

Virginia Peninsula Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America



NEWSLETTER

WEBSITE:

<http://vipmoaa.org>

Editor's EMAIL

admVIPMOAA@outlook.com

Chapter # VA10

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE March 2026 – GLENN MARSHALL



VIPMOAA NEEDS YOU! When I took on the role of president, my background in MOAA's organizational operations was limited. Thankfully, with guidance from the former president and other experienced members, I've gained valuable insights—I'm truly enjoying my journey as a servant leader and having fun meeting new, great professionals.

After Carolyn McHale, our communication outreach and newsletter editor, passed away, I quickly saw how vital her unassigned duties were. In the past month, our board members and unsung heroes (our strength) have efficiently filled these roles as we search for her replacement. If you or someone you know is interested, please contact me about these opportunities.

Following this experience, it became clear our organization needed a deeper bench. Thus, our search for more servant leaders to shape VIPMOAA's future. We're looking for engaged members to collaborate with our leadership and drive growth. Our chapter advocates military-friendly legislation, maintains traditions, fosters community, provides veteran resources, and mentors youth for leadership roles. Members participate in advocacy, support JROTC/ROTC, take honor flights, assist surviving spouses, and serve beneficiaries.

One of our newest initiatives is the Comrades-in-Arms Support Team (CAST), providing confidential support to members and families during difficult times. CAST helps with wellness checks, meal coordination, transportation, and bereavement support; offering a steady presence when needed, all within volunteer capabilities. Its team comprises experienced caregivers and leaders—retired nurses, physicians, chaplains, and officers—who continue serving with care. Even small, timely acts of kindness can have a significant impact. Contact Paul Fameli (famelipi@aol.com) or Kathy Schnepf (kathy.schnepf@gmail.com) if you'd like to find out how you can be part of the CAST team. If you are interested in assisting those who have lost their spouse, please contact our Surviving Spouse Liaison, Suzanne Evans at davsuz_evans@hotmail.com.

To learn more about all the activities and services offered by VIPMOAA to its members, go to our website: <https://www.vipmoaa.org/>. March is "signing month" to join the VIPMOAA servant leader team. Contact Glenn Marshall at marsh8279@aol.com to receive your "signing" bonus. Together, WE Can Do It!

TABLE OF CONTENTS	PG
President's Message	1
Board Minutes	2
Legislative Affairs	2
Surviving Spouse	3
ROTC/JROTC Scholarship Program	3
Donations	5
Membership	7
February Luncheon	7
March Luncheon	9
Executive Board	10
APRIL Lunch Reservation Form	11
Calendar	12

NEVER STOP SERVING

VIPMOAA SERVANT LEADERSHIP TEAM

BOARD MINUTES – COL (ret.) RON CORSON

The minutes to our board meetings are posted on our website and are available prior to our general membership meeting, the goal being within the week after the board meeting. The minutes will include all the reports presented at the meeting. Questions or concerns can be brought to any board member, and issues will be included as an agenda item. All members are welcome to attend board meetings. To access the minutes, you must be logged onto your account. Go to <https://vipmoaa.org/board-meeting-Minutes>.

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS – CLETA PUCKETT

At the FEDERAL LEVEL:

Per MOAA Legislative Action Center “The Shutdown Fairness Act (S. 3168) ensures members of the armed services, to include the reserve component, receive their pay during any future lapse in appropriations. As written, the bill does not explicitly include members of the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps or the NOAA Commissioned Corps, who should be added before the bill moves to a vote.”

MOAA TAKE ACTION link <https://moaa.quorum.us/campaign/142300/>

MOAA's experts in Washington are constantly reviewing and assessing legislation that may impact the earned pay, benefits, and support programs of the uniformed services and veteran communities. The organization's endorsement process is deliberative; MOAA will not support or oppose any legislation without a thorough review of its potential effects, positive or negative.

[MOAA-Supported Legislation](#)

At the STATE LEVEL:

Representative Bob Wittman contrasts the cost saving efforts of the federal government with Virginia lawmakers, who have introduced more than 50 new tax and fee proposals this legislative session. These include potential new taxes on rideshare trips, deliveries, vehicle repairs, digital services, and additional sales taxes in local communities. There are also discussions about policies that could increase monthly electricity bills.

April Special Election

HJ4 – Redistricting Referendum | Grants the state legislator the ability to TEMPORARILY adopt new congressional maps. Virginia will go back to the nonpartisan districting commissions congressional map with the 2030 census results. You will be able to vote on this bill and the new map on April 21st.

Our Top Priority: VMSDEP

Virginia Military Survivors and Dependents Education Program (VMSDEP). At this stage, both chambers' budget bills are aligned. The stipend component (up to \$2,200 annually per eligible student) is funded, and existing SCHEV/DVS administrative and reporting provisions remain in place. However, unlike the 2024 special session budget, the Introduced bills do not currently include a clearly designated General Fund appropriation to offset the tuition and mandatory fee waivers required under § 23.1-608. No means testing or eligibility reductions appear in the Introduced text.

“Potentially, the lack of any appropriation means the institutions of higher learning will be required to absorb whatever their real cost for tuition and fee waivers may be. It could also set the stage for a showdown between now and budget approval time. We will need to remain vigilant and ready to respond.”

Retiree Tax Exclusions (HB 47 & SB 148): USPHS and NOAA state tax exclusions are stalled for now; HB 47 was tabled and SB 148 moved to 2027.

A Bill was introduced by a Northern Virginia delegate to shut down Virginia Military Institute (VMI). This was defeated but a final Bill was passed in the House of Delegates directing a “Study” be done of the operation of the school and recommend necessary changes! The bill is now being considered in the Senate.

SURVIVING SPOUSE – COL (Ret.) SUZANNE EVANS.

Fellow VIPMOAA members, please review the check list provided by MOAA on our Website:

<https://vipmoaa.org/Checklist-for-Surviving-Spouses>

We need to be ready with documents and know where they are stored. Preparation is good to decrease the stress following the death of a loved one.

Note: Hard Copies of the Checklist will be available at the April luncheon, see Kathy Schnepf

The Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund announced Scholarship opportunities for Lineal descendants of Vietnam Veterans. See <http://www.vvmf.org/>

I hope to send along tips in each newsletter.

ROTC/JROTC -LTC (Ret.) TOM SWANSON

CHANGES BEING DEVELOPED TO IMPROVE THE JROTC SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

As you know, annually VIPMOAA presents awards and scholarships to 3 local college ROTC programs and up to 11 local high school JROTC programs. Your contributions to the VIPMOAA community service and charitable donations account directly support these awards and scholarships. 100% of your money goes to this effort.

At the Feb VIPMOAA BoD meeting a change to the JROTC scholarship program was presented and approved. Going forward we have reduced the number of Senior Cadet scholarships to 6 and increased the amounts from \$500 to \$1000. The awards will now be competitive versus solely selected by the senior JROTC instructor. Application will be online via the VIPMOAA web site, and the applications will be judged by a VIPMOAA selection committee. Criteria includes; JROTC participation, academic performance, financial need, and most importantly a short explanation of how the award will impact the student's academic or career plans.

VIPMOAA also desires to expand our awards to more non-traditional forms of post-secondary education such as trade schools, apprenticeships, or certificate awarding programs. We will also continue, at the high school level, to award an achievement certificate, medal, and a \$50 gift card to an outstanding and deserving Junior Year cadet. At the college ROTC level, we will continue to award the MOAA Medal, certificate, and a \$500 stipend to an outstanding Junior Year cadet. Thank you for your continued support of this program and the JROTC/ROTC cadets.

The VIPMOAA JROTC Scholarship Application website is located at:

<https://vipmoaa.org/JROTC-Scholarship-Application>

Note: This website is work in progress at this time. When it is fully operational, notification will be sent out in an email.

MILITARY COMMUNITY SERVICE/SCHOLARSHIP FUND DONATIONS

For the year 2025 the members of VIPMOAA exceeded the fund-raising goal established by the Board of Directors as listed below:

DEC 2025- Total \$12,181.33 (162% funded) ANNUAL FUNDING GOAL - \$8,500

In 2025 VIPMOAA MEMBER Donations went to the following Organizations:

- LIBERTY LOUNGE IN THE COLONIAL WILLIAMSBURG FOUNDATION
- OLD DOMINION HONOR FLIGHT
- USO OF CENTRAL VA/HAMPTON ROADS
- THE WILLIAMSBURG HOUSE OF MERCY
- THE VIRGINIA WAR MUSEUM
- LEADERSHIP AWARDS FOR ROTC STUDENTS AT 3 LOCAL COLLEGES
- SCHOLARSHIP AND/OR LEADERSHIP AWARDS SUPPORTING JROTC STUDENTS AT 11 HIGH SCHOOLS ON THE PENINSULA

- 2026**
- Diamond Level (\$1000+)**
Platinum Level (\$500 - \$999)
Miyamasu, Paul/Mary
Gold Level (\$100 - \$499)
Butz, Rose Marie
Corson, Ron
Nutwell, Bob/Lynn
Greenhalgh, Jack
Lindsey, Edward/Glenda
In the name of Skoglund, Shizuko
Tavener, Frank/Maria
Silver Level (\$50 - \$99)
Tarr, Elaine
Clarke, Robert/Anneliese
Evans, Suzanne
Wood, Betty
Fahlender, Ted
Francisco, Ben
Marshall, Glenn/Judy
Bronze Level (\$25 - \$49)
Arnold, Ray/Rita
Dievendorf, Lynn/Sallie Moore
Gemeinhardt, Fred
Graves, Bobby
Pauls, Jim/Marvella

Donations of less than \$25 are not listed. Donations for these programs can be added to your monthly activities' reservation, or a donation may be submitted at any time. All donations are tax deductible with a letter for donations of \$100+ provided for IRS information. Make checks payable to VIPMOAA and send to VIPMOAA CS/SF Mgr, Box 6463, Williamsburg VA 23188.

POC: COL Frank Tavener, Jr., USA (Ret) FBTtreasurer@aol.com 703-407-6989

Household Document Organization
Margaret E. Mondul, CDR, USN (Ret)
Let Me Help YOU
Organize, Understand and Prepare
757-220-9285
HHDObyMargaret@aol.com
American Association of Daily Money Managers

Morgan Stanley
WEALTH MANAGEMENT
437 W. Duke Of Gloucester Street
Williamsburg, VA 23185
direct 757 259 7150
mobile 757 968 6077
Andrew J. Chess, QPFC®
Financial Planning Specialist
Financial Advisor
NMLS #2628989
Andrew.Chess@morganstanley.com

IMPORTANT DATES IN MILITARY HISTORY FOR MARCH

5 March 1770 - Boston Massacre - A confrontation that resulted in the deaths of five colonists, escalating tensions between Britain and the colonies.

27 March 1814 – War of 1812 - The Battle of Horseshoe Bend – This one-day battle effectively ended the Creek Indian Nation’s resistance to American pioneer settlers advances into the southeast.

4 March 1861 – Civil War - Lincoln is inaugurated as President.

11 March 1942 – WWII Philippines - General Douglas MacArthur with his General Staff leave Luzon with the promise: “I shall return!”

8 March 1965 – Vietnam War - U.S. Marines land in Vietnam – The first major U.S. combat troops deploy at Da Nang.



EVENTS CELEBRATING AMERICA’S 250TH ANNIVERSARY

REVOLUTIONARY RHYTHMS WEEKEND - April 17 to 19, 2026

SAVE THE DATES! The County’s 250th Commemoration will be held at **Jamestown Beach Event Park**, 2205 Jamestown Rd. The "**Revolutionary Rhythms**" weekend will feature events open to all ages and include musical performances, historical interpretations, food, crafters, family-friendly activities and much more! The final schedule and full details will be released in a few weeks!

VA250 Mobile Museum Experience: <https://va250.org/mobile-museum/>



MEMBERSHIP – Maria Tavenner

CURRENT MEMBERSHIP

TOTAL MEMBERS: 209 REGULAR: 156 SURVIVING SPOUSES: 53 85+: 87 LM: 107

For all membership information please contact Maria Tavenner mbtmembership@aol.com or 703-407-2176. if you have a change in address, rank, marital status, phone number, or email, as well as death of member or spouse. We urge you to recruit **ONE NEW MEMBER**.

NEW MEMBERS

LT Paul J. Cieurzo, USN (Ret)

TAPS

Mrs. Mary Inskeep, Spouse of member Jim Inskeep, 21 February 2026

CAPT Theodore (Ted) DuPuy, USN (Ret), 22 February 2026

Wivi Pelt-Detlie, Surviving Spouse, 22 February 2026

RENEWALS:

NONE!! Final notices will be sent out this month

FEBRUARY LUNCHEON

On 26 February VIPMOAA held a luncheon, at the Hampton Yacht Club. The guest speaker was the Mayor of Newport News, **Phillip Jones, Maj USMCR**.

It was reported that the luncheon was a great success with the arrival of Mayor Phillip Jones! There was a lot of pre-luncheon socializing and the Buffet lunch was outstanding! The Mayor's presentation was excellent and, even though he was on a tight schedule, he hung around to visit with the Chapter members. As he was leaving, he was thanked again for coming, and he said it was most enjoyable and he'd like to come back next year again if we'd like!



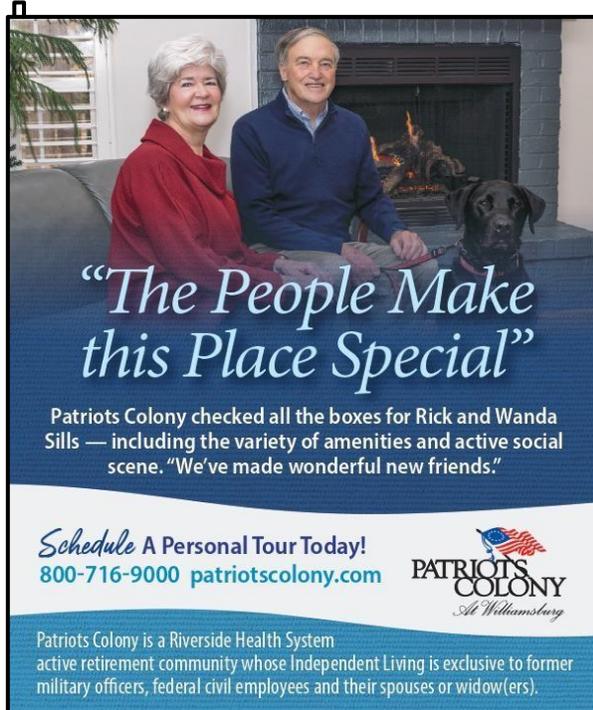


Col Dan Warren Receiving MOAA President's Award Certificate for his Leadership and Service in support of MOAA Objectives and Programs



Mayor Phillip Jones





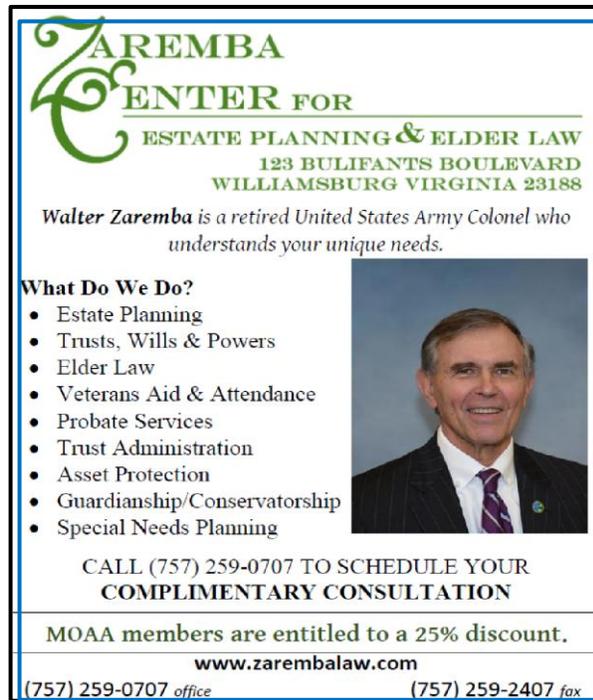
"The People Make this Place Special"

Patriots Colony checked all the boxes for Rick and Wanda Sills — including the variety of amenities and active social scene. "We've made wonderful new friends."

Schedule A Personal Tour Today!
800-716-9000 patriotscolony.com

PATRIOTS COLONY
At Williamsburg

Patriots Colony is a Riverside Health System active retirement community whose Independent Living is exclusive to former military officers, federal civil employees and their spouses or widow(ers).



ZAREMBA CENTER FOR
ESTATE PLANNING & ELDER LAW
123 BULIFANTS BOULEVARD
WILLIAMSBURG VIRGINIA 23188

Walter Zaremba is a retired United States Army Colonel who understands your unique needs.

What Do We Do?

- Estate Planning
- Trusts, Wills & Powers
- Elder Law
- Veterans Aid & Attendance
- Probate Services
- Trust Administration
- Asset Protection
- Guardianship/Conservatorship
- Special Needs Planning



CALL (757) 259-0707 TO SCHEDULE YOUR COMPLIMENTARY CONSULTATION

MOAA members are entitled to a 25% discount.

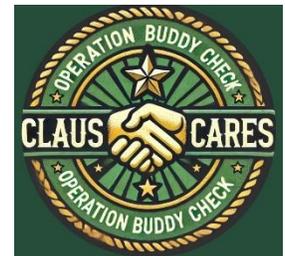
www.zarembalaw.com

(757) 259-0707 office (757) 259-2407 fax

26 March Luncheon at James River Country Club

Speaker: Scott Sprowl ; Retired US Coast Guard (24 year veteran)

Scott spearheads "Operation Buddy Check", a veteran-led, peer-to-peer support initiative built on a simple but powerful idea: sometimes all it takes is one check-in to remind someone they're not alone. Transitioning out of the service or continuing to serve can bring isolation, loss of identity, stress and unspoken struggles. Operation Buddy Check, under Scott's leadership, creates space for connection, conversation and community among veterans and active-duty service members from all branches and all eras. Recently Buddy Check has partnered with the Veterans Care Project (VCP) to further expand the reach and impact of support to veterans across our region.



Scott, whose lifelong commitment to service continued after retirement when he founded "Claus Cares" . What began as stepping in as Santa for his daughter's photography business, a greater need within the community was revealed. That calling led to the creation of Claus Cares, which became a 501(c)(3) nonprofit in 2021 and now serves families and veterans year-round through food, clothing, holiday support, and connection.

You won't want to miss this informative and up-lifting speaker so please make your reservation for our chapter's March 26 Luncheon at the James River Country Club. The price for the luncheon has been reduced to \$32 as the chapter is picking up the cost of dessert. RSVP by Monday, 16 March 2026. You can make your reservation on-line using the following link: [March Luncheon Reservation Form](#)

2026-27 EXECUTIVE BOARD OFFICERS

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: 1LT Glenn Marshall, USA (Ret) (Judy)
marsh8279@aol.com 757-585-1196

VICE PRESIDENT: MAJ Kathleen Schnepf, USAFR (Ret)
kathy.schnepf@gmail.com 802-274-9477

SECRETARY: COL Karen Coccio, USA (Ret)
karen.coccio@gmail.com 757-652-7933

TREASURER: COL Frank Tavenner, Jr., USA (Ret) (Maria)
FBTtreasurer@aol.com 703-407-6989

OFFICERS - APPOINTED

LEGAL ADVISOR: Vacant

SURVIVING SPOUSES LIAISON: COL Suzanne Evans, USA (Ret)
davsuz_evans@hotmail.com 808-221-6096

COMMITTEES LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

MEMBERS: Cleta Puckett, SS okbltmca@gmail.com
405-203-0987

LTC Brett Evans, USA (Ret), bdevans7@yahoo.com,
406-396-0666

ADVISOR: COL Jim Pauls, USAF (Ret) (Marvella)
keydetman@aol.com 757-851-1141

PERSONAL AFFAIRS

CHAPLAIN: CAPT Donald Troast, USN (Ret) (Norma)
donaldtroast2015@gmail.com 757-920-3458

MEMBERSHIP

CHAIRMAN: Maria Tavenner, CIV
mbtmembership@aol.com 703-407-2176

RECRUITING: All Board Members

COMMUNICATIONS

CHAIRMAN: Vacant

MEDIA LIAISON: Vacant

NEWSLETTER EDITOR: MAJ Craig Schnepf USAF (Ret)
admVIPMOAA@outlook.com

EVENTS

CHAIRMAN: MAJ Kathleen Schnepf, USAFR (Ret)
kathy.schnepf@gmail.com 802-274-9477

Gretchen Smith, gkbs9281@gmail.com, 540-420-8502

Elaina Warren, (Dan), elainagw@cox.net, 804-642-6597

FUND RAISING: COL Karen Coccio, USA (Ret)

karen.coccio@gmail.com 757-652-7933

ROTC/JROTC

CHAIRMAN: LTC Thomas Swanson, USAF (Ret) (Marci)
tgsanson@cox.net 757-593-1431

LTC Paul Fameli, USA (Ret) (Atsuko) famelipj@aol.com
757-561-7560

LTC Gene Lorge, USA (Ret) (Patricia) elorge@cox.net
757-403-4678

VIPMOAA BOARD MEETINGS

2nd Thursday @ 10:00 A.M.

12 Mar, 9 Apr & 14 May

[Patriots Colony Liberty Lounge](#)

6000 John Tyler Hwy

Williamsburg, VA 23188 (757) 220-9000

While Rocco's is rebuilding from a fire.

**Members are welcome to attend & may submit
proposed agenda items in advance to the President.**

Our Mission Statement:

To be a champion of local and national legislation that benefits our military community. To perpetuate the traditions of the American Military by providing camaraderie among our members, providing support for veterans, and by mentoring young men and women in the community to become America's future military leaders. To be a trusted counselor for our surviving spouses.

VIPMOAA LUNCHEON MEETING INFORMATION – 23 APRIL 2026

VIPMOAA LUNCH AT FORT EUSTIS CLUB

2123 Pershing Ave Fort Eustis VA, 23604 Phone: 757-878-5700



RSVP - by 3 pm Mon, 13 April COST: \$35

POC: Kathy Schnepf, kathy.schnepf@gmail.com (802) 274-9477

DATE: 23 April 2026

MENU: The menu for the buffet includes 2 entrees (one may be fried chicken), salads, 2 starches, 2 vegetables, rolls & butter, dessert, ice tea, coffee, tea. **There is NO bar at this event.**

TIME: 1130 Sign-in/Social
1200 Call to Order
1215 Lunch is served
1300 Program/Presentation
1415 50/50/Adjourn

Guest Speaker: ROTC Cadets and Cadre

Timely reservations guarantee a smooth luncheon; room setup, table seatings, food amounts and proper staffing for the size of our group.

RSVPs WITH PAYMENTS MUST BE RECEIVED BY RSVP DATE. NOTIFY POC FOR CHANGES TO REGISTRATION! PAYMENTS FOR CANCELATIONS AFTER THE RSVP DATE WILL NOT BE RETURNED. RESERVATIONS MAY BE MADE ON LINE AND PAYMENT MAILED TO VIPMOAA. MEMBERS WHO MAKE A RESERVATION WITH A PROMISE TO PAY AT THE DOOR ARE EXPECTED TO PAY VIPMOAA. CHAPTER MUST PAY FOOD SERVICES FOR NO-SHOWS.

CLIP & MAIL RESERVATION FORM FOR LUNCH ON THURSDAY 23 April 2026

Please write name and rank/title for each person who will attend:

MEMBER _____

SPOUSE _____

GUEST (1) _____ GUEST (2) _____

TOTAL NUMBER ATTENDING _____ @ \$35 PER PERSON \$ _____

VIPMOAA 2026 Donations (Scholarship, ROTC, Community, Other) \$ _____

CHECK (payable to VIPMOAA) AMOUNT \$ _____

Member - first meeting please check here _____ Celebrating a special occasion? Provide details _____

Member Address & Phone _____

Patriots Colony Residents
Use VIPMOAA mailbox under 2321

**MAIL WITH CHECK TO: VIPMOAA HOSPITALITY MAR, BOX 6463, WILLIAMSBURG, VA 23188
TO ARRIVE BY 13 April 2026. NO CONFIRMATION IS SENT.**



VIPMOAA NEWSLETTER
 BOX 6463
 WILLIAMSBURG, VA 23188

IF MAILING ADDRESS CHANGES,
 NOTIFY VIPMOAA

Please consider sharing this newsletter with a prospective member. We invite military officers to become members. Please see our [website](http://VIPMOAA.ORG) (VIPMOAA.ORG) or contact [Maria Tavenner](mailto:maria.tavener@vipmoaa.org) at 703-407-2176. Contact Maria for any changes in your address or membership.

The VIPMOAA NEWSLETTER is published by the VIPMOAA Chapter, which is an Affiliate of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA). MOAA and its Affiliated Chapters and councils are non-partisan. The advertisements that appear in this publication also do not reflect an endorsement by MOAA or this Affiliate.

Website: <https://vipmoaa.org/Home>

Meeting Schedule – Luncheon/Dinner on the 4th Thursday of the month except for Nov/Dec

Date	Location	L/D	Speaker
26 Mar 2026	James River Country Club	Lunch	Scott Sprowl, USCG (Ret)
23 Apr 2026	Ft. Eustis Club	Lunch	Annual ROTC/JROTC
28 May 2026	The Chamberlin	Lunch	TBA
25 Jun2026	Newport News Park	BBQ	TBA

If you have suggestions for topics or speakers, please contact Glenn Marshall, marsh8279@aol.com 757-585-1196. Newsletters are posted on the website and emailed to members on the 1st of the month. If you don't receive your monthly Newsletter by the 3rd of the month, check your spam email first, then contact the Newsletter Editor at (TBD). Newsletters sent by USPS 1st class mail take 2-8 days + 5 days preparation by printer. Will receive it approximately the 12th – 16th of the month.

RENEW YOUR VIPMOAA MEMBERSHIP

