



March 7, 2023

Dear MOAA Members,

*\*Happy St. Patrick's Day!\** St Patrick's day celebration in the new world dates back to 1600 with its first parade in 1601 in St Augustine, Florida. (Wikipedia) The celebration has continued to grow over the years with estimated spending for 2023 of near \$6.85B (WalletHub), mostly on green beer, I'm sure. 🍀

As for happenings in our chapter, we helped sponsor the 24<sup>th</sup> USD259 JROTC Air Capital Drill Meet, hosted by the Marine JROTC at Northeast Magnet HS, on Saturday, 4 Mar. Twelve schools participated, 4 Army, 4 Air Force and 4 Marine, from Kansas, Oklahoma, Missouri, and Texas. We provided \$250 to help pay the expenses associated with the meet. In addition, we received a very detailed presentation by Trevor Macy, Public Information Officer, Wichita Police Department on crime in Wichita and surroundings. In his presentation, he showed how someone at home can monitor crime in their own neighborhood or places they plan to visit. Here is the web address for website to do that: <https://communitycrimemap.com/>.

As previously discussed and advertised, we will host Ms Virginia "Gail" Joyce at our March meeting on 26 Mar. Ms Joyce is on the Surviving Spouse Council & Chapter Affairs Committee, Membership Committee, Scholarship Fund Board of Directors, and MOAA Foundation Board of Directors. She will be here to speak on topics associated with her positions a MOAA National. This is part of MOAA Nationals continuing program of providing speakers to local chapters every 3 to 4 years. Please plan to attend what should be a very informative presentation. Here is the MOAA website address associated with Surviving Spouses:

<https://www.moaa.org/content/publications-and-media/news-articles/2021-news-articles/surviving-spouse-corner-join-moaas-surviving-spouse-virtual-chapter/>

As always, your input is always welcome. Email all concerns to me at m2george55@gmail.com. Also, please save the dates for upcoming MOAA Meetings: 26 Mar, 30 Apr and, 28 May.

Sincerely,  
Michael R. George, President

"MOAA is the nation's largest and most influential association of military officers. It is an independent, nonprofit, politically nonpartisan organization." (<https://www.moaa.org/content/about-moaa/mission/>)

## MOAA's Legislative Priorities for 2023

- Compensation and Service-Earned Benefits
- Military Housing [Increased BAH and improved government provided quarters]
- Health Care for Currently Serving and Retirees [Reverse cuts to the pharmacy benefit and access to medical treatment facilities]
- Health Care and Benefits for Veterans [Monitor enactment of the PACT Act and improved care through the VA]
- Service Families [Improved support for spouse employment, basic needs allowance and accessible, affordable childcare]
- Survivors [Repeal recoupment of last month's paycheck after retirees passing, continue to improve SGLI/VGLI to match inflation, and improve DIC baseline]
- Guard and Reserve [TRICARE coverage for reserve component, overcome delayed pay when promoted or retired, and support for policy solutions to support the total force]

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