



# OFFICERS CALL



## MOAA Excellent Chapter Award

2001 / 2004 / 2005 / 2006 / 2007 / 2008 / 2009 / 2010 / 2011 / 2012 / 2013  
2014 / 2015 / 2016 / 2017 / 2018 / 2019 / 2020 / 2021 / 2022 / 2024

MOAA Newsletter Award: 2001/2003/2009/2013

MOAA Recruiting Award: 2001/2002

Volume 24 Issue 6

OCT-NOV 2024

**NORTH DFW MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION**

**P.O. Box 294685, Lewisville, TX 75029-4685**

*MOAA and the North DFW Chapter are nonpartisan organizations*



**Meeting Location: Wed, Nov 13th, a DINNER MEETING will be held  
At Lewisville Saltgrass Restaurant 801 HWY 121 Lewisville, TX 75028**

**1800 Camaraderie/Social 1900 Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance**

**1910 DINNER**

**Plated Meal Service @\$35 per person**

**A choice of 1 of these entrées:**

**8 OZ Top Sirloin & Shrimp *OR* Grilled Salmon *OR***

***Baby Back Ribs OR Chicken Laredo***

***A choice of either a Salad(Dinner or Caesar) OR a Soup (Tortilla or Potato)***

***And one side dish from: Mashed potatoes, French Fries, Green Beans, Herb Rice***

***Seasoned Veggies, Sweet potato Fries.***

***Tea(unflavored), Water, or Soda included with meal.***

**CASH BAR AVAILABLE FOR WINE AND MIXED DRINKS**

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**PRESIDENT**  
COL Si Simonson  
USA Retired



Greetings everyone.

I hope that those of you who attended our joint MOAA chapter luncheon in September had a good time. I enjoyed the speech by Chris Cassidy, President and CEO of the National Medal of Honor Museum that will open in March 2025 in Arlington, Texas. They are still raising money for the Medal of Honor Museum. So, if you wish to donate to the effort, go to the bottom of this webpage to contribute online: go to this link: <https://mohmuseum.org/>. Our chapter donated \$100 to the Museum.

Chapter elections will occur at our November dinner meeting. Rich Crossley has volunteered to run for president. Rose Marie Vickery asked to step down as Secretary. So we need volunteers to take the spots that they have vacated, specifically:

- Secretary
- Scholarship Raffle Coordinator at the meeting
- JROTC Scholarship Award and Selection Coordinator.

If you have not been a chapter member or committee member, or have not been one for a long time, please consider volunteering for one of these positions. The chapter survives only if everyone contributes a little bit.

As you know, Veterans Day is fast approaching. There are many events in the local area you should consider attending. Here are some of the local events:

**Flower Mound Veterans Day Ceremony:** Sunday, Nov 3, 1-3PM at the Flower Mound High School Stadium.

**Highland Village and Congressman Burgess's "Salute Our Veterans" luncheon,** free to all veterans and a guest. Monday, Nov 11, 11am-1pm, Hilton Garden Inn. RSVP at: <https://cityofhv.seamlessdocs.com/f/VeteranRSVP>

**Texas Veterans Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony,** Saturday, Nov 16, from 6pm-9pm. RSVP at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/texas-veterans-hall-of-fame-6th-annual-induction-ceremony-tickets-887291351317?aff=oddtcreator>

**Denton County Veterans Day Ceremony,** Nov 11, 11am-12pm, at the Denton County Court House.

**Carrollton Veterans Day Luncheon,** Nov 11, 11:30am-1:00pm, at the First Baptist Church. RSVP at: <https://allevents.in/carrollton/veterans-day-luncheon/200027327656617>

**Grapevine Veterans Day Parade and Veterans Fair,** Saturday, Nov 9. See: <https://www.grapevintexasusa.com/events/annual-events-festivals/veterans-day-parade/>

Finally, the Denton County Military Peer Network and the Veterans Coalition are handing out **Veteran Thanksgiving Baskets** to Denton County veterans. See this link to register: <https://www.dentoncountymvnpn.org/event-details-registration/2024-thanksgiving-baskets-for-veterans>.

I look forward to seeing you all at our Dinner Meeting on November 13.



## 1st Vice President Programs and Support

LtCol Bob Little USAF (RET)

Many Veterans Day events will be taking place next month. In addition, the Texas Veterans Hall of Fame will have their annual induction ceremony on Saturday, Nov. 16 at the UNT campus in Denton, TX. We'll have our November dinner meeting on **Wednesday, Nov. 13 at the Saltgrass Steak House in Lewisville**. See details in this newsletter.

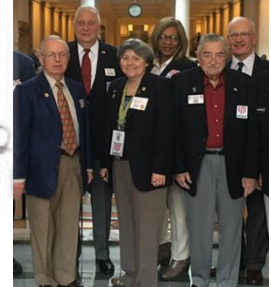
Our annual Holiday Dinner will be on **Wednesday, December 11 at Bistecca** in Highland Village. Details will be published in the November newsletter.

I'll see you on Wednesday, Nov. 13.

Bob Little

1<sup>st</sup> V-P





LTC Ginger Simonson. USA (Ret)



### State Elections

It's that time of year again. Candidates are flooding the airwaves telling you how great they are and how awful their opponents are. Please don't let any disdain for political ads impede you from completing your civic responsibility to vote. Hopefully, everyone is registered, since that deadline passed on October 7<sup>th</sup>. Early voting begins on October 21<sup>st</sup>. If you will be out of town on Election Day, November 5<sup>th</sup>, or you are over 65 and just don't want to walk the candidate gauntlet for in-person voting, you can request a mail in ballot - as long as you do it by October 25<sup>th</sup>. Use this link - <https://www.votetexas.gov/voting-by-mail/application-for-ballot-by-mail.html>.

I attended the House Defense Affairs and Veterans committee meetings on Aug 20 (in Austin) and on Aug 21 in San Antonio.

You can find notes here –

<https://www.capitol.state.tx.us/tlodocs/88R/minutes/pdf/C3052024082010001.PDF>

<https://www.capitol.state.tx.us/tlodocs/88R/minutes/pdf/C3052024082110001.PDF>

You can use the QR code to see/hear the hearing on August 20<sup>th</sup>.





## **Advocacy for our brothers and sisters in the Active, Reserve and Guard**

As most of you know, our military forces are facing the greatest recruiting challenges since the start of the All Volunteer Force. The Department of Defense has realized that our current members are vastly different in terms of financial and familial needs and their work/home balance values. In order to encourage Congressional support to meet the needs of the new force demographics, MOAA works with the DoD Defense-State Liaison Office (DSLO) to identify issues important to military families so that we can advocate for effective policies at the federal and state levels. Please take a look at the most pressing issues facing our military families at this link – <https://statepolicy.militaryonesource.mil/#priorities-report>.

I have worked with the DSLO since 2021 to advocate for many of these priorities and will continue to ask for your “voice” (advocacy emails). Our nation’s existence depends, in large part, on a strong and fully resourced military. Helping to bolster readiness (by meeting recruiting and retention objectives) is a great way for all of us to “continue to serve”.

Another way to continue to serve is to take 10, 20, or 30 minutes to send pre-written emails to Congress using the the MOAA Quorum process found at this link - <https://moaa.quorum.us/>





**Treasurer**  
Maj Dave Nelson, USAF Retired



## **Treasurer's Report**

Greetings from the finance department. Leaves are falling and the grass isn't growing so fast (though the fall weeds are making up for it). I've been scratching my head trying to figure out where all the grey hairs on my shoulder are coming from and to find something for this month's newsletter. Something you haven't heard before maybe. Well, first, here is something you have heard before. It is called a plea. A plea to our wonderful members to bring their membership dues in the chapter up to date. It is a great month (while you still have some money in the account before the holidays) to pay your \$25 dues for calendar year 2024. Also don't forget our very long-standing and kindhearted tradition which allows you to pay a discounted amount of \$20 if paid early (by 31Dec) for your next year's 2025 membership dues and be automatically entered into our mega-millions raffle held in January. The grand prize being a free, one year, all dues expense paid membership in our great chapter in 2026. I know, truly amazing. If you aren't sure whether you've paid for 2024, just reach out and I will let you know. It will be our little secret...

Our chapter account bank balance is \$15,380 as of 8Oct. Subtracting the scholarship fund balance of \$3,960 gives us an operating balance of about \$11,420 and a great jump on next year's scholarship awards. Thanks to all who so faithfully donate to the fund and to Rich Crossley who has, as yet, avoided a traumatic wrist injury from spinning the ticket basket at our lunch and dinner meetings. As always, anyone with questions about the chapter finances, please reach out to me. It is worth noting that in the 5 years I have been helping with the books, our operating balance, after funding the scholarships awarded each year, has remained very stable. This speaks well for the former and current board members' management of the chapter. I would love to see some of our chapter members who haven't yet, volunteer to serve on the board. One zoom meeting a month and maybe help with the luncheons and dinner planning. That's about it. Please consider lending a hand.

So, on we go. Financial quotes of wisdom:

"Any financial expert will tell you that keeping a balance on a credit card is the worst financial move you can make. The only thing worse is paying a financial planner to tell

# CONT

you not to keep a balance on your credit card. That's like giving yourself a wedgie and then paying someone to tell you it was a bad idea." Scott Adams, creator of "Dilbert" comic strip.

"If you think nobody cares about you, try missing a couple of payments." Steven Wright, comedian.

"Drive-in banks were established so most of the cars today could see their real owners." Joseph Cossman, businessman.

"The tax code is 10 times longer than the Bible, and without the good news." David Camp, Congressman.

"A father is a fellow who has replaced the money that used to be in his wallet with pictures of his children." Anonymous.

"There are two times in a man's life when he shouldn't speculate: when he can't afford it and when he can." Mark Twain.

"I'd compare stock pickers to astrologers, but I don't want to badmouth astrologers." Eugene Fama, Nobel Prize winning economist.

"I helped put two children through Harvard – but they belonged to my broker." Micael LeBouef, professor.

"Trying to be happy by accumulating possessions is like trying to satisfy hunger by taping sandwiches all over your body." George Carlin, comedian.

"The trouble with retirement is that you never get a day off." Abe Lemons, college basketball coach.

"Americans are getting stronger. Twenty years ago, it took two people to carry ten dollars' worth of groceries. Today, a five-year-old can do it." Henny Youngman, comedian.

"Be kind to your children. After all, they are going to choose your nursing home." Steven Wright, comedian.

Please enjoy the wonderful weather here in Texas, remember those in the southeast who aren't enjoying the weather and hope to see you at our November dinner at the Salt Grass Steak House in Lewisville.

That is all.

Dave







## CHAPLAIN COL Paul Vicalvi, USA (RET)



### A Thought from Chaplain (Colonel) Paul Vicalvi, U.S Army Retired

You have perhaps heard or used the emotional statement, “I need more patience and I need it now!!!!!! I am traveling as I write these thoughts and we all can remember the times when our flight was missed, late, overbooked, weather delayed, etc., and at our wit’s end we wanted to kick something or someone because life was just not working out the way we wanted it to. Let’s face it—sometimes life is just not fair and, to use a modern term, “it sucks”.

Galatians 5 tells us that patience is a fruit of the Spirit. And patience is one of those fruits that we can’t learn overnight. It comes through testing and trials, which are often uncomfortable.

When life doesn’t happen the way we thought it would or wanted it to, here are some things to consider that can help us with our attitude:

We are not the center of the universe. Life does not revolve solely around us. Things happen that are sometimes beyond our control or ability to control.

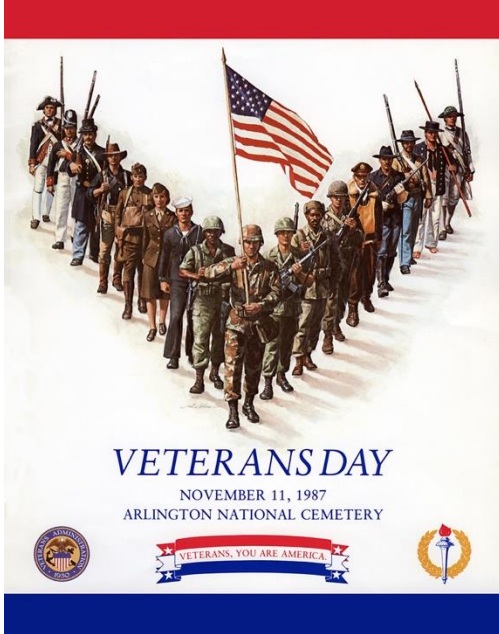
It’s important to think about the fallout from the actions we might take when we lose our patience—such as a broken or lost relationship, or a situation that quickly gets out of hand, perhaps even leading to violence.

Impatience leads to high blood pressure and other negative health issues.

Is it really going to matter tomorrow or in the long run.

Am I setting a good example for those who are looking up to me to learn how to live correctly?

Let’s face it—patience in the midst of trials is the mark of a mature, reasoning man or woman. I do believe that God, our Creator sets the greatest example of patience in His watchful care over all of us with our human frailties. I often wonder why He puts up with us sometimes but I am thankful that He does. So, with the upcoming election in just a few weeks, it sure would be nice to see wonderful examples of careful, mature patient human behavior. And please be patient with me—God’s not finished with me yet!



NOV 13, 2024  
Dinner Meeting  
Lewisville Saltgrass  
Restaurant



DEC 11, 2024  
Christmas Party  
Bistecca Steak  
House

















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**20 YEARS SUPPORTING**  
**OUR SCHOLARSHIP FUND RAFFLE**  
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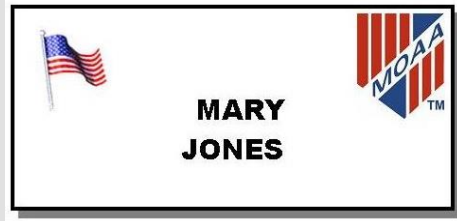
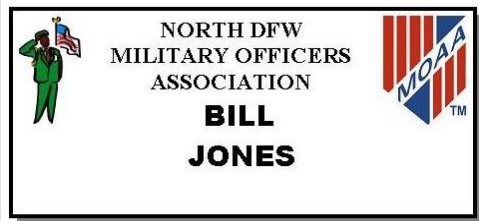
And

Visit our Website at:

<https://www.northdfwmoaa.com>

NOTICE

PERMANENT NAME BADGES ARE AVAILABLE



FIRST NAME \_\_\_\_\_

LAST NAME \_\_\_\_\_

VERSION (CIRCLE ONE) MEMBER

ATTACHMENT (CIRCLE ONE) CLUTCH (\$18) PIN (\$18)

SPOUSE/GUEST

MAGNETIC (\$18)

FIRST NAME \_\_\_\_\_

LAST NAME \_\_\_\_\_

VERSION (CIRCLE ONE) MEMBER

ATTACHMENT (CIRCLE ONE) CLUTCH (\$18) PIN (\$18)

SPOUSE/GUEST

MAGNETIC (\$18)

CHECKS TO: North DFW Officers Association , (PO Box 294685, Lewisville, TX 75029-4685)



# RESERVATION FORM AND MENU

**MAIL RESERVATION TO:** NORTH DFW MOAA, P.O. BOX 294685 LEWISVILLE TX 75029-4685

**LAST MINUTE CHANGES:** Email Dave at [Davenelson@tx.rr.com](mailto:Davenelson@tx.rr.com) or call him at 972-740-8449

If you want to pay via Zelle, send the money from your Zelle account to [Davenelson@tx.rr.com](mailto:Davenelson@tx.rr.com) which goes directly into our chapter's account.

**WEDNESDAY, Nov 13, 2024**

**LEWISVILLE SALTGRASS RESTAURANT**

**801 HWY 121**

**Lewisville, TX 75028**

**Plated Meal Service @35pp**

**A choice of 1 of these entrées:**

- 8 OZ Top Sirloin & Shrimp OR Baby Back Ribs OR Chicken Laredo
- Choice of either a Dinner Salad OR Caesar Salad OR Tortilla Soup OR Potato Soup
- **And one side dish from:** Mashed Potatos, French Fries, Green Beans, Herb rice Seasoned Veggies, Sweet Potato Fries
- **Tea(unflavored), Water, or soda included with meal.**

If you need a special diet menu, please indicate what food restrictions you have so that they can prepare a special meal: \_\_\_\_\_

**CASH BAR AVAILABLE**

**Your Name:**\_\_\_\_\_ **#Guests**\_\_\_\_\_ **Amount Enclosed:**\_\_\_\_\_

**RESERVATION WITH PAYMENT NLT **Friday, November 8th.****

**CANCELLATIONS NLT **Monday, November 11th.****

**IF YOU WANT TO SUPPORT OUR SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM, YOU CAN DONATE TO THE RAFFLE AT THE DOOR (DAVE NELSON) FOR A CHANCE TO WIN SOME GREAT PRIZES!!!!**

**YOU CAN ALSO INCLUDE A CHECK WITH YOUR RESERVATION.**





**North DFW Military Officers Association**  
**Elected Officers and**  
**Committee/Project Leaders**



**Elected Officers**

**PRESIDENT** — COL Si Simonson USAR (Ret), 817-683-2874, [si.simonson@verizon.net](mailto:si.simonson@verizon.net)  
**1st VICE PRESIDENT, PROGRAMS & SUPPORT** — LtCol Bob Little USAFR (Ret), 972-355-8355, [heedlock@gmail.com](mailto:heedlock@gmail.com)  
**2nd VICE PRESIDENT, MEMBERSHIP** — MAJ Gary Howe, USAF (Ret), 210-473-5961, [gphowe64@mac.com](mailto:gphowe64@mac.com)  
**3rd VICE PRESIDENT, LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES** — LTC Ginger Simonson USA (Ret), 817-683-2870 [vgws56@gmail.com](mailto:vgws56@gmail.com)  
**SECRETARY--** Open  
**TREASURER** — MAJ Dave Nelson, USAF (Ret), 972-740-8449, [davenelson@tx.rr.com](mailto:davenelson@tx.rr.com)  
**PAST PRESIDENT** — CW2 Doug Brown USAR (Ret), 214-755-1153, [douglasabrown@verizon.net](mailto:douglasabrown@verizon.net)

**Appointed Committee/Project Leaders**

**AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIP** — LTC Rich Crossley Jr., USA (Ret), & Gail Crossley, 972-355-7015, [Richard.Crossley@FWISD.org](mailto:Richard.Crossley@FWISD.org)  
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**COMMUNITY MILITARY ADVISOR/COORDINATOR** — CW2 Doug Brown, USAR (Ret), 214-755-1153, [douglasabrown@verizon.net](mailto:douglasabrown@verizon.net)  
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**HISTORIAN** — CW2 Doug Brown, USAR (Ret), 214-755-1153, [douglasabrown@verizon.net](mailto:douglasabrown@verizon.net)



**North DFW Military Officers Association**

**2024 Membership Application and Renewal**

Mail application to:

North DFW Military Officers Association  
 P. O. Box 294685, Lewisville, Texas 75029-4685  
 Treasurer—[davenelson@tx.rr.com](mailto:davenelson@tx.rr.com)



<b>Bill To:</b>	
Name:	
Address:	
Phone:- _____ Cell or Home _____-	
E-Mail	
Description	Amount
<b>2025 North DFW MOAA Chapter Membership Dues</b> North DFW MOAA Chapter Membership dues are separate from and in addition to National MOAA Dues. <b>Pay 2024 Dues: \$25</b>	
<b>Chapter Coins: How Many</b> ____ <b>@\$10/ea</b>	
<b>Voluntary Scholarship Contribution</b> Contributions go toward our annual scholarships awarded each May. Contributions to the scholarship fund are tax deductible. Please make a copy of this invoice and retain it as proof of payment for your records.	
<b>Check #</b>	<b>Total Amount Enclosed</b>

**Make Checks Payable to: North DFW MOAA**

*"An Association of Military Officers(& their surviving spouses) of the Eight Uniformed Services of the United States"*  
 Affiliated with the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) 350,000 Members — "One Powerful Voice"  
 MOAA is a nonpartisan information services association and advocate for active and retired families .