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Next Meeting
Sunday FEB 19TH, 2025,
11:45 AM – 1:00 PM
Red Rocks Café
4223 Providence Road,
Charlotte

TOGETHER WITH TRUIST



NEWSLETTER FEBUARY 2025



President's message

Greetings Leaders



Thank you for your continued dedication in serving and supporting MOAA. It is through your work and contributions that keeps our chapter moving in the right direction. Please note that our next chapter meeting is Wednesday, February 19, 2025, at the Red Rocks Café. This change in meeting date is in response to many queries of our Sunday afternoon meeting. As stated in the chapter minutes, this meeting date and time change is temporary through April when chapter membership will make the recommendation for continuance or revert to the Sunday meetings. I encourage you to pursue the review of the MOAA Legislative Action Center. This is our primary source as an organization to encourage Congress to vote for legislation that favors active duty, retirees, surviving spouses, and VA Health Care. Our website will be updated to highlight the Congressional areas of the Charlotte-Metrolina Chapter.

Secretary Jocelyn Mitnaul Mallette is the new Secretary of the North Carolina Department of Military & Veterans Affairs. She is a graduate of the US Air Force Academy and former prosecutor and general practice attorney in the JAG Corps at Seymour-Johnson AFB. This organization supports the military in NC and we look forward to many positive engagements. Please continue your recruitment of new members. I appreciate your feedback on how our chapter can continue to improve.

There is a new 2025 Veterans Benefits Guide available online. The website address is <https://department.va.gov/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/2025-Federal-Benefits-for-Veterans-Dependents-and-Survivors.pdf>.

Thank you again for your support. Our guest speaker for the February chapter meeting is US Army retired Major Nate Huggins. He is the owner of Blessed Assurance Adult Day Care Center. The meeting starts at 11:45 at the Red Rocks Café. I hope to see you then.

NEVER STOP SERVING!
Nelson W. English, Lt Col, USAF (Retired)
President, MOAA-CMC



IMMEDIATE NEED - Nate Huggins <nate@blessedadultcare.org> wrote:

I have a Veteran who is in need of a Geri - Chair for Dialysis purposes. We will pick it up if someone is willing to donate or sell at a low cost.

Thanks,
Nate Huggins

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 DUES - IMPORTANT - 2025 dues are due (past due). Pay with check included with renewal form or pay via website

*****MEETING DAY AND TIME CHANGE CHAPTER MEETING FEBUARY 19th *****

*MOAA~CMC 2025 Events
February 11, 2025: **BOD meeting via Zoom at 4 pm**

February 19, 2025: CMC meeting at Red Rocks Café (11:45 – 1 pm)

SPEAKER - Major Nate Huggins, US Army Retired and his wife Vivian are the founders of Blessed Assurance Adult Day Care in Matthews. Nate is a graduate of South Carolina State University, received a MBA from Pfeiffer University and a Registered Nurse certification from Carolinas College of Health Sciences. He is a member of American Legion Post #235 and the Charlotte-Metrolina Chapter of MOAA. Nate & Vivian's daughter, Navondria is the CEO and their son, Demario is the COO. Charlotte-Metrolina Chapter Surviving Spouse member, Gary Aljets is a Blessed Assurance board member.

Blessed Assurance currently serves Mecklenburg, Union, Cabarrus and York counties. It is a non-profit caring for seniors and disabled adults and disabled Veterans. The provide the following services: Recreational activities; Personal hygiene to include showers; Intergenerational programs; Nutritional noon meals and snacks; and Medication supervision and other health services.

March 11, 2025: **BOD meeting via Zoom at 4 pm**

March 19, 2025: CMC meeting at Red Rocks Café (11:45 – 1 pm)

April 8, 2025: **BOD meeting via Zoom at 4 pm**

April 23, 2025: CMC meeting at Red Rocks Café (11:45 – 1 pm)

May 13, 2025: **BOD meeting via Zoom at 4 pm**

May 17, 2025: CMC meeting: cook-out (Time: TBD)

June 10, 2025: **BOD meeting via Zoom at 4 pm**

July 8, 2025: **BOD meeting via Zoom at 4 pm**

August 12, 2025: **BOD meeting via Zoom at 4 pm**



September 9, 2025: **BOD meeting** via Zoom at 4 pm

September: CMC meeting TBD

October 14, 2025: **BOD meeting** via Zoom at 4 pm

October: CMC meeting TBD

*November 10, 2025: **BOD meeting** via Zoom at 4 pm

November: CMC meeting TBD ~ Chapter elections & Toys-4-Tots

CHAPTER MARCH SPEAKER – *The USO's Mission is to strengthen the well-being of the people serving in America's military and their families.*

Since 1941, the USO has been the nation's leading organization to serve the men and women in the U.S. military, and their families, throughout their time in uniform. From the moment they join, through their assignments and deployments, and as they transition back to their communities, the USO is always by their side.

Today's USO continuously adapts to the needs of our men and women in uniform and their families, so they can focus on their very important mission. We operate USO centers at or near military installations across the United States and throughout the world, including in combat zones, and even un-staffed USO service sites in places too dangerous for anyone but combat troops to occupy.

USO airport centers throughout the country offer around-the clock hospitality for traveling service members and their families. Our trademark USO tours bring America and its celebrities to service members who are assigned far from home, to entertain them and convey the support of the nation. And our many specialized programs offer a continuum of support to service members throughout their journey of service, from the first time they don the uniform until the last time they take it off.

The USO is not part of the federal government. A congressionally chartered, private organization, the USO relies on the generosity of individuals, organizations and corporations to support its activities, and is powered by a family of volunteers to accomplish our mission of connection.

Our speakers are Peter Amendola and Isaac White.

Peter Amendola is a retired 44-year Financial Services professional. Originally from New York, he has resided in Charlotte the last 22 years. Peter was a volunteer at the USO since 2018 and amassed 2,000 hours of service before accepting the Center Specialist role in September 2023. Sergeant First Class (SFC) Retired Isaac White is a retired U.S. Army veteran with 20 years of service as a 19K, M1A1/A2 Main Battle Tank Armor crewman, including three deployments. Originally from Poughkeepsie, NY, he now serves as the Center Operations Specialist for the USO, dedicated to supporting service members and their families.



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 SEVEN 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 seventh virtual chapter — approved by the board of directors last week — will assist councils and chapters with their public affairs and communication efforts while supporting the association's overall mission.

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://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/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.

NORTH CAROLINA COUNCIL OF CHAPTERS NEWS

The council will have the annual meeting at the Hawthorne Inn, Winston Salem on November 15th and 16th. Friday night there will be a guest speaker and dinner. Saturday will be the business meeting with CAPT Jim Carman from National MOAA.

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 its affiliated councils and chapters are independent, nonprofit and politically nonpartisan organizations per the mission statement shown here.

* 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.

YOUR “INDEF” DOD IDENTIFICATION CARD LIKELY WON’T BE AS “INDEFINITE” AS ADVERTISED.

While no date has been set for the expiration of the paper-based Uniformed Services Identification Card (USID), DoD “is currently evaluating the potential phase-out” of those cards, a DoD spokesperson told MOAA on Oct. 17 – even cards with “extended or indefinite expiration dates.”

Previous DoD guidance listed 2026 as a likely cutoff date, though the spokesperson did not provide any date in an emailed response to questions. However, DoD does “encourage all holders of paper-based ‘INDEF’ cards, to include all retirees, to replace them with Next Gen USID Cards by scheduling an appointment at their nearest ID card issuance facility at their convenience,” per the email.

Some retirees and family members may be able to renew their “INDEF” cards online and skip the in-person appointment. If you have a paper-based ID card and want to upgrade, here’s a walk-through of the process for in-person and online renewal/replacement.

In Person

- Find your nearest ID office [at this link](#). You’ll be able to search by location, find hours and contact information for nearby offices, and make your appointment online.
- Ensure you bring [all required documents](#) for an ID card renewal/reissuance.

Online

First, you’ll need to determine your eligibility for online renewal. According to DoD, in order to skip the in-person appointment:

- The sponsor must have a common access card (CAC) or a DoD Self-Service Logon (DS Logon).
- The sponsor and the cardholder must have authorized DoD to use their email to contact them via the ID Card Office.
- The cardholder must have a current mailing address in the U.S. (or an APO/FPO/DPO address; no post office boxes) and a photo taken in the last 12 years, both on file with the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS). Learn how to update your DEERS record [at this link](#).



If you are eligible, visit the ID Card Office Online [at this link](#) and click the “Family ID Cards” block. You’ll need to log in via CAC or DS Logon to begin the process; you can learn more about eligibility, requirements, and proof of identity [at this link](#).

Further ID card questions should be directed to the Defense Manpower Data Center. Its customer support team can be reached at (800) 538-9552 Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., excluding federal holidays.

MOAA DATABASE TRANSITION TIMELINE AND IMPACT

As a reminder, the transition of MOAA’s database is not done as of this date. They hope to have it in place by the end of the year. Council and Chapter leaders do not have access to the Committee Module or NRT Report.

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.

TONYA STAR, WIDOW OF MAJ. RICHARD STAR, DIES AT 51 AUGUST 16, 2024

By MOAA Staff

Tonya Star, a tireless advocate on behalf of combat-injured veterans and the legislation bearing the name of her late husband, passed away Aug. 12 at her home in Euless, Texas. She was 51.

Star’s husband, Maj. Richard Star, USAR, was diagnosed with stage 4 metastatic terminal lung cancer in 2018. She immediately put personal ambitions aside as she was “thrust into becoming a full-time caregiver, advocate, and lung cancer researcher,” she wrote in a [2020 MOAA.org article](#).

Maj. Richard Star succumbed to his illness [in February 2021](#). Tonya Star remained an active participant in ongoing advocacy work for the Major Richard Star Act, which would end a compensation offset faced by tens of thousands of combat-injured retirees.

“You could not ask for a better ally in this fight,” said Lt. Col. Mark Belinsky, USA (Ret), MOAA’s director of Government Relations for Currently Serving and Retired Affairs. “Tonya’s presence motivated all of us to continue our work on the Hill, on the phone, anywhere we thought we could make a difference. Her work, both alongside her husband and after his passing, made our progress on this bill possible.”



Blessed Assurance
Adult Day Care



To benefit disabled Veterans,
Seniors and other Adults with
Alzheimer's, Dementia and
various other diseases.

★ SPONSORS ★
Piedmont Natural Gas (Gold)
Truist (Silver)
Novant Hospital (Silver)
Sam's Club (Bronze)
Scott Clark Toyota (Vehicle)
Coca-Cola (Beverage)

12th Annual Charity Golf Tournament



Olde Sycamore Golf Plantation

(7500 Olde Sycamore Drive · Mint Hill, NC 28227)

Thursday, April 17, 2025

9:00 a.m. Grab-and-Go Breakfast (Metro Diner)

10:30 a.m. Shotgun Start

After Tournament Grab-and-Go Dinner (Red Rocks Cafe)

- 1. Gold Sponsor: \$6,000 (includes 2 foursomes, display corporate tent & banner, name/logo on tournament signage, recognition in print/social media, lunch dinner and awards program)
- 2. Silver Sponsor: \$5,000 (includes 2 foursomes, display of corporate banner, name/logo on tournament signage, recognition in print/social media, lunch, dinner and awards program)
- 3. Bronze Sponsor: \$4,000 (includes 1 foursome, corporate name/logo on tournament signage, recognition in print/ social media, lunch, dinner and awards program)
- 4. Putting Contest Sponsor: \$1,500 (include 1 individual round of golf, T-box signage, table promotions and media advertisement)

Please Check One:

___ Individual Player: \$125 ___ Hole Sponsorship: \$150 ___ Foursome: \$500 ___ Foursome & Hole Sponsorship: \$650

(Mulligan Package: \$40 – 2 Mulligans per player, 2 Putting Contest Tickets, 1 Raffle Ticket, 1 Air Gun Shot)

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

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Please return this form by March 24, 2025 with payment to Blessed Assurance Adult Daycare (Charity Golf Tournament),
13001 Idlewild Rd., Matthews, NC 28105

Information only may be faxed to 704-845-1562 or emailed to nate@blessedadultcare.org. Payments may also be made online via PayPal at BlessedAdultcare.org and we will send you a receipt. For more information contact Blessed Assurance at 704.576.4754 or 704.845.1359.





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.

