

MOAA

Chapter Formed March 1959
August 2026 NEWSLETTER

MOAA CHAPTER PRESIDENT'S NOTES

The chapter board met August 4 at the Maple Ridge golf course. Discussion topics were guest speakers, a new venue for 2027, scholarship and the gun raffle status. We need your assistance in finding new guest speakers, advertising the scholarship opportunity and we need you all to buy at least one raffle ticket and try to sell at least 10. Currently we have only sold about a third of 1000 tickets. This raffle is our main funding source for the yearly scholarships that we award.

The chapter met on August 11 and our guest speaker was chapter member Kate Vogel. Kate explained that the new COL Ralph Puckett VECTR center on Ft Benning Drive is a workforce development and support hub operated by Columbus Technical College. She gave an overview of the services and programs provided to transitioning service members, veterans and others in the Columbus community. Key programs include technical training and credentialing certifications aligned with regional job demands, military transition support to include Skillbridge opportunities and resources for transitioning services members and their spouses, and veterans services represented by an on-site VSO.

Chapter member Tony Mayne gave an overview of the 2026 "Run Ranger Run" program, highlighting the history of this event and its purpose. For more information get with Tony at the Ranger Outreach Center (ROC) or check out <https://www.gallantfew.org>





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SPECIAL EVENTS:

Our **next meeting is Tuesday, September 8**, a lunch meeting, and our guest speaker will be Dr. David Stieghan, US Army Infantry School Historian.

MCoE Maneuver Conference, **September 15-17**, McGinnis-Wickham Hall (Bldg 4), Ft Benning

House of Heroes Bids and Bubbly **September 17, 6pm** at Bibb Mill event center. COL (R) David Moore is the keynote speaker. <https://www.houseofheroescvc.org>

US Army Armor and Cavalry Collection open house, **Friday September 25, 1000-1600**.

The 5th annual "Back Columbus Blue" golf tournament is scheduled for **October 1** at Bull Creek Golf Course. For more information get with John House jmhouse6@gmail.com, check out their Facebook page or for sponsorship information email organizers at backcolumbusbluega@gmail.com

Our October meeting is **Tuesday, October 13**, a lunch meeting, and our guest speaker will be GA State Representative District 139, Carmen Rice

November 5-8, 2026 the Georgia MOAA Conference will be hosted at the Athens MOAA Chapter. Registration information will be available soon.

Our November meeting is **Tuesday, November 10**, a lunch meeting. Guest speaker TBD.

Our December meeting is **Saturday, December 12**, an evening Christmas party. We need to establish a committee to put the party together.

AUSA Chattahoochee Valley Chapter Industry Day, **24 February 2027**, Columbus Iron Works

Chapter Membership - Update

New Chapter Members

New Chapter Life Members

New Surviving Spouse Members

Taps



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MEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

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. Please use the MOAA advocacy center .

Active Advocacy Campaigns

NDAAs Narrowly Clears House: <https://www.moaa.org/content/publications-and-media/news-articles/2026-news-articles/reads/ndaa-narrowly-clears-house---whats-next-for-the-must-pass-defense-bill/>

New Georgia Veterans Cemetery opening in Augusta: <https://www.augustachronicle.com/story/news/military/veterans/2026/08/06/augusta-georgia-veterans-cemetery-set-for-groundbreaking-as-early-as-november-military/91189366007/>

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

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

VA News



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CVC MOAA 2026 Chapter Leadership

CVC MOAA 2026 – Officers

President, MAJ (R) Darin Nunn 706-763-7125

President Emeritus, COL (R) Biff Hadden 706-615-2455

Vice President, Programs **need a Volunteer**

Vice President, Membership LTC (R) Carlos Lock 703-576-7840

Secretary LTC (R) George Sommerfield 770-417-0280

Asst Secretary LTC (R) Roger Buterbaugh 706-587-1910

Treasurer LTC (R) David Cripe 706-505-5450

Asst Treasurer **Need a Volunteer**

Staff Judge Advocate MAJ (R) Bill Ward 706-587-8793

Chaplain MAJ (R) Tony Mayne 813-981-3840

Directors:

OCS LT Bobby Goolsby

Speakers/Programs vacant

ROTC/JROTC Coord/Membership LTC (R) Carlos Lock

Installation Retiree Council COL (R) Dick Nurnberg, LTC (R) Sam Nelson

CVVC & Veteran Groups COL (R) John House

Scholarships LTC (R) Ben Stahl

VA, Legislative Affairs CPT Jay Wilkoff

Committee Chairs – (Information on Key Volunteers)

Surviving Spouses Liaison Betty Burns 706-563-0740

Flags/Special Spt LTC (R) George Sommerfield 770-417-0280

Webmaster Tony Mayne 813-981-3840

[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]

THANK YOU SPONSORS





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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 “

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