



Piedmont Chapter



Military Officers Association of America

ARMY - NAVY - AIR FORCE - MARINES - COAST GUARD - SPACE FORCE - NOAA - USPH

March 2024 Newsletter

Stay current on News of Interest to you . . .







In this issue:

- Piedmont Chapter – President's Message / MOAA Meeting
- Piedmont Chapter – Dates to Remember
- Piedmont Chapter – New Chapter Members / Memberships
- Piedmont Chapter – TAPS
- Military News – Air Force Seeking Retirees to Come Back to Active Duty
- Military News – 250,000 VA Patients Are at Risk of Receiving Wrong Medication Due to Electronic Health Records Issue
- MOAA News – MOAA Advocacy for Action
- Piedmont Chapter – Happening in Our Own Backyard

Miscellaneous:

- Piedmont Chapter – 2024 Board of Directors
- Piedmont Chapter – Support Your MOAA Charities.
- Piedmont Chapter – Take Action: Join MOAA, Disclaimer
- Piedmont Chapter – Footer: Contact & Social Media Links



	VISIT OUR WEBSITE		PAY CHAPTER DUES ONLINE		EMAIL US
	VISIT OUR FACEBOOK PAGE		JOIN OUR CHAPTER Choose SC as your state & Piedmont as your chapter.		SUPPORT OUR CHARITIES

Piedmont Chapter – President's Message

Spring is just around the corner, and I pray we will each get outside and enjoy it as the weather warms, and make sure we carve out the time to get together every 2 months at our membership meetings.

Speaking of membership meetings, my thanks to those of you who replied to the questionnaire about the best days of the week, the best times of the day, and the venues and speakers for future meetings. Your input is helpful. And - our next meeting is dinner at 1730 hours on Thursday, 21 March at Tucker's Restaurant on Clemson Blvd. Our guest speaker will be Mrs. Jenna Galyean, a former CIA analyst, who also worked for Secretary Condoleezza Rice when she was the National Security Advisor to President Bush (43). Jenna was the duty officer in the situation room of the White House when our forces invaded Iraq and when Saddam was captured. This proves to be a very interesting evening.

Many of you are aware that we lost member Jack Gregory, Lt Col, USAF (Ret) in early January. Jack was our Chapter Webmaster. And we lost former member Sam Anderson, Lt Col, USAF (Ret) at the beginning of February. Sam was an active member for years and a regular with a group of veterans at the Y. Rest in peace, Jack and Sam.

A couple of updates:

- We welcome 2 new members: Neil Lark; LTC, USA (Ret) and his wife, Diane; and Jordan Doshier; CPT, USA (Former) and his wife Lindsey. Please make sure to welcome them at our 21 March dinner.
- On 17 January, Janelle and I hosted the 6 remaining leaders of our 10 high school JROTC programs at a luncheon roundtable discussion. It was a very productive 2 ½ hour discussion as they each discussed their challenges, how they are solving them and their successes. Among other things, they want to meet once a semester to discuss their programs and challenges. Our next ones for all 10 JROTC leaders will be in the fall semester. Also, a couple of our JROTC leaders have invited Janelle and me (with spouses) to their "military balls," and "dining-ins". This will be very exciting!!!
- We have also been invited to join in and speak during a "leader lab" at the Clemson Air Force ROTC program. I'm just waiting for the date.
- Recruiting new members:
 - I've been updating General Wholey, one of our members, on our efforts to improve our linkage with and help to our ROTC and JROTC programs. He has agreed to offer selected training opportunities for interested JROTC cadets. Additionally, I have asked for his permission to talk to a group of the SC ARNG officers about MOAA; the important missions of MOAA and how they impact our serving men and women, those of us who have served, our disabled and our surviving spouses; and the important activities of our chapter. Again, just waiting on a date.
 - This past Monday, 26 February, I had the opportunity to speak at the Anderson Area Citadel Club monthly meeting. It was a delight to be with those Citadel grads and discuss service to country; the importance of the MOAA missions to our Armed Forces (past, present and future); and our Chapter activities and commitments to support our community, our veterans and surviving spouses, our local veterans' organizations and services, and our ROTC and JROTC programs. I also encouraged those who are MOAA eligible to seriously consider joining MOAA and our Chapter. The responses indicated that the evening may bear fruit with some new members.
 - Please invite an MOAA eligible member you know to our 21 March dinner. Each of us has an important role in the health of our Chapter.

- We are in the process of applying to become a 501 [c] 19 tax-exempt status organization that will allow us to raise funds and do many more things to support our local veterans and our community. My thanks to each of you who have donated generously to defray the cost of application.

Our Piedmont Chapter and the “Semper Fi Barn” are co-sponsoring this year’s Vietnam Veterans’ Panel Discussion at 1300 hours, Saturday, 23 March at The Anderson County Museum. LTC (Ret) Tom von Kaenel, one of our members and the founder of “Semper Fi Barn” in Six Mile, will host it and guide the panel discussion. Last year’s panel discussion was a big success with 7 panel members and about 100 attending to listen and ask questions. This year’s panel discussion promises to be very good also. Please mark your calendars to attend and let me know if you are interested in sitting on the panel – especially if you were engaged in combat – on the ground, in the air or on the South China Sea.

1 March in US military history: 1864 - President Lincoln nominated Ulysses S. Grant to the rank of lieutenant general. 1912 - Albert Berry made the first parachute jump from an airplane at Jefferson Barracks, MO. 1942 - German U-Boat (U-656) was the first U-Boat to be sunk by Naval air power. 2003 – Administrative control of the US Coast Guard was transferred to the newly created Department of Homeland Security.

My best wishes to each of you.

Respectfully,

Mel

Mel Case; Colonel, Infantry (Ret)
President, Piedmont Chapter, MOAA



VIETNAM *Reminiscences* II

MARCH 23, 2024 @ 1:00PM

Join us at the Anderson County Museum for Vietnam Reminiscences. Tom von Kaenel will lead a panel discussion on the Vietnam War. The panel will be comprised of local Vietnam veterans, and they will discuss their service to our country during the Vietnam War. We hope you can come and remember the sacrifices and stories of our brave local Vietnam veterans.

Sponsored By:



Semper Fi Barn
Barn - Bar - Barn - Barn



RSVP HELPFUL - PLEASE RSVP: acmrsvp@andersoncountysc.org



(864) 260-4737

202 E Greenville Street, Anderson, SC 29621

andersoncountymuseum.sc.gov

Piedmont Chapter – 21 March MOAA Membership Meeting

Date/Time: 1730 - Thursday, 21 March 2024

Place: Tuckers Restaurant

Address: 3501 Clemson Blvd., Anderson, SC 29621

Cost: \$25 per person (includes tax and gratuity)

Please pay by CHECK at the door. We are unable to accept cash.

RSVP/Mail Checks: Dan Tollison, 120 Park Way, Anderson, SC 29625

Email: dan@majorgrumpy.com / **Phone:** 864-958-0975

Checks payable to: Piedmont Chapter, MOAA

RSVP Date: NLT, 19 March 2024

Speaker: Jenna Galyean, Former CIA Analyst

Spouses and guests are encouraged to attend. If you are a prospective member and wish to attend this function, and/or join the chapter, please send in your reservation, and contact the following:

Membership Chairperson: Howard Stammerjohn

Phone: 864-964-1631 / **Email:** piedmont.moaa@aim.com

RESERVATION FOR: Tuckers, Thursday 1730 21 March 2024

Name(s): _____

Guest(s): _____

Piedmont Chapter – Proposed Meeting Dates, Venues, and Speakers – 2024!

21 Mar 24: 5:30 PM Dinner - Tuckers in Anderson
Speaker: Jenna Galyean, Former CIA Analyst

2 April 24: 10:00AM - 12:00 PM – Board Meeting
Ravines Clubhouse

16 May 24: 11:30 AM Luncheon - Occasions in Central
Speaker: Mike Ware; Forever Young Veterans

4 June 24: 10:00AM - 12:00 PM – Board Meeting
Ravines Clubhouse

Piedmont Chapter –New Members / Membership

We have new Chapter members. Details as follows:

Jordan M. Doshier, CPT, USA (Fmr). He and his wife Lindsey reside at 403 Arcadia Drive in Anderson, 29621. Contact info is 864-704-0466 and jordandosher@gmail.com. Jordan is currently president of the Anderson Citadel Club. Welcome Aboard, Jordan and Lindsey.

LTC William N. Lark (goes by Neil), USA (Ret). Neil lives in Anderson at 1021 Lobby Lane, 29621. His wife is Diane, and their contact information is 864-934-1042 and neillark@att.net. Welcome Aboard, Neil and Diane.

Two of our members have moved out of our area.

Dan Fant, Major, USAF (Ret), moved to North Georgia.

Terry Dunning, Major, USAF (Ret), living in Easley, has transferred his membership to the new Greenville Chapter.

If you haven't updated your 2024 membership, please do so at the earliest. Three notices were sent out previously to all members. In line with our motto of "Never Stop Serving" let's step forward and demonstrate our allegiance.

Piedmont Chapter –TAPS

Leroy Jackson "Jack" Gregory, Jr. Lt. Col. (USAF, Ret.)

April 25, 1942 - January 6, 2024

On January 6, 2024, Leroy Jackson Gregory, Jr. Lt. Col. (USAF, Ret.), of Anderson, SC, passed peacefully at home. Leroy Jackson Gregory, "just call me Jack," was a beloved father, grandfather, son, and brother. The legacy of love and devotion he left behind was exceptional.

Jack, the eldest of four children, was born on April 25, 1942, to Leroy Jackson Gregory and Mary Buie Gregory in Fort Bragg, North Carolina. Jack graduated from Red Springs High School and continued his education at the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill where he earned a Bachelor's Degree in Journalism. After graduation, Jack entered



officer training school where he was commissioned as an officer in the United States Air Force. After commission, he completed a tour in the Philippines during the Vietnam Conflict, followed by an assignment in Washington, DC at the Pentagon where he served as a Public Information Officer. It was here that he met Rosemary Noonan who would later become his wife of twenty-five years. The two would move to Florida where Jack went on to earn a Master's Degree in Journalism and Communication from the University of Florida. He and Rosemary then settled in Anderson, South Carolina where he became Professor of Aerospace Science at Clemson University from 1977 until 1981 while simultaneously becoming a graduate of the Air Command and Staff College. It was during this time that they welcomed their only son, Mark, before embarking on a new journey to Okinawa, Japan where they resided from 1981 until 1984. Jack would go to an assignment at Kelly Air Force Base in San Antonio where he would graduate from Air War college before he finished his career at Allied Forces Southern Europe in Naples, Italy. He retired from the United States Air Force in 1991.

After retirement, Jack embarked on a new adventure, earning an Associate's Degree in Computer Technology in 2000 from Tri-County Technical College. He went on to create a successful internet retail company, Quality Pet Supplies, at the beginning of the online boom. In an article for Tri-County Technical College, he said this was his most enjoyable career thus far.

While Jack had an admirable career and his professional accomplishments were remarkable, his greatest role was that of Dad and Grandpa. He leaves behind his son and daughter-in-law, Mark, and Rhonda Gregory, as well as three adored granddaughters: Hannah Townes Christensen (Joshua), Ashlyn Gregory, and Kennedy Gregory. In addition, Jack leaves behind his siblings, who he always felt an immense love and responsibility for; two sisters, Barbara Gabriel and Judy Compton, and a brother, Bob Gregory (Carolyn).

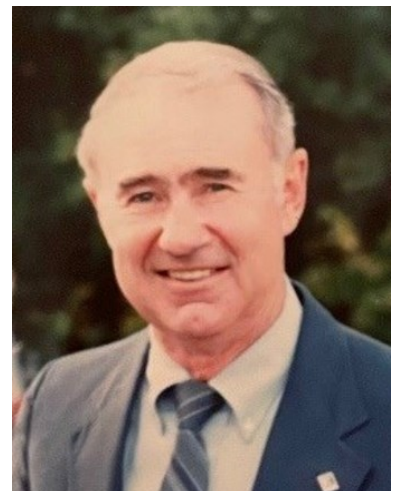
The family extends a special thank you to Nancy Farrar with Providence Home Health for her care and guidance. In addition, immense gratitude is owed to Laurel Deloney for her care and companionship with Dad over the past several months.

Jack's last few years at home were spent reading, listening to music, and spending time with his family. He was known to share stories that weaved his love of history with current events. He had a gift of story-telling that kept everyone engaged. Jack's high school senior quote was "I would live to study and not study to live." This exemplifies how he lived his life. Most of all, his family will miss his stories, his wisdom, and his genuine admiration for them.

Lt. Col. John Samuel "Sam" Anderson, Sr.

January 14, 1935 – February 6, 2024

Lt. Col. John Samuel "Sam" Anderson, 89, born January 14, 1935, died February 6, 2024, in Anderson, SC. He was the son of the late John Robert and Lydia Laurine Smith Anderson. He was predeceased by his loving wife, Carol McCombs Anderson, and his sister, Patricia Anderson Cox. Survivors include his beloved family; daughter, Debra Anne Culwell (Jim) and son, John Samuel Anderson, Jr. (Toni); two grandchildren, John Robert Culwell (Sarah) and Emmylou Alayna Wilkes; his niece, Kathryn Cox; his sister-in-law, Jane McCombs; as well as numerous brothers- and sisters-in law, nieces and nephews. He was previously married to JoAnne Farmer Anderson.



Having lettered in four sports at Belton High School, he enjoyed participating/watching sports activities throughout his life. He was the quarterback and co-captain of his football team. He was a 1957 graduate of The Citadel where he was the tennis team captain, both his junior and senior years. In addition, he was the commander of the elite Summerall Guard drill team.

He proudly served 20 years in the U.S. Air Force as a dual rated master navigator and electronic warfare officer. His combat experience earned him a number of awards and decorations to include the Distinguished Flying Cross, seven Air Medals, four Bronze Stars (with Valor), The Presidential Unit citation and various achievement medals. He spent the last half of his Air Force career in the Tactical Reconnaissance Center (Shaw AFB) and the Tactical Air Warfare Center (Eglin AFB) involved with developing and testing electronic warfare concepts, tactics and acquiring new weapon systems. One of his last significant contributions involved the operational test and evaluation of the first tactical strike drone conducted in the southwestern U.S. and jointly with the German Air Force in Europe. He also was instrumental in publishing the first Tactical Electronic Warfare manual.

As a civilian he was president and general manager of the Belton Bottling Company, Belton, SC, a consultant to Pepsi Cola, leasing manager at Sullivan Buick, a realtor and licensed residential and commercial appraiser.

Upon retirement, he enjoyed working out with his wife and friends at the YMCA, working with Habitat for Humanity (also a Board Member), traveling, and vacationing at the Isle of Palms. He served as an elder at Central Presbyterian Church as well as at the Belton Presbyterian Church where he also served on the Building Committee for the current church.

Sam was an officer and a gentleman and never met a stranger.

Military Times News – Air Force Seeking Retirees to Come Back to Active Duty

Regret retiring? Here's your shot at a second chance in the Air Force.

The service announced Wednesday that it will reopen a recall program to fill as many as 1,000 mid-careers commissioned and enlisted jobs, including pilots, combat systems officers, recruiters, air traffic controllers and more. The move comes as the Air Force looks to plug critical staffing holes, facing renewed tensions in the Middle East and possibility of conflict with China.

The application window for the Voluntary Retired Return to Service Program opens Thursday, the Air Force said in a release. Applications must be submitted by Jan. 31, 2026, to serve on active duty for no more than 48 months. Those selected can expect to return to uniform between four and six months after they apply.



“The VRRAD program is a strategic enabler to embrace experienced talent, tapping into a valuable resource of retired members to fill critical roles to close the gap against our peer competitors,” Lt. Gen. Caroline Miller, the service’s uniformed personnel chief, said in a release.

The program is limited to commissioned officers who held the rank of captain through lieutenant colonel, as well as former enlisted staff sergeants through senior master sergeants. Retirees who served in the medical, legal and chaplain corps – known as “non-line” officers – are ineligible to return.

While anyone who is eligible may apply, regardless of the job they held while in uniform, the Air Force is focusing on bringing back a range of commissioned roles, from pilots and combat systems officers to cyber specialists, contracting officers and more. The service also wants to staff up its enlisted corps in fields like recruiting, air traffic control, security forces, health care and others.

A briefing about the program circulated on social media Tuesday added that airmen who return under the VRRAD program are ineligible for aviation bonuses, and will only deploy unless they volunteer or are assigned to a combat unit. They must also meet performance standards, including physical fitness requirements, and could also be subject to a permanent change of station. They are ineligible to extend their service, or to sign up for the Skillbridge job-transition program.

Retirement benefits will cease the day before a retiree reactivates. Formerly enlisted personnel must not be medically retired or have retired in the face of administrative or adverse actions, including pending court-martials, be under age 60 and able to receive a security clearance meeting the requirements of the position. Commissioned officers must meet similar requirements and must not have retired because of selective early retirement. Pilots seeking re-entry must have been certified on an Air Force aircraft within the last decade, Master Sgt. Deana Heitzman, and Air Force spokesperson, said.

The Air Force last reopened active-duty jobs to former airmen from 2017 through 2021. In 2017, an executive order issued by then-President Donald Trump sought to bring back as many as 1,000 pilots as the service struggled to compete with commercial airlines.

The program was expanded in 2018 during a 2,000-pilot shortfall. In 2019, Air Force Times found that the program had received only 125 applicants, 50 of whom were pilots.

Inviting retired airmen back into the fray is another lever the Air Force has opted to pull to rebalance its workforce as recruitment slows and operational demands continue to rise. The service has also offered a slew of incentives to keep the current force in uniform, from retention bonuses to basing flexibility.

Military.com News – 250,000 VA Patients Are at Risk of Receiving Wrong Medication Due to Electronic Health Records Issue

About 250,000 veterans may be at risk of being prescribed medicine they are allergic to or that would interact poorly with their existing medications because of issues with the Department of Veterans Affairs' new electronic health records system, a government watchdog told lawmakers at a hearing Thursday.

A VA official testifying at the same hearing stressed that the department has not found any instances of patients being harmed by drug interactions specifically caused by the data issues.

But at least one veteran wasn't given critical medication they were prescribed because their records were incorrect, and the VA has not adequately notified patients their prescription records may be wrong, the watchdog said.

"We remain concerned that patients have not been informed of their individual risk, essentially being excluded as full participants in their care," David Case, deputy inspector general for the VA, said at a House Veterans Affairs Committee technology modernization subcommittee hearing Thursday.

The faulty medication records are the latest problem to beset the rollout of the Oracle Cerner Millennium system that has been troubled enough that the VA paused adapting it at any more sites while it works to fix the network.

At issue this time is the way the Oracle system inputs data into a medical records database known as the Health Data Repository that stores information about patients' medications and allergies. When patients are prescribed new medications, a provider will check against the information in the database to ensure there are no allergies or drug interactions.

But because of an error in the way the Oracle system codes data sent to the database, incorrect information appears when the database is checked using the old electronic health records system, known as Vista.

That means, if a veteran visits one of the five medical centers that use the Oracle system, their medication history could be wrong if they later seek care at a facility that still uses the Vista system. About 250,000 veterans were affected by the issue as of September, Case testified, citing data provided by the Veterans Health Administration.

In one instance, a patient with post-traumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injury wasn't given medication they needed to treat adrenal insufficiency because the residential rehabilitation program they were in didn't see a prescription for the medication, according to Case's written testimony. The rehab facility used the Vista system, but the veteran got the prescription at a facility that used the Oracle system.

After five days of worsening symptoms, the patient found the order for the medication on their personal cell phone and had to be transferred to a local emergency room for care, according to the testimony.

The inspector general's office has not "seen evidence that VA has sufficiently notified legacy EHR [electronic health record] providers about this issue and the mitigations to safely care for these new EHR site patients," Case said.

"While legacy site leaders were told to have providers perform manual medication safety checks to replace the automated checks for new EHR patients, these manual safety checks are complex and rely on the vigilance of pharmacists and frontline staff," he added.

Mike Sicilia, executive vice president of Oracle Corp., told lawmakers that his company made 10 separate fixes for data sent to the Health Data Repository between May and November. Still, the most recent software update, which was supposed to happen days ago, was found to have a similar data issue during final testing and was quickly pulled, Sicilia acknowledged.

"In the interest of patient safety, we decided of course not to roll out anything that did not pass all final safety checks," he said.

Sicilia also suggested the issues are not entirely Oracle's fault.

"I'm not sure that we broke anything here," he said. "This is a very complex process, and it's a byproduct of having multiple systems involved, multiple versions of Vista, multiple EHRs and lots of interfaces in between. We are of course responsible and have taken responsibility for fixing all defects in the system as designed, as scoped and on contract at our cost."

Lawmakers in both parties have grown increasingly frustrated with the Oracle system, a \$10 billion program that has been deployed in just five sites in the Pacific Northwest and Ohio, as reports of patient safety issues resulting from system glitches have mounted.

Amid pressure from lawmakers to pump the brakes on the electronic health records modernization program, the VA announced in April it was holding off on implementing the new system at any more sites while officials work on fixes.

But lawmakers' anger at the new system is only growing.

"The definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over again while expecting a different result," Rep. Matt Rosendale, R-Mont., the subcommittee chairman, said at the hearing. "I have come to believe that continuing this effort -- to transform the Oracle Cerner pharmacy software into something completely different -- is insanity."

MOAA News – MOAA Advocacy for Action

Combat-Injured Veterans Need Our Help NOW – Here's How to Join the Fight

Bipartisan legislation designed to end an unfair pay offset for tens of thousands of combat-injured veterans has earned overwhelming support in the last two sessions of Congress. But for the 118th Congress to include the Major Richard Star Act (H.R. 1282/S. 344) in the next National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) – a move which would send a clear message of support to the all-volunteer force – advocates must overcome cost concerns.

[TAKE ACTION: Ask Your Lawmakers to include the Major Richard Star Act in the FY 2025 NDAA]

It sounds strange to imagine a lawmaker telling a combat-injured servicemember they are worried about “the cost” of ending an unjust pay offset. It's a tone-deaf approach, especially from the same lawmakers using wasteful continuing resolutions and other fiscally irresponsible practices to avoid real budget solutions. If we are telling combat-injured servicemembers that our nation cannot afford to pay them for their service, we might as well shut down recruiting centers.

Star Act Talking Points: The Basics

Considering a message, or a meeting, with your lawmaker and/or key members of their staff? Here are the basics on this critical piece of legislation:

- The Major Richard Star Act will allow combat-injured veterans to receive their earned retirement pay and their disability compensation without offset.
- DoD is responsible for retired pay, and VA is responsible for disability compensation.

- These are *two different payments for two different purposes*.
- Reducing DoD retirement pay due to a combat injury is an injustice.
- Congress acknowledged this as an injustice in the 2004 NDAA and partially fixed it (but not for combat-injured veterans who did not reach 20 years of service).

Cost Concerns

Lawmakers who raise budgetary objections to the bill fail to consider the extraordinary sacrifice our combat-injured veterans have made. Reducing retirement pay for those injured in combat and forced to medically retire communicates an awful message to those who volunteer to serve or are considering service.

MOAA News – Scams Cost Veterans, Military Retirees \$350 Million in 2023

Veterans reported \$350 million in total fraud losses to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) in 2023, up nearly \$60 million from the previous year's \$292 million, according to the FTC's annual data book. More than 74,000 veterans, including military retirees, reported an instance of fraud in the last calendar year, with 31% of those reports involving a financial loss, per the data book, which also provided a recap of other parts of the wider military community:

- **Active-duty service members:** 7,361 fraud reports, with 42% reporting a loss. Total fraud: \$52 million.
- **National Guard and Reserve members:** 5,054 fraud reports, with 40% reporting a loss. Total fraud: \$39 million.
- **Spouses/dependents of active-duty service members:** 7,093 fraud reports, with 40% reporting a loss. Total fraud: \$36 million.

All those groups saw a higher percentage of reports involving financial loss than the general population, which saw a loss in 27% of its 2.5 million fraud reports, totaling more than \$10 billion – up from \$8.8 billion in 2022.

[MOAA MEMBER BENEFIT: Save on Financial Security With Identity Guard]

The FTC classifies the above groups as “military consumers” in their data, which shows a year-over-year uptick in all manner of scams and frauds targeting this population. Some examples:

- **Imposter Scams:** 42,766 reports in 2023, up from 39,909 in 2022.
- **Credit Card-Related Identity Theft:** 14,742 reports in 2023, up from 14,501 in 2022.
- **Business/Personal Loan Fraud:** 4,173 reports in 2023, up nearly 50% from 2,801 in 2022.

Good news for military consumers was hard to find in the new data set, with most categories seeing year-over-year increases. The few exceptions included a 33% dip in identity theft claims relating to medical services and an 18% reduction in tax fraud claims. The biggest improvement stemmed from technology changes rather than prevention measures – fraud related to landline telephone accounts fell by more than half in 2023. Military retirees and other veterans continue to see disproportionate fraud targeting for a variety of reasons. Some are service-connected – scams involving federal benefits have become more popular, for example – while others are demographic: Scam victims in their 20s reported losing money more often, per the FTC, but when those over 70 were scammed, they lost the most money per incident.

Protect Yourself

MOAA offers a range of resources to help you protect your personal data (and your bank account) from scammers of all types.

Piedmont Chapter – Happening in Our Own Backyard



WE CORDIALLY INVITE YOU TO OUR

3rd Annual

Veteran's Last Patrol Dinner

CANNON CENTER – CITY HALL – GREER, SC
APRIL 9, 2024 6PM–8PM

Please Join Us For Our Dinner & Silent Auction Honoring America's Veterans



Our mission is providing Friendship, Honor, and Support for veterans on their Last Patrol. You can help us support these special veterans and celebrate their service by attending our 3rd Annual Veteran's Last Patrol Dinner. Sponsorships are available and the dinner will include a Silent Auction.



**Special Guest Speaker
JOHN FENZEL**

Green Beret Army Colonel (ret):
Gulf War veteran, author,
educator, and CEO of the
World War II Foundation

Purchase Tickets
[veteranlastpatrol.org/
veterans-last-patrol-
annual-dinner](https://veteranlastpatrol.org/veterans-last-patrol-annual-dinner)

This Veteran's Last Patrol Event is Co-Hosted by Miss Liberty Belle

veteranlastpatrol.org 864-580-8005

Piedmont Chapter 2024 Board of Directors

OFFICERS

President	COL Melvin E. Case, USA	904-304-8871
VP/Programs	COL Wayne Beam, USA	843-814-7145
Secretary	TBD	
Treasurer	MAJ Daniel Tollison, USMC	864-958-0975
Past President	LtCol Wayne Watson, USAF	864-296-1815

DIRECTORS

Legislation	COL Dale Ellenburg, USA	864-225-1073
ROTC Awards/Publicity	CDR Janelle Merritt, USN	864-617-1153
Membership	LtCol Howard Stammerjohn, USAF	864-964-1631
Newsletter	CDR Alan Erisman, USN	678-778-0183
Webmaster/Publicity	Angie Pellegrini, Honorary Member	864-318-4661
Facebook	LtCol Jack Gregory, USAF	864-367-6123
Chaplain/Personal Affairs	Rev (Col) Gordon Johnson, USAF	864-633-4995
Hospitality	Sharon Jacobs, Surviving Spouse	864-245-5501
	Penny Schriver, Surviving Spouse	864-224-4374



HELP MILITARY FAMILIES TODAY

ACT NOW: Now is the time to urge your senator to help military families by securing financial relief for the U.S. child-care industry.

You may have noticed some changes to the Take Action Website, it is now even easier to reach out to your lawmakers on these issues, as well as track what MOAA is engaging in the halls of Congress. To learn more about the new changes, [click here!](#)

Take Action Now



HELP THOSE IN NEED

Donate to help address emerging needs among currently serving and former uniformed service members, retirees, and their families.

Every donation, no matter the size, makes a positive difference in the lives of uniformed servicemembers and their families across the country.

Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Donate Now!

HELP SUPPORT OUR SPONSOR!



Association Member Benefits Advisors: AMBA works with small and large associations nationwide. We have the expertise to meet any association's needs, regardless of cultural, geographic, and economic conditions.

Contact Person: Michele Armesto, CLU, RHU
Telephone: 202-251-9488
Contact Email: michele.armesto@amba.info
[Sponsor Website](#)

JOIN MOAA!

BECOME A MEMBER OF OUR CHAPTER

Join MOAA: If you want to join MOAA national go to [MOAA National](#).

To join our chapter, choose **JOIN**, choose the state of **South Carolina**, and choose the **Piedmont Chapter**.

To learn more about the National MOAA membership benefits, click [HERE](#)

[Become a Member Now!](#)

Disclaimer: The Piedmont Chapter of MOAA is affiliated with the South Carolina Council MOAA and the national MOAA organization and all are nonpartisan.

"There are no secrets to success. It is the result of preparation, hard work, and learning from failure."

- Army Gen. Colin Powell

"When you're good at something, you'll tell everyone. When you're great at something, they'll tell you."

- Walter Payton

POLITICAL ACTIVITIES

A reminder as the 2024 election season heats up - from National MOAA: "As an organization exempt from federal taxation under Sec 501(c)(19) of the Internal Revenue Code, MOAA and its affiliates must take care to avoid engaging in partisan political activities. Under the IRS rules, we are prohibited from directly or indirectly participating in, or intervening in, any political campaign on behalf of, or in opposition to, any candidate for public office."

PIEDMONT CHAPTER LINKS:



MOAA SOCIAL LINKS:

