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NEWSLETTER APRIL 2024



President's message



Greetings Leaders,

Thank you for your continued service and contributions with our MOAA Charlotte-Metrolina Chapter goals.

As the Spring weather approaches, please check with your health provider and then, if allowed, enjoy the sunshine with some exercise. The benefits of a good walk cannot be underestimated. And walking is easier on the knees than running.

Our annual JROTC Golf Tournament is set for October 4, 2024, at the Olde Sycamore Golf Course. Please contact our tournament leaders, Ron Morgan and Walter Harrison, for more information on how you can assist with corporate sponsorship and team registration. All proceeds support our JROTC cadet scholarship program.

Our Chapter will no longer advertise email addresses or telephone numbers on our website or in our newsletters. There are unfortunate lost souls who are utilizing this contact information to text/email spam materials. We are working on various options to ensure each member has all the chapter information while also limiting access for fraud.

I hope to see you at our next chapter meeting, 3 pm Sunday, April 21, 2024, at the Red Rocks Café, 4223 Providence Rd, Charlotte.

Our guest speaker will be Emily McClain with a very important presentation on and for Survival Spouses.

NEVER STOP SERVING

Lt Col Nelson English, USAF, (Ret)
President, Charlotte-Metrolina Chapter, MOAA

Next Meeting
Sunday April 21st, 2024, 3 pm
Red Rocks Café
4223 Providence Road,
Charlotte





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/>

NOTE TO MEMBERS

Members will not be able to log into their account during MOAA's migration to a new customer database. [Learn more.](#)

NEW CHAPTER MAILING ADDRESS

Members, please note that the Charlotte Metrolina Chapter's mailing address has changed to: **P.O. Box 79276, Charlotte NC 28271**, effective immediately. You may use this new address for offline payment of membership dues or other correspondence

CHAPTER MEETING DATES

Q Apr 21 – MOAA-CMC membership meeting
 ? May 14 – MOAA-CMC BOD meeting
 Q May 19 – MOAA-CMC membership meeting
 ? Jun 11 - MOAA-CMC BOD meeting
 ? Jul 9 - MOAA-CMC BOD meeting
 ? Aug 13 - MOAA-CMC BOD meeting
 ? Sep 10 - MOAA-CMC BOD meeting

Q Sep 15 - MOAA-CMC membership meeting
 ? Oct 8 - MOAA-CMC BOD meeting
 Q Oct 20 - MOAA-CMC membership meeting
 ? Nov 12 - MOAA-CMC BOD meeting
 Q Nov 17 - MOAA-CMC membership meeting
 ? Dec 10 - MOAA-CMC BOD meeting

JROTC GOLF - JROTC Golf Tournament is set for October 4, 2024

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS - Legislative Notes Charles A. (Tony) Castle MD, FACOG

April is a very important month for MOAA Advocacy as this is the time of year when MOAA plans Advocacy in Action or AIA. AIA is an annual program in which MOAA representatives from across the



country meet with members of Congress or their staff members to present our Legislative goals for the current year.

For 2024 there are three Legislative priorities. These are 1) Pass the Major Richard Star Act to support combat injured veterans, 2) Restore the Basic Allowance for Housing to 100% of the community standard, and 3) Protect Tricare for Life as a benefit for retired veterans. Further details regarding these issues are available in the April issue of the MOAA magazine, Military Officer.

Please do your part in expressing your personal support for these issues by going to the Legislative Action Center on the MOAA website (moaa.org) and signing the prepared letters for these issues which will be sent directly to the office of your Congressional representative and Senators. Thanks so much. Please feel free to direct any questions about this process to me, Tony Castle, at ccastle645@gmail.com or call me at 717-519-7093.

SPRING ADVOCACY CAMPAIGN - By Tricia Vinson

During the long session there were six veteran connected bills that made the crossover list that might be easy 'wins' during the 2024 short session. To be considered during the short session or election year session, a bill needs to have been passed by either the House or the Senate which places the bill on the crossover list. There are exceptions of course, corrections to the budget, or verbiage, or an emergency budget issue.

The veteran related bills that made the crossover list for this short session include: HB178 Maintenance of State Veterans Cemeteries; HB 296 Adopt Veteran's History Museum; HB427 Honor Women Veteran's Plate; HB463 NC Farmland & Military Protection Act; HB487 POW/MIA Flags/State Bldgs. & Schools and HB 492 Post NC Veteran Benefits.

As previously mentioned, our primary focus (#1 consideration) is the emergency closure of the Fayetteville State Veterans Home on 1 February. Since it was a sudden or unexpected closure, it fits the definitions for consideration during the short session. The Joint Legislature's Oversight Committee for General Government has met on 30 Jan & 27 Feb & will meet next on 26 March. They directed a facility inspection conducted on 6 Feb. Deputy Secretary Pierce has been the DMVA's point person in these meetings.

VETERAN TRAVEL 101: GET REIMBURSED FOR TRAVEL TO VA APPOINTMENTS

Did you know you may be eligible for reimbursement of some or all of your travel expenses to VA medical appointments? Learn all the details on eligibility and how to get reimbursed.

VA LAUNCHES EQUITY ACTION PLAN IN COMMITMENT TO SERVING ALL VETERANS

VA recently unveiled the Equity Action Plan to mark its commitment and promise to support all Veterans, their families, caregivers and survivors. ICYMI:

SURVIVING SPOUSE CORNER



S. RES. 615

Designating April 5, 2024, as “Gold Star Wives Day”.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES March 21, 2024

Mr. Manchin (for himself, Mr. Budd, and Mr. Boozman) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to.

RESOLUTION

Designating April 5, 2024, as “Gold Star Wives Day”.

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates April 5, 2024, as “Gold Star Wives Day”;

(2) honors and recognizes—

(A) the contributions of the members of Gold Star Wives of America, Inc.; and

(B) the dedication of the members of Gold Star Wives of America, Inc. to the members and veterans of the Armed Forces of the United States; and

(3) encourages the people of the United States to observe Gold Star Wives Day to promote awareness of—

(A) the contributions and dedication of the members of Gold Star Wives of America, Inc. to the members and veterans of the Armed Forces of the United States; and

(B) the important role that Gold Star Wives of America, Inc. plays in the lives of the surviving spouses and families of the fallen members and veterans of the Armed Forces of the United States.

MOAA PARAPHERNALIA - There's no better way to show your pride of MOAA and the Charlotte-Metrolina Chapter than wearing official merchandise, found at the [MOAA Store](#) online. There's a good selection of quality men's and women's apparel; it costs no more than you'd pay at the mall; and they deliver it to your front door. Wear it at official functions and in the community, where it can be a great conversation starter and generate more interest in our chapter from local veterans. Please check it out! Eric Kelly (USAF-Ret), Chapter Secretary."



MOAA Chapter coin \$10.00
available at the meeting Contact
Susan Bryant



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.

MOAA HAS SIX VIRTUAL CHAPTERS

They are: Uniformed Services Nurse Advocates Virtual Chapter, the Surviving Spouse Virtual Chapter, the Public Health Service Virtual Chapter, Chaplains Virtual Chapter, Judge Advocate Virtual Chapter and the MOAA Advocacy for Servicewomen & Military Family Virtual Chapter. Inquiries can be sent via email to Moaajavc@gmail.com. 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.

MOAA'S NEVER STOP SERVING PODCAST - MOAA President and CEO Discusses Organizational,

A spring advocacy

Listen to Lt. Gen. Brian T. Kelly, USAF (Ret), on the "Frontlines of Freedom" program.

Listen to a recent appearance by Lt. Gen. Brian T. Kelly, USAF (Ret), on "Veterans Corner Radio."

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/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

The North Carolina Council website is hosted by the North Carolina council of chapters, an affiliate of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA).

MOAA and it's affiliated councils and chapters are independent, nonprofit and politically nonpartisan organizations per the mission statement shown here.



Early Bird Save the Date Invitation for a Cruise to Bermuda in 2025

6-Day Bermuda Cruise from Norfolk - Carnival Cruise Line Dates: October 12-18, 2025 Round trip from: Norfolk, VA - Open to MOAA members from anywhere, their adult family members and guests. MOAA membership is not required. **Please open the link below for details:**

[6-Day Bermuda Cruise from Norfolk - Carnival Cruise Line](#)

Cruise Line: Carnival on Sunshine! Special group rates apply and bookings are managed through our tour agent. Her contact details are listed below. 50 cabins have been reserved for our group and more can be added as needed.

Prices for double occupancy in each cabin are approximately \$800 for inside, \$900 for ocean view or \$1100 for balcony staterooms per person depending on selection. Suites and cabins for more than 2 people can be arranged. Minimal deposit is required to reserve cabins with final payments not due until July 14, 2025.

Call the agent below to discuss and reserve if interested. Lorna Tiller, AAA ITA 910-343-1978(O), 910-540-3390(M) 1823 Hawthorne Rd. Wilmington, NC 28403

Lorna Tiller, AAA ITA
email: tillertravels@gmail.com
910-343-1978
1823 Hawthorne Rd.
Wilmington, NC 28403

* The ***North Carolina Council of Chapters (NCCOC)*** provides programmatic guidance and oversight for the 14 state chapters that serve 1350 members in 100 counties. As one of 35 state councils that support the *Military Officers Association of America*, we are serving the needs of military members in our state.

* Whether you are already participating in MOAA, becoming part of one of our North Carolina Chapters will guarantee your access to the many valuable resources of the NCCOC.

* The role of the **North Carolina Council of Chapters (NCCOC)** is to:

- Further the legislative and other objectives of MOAA.



- Foster fraternal relationships among retired, active, and former officers of the uniformed services and their National Guard or reserve components.
- Protect the interest of retired, active, reserve, and National Guard personnel of the uniformed services and their dependents and survivors
- Provide useful services for members and their dependents and survivors.
- Serve the community and the nation.
- Protect the interests of service retirees and active duty military members in matters of North Carolina state legislation. Organize and coordinate the collective action of the Member Chapters in the State of North Carolina.
- Provide the assistance necessary to Member Chapters to enable them to effectively serve their members, their communities, and the nation.

NOTE TO MEMBERS

Members will not be able to log into their account during MOAA's migration to a new customer database. [Learn more.](#)

MOAA DATABASE TRANSITION TIMELINE AND IMPACT

As a reminder, the transition of MOAA's database began March 31. Council and chapter leaders do not have access to the Committee Module or NRT Report as of April 1 until on or about April 22.

MOAA members received this [update on MOAA's system upgrade](#) and how this might impact their access to information during the transition. This message also explains how this transition will impact logging into MOAA.org, with the "email of record" replacing usernames when accessing online accounts. Members should [contact the Member Service Center](#) if they have multiple emails on file with MOAA to determine the email of record. Passwords will not change under the new system, and access to [MOAA's Legislative Action Center](#) will not be affected. Further instructions on using the new system will be available in the coming weeks.



JROTC Scholarship Fund **BENEFIT GOLF TOURNAMENT**



SPONSORED BY



All tournament proceeds go to support higher education scholarships for outstanding JROTC cadets in Charlotte-Metrolina area high schools.

TOURNAMENT CO-CHAIRS - WALTER HARRISON & RON MORGAN

Friday, October 4, 2024
Olde Sycamore Golf Plantation - Mint Hill, NC

7:30a - 8:45a Registration, Continental Breakfast, Driving Range Balls, Practice Putting Green
9:00a Tee Off Captain's Choice / Scramble Format & Tournament Play (until 2p)
2:00p - 3:30p Barbecue Buffet Dinner, Awards, Door Prizes & Raffle Winners

PRIZES AWARDED to 1st, 2nd, 3rd place teams, Closest to the Pins, Longest Drive & more!

(SEE PAGE 2 FOR PRICING, SPONSORSHIP LEVELS AND REGISTRATION FORM)

Together with
TRUIST

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



JROTC Scholarship Fund Benefit Golf Tournament - Oct 4, 2024

LEVELS & REGISTRATION

PRICE INCLUDES: Green fees, Cart, 2 Beverage Tickets on Course, Raffle Ticket, Continental Breakfast, Buffet Dinner, Door Prizes & Gifts.

PARTICIPATION

Individual Golfer \$125 4 Person Team \$500

SPONSORSHIPS

HOLE/TEE SPONSORSHIP

Individual \$100 Company Signage \$250 4 Person Team + Signage \$600

PRIME COMPANY SPONSORSHIP

ALL LEVELS INCLUDE: Acknowledgement at Tournament Dinner, and company name and/or logo on printed material, and press releases. A representative of each Prime Sponsor will be invited to and be recognized at the JROTC scholarship awards dinner/ceremony in May 2024.

Signature Sponsor \$5,000

- (3) Foursomes
- Signature Sponsor Banner
- Opportunity to speak at Awards Dinner
- MOAA Challenge Coin to each golfer
- On MOAA website for 12 months

Platinum Sponsor \$3,000

- (2) Foursomes
- Title Sponsor Banner
- Opportunity to speak at Awards Dinner
- MOAA Challenge Coin to each golfer
- On MOAA website for 12 months

Gold Sponsor \$2,000

- (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 2024

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

PARTICIPATION: _____ Individual Player \$125 _____ 4 Person Team \$500

SPONSORSHIPS: _____ Individual \$100 _____ Company Hole/Tee \$250 _____ 4 Person Team Hole/Tee \$600
_____ Prime Company Sponsorship (Level _____)

Team Captain/Player 1. _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____

Player 2. _____ Player 3. _____

Player 4. _____

Payment and Registration Due by October 1, 2024

ONLINE: Go to Charlotte-Metrolina MOAA website www.charlottesmoaa.org to register and make payment

BY CHECK: Detach this form and make check payable to "MOAA Charlotte-Metrolina Chapter"

Mail to: Charlotte-Metrolina Chapter MOAA, ATTN: MOAA Scholarship Golf Tournament
PO Box 79276, Charlotte, NC 28271





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
Note New PO Box/and Zip Code: PO Box 79276
Charlotte, NC 28271

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 spouse's membership.)

Not a MOAA national member yet? A basic membership is free. A Premium membership is available for \$59.00 per year. Get all the details at msc@moaa.org or call 800-234-6622.

