fitness



Team Gallant Few



Team West, Wylie, Holcomb, Snipes



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Team MOAA Guy Smith



Team MOAA Leaders



Team MOAA WHINSEC



Team OMNI



Team Passerralla-Cessa



Team Pezold



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### JUNE 11 MEETING



Tim Maggart Singing Songs



CSM Mellinger for House of Heroes



Mac Plummer for The Plummer Home





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### SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS SHOWN ABOVE

**Hannah Baka**, Father LTC Michael Baka, USA, RET

Northside High School to US Military Academy

**William Cash III**, Stepfather MAJ Stephen Patillo, USA, RET

Northside High School to Columbus State University

**Xavier Chardos**, LTC Peter Chardos, USAF, RET

Homeschool, Columbus State University

**John (Jack) Dalelio**, Captain John Dalelio, USA Deceased, SGT Glen Bush USA RET

Saint Anne Pacelli Catholic High School to Auburn

**Samantha Hollis**, Father COL Mark Hollis, USA, RET

Northside High School to MERCER

**Nicholas Nugent**, Father SFC Jason Nugent, 75<sup>th</sup> Ranger Regt, RET

Saint Anne Pacelli Catholic High School to Auburn

**Madison Northington**, Grandfather MAJ John Mulhall, USA, RET

Northside High School to Georgia Southern University

**Henry (Hank) Wylie**, Father COL Ryan Wylie, US Army Active

Brookstone High School to Georgia Institute of Technology

(will receive his Scholarship at the July Meeting)

**CONGRATULATIONS** TO ALL EIGHT OF OUR HIGH SCHOOL RECIPIENTS OF THE CHAPTER MOAA AND DAUGHTERS OF THE US ARMY SCHOLARSHIPS. GPA AVERAGE 4.28, SAT AVERAGE 1260. ALL ARE ACADEMIC AND ATHLETIC LEADERS, AND SERVANT LEADERS.

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

[www.CVCMOAA.org](http://www.CVCMOAA.org)



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## JUNE 14 THE ARMY CELEBRATES 250<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

### 2025 Open House Schedule

**We are thrilled to share the 2025 Open House schedule for the US Army Armor and Cavalry Collection at Ft. Moore, GA!**

Come explore rare historical artifacts, meet passionate experts, and get a close-up look at the machines that shaped history. We are offering more dates than ever before, so mark your calendars and plan your visit!



### Don't miss your opportunity!

This is your chance to step inside the rich history of America's armored forces, with events throughout the year offering something for everyone! Whether you're a military enthusiast, history buff, or just looking for an exciting day out, you won't want to miss these dates.

- **Saturday, July 12** | 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM (*85th Anniversary of the Armored Force*)
  - **Friday, August 29** | 12:00 PM – 4:00 PM
  - **Saturday, September 6** | 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM (*Maneuver Center of Excellence Maneuver Warfighter Conference*)
  - **Friday, September 26** | 12:00 PM – 4:00 PM
    - **Saturday, November 1** | 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM (*Armor in Scale Model Show*)
- FREE ADMISSION!**



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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/  
AAFA-Certified Trainer

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

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

**Stay Tuned**  
to AAF Social Media  
for inclement weather  
workout locations.

**Tuesday & Wednesday Mornings:**  
6:30am-8:30am (Intermediate)  
Colombian Karate  
Academy International  
5770 Migen Rd  
James Earl Ray's Jackson Branch

**Monday & Tuesday Evenings:**  
8:30pm (Advanced) &  
6:30pm (Beginners)  
Ranger Quinash Center  
3022 2nd Ave

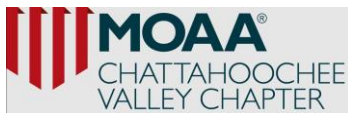
**Thursday Mornings:**  
6:30am (Intermediate)  
Laneshottom Park Track  
nearby bleachers near  
bathrooms

**Thursday Evenings:**  
8:30pm (Advanced) &  
6:30pm (Beginners)  
Laneshottom Park Track  
nearby bleachers 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;**

**THE 2026 CVC MOAA MEMBERSHIP /RENEWAL FORM**



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## 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:

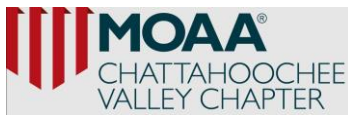
Membership \_\_\_\_\_  
Fund Raising \_\_\_\_\_  
Legislative Advocacy \_\_\_\_\_

Programs \_\_\_\_\_  
ROTC/JROTC Awards \_\_\_\_\_  
Newsletter/Web Site \_\_\_\_\_

[www.MOAA.org](http://www.MOAA.org)

[www.CVCMOAA.org](http://www.CVCMOAA.org)

**NEVER STOP SERVING** *Take Action*



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## CVC MOAA Chapter Leadership

### CVC MOAA 2025 – Officers

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

### Directors:

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

### 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.  
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***"Professional Leaders belong to Professional Organizations."***

***Become part of the solution. Join MOAA and Your Local Chapter.***

**"Never Stop Serving....Take ACTION "**

Mayo ("Biff") A. Hadden III, COLONEL (RETIRED) SF  
President MOAA CVC Chapter