

# The Coastal Tide

[www.grandstrandmoaa.org](http://www.grandstrandmoaa.org)

**Jan/Feb 2022**

## Grand Strand Chapter

## Military Officers Association of America

### President's Letter



I am humbled and honored to be your President of the Grand Strand Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America. Leslie and I joined this organization shortly after arriving in Myrtle Beach back in 2012 to meet friends with similar interests and backgrounds. Little did we know that our participation would one day lead to this.

The years volunteering with MOAA have been both enjoyable and rewarding. I remember our first Myrtle Beach Veterans' Standdown championed by AARP and our contributions to the grand opening of the Hutton House at the Veterans' Welcome Home and Resource Center in Little River, SC.

Although our efforts in supporting veterans and their families may seem meager, Grand Strand MOAA is making a difference across the region with our commitment to their health, safety, and welfare. Our deeds may go unnoticed by many, but you and I know Grand Strand MOAA touches the lives of military families at risk every day. And for this, I am grateful to you for your caring and concern.

Thanks to the dedication, vision, and leadership of our past Presidents (and I have now volunteered alongside five), Grand Strand MOAA has emerged as a recognized, respected, and positive contributor across the Grand Strand.

Our support of 17 area high school JROTC programs and the ROTC program at Coastal Carolina University allows all of us to support and nurture the next great generation of young men and women.

We all should be proud of what our small band of brothers and sisters have accomplished over the past 60 years. With your support and continued interest, we have much more to do.



*Tony Prince*

**"Never Stop Serving!"**

### 2022 GS MOAA Board of Directors

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703.501.4045

## Mark Your Calendar

Mar 8—Chapter Dinner Meeting, Pine Lakes CC; 5 pm; Guest Speaker: Tom Herron, Up with America

Mar 13—Daylight Savings Time Begins—Clocks Spring Ahead

Mar 17—St. Patrick's Day

Mar 18— Salute to American Veterans, Wheelwright Auditorium, CCU 7:30 p.m. Free admission but tickets available at the door on 1st come, 1st serve basis

Mar 20—First Day of Spring

Mar 25 — Chapter Day at Brookgreen Garden day, 9:30 am

Mar 29—Vietnam Veterans Day

Apr 1—April Fool's Day

Apr 12 — Chapter dinner meeting; Pine Lakes Country Club, Honoring CCU Graduating cadets; Guest Speaker: Col. Liz Litvin (USA, Ret).

### MAY IS MILITARY APPRECIATION MONTH

May 9 — Chapter dinner meeting, Pine Lakes Country Club; JROTC Instructor Recognition Night and presentation of scholarship winners; 5 pm. Guest Speaker: Capt. Kevin Boyle (USN, Ret)

May 14 — Armed Forces Day

May 30 — Memorial Day

June 14 — Chapter luncheon meeting; The Dunes Club, Speaker: Claude Schmid, Veteran's Last Patrol



5-star Harris Communications Award Winner\*  
\*6th Award



5-star Levels of Excellence Award Winner\*  
\*10th Award

## Chaplain's Corner

By Bernie Calaway

*I decided to watch the TV news yesterday. Turns out that was not such a smart move because I have sad news to report: it looks bad out there. America is sinking lower and lower from our founding ideals and further away from God's direction. Now with Russia invading Ukraine it may get worse before it gets better. Those who may despair that the ship of state will ever recover might find solace with a few of the following temporal coping mechanisms:*

- *Gasoline has been proven to be an unreliable fire prevention agent. And it costs too much.*
- *Never trust a dog to watch your food.*
- *If the magazines in your dentist's office date from 1970 or earlier, get a new dentist.*
- *There are now blue M & Ms so we are aligned in the world again.*
- *Democracy is the worst form of government...but it is better than any of the others..*
- *The only thing we have to fear is fear itself... and fat clowns.*
- *Remember: Weight is just a (very large) number.*

*Don't help much, do they? To answer the questions of are we too late and too long delayed, we can hang on to courage because humans are not in charge!! God is!!*

*All the ends of the earth will remember and turn to the Lord, And the families of the nations bow down before him; for dominion belongs to the Lord and he rules over the nations.*

*Ps. 22:27-28*



## Financial Report

by Gale Fellowes, Treasurer

As your new Treasurer, I look forward to bringing you regular financial updates for our Grand Strand MOAA Chapter. In January we fulfilled our commitment to our local JROTC programs, sending out \$8,500 in financial support to seventeen programs.

We ended February with financial balances as follows:

Operating Balance \$12,162.92  
Grants Balance \$4,113.50  
Reserve Account \$15,074.04  
Total Chapter Balance \$31,350.46

# DINNER PROGRAMS

## JANUARY 2022 DINNER

### **Pine Lakes Country Club, Myrtle Beach**

Program: Training Service Dogs, How and Why

After our new Chapter officers were sworn in, Matt Burgess from Columbus, GA & Ron Thornton (Vietnam Veterans of America) of Myrtle Beach provided an in-depth explanation of how service dogs provide essential support for disabled veterans and what it takes to train a service dog that purpose. To conclude their informative talk, their accompanying service dog demonstrated how these wonderful animals assist disabled veterans. After 8 years of Army service in the Balkans and Iraq, Matt was honorably discharged with physical and mental wounds. He then chose to help those like himself by training service dogs.



## FEBRUARY 2022

### **Pine Lakes Country Club, Myrtle Beach**



Scott Dulebohn of the Veterans Welcome Home and Resource Center spoke to the Chapter meeting about the remarkable work being done by the Center to assist veterans. He focused much of his remarks on the Center's new project of building 40 "tiny" homes for homeless vets in the Grand Strand. Scott and his team are doing exceptional work assisting veterans needing support in their return to civilian life.



Also, Chapter President Tony Prince presented a certificate to long time member Hans Duerr for his 17 years of service leading and promoting the chapter's scholarship program. Hans was the ever present seller of 50-50 raffle tickets at chapter meetings and other select chapter events, provided annually scholarship information to all of the JROTC units we support, and led the scholarship award selection committee. Thank you, Hans, for a task well done.

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## Upcoming March Dinner — Pine Lakes Country Club, Myrtle Beach

**Guest Speaker: Tom Herron, Founder/Host, "Up With America" Radio Hour**

Social hour begins at the usual 5 p.m. with the call to dinner at 6 p.m. followed by Mr. Herron's remarks. Mr. Herron is the founder of Up With America, a non-profit organization created to inform, inspire & celebrate the very best of America. His organizations seeks to turn back to our country's founding documents to seek "Smart Solutions" for America's pressing problems, focusing on three basic areas: society/culture; government; and the economy. He is the host of the Saturday morning radio program "Up with America" which can be heard locally at 12 noon on WKRN 94.5 or thru the internet at TALK945.com.

The color guard for the dinner will be provided by the Carolina Forest High School Navy JROTC unit.

## **Brookgreen Garden Tour and Lunch** **Deadline for Signing up March 14**

The deadline for signing up for the Grand Strand MOAA Chapter Day at Brookgreen Gardens is March 14. The event is scheduled for Friday, March 25 beginning at 9:30 a.m. and ending at 1 p.m. The day will include tours and box lunch. The cost for this event is \$25 per person and we are limited to 45 participants. Currently 32 chapter members and their guests have signed up. Deadline for signing up is March 14. Contact Kelly Sharbel at [ksharbel1948@gmail.com](mailto:ksharbel1948@gmail.com) or go the chapter website to sign up and pay on line.



## **JUNIOR ROTC (JROTC) UPDATES**

By Dean Brown

- ◆ **Most school district restrictions on extracurricular activities have been lifted for the 17 JROTC Units our Grand Strand Chapter supports and high schools are closer to normal than they have been in nearly two years! Many of our monthly dinner meetings are again opened with JROTC Color Guard participation. Grand Strand Chapter MOAA support continues to the JROTC program as their second semester progresses.**
- ◆ **Our Treasurer recently issued this year's \$500 grants to all the Units. These funds help defray the many costs incurred by units that are not reimbursed by the parent services or the school districts. Expenses such as fees for competitive events, host school event supplies like medals/trophies, field trips to military bases, colleges or historic sites, tuition for summer leadership programs or summer camps are just a few items that Units must fund on their own. Our financial support is greatly appreciated.**
- ◆ **April and May will be busy months with JROTC Units holding annual Awards Ceremonies as the end of the school year approaches. We will ask chapter members at our dinner meetings to volunteer as awards presenters at those ceremonies. Have your schedules handy!**
- ◆ **The May dinner meeting will be our annual JROTC Scholarship Awards and Instructor Recognition event. We will honor up to five selectees of our \$2,000 Scholarships and all the instructors in this outstanding program. CAPT Kevin Boyle, USN (Ret), the Senior Naval Science Instructor at Carolina Forest HS NJROTC Unit, will be our speaker**



## **GRAND STRAND MOAA 2022 GOLF TOURNAMENT**

(Jim Offutt, CDR, USN (retired), Golf Chair)

Mark your calendars: the Grand Strand Chapter will, again, hold its annual Golf Tournament fundraiser on **10 September 2022** at the Wild Wing Plantation Golf Club in Conway. This year's flyer with additional details is on page 8.

We recommend you register as early as possible for this popular event as we have sold out for the past few years. And as in prior years, golf registration fees will be \$90 per golfer (\$85 for veterans) which includes a round of golf plus breakfast, lunch, ice cream and various gifts. We will also offer a cash 50/50 raffle, prize raffle, mulligans, silent auction, and hole-in-one contests. Finally, we ask GS MOAA members to consider supporting the tournament with a \$100 Tee Sign donation. It really helps!

The golf tournament is the Chapter's largest event to raise funds to support Junior ROTC units and cadet scholarships as well as Coastal Carolina University ROTC cadets.

We are also looking for volunteers to help at the tournament as well as to serve on the Golf Committee. If you are interested in helping with the tournament, please let Jim Offutt, our Tournament Chairman, know. His phone and email can be found on the tournament flyer found on page 8 in this newsletter.



### **National MOAA Update**

MOAA's annual 2022 Advocacy in Action event will be held virtually from April 1-29. Based on Capitol Hill security measures and nationwide health challenges, we will again exercise appropriate measures of caution to bring our messages to legislators via virtual engagements. However, there may be opportunities for you to engage your legislators in person (safely) when they are home during Congress' spring break (April 11-22). Major issues for this year's AiA event are 1) Support for the Major Richard Star Act (concurrent receipt for combat-injured servicemembers); 2) Reduce TRICARE Mental Health Copayments; 3) Enact a 4.6% Military Pay Raise in the FY 2023 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA)

Go to [moaa.org](https://moaa.org) to see more about MOAA National and Veteran Issues and Benefits

# SURVIVING SPOUSE UPDATES

By Peggy DeVivo, Surviving Spouse Liaison and Social Chair

A surviving spouse of a military or uniformed service officer or warrant officer, who was or was not a chapter or national MOAA member can join our chapter in his or her own right, at no charge. If you know a surviving spouse in your neighborhood, church or community, please invite him or her to one of our dinner meetings to check us out. For more information you can reach out to Peggy DeVivo or Paul Williamson, our Membership Chair.



## Support the Comfort Act and Changes Coming to Eligibility for Burial at Arlington National Cemetery

Are you aware that when a spouse dies - immediately, upon being notified of the death, DFAS and Social Security reverses the current monthly deposit from the bank account. When DFAS yanks back that money with no notice, it causes the account to go into overdraft and creates havoc for the surviving spouse. Many of you have been through this. It is time to fix this; not only to educate our members about keeping a balance in their account to avoid overdraft issues, particularly when the death is sudden and that is the last thing you are concerned about, but also legislative efforts underway to remedy this problem. A bill known as the Comfort Act has been introduced in Congress to address it.

Please "copy and paste" this link: <https://moaa.quorum.us/campaign/36671/thanks/?fbclid=IwAR1tk6RdR-9BNKCwyPtwz3viliM9Ry4wJvpqgnZhVtdLY0WayVAiKJO5nzas> to send a message to Congress about the Comfort Act. This would allow military surviving spouses to pay back the month's pay for the month of the death over a 12-month period.

In that same line of thought – Current impact on the burial of surviving spouses, many of you know that my husband is buried at Arlington National Cemetery, which is the main reason I support Wreaths Across America. I have been reading articles published in the MOAA magazine about eligibility changes and running out of space there. So, I contacted MOAA to confirm that I am still eligible to be buried with my husband. Following is part of the response:

"Thank you for reaching out to MOAA regarding the proposed eligibility changes at Arlington National Cemetery. While the eligibility changes have not yet gone into effect, they will not impact your eligibility for burial with your spouse. You remain eligible for burial at ANC with your husband.

For further questions regarding burial eligibility, please contact ANC directly by either visiting their website at <https://www.arlingtoncemetery.mil/#/> or calling them at 877-907-8585. Please let us know if we can offer any further assistance. Thank you for your continued membership and support. "

If you haven't made burial plans and desire to be buried at a National Cemetery, please add this item to your check list for further investigation.

## In Memoriam

Captain James K. (Otto) Orzech, 76, was a distinguished naval officer with a long history in military and scientific diving and research. A native of Ohio, he attended the U.S. Naval Academy and served several ship assignments before his career became focused on diving and oceanography. He left active duty in 1974 but remained in the Reserves participating in a number of both military and civilian oceanographic research projects. He earned a Ph.D. degree in oceanography in 1988. He is survived by his wife Elizabeth 'Liz' Crotty, a sister Gail Fry, and a niece Mary Fry of Vancouver, BC.



## Myrtle Beach Military Appreciation Days

Planning is underway for the 2022 Military Appreciation Days in Myrtle Beach. This annual event is held to observe our city's military history and celebrate those who have served our great nation in uniform. Chapter member Gerry Terwilliger serves on the city's celebration planning committee. Below are events planned and scheduled by the Myrtle Beach Military Appreciation Committee in May:

- ◆ Junior ROTC Drill Meet – 9:00 a.m., Saturday, May 7, 2022, Myrtle Beach Pelicans' Stadium, 1251 21st Avenue North
- ◆ Military Family Members Social – 12:00 p.m., Saturday, May 7, 2022, Myrtle Beach Pelican's Stadium, 1251 21st Avenue North
- ◆ Myrtle Beach Pelicans' Military Appreciation Game Night – Saturday, May 14, 2022, Myrtle Beach Pelican's Stadium, 1251 21st Avenue North
- ◆ Myrtle Beach Vet Center Open House – 12:00 p.m., Friday, May 27, 2022, Myrtle Beach Vet Center, 1101 Johnson Avenue
- ◆ Military Appreciation Days Parade – 10:30 a.m., Saturday, May 28, 2022, along Farrow Parkway, The Market Common
- ◆ Military Appreciation Days Picnic and Exhibits – 11:30 a.m., Saturday, May 28, 2022, Valor Memorial Garden, 1120 Farrow Parkway
- ◆ Jack Platt Veterans' March on Memorial Day – 9:00 a.m., Monday, May 30, 2022, Along Ocean Boulevard, 16th to Ninth Avenues North
- ◆ Battlefield Cross Ceremony on Memorial Day – 9:30 a.m., Monday, May 30, 2022, Burroughs & Chapin Pavilion Place, 812 North Ocean Boulevard
- ◆ Memorial Day Remembrance Ceremony – 11:00 a.m., Monday, May 30, 2022, Myrtle Beach Convention Center, 2101 North Oak Street
- ◆ Veterans' Day Ceremony – 11:00 a.m., Friday, November 11, 2022, Myrtle Beach Convention Center, 2101 North Oak Street



Military Officers Association of America  
Grand Strand Chapter  
9th Annual Golf Tournament



**Saturday, Sept. 10, 2022**

***WILD WING GOLF CLUB - CONWAY, SC***

*Registration Deadline September 1, 2022*

**PROCEEDS** - JROTC College Scholarships  
**SUPPORT:** - Homeless/At Risk Veterans  
- 18 ROTC and JROTC Units

**Registration and Breakfast: 8 – 915am**

**Shotgun Start @ 930AM | Lunch & Auction to follow golf**

**\$90/person**  
**\$350/Team (foursome)**  
**\$5 Discount for Each Vet**

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

**\*Sponsorship Opportunities (see reverse)\***

Contact: Jim Offutt: email: [moagolf@yahoo.com](mailto:moagolf@yahoo.com)  
cell: (703) 627-8136

**More information at: <https://grandstrandmoaa.org>**



## **PLAYER REGISTRATION – Deadline Sept 1, 2022**

\$90 per person, \$350 per team, \$5 discount for vets. To sign up, please complete this form and submit with a check payable to "Grand Strand MOAA". Questions: call/text Jim Offutt at (703) 627-8136 or email [moagolf@yahoo.com](mailto:moagolf@yahoo.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 Jim Offutt, 4803 Bucks Bluff Dr., North Myrtle Beach, SC 29582

## **SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

501(c)(3) Receipt Available Upon Request

(check all that apply)

- 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 Jim Offutt, 4803 Bucks Bluff Dr., North Myrtle Beach, SC 29582

or contact: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



Application Form

GRAND STRAND CHAPTER OF THE MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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 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 & 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; and, the aims and objectives of the SC MOAA Council of Chapters. MOAA and its affiliated Chapters and Councils are non-partisan.