

Grand Strand Chapter

Military Officers Association of America



The Coastal Tide

June 2019

www.grandstrandmoaa.org

President's Message by Randy Dymond



Well, we wrapped up a very busy month of May in which we celebrated Military Appreciation Days by hosting an incredibly successful golf tournament—netting \$26,000—and showcasing our four JROTC scholarship winners in the annual parade on Mar-

ket Common. Heartfelt thanks to all the volunteers, organizations and businesses that made these and other events happen last month. And special thanks to Dave Townsend, our golf tournament director, for his steadfast leadership and hard work. As I write this on Flag Day in June, we just completed our last general membership meeting before a summer hiatus with a wonderful luncheon at Kimbel's in Wachesaw Plantation, where we recognized many of our generous and long-standing donors and were treated with a talk by COL Charles Thrash (USAF, Ret) on the history of the Myrtle Beach Air Force Base. As I close out the first six months of my tenure as your president, I want to personally congratulate two of our own, John Bradley and Kelly Sharbel, for earning on behalf of our chapter national MOAA's 5-Star Marvin Harris Communication Award for their work on our website and newsletter. We are indeed blessed to have the dedication and talents of these and so many other individuals to make Grand Strand MOAA such a viable chapter. Have a wonderful summer!



Never Stop Serving



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Colonel Charlie Thrash Shares Myrtle Beach Air Force Base History

If you did not attend the June luncheon meeting, you missed a very informative and entertaining presentation by Colonel Charlie Thrash (USAF, Ret) on the history of the Myrtle Beach Air Force Base. Colonel Thrash

took the Chapter through the development of the base from its beginning with its first mission of maritime patrol until its end when it closed in 1993. In between, in addition to being a base for combat air units, there were the years it served as a prisoner of war camp for captured Germans during World War II, a turkey farm, a bombing and strafing range, and even an alternate emergency landing base for NASA's Space Shuttle. Its U.S. Air Force flying units participated in military operations from the Berlin Crisis in the late 1940s to Desert Shield/Desert Storm in 1990-91, when the base's unit was the first to deploy to Saudi Arabia. Colonel Thrash also reminded luncheon attendees about the distinguished officers and civilians who served at the base. Many of them are memorialized in the names of streets and other sites in what is now Market Common. Thanks for an insightful presentation, Colonel Thrash.



Mark Your Calendars

Have a great summer !!!!

Our next dinner meeting will be September 10. Details will be forthcoming so stay tuned to your email and be sure to visit the Chapter website throughout the summer for any additional events that may be of interest.



As President Dymond mentioned in his message on the front page, National MOAA has again awarded the Grand Strand Chapter the Colonel Marvin Harris Communications Five Star Award. This prestigious honor recognizes the Board's efforts to keep our membership informed and engaged. John Bradley's extraordinary efforts as webmaster makes our website user friendly and very informative. The website's and newsletter's success results from the contributions of Board members who submit articles and pictures to include in these two media. Congratulations and thanks to everyone who makes these efforts possible.

Chapter Supporters Recognized

The June luncheon also included Chapter recognition of people and organizations from the community whose support allows us to assist area veterans at Stand Down and through our veterans outreach programs, provide rank insignia and the Robert Hawkins Leadership Award to Coastal Carolina University

ROTC cadets, and provide financial assistance and Chapter leadership awards to JROTC units. Those presented award certificates were Mr. Rob Clemons and Ms. Stephanie Bohardt of Monarch Roofing, Ms. Helen Peters of CresCom Bank, Mr. John McCloud of South State Bank, Mr. Sid Worley,



Mr. Kelly McColl of Heritage Golf Club, and our own Leslie Prince for all of her volunteer hours at Chapter annual golf tournament.

Memorial Committee Update

By Greg Youngman

(Chair—Greg Youngman; Members—Mike Davison, Dean Brown, Hans Duerr, Jerry Terwillinger, Rufus Manning, Greg Hill, Peggy DeVivo, Melody Wages)

As the Chairman of the recently formed Chapter Memorial Committee, I want to take this opportunity to update our membership on our progress and the challenges ahead.

The Committee was created in January to examine options for recognizing the significant contributions that deceased Chapter members made to the GS Chapter and our Grand Strand community. Since then, our efforts evolved into not only recognizing our deceased members, but also securing the legacy of our Chapter as a service organization. Our Chapter today prides itself on its outreach to homeless veterans, active duty service members, and collaboration with the ROTC unit at Coastal Carolina University and the JROTC units in our surrounding community. In continuing to build our legacy, and especially to honor the countless contributions of those deceased members who gave unselfishly for the benefit of others, the Committee established three objectives.

- 1) Establish an annual Chapter memorial service for our deceased members that honors their memories and contributions;
- 2) Establish a Leadership Award honoring deceased member Col Robert T. Hawkins, USA (Ret), and recognizing his many contributions throughout the Grand Strand and Georgetown communities. The award is presented annually to an ROTC senior at Coastal Carolina University;
- 3) Assess the possibility of establishing a GS MOAA Memorial within the community that would stand as a permanent reminder of the many members who have dedicated their service to the betterment of those around us.

I can proudly report that we have already accomplished our first two objectives and are beginning to develop our final plans for the last objective—creating a permanent Chapter memorial at Warbird Park. The BOD has endorsed our plans and provided requirements in meeting this objective. To date, the Committee has unanimously approved a site located at Warbird Park in Market Common, commonly called Veterans' Park. In addition, we have worked closely with City Project Officer Ron Andrews to select the site and will receive final approval from the City Council at a future date over the summer. Once the site is approved, the City will assist us in preparing the site for the memorial.

We have also been consulting with two granite monument businesses in the area to receive competitive bids on our design. Currently, everything concerning the actual memorial is in its final planning stages. Our expectation is to hand over the design and the memorial's estimated construction costs to our Fundraising Committee by the end of the summer. LTG Michael Davison, who has served on the Committee since its inception, has graciously agreed to be our Fundraising Chair for this final phase!

You will be hearing more about this worthwhile project at the September meeting. Before then, the Committee will be mailing out a list of deceased members for your review to ensure that we have not forgotten any deceased Chapter members. We look forward to your continued support to create a lasting legacy within the greater Grand Strand community in recognizing our Chapter!

Chaplain's Corner by Greg Hill



What national holiday better captures the spirit of our Nation than Independence Day? Some background: Richard Henry Lee, of Virginia, proposed a resolution before the Second Continental Congress in June of 1776, to legally separate the Thirteen Colonies from Great Britain. That resolution was approved on July 2, 1776. The Declaration of Independence, was actually approved on July 4, 1776, as a formal statement to explain the July 2, 1776 decision. Thank you, Thomas Jefferson, and a Committee of Five, for their work on our Declaration!

In addition to your family gatherings, bar-b-ques or however you observe July 4, I suggest you read the Declaration of Independence and ponder anew Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness in this idea called America.

Financial Report by Tony Prince

Most of the Chapter's revenues and expenditures since our May report have been related to the 2019 golf tournament., This event remains the most important revenue producer for our Chapter. It is critical to our abil-



ity to finance our support for veterans , ROTC, and JROTC programs. Again this year, our Golf Chairman David Townsend and his hardworking committee members have hit a hole in one. His report can be found on pages 5 and 7. It should be noted that the Board will develop the Chapter budget for FY2020 this summer and have it ready for discussion and approval. This is the result of changing our accounting year from the calendar year to a fiscal year of

October 1 to September 30. As a result of that change, our budget will be based on known revenue figures rather than on anticipated annual revenue. Knowing what revenue is available allows us to budget with greater certainty.

Balance April 30, \$34,155.25

Deposits in May \$26,314.59

Expenditures in May \$13970.61

Balance June 1 \$46,499.23

Figures from the golf tournament are subject to minor changes due to any remaining bills to be paid or income remaining to be received.

Military Appreciation Days

Grand Strand MOAA again played an important role in the city's Military Appreciation Days. Our busy Memorial Day weekend started with the parade that featured our float arranged for by Tom Satterfield and ended with our participation the Memorial Day veterans march and commemoration.



President Randy Dymond drove this Corvette donated by Myrtle Beach Chevrolet with scholarship winner Cadet Lieutenant Colonel La Taurean Brigman

Tom Satterfield and his family staffed the MOAA float in the parade in Market Common



Hans Duerr drove this Camaro donated by Myrtle Beach Chevrolet with scholarship winners Cadet Major Kaleigh York and Cadet Ensign Elizabeth Boyd



President Randy Dymond, Hans Duerr, and Dave Fischer pose with the Monarch Roofing crew that sported the MOAA sign on its truck in the parade.



Hans Duerr and Randy Dymond pose under the MOAA tent with the Chapter's four scholarship winners at the post-parade picnic and exposition.



AREA JROTC UNITS RECEIVE ACCOLADES



Our Chapter's support of area JROTC units always manifests itself at our May dinner meeting when we recognize the work of the JROTC instructors and present our annual scholarships to deserving cadets. Chapter members who also take the time to visit the high schools we support to present our Chapter Leadership Awards get another opportunity to fully appreciate the importance of our support. This year, two of our high school JROTC units, Myrtle Beach High School Navy JROTC and Georgetown High School Navy ROTC, achieved high levels of recognition in competitions far beyond the Grand Strand. In both cases, these cadets, led by Commander Dave Kaiser (USN, Ret) and Major Shawn Studley (USMC, Ret), respectively, learned important life lessons.

Myrtle Beach High School: The Navy JROTC Drill Team won area competitions to qualify to compete in the National Academic Athletic Drill Competition in Pensacola, Florida. Our Chapter and individual members contributed financial support for their trip. The Drill Team competed against 26 of the very best Navy JROTC units in the nation. Its Armed Exhibition

placed 8th out of 26 and its Color Guard placed 10th out of 26 teams, an outstanding finish by any measure but an even greater accomplishment by one of the smallest schools in the competition. The Drill Team's success has provided them a great lesson in what it takes to achieve at a higher level and a goal to shoot for in 2020. Their new motto is "Now We Know and Now We Go".

Georgetown High School: The Navy JROTC Unit, has been designated as the Navy's Best NJROTC Unit in Area Six, which includes 65 units throughout both of the Carolinas. To add a real capstone to that achievement the SC House of Representatives very recently passed a Resolution congratulating them on that stellar achievement.. This unit has a history of distinction, establishing itself as a perennial award winning unit, and this is its highest honor.

Regrettably, Major Shawn Studley, USMC (Ret) will be leaving GHS NJROTC at the end of June to take up the Senior Naval Science Instructor position at a brand new unit/high school in Fort Mill, SC beginning in July. He will be sorely missed by the cadets and community, and he leaves his successor big shoes to fill. We all wish him well and are confident of his continued success.

Membership

Our Chapter continues to work toward its goal of having 160 members by the end of the year. Two new officers have joined us this month, but we will need to find 11 more over the next six months to achieve our goal. Be on the lookout for eligible new neighbors who might be moving in or new acquaintances who you encounter in other activities. Invite them to our September dinner meeting and pass along their contact information to John Bradley who will extend to them an enthusiastic invitation. In the meantime, take the time to welcome our new members:

Joe Capello, CPT, USA
James McLean, LTC, USA, Retired

In addition, "like" us on Facebook:

<https://m.facebook.com/pg/Grand-Strand-Chapter-MOAA-576092469509309/about/>

Stand Down 2019 Scheduled

Planning is well underway for the 6th annual veterans Stand Down, sponsored by MOAA and a host of other veterans organizations including AARP, the Veterans Administration, the Veterans Welcome Home and Resource Center, the Myrtle Beach Housing Authority, East Carolina Homeless Organization, Horry Georgetown Technical College, the Combat Veterans Association, and the War Veterans of America.



Stand Down 2019 is scheduled for Friday, September 27, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Breakfast and lunch will

be available for attendees. Veterans can avail themselves of numerous services including medical and dental services, VA support, housing, legal services and others. Stand Down will be held again at the US Army Reserve Center at 3392 Philis Blvd.

Grand Strand MOAA efforts, led by our 2nd Vice President Michael Freeman, will again focus on the immediate needs of homeless and near homeless veterans as well veterans in need. Chapter volunteers will be needed to staff our tent and distribute materials for use by the veterans who attend. Anyone interested in participating should contact Mike at your earliest convenience. Send an email to m.dean.freeman@gmail.com or call 803.371.5972 .

VA Changes Underway

(Courtesy of National MOAA)

On June 6, the Department of Veterans Affairs began implementing the element of the MISSION Act known as the VA Community Care Program. The MISSION Act is a landmark law enacted last year to strengthen VA's ability to deliver the best care and services. Key portions of the act will expand eligibility for caregiver services to all eras of veterans, expand telehealth services, increase access to community care, and establish access to urgent care in the community. Consequently, some veterans will experience changes in the way they receive care. You can go on-line to MOAA.org for more detailed information about how this act is being implemented. Additional information is being added to the website as it becomes available.

For more information on issues MOAA is currently working on behalf of its members and active/retired service members go to www.http://takeaction.moaa.org

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GOLF TOURNAMENT 2019 RESULTS By Dave Townsend, Tournament Director

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL on a very successful golf tournament! It doesn't take a village to have a profitable MOAA golf tournament, but it does take the backing of an active chapter membership, a dedicated golf committee, supportive hole and major sponsors, a high number of players and numerous volunteers as a recipe for success. Through hard work, we were able to realize a net profit from the tournament of more than \$26,000.



If you participated in any way, you should feel good about the benefits we will be able to deliver to JROTC/ROTC programs and disadvantaged veterans.

The first meeting of the Golf Committee was held in December 2018 to plan out the next five months. Members were Jim Albert, John Bradley, Randy Dymond, Frank Esposito, David Fischer, Jim Offutt, CJ Parente, Truman Parmele, Calvin Peck, Dave Sheppard, John Short, Bill Stewart, Jerry Terwilliger and me. In general, we formed three teams each responsible for the North Strand, Mid Strand and the South Strand. Solicitations were made for donations from golf courses and local business establishments. A flyer was developed to entice players to participate. A contract was signed with the Legends Group where we had to pay for a minimum of 120 players. 152 players entered.





Corporate Sponsors



We want to thank our volunteers. Most were from our membership, but some came from our corporate sponsors such as Stephanie Bohardt of Monarch Roofing, Helen Peters from CresCom Bank and members of the JROTC unit from Myrtle Beach High School. It was a very cooperative effort. Seven more months and we do it all over again. If you want to participate, please let Dave Townsend know!



Platinum Sponsors



Gold Sponsors





[Application Form](#)

www.grandstrandmoaa.org

ONE POWERFUL VOICE

Grand Strand Chapter MOAA: ___ Application/Renewal ___ Change of address /contact info
Chapter Annual dues: \$20.00 for regular membership or \$50 For 3 year membership. For NEW MEMBERS: \$20 1st Quarter; \$15, 2nd Quarter; \$10, 3rd Quarter; \$20, 4th Quarter (Good for Following Year). Make check payable to: "Grand Strand MOAA". Mail to: MOAA Grand Strand Chapter, P.O. Box 15842, Surfside Beach, SC 29587.

Last name _____ First name _____ MI _____

DOB _____ Rank _____ Service _____ Spouse's name _____

Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home phone _____ Cell phone _____

Email address (please print clearly !!) _____

Are you a member of National MOAA? _____ If yes, please provide membership number: _____

Status: __ Retired __ Active __ Reserve __ National Guard __ State Guard __ Former Officer __ Auxiliary __ ROTC __ JROTC

{My signature below verifies that the above information may be shared in a Members Only Directory and that I am eligible for MOAA Chapter membership.}

Amount: \$ _____ Check ___ Cash ___ For year(s)) _____ Signature _____

Additional amount (donation) for this year's scholarship awards: \$ _____

Current employment (optional): _____

Professional skills (optional): _____

If Auxiliary member or applicant, please indicate your spouse's full name, military service affiliation, rank, and current status: _____

Interested in a Chapter leadership/committee position? If yes, what? _____ (continue on reverse)

MOAA Mission/Purpose: To foster fraternal relations (and mutual support) among retired, active duty, and former officers of the uniformed services and their National Guard and Reserve counterparts, ROTC cadets, their families and survivors; Assist community organizations that support service members and veterans and their families; to provide funds for college scholarships for area high school seniors (normally JROTC students); conduct fund-raising to support other service member and veterans' programs (e.g. Wounded Warrior visits); provide annual MOAA leadership awards to graduating cadets in all area high school approved/active JROTC programs; participate, collaboratively, in coastal community events and activities, as priorities and resources permit; Maintain a proactive chapter affairs program that supports members during health and other family emergencies; promote the aims and objectives of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA); and, the aims and objectives of the SC MOAA Council of Chapters. MOAA and its affiliated Chapters and Councils are non-partisan.