



**Green Country Chapter
Military Officers Association of America**



**OFFICERS CALL
www.gcmoaa.com**

Vol XXXI No.11

November 2024

Tulsa, Oklahoma

November Chapter Meeting

When: 12 Nov 2024 6pm Social Hour
Where: Ti Amo 6024 S. Sheridan Road Ste A
Dinner: \$30.00
RSVP to Alta Segovia (altafsegovia51@gmail.com) by 8 Nov 2024

Topic: VA Clinic Patient Advocate

Speaker: Rodney Russo Patient Representative, Chief

ABOUT US

The Purpose of the Chapter shall be:

- To promote the purposes and objectives of the Military Officers Association of America.
- To foster fraternal relations among retired, active, reserve, guard, and former officers of the uniformed services.
- To provide useful services for members, their dependents, and survivors.
- To serve the community and the nation.

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Surviving Spouse

A day at the Linneaus Teaching Gardens



Rick & Vicki Foster dedicated this bench to their daughter Amy.

Thank you for attending Marilyn Totten, Kay Hoskison, Donita Balfour, Stan and Chan Smith, Mary Rapp, Alta Segovia and most of all to Vicki Foster for arranging this outing.

Treasurer Report

Green Country MOAA has two options to make it easier to pay your dues. You can now pay both national and chapter dues on line if you have any questions or concerns, please contact

Jim VanDeventer at Jim_vandeventer@protonmail.com

END Of Year Donations to GCMOAA are Tax Deductible

MOAA Fund \$2,592.75

MOAA Excellence Fund \$4,453.28

Important Military Dates in November

- **November 10**

The birthday of the United States Marine Corps, which was founded in 1775. The Marine Corps and the Armed Forces often observe both this day and Veterans Day as a 96-hour liberty period.

- **November 11**

Veterans Day, a federal holiday that honors veterans for their service, patriotism, and sacrifice. This day was originally known as Armistice Day, commemorating the end of World War I when the fighting stopped on November 11, 1918. In 1954, the holiday was renamed Veterans Day to honor all Americans who have served in the nation's war

Green Country MOAA Calendar

GCMOAA November General Meeting

Tuesday 12 Nov 2024

Business Meeting/Election of Board

Ti Amo Restaurant 6024 S Sheridan Rd Ste A

RSVP by Friday 8 Nov 2024

altafsegovia51@gmail.com or 918-282-0145

GCMOAA December Christmas Gala/ New Board Installation/ Awards

Tuesday 10 Dec 2024

Restaurant Tulsa Country Club 701 N. Union Ave

RSVP by Friday 6 DEC 2024

altafsegovia51@gmail.com or 918-282-0145

Happy 249th Birthday USMC

The United States Marine Corps' birthday is November 10, 1775. The Second Continental Congress established the Marine Corps on this day to support the U.S. naval forces during the Revolutionary War.



Veterans Day Parade 11 Nov 2024



VFW 1109 E 6th street

Enjoy a HOT Breakfast 7am-9 am,
then the shuttle will take you to our float location.

We will decorate that morning.

You can stand or sit on the float.

Let Bruce Balfour know if you will be joining us balfourbruce@yahoo.com

Legislative

AJ Eagleton, Legislative Liaison

MOAA Pushes for Action to Stop Food Insecurity

1 in 4 Active Duty service members and spouses have faced food insecurity

3 TOP critical measures included in the FY 2025 National Defense Authorization Act

*** Pay Raise for junior enlisted service members**

*** Restoration of the Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH)**

*** Increasing the Basic Needs Allowance (BNA) threshold**

Go to www.moa.org/ndaa-hunger to see what MOAA and other advocacy organizations told members of Congress.



PANTRY FOR PATRIOTS

Food Pantry Items Needed In Lieu of Toys we need full size Candy Canes

Cans or pouches of protein – (chicken, tuna, Vienna Sausage, Spam, salmon, chili & Ravioli).
Cans or cups of fruit
Plain pasta - (any type)
Pasta sauce
Mac & Cheese - (Boxed or microwaveable cups)
Peanut Butter
Jelly
Cereal
Shelf stable milk
Canned vegetables
Canned tomatoes
Canned beans
Boxed dinners - (Hamburger, chicken or tuna Helper)
Dry beans - Rice
Canned soup
Instant potatoes
Ramen noodles - (cups or packages)
Apple sauce Frozen meals or pizzas, Fresh fruits or vegetables

Bring your donations to the November meeting and Debra Drain will take to the Coffee Bunker

GCMOAA Board Slate for 2025-2027



President

COL (R) Mark L. Segovia USAAR



1st VP/ Programs

Mrs Alta Segovia



2nd VP/ Membership

Maj Nick Reynolds OKANG



Secretary

Col (R) Stan Daugherty USAF



Treasurer

COL (R) Jim Vandeventer USA



Chapter Chaplain

Mrs. Pat Richardson



Dir. Awards and Ceremonies

COL (R) Howard Galbreath USA



Legislative Liaison

CAPT (R) Ed Wright USN



Surviving Spouse

Voting Rules Per GCMOAA Bylaws

ARTICLE V – VOTING

Section 1. Except as otherwise provided in these bylaws, all questions coming before the membership shall be decided by a majority vote.

Section 2. Only regular and surviving spouse members in good standing or, as determined by the Board of Directors, present at a meeting of the Chapter shall be entitled to vote. Spouses of Chapter members serving in Chapter officer positions should be afforded the right to vote.

Section 3. Proxy voting shall not be permitted at any meeting of the Chapter.

SURVEY – Due Friday Nov 1

The past 2 years have been a time of growth and change for our Chapter. We've added 14 new members, participated in several community activities including our first ever GCMOAA Float in the Tulsa Veterans Day Parade. Designed our new challenge coin, doubled our JROTC scholarship award amount and our Surviving Spouses have met quarterly at different venues. Our Chapter has always maintained a strong standing in National MOAA Annual Awards. 2023 was the first year we were awarded the 5 STAR award, the highest level available!

Programs/Speakers

A. What topics and or what type of speakers do you want to hear? Circle all that apply and add your preference below.

1. Political/Legislation. 2. Community Leaders 3. Military Support Groups 4. Other
-

B. **How important is the Dinner portion of our meeting?** We are finding it harder to find a dinner meeting venue that is priced to meet all budgets and that doesn't charge a room fee, a A/V fee or have a minimum. We lost an average of \$150 a month due to RSVP's that didn't show and OR we didn't meet the minimum so we paid from our Chapter funds approx \$1200 over 24 months.

1. **Venue Ambience is how important.** A. Very important. B. Somewhat important. C. Not Important. Circle / Underline all that apply

Current Options:

1. **Ti'Amo** - minimal ambience with \$1,000 minimum, \$50 A/V fee and a pasta-based menu - \$30 per meal - Cash Bar - All who attend pays for a meal. **Those who RSVP and don't show will be sent an invoice.**

2. **Tulsa Country Club:** Great Ambience, No Minimum, no room fee, AV & Bar setup in room **\$150, Meal \$30 BUT** since no minimum you can choose not to eat and still use the Cash Bar and pay a \$5.00 mtg fee to help cover AV/Bar set up fee.

3. **Combo of 6 dinner mtgs 6 w/o dinner** - 6 Dinner meetings \$30 at a dinner venue (everyone eats/pays and 6 monthly mtgs at the library auditorium with heavy hors d'oeuvres possibly \$20 for food no alcohol— still have a social hour with soft drinks/water and hors d'oeuvres.

I choose option _____ (1,2 or 3) **Survey Due by Friday NOV 1.**

Guest Speaker

COL (R) Rodney Russo USA Patient Representative, Chief Eastern Oklahoma VA



Colonel Rodney A. Russo (Ret) is a native of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and has multiple careers. He began his 34-year military career with an enlistment at Army Basic Training at Ft. Dix/McChord, NJ, in 1982. He then earned his commission in the Army Reserve from the University of Arkansas Army ROTC Program in 1987 as an Infantry Officer. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice from the University of Arkansas.

COL Russo (Ret) 's military education includes Combat Medical Specialist, Infantry Basic Officer's Leadership Course, Civil Affairs Advance Course, Command and General Staff College, Military Transition Training Course, and Combat Skills Course.

COL Russo (Ret) 's assignments included Company, Battalion, and Brigade Commands, Battalion and Brigade Operations Staff Officers, Battalion Personnel Staff Officers, and Battalion Logistics Staff Officers. COL Russo (Ret) had two Combat Command Deployments in Afghanistan and Iraq and two Combat Staff deployments in Iraq and Bosnia. In addition, he had six training deployments to Panama and South Korea.

His awards include the Legion of Merit, two Bronze Star Medals, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal (four awards), the Joint Service Commendation Medal, the Army Commendation Medal (six awards), the Army Achievement Medal (five awards), Campaign Medals, the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary, Service Medals, and the Combat Action Badge.

COL Russo's (Ret) career path also took him to the Tulsa Police Department in 1989. His 33-year career provided him with assignments in Patrol, Armed Robbery Task Force, Gang Unit, Street Crimes Unit, US Marshals Fugitive Taskforce, Detective with Special Victim's Unit, and Special Operations Team as a Sniper and Entry Team.

His awards and citations include the Purple Heart, the Lifesaving Medal, numerous Commendation Medals and Citations, and the Detective of the Year award.

COL Russo (Ret) retired from the Police Department in 2023 after 33 years of service and began a third career as Patient Representative Chief at Eastern Oklahoma Veterans Administration. His new challenge is overseeing all the Patient Advocates responsible for the 10 different VA facilities in Eastern Oklahoma.

COL Russo (Ret) is married to Tracy Ann Russo of Dallas, Texas. They have a blended family of five children and a small ranch outside of Sand Springs, Oklahoma

Officers Call: Published monthly by the Green Country Chapter MOAA PO Box 703196 Tulsa, OK 74170-3196
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Editorial Policy. The Green Country Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) and national MOAA provide their advocacy in a nonpartisan manner. Any conveyance of partisanship is unintended.