

# **Southwest OK Chapter of MOAA President's Update**

**January 2024**



**Southwest Oklahoma Chapter of the  
Military Officers Association of America**

***NEVER STOP SERVING!***

# MOAA National

**MOAA is a nonprofit, nonpartisan association of officers from America's uniformed military services and the Commissioned Corps of the U.S. Public Health Service and National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration.**

- **Vision: Be recognized and respected as the foremost organization advocating on behalf of the uniformed services community and its family members.**
- **Mission: To preserve and protect earned benefits for our uniformed services, veterans, their families, and surviving spouses through advocacy, leadership, education, and service.**
- **Values: Expressed by our commitment to "Never Stop Serving" and articulated through four tenets: service, leadership, diversity and inclusion, and professionalism.**



# SW Oklahoma Chapter of MOAA

The mission of the Southwest Oklahoma Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America is to perpetuate the traditions of the American Military with emphasis on Southwest Oklahoma Chapter members and their families; to undertake charitable, social and similar events; to support legislation favorable and beneficial to members, spouses and survivors of all military personnel; and to work with our members and selected veteran's organizations to attain Southwest Oklahoma Chapter objectives.



# Membership Update

## ➤ National MOAA

- **363,000 total members**
- **400 chapters in 50 states**
- **Only 40,000 are members of local chapters**

## ➤ SW Oklahoma Chapter of MOAA

- **117 members as of 31 Dec 2023; 97 Chapter Members and 20 Associate Chapter Members**
- **66 National Lifetime Members, 1 National Premium Member and 30 National Basic Members**



# **SWOK Chapter 2023 - Year in Review**

- **Community Service/Volunteer Activities**
  - **Operated the Military Welcome Center at Lawton Airport**
  - **Flag and wreath Emplacement/Recovery at Fort Sill National Cemetery and Fort Sill Post Cemetery**
  - **Mount Scott Cemetery Clean-up and Maintenance**
- **Support to local Veterans Service Organizations**
  - **Member Comanche County Veterans Council**
  - **Presented \$500 check to the Lawton Veterans Home**
  - **Presented \$500 check to the Cohen Military Family Clinic**
  - **Presented \$500 check to the Lawton Veterans Resource Center**
- **MOAA Medals, Certificates and \$6000 Monetary Awards presented to Outstanding SROTC/JROTC Cadets**



# **SWOK Chapter 2023 - Year in Review**

- **Successful Fundraiser - \$1643**
- **Individual and Chapter Advocacy Efforts**
- **5 Star Marvin A. Harris Communications Award**
- **5 Star Levels of Excellence Chapter Award**
- **Recognized 6 SWOK members for their contributions to the Chapter**

# Chapter National Scholarships

- **MOAA Scholarship Fund was established in 1948 to provide benefits to children of military families.**
- **SW OK Chapter has four nationally endowed scholarships that are permanently funded.**
- **Highly qualified applicants from Southwest Oklahoma are considered as the first priority.**
- **2023 – 2024 National Scholarships awarded to:**
  - **Tyler Alcorn**
  - **Natalie Mangen**
  - **Patrick Nelson**
  - **Jordan M. Orvik**

**Received Thank You Notes  
From Each Recipient!**



# SWOK MOAA Scholarships

- **SWOK Chapter of MOAA Scholarship Fund awards five \$1000 scholarships each year.**
- **Scholarships are awarded to very deserving university bound high school seniors from our area with military sponsors.**
- **2023 SWOK MOAA Scholarships awarded to:**
  - **Bryce (Ben) Schulke - Elgin HS**
  - **Denna Bussinger – Walters HS**
  - **Lorelei Starling – Elgin HS**
  - **Emma Youngblood – Walters HS**
  - **Kortni Morris– Navajo HS**





# Military Welcome Center

## ➤ History

- **Initially Dedicated on 23 April 2012**
- **SWOK Chapter of MOAA assumed the permit to operate the MWC with the Airport Authority in 2021**
- **Reopened 14 June 2021, staffed by Volunteers**
- **Operated by the MWC Committee of our Auxiliary**

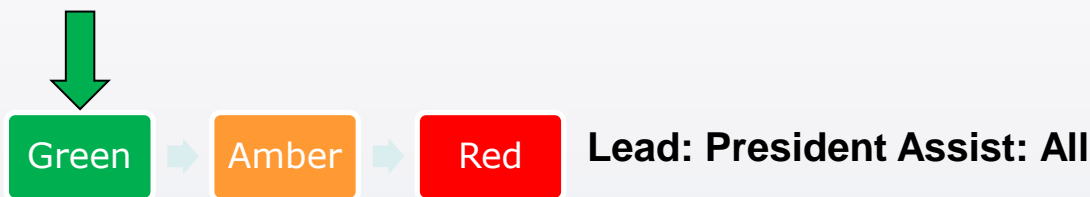
	<u>Volunteers</u>	<u>Volunteer Hours</u>	<u>Total Visitors</u>	<u>Water &amp; Assists</u>
2023 Totals	1046	3870.76	2274	6781



# Chapter Goals and Objectives 2024

**Goal 1.** Promote the aims, objectives and national legislative agenda of the Military Officers Association of America:

- Support National MOAA's aims and objectives in all Chapter activities.
- Encourage all Chapter members to periodically review the MOAA national legislative agenda via our Take Action link to the Legislative Action Center to facilitate review and individual input.



# Chapter Goals and Objectives 2024

**Goal 2. Promote state legislation beneficial to active-duty service members, veterans and retirees:**

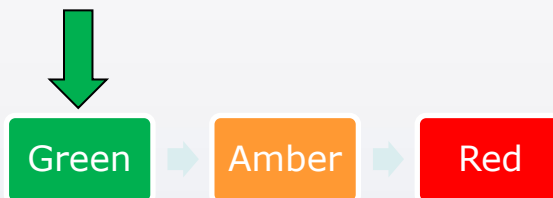
- **Express Chapter views on specific areas of concern by attending all MOAA State Council Meetings.**
- **Send targeted emails to each of our state legislators providing specific website links and other appropriate media to address areas of concern or achievement.**



# Chapter Goals and Objectives 2024

**Goal 3.** Provide useful services for Chapter members, their families, and the Southwest Oklahoma area:

- Provide assistance and support to Chapter members, their families and survivors in the event of prolonged illness or death of a Chapter member.
- Endorse and assist other SW Oklahoma organizations that provide support to families of active-duty service members, veterans and retirees for the benefit of our Chapter members and families.
- Maintain membership in southwest Oklahoma veteran's organizations (e.g., Comanche County Veterans Council as appropriate



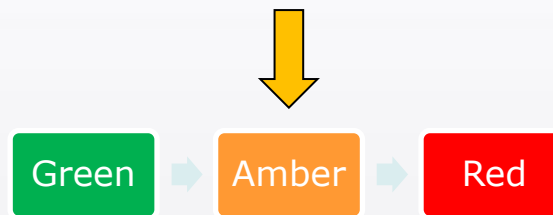
**Lead: VP-Pers Affairs / Assist: All**

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# Chapter Goals and Objectives 2024

## Goal 4. Build Chapter membership:

- Recruit ten new members for the Chapter in 2024.
- Staff a booth at Retiree Appreciation Days 2024 to increase awareness of MOAA.



Lead: President / Assist: All

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# Chapter Goals and Objectives 2024

**Goal 5.** Recognize and support deserving young men and women in Southwest Oklahoma:

- Provide awards (medals and monetary) that recognize military achievement for deserving cadets in Junior and Senior ROTC programs in Southwest Oklahoma.
- Award five \$1,000 scholarships to area high school seniors through the SW OK Chapter of MOAA Scholarship Fund.
- Award a \$1000 scholarship to a qualified ROTC cadet from Cameron University through the SW OK Chapter of MOAA Scholarship Fund.



Green



Amber



Red

Lead: Mil LNO / Assist: All

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# Chapter Goals and Objectives 2024

**Goal 6.** Promote individual member, sponsor and Chapter contributions and activities:

- Submit at least two Chapter activities to be publicized by KSWO or the Lawton Constitution in 2024.
- Submit at least one article for publication in the MOAA Magazine or the online MOAA Newsletter.
- Recognize Chapter members with appropriate National MOAA Awards for Chapter leadership, outstanding service or completion of special projects contributing to the Chapter or MOAA.
- Publicize member contributions and activities on the Chapter website.



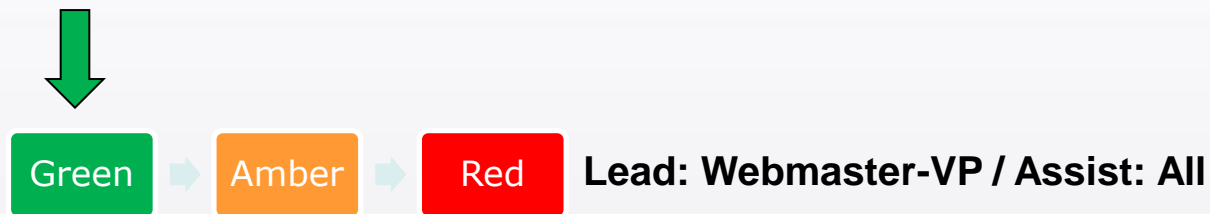
Lead: Public Affairs-VP / Assist:  
All



# Chapter Goals and Objectives 2024

## **Goal 7. Earn national recognition for the Chapter:**

- **Earn 5-star Level of Excellence Chapter Award from MOAA.**
- **Earn 5-star Marvin Harris Communications Award for Chapter website.**





# Chapter Goals and Objectives 2024

## Goal 8. Build the financial resources of the Chapter:

- Conduct at least one fundraising event in 2024.
- Attain a combined twenty or more Platinum Sponsors and Chapter Century Club contributions to the Scholarship Fund in 2024.



Green

Amber

Red

Lead: Programs / Assist: Scholarships

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# **MOAA'S Legislative Priorities for 2024**

- **Compensation and Service-Earned Benefits.**
- **Military Housing.**
- **Health Care for Currently Serving and Retirees.**
- **Health care and Benefits for Veterans.**
- **Service Families.**
- **Survivors.**
- **Guard and reserves.**



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# Legislative Advocacy



**Military Officers Association of America**

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News & Info	Advocacy	Events	Member Benefits	Resources	About MOAA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Legislative Action Center</li><li>Legislative Accomplishments</li><li>Health Care</li><li>Family Issues</li><li>Guard and Reserve</li><li>COLA</li><li>State Report Card</li><li>Advocacy News</li><li>Advocacy Leaders</li></ul>	<p><b>GOALS FOR THE 118TH CONGRESS:</b> Learn more about MOAA's top priorities on Capitol Hill.</p> <p><a href="#">CLICK HERE</a></p>	<p><b>CONCURRENT RECEIPT:</b> Stay up to date on MOAA's latest advocacy efforts on this critical topic.</p> <p><a href="#">LEARN MORE</a></p>			



# Legislative Advocacy

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## SOUTHWEST OKLAHOMA

Military Officers Association of America



Home Chapter Info Organization Chapter Programs General Interest Contacts Join



Reserve Officer Training Corps Support

### Upcoming Events...

- General Membership Meeting and Lunch**  
Wednesday, 11 Jan 2023
- Executive Board Meeting**  
Wednesday, 01 Feb 2023
- Executive Board Meeting**  
Wednesday, 01 Mar 2023
- General Membership Meeting and Lunch**  
Wednesday, 08 Mar 2023

[View Full Calendar](#)

### Thoughts to Consider...

The secret of getting ahead is getting started. Mark Twain

**Early Bird**      **Military.com**      **Take Action**

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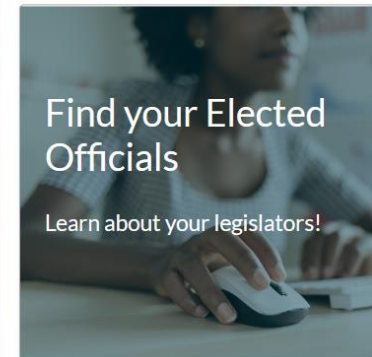
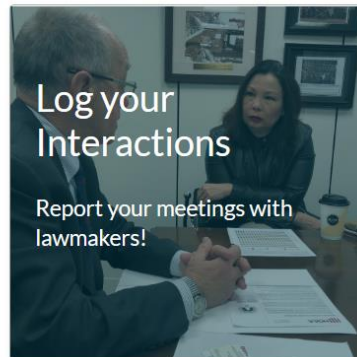
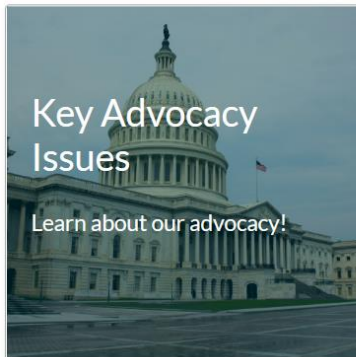
# Legislative Advocacy



[Action Center Tutorial](#)

[Return to MOAA.org](#)

Hello, Dennis! ▾



# Southwest Chapter MOAA 2024 Calendar

## General Membership Meetings: (1130 – 1230)

10 January 2024

13 March 2024

8 May 2024 (Annual Dinner – (Social time starts at 1730, dinner at 1800))

11 September 2024

13 November 2024

## Executive Board Meetings: 1130 on the first Wednesday of the month at Cohen Military Family Clinic

3 January 2024

7 February 2024

6 March 2024

3 April 2024

1 May 2024

5 June 2024

July (No Board Meeting)

7 August 2024

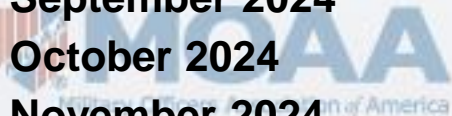
4 September 2024

2 October 2024

6 November 2024

4 December 2024 (If needed)

**Chapter Fundraiser  
September 2024!**



# The Last Slide

- **Chapter Purpose!**
- **Legislative Advocacy Engagement!**
- **Community Involvement!**
- **Membership Growth!**

