

Grand Strand Chapter

Military Officers Association of America

The Coastal Tide

www.grandstrandmoaa.org

President's Message by Jim Albert



Who would have guessed just one month ago we held our March 12th dinner meeting at Pine Lakes Country Club with nearly 60 members in attendance? Then everything suddenly stopped as the entire world hit the "pause" button. Never before has an event, war, or economic crisis caused such a global disruption all at once, and I hope nothing ever will again. This pandemic

shows how interdependent and interrelated we all are, and how fragile life is.

It is times like these that make us reassess our priorities, patterns and relationships. Who do we rely on, and for what? What do we really need to get by? What and who are really important to us? How can we stay in touch? And so many more questions. As recent transplants to this area, my wife and I find great comfort having nearby family, neighbors, MOAA friends, church friends and fellow volunteers at Brookgreen Gardens to help us maintain a sense of "normal" and "security" while we wait at home for the world to start up again.

If you think about it, we are all very fortunate to have a uniformed, public service background. We have been trained, by our common experiences, to accept change as "normal" and thrive on self-reliance. Even in these times of great stress and uncertainty, we instinctively worry about how others are doing, and seek ways to help out where we can. This is the unspoken benefit of MOAA membership and I am so thankful for knowing 140 of us are out there making the best of the situation and continuing our lifetime of service, despite our own needs. Thank you for that. We will soon be back together again. Think of the great stories we will have to tell each other.

Stay home and stay safe,



Mar Apr 2020

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Mark Your Calendar

EDITORS NOTE: Due to social distancing guidelines currently in place, events below may be cancelled or rescheduled. Schedule changes will be announced via email and Grand Strand MOAA website.

May 2: JROTC Drill Competition (part of MB Military Appreciation Month)

May 10: Mother's Day

May 12: Grand Strand S MOAA Dinner Meeting Pine Lakes Country Club – Chris Aranda, Director of Outreach, Veterans Center

May 14 — Armed Forces Day

May 15: Pelicans Baseball Military Appreciation Night

May 22: Vet Center Picnic

May 23: Myrtle Beach Military Appreciation Parade, Picnic and Exhibits

May 25: Memorial Day; Veterans March/Battlefield Cross Ceremony

June 9: GS MOAA Lunch Meeting Kimbel's at Wachesaw Plantation – Noon-2PM, Annual Recognition of key donors to GS MOAA



Chaplain's Corner by Greg Hill

I write this article during a unique Holy Week and Passover. Worship services which normally occurred in houses of worship or traditional family traditions were viewed on-line. Funeral and Memorials have and are being delayed. "Stay at home" orders were given. Complaining about not getting on the beach were voiced. Our economy has been impacted.



How then shall we live? Faithfully! For persons of religious faith, we know that "Those who wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength. They shall mount up with wings as eagles. They

shall run and not be weary; They shall walk and not faint" (Is 40:31).

May God grant you contentment during this uncertain time, may God's sufficiency provide you wholeness, may God grant you peace.

For all Americans, may we support and show appreciation for our leaders in government, medical professionals, nonprofits, other Veterans Service Organizations, and faith communities who tirelessly work to assist us during this COVID-19 crisis. Our Chapter continues our support of local Veterans and their Families during this time of crisis. Individually, may we be part of the solution by serving one another by being healthy, checking on friends and neighbors, and performing random acts of kindness.

My contact information is: Chaplain Greg Hill, 843.231.4507 or ghill54808@aol.com.

Financial Report by Tony Prince



At the end of March, our bank accounts balances have been bolstered by revenues received from the golf tournament fundraising. By the same token, expenditures are being made to support the fundraising effort and advance disbursements supporting the tournament. As noted on page 6, the tournament has been rescheduled for September 10. That should provide additional time to complete the tournament fundraising effort if and when the corona virus restrictions are lifted. Consequently the balances in our three bank accounts are as follows:

Operating Account	\$ 20,804.66
Memorial Account	\$ 8,396.68
Reserve Account	\$15,026.99

Welcome Our New Membership Chairman Paul Williamson

We welcome Paul Williamson to our Board of Directors. Paul will serve as Membership Chairman. Paul comes to us from Johnson City, Tennessee where he served as 1st Vice-President in the MOAA chapter there. He has been a MOAA member for 30 years. He and his wife Sherry Lynn retired and moved to the Grand Strand in February. In his 31-year career in the Air Force, Paul served in numerous Air Force healthcare administrative positions managing and overseeing medical logistics, medical readiness, human resources, and as squadron and deputy group commander. He has served in numerous overseas assignments including In Germany, Italy, Bosnia, and Denmark. Paul's final assignment before retirement from the Air Force was CEO of the Southeast TRICARE Region. He is a Life Fellow in the American College of Health care executives and a Professional in the Academy of Healthcare Management. Upon retirement from the Air Force, Paul worked as a healthcare consultant. He holds a BS degree in Business and a MS degree in Criminal Justice and Sociology.

CCU Cadets Selected for Chapter Awards by Greg Youngman

Colonel Robert Hawkins Leadership Award: Cadet Anna Carpenter was selected as this year's recipient of the Robert T. Hawkins Leadership Award. Anna will graduate on May 8 and be commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the US Army Air Defense Artillery. She is scheduled to attend the Officer Basic Course at Fort Sill, Oklahoma. Anna has established herself as a natural leader throughout her time at Coastal Carolina University, successfully assuming the roles of Company Commander, Platoon Leader, and Platoon Sergeant. She is majoring in Psychology and has been an active in her community, volunteering in various capacities at Ronald McDonald House, All 4for Paws Animal Shelter, and the Joy Prom for high school students with disabilities. Academically, Anna achieved significant recognition on the President's and Dean's lists throughout her tenure as a student. Her over all GPA is 3.9 and reflects her intellect, work ethic, and genuine commitment to excellence. Her application essay on Leadership is outstanding and reflects a young woman whose leadership insights, maturity and commitment to the well-being of others under her command is commendable. In her own words, "I seize opportunities that come my way and complete my goals even if they are lengthy. I joined the ROTC to expand my opportunities, while also being able to give soldiers someone they can rely on and look up to". Anna was selected unanimously by the Chapter's selection committee. She truly emulates Col Hawkins social and military commitment to personal and professional excellence.



ROTC Jr Cadet 2020 Leadership Award: CDT Stacey Shaw is a Junior in the Coastal Carolina Army ROTC program, currently ranked as the #1 cadet in the program with a 3.7 GPA and a perfect Army Physical Fitness Score of 300. Stacey has participated in the ROTC program for the previous 3 years. He originally joined the South Carolina Army National Guard as an infantrymen (11B), but left the Guard after earning a 3 year National ROTC Scholarship. Stacey is an intelligent, physically fit, and adaptive young leader who excels in any environment. He sets the example for all the cadets in the Chanticleer Company. He is a true leader both in and out of the program. Stacey has accumulated over 500 volunteer hours by volunteering at Partners for Change, where he planned, organized, and executed programs that mentor young children both academically and physically. During the Fall Semester of the 2019-20 academic year, Stacey's superior leadership skills led him to be chosen as the Cadet Company First Sergeant. He is a truly exceptional Cadet, whose professional reputation and enthusiasm has earned him the respect and admiration of his peers throughout the USC Gamecock Army ROTC Battalion.

2020 Outreach Council Finalized by Truman Parmele

The Grand Strand Chapter of MOAA is forming a new Outreach Operations Council (OOC) to help manage a growing number of requests for support of homeless veterans, near-homeless vets, and their dependents, creating a “cradle to grave” lifecycle oversight and audit trail for each request. The OOC will rely on external trusted veteran support organizations such as the VA’s Vet Center in Myrtle Beach, Low Country Veterans Group (LCVG) in Georgetown, and East Carolina Housing Organization (ECHO) in Myrtle Beach to verify and validate each support request. Following OOC review, requests will be forwarded to the Chapter Executive Council for approval. Once funded, Council members will work closely with affected veterans and outside agencies to meet the need. The Chapter Board of Directors is developing an OOC Charter and guidance to help define the types of outreach scenarios the Chapter will consider for support. A recent example of an approved request came from ECHO who asked Grand Strand MOAA to purchase eight post office boxes for homeless veterans in need of an address to apply for employment and benefits. Each mailbox cost \$30 and the Chapter budgeted for 10 of these in 2020. Initial Council members include Truman Parmele, Chaplain Greg Hill, Rufus Manning, Tom Satterfield, and Roger Pilcher. If you are interested in joining this new Council, please contact Truman Parmele at okomfan44@gmail.com to be considered.

Awards and Grants

2020 Grande Dunes Cares Support to MOAA: Grande Dunes Cares has selected Grand Strand MOAA as a Charitable Organization of the Month for September 2020. Consequently, several events have been scheduled to raise funds to be donated to our Chapter. They include a 50/50 raffle with a live concert event at Marina Park in Grand Dunes on September 6; a 50/50 raffle at a Third Friday Ocean Club live concert event on September 18, and a 50/50 raffle at a Long Bay Symphony event at Grande Dunes on September 19. LStar and Grande Dunes conducts 50/50 raffles throughout the year to support charitable organizations such as MOAA. We are deeply grateful to LStar/Grande Dunes Life Style Director Peggy Davis for choosing Grand Strand MOAA as recipient of its 2020 charitable donations.

Now and Always
We'll be There.



1-800-247-2192 • www.moaainsurance.com

GOLF TOURNAMENT NOTES

By Dave Townsend, Golf Committee Chairman



There have been many recent changes caused by the onslaught of the coronavirus pandemic. Health officials estimate that the apex will hit our area in four to six weeks. At our last Board of Directors meeting, we thought it prudent to postpone our tournament to later in the year. We have exercised our rain date option with the Legend's Group and rescheduled the tournament at the Heritage Golf Club for Thursday, September 10. As before, the players should arrive at 12 noon for registration, lunch and the amenities – open Tito's Hand Made Vodka Bloody Mary bar, the free Under Armour golf glove fitting plus the silent auctions, 50/50 and raffle. There will be a shotgun start at 2 pm. Currently, we have room for three to four four-somes. Between now and then, please consider becoming a tee box sponsor by honoring a loved one. The cost is \$100 for the first sign, and \$75 for each additional sign. Contact Dave Townsend or Jim Offutt if you are interested in doing so.



Scholarships by Hans Duerr The Chapter's Scholarship Program, started in 2007, continues to be one of the most important outreach initiatives. Nominations for the \$2,000 scholarships are solicited from 17 High Schools with JROTC programs in six surrounding counties of South Carolina. Since the inception of the program 40 scholarships have been awarded. This year's winners will be announced at the June dinner. Scholarships are funded from the annual Golf Tournament, 50/50 raffles and member contributions.

Surviving Spouses by Peggy DeVivo Melody Wages has been visiting with her family In Reno, NV. Due to her family obligations and travel plans, she and I have agreed I will be the liaison for the Surviving Spouses. We currently have 12 spouses registered as members of the chapter. I reached out to all by e-mail to see if they were doing well and to let them know if they need anything to please let me know. I have heard back from 5 and like the rest of us they are holding their own, experiencing cabin fever but doing ok. Most of us do not have family close by so we are relying on our support systems that have been in place for a while. Just as a reminder, please be aware of your neighbors who are living alone and check in on them during this period of isolation... it can be daunting as well as overwhelming having no one to talk to without reaching out and at times you get tired of being the one initiating the conversation. If any member knows of a surviving spouse in their community who would be eligible to join the chapter please feel free to pass on my contact information or give me theirs. Thank you to every member for including the surviving spouses as an integral part of the chapter. We need your support in every way.



State News



Gov. Harry McMaster has appointed Maj. Gen. William F. Grimsley (US Army, Retired) to be South Carolina's first Secretary of Veterans' Affairs. MG Grimsley served in a number of distinguished assignments during three decades of military service, including Senior Commander at Ft. Hood, Texas, and Chief of Staff of the US Strategic Command. Some of his military awards include the Distinguished Service Medal, Silver Star, Bronze Star, and Purple Heart. Since retiring from the military in 2013, Grimsley has operated Broomfield Creek LLC, a professional planning and development firm, and currently serves as the president and CEO of Sigma Alpha Epsilon Foundation. MG Grimsley received a bachelor's degree from Davidson College in 1980, master's degrees from the School of Advanced Military Studies in 1994 and the US Army War College in 2001, and a doctorate in education with a concentration in organizational leadership and design from Creighton University in 2017. The position of Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the Department of Veterans Affairs was created by the South Carolina legislature in 2019, and its nominee is subject to approval by the State Senate.



NEW SC COUNCIL OF CHAPTERS PRESIDENT: MG Mike Akey (USAF, Retired) has been elected President of the South Carolina Council of Chapters of MOAA. The Council of Chapters is an organization comprised of 10 MOAA chapters located throughout the state and are part of the national association.



NATIONAL MOAA HOT BUTTON ISSUES: These issues require your immediate attention. National MOAA asks that you send your elected representatives a MOAA-suggested message today.

- Please consider a temporary waiver of TRICARE mail order pharmacy copays during the COVID-19 emergency. Many military beneficiaries cannot access their military treatment facility pharmacies due to installation access restrictions or social distancing measures. Please act now to urge Congress to temporarily waive TRICARE mail order pharmacy copays to ensure impacted military families don't face unexpected costs for medications.
- Call on Congress to halt military medical billet reductions and MTF downsizing amid COVID-19 uncertainty. The COVID-19 pandemic has caused extraordinary flux in the civilian health care system together with increased demands on uniformed medical providers. Act now to urge Congress to halt plans to cut uniformed medical personnel and reduce military treatment facility capacity.
- Tell Congress to Call for Easier Access to Recovery Rebates. For those who have not filed a tax return in 2018 or 2019 and received a return through direct deposit, bureaucratic hurdles stand in the way of them receiving the \$1,200 recovery rebate payment. The federal government already has the necessary information to fast-track payments for those who receive direct deposit through the VA or Social Security Administration. Ask your member of Congress to work with the administration to make it easier to get this stimulus money.

For more information go to [www.http://takeaction.moa.org](http://takeaction.moa.org)



NEVER STOP SERVING





Military Officers Association of America
Grand Strand Chapter
7th Annual Golf Tournament

Honorary Sponsor: Myrtle Beach Military Appreciation Days



Thursday, Sept 10, 2020
HERITAGE GOLF CLUB - PAWLEY'S ISLAND, SC

Registration Deadline Aug 22, 2020

PROCEEDS SUPPORT:

- JROTC College Scholarships
- Homeless Veterans Needs
- Distressed Veteran Families

Registration & Lunch: 12pm – 2pm | Shotgun Start @ 2PM

\$95/person
\$350/Team (foursome)
\$5 Discount for Each Vet

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

Sponsorship Opportunities (see reverse)

Contact: Dave Townsend: email: davemoaa@gmail.com
cell: (843) 907-1763

More information at: grandstrandmoaa.org

PLAYER REGISTRATION

\$95 per person*, \$350 per team*. To sign up, please complete this form and submit with a check payable to "Grand Strand MOAA". Questions: call/text Dave Townsend at (843) 907-1763 or email davemoaa@gmail.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 Dave Townsend, 9253 Venezia Circle, Myrtle Beach, SC 29579

***\$5 Discount for Each Veteran! Registration Deadline – May 7, 2020**

(check all that apply)

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

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 Dave Townsend, 9253 Venezia Circle, Myrtle Beach, SC 29579

501(c)(3) Receipt Available Upon Request



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).

You may pay by credit card on line at www.grandstrandmoaa.org

Otherwise, please 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.