



CHAPTER BOARD

President

Jay E. Garbus
704-400-0160

jgarbus@carolina.rr.com

1st Vice President/Programs

Joe Anderson
336-324-1008

cofer12345@yahoo.com

2nd Vice President/Membership

Carol Aljets

704-628-5192 NAVCDRmom@aol.com

3rd Vice President/Legislative

Dick Steeves 704-763-2602
ralden215@aol.com

Secretary

Gary Aljets 704-628-5192

Treasurer

Ron Wilsbach 704-844-9450
rwilsbach@carolina.rr.com

DIRECTORS

Gloria Scienski 704-847-0405
g.scienski@gmail.com

Larry Stawicki 704-814-9739
stawickilp@aol.com

Scott Morris 704-846-7429
Scottm79@gmail.com

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT and BOARD MEMBER

Ron Morgan 704-708-8866
rbmorgan943@aol.com

CHAPLAIN

John Samb 704-572-0460
jwsamb@novanthealth.org

NEWSLETTER APRIL 2019

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Congratulations to Joe Anderson on accepting the position of 1st Vice President. He is a great asset to the chapter, and I am looking forward to his insight.

At our April 14th meeting our speaker is Kate McCullough, Life Share of the Carolinas who will be giving an informative presentation relevant to us.

On the legislative side, new bills are starting at both the state and federal levels. Please read page 2 from Dick Steeves on what is happening to help you decide whether to act and contact your legislative representative.

On page 6 you will find a picture of our 1st VP Joe Anderson doing good deeds for military members.

The Chapter meetings are held at the Red Rocks Café, 4223-8 Providence Rd., Strawberry Hill area where Fairview/Sardis Rds. cross Providence, behind the old Fresh Market, in the Strawberry Hill shopping center. We start the meeting at 3:00 PM with a 30-minute social, followed by a short business meeting, then dinner (order from the menu) and then the program.

Thank you for your participation with and for our chapter goals attainment.

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

NEXT MEETING
Sunday, APRIL 14th, 2019
Red Rocks Cafe
4223 Providence Rd
Social Time
1500

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 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.charlottomoaa.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 commissioned and warrant officers of the uniformed services or their surviving spouses.

PROGRAMS

14 April - Kate McCullough, Life Share of the Carolinas.

19 May - JROTC Scholarship Awards. Our 5 awardees for 2019 with their parents and Senior JROTC Instructors will be our guests for dinner and presentation of the \$ 2,000 scholarship certificate

15 Sep - Colonel Tim Dremann's son, an active duty Marine, will discuss the state of the US Marine Corps

27 Oct - Oktoberfest

17 Nov - Pat Biddy, MIA's

8 Dec - Holiday Party

LEGISLATION - DICK STEEVES

North Carolina Veterans Legislative Day 10 April. All NC MOAA members are encouraged to attend. We'll be advocating for key bills in addition to House Bill 213. Please stay tuned for additional information from NC Council of Chapters President, CAPT. David Lee, USN (Ret)

MOAA/VETERANS BRIDGE HOME VETERANS (VBH) MENTORSHIP PROGRAM - We have seven (7) chapter members (and 6 others) who have volunteered to serve as mentors for transitioning veterans. It has been a 6-month pilot program with selected mentors having a one-on-one mentor/mentee relationship with a transitioning veteran. Assistance, as needed, for professional support has been provided through some of the VBH/NCserves network. A follow-on grant request for 2019 - 2020 has been submitted for a program continuation starting in May. SAVE THE DATE. There will be a combined networking reception and speed interview program with Patriot's Path on May 9th. Stay tuned for location and times. An email invitation will be sent to all.

THE UNCC ROTC GOLD BARS PROGRAM - Scott Morris heads up the Army program and Chuck Martin heads up the Air Force program. We have presented 3 sets of gold bars and a certificate for new Army Lieutenants and one for a new USAF Lieutenant for the December 2018 graduation. The Army ROTC program is planning on 21 cadets to commission in May 3 in the summer, and 2 in December. We are still awaiting USAF numbers.

JROTC SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISING - Chapter JROTC Scholarship Fund Golf Tournament on October 4th, 2019. For the 2019 tournament, we need additional chapter members to get involved and seek out prime and hole/team sponsors. Contact potential sponsors early in the new year. The 2019 tournament flyer is included in this newsletter.

NORTH CAROLINA COUNCIL OF CHAPTER MEETINGS (<https://www.moaa-nc.org/index.php>) 2019 Council Meeting Schedule - Mark your calendars
Chapters Websites - https://www.moaa-nc.org/_chapters.php

- a. The Western Carolina Chapter, (NC-10), CAPT Mike Covell, President will host the 2nd Quarter North Carolina Council of Chapters meeting at the Mountain Lodge and Conference Center, Flat Rock, NC.
- b. 3Q19 Meeting in Cary at Searstone, Saturday meeting ONLY, August 17, 1000 to 1500, lunch will be provided
- c. 4Q19 Convention at Hilton DoubleTree Atlantic Beach Oceanfront, October 18, 19, 20, 2019

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. To reach our Member Service Center, please call 1-800-234-6622 or email us at msc@moaa.org.

WE ARE IN NATION MOAA NEWS - A MOAA Foundation grant has allowed a North Carolina MOAA chapter to connect with transitioning servicemembers in its community, building generational relationships and helping veterans navigate a difficult time in their lives and careers.

The MOAA Charlotte-Metrolina Chapter received a MOAA Foundation Community Outreach grant last year after submitting a top-scoring application. The money has helped establish and operate a mentor/mentee program for transitioning veterans through a partnership with the Charlotte-based Veterans Bridge Home (VBH), a nonprofit that connects veterans to area support services.

MOAA ACTION - "In 2019, MOAA Government Relations will engage the 116th Congress early and often on issues of greatest importance to our members, the men and women in our uniformed services, their families, and their survivors," says Col. Dan Merry, USAF (Ret), vice president of Government Relations. "As military experience among members of Congress has declined over the years, with just over 17 percent having experience in uniform at the onset of 2019, these goals are instrumental to our efforts to inform and influence members of Congress and their staffs."

For more about MOAA's legislative advocacy mission, including how you can make your voice heard, [click here](#). For membership information, [click here](#).

The Goal: Ensure any TRICARE reform sustains access to top-quality care.

Background: Access to quality care is paramount for all beneficiaries in TRICARE programs and VA Community Networks - regardless of location. Access has been enhanced by technology, such as the DoD-VA Electronic Health Record and the expansion of telehealth capabilities.

MOAA's Stance: Savings gained from reforms should benefit the health care system and beneficiaries. Military treatment facilities (MTFs) remain instrumental to an operational medical force, which is necessary to support a military ready force, and should continue to support beneficiary care to sustain medical training platforms.

Actions: Strengthen our partnership with Defense Health Agency (DHA) working groups and executive sessions. Engage the Military Coalition's Healthcare Committee. Continue to administer and drive results of MOAA's health care surveys. Closely monitor the new role DHA has for oversight of MTFs.

[TAKE ACTION: [Visit our Legislative Action Center](#)]

The Goal: Prevent disproportional TRICARE fee increases.

Background: The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) recently introduced, as a potential option, TRICARE for Life enrollment fees and minimum out-of-pocket requirements as ways the federal budget could escape red ink. Independent of the CBO report ([PDF](#)), DoD and Congress have stated retiree health care costs are spiraling out of control, and beneficiaries do not pay enough for their health care. Based on DoD's own data, MOAA knows this is not true - the difference is attributable to

rising institutional and readiness costs. Despite that, the report and the ongoing budget pressure have turned TRICARE For Life into a potential target for fee increases to offset readiness or other programs. **MOAA's Stance:** Military retirees, through their service and sacrifice, have paid in full for their TRICARE For Life benefits. Congress - not DoD - should determine appropriate TRICARE fees. **Actions:** Reverse or significantly decrease the 2018 TRICARE Prime copayment increases for grandfathered/Group-A beneficiaries. Modify fee structure to reduce out-of-pocket costs for successive specialty appointments, such as physical therapy or mental health care. Protect TRICARE For Life as a second payer to Medicare Part B.

The Goal: End financial penalties for military survivors.

Background: Nearly 67,000 military survivors lose between \$900 and \$1,500 per month due to the widows tax. The widow's tax is the amount of Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) payment offset by Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC).

MOAA's Stance: SBP and DIC are two different payments for two different reasons. The offset should be eliminated, and DIC should be improved to align with other federal survivor benefits. Additionally, survivors' and dependents' educational assistance benefits should be increased.

Actions: Ensure legislation is introduced in the 116th Congress to address survivor benefits. Educate legislators, staffers, and other stakeholders about the inequities. Mobilize MOAA members and The Military Coalition to engage and press for legislation to be included in the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA).

SURVIVING SPOUSE

Goals for 2019 — We will continue to face new challenges and opportunities this year. Our goals include to grow our virtual chapter to 150 members representing 75 percent of our states;



- recruit 20 new surviving spouse members for MOAA;
- increase the number of state council liaisons from 50 percent to 75 percent;
- continue to educate, encourage, and engage MOAA membership about spouse and surviving spouse issues;
- conduct a survey to determine the needs and interests of surviving spouses;
- continue to work for passage of a bill to eliminate the widows' tax; and
- develop and conduct at least one training session for spouses and surviving spouses at a national meeting to provide information about planning ahead.

ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY - From Ron Wilsbach email

On Jeopardy the other night, the final question was "How many steps does the guard take during his walk across the tomb of the Unknowns?" All three contestants missed it! This is really an awesome sight to watch if you've never had the chance. Fascinating. Tomb of the Unknown Soldier

1. How many steps does the guard take during his walk across the tomb of the Unknowns and why?
21 steps: It alludes to the twenty-one gun salute which is the highest honor given any military or foreign dignitary.

2. How long does he hesitate after his about face to begin his return walk and why?
21 seconds for the same reason as answer number 1

3. Why are his gloves wet?

His gloves are moistened to prevent his losing his grip on the rifle.

4. Does he carry his rifle on the same shoulder all the time and, if not, why not?

He carries the rifle on the shoulder away from the tomb. After his march across the path, he executes an about face and moves the rifle to the outside shoulder.

5. How often are the guards changed?

Guards are changed every thirty minutes, twenty-four hours a day, 365 days a year.

6. What are the physical traits of the guard limited to?

For a person to apply for guard duty at the tomb, he must be between 5' 10" and 6' 2" tall and his waist size cannot exceed 30.

They must commit 2 years of life to guard the tomb, live in a barracks under the tomb, and cannot drink any alcohol on or off duty for the rest of their lives. They cannot swear in public for the rest of their lives and cannot disgrace the uniform or the tomb in any way.

After two years, the guard is given a wreath pin that is worn on their lapel signifying they served as guard of the tomb. There are only 400 presently worn. The guard must obey these rules for the rest of their lives or give up the wreath pin.

The shoes are specially made with very thick soles to keep the heat and cold from their feet. There are metal heel plates that extend to the top of the shoe in order to make the loud click as they come to a halt.

There are no wrinkles, folds or lint on the uniform. Guards dress for duty in front of a full-length mirror.

The first six months of duty a guard cannot talk to anyone nor watch TV. All off duty time is spent studying the 175 notable people laid to rest in Arlington National Cemetery. A guard must memorize who they are and where they are interred. Among the notables are: President Taft, Joe Lewis {the boxer}, Medal of Honor winner Audie L. Murphy, the most decorated soldier of WWII and of Hollywood fame.

ON GOING EVENTS

1. Mecklenburg Veterans Council - 1st Tuesday every month at 11:30 am. Valerie C. Woodard Center, 3205 Freedom Drive, Ste. 2000 (Community Support Services), Bldg. D, Charlotte, NC. The meeting room is the Queen City Conference Room, 2029
2. Veteran Network breakfasts on the first Thursday of every month, starting at 0730 at Another Broken Egg in Ballantyne. Total cost is \$ 13.
3. Veteran Network Uptown Lunches on the second Wednesday of every month starting at 11:45 at the Covenant Presbyterian Church Community Room. Total cost is \$ 10.00. Next lunch is April 10th. These are very good events for networking and meeting other veterans in the community.

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>



Get Involved - Its Free!

MOAA PRIME SPONSORS/SUPPORTERS FOR CHAPTER'S JROTC SCHOLARSHIP GOLF TOURNAMENT

--

MOAA Chapter coin \$10.00 -
contact Ron Wilsbach

Joe Anderson pictured with WW11 Veteran. Elizabeth Johnson who served with Bertha Dupre, who was funeralized today at Nat'l Veterans Cemetery in Salisbury. Ms Johnson was presented the flag and thanked for MSG Dupre's service on behalf of a grateful nation.

Equal Tax Treatment for

JROTC Scholarship Fund Benefit Golf Tournament - Oct 4, 2019

LEVELS & REGISTRATION

PRICE INCLUDES: Green fees, Cart, 2 Beverage Tickets on Course, Continental Breakfast, Buffet Dinner, Door Prizes & Gifts. Sponsorships will also get signage at tee/green.

PARTICIPATION

Individual Golfer \$100

4 Person Team \$400

SPONSORSHIPS

TEE/GREEN SPONSORSHIP

Individual \$100

Company Signage \$200

4 Person Team + Signage \$500

PRIME COMPANY SPONSORSHIPS

All levels include: Reserved dining table at Awards Dinner, acknowledgement at Tournament Dinner, and company name and/or logo on printed material, press releases and MOAA website.

A representative of each sponsor company will be invited to and recognized at the JROTC scholarship awards dinner/ceremony in May 2020.

Platinum Sponsor \$2,000

- (3) Foursomes
- Title Sponsor Banner
- MOAA Challenge Coin to each golfer
- Opportunity to speak at Awards Dinner

Gold Sponsor \$1,500

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

Silver Sponsor \$1,000

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

Registration Form - JROTC Scholarship Fund BENEFIT GOLF TOURNAMENT 2019

Please Check One or Several: (Mulligan packages available at Registration)

PARTICIPATION: ☐ Individual Player \$100 ☐ 4 Person Team \$400

SPONSORSHIPS: ☐ Individual \$100 ☐ Company Tee/Green \$200 ☐ 4 Person Team Tee/Green \$500

☐ Prime Company Sponsorship (Level _____)

Team Captain/Player Name: _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____

1. _____ 2. _____

3. _____ 4. _____

PAYMENT: Checks payable to MOAA Charlotte-Metrolina Chapter

Please detach and send form by September 13, 2019 (and payment if by check) to:
Ron Wilsbach – MOAA Scholarship Golf Tournament, 10944 Casetta Drive, Matthews, NC 28105-5918

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



NC-04 CHARLOTTE-METROLINA CHAPTER MOAA

ENROLLMENT/RENEWAL FORM

New Member _____ Renewal _____ Date _____

First Name _____ Middle Initial _____ Last Name _____

Rank _____ Branch _____ DOB _____ Spouse's Name _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip _____

E-Mail Address _____ Phone # _____

I would like to receive my newsletter by: _____ US Mail _____ E-mail

National MOAA Member? Yes _____ No _____ Are you a life member? _____

Membership No. _____

(Found above your first name on magazine label)

First Year New Members \$5.00

Annual Renewal \$25.00

Surviving Spouses \$10.00

Mail to: Charlotte-Metrolina Chapter MOAA

P.O. Box 31394

Charlotte, NC 28231-1394

JROTC Scholarship Fund Donation: ____ Receipt: Yes ____ No ____

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, be eligible for membership as auxiliary members. Regular members must hold and maintain membership in both the national organization as well as the local chapter. Auxiliary members are encouraged but not required to hold both memberships.

