NORTH CAROLINA COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

NC Council of Chapters Website: www.moaa-nc.org
Serving Army, Marines, Navy, Air Force, Space Force, Coast Guard, Public Health Service, NOAA
Volume 2025 Issue 3

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IMPORTANT MEETING DATES

March 13th

April 10th

May 8th

Jun 12th

July 10th

August 14th

September 11th

October 9th

November 7th & 8th Annual Meeting In Person only
Triangle Chapter hosting

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

CW4 Jay E, Garbus, USA (Ret)

5 STAR COUNCIL

"No Disrespect in Respectfully Disagreeing with Leaders"

All,

Western North Carolina is in recovery probably for the next few years. A lot of people lost everything. The only thing left was the clothes they were wearing. That includes the house, car, family photos...all gone. If you can do so, please donate anything you can. I-40 has opened one way each way thru the flooded area. If you are going out that way, be prepared for a long ride.

Several of our chapters are selling challenge coins. Check them out at the newsletter marketplace .

Warrant Officers are back in the Air Force. The first class just graduated Warrant Officer School.

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 the Council website. **Further information is restricted due to scammers.**

Chapter Website - www.moaa-nc.org

The Newsletter is published monthly 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 and 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.

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.moaa-nc.org. Anyone wishing to receive this newsletter by e-mail may do so by contacting us using the "Contact Us" link

Early Bird Save the Date Invitation for a Cruise to Bermuda in 2025

6-Day Bermuda Cruise from Norfolk - Carnival Cruise Line Dates: October 12-18, 2025
Round trip from: Norfolk, VA - Open to MOAA members from anywhere, their adult family members and guests. MOAA membership is not required. **Please open the link below for details:**

6-Day Bermuda Cruise from Norfolk - Carnival Cruise Line

Cruise Line: Carnival on Sunshine! Special group rates apply and bookings are managed through our tour agent. Her contact details are listed below. 50 cabins have been reserved for our group and more can be added as needed.

Prices for double occupancy in each cabin are approximately $800 for inside, $900 for ocean view or $1100 for balcony staterooms per person depending on selection. Suites and cabins for more than 2 people can be arranged. Minimal deposit is required to reserve cabins with final payments not due until July 14, 2025.

Call the agent below to discuss and reserve if interested. Lorna Tiller, AAA ITA 910-343-1978(O), 910-540-3390(M) 1823 Hawthorne Rd. Wilmington, NC 28403

Lorna Tiller, AAA ITA
email: ltillertravels@gmail.com
910-343-1978
1823 Hawthorne Rd.
Wilmington, NC 28403

Thanks,
Ken Klassen

MOAA®
AFFILIATED COUNCILS AND CHAPTERS

Council and Chapter Presidents:

Good morning. In the spirit of keeping you informed of major events impacting our association, I'm writing at General Kelly's request to provide a copy of the statement MOAA national has released through our communications channels regarding the recent actions of the new administration and its potential impact on the military and veteran community.

MOAA's position has not changed -- in this uncertain time, MOAA is focused on our core mission to preserve and protect the earned benefits of our uniformed services community, including those who are currently serving, veterans, retirees, families, and surviving spouses. It is extremely important for MOAA to stay focused on our mission as directed in our congressional charter as a nonpartisan, nonprofit association. Our mission is our compass and North Star to ensure we are not distracted or drawn into unrelated social or political issues. I want to reassure you our headquarters team is vigilantly monitoring current events, and if we identify an impact or actual threat MOAA will act to preserve and protect our earned benefits.

Our complete statement follows. Please reach out if you have questions and thanks for your leadership and support, Jim

Statement on Federal Budget and Workforce Reductions

March 2025

The Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) has always advocated for a strong national defense, with a particular focus on the people whose service and sacrifices make it possible. Maintaining this strength requires both sufficient funding and a capable workforce. However, the nation's growing debt and fiscal challenges pose a significant risk to future prosperity and place increasing pressure on our ability to sustain a robust force.

Given this reality, ongoing budget scrutiny to find efficiencies and savings is not only appropriate but necessary. However, early results from these exercises and actions have highlighted the need for thoughtful implementation and greater caution as budget reviews continue. There have been opportunities to reconsider and reverse rapid decisions when their negative consequences became evident; a prime example came in the protection of military spouses with existing remote-work arrangements from a return-to-work directive that would've significantly harmed military families. We must balance fiscal responsibility

with maintaining a strong and prepared all-volunteer force, ensuring the nation upholds its promises to those Americans and their families who commit themselves to uniformed service and sacrifice for their country.

Those who serve and have served in uniform make extraordinary commitments and sacrifices — not only for our national defense, but for the very ideals that define America: freedom, security, and prosperity. Military members uphold the foundation of economic prosperity and freedoms all Americans enjoy — foundations built by veterans. These servicemembers swear an oath to protect and defend the Constitution, many putting their lives on the line, to make this happen. They don't join to get rich or receive accolades, they join to defend and protect liberties often taken for granted. In return, they expect the nation to honor its commitments and uphold promises made to care for them and their families both during and after their service. Fulfilling these promises is essential to ensuring those who wear the uniform — and their families — continue to encourage future generations to serve.

Despite statements to the contrary, some of the cuts made to the federal workforce and budget have negative consequences for the uniform services community, veterans, and families. Veterans, who make up approximately 30% of the federal workforce, are being dismissed. The speed of current actions is preventing recognition of the previous commitments made by the nation through veterans' hiring preferences. Similarly, military spouses who are granted a federal hiring preference are also being let go. For military spouses, the impact extends beyond household income—their job loss directly impacts the readiness and retention of their uniformed partners. Military families increasingly rely on dual incomes, and the loss of that second income stream plays a significant role in the decision to remain in service. These preferences were not established as handouts, but as a strategic investment recognizing the vital role of these workers in supporting recruiting, retention, and overall warfighting readiness.

Unfortunately, in the rush to make reductions, broad assumptions have emerged that veterans and spouses are simply being handed employment. In reality, their unique skillsets, experience, and dedication are highly valued and difficult to replace. Many of these individuals sought federal jobs so they could continue to serve the country and, in some cases, keep their military family together, when they could have commanded higher salaries in the private sector. As demonstrated in previous reversals and during DOGE updates that have highlighted a need to clean up the inevitable mistakes, some of these actions should be reversed quickly to eliminate inadvertent impacts on national defense.

The pace of current actions underscores the need to apply lessons learned and proceed with greater caution as budget reduction efforts, such as those announced for DoD, take place. As in previous budget-cutting exercises, it is not unusual for operations and maintenance and military personnel accounts to receive the most scrutiny. These tend to be the easiest areas to generate quick savings, free from the political or contractual concerns associated with other parts of the budget.

Once again, the right statements about supporting the uniformed service members and families who bear the burden are being made. But history tells us budget discussions often lead to reductions in "people programs" — housing allowances, healthcare benefits, cost-of-living adjustments, compensation, and manpower reductions themselves. These cuts may appear to offer immediate savings, but they have often proven more expensive thanks to unintended long-term costs:

- **Retention and Recruitment Risks:** Reductions in benefits make military service less attractive, weakening our ability to maintain a skilled and ready force.

- **Readiness Degradation:** Morale and stability among servicemembers decline when financial security is undermined.

- **Historical Lessons Ignored:** Past budget reductions, such as those seen during the 2014-2016 sequestration period and after Operation Desert Storm, led to force management challenges and cost more to correct. The costs to hastily reverse force reductions made without connections to actual defense strategies were significant. Even more costly was the extensive loss of experience, as new recruits replaced experienced members (who were in many cases paid to depart).

If increasing focus on warfighting and meritocracy is a target, then addressing harder but more lucrative places to generate savings should be in the plan. Though more difficult given the amount of associated political considerations, there are opportunities to generate savings through responsible defense budget reform:

1. **Efficient Program Management:** Allowing defense leaders to shutter outdated programs, weapon systems, and infrastructure through a BRAC would free up significant funds.

2. **Acquisition Reform:** Addressing inefficiencies in the procurement process would reduce costs.

3. **Long-Term Fiscal Planning:** Instead of making hasty cuts to meet short-term budget targets, policymakers should focus on sustainable financial strategies that prevent costly course corrections.

The men and women in uniform understand their duty to serve and protect this nation. It is the nation's duty to ensure their sacrifices are honored — not just with words, but with policies that reflect the value of their service. Budget constraints must be addressed — even within DoD and the VA, but cuts should not come at the expense of those who have given so much. By working together — lawmakers, advocacy groups, and the American public — we must find fiscally responsible solutions that uphold our commitment to those who serve.

MOAA stands ready to work in a bipartisan way to ensure that we, as a nation, fulfill the promises made to those who serve and have served — along with their families. Now is not the time to erode our servicemembers' earned benefits. Rather, it's time to find solutions.

Jim Carman, CAE
Captain, U.S. Navy (Retired)
Vice President Council/Chapter and Member Support
Military Officers Association of America (MOAA)
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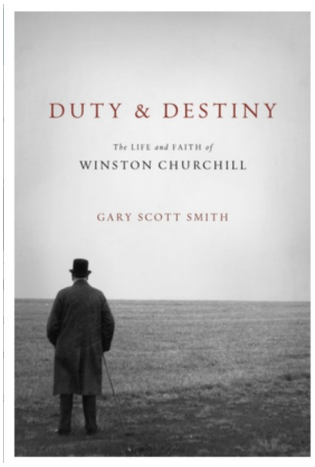
MY BOOK SUGGESTION

Review by COL Jim Brumit, USA (Ret) - Immediate Council Past President
Member SENCLAND Chapter since 2003



DUTY & DESTINY, The LIFE and FAITH of WINSTON CHURCHILL
by Rev. Dr. Gary Scott Smith, professor emeritus at Grove City College, PA

What would the cultures and governments be in North America and Europe if we had not won the Second World War? Would it be a dictatorship and would we be able to worship as we please?

Winston Churchill made the difference as one of the greatest leaders of the 20th century and, particularly, during WWII. He led the free people to overcome all odds and to win, But, was his faith a ruse to win over the hearts and minds of the people? He would often use biblical scripture in his writings and speeches.

Churchill was reared by a nannie. His father and mother were wealthy and were often not present in his early days. The nannie was a very a religious Christian, and she required that Winston learn Biblical scripture and to memorize verses.

In time, Churchill may have come to doubt his Christian faith through wartime experiences and circumstances. He would often use biblical scripture in his writings and speeches. Was Winston Churchill a true faithful Christian or was he simply using his knowledge of the Bible to convince UK citizens, Europeans and Americans to follow him to win?

What are your conclusions? COL James G. Brumit, USA, (retired)

IMPORTANT DATES

- **March 27:** Monthly chapter leader virtual roundtable, 7-9 p.m. EST: **Preparing for AiA 2025. Join here** at the time of the meeting. (Meeting ID: 966 1480 1229). Note this is a changed topic and the second of two roundtables on AiA.
- **April 7-10:** Advocacy in Action 2025
- **April 10:** MOAA Council Presidents Seminar
- **May 2-3:** Central Region Council & Chapter Leadership Workshop, Oklahoma City, OK
- **May 19**: MOAA Charities Golf Classic, TPC Potomac, MD
- **Aug. 13:** Council & Chapter Leadership Workshop for Experienced Leaders (virtual)
  Oct. 27-29: Total Force+ Conference, Gaylord National Harbor, MD
- **Nov. 14-15:** Eastern Region Council & Chapter Leadership Workshop, Hershey, PA

RESOURCES

New leader and affiliate checklist (Download)
Policies and Procedures Guide (Download)
How-to video: Using MOAA's Online Chapter Dues Program
Access an archive of Council and Chapter Roundtables
List of training events and other dates to knowQuestions? Email chapters@moaa.org or call (800) 234-6622 and ask to speak with a Chapter Affairs Specialist.

A VIRTUAL CHAPTER

Virtual Chapters should be bound together by a shared affinity (e.g., warfare specialty) and/or mission (e.g., health care advocacy). While the possibilities are endless, some interest groups that may lend themselves to virtual chapters include, but are not limited to: Currently serving officers, Guard and reserve officers, Member spouses, Networking/mentoring specialists, State advocacy champions ,Army and Navy Club members, Other military association members, Overseas military/expatriate, Dentists, and Financial professionals.

Are you interested in starting one of these virtual chapters, or in championing another group? Contact Capt. Pat L. Williams, USN (Ret), MOAA's program director for engagement, at patw@moaa.org.

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North Carolina Council of Chapters (NCCOC)

Our purpose is to further the legislative and other objectives of MOAA.

- Foster fraternal relationships among retired, active, and former officers of the uniformed services and their National Guard or reserve components.
- Protect the interest of retired, active, reserve, and National Guard personnel of the uniformed services and their dependents and survivors
- Provide useful services for members and their dependents and survivors.
- Serve the community and the nation.
- Protect the interests of service retirees and active duty military members in matters of North Carolina state legislation.
- Organize and coordinate the collective action 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.

REFERENCE INFORMATION SECTION

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.

MOAA GUIDANCE ON PARTISAN POLITICAL ACTIVITIES, CONTINUED

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.

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.

LIABILITY INSURANCE

- This plan provides coverage for lawsuits resulting from bodily injury and property damage at Chapter-sponsored activities. If your Chapter typically rents space when it needs to gather for a meeting or special event, you may have discovered the owner of the property requires "special event" insurance. This coverage is typically very expensive to buy or doesn't fully protect you. That's why this plan was developed exclusively for MOAA Chapters!

Note for chapters with a current MOAA insurance policy: MOAA's Chapter Liability Insurance Plan is available through the current carrier until Dec. 31, 2023. Should your chapter bind a new or renewal policy prior to that date, the policy will be in-force for one year from the effective date. AMBA has evaluated several carriers and selected a new carrier, Philadelphia Insurance Companies, to continue to provide this valuable coverage with minimal disruptions. You will receive application instructions from AMBA via email, or mail if no email address is on file, approximately 75 days prior to your current policy's expiration date. If you have any questions or would like to apply for a new policy, please feel free to contact AMBA at (800) 503-9227, Monday–Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Central time, or by email at plsdsteam.service@amba.info.

Click for a plan overview.

GENERATING INCOME

Not sure how to create non-dues income? Here are some ideas and guidance.

MOAA Insurance/Association Member Benefits Advisors (AMBA)(UPDATED May 13, 2024): Would you like to earn $100 for your chapter by including an advertisement in your newsletter for MOAA Insurance Plans? Enroll Jan. 1 through May 31 by emailing dave.shidler@getamba.com following the instructions found at this link.

MOAA Vacations: Brennco is pleased to announce the NEW MOAA Vacations Chapter Advertising Program. Councils and chapters can receive a one-time $100 annual payment for placing digital ads in their newsletter or on their websites. Click here for more information and/or to enroll. Also, did you know that your chapter always earns a 1% royalty when chapter members book travel through MOAA Vacations, and that you can even plan an exclusive event, such as a cruise, for your council or chapter? For additional information, email jon@MOAAvac.com or call (800) 211-5107.

Florida Senate Committee Approves Stolen Valor Bill for Public Officials
by The Center Square | Mar 5, 2025

(SUMMATION) Senate Bill 348 passed the Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security by a 6-0 vote. The bill would add to the state's code of ethics a prohibition on candidates and public officials from making false claims related to their military service for material gain. Penalties could include censure, a fine of $25,000 and recommendation of removal from office. The bill would also expand the attorney general's authority to seek wage garnishment for unpaid fines. A similar measure is in the House Rules & Ethics Committee. Congress passed the Stolen Valor Act in 2013 that narrowed the crime to one of using false representations about military service to earn money or other benefits.

Minutes of the 13 February 2025 Council of Chapters Meeting

The monthly meeting of the MOAA NCCOC was held virtually and called to order at 10:01 on Thursday, 13 February 2025 by President CW4 Jay Garbus, USA (Ret). The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all. Chaplain COL Malcolm Roberts III, USA (Ret) read the opening prayer.

A quorum was present with ten officers present, nine chapters represented and seven guests including guest speaker CAPT Frank Michael, USN (Ret).

Frank elaborated on his recent letter to all MOAA Leaders.

- They are extremely close to rolling out the NRT and CM. It should be next week
- It will be rolled out in stages to manage potential issues, and North Carolina is in the first group.
- Councils and All chapters will have access to the rollout
- A workbook will be available, and the February 27 Roundtable will be dedicated to the CM
- The deadline for award applications is this Saturday, February 15th .
- Personal awards can be submitted via the website year-round (no deadline)
- Streamers have been mailed out for the Harris Award and the LOE, then annual pins will be sent to add to the streamers, and new medallions to signify a new level. Keep Legacy streamers.
- COL Dana Tucker, ARNG (Ret) and LCDR Mark Sandvigen, USN (Ret) will attend Advocacy in Action Stipends for travel and zoom accounts are for the Council only.
- AMBA advertising stipend ($100) has a new point of contact which Frank will send to us
- Only three NC Chapters are using the new dues payment portal, Cheddar Up, which is a great improvement.
- Community Engagement Opportunities include Our Community Salutes, Memorial Day Flag Relay and Military Order of World Wars activities.

COL Herb Segal, USA (Ret) added American Battlefield Trust on April 26th , and COL Jeri Graham, USA (Ret) added Wreaths Across America to this list.

COL Herb Segal, USA (Ret) made a motion to accept the minutes as emailed. COL Jeri Graham, USA (Ret) seconded it, and it passed.

Treasurer Col Ken Hillman, USMC (Ret) reported that eight chapters have sent in their dues. The 2025 budget projects equal revenue and expenses.

2nd Vice President COL Dana Tucker, ARNG (Ret) reported that he and LCDR Mark Sandvigen, USN (Ret) are registered for the AiA with COL Jeri Graham, USA (Ret) as a backup if needed. Five Tier-One Priorities have been identified. The list of the representatives they are to visit omits Districts 6 and 8.

3rd Vice President LTC Tricia Vinson, USA (Ret) reported that the state House has seven bills that pertain to Veterans or military. One is to establish November as Military Month. She has a list of committee members so you can see which ones your representative is on.

Immediate Past President COL Jim Brumit, USA (Ret) reminded everyone that the deadline to apply for Community Grants is February 28 th . The maximum for each grant is $5000, but applications may be sent in for different projects. Chapter involvement is required, not just involvement by a chapter member.

COL Walt Havenstein, USMC (Ret) moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and passed.

CHAPTER PRESIDENTS

(NC01) - Cape Fear—COL Gregory K Williamson, USA (Ret)
(NC02) - Coastal Carolina—CAPT Randall Ramian, USN, (Ret)
(NC04) - Charlotte-Metrolina—Lt Col Nelson English, USAF (Ret)
(NC06) - Sandhills—Col. Walter Havenstein, USMC (Ret)
(NC07) - Southeastern—CAPT Allan Turner, USNR (Ret)
(NC08) - Tarheel Central—CAPT Phil Briscoe, USN (Ret)
(NC09) - Triangle—COL Herb Segal, USA, (Ret)
(NC10) - Western Carolina—COL Steve Watkins, USA (Ret)
(NC11) - Catawba Valley—LTC Clifford (Davey) Davenport, USA, (Ret)
(NC14) - Piedmont—Maj Aimee S Corning, USAF (Ret)
(NC17) - First in Flight– LCDR Al DelGarbino, USCG, (Ret)
(NC20) - Central Carolina—LTC Gary Applewhite, USA, (Ret)
(NC21) - High Country—Frankie Groff (SSL)
(NC22) - New River—LCDR Steve Tucker, USN, (Ret)

COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Executive Committee

1. President CW4 Jay E. Garbus, USA (Ret)
2. 1st Vice President CDR Kenneth Klassen, USN (Ret)
3. 2nd Vice President COL Dana Tucker, ARNG
4. 3rd Vice President LTC Tricia Vinson, USA (Ret)
5. Immediate Past President COL Jim Brumit, USA (Ret)
6. Secretary Mrs. Sue Harris (SOM)– nonvoting
7. Treasurer Col Ken Hillman, USMC (Ret)
8. Surviving Spouse Liaison Dr. Vivianne Wersel (SSL)

Nominating Committee

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

Finance Committee

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

Education Committee

1. COL Jim Brumit, USA (Ret)
2. Capt Donna Culp, USAF (FMR)

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MOAA VACATIONS
2025 MOAA Signature Group
Burgundy & Provence River Cruise
September 14-21, 2025
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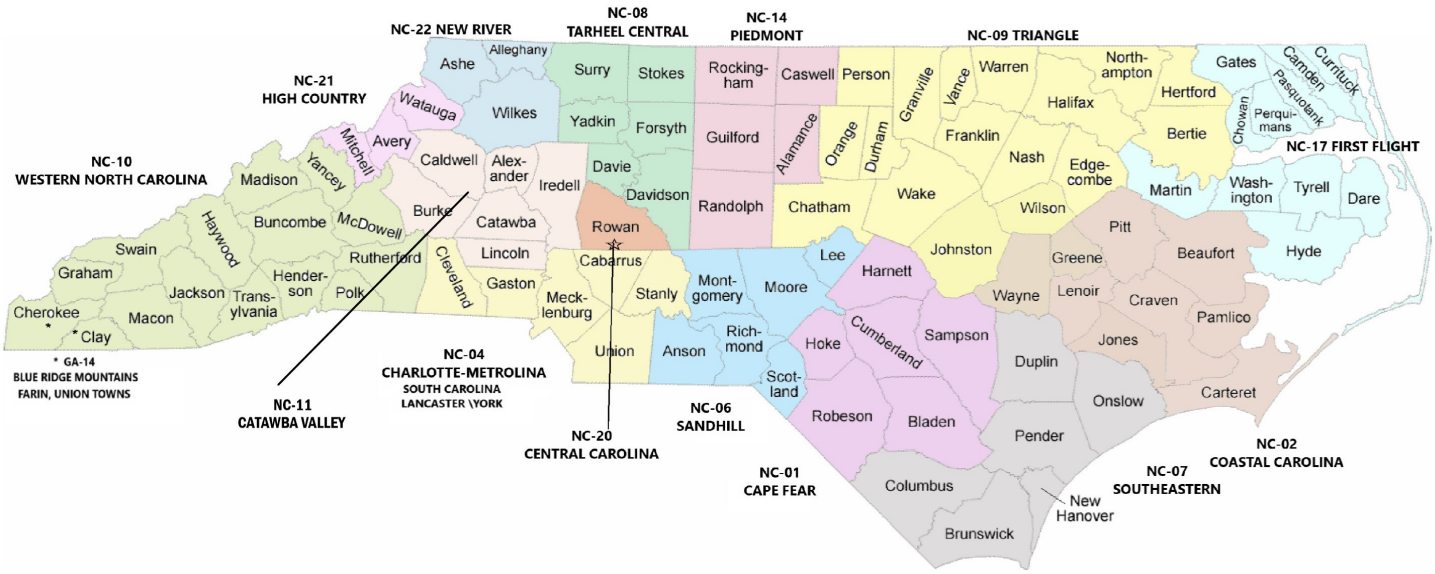
CHAPTER NEWS



CAPE FEAR CHAPTER NC-01

The Cape Fear (N.C.) Chapter helped to repair the home of a local Army veteran through a partnership with the Fayetteville Area Habitat for Humanity Veterans Build. In October 2024, 12 members of the chapter, wearing MOAA shirts, spent a day painting, removing rotted soffits and windowsills, and assisting contractors with other repairs.

Chapter President Col. Gregory Williamson, USA (Ret), said he learned about the program through an advertisement at the Fayetteville Habitat for Humanity ReStore and thought it would be a great project for the chapter. He connected with Rick Callaway, the chief operations officer for Fayetteville Area Habitat for Humanity and a retired warrant officer who is now a member of the chapter. In addition to sharing details with Williamson about the veterans build, Callaway also helped with the application for a Community Outreach Grant from The MOAA Foundation.

The chapter's grant application was accepted for $3,000 to help pay for the needed supplies for the repairs, and Habitat identified a retired noncommissioned officer whose home was in need of assistance.

COASTAL CAROLINA CHAPTER NC-02

We hold four scheduled events every year: 1) May's Scholarship Dinner; 2) July's Summer Activity; 3) September's Pig Pick'n; and 4) December's Toys-for-Tots Luncheon.

We also have several community events that CCMOAA participates in such as the MumFest, Veterans Day Luncheon, and Wreaths Across America. This information is on the website and in our Newsletter as well.

CHARLOTTE-METROLINA CHAPTER NC-04

Chapter Dues - Individual **$30.00** Dues - Surviving Spouse **$10.00**

Any active duty, retired, veteran, or reserve component commissioned or warrant officer of any of the seven uniformed services, or their widows, is eligible to join the Charlotte Metrolina Chapter. It is desired that applicants be members of the National MOAA or willing to join. Chapter dues are $30.00 annually for regular members; auxiliary members (Surviving Spouse) pay $10.00 annual dues.

SANDHILLS CHAPTER, MOAA NC-06

Our Chapter publishes a monthly e-newsletter regarding upcoming events, key legislative issues, other items of interest, and changes in our membership. We also annually publish a directory of all members with email addresses, and phone numbers.

We hope you consider joining the Sandhills MOAA Chapter and reestablishing ties with your military experience and your fellow comrades-in-arms.

SOUTHEASTERN NC CHAPTER NC-07

The mission of the SENCLAND Chapter is to benefit members of the uniformed services, their families and survivors and to advocate for a strong national defense, while providing needed support to the community and its members.

sencland.org

THE TARHEEL CENTRAL CHAPTER NC-08

"The Tarheel Central Chapter, MOAA, covers six N.C. counties: Davidson, Davie, Forsyth, Stokes, Surry, and Yadkin. Correspondence should be sent to: Tarheel Central Chapter, MOAA, c/o P. Briscoe, P.O. BOX 487, Yadkinville, N.C. 27055.

Visit our website, www.tarheelmoaa.org, to familiarize yourself with our chapter and the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA).

Our members, prospective members, spouses, and guests meet monthly on the second Tuesday at Salem Glen Country Club in Clemmons, N.C. The dress is business casual. The cost is $25 per person including coffee and tea. A cash bar is available. The social hour begins at 5:45 p.m. followed by announcements, dinner and guest speaker."

THE TRIANGLE CHAPTER NC-09

Our new and improved website, www.trianglemoaa.org is the key to all of our upcoming activities and events. The Cary High School JROTC Drill Meet this month is partially sponsored by our Chapter. The Battlefield Park Day in April is an opportunity for our members to volunteer for annual clean up of area battlefields. Our May dinner meeting is when we traditionally award our JROTC Scholarships.

WESTERN CAROLINA CHAPTER NC-10

Membership in WNC-MOAA Chapter and MOAA National are nonpartisan and open to present and former commissioned officers and warrant officers (including retirees) with honorable service in any of the United States' eight uniformed services (including National Guard and Reserves): Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Coast Guard, Space Force, U.S. Public Health Service, and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

CATAWBA VALLEY CHAPTER NC-11

Chapter Affairs Specialist, Council and Chapter Affairs Dena Kilgore, CAE, will visit the NC11: Catawba Valley Chapter In-Person on **9/19/2024**

The Catawba Valley Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) was chartered in 1982. It covers a region of North Carolina comprised of six counties: Alexander, Burke, Caldwell, Catawba, Iredell and Lincoln. Over the years, the chapter has won four MOAA national 4-Star Levels of Excellence Awards and five 5-Star awards; the most recent was for year 2022.

PIEDMONT CHAPTER NC-14

Correspondence should be sent to: Piedmont Chapter, MOAA, 545 Morton Ave, Asheboro, NC 27205

FIRST FLIGHT CHAPTER NC-17

Correspondence should be sent to: First Flight Chapter, MOAA, P.O. Box 50, Shiloh, NC 27974-0050

CENTRAL CAROLINA CHAPTER NC-20

Correspondence should be sent to: Central Carolina Chapter, MOAA, Rufty-Holmes Senior Citizens Center, Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue, Salisbury, NC 28144

HIGH COUNTRY CHAPTER NC-21

Correspondence should be sent to: High Country Chapter, MOAA, PO Box 3312, Boone, NC 28607

The High Country Chapter holds General Membership meetings quarterly at dates and times to be announced. The Board of Directors' meetings are held every month on the first Tuesday at 5:00 at Basil's in Boone. All non-Board members are welcome and encouraged to attend. Please give us a heads up if you do plan to join us and please check the events schedule for any changed to the date.

If you would like to join us as a new member, please download and print the Application for Membership in the High Country Chapter MOAA. Fill out and send the completed form to:

High Country Chapter MOAA
PO Box 3312
Boone, NC 28607-3312

NEW RIVER CHAPTER NC-22

Correspondence should be sent to New River Chapter, MOAA, PO Box 1202, Jefferson, NC 28640

NOTICE PLEASE READ

§ 143B-1222. Veterans' Affairs Commission Advisory Committee (VACAC) – members; compensation.

The department commander or official head of each veterans' organization which has been chartered by an act of the United States Congress and which is legally constituted and operating in this State pursuant to said charter shall constitute an Advisory Committee to the Veterans' Affairs Commission. Members of the VACAC shall receive per diem and necessary travel and subsistence expenses in accordance with the provisions of G.S. 138-5. (1977, c. 637, s. 3; 2015-241, s. 24.1(c); 2015-268, s.7.3(a).)

MOAA

NORTH CAROLINA & FEDERAL LEGISLATION

MOAA's Core Mission

The Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) is the country's leading organization protecting the rights of uniformed servicemembers and their families. MOAA's constituents 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.

MOAA's greatest mission is to improve the lives of those who serve and their families, which is achieved largely through the tireless advocacy efforts taking place in our nation's capital. For more than 90 years, MOAA has supported legislation that benefits the uniformed services community and has remained equally vigilant when fighting to stop legislation that threatens our livelihood. The larger our numbers, the greater our voice.

- Ensuring pay at or above Employment Cost Index, allowances, and programs necessary to recruit and retain a quality force.
- Concurrent Receipt of military retirement pay and VA disability pay.
- Maintaining the hold on medical billet reductions until required reports clarify how any cuts will fully support both readiness and beneficiary access to care.
- Reversing the degradation of the pharmacy benefit, specifically ensure access and achieve limits to copay increases.
- Requiring DoD to establish a transparent and well-publicized problem reporting system for TRICARE beneficiaries experiencing access challenges within the direct care system of military hospitals and clinics, including an annual report to Congress on the number and types of beneficiary access problem reports by MTF and steps taken by DHA to address systemic access problems.
- Monitoring recent major legislation enacted such as the PACT Act in the areas of health care, compensation, and follow-on support for surviving spouses and families and seek statutory or policy changes as required.
- Compelling Congress and VA to accelerate caregiving and whole health care services, and modernization of VHA workforce and facility infrastructure to improve veterans access to high quality care.
- Improving congressional support for uniformed services families: enhancing programs to support spouse employment, ensuring implementation of an effective basic needs allowance, and providing accessible, affordable childcare options.
- Overcoming the lack of effective problem-reporting mechanisms and resolution systems in the Military Health System.
- Repealing the recoupment of last month's paycheck after retiree's passing, and continue to improve SGLI/VGLI updates to match inflation.
- Improving DIC baseline to align with other government entitlements' baseline of 55%.

MOAA NEVER STOPS SERVING TO HONOR THEIR SERVICE AND HELP THEM RETIRE THE WAY THEY ENVISIONED.

MOAA NEWS & INFORMATION

"Never Stop Serving"

Pay Chapter Dues Online: See if your local chapter is participating in the Chapter Dues Payment System! Only THREE NC Chapters have used the new payment system.

The **Lake and Sumter Counties (Fla.) Chapter** presented $3,000 to Villagers for Veterans, a nonprofit that ensures "veterans receive assistance in healing, a return to normalcy, and an independent lifestyle." The funds will help pay for food and other amenities needed for daily living for residents of Ashley's Cottage in Fruitland Park, a transitional home for women veterans. .

The **Star Fort (S.C.) Chapter** is partnering with the City of Greenwood to recognize local veterans with banners on lamp posts for two weeks preceding and after Veterans Day. The double-sided vinyl banners include a photo of the veteran in uniform and their service branch and war/conflict served in.

The **Whidbey Island (Wash.) Chapter** recently presented awards to two junior officers, one from Sea Command and one from Shore Command. The recipients — Lt. Paige L. Brigham, Avionics Division officer, Fleet Air Reconnaissance Squadron, and Lt. J.G. Cameron Kinley, tactical watch officer, Theater Undersea Surveillance Command, Pacific — received from the chapter a glass engraved plaque and a challenge coin. In addition, the Oak Harbor Navy JROTC commander and five of his cadets performed the colors and a rifle drill at the event.

MOAA VACATIONS
2025 MOAA Signature Group
Burgundy & Provence River Cruise
September 14-21, 2025
LEARN MORE
Huge Savings and Free Onboard Credit

MOAA VACATIONS
Jon E. Brenneman
President
Toll-Free: 1-800-211-5107
Direct: 913-627-9705
Cell Phone: 816-679-3181

NORTH CAROLINA COUNCIL OF CHAPTERS

QUARTERMASTER MARKET PLACE

The Tarheel Central Chapter

Challenge Coin is now available for purchase for $15.00. On the front, the chapter name runs above the US Flag and the MOAA motto rings the bottom. The NC state symbol is representative of the state flag in color and has a single white star located in Tarheel Central Chapter catchment area – Surry; Stokes; Yadkin; Forsyth; Davie; and Davidson counties. On the Back of the coin is the official MOAA logo. Address purchase inquires to info@tarheelmoaa.org.

Southeastern Chapter

With the help of Past President Joe Irrera, SENCLAND Chapter ordered and recently received our own Challenge Coins. We are selling these at Chapter events for $5.00 each. Monies received over and above manufacturing costs will go back to the chapter. We started selling these at the 9/3/2024 chapter meeting and will make available at all subsequent meetings going forward.

Charlotte-Metrolina Chapter

There's no better way to show your pride of MOAA and the Charlotte-Metrolina Chapter than wearing official merchandise, found at the MOAA Store online. There's a good selection of quality men's and women's apparel; it costs no more than you'd pay at the mall; and they deliver it to your front door. Wear it at official functions and in the community, where it can be a great conversation starter and generate more interest in our chapter from local veterans. Please check it out! Eric Kelly (USAF-Ret), Chapter Secretary. MOAA Chapter coins are available for $10.00 at meetings or by contacting Susan Bryant at susrebbry@yahoo.com

MOAA®
Military Officers Association of America

MEMBERSHIP ENROLLMENT FORM FOR MOAA AND

Name_____

Rank_____ Branch of Service_____

☐ Active ☐ Retired ☐ Former ☐ Reserve ☐ National Guard ☐ Surviving Spouse

Spouse name_____

Address_____

City_____State_____ZIP_____

Date of birth_____ Telephone_____

Email_____

(To ensure deliverability of MOAA communications, please provide a personal email address.)

Are you a member of MOAA? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Unknown

MOAA Member Number (if known)_____

Not a MOAA national member yet? Check here to receive a BASIC Membership at no cost to you. ☐ **BASIC**

And, for only $4 a month, you can upgrade to **PREMIUM** membership, giving you immediate access to a full spectrum of career and financial resources, exclusive publications, college scholarships for dependents, and countless discounts on products and travel. **Visit moaa.org/join to learn more.**

How did you hear about MOAA Chapter involvement?_____

Are you a member of any other MOAA Chapter(s)? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, which one(s)? _____

To complete enrollment:

- **Fill in this form** on your computer, save it, and email it to _____ [add chapter email address/contact information] _____ as an attachment. Do not include credit card information. We will contact you to finalize payment if required; or
- **Print it out,** fill it in by hand, and mail it with a check made out to _____ [add chapter payment info] _____; or
- Go to _____ [insert chapter webpage] _____

You will be opted in to receive e-communications from MOAA and your local chapter. You will be able to opt out of any further e-communications at any time. MOAA will not sell or share personal information.

Chapter membership and dues information:

M1900DMCHP

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