



The Volusia Officers Call

West Volusia MOAA Chapter, INC. (WVMC)

An Affiliate of the Military Officers Association of America



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MOAA's 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.

President's Perspective—



"Never Forget!"

Nearly 3,000 people died in the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, the deadliest in US history. The effects profoundly reshaped American society and the world. The day still resonates deeply: 93% of Americans who were at least 10 years old on 9/11 say they remember exactly where they were when they heard the news.

Do YOU?

My bet is that each and every one of you recall—as if it was just yesterday—where you were, who you were with and what you were doing!

August and September often turn out to be hot and miserable; they may also be both very busy months as grandchildren are returning to school and we begin to settle into unsettling times. 25 years ago, September 11th 2001, America's most famous city (New York City) was violently and senselessly attacked in the most heinous acts ever perpetrated on American soil. 25 years represents one-tenth (10%) of America's 250 years of great history, yet, unfortunately there are among us over 7% (and growing) of Americans who have no knowledge or perspective of that fatal day. I encourage—even implore—you to not allow your legacy to be a part of those numbers!

If you missed it (only 3 WVMC members were in attendance) our own Raul Gonzalez was the Guest Speaker at the Daytona State College "**Patriot Day Remembrance Day Ceremony**". It was a grand event seeing all the local high school JROTCs Honor Guards presenting the Colors alongside the Sons of the American Revolution and the DSC Choir providing A cappella entertainment and the National Anthem. Raul related the risks and deaths sacrificed over 250 years ago that were as equally tragic and impactful as those suffered on that fateful morning September 11, 2001.

(Continued on page 10)

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MOAA Take Action Center -
<https://moaa.quorum.us/>

Legislative -

August Recess Ends: In September, lawmakers have just 16 legislative days before the midterm elections. Keeping the government funded is the top priority. The National Defense Authorization Act and the Take Care of America's Veterans Act, a sweeping package that includes the Major Richard Star Act, will both compete for floor time.

Other important developments regarding MOAA's advocacy:

- Take Care of America's Veterans Act in Spotlight During Recent Conference
- How the Senate NDAA Draft Would Help Military Families Find the Care They Need
- MOAA-Backed Program Will Expand Fertility Options for Military Families
- This Spouse-Employment Boost Requires a Different Path on the Hill ... and Needs Your Support

LTC Michael Galaty Jr, USA, RET

Legislative

Remember to pay your dues.



The WVMC Bylaws with recommended changes are attached. These recommended changes will be voted on at the October luncheon on 4 November 2026.

The Chaplain's Corner -



Living With Purpose Each Day

I don't know if it is a curse that only we as Americans face, but too many people live in the future all the time. We are always thinking about what is next instead of enjoying the time we have right now. I've noticed this in my parish, but even once at EPCOT for the Candlelight Processional I watched people leaving before the music was over. It is sad really. We know that life can only be lived one day at a time, and yet we so often forget that and miss out on the opportunity of the moment.

It seems that even Jesus needed to find ways to be present at each moment because the crowds could be overwhelming. After a day of healing the sick Jesus slipped out of town to find quiet in the wilderness. Peter seeks out Jesus and tells him that everyone needs him and he should come back. Jesus realizes His mission would not allow him to escape. Instead, the solace He found with the Father gave Him the ability to minister to all those who needed him.

Fr. Solanus Casey, a Capuchin priest spent his life in service to God's people. At the friary door as porter he met thousands of people from every age and walk of life seeking help or wanting a tour or needing confession. He earned recognition as "The Doorkeeper." He was always ready to listen to anyone at any time, day or night. He once said, "Man's greatest holiness lies in being faithful to the present moment." Some say when they met Fr. Solanus they met a living saint. I think he was onto something. Being present with people, with God in prayer, and with nature can lead us to a greater holiness. (The Catholic Church has declared Fr. Solanus to be Blessed, the step before being declared a saint.)

I've also discovered an insight about being present in the moment. Things that we fear most often do not occur, and things that

are good happen more often than we imagine or plan for. Yet, we spend a lot of energy worrying about future possibilities and less time savoring current gifts and blessings. When we are able to pause and realize how often someone has crossed our path and smiled at us, let us go ahead in line at the grocery store, went out of their way to help us with a problem, or just listened when we needed an ear, we would discover that God is present so often, but we miss it.

I try each day to see something beautiful. I pause to notice the sunrise and sunset, the Sandhill Cranes, and the children at play next door. I try to see good in each person and greet them when I am taking a walk. I know I am not successful at it all of the time, but I try to make a conscious effort to be in the now. I pray that you will find the peace that only God can give and that He helps you to slow down so as not to miss the moment.

*LtCol Chris Hoffmann, USAF, RET
Chaplain*

Lunch prices have gone up by one dollar because the cost to us has gone up. Once again we have held the dues to the same cost as the last several years.



The next meeting, 7 OCT, will be held at the DeBary Country Club, 300 Plantation Club Drive, DeBary, FL 32713. The meal will be salmon filet with teriyaki sauce, vegetable, starch, rolls, tea and coffee. There will also be a dessert. The lunch cost is **\$25** per meal if paid by cash or check; \$26 if paid with a credit card. We ask that if paid with cash exact change helps. The guest speaker will be Savannah-Jane Griffin from the Neighborhood Center of West Volusia. See her bio on page 4.

Please bring your unexpired pantry items and your donation of toiletries for Barracks of Hope.

Upcoming Meeting: 7 OCT 2026
Following Meeting: 4 NOV 2026
Upcoming Board Meeting: 14 OCT 2026

Meetings are held at the DeBary Country Club, 300 Plantation Club Drive, DeBary, FL 32713. Social hour starts at 1100 hrs., lunch served at 1145 followed by an interesting guest speaker, then a short business meeting.

JROTC Uniform Donation -



On Thursday September 10, our 2nd VP presented a check of \$250. to Maj Chad Wright Senior Instructor at the DeLand High School AFJROTC to help with the uniform fees for 5 cadet's that would have otherwise been dropped from the program. The DeLand High program has 180 cadets this year making it the largest number of cadets in more than 5 years.

Membership -

Let's welcome our newest member former Marine Captain Chase Long, son of Lewis and Caryn Long, long time members. Currently we have 57 members with a goal of 60 by end December 2026. Member strength depends on two factors-recruiting and retention. We have done well on the recruiting side so thank you and keep up the great efforts! One would think retaining current members would be easier; yet, we could improve on that side of the equation. Thus far we have 9 who have not renewed their annual dues, not bad but hopefully the individual email requests that we sent will be productive so that I can report that we are at 100% in the next newsletter.

That being said, what are the reasons we exist, what is our mission, what do we do and why would a member want to stay and enthusiastically recruit others? Let's list a few of many: Preserve and protect service-earned benefits; foster fraternal relations among fellow veterans; lobbying Congress to prevent erosion of benefits and indeed fight for enhancements; support surviving spouses; partner with the community in honoring and supporting those who served along with their families, and providing JROTC scholarships to encourage our future military leaders.

In other words, "Never Stop Serving" so do a friend a favor-If you know of someone eligible to be a Chapter Member, tell them about us, point them to our website WVMOAA.org and forward this newsletter. *The larger our numbers, the greater our impact!*

If you are not a current dues-paying member of MOAA National, we encourage you to join by going to the MOAA Website - <https://www.moaa.org/content/join-moaa/why-join-moaa/> Information on Premium and Life membership is described. When on the website, scroll down to join.

Maj Curt Voelbel, USAF, RET
Membership



Guest Speakers Bio -

Savannah-Jane Griffin is a nationally recognized leader specializing in non-profit leadership, strategic planning, and community building. As CEO of the Neighborhood Center of West Volusia, she leads the primary organization

supporting the homeless in West Volusia. In the past four years, she has established strategic partnerships to address the affordable housing crisis in Volusia County, secured over a million dollars in grants and donations for homelessness prevention, and her team has assisted over 29,000 individuals facing financial crisis. She is currently working with her team on developing a tiny home community, made out of recycled shipping containers, to provide additional transitional housing in Volusia County. Savannah-Jane also chairs the Volusia and Flagler County Point in Time Count, coordinating over 100 volunteers to survey the unsheltered homeless population and identify community needs annually.

Savannah-Jane was named the 2024 Young Professional of the Year by the Daytona Beach News Journal's 40 Under Forty. She currently serves on the following community boards: Commission on Homelessness and Housing, Career Source Brevard Flagler Volusia, AdventHealth Foundation, and the Mainstreet DeLand Association. Griffin holds a BA and an MBA from Stetson University. She is a proud mother of two children, Sara-Dean and Forrest, and a loving wife to Army Veteran Christopher Griffin.

Last Month's Guest Speaker -



Paul Croce, PhD, Professor Emeritus of History from Stetson University was our guest speaker. Dr. Croce gave a very interesting talk about our Founding Fathers and their different views on democracy. Below, President Michael Magee presents Dr. Croce with a certificate of appreciation from the WVMC.



Patriot Day -



A Patriot Day service was held at Daytona State College, in Daytona Beach on September 11th. The event commemorated America's 250th Anniversary and remembered 9/11. WVMC's MAJ Raul Gonzalez (Ret), pictured at left, and LTC Michael Magee (Ret) were speakers at the event. Pictured below is Raul and several other attendees in Revolutionary War uniform.



Quilts of Valor Presentation -

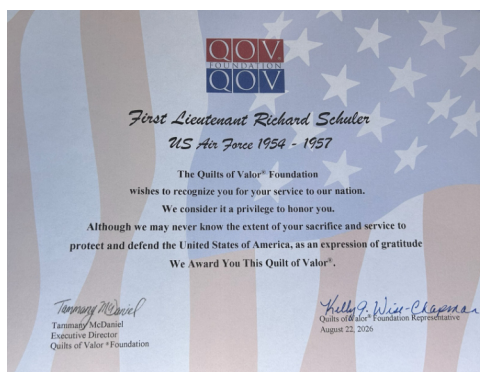


Chick (left) and Dick (right) were the recipients of the the Quilts of Valor.

The Quilts of Valor Foundation's local chapter, Threads That Bind, recognize servicemen and women who have been touched by war in service to their country. On Saturday, 22 August, the Threads that Bind presented two quilts to local veterans. Dick Schuler of WVMC, age 95 and Chick Difrancesco, age 93, were the two recipients.



Kelly Wise-Chapman, head of the Threads That Bind, reads the certificate for the quilt which was presented to Dick.



Certificate presented to Dick.



Members of Threads That Bind hold Dick's quilt.



WVMC had a good turnout at the DeLand Perkins Pancake House for the presentation.

**MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA
HALIFAX AREA CHAPTER
GUEST CHAPTERS**

2026 HOLIDAY GALA

PRESIDENT ANITA WILLIAMS, CDR, USCGC

HALIFAX RIVER YACHT CLUB

DECEMBER 17, 2026

5 PM – 9 PM

SILENT AUCTION OPEN

WELCOME

INVOCATION

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

DINNER MENU

House salad dinner rolls

ENTRÉE: Herb Crusted Mahi W/ Lemon Butter Sauce

ENTREE: Petite Tenderloin w/ Red Wine Sauce

ENTRÉE: Vegan Roasted Winter Squash w/ Feta & Vegetables

Entrées w/ Cinnamon Rice & Vegetable of the Day

DESSERT

"THE SWEET STOP"

Flourless chocolate cake w/ Choice of Toppings

DANCING & ENTERTAINMENT

Kevin Tobias, ShaBoom Productions

HOLIDAY COCKTAIL/MILITARY DRESS

Cost: \$ 65.00

Last Meeting (2 SEP 2026) -

President LTC Michael Magee called the meeting to order at 1148 hours.

Attendance: 30

CH LtCol Chris Hoffmann gave the invocation followed by The Pledge of Allegiance.

LTC Magee welcomed our members and guests: Ms. Elizabeth Lee -friend of LTC Ernie Tauber and Deanna Scheinhof- daughter of Karen Wiltuck.

Lunch was served: Chicken marsala with mashed potatoes, green beans and a brownie for dessert.

LTC Magee asked MAJ Raul Gonzalez that the 50/50 drawings be done at this time. Then the members' free lunch drawing.

COL Jack Burtnett won the free lunch for the 7 OCT 2026 meeting/luncheon.

LTC Magee asked if there were any corrections to the 6 MAY 2026 Luncheon Meeting Minutes as posted in the VOC. Motion to approve the minutes as posted in the VOC was made by LTC Laura Wickett and seconded by MAJ Pam Ring. Motion carried.

LTC Magee asked MAJ Raul Gonzalez to introduce our guest speaker Dr. Paul Croce who will be speaking on the role of Civic Participation in American Democracy.

Dr. Croce is professor of History and American Studies Emeritus at Stetson University. After three decades of teaching in the academic classroom and writing scholarship, he is bringing those tasks together now for The Public Classroom, and can be followed on his Facebook Podcast, <https://publicclassroom.substack.com/about>. This project is dedicated to presenting stories from history and insights from learning to encourage more people to listen across our many differences.

Dr. Croce talked about our Founding Fathers and their different views on democracy. One in particular, James Madison viewed direct democracy with deep suspicion, arguing instead for a constitutional republic with a system of representation to protect individual liberty from the dangers of mob rule and majority tyranny. Madison believed citizens should use their votes to pick wise and virtuous leaders who possess public spirit.

LTC Magee thanked Dr. Croce for being our speaker today and presented him with a

Certificate of Appreciation and a challenge coin.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. LTC Magee announced we presented a check to assist the West Volusia Habitat for Humanity Homes for Veterans at the move-in ceremony. Habitat for Humanity plans to build another home for veterans in 2027 and they would like it to be built by veterans.

2. LTC Magee thanked LTC Wickett and MAJ Gonzalez on their involvement in the Volusia County Veterans Council.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. LTC Magee announced the chapter will have a float in the Volusia County Veterans Day Parade in DeLand Saturday, November 14, 2026. MAJ Gonzlaez will provide the trailer. Members are invited to ride on the float. We are also invited to set up a table after the parade.

2. LTC Magee stated our Chapter is the lead on the Veterans Day Ceremony at the Veterans Park and Gardens of Bill Dreggors Park, 230 N. Stone St, Deland on November 11, 2026 at 0900 hours. More information will be provided at the next meeting. Still need a guest speaker for this event.

3. LTC Magee stated MAJ Gonzalez will be the speaker at the Daytona State College Veterans Services Patriot Day Ceremony, Friday September 11, 2026 11:00 am at Nunamann Hall Landing (Building 200) 1200 W. International Speedway Blvd, Daytona Beach

LTC Magee called for reports:

Secretary's Report: LtCol Twila Davis- nothing to report

Treasurer's Report: Maj Pete Durnell – reported the checking account balance as of 3 SEP 2026 is \$2650.68 and \$ 1257.99 in savings. There are three 12/month CDs #1 \$6,422.47, CD #2 \$ 4202.77, CD#3 \$5093.84. Total assets of \$ 19,627.75, Note: \$7,500.00 is ear marked for Habitat Vet Homes and Veteran Causes. Treasurers report is given for informational purpose and is subject to audit.

Directors and Committee Reports:

1st VP MAJ Raul Gonzalez – nothing to report

2nd VP- LTC Laura Wickett- there are 145 JROTC Cadets at DeLand High School. There are 5 students in need of \$50 each to purchase their uniforms. A motion was made by LTC Laura Wickett and seconded by CWO4 Ted Seaman that we donate \$250 to Deland High School JROTC students in need for their uniforms. Motion carried.

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Last Meeting - continued from page 8

Directors

Lee Hector-Director- nothing to report

Maj Curt Voelbel -Director -nothing to report

MAJ Shirley Burtnett-Director- encouraged members to join us on the next cruise

MAJ Pam Ring -Scholarship Chair – stated she will be sending the letters out to the JROTC programs this month.

LTC Mike Galaty -Legislative Chair- excused. LTC Magee encouraged members to go into the MOAA website and take action on the legislative items.

Maj Curt Voelbel –Chief of Staff and Membership Chair- we currently have 57 members. The goal is 60.

CW4 Thomas Jackson-Community Relations – stated a home at 115 W. Euclid Ave, DeLand was donated to the Neighborhood Center to be used as transitional housing for 5 homeless veterans. It is to be opened in mid-September.

A motion was made by CW4 Tom Jackson and seconded by MAJ Raul Gonzalez that we donate a flag set with plaque to the Neighborhood Center for the home for veterans. Motion carried. Motion authorized an expenditure allowance of \$35.00 for the flag, flag mounting hardware and a plaque like those placed at the 4 West Volusia Habitat for Humanity Homes on E. Walts Ave. Exact wording will be coordinated between MAJ Raul Gonzalez & CW4 Thomas Jackson. MAJ Gonzalez will arrange to have plaque made & engraved.

CW4 Jackson stated Barracks of Hope is planning to build 20 more rooms for homeless veterans in Daytona. And Habitat for Humanity is building a home in DeLeon Springs for a veteran and her (7) children.

CH LtCol Chris Hoffmann- Chaplain- talked about being humble. He mentioned we all have skills and talent and we might think that makes us better but he encouraged us all to try, to the best of our ability, to be humble.

LTC Laura Wickett- Fund Raising- stated a couple ideas have been suggested for fund raising: selling Zippo lighters with the MOAA logo and logos for all the military branches; and asking businesses to advertise in our news letter for \$35 a year.

COL Jack Burtnett – Editor – stated he will be sending out an updated photo directory of our members

Ms. Lisa Hightower – Surviving Spouse Liaison –nothing to report

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

LTC Magee announced we will have a table set up at the Deland Car show on 19 SEP 2026 from 1300 – 1700 hours. Everyone is invited to join us. Location: 101 North Alabama Avenue, DeLand

LTC Magee announced September is Constitution month and 17 SEP is Constitution Day.

LTC Wickett stated Savannah Griffin from the Neighborhood Center will be our guest speaker for October.

LTC Magee announced “A Bridge Too Far” will be the book for the October book club.

LTC Magee announced:

Executive Board Meeting will be held on 9 September 2026, 1000 hours at the DeBary Country Club. Members are welcome to attend.

Our next luncheon meeting will be 7 OCT 2026 1100 hours at the DeBary Country Club.

Meeting adjourned at 1333 hours.

LtCol Twila Davis, USAF, RET
Secretary

Trivia -

Only one president (James Buchanan) served as an enlisted man in the military and did not go on to become an officer.

Thirty of the 45 presidents served in the Army, 24 during time of war, two earned the rank of five-star general (Washington -- who was promoted posthumously to a six-star general in 1976 -- and Eisenhower) and one earned the Medal of Honor (Theodore Roosevelt).

Warning Order -

Save the date. The WVMC Christmas Gala, a casual affair, will be held on Wednesday 9 December between 5:30 and 9:30 PM at the DeBary Country Club. Details to come.

DeLand Veteran's Day Memorial Service -

WVMC is in charge of the Veteran's Day memorial service on Wednesday, 11 November at Bill Dreggors Park, 230 N Stone St. In DeLand. Please join us at the memorial service which begins at 9:00 AM.

Veteran's Day Service at Grand Villa -

WVMC is going to honor the veterans who are in the assisted living facility at Grand Villa of DeLand at 350 E International Speedway Blvd. We will be doing this at 2:30 PM on Wednesday, 11 November. This is another opportunity to come and support WVMC and our veterans.



President's Perspective - continued from page 1

It was great to have everyone—well almost—back in September. We saw 30 of our 56 (?) members at the Luncheon, or ~53%! I am confident that we can and will do better than this at future meetings. We had a marvelous speaker. Dr. Croce, History professor Emeritus from Stetson University shared his comments on historical perspectives of the founding of our country, the Declaration of Independence and the writing of our Constitution. His reminder—floor stomper—that we live in the greatest country and culture ever known to mankind! There was so much more as he shared with us for over 45-minutes and the questions kept on coming! So much so that we had to stand him down as our rental-time of the hall had expired! Dr. Croce invited all of us to his Podcast and Substack at The Public Classroom <https://publicclassroom.substack.com/p/one-flag-for-all> Next time you see Raul ask him how he came upon Dr. Croce and inviting him to our Luncheon.

We are also reminded by our national leadership and locally at the state (FCoC) to engage our politicians with MOAA'S "Call-to-Action". Jack, Raul and Curt have provided the hyperlink to CW2 Pierre Louis' FCoC site for reading about and then communicating directly to our elected officials in Washington D.C. Please carve out some time in your daily activities to view and respond. With less than 11% of our elected officials having ever served, and even less having any knowledge of what veterans' service organizations (MOAA, VFW, American Legion, et al) even are it is uber critical that we stay-in-their faces and remind them of how important national defense & security are; and, taking care of those who were willing—or did-- to make the ultimate sacrifice!

"Non sui sed patriae" [Not for Self but for country]

LTC Michael Magee, USA, RET
President WVMC

Book Club Notes -

Best attendance since we kicked off the WVMC Book Club last year! Thank each and every one of you who attended. And, as promised we had a very lively and fun discussion. Our guest speaker even joined us, which was a "special" treat: Having, if you will, a SME!

Wendy Smith even got a sample of the more onery side of "Officer (or junior) Conduct" as somehow, we segued into Officer's Clubs and the origins of Challenge Coins! It was quite delightful.

"Deceased insect" is term used when discussing a "challenge" to the young officers in the casual bar to determine if / prove they are still sober. And, "RMO" (round metal object) is term used to describe / discuss "challenge coin" tradition. Each person should be carrying a coin(s) that has special meaning to that person." (Lucky Kowatch, LtCol (ret), USAF)

When you see Wendy and Lucky next luncheon, maybe corner them and inquire!

Quick marketing plug for the DGCC and Pam Ring. The club is very generous and gracious in allowing us to linger in the bar area, which we take full advantage of by encouraging all Book Club attendees to grab their favorite beverage before settling in for the reading and sharing!

In honor and observance of September being "CONSTITUTION MONTH" and September 17th being "CONSTITUTION DAY" we took up the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution. But this year we did so with "The Federalists" by Publius (these did not become known as the "The Federalist Papers" until 1961) and Thomas Paine's "COMMON SENSE"

Did you know? Only two states, Arizona and Florida, have standalone laws requiring the education of the 9/11 terror attacks. Additionally, five other states have laws addressing 9/11 observance, while nearly two dozen states have academic standards that require instruction on the topic. But even in our own state of FL and more specifically our town of DeLand educators struggle with student, parent, fellow-teachers and administrators' apathies over 9/11 instruction. Two teachers (at DHS) whom I know personally related that their students were very vocal about their anger and dissatisfaction when forced to sit through FL DoE mandated instruction (print and AV). "Why do we have to study this?" "I wasn't alive then so why should I (expletive) care?"

Of the 29+ states that do have some sort "academic standards...[requiring] instruction..." it is reported that "WOKE" ideologies have tainted or otherwise compromised factual presentations and instruction. Which further begs the question: What is happening in the other 21 states?

That brings us to September's other educational responsibilities: Constitution Day and Month. As we all recall U.S. Code TITLE 36, Subparagraph 106 directs that all institutions of learning that receive federal funding must teach the Constitution. Which, by any responsible understanding must also include the history that led to our founding and establishment as the Greatest Nation-Civilization in the history of mankind.

There is much talk about, or at least battle cries about "NO KINGS" these days from the BLM, DSA, and WOKE MSM, etc. Speak to, or think about how ALL of our founding fathers were, in one way or another business men. They were farmers, lawyers, doctors or merchants and inventors. All 56 risked their lives—literally and figuratively—by becoming traitors to a vicious monarch (**King** & Dictator). Their message was clear—and had they had a functioning Crystal Ball they would have included in the Bill of Rights "TERM LIMITS"—serve your country then return to your farms (plantations), businesses, practices and home and take up the labors that make a country great: Worthwhile and Proud! These FACTS should, by all measure put the "modern battle cries" to rest?

Along with the MOAA AiA initiatives the time has come to be very vocal to those items that matter most to us veterans: Not making a career/profession out of Government Service; little or no National Debt; and accountability and responsibility in the home, in the schools and in government at the local, state and federal levels.

(Continued on page 12)

Book Club Notes - Continued from page 11**"These Colors Don't Run!"****BOOK CLUB READING LIST 2026-2027:**

OCT -- "A Bridge Too Far", by [Cornelius Ryan](#)

NOV -- "Gulliver's Travels" [Originally titled *Travels into Several Remote Nations of the World. In Four Parts. By Lemuel Gulliver, First a Surgeon, and then a Captain of Several Ships*]. By Jonathan Swift. [<https://www.britannica.com/biography/Jonathan-Swift>]

DEC -- "Fahrenheit 451" a 1953 dystopian novel by American author and screenwriter [[raybradbury.com](#)]. Or, "Soylent Green" by Harry Harrison [[harryharrison.com](#)]. Your choice: We will discuss/share both.

JAN -- "For Good and Evil: The Impact of Taxes on the Course of Civilization". by Charles Adams

FEB -- "Brave New World" is a dystopian novel by English author [Aldous Huxley](#), written in 1931

MAR -- "The Art of War". An ancient [Chinese military treatise](#) dating from roughly 5th century BC. Attributed to the ancient Chinese military strategist [Sun Tzu](#) ("Master Sun")

APR -- "How to Hide an Empire: A History of the Greater United States". by [Daniel Immerwahr](#). Named one of the ten best books of the year by the *Chicago Tribune* *A Publishers Weekly*.

MAY -- "Legacy of Ashes: The History of the CIA". By [Tim Weiner](#). Or, his successor book entitled [The Mission: The CIA in the 21st Century](#)

From the Chief of Staff -

Our first chapter group cruise out of Port Canaveral was such a great success that the next seven day cruise is planned for Nov 27, 2027 again out of Port Canaveral on the Celebrity Apex, probably my favorite ship. It will visit Puerto Plata DR, St. Thomas, USVI, and St. Martin intermixed with 3 days at sea. Pricing will depend on when you make your \$125 pp non-refundable deposit and usually the earlier the better. Give me a call to reserve your cabins, Curt at 386-479-3400 or LgtCurt@gmail.com. (Florida Seller of Travel 15578).

Following the meeting/luncheon the Book Club will meet to discuss the book "A Bridge Too Far".

Remember to stop by the table at our luncheon to purchase a bunch of potential winning 50-50 tickets @ 3 for a dollar. For dues paying members, be sure to get your white ticket for a chance to enjoy a free lunch at the very next luncheon.

Cash donations may be dropped in the buckets at the door for Veteran's Causes and JR ROTC Scholarships.

Sample Tee Shirts and Hats with our local chapter Logo will be on display for you to purchase or order. Pricing TBD. Military logo Bracelets are also quite popular and for sale.

Maj Curt Voelbel, USAF, RET
Chief of Staff



The Volusia Officers Call
West Volusia MOAA Chapter, INC.
An Affiliate of the Military Officers Association of America



Items to Note -

Free Meals

Those attendees who win a free lunch from the "ticket drawing" will only be able to claim their free lunch at the NEXT meeting.

If you are receiving this via U.S. Postal delivery and if you have email, we can get the VOC to you more quickly and at less expense to WVMC. Please let the editor know your email by contacting him at volusiaofficerscall@gmail.com

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New name tags are available from MAJ Raul Gonzalez at the monthly meetings or by contacting him at: majgonz@earthlink.net. The cost is \$15.

Check out **OUR** website at www.wvmoaa.org It has a lot of information and links to useful information for all vets. The website gives guidance about how prospective members can join MOAA and WVMC.

National MOAA and the West Volusia MOAA Chapter are nonpartisan organizations.

SECOND Dues Notice - -

Members are reminded that dues are now due for the year 2026-27. The dues are **\$35**. Please get a check or MO to Treasurer Pete Durnell as soon as practicable. Pete's address is Peter Durnell, 502 Nutmeg Circle, DeLand, FL 32724.

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