



MOAA®

PITTSBURGH CHAPTER



MARCH 2025 NEWSLETTER

Chapter Website- [Home](#) | [Moaa Pittsburgh Chap](#)

MOAA Pittsburgh - A Five Star Chapter
Chartered on Veterans Day - 11 November 1965

Our Mission: "Never Stop Serving!"

Next Luncheon Meeting April 27, 2025 at Chartiers Country Club, 601 Baldwin Rd, Pittsburgh PA 15205, 1-4:00 PM.

Dinner served at 2:00.

[Chartiers Country Club | Pittsburgh, PA](#)

See schedule on the newsletter's last page

Pittsburgh Chapter Leaders

LTC (RET) Jon P. Comis
President and
Acting Membership Chair
412-251-3547
moapitt@gmail.com

CPT Daniel Kysela
Vice-President and

New MOAA National **CHEDDAR PLATFORM for Dues Payment.**

MOAA NATIONAL is working with a new platform CHEDDAR to make online dues payment a breeze. The link to payment -

[View Items | Cheddar Up](#)

If you would like to pay by check, please

Acting Secretary
412-616-1641
kysela.daniel@gmail.com

SECRETARY

VACANT

CPT Marcel Minutolo
Treasurer
412-513-9728
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Directors

COL (RET) Carmen DiGiacomo

make checks payable to **MOAA Pittsburgh Chapter** and mail to our Treasurer-

Marcel Minutolo
1442 Barnsdale Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15217-1308

We are asking ALL who receive this Newsletter to please pay their MOAA Pittsburgh Chapter 2025 dues of \$20.00 by April 1, 2025, but no later than at the Chapter Luncheon on April 27, 2025, Luncheon.

To become a National MOAA Member, link into the link below and sign up. National Basic Membership is FREE! Then pay your Chapter dues accordingly. [MOAA Membership](#)

If you have any questions regarding the Chapter's finances, please reach out to Marcel Minutolo, Treasurer, at minutolom@gmail.com.

Surviving Spouse Liaison

Our Surviving Spouse Liaison, **Oralia Ferretti**, is always ready to answer any questions. Please reach out to Oralia. Her phone number and email address are located in the Pittsburgh Chapter Leader Section.

Click the links below to view content:

[Surviving Spouse Corner: Join Our Virtual Chapter](#)

[MOAA's Surviving Spouse Resources Website](#)

[Surviving Spouse Corner: 2024 in Review](#)

Did you know there is a MOAA Surviving Spouses & Friends Facebook Group?

tippfado@verizon.net

LTJG USNR Chad Rittle
rittle99@yahoo.com

CW4 (RET) Thomas Tallon
thomastallon@verizon.net

VACANT
VACANT
VACANT

MOAA State Veterans
Home Advisory Council
Members and MOAA
Pittsburgh Chapter
Members

Southwestern Veteran's Center

CW4 (RET) Thomas E. Tallon
thomastallon@verizon.net

Erie Soldiers & Sailors Home

MAJ Richard J. DiGiacomo
rjdi Giacomo@zoominternet.net

[MOAA Surviving Spouses & Friends Facebook Group](#) has over 850 members and provides updated information on important surviving spouse issues — especially regarding legislation important to surviving spouses and their families. Former SSAC member Kathy Prout is the administrator, with Kathy Thorp and Nancy Mullen assisting.

2024 Advocacy in Action (AiA) Council President's Seminar

Our state of Pennsylvania will be represented at the MOAA spring 2025 Advocacy in Action Seminar in Washington DC by the PACOC President Nick Taylor, Past Council President Keith Beebe, and MOAA National Board Member Chuck Anderson (PA).

[MOAA - How MOAA Plans to Build Momentum in the 119th Congress](#)

MOAAA ADVOCACY - A Top Priority for Change!

Now is the time to sign up and email your Legislative Representatives. Currently our chapter has twenty (20) members registered as advocates, and between January 1, 2024, and October 1, 2024, we had a total of (158) actions taken by our members. It is a self-explanatory process to sign up and email our representatives. We must speak up and make ourselves heard, for those who have served, and for those who are currently serving. If there are any questions on this process, please contact our chapter's Legislative Liaison.

LTC (RET) WILLIAM B. PENTECOST Jr.
412-254-9293

wpentecost@c-wlaw.com

It is time to **"TAKE ACTION NOW!"**

Follow the Links below to take action to write your Representatives.

[MOAA | Legislative Action Center \(quorum.us\)](#)

[MOAA - Meet MOAA's New Legislative Action Center](#)

[MOAA - MOAA's Military State Report Card and Tax Guide](#)

[Pennsylvania Senators, Representatives, and Congressional District Maps - GovTrack.us](#)

PACOC MOST RECENT LEGISLATIVE REPORT -

MOAA PA Council of Chapters March 8th Legislative Report

Bob Gray PWVC Legislative Committee Chairman

The only major veteran legislation that moved during the budget hearings has been SB 129 that keeps the PA War Veterans Council in its role of submitting veterans for appointments to the state veterans' homes Advisory Councils. It also expands the residents on the Advisory Council to include two members from the home, instead of one, and a family member of a patient or former patient. The bill passed the Senate and has now been voted out of the House VA&EP Committee. The bill has not been assigned to another committee at this time.

The House Veterans Affairs Committee Executive Director has mentioned that three legislators have an interest in drafting a Claims Sharks bill and they are reviewing the PA War Veterans Council Legislative Committee input for the bill. The bill introduced last session as SB 1145 is going to be reintroduced again in the Senate. These bills will put a penalty into PA law that makes it illegal for an individual or company that changes a veteran to file their initial claim, which is prohibited by VA regulations. Only after the veteran's initial claim is denied, can anyone help a veteran file an appeal and charge a limited fee from the lump sum payment, only. Legislation from last session only suggested a penalty of a third-degree felony, a slap on the wrist. Efforts will be made to increase the penalty based on the amount a veteran is overcharged based on the VA thirty percent limit of a lump sum payment.

The PWVC Requested a meeting with the House Veterans Affairs chairmen and their executive directors to discuss three issues from our legislative goals. That meeting will be on March 21st with a time to be determined. The three goals to be discussed are an increase in the Blinded Veterans, Paralyzed and Amputee Veterans Pension, to Pass a Claims Shark Bill to protect veterans filing for VA benefits and Sponsor a Joint House and Senate Resolution to support the MAJ Ricard Star Act to send to the Pennsylvania Congressional Delegation to cosponsor and support the bill.

NEW State Legislation Coming:

A new bill will be introduced again in the PA House to include our fellow MOAA members of the US Public Health Service (USPHS) and National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to be included with the other uniformed services to be eligible for a state tax exemption if they are assigned to work out of state for their job. MOAA PA Council will be assisting with passage

work out of state for their job. ROTC/PA Council will be assisting with passage of the bill when it is introduced. There are 40 members of the USPHS assigned in PA. The number of NOAA officers has yet to be determined. PA has two National Weather Service offices in State College and Pittsburgh, but not sure if they have any commissioned officers assigned. Bob Gray will notify chapter presidents when legislation is introduced to have your member contact their state representatives to support the bill.

Memo

Currently in Pennsylvania, state tax relief is extended to only the four uniformed services contained within the Department of Defense (Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marines), as well as to the US Coast Guard contained within the Department of Homeland Security. However, the uniformed services of the US Public Health Service (USPHS) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) are excluded from this benefit. As a veteran, I understand the hard work and sacrifices of all uniformed armed forces members, and I believe they should be treated fairly and equally regarding income tax exemption.

My legislation would expand state tax relief to now include USPHS and NOAA members while they are on active duty (or active-duty orders) outside Pennsylvania. Both USPHS and NOAA serve vital roles for our nation's health and well-being and have brave and honorable officers who routinely go "into harm's way" in service to our country. For example, one Pennsylvania USPHS officer who lives in my district was deployed to Liberia to help coordinate the response to the Ebola outbreak. While there, he served alongside members of the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marines who were responding to this public health crisis – but his income was taxable in Pennsylvania, while their income was not.

Please join me in including valuable USPHS and NOAA members alongside their uniformed comrades to exempt their income taxes while on active duty outside the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. This is just one of many ways we can show our appreciation for their sacrifices.

JROTC/ROTC AWARDS SECTION

OUR JROTC/ROTC Team needs VOLUNTEERS to present awards! So far, we have five (5) events planned. There will be more requests soon, because most of the events take place in the spring. If anyone is interested, please contact our chapter's ROTC /JROTC Liaison:

LTC (RET) Charles Chasler
ROTC Liaison
716-785-4383
chuckchasler@gmail.com

Below is a current ROTC/JROTC Event Schedule, please contact LTC Chuck Chasler for more details -

	ROTC/JROTC	2025	PROJECTED	
DATE	FUNCTION	LOCATION	ATTENDEES/MANAGERS	NOTES/AAR
4-5-2025	Beaver HS JROTC Military Ball	Club at Shadow Lakes, 2000 Beaver Lakes, Aliquippa, PA	LTC (R) Chasler (Team)	SGM (R) Oscar Weaver, USA, SAI
4-25-2025	Butler HS JROTC Military Ball	American Legion Post 778 150 Legion Memorial Lane in Butler, PA 16001	LT Chad Rittle	MAJ (R) Colman, USA, SAI
05-01-2025	SRU ROTC Awards	Slippery Rock Township Building, 155 Branchton Rd, Slippery Rock	LTC (R) Chasler (Team)	Ms. Becky Lindey Secretary, DMS, SRU
5-3-2025	PR HS JROTC Banquet	Pine Richland High School	LTC (R) Chasler (Team)	MSG Leydig, USAF, SAI
Week of 5-9 May, 2025	AG HS JROTC Awards	Albert Gallatin High School	LTC (R) Chasler (Team)	LTC (R) Richard Cassem, USA, SAI

PENNSYLVANIA VETERAN'S REGISTRY LINK-
<https://www.dmva.pa.gov/veteransaffairs/pages/outreach-and-reintegration/pennsylvaniaveteransregistry.aspx>

Leadership Update for Pittsburgh-area VSOs





U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Health Administration
VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System

VA Pittsburgh Health Systems Monthly Townhall

If any member is interested, a request in an email to Ms. Heather Steele will establish you on her mailing list. You will be sent an email monthly to inform

you when and where the meetings are located. You can also attend through a Zoom Link from your home computer.

Veterans,

VAPHS leadership and representatives from the Veterans Benefits Administration Pittsburgh Regional Office and the National Cemetery of the Alleghenies will provide updates on current initiatives and answer your questions. Your valued input helps us ensure we meet the needs of Veterans who visit us for care at our two main campuses and six outpatient clinics.

Heather Steele

Please RSVP and plan to join in person, by video or on the phone:

- At the **H.J. Heinz III campus**, in the building 71 Learning Exchange.
- Via **Webex video**.
- By phone at 1-404-397-1596 (toll-free), access code: 2820 550 7356.

Heather.Steele@va.gov

[FY25Q1 VAPHS Veterans Town Hall](#)

[Veterans Health Administration](#)

[Applying for Benefits - Veterans Benefits Administration](#)

[Find A VA Accredited Representative Or VSO | Veterans Affairs](#)

[VSAFE](#)

[VA Decision Reviews And Appeals | Veterans Affairs](#)

[About the Veterans Legacy Memorial \(VLM\) - National Cemetery Administration](#)

[National Cemetery of the Alleghenies - National Cemetery Administration](#)

[Veterans Burial Allowance And Transportation Benefits | Veterans Affairs](#)

[Pittsburgh Regional Office Home](#)



The Pennsylvania Council of Chapter's NEXT MEETING WILL BE PA Council of Chapters- **Saturday, 7 June 2025 at Biddle Hall, FIG**

[Who We Are - PA Council of Chapters \(pa-coc.org\)](#)

MOAA Pittsburgh 2025 Chapter Goals

1. Become 501 C 3: Awaiting long form (1023) to be reviewed and a decision made by the IRS. (Still Awaiting IRS)
2. Continue and Increase Community Events.
3. Continue to recruit new members.

4. Continue to increase community activities.
5. Fill chapter's open positions- a. Secretary b. Membership Chair c. (3) Directors d. Newspaper Editor.
6. Continue to work closely with MOAA Councils and Chapters.
7. Sync in with Cheddar Up, MOAA's new online chapter dues payment system.
8. Continue to apply for needed MOAA National Grants.
9. Continue to apply for MOAA National Awards.
10. Continue to work with MOAA Travel Agency by providing advertisements in our Newsletters and on our website.
11. Continue to engage with MOAA's Legislative Action Center and track reports.
12. Continue to attend MOAA National Virtual Roundtables, Webinars and Exchange Forums.

Below are the VA Facilities that are located in our chapter's AOR. Our chapter MOAA representatives are listed (Thomas Tallon and Richard DiGiacomo). PACOC is asking for volunteers to fill vacancies that are tasked to other organizations. If anyone is interested, contact chapter president Jon Comis or PACOC and Chapter Past President Bob Heister.

Southwestern Veterans Center

POC: Cheri McAfee 412-665-6708					
Member Type	Member Name ^(R = Reappointment)	Affiliation	Appointed On	Term Begins	Term Ends
Gov Appointee #1	Rommel Dacanay	BVA	1/30/2018	6/2/2017	6/1/2020 Re Appt Needed
Gov Appointee #2	Matthew Zamosky	PSACDVA	1/23/2024	6/2/2023	6/1/2026
Gov Appointee #3	William Roland ^R	VFW	9/29/2023	6/2/2023	6/1/2026
Gov Appointee #4	Paul Kennedy	TAL	1/22/2024	6/2/2023	6/1/2026
Gov Appointee #5	R. Michael Chuey ^R	CWV	7/27/2022	6/2/2023	6/1/2026
Gov Appointee #6	E. James Lamison ^R	AMVETS	10/28/2021	6/2/2024	6/1/2027
Gov Appointee #7	Timothy A. Sager ^R	KPV	5/12/2023	6/2/2024	6/1/2027
Gov Appointee #8	William Aronson ^R	MOPH	6/4/2018	6/2/2021	6/1/2027
Gov Appointee #9	Kenneth Vybiral	TAL	1/22/2024	6/2/2022	6/1/2025
Gov Appointee #10	Gary Anspach	MCL	11/2/2022	6/2/2022	6/1/2025
Gov Appointee #11	Thomas E. Tallon ^R	MOAA	5/12/2023	6/2/2022	6/1/2025
Gov Appointee #12	Edward L. Hanke ^R	DAV	5/22/2024	6/2/2022	6/1/2025
PA Senate Appointee	Senator Devlin Robinson	PA Senate	2/8/2023	12/1/2022	11/30/2024
PA House Appointee	Representative La'Tasha Mayes	PA House	May-23	12/1/2022	11/30/2024
Resident Appointee	Kenneth Stubbs	SWVC			Indefinite

Pennsylvania Soldiers' and Sailors' Home

Advisory Council					
POC: Rasheda Goodwine 814-878-4927					
Member Type	Member Name ^(R = Reappointment)	Affiliation	Appointed On	Term Begins	Term Ends
Gov Appointee #1	Karen Foust ^R	DAV	5/22/2024	7/28/2023	7/27/2026
Gov Appointee #2	Bobbi Cumpston	PSACDVA	1/23/2024	7/28/2023	7/27/2026
Gov Appointee #3	Robert C. Eiler ^R	VFW	9/29/2023	7/28/2023	7/27/2026
Gov Appointee #4	Anthony DiGiacomo ^R	PSACDVA	1/29/2024	7/28/2023	7/27/2026
Gov Appointee #5	Richard B. Supak ^R	CWV	11/18/2020	7/28/2023	7/27/2026
Gov Appointee #6	VACANT	MOPH		7/28/2024	7/27/2027 Appt Needed
Gov Appointee #7	Harry E. Stewart ^R	TAL	8/9/2021	7/28/2021	7/27/2024 Appt Needed
Gov Appointee #8	Raymond J. Chambers ^R	MCL	3/4/2025	7/28/2021	7/27/2027
Gov Appointee #9	Gary Fry ^R	AMVETS	1/22/2024	7/28/2022	7/27/2025
Gov Appointee #10	Joseph Benacci	PSACDVA	1/23/2024	7/28/2022	7/27/2025
Gov Appointee #11	Richard J. DiGiacomo ^R	MOAA	5/12/2023	7/28/2022	7/27/2025
Gov Appointee #12	VACANT	BVA		7/28/2022	7/27/2025 Appt Needed
PA Senate Appointee	Senator Dan Laughlin	PA Senate	2/6/2023	12/1/2022	11/30/2024
PA House Appointee	Representative Patrick J. Harkins	PA House	May-23	12/1/2022	11/30/2024
Resident Appointee	Keith Eller	PSSH	1/29/2024	1/29/2024	Indefinite

MOAA PITTSBURGH 2025 PROJECTED EVENTS

Chapter Website- [Home](#) | [Moa Pittsburgh Chap](#)

2025 PROJECTED				
DATE	FUNCTION	LOCATION	ATTENDEES/MANAGERS	NOTES/AAR
JAN-DEC 2025- 2nd Monday of all months	Google Meet Meeting	Home Computer or Phone	Chapter Leadership Staff	Short/Long Term Planning
JAN-DEC 2025 (TBD)	VAPHS Roundtable	In Person or Home Computer	President Comis/ Anyone	The VA Pittsburgh Health Systems provide new info.
JAN-DEC 2025 (TBD)	JROTC (ROTC) Ceremonies, Awards, Banquets	Western PA Region	LTC (RET) Chasler and Team	ROTC/JROTC Presenter Team
JAN-DEC 2025 (Saturdays)	PACOC Meetings: MAR 8th /JUN 14th/ SEP 13th / DEC 13th	Biddle Hall, FIG (1100 hr.)/ December meeting via ZOOM	LTC (RET) Comis/All PA Chapter Presidents/CPT (Ret.) Bob Heister PACOC Past President	PACOC Pres. Nick Taylor meets with PA Chap. Pres. who report chapter's operations and future planning/projections
JAN-DEC 2025 (TBD)	OLD GUARD LUNCH (Brainstorming Ideas)	BRAVO's Waterfront (TBD)	ALCON Roundtable	Short/Long Term Planning
JAN-DEC 2025 (TBD)	Chapter Events (field trips, sporting events)	Western PA Region	ALL	Planning
ALL 2025 Luncheons	VA DONATION BOX	Chartiers Country Club	ALL /Pat Seda-Rivera	The donations will be issued to hospitalized veterans for the holidays
04-25/ 26- 2025	USARC Ret.App.Day	316th ESC, Coraopolis, PA	Chapter Volunteers (TBD)	Table- Recruiting and Providing Information
4-27-2025	LUNCH/MEETING	Chartiers Country Club	ALL /Pat Seda-Rivera	Meeting to prelude Lunch
27- April/ Dec 2024	VA Donation Box	All Luncheons	ALL /Pat Seda-Rivera	Collect clothing and grooming items for hospitalized Vets
TBD	VA Bingo	SWVA Facility	Pat Seda-Rivera	Assist SWVA with Bingo
1 June- 8 Dec 2024	VA Home Holiday Card Collection	Western PA	COL (RET) Carmen DiGiacomo	Members signed and issued cards to the veterans in our Regional VA
7-13-2025	LUNCHEON	Chartiers Country Club	ALL /Pat Seda-Rivera	Speaker TBD
9-7-2025	LUNCHEON	Chartiers Country Club	ALL /Pat Seda-Rivera	Speaker TBD
10-12-2025	LUNCH/ELECTIONS	Chartiers Country Club	ALL /Pat Seda-Rivera	Annual Meeting/Elections
12-7-2025	HOLIDAY/ PARTY	Chartiers Country Club	ALL /Pat Seda-Rivera	Holiday Party

February 28, 2025 - Major General John R. Pippy from Moon Township was sworn in as Pennsylvania's 55th AG. During his early days of service, General Pippy was part of this area's TROA/MOAA and ROA.



Major General John R. Pippy Sworn in as Pennsylvania's 55th Adjutant General; Assumes Command of the Pennsylvania National Guard

Governor Josh Shapiro presides over swearing in and assumption of command ceremony at Fort Indiantown Gap

Anville, PA – Today, Governor Josh Shapiro administered the oath of office to Major General John R. Pippy, Pennsylvania's 55th adjutant general and head of the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (DMVA). In addition to his cabinet-level position, Pippy also assumes command of the Pennsylvania National Guard, the third largest in the nation.

Unanimously confirmed by the Pennsylvania State Senate on Feb. 4, MG Pippy, a western Pennsylvania native and a West Point graduate, brings decades of leadership experience in the National Guard to DMVA.

"Ensuring the PA National Guard is able to effectively serve our communities, our Commonwealth, and our country and that the DMVA is able to deliver for Pennsylvania service members, veterans, and their families is critically important to my Administration," said **Governor Shapiro**. "Major General Pippy has the experience and readiness to lead — and I look forward to working with him and the men and women of the PA National Guard and the DMVA to continue delivering for all Pennsylvanians."

"I am honored and humbled to lead the Pennsylvania Department of Military and Veterans Affairs in its dual mission," said **MG John R. Pippy**. "The first, is the readiness of the Pennsylvania National Guard to respond to the needs of Commonwealth and country when called upon. The second is to fulfill our nation's solemn obligation to take care of our veterans and their families. I am fully committed to serving Pennsylvania as its 55th adjutant general."

Our chapter will be participating in USARRSO's RAD next month - More to follow.

MILITARY RETIREE APPRECIATION DAY

8:00 AM - 3:00 PM
April 25-26 2025

OPEN TO ALL MILITARY RETIREES AND THEIR SPOUSES



TO REGISTER VISIT:

<https://einventions.afit.edu/inv/anim.cfm?i=905537&k=0B61470C7850>

Hosted by:

US Army Reserve Retirement Services Office

Location:

T/Sgt Vernon McGarity Army Reserve Center
99 Soldiers Ln, Coraopolis, PA 15108

Community Partners Participating:

Retirement Services Office | TRICARE | Military Officers Association of America | Veterans Affairs | Allegheny County Veteran Service Office
Social Security Agency and many others.



Retiree Health and Benefits Expo:

Walk-in ID Card Services | Blood Pressure Screenings | Legal Services
Veteran Service Officers



Pittsburgh Area Commissary sidewalk sale during the event.



Questions? Contact: USARMY.USARC.RSO@army.mil
www.usar.army.mil/Retirement



MOAA PITTSBURGH HISTORIC CORNER



An old 2002 photo of the swearing in of officers during the last year our chapter was known as The Retired Officers Association (TROA). In September 2002, with guidance from National, our chapter voted to side with National and change its name from TROA to the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) on January 1, 2003.

The following pictured left to right - Ralph Benson, Mathilda Benson, Donald Kester, Tom Tallon, UNK, and President Charles Eason.

The Military Officers Association of America (MOAA), is an independent, nonprofit organization, located in Alexandria, Virginia, and operated exclusively to benefit our Nation, its uniformed services personnel, their families and survivors. It is the nation's largest veterans group representing military officers and their families.

MOAA was founded February 23, 1929, in Los Angeles, California, with 63 members. The founders believed that retired officers as well as their families and survivors would benefit greatly by joining together in an association — one that would counsel and render assistance to all officers in matters relating to their retired status. Colonel Arthur T. Marix, USMC (Ret), was founder and first President.

In 1944, with membership at 2,600, the Association moved to Washington, D.C. During the next 13 years — from 1944 to 1957— membership reached 25,000, the staff expanded to 19 persons, legislative liaison (lobbying) began, a scholarship loan program was started and *The Retired Officer Magazine*, (now called *Military Officer magazine*), first went to press on a bimonthly basis.

Today, with more than 370,000 members (including 64,000 surviving spouses who are auxiliary members), a staff of 30 retired officers and 60 other support personnel, the National Headquarters administers the Association's many programs that benefit its members, responds to their requests for assistance, and represents the membership to the White House, the Congress, the Defense Department, and other government agencies.

MOAA is a full service organization, with legislative activities; member services such as banking, insurance, and travel; a one-of-a-kind job matching operation for members leaving the services; an award-winning monthly magazine; a quarterly magazine; an award winning web site and benefits information, where members can have individual military benefit questions answered. The MOAA Scholarship Fund has given nearly 8,000 students interest-free loans totaling over \$33 million since its inception in 1948.

After a membership vote in September 2002, the Association changed its name from The Retired Officers Association (TROA) to the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA), on January 1, 2003.

Although MOAA is national in scope, there are approximately 416 organized autonomous local chapters affiliated with the national organization. They are active in local and state affairs affecting the entire officer community, including regular and reserve, of the seven uniformed services — Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, U.S. Public Health Service and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Commissioned Officers (NOAA Corps).

Membership in MOAA is open to any person who holds or has ever held a warrant or a commission in any of the seven uniformed services. Surviving spouses of deceased members or other individuals who had been eligible for membership qualify for auxiliary membership in the Association.

For additional information about MOAA, contact the Public Relations department at MOAA Headquarters, 201 N. Washington St., Alexandria, VA, 22314-2539, or call (703) 838-0545, call toll free 1-800-234-6622 (MOAA) ext. 545/546 or e-mail pr@moaa.org or visit MOAA's website at www.moaa.org.



Mathilda and Ralph Benson during their last days of serving in MOAA

VBC 50TH ANNIVERSARY REGISTRATION LINK - [Don't Miss This BIG Event](#)



VBC 50TH ANNIVERSARY VIETNAM WAR COMMEMORATION 1975-2025

**SATURDAY, MARCH 29
2-4PM**

**HEINZ HISTORY CENTER PITTSBURGH
ONLINE & IN-PERSON**



When:

Saturday, March 29, 2025
2:00-4:00pm

[Register>>>](#)

Where:

Heinz History Center

1212 Smallman St
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

[Google Location](#)

Honor and Recognize All Vietnam Veterans: This Vietnam Veterans Day event will honor and recognize all veterans who served on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces at any time during the period of November 1, 1955, to May 15, 1975, regardless of duty location. Non-veterans will also be attending, providing a diverse crowd of attendees.

Speakers:

- **Mayor Ed Gainey**, City of Pittsburgh
- **Senator Devlin Robinson**, Pennsylvania Senate District 37, USMC OIF Veteran, 2001-2005
- **Rose Gantner**, Red Cross "Donut Dolly," Vietnam, 1966-1967 and 1969-1970
- **Bill Silver**, USMC Combined Action Platoon (CAP), Vietnam, 1969-1970

Location: Our Vietnam Veterans Day Commemoration will be held in-person at the **Heinz History Center**.

Activities: The event will feature refreshments, recognition of every Vietnam Veteran registered for the event, and featured speakers.

Special Vietnam War 50th Anniversary Commemoration: A limited edition commemorative book for Vietnam Veterans titled *Vietnam: A Veterans Breakfast Club History*. This book will feature VBC articles, veteran recognition, and **advertising for our sponsors**.

CHAPTER LUNCHEON SPEAKERS SCHEDULED 2023-2025.

We still need speakers for our July and September Luncheons. If any member has any preferences or knows a speaker that you would like to invite to speak, notify Pat Seda or myself, and we will try and make it happen.

SPEAKERS/GUESTS	POSITION	2023					2024				2025				
		FEB	MAY	SEP	OCT	DEC	APR	JUN	SEP	DEC	APR	JUL	SEP	OCT	DEC
Holiday Party															PARTY
CAPT USN (RET) Eugene Ginscheau	Chapter Member and Book Author														S
VACANT															
VACANT															
Nick Pisciotano	PA Senator (VEAP)														S
Holiday Party															PARTY
LT Eyobe Mills	U.S. Coast Guard Marine Safety Unit Pittsburgh														
Mr. Dave Defide, Sr.	DLC Customer Programs Mgr.								X						
Nick Taylor	PACOC President									X					
Holiday Party															PARTY
Deluzio, Chris/ Cox, Seron	PA Congressman/ (SS)				X										
1st SGT McMahon, Dennis J III	Guard Tomb of Unk Soldier			X											
Neff, Tim (Speaker)	Soldiers & Sailors (Dir. of Education)		X												
Michaels, Frank (CPT)	MOAA NATIONAL Program Director Council and Chapter Affairs	X													

Let's work together to keep this good thing going!

Jon P. Comis

President

MOAA Pittsburgh Chapter

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NATIONAL MOAA VACATIONS Council and Chapter Advertising Program

Our Pittsburgh Chapter placed advertisements for MOAA Vacations on our Website and in our recent Newsletters. We will continue to participate in the program. **This qualifies us to receive a \$200 payment from MOAA National.**

See details on the program:

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* MOAA and all of its affiliates are nonpartisan organizations.

The 2025 Luncheons are currently scheduled as follows:

27 APRIL 2025 / Initial Meeting

13 JULY 2025

07 SEPTEMBER 2025/Office Nominations

12 OCTOBER 2025 / Elections

07 DECEMBER 2025 / Holiday Party

All Luncheons are on a Sunday from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM, (Dinner served at 2:00) at the Chartiers Country Club, 601 Baldwin Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15205

Community Service Activities will be added as they are planned. Ideas/suggestions welcome. Volunteers welcome.

Interested in joining and/or attending and not yet a member. Please contact President Jon Comis or acting Membership Chair Minutolo by email or phone. Their contact information can be found in the Pittsburgh Chapter's Leadership Box.



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