

The [Military Officers Association of America \(MOAA\)](http://www.moaa.org) is the nation's largest and most influential association of active duty, National Guard, Reserve, retired, and former military officers and their families and survivors. It is an independent, nonprofit, and politically nonpartisan organization located in Alexandria, Va. MOAA promotes a strong national defense by advocating equitable treatment of those who serve and have served their country in uniform.

MOAA was founded February 23, 1929, in Los Angeles, California, with 63 members. The founders believed that retired officers as well as their families and survivors would benefit greatly by joining together in an association — one that would counsel and render assistance to all officers in matters relating to their retired status. Colonel Arthur T. Marix, USMC (Ret), was founder and first President.

In 1944, with membership at 2,600, the Association moved to Washington, D.C. During the next 13 years — from 1944 to 1957— membership reached 25,000, the staff expanded to 19 persons, legislative liaison (lobbying) began, a scholarship loan program was started and The Retired Officer Magazine, (now called Military Officer magazine), first went to press on a bimonthly basis.

Today, with more than 380,000 members (including 65,000 surviving spouses who are auxiliary members), a staff of 28 retired officers and 63 other support personnel (to include one Air National Guard, 9 military spouses, and three former military), the national headquarters administers the association's many programs that benefit its members, responds to their requests for assistance, and represents the membership to the White House, Congress, DoD, and other government agencies.

MOAA is a full service organization, with legislative updates on Capitol Hill; member services such as banking, insurance, and travel; career transition assistance and military professionalism activities, an award-winning monthly magazine, a quarterly online magazine and an award winning web site; financial and military benefits counseling. MOAA's Scholarship Fund has provided educational assistance to more than 12,000 children of military families totaling more than \$100 million since its inception in 1948.

After a membership vote in September 2002, the Association changed its name from The Retired Officers Association (TROA) to the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA), on January 1, 2003.

Membership is open to active duty, National Guard, Reserve, retired and former commissioned officers and warrant officers of the following uniformed services: Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, Public Health Service, and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Surviving spouses of deceased officers are eligible for Auxiliary membership in MOAA. For those who are not eligible to join MOAA, [Voices for America's Troops \(Voices\)](http://www.voicesforamerica.org) is nonprofit subsidiary of MOAA created in 2011 to maintain a strong national defense and to preserve the earned entitlements of members of the uniformed services, their families, and survivors.

Although MOAA is national in scope, there are more than 400 organized autonomous local chapters affiliated with the national organization. They are active in local and state affairs affecting the entire military community, including regular and reserve, of the seven uniformed services — Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, U.S. Public Health Service and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Commissioned Officers (NOAA Corps).

For additional information about MOAA, contact the Public Relations department at MOAA Headquarters, 201 N. Washington St., Alexandria, VA, 22314-2539, or call (703) 838-0545, call toll free 1-800-234-6622 (MOAA) ext. 545/546 or e-mail [pr@moaa.org](mailto:pr@moaa.org) or visit MOAA's website at [www.moaa.org](http://www.moaa.org)