

MESSAGE FROM MEMBERSHIP



We are pleased to welcome our newest members to the Chapter: LTC David Lee, Army and CPT Jerry Hill, Army, and his wife Lucy. We look forward to meeting them at one of our future events.



Our current membership continues to remain stable after our rightsizing at the end of 2025. We are still struggling with two things:

- a. Demographics
- b. Member unwillingness or inability to participate

We live in a retirement community which attracts very few qualifying younger MOAA members. Our membership is primarily made up of folks in their 70's, 80's, and 90's. And, at our ages, we are at that time of life when many have multiple travel plans and family commitments that keep them away from Green Valley.

We are in a situation where there are not many members who volunteer to be on the board or to help with various functions and events. We are truly down to, at most, about 6 people who do everything and perhaps 20 who continue to participate in events. We also have a few members who were very active, but who have moved out of the area. Their help is sorely missed, and no one has taken their place.

This makes it very difficult to sustain a chapter. We have many members who pay their dues and who say they want to remain as members, but after 7 years of being on the board, there are still several dues paying "members" whom I have never met or seen at any event. These challenges may eventually result in the Chapter's having to discontinue if nothing changes.

(continued, next page)

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(Random order) - COL **Lee Staab**, President and Treasurer; CW3 **Jack Bundy**, Past President, 1st Vice President, Membership Chair, Secretary, President of the Scholarship and Military Assistance Fund; COL **Peggy McGee**, 2nd Vice President, (Programs) & Public Affairs Officer; Maj Gen **Jim Whitehead**, Corporate Sponsor & Outreach; LtCol **Darren Venters**, Legislative Affairs & Transition Liaison; **Nora Durham**, Surviving Spouse Liaison

QUICK LINKS

[GV MOAA WEBSITE](#)



[GV MOAA member page:](#)
[Green Valley/Sahuarita Chamber of Commerce](#)

[Facebook.com/GVMOAA](#)
[MOAA.org/takeaction](#)
[MOAA's "Never Stop Serving" Podcasts](#)
[Surviving Spouses webpage](#)

Current Membership Data

TOTAL MEMBERSHIP = 50 MEMBERSHIP BREAKDOWN: 7 Former, 35 Retired, 8 Surviving Spouses

Since we have rightsized our membership and only have people in our membership who have stated they wish to be members and have paid dues, we now have 100% of our dues paid for 2026.

We also have 16 registered auxiliary spouses who have paid the additional \$15 dues.

MOAA National's "MOAA Life Membership"

If you are not already a Life Member of MOAA, please consider becoming one. Instead of writing an annual check to MOAA to renew your membership, make a one-time payment. This guarantees membership benefits for you and your surviving spouse and protects you from any future dues increases. PLEASE CONSIDER THIS IMPORTANT STEP IN YOUR MOAA MEMBERSHIP!



Jack Bundy, CW3 USA (Ret)
2026 1st Vice President, Membership Chair
Green Valley Chapter, MOAA

Become a Life Member!
Never Stop Serving our Great Nation!!

MOAA MISSION

The Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) is a 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. 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, Space Force, Coast Guard, Public Health Service, or NOAA and their surviving spouses.

SURVIVING SPOUSE NEWS

Nora Durham, Surviving Spouses Liaison



In addition to surviving spouses, information in this [linked newsletter](#) will be of interest to military members and their spouses.

Scholarship Awards Dinner

Peggy McGee, 2nd Vice President/Programs; Public Affairs Officer

All members and your friends who might be willing to join you to see one of the best examples of the Chapter's helping others are invited to join us at our annual scholarship awards dinner. Monies for the scholarships are raised from grants, our 50-50 raffles, sale of Jim Click tickets and by donations from Chapter members.



The event will be held on Wednesday, May 6 at American Legion Post 66, 1560 W Duval Mine Road. The social period begins at 5 p.m. with dinner being served at 5:30. Cost for the dinner that includes a choice of beef ravioli or chicken Cordon Bleu is \$23. Dinner will include a salad and dessert. A vegetarian option is available by request. A cash bar will be available.

As we go to press, we don't know who the awardees will be, but scholarship contenders will be JROTC cadets from Sahuarita, Walden Grove, Rio Rico and Nogales High Schools. Special educational grants will also be awarded to honorably discharged veterans who are currently enrolled in degree programs at the University of Arizona. During the event you will learn how those chosen for an award will be able to work toward their goals without incurring student loan debt.



Guest speaker at the dinner will be Blaze Smith, Director, VETS & ROTC Programs, Dean of Students, at the University of Arizona.

To make a reservation, please contact Jack Bundy, jhbundyaz@gmail.com or 951-760-8706. Deadline to sign up is **April 29**.



JROTC Scholarships and University of Arizona Veteran Student Education Grants

Jack Bundy, Past President, 1st VP, Membership Chair, Secretary, President of the Scholarship and Military Assistance Chair



Our plan again for this year is to award JROTC Scholarships to deserving graduating candidates from some of our local Southern Arizona high schools with JROTC Programs in place.

Additionally, as we have the past two years, we plan to award Educational Grants to Veteran Students at the University of Arizona who are participating in the Vets and ROTC program at the university.

Our board will meet in special session on April 2nd to select awardees. Awards will then be presented at our annual awards dinner on May 6. **Please see the Scholarship Awards Dinner article and reservation form on pages 3 & 6.** We are hoping for maximum attendance and participation to support this important event.

Jim Click Raffle Tickets Are Now Available

Peggy McGee, 2nd Vice President/Programs; Public Affairs Officer

Our Chapter will once again be participating in the



Jim Click raffle to support our scholarship and educational grants efforts. This year Tucson based auto dealer Jim Click is donating a fully loaded 2026 Nissan Frontier Pro-4X Roush Edition truck, First Class airplane tickets for two to anywhere in the world commercial airlines fly, and \$5000 in cash.



THE JIM CLICK
MILLIONS FOR TUCSON
RAFFLE
MillionsForTucson.org

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Autos only

For campaign and ticket information, contact the Millions for Tucson Raffle Management Team at 520.342.5270 or at: jimclickraffle@russellpublic.com

GRAND PRIZE
NEW 2026 Nissan Frontier Pro-4X Roush® Edition

2ND PRIZE
TWO ROUND-TRIP FIRST CLASS AIRLINE TICKETS TO ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD!*

3RD PRIZE
\$5,000 CASH

YOUR TICKET NUMBER IS
053008

*Restrictions apply. Please see Millions for Tucson Raffle Rules | millionsfortucson.org
Raffle Management Headquarters: 2713 N. Campbell Ave. Suite 103, Tucson, AZ

Tickets are \$25 each or five for \$100 with all the money collected remaining in our Scholarship and Military Assistance Fund. Ticket purchases are not tax deductible, but they definitely help a good cause. Tickets will be available for purchase at our dinner on May 6, cash or checks payable to GV MOAA S&MA Fund. The drawing will be held on December 10.

Only 100,000 tickets are sold each year. Please support us in this fund-raising endeavor so we can continue to award scholarships and educational grants.

Chaplain's Corner

Warren Leibovitch, 2LT, CA (Former) wleibovitch@episcoar.org

Dear Members & Friends of our GV MOAA Chapter,

I am honored to be asked to be the Chaplain for our chapter and a member of the Board.

From 2020 until August 2025, I was the Rector or Senior Pastor of St. Francis in the Valley Episcopal Church in Green Valley. I also met regularly with the Thursday coffee group at Posada Java and attended MOAA events as able.

Beginning September 2025, after 34 years of parish ministry, I started a new position working with the Bishop of Arkansas as a member of the Senior Executive staff. I am the Canon for Congregational Vitality, travelling the State working with 55 congregations in the Diocese.

I have kept my connections with the GV MOAA Chapter and Legion Post 66. Although I am a bit of a distance away, I can be contacted at any time by phone, text, (520 349-3868) or email(revwarrenlleib@gmail.com).

My role as Chaplain is to offer prayerful support and guidance to the members of the Board and to Chapter members and their families.

If you are grieving the loss of a loved one, encountering health challenges, or feel the loneliness of separation from friends and family, I would be happy to talk with you or send you a note.

Lastly, I cannot finish this article without acknowledging the loss of brave men and women of our Armed Forces in the Iran War.



Many of us have family or friends currently deployed in the areas affected by the conflict. It is a time when many emotions are stirred up and our hearts are heavy with concern and worry, and a time for prayer.

“Almighty God, we commend to your gracious care the men and women of our armed forces, especially those now in harm’s way. Defend them day by day with your heavenly grace; give them courage to face the perils which beset them; and grant them a sense of your abiding presence wherever they may be.

Comfort the families who wait and fear for loved ones in the path of danger.

We especially pray at this time for the families of those who have lost loved ones in this conflict. May their souls rest in peace. Amen.”

Blessings, Warren+





AWARDS NIGHT DINNER RESERVATION FORM

Reservation form may also be found on the [GreenValleyMOAA.org website](http://GreenValleyMOAA.org)

6 May 2026 · Social 1700 | Dinner 1730

LOCATION: American Legion Post 66 | 1560 W. Duval Mine Road, Green Valley, AZ

Please make your reservations by APRIL 29

Reserve _____ places Cost: \$_____ (\$23 per person)

Entrée Choices:

- #1 Beef Ravioli, Green Beans Almondine, Cole Slaw
- #2 Chicken Cordon Bleu, Rice Pilaf, Green Beans Almondine

Both entrees include salad, and bread, and lemon bars for dessert. Cash bar will be available.

Indicate menu choice (#) next to your name, below.

Check # _____
Attn: GV MOAA Reservation

Mail check and reservation form to:
MOAA of Green Valley · PO Box 1535 · Green Valley, AZ 85622-1535

RANK: _____ **NAME:** (please print) _____

Member/Guest name: _____

Member/Guest name: _____

Member/Guest name: _____

Member/Guest name: _____

If you require a ride to the meeting, program or event, please check here:

✂ ----- CUT HERE -----

If you cannot get your reservation and check mailed timely, or **if you made a reservation and find you cannot attend, PLEASE CONTACT (leave a message if no answer): Jack Bundy 951-760-8706 or by email: jhbundyaz@gmail.com. Your chapter is charged for all ordered meals even if they aren't served.**

Please bring a check or exact cash amount to the meeting.



Military Officers Association of America
Green Valley, Arizona Chapter
PO Box 1535 · Green Valley, AZ 85622-1535

2026 Chapter Membership/Renew Dues

Chapter Dues: (Military-\$25; Spouses-\$15)

Membership Dues \$ _____ Make check payable to: Military Officers Association of Green Valley or GV MOAA.

PLEASE PROVIDE THE INFORMATION BELOW:

Name: _____ New ___ Renewal___

Rank: _____ Branch of Service: _____ (Status) _____ National # _____

Spouse/Partner _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip _____

DOB (Month/Day/Year) _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Scholarship & Military Assistance Fund \$ _____ Donation.

Please write a separate check payable to: Green Valley MOAA Scholarship and Military Assistance Fund or GV MOAA S&MA Fund.

Dues may be paid at any meeting or mailed to Military Officers Association of America, Green Valley, Arizona Chapter, P.O. Box 1535, Green Valley, AZ 85622-1535.

SEE REVERSE SIDE (next page)

MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

Green Valley Chapter · DESERT DUSTER NEWSLETTER

April/May 2026 & Spring Issue



Congratulations on becoming a member of the second oldest of the nine MOAA Arizona Chapters. The MOAA is recognized as the most respected and influential professional military association in America. The Vision Statement “NEVER STOP SERVING” provides a focus for the entire MOAA organization.

To help us better understand how you would prefer to contribute to our Chapter, please complete the following questions.

Previous work and/or volunteer experience _____

Description of training, leadership and knowledge that may be pertinent _____

PLACE A CHECK NEXT TO YOUR DESIRED CHAPTER AREAS OF PARTICIPATION:

- Fundraising or Assistant
- Public Relations or Assistant
- Scheduling & managing Chapter events or Assistant
- Grant writing or Assistant
- Chapter secretary or assistant
- Chapter Treasurer or assistant
- Community Partner Programs committee member
- Historian
- Chapter Liaison to military units
- Chapter Liaison to JROTC units
- Chapter Liaison to Green Valley Chamber of Commerce or Assistant

RETURN THIS NEW MEMBER QUESTIONNAIRE WITH YOUR CHAPTER APPLICATION/RENEWAL FORM.

Welcome Aboard

MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

Green Valley Chapter · DESERT DUSTER NEWSLETTER

April/May 2026 ✂ Spring Issue



EVENTS ~ CALENDAR DATES

- 21 January:** Lunch, Taco Giro in Green Valley
- 19 March:** Cocktail Party, Quail Creek Pickleball Ramada
- 6 May:** Scholarship Awards Dinner, Am. Legion Post 66
- 4 July:** Food for the Troops Collection, Quail Creek
- 17 September:** TBD
- 19 November:** Thanksgiving Dinner & Election of Officers, location: TBD
- 10 December:** Holiday Dinner, location: TBD

The Board of Directors meetings are the second Tuesday of each month 9-10:30am at the Friends in Deed Building, Green Valley.

Members are welcomed to attend... join us!

There are no Board meetings in June, July or August.

Check the Chapter website for Calendar updates:

greenvalleymoaa.org/news-events

2026 Chapter Dues Campaign continues!

WHY JOIN MOAA

MOAA's greatest mission is to improve the lives of those who serve and their families. Membership is open to active duty, former, retired, and National Guard and Reserve commissioned and warrant officers of the uniformed services and their surviving spouses.

2026 OFFICERS, DIRECTORS & CHAIRS



President & Treasurer
COL Lee Staab
USA (Ret)
(720) 345-7305



Past President, 1st Vice President, Membership Chair, Secretary, President of the Scholarship & Military Assistance Fund
CW3 Jack Bundy USA (Ret)
(951) 760-8706



Chaplain
2LT Warren Leibovitch
CA (Former)
wleibovitch@episcoar.org



Legislative Affairs, Transition Liaison
Lt Col Darren Venters
USAF (Ret) 490-4470



2nd Vice-President, Programs, Public Affairs Officer
COL Peggy McGee
USAR (Ret) 207-6188



Vacant positions:
JROTC Liaison
Grant Writer
Personal Affairs Officer

Surviving Spouse Liaison
Nora Durham
(719) 232-9277



Community/Sponsor Outreach
Maj. Gen. James Whitehead, Jr.
USAF (Ret) 475-8033



MOAA · GREEN VALLEY CHAPTER · 2026 Officers & Board Members

Webmaster/Newsletter Editor: Marianne Cobarrubias
Phone numbers are 520 area code unless otherwise indicated



SPONSORS

A special “thank you” to our sponsors who support MOAA of Green Valley with a sponsor ad.



MOAA SIGNATURE GROUPS

Join MOAA Leadership and your fellow MOAA members on these hosted cruises and land tours.

AFFORDABLE TRAVEL — Every MOAA Signature Group is a negotiated special which is not available to the general public – only MOAA members and their guests can attend. You can, however, bring as many friends and family members with you as you like.

EASIER, SAFER TRAVEL — Vacations are meant to be an escape. It is your time to relax and unwind, explore, and discover. So, let us take care of the details. This is valuable time that doesn’t have to be spent worrying about how you’re going to get there or, what you’re going to do when you get there

INCREASE THE FUN FACTOR — Being surrounded by like-minded people offers you the chance to share experiences and make new memories together. Group travel can give you the chance to meet people and make new friends. You’ll meet individuals who are also passionate about travel and have experiences that are similar to your own. With shared military backgrounds and values, camaraderie forms naturally and often leads to lasting friendships.

2026 & 2027 SIGNATURE GROUPS

July 12-21, 2026	Highlights of Eastern Europe River Cruise	9-nights from \$3,999
October 1-10, 2026	Western Europe Yacht Cruise	9-nights from \$4,999
April 25-May 2, 2027	Castles Along the Rhine River Cruise	7-nights from \$4,199
July 19-27, 2027	France & Spain Yacht Cruise	8-nights from \$5,799
September 14-25, 2027	Circle Iceland Yacht Cruise	11-nights from \$8,999
Sept. 25-Oct. 4, 2027	Battlefields of WWI & WWII Tour	10 days from \$6,495

GUARANTEED LOWEST PRICES from The Official Travel Agency of MOAA



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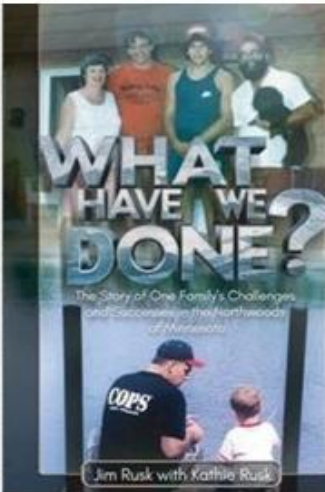
[MOAA Vacations](#) · [MOAA Insurance Plans](#)

*links made available to GV MOAA

JIM & KATHIE RUSK

Learn how they coped with frozen Minnesota winters and expanded the business over 19 years.

“What Have We Done?” is available in eBook, soft and hard cover formats at Amazon.com or Barnes&Noble.com.



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MOAA National News

Last year's One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBBA) made [several changes to the tax code](#) that might affect the way taxpayers choose to give to charities.

These changes, and their impact on charitable giving, were the topic of a recent MOAA webinar which not only reviewed their impacts, but also explained how charitable giving can be done in tax-efficient ways.



[DONATE TODAY: [MOAA Charities](#)]

“It’s exciting to see when people want to be generous, and the military community can be very generous, but let’s also do it in a way that is smart and tax savvy,” said guest presenter Daniel Kopp, CFP, MQFP, founder of [Wise Stewardship Financial Planning](#) and a longtime MOAA member, during the live webinar. A recording [is available for download](#) for MOAA Premium and Life members, part of our extensive [webinar archive](#).

New for 2026

There is a new, above-the-line charitable deduction of up to \$1,000 for single taxpayers and \$2,000 for those filing jointly. This means that even if you don’t itemize, you can still deduct your cash contributions to charities. Since only about [8% of individual income tax returns](#) included itemized deductions in 2022 (the last year for which figures are readily available), this is good news for most Americans.

Also new for the [2026 tax year](#), those who itemize will now only be able to claim a tax deduction for charitable contributions that exceed 0.5% of their adjusted gross income (AGI).

For example, those with an AGI of \$100,000 can only deduct contributions above \$500.

Additionally, those in the top tax bracket will have a new cap on the amount of deductions they can take. Known as the “2/37 rule,” it limits the value of deductions of those in the 37% bracket to 35 cents for each dollar of deductions.

[RELATED: [MOAA’s Military State Report Card and Tax Guide](#)]



Cash Is Not Always King

Cash is not always the most tax-efficient way to give to charities, Kopp explained. Often, donating appreciated securities can be more beneficial.

Using a donor-advised fund (DAF), a charitable gifting account administered by a charity, is one way to streamline donating securities.

For those who aren't typically able to itemize, Kopp also mentioned a strategy called "charitable lumping," which involves making larger donations in a single tax year, most often to a DAF, and then distributing funds from the DAF to charities over time.

This strategy can be particularly effective for those looking to reduce their taxable income in one specific year.

Gifting From Your IRA

Qualified charitable distributions (QCDs) are a direct transfer of money from your IRA provider to a qualified charity. Not only can you contribute to a cause you care about, you can lower your taxable income, and it can count toward your required minimum distribution (RMD).

[MOAA CALCULATORS: [Required Minimum Distribution \(RMD\)](#)]

You don't have to itemize your taxes to donate via a QCD, but you must be at least 70½ years old. However, you can't "double dip" with a QCD and the new above-the-line charitable tax deduction – you could make a direct transfer from your IRA to a qualified charity, but then you cannot count that same donation toward the \$2,000 deduction.

Planned Giving

The webinar also included details on how planned giving can fit into an estate plan, provided by Jeff Angers, MOAA's director of Development, Fundraising. Sometimes known as legacy giving, planned giving is the process of gifting charitable donations, such as cash, stocks, or real estate, upon death or through structured lifetime giving.

"Planned giving allows you to make a future gift — or a gift that provides income or tax benefits during your lifetime — while still meeting your personal, family, and philanthropic goals," Angers said.

[MOAA CHARITIES: [What You Should Know About Planned Giving](#)]

While many people make bequests through a will or a trust, Charitable Gift Annuities (CGAs) and Charitable Remainder Trusts (CRTs) are more structured and can generate a potential income stream for donors.

Whatever your giving and gifting approach, Kopp emphasized that while coordinating your plan with your financial and tax preparation is important, you also have to have a desire to contribute to a cause you care about ... and not let the “tax tail” wag the dog.

The Smart Money’s on MOAA

Making sound financial decisions is not always as simple as we would like. PREMIUM and LIFE members can access MOAA's [Financial Planning Guide](#), as well as speak with a MOAA financial expert for additional assistance.

The **Desert Duster Newsletter** is published by the members of the [Green Valley Chapter](#) of the [Military Officers Association of America](#) (MOAA). The newsletters are sent electronically to Chapter members and posted on our website's [News and Events page](#) (in a downloadable PDF format).

Green Valley MOAA Chapter Contributors, this issue:



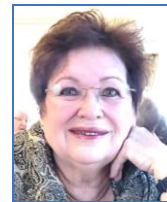
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