



## FALCONS LANDING CHAPTER



# THE FALCON FLYER

## MARCH 2025



*THE FALCON FLYER is published quarterly by the Falcons Chapter of MOAA and distributed to all members electronically, as well as placed on the Falcons Landing MOAA website, [www.falconsmoaa.org](http://www.falconsmoaa.org) . Hard copies may also be requested by contacting the Editor. The POC for the newsletter is the Editor, COL (Ret) Bob Manning, [Rmanning@aol.com](mailto:Rmanning@aol.com).*

# SUPPORT OF MOAA NATIONAL

MOAA is the nation's largest and most influential association of uniformed service officers and their surviving spouses. It is an independent, nonprofit, politically nonpartisan association dedicated to maintaining a strong national defense and ensuring our nation keeps its commitments to currently serving, retired, and former members of the uniformed services and their families and survivors. MOAA's mission is achieved largely through the tireless advocacy efforts taking place in our nation's capital. Support MOAA's advocacy efforts by going to [www.moaa.org/takeaction](http://www.moaa.org/takeaction).

The Falcons Landing Chapter is one of more than 400-plus local organizations affiliated with National MOAA and is a nonpartisan, nonprofit veterans' association. Our chapter provides programs to support those who are serving; those who have served; and those who have survived, while placing special focus on community support.

We support the national organization through support of legislative priorities and “Advocacy in Action” and are active in our community supporting three JROTC programs, helping recovering and needy veterans, supporting surviving spouses in our continuing care facilities and providing speakers to community service organizations.

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## **CHAPTER PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

### **MARCH 2025**

**To all our Chapter and Auxiliary members, Happy Spring! The cherry blossoms are in full bloom, our Nationals baseball team has taken the field at Nats Park, the grass is very green at our Algonkian Regional Golf Course, and, best of all, the winter frost is fast becoming a distant memory. Spring is always an uplifting time of year in so many ways -- and this year is no exception.**

**In early February, our Chapter's Board of Directors met in a special session to take stock of our Chapter's mission, programs, and budget. This meeting was prompted by an apparent lack of interest by the membership in assuming Chapter leadership positions and lower (than in previous years) total contributions received in our last annual solicitation campaign (conducted in the fall of 2024).**

**In terms of our Chapter's leadership, we continue to have difficulty in recruiting candidates to volunteer to take over key officer and director positions in the Chapter -- my position as Chapter President being the most notable. In this regard, there is one piece of good news – Donna Everage has agreed to become our Chapter Secretary Thank you, Donna. After considerable discussion, the Board concluded that we need more and better**



## **CHAPTER PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

### **MARCH 2025 (cont)**

**publicity in the Falcons Landing community – reminding residents of what MOAA is as a national organization and what our Chapter does everyday to serve our Falcons Landing and Loudoun County communities. To that end, we recently created a MOAA video commercial for periodic airing on Channel 970 to “help get the word out.”**

**Regarding our Chapter's mission and set of programs, the Board felt we still have our mission exactly right in emulating MOAA National's mission – to support those who are serving, those who have served, and those who have survived – with special emphasis on supporting Loudoun County veterans via our Loudoun Veterans and Family Support (LVFS) program. The Board also reaffirmed our Chapter's set of recurring programs (described throughout this Newsletter) with no particular expansion needed.**

**Finally, with regard to the Chapter's budget, our contributions during last year's Solicitation Campaign netted approximately \$2000 less than the previous year – so some adjustment in this year's budget became necessary. After deliberation, the Board decided to increase our annual LVFS contribution from the Chapter treasury from \$5000 to \$8000 (our Chapter's top program priority) and to decrease our annual scholarship**



## CHAPTER PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### MARCH 2025 (cont)

awards from \$3000 for each of our three JROTC school to \$2000 for each school. Additionally, some minor adjustments to our budget were also necessary.

Our Chapter is healthy and we look forward to an exciting year doing the things we do. We do still urgently need to recruit new Chapter leaders to maintain our legacy of a strong MOAA presence at Falcons Landing. So fellow Chapter members, please consider volunteering to serve in a position on our Board. Thank you for your continued support.



*Phil Walsh, President*



MOAA's annual advocacy event will bring members from across the nation to Washington, D.C., in April to meet with lawmakers as part of our ongoing work to advance our legislative agenda. Follow [MOAA's Advocacy News page](#) for ongoing updates regarding all of MOAA's legislative priorities.



# MISSION STATEMENT

*THE FALCONS LANDING CHAPTER  
OF MOAA WILL ACTIVELY  
SUPPORT*

**THOSE WHO  
ARE SERVING**

**THOSE WHO  
HAVE SERVED**

**THOSE WHO  
HAVE  
SURVIVED**

# IMPORTANT CHAPTER EVENTS AND SCHEDULE

THE GATHERING IS OPEN TO ALL CHAPTER MEMBERS AND FALCONS LANDING RESIDENTS. THE GATHERING IS NORMALLY CONDUCTED ONCE A MONTH IN THE FALCONS LANDING BALLROOM.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS (BOD) MEETS ON THE 3<sup>RD</sup> THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 1000 HOURS IN THE WELLNESS CENTER CONFERENCE ROOM OR VIA ZOOM. MEMBERS ARE WELCOME.

CHAPTER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (PRESIDENT, 1ST VP; 2ND VP, SECRETARY, TREASURER) MEETS AS REQUIRED.

COMMITTEES MEET AT DISCRETION OF COMMITTEE CHAIRS.

## 2025 MEETING DATES

|             |                                 |              |                                   |
|-------------|---------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------------|
| January 16  | Board Meeting, 1000             | July         | No Board Meeting                  |
| February 20 | Board Meeting, 1000             | August 21    | Board Meeting, 1000               |
| March 20    | Quarterly Chapter Meeting, 1500 | September 25 | Quarterly Chapter Meeting, 1500   |
| April 17    | Board Meeting, 1000             | October 16   | Board Meeting, 1000               |
| May 15      | Board Meeting, 1000             | November 11  | Veterans Day Program, 1030        |
| May 26      | Memorial Day Program, 1030      | November 20  | Annual Meeting and Election, 1500 |
| June 19     | Quarterly Chapter Meeting, 1500 | December     | No Board Meeting                  |





**FALCONS LANDING CHAPTER**  
**MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA**  
20540 FALCONS LANDING CIRCLE, #P1  
POTOMAC FALLS, VIRGINIA 20165



## FACT SHEET 2025

[The Military Officers Association of America \(MOAA\)](#) is the nation's largest and most influential association of military officers. It is an independent, nonprofit, politically nonpartisan organization.

[The Falcons Landing Chapter \(FLC\)](#) is one of more than 400-plus local organizations affiliated with National MOAA and is a member of the Virginia Council of Chapters. The Chapter is located at Falcons Landing, a Life Plan Community which is operated by the Air Force Retired Officers Community (AFROC). It is the only MOAA Chapter in Loudoun County. The Chapter is also a member of the [Virginia Council of Chapters, MOAA](#)

The mission of the Chapter is to provide programs to support: *those who are serving; those who have served; and those who have survived*, while placing special focus on community support.

Chapter membership is open to those who hold, or have ever held, a warrant or commission in any component of the Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, Space Force, Public Health Service, NOAA, and their surviving spouses.

As of March 31, 2025, there were 122 Premium Members and 68 Auxiliary Chapter Members for a total of 190 Chapter Members.

The most significant, ongoing program for the Chapter is the multifaceted local support to veterans and their families. The Chapter established the [Loudoun Veterans and Family Support \(LVFS\)](#) program in partnership with Community Lutheran Church of Sterling, providing financial and general support to Loudoun County Veterans needing assistance.

The Chapter strongly supports the [Loudoun County Community Veterans Engagement Board \(LCCVEB\)](#), whose purpose is promoting a healthy and enriched lifestyle for Loudoun County veterans and their family members through community outreach and advocacy on Loudoun County veterans' issues.

The Chapter sponsors the *Gathering*, a program of distinguished guest speakers for monthly presentations on current and past world and government affairs.

The Chapter has established a *Speakers' Bureau*. This initiative is in keeping with the chapter's goal of continuing to inform the American public about their military establishment. There are currently 16 topics and speakers available for presentation to the local community.

Four times a year the Chapter supports the [AdoptaPlatoon Soldier Support Effort®](#) dedicated to serving deployed United States Service Men and Women by providing ongoing care packages to improve quality of life and raising morale for those serving overseas in the Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corp, Coast Guard and Special Forces.

The Chapter supports three [Junior ROTC](#) units in our area of responsibility: the Air Force JROTC unit at Chantilly High School in Fairfax, the Navy JROTC unit at Loudoun County High School in Leesburg, and the Army JROTC unit at South Lakes High School in Reston. The Chapter President and Director of JROTC Programs present scholarships to selected cadets at each school. In addition, the Lieutenant General John Pustay Scholarship is awarded to a selected cadet at Chantilly High School.

[Memorial and Veterans Day Programs](#) are presented each year at Falcons Landing.

**NEVER STOP SERVING**



# MOAA MEMBERSHIP

## BUDDY EVERAGE



### REGULAR CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP ELIGIBILITY

Per the chapter's bylaws -- the membership of the chapter shall be composed of men and women who are serving or have served on active duty or in one of the reserve components as a commissioned or warrant officer in one of the seven US Uniformed Services (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, Space Force, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and Public Health Service) or in one of the National Guard or Reserve Components thereof. Membership as of March 31, 2025. Two new member during 1st Qtr 2025.

**REGULAR CHAPTER MEMBERS (ON/OFF CAMPUS) – 122**

**CHAPTER AUXILIARY MEMBERS -- 68**

Surviving Spouses – 56

Spouses of current chapter members – 12

Others -- 0

***TOTAL MOAA COMMUNITY AT FALCONS LANDING -- 190!***

We invite and encourage you to join the Falcons Landing Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA), the preeminent organization protecting the rights and benefits of service members past, current, and future. The local chapters perform similar services at the community and county level, and they educate and inform members on important issues facing veterans and their families. We are proud that our Chapter has been awarded MOAA's highest-level 5-Star Chapter rating – and we ask you to join us in perpetuating that honor. As a member you will receive our newsletter electronically via email. If you don't have email access, we will send a print copy to your mailing address.

When you join our Chapter, the only one in Loudoun County, you'll add your voice to those of the members of the Virginia Council of Chapters (VCOC), a statewide network of Virginia chapters.

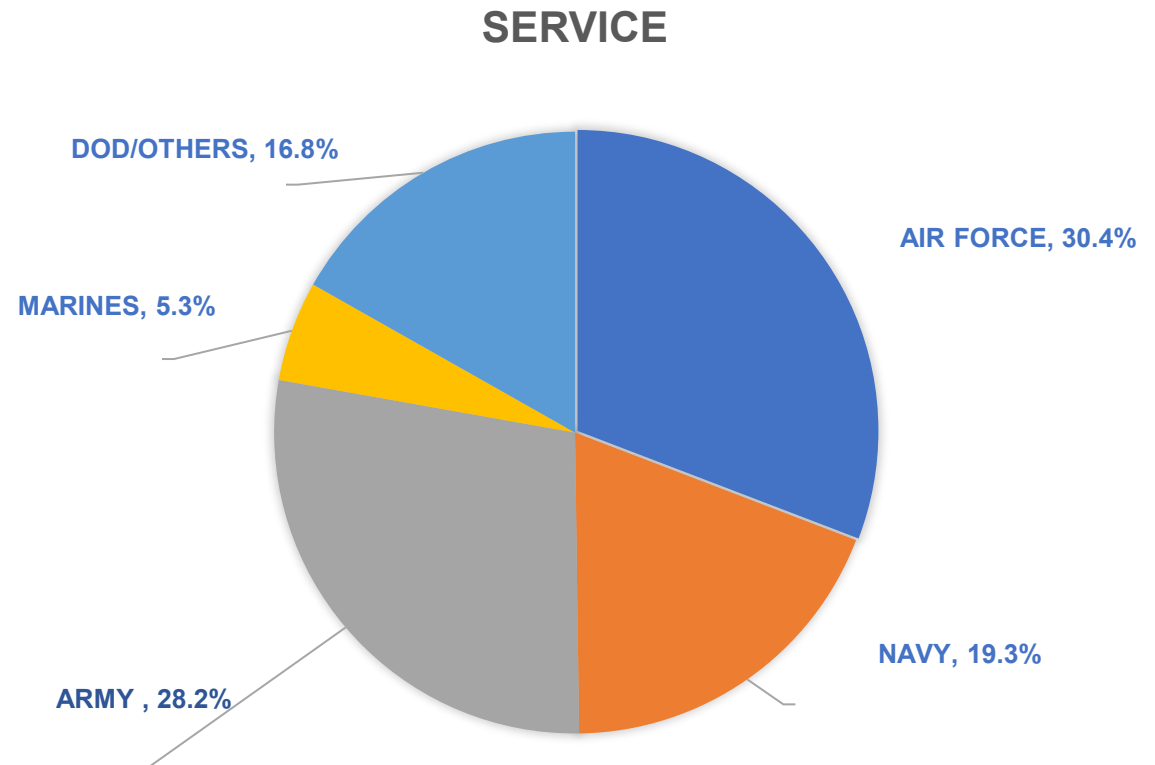
If you have interest in or questions about joining MOAA's select group of professionals at the national and/or chapter levels, please contact CDR (Ret) Buddy Everage, (703) 822-1201, [beverage49@gmail.com](mailto:beverage49@gmail.com), or fill out the Contact Form in the Contact Tab of the Falcons Landing Chapter website at [falconsmoaa.org](http://falconsmoaa.org). You can also find the membership application for MOAA National/Chapter at [www.falconsmoaa.org/membership](http://www.falconsmoaa.org/membership)

# FALCONS LANDING RESIDENT POPULATION DISTRIBUTION BY SERVICE AFFILIATION

As of 3/31/2025

| SERVICE      | NUMBER |
|--------------|--------|
| AIR FORCE    | 143    |
| ARMY         | 132    |
| NAVY         | 91     |
| MARINE CORPS | 25     |
| DOD/OTHERS   | 79     |
| TOTAL        | 470    |

391



**APPROXIMATELY 43% OF THE TOTAL FL POPULATION ARE MEMBERS OF OUR CHAPTER/AUXILIARY; THAT'S APPROXIMATELY 52% OF THE MILITARY POPULATION.**

# IN MEMORIUM



**DALE REED**  
**MAY 14, 1919 – JANUARY 3, 2025**  
**UNITED STATES NAVY**



**ROBERT FOSS**  
**FEBRUARY 15, 1935 – FEBRUARY 3, 2025**  
**UNITED STATES NAVY**

**JEAN VARNEY**  
**XXXX – JANUARY 11, 2025**  
**SURVIVING SPOUSE OF JACK E. VARNEY**  
**UNITED STATES NAVY**

**JAMES BUSHEE**  
**DECEMBER 31, 1934 – FEBRUARY 6, 2025**  
**UNITED STATES ARMY**

**JULIA (JULIE) KAMINSKI**  
**SEPTEMBER 15, 1942 – JANUARY 15, 2025**  
**SPOUSE OF PAUL KAMINSKI**  
**UNITED STATES AIR FORCE**

**RICHARD (DICK) VAN WAGONER**  
**JUNE 18, 1935 – JUNE 25, 2025**  
**UNITED STATES AIR FORCE**

**THOMAS E. GERNON III**  
**XXXX – JANUARY 27, 2025**  
**UNITED STATES ARMY**

**JAMES KEITH MONG**  
**MARCH 19, 1933 – FEBRUARY 27, 2025**  
**UNITED STATES ARMY**

# IN MEMORIUM



**GLORIA BROWN**  
**APRIL 11, 1926 – MARCH 6, 2025**  
**SURVIVING SPOUSE OF**  
**WILLIAM EARL BROWN**  
**UNITED STATES AIR FORCE**

**HELEN GINETTI**  
**APRIL 2, 1936 – MARCH 12, 2025**  
**SPOUSE OF BEN GINETTI**  
**UNITED STATES AIR FORCE**

**DORIS OLLER**  
**SEPTEMBER 23, 2025 – MARCH 20, 2025**  
**SURVIVING SPOUSE OF WILLIAM OLLER**  
**UNITED STATES NAVY**

**GINA PASTORE**  
**JULY 11, 1932 – MARCH 31, 2025**  
**SPOUSE OF RICHARD PASTORE**  
**UNITED STATES ARMY**



# FALCONS LANDING CHAPTER MOAA SUMMARY FINANCIAL REPORT 1 JANUARY -- 20 MARCH 2025

FINANCIAL  
REPORT

RICHARD  
SEARLES

|                              | <u>YTD ACTUAL</u>       | <u>2025 BUDGET TOTAL</u> |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| CASH BALANCE, 1 JANUARY 2025 | <u>\$ 15,987</u>        |                          |
| INCOME                       |                         |                          |
| DONATIONS AND DUES           | <u>2,105</u>            | <u>16,000</u>            |
| EXPENDITURES                 |                         |                          |
| DIRECT SUPPORT               | (5,000)                 | (15,300)                 |
| PROGRAMS                     | (98)                    | (850)                    |
| ADMINISTRATION               | (410)                   | (1,280)                  |
| TOTAL EXPENDITURES           | <u>(5,508)</u>          | <u>(17,430)</u>          |
| DECREASE IN CASH             | <u>(3,403)</u>          | <u>(1,430)</u>           |
| CASH BALANCE, 20 MARCH 2025  | <u><u>\$ 12,583</u></u> |                          |

THE DETAILED FINANCIAL REPORT MAY BE OBTAINED BY CONTACTING THE  
CHAPTER TREASURER, RICHARD SEARLES, AT [drsearles3@icloud.com](mailto:drsearles3@icloud.com)

# FALCONS LANDING MOAA CHAPTER AUXILIARY

BARBARA O'BRIEN

THE CHAPTER AUXILIARY IS ESTABLISHED TO ASSIST THE CHAPTER IN EXECUTING ITS PURPOSE. AS STATED IN THE CHAPTER BYLAWS, THE PURPOSE OF THE MOAA CHAPTER IS TO PROMOTE THE PURPOSES AND OBJECTIVES OF MOAA AND, SPECIFICALLY, TO ACTIVELY SUPPORT:

- THOSE WHO ARE SERVING
- THOSE WHO HAVE SERVED
- THOSE WHO HAVE SURVIVED

FURTHER, WHILE THE AUXILIARY IS A SEPARATE, SELF-GOVERNED ORGANIZATION THAT SHARES THE SAME PURPOSES AND OBJECTIVES OF THE CHAPTER, IT IS ESTABLISHED SPECIFICALLY TO DIRECTLY SUPPORT THE CHAPTER'S PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES.

***The MOAA Chapter Auxiliary is the Go-To  
Volunteer Organization at Falcons Landing***

# **FALCONS LANDING MOAA CHAPTER AUXILIARY CONTINUED**

## **MEMBERSHIP IN THE AUXILIARY**

**THREE CATEGORIES OF MEMBERSHIP ARE  
SPECIFIED IN THE BYLAWS:**

- **SURVIVING SPOUSES OF REGULAR CHAPTER MEMBERS – AUTOMATIC MEMBERSHIP ON THE PASSING OF A REGULAR CHAPTER MEMBER**
- **SPOUSES OF REGULAR CHAPTER MEMBERS – UPON REQUEST/APPLICATION FROM A SPOUSE OF A LIVING REGULAR CHAPTER MEMBER**
- **OTHER INTERESTED RESIDENTS OF FALCONS LANDING – UPON REQUEST/APPLICATION FROM A NON-MOAA AFFILIATED RESIDENT OF FALCONS LANDING WHO IS INTERESTED IN ASSISTING WITH THE AUXILIARY'S PROGRAM OF VOLUNTEER WORK.**

## **MORE ABOUT THE AUXILIARY**

**AUXILIARY MEMBERS PAY NO CHAPTER DUES**

**AUXILIARY RECRUITMENT LETTERS SENT OUT  
TWICE YEARLY**

**VOLUNTEER OUTREACH AVAILABLE IN  
INDEPENDENT LIVING, THE JOHNSON CENTER, D  
WEST FALLS CENTER, AND HILLSIDE HOUSE TO  
INCLUDE: VISITATION, COFFEE/MEAL VISITS,  
EXERCISE, BINGO, MAIL DELIVERY, NEWSPAPER  
DELIVERY, ASSISTANCE IN 2L INTERACTIVE  
PROGRAMS, HAPPY HOURS, MUSIC, WEEKEND  
COVERAGE OF RECEPTION DESK IN TJC WHEN  
REQUESTED.**

**TYPICAL ON-SITE VOLUNTEER EFFORT –  
APPROXIMATELY 150-200 HOURS/MONTH.**



## VCOC PLANNED ACTIONS WITH VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE 2025

- TO WORK WITH VIRGINIA VETERANS OFFICE TO VERIFY VIRGINIA VETERANS COUNT
- TO WORK WITH LEGISLATURE TO COMBAT UNSCRUPULOUS FIRMS FROM EXPLOITING VETERANS (SPONSORED BY VFW)
- TO WORK WITH LEGISLATURE TO PROVIDE TUITION ASSISTANCE PAYMENTS TO NATIONAL GUARD MEMBERS UPON REGISTRATION NOT POST COURSE TO REDUCE HARDSHIP FOR GUARD MEMBERS
- TO INITIATE PROGRAM TO INCREASE LAND CAPACITY OF VIRGINIA CEMETERIES
- TO RECOGNIZE WOMEN'S VETERAN DAY IN VIRGINIA (PLANNED JUNE 12)



THE VIRGINIA COUNCIL OF CHAPTERS (VCOC) OF THE MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA (MOAA) CONSISTS OF 14 MOAA CHAPTERS.

COL DIANNA KUPCHELLA, USAF (RET), A FLCONS LANDING RESIDENT IS CURRENTLY THE PRESIDENT OF VCOC

THE VIRGINIA COUNCIL OF CHAPTERS MEETS QUARTERLY IN 2025: JANUARY, APRIL, JULY AND OCTOBER.

CHECK OUT THE *CRIER NEWSLETTER* AT  
[MOAAVCOC.ORG](http://MOAAVCOC.ORG)

## LEGISLATIVE REPORT INFORMATION

Periodically, MOAA will lobby Congress to take legislative action to preserve our retiree benefits. The probability of favorable legislative action is in direct proportion to the number of voters who register support. MOAA sometimes includes postcards and letters in its magazine (Military Officer) for us to sign and mail to our representatives (identified for us). The MOAA Newsletter may also include an online access to act. It is imperative that we do so. To access the MOAA Newsletter click on the following URL:

<https://www.moaa.org/content/tmn/the-moaa-newsletter/>

The MOAA Newsletter “is an award-winning member-only e-newsletter subscription to provide information on topics most important to you. Whether you’re looking for updates on current legislative issues, want to know more about your military benefits, or just interested in the latest MOAA events, you can tailor your newsletter to align with your specific needs and interests.” It is included with your MOAA membership. If you are not registered with MOAA National for this, call (800) 234-6622, and you'll be guided on how to receive the newsletter on a desired schedule. Have your MOAA National membership number available. If you don't have email or have questions on obtaining this information, contact CDR (Ret) Buddy Everage, (703) 822-1201, [beverage49@gmail.com](mailto:beverage49@gmail.com).

Our Chapter periodically publishes Legislative Updates for all members and works with MOAA to recommend to members that they support MOAA legislative initiatives by contacting their legislators. MOAA staff and Chapter members meet with members of Congress annually. You may review important MOAA legislative issues and activities on the MOAA website by visiting the Take Action section at [www.moaa.org/takeaction](http://www.moaa.org/takeaction).

National MOAA and the Falcons Landing Chapter, MOAA, are politically nonpartisan but seek to remain informed on political matters of concern to veterans at both the state and local levels.

# MOAA'S PRIORITIES FOR THE 119TH CONGRESS

*edited summary of article in  
MOAA Newsletter, March 20, 2025*

MOAA's priorities for the 119th Congress reflect our commitment to protect compensation and benefits, ensure access to top-tier DoD and VA health care, and address the unique challenges military families and veterans face. These efforts underscore MOAA's unwavering dedication to those who serve and have served. *Falcons Landing Chapter of MOAA strongly supports these priorities and recommends that each chapter member become familiar with the five issues by clicking each item on the following page which will download an issue paper covering the topic in full.*

**MOAA'S  
PRIORITIES**

**FOR THE  
119TH  
CONGRESS**  
*continued*

**Improving**

Improving [unaccompanied housing](#) to support readiness and quality of life | [Write Your Lawmakers Today](#)

**Advancing**

Advancing the report *Ending the Wait for Toxic-Exposed Veterans* to [ensure timely delivery of earned benefits](#) | [Write Your Lawmakers Today](#)

**Passing**

[Passing the Military Spouse Hiring Act](#) to expand employment opportunities | [Write Your Lawmakers Today](#)

**Enhancing**

[Enhancing stability and accountability](#) in the military health system | [Share Your Story With MOAA](#)

**Improving**

[Improving caregiving support](#) for families of veterans | [Write Your Lawmakers Today](#)

# COMMUNICATIONS

BOB MANNING

- APPLICATIONS FOR 2024 LEVELS OF EXCELLENCE AND HARRIS COMMUNICATION AWARDS (NEWSLETTER AND WEBSITE) HAVE BEEN SUBMITTED TO MOAA NATIONAL. AWARDS WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN APRIL 2025.



- ANY MEMBER INTERESTED IN ASSISTING IN THE PUBLISHING OF THE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER (FALCON FLYER) AND/OR WORKING ON WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT, CONTACT BOB MANNING AT [RMANNING@AOL.COM](mailto:RMANNING@AOL.COM)

# HELP SUPPORT OUR CHAPTER PROGRAMS

Our activities, especially the veterans' assistance and scholarship programs, require funds well beyond our annual dues. Last year, we solicited donations, and your response was generous. Again, we are asking for your support, promising to apply your donation as you designate. Please annotate your check on the memo line: "veterans assistance," "scholarships," "Adopt-A-Platoon," or "general" (meaning expenses consistent with our mission). *Checks should be made out to the "Falcons Landing Chapter of MOAA"* and placed in the mail slot of our Treasurer, Richard Searles, 46874. Those outside Falcons Landing may mail to Richard at 20540 Falcons Landing Circle, #P2, Potomac Falls, Virginia 20165. Your contributions may be tax deductible on your federal return. We will send all donors a thank-you letter to that effect.

A continuing practice of our Chapter is the award of scholarships to deserving junior ROTC seniors at Chantilly Academy (Air Force), Loudoun County HS (Navy) and South Lakes HS (Army).

## PROGRAMS



LOUDOUN VETERANS AND  
FAMILY SUPPORT



FALCONS LANDING  
FALCONS LANDING CHAPTER MILITARY OFFICERS  
ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA (MOAA)

SPEAKERS  
DIRECTORY



JROTC





# **LOUDOUN VETERANS AND FAMILY SUPPORT**

## **QUARTERLY REPORT: 1 JAN - 20 MAR 2025**

**HOWARD SCHUE**

- **SINCE 1/1/25, WE HAVE ASSISTED VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES 15 TIMES FOR A TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$3,139.73 -- AN AVERAGE OF \$209.32 PER ASSISTANCE**
- **CURRENT LVFS FUND BALANCE IS \$4,112.35**
- **CHAPTER'S \$5,000 DONATION WAS DEPOSITED ON 26 JANUARY**
- **CHAPTER HAS BUDGETED AN ADDITIONAL \$3,000 FOR 2025**
- **LVFS HAS NO OVERHEAD – 100% OF EVERY DONATION GOES TO MEET VETERANS' NEEDS. WE HAVE RECEIVED AND FULLY SPENT OUR 2024 MOAA NATIONAL GRANT OF \$2,000 AND HAVE RECEIVED GIFTS FROM CLC AND OTHER DONORS. CHAPTER DONATIONS ARE THE MAJOR LVFS FUNDING SOURCE. OUR CURRENT LVFS FUND BALANCE IS ABOUT \$1,600. DONATIONS ARE ALWAYS MOST WELCOME.**
- **SINCE ITS INCEPTION, LVFS, WITH OTHER VSOS, HAS NEVER FAILED TO MEET THE IMMEDIATE NEED OF A LOUDOUN COUNTY VETERAN'S FAMILY.**





# **JROTC PROGRAM**

## **JOE MILLER**

- **PHIL WALSH AND BOB MANNING ATTENDED THE CHANTILLY ACADEMY “DINING OUT” ON JANUARY 28, 2025**
- **\$6,000 IN SCHOLARSHIPS WILL BE AWARDED THIS SPRING AS APPROVED IN THE BUDGET FOR 2025; PLUS, A SEPARATE \$1000 SCHOLARSHIP GIFT FROM ALLEN WILD WILL ALSO BE PRESENTED TO A SOUTH LAKES HIGH SCHOOL ARMY JROTC CADET**
- **JROTC ANNUAL AWARD CEREMONIES ARE SCHEDULED AS FOLLOWS:**
  - **AIR FORCE AT CHANTILLY ACADEMY – SATURDAY MORNING , APRIL 5, 2025**
  - **ARMY AT SOUTH LAKES H.S. – TUESDAY EVENING, APRIL 22, 2025**
  - **NAVY AT LOUDOUN COUNTY H.S. – WEDNESDAY EVENING, MAY 14, 2025**



# **SPEAKERS BUREAU**

## **ED POST**

- **THE PURPOSE OF THE SPEAKERS BUREAU IS TO SHARE THE UNIQUE MILITARY AND GOVERNMENT KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERTISE OF OUR FALCONS LANDING RESIDENCE TO GENERAL AUDIENCES IN LOUDOUN COUNTY.**
- **PRESENTATIONS ARE APPROXIMATELY AN HOUR WITH A 40 MINUTE PRESENTATION AND A 20- MINUTE QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION. MOST PRESENTATIONS ARE CONDUCTED AT LOUDOUN COUNTY LIBRARIES.**
- **A NEW ADDITION TO THE SPEAKERS BUREAU IS EARL WALKER WHO HAS THE FOLLOWING PRESENTATIONS AVAILABLE FOR 2025:**
  - ✓ **“SERVING AS A WHITE HOUSE FELLOW”**
  - ✓ **“YOUNG MEN AT WAR”**
  - ✓ **“EDUCATING MILITARY CADETS”**

# THE GATHERING: THE CODE OF THE WARRIOR: HONOR AND RESPECT

~article by Jim Mullen and photo by Alex Hild



Our guest speaker and fellow resident, Gerald E. Galloway, chose a very interesting and challenging topic for the Gathering, as always, sponsored by the Falcons Landing Chapter of Military Officers Association of America(MOAA). His presentation reflected on the bonds that exist among combatants; how to look past the efforts of combat and focus on actions oriented toward post-combat reconciliation. His primary example focused on the Civil War, its end, and the first steps towards such reconciliation.

(Author's note: A short review in this Falcons Landing News cannot do justice to the presentation. You really need to see the channel 970 reprise! And attend the next Gathering in person.)

*(left to right) Gerry Galloway & Ben Romero*

Gerry's presentation opened with the introduction of a civilian professor at Bowdoin College, Joshua Chamberlain, who joined the Union Army as a citizen who felt a responsibility to provide support during the great American Civil War. Chamberlain served with the 20th Maine, and we find him at

# **THE GATHERING: THE CODE OF THE WARRIOR: HONOR AND RESPECT (cont.)**

**~article by Jim Mullen and photo by Alex Hild**

Gettysburg when the unit was low on ammunition, leading a charge with fixed bayonets to slow down and stop charging Confederates! By the later stages of the war, he was a Brigadier General (BG) and much noticed by General Grant. Grant and Lincoln had been discussing the coming end of the Civil War and next actions towards closure. Grant asked Chamberlain to manage the upcoming surrender by Lee.

As the North watched, BG Chamberlain conducted the ceremony of surrender of General Lee and his forces at Appomattox. However, settling scores was not what was done. Chamberlain had arranged for the now defeated enemy to stack rifles and return home on a parole with sidearms, basic supplies, horses needed to return to farming, and a shred of dignity. In fact, the Union troops along the path home for Lee and the defeated Confederates showed basic military honor recognition to their former foe. (How about that for “...forming a more perfect Union...”?!) And we have lived and benefited from that action of Lincoln, Grant and Chamberlain from then until today.)

The Gathering presentation included some other examples of the positive side of the Warrior Code including the famous Christmas Day truce of WWI and General Rommel’s decision not to kill enemy prisoners of war despite Hitler’s wish. General Chamberlain received the Medal of Honor, returned to Bowdoin, continued to live a long life as scholar, President of Bowdoin, and as Governor of Maine.<sup>26</sup>

# THE GATHERING: MOAA PRESENTS PATTON THE MOVIE

~article by Jim Mullen and photo by Alex Hild

The MOAA Gathering hosted by Ben Romero on January 16, 2025, presented a discussion of the movie “Patton,” with guest speakers Blane Amphor (a returning Gathering guest speaker) and Anjuli M. Singh (a graduate student working on her PhD with the focus on movies). They provided a behind-the-scenes view of the movie, including a view of the life of General George Patton. The discussion covered preparation of the script, casting of George C. Scott in the lead as George Patton, and shooting on location in Spain with its open rural countryside, with various Spanish army military equipment from World War II for realism.

It took 20 years to get the film produced, in part because George Patton’s widow, Beatrice, did not wish to have such a biography, nor did the Patton family provide any direct support. However, those who knew Patton, including General Bradley, did provide background information. Anjuli used realistic film clips from the movie to develop her presentation of the movie version of Patton. In particular, she focused on his military insights, his belief in reincarnation, his strong religious faith and the role of his chaplain in leading prayer for battle, and his support of his wounded troops and visits to them. She also discussed his intolerance of what we today call posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD), including a famous slapping sequence.

The pluses of Patton’s character certainly influenced his success in battle, his recognition as a

# THE GATHERING: MOAA PRESENTS PATTON THE MOVIE ) CONTINUED

~article by Jim Mullen and photo by Alex Hild

leader, and his promotion to general. But the minuses also had an effect, causing some limitations in his career and later assignments. The film also included reference to the Battle of the Bulge and Patton's role in how he provided troops in relief of the 101st Airborne Division, again displaying his military leadership, his drive to accomplish any mission, and his initiative.



Anjuli included a clip on the music of the film, as developed by composer Jerry Goldsmith, and which itself earned an Oscar nomination for its innovative methods of producing the music. If I listen carefully, I can still hear it in the distance. All in all, we received a very fine balanced and thorough presentation from our guest speakers. Thank you especially to Anjuli Singh for her research and preparation. If you missed this presentation. I hope you watch the replay on channel 970. In fact, I hope Falcons Landing would be able to schedule the movie for us in the future.

*(left to right) Anjuli M. Singh, Ben Romero, Blane Amphor*

# NEWS YOU CAN USE

- 2025 OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS – CURRENT/ANTICIPATED VACANCIES:
  - ✓ NEW CHAPTER PRESIDENT – PHIL WALSH IS STILL SEEKING REPLACEMENT; NO CANDIDATE YET IDENTIFIED
  - ✓ DIRECTOR, SPEAKERS BUREAU - ED POST SEEKING REPLACEMENT NOW
  - ✓ TREASURER - RICHARD SEARLES SEEKING REPLACEMENT AT THE END OF THE YEAR
- MOAA MEMBERS HAVE ACCESS TO EXCLUSIVE DISCOUNTS WITH **EVERPLANS**, A TOOL TO HELP ORGANIZE YOUR ESTATE-WITH A FOCUS ON MILITARY BENEFITS AND A WAY TO GATHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION SUCH PASSWORDS, LEGAL DOCUMENTS, ETC IN ONE PLACE. GO TO [www.moaa.org/everplans](http://www.moaa.org/everplans)
- NEW FOR 2024: **PREPARING FOR THE LOSS OF A MILITARY SPOUSE** WILL HELP YOU GET YOUR PERSONAL AFFAIRS INTO ORDER AND HELP GUIDE SURVIVORS THROUGH THE FIRST STEPS THEY NEED TO TAKE AFTER A LOVED ONE’S DEATH. LEARN ABOUT ACCESSING SURVIVOR BENEFITS, HOW TO DRAW UP AN ESTATE PLAN, AND MUCH MORE. [LOGIN NOW](#) TO ACCESS YOUR FREE COPY ([DOWNLOAD](#) OR HAVE A COPY MAILED).
- AUSA MEMBERS CAN USE **LAWASSURE** TO CREATE A HIGH-QUALITY WILL, HEALTHCARE DIRECTIVE OR POWER OF ATTORNEY AS WELL AS MANY OTHER ESTATE PLANNING SERVICES. **LAWASSURE** IS COMPLETELY FREE TO AUSA MEMBERS. GO TO <https://www.ausa.org/member-benefits/lawassure>



## NEWS YOU CAN USE

### CONTINUED

- PERIODICALLY FALCONS LANDING MOAA CHAPTER HAS A PROGRAM CALLED "ARE YOU PREPARED?" TO ASSIST SURVIVING SPOUSES WITH QUESTIONS REGARDING BENEFITS. THE NEXT PROGRAM WILL BE CONDUCTED IN JULY. DETAILS WILL BE PUBLISHED LATER.
- APRIL IS MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD, PROVIDING AN OPPORTUNITY TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE SERVICE OF VIRGINIA'S YOUNGEST HEROES, OVER 80,000 MILITARY CONNECTED CHILDREN. THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS SERVICES (DVS) HAS PARTNERED WITH THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (VDOE) TO BUILD AWARENESS FOR THIS IMPORTANT DAY.

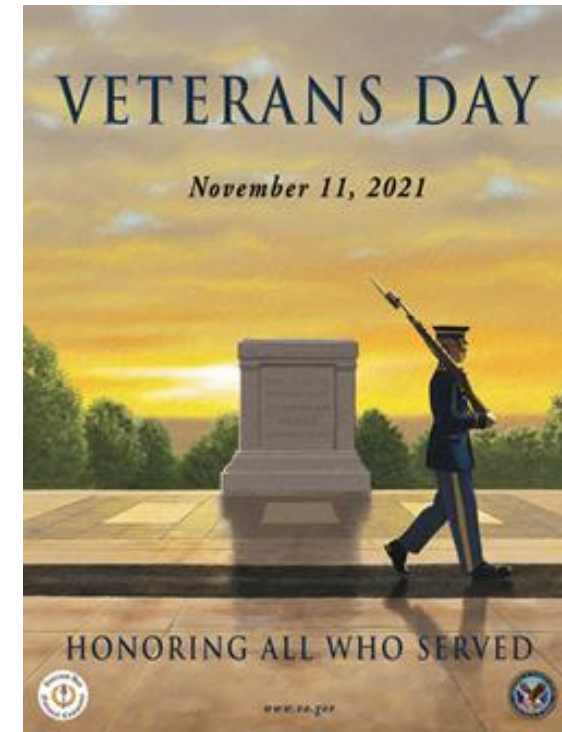
### ***VIRGINIA LEGISLATION OF INTEREST TO MILITARY AND VETERANS 2025***

- LEGISLATION HAS BEEN INTRODUCED IN THE STATE SENATE THAT WOULD REMOVE THE STATE'S \$40,000 CAP ON MILITARY PAY EXEMPTION STARTING WITH THE 2026 TAX YEAR. MULTIPLE VERSIONS OF SIMILAR LEGISLATION HAVE BEEN INTRODUCED IN THE STATE HOUSE.
- A PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO HB 1600 (THE STATE BUDGET BILL FOR FY 2025 AND 2026) WOULD CLASSIFY THE COMMISSIONED CORPS OF USPHS AND NOAA AS "UNIFORMED SERVICES" IN VIRGINIA CODE.

# MARK YOUR CALENDARS



**MAY 26, 2025**



**NOVEMBER 11, 2025**

# 2025 OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

**\*President: Phil Walsh, Col, USMC, Ret.**

**First Vice President/Legislative Affairs: James Mullen, COL, USA, Ret.**

**Second Vice President/Dir of Programs: David Nordean, CAPT, USN, Ret.**

**Secretary: Donna Everage, Spouse of Current Member**

**Treasurer: Richard Searles, USAF, Ret.**

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**Director/LVFS: Howard Schue, Col, USAF, Ret.**

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**Founder, Past President: John Pustay, Lt Gen, USAF, Ret.**

**Immediate Past President: Bob Manning, COL, USA, Ret.**

**\*To Continue In Office Until A Successor is Identified And Elected By The Membership**



## Falcons Landing Chapter

### Military Officers Association of America

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MOAA is a nonpartisan, nonprofit veterans' association dedicated to maintaining a strong national defense and ensuring our nation keeps its commitments to currently serving, retired, and former members of the uniformed services and their families and survivors. MOAA's greatest mission is "to improve the lives of those who serve and their families, which is achieved largely through the tireless advocacy efforts taking place in our nation's capital". Support MOAA's advocacy efforts by going to <http://takeaction.moaa.org>.

The Falcons Landing Chapter is one of more than 400-plus local organizations affiliated with National MOAA and is a nonpartisan, nonprofit veterans' association. Our chapter provides programs to support: those who are serving; those who have served; and those who have survived, while placing special focus on community support.

We support the national organization through support of legislative priorities and "Storming the Hill" and are active in our community supporting two JROTC programs, helping recovering and needy veterans, and providing speakers to community service organizations.

[Click to view A Special Message from the President of MOAA](#)

Falcons Landing Chapter of the MOAA - 20540 Falcons Landing Cir #P1 - Potomac Falls, VA 20165

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All Falcons Landing Chapter members and veterans interested in joining the Chapter are encouraged to browse through the award-winning website. The website is updated monthly with current information. *To access the website, simply type the following URL into your web browser, [falconsmoaa.org](http://falconsmoaa.org). If you want to access the Documents section, a password is required which you may obtain from our Director of Membership, CDR (Ret) Buddy Everage, (703) 822-1201, [beverage49@gmail.com](mailto:beverage49@gmail.com)*