

**Richmond Area Chapter
VCOC 2023 Q2 Report
Apr - Jun 2023**

I. Membership

As of July 1st, total active chapter membership was 227 paid and 4 honorary. The paid membership breakdown includes 201 military and 26 surviving spouse members.

II. Legislative Affairs

The chapter participated in MOAA 2023 Advocacy in Action through attendance on VCOC Legislative ZOOM sessions and encouraging members to contact their individual representatives to support initiatives.

III. Public Affairs

The chapter held our annual JROTC Awards Dinner Meeting on May 24th at Meadowbrook Country Club. This favorite annual event featured our 2023 Mel Drisko Leader-Scholar Award Winners, their guests, and senior instructors (see JROTC Awards below). Each winner was invited to present remarks and received their \$1000 award at the event.

IV. Awards

Our chapter submitted applications for the MOAA Level of Excellence Award before the May 1st deadline and is awaiting results.

V. ROTC/JROTC Awards

RACMOAA presented 6 MSIII awards to 6 Richmond region universities with ROTC programs in an April Ceremony.

Our JROTC Scholarship Committee received and reviewed five Mel Drisko Leader-Scholar Award submissions. All cadets served in key leadership positions within their respective JROTC units, had outstanding academic records, and received glowing letters of recommendation. By unanimous decision, the following five applicants were selected and received a \$1000 award at our May 24th Dinner Meeting:

- Cadet Anthony W. Williamson from Mechanicsville High School NJROTC - Senior Instructor, CDR Peter T. Greenwald, USN (Ret). Cadet Williamson accepted an Appointment to the United States Merchant Marine Academy.
- Cadet Felicia N. Franco from James River High School NJROTC - Acting Senior Instructor, Master Chief Steven Prince, USN (Ret). Cadet Franco will be joining the Army ROTC program at James Madison University.
- Cadet Xzavius E. Smith from Varina High School NJROTC – Senior Instructor, CDR Curtis M. Irby, SC, USN (Ret). Cadet Smith will be joining the Corps of Cadets at Virginia Military Institute
- Cadet Jason T. Cooper from Patrick Henry High School NJROTC – Senior Instructor, LT James M. Head, USN (Ret). Cadet Cooper was accepted (Early Decision) into the Corps of Cadets at the University of North Georgia.
- Cadet Joseph Colizzi from Benedictine College Preparatory – Senior Instructor, Major Richard Ramos, USA (Ret). Cadet Colizzi will be joining the Corps of Cadets at Virginia Tech

VI. Significant Chapter Events

Our ROTC and JROTC award presentations were the highlights and most significant events this quarter.

Submitted by:

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