



5 STAR



5 STAR
2014,15,17,18



CHAPTER BOARD

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Newsletter

Jay E. Garbus Same as above

NEXT MEETING

November 15th
On Zoom
At 3:00 PM

NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2020



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We are having a **Zoom chapter meeting November 15th at 3 p.m.** I will be sending out the link to the meeting when it gets close. I do not particularly like it this way, but it is the new normal and we have to keep our members safe. When a vaccine comes out or COVID-19 is gone we can have in-person meetings

Again, I note that Joe Anderson is the Chairperson for chapter officer and board nominations for 2021. Contact him if you have an interest in becoming an officer or serving on the Board of Directors for 2021. We need and want new and long-time members willing to serve the chapter. We will be seeking additional nominations and voting for all officers and if you during the November meeting. If you are interested, please let us know.

The chapter has put in for the **Col. Marvin J. Harris Communications Awards**. Each year, we submit materials in both categories (Website and Print or E-Newsletter) as part of MOAA Award program. Our chapter received a five-star award last year for both categories.

If anyone has something they would like to share with the chapter please email me so I can put it in the newsletter. It could be weddings, birth announcement, the trip you took (or will take) or something else that you are proud to share.

The Board will keep you informed of any updates that may affect us due to the COVID-19 pandemic and meeting restrictions.

Jay E. Garbus, CW4, USA (Ret), President

The mission of the Charlotte-Metrolina Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) is to promote MOAA purposes and objectives. This will foster fraternal relations among retired, active, and

former officers of the uniformed services, and their Reserve and National Guard components. The goal is to actively promote the protection of the rights and interests of members of the uniform 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 – Jay E. Garbus

The **Newsletter** is published monthly for members and friends of Charlotte-Metrolina Chapter, MOAA.

Editorial Policy: The Charlotte-Metrolina Chapter is affiliated with national MOAA. As such, the Charlotte-Metrolina Chapter is nonprofit, politically nonpartisan. Editorial policies are established by the Chapter's Publisher and Editor and are in consonance with MOAA's. Advertising and sponsorship are accepted based on MOAA policies and standards.

Editor may be reached at (704) 400-0160

Chapter Website <https://www.charlottesmoaa.org> / **MOAA Website** <http://www.moaa.org/>

MOAA "Take Action" <http://www.moaa.org/takeAction/>

Membership Open to active duty, former, retired, and National Guard and Reserve

2021 DUES

2021 Charlotte-Metrolina MOAA **DUES - DUES - DUES- DUES - DUES- DUES- DUES**. Chapter dues of \$30.00 for regular members and \$10.00 for surviving spouses for 2021 are due on January 1st, 2021. They may be paid by check or through MOAA National via credit card or debit card. Please make checks out to: Charlotte-Metrolina Chapter MOAA and put 2021 Dues in the For Line.

THE FOLLOWING CHAPTER MEMBERS DO NOT OWE DUES FOR 2021:

| | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| Ainslie, Gregory | Clark, Tony |
| Huggins, Nate | Robinson, Thomas |
| Aljets, Carol | Cook, Carol |
| Lundell, Douglas | Samb, John |
| Allison III, Charles | Deschamp, Harold |
| McConville, John | Slater, Randall |
| Bankier, Harold | Dremann, Timothy |
| Morris, Scott | Steele, Robert |
| Brown, Edward | Eason, Tyron |
| Nolan, Thomas | Vogt, Charles |
| Campbell, Jane | Ellinger, Harley |
| Outwater, Fisk | Willis, John |
| Clark IV, Robert | Garbus, Jay |
| Ritter, Carol | Wruck, Erich-Oskar |

PROGRAMS

November 15, 2020 / at Red Rocks Café, 4223 Providence Rd 8, **Zoom Meeting** at 3 p.m./Monthly Business meeting, election of Officers.

Our speaker for the Nov 15, 2020 meeting of Charlotte Metrolina Chapter of MOAA will be David Laws, Director, Service to the Armed Forces and International Services. David will be presenting "A pictorial view of Red Cross programs, including collecting plasma to combat COVID-19, responding to hurricanes and wildfires in 2020 and the many ways that the Red Cross supports our military and veterans."

He is responsible for several Red Cross programs that provide support and assistance to military members, veterans, and their families throughout 51 counties in North and South Carolina. In times of disaster, David has deployed in management positions to assist families affected by the disaster. David graduated from the United States Naval Academy.

December 13th, 2020 / at Red Rocks Café, 4223 Providence Rd Zoom Meeting at 3 p.m./Monthly Business meeting and Christmas celebration.

January 24th, 2021 / 3:00 p.m./ Officer Installation. - Dinner meeting at Red Rocks Café or Zoom Monthly Business meeting and potential national MOAA rep visit or zoom presentation

February 21, 2021; 3:00 p.m. at Red Rocks Café, 4223 Providence Road 8, Charlotte, NC 28211/Dinner meeting Looking for a program

March 21, 2021; 3:00 p.m. Red Rocks Café, 4223 Providence Road 8, Charlotte, NC 28211/Dinner meeting

NOMINATIONS (ELECTIONS) 2021 CHAPTER OFFICERS AND BOARD – "In accordance with our Chapter By-Laws, elections of officers for the 2021 Calendar Year will take place at our November meeting to be held on Nov 15, 2020 at 3 p.m. If you interested in serving our chapter as an officer or as a board member, **please contact Joe Anderson, Chair, Nominating Committee NLT Sunday, November 1.** He can be reached at mobile # 336-324-1008 or email: joeanderson1970@yahoo.com.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and for the fact that you are....**STILL SERVING AMERICA."**

CHARLOTTE-METROLINA MOAA CHAPTER 2021 PROPOSED BUDGET

DEBITS

NCCOC Dues \$135.00
Newsletter/Postage 125.00
Speakers Meals 225.00
JROTC Awards 325.00
Website Fee 200.00
Zoom Fee 150.00
Total Debits \$1,635.00
Liability Insurance 325.00
PO Box Rental Fee 150.00
Total Debits \$1,635.00

CREDITS

Dues \$1,800.00 NCCOC
Awards 50.00
MOAA Nat. Awards 400.00
USAA Grant 300.00
Total Credits \$2,550.00 * - Delta - \$ 915.00

TOYS FOR TOTS for 2020 – The chapter will once again support this year's Toys for Tots campaign and toy collection, but with new guidelines because of the pandemic. It will require your donations to be personally dropped off at one of the collection sites. See the web site and instructions below. We will send another Toys for Tots info message later this month.

Step 1. Visit website at charlotte-nc.toysfortots.org

Step 2. Hover over Ways to Donate tab and click the Donate a Toy

Step 3: A list of public drop sites will appear in the Charlotte / Mecklenburg county area

SURVIVING SPOUSE CORNER: HOW SURVIVING SPOUSES BENEFIT FROM MOAA MEMBERSHIP

By Dr. Vivianne Cisneros Wersel, Surviving Spouse Advisory Council member

MOAA's mission is to improve the lives of those who serve and their families. As a MOAA member, surviving spouses have opportunities to connect with kindred surviving spouses in addition to receive information about benefits and programs that might be new to them.

Understandably, when someone becomes a surviving spouse, there is a certain knowledge gap to navigate. Surviving spouses of MOAA work to help close that gap.

It's also important to note many survivors might not be aware they are eligible to join MOAA even if their military spouses were not MOAA members.

Depending on your membership level, surviving spouses will have a consistent line of communication as well as support regarding their eligibility for various MOAA benefits, such as discounts, advocacy, scholarships, and membership to their virtual chapter. Communication options include telephone, emails, literature, social media, and webinars.

A great example of the support MOAA provides is the [MOAA Surviving Spouse Virtual Chapter](#) and the [Surviving Spouses and Friends Facebook group](#), which unites military survivors from different war eras. Through these avenues, a surviving MOAA spouse has ample opportunity to relate to like members with similar backgrounds. Local chapters also can provide a spouse with a tangible sense of community and connection. [Read past Surviving Spouse Corners.](#)

LEGISLATION – *The NCCOC **does coordinate** state legislative affairs through the VP, Veterans/Military Affairs. He and COL (R) Vern Pike developed a strategic plan which was approved at the August 15, 2020 NCCOC meeting. Implementation instructions for 2021 for the Strategic Plan will be forthcoming.*

For more information, please read the attachment which was sent to the NCCOC VP, Veterans/Military Affairs,, COL (Ret) Iggi Husar, at his request. More information can be found on page 22 of the current issue of "Council and Chapter, Policies and Procedures Guide"

Federal - S 3393 A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for concurrent receipt of veterans' disability compensation and retired pay for disability retirees with fewer than 20 years of service and a combat-related disability, and for other purposes.

Federal - S 21 A bill making continuing appropriations for Coast Guard pay in the event of an appropriations act expired prior to the enactment of new appropriations (official title to be confirmed).

Federal - S 1047 A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to create a dependency and indemnity compensation allowance for surviving spouses receiving dependency and indemnity compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

Federal - S 2216

A bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to formally recognize caregivers of veterans, notify veterans and caregivers of clinical determinations relating to eligibility for caregiver programs, and temporarily extend benefits for veterans who are determined ineligible for the family caregiver program, and for other purposes.

Federal - HR 2406

A bill to amend the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Commissioned Officer Corps Act of 2002 to make certain changes to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's commissioned officer corps, and for other purposes.

NORTH CAROLINA COUNCIL OF CHAPTERS

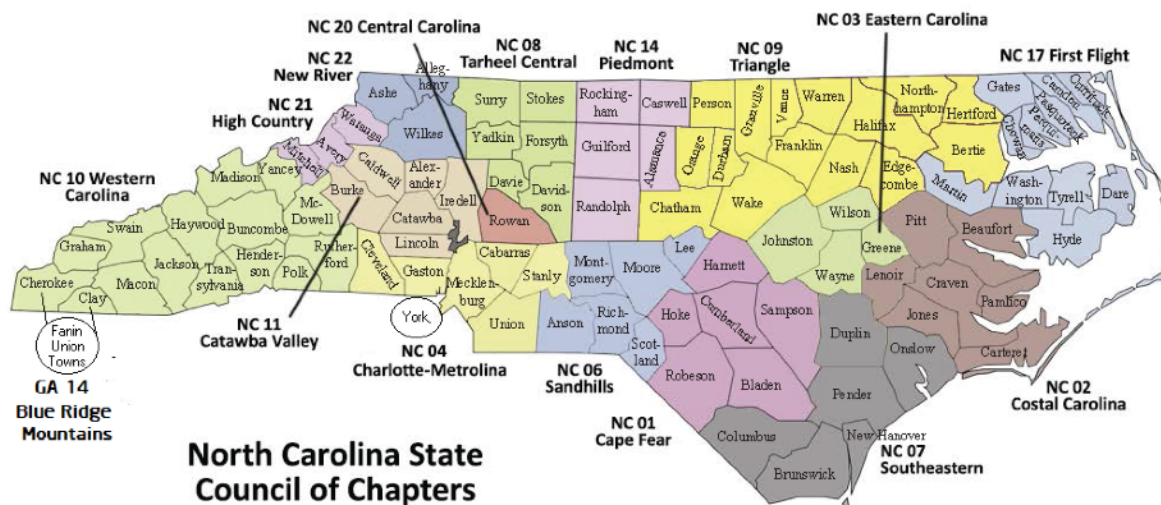
4th Quarterly Meeting

Based on the NC Governor's phase 3 pronouncement, the NCCOC quarterly meeting will again be held virtually. The meeting will begin at 0900 hours on November 14, 2020. The agenda and more details will follow. The Council officers will have a premeeting on November 7, 2020 beginning at 1000 hours.

I was hoping that we could physically gather, but perhaps February 2021.

Jim Brumit
COL, USA, (ret)
President, NCCOC, MOAA

NEW NC STATE COUNCIL OF CHAPTERS AREA MAP -



MOAA NEWS

MOAA is the nation's largest and most influential association of military officers. We are a powerful force speaking for a strong national defense and representing the interests of military officers and their families at every stage of their careers. It is an independent, nonprofit, politically nonpartisan organization. To reach

VIRTUAL CHAPTER LAUNCHED FOR U.S. PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE MEMBERS, VETERANS - Commissioned officers with the U.S. Public Health Service have a new platform to gather to share ideas and review advocacy goals.

MOAA's Board of Directors approved the creation of the [Public Health Service Virtual Chapter](#), which will be a virtual meeting space open to MOAA's members from the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps. It's MOAA's third virtual chapter.

"We have officers spread out everywhere," said USPHS Lt. Cmdr. Annie Lam, president of the virtual chapter. "One of the goals is to connect our members because we are so far and few between and may be in remote areas. I think the virtual platform will be different because we can reach a lot more people than we could reach with just a physical chapter."

The idea for the chapter materialized as Col. Peter Kloeber, USAF (Ret), a new MOAA Board Member and the president of MOAA's Arizona Council of Chapters, said he wanted to connect Public Health Service officers that don't often find each other in local chapters.

Kloeber formerly served as president of MOAA's Grand Canyon Chapter in Arizona, which had about a half-dozen Public Health Service officers – some of whom would drive at least 60 miles to attend meetings.

Capt. Pat Williams, USN (Ret), a MOAA program manager who oversees virtual chapters, said she's happy to see MOAA members connecting and sharing ideas.

"Given the current, ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, ushering in new virtual chapters has taken on a more significant role and means of connecting and networking as we continue to promote MOAA professionals who have a shared affinity like our current three virtual chapters," she said.

Take Action

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

- **Pass a Budget, on Time, to Avoid Damage Caused By Continuing Resolutions**
Continuing resolutions stall plans to modernize DoD and improve the lives of servicemembers, military families, retirees, and veterans. New programs receive no funds while outdated ones limp forward. Looming shutdowns put some servicemembers' pay at risk. Ask your lawmakers to pass a budget on time this year.
- **Ask Your Lawmaker to Help Expand Benefits for Vietnam Veterans Exposed to Agent Orange**
The Senate version of the FY 2021 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) would expand the VA benefits available to Vietnam veterans exposed to herbicides such as Agent Orange, adding medical conditions scientifically linked to such exposure.
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- **Urge Your Lawmakers to Support FY21 NDAA Provisions to Stop Cuts to Military Medicine**
Act now to urge your elected officials to support FY21 NDAA legislation that will halt cuts to military medicine and increase congressional oversight of these efforts.

Contact Your Representatives

- **Protect Gold Star spouses during future shutdowns**
Under current law, Gold Star spouses receiving benefits from the Department of Defense are protected from interruptions in payments during a government shutdown. But because Coast Guard paychecks come from the Department of Homeland Security, these survivors are still at risk.
- **Urge your legislators to support concurrent receipt**
Contact your representative and senators and urge them to support H.R. 5995, the Maj. Richard Star Act, and the companion S. 3393 -- which would provide concurrent receipt for servicemembers unable to complete 20 years of service due to their combat-related injuries. Help ensure these men and women get their full service-earned retirement, as well as their disability compensation from the VA.
- **Act now to extend CHAMPVA coverage**
Did you know many adult children of veterans who are disabled or who died from a service-connected disability risk losing their health care through no fault of their own during the COVID-19 pandemic?
- **Support the Jobs and Childcare for Military Families Act**
According to Department of Defense data, 24% of the military spouse labor force remains unemployed. That's over six times higher than the national unemployment rate. Additionally, many military families feel the impact of the rising cost of health and dependent care. To retain the best and brightest in an all-volunteer force, we must remove as many barriers to family financial stability as possible. Ask Congress to expand the Work Opportunity Tax Credit to military spouses and provide Flexible Spending Accounts as a servicemember benefit.

AMAZON SMILE CHAPTER DONATIONS - Ronald Wilsbach, Thank you for registering Charlotte-Metrolina Chapter of the MOAA at org.amazon.com and welcome to AmazonSmile, where Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of eligible smile.amazon.com purchases to the charities selected by customers. Spread the word to your supporters so they can generate donations for your organization when they shop. When customers sign up for AmazonSmile, they're asked to select one of over a million charities to support. When customers click on your unique link, they skip this charity selection process. Instead, they're taken to smile.amazon.com and are automatically asked if they want to support Charlotte-Metrolina Chapter of the MOAA.

Your unique charity link: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/38-3779812>

CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) RESOURCES AND UPDATES

If you believe you may be suffering from the virus and you are:

- *A TRICARE beneficiary:* Call the Military Health System Nurse Advice Line at 1-800-TRICARE (874-2273), option 1, to receive guidance. You can also connect with a nurse via web or video chat at www.mhsnurseadviceline.com.
- *A VA beneficiary:* Contact [your local VA facility](#) prior to visiting. You can also [send a secure message via the MyHealtheVet portal](#) to receive guidance. Learn more about virtual care options [here](#). UPDATE: As of March 19, Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) Regional Offices no longer will offer in-person services, including scheduled appointments.
- *Outside the VA and TRICARE networks:* Call your health provider.

Coronavirus Resources

- [Coronavirus.gov](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus)
- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Coronavirus Website](#)
- [CDC Advice for Higher-Risk Individuals](#)
- [VA Coronavirus Website](#)
- [TRICARE Coronavirus Information](#)
- [DoD Coronavirus Response Website](#)
- [Health.mil Coronavirus Information](#)
- [National Institutes of Health Coronavirus Information](#)
- [Latest Coronavirus News from Military.com](#)
- [Latest Coronavirus News from Military Times](#)





Charlotte-Metrolina Chapter

ENROLLMENT/RENEWAL FORM

New Member _____ Renewal _____ Date _____

First Name _____ Initial _____ Last Name _____

_____ Rank _____ Branch _____ DOB _____

_____ Spouse's Name. _____ Street Address : _____

_____ Email _____ City _____

_____ State _____ Zip _____

National Membership Number _____ Ph: _____

Annual Dues - \$30.00

Surviving Spouse Dues remain at \$10.00 annually.

Please remit check and completed renewal form to: Charlotte-Metrolina Chapter MOAA
PO Box 31394
Charlotte, NC 28231-1394

Membership Requirements: Commissioned and Warrant Officers of the seven uniformed services (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and U.S. Public Health Service) and the reserve and other components of these services may become regular members. Widows and widowers of any deceased individual, who would, if living, are eligible for membership as auxiliary members. Regular members must hold and maintain membership in both the national organization as well as the local Chapter. Spouse members are encouraged but not required to hold both memberships. (Surviving spouses of deceased MOAA Life Members retain their spouses membership.)

Not a MOAA national member yet? A basic membership is free. A Premium membership is available for \$48.00 per year. Get all the details at msc@moaa.org or call 800-234-6622.

