

Grand Strand Chapter

Military Officers Association of America

The Coastal Tide

www.grandstrandmoaa.org

President's Message by Jim Albert



After having to cancel our April and May meetings due to the pandemic, we were able to hold a June luncheon at Kimbels Restaurant on Wacheseaw Plantation where we celebrated the award of \$2,000 scholarships to five outstanding area high school Junior ROTC cadets. We were also able to support the Senior ROTC Commissioning program at Coastal Carolina University, albeit from a distance, and awarded a \$2,000 Colonel Robert T. Hawkins Leadership Award to a deserving new Second Lieutenant from CCU ROTC.

Despite ongoing pandemic restrictions, the Grand Strand Chapter of MOAA continued to serve local veterans with prepaid food cards, Post Office Box addresses, bus tickets and help with rent and utility payments to keep veterans and their families in their homes. These efforts did not go unnoticed as national MOAA not only awarded us a \$5,000 grant to support local veterans and families in need, but added \$5,000 to our request to help veterans and families impacted by the pandemic (loss of job and/or home, mental health issues, etc.).

If you would like to join our new Veterans Outreach Council and help determine where best to place our support resources, let me know. Or if you would like to donate to these efforts, you may do so by sending a check to our Chapter address in Surfside Beach. For those who have already donated, we thank you very much. 100% of your donations go to needy veterans and families impacted by the pandemic. Finally, if you know of any veteran or family situation that needs our help, let me know and we'll look into it. Besides Chapter support, national MOAA, the VA and others have many new programs to support veterans and families in need.

(Continued on Page 2)



May June 2020

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Mark Your Calendar

EDITORS NOTE: Any unanticipated schedule changes will be announced via email and Grand Strand MOAA website.

- Aug 4 — USCG Birthday
- Sept 10 – Annual MOAA Golf Tournament, Noon, Heritage Golf Course, Pawleys Island
- Sept 15 – Chapter Dinner Meeting, 5:30PM, Pine Lakes Country Club,
- Sept 18 - USAF Birthday
- Sept 25 – Annual Stand Down for Homeless and Needy Veterans 10 am Reserve Center, Market Common, Myrtle Beach
- Oct 13 – Ribbon Cutting for Chapter Memorial Monument and Chapter 60th Anniversary, 3PM, Warbird Park, Market Common, Myrtle Beach
- Oct 13 – Chapter Dinner Meeting, 5:30PM, Pine Lakes Country Club,
- Oct 13 - US Navy Birthday
- Nov 3 - Election Day
- Nov 9 – Chapter Lunch Meeting and Missing Man Ceremony, Noon, Maggie D's Restaurant,
- Nov 10 - USMC Birthday
- Nov 11 - Veterans Day
- Nov 26 - Thanksgiving Day
- Dec 8 – Chapter Dinner Meeting and Holiday Concert, 5:30PM, Pine Lakes Country Club,
- Dec 20 - US Space Force Birthday



Chaplain's Corner by Greg Hill



As I stated in my invocation at Kimball's restaurant at our June luncheon, since the pandemic, we have had to learn a new way "to be". Also, I mentioned that we have had to re-examine how we live with each other.

During times of crisis, our goal is to become better; to be transformed. Regardless, during times of crisis, we will be changed. How have you learned a new way "to be" since the pandemic began? Has your faith or spiritual life helped you along your way?

Will one of the bi-products of the George Floyd tragedy be how we provide "Veterans Assistance" as a Chapter? Should it? If so, how?

My prayer is that this summer will be a safe, fun time for each of you, filled with opportunities to reconnect with family and friends. If you are able, enjoy the out of doors.

See you at our next Chapter meeting in September!

President's Message (continued from page 1)

While the Chapter takes a break from its meetings over the summer, I assure you the show will go on with additional veteran support and preparations for our Fall events. I look forward to seeing everyone at our Golf Tournament on September 10th and dinner on September 15th. We are also planning a ribbon cutting for our Chapter's memorial monument at Warbird Park on Market Common on October 13th along with our Chapter's 60th anniversary celebration. In the meantime, please stay safe and have a great summer.



Financial Report by Tony Prince

At the end of May, Chapter bank accounts have remained stable due to limited Chapter activities resulting from corona virus restrictions. Consequently, expenditures and revenues have experienced minimal activities, except for the assistance provided to veterans affected by the pandemic mentioned in the President's message on page 1. Consequently, the balances in our three bank accounts are as follows:

Operating Account	\$18,584.39
Memorial Account	\$ 8,396.68
Reserve Account	\$15,034.89

Stand Down 2020 Will Look Different by Truman Parmele

The seventh annual Myrtle Beach Stand Down will be held on Sept 25, 2020 at the Army Reserve Center in Market Common to provide assistance to homeless and near homeless veterans. In the past, preparations for Stand Down took place one day and the event itself took place the next day. This year's event will be a one day affair with setup from 6-9AM and the veterans arriving from 9AM-4PM. Due to the coronavirus, the event will be handled as a drive thru with tents erected in the parking lot of the Reserve Center. Veterans will remain in their cars and each car will receive materials on how veterans can obtain medical, dental, housing, legal, and other related services. Veterans who do not have automobiles will be escorted by volunteers thru each stop. Upon leaving, each veteran will be provided a box lunch. As usual, Grand Strand MOAA will provide blankets with the MOAA logo to each veteran and cold weather kits to the homeless and destitute veterans. Chapter members are needed as volunteers to act as traffic directors, escorts, and manning our MOAA booth to hand out blankets and cold weather kits. Those interested in being a volunteer please contact Truman Parmele at m_parmele@hotmail.com or phone 703-258-2708 for either setup shift (early), morning or afternoon shifts. Last year we had 277 veterans process thru and this year we are expecting 300 or more. Our Chapter members have been very generous with their time supporting this important annual event in the past. I look forward to hearing from anyone wishing to support it this year as well.

Golf Tournament Is A Go by Dave Townsend

Mark the date, September 10th! After the pause caused by the coronavirus, we will once again return to the links for our annual golf tournament fundraiser. Although much detail has yet to be addressed, planning is in process to allow us to play golf but according to new social distancing norms. Weather permitting, we will probably move most of the clubhouse activities outside. This will require more tables and chairs, maybe additional canopies, or tents. Lunch will most likely be a box lunch prepared by the Heritage Golf Club. After play, there might be hot dogs, ice cream and chocolate cookies ready for the weary players. Auction items and the 50/50 raffle might still be in the clubhouse, but with social distancing.



Currently we are on the lookout for additional tables, chairs, canopies, and tents. If you can provide any resources, please contact Dave Townsend at 843-907-1763 or email him at davemoaa@gmail.com. At the same time John Bradley is seeking volunteers to assist on that day. His telephone is 727-771-3712 or email at jebadjr46@gmail.com. This is our annual chapter fundraiser, so we hope all members

will participate in some way, either as players, volunteers, or tee hole sign sponsors. The latter is available for a \$100 donation that can honor a loved one, or be an advertisement for your place of business.



The good news is that we have a full slate of golfers entered in the tournament, and most of the major sponsors have agreed to financially support us again this year. We have an excellent relationship with the Heritage Golf Club, and they are ready to assist us in making this the best tournament to date. Please enjoy your summer, and we hope to see you all in September.

JROTC PROGRAMS FRONT AND CENTER

By Dean Brown

This has been a unique spring for all of us in so many ways including our chapter's support for the 17 High School JROTC Units in northeast South Carolina which are in our area of responsibility. As March was opening the units were beginning to submit their nominees for the MOAA JROTC Leadership Medal given annually to a cadet. Chapter members were volunteering to present those medals at the unit awards ceremonies being scheduled from late April to the end of May. Some units were also submitting applications from their most competitive senior cadets for the \$2,000.00 scholarships that the chapter would award at our May dinner meeting.

Suddenly, everything was uncertain.....schools closed, cadets were hard to contact, awards ceremonies were being canceled each week as the virus shut down expanded, our chapter's April meeting and then traditional May JROTC Instructor and Scholarship Awards dinner meeting was also cancelled. Future planning was done via somewhat awkward ZOOM meetings.

Like the professional military officers and planners we once were in our earlier careers, we were undeterred from our mission to support the JROTC Units. Instructors were contacted at home by Dean Brown and Hans Duerr to obtain both medal and scholarship nominees. Dave Townsend rapidly produced the professional grade certificates for our president, Jim Albert, to sign. Awards packages were mailed by Dean to all seventeen schools before the end of the school year for the instructors to distribute to the deserving cadets as each of their school circumstances allowed. Hans gathered up the significant number of applications we received and coordinated the efforts of a board of members to select the five most outstanding cadets. The June Luncheon meeting at Kimbel's Restaurant at Wachesaw Plantation was designated as the JROTC instructor and scholarship Awards recognition event and invitations were sent to all the supported units and to the families of the scholarship selectees.

At noon on 9 June, with all the appropriate COVID-19 precautions in place, Jim Albert opened the lunch meeting where we recognized the fine instructors (and their spouses) who dedicate so much effort to mentoring our youth and our five terrific scholarship awardees. Seven units had instructors in attendance: Aynor Army JROTC's LTC David Roberts, USA (Ret), Georgetown Navy JROTC's CAPT JJ Parker, USN(Ret), Green Sea Floyds Army JROTC's CSM James Sypher, USA (Ret), Loris Army JROTC's LTC Jim McLean USA (Ret), Myrtle Beach Navy JROTC's CDR Dave Kaiser, USN (Ret), North Myrtle Beach Navy JROTC's LCDR Marc Warren, USCG (Ret), and ST James Army JROTC's LTC Scott Bartley, USA (Ret). We were also pleased to honor LTC JD Davis, the Horry County School District JROTC Program Director.

President Jim Albert presented scholarship certificates and lots of photos were taken of our scholarship selectees, their families, and instructors.

MEET THE SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Cadet Conisia C. Allen (Navy JROTC) excelled academically with a 3.7 GPA while taking numerous Honors Courses, earning induction into honor societies and the National Beta Club. She served in various leadership positions including Chief of Staff in the Myrtle Beach High School's NJROTC program. Her efforts resulted in the MBHS unit being recognized as the "most improved" program out of over 600 nationwide. Cadet Allen has also given generously of her time mentoring fellow cadets and supporting various community projects. She will continue her education at Coastal Carolina University.



Cadet Lillian A. Freeman (Navy JROTC) was a 4.0 GPA honor roll student at North Myrtle Beach High School earning academic and leadership awards from numerous national organizations. In her unit she held the positions of Public Affairs and Executive Officer and initiated several new programs to improve unit operations. She was a member of the unit Academic Team that placed top 90 percentile in the national NJROTC competition. Cadet Freeman also volunteered on campus and in the community fund-raisers for worthy causes. She has received a Letter of Assurance from the US Naval Academy and hopes to be commissioned in the Navy.



Cadet Ethan A. Lewis (Army JROTC) is a scholar, athlete, and leader at Loris High School making the honor roll, playing on the Loris High School Football Team and in the school orchestra. His Senior Army Instructor describes him as a cadet that epitomizes Army values and always sets the example for peers and subordinates alike. He takes time to mentor junior cadets while holding down a part-time job. His "can-do" attitude and willingness to take on new challenges will undoubtedly serve him well when he attends The Citadel this Fall.



Cadet Alston M. Nash (Navy JROTC) has gathered multiple academic honors as a student and cadet at Georgetown High School. She served as NJROTC Battalion Executive Officer and knew all 160 cadets by name. Additionally, she was Commander of the Physical Fitness and Armed Regulation Drill Teams. She led the unit to a ranking of the #1 NJROTC unit in North and South Carolina during school year 2018-2019. As soccer player and Team Captain, Cadet Nash won more soccer matches in a four-year period than any other student/athlete at Georgetown before her. Her future goals are to attend USC and become a dentist.



Cadet Dylan L. Young (Navy JROTC) has excelled as a student and JROTC cadet at North Myrtle Beach High School. His honors include selection to the National and Social Studies Honor Societies, and the American Legion JROTC Academic Excellence Award. As Drum Major of the NMBHS Marching Band, he trained and led the Band in award-winning Band competitions. Each year he held increasingly more responsible and demanding positions in his unit including rifle team commander. Cadet Young will attend The Citadel and seek an active duty military commission.





Chapter Awards and Grants



MOAA Harris Communications Award. National MOAA awarded their highest 5-star award to the GS MOAA Chapter, for both print and digital communications. This includes the Chapter's efforts to publish a comprehensive newsletter several times a year as well as our written and email communications with Chapter members, press releases, photos, and communications with other organizations each month. It also includes efforts to maintain an easy to navigate and up-to-date website and social media sites. Our Chapter was the only South Carolina Chapter (of ten) to receive a 5-star award in both print and digital categories and continues a streak of Harris Communications Awards that goes back five consecutive years.

MOAA Foundation Community Service Grant. The MOAA Foundation awarded the GS MOAA Chapter a \$5,000 grant to support the needs of homeless, near homeless and distressed veterans and their families across our region. This is the 3rd year in a row we received this prestigious and highly selective grant. Funds are used to support our annual Stand Down with the local VA Veterans Center where approximately 300 needy veterans receive a wide array of clothing, blankets, food, medical and dental exams, legal advice, job counseling, housing information and various other life sustaining items and services. We also use this grant to help distressed veterans and their families find jobs, meet appointments, pay rent and utilities, and provide food and home repairs.

MOAA Foundation COVID-19 Support Grant. In addition to the Community Service Grant, the GS MOAA Chapter was awarded another \$5,000 grant from the MOAA Foundation to support local veterans negatively affected by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. This includes food cards, job training, housing costs and more. Interestingly, this grant was never advertised or opened to applicants, but was granted to a few MOAA Chapters across the country who have an established track record of going above and beyond service to the local veteran community and who operate in a region heavily affected by the economic shut-down. In addition to this special one-time grant, the MOAA Foundation has started a new grant program for individual veterans affected by the pandemic to apply for assistance up to \$500. The GS MOAA Chapter will assist any veteran with the application, who comes forward looking for this type of assistance.



NEVER STOP SERVING



At your first opportunity say hello to our new members:

- Robert Bellamy, MAJ, USA (retired), Myrtle Beach, SC (Spouse: Lori)
- Sarah McNany, Capt, USAF (retired), Myrtle Beach, SC (Past-President of the Mountain Empire Chapter of MOAA, Johnson City, TN) (Spouse: David)
- Tracey Miller, LCDR, MSC, USN (retired), Georgetown, SC
- Florence Vaught (Surviving Spouse of LTG James Vaught, USA), Conway, SC (Rejoined Chapter)
- Rose Wainwright, Col, USAF (retired), Myrtle Beach, SC (Spouse: Dale)
- Paul Williamson, Col, MSC, USAF (retired), Myrtle Beach, SC (Past Vice-President of the Mountain Empire Chapter of MOAA, Johnson City, TN) (Spouse: Sherry Lynn)

Surviving Spouses by Peggy DeVivo

The Chapter's Auxiliary continues to be one of the important outreach initiatives to the Surviving Spouses. Funerals and memorials have been postponed or delayed during the COVID-19 crisis, but the fact that those left to administer the estates does not go unnoticed by the families and community it affects. During this time of sadness and trial, we may be of valuable help to the families of our veterans by providing information on where to go to get information as to what benefits are available and due the surviving families. MOAA.org has an area on their website under the "Resources" page devoted to "Survivor Benefits". On this page you can find out who is eligible for this program, and the options that are available.

Links to the member-exclusive resources and benefits are also posted on our website on the Surviving Spouses page:

Survivor's Planning Guide Detail

Surviving Spouse Corner: 10 Helpful Resources for Surviving Spouses

Survivor Checklist Detail

May we continue to serve one another by being diligent about our health both physical and mental; checking on friends and neighbors; and performing random acts of kindness.

MOAA Establishes COVID-19 Relief Fund

National MOAA has established a COVID-19 Relief Fund to provide assistance to veterans who have been impacted by the pandemic that has swept the country. This fund is designed to provide immediate support in areas of critical need to those who need it most.

The fund is providing emergency financial relief through local chapters as grants up to \$500 per household for military and veteran families. In addition, National MOAA has begun awarding \$5,000 grants to MOAA chapters who applied for Community Outreach Grants, including the Grand Stand Chapter. Those chapters are providing aid and assistance to military and veteran families facing unemployment, who are homeless or facing homelessness, who are dealing with food insecurities, and those who need help paying for clothing, utility bills, transportation costs, and more. Funding for these new support programs comes from the generosity of MOAA members. Donations for the MOAA Foundation can be made by going to www.moaa.org. Every dollar donated to this effort goes toward these relief services.

(Information Provided by National MOAA)

**Now and Always
We'll be There.**



1-800-247-2192 • www.moaainsurance.com



Military Officers Association of America
Grand Strand Chapter

7th Annual Golf Tournament

Honorary Sponsor: Myrtle Beach Military Appreciation Days



Thursday, Sept 10, 2020

HERITAGE GOLF CLUB - PAWLEY'S ISLAND, SC

Registration Deadline Aug 22, 2020

PROCEEDS

SUPPORT:

- JROTC College Scholarships

- Homeless Veterans Needs

- Distressed Veteran Families

Registration & Lunch: 12pm – 2pm | Shotgun Start @ 2PM

\$95/person
\$350/Team (foursome)
\$5 Discount for Each Vet

Team Low Score (Top 3)
Hole-in-One
Longest Drive (Men & Women)

Sponsorship Opportunities (see reverse)

Contact: Dave Townsend: email: davemoaa@gmail.com

cell: (843) 907-1763

More information at: grandstrandmoaa.org

PLAYER REGISTRATION

\$95 per person*, \$350 per team*. To sign up, please complete this form and submit with a check payable to "Grand Strand MOAA". Questions: call/text Dave Townsend at (843) 907-1763 or email davemoaa@gmail.com

Team Capt _____ Phone _____ Email _____ PD _____

Player #2 _____ Phone _____ Email _____ PD _____

Player #3 _____ Phone _____ Email _____ PD _____

Player #4 _____ Phone _____ Email _____ PD _____

Mail to: MOAA, c/o Dave Townsend, 9253 Venezia Circle, Myrtle Beach, SC 29579

***\$5 Discount for Each Veteran! Registration Deadline – May 7, 2020**

(check all that apply)

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

CORPORATE SPONSOR: \$1,000+

- One Team Foursome
- Prominent recognition in Tournament Brochure and on Chapter website
- Full Color Name/Logo banner at club entrance & cart sign

PLATINUM SPONSOR: \$600

- Three Player Entry Fees
- Prominent recognition in Tournament Brochure and on Chapter website
- Full Color Name/Logo 2'x3' sign displayed at Registration & cart sign

GOLD SPONSOR: \$400

- Two Player Entry Fees
- Recognition in Tournament Brochure and on Chapter website
- Full Color Name/Logo 2'x3' sign displayed at Registration

HOLE SPONSOR: \$100 (EACH ADDITIONAL SIGN: \$75)

- Customized 18" x 24" Sign
- Recognition in Tournament Brochure

AUCTION SPONSOR: Donation (cash, gift card and/or item of value)

- Raffle Prizes, Auction Items, Checks, Cash, Gift Cards, etc.
- Major donations will be prominently recognized in Tournament Brochure

COMPANY _____ CONTACT _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____ EMAIL _____

DONATION _____

Mail to: MOAA, c/o Dave Townsend, 9253 Venezia Circle, Myrtle Beach, SC 29579

501(c)(3) Receipt Available Upon Request



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).

You may pay by credit card on line at www.grandstrandmoaa.org

Otherwise, please 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.