

Virginia Peninsula Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America



NEWSLETTER

WEBSITE:

<http://vipmoaa.org>

Editor's EMAIL

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Chapter # VA10

President's Message - Glenn Marshall



Memorial Day is a time to honor those who died in military service by visiting cemeteries and memorials. At national cemeteries, volunteers place American flags on their graves. Above all, it is a day to remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

I was named after my uncle, Glenn Campbell, a young gunnery sergeant who gave his life defending his bomber crew during an enemy attack. Many of you likely know someone who made that same sacrifice so we can enjoy the freedoms we have today.

When Memorial Day is over, how will we honor their memory by using our opportunities to "never stop serving" in their names? We can do so by supporting the military community through legislation, preserving traditions through camaraderie and veteran care, mentoring young people to become future leaders, and serving as trusted counselors to surviving spouses.

Over the past month, our volunteers have shown how much a small group can do for comrades and the community. We invite you to join us in supporting veterans and surviving spouses who have lost a loved one, been hospitalized, or simply need a helping hand. We are also connecting with veteran-friendly employers to help returning service members build meaningful civilian or public service careers.

Mentoring young people who may become citizen-soldiers through programs such as JROTC and ROTC is equally important. The Virginia Peninsula Chapter supports JROTC because it helps develop future leaders. For many cadets, JROTC is a stepping-stone to meaningful careers, ROTC scholarships, or military service.

Each year, VIPMOAA awards scholarships to cadets in three regional college ROTC programs and local high school JROTC units. Recipients are selected based on participation, academic achievement, financial need, and a short statement describing how the award will support their academic, career, or trade school goals.

As VIPMOAA members, we honor our fallen heroes by inspiring others to keep serving alongside us. Please contact me at marsh8279@aol.com to learn how you can support our chapter's community outreach efforts.

Being an Advocate for Action means "Never Stop Serving"

TABLE OF CONTENTS	PG
President's Message	1
Board Minutes	2
Legislative Affairs	2
Surviving Spouse	2
ROTC/JROTC Scholarship Program	3
Membership	4
Donations	5
May/June Luncheons	8
July Tri-Chapter Brunch Reservation Form	10
Executive Board	11
Calendar	12

VIPMOAA SERVANT LEADERSHIP TEAM

BOARD MINUTES- COL (Ret) Karen Coccio, USA

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 – COL (Ret) JIM PAULS

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-Supported Legislation](#) MOAA will not support or oppose any legislation without a thorough review of its potential effects, positive or negative.

Go to: [Advocacy in Action 2026: MOAA's Mission Continues](#)

SURVIVING SPOUSE – COL (Ret) SUZANNE EVANS

This month's article highlights the preparation for a burial. The VA article at this web site is very good with emphasis on areas to assess.

[Find out if you may be eligible for burial in a VA national cemetery](#)

Pre-need eligibility for burial in a VA cemetery

You can apply to find out in advance if you're eligible for burial in a VA national cemetery. This is called a pre-need determination of eligibility—and it can help make the burial planning process easier for your family members in their time of need. Learn how to apply for a pre-need determination of eligibility.

Go to: [Pre-need eligibility for burial in a VA cemetery](#)

You'll need to use a different application process in these cases:

- **If the person has already died**, you can't apply for pre-need eligibility. You'll need to schedule a burial instead.
[Find out how to schedule a burial at the time of need](#)
- **If you want to plan a burial in Arlington National Cemetery or the United States Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery**, you'll need to contact Arlington National Cemetery directly.
[Find contact information on the Arlington National Cemetery website](#)
- **If you want to plan a burial in a VA grant-funded state, territory, or tribal Veterans cemetery**, you'll need to contact the cemetery about their pre-need program.
[Find a cemetery](#)

Check the VIPMOAA Surviving Spouses web page for additional information:

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

If you need help in a survivor's issue, reach out to me, and we can work it together. I am in the Idaho mountains during the summer so you may reach me at my email: davsuz_evans@hotmail.com

ROTC/JROTC -LTC (Ret) TOM SWANSON

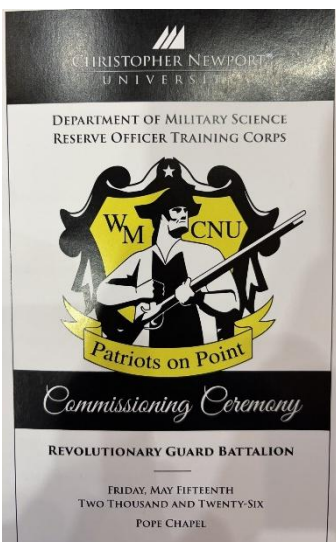
The VIPMOAA JROTC Scholarship Application website is located at:

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

ROTC Commissioning Ceremonies

14 May 2026 – William & Mary, Brinkley Commons Room at the Business School

15 May 2026 – Christopher Newport University, Pope Chapel



VIPMOAA Community Outreach for Veteran-Friendly Organizations

On Tuesday, May 19, the Virginia Peninsula Chamber hosted the 2026 State of the Military at the Fort Eustis Club. The event highlighted how local military installations strengthen the Peninsula's economy, culture, and community, while every branch of the U.S. military continues to foster innovation, pride, and workforce development across the region.

The event highlighted how local military installations support the Peninsula's economy, culture, and community. With all branches of the U.S. military represented, the region continues to benefit from innovation, pride, and a strong talent pipeline. Attendees also heard from military leaders and community partners shaping the Virginia Peninsula's future. For VIPMOAA, the event provided an opportunity to connect with installation leaders, invite future speakers, and expand chapter membership.



[State of Military Presentation](#)

Special thanks to Crystal B. Bright, Dominion Energy External Affairs Manager, who invited us to come as their guests. She is responsible for keeping local and state legislators informed about updates regarding Dominion Energy, as well as staying connected with the non-profits in the areas she covers, which spans from the city of Hampton up to New Kent County. Besides working at Dominion Energy, Bright serves on boards for the Kiwanis Club of Toano, An Achievable Dream Newport News, Virginia Peninsula Community College, VersAbility Resources, Virginia Peninsula Chamber, and the Greater Williamsburg Chamber of Commerce.



For future community outreach updates, please contact Glenn Marshall at marsh8279@aol.com to suggest a veteran-friendly candidate to highlight.

MEMBERSHIP – *Maria Tavenner*

CURRENT MEMBERSHIP

TOTAL Active MEMBERS: 190 REGULAR: 85 SURVIVING SPOUSES: 50 85+: 55

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**.

Taps:

Shirley Harris, spouse of Col (Ret) Rufus Harris, Patriots Colony residents, passed away on 30 May

MILITARY COMMUNITY SERVICE/SCHOLARSHIP FUND DONATIONS

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

Category

Diamond Level (\$1000+)

Platinum Level (\$500 - \$999)

Corson, Ron
Mabie, Lew/Nan
Miyamasu, Paul/Mary
Tavenner, Frank/Maria

Gold Level (\$100 - \$499)

Butz, Rose Marie
Fahlender, Ted
Greenhalgh, Jack
Lindsey, Edward/Glenda
Marshall, Glenn/Judy
Nutwell, Bob/Lynn
Schnepf, Kathy/Craig
In the name of Skoglund, Shizuko
Wood, Betty

Silver Level (\$50 - \$99)

Arnold, Ray/Rita
Burrows, LeRoy
Clarke, Robert/Anneliese
Evans, Suzanne
Francisco, Ben
Morris, Thomas
Pauls, Jim/Marvella
Smith, Gretchen
Tarr, Elaine

Bronze Level (\$25 - \$49)

Dievendorf, Lynn/Sallie Moore
Gemeinhardt, Fred
Graves, Bobby

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.

VIPMOAA Member Interest Survey: We are still accepting paper surveys and on-line surveys. If you have ideas on how the meetings are to run, please fill out a survey. Thank you to the 26 chapter members who have taken the time to fill one out. Currently reviewing, will share results soon.

Survey can be found on VIPMOAA website with a member login: <https://vipmoaa.org/Surveys>

Household Document Organization

Margaret E. Mondul, CDR, USN (Ret)

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757-220-9285

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American Association of Daily Money Managers

Morgan Stanley

WEALTH MANAGEMENT

Andrew J. Chess, QPFC

Financial Planning Specialist
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<https://advisor.morganstanley.com/Andrew.Chess>

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CELEBRATING AMERICA'S 250TH ANNIVERSARY



Sail Yorktown Festival

June 12, 2026 - June 14, 2026

Set sail for an unforgettable weekend at the Sail Yorktown Festival, an official Sail Virginia 2026 Affiliate Harbor event, June 12–14, 2026! Kick things off Friday morning with a spectacular Opening Ceremony & Parade of Sail on the York River.

VA250 Sail Yorktown Festival: <https://www.va250.org/event-detail/?id=1921>

Sail250® Virginia (June 19-23)

The year 2026 marks the 250th anniversary of our nation's founding in 1776 – The United States of America's Semi quincentennial.

For this milestone occasion, a fleet of the world's most magnificent international tall ships and military ships, in an epic peacetime gathering, will sail into the port of Virginia as part of Sail250® America. <https://sail250virginia.com/>

In the tradition of the past five iconic OpSail events held in the Norfolk/Hampton Roads/Chesapeake Bay region since 1976, the fleet will once again bring extraordinary experiences and opportunities to every corner of our communities.

Schedule of Events: <https://sail250virginia.com/Schedule-of-Events>

IMPORTANT DATES IN US MILITARY HISTORY FOR JUNE

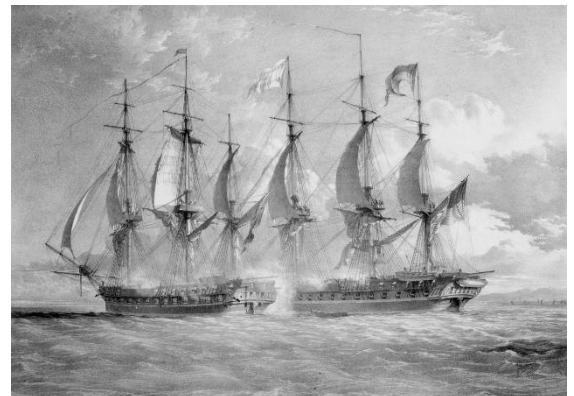
18 June 1812 – The War of 1812 - The United States declares war on Britain.

28 June 1919 – World War I – The Treaty of Versailles formally ends World War I, imposing reparations and territorial losses on Germany.

3 June 1942 – World War II – The war in the Pacific turns when the United States destroys Japan's first-line carrier strength and most of its best-trained naval pilots at the Battle of Midway.

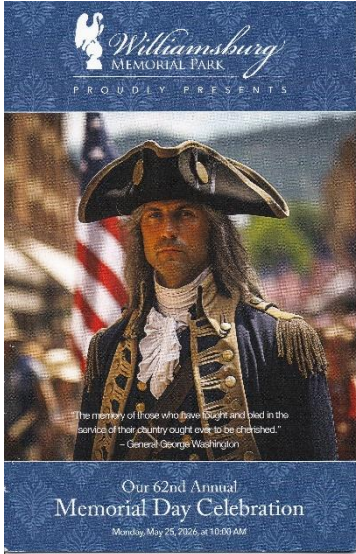
25 June 1950 – Korean War - North Korea invades South Korea, marking the start of the war and leads to US military entry into the war under the United Nations banner.

1 June 1954 – The Vietnam War - The Saigon Military Mission, a covert operation to conduct psychological warfare and military activities in South Vietnam, is launched under the command of U.S. Air Force Col. Edward Lansdale. This marks the beginning of the Vietnam War.



Battle between the frigates *Shannon* and USS *Chesapeake* off Boston during The War of 1812

Annual Williamsburg Memorial Day Celebration, 25 May 2026



This Memorial Day we honored those who gave their lives serving our country—armed forces, police, firefighters, paramedics, and first responders. VIPMOAA, as part of the Combined Veterans Organization Commission, displayed our flag at Williamsburg Memorial Park in remembrance of all our fallen comrades.

VIPMOAA attended and honored 11 of our fallen comrades since last Memorial Day with bell ringing in their name:

- LTC Fred Lokay, USA (Ret),
- Col Robert Whitman, USA (Ret),
- CWO2 Richard Bunger, USN (Ret),
- CDR Frederick R. Adamchak, USCG (Ret),
- COL Robert F. Swaney, USAF (Ret),
- MAJ Wayne Allen Nast, USAF (Ret),
- LTC Donald Pace, USA (Ret),
- CAPT Theodore (Ted) DuPuy, USN (Ret),
- MAJ William Rennagel, USA (Ret),
- CDR George T. Riddick, USN (Ret),
- CAPT Philip F. Yosway, USN (Ret),



Shown left to right are Majors Craig and Kathy Schnepf, CW4 Rust White and Glenn Marshall representing our chapter at this memorial service.



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VETERAN OWNED



A SALUTE to **Rocco's Smokehouse Grill**, temporarily located at 1430 High St. #1103 in Williamsburg. Rocco has served VIPMOAA for many years and we wish to thank him for hosting past monthly Board Meetings and providing delicious barbecue food at our annual picnics.

NOT TOO LATE TO SIGNUP FOR THE JUNE 25TH PICNIC.

Yes, the VIPMOAA June Picnic is coming and if you have not sent in your registration form you still have time. Yes, Rocco is catering the event at Shelter #10 in Newport News Park and yes, we will have a series of fun events. The events will start with a couple of rounds of Bingo before we open the meeting and start the feast. So, come a little early join in to win a free ticket to the Christmas Luncheon. Yes, the “Golf Putting Challenge” is on the docket with signup at the picnic for six four-person teams to win prizes for the winning team. And yes, you can sign up for a dollar at the picnic to guess how many “Nuts and Screws” are in the jar with the closest caller of “Nuts” and “Screws” each winning a fine bottle of wine. And no, you can’t drink the wine at the park.



Reservations may be made on line at:

https://vipmoaa.org/get_calendar_details.cfm?calendarid=116

May 28th Luncheon at the Chamberlin, Fort Monroe



Fort Monroe Visitors Center



Tour Guide: Zach Ferguson



Glenn Marshall with Dr. John Quarstein



Glenn Marshall with
Congressman Bobby Scott



A Reservation Made, Is A Reservation To Be Honored and Paid

I think all would agree last week's Luncheon Meeting at The Chamberlin was quite the event. The food, service, setting and speaker, historian John Quarstein, were second to none. We look forward to future meetings there, with a few tweaks, to further enhance the experience. I would like to remind all members that if you make a reservation for any of the luncheon/meetings, and must cancel for any reason, if it is after the posted date, you must honor that reservation by making a payment to VIPMOAA. 61 members reserved a place, 56 showed; the chapter was responsible for all 61 guests, at a loss of \$160. Please, if you must cancel after the closing date, mail payments to the address on the reservation form or place in the VIPMOAA mailbox at Patriots Colony. Thank you in advance, Kathy Schnepf, Events Coordinator



2026 Tri-Chapter Brunch



The Portsmouth Area Chapter (PAC), Peninsula Chapter (VIP), and the Hampton Roads Chapter (HRC) of MOAA are hosting a brunch buffet in the Magnolia Room at Atlantic Shores Retirement Community, Virginia Beach, Sunday, July 19, 2026 from 1000–1300.

Atlantic Shores' address is 1200 Atlantic Shores Drive, Virginia Beach, VA 23454

Brunch Buffet includes:

Scrambled Eggs
Savory Breakfast Casserole
Bacon and Sausage
Hash Browns
Omelet Station
Waffle Station with Whipped Cream, Cherry Pie Filling, Syrup, Butter
Fresh Fruit Platter (Strawberries, Grapes, Cantaloupe, Honeydew, Pineapple)
Blueberry muffins
Caesar Salad
Chicken Salad Croissants
Pasta Salad
Coffee, Tea, Orange Juice, Apple Juice
Cash Bar will be available for additional beverages.

Casual Attire

Cost of brunch is \$40.00 per person.

Payment **at the door** with cash or check made out to HRCMOAA.

Reservations are Required NLT 13 July 2026.

Contact Kathy Schnepf (802-274-7306; Kathy.schnepf@gmail.com)

Or online via VIPMOAA Calendar after 25 June 2026.

(https://vipmoaa.org/get_calendar_details.cfm?calendarid=117)

HRCMOAA must pay for number of people registered!

A RESERVATION MADE IS A RESERVATION PAID!

2026-27 EXECUTIVE BOARD OFFICERS

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: 1LT Glenn Marshall, USA
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)
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) keydetman@aol.com
757-851-1141

PERSONAL AFFAIRS

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

VIPMOAA BOARD MEETINGS

2nd Thursday @ 10:00 A.M.

11 June & 13 August

[Patriots Colony Large Hobby Room](#)

6000 John Tyler Hwy
Williamsburg, VA 23188 (757) 220-9000

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

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

Elaina Warren, 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)
tgsanson@cox.net 757-593-1431

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

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

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 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
25 Jun 2026	Newport News Park	BBQ	Member Appreciation fun and games
19 July 2026	Atlantic Shores, Virginia Beach	Brunch	Annual Tri-Chapter Event
August	None	N/A	Summer Break
24 Sept	2 nd Street Restaurant, Newport News	Lunch	TBD

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 (admVIPMOAA@outlook.com). Newsletters sent by USPS 1st class mail take 2-8 days + 5 days preparation by the printer.

RENEW YOUR VIPMOAA MEMBERSHIP

