# NORTH CAROLINA COUNCIL NEWSLETTER









NC Council of Chapters Website: www.moaa-nc.org
Serving Navy, Marines, Army, Air Force, Space Force, Coast Guard, Public Health Service, NOAA
Volume 2022-2023 Issue IX

#### **COUNCIL BOARD MEMBERS**

- President CW4 Jay E Garbus, USA (Ret)
- 1st VP CDR Kenneth Klassen, USN (Ret)
- 2nd VP LCDR Mark Sandvigen, USN (Ret)
- Immediate Past President COL Jim Brumit, USA (Ret)
- Surviving Spouse Liaison Dr. Vivianne Wersel, (SSL)
- Treasurer Col Ken Hillman, USMC (Ret)
- Secretary Mrs. Sue Harris, (SOM)
- Council Web Manager CAPT Doug Ehrhardt, USN (Ret)
- Personal Affairs Officer CAPT David Lee, USNR (Ret)
- •Health and Welfare MAJ Leon Rooks, USAR (Ret)
- Chaplain—CAPT (Chaplain) Thomas Atkins, USN, (Ret)
- Lay Chaplain LTC Ed Grant, USA (Ret)
- Parliamentarian COL Vern Pike, USA (Ret)

#### **COUNCIL MEETING DATES**

Quarterly meetings Hybrid/Zoom All dates subject to Change

November 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>—Annual Meeting/4<sup>th</sup> Quarterly Hawthorne Inn, Winston Salem, NC.

We will have a guest speaker Friday and Saturday



# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CW4 Jay E. Garbus, USA (Ret)

**5 Star Council** 



The council is planning a cruise for the Annual meeting in 2023. This is an excellent opportunity to meet other Chapter members from around North Carolina. We are now collecting information on what dates would be best, If you are interest please email me with the date and number in your party.

As an added educational program feature, RDML Ron Henderson, USN(Ret) is scheduled to present daily lectures with graphics on the Pacific Battles during WWII. The lectures will be open to all members and guests at no additional cost.

The Council will have the 4rd Quarter meeting at the Hawthorne Inn, Winston-Salem in Novermber. We will have speakers Friday night and Saturday. I hope you can join us for a great time and socialize.

As you read through the newsletter you will find the proposed changes to the Bylaws in the pages below.

# November 11-16, 2023



5 nights Aboard Carnival's "Sunshine of the Seas" Departing from Charleston, SC Destination- Nassau, Half Moon Cay (Little Salvador Island), Bahamas Open to all MOAA Members, Family and Friends

Prices:

\$1245 Interior Cabin \$1370 Ocean View Cabin \$1680 Balcony Cabin

Prices are per couple including all taxes, fees, port charges, gratuities and food in Main Dining Room and the Lido Deck – No Surprises! Accessible Cabins at no additional charge. Single rates, Suite rates and rates for up to 5 in a cabin available - Contact POC below. Covered secure parking available at Port \$15 per day.

As an added educational program feature, RDML Ron Henderson, USN(Ret) is scheduled to present daily lectures with graphics on the Pacific Battles during WWII. The lectures will be open to all members and guests at no additional cost.

#### Registration Form

Full Names (as on passports)	
	DOB
	DOB
Mailing Address	
Email	Telephone
persons sharing a room, travel insurance Travel insurance is highly recommended f for medical reasons, medical and dental is U.S. issued insurance is not recognized in quote. To confirm your reservation pleas form by January 13, 2023 (or ASAP FOR O	2224@gmail.com for rates on Singles, Suites, 3-5

Ken Hillman Treasurer NCCOC 4425 Arendell St. Unit 509 Morehead City, NC 28557

#### THE BYLAWS OF

# NORTH CAROLINA STATE COUNCIL OF CHAPTERS, LLC, THE MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

**ARTICLE I: NAME** 

The name of this organization shall be: North Carolina State Council of Chapters, LLC [hereinafter "Council"] of the Military Officers Association of America.

#### ARTICLE II: PURPOSES

The purposes of the Council shall be to:

Promote the aims of the Military Officers' Association of America [hereinafter "MOAA"] as stated in the preamble of the Bylaws to that Association.

Further the legislative and other objectives of MOAA.

#### **Current:**

Foster fraternal relationships among retired, active and former officers of the uniformed services of the United States and the National Guard and reserve components, and surviving spouses of the aforementioned officers.

#### Proposed:

Foster fraternal relationships among retired, active and former officers of the uniformed services and their reserve components, and their surviving spouses.

Rationale: Eliminate redundancy, the term "reserve components" includes National Guard.

#### **Current:**

Protect the interest of retired, active, reserve and National Guard personnel of the uniformed services and their dependents and survivors.

#### Proposed:

Protect the rights and interests of retired, active and reserve components personnel of the uniformed services, their dependents and survivors.

Rationale: Eliminate redundancy and add "rights".

Provide useful services for members and their dependents and survivors.

Serve the community and the nation.

Protect the rights and interests of the service retirees and active-duty military members in matters of North Carolina state legislation.

Organize and coordinate the collective actions of the Member Chapters in the state of North Carolina.

Provide the assistance necessary to Member Chapters to enable them to effectively serve their members, their communities and the nation.

#### ARTICLE III: STATUS

#### **Current:**

Section 5. The Council shall use its funds only to accomplish the purposes specified in Article II above. Exceptions may be made by a majority vote of elected officers and chapter presidents (delegates).

#### **Proposed:**

Section 5. The Council shall use its funds only to accomplish the purposes specified in Article II above.

Rationale: There should be no exceptions, nor are any foreseen.

#### **Current:**

Section 6. In the event of dissolution of the Council, and after the discharge of all Council liabilities, the remaining assets shall be distributed to the Member Chapters in proportion to their size or, if approved by a majority vote of the chapters, assigned to the MOAA national scholarship fund.

#### Proposed:

Section 6. In the event of dissolution of the Council, and after the discharge of all Council liabilities, the remaining assets shall be distributed to the Member Chapters in proportion to their size.

Rationale: No other option is necessary. As the primary financiers of the Council, the Member Chapters should be the recipients of any residual financial assets of the Council should it be dissolved.

#### ARTICLE IV: MEMBERSHIP

#### **Current:**

Section 1. The membership of the Council shall be composed of local organizations of officers of the eight uniformed services, herein referred to as member Chapters which are affiliated with MOAA and Council.

#### Proposed:

Section 1. The membership of the Council shall be composed of local organizations of officers of the eight uniformed services, herein referred to as member Chapters which are affiliated with MOAA.

Rationale: Deleted superfluous verbiage.

Section 2. Any Chapter affiliated with MOAA may, upon application to and approval by Council, become affiliated with the Council. Such affiliation does not authorize the Council to participate in the organizational or managerial affairs of the chapter unless requested by the chapter.

Section 3. The affiliation of a Chapter with the Council may be canceled either by the chapter or by a two-thirds vote of the Council.

#### ARTICLE V: VOTING

#### **Current:**

Section 1. Except as otherwise provided in these bylaws, all questions coming before the Council shall be decided by a majority vote of the voting members present and voting.

#### **Proposed:**

Section 1. Except as otherwise provided in these bylaws, all matters coming before the Council shall be decided by a majority vote of the voting members present and voting.

Rationale: The word "matters" is a better fix than "questions" in this context.

#### **Current:**

Section 2. Voting rights shall be vested in the President of each member chapter, or in a delegate appointed by the Chapter President, and in each elected officer of the Council, except the President. The President will cast a vote if required to break a tie vote. The immediate past Council President will have voting rights. Each chapter will have only one vote.

#### **Proposed:**

Section 2. Voting rights shall be vested in the President of each member chapter, or in a delegate appointed by the Chapter President, and in each elected officer of the Council. The immediate past Council President may provide consultation of a historical perspective but will not have a vote. Each chapter will have only one vote.

Rationale: It is simply absurd that the past president has a vote and the serving president, the chief executive of the council does not.

Section 3. Proxy voting shall not be permitted at meetings of the Council.

Section 4. In urgent matters, special or regular meetings, the President shall be authorized to put question to a vote my mail, fax, email, videoconference or teleconference. The minutes of the vote will reflect the results and will be included as agenda topics for the following quarterly meeting.

Section 5. If a delegate deems a question too important for his/her individual judgment and desires to meet with his/her chapter prior to voting, he/she may move that the question be tabled. A motion to table an important question shall take precedence in a meeting over all other actions, whether introduced by the President or by a delegate, and this motion shall be voted on, if seconded, before other business can be considered.

#### ARTICLE VI: FINANCE

#### **Current:**

Section 1. The Council shall operate on a cash basis and will not obligate or expend any funds not on hand. The Council can recommend a per chapter member annual assessment (dues). A two-thirds vote on this assessment will be binding on all Member Chapters of the Council.

#### Proposed:

Section 1. The Council shall operate on a cash basis and will not obligate or expend any funds not readily available. The Council can recommend a per chapter member annual assessment (dues) after consulting with all Member Chapter Presidents. A two-thirds vote on this assessment will be binding on all Member Chapters of the Council.

Rationale: Funds in savings accounts are not considered "readily available" and should not be obligated without a specific action to transfer those funds to operating accounts. All Member Chapters should be consulted when a dues increase is being considered to avoid "blind-sighting" and assess adverse impacts on the chapters.

#### **Current:**

Section 2. The annual dues and budget shall cover the calendar year and shall be determined by the Council at its fourth quarterly meeting of the year for the coming year. Dues are payable on 1 January and are due by 1 March. The dues are delinquent on 1 April. A failure to pay by April 1<sup>st</sup> of each year will constitute a penalty of 10% of total dues.

#### Proposed:

Section 2. The annual dues and budget shall cover the calendar year and shall be determined by the Council at its fourth quarterly meeting of the year for the coming year. Dues are payable on 1 January and are due by 1 March. The dues are delinquent on 1 April. A failure to pay by April 1<sup>st</sup> will incur a penalty of 10% of total dues.

Rationale: The term "incur" vis-a-vis "constitute" is more appropriate in this context. It is inconceivable how the penalty could be enforced since chapter membership in the Council is voluntary and therefore payment of dues. However, it is hoped that the threat of penalty might serve as an incentive to ensure timely compliance.

#### **Current:**

Section 3. Dues shall be paid to the Council. The total assessment (dues) will be based on the December 31<sup>st</sup> Committee Module and on dues-paying chapter members. The dues will be submitted NLT January 31<sup>st</sup>.

Proposed:

Section 3. Dues shall be paid to the Council. The total assessment (dues) will be based on the December 31<sup>st</sup> Committee Module and on dues-paying chapter members. Member Chapters are the sole determinants of who are dues-paying members in their chapters.

Rationale: It makes clear that only Member Chapter can determine who their dues-paying members are. Deleting the submission date of January 31<sup>st</sup> eliminates confusion with Section 2 above.

#### **Currrent:**

Section 4. If the activities of the Council require expenditures in excess of the funds provided by the annual dues, an additional assessment may be made when approved by a two-thirds vote of the Council.

#### **Proposed:**

#### Delete the entire provision.

Rationale: It is contrary to Section 1 above.

Section 5. No chapter shall be held accountable for any expenses or obligations of the Council.

Member Chapters are accountable only for the dues and assessments specified in this Article VI.

#### **Current:**

Section 6. A reconciliation of the financial records will be conducted when the president and/or treasurer is changed. The Finance Committee will appoint the team to conduct the reconciliation.

#### Proposed:

Section 6. A reconciliation of the financial records will be conducted when the president and/or treasurer change. The Council President will appoint a disinterested party to conduct the reconciliation.

Rationale: The Council President should appoint a disinterested person to conduct the reconciliation, not the Finance Committee which is very much an interested party. Moreover, a team is not necessary, any individual who can balance a checkbook can conduct a reconciliation.

#### Proposed:

Section 7. The Council Executive Board will have the authority to approve expenditures from the operating fund account to defray financial obligations incident to the administration of the Council, payment of membership dues to state veterans organizations, or purchase or repair of special equipment such as audio/visual equipment, flags and accessories, etc.

Rationale: Self-explanatory.

#### ARTICLE VIII: OFFICERS

#### **Current:**

Section 1. The elected officers shall be a President, a first Vice President and a second Vice President. A Secretary, Treasurer and Surviving Spouse Liaison will be appointed by the President and may include naming a spouse of a member. Other officers of the Council may be the Immediate Past President. Each officer shall be a member or spouse of a member in good standing of a member Chapter and MOAA. Past Presidents, beyond the Immediate Past President shall be considered Council Officer Emeritus and may attend Council functions and meetings, express opinions on issues but have no voting rights. They may participate in Council Committees, as designated by the President.

#### Proposed:

Section 1. The elected officers shall be a President, a First Vice President, and a Second Vice President. A Secretary, Treasurer and Surviving Spouse Liaison will be appointed by the President. Collectively, these six individual incumbents will constitute the "Council Executive Board". Any of these positions may be filled by a member, spouse of a member, or a surviving spouse who are members in good standing of a Chapter and MOAA. Other officers of the Council may be the Immediate Past President. Past presidents, beyond the Immediate Past President shall be considered Council Officer Emeritus and may attend Council functions and meetings, express opinions on issues but have no voting rights. They may participate in Council Committees, as designated by the President.

Rationale: It is necessary to distinguish the "Executive Board" of the council from the whole council which includes all Member Chapter Presidents. The revision also clarifies that surviving spouses are also eligible to hold office. The Executive Board has its unique responsibilities of administering the affairs of the Council, managing and accounting for its financial assets, scheduling meetings and other activities, and serving as a conduit for information flow between its Chapters and MOAA National.

#### **Current:**

Section 7. The treasurer shall maintain a record of all sums received and expended by the Council, make such disbursements as are authorized by the president and treasurer, and prepare or have prepared any and all tax returns required by law. The treasurer shall deposit all sums received in a federally insured financial institution. Funds may be withdrawn only upon signature of the treasurer or, in the event of the treasurer's disability or absence from the area, the signature of the President. The funds, books, and vouchers in the treasurer's custody shall always be subject to inspection and verification by the Council.

#### Proposed:

Section 7. The Treasurer shall maintain a record of all funds received and expended by the Council, make such disbursements as are authorized by the Council, and prepare or have prepared all tax returns required by law. The Treasurer shall deposit all funds received in a federally insured financial institution. Funds may be withdrawn only upon signature of the Treasurer, or in the event of the Treasurer's disability or absence, the signature of the President. The funds, books, and vouchers in the Treasurer's custody shall always be subject to inspection and verification by the Council.

Rationale: The term "funds" vs "sums" is more appropriate in this context. Disbursements are generally approved by the Council and executed by the Treasurer.

#### ARTICLE IX: COMMITTEES

#### **Current:**

Section 1. There shall be three standing committees: The Executive Committee, the Nominating Committee, the Finance Committee.

#### Proposed:

Section 1. There shall be three standing committees: The Legislative Affairs Committee, the Nominating Committee, and the Finance Committee.

Rationale: The "Executive Committee" is replaced by the "Council Executive Board" in Article VIII, Section 1. The Legislative Affairs Committee is added to emphasis the most important mission of the Council, i.e., to promote the legislative priorities of MOAA through its state congressional delegation and to influence state legislation effecting the military by coordinating the grassroots legislative efforts of its member chapters.

#### **Current:**

Section 2. The Executive Committee shall consist of the elected and appointed Council officers. They shall consider items which arise between meetings of the Council, provide advice and guidance to member Chapters, and have the authority to approve special expenditures not to exceed \$250.

#### Proposed:

Section 2. The Legislative Affairs Committee shall be chaired by one of the Council Vice Presidents selected by the President. The membership of this committee will be composed of the legislative chairs of all the member chapters.

Rationale: Absolutely essential for the Council to executive its keynote mission of promoting the legislation priorities of MOAA and influencing state legislation effecting the military and veterans.

Section 3. The Nominating Committee shall be chaired by the off-going Immediate Past President, as appointed by the President. Additional members of the committee should number three or four and include at least one Member Chapter president. At the third quarterly meeting of odd numbered years, the Nominating Committee shall submit for approval a slate of nominees for each elective office. The secretary shall include the proposed slate in the notice of the annual meeting.

#### **Current:**

Section 4. The Finance Committee shall consist of the President, Treasurer, and the Immediate Past President. The Finance Committee shall prepare the next year's annual budget for approval at the annual meeting.

#### Proposed:

Section 4. The Finance Committee shall consist of the President, Treasurer, and one Member Chapter President. The Finance Committee shall prepare the next year's annual budget for approval at the annual meeting.

Rationale: Member Chapter representation in this committee is essential. The Immediate Past President may be consulted by the committee, if necessary, but should not be a member of the committee.

Section 5. The President shall appoint other such standing and special committees as may be required by the bylaws or as the President may find advisable. Such appointments, unless terminated sooner, shall expire upon the completion of the President's term of office.

## **UPCOMING PROGRAMS, DEADLINES, EVENTS**

## **COUNCIL AND CHAPTER DATES TO KNOW**

- ⇒ Chapter Leader Roundtable will be on Teams at 7:00 pm EDT on Thursday, August 25<sup>th</sup>. The topic is Community Outreach and the Crisis Relief Fund. Join <a href="here">here</a> at the time of the meeting. In September, we will be talking about changes to the LOE program.
- ⇒ OCT: 27TH—28TH MOAA ANNUAL Meeting Kanas City Missouri
- ⇒ Oct: 27: Monthly chapter leader virtual roundtable, 7 p.m. Eastern: Transition Services. Join <a href="here">here</a> at the time of the meeting.
- Nov. 4 5; Annual meeting Hawthorne Inn, Winston Salem Evening of Friday, November 4th Dr. (MG, USA Ret) Rob Tempel, Associate Dean for Extramural Clinical Practices ECU School of Dental Medicine, Dr. (COL, USA Ret) Bob Manga − Director, ECU Community Service Learning Center − Sylva, COL USA (Ret) David McCracken − Veteran Smiles Foundation.
  - <u>Saturday, November 5th 10:00 hrs:</u> Emmett Casciato President and Curator Veterans History Museum of the Carolinas Brevard, NC <a href="https://theveteransmuseum.org/contact/">https://theveteransmuseum.org/contact/</a></u>
- ⇒ **Nov. 17:** Monthly chapter leader virtual roundtable, 7 p.m. Eastern: Retention. Join <a href="here">here</a> at the time of the meeting.
- ⇒ **Dec. 29:** Monthly chapter leader virtual roundtable, 7 p.m. Eastern: End of Year Review/Discussion. Join <a href="here">here</a> at the time of the meeting.

# **Community Outreach Grants**

<u>The MOAA Foundation</u>, a 501(c)(3) charitable subsidiary of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA), offers grants to MOAA's councils and its chapters in support of community outreach programs and services. The application period runs from Dec. 1 to Feb. 28 each year. Fill out <u>a grant application</u>.

Watch a webinar on the application process.

Dowload the grant criteria (MS Word file).

## **Community Outreach Sponsorship**

• Apply for up to \$300 per chapter or \$800 per council to support community service programs and recruiting/branding events. Get details at this link.

## MOAA HAS FOUR VIRTUAL CHAPTERS

They are: <u>Uniformed Services Nurse Advocates Virtual Chapter</u>, the <u>Surviving Spouse Virtual Chapter</u>, the <u>Public Health Service Virtual Chapter</u>, and the <u>Chapter</u>, and the Chapter.

Interested in participating in one of these virtual chapters, or in championing another group? Contact Capt. Pat L. Williams, USN (Ret), MOAA's program director for engagement, at <a href="mailto:patw@moaa.org">patw@moaa.org</a>, or Capt. Erin Stone, JAGC, USN (Ret), senior director for council and chapter affairs, at <a href="mailto:erins@moaa.org">erins@moaa.org</a>, for more information.

Join the Facebook page "DIC Surviving Spouses/DIC Increase Advocacy "today and get involved! For more information contact MOAA surviving spouse Edith Smith, phone (703) 569-3380 or email esmith@capitolcrusader.com

## 2022 U.S. ARMY RETIRED SOLDIER HANDBOOK

Produced by Army Retirement Services, the 2022 U.S. Army Retired Soldier Handbook is available for download as a PDF document from the Army Retirement Services website at

https://soldierforlife.army.mil/Documents/static/Post/2022\_ArmyRetSoldierHandbk.pdf

# Mental Health Awareness Month: Learn What Your Fellow Veterans Know

This Mental Health Month and throughout the year, Veterans and those who care about them are encouraged to visit <a href="MakeTheConnection.net">MakeTheConnection.net</a> to learn more about mental health and healing from Veterans who know because they've been there.

# Veterans Eligible for Travel,

### **Hotel Discounts**

AmericanForcesTravel.com is a Department of Defense online leisure travel website managed by Morale, Welfare, and Recreation and supported by Priceline. Veterans can access exclusive deals on hotels, flights, rental cars, cruises, packages and event tickets.

#### **CHAPTER PRESIDENTS**

- (NCO1) Cape Fear—COL Richard A. Underwood, USA, (Ret)
- (NCO2) Coastal Carolina—CAPT Randall Ramian, USN, (Ret)
- (NC04) Charlotte-Metrolina—LTC Joe Anderson, USA, (Ret)
- (NC06) Sandhills—COL Walter Havenstein, USMC, (Ret)
- (NC07) Southeastern—Col. Joseph (Joe) Irrera, USMC, (Ret)
- (NC08) Tarheel Central—Lt. Col. Greg Chase, USAF (Ret)
- (NC09) Triangle—COL Herb Segal, USA, (Ret)
- (NC10) Western Carolina—Capt. Donna Culp, USAF, (FMR)
- (NC11) Catawba Valley—LTC Clifford (Davey) Davenport, USA, (Ret)
- (NC14) Piedmont—Open
- (NC17) First in Flight—LCDR Al Del Garbino, USCG, (Ret)
- (NC20) Central Carolina—LTC Gary Applewhite, USA, (Ret)
- (NC21) High Country—Capt. Douglas May, USMC (FMR)
- (NC22) New River—LCDR Steve Tucker, USN, (Ret)

#### **Executive Committee**

- 1. CW4 Jay Garbus, USA (Ret)
- 2. CDR Kenneth Klassen, USN (Ret)
- 3. LCDR Mark Sandvigen, USN (Ret)
- 4. COL Jim Brumit, USA (Ret)
- 5.Col Ken Hillman, USMC (Ret)
- 6. Mrs. Sue Harris (SOM)- nonvoting

#### **Nominating Committee**

- 1. Immediate Past President COL Jim Brumit, USA (Ret)
- 2. Chapter President CAPT Donna Culp, USAF (FMR)
- 3. COL Jeri Graham, USA (Ret)
- 4. CAPT David Lee, USNR (Ret)

#### **Finance Committee**

- 1. CHAIRPERSON COL Jim Brumit, USA (Ret)
- 2. CW4 Jay Garbus, USA (Ret)
- 3. Col Ken Hillman, USMC (Ret)

#### **Planning Committee**

- 1. President—CW4 Jay Garbus, USA (Ret)
- 2. 1<sup>st</sup> VP—CDR Ken Klassen, USN (Ret)
- 3. 2<sup>nd</sup> VP—LCDR Mark Sandvigen, USN (Ret)
- 4. Mrs. Sue Harris (SOM)
- 5. Col Ken Hillman, USMC (Ret)
- 6. Dr. Vivianne Wersel, D. Aud. (SSL)
- 7. COL Jeri Graham, USA (Ret)
- 8. CAPT Donna Culp, USAF IFMR)
- 9. CAPT David Lee, USNR (Ret)
- 10. CAPT Doug Ehrhardt, USN (Ret)
- 11. COL Iggi Husar, USA (Ret)

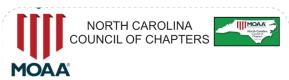
#### By-Law Committee

- 1. Juan Chavez, Past President, Cape Fear Chapter, Chairman
- 2. Walt Havenstein, President, Sandhills Chapter
- 3. Greg Chase, President, Tarheel Chapter
- 4.Al DelGarbino, President, First Flight Chapter
- 5.Jeri Graham, Past Council President
- 6.David Lee, Past Council President









CW4 Jay E. Garbus, USA (Ret)
President

Cell - 704-400-0160 Email - jegarbus@gmail.com



NCServes in collaboration with NCCARE360



Veterans Bridge Home 704-332-8802

info@veteransbridgehome.org

www.veteransbridgehome.org

## Published by the North Carolina Council of Chapters of MOAA

**OUR MISSION STATEMENT** is in concert with the Military Officers Association of America purposes and objectives. The goal is to foster fraternal relations among retired, active, and former officers of the uniformed services and their Reserve and National Guard components. Our aim is to actively promote the protection of the rights and interests of members of the uniformed services, their family members, including survivors, provide useful services for members and their families, and serve the community, the active military forces (past, present, and future) and our nation.

Publisher and Editor – CW4 Jay E. Garbus, USA (Ret) and Sue Harris (SOM)

Editor may be reached at (704) 400-0160 or jegarbus@gmail.com

The Newsletter is published for members and friends of North Carolina Council of Chapters, MOAA.

**Editorial Policy**: The North Carolina Council of Chapters is affiliated with national MOAA. As such, the North Carolina Council of Chapters is nonprofit, politically nonpartisan. Editorial policies are established by the North Carolina Council of Chapters Publisher and Editor and are in consonance with MOAA's.

Advertising and sponsorship are accepted based on MOAA policies and standards.

Chapter Website - www.moaa-nc.org

MOAA "Take Action" http://www.moaa.org/take Action/

A current issue of the newsletter can be found on the North Carolina Council of Chapters website, www.moaanc.org. Anyone wishing to receive this newsletter by e-mail may do so by contacting us using the "Contact Us" link on the website, www.moaa-nc.org/contact.php.

#### Levels of Excellence (LOE) winners for 2022

North Carolina Council of Chapters High Country Chapter

Cape Fear Chapter Southeastern North Carolina Chapter

Catawba Valley Chapter Tarheel Central Chapter

Coastal Carolina Chapter Triangle Chapter

Charlotte-Metrolina Chapter Western North Carolina Chapter

**WASHINGTON** – Federal law authorizes veterans to salute the flag in the following situations:

**The Pledge of Allegiance.** Members of the Armed Forces not in uniform and veterans may render the military salute in the manner provided for persons in uniform. Alternately, military personnel and veterans not in uniform may stand at attention facing the flag with the right hand over the

heart. When not in uniform men should remove any nonreligious headdress with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart (Title 4 USC section 4).

**During hoisting, lowering or passing of the American flag.** Members of the Armed Forces and veterans who are present but not in uniform may render the military salute. All such conduct toward the flag in a moving column should be rendered at the moment the flag passes. (Title 4 USC section 9).

**National Anthem.** Members of the Armed Forces and veterans who are present but not in uniform may render the military salute in the manner provided for individuals in uniform. When the flag is not displayed, all present should face toward the music and act in the same manner they would if the flag were displayed. (Title 36 USC section 301).

#### MOAA GUIDANCE ON PARTISAN POLITICAL ACTIVITIES

**Partisan Political Activities.** As organizations exempt from federal taxation under Sec. 501(c)(19) of the Internal Revenue Code, MOAA and its affiliates must take care to avoid engaging in partisan political activities. Under IRS rules, we are prohibited from directly or indirectly participating in, or intervening in, any political campaign on behalf of (or in opposition to) any candidate for public office.

**Candidates for Public Office.** A candidate for public office is an individual who offers himself or herself, or is proposed by others, as a contestant for an elective public office, whether such office is national, state, or local, and includes incumbent candidates. The prohibition also extends beyond declared candidates and may apply to efforts to recruit an individual to run for office or advance exploratory activities. The prohibition also applies to advocating for the platform of one political party over another.

**Prohibited Activities.** Activities which constitute participation or intervention in a political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to a candidate include, but are not limited to, the publication or distribution of written or printed statements or the making of oral statements on behalf of or in opposition to such a candidate. It is clear that the prohibition on partisan political activity prohibits such outright actions such as posting a "Vote for Biden" or "Vote for Trump" on the organization's website, or "Support Republican Candidates" or "Vote Democratic."

In addition to these obvious examples, the prohibition goes well beyond direct expressions of support. In determining whether an organization is engaged in unlawful partisan political activities, the IRS applies a "facts and circumstances" test. The IRS looks not only to the expressed language, but to external factors, such as the communication's timing, its targeted audience, and how the message relates to public policy positions that distinguish a candidate in a campaign.

Consequences for Violations. The consequences to an organization that violates the prohibition on partisan political activity can be severe including the loss of its tax exempt status and the imposition of certain excise taxes. For public charities, like The MOAA Foundation and the MOAA Scholarship Fund, the IRS can disallow tax deductions for charitable contributions. In addition, for an organization whose mission involves advocacy on key military community issues, MOAA must seek support from elected representatives from both parties. Engaging in partisan political activities on behalf of one party or candidate would seriously undermine MOAA's ability to achieve the bipartisan consensus on key issues essential to achieving its legislative objectives.

**Personal Opinions.** As individuals, members and leaders of MOAA and MOAA's affiliates are not prohibited from engaging in partisan political activities so long as they do so in way that makes it clear they are acting for themselves and do not appear to be speaking on behalf of MOAA or its affiliates. For example, it is permissible for an individual to express his or her personal preference in support of or in opposition to a candidate or political party. And they may do so publicly. However, when expressing their personal opinions or preferences, they may not make reference to their MOAA position, use MOAA communications channels, use MOAA letterhead or newsletters, identify themselves as MOAA leaders, or imply that MOAA or its members share their beliefs.

Continued on next page

#### Minutes of the 13 August 2022 NCCOC Quarterly Meeting

The In-Person Quarterly meeting of the North Carolina Council of Chapters was held in the Boxwood Room of the Hilton Raleigh, North Hills. CW4 Jay Garbus, USA (Ret) called the meeting to order at 1455 hours. Attendance was taken by sign in sheet.

#### **Quorum was present**

#### A. Upcoming meetings

September 15<sup>th</sup> via Zoom at 1000

October 6<sup>th</sup> via Zoom at 1000

November 4<sup>th</sup> &5<sup>th</sup> In Person/Hybrid at the Hawthorne Inn, Winston-Salem

COL Jeri Graham noted that Senator Burr is from Winston-Salem and will be returning after his terms in the US Senate. She asked about doing something in recognition of his service. She will contact Lt Col Greg Chase to coordinate something.

- **B. Review/Approval of Minutes:** COL Walt Havenstein moved to accept the minutes as emailed. CAPT Donna Culp seconded it and it passed.
- **C. Legislative Report:** LCDR Mark Sandvigen, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, expressed thanks to all who have sent in their reports. We have 100%. Thanks to those who worked to pass the amendment to include PHS and NOAA officers in the NC tax exemption act and to pass the PACT ACT.
- **D. Treasurer's Report:** Col Ken Hillman gave the treasurer's report. A detailed copy will be sent to Chapter Presidents. COL Juan Chavez said that the incentive program was eliminated and those checks were never cashed, therefore the cash surplus should reflect that and be more than the stated amount. COL Jeri Graham thanked the Council for our check to the Veterans Council.
- **E. 2021 LOE Awards:** CW4 Jay Garbus congratulated the Chapters with 5-Star Levels of Excellence Awards. The NC Council also is a 5-Star LOE Award winner.

Cape Fear Chapter (NC01)

Coastal Carolina Chapter (NC02)

Charlotte-Metrolina Chapter (NC04)

Southeastern North Carolina Chapter (NC07)

Tarheel Central Chapter (NC08)

Triangle Chapter (NC09)

Western North Carolina Chapter (NC10)

Catawba Valley Chapter (NC11)

High Country Chapter (NC21)

- **F. Proposed amendments to the NCCOC Bylaws:** A copy of the proposed changes to the Bylaws was emailed to Chapter Presidents. CW4 Jay Garbus asked if there were any comments on the proposals. There were no comments, so they will be brought forward for a vote at the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarterly Meeting (Annual Meeting) in November.
- **G.** COL Walt Havenstein moved to adjourn the meeting. CDR Mike Mikulan seconded it and it passed. The meeting adjourned at 1510.

**Leadership Responsibilities.** Those in leadership positions have a special responsibility to separate their personal political opinions from statements that are or can be attributed to MOAA or its affiliates. For example, it is improper for a chapter leader to use the chapter's newsletter to advance the leader's personal political beliefs. This goes beyond statements expressly advocating for a specific candidate or party by name. Statements that incorporate campaign messaging, campaign slogans, and political positions identified with a particular candidate or party are also prohibited. No MOAA leader is authorized to use MOAA's or an affiliate's resources to communicate their personal political beliefs. This is an outright violation of the leader's fiduciary duty to the organization and a serious leadership and ethical failure.

**Divisive Social Issues.** We are all aware of the divisive nature of the debate over today's leading social issues – protesting during the national anthem at sporting events, racial justice, public protests, and the conduct of law enforcement officers. These are issues over which many Americans have deeply held, but differing, personal beliefs. This is also true within the military community among the ranks of active duty and retired officers and within MOAA itself. MOAA leaders have an obligation to keep this in mind when communicating on behalf of MOAA or its affiliates. Suggesting that MOAA only supports one side of a deeply divisive issue sends a message to those with a different belief that MOAA is not for them. Officers today have grown up in a military culture that is very different than the past. Many are accepting of attitudes and views that were not mainstream when many of us were in uniform. If MOAA is going to connect with the newest generation of uniformed officers, it needs to be clear that those with strong views on racial and social justice imperatives are just as welcome as those who adhere to more traditional expressions of patriotism and officership.

Rev. 8-13-2020

The MOAA Store Is now open with apparel to headwear and much more, we are excited for you to show your MOAA pride!

ROTC/JROTC Medal with Ribbon









Veterans Affairs Life Insurance (VALife) provides guaranteed acceptance whole life coverage of up to \$40,000 to Veterans with service-connected disabilities. Lesser amounts are available in increments of \$10,000. Under this plan, the elected coverage takes effect two years after enrollment as long as premiums are paid during the two-year period.

# Important Dates for VALife and S-DVI

The VALife program includes key dates and features that are important to know. They include changes that impact the Service Disabled Veterans Insurance (S-DVI) program.

# Eligibility

All Veterans age 80 and under, who have a VA disability rating of 0 to 100 percent are eligible for the VALife program and have no time limit to apply. Veterans who are 81 or older and have applied for VA Disability Compensation before age 81 but did not receive the rating for a new service-connected condition until after turning 81 are also eligible if they apply within two years of their rating.

# Type of Coverage

The VALife program offers whole life guaranteed acceptance coverage. Under this type of coverage, the face amount of coverage takes effect two years after the date of enrollment as long as premiums are paid during the two-year period. This two-year waiting period replaces the need for medical underwriting. If the insured dies within this two year period, the beneficiary will receive all premiums paid plus interest.

# Cost

The premium rate (the amount you will pay each month or annually for your coverage) depends on your age and the amount of coverage you elect. The premiums for VALife are fixed and based on your age when you enroll. Click here to **FIND OUT MORE ON PREMIUM COSTS**.

# How to Apply?

VALife will take effect January 1, 2023. The application will become available on our website at that time. In the meantime, you can **SIGN UP FOR FUTURE EMAIL UPDATES ABOUT VALIFE** to stay informed.

#### SOME GOOD NEWS FROM ISRAEL!!!

The Israelis do not make islands in the shape of palm trees, towering skyscrapers, expensive hotels, nor do their leaders use cars with massive silver bodies (allusion to Dubai and the United Arab Emirates). The pride of Israel is that its technologies will be able to be used by all humanity:

- Tel Aviv University is developing a nasal vaccine that will protect people from Alzheimer's and stroke.
- 2. The Technion, Institute of Technology (Haifa), has developed a simple blood test capable of detecting different types of cancer.
- 3. The Ichlov Center (Tel Aviv) isolated a protein that makes colonoscopy unnecessary to detect colon cancer, with a simple blood test. Colon cancer kills about 500,000 people annually.
- 4. Acne doesn't kill, but does cause anxiety in teens. The Curlight Laboratory has created a cure. Emitting UV rays at high intensity, kills the bacteria that cause acne.
- 5. The Given Imaging Laboratory has developed a tiny camera in the form of swallowed pills and transmits thousands of photos of the digestive tract. These high-quality photos (2 per second for 8 hours) can detect polyps, cancers, and sources of bleeding. The photos are sent to a chip that stores them and sends them to a computer. At the end of the process, the chamber is eliminated via the rectum.
- 6. The Hebrew University (Jerusalem) developed an electrical neurostimulator (batteries) that is implanted in the chest of Parkinson's patients, similar to the pacemaker. The emissions from this device block the nerve signals that cause tremors.
- 7. The simple smell of a patient's breath can detect if a patient has lung cancer. The Russell Berrie Institute for Nanotechnology has created sensors capable of sensing and registering 42 biological markers that indicate the presence of lung cancer without the need for a biopsy.
- 8. Catheterization can be dispensed with in many cases. Endopat is a device placed between the indicator fingers, which can measure the state of the arteries and predict the possibility of a heart attack in the next 7 years.
- 9. The University of Bar Ilan studies a new drug that fights viruses through the bloodstream. It is called Vecoy Trap, as it tricks a virus into self-destruction. Very useful to combat hepatitis, and in the future Aids and Ebola.
- 10. Israeli scientists at Hadassah Medical Center (Jerusalem) may have discovered the first cure for amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, known as Lou Gehring's disease, in an Orthodox rabbi. Stephen Hawking, a famous British scientist, suffered from this disease and used methods invented by Israeli scientists to communicate.



### • DEATH GRATUITY - A one-time, nontaxable payment to help surviving family members deal with the financial hardships that accompany the loss of a service member.

- SSSB Social Security Survivor Benefits are monthly benefits paid to eligible family members of a deceased service member who has worked and paid Social Security taxes.
- SSIA Special Survivor Indemnity Allowance is a benefit for surviving spouses who receive a Survivor Benefit Plan annuity that is offset by a Dependency and Indemnity Compensation payment from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.
- SGLI Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance is life nsurance coverage for a service member.
- TSGLI Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance Traumatic Injury Protection is financial assistance for service members who incur physical losses due to traumatic injuries.
- FSGLI Family Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance is life insurance coverage for a service member's spouse and dependent children.
- DIC Dependency and Indemnity Compensation is a tax-free monthly payment to survivors provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs.
- SBP The Survivor Benefit Program is a taxable annuity for survivors paid through the Defense Finance and Accounting Service.
- TRICARE The uniformed services' health care program.
- DEA Dependents Educational Assistance is an educational benefit provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs

This milestone guide outlines the change in benefits survivors can expect and what decisions a survivor may need to make.

#### **Primary and Secondary** Next of Kin (Includes Spouses)

#### Within 14 Days

- Meet your casualty assistance officer.
- > Verify family information.> Choose whether to authorize the disclosure of information to other government organizations for benefits and support.
- Review the will and any estate planning documents.
- Plan a funeral if you're the person authorized to direct
- Track and submit reimbursement claims for the funeral and related travel.

  • Obtain a new dependent ID card (if applicable).
- (www.dmdc.osd.mil/self\_service)

#### Within First Year

- Update vehicle title and registration.
- Settle bank accounts, loans and credit cards.
- Connect with your service's long-term care management program.
- Request a copy of appropriate investigative reports.
- Inventory personal effects and submit claims for missing or damaged items if you're a person entitled to receive effects.
- · Receive free financial counseling and online will preparation from FinancialPoint Plus if you are an SGLI recipient (www.financialpointplus.com).

#### **Spouses**

#### Within First Year

- Update your status in the DEERS (Defense Eligibility
- Enrollment Reporting System) registry.
   Apply for Veterans Affairs DIC (Dependency and Indemnity Compensation), SBP (Survivor Benefit Plan), and Social Security (if applicable).
- Review initial Survivor Benefits Report with casualty assistance officer.

#### For additional resources, visit:

Long-term care at https://go.usa.gov/xAztY

Days Ahead Binder at https://go.usa.gov/xAzt2

Survivors Guide to Benefits at https://go.usa.gov/xAztT



ONESOURCE

# **Today And** Tomorrow

Department of Defense milestone guide for survivors of service members who died in an active-duty status



# Call or chat anytime, from anywhere in the world to learn more and connect to support. We're here for you 24/7. 800-342-9647 | MilitaryOneSource.mil

**ON!**SOURCE

To learn more, go to MilitaryOneSource.mil and search "Survivor Support.







**MILITARY** 









- (www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits/apply).
  Access your Interactive Online Survivor Benefits Report (https://go.usa.gov/xAztK).
- Access free financial counseling from Military OneSource.
  File income taxes with free software and support from MilTax
- (www.militaryonesource.mil/miltax).

- HEART (Heroes Earning Assistance and Relief Tax) Act eligibility for applicable survivors expires.
- · "Final Move" deadline for survivors in government housing.

#### Three Years

- "Final Move" deadline for survivors not in government housing. You may request an extension.
- "Qualifying widow/widower" federal income tax status expires.
- TRICARÉ Prime and active-duty dental plan expire. You're automatically enrolled in TRICARE Select for retirees. You may choose to enroll in TRICARE Prime for retirees and TRICARE Dental Program Survivor Benefit Plan.

#### 20 Years

• Spouse Dependents' Educational Assistance eligibility ends.

#### Age 55

- Remarriage restrictions on SBP payments lifted.
- Remarriage restrictions on DIC payments lifted.

- Remarriage restrictions on Social Security survivor benefits lifted.
- Reduced-rate Social Security retirement benefits available.

## Children

#### Within First Year

- · Obtain ID card (any age).
- Eligible for 40 hours of respite care at military Child Development Center.

· Social Security survivor benefits for child(ren)'s parental or nonparental caregiver ends.



#### Age 21

• TRICARE and TRICARE Dental Program Survivor Benefit eligibility ends. Full-time college students remain eligible through age 23, if they meet certain conditions. They may also qualify to buy TRICARE Young Adult (age 21-26). (https://www.tricare.mil/ TYA)

#### Age 23

 TRICARE and TRICARE Dental Program Survivor Benefit Plan eligibility ends for students; TRICARE Young Adult can be purchased

#### Age 26

• DEA eligibility ends.

#### Age 33

• Fry Scholarship eligibility ends if eligibility began before Jan 1, 2013. Time limit lifted if eligibility began after

#### Financial Beneficiary

#### Within First Year

- Free financial counseling and online will preparation are available from Financial Point Plus for SGLI recipients (www.financialpointplus.com).
  If applicable: Nonparent guardian of Surviving
- child(ren) should establish legal guardianship.

#### One Year

 HEART (Heroes Earning Assistance and Relief Tax) Act eligibility expires (applicable to SGLI and Death Gratuity recipients).

### TAKE ACTION



These important issues require your immediate attention. Send your elected officials a MOAA-suggested message today.

<u>The Major Richard Star Act</u> has reached a milestone goal of 290 co-sponsors in the House – the threshold for it to be placed on the chamber's consensus calendar. This significant accomplishment, along with ongoing efforts in the Senate, show clear progress in MOAA's focused efforts and teamwork with fellow service organizations through The Military Coalition, to expand concurrent receipt to more than 50,000 combat-injured veterans who lose a dollar of retirement pay for every dollar of VA benefits they receive.

#### Ask Your Lawmakers to Support the Military Hunger Prevention Act

Food insecurity among junior servicemembers is not a new concern, but like many ongoing problems, it's been made worse by the economic fallout from the COVID-19 pandemic. The Military Hunger Prevention Act would establish a Basic Needs Allowance (BNA) for these servicemembers, helping them overcome financial difficulties and allowing them to concentrate on their duties.

## **COUNCIL AND CHAPTER AWARDS**

**MOAA Levels of Excellence Award** - Each year, councils and chapters may request to be recognized for one of two <u>Levels of Excellence awards</u>. Councils and chapters that want to be considered for a Levels of Excellence Award need to submit a nomination by May 1.

A standard set of rating criteria will be used to evaluate all councils and chapters that submit a package. Last year, 162 councils and chapters earned 5-star awards. Your council or chapter could be among the winners recognized at a dinner in Kansas City later this year.

**Col. Marvin J. Harris Communications Awards -** MOAA's annual contest identifying those councils and chapters that do an outstanding job communicating with their members.

#### Col Steve Strobridge Award for Advocacy:

Council: Col Michael Kelly, USAF (Ret), Kansas State Legislative Liaison, Kansas Council of Chapters Chapter: Dr. Ron Sarg (posthumously), formerly Legislative Chair, Dover (Del.) Chapter

**2021 Surviving Spouse Liaison Excellence Award-** Surviving Spouse Liaisons work at the Council and Chapter level to ensure fellow survivors remain connected to the military family and participate in local and national programs and advocacy efforts.

**MOAA ROTC/JROTC Awards Program** - MOAA has PDF fillable certificates for ROTC and JROTC available for leaders to add their chapter name and the name of the award recipient.

- ROTC fillable PDF certificate
- JROTC fillable PDF certificate

Medals and certificates can be purchased at the <u>MOAA Store</u>.Note for high schools and universities requesting that someone from MOAA make a presentation: If there is a local MOAA chapter in your area, you may want to consider contacting them. Many of our 400-plus MOAA affiliates are still supporting ROTC/JROTC programs in their area. These programs are entirely voluntary; no MOAA chapter is under any obligation to present a certificate to ROTC and JROTC units. You can use <u>the Chapter Locator</u> to find your closest available chapter.

#### **MOAA IN ACTION:**



President Joe Biden applauds after handing a pen to Brielle Robinson, the daughter of Sgt. First Class Heath Robinson, after signing the Honoring PACT Act at the White House in Washington, D.C, on Aug. 10. The president was surrounded by many of the bill's supporters during the signing ceremony, <u>including MOAA President and CEO Lt. Gen. Dana T. Atkins, USAF (Ret)</u>, here standing over the president's shoulder. (Photo by Jim Watson/AFP via Getty Images)

#### **IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS & WEBSITES:**

THE SURVIVORS OUTREACH SERVICES OFFICE (SOS): Find your nearest SOS coordinator at <a href="https://dcsg9.army.mil/safr/sos/sos-find.html">https://dcsg9.army.mil/safr/sos/sos-find.html</a> Use the dropdown lists to find survivor coordinators by state/county or country/region. If a coordinator is not listed, please call 855-707-2769 for survivor assistance.

**TO REPORT THE DEATH OF A MILITARY RETIREE:** Call DFAS at 1-800-321-1080, or use the form at https://corpweb1.dfas.mil/askDFAS/ticketInput.action?subCategoryID=18004

**VA:** 1-800-827-1000 http://www.va.gov

Social Security: 1-800-772-1213 http://www.ssa.gov

Update ID cards: 1-800-538-9552; <a href="www.dmdc.osd.mil/rsl">www.dmdc.osd.mil/rsl</a>

<u>VA BURIALS & MEMORIALS PAGE:</u> VA burial benefits can help service members, military retirees, veterans, and their family members plan and pay for a burial or memorial service, whether in a local cemetery or in a VA national cemetery. Family members can also order memorial items to honor the service of a Veteran. The VA Burial and Memorial Products Quick Start Guide (QSG) provides clear and concise information on VA burial benefits for Veterans, their families, caregivers and survivors. <a href="https://www.va.gov/burials-and-memorials-guide.pdf">https://www.va.gov/burials-and-memorials-guide.pdf</a> Go to <a href="https://www.va.gov/burials-memorials/#get">https://www.va.gov/burials-and-memorials-guide.pdf</a> Go to <a href="https://www.va.gov/burials-memorials/#get">https://www.va.gov/burials-memorials/#get</a> to find out how to apply for burial benefits and how to plan for a burial in advance or at time of need.



# ADVOCACY NATIONAL, STATE, AND LOCAL LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

#### MOAA - 2022 Advocacy in Action - Major ASKS

MOAA is conducting our annual spring campaign throughout the month of April. Some of our 350,000 members from across the country will soon be reaching out to your legislators to schedule in-person or virtual meetings to discuss this year's campaign topics.

Even if you are not participating in this year's advocacy campaign, we need your help reaching out to your elected officials to let them know about the event, what topics we are advocating for, and what their offices should expect in the coming weeks. MOAA's three advocacy topics this year are:

- The Major Richard Star Act (H.R. 1282/S. 344) would provide concurrent receipt of retired pay and disability pay for combat-injured veterans. This bill already has 205 co-sponsors in the House adding 54 since January and 56 in the Senate. If you already have co-sponsored, I want to thank you and ensure support through floor votes and potential amendments to the FY 2023 NDAA.
- The Stop Copay Overpay Act (H.R. 4824) would overturn the doubling of TRICARE copays for mental health care for uniformed services families and retirees. By co-sponsoring this legislation, you can help remove the costly barrier to mental health care.
- Ensuring a 4.6% military pay raise as a minimum across all ranks would keep faith with members of all eight uniformed services, maintaining the link to the Employment Cost Index (ECI) established by statute. Keeping this full raise intact in the NDAA remains one of MOAA's constant priorities.

We are pleased that a major issue of TOXIC EXPOSURE has been receiving excellent support. The topics above need extra support. Certainly, there are additional legislative concerns but in this annual big campaign, we usually focus on 3 main topics.



# **WHY JOIN MOAA**

The Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) is the country's leading organization protecting the rights of military servicemembers and their families. Those who belong to MOAA not only lend their voices to a greater cause, but they also gain access to extensive benefits tailored to the needs and lifestyles of military officers. MOAA members proudly hail from every branch of the uniformed services. To them, we have made the same promise that they have made to their country: Never Stop Serving.

Website MOAA - Why Join MOAA

JOIN US - Join a North Carolina Chapter our website www.moaa-nc.org and click JOIN NOW menu.



#### By Dr. Vivianne Wersel, MOAA Surviving Spouse Advisory Council member

This spring, MOAA members contacted all 535 members of Congress during the association's annual Advocacy in Action event, conducting more than 235 meetings and sending over 7,500 letters. Due to COVID-19 restrictions and the challenges of security on Capitol Hill, MOAA members met with their elected officials either in face-to-face or virtual meetings.

MOAA's three legislative priorities were supporting the Major Richard Star Act, supporting the Stop Copay Overpay Act; and ensuring a competitive military pay raise.

Why get involved with Advocacy in Action? Volunteers are well trained to understand the process of setting up meetings and communicating with elected officials as well as having a better understanding of legislation. In addition, participation cultivates relationships with staffers and members of Congress from your district and state. The experience you gain is beneficial to help support other legislation as a constituent or with a group to help improve survivor benefits.

Military survivors are the stakeholders to the legislation at large. Congress continuously adjusts military survivor benefits. It is important surviving spouse members exercise their rights to educate staffers and members of Congress and remain vigilant to protect and improve survivor benefits. MOAA headquarters' staff does an outstanding job educating members so they can participate in grassroots advocacy efforts.

Here are some ways to contribute and keep MOAA's priorities on Congress' radar:

Send pre-written letters to Capitol Hill using MOAA's Legislative Action Center.

- Call elected officials using MOAA's direct line to the U.S. Capitol Switchboard at 1-866-272-6622.
- Engage with congressional members via social media, including Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

Stay current with MOAA's legislative efforts and subscribe to *The MOAA Newsletter*. Check your MOAA's newsletter subscription preferences <u>at this link</u>.

Customize your letters and conversations with elected officials; embed a personal story.

Congress will act only if they are inspired by their voters. Join MOAA's effort to help improve benefits for military, veterans, retirees, family, and survivors.

Read past Surviving Spouse Corners.



#### **VETERANS ADMINISTRATION - VETERANS'BENEFITS**

**VA Changes** Hours before Biden's address, <u>the VA announced</u> plans to add nine new cancers to the list of <u>presumed service-connected ailments</u>:

Squamous cell carcinoma of the larynx.

Squamous cell carcinoma of the trachea.

Adenocarcinoma of the trachea.

Salivary gland-type tumors of the trachea.

Adenosquamous carcinoma of the lung.

Large cell carcinoma of the lung.

Salivary gland-type tumors of the lung.

Sarcomatoid carcinoma of the lung.

Typical and atypical carcinoid of the lung.



# **IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS & WEBSITES:**

THE SURVIVORS OUTREACH SERVICES OFFICE (SOS): Find your nearest SOS coordinator at <a href="https://dcsg9.army.mil/safr/sos/sos-find.html">https://dcsg9.army.mil/safr/sos/sos-find.html</a> Use the dropdown lists to find survivor coordinators by state/county or country/region. If a coordinator is not listed, please call 855-707-2769 for survivor assistance.

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VA: 1-800-827-1000 http://www.va.gov

Social Security: 1-800-772-1213 http://www.ssa.gov

Update ID cards: 1-800-538-9552; www.dmdc.osd.mil/rsl

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MILITARY FUNERAL HONORS: The National Defense Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-65) authorizes Military Funeral Honors to Active Duty Soldiers, Retirees and Veterans. Under the law, at a family's request, every eligible veteran will receive military funeral honors, to include the presence of a military funeral honors detail that will oversee folding and presenting the U.S. flag and playing "Taps". Your funeral director is responsible for making the necessary arrangements. Go to <a href="https://iris.custhelp.va.gov/app/answers/detail/a id/183/~/how-do-i-arrange-for-military-funeral-honors%3F">https://iris.custhelp.va.gov/app/answers/detail/a id/183/~/how-do-i-arrange-for-military-funeral-honors%3F</a> for details. A complete list of resources for funeral directors and planners is at <a href="https://www.militaryonesource.mil/leaders-service-providers/casualty-assistance/funeral-directory-and-planner-resources/">https://www.militaryonesource.mil/leaders-service-providers/casualty-assistance/funeral-directory-and-planner-resources/</a>





All tournament proceeds go to support higher education scholarships for outstanding JROTC cadets in Charlotte-Metrolina area high schools.

TOURNAMENT CHAIRMAN - JOE L. ANDERSON

# Friday, October 7, 2022 Olde Sycamore Golf Plantation - Mint Hill, NC

7:30a - 8:45a Registration, Continental Breakfast, Driving Range Balls, Practice Putting Green
9:00a Tee Off Captain's Choice / Scramble Format & Tournament Play (until 2p)
2:00p - 3:30p Barbecue Buffet Dinner, Awards, Door Prizes & Raffle Winners

(SEE PAGE 2 FOR PRICING, SPONSORSHIP LEVELS AND REGISTRATION FORM)

# PRIZES AWARDED to 1st, 2nd, 3rd place teams, Closest to the Pins, Longest Drive & more!

The Charlotte-Metrolina Chapter of MOAA is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit entity. The JROTC Scholarship Fund falls under that tax-exempt status and all donations are tax-free. Chapter Tax ID/EIN #38-3779812

# JROTC Scholarship Fund Benefit Golf Tournament - Oct 7, 2022 LEVELS & REGISTRATION

PRICE INCLUDES: Green fees, Cart, 2 Beverage Tickets on Course, Raffle Ticket, Continental Breakfast, Buffet Dinner, Door Prizes & Gifts.

#### **PARTICIPATION**

Individual Golfer \$125

4 Person Team \$500

#### **SPONSORSHIPS**

#### **HOLE/TEE SPONSORSHIP**

Individual \$100

Company Signage \$250

4 Person Team + Signage \$600

#### PRIME COMPANY SPONSORSHIP

ALL LEVELS INCLUDE: Acknowledgement at Tournament Dinner, and company name and/or logo on printed material, and press releases. A representative of each Prime Sponsor will be invited to and be recognized at the JROTC scholarship awards dinner/ceremony in May 2023.

#### Signature Sponsor \$5,000

- (3) Foursomes
- Signature Sponsor Banner
- Opportunity to speak at CMC MOAA 50th Anniversary Celebration 2023
- Opportunity to speak at Awards Dinner
- MOAA Challenge Coin to each golfer
- On MOAA wesbsite for 12 months

#### Gold Sponsor \$2,000

- (2) Foursomes
- Title Sponsor Banner
- MOAA Challenge Coin to each golfer

#### Platinum Sponsor \$3,000

- (2) Foursomes
- Title Sponsor Banner
- Opportunity to speak at Awards Dinner
- MOAA Challenge Coin to each golfer
- On MOAA wesbsite for 12 months

#### Silver Sponsor \$1,000

- (I) Foursome
- Title Sponsor Banner
- MOAA Challenge Coin to each golfer

# Registration Form - JROTC Scholarship Fund BENEFIT GOLF TOURNAMENT 2022

Please Check One or Several: (Mulligan page	ckages available at Registration)	
PARTICIPATION: Individual Player \$12	25 4 Person Team \$500	
SPONSORSHIPS: Individual \$100	Company Hole/Tee \$250	4 Person Team Hole/Tee \$600
Prime Company Spo	onsorship (Level	
Team Captain/Player I	Phone:	Email:
Player 2.	Player 3	
Player 4.		

#### Payment and Registration Due by October 1, 2022

ONLINE: Go to Charlotte-Metrolina MOAA website www.charlottemoaa.org to register and make payment BY CHECK: Detach this form and make check payable to "MOAA Charlotte-Metrolina Chapter"

Mail to: Charlotte-Metrolina Chapter MOAA, ATTN: MOAA Scholarship Golf Tournament PO Box 31394, Charlotte, NC 28231-1394



#### MEMBERSHIP ENROLLMENT FORM FOR MOAA AND

Name				Chapter membership
Rank				and dues information:
☐ Active ☐ Retired ☐	☐ Former ☐ Reserve	☐ National Guard	☐ Surviving Spouse	
Spouse name				
Address				
City		Stat	teZIP	
Date of birth		Telephone		
Email				
(To ensure deliverabi	pility of MOAA communications	s, please provide a person	al email address.)	
Are you a member of MOAA?				
MOAA Member Number (if know	wn)			
Not a MOAA national moreceive a BASIC Memb	-		ASIC	
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