

The Military Officers Club of Northeastern Wisconsin, Inc.

An affiliate of the Military Officers Association of America
Founded on 20 May 1958 as The Retired Officers Club of Northeastern Wisconsin, Inc.



Quarterly Newsletter



Issue No. 98

www.mocnew.com

October 2026

President's Corner

Since my last report, our club has advanced several important initiatives. Club leaders met with LTG Brian Kelly, President of MOAA, to discuss MOAA programs and plans and to clarify how our chapter can contribute.



Our Veterans Benefit Golf Outing was a success despite threatening weather that caused a lengthy postponement. The storm later produced a tornado that caused extensive damage in the Menasha area, directly affecting some golf team members and fellow veterans in the tornado's path. LTG Kelly shared information about the MOAA Crisis Relief Fund, enabling 1st VP Colonel Gene Wall and me to complete MOAA grant applications that benefited several veterans whose properties were damaged. Please also see the article in October's MOAA magazine featuring our Veterans Benefit Golf Outing.

If you have not yet paid your membership fees, please do so as soon as possible. Glenn Brunner will follow up with members whose payments are overdue. Your participation is valued and appreciated, and we would hate to see you go.

Our Annual Christmas Dinner will be held on December 10; please mark your calendars. John Brueninger is putting the finishing touches in place to make this a time of joy, gratitude, and sharing. The event is especially meaningful because we will also present our VBGO donations to groups that directly support veterans' programs in Northeast Wisconsin.

Thank you for your continued commitment to our club, our communities, and the selfless service that makes this work possible.

Jim Strong, MAJ, Army (ret)
Club President



Golfers register for the raffles at the VBGO.



Lunch with Lt Gen Kelly, CEO and President of MOAA, at the VBGO.

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2026 Board of Directors

President

MAJ James Strong
920-882-1392
jstrong1431@gmail.com

1st Vice President

Col Gene Wall
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2nd Vice President

Vacant

Treasurer

LTC John Cumicek
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Secretary/Newsletter

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Membership Chair

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CAPT John Breuninger
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Legislative Chair

LTC Joe Williams
920-819-6974
joe_joe_w@yahoo.com

Past President

LTC Jim Lienau
920-498-8984
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VBGO Committee Chair

MG Dan Ammerman
920-336-9709
daniel1983ph@aol.com

ROTC/JROTC Liaison

1LT Tom Martin
920-336-5143
TRM@new.rr.com

At-Large Member

Vacant

Membership Update

Our end of the 3rd quarter membership is at 120 members: 112 MOAA members, 4 Honorary, and 4 non-MOAA. We lost six members since last year and gained five. Our most recent new member is MAJ Tony Bivona (USA, Ret). Welcome aboard, Tony! I know everyone will give Tony a warm welcome. Our other new members this year are: RADM Eric Peterson (USNR, Ret), CW05 Randy Hansen (USA, Ret), LtCol Bruce Altenhof (USAF, Ret) and MAJ Roger Oliver (USA, Ret). Hopefully they will all be able to make the next social, our Christmas dinner at Oneida Golf and Country Club, and you will have an opportunity to greet them.

I continue to send out email invites when I receive names from MOAA, but you remain our biggest source of recruitment. Please continue to encourage other former officers you may know or happen to meet to join us. Our membership numbers have remained stable for several years but we have too many members that we may have to say goodbye to at the new year that are no longer active. If you have any suggestions for recruitment, I'd love to hear your suggestions.

It may interest some of you that MOAA supports what are called virtual chapters. MOAA has eight virtual chapters that I am aware of: the Uniformed Services Nurse Advocates, Surviving Spouse, Public Health Service, Chaplains Virtual Chapter, Judge Advocate, Advocacy for Servicewomen and Military Families, MOAA Public Affairs and Communication Professional, and the Health Care Professionals Virtual Chapters. Virtual chapters tap into other networks and provide a source of potential recruitment along with the personal gratification of members networking with people of their specific training, education, or military specialty. You can find more information on the MOAA website.

Did you know we have a Facebook page? It's m.facebook.com/mocofnew. This is another tool we can use to point others to our club. Don't forget our website: www.mocnew.com. If we don't use these sites or render assistance in maintaining them with interesting, up-to-date information, they will fall out of use. Thanks.

I always put into my email and letter invitations the following statement: We are the 'hands-on' or 'in the local community' arm of MOAA.

Thanks for everything you do as members to keep the club strong, which helps MOAA as well, and also for all the services or support that some of you provide for veterans in many other different ways, whether a member of MOAA or not.

One of our other key purposes is to create harmony and a spirit of camaraderie among fellow officers and spouses. I look forward to our time together at our quarterly dinner socials and hope you do, too. Please encourage fellow members to participate when possible.

Glenn Brunner
CAPT USN (Ret)
Membership Chair



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Legislative Update

In the August Military Officer magazine, MOAA President Lt Gen Kelly, USAF (Ret.) asks the membership to write to our lawmakers over the Congressional summer recess, to call their offices, and to visit them in their local offices. The purpose is to call their attention to the critical importance of supporting three issues which can improve the lives of their constituents and help their reelection.



The Richard Star Act is progressing through Congress but must be passed in this session, or it starts the process all over. The act is for the 59,000 combat-disabled who lose a dollar of earned retirement pay for every dollar of VA disability compensation.

Expanding employment opportunities for veterans and military spouses depends on the bipartisan Improve and Enhance the Work Opportunity Tax Credit Act. It not only restores financial incentives to businesses from an expired program but also adds military spouses.

Restoring pharmacy coverage parity for TRICARE For Life beneficiaries is to reverse the omission of coverage of certain drugs such as GLP-1 drugs. This weakened a service-earned benefit.

The MOAA advocacy team works hard, and we can contact them for guidance on how to contact lawmakers by visiting www.moaa.org/takeaction.

LTC Joe Williams
Legislative Chair

To remain up to date on MOAA's legislative advocacy, visit the MOAA Legislative Action Center at www.moaa.org/takeaction.

Finance Update

This financial report is current as of 9/30/26.

	Club	VBGO	Total
Checking Account Balance	\$6,079.72	\$37,447.22	\$43,526.94
Certificate of Deposit: 7/23/2026	\$11,077.92		\$11,077.92
Total: 9/30/2026	\$17,157.64		\$54,604.86
Greater Green Bay Community Foundation		\$36,708.44	
TOTAL	\$17,157.64	\$74,155.66	\$54,604.86



John Cumicek
LTC, US Army (ret)
Treasurer



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From the Desk of the MOC NEW 1st Vice President

As we transition into the crisp autumn season, I want to take a moment to reflect on what makes the Military Officers Club of Northeast Wisconsin such a vital and enduring organization. While the mission, uniforms, and stations of our active-duty years may now be behind us, the shared values, mutual respect, and unspoken trust that bonded us during our service remain as vital as ever. Uniting that sense of camaraderie—the shared connection we felt while wearing the uniform—is an enduring piece of our officer heritage that we must cherish and never forget.



Our club serves as the ultimate bridge between that shared military past and our vibrant local community. We saw that spirit on full display recently during our annual Veterans Benefit Golf Outing, where members and supporters hit the fairways for a fantastic day of fellowship in support of those who have served. Right on the heels of that success, we gathered for our quarterly dinner meeting at the Swan Club. The turnout was outstanding, filled with lively conversation, shared memories, and the genuine warmth that only comes from being surrounded by fellow brothers and sisters in arms. Events like these remind us that our service was never just a job; it was a calling that forged lifelong connections.

Looking ahead, we have a wonderful opportunity to celebrate that bond once again as a community. Mark your calendars for our next major gathering: our annual Christmas Party in December. The holiday season is a special time for reflection, gratitude, and celebration, and your Board is already preparing an evening that honors our traditions while providing a relaxed, festive atmosphere for you, your spouse, and your guests.

MOCNEW Board of Directors Responsibilities

President

- Chief Executive Officer
- Presides at all Chapter and Board Meetings
- Makes Committee Appointments (ex officio member)
- Performs other incidental duties

First Vice President

- Fills President vacancy (unexpired term)
- Board Governance and oversight support
- Secondary leadership

Second Vice President

- Board Governance and oversight support
- Supports committees and special projects
- Tertiary leadership

Secretary

- Official Records of proceedings
- Issues timely written Meeting Notices (15 days)
- Maintains correspondence files

Treasurer

- Financial Management & Records
- Collects annual Dues
- Makes authorized Disbursements
- Prepares financial reports

Directors & Chairs

- Programs Chair
- Legislative Affairs Chair
- Membership Chair
- Immediate Past President

Summary based on Club By-Laws
Military Officers Club of Northeastern Wisconsin, Inc.
 An affiliate of the Military Officers Association of America
 Army Navy Marine Corps Air Force Coast Guard Space Force USPHS NOAA

Date: March 12, 2026

As we prepare for the winter months and look toward the end of another great year, I encourage each of you to continue actively engaging with our club. Invite a newly retired or active-duty colleague to an upcoming gathering, reach out to a fellow member you haven't seen in a while, and help us keep the legacy of military leadership and fellowship thriving right here in Northeast Wisconsin. As leaders forever, you might feel compelled to continue to serve our community by filling one of our open board of directors positions. If now is not the right time to raise your hand, consider volunteering in the future. To help you decide, I've prepared the graphic below, which describes each position according to our bylaws. Please let me know if you think you could help our club remain strong and prosperous for our military community.

Thank you for your leadership, your service, and your continued dedication to our club. I look forward to raising a glass with all of you at the Christmas Party this December!

IT'S DUES RENEWAL TIME!

Just a friendly reminder that membership dues in the amount of \$25 for the upcoming 2027 year can be directed to John Cumicek. If you are unsure of your payment status, feel free to reach out.

The MOCNEW By-Laws indicate that a Life Membership is for those persons who are 80 years old and in good standing with the chapter for ten years. If you are in this category, the Treasurer does not have the date of birth for each member so please include that information with your dues payment.

Payments can be made by forwarding to:

Treasurer John Cumicek, 933 Fulton St, Seymour, WI 54165-1611

or by PayPal on the website: <https://www.mocnew.com/donations.html>

A NOTE FROM THE SECRETARY...

Happy Fall, everyone. A few things I wanted to highlight to our membership:

- Communication
 - USPS: Quarterly dinner invitations will always be sent via USPS "snail mail" to the address we have on file for you. If you are not getting an invitation, please let me know so we can get that corrected immediately.
 - Email: In addition to USPS, we distribute additional information to the club through our club account. The account is monitored by myself and a few other board members - it is a great way to get a hold of us. We typically send dinner invitations from this email account as well. If you have not received emails from our club account, please let me know. Our club email is: MilitaryOfficersClubNEW@gmail.com
- Newsletter
 - The late John Friedel had the initial vision for our Club Newsletter and I have done my best to carry the torch. Recently, the software program we used (Microsoft Publisher) was discontinued. Gene Wall (our 1st Vice President) has been instrumental in getting me back up and running using Canva. Thanks to Gene for all of your help and great edits along the way.
 - If you take pictures during our events, please feel free to share them with myself or any board member for inclusion in the Newsletter.



The The Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) and the Military Officers Club of Northeast Wisconsin (MOC NEW) are non-partisan organization. We do not endorse political candidates or parties, and our advocacy is focused solely on supporting military personnel, veterans, and their families.

September Dinner

On Thursday, September 10th we met at The Swan Club for dinner, comradery, and enjoyed a presentation by the Sons of the Revolution, Command Sergeant Major (ret) Robert Haglund.



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Fred White Memorial Veterans Benefit Golf Outing (VBGO)

MOAA Chapter's Veterans Benefit Golf Outing Tops \$80,000, and Sets New Milestone for Northeast Wisconsin Veterans

The Military Officers Club of Northeastern Wisconsin welcomes Lt. Gen. Brian Kelly as annual event pushes lifetime grants past \$1 million.

The Military Officers Club of Northeastern Wisconsin, a chapter of the Military Officers Association of America, continued its record of service to the region's veteran community with another successful Veterans Benefit Golf Outing in 2026. This year's event raised more than \$80,000, helping the chapter surpass a remarkable milestone: more than \$1 million raised and provided as grants to veterans service organizations throughout Northeast Wisconsin.

The annual outing has become one of the chapter's signature "never stop serving" efforts, bringing together golfers, sponsors, volunteers, and community partners in support of organizations that provide direct assistance to veterans and military families across the region. Grant funding generated by the outing has supported roughly a dozen local veterans service organizations, extending the impact of one day on the golf course into year-round help for those who served.

A Visit From Lt. Gen. Brian Kelly

A highlight of the 2026 outing was a visit by Lt. Gen. Brian Kelly, whose presence underscored the importance of MOAA's chapter network and the vital role local affiliates play in strengthening military and veteran communities. His visit gave participants an opportunity to connect the day's local effort with MOAA's broader mission of advocacy, service, and support for servicemembers, veterans, retirees, and their families.



Lt Gen Brian T. Kelly, USAF (Ret)
MOAA President and CEO

Community Support Across the Fairways

Golfing foursomes represented a broad cross-section of Northeast Wisconsin support. Area businesses, VFW posts, American Legion posts, the Wisconsin Disabled American Veterans, and many other friends of the veteran community filled the course with a shared purpose: to enjoy a day of fellowship while raising meaningful resources for organizations serving veterans close to home.

The outing also featured a static vehicle display provided by a local Army Reserve unit, adding a visible military presence to the day and giving participants another way to engage with those who continue to serve. Hole-in-one prizes added excitement to the competition, with golfers taking their best shots at prizes that included a car, as well as a snowblower and lawnmower. No one claimed those prizes this year, but the contests added to the event's energy and good-natured competition.

Continued on next page....

Fred White Memorial Veterans Benefit Golf Outing (VBGO) - Cont'd

Silent Auction Adds to the Success

A successful silent auction further boosted the fundraising total. Auction items included golf foursome certificates donated by many Wisconsin golf courses, golf clubs, sports memorabilia, artwork, and other items contributed by generous supporters. The auction reflected the same community spirit seen throughout the outing, with donors and bidders helping translate local generosity into direct support for veterans service organizations.

Weather Delay Could Not Stop the Mission

This year's outing succeeded despite a slight weather delay caused by severe storms in the area. Fortunately, the worst of the weather missed the golf course, allowing the event to continue safely. Nearby areas were not as fortunate, a reminder that the chapter's day of service took place amid challenging conditions for parts of the region.

Volunteers Make the Difference

The chapter emphasized that an event of this size and impact would not be possible without the many volunteers who planned, organized, staffed, and supported the outing. Members of the Northeastern Wisconsin MOAA chapter, along with their families and friends, contributed countless hours before and during the event. From registration and course support to auction coordination and sponsor outreach, their work helped ensure the outing ran smoothly and delivered results for veterans across Northeast Wisconsin.

The Bottom Line

With more than \$80,000 raised in 2026 and more than \$1 million distributed over the life of the program, the Military Officers Club of Northeastern Wisconsin has demonstrated the power of local leadership, community generosity, and sustained commitment. For the veterans service organizations receiving grants, the outing represents more than a successful fundraiser; it is a dependable source of support from fellow veterans, military families, and neighbors who continue to serve long after leaving uniformed service.

Please reach out to the VBGO Committee Chair, Dan Ammerman at daniel1983ph@aol.com if you have questions

Dan Ammerman, Maj Gen, Army (ret)
Veterans Benefit Golf Chair

\$80,000 raised in 2026

Over \$1 million over the life of the program.

Funds raised support over a dozen local veteran organizations.

The event raises awareness of the MOAA, our local chapter, and the local veterans organizations through our partnerships with local sponsors and business who bring teams to make this event a success!



Reference Cards For Topics Of Interest In This Edition



Virtual Chapters

Same mission. New meeting place.

MOAA Virtual Chapters bring together military officers, their families and survivors — no matter where you live.



**Build
Connections**



**Share
and Learn**



**Attend Events
and Programs**



**Stay Engaged
with MOAA**

Different locations. Same community.



THE RICHARD STAR ACT

SUPPORTING OUR MILITARY FAMILIES

More Support. More Stability. A Stronger Tomorrow.

The Richard Star Act (S. 178 / H.R. 389) would provide long-overdue support for military families by establishing a basic needs allowance for certain service members and their families.



Helps with Basic Living Costs

Provides a Basic Needs Allowance (BNA) to assist with housing, food, and essential expenses.



Supports Military Families

Gives service members and their families greater financial stability and peace of mind.



Strengthens Readiness

When families are supported, our service members can focus on the mission.



***The Richard Star Act—
because military families deserve more.***

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THE MILITARY OFFICERS CLUB OF NORTHEASTERN WISCONSIN, INC.

An Affiliate of the
Military Officers Association of America
Website: mocnew.com

Army
Navy
Marine Corps
Air Force
Space Force
Coast Guard
USPHS
NOAA

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM (Rev Date: 04/26)

Please circle: Mr. / Mrs. / Ms. / Miss.

Date: _____

Name: First

M.I.

Last

Address:

/ Street

City, State, Zip

Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Date of Birth: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Spouse's Name: _____

Birthday (optional) _____

Rank: _____

Component

Branch of Service

USAR _____

USA _____

USNR _____

USN _____

USMCR _____

USMC _____

USAFR _____

USAF _____

ANG _____

USCG _____

ARNG _____

NOAA _____

USPHS _____

Military History (Complete the applicable category: 1, 2, or 3.)

1. On Active Duty now? (Y/N) _____ Entry Date _____

2. Former Officer? (Y/N) _____ Entry Date _____

Service End Date _____

3. Retired Career Officer (Y/N) _____ Entry Date _____

Your Active-Duty Retirement Date _____

Note: Please notify the Club Membership Chairman or Club Secretary of any changes to the information on this form.

1. Are you a member of MOAA? (National organization)

Yes / No

a. If **Yes**, what is your MOAA number? _____

____ / ____

b. If **No**, may we join you up for a free Basic MOAA Membership?

____ / ____

2. Would you be willing to serve as a chapter officer or as a member of the Board of Directors?

____ / ____

Note: Chapter dues are \$25.00 per calendar year, payable by January 1st each year.

Check payable to: "The Military Officers Club".

____ check encl.

PayPal option: Go to our website: mocnew.com, Donations, Pay Now button.

____ I paid by Pay Pal.

QUESTIONS / REMARKS:

Mail completed form to:

The Military Officers Club of Northeastern Wisconsin, Inc.
N2420 Lakeshore Road
Kewaunee, WI 54216