



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 March 2023

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Next Meeting

March 19, 2023; 3:00 p.m.

Red Rocks Café

4223 Providence Road

Charlotte

President's message

THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION
OF CHARLOTTE-METROLINA CHAPTER



OF MOAA takes place on April 6 at Carmel Country Club. WHAT AN EXCITING TIME THIS IS!! As you know by now, our keynote speaker will be Lt. Gen. Brian Kelly, President/CEO of Military Officers Association of America. This will be a rare privilege to have our national president in our midst and we are looking forward to it. We have invited MOAA friends from throughout North Carolina and South Carolina to join us for this wonderful occasion. If you have not made your reservation, please do so today.

NEVER STOP SERVING

Joe L. Anderson, LTC (RET) President, 336-324-1008

Charlotte Metrolina Chapter, MOAA,



See Flyer for more details. In this newsletter

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.charlottemoaa.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

CHAPTER MEETING DATES - 2023

(All meetings will be dinner meetings at Red Rocks Café at 3:00 p.m., unless otherwise indicated)

March 19 – Speaker – COL Karen Wrancher

COLONEL KAREN M. WRANCHER (Retired, U.S. Army) –

Colonel Karen M. Wrancher hails from New York City, New York. She enlisted in the Army on January 18, 1990, as a Private First Class serving as a Legal Specialist with the 82nd airborne division at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. Advancing to the rank of Sergeant, she then attended Officer Candidate School and was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Quartermaster Corps in January 1993. She is a graduate of the Quartermaster Officer Basic Course, Airborne School, Aerial Delivery Material Officers "Rigger" Course, and the Combine Logistics Officer Course and the Marine Corps Command Staff College. She earned a Bachelor's degree in Political Science from Methodist College, a Master's degree from the University of Oklahoma and Human Resources and a second Master's degree from the Marine Corps University in Military Strategy.

She has served over 30 years on active duty. She displayed a mastery of leadership in numerous positions starting her career as a Platoon Leader in the 407th Forward Support Battalion (FSB) and then Rigger Platoon Leader, 782nd Main Support Battalion in 82nd Airborne Division. She has also served as Company Commander in the 1st Infantry Division in Germany and Kosovo. In addition, she has served as Human Resources Officer, 1st Personnel Command; Resident Fellow, Logistics Management Institute, McLean, Virginia; She has served in several Logistics in Washington, DC, Korea and Kuwait. She was the first Battalion Commander of the 1st Armored Division Headquarters upon its return to United States after 40 years in Germany. She was the first female Proponent Chief in the Quartermaster Corps' history and CASCOC history. She was also the inaugural Command Inspector General for Combined Joint Force - Operation Inherent Resolve. Her culminating assignment was serving as the Chief of the Assistance Division, the largest division in the U.S. Army Inspector General Agency.

As you would imagine, Colonel Wrancher has earned many awards and decorations, including Legion of Merit, the Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal and the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal. She is authorized to wear several badges, including the Parachutist Badge and the Rigger Badge. She is a Lifetime Member of the Association of the United States Army, the Military Officers Association of America and the Rocks, Incorporated which she served as the Vice President Communications (2016-2021). She was the 2021 Rock of the Year. She is also a proud member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated.

OTHER CHAPTER MEETING DATES

April 6 – 50th Anniversary celebration (Carmel Country Club); April (no general membership chapter meeting); May 21; June-Aug (Summer Recess (no general membership meetings); September 17; October 15; November 19; December (no meeting)



50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION; CHARLOTTE-METROLINA CHAPTER

MAKE YOUR RESERVATION: APRIL 6, 2023; 6:00 P.M.-9:00 P.M.; 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION;

CHARLOTTE-METROLINA CHAPTER-MOAA; CARMEL COUNTRY CLUB, 4735 Carmel

Road, Charlotte, NC;

Speaker: Lt. Gen. Brian Kelly, USAF (Ret) -President/CEO, MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

OPERATION SAVE CEDAR GROVE

As you may know, one of the goals that we have set, as we focus on celebrating the 50th Anniversary of Charlotte-Metrolina Chapter of MOAA is: DEVELOP NEW AND ENHANCE EXISTING PARTNERSHIPS WITH VETERAN ORGANIZATIONS AND VETERAN SUPPORT ORGANIZATIONS IN THE CHARLOTTE AREA. We think we have identified an excellent opportunity to make a BIG STEP toward achieving this goal ON **MARCH 23**. We have learned that Veterans Bridge Home (VBH), one of our existing veteran support partner organizations, has organized a project called... OPERATION SAVE CEDAR GROVE..., which is designed to clean up a cemetery which has been neglected over the years. It is a cemetery where Black Veterans and prominent leaders in the Black Charlotte community were laid to rest many years ago.

Cedar Grove Cemetery is located near University Park Creative Arts School at 2400 Hildebrand Street off Beattie's Ford Road, Charlotte, NC 28216. Volunteer activities at Cedar Grove Cemetery will include trash pickup; vegetation removal; head stone location and identification; and logistics.

I want to encourage chapter member to join Ron Morgan, who has already signed up as a volunteer for this project, as we continue to... *NEVER STOP SERVING* ...the Charlotte Community. BTW, some employees of Truist Bank, the Lead Sponsor of the CMC 50th anniversary celebration, will participate in this VBH-led event. I would like for Charlotte-Metrolina Chapter members to stand shoulder-to-shoulder with Truist Bank employees, VBH personnel and other veteran groups in this effort, as we take steps achieve one of the important goals that has been set as we celebrate CMC 50th Anniversary.

If you would like to participate, go to the following link and sign up.

Operation Save Cedar Grove (March) | Veterans Bridge Home (galaxydigital.com)

Also, please let Joe Anderson (336-324-1008) know if you plan to participate in this important activity. Feel free to call me if you have any questions.

SURVIVING SPOUSE CORNER:

Surviving Spouse Virtual Chapter: Membership continues to grow, with 210 members from 38 states. The chapter meets on the third Tuesday of each month. Every other month is a business meeting with a speaker, and alternate months are an informal gathering to exchange information and ideas. For more information, send an email to mssvc02@gmail.com.



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.

MOAA'S NEVER STOP SERVING PODCAST

In the third season of *MOAA's Never Stop Serving Podcast*, we are sharing first-person accounts from the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. Each week, you will hear directly from the men and women who survived these battles, and how their combat experiences shaped the people they are today.

Each episode can be streamed below, or download/follow/subscribe to the podcast on [Apple Podcasts](#), [Spotify](#), [Amazon Music](#), [Google Podcasts](#), [PodChaser](#), or [TuneIn](#).

HELP SUPPORT MILITARY FAMILY ACCESS TO MENTAL HEALTH CARE

Help MOAA build support for H.R. 4824, the Stop Copay Overpay Act, which would reduce TRICARE copays for mental health visits and address the financial barrier to accessing mental health services.

URGE YOUR SENATORS TO SUPPORT LEGISLATION HALTING CUTS TO MILITARY MEDICINE

Please contact your senators and urge them to support H.R. 7900 Sec. 780, which would halt medical billet cuts for three years and increase congressional oversight and DoD reporting.

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS & WEBSITES:

THE SURVIVORS OUTREACH SERVICES OFFICE (SOS): Find your nearest SOS coordinator at <https://dcsg9.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>

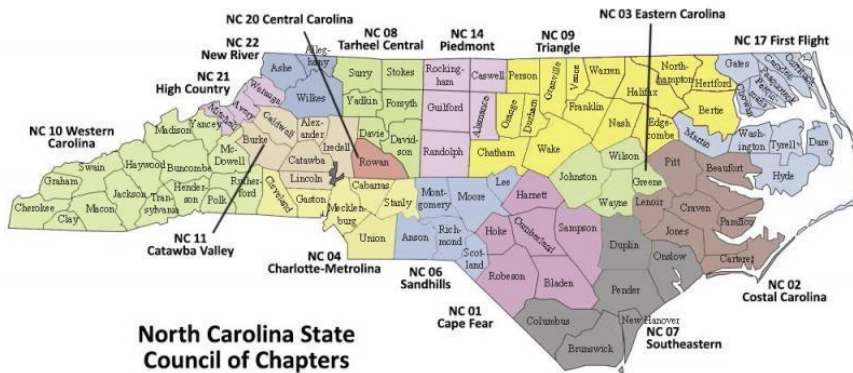
Update ID cards: 1-800-538-9552; www.dmdc.osd.mil/rsl

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.

NORTH CAROLINA COUNCIL OF CHAPTERS NEWS

MEETING DATE - Council Cruise November 11, 2023, out of Charleston, SC see flyer below.



MOAA Chapter coin \$10.00 -
contact Ron Wilsbach





**CHARLOTTE-METROLINA CHAPTER
MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA**

50TH *Anniversary* **CELEBRATION**

Thursday, April 6, 2023

6:00pm - 9:00pm

Cocktails, Dinner, and Program

**CARMEL COUNTRY CLUB
4735 Carmel Road | Charlotte, NC 28226
(Business/Cocktail Attire)**

**SPEAKER: LT. GEN. BRIAN KELLY, USAF (Ret)
President and CEO, Military Officers Association of America**

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

For event/sponsorship information, contact:
Joe Anderson - President, Charlotte-Metrolina Chapter
joeanderson1970@yahoo.com | 336.324.1008

Registration and Payment Form – MOAA Chapter 50th Anniversary Celebration
PAYMENT AND RESERVATIONS DUE BY MARCH 23, 2023

Name _____ **x \$75.00 =** _____

Guest(s) _____ **x \$75.00 =** _____

Phone _____ **Email** _____ **Total** _____

ONLINE: Go to website: www.charlottemoaa.org to register/make payment by credit card
BY CHECK: Detach bottom of this form. Send with check payable to "MOAA Charlotte-Metrolina Chapter". Mail to: Charlotte-Metrolina Chapter MOAA, PO Box 31394, Charlotte, NC 28231-1394

The Charlotte-Metrolina Chapter of MOAA is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit entity. Chapter Tax ID/EIN #38-3779812



SHOP ONLINE FOR VETERANS CRUISE LOGO APPAREL FROM QUEENSBORO APPAREL CO.

Please Login – MOAA Store (qbstores.com)

Step 1. Begin by Registering for your personal account.

That will open an online store with available logo apparel for our cruise.

Step 2. When you see an item that interests you, select it.

Step 3. Then insert a number in the box next to size and color for the quantity desired.

That action will send it to your cart.

Options.

Step 1. Additional shopping is an option.

Step 2. When you are ready for checkout, you will be asked for shipping and billing address plus credit/debit card info.



Logo for the cruise will be embroidered on all items you select.

If you need help with the ordering, suggest you send an email to Queensboro at <https://www.queensboro.com> or you can call Ken Klassen, VP-1 for NCCOC at 910-616-9614.

Note: Guests will receive berthing info, details for final payment and other details later this spring from AAA Travel agent Lorna Tiller. She can be contacted by email: ltillertravels@gmail.com or ph. 910-540-3390. It is shaping up to be a major social event in November. Dress to impress, sell the MOAA brand and wave the Flag!!

Bon Voyage



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.