



WELCOME TO PPCMOAA NEWS

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PRESIDENT'S 2026 MESSAGE TO PIKES PEAK CHAPTER MEMBERS

MOAA National has finally released the names of over 4500 people who are members of MOAA and living in our area. While this was designed as an effort to assist with Chapter recruiting, it has been a challenge since the contact information is not complete. Chapter Officers are in the first phase of contacting individuals so please bear with us if you are inadvertently contacted about becoming a Chapter Member. We hope to complete this task by year's end and will report on the number of new Chapter Members that were recruited.

Our Chapter has recognized our nation's 250th anniversary in a special way by displaying our support of our seventeen (17) JROTC units. At this year's Annual ROTC/JROTC Recognition Luncheon, each unit received an extra \$250 for their ongoing operations support. We will also be asking units for assistance in establishing a few social media sites (i.e. Facebook, LinkedIn, etc) for our Chapter since MOAA encourages the use of social media to attract younger members.

I am delighted to announce that we now welcome member spouses to join our Chapter as Associate Members. Associate Members are those who are not eligible to become regular MOAA members. We look forward to welcoming many spouses into our Chapter and hope they become an active and vibrant addition.

Finally, I must announce that beginning in 2027, Chapter dues will be nominally increased. Annual dues will increase from \$24/year to \$30/yr and surviving spouse and spouse dues from \$12/yr to \$15/yr. We will be holding Chapter Life Member dues the same, \$300 for under 70 yrs and \$240 for those over 70 years. Now is an excellent time to think about becoming a Chapter Life Member and avoiding any future increase in dues. We will also be in need of several Chapter Officers for those stepping down in 2027 (Treasurer, Newsletter Editor, Social Media Rep). Please let me know if you have an interest in any position.

Best wishes for enjoying our nation's 250th anniversary celebrations and I hope to see you at a future chapter event.

Felix Uhlik, Lt Col, USAF (Ret)
President, PPCMOAA



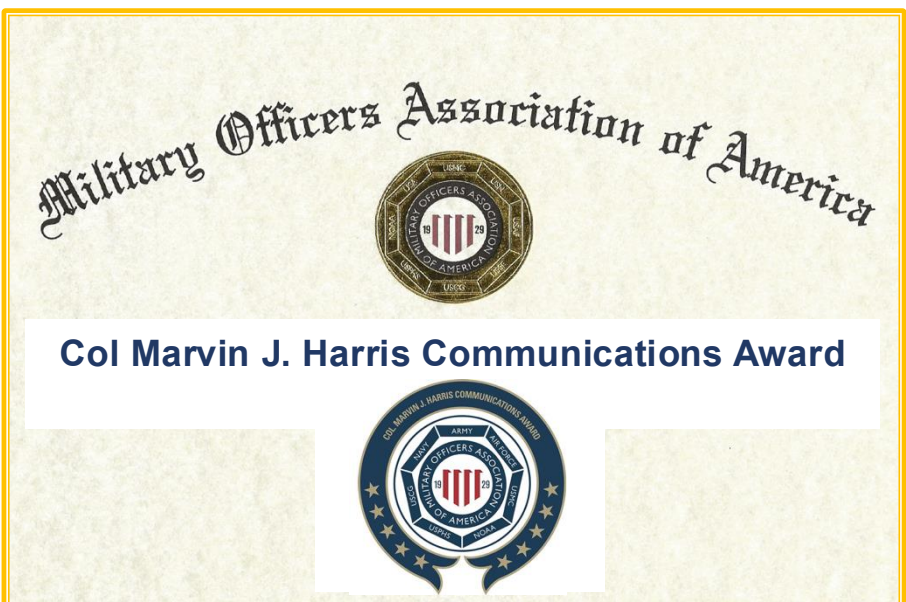
WELCOME TO PPCMOAA NEWS

Pikes Peak Chapter MOAA Awards

By: Felix Uhlik, Lt Col, USAF (Ret), PPCMOAA President



We are very pleased to announce that, for the THIRD consecutive year, our Chapter has received the 5-Star Level of Excellence (LOE) Award. According to Felix Uhlik, Chapter President, “This award from MOAA continues to be affirmation of the hard work, being conducted on a regular basis, by our dedicated staff of officers and appointed officials.” For a complete list of awards won by our Chapter go to our website, www.PPCMOAA.org, select “Chapter Info,” then “Awards.”



The second 2025 5-Star Award is the Col Marvin J. Harris Communications Award, presented to Mike McCoy, Vice President of Communications & *Eagle* Editor, for his excellence in producing extremely professional newsletters for our Chapter. This is the first time in over a decade that our Chapter has received the highest level of this prestigious Award, and it exemplifies the effort and dedication put forth by PPCMOAA elected officers and appointed officials



ELECTED OFFICERS

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Vacant Positions

Social Media Representative,
 Transition/Employment Mentor, Website Host



UPCOMING EVENTS

PPCMOAA LUNCH & DINNER DATES

June 11, 2026	Dinner	Marriott (Rockrimmon)
August 13, 2026	Lunch	Eisenhower Golf Club
October 8, 2026	Lunch	Edelweiss Restaurant
December 10, 2026	Lunch	Antlers Hotel

Additional details can be found, in advance of the event, on the PPCMOAA website “PPCMOAA.org”



MOAA MEMBERSHIP

U.S. AIR FORCE

U.S. ARMY

U.S. MARINE CORPS

U.S. NAVY

U.S. SPACE FORCE

U.S. COAST GUARD

NOAA

U.S. PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE



MOAA MEMBERSHIP

As of 8/25/2025. Life Members: 225. Regular Members 125

Chapter membership remains stable at about 350 active members **BUT LESS THAN 20% OF OUR ANNUAL DUES PAYING MEMBERS ARE CURRENT ON THEIR DUES.** Please do your part and send in your dues as they are necessary to support our ongoing efforts of providing stipends to the 18 ROTC/JROTC units that we support. Beginning in 2027, Chapter dues will be nominally increased. Annual dues will increase from \$24/year to \$30/yr and surviving spouse and spouse dues from \$12/yr to \$15/yr. We will be holding Chapter Life Member dues the same, \$300 for under 70 yrs and \$240 for those over 70 years. Now is an excellent time to think about becoming a Chapter Life Member and avoiding any future increase in dues.

If you have questions about your membership status, please contact either our VP Membership, Willie, wk56wvu@gmail.com, or our Treasurer, Terry, emailbuoy@gmail.com

We have Chapter members who are Life members of MOAA and Life members of PPCMOAA as well as Annual dues-paying members of both MOAA and PPCMOAA.

Chapter Dues are required for all with the exception of PPCMOAA Life Members and Surviving Spouses of deceased PPCMOAA Life Members. If you are unsure about your membership status, please contact our Treasurer, Terry Boles, at emailbuoy@gmail.com.

Chapter dues are paid for the calendar year (Jan – Dec) and **do not include MOAA National dues.**

Mail the form below to:

PPCMOAA Attn: Membership PO Box 33, USAF Academy, CO 80840. Please make your check payable to: **PPCMOAA**

----- Clip and mail -----

Full Name _____

Rank: _____ Branch: _____

Circle one: Retired Active Duty Former Member (MOAA National # _____)

Email: _____ Telephone: _____

Regular Member (Chapter and MOAA member) or **Associate Member** (Chapter member only)

Dues: ___ 2026 - \$24 ___ 2 years - \$48 ___ 3 years - \$72 ___ Life: Under 70 - \$300 ___ 70 & over - \$240 (Life membership cannot be extended to Associate Members.)

Surviving Spouse Member Dues: (unless deceased spouse was a Life Member)

___ 2026 - \$12 ___ 2 years - \$24 ___ 3 years - \$36 ___ Life - \$150

Life Memberships can be paid in 4 equal installments during the year. Amount this payment: \$_____



VA/VETERANS ARTICLES



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A Brief History of the U.S Navy Seabees

Author: Dr. Terry Boles, DPT
CDR, USPHS, (Ret)
PPCMOAA Medical Advisor

World War II

The concept of utilizing sailors to construct shore-based facilities is not novel. This practice dates to ancient civilizations such as the Egyptians, Phoenicians, Greeks, and Romans. In more recent history, from the inception of the United States Navy, sailors skilled in craftsmanship occasionally undertook minor construction tasks at land bases. The Seabees of the United States Navy were established during the challenging period following Pearl Harbor, when the objective of rebuilding from defeat appeared nearly unattainable. The Seabees were formed to meet a critical need for builders capable of engaging in combat while effectively executing construction duties. Editor's Note: This article contains extracts from the author's original history. Please visit this link:

<https://www.ppcmoaa.org/Navy-Seabees> for the complete version.



history.navy.mil

The Naval Construction Force, known as the Seabees, were formally established on March 5th, 1942, to meet the needs of military construction during World War II as civilian contractors were at risk in combat zones. The Seabees met the need of military builders who could fight and build advanced bases, airfields, roads, bridges, and other much needed infrastructure in the Pacific and Atlantic theaters of war. Rear Admiral Ben Moreell, CEC, USN, Chief of the Bureau of Yards and Docks, considered the father of the Seabees, was authorized on December 28, 1941, to recruit civilian construction workers for assignment to the newly created Naval Construction Regiment which consisted of three Naval Construction Battalions (NCB). This was the beginning of the Seabees of which Rear Admiral Moreell personally came up with the official motto *Construimus, Batuimus*; "We Build, We Fight" and their designation of the initials "CB" from Construction Battalion. The first Naval Construction Battalion (NCB) was comprised mostly of civilian construction workers who were on average between the age of 18 to 50 years old, with a few 60 years old, and in the early days of the war the average age was 37. They were recruited to adapt their civilian construction skills to meet the military needs in theaters of war. The first recruits were construction men that built dams, New York skyscrapers, national highways, mines, tunnels, quarries, worked in shipyards, and more which comprised of more than sixty different construction skills.



About 175,000 Seabees were staged through Port Hueneme during the war. As the war progressed it became apparent that several Seabee Battalions could be assigned to the same base. By August 1945, these Seabees had built sufficient facilities to supply the manpower for invasion of the Japanese home islands. During World War II, Seabees were organized into 151 construction battalions, 344 Special battalions or units, 54 regiments, 12 brigades, and 5 naval construction forces.

In World War II the Seabees performed legendary accomplishments in both theaters of operation, the Pacific and Atlantic. They constructed more than 400 advanced bases costing nearly \$11 billion. Seabees in the Atlantic Theater made the impossible possible with a major amphibious landing in Sicily. The Seabees use of the new pontoon causeways helped the surprise attack by the Allies as large numbers of men and equipment came ashore, which quickly outflanked the enemy by establishing a beachhead which ultimately began the end of the Axis southern stronghold. These pontoon causeways were also used during the Italian landings at Salerno and Anzio, however the Allies this time suffered heavy losses by fierce enemy resistance who prepared for this Seabee tactic. For months, the Seabees remained at Anzio under constant enemy bombardment and were tasked to keep the supplies flowing by unloading tank cargo landing ships across the pontoon causeways and building cargo handling facilities.



history.navy.mil

Seabees, as members of naval combat demolition units, were among the first to go ashore during D-Day at Normandy, 6 June 1944. Their task was to destroy steel and concrete barriers along the beaches. As dawn approached, making their presence known, whole teams were wiped out as they came under heavy fire by the enemy causing premature detonation of their explosives. The survivors in constant danger continued placing their charges which went off as scheduled creating huge holes in the enemy defenses. The Seabees work did not stop that day. They were tasked with building pontoon causeways, offshore cargo and docking facilities, piers, and breakwaters creating an artificial harbor. By 4 July, 28 days after DDay, they helped bring ashore more than a million Allied troops. The Seabees unparalleled deeds of historic wartime construction in the Pacific Theater utilized eighty percent of the Naval Construction Force concentrating on the North, Central, South, and Southwest Pacific areas. They built 111 major airstrips, 441 piers, hospitals to provide care to 70,000 patients, 700 warehouses, 2,558 ammunition magazines, storage tanks for 100,000,000 gallons of gasoline, and housing for 1,500,000 men. The Pacific Theater Seabees suffered more than 200 combat deaths, awarded more than 2,000 purple hearts, and served on more than 300 islands. With the Marines amphibious landing at Guadalcanal, the Seabees 6th Naval Construction Battalion followed them ashore becoming the first Seabees to build under combat conditions. They quickly began repairing Henderson Field which they had helped destroy previously. While under constant bombardment by enemy bombers it became a never-ending job of repairing craters, leveling the airstrip, and laying down Marston matting as runways. The Seabees kept this key airstrip in almost continuous operation for Allied pilots. Towards the decisive event of World War II, Seabees of the 6th Naval Construction Brigade helped unload components of a new weapon on the island of Tinian. These components were stored and guarded in sheds built by a detachment of Seabees. Seabees assisted scientists with assembly of this new weapon in these sheds prior to loading into the B-29 bomber, Enola Gay. On August 6, 1945, the Enola Gay took off from the North Field of Tinian, which the Seabees had built, on its way to Hiroshima.

During World War II, Seabees were awarded 33 silver stars and 5 Navy Crosses. Seabees killed in action included 272 enlisted men and 18 officers, while more than 500 Seabees died in construction accidents. The Seabees ingenuity and "Can Do!" attitude created a legacy of completed arduous construction projects in combat conditions in such a brief period that would set the standard for future Seabees to follow in their footsteps.



Post World War II

Following World War II, the Seabees demobilized from 250,000 to 20,000 men. The multitude of training bases and depots dissolved into the concentrated base at Naval Construction Battalion Center, Port Hueneme, CA. There were few construction battalions along with scattered detachments across other naval bases or stations. Peacetime Seabees took on unique assignments such as building a fleet weather station on Russia's Kamchatka Peninsula with the invitation of the Russians. China also requested Seabees to build projects on mainland China, and as part of the occupation forces in Japan, Seabee battalions rebuilt all types of facilities such as airstrips, bridges, roads, hospitals, and more. During World War II the Seabees were a Naval Reserve organization, however during the war they proved their metal and in 1947 they became part of the regular Navy. After the war, the Seabees organized reserve units to augment active-duty Seabees during national emergencies. Most of these reserve units were manned by 5 officers and 40 men. Eventually by 1949, the active-duty Seabees would dwindle down to 3,300 which created the need for reserve Seabees for the upcoming Korean war. Korean War Following the invasion of South Korea by communist forces of North Korea in 1950, the Seabees found themselves back at war and grew to a force of more than 14,00 by calling up reservists. During the September 1950 Inchon amphibious assault, the Seabees battling thirty-foot tides, built pontoon causeways within hours of the assault. With supplies bottlenecking, the Seabees pulled off a great train robbery. A group of Seabees covertly worked themselves behind enemy lines, and captured abandoned locomotives bringing them back and turning them over to the Army Transportation Corps.



history.navy.mil

During the Korean War, Seabees built numerous pontoon causeways, cleared mined tunnels, and repaired ships. Seabees continued their famed airfield construction, repairing, and servicing airfields using detachments assigned to various Marine Air Groups. One of the most remarkable Seabee feats was the critical need for an airstrip on the island of Yo, in the bay of Wonsan. In 1952, a Seabee detachment was put ashore on the island of Yo and was given 35 days to build a runway much needed by carrier-based aircraft as an emergency airfield. Seabees under constant enemy artillery bombardment completed the 2,400-foot airstrip in 16 days. The same day the airstrip was finished, nine damaged aircraft landed safely. The Korean War rapid demobilization was not repeated as it was with World War II. It was recognized that a reserve mobilization of Seabees helped meet the needs for war time construction. The need to maintain military strength and preparedness led to the reorganization of Seabee capabilities and increased Seabee numbers.

Between 1949 and 1953, the Seabees created 13 battalions meeting the need for more mobile and specialized battalions with two distinct capabilities. The first type was the Amphibious Construction Battalions used for landing and docking of amphibian forces. The second type were Naval Construction Battalions responsible for land construction of camps, roads, airfields, and other structures.



From MOAA's President: VA Staffing Cuts and Your Earned Benefits

Source:

https://www.moaa.org/bk-va-cuts/?_hsenc=p2ANqtz-9b6XpS7U7D4w7LbL5_bTmLcwnQVRdkz5MrvOTOLkEugH6L4kJ7xmFRWs0QPDBfOI7YmRIO73cBL3W9HbDKwrWJmhO-3g&_hsmi=370632714

By: Brian T. Kelly, Lt Gen, USAF (Ret), MOAA President & CEO

JULY 09, 2025

From the very start of the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) reviews of the VA and early announcements indicating that workforce reductions could reach as high as 80,000, MOAA has maintained a clear and consistent position.

We absolutely support the responsible pursuit of finding savings and efficiencies within the federal workforce. As fellow taxpayers, why wouldn't we be supportive of efficient government? At the same time, MOAA has been unwavering in its stance that cost-cutting measures must never compromise the earned benefits guaranteed to our veterans and retirees. These benefits are not budget line items — they are solemn promises made in recognition of service and sacrifice.



VA.gov photo

While the loss of 30,000 VA positions will allow the department to avoid reduction-in-force measures that could have [more than doubled those staffing cuts](#), the true measure of its impact lies not in these numbers, but in the outcomes: the quality, accessibility, and timeliness of care and benefits delivered to veterans.

As of now, the full impact of these staffing decisions remains unclear. The final report card cannot be issued until we see how they affect veterans' experiences with the VA system.

Will appointments be harder to schedule? Will claims take longer to process? Will specialized care become less accessible? These are the real questions veterans and their families are asking — and MOAA is committed to finding the answers. We will work alongside our partners in the veterans service organization (VSO) community to advocate for accountability and transparency throughout the process.

Just as we remain vigilant in ensuring that the legislation MOAA supports is implemented faithfully and effectively, we will continue to track VA performance and push for a streamlined department that still puts veterans first, ensuring they receive the care and benefits they've earned without compromise.

When MOAA Speaks, Congress Listens

Learn more about MOAA's key advocacy issues, and contact your elected officials using our messaging platform.



This Bill Would Support Grieving Military Families. It Has Reached a New Milestone in Congress

Source:

<https://www.moaa.org/content/publications-and-media/news-articles/2026-news-articles/advocacy/this-bill-would-support-grieving-military-families.-it-has-reached-new-milestones-in-congress/>

By: Stephanie Rose

MARCH 27, 2026

A bill that would remove unfair restrictions on survivor benefits faced by spouses under age 55 has moved further than ever on the way to becoming law.

The MOAA-supported Love Lives On Act (H.R. 1004 | S. 410) would allow surviving spouses to maintain certain benefits, including Dependency and Indemnity Compensation and Survivor Benefit Plan payments, regardless of the age at which they remarry. Current law revokes these benefits if the spouse remarries before age 55, leaving many young spouses a stark choice: Restore a two-parent household or maintain financial security.

[TAKE ACTION: [Ask Your Lawmakers to Support the Love Lives On Act](#)]



Lauren Tomkiewicz, surviving spouse of Marine Capt. Matthew Tomkiewicz, advocates alongside representatives of the Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (TAPS) and MOAA during a 2024 Capitol Hill visit. (Photo by Mike Morones/MOAA)

The Senate version passed unanimously out of that chamber's Veterans' Affairs Committee on March 18, making it eligible for a vote by the full Senate once a means to pay for the legislation is identified. It's the first time the legislation has reached this stage of Senate consideration.

Momentum also has continued on the House side, with that chamber's version unanimously clearing the House Veterans' Affairs Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs subcommittee March 26, making it eligible for the full committee's review and vote. The bill followed a similar path in the 118th session but ultimately was not considered by the full committee.

More Work to Do

The progress shows lawmakers are taking the issue seriously – of more than 12,800 bills introduced in the 119th Congress as of March 27, only about 680 had been “ordered reported” by a committee and sent to the full chamber for consideration.

But with less than 100 bills signed by the president into law this session, the fight is far from over. Lawmakers still need to identify a funding mechanism to pay for the bill and cannot move forward to a vote without it. If and when funding is identified, the bill will move forward to a vote in both the Senate and House chambers.



This Bill Would Support Grieving Military Families. It Has Reached a New Milestone in Congress (cont)

[KEEPING OUR PROMISE: [Fixing a System That Penalizes Surviving Spouses](#)]

Why It Matters

The average surviving spouse of a post-9/11 servicemember is 25 to 35 years old, according to the Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (TAPS), leaving many with young children of the deceased servicemember to raise on their own. To put this in perspective: Operation Enduring Freedom began Oct. 7, 2001. A military spouse who was 25 at the time would turn 50 this year, still five years shy of the age of remarriage without penalty.

Surviving Spouse Corner: Strengthening Emotional Well-Being

Source:

https://www.moaa.org/survivorbrainhealth?_hsenc=p2ANqtz--XCaopw_eD5i51S5mlgcNr2u9vN41hea8ZLPEuirgqhbhomf-pm9J728xF3FYzNc0HRoYQtp805E2OioY C0orrznBrjA&_hsmi=411873401

By: Roy Yanchesky, MOAA Staff

MARCH 27, 2026

The death of a military spouse reshapes emotional well-being in ways that reach far beyond grief itself. It is a loss that touches identity, daily rhythm, and the quiet sense of safety that comes from sharing life with someone who understood both the burdens and the pride of service.

For many, the brain responds to this kind of profound disruption with a mix of numbness, hypervigilance, and deep fatigue — natural reactions to a heart trying to make sense of a world suddenly changed. Yet within that upheaval, emotional well-being becomes not just a hope but a necessity: a steadying force that helps the mind process sorrow, rebuild resilience, and slowly rediscover moments of connection, purpose, and peace. This journey is neither quick nor linear, but it reflects the same courage and endurance that military families have always carried.



Pixabay.com (Free)

Emotional well-being and brain health are deeply interconnected, shaping how we think, cope, and experience daily life. Strong emotional balance supports healthier brain function, while a well-nourished brain strengthens our ability to manage stress, build relationships, and maintain resilience.

[HEALTHY LIVING: [Healthy Living: Beat Back Pain With a Strong Core](#)]

Research shows that chronic stress can harm key brain regions involved in emotional control, memory, and decision-making, including the prefrontal cortex, amygdala, and hippocampus. When these areas are disrupted, people might experience anxiety, irritability, or difficulty concentrating.



Surviving Spouse Corner: Strengthening Emotional Well-Being (cont)

How Emotions Shape the Brain

Positive emotional states — such as purpose, connection, and calm — help regulate stress hormones and support cognitive performance. People who report higher emotional stability and life satisfaction tend to support stronger memory and decision-making abilities as they age.

Conversely, chronic stress elevates cortisol, which can shrink the hippocampus and overactivate the amygdala, making emotional regulation more difficult and increasing vulnerability to depression or anxiety.

The Brain–Body Connection

The brain communicates constantly with the body through neural pathways and chemical messengers. Neurotransmitters like serotonin, dopamine, and norepinephrine influence mood, motivation, and focus. When these systems are imbalanced, emotional well-being can suffer.

Physical factors such as sleep, inflammation, and fatigue also affect how the brain processes emotions, reinforcing the need for whole-body care.

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

Advocacy in Action 2026: MOAA's Mission Continues

Source:

<https://www.moaa.org/content/publications-and-media/news-articles/2026-news-articles/advocacy/advocacy-in-action-2026-moaas-mission-continues/>

By: Terry Waters, MOAA Staff

APRIL 22, 2026



From left, MOAA Vice President of Government Relations Maj. Gen. April Vogel, USAF (Ret); Lt. Col. Andrew Nathan, USA (Ret), treasurer of MOAA's Roughrider Chapter; MOAA board member Adm. James G. Foggo, USN (Ret); and MOAA staff member Christine Rebhorn visit congressional offices as part of Advocacy in Action on April 15 in Washington, D.C. (Photo by Mike Morones/MOAA)

For decades, MOAA has stood as a powerful voice in Washington for those who wear and have worn the uniform and their families. From preserving earned benefits to adopting policies to protect and sustain the full force, MOAA exists to serve the uniformed services community in the halls of Congress.



Advocacy in Action 2026: MOAA's Mission Continues (cont)

Last week, MOAA executed our signature advocacy event, [Advocacy in Action](#). This year, our advocates went to Capitol Hill on behalf of four critical, bipartisan priorities, the Major Richard Star Act, the Shutdown Fairness Act, the GUARD VA Benefits Act, and the Military CARE Act. Each of these bills represents a key effort to fix real problems affecting servicemembers and their families, and each one is within reach with sustained pressure from constituents like you.

[ADVOCACY IN ACTION 2026: [Event Recap](#) | [Photo Gallery](#)]

A Record-Setting Campaign

This year's Advocacy in Action delivered results on two fronts — in person on Capitol Hill, and across the country through a coordinated digital campaign. Here's what our community accomplished:

- **160 MOAA volunteers** participated in the Capitol Hill event.
- **Over 300 in-person office visits** conducted across both chambers.
- **More than 50 meetings** held directly with lawmakers.
- **Nearly 25,000 constituent messages** sent to lawmakers by MOAA advocates from all 50 states ... the most ever during a campaign.

That last number is especially significant. Lawmakers pay close attention to the voices from their districts. When our in-person advocates sat down in congressional offices April 15, they were reinforcing a message those lawmakers already had been receiving from constituents across their districts and states.

That coordination -- digital outreach followed by face-to-face advocacy -- is what tells lawmakers these issues matter to servicemembers, veterans, and families at home.

What's Next

With the release of the president's budget, the National Defense Authorization Act process has begun in earnest, and MOAA is engaged at every level. As the 119th Congress enters its final stretch, we will continue to keep members informed and ready to act as these priorities move through the legislative calendar.

[READ MORE: [3 Upcoming Moments That Matter for Your Benefits](#)]

MOAA's council and chapter leaders will also be leading a **Summer Advocacy in Action** event later this year, bringing grassroots advocacy directly to communities across the country. Details are coming soon; in the meantime, [connect with your local chapter](#) and prepare to engage.

None of this happens without you. The nearly 25,000 messages sent, the 300 office visits, the direct conversations with lawmakers — all of them reflect a community that refuses to let these issues be forgotten. Thank you for your commitment to Never Stop Serving.



Advocacy in Action 2026: MOAA's Mission Continues (cont)

But it is never too late to join the effort. If you haven't yet visited MOAA's [Legislative Action Center](#), please act today. It takes just minutes to send a personalized message to your lawmakers, and in the final stretch of this Congress, every message counts.

When MOAA Speaks, Congress Listens

Learn more about MOAA's key advocacy issues, and contact your elected officials using our messaging platform.

The Next Steps: 3 Upcoming Moments That Matter for Your Benefits

Source:

https://www.moaa.org/2026schedule?_hsenc=p2ANqtz--CJQ4I3ToP3iEpn_XBIQLUGetza0tXTY4x_QakeM4YosRLBSuDKHvQR_zUwyrEepWm27EQE72LPs_BbQZLpt1pFuSx6g&_hsmi=415265410

By: Kevin Lilley, MOAA Staff

APRIL 22, 2026

The issues at the heart of MOAA's [signature spring advocacy campaign](#) will remain at the top of our priority list, but they are far from the only issues involving service-earned benefits on Capitol Hill.

And as the legislative calendar rolls ahead, it's critical that MOAA members remain engaged.

Here's a look at three upcoming touchstones for the 119th Congress and what each could mean for the wider uniformed services community.

Building the NDAA

What: The must-pass FY 2027 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) will be the year's largest legislative vehicle for critical defense issues, to include military pay rates, quality of life reforms, TRICARE changes, and much more.

When: Legislators and staffers already have begun crafting the legislation. House lawmakers reportedly are targeting early June for the official NDAA mark-up session, where much of the final bill takes shape.



Next Steps: 3 Upcoming Moments That Matter for Your Benefits (cont)

MOAA's Role: With Congress [passing fewer standalone bills](#) than in previous sessions, the NDAA may provide the only practical path for some MOAA legislative priorities to become law. As negotiations continue and amendments move forward, we will look to key legislators to champion a range of issues, to include Advocacy in Action priorities and other benefits protections.

[RELATED: [MOAA Members Take the Hill for Advocacy in Action 2026](#)]

The issues at the heart of MOAA's [signature spring advocacy campaign](#) will remain at the top of our priority list, but they are far from the only issues involving service-earned benefits on Capitol Hill.



Dena Kilgore/MOAA

And as the legislative calendar rolls ahead, it's critical that MOAA members remain engaged.

Here's a look at three upcoming touchstones for the 119th Congress and what each could mean for the wider uniformed services community.

Building the NDAA

What: The must-pass FY 2027 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) will be the year's largest legislative vehicle for critical defense issues, to include military pay rates, quality of life reforms, TRICARE changes, and much more.

When: Legislators and staffers already have begun crafting the legislation. House lawmakers reportedly are targeting early June for the official NDAA mark-up session, where much of the final bill takes shape.

MOAA's Role: With Congress [passing fewer standalone bills](#) than in previous sessions, the NDAA may provide the only practical path for some MOAA legislative priorities to become law. As negotiations continue and amendments move forward, we will look to key legislators to champion a range of issues, to include Advocacy in Action priorities and other benefits protections.

[RELATED: [MOAA Members Take the Hill for Advocacy in Action 2026](#)]

Passing a Budget

What: The administration released its [FY 2027 budget proposal](#) in early April, including [\\$1.5 trillion for national defense](#) and [nearly \\$490 billion for the VA](#).



Next Steps: 3 Upcoming Moments That Matter for Your Benefits (cont)

When: The fiscal year ends Sept. 30, giving Congress about five months to pass a budget without relying on a continuing resolution to keep the government open. Lawmakers haven't passed a budget on time since 1997.

MOAA's Role: Not only will MOAA continue to advocate for the full funding of national defense and veterans programs, but we will continue to urge Congress to [break the cycle of continuing resolutions](#), which result in wasted resources, misaligned funds, and financial uncertainty for servicemembers and their families. We will also push for [passage of the Shutdown Fairness Act](#), an Advocacy in Action priority that would protect military servicemember pay during federal funding lapses.

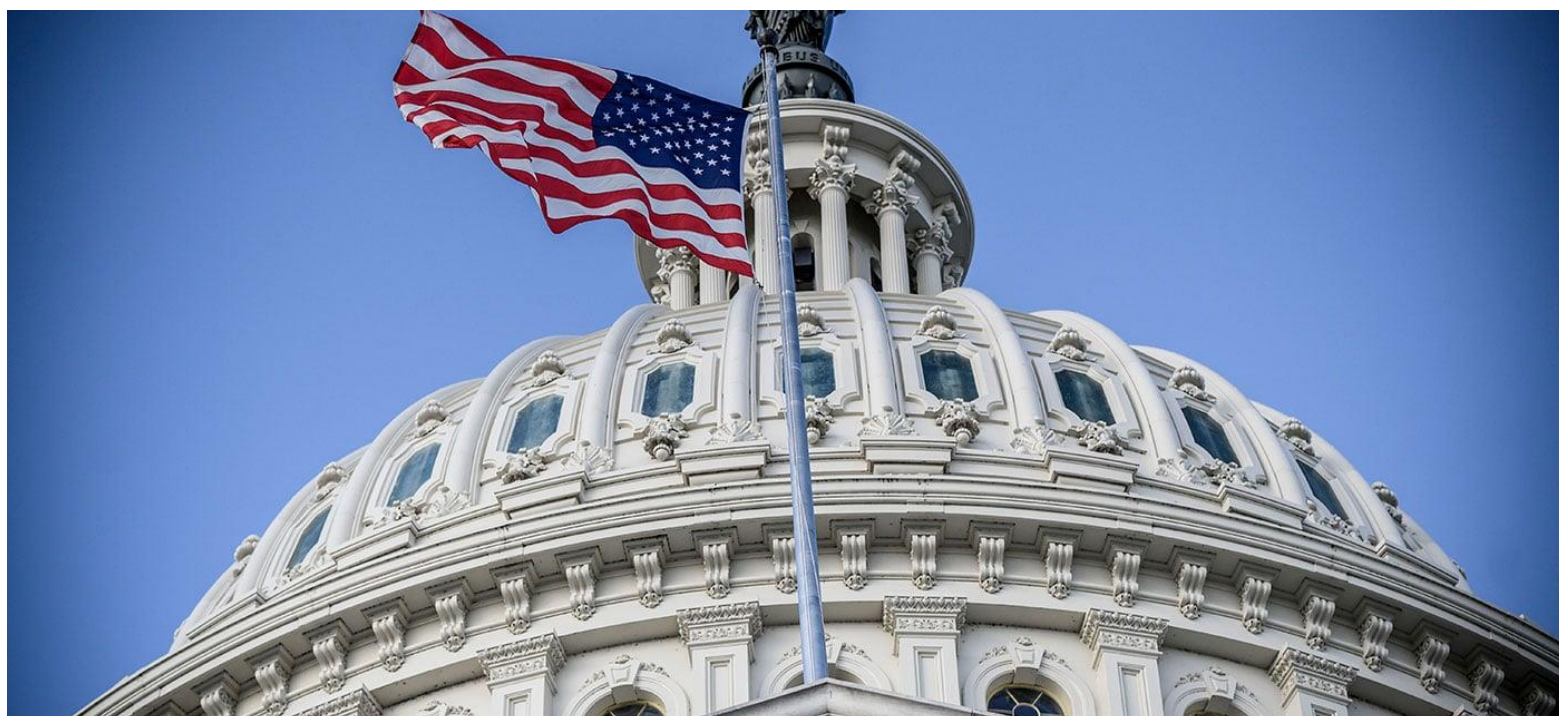
Election Season

What: Voters will go to the polls to determine who holds every House seat and one-third of Senate seats for the 120th Congress.

When: Election Day is Nov. 3, but campaign season is in full swing in many parts of the country. After a lame-duck session, the new Congress will begin Jan. 3, 2027.

MOAA's Role: MOAA does not endorse candidates, but it's no secret that lawmakers on the campaign trail are more likely to listen to constituent concerns as they court votes. Members who engage their legislators on MOAA priorities – either through our [Legislative Action Center](#) or in person in their home districts – can show the importance of these issues as supporters of the uniformed services community head to the ballot box.

Keep up with the legislative timeline, and learn how you can help grow MOAA's influence on Capitol Hill, by visiting [our advocacy news page](#).





TRICARE & MEDICAL ARTICLES



MOAA Resources: Health Care

Source

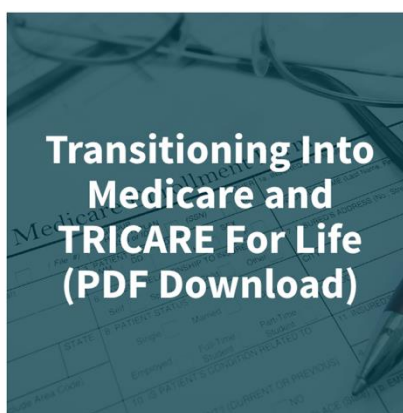
<https://www.moaa.org/content/topic-and-landing-pages/health-care/>

MOAA fights to keep TRICARE effective and affordable for retirees and their families; to preserve a strong military medical system on behalf of all who rely on it; and to ensure all veterans receive the health benefits they've earned.

FEATURED HEALTH CARE RESOURCES



<https://www.moaainsurance.com/>



<https://www.moaa.org/content/publications-and-media/moaa-publications/Aging-into-Medicare-Detail/>



<https://www.moaa.org/content/publications-and-media/news-articles/news-listing/>



MOAA Resources: Health Care (cont)



Inside the Military Health Care Budget: Big Changes ... But What About Beneficiaries?

<https://www.moaa.org/content/publications-and-media/news-articles/2026-news-articles/advocacy/inside-the-military-health-care-budget-big-changes--but-what-about-beneficiaries/>



Pharmacy Access, Enrollment Issues, Overseas Support: Advocates Outline Concerns With TRICARE Contract Plans

<https://www.moaa.org/content/publications-and-media/news-articles/2026-news-articles/benefits/pharmacy-access,-enrollment-issues,-overseas-support-advocates-outline-concerns-with-tricare-contract-plans/>



Trump Clears Path for Expanded Psychedelic Research to Treat Veterans' PTSD

<https://www.moaa.org/content/publications-and-media/news-articles/2026-news-articles/benefits/trump-clears-path-for-expanded-psychedelic-research-to-treat-veterans-ptsd/>



'Fundamental Fairness': Fight for Combat-Injured Veterans Continues on Multiple Fronts

<https://www.moaa.org/content/publications-and-media/news-articles/2026-news-articles/benefits/fundamental-fairness-fight-for-combat-injured-veterans-continues-on-multiple-fronts/>



Advocacy in Action: States Need Support Protecting Veterans From 'Claim Sharks'

<https://www.moaa.org/content/publications-and-media/news-articles/2026-news-articles/benefits/advocacy-in-action-states-need-support-protecting-veterans-from-claim-sharks/>



VA Resumes Rollout of New Electronic Medical Records System

<https://www.moaa.org/content/publications-and-media/news-articles/2026-news-articles/benefits/va-to-resume-rollout-of-new-electronic-medical-records-system/>



EMPLOYMENT/TRAINING

Army Cuts Officers From Credentialing Assistance Program

MARCH 24, 2026

Source:

https://www.moaa.org/armycredentialing?_hsenc=p2ANqtz--FQHaMXUF7CylltsQWoSRdkGFFyGbo1vduO-9ca9_AoPI4igJNdQRJ9YFZU8BhE_4gJijBgAX-Eklbpg8179Bsldt5NQ&_hsmi=410676098

This article by Eve Sampson originally appeared on [Military Times](#), the nation's largest independent newsroom dedicated to covering the military and veteran community.

The Army removed commissioned officers from its credentialing assistance program in a policy update this week.

The program, known as credentialing assistance, helps service members pay for professional certifications and licensure that is tied to their military duties or civilian careers. Under the new rules, [released](#) March 19, only enlisted soldiers and warrant officers remain eligible.

Enlisted soldiers will also have to obtain command approval prior to utilizing benefits under the new update.

The move follows a 2024 policy announcement that the Army would cut credentialing assistance funding and remove officers from the program, citing the initiative's rapid growth and skyrocketing costs.

At that time, around one in four people using the program were officers, and the program's cost had more than doubled from around \$31 million to more than \$70 million annually, according to previous Army Times [reporting](#).



Source: DVIDS

[RELATED: [New VA GI Bill Policy Could Add to Your Education Benefits](#)]

Credentialing assistance, which was [launched](#) in 2020, lets soldiers strive for certificates in fields like technology or skilled trades, which can also help bolster chances of employment after service.

The Army's Human Resources Command said in a [statement](#) on social media this week that the new changes "are designed to support long-term sustainability of Army education benefits, preserve resources for Soldiers where they're most needed, and increase leader involvement in the approval process."

The updates also make the Army's policies more similar to those run by other services, the statement said.



COMMUNITY NEWS

PPCMOAA Supports Honor Bell Community Event

By Mike McCoy, CDR, USCG (Ret), PPCMOAA Eagle Editor

On 28 March 2026, the Pikes Peak MOAA Chapter sponsored an information table and participated in an event held by the Honor Bell Foundation at Regis University, Denver, CO. The focus was on providing a “Welcome Home” to military veterans of Korea, Vietnam and other Forgotten Wars. Approximately 150 participants were in attendance. For the first time ever, the Foundation had both Honor Bells present to toll in honor of our brave veterans. The event was filled with testimonies, stories of service as well as awards for community service.





MOAA NATIONAL/LOCAL CHAPTER NEWS

From MOAA's President: Why TotalForce+ Matters

Source:

<https://www.moaa.org/content/publications-and-media/news-articles/2025-news-articles/recommended-reads/from-moaas-president-why-totalforce-matters/>

By: Brian T. Kelly, Lt Gen, USAF (Ret), MOAA President & CEO

OCTOBER 21, 2025

MOAA has spent more than 96 years supporting servicemembers, veterans, families, caregivers, and survivors. [With TotalForce+](#), taking place Oct. 28-29 in National Harbor, Md., we're adding a powerful new platform for collaboration and innovation, one designed to modernize how we think about readiness, talent, and quality of life.

At its core, TotalForce+ is about people. [Our agenda](#) brings together military and civilian leaders, industry experts, academic voices, and policymakers. With our conference, we're building something for the entire community that keeps our national defense the strongest in the world.

We began with four key focus areas:

- **Modernize** talent management and innovation.
- **Optimize** leadership development and performance.
- **Advance** quality of life.
- **Amplify** the veteran and retiree experience.

Over our two-day conference, we'll tackle topics like:

- How artificial intelligence can enhance hiring and transition services
- New ways to recruit members of generations Z and Alpha
- Successful public-private partnerships at the local and state levels
- Access to care and improved benefits through the VA



MOAA President and CEO Lt. Gen. Brian T. Kelly, USAF (Ret), center, discusses TotalForce+ with ZeroMils CEO Lt. Col. Kevin Schmiegel, USMC (Ret), during the 2nd Annual Military Thriving Change Forum at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C., on June 12. (Mike Morones/MOAA)





From MOAA's President: Why TotalForce+ Matters (cont)

Our conference is packed with [many more events](#), including opportunities to socialize as well as a Roast & Toast comedy night in support of MOAA Charities, hosted by actor and retired Marine officer Rob Riggle.

Registration is still open, and attendance is free for currently serving, DoW and VA civilian staff, and their spouses. MOAA Life and Premium members receive a discount of more than 50%. I hope to see you there.

[RELATED: [More TotalForce+ News From MOAA](#)]

I also want to extend a huge thank you to many of our MOAA members who have stepped up over the past year to identify sponsors and shape our agenda and to those volunteering this month at National Harbor. Our 84-member MOAA staff has worked tirelessly to bring the conference together, but we couldn't have done it without the help from our 350,000 members.

So what happens after the conference? We hope every attendee walks away with fresh ideas and a renewed commitment to strengthening the force. And we will take what we've learned and come back even stronger. Plans are already underway for a series of TotalForce+ roundtables and focused events in 2026, and the full TotalForce+ conference will return in February 2027.

From the Desk of CAPT Dick Stapp, PPCMOAA Vice President

By Dick Stapp, CAPT USNR (Ret), PPCMOAA Vice President – Operations

This will be an update concerning my activities since our last visit a few months ago. I continue to be active in the local MOAA chapter, RAO and Mt Carmel veterans center. The Chapter had an outstanding Holiday luncheon at the Antlers Hotel in Colorado Springs on December 11 2025. It was well attended; the food was excellent and we were fortunate to have the Colorado Springs Palmer High School choral group led by Elana Zarecky singing many traditional and non-traditional holiday songs.



Beautifully done. Also, making a Holiday presentation was marine Russ Miller talking about Toys for Tots. He received a great response with many toys from those attending. Toys for Tots is a national program primarily sponsored by the Marines and the Marine League.

The local MOAA chapter and RAO continue to have an active working relationship with Mt Carmel Veterans Center here in Colorado Springs. Mt Carmel provides a vast array of Military assistance programs for veterans including food distribution, training classes for veterans to develop resumes, help with DFAS and Survivor Benefit issues plus many other veteran activities. MOAA and RAO continue manning a welcome table at Mt Carmel from 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM every 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month. The purpose and goal are to visit and welcome veterans to Mt Carmel, answer questions and make them aware that there are Military organizations around who are available if they have questions. A new MOU (memorandum of understanding) was recently signed between the local MOAA Chapter and Mt Carmel to insure the continuing relationship between our organizations.



CAPT Dick Stapp, PPCMOAA Vice President (cont)

We recently added a new member to the local Chapter of MOAA who has willingly agreed to come join us. Pamela Morris will be taking the position of Chapter Surviving Spouse Liaison Representative. This a position long needed as there are numerous Surviving Spouses in the Colorado Springs area. This will provide much needed coordination with National MOAA. Pamela is the recent widow of Jack Morris after a 46-year marriage. Jack served 26 years in the Air Force and retired as a Colonel. While in Viet Nam Jack flew a variety of missions in support of the war. Pamela is a welcome addition to the local MOAA chapter. Hopefully Pamela will soon join other RAO volunteers.

The Chapter continues to support local Jr ROTC units with financial support including a recognition luncheon in April. Chapter ROTC representative, Navy CDR (ret) Jack Gillette, has been very active with all units providing support and guidance.

From the Desk of Pamela Morris, PPCMOAA Surviving Spouse Liaison

Hello, I would like to introduce myself. My name is Pamela Marie Morris and I am the newly appointed PPCMOAA Surviving Spouse Liaison, of the Colorado Chapter, in Colorado Springs, Colorado. I learned of the need for a Colorado Chapter Surviving Spouse Liaison through a friend. I proceeded to follow up on it, as I felt it was my calling. My husband, who was a Member of MOAA, passed away suddenly in January, 2024, after 46 years of marriage, soon after his 81st birthday.



My husband, John H. "Jack" Morris, was from Brooklyn, New York. We met in Colorado Springs in 1974, when he was stationed at Peterson Field Air Base and we were married in Colorado Springs in 1977. We moved back to Colorado Springs after he retired from the United States Air Force, where he was a commander at NATO Headquarters BALTAP in Denmark. He retired as a Colonel and served for 27 years and 3 months. He was a Viet Nam Veteran where he was a Forward Air Control pilot, in the 0-1 Birdog with 536 combat missions in one year. He had over 7000 flight hours in various aircraft including the Constellation (Connie) in California. He had pilot training in the E-3 AWACs aircraft in 1977 at Tinker Air Force Base, where he had been a squadron commander of three different squadrons and a pilot instructor.

We had three overseas tours: NATO Air Base at Geilenkirchen, Mildenhall (RAF) Royal Air Force Base in England and NATO Headquarters BALTAP at Karup, Denmark. Jack loved flying, camping, fishing, playing golf, and cooking, (a Master Chef). I loved all of our overseas tours, being an Air Force military wife and all the interaction of meeting new people.

My career started as a Cosmetologist. Later after moving to Oklahoma, I attended Central State College in Edmond, Oklahoma and graduated with a Master's degree in Interior Design. After we retired to Colorado Springs, I worked as an Interior Designer. I found my passion in space planning which included designing kitchens, bathrooms, etc. I used a computer program called AUTOCAD to make the layout designs. I also had an art business, where I sold my hand drawn Classical Composer Limited Edition Lithographs, and oil paintings.

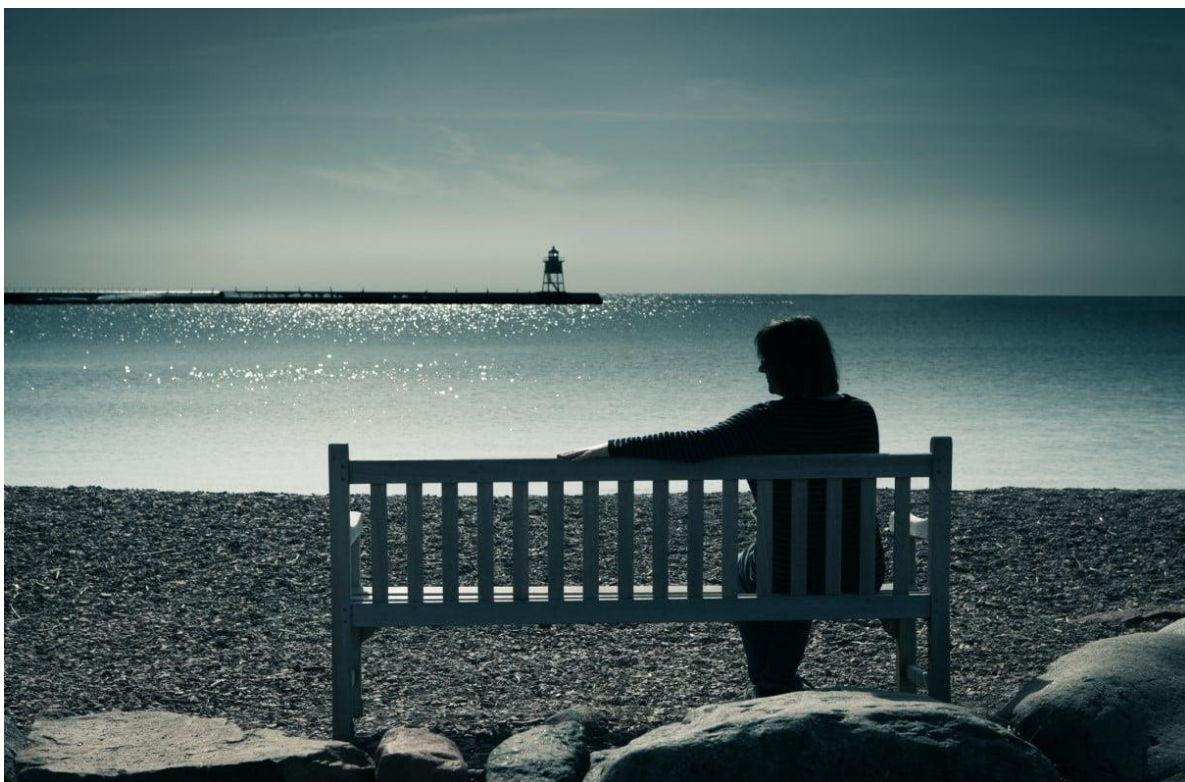


Pamela Morris, PPCMOAA Surviving Spouse Liaison (cont)

Later, after completing extensive studies in piano and music theory, equivalent to a Bachelors Degree, I became a piano teacher and entered my students into musical competitions where they received awards and trophies. I loved teaching the children and I taught until retiring in 2017. My hobbies and interests are: working out at Life Time Fitness Center, Church/Bible Study, playing the piano, crossword puzzles, classical music, traveling, keeping touch and getting together with family and friends, and also meeting new people.

I am excited about my position as the Surviving Spouse Liaison and I look forward to helping current and future surviving spouses where it is needed, as there is so much that relies on a person who suddenly finds themselves vulnerable and alone. Please contact me at the email or mobile number below. I look forward to hearing from you, meeting you, and helping you with all of your needs. God Bless!

Pamela Marie Morris,
PPCMOAA Surviving Spouse Liaison,
SSL Email: pmmorris170@comcast.net
Mobile: 719-229-6104.



Int.moaa.org



SPOUSE MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

APPLICANT INFORMATION

- Name (Last, First): _____
- Cell Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____
- Email Address: _____

SPONSOR (MEMBER) INFORMATION

- Spouse (Member) Name (Last, First): _____

MEMBERSHIP DUES SELECTION

Please check your preferred membership term:

- \$12.00 – 1 Year
- \$20.00 – 2 Years
- \$30.00 – 3 Years

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

Please mail this completed application along with a check made payable to Pikes Peak Chapter MOAA (PPCMOAA) to the following address:

**Pikes Peak Chapter MOAA
P.O. Box 33
USAF Academy, CO 80840**



From the Desk of Lt Col Steve Schultz, USAF (Ret)

By Steve Schultz, Lt Col, USAF (Ret), PPCMOAA Event Coordinator

PPCMOAA (Fall to Spring) Events of interest:

9 Oct 2025 Luncheon. As per Chapter tradition, we held our Fall luncheon once again at the Edelweiss Restaurant in Colorado Springs. Former Naval aviator, LT James “Jim” R. Lloyd recounted his experience of being shot down at night by a North Vietnamese surface-to-air missile while conducting road reconnaissance and described how a US Navy search and rescue helicopter saved him the following day. Pueblo West High School Army JROTC served as the color guard. 56-chapter members, spouses and guests attended our annual Oktoberfest event.



11 Dec 2025 Luncheon. Once again, the Antlers Hotel, Colorado Springs, hosted the PPCMOAA Holiday luncheon. Mr. Russ Miller provided a brief overview of Toys-for-Tots program and collected gift donations. The Palmer High School Choral Group led by Choir Director Ms. Elena Zarecky, entertained the chapter with a melody of Christmas/Seasonal carols. The chapter did not have a guest speaker at the event. The Falcon High School Space Force JROTC (1 of 17 nation-wide) Color Guard presented the colors. 51-chapter members, spouses and guests attended our annual Holiday luncheon.

12 Feb 2026 Luncheon. The Patty Jewett Golf Course Club House in Colorado Springs hosted the first luncheon of 2026. Our speaker was past chapter president, Steve Lucks. He detailed the wide array of legislative matters that MOAA National is currently concentrating on. He discussed MOAA’s national advocacy campaigns and showed how members can advocate using the pull-down menu on the MOAA website. Mitchell High School Air Force JROTC Color Guard presented the colors. 56-chapter members, spouses and guests were in attendance.





From the Desk of CDR Jack “Razor” Gillet, USN (Ret)

By Jack Gillet, CDR USN (Ret), PPCMOAA ROTC/JROTC Rep.

A new ROTC Unit to be added to our Sponsorship Roster.

As the 2026 Fall semester begins, the University of Colorado, Colorado Springs (UCCS) will begin hosting a new Air Force ROTC unit. Currently UCCS students may participate in Air Force ROTC; however, they must commute to the Boulder campus for their ROTC classes. This travel burden certainly discourages participation. The establishment of a fully staffed Air Force ROTC unit at UCCS will undoubtedly enhance Air Force ROTC participation and it will bring another unit under PPCMOAA’s sponsorship. With this addition, your chapter will then be supporting nineteen ROTC/JROTC programs, two university programs and seventeen high school programs. This commitment to ROTC/JROTC sponsorship is one of the largest, if not the largest, among MOAA Chapters nationwide.

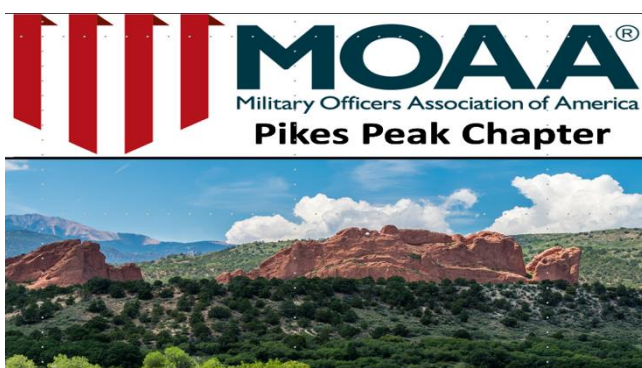


Our February 12th luncheon at the Patty Jewett Golf Course banquet room was very well attended and Mitchell High School’s AFJROTC program provided an outstanding color guard presentation. A new chapter policy regarding our ROTC/JROTC sponsorship was also announced at that luncheon. To further recognize our Pikes Peak area ROTC/JROTC units, our chapter is now awarding \$100.00 stipends whenever a unit provides manpower in support of a chapter event. Mitchell’s AFJROTC unit was the first recipient of this stipend. They were both surprised and appreciative.

It was also announced that our 16 April, annual ROTC/JROTC Recognition Luncheon will provide a special reward to our JROTC units. In addition to our regular annual operations stipend of \$300.00, each JROTC unit will receive an additional \$250.00 in recognition of the nation’s 250th birthday.

The last newsletter referenced three other youth-oriented military programs that are sponsored by the US government, the Young Marines, the Sea Cadets, and the Civil Air Patrol. The Young Marines is a national non-profit youth organization program for boys and girls ages 8 through 18, focusing on leadership, teamwork, discipline, and a drug-free lifestyle. It is the official anti-drug program of the U.S. Marine Corps, promoting mental, moral, and physical development through community service, camping, and military-style drills. Many young marines also participate in summer programs held at active marine bases where they get an “up close and personal” look at military life.

In the next newsletter edition, Sea Cadets will be highlighted.





Colorado Chapter Leader Strengthens Support for Future Servicemembers

Source:

<https://www.moaa.org/content/publications-and-media/news-articles/2026-news-articles/spotlight/colorado-chapter-leader-strengthens-support-for-future-servicemembers/>

JANUARY 13, 2026

Author: **Kristin Davis, MOAA**

Retired Navy Cmdr. Jack Gillett first trained his eyes on the sky as a boy growing up on the California coast. He'd join his mother, a volunteer with the Aircraft Warning Service during World War II, at observation posts and watch for aircraft all night. He never forgot the thrill of phoning in their sightings.



Cmdr. Layah Shaw, left, Navy Junior ROTC commanding officer at Mesa Ridge High School, welcomes to the podium Cmdr. Jack Gillett, USN (Ret), right, ROTC/Junior ROTC coordinator for the Pikes Peak (Colo.) Chapter, as their military ball's guest speaker. (Courtesy photo)

Gillett spent his spare money on model airplanes. There were plastic ones and wooden ones and then flying models.

“Even in high school, dating took a backseat to model airplanes,” he recalled. “My dad told me he was not surprised when I went into aviation.”

Gillett was enrolled in junior college when Navy recruiters showed up and offered to take students to an airport for a ride in trainer planes. He learned that if he had 60 credit hours and could pass a series of tests, he could begin flight training. It was February 1964.

“I didn't know a Vietnam War was coming,” he said. “But the Navy did.”

Previously aimless, Gillett had found his passion. And he excelled, pinning on his wings at 21. After 15 months as a flight instructor, he reported to his first A-7 squadron. A year and a half later, he was in Vietnam. He would return twice more.

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After 20 years of service that included stints as a housekeeper for the vice president, a personal aid to the Navy's budget director, among others, he retired and returned home to Bakersfield, Calif., and took over the family's sand and gravel business. After the business shut down, he learned about a position at a high school as a Navy Junior ROTC (JROTC) program and applied. By then, Gillett had been retired for 20 years and required a special waiver for the job. He stood up the program and ran it for six years.

“I really enjoy working with youth,” he said. “I had a really good rapport with them.”

Four years ago, after moving from California to Colorado, Gillett joined the [Pikes Peak Chapter](#) just as it was gearing back up after the pandemic. The role of ROTC coordinator was among several unfilled chapter positions.



Chapter Leader Strengthens Support for Future Servicemembers (cont)

“I volunteered right away,” he said.

Gillett has been instrumental in growing the chapter’s support of ROTC and JROTC in the area, expanding the number of sponsored units from five to 18, including adding six in just the past year. They include schools in Colorado Springs, Canyon City, and Pueblo, Colo. The latter hadn’t had an official MOAA sponsor in several years.

Additionally, by working with the chapter scholarship committee, Gillett has arranged the award of 18 \$1,000 scholarships to one ROTC unit and each of the 17 JROTC units. He also coordinates the chapter’s annual ROTC/JROTC Recognition Luncheon, during which each JROTC unit receives a \$300 stipend to support their operations. The work keeps him busy, he said, and he enjoys it.

When Gillett thinks about his volunteer work, he thinks of his mother watching the sky, teaching him by example the value of service.



Lt Col Bob Mitchell, USAF (Ret), PPCMOAA Board Member, Passes Away

By: Mike McCoy, CDR, USCG (Ret), Eagle Editor

Robert “Bob” Mitchell, PPCMOAA Secretary/Historian and proud military veteran, passed away at age 73 after a courageous battle with cancer on February 20, 2026.

A devoted Chapter leader and friend, Bob retired from the Air Force following 30 years of active duty and devoted himself to activities still serving military members as well as family, friends, RV camping, bowling and laughter. His services were held at Pikes Peak National Cemetery.

