



JANUARY 2024 MOAA NEWSLETTER/FERNANDINA BEACH

**NEXT GENERAL MEETING WILL BE ON 09 JANUARY 2024
AT 1130 AM FERNANDINA BEACH GOLF CLUB (FBGC).**



The MOAA Nassau Florida Chapter will be having its monthly meeting on 09 January 2024 @ 1130. Our speaker will be our President Captain Mike Doran, USN (Ret). He will be outlining "State of the Chapter for 2024." In addition, we will be discussing our financial situation, membership, NROTC, legislative issues, website, newsletter, and a host of other topics that will surely need input from all our members. Come on out and be part of this excellent organization.

As always, spouses are invited and encouraged to attend, since they are a key component of the group and can contribute with valuable input. As a reminder, in accordance with our arrangement with the golf club, if you reserve lunch, you have obligated the chapter for your luncheon expense and will be requested to reimburse the chapter. However, if you can provide at least 24-hour notice prior to the event of your change in plans, we can then modify the number of meals requested from the club and remove this obligation. Your cooperation in this matter is appreciated, as we have reached this agreement with the club in an attempt to keep the individual costs to a minimum. Lunch will

be \$15.00 to be paid at the door. To make, change or cancel your reservation, please contact Paul Booton (pbooton@comcast.net).

***"The Coast Guard has long been known as the armed service
that gets more done for less.
- Howard Coble-***

CALENDAR EVENTS

1 Jan: New Year's and
MOAA dues \$25.00 go to
www.ncflmoaa.org

09 Jan: MOAA Mtg

15 Jan: MLK Day

27 Jan: International
Holocaust Remembrance
Day

08 Feb: Boy Scouts of
America established.

14 Feb: Valentine's Day

19 Feb: President's Day

We had over 40 people attend the annual Christmas party. The food and company were exceptional, as well as the music (thank you Lou and Joyce) and Charlie's jokes. It was very nice to see some old and new faces in the crowd. This year we changed it up a bit and gave out some prizes as well as center pieces. I wanted to thank Kathleen Davitt, Chong Murphy and all the volunteers for their help making this one of the best MOAA parties so far. Things are happening and you don't want to miss our future lectures and other events by the Nassau County MOAA Chapter.



We have 87 active members that support our JROTC scholarships and other activities with their \$25.00 annual dues. They were due starting in October. Please pay Bob at the door or go to www.ncflmoaa.org

“From the Chapter President”

Happy New Year!

I hope that everyone had a wonderful holiday and got something nice under the tree! Tony and I were both disappointed that we could not make it to the Christmas Party due to the schedule mix-up, but we heard that it was a big success. Thanks to everyone who helped set it up, provided the music and the decorations.

Our next meeting is on January 9th. It will be a great opportunity to start the year off right by getting together for some camaraderie and swapping stories about the holidays. We will be talking about our plans for the chapter in 2024 so please come out and join us! In his role as Area VP, Tony has visited the other MOAA chapters in our region and has some interesting observations that I'm sure he will be happy to share.

Stay safe and see you on the 9th!

Mike

FERNANDINA BEACH HAPPENINGS FOR JANUARY 2024



Martin Luther King Parade, January 15, 2023, 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM. The parade begins at the Peck Center and travels to Ash Street (approved FBPD parade route)

This annual parade honors the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. This is a family friendly community event. All are welcome to attend or participate. For more information go to <https://www.fbfl.us/>

Council on Aging, COA (bingo, line dancing, ask a lawyer, cooking, pet therapy, etc.) They have **four** different calendars of events that cover just about every aspect of life. Go to <https://bit.ly/2TPpFNp> for more information on activities and social engagements. If you need transportation to any event on the island or Council of Aging, just contact Nassau transit at <https://bit.ly/3wpU2zf> and they will come and get you.



Amelia Island Restaurant Week: January 18-28, 2024

Enjoy cuisine from the island's award-winning and popular dining establishments and join us for our Sweet 16 celebration of Amelia Island Restaurant Week! During this ten-day culinary showcase of savory prix fixe menus, enjoy \$15 lunches and dinners at \$30 and \$50. Discover additional delicious events specially designed for those with a taste for life!! The chefs are currently finalizing the highly anticipated menu items and they will be announced January 2nd at 5pm EST. Go to [https://www.ameliaisland.com/festivals-](https://www.ameliaisland.com/festivals-events/amelia-island-restaurant-week/)

[events/amelia-island-restaurant-week/](https://www.ameliaisland.com/festivals-events/amelia-island-restaurant-week/).



Nassau County Chapter Meeting and Social Schedule for 2024

Date	Event	Time	Location	Guest Speaker / Comments
9 January	General Meeting	1130	FBGC	CAPT Mike Doran, USN (Ret) President, Nassau County Chapter MOAA
13 February	General Meeting	1130	FBGC	
Xx February	Social	1730	TBD – Off Island	
12 March **Evening Mtg**	General Meeting	1730	FBGC	
9 April	General Meeting	1130	FBGC	
Xx April	Social	1730	TBD – On Island	
14 May	General Meeting	1130	FBGC	
11 June **Evening Mtg**	General Meeting	1730	FBGC	
Xx June	Social	1730	TBD – Off Island	
10 September	General Meeting	1130	FBGC	
8 October **Evening Mtg**	General Meeting	1730	FBGC	
Xx October	Social	1730	TBD – On Island	
12 November	General Meeting	1130	FBGC	
13 December	Christmas Party	1830	FBGC	1730 Cocktails, 1830 Dinner

FBGC – Fernandina Beach Golf Club, located at 2800 Bill Melton Rd, Fernandina Beach, FL 32034

NASSAU CHAPTER CALL TO ACTION

2024 ISSUES

Pay Full Housing Costs

MOAA seeks to restore the Basic Allowance for Housing to 100% for Servicemembers.

Restoring the TRICARE Pharmacy Network

Thousands of independent pharmacies have left the network, threatening a critical benefit for many in rural areas, as well as elderly beneficiaries and those with serious medical conditions. MOAA wants increased Congressional oversight over a strong, accessible network.

Support the All-Volunteer Force

MOAA seeks meaningful quality-of-life improvements for those in uniform and their families, as well as long-term programs designed to widen the recruiting pool.

Go to <https://www.moaa.org/content/take-action/advocacy-in-action-2023/> and let your legislators know we support.

It only takes minutes, I did it and so can you.

NEWSLETTER CORNER

MOAA Newsletter Jan 2024 (highlights)

Free with your MOAA membership –
go to <https://bit.ly/3wAUeLR> for more information

1. Why MOAA's fight to maintain TRICARE pharmacy access matters to you.
2. As service members spend the holidays deployed, work remains at home.
3. Average housing allowance will rise in 2024, but still won't cover full costs.
4. MOAA praised for work ending senate promotion holds.
5. Tricare and transition: what happens when I retire?
6. Rock your private sector resume with these quick tips.
7. NEW UPDATES: understanding the Thrift Savings Plan.
8. VA provides caregiver program updates as advisory committee begins its work.

Veterans Affairs website (highlights)

Go to [VA.gov Home | Veterans Affairs](https://www.va.gov) to sign up for monthly newsletter

1. Free songwriting, music streaming for veterans.
2. Veteran benefits End-of-Year update.
3. Pact Act performance dashboard.
4. Million veteran program, housing homeless veterans, coping with holiday stress and more.
5. Gift tickets on shopVCS.com.
6. We need your help, share this outreach kit with veterans.
7. Free tech training and certification for veterans.
8. NEW: Veteran Job postings over 100 positions are available.

If you know someone who wants to **join the MOAA** and meets the below eligibility requirements, please have them fill out the attached application and send it to Paul Booton at pbooton@comcast.net.

Eligibility: Regular Members are all individuals who are or have been a commissioned or warrant officer of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, U.S. Coast Guard, NOAA and the US Public Health Service (USPHS), or the Reserve or National Guard of these uniformed services. A current or surviving spouse of a regular member may join as an Auxiliary Member.



NASSAU COUNTY FLORIDA CHAPTER

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Eligibility: Regular Members are all individuals who are or have been a commissioned or warrant officer of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, U.S. Coast Guard, NOAA and the US Public Health Service (USPHS), or the Reserve or National Guard of these uniformed services. A current or surviving spouse of a regular member may join as an Auxiliary Member.

NAME: _____

Please PRINT (Last Name) (First Name) (MI) (Suffix)

MIL. RANK: _____ GENDER: { } M { } F BIRTHDATE: _____

(Spouse/widow(er) leave blank) (mm/dd/yyyy)

SERVICE: { } USA { } USN { } USAF { } USMC { } USCG { } USPHS { } NOAA

STATUS: { } Retired { } Active { } NG/Reserves { } Former Officer { } Spouse { } Widow(er)

Mail ADDRESS: _____ APT: _____

CITY: _____, FL ZIP: _____ - _____

HOME PHONE: (_____) _____ CELL PHONE: (_____) _____

EMAIL: _____ SPOUSE NAME: _____

National MOAA Member: { } YES { } NO National MOAA#: _____

WELCOME!

PLEASE CHECK CHAPTER ACTIVITIES IN WHICH YOU DESIRE TO ASSIST:

{ } Program/Event Planning (PP) { } Membership (MO) { } Legislative Affairs (LA)

{ } Phoning Members (PM) { } Personal Affairs (PA) { } Newsletter (NP)

{ } Public Relations (PR) { } ROTC/JROTC { } Advertising (AD)

{ } WEB Site (WM) { } Data Processing (DP)

Thanks for your Chapter membership commitment

Chapter Dues \$25.00 Annually Payable to "Nassau MOAA"

PLEASE SEND APPLICATION AND DUES PAYMENT TO:

Paul Booton, Database Administrator
Nassau County Florida Chapter of MOAA
474 Starboard Landing
Fernandina Beach, FL 32034-2780