

Grand Strand Chapter

Military Officers Association of America



The Coastal Tide

May June, 2018

www.grandstrandmoaa.com

President's Message by Dave Townsend



I was told to keep this month's message short because there is so much to cover in this edition. May and June are our peak activity months, and I will be glad to be able to catch my breath during our off months of July and August. A fast recap since much of the details will be covered

in subsequent articles. We held our JROTC Scholarship Award and Celebration Dinner on May 8 where \$2000 scholarships were presented to five outstanding high school cadets. In addition, they were invited to participate in the Military Appreciation Days parade where Jerry Terwilliger arranged for two Corvette convertibles for our use. This was fun perk for me, too, as I got to drive the two winners from Georgetown High School, while Jerry drove the other car.



On May 12, I attended the South Carolina Council of Chapters meeting. This is a quarterly meeting of the 14 MOAA Chapter presidents that is held at Ft. Jackson in Columbia. It was at this venue that we received the honor of receiving the 5-Star Level of Excellence

Col. Marvin J. Harris Communications Award for our Newsletter and Web Site. Only one other Chapter in South Carolina was so awarded. I want to thank Bob Hawkins for writing our successful submission to MOAA National. In addition, we give credit to Bob and John Bradley as our web masters, and Kelly Sharbel as our Newsletter Editor.

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Thanks, Chapter Supporters



Community Award recipients (l to r): Chapter First Vice-President Randy Dymond, President Dave Townsend, Jim Gassler, Dave Pellegrino, Doris Gleason, Sharon Russell, Rev. Frank Rutledge, and Joe Burger.



John Rowe of South State Bank also received a Chapter Community Service Award.



Meeting Updates by Randy Dymond

On June 12th, 2018 the Grand Strand Chapter of MOAA hosted its Annual Community Service Awards Luncheon at Kimbel's on Wachesaw Plantation, Murrells Inlet. Chapter President Dave Townsend and 1st VP Randy Dymond bestowed Certificates of Appreciation and Community Service to several individuals from organizations which have generously supported the chapter and its mission both financially and in its outreach efforts over the past year. The honorees were Joe Burger from Eggs Up Grill; Doris Gleason from AARP of South Carolina; Sharon Russell from Wreaths Across America and Blue Star Mothers; Reverend Frank Rutledge from Low Country Vet-

erans Group; David Pellegrino from Cold Stone Creamery; James Gassler, CPA; and John Rowe from South State Bank.

Following the delicious luncheon provided by Kimbel's, the honorees, chapter members and their guests were treated to an informative and entertaining presentation from speakers Jeff Jacobs and COL (Ret) Gregory Kitchens, US-MCR from the Patriots Point Foundation, who highlighted the attractions and offerings at the Charleston-based Naval and Maritime Museum and new Medal of Honor Chapel as well as shared personal stories and experiences of military significance.

"Never Stop Serving"

Welcome

New Members

New Members continue to increase our ranks. The following are four members who joined in May and June:

Timothy Houser, Col., USA (Ret.)

Scott Bartley, LTC., USA (Ret.)

James Davis, Capt., SCSG
Edward Strittmatter, Col., USA (Ret.)

WELCOME ABOARD TO ALL !

Membership by John Bradley

Half way through the year, approaching our summer hiatus, we have added a total of 12 new members! Adding our new members and, unfortunately, subtracting those who have passed or moved away our membership is as follows:

Annual members	106
Honorary members	1
Surviving Spouse	13
Three Year members	24
TOTAL	144

Of the 130 dues-paying Chapter members, 13 of us have yet to pay the 2018 dues. They were all invoiced recently, so if you have forgotten to pay for 2018, please drop a check in the mail or, better yet, join us for our September Membership Drive Dinner at which we will be honored by having Col. Mike Turner, USAF, from National MOAA, as our guest speaker.

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

The Members-only Directory, protected by our secure Wild Apricot website, is up and running. Some of you have posted pictures and written short biographies; however, I urge all of you to make use of the Directory. We would love to learn more about your careersand don't forget, you can easily email each other using the Directory.

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Rick Kilroy Addresses May Dinner Meeting



Dr. Rick Kilroy, LTC USA (Ret) and an Assistant Professor of Politics and Geography spoke to the Chapter's May dinner meeting. Dr. Kilroy's military career and subsequent academic research and writing have focused on Central and South America. His remarks offered Chapter members a different perspective on regional security issues that rely on U.S.—Mexico—Canada relationships and cooperation. Dr. Kilroy noted that recent shifts in the US-Mexico relationship have resulted in more negative views about the US among Mexican political and military leaders.

President's Message *(continued from Page 1)*

May also featured our successful golf tournament fundraiser. I want to thank everyone who participated either as a player, hole sponsor and/or a volunteer. It takes a lot of moving parts to put on a tournament properly, and I truly thank all participants from the bottom of my heart.

I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge the passing of Captain Ross Word. Though I did not know Ross, he is the one most responsible for having a Grand Strand Chapter today. Please honor him in your thoughts and prayers.

See you in September at our Membership Dinner Meeting where our speaker will be Colonel Mike Turner from MOAA National. Please bring any potential new members that you might have met while enjoying the summer months ahead. Be safe!

Membership *(continued from page 2)*

MEMBER RECRUITING

Recently, National MOAA has shared with us a list of eligible officers living within our Chapter's service area who do not belong to our Chapter, an annual service by MOAA which revealed over 600 eligible members are out there. Of those, over 200 are National MOAA members, about 30 of whom have authorized their email addresses to be published by MOAA. Over the summer, I will send a recruiting email to each of those email addresses, urging them to join our exciting Chapter.

Having said that, I remain convinced that the best members, those who are contributors of time and effort to our mission of charity, are those you personally recruit, whether they be friends or acquaintances. ALL of our newest members have been introduced to the Chapter by a fellow member. So, during your summer fun times, please be a Grand Strand recruiter.....and bring your new Member to our September Dinner.

Have a fantastic summer !

**EVERY MEMBER.....BRING AN ELIGIBLE MEMBER
TO DINNER.....IT'S FREE !**

Treasurer's Report

By Tony Prince

As President Dave Townsend mentioned, the Chapter's annual golf tournament was again a successful undertaking.. There are still some revenues to come in and some expenses to pay, so it is impossible to fully report in detail on the financial outcome of the tournament. Consequently, below are our revenue and expense figures for May and our account balances as of the end of May. These figures reflect the income and expenditures for the tournament, our monthly dinner meetings, and administrative expenses such as printing, offices supplies, etc. A more detailed report on the golf tournament will be available in the coming months.

Forwarded Balance:	
	\$22447.17
Revenues	\$17,811.01
Expenses	\$ 6,281.60
Balance	\$33,976.72



Next Meeting Tuesday September 11

Colonel Mike Turner
(USA Ret) , Vice—
President of National
MOAA will be our fea-
tured speaker.

You will get more de-
tails via email in late
summer, but circle the
date on your calendar
and plan to be with us.

Pine Lakes Country
Club
5:30 Social Hour
6:30 Dinner



Chaplain's Corner by Greg Hill

Since 9/11, I have been the preacher at the Pawleys Island Chapel (the one on the island itself) on the Sunday nearest July 4. It is an honor to do so as I represent both the ministry and the military. I was serving as an active duty Army Chaplain when I became part of this tradition.

Each year, I attempt to make three points in my sermon: one, we are free as a nation thanks to the wisdom and sacrifice of those who came before us; two, we are free spiritually as we find freedom in God and in our faith communities; and three, we are called to protect both lest we lose both.

We live in a time of great change and challenge. As I write this arti-

cle, President Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un are meeting in Singapore. The G-7 summit has just adjourned in Canada. Primaries are about to occur in 5 states.

Yet, as we near July 4, I am confident in the strength of America, in the strength and wisdom of God, and in the continued service and sacrifice of our men and women in uniform and of our nation's veterans and their families.

It is a privilege to serve among my colleagues in MOAA. May you and your families enjoy the July 4 holiday and take a moment to say thank you to all who have served and are now serving our great Nation.

JROTC 2018 Wrap Up by Dean Brown

Once again, JROTC support has been 'front and center' at Chapter monthly meetings and board discussions, from the presentation of scholarships to outstanding cadets to providing financial grants to units for unfunded activities.

Moreover, Chapter members again stepped up to volunteer to present MOAA JROTC Leadership Medals, certificates, and ribbons at unit awards ceremonies to deserving cadets. Special thanks to Doug Roderick who made presentations at four schools including the ones most distant from Myrtle Beach. Randy Dymond, Rufus Manning, Jim Offut, Roger Pilcher, and Kelly Sharbel also made multiple presentations. Dave Townsend produced more attractive certificates than those offered by MOAA National, and John Bradley did a superb effort assisting me in arranging award presenters packaging, and distribution while I was away.

Our May dinner meeting was attended by scholarship winners as well as six JROTC instructors and their spouses/guests. These instructors shared our pride in recognizing the achievements of these young cadets.

We look forward to expanding our strong ties to these units and their dedicated instructors and fine cadets.

VA Mission Act Signed Into Law

(courtesy of MOAA National)

President Trump has signed into law the VA Mission Act which is the culmination of two years of Congressional work aimed at improving and reforming the Veterans Administration health care system. The House passed the MISSION Act May 17. A week later, the Senate passed it, thereby sending to the President for his signature.

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS by Hans Duerr

This year we received twelve highly competitive scholarship applications from nine of the 18 JROTC schools in our area. From these, we selected five worthy recipients as follows:

Felicity J. Allen – Myrtle Beach High School

Hanna K. Nash and Beau C. Studley –
Georgetown High School

Qui'ashia Z. Pringle – Andrews High School

Jordan N. Toppings – Aynor High Schools

These cadets, along with their parents and JROTC instructors, were feted at our May dinner and presented with certificates for the \$2,000 scholarships. As is the custom, the winners also rode in the Memorial Day Parade at the Market Common in Myrtle Beach.



The table of hats at Pine Lakes reflected the great attendance of JROTC faculty members and their spouses/guests at the annual JROTC scholarship and JROTC recognition dinners.



JROTC recipients of Chapter scholarships are (l to r) Jordan Toppings, Beau Studley, Qui'ashia Pringle, Hannah Nash, and Felicity Allen.

LEFT: Scholarship award winners Felicity Allen and Jordan Toppings occupied one of the two Grand Strand MOAA cars in the Military Appreciation Days parade. The cars were donated by Myrtle Beach Chevrolet and Cadillac.

Remember: The success of our annual golf tournament is critical to continuing these scholarship awards. We just finished the 2018 tournament. Take the time to thank our golf committee and start thinking how you can make the 2019 tournament a success.

Now and Always We'll be There.



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Another Successful MOAA Golf Tournament

Through of the dogged determination and hard work of volunteers and the dedicated organizing committee, our Chapter had another excellent and successful golf tournament during Military Appreciation Days. President Dave Townsend led the committee effort but is the first to give credit to the committee members who did the grunt work of seeking and obtaining sponsors, golfers, and getting the Heritage Club venue ready for the days activities. Thanks to all who lent a hand.



Chapter volunteers warmly greeted golf tournament participants



Jerry Terwilliger approaches his next shot

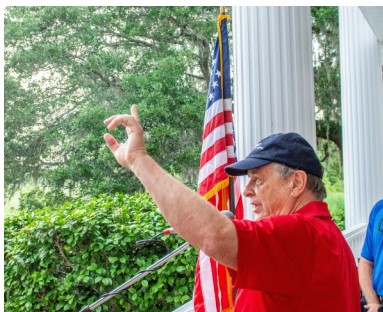


SC State Guard provided the color guard



Greg Youngman chips

Pictures below are courtesy of Christopher Johns Photography



(l to r): Dave Townsend welcomes participants; Major Sponsor Monarch Roofing assisted with sign in; John Short directs golfers to carts

2018 GRAND STRAND MOAA GOLF TOURNAMENT REPORT

By Dave Townsend, Tournament Director



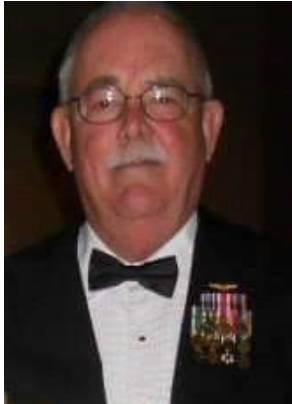
On May 24th, we held our 5th annual golf tournament fundraiser at the Heritage Golf Club in Pawley's Island. The weather appeared dicey just like the previous year. As we rode out to our first tees, we were rained upon, but, magically, as we approached the tee box, the weather changed, and we had perfect weather the rest of the day.

139 golfers came out that day to enjoy lunch and bid on our silent auction items during the registration period between 12 to 2 pm. At 2 p.m., the South Carolina State Guard Color Guard kicked off the event. Bradley Vaughn from the Legends Group gave out the tournament rules and the competition began. Upon completion of play, hot and dusty, we returned to the welcoming air-conditioned dining room and gulped down hot dogs, beer and finished up at the Cold Stone Creamery stand that was set up in the corner of the room.

We hold this event to finance the JROTC Scholarships and programs, and to service our veterans' needs in many ways. This could not be attempted without the dedicated members of the Golf Committee. This journey begins in January and takes up a wide swath of personal time until the tournament in late May. Through this time-consuming work, we were able to net this year approximately \$22,500. I want to thank the following members of the committee for their time and effort: Frank Esposito, John Short, David Fischer, David Sheppard, CJ Parente, Jerry Terwilliger, John Bradley, Bill Stewart, Gerry Sherwin and Tony Prince. We also received assistance from Kelly Sharbel and Greg Youngman. The day of the event, John Bradley, our volunteer coordinator, had 16 volunteers who were club members, and 6 additional non-member helpers. Most were non-golfers who tended to things while the rest of us were battling the course.

Next year we will need additional members on the golf committee. Last year we lost Tom Middleton, Gerry Eubanks and Fred Welch. This year we picked up John Bradley and CJ Parente. The continuation of the tournament is necessary if we want to give respectable \$2000 scholarships, support the homeless veterans stand down, provide funding to the individual 18 high school JROTC programs, support wounded warriors, etc. So, if you are a new member and want to get involved, we need you. Thanks again to all who made the 2018 tournament a success and I hope you will participate again next year.

In Memoriam



It is with deep regret that we report the passing of Captain Ross A. Word, USN (Ret), age 71. Ross passed away Monday, June 4, 2018 at his residence. Ross made a significant contribution to the Grand Chapter, serving as chapter President when the chapter got its charter back. Ross willed the chapter back into existence with hard work and perseverance.

Born May 2, 1947 in Honolulu, HI, he was the son of the late Colonel William E. Word, USMC (ret) and late Thalia Hettama. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War. He served 25 years and was a combat vet. His awards include 5 Air Medals, 3 Navy Commendations with Combat V, and a Distinguished Flying Cross. Following his retirement, he worked as an NJROTC Senior Naval Science Instructor with Horry County Schools for 20 years, spending the last eight years of this second career at the Carolina Forest High School NJROTC unit. Captain Word was a member of the Masonic Conway Lodge No. 65. For many years after his presidency Ross remained active as the head of the chapter's JROTC program.

Ross is survived by his wife of 33 years, Susan Greenhalgh Word of Conway; two sons, Stephen Word of Phoenix, AZ and William Word of Myrtle Beach; four daughters, Leah Word Peterson of Hudson, OH, Julia Word Casper of San Antonio, TX, Jacqueline Word Neumann of Wake Forest, NC, and Thalia Word of Roanoke, VA; six grandchildren; one brother, Kenneth Word of Honolulu, HI; and two sisters, Leslie Bateman of Tacoma, WA and Sydney Beckett of Eureka, CA.

We extend our heartfelt condolences to his wife Suzi and the entire Word family.



Past President Roger Pilcher rode the veterans float in the Military Appreciation Days parade



Chapter Vice Presidents John Bradley and Randy Dymond staff the MOAA table at the post parade picnic.

Grand Strand Website and The Coastal Tide Get

Grand Strand President Dave Townsend recently received the MOAA 5-Star Level of Excellence Colonel Marvin J. Harris Communications Award at a quarterly meeting of the South Carolina Council of Chapters. The Grand Strand Chapter received the award for its website and its Coastal Tide newsletter.

The Grand Strand Chapter was one of just two chapters in South Carolina to receive the 5-Star Level Award.





Application Form

www.grandstrandmoaa.com

ONE POWERFUL VOICE

Grand Strand Chapter MOAA

Application/Renewal Change of address /contact info

Chapter Annual dues: \$20.00 for regular membership or \$50 For 3 year membership.

For NEW MEMBERS: \$20 1st Quarter; \$15, 2nd Quarter; \$10, 3rd Quarter; \$20, 4th Quarter (Good for Following Year).

Make check payable to: "Grand Strand MOAA".

Mail to: MOAA Grand Strand Chapter, P.O. Box 15842, Surfside Beach, SC 29587.

Last name First name MI

DOB Rank Service Spouse's name

Street City State Zip

Home phone Cell phone

Email address (please print clearly !!)

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

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

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

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

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

Current employment (optional):

Professional skills (optional):

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

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

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