



MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, SENCLAND CHAPTER

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May 2024

SENTINEL

May 2024 Message from President Allan Turner – sencland.president@gmail.com



May is Military Appreciation Month.

Happy Birthday!

Happy Birthday to all our May born members; May you have many more happy, healthy years ahead.

Our Condolence:

We were saddened to learn of the recent loss of Major John “Jay” Keegan Jr., USAF (Ret.)

My thanks to E’beth Goad, Director of Programming; and Tricia Ross, Director of Communications for the Rosie Network – an organization dedicated to empowering military spouses and veterans to build fulfilling lives through entrepreneurship, for their outstanding presentation and information at our April meeting/ luncheon, on giving military spouses and kids an opportunity to thrive via entrepreneurship.

For our 7 May “Southern” Meeting at the Island Way in Oak Island, we are delighted to once again host RDML Ron Henderson, USN (ret) who will discuss the Bay of Pigs invasion. He has just recently completed historical research on this topic and like his other presentations, I’m certain this one will be impressive.

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Chapter Awards



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President's Message (Continued) Submitted by President Allan Turner



President's Message



Congratulation to all of the members of SENCLand MOAA! We found out in April that once again we have been awarded the MOAA Levels of Excellence at the 5 Star Level and the Marvin Harris Communications Award, also at the 5 Star Level for our work in 2023. Thanks to all of you for making this happen!

As LTC Lee Hanna mentioned during the April meeting, we have dates for MOAA Leadership Award presentations at the JROTC Programs the Chapter supports. While a lot of these have been filled, there are still some that need a volunteer. Lee has a list of available vacancies in his JROTC Awards and Scholarship Section. Please contact Lee if you're interested in helping out.



On Monday 4/15/2024, I had the pleasure of presenting the MOAA JROTC Leadership Award to Cadet LTC Valeria Alvarado. C/LTC Alvarado has just become the Battalion Commander for North Brunswick High School's Army JROTC unit. NBHS's Senior Army Instructor is COL Steve Baker, and he has a very impressive program. All of these JROTC Units across our catchment area have dedicated instructors and great student cadets. I've done several of these and it's always personally rewarding to present this award to

these deserving cadets.

Honor Flight of the Cape Fear Area - As this fine organization has done for the past several years, the 2024 Honor Flight was held on Saturday 4/20/2024. There were 75 Veterans and 74 Guardians who made the day-long trip to Washington, DC as a tribute to their service to our great nation. As always, their welcome home ceremony was packed with supporters welcoming them back from an adventurous day. We had chapter members to participate in this wonderful event and I'm sure they have come home with great memories.

As always, many thanks to those of you who continue to contribute to the several programs we are fortunate to support each year. In addition to our BG Jim Carper Scholarship Fund we also support the JROTC, Veterans Scholarships and Veteran Outreach programs. Please consider a donation if you haven't already.

Chapter Leadership

Below is a list of Officers, Board Members, and Service Directors that comprise the SENCLAND Chapter's leadership. You can contact chapter leaders by emailing senclandchapter@gmail.com

Officers

Allan Turner, CAPT USNR (ret), President, SENCLAND Chapter
Tom Welke, CAPT USN (ret), 1st Vice President
Barry Coyle, CAPT USN (ret), 2nd Vice President
Mike Apicella, COL USA (ret), 3rd Vice President

Board Members

Joe Irrera, COL, USMC (ret) Immediate Past President
Ken Klassen, CDR USN (Ret), Past President
Bob Doleman, MAJ USA (Ret), Secretary, Veteran Benefits & Resource Support
Anna Marie Allegretto, ITC USNR (Ret), Treasurer
Barry Coyle, CAPT USN (Ret), Legislative Affairs Chair
Dianne Jinwright, LtCol USAF (Ret), Newsletter Editor, Sponsorship Coordinator
LeeRoy Hanna, LTC USA (Ret), JROTC Scholarships & Leadership Awards Chair, Historian
Leon Rooks, MAJ USAR, Wellness Chair
Tim Johnson, CPT, USMC, Veteran Scholarship Chair
Irene Glaeser, COL USA (Ret), Programs and special Events Chair
Albert H Schroetel, COL USAF (Ret), Membership Chair
Dianne Jinwright, LtCol USAF (Ret), Public Affairs, Facebook, Media Publicity
Sandi Adams, Surviving Spouse of David Spetrino, CAPT USN (Ret), Surviving Spouse Coordinator
Mike Apicella, COL USA (Ret), Outreach
Allen Allegretto, CDR USNR (Ret), Webmaster for SENCLAND.org
Karen Murphy, Social Committee

Service Directors

Greg Cook, CAPT, USN (ret) US Navy Service Director
David Renquist, CAPT USPHS, Public Health Service Director
Dianne Jinwright, LtCol USAF (Ret), USAF Service Director
Thomas C. Jones, BG USA (Ret), US Army Service Director
Doug Holdstein, COL USMC (Ret), USMC Service Director
Frank Roberts, LCDR USCG (Ret), USCG Service Director



LEADERS

Our Mission

The mission of the SENCLAND Chapter is to benefit members of the uniformed services, their families and survivors and to advocate for a strong national defense, while providing needed support to the community and its members.





MEMBERSHIP



Membership Update Submitted by Al Schroetel, Membership Chair



Condolence

We have recently learned that Major John “Jay” Keegan Jr., USAF (Ret.) passed away in December 2023. He is survived by his wife Sylvia Keegan and son John Keegan, III. Major Keegan was a Chapter member for 16 years and a generous supporter of our Junior ROTC Scholarship program. His obituary is available at:

<https://wilmingtoncares.com/obituary/john-joseph-keegan-jr/>

We send our deepest condolences to his entire family for that loss.

We try to keep abreast of the status of all of our members, so please let me know any significant life events or relocations of our members. Just send an e-mail to downeast@bellsouth.net or text me at 910-352-4378.

The Chapter’s membership roster is available in the password protected section of the Chapter’s web-site. This roster is updated every month so you will always have the most current list. If you would like assistance accessing that section, please contact me at downeast@bell-south.net or

Avoid Unsubscribing from SENCLAND Email Submitted by Allen Allegretto, Webmaster

EMAIL TIP

The Federal Government sets the rules for commercial email and gives recipients the right to stop receiving unwanted e-mails. To comply, our Chapter emails contain a link to unsubscribe. Be very careful to make sure you do not accidentally unsubscribe as it is difficult to put you back on the Chapter’s mailing list. Members should only click on “unsubscribe” when they absolutely do not want to receive any further e-mails from the Chapter. If you accidentally unsubscribe, please contact the membership committee Al Schroetel (downeast@bellsouth.net) or Leslie Roberson (lesliecotu@hotmail.com) to restore your email subscription.

May 2024 Meeting/Luncheon

The May 2024 Meeting/Luncheon will be held Tuesday, 7 May 2024 at the Island Way Restaurant, 1407 East Beach Drive Oak Island ([map](#)). "You won't want to miss this or the beautiful venue on the beach." Please arrive before 11:30AM. Parking is somewhat limited, and registration and menu selections take time.

Menu Selection

1. Philly Cheesesteak w/ pepper and onions on a hoagie bun/ fries or chips
2. Coconut Shrimp/Roasted Pepper or marmalade/fries or chips
3. Grilled Chicken Salad
4. Salmon Champagne Salad

Entree choices are made once seated at your table (no pre-orders).

Price: \$30.00

1. Includes water, sweet and unsweet iced tea, soft drinks, cookies for dessert, taxes and gratuities.
2. Payment is made at check-in using cash or check only.

Upcoming 2024 Programs Submitted by Irene V. Glaeser

SAVE THE DATE



On June 7 we will have our annual "pig pickin" summer picnic. This year it will be held at the Sea Spray Landing Clubhouse (900 Sea Spray Drive Wilmington), courtesy of member Chrissy Sanford. The clubhouse has the space to make our picnic more enjoyable due to cover for inclement weather, kitchen area and restrooms, to name a few. As

is our tradition the menu will feature barbeque chicken and pork and several sides.



LUNCHEONS / MEETINGS

"Please be aware that participants attending MOAA SENCLAND Chapter events may be photographed or recorded for Chapter products."





LUNCHEONS / MEETINGS

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Monthly Luncheon Meetings

April 2, 2024
Luncheon/Meeting



E'beth Goad & Tricia Ross The Rosie Network

E'beth Goad and Tricia Ross gave an interesting and informative presentation about [The Rosie Network](#) during the April meeting/luncheon. E'beth is the director over the local [Service2CEO](#) program for military-connected entrepreneurs and Tricia oversees [The Kidpreneur Program](#), empowering the next generation of military entrepreneurs.

Special Recognitions



SENCLAND President, Allan Turner made two special recognition award presentations during the April 2nd meeting/luncheon.

Anna Marie Allegretto received a MOAA Leadership Award for her management of the chapter's finances as the chapter's treasurer, and JoAnn Doleman received a MOAA Leadership Award for her oversight of the chapter's communications and responses related to its programs and activities.

May 2024 Luncheon/Meeting

The next MOAA SENCLAND luncheon meeting will be held on Tuesday, 7 May 2024, 1130, hrs. at the at the Island Way Restaurant, 1407 East Beach Drive. Oak Island . Our featured presenter will be RDML Ron Henderson, USN (Ret.), Chairman of the Board of Directors for Friends of the Battleship North Carolina .



RDML Ron Henderson, USN (Ret.), will discuss the 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis. During this period in history the Soviet Union began to secretly install missiles in Cuba with the capability of launching attacks on U.S. cities. The confrontation that followed brought the two superpowers to the brink of war before an agreement was reached to withdraw the missiles.

BIO: Ronald H. Henderson, Jr.

Rear Admiral, Ronald H. Henderson, Jr., United States Navy (retired) Ron retired from the United States Navy and moved to the Wilmington area in 2015, after 34 years of service. A Naval Aviator, he flew FA-18 jet fighters from aircraft carriers and commanded an FA-18 squadron aboard USS Nimitz CVN68. He also commanded the Amphibious Assault Ship USS Juneau LPD10 and the Aircraft Carrier USS John F Kennedy CV67. After military retirement in 2010 he worked for a civilian non-profit before coming to Wilmington. He lives in Leland NC with his wife Kathy. They have a married son, Alex, living in Phoenix, Arizona.

In addition to being Chairman of the Board of Directors for Friends of the Battleship North Carolina, Admiral Henderson has served on the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute advisory council at University of North Carolina at Wilmington (UNCW), and he is a 2017 graduate of the OLLI Adult Scholars Leadership Program.

Ron likes craft beer, good wine, travel, military history, and spending time with his wife, but not necessarily in that order of preference.



LUNCHEONS / MEETINGS

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JROTC Awards & Scholarship Program

Submitted by LeeRoy Hanna, LTC (ret) USA,
Leadership Awards/Scholarship Chair

We would like to thank everyone who donated to the scholarship/outreach programs and ask you to keep these important programs in mind. Please consider a donation to these worthwhile projects now. We are always accepting applications for outreach support. Thank you again to all our generous contributors.

JROTC Scholarship Program

We will be awarding scholarships to the following students this June.

Student's Name	School
Grace Christanson	North Brunswick High School
Brianne Medlin	Hoggard High School
Alannah Mintz	North Brunswick High School
Madison Giddeons	Pender High School
Jaleiny Lauacuenta	Wallace-Rose Hill High School
Alannah Mintz	North Brunswick High School

JROTC Leadership Awards Support

All awards and certificates for presentation at all 19 schools this spring are on hand. The following schools have given me their presentation dates:

SCHOOL	DATE	TIME	STATUS	PRESENTER
New Hanover HS	April 15	1300	Completed	BG (Ret) Tom C. Jones
North Brunswick HS	April 15	1730	Completed	CAPT (Ret) Allan Turner
Whiteville HS	April 15	1700	Completed	LTC (Ret) Lee Hanna
South Brunswick HS	April 24	1800		COL (Ret) John Klotsko
Hoggard High School	May 1	1800		CAPT (Ret) Frederic Kuhm
Heide Trask HS	May 1	TBD		CWO2 (Ret) David Foster
Pender HS	May 8	1400		CWO2 (Ret) David Foster
West Brunswick HS	May 8	1800		COL (Ret) John Klotsko
Ashley High School	May 14	1830		CWO2 (Ret) David Foster
East Duplin HS	May 15	0830		
Lejeune HS	May 15	1600		LCDR (Ret) Frank Roberts, Jr.
Topsail HS	May 15	1700		CAPT (Ret) John Stewart
James Kenan HS	May 17	(Morning)		
Northside HS	May 24	1730		CAPT (Ret) Steve Bird
East Columbus HS	May 17	1700		LTC (Ret) Lee Hanna
West Columbus HS	TBD	TBD		TBD
South Columbus HS	TBD	TBD		TBD
Wallace-Rose Hill HS	TBD	TBD		TBD
Laney HS	TBD	TBD		COL (Ret) Chrissy Sanford

If you would like to volunteer for one of the available schools please contact me at MACHanna@aol.com or call (910) 617-1829. I hope to have the remaining dates in the next week.

SCHOLARSHIPS



Veteran Student Education Scholarship

Tim Johnson, Capt., USMC, Scholarship Coordinator

The Veteran's Scholarship Program for 2024 continues to be well-funded thanks to generous contributions. Contributions from the Jim Carper BG NG Memorial Fund as well as a generous SENCLAND MOAA budgeted contributions have grown available funds.

As with last year, the program will include award ceremonies at the respective colleges we support. Please follow the SENCLAND chapter notices and this newsletter for more information. It would help to better highlight our veterans' scholarship program if several members attended the college awards ceremonies that will be held in November 2024.

New Hanover County Veterans Council (NHCVC)

NOTES FROM THE MARCH 21st MEETING

Bob Doleman, Chapter Representative

- Volunteers needed for the "Veteran Mobile Meals Program" committee. NC AARP representative, Shirley Gerrior will lead the effort for the council.
- The NHCVC "Veterans Banner Project" has received several applications and donations. The first banners will go up near the USO building. Poles by the old Diligence mooring site are also being considered.
- The Forty and Eight, veteran organization wishes to join the NHCVC. Motion passed that Forty and Eight be accepted as a NHCVC member.
- It was suggested that the USO become an affiliate member. Decision tabled until May council meeting.
- An NHCVC planning committee is being formed to sponsor a 9/11 commemoration ceremony.
- A nominating committee will be appointed for the election of 2024-2025 NHCVC officers.
- Actions are on-going to prepare for the Memorial Day Ceremony, that will be held 27 May at the Wilmington, NC National Cemetery.
- The next meeting will be at 7 pm, 16 May 2024.



SCHOLARSHIPS

NHC VETERANS COUNCIL





LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS



Legislative Affairs

Submitted by Barry Coyle, Legislative Affairs Chair

In Washington, D.C.

You have probably read that Congress finally approved full funding for FY 2024 operations – six months into the Fiscal Year. Appropriations for DoD and other major cabinet agencies were approved at the 11th hour on 22 March. Supplemental Appropriations bills to support Ukraine, Israel, and Taiwan were passed 20 April. With the President’s Budget Request for FY 2025 in hand, Congress will now be able to focus on the next National Defense Authorization and Appropriations Acts.

MOAA conducted this year’s Advocacy In Action (AIA) campaign on 17 April. Many MOAA members visited the offices of every Senator and Representative and met in-person with the member or staff to discuss this year’s focus topics. They are:

1. Finally pass concurrent receipt of VA Disability compensation and Military Retired Pay for eligible personnel via the Major Richard Starr Act (HR1282/S344)
2. Increase Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) for Active Duty service-members to 100% of local rent and utilities. BAH is currently capped at 95% of local charges. Full BAH would be funded by the BAH Restoration Act (H2537/S1283).
3. Protect Tricare For Life (TFL). Tell Congress not to consider a recent Congressional Budget Office cost-reduction option that would enact hefty enrollment fees and cost-sharing requirements for TFL.

MOAA members across the country participated in AIA by submitting over 15,000 emails and letters through the Legislative Action Center. You can continue to support these issues and MOAA’s other legislative priorities by contacting your elected officials to make your voice heard at MOAA | [Legislative Action Center \(quorum.us\)](https://moaa.quorum.us/).

In North Carolina

The North Carolina General Assembly reconvenes on 24 April for the Short Session. They are expected to meet regularly until July. Some military-related legislation could be considered during the Short Session.

MOAA’s Legislative Action Center (<https://moaa.quorum.us/>)

Community Outreach

Submitted by Mike Apicella, Outreach Chair

This year the SENCLAND Community Outreach Program has \$3,000 to grant to deserving individuals in need of financial assistance. I am pleased to announce that our program is being partially funded by a grant from the National MOAA organization in the amount of \$1,000. This grant should help sustain the viability of the program.

Leon Rooks and Mike Apicella presented a check to Army Veteran Sheila Walker. Sheila was having financial difficulties in April and was unable



to pay her rent and faced eviction. The Veteran Services Office in Wilmington NC contacted the SENCLAND Outreach Committee and asked for assistance. The Outreach Committee awarded Ms. Walker \$600 to cover her rent for April 2024. Ms. Walker was very appreciative of the assistance provided by the SENCLAND Outreach Committee. The Veteran Services Office has been instrumental in identifying individuals that need our finance assistance.

Please contact me if you know of any Veterans that may benefit from one of these Community Outreach Grants, Mike Apicella, Chairperson, Community Outreach Committee. The grant request form is in the Outreach Section of the SENCLAND Web page. I can be reached at endodoc97@gmail.com if you have any further questions about the program. Grants are made to qualified individuals with the following needs: Housing, Food assistance, Employment, Health (including behavioral health), Family support, Community reintegration, Financial assistance, Legal assistance, Transportation, and Emergency relief. In addition, donations can also be made to the SENCLAND MOAA Chapter to help support the Outreach Grant Program.

Thanks for your support with this program that provides services for our Nation's Veterans in Need.

Committee Members

Mike Apicella – Chair
Leon Rooks
Hondo Davids



OUTREACH

"Please be aware that participants attending MOAA SENCLAND Chapter events may be photographed or recorded for Chapter products."





SURVIVING SPOUSES



Surviving Spouse Corner

Submitted Sandi Adams Surviving Spouse Coordinator
earlsandi@gmail.com 910-443-0470

SENCLAND Surviving Spouse Members

It's ice cream season! Let's meet up at [Boombalatti's Homemade Ice Cream](#) on Friday, May 17th at 2:00 p.m. Boombalattis is located in the Landfall Shopping Center, 1127 Military Cutoff Road. Looking forward to catching up at this ice cream social.

SENCLAND Members

Below is an article for you and your spouse. It may be titled "What every 'woman' should know", but please translate that to what every 'spouse' should know.

Waiting to be a Widow: What Every Woman Should Know

Tackling the tough conversations about legal documents, finances and future plans

by Suzanne Ball, AARP, March 4, 2022

"It's a mass on my spine," sobbed my husband. With those words, my journey to widowhood began. Tony assumed his back pain was another bout of sciatica. His physician ordered a quick MRI. But it started an eight-month passage from diagnosis to death. The cancer had already spread, too late for a cure.

Women shouldn't be surprised to learn they will outlive their husbands. Women live longer than men and tend to marry older men. Among married Americans, 58 percent of women age 75 and older experience widowhood, compared to 28 percent of men. An astonishing one-third of women become widows before they're 60, and half before they are 65. I was 56.

Straight talk

I asked women who are — or will be — widows to discuss their experiences: what they learned, what they'd like to share. Mary Ellen Roberts lives with her husband of 45 years, Jim. Thirteen years ago, Jim thought he had the flu. A chest X-ray showed an incurable disease called idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis. His lungs are damaged and stiff; he requires maximum oxygen. Roberts is his primary caregiver, constantly adapting to his needs: "Whatever I have to do, I will." "Get your financial records straight" is her first piece of advice. "You really want to avoid probate. Make a file with important papers and contact information, then tell someone where it is. When the day comes, you may not be able to think." She also recommends asking children what possessions they want and recording their choices or giving them the items straightaway. Insofar as everyday matters, Roberts says, "Don't feel guilty about things like ordering in or using services."

Judy Geigner was married 43 years. She cared for her husband for six months following his lung cancer diagnosis. His rapid decline left little time to plan. Although some things were in place — wills, directives, prepaid funeral service and burial plots — Geigner was soon overwhelmed by what had not been previously arranged.

Surviving Spouse Corner (Continued)

During his chemotherapy, Geigner's husband promised to make her a folder, "all for you." She later found it — empty. He'd handled the finances and only provided necessary passwords shortly before his death. He forgot to arrange for his pension to go to Judy. Her health insurance ended the following month. She encourages women to have a different, better experience than she did. "Know where insurance documents are, and whom to contact." Undaunted, Judy hired a tax accountant, a lawn service and an organizer for her move to a condominium. She's now proudly independent: "I was alone, but when something had to be done, I did it." Karen Haack's husband of 35 years lived for over six years with brain cancer, surviving much longer than expected. They even thought they'd beaten the odds. This, she now says, is regrettable. "We never talked about not beating it or what if he didn't survive. We just marched ahead. Lost opportunities that I'll never get back." They consulted an estate attorney to set up trusts. Haack organized all the documents. She also attended a support group for two years, affirming that "it was meant for me, the best thing I did." Thirteen years later, she remains in their home and has solid friendships. Still, she says, "I lost my golf and travel partner." Her advice for widows: "Allow yourself to wallow from time to time. It's OK." Regarding logistics, she advises getting "lots of death certificates. You'll need more than you think, and they're hard to get later." (Experts recommend 6 to 10 certified copies.)

Advice from a Certified Public Accountant (CPA)

GINNA ZOELLNER has been caring for her husband with Alzheimer's for over a decade. Self-care comes from willingly paying for conveniences. She's also a CPA, so she ensured finances are set for David's eventual death. She offers practical advice, noting that while the tasks seem extensive, everything must be done, either before or after the death. "First, make a chart of all your assets, minus outstanding debts," she says. "Next, make a list of all monthly income sources. Use two columns: one for present amounts and a second for those remaining after the death. (After the death, you will receive the greater Social Security Income.) Costs decrease without your spouse, but not by half; you will still have many of the same expenses. Try to anticipate your future expenses and make a budget."

The final word

Karen Elizabeth Hannahs is a social worker who counsels families with end-of-life concerns. She's experienced hesitancy around taking care of financial needs while a loved one could still provide information. "I found an understandable reluctance to discuss 'future' plans. People were often relieved to learn they could continue to hope and pray for a miracle while discussing financial matters that will impact them greatly in the future." Suzanne Ball, RN, is a contributing writer who worked in the field of organ and tissue donation and transplantation for 25 years. She is a freelance writer who specializes in medical and health topics.

As always, contact me if you have any needs/questions.

Sandi Adams

Sencland Surviving Spouse Liaison
910-443-0470, earlsandi@gmail.com



SURVIVING SPOUSES





WELLNESS

MILITARY APPECIATION BASEBALL



Wellness Coordinator's Corner

Submitted by Leon Rooks, Wellness Chair

leon.rooks@hotmail.com or 910-799-2488

Greetings SENCLAND !

I hope this letter finds all in good health and enjoying this wonderful spring weather.

Welcome May...!

Speaking of May, our luncheon in May will be on "Oak Island ". For several years we have planned to go to Oak Island. It is an easy drive and it is really a nice change. I hope all can make it. I understand a great program is planned, too!

Now back to Wellness... it has been a busy year so far. Several of our members have been in the hospital, followed by rehabilitation. There has been some sadness in our chapter as well. We pray for healing and comfort for all our members and their families. SENCLAND MOAA cares for our members and their families. It is a focus for our chapter. So as usual, I ask that if any of you or your family is ill at home or are in the hospital please let us know. We can reach out through a card, a phone call, or maybe a visit. Just let me or any board member know.

Leon Rooks
Wellness Chair

UNCW Military Appreciation Baseball Game

Submitted by Irene V. Glaeser

The Annual UNCW Military Appreciation Baseball Game will be on Saturday, 4 MAY, UNCW vs. Campbell. UNCW, along with the Association of the United States Army, Ft. Liberty Chapter, will host a pre-game social at the Brooks Track and Field Parking lot starting at 3:30pm including a cookout of hamburgers/hotdogs, chips, and drinks, before heading to the game at 5:15. There will also be a few "special guests" throwing out the first pitch. Two FREE tickets for any military-affiliated attendee. RSVP to militaryaffairs@uncw.edu with ticket requests no later than May 1st.

**UNCW Baseball
Military Appreciation Game
Saturday, May 4th**

UNCW vs. Campbell
6:00 pm
UNCW Brooks Field

Pre-Game Social at Track & Field Parking Lot
3:30 to 5:15 pm.
Hamburgers/Hotdogs, Chips, Drink

Game Sponsors:

UNCW
University of North Carolina Wilmington
Office of Military Affairs

STEP UP FOR SOLDIERS

AUSA
FORT LIBERTY CHAPTER

Contact the Office of Military Affairs
at militaryaffairs@uncw.edu
to reserve 2 FREE tickets!
Go Seahawks!

Honor Flight of the Cape Fear Area 2024

Submitted By LtCol Lee Hanna and COL Chrissy Sanford

Honor Flight of the Cape Fear Area 2024 was a great success! Honor Flight of the Cape Fear Area was held, Saturday 4/20/2024. Many veterans and their guardians, along with medical staff took part in this historic event. SENCLAND MOAA members LtCol Lee Hanna and COL Chrissy Sanford participated this year. LTC Lee Hanna participated as a veteran and COL Chrissy Sanford participated as a Veteran Coordinator. Chrissy Sanford also serves on the Honor Flight Committee. Seventy-four guardians and 75 veterans made the trip to Washington, D.C. Many of the volunteers and guardians were veterans too.

The group visited the World War II Memorial, Navy Memorial and Museum, Arlington National Cemetery, the changing of the guard, Lincoln Memorial, Vietnam, Veterans Memorial Wall, Vietnam Women's Memorial, Iwo Jima Monument, Korean Memorial, and the Air Force Memorial.

There was a water cannon send-off at both the Wilmington International Airport (ILM) and at Reagan International Airport. The welcome home was astounding, and everybody was so happy and honored by the community support and presence. More information and pictures can be found on their website: <https://www.honorflightcfa.org/>



Honor Flight 2024

"Please be aware that participants attending MOAA SENCLAND Chapter events may be photographed or recorded for Chapter products."



2024 Honor Flight of Cape Fear Area participants on their way to Washington, D.C



US Marines Corps Band entertains while we wait.

Wilmington Police Department Pipes & Drums led the parade of Vets returning home.

Lee & Susan Hanna reunited after a great day!

Chrissy Sanford's excited to be home.

Anna Marie Turner has Flag at the ready.

SENCLAND MOAA Membership Benefits

The MOAA SENCLAND Chapter Offers Outstanding Programs to its Members and Community

The SENCLAND chapter has meetings with outstanding programs ten months of the year, usually the first Tuesday of the month. The chapter meeting in June is a picnic where we include our JrROTC Scholarship winners and their families. The May meeting is held in Southport and the December meeting is a Holiday social. All other SENCLAND Chapter meetings are held at the Blue-water Waterfront Grill in Wrightsville Beach. Our Board meets several times during the year.

The *Sentinel*, our monthly newsletter is available electronically and in hard copy. Our chapter supports 18 local JROTC programs and provides generous Scholarships to High School students each year. We also have scholarships for veterans attending local colleges and an Outreach Program that helps local veterans and their families. The Chapter also supports Honor Flights that take veterans on all-expenses-paid flights from the Wilmington International Airport (ILM) to Washington, DC for a day of remembrance as they visit memorials and monuments built in their honor.

Join SENCLAND

To join the SENCLAND MOAA Chapter, click on the “Join SENCLAND” button to download and print the application form. Then email the application form to the Membership Chair Al Schroetel at downeast@bellsouth.net or mail it to the chapter at **SENCLAND CHAPTER MOAA P.O. Box 10015 Wilmington, NC 28404**

SENCLAND Website

Submitted by Allen Allegretto, Webmaster, AllegrettoA@yahoo.com, or call: [910-617-2307](tel:910-617-2307)

The SENCLAND website (<http://www.sencland.org>) can help you stay informed about upcoming chapter events and current activities. It is easy to access and requires no logon. Our website provides Membership information, News and Events, calendar of chapter events, Legislative Information, updates on chapter programs including outreach, scholarships, and JROTC leadership awards, newsletter and meeting minutes, and a page honoring Fallen Heroes. It shows how to make donations and online payments. You can also read about our chapter mission and view current leadership.

Our chapter Membership Roster is also available on the website. This is the only page that requires log-on to access. If you need help logging onto the website to view the chapter roster, please email or call Allen Allegretto.

SENCLAND Facebook Page

SENCLAND Chapter Facebook Page - View “Like” and “Share” the SENCLAND Chapter’s Facebook posts with other members and prospective members. The web address for the SENCLAND Chapter’s Facebook page is <https://www.facebook.com/sencland>.



MOAA National and NC Chapters Websites

MOAA national website (www.MOAA.org) is a wealth of information for current, former, retired officers, and surviving spouses. Every chapter member is encouraged to visit and explore this site and take advantage of the resources available. Similarly, the North Carolina Council of Chapters website (www.moaa-nc.org) is also a great resource for what MOAA is doing at the state level as well as information on other NC Chapters.

MOAA National Newsletter

MOAA Newsletter - MOAA National members can easily take advantage of this free email newsletter which publishes news and information that is taking place at the national level. If you would like to receive this go to www.moaa.org, click on the "News & Info" pulldown menu on the upper right hand side and then click on "Newsletters".

About the *Sentinel*

The SENCLAND *Sentinel* newsletter is published monthly (except July and August) in time to provide information on upcoming meetings. We want this newsletter to be of value, but we do not aim to compete with established media, and we do not simply distill what MOAA National is publishing in *Military Officer* each month. We want to keep you informed about the chapter, our efforts to stay connected with each other, and our support of local military and veteran communities. Our newsletter is distributed electronically by email to our members when published. Current and previous editions are also available on our website at <https://sencland.org/documents/>.

We encourage you to provide content for publication in our newsletter and online. Simply send your notices, letters, articles, and photos to our editor, Dianne Jinwright (senclandsentinel@gmail.com) by the 15th of the month to be considered for inclusion in the following month's newsletter. All items are subject to editing.

Statement of Affiliations

The SENCLAND *Sentinel* Newsletter is published by the SENCLAND Chapter, which is an affiliate of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA). MOAA and its affiliated chapters and councils are independent, nonprofit, and politically nonpartisan organizations.

SENCLAND Chapter Embroidered Apparel

SENCLAND Embroidered LOGO Shirts, Caps, & Outerwear are now available at our Chapter Online Store hosted by Queensboro Shirt Co. You can access the store using: <https://senclandmoaa.qbstores.com>

You can save shipping cost if you are willing to pick up at Queensboro Shirt Co at 1400 Marstellar Street in Wilmington. Call Queensboro at [800-847-4478](tel:800-847-4478) after you have placed your order and tell them you want to pick up when ready. They will credit back the shipping cost and call you when ready for pickup.

MOAA SENCLAND Nametags Available for Purchase

Submitted by Chris Morin, Nametag Program. The Chapter is offering the opportunity for members and their spouses to purchase engraved plastic nametags. The cost of the nametags are \$15 per nametag and they will be the same style and size as in the past (with a magnetic clasp).

We will order Quarterly or when we have at least 10 paid orders. There are two ways to order:

ON-LINE:

Step #1: PayPal Payment can be made at: SENCLAND : Membership: (<https://sencland.org/membership/index.php?id=1636387310>)

This will take you to a window where you can pay for your nametag or nametags. (If that link does not work, go to the SENCLAND Website (<https://sencland.org>) and click on the tab for "News & Events" on the home page and scroll down to "SENCLAND Nametags").

Step #2: Send an e-mail to Chris Morin at villa_morin@hotmail.com including the information you want on the nametag (name, including nick name if you prefer, Branch of military service, rank and current duty status (Retired, former, active duty). Nametags for spouses only require the spouse's name and / or nickname if desired. [Use the form below as a guide](#).

US Postal Service MAIL:

Step #1: Complete the information on the form below and mail it with a check made out to SENCLAND MOAA (\$15.00 per ordered nametag) to:

SENCLAND Chapter of MOAA, PO Box 10015, Wilmington NC 28404

MOAA SENCLAND Nametags Available for Purchase (Continued)

	SENCLAND NAME TAG NAME/RANK/SERVICE BRANCH/STATUS
1	<p>FIRST/NICK NAME _____</p> <p>LAST NAME _____</p> <p>RANK _____</p> <p>SERVICE BRANCH _____</p> <p>STATUS _____ Active Duty, Reserve or Guard, Retired, Former Officer (not retired)</p>
2 (Form for a spouse's nametag)	<p>FIRST/NICK NAME _____</p> <p>LAST NAME _____</p>

Orders will be placed as soon as we have enough completed orders to meet the minimum required by the supplier, but no later than each calendar quarter.

When the nametags are received they will be available for pickup at Chapter luncheons or other events. If you have any questions, please contact Chris at villa_morin@hotmail.com or [703-798-1754](tel:703-798-1754).



(Example of completed nametag)

Military Appreciation Month



May: National Military Appreciation Month

National Military Appreciation Month, the month of May, is a month-long observance honoring the sacrifices of the United States Armed Forces. Today, the United States Armed Forces is comprised of six branches including the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard, and Space Force. The U.S. military force is 2.2 million strong and includes National Guard and Reserve units. (Source: <https://www.nationaldaycalendar.com/may/national-military-appreciation-month#:~:text=During%20May%2C%20we%20recognize%20Loyalty,members%2C%20and%20veteran%20service%20members>).

Military Appreciation Month is a special time when veterans, service members, and their families are honored and remembered for their service and sacrifice. Congress designated May as National Military Appreciation Month in 1999 to ensure the nation was given the chance to publicly show their appreciation for troops past and present. It serves as a reminder of the profound contributions made by service members. (Source: <https://www.military.com/military-appreciation-month>)

May is an appropriate month to be designated Military Appreciation Month because it contains more military-related recognitions days than any other month, including **Memorial Day (May 27, 2024)**, **Military Spouse Appreciation Day (May 10, 2024)**, **Armed Forces Day (May 18, 2024)**, and others.

Memorial Day is observed the last Monday in May. Memorial Day honors those who lost their lives while in service to the United States during peace and war. Memorial Day is not a celebration but is a solemn day to reflect on veterans and military personnel who are deceased. Memorial Day is observed in thousands of cities and towns throughout the nation every year. Flags are flown at half-staff at some municipal buildings, and wreath-laying ceremonies are held. (Source: <https://www.military.com/memorial-day>)



FEATURE STORY

May is Military Appreciation Month



Armed Forces Day falls during Military Appreciation Month and is celebrated on the third Saturday in May. Armed Forces Day was created to replace separate Army, Navy, and Air Force Days. The single-day celebration stemmed from the unification of the armed forces under one agency -- the Department of Defense. The first Armed Forces Day was celebrated by parades, open houses, receptions, and air shows. Today, Armed Forces Day is celebrated in American communities and on military bases throughout the world with parades, picnics, shopping discounts, festivals, and parties. (Source: <https://www.military.com/military-appreciation-month/history-of-armed-forces-day.html>)

Military Spouse Appreciation Day is a day set aside to recognize the military spouses who have the greatest impact on the lives of military service men, women, and military communities. The Friday in May before Mother's Day was first recognized as Military Spouse Appreciation Day in 1984. Celebrations are held on and near U.S. military bases around the world. (Source: <https://www.military.com/spouse/military-spouse-appreciation-day>)



Service members and families are being honored during Military Appreciation Month with a variety of discounts in 2024. You can find a listing of some of them at <https://www.military.com/military-appreciation-month/military-appreciation-month-discounts.html>

CONGRATULATIONS!





FOR BEING A 5-STAR WINNER, AGAIN





Col. Marvin J. Harris Communications
5-Star Award (Newsletter and Website)
MOAA Levels of Excellence 5-Star Award

2023 AWARD WINNER!
Once again, the Southeastern NC Chapter of MOAA (SENCLAND) has won the prestigious MOAA Levels of Excellence (LOE), and Marvin J. Harris Communications, 5-star awards.

SPONSORS

The SENCLAND Sentinel accepts sponsorships from our members and other supporters. If you would like to discuss sponsorship opportunities for yourself, your company, other veteran, fraternal, support organizations, or anyone else that appreciates the mission of SENCLAND MOAA, please email President Allan Turner, sencland.president@gmail.com.



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May 2024

