







Officers Serving the Army, Marines, Navy, Air Force, Space Force, Coast Guard, Public Health Service & NOAA

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#### **CHAPLAIN**

John Samb

#### **NEXT MEETING**

## September 19<sup>th</sup> 3:00 p.m.

Red Rocks Cafe 4223 Providence Rd



### Newsletter July 2021 SUMMER EDITION



#### President's message

Here is hoping that everyone had a great July 4<sup>th</sup>!! What a time to celebrate the birth of our nation, especially, after this past year and the challenges of Covid 19!!

As you can see from the heading of this newsletter... This is our <u>SUMMER</u> <u>EDITION</u>. The Chapter does not normally publish a newsletter during our summer recess; however, given the fact that we have not been able to have face-to-face meetings over the past year due to Covid 19 restrictions, we wanted to make this extra effort to let everyone that we are thinking about you and hope that all is well. We also want to communicate several things to you. (Please review those items in this short newsletter.)

We want to especially hi-lite the fact that Charlotte-Metrolina Chapter Chaplain, John Samb, will be retiring from Novant at the end of July and relocating to Georgia. We are grateful for his service to MOAA through Charlotte-Metrolina Chapter and we want to wish John well as he begins the next phase of his life (See more about John in this newsletter)

We also want to alert all members to our plans to begin meeting again in person on September 19. We are looking forward to seeing everyone, so please plan on attending our September meeting.

Have a great "rest of the summer."

#### **NEVER STOP SERVING.**

Joe L. Anderson, President, Charlotte-Metrolina Chapter, MOAA, 336-324-1008

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

#### **CHARLOTTE METROLINA CHAPTER NEWS**

#### **CHAPTER MEETING DATES**

September 19th; October 17th; November 21st; December 12th

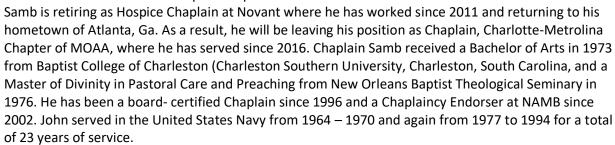
#### **COMMITTEE MEMBERS NEEDED:**

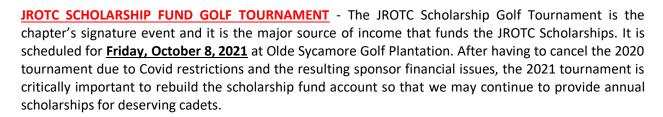
Members are needed for ALL committees in the chapter, and everyone is encouraged to identify a committee where they would like to contribute to the success of the chapter. Feel free to contact the chair of the committee of your choice or discuss options with Joe Anderson (336-324-1008).

#### **RETIREMENTS** – CH John Samb

(picture of John Samb (center) and members of CMC Board of Directors at retirement luncheon)

MOAA Charlotte-Metrolina Chapter Chaplain Rev. John





The success of this year's tournament is dependent upon the support of <u>ALL</u> members in volunteer roles, securing sponsorships, and in other capacities. YOUR SUPPORT IS NEEDED AND REQUESTED. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO VOLUNTEER IN ANY WAY, PLEASE CONTACT RON MORGAN <a href="mailto:rbmorgan943@aol.com">rbmorgan943@aol.com</a>) OR RON WILSBACH. (<a href="mailto:rwilsbach@carolina.rr.com">rwilsbach@carolina.rr.com</a>)

<u>LEGISLATIVE</u> - NC <u>House Bill 83</u> passed overwhelmingly in the House and now goes to the Senate. The bill would allow for military veterans to deduct their military retirement benefits, eliminating state income taxes on the retirement pay for military veterans.

The legislation's primary sponsors are Reps. John Szoka (R-Cumberland), John Bell (R-Wayne), John Bradford (R-Mecklenburg) and Diane Wheatley (R-Cumberland). "By eliminating the income tax on military retirement pay, we will also make our state more competitive in attracting and recruiting these highly trained and qualified military retirees," Szoka said in a statement. "This is an essential component to developing and growing North Carolina's talented workforce." The deduction would be effective for taxable years beginning on or after Jan. 1, 2021.



**VETERANS BRIDGE HOME** – Grand opening

On May 24, President Joe Anderson and Membership VP Ron Morgan attended the grand opening of Veterans Bridge Home Veterans Transition Center (VTC) located at 5260 Parkway Plaza Blvd., Suite 110, Charlotte, NC 28217. This 10,000 square foot facility will be the new headquarters for <u>Veterans Bridge Home</u> and will include a co-



working space for Veteran-Serving Organizations and a common room for Veteran families. Together in one location, this space will be a place for Veterans to get connected to the community and each other.

Veterans Bridge Home business hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. If you are in crisis and need to talk to someone immediately, don't hesitate to call The Veteran's Crisis Line (24/7: 1-800-273-8255, Press 1) or Cardinal Innovations Access Line (24/7: 1-800-939-5911).

#### **SURVIVING SPOUSE CORNER:**

The MOAA Surviving Spouse Virtual Chapter <u>was founded in 2018</u>. Interested in applying for membership? Please contact Mary Cuthbertson, Chapter Surviving Spouse Liaison



#### **MOAA NATIONAL 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 our Member Service Center, please call 1-800-234-6622 or email us at msc@moaa.org.

#### **TAKE ACTION -** Ask your lawmakers to:

- Support comprehensive toxic exposure reform legislation
- <u>Fix the TRICARE Young Adult coverage gap</u>
- Support the Military Hunger Prevention Act

Have a question about Advocacy in Action or other MOAA legislative materials? Contact MOAA's Member Support Center at <a href="mailto:msc@moaa.org">msc@moaa.org</a> or call (800) 234-6622.

#### **KEY DATES:**

Sep 17/18, 2021 – Southeast Regional Leader's Workshop (Raleigh, NC)



**NORTH CAROLINA COUNCIL OF CHAPTERS NEWS** 

North Carolina MOAA hat \$10.00 - Contact Jeri I. Graham, Colonel, USA (Ret)

E-Mail: jigrahamusa@gmail.com

Mobile: 910.616.3487

#### NCCOC MEETING DATES - 2021

November 13, 2021



# <u>COVID-19 BURIAL BENEFIT</u> - <a href="https://www.fema.gov/disasters/coronavirus/economic/funeral-assistance">https://www.fema.gov/disasters/coronavirus/economic/funeral-assistance</a>

This is a very important benefit for anyone who has lost someone due to COVID. Please help get the word out about this.

#### **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
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Coronavirus Website
- CDC Advice for Higher-Risk Individuals
- VA Coronavirus Website
- TRICARE Coronavirus Information