



FALCONS LANDING CHAPTER



THE FALCON FLYER

SEPTEMBER 2024



THE FALCON FLYER is published quarterly by the Falcons Chapter of MOAA and distributed to all members, as well as placed on the Falcons Landing MOAA website, www.falconsmoaa.org . POC for the newsletter is the Editor, COL (Ret) Bob Manning, Rmanning@aol.com.

SUPPORT OF MOAA NATIONAL

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

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

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

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CHAPTER PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

SEPTEMBER 2024

To all our Chapter and Auxiliary members, Happy Fall! Our beautiful trees in northern Virginia haven't turned yet, but our annual wonderland of beautiful autumnal colors is not far off. Baseball playoffs are about to begin (unfortunately without our rebuilding Washington Nationals this year), but our Washington Commanders are off to an impressive start leading the NFC East at this point. September is always an exciting time for college and professional football fans with grand hopes of gridiron success.

A few days ago I sent you all a letter announcing our annual Solicitation Campaign which will run through the month of October. Your donations to this annual Campaign will enable our Chapter to continue our good work through the next year. I realize these are uncertain economic times – but please be generous. I am confident we can meet our Campaign goal of \$20,000 (approximately \$100 per Chapter and Auxiliary member) -- especially so we can fund our JROTC scholarship and our Loudoun Veterans and Family Support (LVFS) programs (our signature programs) at the same level next year as we did this year. I thank you all in advance for your contributions – which, by the way, are usually tax deductible.

In my letter, I also made a special plea to each of you to consider serving our Chapter in a leadership role – specifically by accepting a position on our Chapter Board of Directors (BOD) for next year. Each year our BOD members are elected for one-year terms except for the Chapter President who is elected for a two-year term. We usually ask BOD members who have learned their respective jobs well to stay on and continue to serve. I am currently serving a third year as your President – and would finally like to step down and pass the torch to someone who can imbue our Chapter with renewed purpose, fresh ideas, and new energy. Our Chapter is so fortunate to have members with such exceptional talent and experience as we have. We are currently a very well respected MOAA Chapter in the larger MOAA Virginia and National communities and we want to remain so. To do this, we need an infusion of new leadership. Please, seriously consider making a contribution this year beyond your



CHAPTER PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

SEPTEMBER 2024 (cont)

usual financial contribution – a contribution of your time and talent to help our Chapter continue to be the exemplarily MOAA Chapter that it is.

I have asked Peter Scott and Howard Schue to work over the coming weeks to develop a slate of candidate officers and directors for the Chapter membership to elect as our 2025 leadership team at our annual election meeting on November 21st. If Peter or Howard contacts you to talk about this, please give them a serious listen. Serving as a Chapter BOD member usually is a very rewarding personal experience – and is a wonderful way to serve others in our community. If you don't hear directly from Peter or Howard, please come forward to them or to me directly to express your interest. Finally, all current BOD members, please indicate to Peter right away your willingness to stay on as part of our leadership team. For the most part, all of our Chapter members have held leadership roles in organizations in our prior lives. Let us use those talents to *Continue to Serve* your Falcons Landing MOAA Chapter and the Falcons Landing community. Thank you.



Phil Walsh, President



***JOIN US IN THE FALCONS LANDING
BALLROOM FOR A SPECIAL
VETERANS DAY PROGRAM ON
NOVEMBER 11, 2024, AT 1030***



***THE FALCONS LANDING CHAPTER
OF MOAA WILL ACTIVELY
SUPPORT***

**THOSE WHO
ARE SERVING**

**THOSE WHO
HAVE SERVED**

**THOSE WHO
HAVE
SURVIVED**

**MISSION
STATEMENT**



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



FACT SHEET 2024

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

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

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

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

As of September 30, 2024, there were 139 Premium Members and 55 Auxiliary Chapter Members for a total of 194 Chapter Members.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Memorial and Veterans Day Programs are presented each year at Falcons Landing.

NEVER STOP SERVING

MOAA MEMBERSHIP

BUDDY EVERAGE



REGULAR CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP ELIGIBILITY

Per the chapter's bylaws -- the membership of the chapter shall be composed of men and women who are serving or have served on active duty or in one of the reserve components as a commissioned or warrant officer in one of the seven US Uniformed Services (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, Space Force, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and Public Health Service) or in one of the National Guard or Reserve Components thereof. Membership as of Sep 30, 2024.

REGULAR CHAPTER MEMBERS (ON/OFF CAMPUS) – 139

CHAPTER AUXILIARY MEMBERS -- 55

Surviving Spouses – 42

Spouses of current chapter members – 11

Others -- 2

TOTAL MOAA COMMUNITY AT FALCONS LANDING -- 194!

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

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

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

NEW MEMBERS

**EARL WALKER
UNITED STATES ARMY**

**BILL BETZNER
UNITED STATES NAVY**

**MIKE BRUNS
UNITED STATES ARMY**



IN MEMORIUM



**LAURA DANBOM
DECEMBER 10, 1927 – JUNE 28, 2024
SURVIVING SPOUSE OF RUDY DANBOM
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE**



**EDWARD (EDDIE) LEVELL, JR
APRIL 2, 1931 – AUGUST 20, 2024
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE**

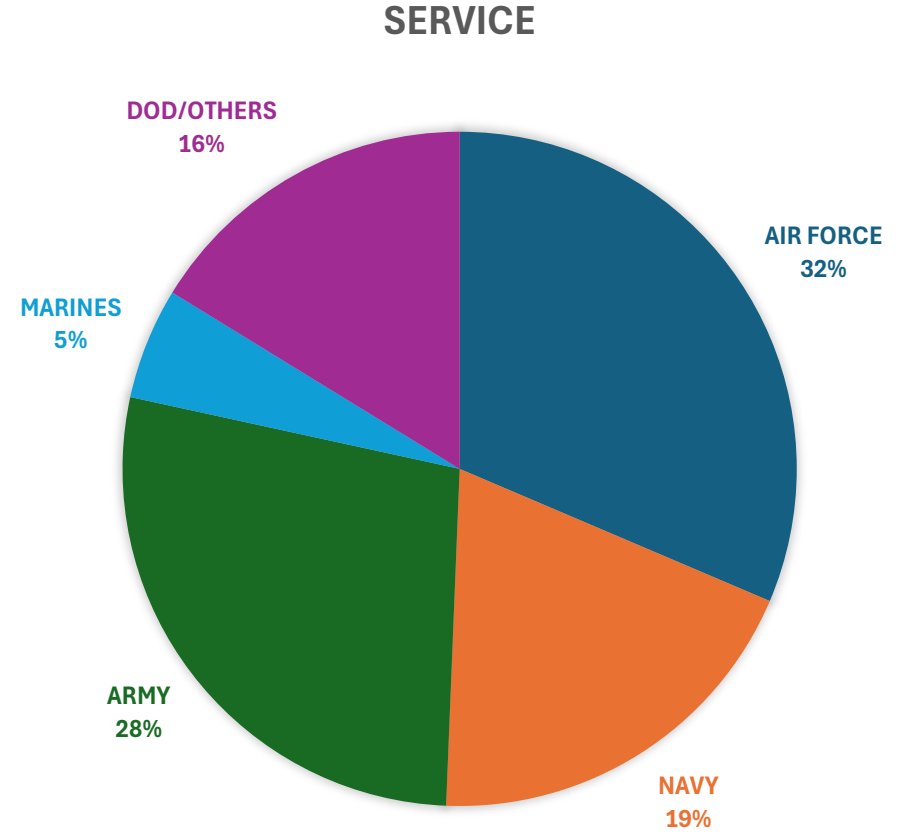
**ELINOR CHENEY
1924 – SEPTEMBER 19, 2024
SURVIVING SPOUSE OF HARLAN (LON) CHENEY
UNITED STATES NAVY**

**MARSHALL FLETCHER
SEPTEMBER 21, 1929 – SEPTEMBER 20, 2024
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE**

FALCONS LANDING RESIDENT POPULATION DISTRIBUTION BY SERVICE AFFILIATION

As of 08/31/24

SERVICE	NUMBER
AIR FORCE	146
ARMY	130
NAVY	90
MARINE CORPS	25
DOD/OTHERS	76
TOTAL	467



APPROXIMATELY 44% OF THE TOTAL POPULATION ARE MEMBERS OF OUR CHAPTER/AUXILIARY; APPROXIMATELY 52% OF THE MILITARY POPULATION.

FALCONS LANDING MOAA CHAPTER AUXILIARY

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

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

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

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

FALCONS LANDING MOAA CHAPTER AUXILIARY (CONTINUED)

MEMBERSHIP IN THE AUXILIARY

THREE CATEGORIES OF MEMBERSHIP ARE SPECIFIED IN THE BYLAWS:

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

MORE ABOUT THE AUXILIARY

AUXILIARY MEMBERS PAY NO CHAPTER DUES

AUXILIARY RECRUITMENT LETTERS SENT OUT TWICE YEARLY

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

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



VCOC GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

IMPROVE LEGISLATIVE EFFECTIVENESS,
NATIONAL AND STATE ^[L]_[SEP]

IMPROVE RECRUITING - MEMBERS AND
LEADERS. WHAT IS IN IT FOR THE MEMBER?

ACTIVE PUBLIC AFFAIRS - SEEKING TO HOW
WE COMMUNICATE INTERNALLY AND
EXTERNALLY WITH ALL MEMBERS,
IRRESPECTIVE OF GENERATION. ^[L]_[SEP]

IMPROVE VITALITY AND EXCELLENCE OF
CHAPTERS

THE VIRGINIA COUNCIL OF CHAPTERS (VCOC) OF THE
MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA (MOAA)
CONSISTS OF 16 MOAA CHAPTERS.

THE VIRGINIA COUNCIL OF CHAPTERS MEETS QUARTERLY
IN 2024: JANUARY, APRIL, JULY AND OCTOBER.

CHECK OUT THE *CRIER NEWSLETTER* AT
MOAAVCOC.ORG

LEGISLATIVE REPORT INFORMATION AND PRIORITIES

Periodically, MOAA will lobby Congress to take legislative action to preserve our retiree benefits. The probability of favorable legislative action is in direct proportion to the number of voters who register support. MOAA sometimes includes postcards and letters in its magazine (Military Officer) for us to sign and mail to our representatives (identified for us). The MOAA Newsletter may also include an online access to act. It is imperative that we do so. To access the MOAA Newsletter go to the MOAA website at www.moaa.org and select the News and Info tab, followed by selecting Newsletters.

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

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

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

MOAA'S ADVOCACY PRIORITIES FOR VETERANS AND SURVIVORS IN THE 118TH CONGRESS

- **MONITORING RECENT MAJOR LEGISLATION ENACTED SUCH AS THE PACT ACT IN THE AREAS OF HEALTH CARE, COMPENSATION, AND FOLLOW-ON SUPPORT FOR SURVIVING SPOUSES AND FAMILIES AND SEEK STATUTORY OR POLICY CHANGES AS REQUIRED.**
- **COMPELLING CONGRESS AND VA TO ACCELERATE CAREGIVING AND WHOLE HEALTH CARE SERVICES, AND MODERNIZATION OF VHA WORKFORCE AND FACILITY INFRASTRUCTURE TO IMPROVE VETERANS ACCESS TO HIGH QUALITY CARE.**
- **CONCURRENT RECEIPT OF MILITARY RETIREMENT PAY AND VA DISABILITY PAY.**
- **IMPROVING SURVIVORS' BENEFITS.**
- **REPEALING THE RECOUPMENT OF LAST MONTH'S PAYCHECK AFTER RETIREE'S PASSING, AND CONTINUE TO IMPROVE SGLI/VGLI UPDATES TO MATCH INFLATION.**
- **IMPROVING DIC BASELINE TO ALIGN WITH OTHER GOVERNMENT ENTITLEMENTS' BASELINE OF 55%.**
- **ENSURING PAY AT OR ABOVE EMPLOYMENT COST INDEX, ALLOWANCES, AND PROGRAMS NECESSARY TO RECRUIT AND RETAIN A QUALITY FORCE.**

FOR MORE INFORMATION GO TO:

<https://moaa.quorum.us/issue/47366>

NEWS YOU CAN USE

- IN THE SEPTEMBER 2024 ISSUE OF **MILITARY OFFICER**, KIMBERLY LANKFORD WROTE AN INFORMATIVE ARTICLE ENTITLED “POLISH YOUR ESTATE PLAN”. SHE HIGHLIGHTS WAYS TO KEEP YOUR ESTATE PLAN UP TO DATE TO AVOID UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES.
- MOAA MEMBERS HAVE ACCESS TO EXCLUSIVE DISCOUNTS WITH **EVERPLANS**, A TOOL TO HELP ORGANIZE YOUR ESTATE-WITH A FOCUS ON MILITARY BENEFITS AND A WAY TO GATHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION SUCH AS PASSWORDS, LEGAL DOCUMENTS, ETC IN ONE PLACE. GO TO www.moaa.org/everplans
- NEW FOR 2024: **PREPARING FOR THE LOSS OF A MILITARY SPOUSE** WILL HELP YOU GET YOUR PERSONAL AFFAIRS INTO ORDER AND HELP GUIDE SURVIVORS THROUGH THE FIRST STEPS THEY NEED TO TAKE AFTER A LOVED ONE’S DEATH. LEARN ABOUT ACCESSING SURVIVOR BENEFITS, HOW TO DRAW UP AN ESTATE PLAN, AND MUCH MORE. PREMIUM AND LIFE MOAA MEMBER PRICE: [LOGIN NOW](#) TO ACCESS YOUR FREE COPY ([DOWNLOAD](#) OR HAVE A COPY MAILED).
- AUSA MEMBERS CAN USE **LAWASSURE** TO CREATE A HIGH-QUALITY WILL, HEALTHCARE DIRECTIVE OR POWER OF ATTORNEY AS WELL AS MANY OTHER ESTATE PLANNING SERVICES. **LAWASSURE** IS COMPLETELY FREE TO AUSA MEMBERS. GO TO <https://www.ausa.org/member-benefits/lawassure>

NEWS YOU CAN USE

- **THE ANNUAL SOLICITATION CAMPAIGN THIS YEAR WILL BE CONDUCTED OCTOBER 1-31 WITH A TARGET GOAL OF \$20,000 OR APPROXIMATELY \$100 PER MEMBER. THE CHAPTER PRESIDENT, PHIL WALSH, HAS JUST RELEASED HIS SOLICITATION LETTER OUTLINING THE PROGRAMS THAT WILL BE SUPPORTED IN 2025 AND INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW YOU CAN DONATE.**
- **OUR CHAPTER WILL AGAIN HOST THE VETERANS DAY PROGRAM WHICH WILL BE CONDUCTED ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11 IN THE FALCONS LANDING BALLROOM. THIS YEAR WE ARE PLEASED TO HAVE THE LINTON HALL SCHOOL FIFE AND DRUM CORPS PARTICIPATE IN OUR PROGRAM.**
- **GOING ON A CRUISE SOON? THE FOLLOWING CRUISE LINES OFFER MILITARY DISCOUNTS: MARGARITAVILLE AT SEA, CARNIVAL CRUISE LINE, NORWEGIAN CRUISE LINE, DISNEY CRUISE LINE, CELEBRITY CRUISES, PRINCESS CRUISES, AND ROYAL CARIBBEAN.**
- **OUR CHAPTER WAS 1 OF 42 MOAA AFFILIATES THAT RECEIVED A COMMUNITY OUTREACH GRANT FROM THE MOAA FOUNDATION. THIS GRANT OF \$2000 ALONG WITH A \$1500 GRANT FROM THE FALCONS LANDING CHAPEL FUND SUPPORTS AREA VETERANS IN NEED. THIS SUPPORT IS ADMINISTERED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE COMMUNITY LUTHERAN CHURCH OF STERLING THROUGH THE LOUDOUN VETERANS AND FAMILY SUPPORT PROGRAM (LVFS).**

HELP SUPPORT OUR CHAPTER PROGRAMS

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

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

PROGRAMS



LOUDOUN VETERANS AND
FAMILY SUPPORT



SPEAKERS
DIRECTORY



JROTC



COMMUNICATIONS

BOB MANNING

- COLONEL DIANA KUPCHELLA, USAF (Ret), PRESIDENT OF VCOC, PRESENTED THE 2023 LEVELS OF EXCELLENCE AWARD AND THE HARRIS COMMUNICATION AWARDS (NEWSLETTER AND WEBSITE) TO OUR FALCONS LANDING CHAPTER. PHIL WALSH, CHAPTER PRESIDENT, ACCEPTED THE AWARDS ON BEHALF OF THE CHAPTER.
- THE FALCONS LANDING CHAPTER HAS BEEN SELECTED AS A 2024 CHANGEMAKER. OUR CHAPTER WILL BE FEATURED IN THE JANUARY 2025 ISSUE OF *MILITARY OFFICER* AS WELL AS ON MOAA.ORG.
- ANY MEMBER INTERESTED IN ASSISTING IN THE PUBLISHING OF THE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER (FALCON FLYER) AND/OR WORKING ON WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT, CONTACT BOB MANNING AT RMANNING@AOL.COM

LOUDOUN VETERANS FAMILY SUPPORT REPORT

HOWARD SCHUE



- **FROM 1 JUNE THROUGH 31 AUGUST 2024, WE HAVE ASSISTED VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES 9 TIMES FOR AN AMOUNT OF \$2,489.75 -- AN AVERAGE OF \$276.63 PER ASSISTANCE**
- **WE HAVE RECEIVED AND FULLY SPENT OUR 2024 MOAA NATIONAL GRANT OF \$2,000**
- **SINCE THE BEGINNING OF 2024, LVFS HAS ASSISTED 24 VETERANS FOR A TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$7,620.62—AN AVERAGE OF \$317.53 PER ASSISTANCE.**
- **CHAPTER DONATIONS ARE MOST WELCOME. THE CHAPTER BOARD WILL REASSESS LVFS FUNDING STATUS AT THE OCTOBER MEETING.**

SPEAKERS BUREAU

ED POST

- **THE PURPOSE OF THE SPEAKERS BUREAU IS TO SHARE THE UNIQUE MILITARY AND GOVERNMENT KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERTISE OF OUR FALCONS LANDING RESIDENCE TO GENERAL AUDIENCES IN LOUDOUN COUNTY.**
- **PRESENTATIONS ARE APPROXIMATELY AN HOUR WITH A 40 MINUTE PRESENTATION AND A 20 MINUTE QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION. MOST PRESENTATIONS ARE CONDUCTED AT LOUDOUN COUNTY LIBRARIES.**
- **MAX JOHNSON WILL PRESENT “AN ARTILLERYMAN SERVING IN VIETNAM” ON 8 OCTOBER.**
- **GERRY GALLOWAY WILL PRESENT “ THE COMING WATER CHANGES” ON 3 OCTOBER. HE WILL ALSO PRESENT “SURRENDER AT APPOMATTOX” ON 3 NOVEMBER.**
- **A NEW ADDITION TO THE SPEAKERS BUREAU IS EARL WALKER WHO HAS THE FOLLOWING PRESENTATIONS AVAILABLE:**
 - **“SERVING AS A WHITE HOUSE FELLOW”**
 - **“YOUNG MEN AT WAR”**
 - **“EDUCATING MILITARY CADETS”**

THE AMERICAN ORIGINALS FIFE AND DRUM CORPS



by Bob Manning



On Sunday, August 18, 2024, over 120 Falcons Landing residents and guests gathered in the Ballroom to watch a live performance of the American Originals Fife and Drum Corps. Refreshments were served at 2:30pm and the Performance began at 3:00pm. The performance was also recorded for future broadcast on the Falcons Landing network, Channel 970.

Bob Manning welcomed the American Originals under the Direction of Georgia Graves. The Corps has been performing for more than 30 years in a wide variety of shows and parades in our nation's capital, throughout the east coast and abroad. The Corps has an extensive repertoire of American music, spanning the times from the American Revolution, through the Civil War, and into the sounds of the 21st century. The goal of the All-volunteer Corps is *to preserve the sounds of our historical past while incorporating military precision, techniques, and execution in order to provide a well-rounded presentation of musical excellence.* Bob Manning also mentioned that Georgia Graves was responsible for establishing the Linton Hall School (LHS) Fife and Drum Corps in 2000 during the period that he was the principal. The LHS has been invited to participate in our Veterans Day Program on November 11.

THE AMERICAN ORIGINALS FIFE AND DRUM CORPS (CONTINUED)

The performance began with the Bugler, Donna Flory, playing *Assembly*, after which the Corps performed the National Anthem. Doug Wulf narrated the program and introduced each song, which included: *76 Trombones, Stars and Stripes Forever, Percussion Ensemble No.1, Yankee Doodle, In the Mood, Chattanooga Choo Choo, Jaybird and Fireman's Quickstep, When Johnny Comes Marching Home, and You're a Grand Old Flag*. As they marched off, the Corps received a standing ovation for the fun and uplifting presentation.



America Originals Fife and Drum Corps
performing *Stars and Stripes Forever* composed by John Philip Sousa



Georgia Graves, Director

THE GATHERING: MILITARY WOMEN'S MEMORIAL

by Jim Mullen



Barbara Goodwin and Phyllis Wilson with a poster display of women who served in the military.

In conjunction with the Army Ball at Falcons Landing honoring the women who served and are serving, the guest speaker for the June Gathering was Phyllis J. Wilson (Chief Warrant Officer, level 5, Ret) the president of the Military Women's Memorial. CWO Wilson served 37 years in the Army as Military Intelligence Officer. Her dynamic presentation provided an insightful view into the involvement of women in service to our country since the founding of our Republic. As Chief Wilson stated in her talk, often the details of this involvement were not known, even to her, and recognition of women's service was often late in coming. She pointed out that over 3 million women have served

THE GATHERING: MILITARY WOMEN'S MEMORIAL (CONTINUED)

our country since the American Revolution. The Memorial is located at the gateway to the Arlington National Cemetery and opened in 1997. The Memorial is also a repository for the stories of women who served our nation and has over 300,000 stories recorded. The Memorial has a goal for the year of adding 500 new stories of Virginia women's service to the country and Chief Wilson challenged each of us to consider submitting stories to the collection from personal experience or from within our families. She provided some interesting stories of actions in WWII including those of over 125,000 serving as nurses, and women pilots who helped transport aircraft, to women volunteering as postal clerks as part of the 6888 Postal Battalion who deployed into combat areas to help clear backlogs of mail to and from troops. That unit was recognized in 2022 with a Congressional Gold Medal for their service. The records include many stories of women in service during WWII including D-Day. The stories of women in service continue after WWII to all our engagements in peace and war time to include the first woman at West Point and the service from some of our own residents. It is certainly worth a visit to the Memorial. Chief Wilson added as a final element a playing of a song entitled "Challenge Accepted" which she had composed as a tribute to women who served. .

THE GATHERING: THE PEOPLE & CULTURE IN BEIJING FROM 2020-2025 HOW THEY ARE DIFFERENT OR SIMILAR TO US

by Jim Mullen

Nathalia Hardy is the daughter of residents Helen and Jim Hardy. For the past several years she has lived in Beijing as a head librarian and member of staff of a Chinese school during a time that included the covid period in Beijing. The Gathering title is hers and gives her an opportunity to provide observations on her daily life and experiences. She notes in particular that the observations on the situation in Beijing may have differed in her view with the kinds of reports about China and covid that may have appeared in some of our news reports of that time.

She lived in a “compound” that we might understand as a neighborhood with security at the gates (think Falcons Landing). It was a period of tight security due to covid, and restricted entrance and egress from the compound existed during some periods. But the local government had made certain to provide basic needs such as food and medical support to the compound and there was no risk in daily life to residents. The support came through and was paid for by the local government community and included periodic testing for COVID. As Nathalia put it: “Follow the rules and don’t be a danger to others.” As the situation eased, the testing ceased one day as did the tight security at the gates and life returned to “normal” for Beijing community access.

THE GATHERING: THE PEOPLE & CULTURE IN BEIJING FROM 2020-2025


HOW THEY ARE DIFFERENT OR SIMILAR TO US (CONT)

As a theme for the talk, Nathalia cited the observation that for the families in her Community, children were a most precious resource, and parents went to great lengths to provide opportunities in schooling and in the quality of daily life for their children. She also noted that Beijing was the most populous city in the world and that meant a need for tight coordination of many activities in the city. For example, there were many cars, but a vast majority of residents used public transportation for ease of movement. Control of traffic required restrictions on days of use — and even on getting a registration to drive could take years to obtain. Parents, with access to their good jobs and income were able to provide for tutors and other extra activities to round out their child’s education. Access to particular levels of education and choice of schools was controlled by pre-tests. The sense was that the future life for both the parents and for their children depended on the future success of the children.



(left to right) Helen Hardy, Nathalia Hardy, Jim Hardy, Ben Romero, and Finn

UPCOMING EVENTS



Military Officers Association of America
**2024 ANNUAL MEETING
OF THE MEMBERSHIP**
FRIDAY, OCT. 25, 2024 | ALEXANDRIA, VA
Embassy Suites by Hilton Alexandria Old Town
Visit www.moaa.org/annualmeeting
for details and to register.

MOAA
Military Officers Association of America

PHOTOS: MOAA MEMBERSHIP/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHERS, MOAA MEMBERSHIP/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHERS, MOAA MEMBERSHIP/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHERS

MOAA ANNUAL MEETING

JOIN THE MOAA NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND ASSOCIATION LEADERSHIP FOR THE 2024 ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERSHIP AND STATE OF THE ASSOCIATION ADDRESS ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25, FROM 1400-1530.

HEAR FIRSTHAND WHAT YOUR ASSOCIATION IS DOING TO SUPPORT OUR UNIFORMED SERVICES PERSONNEL OF ALL RANKS AND SERVICE COMPONENTS, SURVIVORS, AND FAMILY MEMBERS. MEETING WILL BE HELD IN THE MASON ROOM AT EMBASSY SUITES OLD TOWN IN ALEXANDRIA, VA. PARKING IS COMPLIMENTARY.

UPCOMING EVENTS (CONTINUED)



VETERANS DAY PROGRAM

ALL FALCONS LANDING RESIDENTS AND STAFF ARE INVITED TO JOIN TOGETHER IN SONG, PRAYER, AND REFLECTION AS WE CELEBRATE VETERANS DAY ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2024, LIVE IN THE BALLROOM. THE PROGRAM WILL ALSO BE TELEVISED ON CHANNEL 970.

THERE WILL BE A SPECIAL PERFORMANCE BY THE LINTON HALL SCHOOL FIFE AND DRUM CORPS.

**REFRESHMENTS---1000
PROGRAM---1030**

IMPORTANT CHAPTER EVENTS AND SCHEDULE

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

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

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

COMMITTEES MEET AT DISCRETION OF COMMITTEE CHAIRS.

2024 MEETING DATES

January 18	Board Meeting, 1000	July	No Board Meeting
February 22	Board Meeting, 1000	August 15	Board Meeting, 1000
March 21	Quarterly Chapter Meeting, 1500	September 12	Quarterly Chapter Meeting, 1500
April 18	Board Meeting, 1000	October 17	Board Meeting, 1000
May 16	Board Meeting, 1000	November 11	Veterans Day Program, 1030
May 27	Memorial Day Program, 1030	November 21	Annual Meeting and Election, 1500
June 20	Quarterly Chapter Meeting, 1500	December	No Board Meeting
		January 16, 2025	Board Meeting, 1000

2024 OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

***President:** Phil Walsh, Col, USMC, Ret. 703-978-4328, philwalsh38@gmail.com
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Immediate Past President: Bob Manning, COL, USA, Ret., 703-543-9158, Rmanning@aol.com

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



Falcons Landing Chapter Military Officers Association of America

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

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

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

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

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

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