



Military Officers Association of America

Grand Strand Chapter

Coastal Tide

Fall 2015

MOAA Award Winning Web Site
www.grandstrandmoaa.com



MOAA Award Winning Newsletter
5 Star Chapter of Excellence



Rufus Manning Led the Grand Strand Volunteers at the Stand Down

The final Stand Down numbers were as follows:

134 veterans , 47 homeless
12 females, 3 homeless

It is estimated that there were 200+ total veterans/volunteers attending the event.) The chapter had a total of 15 members who set up the site the day before the event. From gathering initial details about the event, to assisting with the downloading of Army surplus supplies, to identifying and gathering donations, to the set-up and stuffing of bags the day before, to the actual support on the day of the event... MOAA was there.

Aside from the volunteered time, our direct contribution of "MOAA blankets", and other personal items, were also well received. There was more than enough to cover the attending homeless and near homeless veterans. A special thanks to Lapels Dry Cleaners of Myrtle Beach for attaching the MOAA logos to the chapter blankets, and Trinity Church of Myrtle Beach for donating approximately 400 T-Shirts and crews sock pairs to those in need. As Rufus Manning said: " Congratulations go to the Chapter leadership team, and Project co-Chairs Harry DuBose , and Sonny Edens, on what was clearly another very



From the left, Rufus Manning and Greg Youngman (Chapter President)



Joan Perry rolls up the sleeping mats



From the left, Sonny Edens and Harry DuBose



Karen Terwilliger assists

successful community project for "Team MOAA Grand Strand".

In this Issue

**Next Dinner Meeting will be
Tuesday Nov. 10 5:30 PM
Pine Lakes Country Club**

For our November Food Drive, please bring non-perishables to our meeting.

- Page 2: From the President's Desk
- Page 3 Auxiliary News - Food Drive - Future Dinner Meeting Programs
- Page 4: Membership Update - MOAA SC State Council Conference
- Page 5: Legislation Tidbits
- Page 6: Chaplains Corner - BOD contacts - Remembering CAPT Jackson
- Page 7: September , October Meetings and MOAA National Annual Meeting
- Page 8: Membership Application - MOAA Mission/Purpose

From the President's Desk



It has been a rewarding fall for the Grand Strand MOAA Chapter! We continued to build our membership as well as outreach efforts to enhance the welfare of our fellow veterans, their families, and community service organizations along the Grand Strand. On behalf of our Chapter, it was a privilege to recognize our own Joan Perry, National MOAA winner of the first “Surviving Spouse Liaison Excellence Award,” at our October chapter meeting. This prestigious award was presented to Joan by General Tony Robertson, USAF (Ret), Chairman, MOAA Board of Directors during the Levels of Excellences dinner at the annual MOAA meeting in Orlando in late October. Our Chapter and especially our Auxiliary members could not be prouder of Joan and grateful that her contributions to our Auxiliary and Chapter are recognized nationally.

The success of the 2nd Annual Stand Down for Homeless Veterans was significant for our Chapter. Twenty-nine members, including Auxiliary members, volunteered at the Stand Down, handing out our blankets, cooking meals, packaging goods, and assisting disabled veterans. Thank you for supporting this Chapter initiative! A special thanks goes to COL Rufus Manning, USAF (Ret), who led Chapter preparations for and execution of the Chapter's efforts with the Stand Down. As you know the Chapter elected to provide blankets for homeless and low income veterans at the event. With the guidance of the Chapter Board, leftover blankets were donated to volunteer organizations in Myrtle Beach and Georgetown that would use them to help homeless and low income children and families--Help4Kids in Myrtle Beach and Helping Hands in Georgetown. Both organizations were thrilled to receive the blankets and immediately put them to use in their outreach efforts. In addition, during the recent flood, we were contacted by Low Country Veterans in Georgetown with a request for assistance in providing bottled water and waterproof sleeping gear to needy veteran families in Georgetown County. A special thanks to our Secretary, Jerry Terwilliger, who arranged a partnership with Sam's Club that doubled our donation. I want to personally thank the many of you who took the time and energy to make these selfless acts possible. **Our significant recognitions and outreach activities support our mission of “continuing to serve and lead”.**

We were also recently notified through Major Chad Hodkins, USA, ROTC PMS at Coastal Carolina University, that there will be 2 senior cadets graduating and receiving their commissions in December. We are looking forward to recognizing the cadets and presenting them with our MOAA Gold Bar Awards at the December meeting. Our ongoing liaison with the ROTC unit continues to be a source of pride and comradeship, as we recognize the accomplishments of those cadets successfully completing their commissioning requirements.

Finally, I wanted to update you on a number of requirements for our annual Chapter business meeting. Typically in November, we present our annual budget for the upcoming year, review and make any changes to our By-Laws, and present our slate of Executive Officers and Board of Directors and Committees for membership approval. That process requires you, our members, to be involved in the business side of the Chapter, and more importantly, allows you to review our budget and the direction of the Chapter. Because of some very recent Chapter personnel changes, we are postponing our annual business meeting until January.

Thank you for your continued support and involvement in our MOAA Chapter. Our monthly meetings continue to offer excellent speakers and provide us with opportunities to renew friendships and receive updates on Chapter affairs. We look forward to seeing you at the next monthly meeting on November 10th.

President

Greg Youngman

Auxiliary News

Joan Perry

First, I want to thank the Grand Strand Chapter for nominating me for the “first nation-wide” Auxiliary (Surviving Spouse) Liaison Excellence Award. It is truly an honor! I received the award at the MOAA 2015 Annual Meeting in Orlando. I am proud to be a part of the Chapter and its membership.

Secondly, the fundraising project for Wreaths Across America (WAA) was a fun project. “Thank you” to all who contributed to this worthy cause. Our total donation to the Blue Star Mothers of Coastal Carolina for WAA this year was \$405 for 27 wreaths. We will continue to take contributions.



Joan Perry and Judy Spjut at “Wreaths Across America” table.

Several members worked the Veterans Stand Down and enjoyed meeting and assisting the vets. We continue to have our monthly luncheons – our next project will be the holiday cards.

Our best wishes to all for a wonderful holiday season.

Informative and entertaining programs planned for November and December

1st VP Tony Prince has again been busy planning some very special, informative and entertaining programs for our dinner meetings in November and December.

John Rhodes, Mayor, City of Myrtle Beach, will be our special guest speaker in November. Mayor Rhodes will be providing an important overview of events related to recent historic flooding in the City of Myrtle Beach and neighboring communities; and, he will be providing current information regarding the City’s plans for future expansion and development (to include an update on Savannah’s Playground at the Market Common).

In addition, we plan to present special service awards to Mr. D.G. Schumacher (one of the *Sun News* feature editors), and to Mr. Bob Kaiser (who provides terrific support for wounded service member visitors, and other area Veterans). We will also recognize one of our own members again.

And, of course: December is always one of our favorite meeting months. We will continue our Chapter tradition of collecting Toys for Tots; and, we will again be entertained by the very talented Low Country Barbershop Chorus (starring 2 of our own Chapter members). In addition, LTG (retired) Fred Vollrath, will be a very special guest speaker. His full bio is extremely impressive. In short, General Vollrath is a senior level human resource consultant with 40+ years of executive leadership experience including information technology management, organizational development, business development and strategic planning, who most recently served as Assistant Secretary of Defense for Readiness and Force Management. He retired from the U.S. Army in 1998, having served as the Deputy Chief of Staff Personnel (G1) directing all aspects of human resource management and administration for the total Army. Additionally, General Vollrath served as Co-Chairman, Chief of Staff Army, Retiree Council, and President of the Maude Foundation. And, we are planning to present Gold Bars to 2 CCU graduating Army cadets.

The Chapter is Conducting a November Food Drive

As a continuation of our Chapter’s community outreach initiatives, a food drive will be conducted during November; and, members attending the monthly dinner meeting on Tuesday, November 10th, are asked to bring non-perishable items to the meeting. Recent flooding has generated an increased need, as you would anticipate.

Member/Chaplain Greg Hill, and his wife, Rosemary, have volunteered to assist with the drive, and subsequent delivery to participating area food pantries and/or kitchens.



Grand Strand Chapter Membership

Bob Hawkins

2015 is another great membership year !! We currently have 156 members on our roster. We already have 23 new regular members; and 7 CCU ROTC cadets have also joined our Chapter. Our goal is to recruit another 9 new regular members this year – while also increasing the number of Grand Strand members who are also **Premium** or **Life** members of National.

We need your help. **If you are one of our seventeen (17) 2014 members who have not renewed yet, please do so now.** And, if you know of any other eligible officers who could benefit by joining our 5-star Chapter of Excellence, please encourage them to attend a meeting and join. If questions, please contact me (765-479-7577; rhawkins21@sc.rr.com).

NOTE: The Chapter has its own recruiting brochure; if you would like copies please let me know.

New 2015 Members (since last newsletter):

WELCOME !!!

Fred Vollrath, LTG, Retired, US Army

William H. (Billy) Hall, LCDR, US Navy

MOAA South Carolina State Council Conference in Beaufort



Grand Strand Chapter President, Greg Youngman; 1st VP Tony Prince; and, 2nd VP Bob Hawkins attended the biennial State Council Conference, hosted by the Low Country Chapter in Beaufort (co-hosted by the Columbia Chapter), in early October. Conference attendees were housed in the historic DeTreville House on the Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) and activities were conducted on the MCAS and on Parris Island (PI). VADM (retired) Norbert Ryan, President of MOAA (National) was the special guest speaker; and, his presentation was superb, as anticipated. In addition, the PI Marine Corps Band and Whale Branch JROTC Color Guard ensured very professional opening ceremonies at the banquet. A very inspiring Memorial Observance (paying tribute to all SC Chapter members who passed away during the past 2 years) was conducted by the Low Country Chapter Memorial Service team. And, Dale Ellenburg, COL, USA (retired), Council President was honored as he “retired”, following 6 years of dedicated exceptional service. The incoming State Council President, David Lobb, COL, USA (retired) will assume full duties at the first 2016 State Council meeting.

Legislation Tidbits

Jimmy Jacobs

No Cost of Living Increase

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) released the September inflation figure this week and confirmed what most retirees already knew – there won't be a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) in 2016 for people **collecting military retired pay, Social Security, VA compensation, or survivor benefits.....**booooooooooo! Falling gas prices are a key reason why the inflation index (and your COLA) tanked over the summer.

Retired pay increases are made each year to maintain the same level of purchasing power each service member had at retirement. This is accomplished through annual COLAs, which are based on the BLS' Consumer Price Index (CPI) – the measure of inflation. While most COLA increases are automatic, Congress must approve COLAs for veterans every year. This is largely so lawmakers can return to their home districts and say they did something for local constituents.

One question we get every year is “Why is the retired pay COLA (higher or lower) than the active duty pay raise?” The simple answer is they're tied to different things. COLAs are tied to changes in consumer prices, whereas active duty pay raises are (supposed to be) tied to the average American's pay growth, as measured by BLS' Employment Cost Index (ECI).

In many years from the mid-1970's through the mid-90's, COLAs were higher than active duty pay raises, primarily because active duty pay raises were capped below the ECI. The track record for keeping annual retired pay COLAs up with the CPI has been far better, in part because inflation has been relatively low for many years.

In the late 1990's, chronic retention problems (from all those years of pay raise caps) led Congress to plus up active duty pay, so those raises were larger than COLAs from 1997-2005. More recently, the retiree COLA has exceeded the pay raise percentage in two of the past three years.

National Defense Authorization Act- NDAA

The US Senate voted to approve the 2016 defense policy bill, but President Obama is expected to veto it because of language supporting a workaround that funds defense using the overseas contingency operations account. The Senate vote was 70-27 and falls short of the two-thirds required to override a presidential veto. The legislation is still in limbo, awaiting a presidential veto that could end up scuttling nine months of Capitol Hill work on the annual military policy measure.

If the measure becomes law, troops would see growth in the Basic Allowance for Housing steadily shrink in coming years, to cover only 95 percent of average off-base housing costs. **Tricare co-pays would rise on a host of prescriptions obtained through off-base retail pharmacies.** Troops are in line for a 1.3 percent pay raise in January, a full percentage point below expected growth this year in average private-sector wages the third consecutive year that the military pay raise would fall below civilian levels.

Lawmakers also want defense officials to offer a plan in coming months to completely **wean the military commissary and exchange systems off taxpayer funding**, potentially leading to fewer discounts or offerings at the stores. “Over the last 10 years, the (military) community has fought hard to increase benefits to catch troops up to the private sector,” said Bill Rausch, political director for Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America. “Now, after all the battles we've won, we're starting to see retreats. That's concerning to Us.” House lawmakers had pushed against nearly all of those changes in their early draft of the authorization bill this spring, agreeing with advocates who argued that the compensation trims combined would drastically reduce military families' purchasing power.



MOAA's “Take Action” legislative alerts and information

Don't Cut the Troops' Pay Raise

It looks like the president will use his executive authority to limit the 2016 military pay at 1.3 percent, rather than the 2.3 percent provided under current law. This will be the third consecutive year of capping military pay.

See more at MOAA's: [Take Action Now!](http://www.moaa.org/takeaction/) Web site - <http://www.moaa.org/takeaction/>

Board of Directors

President: Greg Youngman,
gyoungman@sc.rr.com

1st Vice President & Program Chairman: Tony Prince,
stephen.a.prince@gmail.com
703-304-7398

2nd Vice President & Membership Chairman: Bob Hawkins,
rhawkins21@sc.rr.com

Treasurer: Randy Dymond
randymond@aol.com

Secretary: Jerry Terwilliger,
gerald.terwilliger@gmail.com

Chaplain: Greg Hill,
ghill54808@aol.com

T.O.P.S.: Bill Stewart,
hwilliamstewart@gmail.com

Social Director: Tom Middleton,
tom.paradise.realty@hotmail.com

ROTC/JROTC: Dean Brown,
carradeanbrown@aol.com

Fund Raising: Gerry Sherwin,
gerrysherwin@sc.rr.com

Legislative Affairs: Jimmy Jacobs,
jjacob26@scoast.net

Historian:

Chair/Scholarship Committee:
Hans Duerr, hduerr@sc.rr.com

Newsletter Editor: Bill Walsh,
wwalsh3@sc.rr.com

Assistant Newsletter Editor:
Tom Minton, j_t_minton@hotmail.com

Auxiliary Coordinator: Joan Perry,
jeneperr@aol.com

Webmaster: Peggy DeVivo,
de1234@sc.rr.com

Past President: Roger Pilcher,
rogerpilcher@aol.com

Personal Affairs/Out Reach:
Rufus Manning, Sr.
2saltlife4me@gmail.com

Editorial Policy: “The *Coastal Tide* Newsletter is published by the Grand Strand Chapter, which is an affiliate of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA). MOAA and its affiliated chapters and councils are nonpartisan.”

The advertisements that appear in this publication/website do not reflect an endorsement by MOAA affiliates.

Chaplain's Corner

Chaplain Greg Hill

We are entering a time for Thanksgiving—a time for attitudes of gratitude!

I want to begin this article on gratitude by saying “Thanks” to our Auxiliary for their service to our community. Are you aware of how they serve? If not, I urge you to find out. You will go away with an attitude of gratitude!

On November 11, we stop our busy lives to take time to say, “Thank You” for those who have served so selflessly in defense of our great nation. Whether you attend or participate in a parade, a ceremony, call or visit a Veteran, visit the grave of a loved one, or take a few moments to reflect, you take the time to REMEMBER. Thank you!

On November 26, we will celebrate Thanksgiving Day! Rosemary and my Sunday School class hosts, with our church's youth group, the boys from Tara Hall to a feast of turkey, mashed potatoes and gravy, stuffing, and pumpkin pie at our church. But, most importantly, we offer fellowship and fun! How will you REMEMBER to say thanks on Thanksgiving Day? I hope it will be with family and friends. I suggest you consider helping others be able to celebrate. However you choose to REMEMBER Thanksgiving Day, Thank you!

Our Grand Strand Chapter is conducting a food drive in November to help area Veterans have a Thanksgiving meal who might not otherwise have one. Please bring canned goods to our November meeting. Thank you! We all have attitudes of gratitude!

Remembering Captain Nelson Jackson

Captain Nelson Jackson, US Navy (Retired) died peacefully at his home Sunday morning, November 1, 2015. Nelson was born on December 9, 1930 in Roxboro, North Carolina. He is survived by his loving wife Earlene Kistler Jackson, his 3 children and 2 stepsons. He was Commanding Officer of four Naval vessels; and he spent many years abroad, retiring from his final duty station at the Pentagon in 1977. Nelson began his new career with The American Defense Preparedness Association in 1980. He became an executive with the National Defense Industry Association and was a Director with National Training Systems Association in Arlington, Virginia. He was a founder and Director of the International Training and Education Conference Ltd. in London, England. CAPT Jackson will be buried at Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Virginia with full military honors. In Lieu of flowers, donations may be made to The American Cancer Society or The Wounded Warrior Project. He was a current Grand Strand Chapter member; and, we will miss him.

September Speaker Provides Final Plans for 2015 Stand-Down



Ms. Doris J. Gleason, Director, Community Outreach, AARP South Carolina, our special guest speaker at the September dinner meeting, provided an impassioned summary of the need to assist our area homeless Veterans (and families). She highlighted some recent personal experiences and informed attendees regarding final plans for this year's Stand-down, at the Reserve Center, on the Market Common. The outcome (another very successful event) is highlighted in the related article by our Chapter project officer, COL (retired) Rufus Manning.

Left to right, Rufus Manning, Doris Gleason and Greg Youngman

Myrtle Beach VA Clinic Administrative Officer Spoke about Current Upgrades



Betty J. (BJ) Farmer, Administrative Officer, Myrtle Beach VA Community Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC) provided a very informative update regarding expanded CBOC staff and services. Future plans include a brand new very modern clinic facility (at least twice the size of existing facilities), in 2020, and the continued expansion of telemedicine/telehealth services for area patients. She emphasized the need for more volunteers (especially to call patients to remind them of appointments), and her personal commitment to both quality care and enhanced customer services. She advised our members to contact her directly if they experience any significant problems at the Clinic.

Left to right, Greg Youngman and Betty Farmer

MOAA (National) Annual Meeting (Orlando, Florida: October 29-31)

President Greg Youngman (and Judy), 2VP Bob Hawkins, Auxiliary Liaison Joan Perry (and daughter, April), Legislative Chairman Jimmy Jacobs (and Debbie), and members Suzie Albright and Helen Haendle attended the annual MOAA (National) Annual Meeting in Orlando, FL, at the end of October.

This year's Annual Meeting was a very special, historic event for our Grand Strand Chapter. Mrs. Joan Perry, our Auxiliary Liaison, received National recognition, as the "first nation-wide" Auxiliary (Surviving Spouse) Liaison Excellence Award recipient. And, our Grand Strand Chapter received its 4th consecutive 5-star Level of Excellence award. Mrs. Perry accepted her prestigious award, and President Youngman accepted the 5-star Level of Excellence award, streamer, on behalf of all Chapter members.

The Grand Strand Chapter was the only South Carolina Chapter to receive the 5-star streamer this year; and, Joan was the only recipient of the now coveted Auxiliary Liaison Excellence Award. In summary, our Chapter has excelled, and these concurrent awards reflect our deserved recognition at the National level.

More information and photos will be provided in the Winter edition of the *Coastal Tide*.

New Chapter web site:

Our web master, Peggy DeVivo, has recently updated and upgraded our Chapter web site; and, it is very informative and impressive. Please be sure to "check it out", soon: www.grandstrandmoaa.com

Chapter Application

ONE POWERFUL VOICE



Grand Strand Chapter MOAA: ___ Membership Application ___ Renewal ___

Change of address Check one.

Chapter dues: \$15.00 a year for regular membership. Auxiliary: \$15 per year. Multiple year dues are encouraged to reduce costs. 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 _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home phone _____ Cell phone _____

Email address _____

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

Status: ___ Retired ___ Active ___ Reserve ___ National Guard ___ Former Officer ___ Auxiliary ___ ROTC ___ JROTC
{My signature verifies that the above information is accurate and that I am eligible for MOAA Chapter membership.}

Dues for year(s) _____ Amount: \$ _____ Signature _____



MOAA MISSION/Purpose:

- Foster fraternal relations (and mutual support) among retired, active duty, and former officers of the uniformed services and their National Guard and Reserve component counterparts, ROTC Cadets, and their families and survivors;
- Assist community organizations that support service members and veterans and their families;
- Raise funds to provide 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 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.


Still Serving and Leading



A&I Fire & Water Restoration
ALFORD / ISAAC

Danny Isaac


Mobile # 843-446-6049
disaac@ai-restoration.com





Tidelands Ford Lincoln

9387 Ocean Highway
Pawleys Island, SC 29585

888-264-4377



Tom Middleton
Broker Associate
Retired Army Officer

Cornerstone Properties
Residential • Commercial

1736 Hwy. 501 • Myrtle Beach, SC 29577
Email: tom.cornerstoneproperties@outlook.com
Mobile: 843-446-2209

Office: 843-626-3625 Fax: 843-626-3626



**Insurance
And
Financial Services**