



5 STAR
2015,18,19,20



5 STAR
2014,15,17,18, 20

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

Newsletter April 2022

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NEXT MEETING

April 10, 2022;3 p.m.

(RED ROCKS CAFE)

4223 Providence Rd th
Charlotte, NC



President's message



In considering the history of the Charlotte-Metrolina Chapter of MOAA, the Board of Directors has concluded that the most significant focus of the chapter for many years has been its support of the JROTC Programs in Charlotte area high schools. Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (JROTC) is one of the

largest character development and citizenship programs for youth in the world.

The month of April marks the beginning of our annual focus on JROTC, as we select the recipients of our chapter's annual higher education scholarships for 2022. At our May dinner meeting, we will announce the winners and award the scholarships to these deserving students as we host them and their parents for this exciting occasion.

In preparation for our 2023 JROTC Scholarship Fund program, we have already begun planning for the Annual JROTC Scholarship Benefit Golf Tournament which will be held on Oct 7, 2022, which is primary source of financial support for the JROTC Scholarship Fund. (SAVE THE DATE)

Thank you to all Chapter members and the entire Charlotte-Metrolina Community for their support of this signature focus of the Charlotte-Metrolina Chapter of MOAA over the years and we look forward to your continued support this year.

NEVER STOP SERVING.

LTC Joe L. Anderson, USA (Ret) President, Charlotte-Metrolina Chapter, MOAA, 336-324-1008

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

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

National MOAA and the Council are nonpartisan



CHARLOTTE METROLINA CHAPTER NEWS



MOAA Chapter coin
\$10.00 - contact Ron

PROGRAMS/MEETING DATES FOR 2022:

April 10th: General Ken Wilsbach, USAF, Commander, INDO-PACAF Command. Topic: SITREP.

GENERAL KENNETH S. WILSBACH



Gen. Kenneth S. Wilsbach is the Commander, Pacific Air Forces; Air Component Commander, U.S. Indo-Pacific Command; and Executive Director, Pacific Air Combat Operations Staff, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii. PACAF is responsible for Air Force activities spread over half the globe in a command that supports more than 46,000 Airmen serving principally in Japan, South Korea, Hawaii, Alaska and Guam.

Gen. Wilsbach was commissioned in 1985 as a distinguished graduate of the University of Florida's ROTC program and earned his pilot wings in 1986 as a distinguished graduate from Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas. He has commanded a fighter squadron, operations group, two wings, two Numbered Air Forces and held various staff assignments including Director of Operations,

Combined Air Operations Center and Director of Operations, U.S. Central Command. Prior to his current assignment, Gen. Wilsbach was the Deputy Commander, U.S. Forces Korea; Commander, Air Component Command, United Nations Command; Commander, Air Component Command, Combined Forces Command; and Commander, Seventh Air Force, Pacific Air Forces, Osan Air Base, South Korea.

Gen. Wilsbach is a command pilot with more than 5,000 hours in multiple aircraft, primarily in the F-15C, F-16C, MC-12, and F-22A, and has flown 71 combat missions in operations Northern Watch, Southern Watch and Enduring Freedom.

General Wilsbach has earned many awards during his distinguished career, including Defense Distinguished Service Medal with oak leaf cluster, Legion of Merit with two oak leaf clusters, Bronze Star Medal, and Air Force Commendation Medal with two oak leaf clusters (October 2020)

OTHER CHAPTER PROGRAMS

May 15th: JROTC Scholarship Award Presentations

June, July, and August – (NO CHAPTER MEETINGS)

RECRUITING/RETENTION

“WHY JOIN MOAA” AND/OR THE LOCAL CHAPTER – HOW YOU CAN HELP!

The best recruiting for MOAA membership and local Charlotte-Metrolina chapter membership is by individual chapter members recruiting current, past, former, and retired officers that they meet in everyday life. This can be from work, church, social groups, civic organizations, clubs, family friends, and even strangers we meet in grocery stores, restaurants, and kids/grandkids soccer, etc. games. We can sometimes recognize former military service members by the baseball caps they wear or the auto decals or license plate frame that indicate their past military service.

National MOAA

The most recognized and effective advocate voice with DoD, Congress and the administration for active duty, reserve, retired and veterans in obtaining, maintaining, and protecting the rights and benefits of service members and their families. MOAA is a leader of “military coalition” advocating for military personnel and benefit issues.

- Local chapter membership benefits:

- Camaraderie – fellowship and friendship with those that have also served as military officers.
- Monthly newsletter with federal/State and local information on legislation that directly affects those that have and are serving.
- Monthly dinner meetings will great speaker programs, both military related and local interest
- Opportunities to serve as a volunteer in community-based veteran support programs, i.e., Veterans Bridge Home (VBH), Patriots Path, Mecklenburg Community Veteran Support Council,
- Chapter supports 40 high school JROTC programs and 2 ROTC programs with Leadership Awards. Notably, CMS high school JROTC programs have a 99% graduation rate.
- Chapter provides a JROTC Academic Scholarship program that provides 4 to 5 \$ 2,000 scholarships annually
- Annual chapter JROTC Scholarship Golf Tournament to fund scholarship program. Scheduled for October 7, 2022

Give those you meet, a chapter application or send them an email with the application attached. OR you can pass along contact information to Ron Morgan at: rbmorgan943@aol.com

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

April is a very busy month for the MOAA Legislative Team. As you can tell from the most recent issue of *Military Officer* magazine, this is the month for the annual MOAA legislative campaign called **Advocacy in Action**. This year there are three legislative issues to present to Congress. The first, and most important, is support for passage of House Bill 1282, known as the **Major Richard Star Act**. This legislation would allow combat injured veterans, who were not able to complete 20 years of service due to their injury, to receive both their VA Disability pay as well as the appropriate DOD retired pay appropriate for their grade and length of service. In addition, we are hoping to address the Tricare copay for mental health services, which is too high for our junior veterans to afford, as well as pushing to guarantee that the 4.6% military pay raise remains intact. Please help us by contacting your

Congressional representative and asking for their support, especially with HB 1282. If you need help in determining who your Congressional representative is, do not hesitate to reach out to me, Tony Castle, at ccastle645@gmail.com. Thanks so much for your help with this important issue.

SURVIVING SPOUSE CORNER:

Mary Cuthbertson, marycut3@aol.com - Surviving Spouse Liaison

Surviving Spouses are encouraged to visit MOAA.org, where you can sign up to receive *The MOAA Newsletter* and choose areas of most interest to you, such health care and earned benefits, finance, and spouse and family.

[Sign up for the Newsletter](#)

- [Join us for an upcoming Event](#)
- [Request Assistance](#) for yourself or a Veteran you know
- [Make a Donation](#)

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.

IMPORTANT DATES:

National MOAA Workshop, 12, 13 August 2022, Hilton, 3415 Wake Forest Rd., Raleigh, NC

MOAA'S NEVER STOP SERVING PODCAST tackles issues you care about most: your pay and benefits, health care, career transition tips, and more. Each week, host [Lt. Col. Olivia Nunn, USA \(Ret\)](#), talks with currently serving officers, veterans and veteran service organization leaders to provide expert guidance and insights.



Each episode can be streamed below, or access the podcast on [Apple Podcasts](#), [Spotify](#), [Amazon Music](#), [Google Podcasts](#), [PodChaser](#), or [TuneIn](#). Check back for even more platforms!

MOAA HAS FOUR VIRTUAL CHAPTERS: the [Uniformed Services Nurse Advocates Virtual Chapter](#), the [Surviving Spouse Virtual Chapter](#), the [Public Health Service Virtual Chapter](#), and the [Chaplains Virtual 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 patw@moaa.org, or Capt. Erin Stone, JAGC, USN (Ret), senior director for council and chapter affairs, at erins@moaa.org, for more information.

DID YOU KNOW? Learn More About These Benefits, Programs, and Resources

Member Benefits: While MOAA's basic membership provides an all-electronic experience to members, paid membership (Premium and Life) provides member access to books and guides, financial advice, career transition services, expert advice on military pay and benefits, and so much more.



SURVIVING SPOUSE CORNER: REFLECTING ON 2021 Surviving Spouse Corner: Tips for Downsizing and Decluttering If you're moving to a smaller home, these resources can help you determine what belongings should stay and go.

By [Renée Brunelle](#), MOAA Surviving Spouse Advisory Council member and co-founder of **Pathfinders Downsizing Solutions**

Most people would agree they have experienced a move that did not go as planned. Missing items, broken items and often a vague timeline for delivery from the moving company can make anyone have a few sleepless nights. Perhaps you have decades of “treasures” in your home you had planned on sharing with family. Then it is revealed all are not going to get passed down after all. Where do you start?

You must consider how long you have lived in the residence and how many people have lived there. As you add number of years and people, you also increase the number of weeks it will take to declutter. I use the Marie Kondo “Magic of Tidying Up” approach to look at a client’s home with my business as a senior move manager. Start where there is the least emotional connection: clothing and accessories. Often, if you just declutter the clothes that don’t fit any longer and donate them, it can be a great way to start. Then tackle the books, papers, general areas (including bedroom, bathroom, office, and kitchen). End with mementos that hold the most sentimental triggers.

Luckily, help is available to begin this process and provide some professional guidance when needed. The [National Association of Senior Move Managers](#) has a website to find trusted professionals in a specific geographic area. They are experienced in helping someone sort their belongings and decide what is best to take, possibly sell, donate, or throw out. They can help with floorplan designs and mover scheduling if the final plan is to move. Depending on the business, they will charge by the hour or by the project.

Senior move managers often are a wealth of resources that can save you and your family often time and/or money. They network with movers, senior placement specialists, senior living communities, realtors, estate sale professionals, and many other businesses to be sure they can assist their clients when needed. Family members often have good intentions to help with the decluttering and downsizing process. However, their own emotional attachment to items can complicate the downsizing process.

VETERANS ADMINISTRATION - VETERANS' BENEFITS

VA Changes

Hours before Biden’s address, [the VA announced](#) plans to add nine new cancers to the list of [presumed service-connected ailments](#):

- 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.

COVID-19 BURIAL BENEFIT - <https://www.fema.gov/disasters/coronavirus/economic/funeral-assistance>. This is a very important benefit for anyone who has lost someone due to COVID. Please help get the word out about this.

MOAA IN ACTION:



TAKE ACTION Jim Carman, CAE, Vice President Council/Chapter and Member Support, Military Officers Association of America

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS & WEBSITES:

THE SURVIVORS OUTREACH SERVICES OFFICE (SOS): Find your nearest SOS coordinator at <https://dcs9.army.mil/safr/sos/sos-find.html> 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; www.dmdc.osd.mil/rsi

VA BURIALS & MEMORIALS PAGE: 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; read the guide at <https://www.va.gov/burials-and-memorials-guide.pdf> Go to <https://www.va.gov/burials-memorials/#get> to find out how to apply for burial benefits and how to plan for a burial in advance or at time of need.

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 https://iris.custhelp.va.gov/app/answers/detail/a_id/183/~how-do-i-arrange-for-military-funeral-honors%3F for details. A complete list of resources for funeral directors and planners is at <https://www.militaryonesource.mil/leaders-service-providers/casualty-assistance/funeral-directory-and-planner-resources/>



NORTH CAROLINA COUNCIL OF CHAPTERS NEWS

MEETING DATES -

NCCOC quarterly meetings - 6 & 7, May 2022; 16 & 17 September 2022; 4 & 5 November 2022

HOW TO GET URGENT CARE UNDER YOUR TRICARE HEALTH PLAN

BY TRICARE COMMUNICATIONS

Urgent care might be an option for you if you don't believe you have an emergency," said Dr. Stacy Usher, lead nurse of Clinical Oversight and Integration for the TRICARE Health Plan. "Urgent medical conditions are usually ones that aren't considered emergencies but still require professional medical attention within 24 hours. Examples might include a small cut that might need stitches, a fever, or a sprained ankle."

[Emergency care](#) means care for an illness or injury that threatens your life, limb, sight, or safety. If you

reasonably believe you have an emergency, always call 911 or your international emergency number. Or, go to the nearest emergency room.

If you have questions about your injury or illness, you can call the [Military Health System Nurse Advice Line](#). Nurses are available 24/7 to help you find the care you need. Are you in the U.S., Guam, or Puerto Rico? If yes, call 1-800-874-2273 and choose option 1. You can find other [countries' numbers](#) on the website.

Retirees and Family Members

If you're a retiree or retiree family member in TRICARE Prime or TRICARE Select, you can get urgent care from any TRICARE-authorized urgent care center without a referral. You should see a TRICARE network provider to avoid more out-of-pocket costs.

Would you like to know more about your potential costs? For details about all the network and non-network costs for urgent care, you can check out the [TRICARE 2022 Costs and Fees Sheet](#). Or, you can choose your health plan and your status on the [TRICARE Costs](#) page to see your current costs.

Remember, urgent care is for minor medical issues. You can search online for a [TRICARE-authorized urgent care center](#) near you. You can also call your [regional contractor](#) for help finding an urgent care center. Learn more about [urgent care](#), so you know where and when to go if you need care.



Friday, October 7, 2022

Olde Sycamore Golf Plantation - Mint Hill, NC

SAVE THE DATE





Charlotte-Metrolina Chapter

ENROLLMENT/RENEWAL FORM

New Member _____ Renewal _____ Date _____

First Name _____ Initial _____ Last Name _____

Rank _____ Branch _____ DOB _____

Spouse's Name _____ Street Address : _____

City _____ Email _____

State _____ Zip _____ National Membership Number _____

Ph/Cell: _____

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 eight uniformed services (Army, Navy, Air Force, Space 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. 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.