

Grand Strand Chapter

Military Officers Association of America



The Coastal Tide

Sept Oct 2018

www.grandstrandmoaa.com

President's Message by Dave Townsend



I will miss Bob Hawkins. Two years ago, I was asked to be president of the Grand Strand Chapter. I had only been to two meetings. I knew only a couple of members. I had moved to Myrtle Beach the year before. Though I was a past-president of two MOAA chapters (Greater Rome-Utica Chapter and Chattanooga Chapter), I was reluctant to accept the presidency here because I was not that familiar with the community. In steps Bob Hawkins who agreed to be the Chief of Staff, a position I created to serve as my confidante, to provide me with the networking information so vital to the position, to fill in the blanks so to speak. I have never met someone so giving and dedicated. I had a lot of questions in that first year, and Bob was always there – by email, telephone and in person to keep me on course. At the Memorial Service for Bob, I think Randy Dymond expressed it best when he said that Bob was a unique leader. Never one to seek the limelight, he cultivated others to be successful. He led by offering ideas and advice that made others look good. I profited from his benevolence. I will miss Colonel Robert T. “Bob” Hawkins.



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Chapter events of note



Our October speaker Pat Waters brought with him a display of memorabilia from his grandfather General George S. Patton.



Chaplain Greg Hill presented a chapter donation to Friendship Place in Georgetown

Wreaths Across America

The Grand Strand Chapter is again collecting funds for Wreaths Across America. Held on December 15, 2018, this event places wreaths on veterans' graves at national cemeteries across the nation.

Use the form on the Chapter website to make a donation to the Blue Star Mothers of Coastal Carolina or directly to Wreaths Across America. If you make direct donations to Wreaths Across America, be sure to note the sponsoring organization as SC0017 - Blue Star Mothers of Coastal Carolina.

Each wreath costs \$15.00. Every two wreaths purchased will be matched by a third wreath. You can donate in 'Memory of' someone deceased or in 'Honor of' someone living.

Meeting Updates

During the next several months, the Chapter will be bringing its calendar year to a close with interesting and entertaining programs and elections of officers for 2019. Take a look at the upcoming meetings and put them on your calendar.

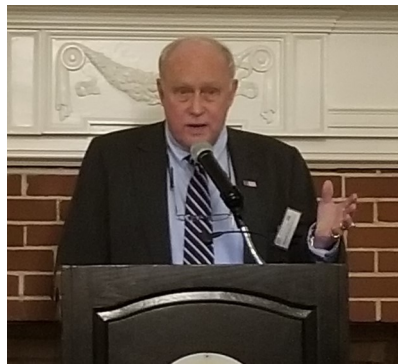
November 13: the regular Chapter meeting will be held at the Dunes Beach and Golf Club. Myrtle Beach Mayor Brenda Bethune will be our guest speaker. Happy hour will start at the customary 5:30 p.m. with dinner at 6 p.m. Mayor Bethune's bio is on the Chapter web page. Join us to get her take on the challenges and changes she and the City Council are confronting. Chapter elections will held this month as well.

December 11: We will be back at Pine Lakes Country Club for our annual holiday program again featuring music from the Carolina Forest High School Chamber Orchestra. These young musicians provided an exceptional evening of entertainment last year, so make sure you register early for this program. As usual, happy hour will begin at 5:30 with dinner at 6 p.m.

January 9: Hurricane Florence demanded the cancellation of our September meeting but National MOAA is sending Col. Mike Turner to us in January to make up for it. Stay tuned for additional details. Chapter officers for 2019 will be inducted at this meeting as well.

"Never Stop Serving"

George Patton 'Pat' Waters Addressed the Chapter



Pat Waters provided an entertaining and unique perspective on the life of his grandfather General George S. Patton, Jr. at our October meeting. A veteran of the US Navy and a successful businessman before he retired, Pat now lives in Mt. Pleasant. His remarks reflected his experience as a young boy's personal though limited interactions with his grandfather, the famous World War II general. He also not-

ed pieces of General Patton's history, largely unknown by the general public, including his 12 years of home schooling, his dyslexic, his rejection by the US Military Academy before being accepted on his second try. In his closing remarks, Pat challenged America's civilians and its military veterans to remember the mothers who raise and nurture the young men and women who serve our country.

Membership by John Bradley



I welcome you all back from what was hopefully a fun-filled summer for you. Hurricane Florence was an un-welcomed finish to the season; I truly hope that you, your family and your home survived the storm and its aftermath.

We are entering the final quarter of the year, and I am pleased to report that we have brought on board 18 new members this year! Our membership tally is :

- 111 Annual members
- 25 Three Year members
- 1 Honorary member
- 2 Year member
- 12 Surviving Spouses
- 150 Members

Unfortunately, not to sound like a broken record, but we do have 10 members who have not yet paid their dues for 2018; they will all receive a third invoice shortly, but I believe , come the first of the year, we will lose these members for a variety of reasons.

I would like to establish at least an interim goal of ending the year with 150 active members; I truly need your help. All of our newest members are a result of our personal recruiting. You may have met them in your social circles, other organizations you belong to, in your church or as

Welcome New Members

Eight new members increased our ranks this fall. They are:

- David Nagy, Gen., USAF (Ret.)**
- Tom McKinney, Maj., USMC (Fmr)**
- James Waldron, CDR., USN (Ret.)**
- David Kaiser, CDR., USN (Ret.)**
- Loman Miller, Col., USA (Ret.)**
- Alfred Parmele, Col., USAF (Ret.)**
- Richard Osman, CAPT., USN (Ret)**
- Hans Polzer, Capt., USA (Fmr)**

Welcome aboard to all with the hope that your membership is rewarding and that you all remain active in our Chapter !

even in the shopping mall. Despite help from National MOAA with recruiting lists of local eligible members, I continue to believe, and it is supported by your results, that YOU are our best recruiters.

Let's be especially active all the way through the upcoming Holiday season and be on the look out for new members....bring them to our upcoming Holiday Dinner or in January when Col. Turner from MOAA will be here.

Let's grow to serve better !

Treasurer's Report

By Tony Prince

The Board of Directors has voted to change the Chapter's fiscal year from a July 1 to June 30 fiscal year to a October 1 to Sept 30 fiscal year. This decision was made to enhance certainty into Chapter revenue and expenditures. Rather than making estimates of Chapter revenue and expenditures as we have in the past, the Board will now make its budget decisions based on actual numbers. Consequently, we have begun the new fiscal year with all expenditures previously authorized by the Board for 2018 having been made. To begin the new fiscal year, our end of September balances are:

Forwarded Balance from August:	\$29,421.01
Revenues during September :	\$ 190.00
Expenses during September:	\$ 5,750.33
Balance	\$23,876.63



MOAA Speaker Tuesday January 8, 2019

Hurricane Florence caused cancellation of the September 11 meeting at which Colonel Mike Turner (USA Ret), Vice—President of National MOAA was to be our speaker. National MOAA has agreed to reschedule Col. Turner's visit to our January dinner meeting. 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

Our September meeting had to be cancelled due to Hurricane Florence. I trust you weathered that storm OK. I was heartened to see all the help our neighbors gave one another to prepare, endure and recover from that storm.

During our September meeting, we planned to take a moment to remember September 11, 2001, a day that changed our understanding of the world. We were to take a moment to reflect on the life of Robert Hawkins, a quiet man who played such key roles in our MOAA chapter over the years.

In September, our guest speaker was to be Col Mike Turner, USAF (Ret), Vice President, Development, National MOAA. He was to speak to us about the MOAA Military Family Initiative (MMFI) Community Outreach Grant program. Our local chapter has received an MMFI grant two years in a row. Thus far this year, we have used portions of this grant to service and put new tires on the Low Country Veterans Group's van. This van is used to transport Georgetown County Veterans to medical appointments at the Charleston VA Medical Center, Myrtle Beach VA Clinic, and area doctor appointments. Other MMFI grant funds will be used to support Georgetown County disadvantaged Veterans.

We have also been granted a Homes for Heroes Grant which

will be used to support our area Veterans which will be presented to our Chapter in October.

Friendship Place in Georgetown, who provides food, housing and work for Georgetown County poor residents, received a \$600.00 grant from our Chapter. The Director of Friendship Place, Charlie Ball, is a Veteran.

I want to thank all those who participated in the Myrtle Beach Stand Down in any way. Homeless Veterans must remain an ongoing target audience for intentional efforts by our Chapter.

As I write this article Hurricane Michael is about to strike the Florida Panhandle. We, too, will be affected by this Hurricane. Please continue to be watchful over your neighbors and family.

With Veterans Day approaching, I ask that you take the time to attend a parade, wreath laying ceremony, or visit a local Eggs Up Grill on November 9 to support their Breakfast with a Veteran program. 15% of all sales will benefit our MOAA Chapter's Veteran outreach efforts in Georgetown and Horry Counties.

I trust you had a wonderful summer and I pray you will take advantage of our many meaningful MOAA programs this fall.

God bless!

Remember: The success of our annual golf tournament is critical to continuing our scholarship awards. The 2018 tournament was a success. Start thinking how you can make the 2019 tournament a success.

Stand Down 2018 Another Success

Hurricane Florence may have interfered with the annual Stand Down for homeless, near homeless and needy veterans, but it did not dampen the enthusiasm for its sponsors or participants. The storm caused a one-week delay in the execution of the event, and the accompanying evacuation of area residents led to a limited shortage of volunteers. Nonetheless, a yet undetermined number of veterans sought and received needed assistance from the numerous sponsors. This was the fifth year for Stand Down in Myrtle Beach and the fourth year in which the Grand Strand Chapter was a principal sponsor. The Board budgeted \$4000 for veterans outreach in 2018. Most of that money is expended for purchase and distribution of blankets, warm-up kits, and other items for needy veterans. Sponsoring groups will meet to determine the number of veterans who received assistance during the event. Kudos to Chapter Chairman of Veterans Outreach Mike Freeman and his dedicated band of volunteers who ensured the success of Stand Down 2018.



Mike Freeman and Chapter volunteers manned the MOAA booth during Stand Down 2018.



2nd Vice-President John Bradley talks with a Stand Down attendee.

New Grants to Help More Vets

The Grand Strand Chapter will again be able to assist veterans in need up and down the Grand Strand. MOAA National has again awarded the Chapter one of its Military Family Initiative (MFI) grants to help finance Chapter programs aimed at assisting local veterans. In addition, the Homes for Heroes Foundation (H4H) also awarded the Chapter another grant for the same purposes. Thanks to Chaplain Greg Hill for his hard work on acquiring these grants that are so effective in assisting veterans in Horry and Georgetown counties. Work is now underway to identify specific needs and how we will address them with these funds.



Local Homes for Heroes representative Joanna Pasowicz (center) presented the foundation's grant check to 1st Vice-President Randy Dymond (l) and Veterans Outreach Chairman Mike Freeman (r) at the October meeting.

Now and Always We'll be There.



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Veterans Day Eggs up Grills Partnership with Grand Strand Chapter Volunteers Needed



Eggs Up Grill locations in the Grand Strand area in partnership with the Grand Strand Chapter will again host a fundraising “Breakfast with a Veteran” event on November 9. This is the second year for this event though last year it was known as “Coffee with a Vet”. Previously local Eggs Up executive Joe Burger pledged a donation of all the nine stores’ beverage sales for that morning. As a result, \$4,500 was raised to assist veterans families with a gift card to purchase food for their

holiday meals. Recipients of these gift cards in 2017 expressed deep gratitude and many noted that they would not have had a holiday dinner without it. This year, the event and Joe’s original pledge has been expanded. On November 9, Eggs Up Grills will donate 15% of its total sales during the “Breakfast with a Vet”. Again, the Board has designated these funds to support veterans’ families during the holiday. Your participation is essential. Grand Strand Chapter members are being asked to volunteer to greet and talk with diners at an Eggs Up Grill location. If you have an hour or two to have breakfast with diners in our communities on Friday, November 9, contact Greg Youngman at gyoungman@sc.rr.com or by phone at 843.314.0079.

The annual Toys for Tots collection will be taken up at the December dinner meeting. Past President Roger Pilcher is again heading up this effort to ensure children throughout the Grand Strand have a present to open on Christmas Day. So, bring your toy donation unwrapped to the December meeting. In addition, Roger has also secured cooperation with South State Bank to locate Toys for Tots collection bins at their 11 branches. If you interested in assisting Roger with collection at these locations or at the December meeting, contact him at Roger at rogerpilcher35@aol.com, or by phone at 843.449.6807



Clothes Collection in December



December 11, 2018 Dinner Meeting
Please bring gently-used, clean coats or sweatshirts. These items will be taken to Georgetown for distribution to veterans. Questions? Please call Chaplain Greg Hill at: 843.231.4507.

Thank you!!!



[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.