

February Meeting - Submitted by Jim Jackson, Program Chair

Our 6 February 2018 meeting will be at the beautiful Bluewater Grill on Wrightsville Beach, beginning at 1130 hours. Our luncheon is priced at \$20 including the entrée of your choice, soft beverages, coffee, tea and cookies for dessert. Cocktails, beer and wine are available for purchase. Luncheon entrees include your choice listed below. Payment for entrée is made at the check-in.

- Salmon Wrap
- Greek Salad with Grilled Chicken
- Fish and Chips
- Roasted Chicken BLT

Our program for February will discuss two tragic naval events in 2017 - the collision incidents of the guided-missile destroyers USS Fitzgerald, and the separate incident involving USS John McCain, both of which collided with commercial ships in June and August, respectively. LCDR Phil Brown USN (Ret) will be giving a presentation about the failures by crew and commanders that led to the two incidents and resulting loss of life.

Please RSVP **NLT Friday, 2 February**, to JoAnn Doleman via email: jdoleman522@gmail.com, or 910-540-8459.

Upcoming Programs for Remainder 2017 - 2018 Program Year

- 6 Mar 2018 "Women's History Month" - USMC Combat Veteran Sgt. Jude Eden (Iraq)
- 3 Apr 2018 Film Producer David Garrigus – Documentary on the American Constitution
- 1 May 2018 Oak Island "Southern" meeting
- 1 Jun 2018 Annual Pig Pickin' – Hugh McRae Park, Wilmington
Our annual Scholarships Awards Event

Message from SENCLAND Chapter President, Ken Klassen

I am honored to be selected as your president for the next two years. My commitment to SENCLAND Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America is to build upon our legacy of service to each member, plus be a voice in providing leadership input to local, state and national veterans organizations. Our country has been given so much through dedicated and exemplary service from others. We will follow their example; keeping national defense issues at the forefront of our agenda.

The January 2018 Installation of Officers was a reminder of our duties and responsibilities as the newly elected Chapter officers. The oath of office was administered by NC Council of Chapters President CAPT David Lee, USNR(Ret) with the assistance of Jeri Graham, COL, USA (Ret), SENCLAND Past President and current MOAA Board of Directors member. We will continue to follow through on the goal of "Never Stop Serving".

As a keynote speaker for the event, New Hanover County Commission Chairman Woody White provided a very informative program addressing his vision for our area and a few of the current priorities for county government. His knowledgeable responses on the water issues increased our understanding of what is happening and what needs to be done to eliminate harmful by-products.

One of the major areas of our Chapter's service to our community has been scholarships to JROTC students attending universities and colleges. Recently we added budgeted funds for contributions to veteran organizations in our area. Southeast NC is growing larger and older rapidly; therefore, the health field will need more

trained employees. Support for student veteran programs in Nursing and Allied Health at UNCW, CFCC and BCC has generated significant contributions from chapter members. At the meeting Jan. 9th we recognized COL Hew and Lois Wolfe, USA (Ret.) and CAPT Henry Helgesen, USCG (Ret.) for their generosity. Thanks to all who have contributed. We are off to a great start in 2018.

As a final thought, if you have suggestions for board members, we want to hear your ideas. Stay involved, informed and connected. We need one another. Please check the website for current events and news plus the latest on Legislative Affairs, recent photos and membership issues. Click on www.sencland.org for chapter information. I encourage you to send emails through the website links or call listed numbers.

Kenneth W. Klassen, Pres. SENCLAND

Email: senclandchapter@gmail.com

Ph. 910-616-9614(c)



Woody White Talking GenX Issues



MOAA Glasses for our Speaker

Legislative Affairs - Submitted by Barry Coyle, Legislative Affairs Chair

As I write this note in mid-January, both the U.S. Congress and the North Carolina General Assembly have recently re-convened after the Holiday break. No MOAA-related actions have yet been completed. The major issue to monitor through the month of January and beyond is completion of the DoD Appropriations Bill. The current Continuing Resolution funds DoD, and most other Executive Departments, through January 19. That is the current deadline for the next funding legislation. Potential outcomes run the gamut from no agreement and Government shut-down to passage of complete Appropriations bills to fund operations of the Government. We'll just have to wait to see what happens. I'll report on this at our next meeting and in the March newsletter. With no significant legislative news to discuss, this is a good time to cover some general Legislative Affairs topics. First, MOAA National has just published its Top 10 Goals for 2018. These are the primary legislative goals MOAA will pursue during lobbying efforts with the U.S. Congress in 2018. The 2018 Goals are:

1. Ensure any TRICARE reform sustains access to top-quality care.
2. Prevent disproportionate TRICARE fee increases.
3. Sustain military pay comparability with the private sector.
4. Block erosion of compensation and non-pay and quality-of-life benefits.
5. Protect military retirement and COLAs.
6. Sustain wounded warrior programs and expand caregiver support.
7. End financial penalties to survivors and disabled service members.
8. Ensure the Guard and Reserve system adequately supports requirements for an operational reserve.
9. Recruiting and retention of an all-volunteer force require alignment of spouse and family support programs.
10. Ensure timely access to VA health care and preserve veterans' earned benefits.

If you are a MOAA National member, you will have already received the January edition of *Military Officer Magazine*. The 2018 Goals are covered in detail in this edition. If you are not a National member, you can still read the magazine on the MOAA Web site at: <http://www.moaa.org>.

If you attended the January Chapter meeting you may recall Jeri Graham's appeal to become personally involved in MOAA advocacy efforts by signing up in the MOAA Legislative Action Center not only to receive news and alerts, but to send MOAA-prepared messages to your elected representatives. In this way you can make your voice heard on issues of importance to you and MOAA.....and the Chapter now gets bonus points for each member signing up! The link to the sign-up page is: <http://www.moaa.org/takeaction/>.

You can also get involved in advocacy at the state level by monitoring the Web site of the 4th Branch at: <http://engage.4thbranchnc.org/>. 4th Branch is a North Carolina organization that supports state legislation that benefits military and federal retirees and veterans. Their agenda does not always align 100% with MOAA goals, but there is significant overlap. Their site is a good source of NC legislative news of interest and you can also sign up for membership, if desired. And don't forget that you can follow all state legislative activity at the excellent North Carolina General Assembly Web site at: <https://www.ncleg.net/>.

We Love Guests!

The large number of members that attend each month's luncheon at the Bluewater (and at the Island Way on Oak Island in May) is testimony to the enjoyment of the attendees and popularity of the venue, food and programs. Attendees have clearly enjoyed the presentations by our guest speakers. The luncheons are also a great way to learn about the Chapter's Outreach and Scholarship programs and other activities, such as Legislative issues that affect military members and their families and upcoming special events.

Please invite friends and neighbors that are current, former or retired military, Public Health or other Uniformed Service members to a luncheon so that they can benefit from participation with the Chapter. Virtually all guests that have attended in the past have joined, keeping the Chapter strong, purposeful and fresh.

New Passport Options in Wilmington

You can apply for a passport at the [UNCW Passport Acceptance Agency](#) located in the Fisher University Union Center (beside the Post Office), in addition to the downtown Post Office on Front Street. For instructions on obtaining or renewing a passport read the [UNCW Quick Guide to U.S. Passports](#) or visit the [Department of State website](#). The application process typically takes from four to eight weeks. However, we recommend you apply four months prior to your scheduled departure.

When applying for a new passport, you need the following:

- Completed application (available in UNCW's Passport Office)
- One passport photo
- Proof of U.S. citizenship
- Evidence of identity
- Application fee (Typically \$135: \$110 Application Fee, \$25 Execution Fee)

If you already have a passport:

- Check to make sure that it has not expired and will not expire for at least six months past your planned return to the U.S.
- If your passport is expired or needs to be renewed you may be able to renew by mail provided your most recent passport meets certain conditions; if it does not, you will have to apply in person. Visit the [Department of State website](#) for information on passport renewals
- Please note, the UNCW Passport Acceptance Agency does not process passport renewal applications.

For more information, visit the [UNCW Passport Acceptance Agency located at 4855 Price Drive \(Fisher University Union Center\)](#). Phone 910-962-2432. Hours of operation, 0830-1530 Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday; 1000-1830 on Wednesday.

New Hanover County Veterans Council – Submitted by Bob Doleman, Secretary

The NHCVC has announced its next veterans Stand Down which will be in combination with this year's Veterans Benefit Action Center (VBAC; held last year under the NC Dept 9 of the American Legion) on MAR 22-23-24 at the Elks Lodge on Oleander Dr. Again, it will focus on getting veterans connected to support organizations in the area and providing VA case workers to handle claims with the VA. Full guidance is forthcoming. Our chapter has supported Stand Downs with donations in prior years.

SENCLand Chapter Scholarships - Submitted by Lee Hanna, Scholarship Chairman

We would like to recognize the following members who have donated to the scholarship/outreach programs since the beginning of December.

Merlin Bell
William Coombes**
Sue Joens
Susan Nelson
Paul Wilson
Hershell Wolfe**

Walter Busbee*
Barry Coyle*
Kenneth Klassen*
Leslie Petty
Paul Woodbury*
John Stewart**

Holly Coffey
Charles Harriman
George McCabe
Melba Williams**
Albert Schroetel**

*donations of \$100

**donations of \$200

We are now in the window to approve our budget for the next year. Our scholarship awards are dependent upon the generous donations of our members. We will project our planned scholarship amounts based upon previous donations. We need to ask you to continue to support this very worthwhile program with your donations now. Please remember that donations can be made to JROTC scholarships, outreach or the new scholarship program for veterans in the healthcare field at local colleges and university. Thank you in advance for your generous support.

We will start soliciting scholarship applications from JROTC units in February and are always accepting applications for outreach support. We will start to receive dates for the local JROTC Award programs soon. I would like you to consider volunteering to help with these presentations. They will occur between February and June. As I get the dates I will make them available in the newsletter and at monthly meetings. If you would like to present at a certain school, please send an email to MACHANNA@aol.com and give me your preferences. I know you will find these presentations a very heart-warming event. Thank you.

In a whole new category of support, we received the following donation at our January meeting:

U.S. Merchant Marine Monument Fund - \$5,000.00 toward our Nursing & Allied Health Scholarship focus. Our sincere thanks to Chapter member Henry Helgesen, CAPT, USCG (Ret.), graduate of U. S. Merchant Marine Academy, and founder/Chairman of Wilmington's U. S. Merchant Marine Monument Fund.

National MOAA Membership

While national MOAA membership is not required to join a local Chapter, we do encourage it because of national MOAA's mission to preserve and protect the entitlements and benefits of current and former military members and their families. In essence, the national MOAA organization is our voice in Congress.

Here is how their website describes this mission:

"MOAA's mission is to improve the lives of those who serve and their families, which is achieved largely through the tireless advocacy efforts taking place in our nation's capital. MOAA's experts in Washington are there to support legislation that benefits the military community and are equally vigilant when fighting to stop legislation that threatens our livelihood. The larger our numbers, the greater our voice. "

Most of the SENCLAND Chapter members are already National MOAA members. If you are not a member of National MOAA but would like to support its mission simply go to: <http://www.moaa.org/Content/Join-Moaa/Why-join-Moaa.aspx>

SENCLAND Chapter Website Information

If you have logged onto the Chapter Website (www.SENCLAND.org) over the past few months, you have read coverage about a busy summer of special events plus legislative updates. There are numerous pieces in the News and Events, Legislative Affairs, Photo Gallery and Our Heritage tabs for your review. Also, numerous new members have joined and their contact info is available in the roster that is available to members only. If you need help logging onto the website for roster info, please call or email Ken Klassen, Webmaster, at [910-791-3999](tel:910-791-3999) or kwkswk@att.net.

Membership Updates

Deceased Members:

Anderson, Martha – Spouse of former USAF Capt. Elbert Anderson

Chaplain's Corner

Chapter Chaplain Charles Lewis sends this reminder - In the event of a serious illness, or a death, in the case of a Chapter member or spouse, please make sure to let our Chaplain know of the specific mailing address for family members who should receive get-well or sympathy cards from SENCLAND Chapter. This is a vital communication process - we want our membership to know that we sincerely care.

Editorial Policy and Comments

The SENCLAND *SENTINEL* Newsletter is published by the SENCLAND Chapter, which is an affiliate of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA). MOAA and its affiliated chapters and councils are independent, nonprofit, and politically nonpartisan organizations. As a part of MOAA's efforts to advance legislation and budgets that would be in the best interests of military members, retirees, and their families, there is an ongoing initiative to create awareness on many important topics, and to provide members with easy ways to give their input to state and national legislators. The following link will take you directly to MOAA's legislative activities and provide access to congress..... <http://capwiz.com/moaa/home/>. **SENCLAND Sentinel – Our**

Chapter's Voice

Our newsletter is published monthly (except July & August) in sufficient time to provide information on upcoming meetings. We want this newsletter to be of value to you, but we do not aim to compete with established print, broadcast, or online media, and we do not simply distill what MOAA National is publishing in Military Officer each month. What we want to do here is keep you informed about the chapter and our SENCLAND efforts to stay connected with each other, and support our local military and veteran communities.

To that end, we encourage you to provide content for publication in our newsletter and online. Simply send your notices, letters, articles, and photos to our editor, Brud Deas, (bruddeas@gmail.com) as you collect them. Everything submitted by the 15th of the month will be considered for inclusion in the following month's newsletter. All items are subject to editing.

SENCLAND Sentinel accepts sponsorships from our members and other supporters. You can see a full listing of current sponsors at the end of each newsletter. Soliciting sponsorship in this way provides a way to recognize our sponsors while allowing us to keep our dues the lowest in the state. If you would like to discuss sponsorship opportunities for yourself, your company, other veteran fraternal and support organizations, or anyone else that appreciates the mission of SENCLAND MOAA, please email Brud. Cash sponsorships in excess of the cost of publishing this newsletter in its current format will augment our local military and veteran outreach activities, increasing the positive effect that we have on our local community. Consider inviting your neighbors to participate by sharing this newsletter with them and talking about MOAA SENCLAND. **Whenever possible, please patronize our sponsors and let them know we all appreciate their support of our important initiatives.**



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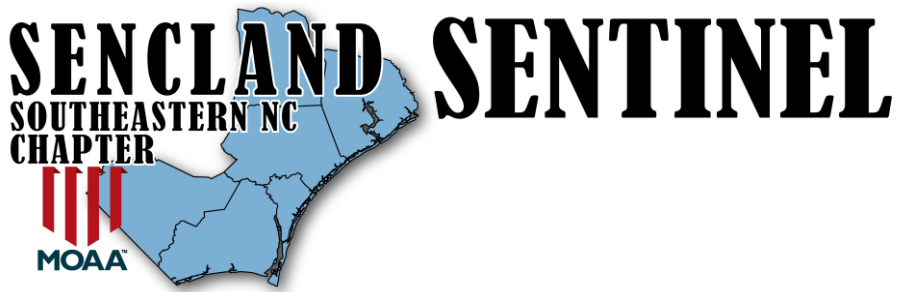
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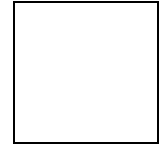
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***RETURN SERVICE
REQUESTED***

February 2018

SENCLAND Chapter (MOAA) Membership Application Form

Date of Application: _____

Active Duty _____ Active Reservist _____ Retired _____ Former Officer _____

Name: _____ Rank _____ Service _____

Street Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip+4 _____

Date of Birth MM/DD/YYYY: _____

Spouse's Name: _____ Home Phone: _____

Email: _____

Are you a National MOAA member? _____ Annual _____ Life Member _____

Note: It is not necessary that you be a member of National MOAA in order to join the local chapter although we strongly encourage you to become a National MOAA member.

Your National MOAA membership number (on magazine label): _____

Annual chapter dues of \$20.00 are waived for the current calendar year for new members! Please complete this form and mail to the return address above. Call Al Schroetel, Membership Chairman, at 910-686-6905 or email downeast@bellsouth.net if you have any questions. We look forward to meeting you!