

December 2023 Message from President Joe Irrera - jaiiraq06@yahoo.com

Greetings!

I enjoyed seeing everyone at our 7 November meeting and am looking forward to seeing everyone at our special Holiday 5 December meeting at the Bluewater Grill. We need to have a good headcount by **Monday 27 November** and ask that you **please RSVP** via our new process contained in the email that you should have received a few days ago. This deadline set by the Bluewater is to ensure they have the correct set-up, staff and meals on hand for our meetings.

Our special guests for our 5 December meeting will once again be the Coastal Christian High School A Capella Choir who will treat us to patriotic and holiday music.

We are pleased to welcome our newest chapter member: CAPT Jeff Whiting, USN (ret).

For this month's member profile, we decided to feature an article put together by Membership Chair Al Schroetel and Newsletter Editor Allan Turner on a long time member who passed away this past September – COL David D. (Dave) Igelman, USAF (ret) COL Igelman was a "Thud Driver," flying 100 missions over North Vietnam in the Republic F-105D Thunderchief Fighter/Bomber.

10/26/23 USCG Boat and Facility Tour – thanks to Irene Glaeser and Oak Island Coast Guard Station OIC - BMCS Logan Adkisson, we had 15 SENCLand Chapter MOAA members participate in a tour of the Oak Island Coast Guard Station, including a ride on one of their patrol craft on a beautiful, sunny day. Everyone who participated had a great time! Please see pictures under **Programs** section

My wife Sheila and I had a wonderful time on the November Veterans' Day Cruise to Nassau. We enjoyed spending a very relaxing time with 80 other Chapter and MOAA members from across the USA. My special thanks to RDML Ron Henderson, USN (ret) for his daily historical presentations. Another MOAA sponsored cruise is in the works for 2024. Please see pictures and some highlights from Ken Klassen under **Programs** section.

Blue Star Memorial dedication. A very nice ceremony took place on Thursday 11/9/23 at the parking lot beside the Wrightsville Beach Redix. Please see pictures and other info under **Programs.**

Happy Birthday to all our December members; May you have many more happy, healthy years ahead.

A Happy 387th Birthday (13 Dec) to Our National Guard and a Happy 4th Birthday (20 December) to our United States Space Force and all her men and women who have and are serving our Nation so well.

On 28 October, the local chapter of Irreverent Warriors sponsored a “Silkies” Hike as part of their efforts in preventing veteran suicide. Tim Johnson and Chrissy Sanford participated and reported a great turnout by many local veterans.

In the spirit of giving, I hope that you will consider making a donation towards our 2024 Programs for JROTC and Veterans Scholarships and Veteran Outreach. Chrissy Sanford, Tim Johnson, and I made several scholarship presentations in November to Veteran students at UNC Wilmington, Brunswick Community College, and Cape Fear Community College. My continued thanks to those of you who have generously contributed to the several programs we are fortunate to support each year including the BG Jim Carper Scholarship Fund. Please see pictures and details under **Chapter Community Programs**.

Don’t forget we are in the midst of Open Season for changes to Medicare, Tricare, and Federal Benefits. If you participate in one of those programs, please look in the **New Hanover County Veterans’ Council Section** for more details.

Finally, I know we can all be thankful for the blessings received. Wishing you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving, and will have a Happy Holiday Season, and a safe and Happy New Year. I pray that 2024 will bring healing to our Nation, an end to the conflicts around the world, and set us on a path that will bring Peace to the World.

Programs – Submitted by Irene Glaeser, COL, USA (ret) Programs Chair

New Email System – Submitted by Allen Allegretto, Webmaster

The new Chapter email system which was *successfully* implemented in September makes it easier for you and simplifies event management for the Chapter. When you receive your luncheon invite via email, be sure to click your RSVP option in the center of the green box as that is the active click region (see illustration below). You can also change your RSVP by clicking a different option.



Exception: If you plan to bring more than one guest or a prospective members, **please send your RSVP text, phone, or email to Al Schroetel at [910-352-4378](tel:910-352-4378) or downeast@bellsouth.net; or Leslie Roberson at [703-470-3392](tel:703-470-3392) or lesliecotu@hotmail.com.**

If there are questions about this process, please contact Al Schroetel at downeast@bellsouth.net or Allen Allegretto at allegrettoa@yahoo.com.

5 December Chapter Meeting: will be held on Tuesday 5 December 2023, 1130, hrs. at the Blue Water Grill on Wrightsville Beach. Once again, we will feature a special holiday program of patriotic and seasonal music by the Coastal Christian High School A Capella Choir.



Coastal Christian High School A Capella Choir performs during our December 2022 Holiday Meeting

Blue Water Grill Special Holiday Meal:

Menu choices from the list below will be made when you check-in. Price is \$35 per person, cash or check and it includes ice tea, water, coffee and gratuity. A cash bar will be available prior to and during the event. *Please arrive in festive holiday attire.*

MENU

Bread (Dinner Rolls) and Butter on Table

Garden Salad

Romaine, iceberg, tomato, onions, cucumber, croutons

ENTRÉES

Served with chef's selection of starch and seasonal vegetables.

- Crab Cake, jumbo lump crab
- Hoisin Baked Salmon with sweet Asian sesame glaze
- Chicken Marsala with mushroom marsala sauce
- Sirloin Steak with shiitake mushroom sauce

DESSERT

Choice of Key Lime Pie or New York Cheesecake topped with raspberry sauce

Priced at \$35.00 - Entrée choices are made once seated at your table (no pre-orders).

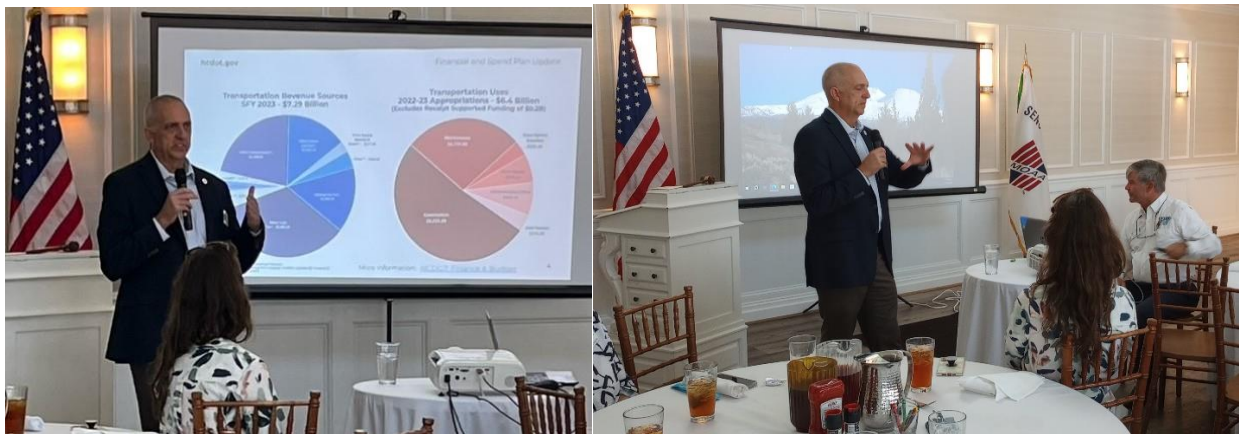
PLEASE NOTE: Payment is made at check-in using **cash or check only.**

Please click on your **Email RSVP link NLT Monday, 27 November**. If you need to, you may contact Irene Glaeser. Email preferred: irene.v.glaeser@gmail.com or call (or text) her if necessary at [\(703\) 229-2743](tel:7032292743).

We need everyone to help out by being conscious of this deadline, both for the Bluewater staff and the SENCLAND team that puts these events together. Thanks so much and looking forward to seeing you there!

Bluewater Grill Luncheon Prices Update: Inflation has touched all of us over the past few years and our primary luncheon provider is no exception. They are paying more for the food they serve us as well as increased costs for service and maintaining their facility. We have been subsidizing over \$2.00 per meal over the past few months and of course this cannot be sustained indefinitely. We have signed a new contract with the Bluewater for 2024 and as a result will need to raise our per meal price to \$30.00 effective 1/1/2024. Reminder that this price includes not only the price of the food, but the use of the facility, taxes, and gratuities for the service staff.

7 November Meeting: Our November meeting was held on Tuesday 7 November 2023, 1130, hrs. at the Bluewater Grill on Wrightsville Beach. We featured Chad Kimes, the Division Engineer for NCDOT's Division 3, and the Division's Deputy Division Engineer Caitlin Melvin. They delivered a very comprehensive presentation on the state of the local high profile transportation projects either in progress or planned for our area.



Chad Kimes, PE delivers his remarks during our 11/7/24 meeting while Caitlin Melvin, PE looks on.



President Joe Irrera presents Chad Kimes and Caitlin Melvin a gift for their outstanding presentation.

If you would like to review their presentation which lists the Division 3 Project list, costs, and timeline, it is available on our website at: <https://sencland.org/journal/1699481825/uploads/2023.11.07-NCDOT-Div-3-Project-Overview-for-MOAA-v2.pdf>

President Joe Irrera Leadership Award – at the beginning of our meeting, Past President and Past NC Council of Chapters President COL Jim Brumit, USA (ret) presented a well-deserved MOAA Leadership Award to President Irrera for his outstanding leadership and guidance over the last two plus years.



COL Jim Brumit, USA (ret) presents President COL Joe Irrera, USMC (ret) with a MOAA Leadership award signed by MOAA President and CEO LtGen Brian T. Kelly, USAF (ret). Accompanying President Irrera is his wife Sheila



November 10th 2023 was the USMC's 248th Birthday. This auspicious occasion was recognized at our November meeting with a cake which was cut by the oldest Marine – COL Bob Clark, USMC (ret) and youngest – COL Joe Irrera, USMC (ret) and shared with everyone in attendance.

USCG Oak Island Tour and Boat Ride - Irene Glaeser Program Chair

Fifteen SENCLand MOAA Members got to have a tour of the USCG Facility at Oak Island, NC, a briefing on the station's history and mission by their OIC BMCS Logan Adkisson, and a very nice boat ride on Thursday 10/26/23 which was a beautiful day. Please see pictures below:





Wrightsville Beach Blue Star Memorial Dedication – 11/9/23



Blue Star Memorial is unveiled at Wrightsville Beach 11/9/23

As Alderman Zeke Partin announced at our October 2023 meeting, the Wrightsville Beach Garden Club has unveiled the latest Blue Star Memorial Highway marker at a ceremony on Thursday 11/9/23. The memorial marker is located just adjacent to the Redix parking lot. Please click on the attached link for a complete update and video courtesy of local NBC Affiliate WECT:

<https://www.wect.com/2023/11/08/blue-star-memorial-highway-marker-dedication-set-nov-9-wrightsville-beach/>

Upcoming Programs for 2024

- 2 January – Installation of new Chapter Officers; Chapter member - ADM Karl Schultz, USCG (ret) who will discuss his impressive career and time as 26th Commandant of the United States Coast Guard from 2018 – 2022, Blue Water Grill
- 6 February – Elizabeth Goad – The Rosie Network (military spousal entrepreneurship program) , Blue Water Grill

- 5 March – Sara Johnson, NHC Veterans Treatment Court Coordinator, Blue Water Grill
- 2 April – Rossi Nance; Chairman, Region 3 of the VVA, “Revisiting Vietnam,” Blue Water Grill
- 7 May – TBD “Southern Meeting,” Island Way Restaurant, Oak Island, NC

SAVE THE DATE: In lieu of the usual picnic location this year, we will gather at the Sea Spray Community Clubhouse off Military Cutoff on 7 June. More details will follow.

Veteran’s Day Cruise 2023 11-16 November to Nassau on Carnival’s “*Sunshine of the Seas*”

Submitted by: Ken Klassen CDR, USN (ret), Past President SENCLand MOAA and NCCOC VP-1, Membership

80 MOAA members and guests from North Carolina and other states enjoyed a Veterans five day cruise from Charleston, SC to the Bahamas November 11-16, 2023. Some pictures are included below from port visits in Nassau and Half Moon Cay, Bahamas. The cruise was open to all MOAA members from the 14 MOAA Chapters in North Carolina and their guests. We had guests from as far away as California and Boston, MA. A special feature of the Veterans Cruise was a four part lecture series on major Pacific campaigns in WW II, including the Battle of the Coral Sea, Midway, Guadalcanal, Leyte Gulf, Okinawa and the dropping of the atomic bombs in August 1945. MOAA and Southeastern Chapter (NC-07) member RDML Ron Henderson, USN (ret) was our featured speaker. There was also an awards presentation by NCCOC President CW4 Jay Garbus, USA (ret).

Social times were the order of the day and night as we spent time with friends from the NC Chapters and made many new friends during excursions, meals, casual visits around the ship decks and Veterans Appreciation events scheduled by the ship's cruise director. It was warm and sunny on the beaches and around the pool and spas onboard.

Thanks to our tour agent Lorna Tiller and the onboard staff, a private appreciation cocktail party was included as an amenity for MOAA guests on the last day at sea. The party was enjoyed by all attendees and when asked if they would like another cruise next year, a hearty response of “YES!” was heard from all.

Wonderful memories, enjoyable days at sea, some educational features, great food and accommodations are hard to beat!



Chapter Website Updates— Submitted by Allen Allegretto, Webmaster

Our website (<http://www.sencland.org>) can help you stay informed about upcoming chapter events and current activities. It is easy to access and requires no logon. Our website provides Membership infor-

mation, News and Events, calendar of chapter events, Legislative Information, updates on chapter programs including outreach, scholarships, and JROTC leadership awards, newsletter and meeting minutes, and a page honoring Fallen Heroes. It shows how to make donations and online payments. You can also read about our chapter mission and view current leadership.

Important News: may appear at the top of the website indicating time-sensitive information is available.

Our chapter Membership Roster is also available on the website. This is the only page that requires login to access. If you need help logging onto the website to view the chapter roster, please email or call Allen Allegretto (AllegrettoA@yahoo.com, or call: [910-617-2307](tel:910-617-2307)).

Membership Update – Submitted by Al Schroetel, Membership Chair

We are pleased to welcome our newest Chapter member:

Jeffrey B. Whiting, CAPT, USN (Ret.). Jeff lives in Wilmington.

We love guests! This is a great time to invite a friend to one of our monthly meetings or special events. Not only are guests always welcome, but this is also one of the ways that we can make potential members aware of the benefits of Chapter membership.

We try to keep abreast of the status of all of our members, so please let me know any significant life events or relocations of our members. Just send an e-mail to downeast@bellsouth.net or text me at [910-352-4378](tel:910-352-4378).

The Chapter's membership roster is available in the password protected section of the Chapter's website. This roster is updated every month so you will always have the most current list. If you would like assistance accessing that section, please contact me at downeast@bell-south.net or Allen Allegretto at allegrettoa@yahoo.com

Chapter Community Programs

JROTC Support, Veteran Scholarships, & Veteran Outreach

We would like to thank everyone who donated to the scholarship/outreach programs and ask you to keep these important programs in mind as you conclude your financial plans for this year.

Please considering a donation to these worthwhile projects now. We are always accepting applications for outreach support. Thank you again to all our generous contributors.

JROTC Leadership Awards Support – Submitted by LTC LeeRoy Hanna, Leadership/Scholarship Chair

We will be notifying all schools of the scholarship application period that will start in January. Application forms will be sent to all 19 schools we serve and posted on our website.

JROTC Leadership medals and certificates are ordered and we will start to take input from schools. I hope we can make presentations at all 19 schools this spring. If you are interested in helping please let me know by email.

Veteran Outreach – Submitted by COL Mike Apicella, Outreach Chair

This year SENCLAND Community Outreach Program awarded \$1,500 dollars to deserving individuals in need of financial assistance. I will once again be requesting funds from the National MOAA organization for FY 2024.

If you know of any Veterans that may benefit from one of these Community Outreach Grants, please contact Mike Apicella, Chairperson, Community Outreach Committee. In addition, donations can also be made to the SENCLAND MOAA Chapter to help support the Outreach Grant Program. Thanks for your support.

Mike Apicella, COL (ret) USA
Chairperson, Community Outreach Program

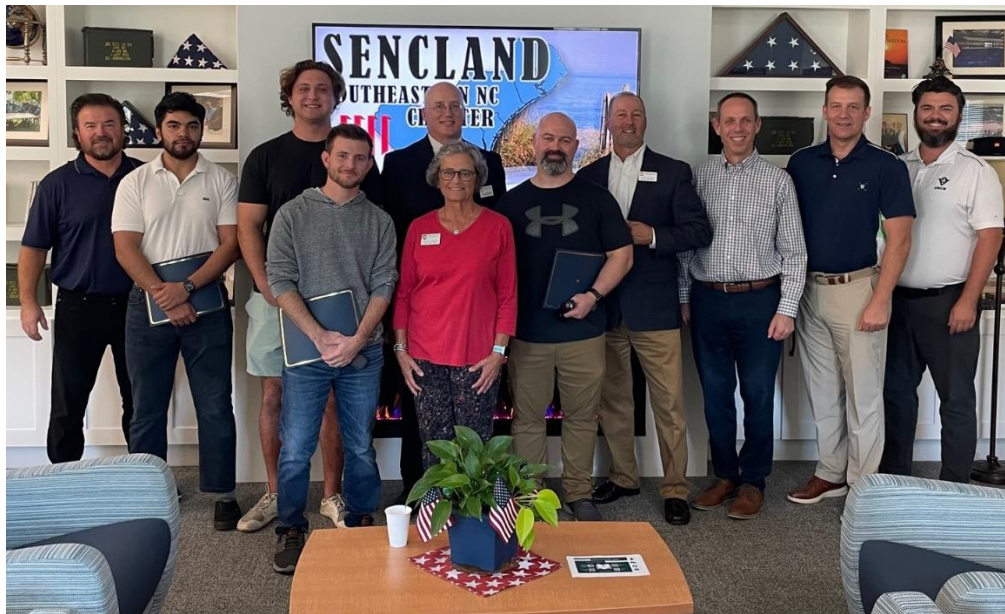
Veteran Education Assistance Scholarships - Chrissy Sanford, COL, USA (ret) Scholarship Coordinator, Tim Johnson, Capt., USMC

We had a very successful scholarship program this year. We distributed \$5500, including monies from the SENCLand MOAA budget, Jim Carper, BG, USA, Memorial Scholarship fund, and Air Force Association.

UNC Wilmington had \$2500 awarded to 6 students at Veterans Hall on 08 Nov 2023. Joe Irrera, Tim Johnson, and Chrissy Sanford attended the scholarship distribution. Cape Fear Community College had \$2500 awarded to 6 students in Tabitha's Courtyard on 09 Nov 2023. Allan Turner, Tim Johnson, and Chrissy Sanford attended the scholarship distribution. The Veteran student organization provided lunch. Brunswick Community College had \$500 awarded to 3 students at the Odell Williamson Auditorium on 08 Nov 2023. Joe Irrera and Tim Johnson attended the ceremony. Lunch was provided to the recipients and guests.



Brunswick Community College 11/8/23. From Left to Right: Dr. Gene Smith, President, BCC, Tim Johnson; Scholarship recipients: Stephen Maples, Stephanie Alexander, and Daniel Thompson; Ms. Teresa Nelson, Exec Dir BCC Foundation, and Joe Irrera



UNCW 11/8/23. From Left to Right: Jerome Garrison, Assoc. Dir Office of Military Affairs, Scholarship recipients: Auris Nasser, Steven Parker, Cody Wilson, and Michael Sterba; Tim Johnson, Chrissy Sanford, Joe Irrera; Dr. Jack C. Watson, Dean College of HHS, Bill Kawczynski, Director of Military Affairs, and Camden Ege, Military Affairs Program Coordinator. Not pictured Scholarship recipients: Abigail Roark and Julia Cagle



CFCC 11/9/23. From Left to Right: Mr. Jim Morton, CFCC President; Tim Johnson; Scholarship recipients: Collin Bennett, Olyvia Drenko, and Codey Puttkamer; Allan Turner, Chrissy Sanford. Not pictured Scholarship recipients: Ian Appling, Chase Siegman, and Charly Small.

SENCLand MOAA extended invitations to the scholarship winners to the January 2024, luncheon to share their military service and educational goals with us.

These scholarships would not be possible without your generosity and commitment to our student Veterans and their career choices. Thank you!

Honor Flight of the Cape Fear Area- Chrissy Sanford, COL, USA (ret), Veteran Coordinator

The Honor Flight of the Cape Fear Area is scheduled for 20 April 2024. Applications for Veterans, Guardians, and Volunteers are now available on our website, <https://www.honorflightcfa.org/>. Currently, the 75 Veteran and 75 Guardian slots are filled but we continue taking applications. I encourage you to submit your application with the necessary paperwork (copies of your DD 214 and driver's license or military ID) as soon as possible. We anticipate changes between now and April 2024 in Veterans status, alternative plans, etc. which will open up flight slots. Remember, we ALL deserve to go on the flight. We ALL contributed to our country's safety and freedom and you deserve to be recognized for your service and commitment. Let me know if you have any questions. Please email me at: veterans@honorflightcfa.org



Sandi Adams, Surviving Spouse Coordinator

Surviving Spouse Corner –

You may have seen in the recent MOAA magazine there are bills in the house and senate to bring DIC for surviving spouses up to par with other agencies' percentages. Write your representatives if DIC helps you pay the bills each month as it does me.

The December celebrations can be a more emotional time for many surviving spouses. Spending time with family and friends and having a support plan is what the grief counselors recommend. Reach out to me if you want to chat.

Sandi Adams
Surviving Spouse Liaison
earlsandi@gmail.com
[910-443-0470](tel:910-443-0470)

Wellness Coordinator's Corner – *Leon Rooks*
Season's Greetings from The Wellness Corner...

Well, the year is coming to a close. It has been a year with many challenges, as in past years. The conflict between the Israelis and Hamas does not look good and the Ukraine war continues as it has for almost two years. We must pray for our country, its greatness, and for peace around the world.

In just a few weeks, we will be celebrating the birth of our Lord and Savior. A Savior that provides all things good, hope, love and grace. A savior who has come to lead us to salvation, by his death on the cross and his resurrection, we can have eternal life with him.

As we close the year and celebrate the Holiday season, I ask that you keep those members who are ill or dealing with a loss of a love one in your thoughts and prayers. Also, we pray for our Military as they serve around the globe.

To all of you, I want to wish that your "Holiday Season" is filled with Joy, Happiness, and good Health.

Leon Rooks
Wellness Committee Chair
leon.rooks@hotmail.com or [910-799-2488](tel:910-799-2488).

Legislative Affairs November 2023 - by Barry Coyle, Legislative Affairs Chair

Open Season Continues

It's Open Season time again for many Federal Programs. During Open Season, you can make desired changes to your Federal health care and insurance plans. These plans are specific to individuals, so please take time to review your current coverages and contact your provider prior to the deadline. This year, there is a one-time opportunity to change your Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) elections, if desired. You can either start SBP if you did not do so at retirement or discontinue SBP. See the DFAS website for more information at <https://www.dfas.mil/sbpopenseason23>. Open Season dates are:

- MEDICARE: 15 Oct -7 Dec
- TRICARE/Federal Employee Dental and Vision Insurance Program (FEDVIP): 13 Nov – 11 Dec
- SBP: ends 1 Jan 2024

In Washington

Congress managed to elect a new Speaker of the House and pass another Continuing Resolution one day before the 17 November deadline and President Biden signed it into law. This legislation will keep some Government agencies, including Military Construction and Veterans Affairs funded at this Fiscal Year's level through 19 January 2024. DOD and other major cabinet agencies are funded through 2 February. This sets up a high-pressure attempt to pass full appropriation bills early next year, most likely leading to another Continuing Resolution or Government Shutdown scenario. The President's Supplemental funding request for Ukraine, Israel, aid to Palestine, and border security was not taken up by Congress prior to the Thanksgiving break. The FY2024 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) has also not passed. There are still significant differences between the two Chambers' versions of this Bill which have not been resolved by the Joint Conference Committee. We will have to keep waiting to see how all this plays out in this dysfunctional Congress. MOAA is urging Members to contact their elected officials through the Legislative Action Center at [MOAA | Legislative Action Center \(quorum.us\)](https://quorum.us) to ask them to pass full Authorization and Appropriations Legislation quickly. The Veterans Administration announced that free medical care will be provided for all WWII veterans. This is a good news story that should be passed on to any WWII survivors you know.

In North Carolina

The North Carolina General Assembly is in recess until January, when the Short Session will convene.

New Hanover County Veterans' Council (NHCVC) – Bob Doleman, Chapter Representative

PLEASE NOTE: 2024 FEDVIP Enrollment Period 11/13/23 – 12/11/23

FEDVIP – Federal Employees Dental and Vision Insurance Program

2023 Federal Benefits Open Season:
November 13–midnight (ET) December 11

We would like to remind you that the 2023 Federal Benefits Open Season runs from Monday, November 13, to midnight (ET) Monday, December 11. Your current dental and/or vision plan will continue automatically into the 2023 plan year, even if you retire.

The 2024 rates are available!

We recommend that you use our plan comparison tool to search for your FEDVIP plan and determine if your premium will change in 2024.

[Research 2024 Rates](#)

What can you do on BENEFEDS.com?

BENEFEDS.com offers a full range of services to help you manage your FEDVIP account from home

or on the go 24/7. Access your customized, secure [My BENEFEDS account](#), where you can view real-time information about your plans, premiums, billing, and other important information.

New Hanover County Veterans' Service Officer – Mrs. Betsy Graham

Did you know who your local Veterans' Service Officer is for New Hanover County? Her name is Betsy Graham. She's been in this role for about 9 years, 5 years in New Hanover County and loves to help out our veterans with their questions or concerns. You can email her at: begraham@nhcgov.com or phone at: [910-798-7836](tel:910-798-7836).

Wilmington Veterans Day Parade – Despite a rainy, cold day, the City of Wilmington held a magnificent Veterans Day Parade starting at 11:00 on Saturday 11/11/2023. Here are some pictures from that event.



Bill Kawczynski marches with his UNCW Veterans



National Association of Black Veterans
Led by Dianne Jinwright

Local Irreverent Warriors Chapter



UNCW Sea Belles Perform the National Anthem



US Naval Academy Silent Drill Team



Anna Marie Turner braving the cold and rain



Our Colors suspended by WFD Ladder Truck from Station 5



Veterans Memorial Reef



Local Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter

Upcoming Items of Interest

MOAA SENCLand Nametags Available for Purchase – Chris Morin, Nametag Program

The Chapter is offering the opportunity for members and their spouses to purchase engraved plastic nametags. The cost of the nametags are \$15 per nametag and they will be the same style and size as in the past (with a magnetic clasp).

We will order Quarterly or when we have at least 10 paid orders.

There are two ways to order:

- **ON-LINE:**

Step #1: Click on the following link <https://sencland.org/membership/index.php?id=1636387310>

- This will take you to a window where you can pay for your nametag or nametags. (If that link does not work, go to the SENCLAND Website (<https://sencland.org>) and click on the tab for “News & Events” on the home page and scroll down to “SENCLAND Nametags”).
- *Step #2:* Send an e-mail to Chris Morin at villa_morin@hotmail.com including the information you want on the nametag (name, including nick name if you prefer, Branch of military service, rank and current duty status (Retired, former, active duty). Nametags for spouses only require the spouse’s name and / or nickname if desired. [Use the form below as a guide.](#)

- **US Postal Service MAIL:**

Step #1: Complete the information on the form below and mail it with a check made out to SENCLAND MOAA (\$15.00 per ordered nametag) to:

SENCLAND Chapter of MOAA, PO Box 10015, Wilmington NC 28404

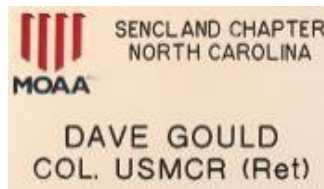
	SENCLAND NAME TAG NAME/RANK/SERVICE BRANCH/STATUS
1	FIRST/NICK NAME _____ LAST NAME _____ RANK _____ SERVICE BRANCH _____ STATUS _____ Active Duty, Reserve or Guard, Retired, Former Officer (not retired)

2 (Form for a spouse's nametag)	FIRST/NICK NAME _____ LAST NAME _____
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Orders will be placed as soon as we have enough completed orders to meet the minimum required by the supplier, but no later than each calendar quarter.

When the nametags are received they will be available for pickup at Chapter luncheons or other events.

If you have any questions, please contact Chris at villa_morin@hotmail.com or [703-798-1754](tel:703-798-1754).



(Example of completed nametag)

Members in the News – And Other Interesting Items

Important Upcoming December Dates for the Armed Forces - Submitted by: Gary O. Green, Lt Col, USAF (ret), 1st VP.

- Dec 7, 1741 – Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day – The anniversary of the day Japan attacked Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, signaling the United States’ entrance into World War II. Learn more about Pearl Harbor Day.

- Dec 13, 1636 – National Guard Birthday (The Militia)
- The **National Guard of the United States** was founded as State Militias and is the oldest component of the Armed Forces. Today, it is a joint activity of the United States Department of Defense consisting of the Army and the Air National Guard.

- Dec 16, 2023
 - 250th Anniversary of the Boston Tea Party (1773)
 - Wreaths Across America

- Dec 20, 2019 – Space Force birthday: The **United States Space Force** is the first new armed service since 1947 established 1 September 2019 with responsibility for space warfare operations.

Local Navy League Presentations – Frank Roberts, LCDR, USCG (ret), USCG Service Director

Four SENCLAND MOAA members are also members of the US Navy League. The USNL recently presented their USCG awards: The CWO Marion "Charlie" Parker Award was presented to MK2 William E. Johnson of USCG Station Wrightsville Beach and MK2 Tyler Ziglar of USCG Station Oak Island. The CAPT David Oliver Award was presented to ME2 Olin W. Algire of Sector NC. The CAPT John Metts Reservist Award was presented to MK1 John Jernigan, USCGR of USCG Station Wrightsville Beach.

Chapter Member Profile – Colonel David D. Igelman, USAF (ret)



Colonel David D. (Dave) Igelman, USAF (ret)

"Oh! I have slipped the surly bonds of Earth, and danced the skies on laughter-silvered wings"

Col. David D. Igelman (USAF, Ret), 91, passed away peacefully on Sept. 1 at his home in Ocean Isle Beach, NC, with his daughter, Lisa A. Rhodemyre (Richmond, VA), and his son, Brian D. Igelman (Eagle, ID), by his side. "Dave", now rejoins his wife, Phyllis, who passed in 2006.

Dave and Phyllis, high school sweethearts in Richmond, IN, married in 1954. After graduating from Indiana University, Dave embarked on a 30-year Air Force career that would place him in the cockpit of various fighter and interceptor aircraft. Dave eventually became a "Thud Driver", flying 100 missions over North Vietnam in the F-105D. For his actions in SE Asia, Dave received a Silver Star and a Distinguished Flying Cross with two oak leaf clusters.

(Excerpts from COL Igelman's obituary: <https://www.starnewsonline.com/obituaries/pwlm0565308>)



Republic F105D Thunderchief

Here's a report from one of the 100 missions Dave Igelman flew:

388 TFW history, Jan - Mar 68, USAF microfilm NO 584, frames 0459 and 0495 - 0497

"Crossbow" was Korat's fourth flight in the attack on Kep Airfield. It's lineup was::

- #1 - Maj Robert F. Grubb from the 469 TFS flying F-105D 60-0464
- #2 - Maj David D. Igelman from the 34 TFS flying 61-0206
- #3 - Capt. William E. Jones from the 469 TFS flying 61-0068
- #4 - Capt. Jacob C. Shuler from the 34 TFS flying 60-0511 on his 42nd mission.

The flight left Korat at 05:50 and refueled from Brown Anchor 24 at 07:00 at 16,000 feet for a TOT of 07:48.

Jake Shuler recalled details of the mission. "On the morning of 5 January 1968, Dave Igelman and I were scheduled to fly with the 469th TFS, a first for me. I was pleased to see that Bob Grubb was to lead our flight. Bob had been a B-52 co-pilot with my brother [Buck Shuler] at Carswell AFB, TX. Then both were transferred to Dyess AFB, TX where they upgraded to Aircraft Commanders. Dave was to fly as Crossbow 2 and I was to fly as Crossbow 4 on Bill Jones' wing. I had never met Bill before but instantly found him to be easy going and very likeable. The Strike Force Commander was Sam Morgan, Pistol 1. The second flight was Hatchet Flight and Sam Armstrong was leading Simmer Flight, the third flight. Our flight, Crossbow, was the fourth flight of four. "The Wing mission briefing revealed that we would be going to the primary target, Kep Airfield.

Intelligence had briefed us to expect heavy AAA which turned out to be an understatement "The Kep runway headings are 070 degrees & 250 degrees. The Strike Force final heading to the target was 283 degrees which gave us a 33-degree angle with Runway 25.

Sam Morgan skillfully positioned the Strike Force just north of Kep so with a 20-degree left turn during roll-in, we would only have about a 13-degree angle with the runway. A small angle enhanced the likelihood of getting more of your string of bombs on the runway. "Sam Morgan rolled Pistol Flight in closely followed by Hatchet Flight.

Moments later, Sam Armstrong rolled in with Simmer Flight and then it was Crossbow Flight's turn. Bob and *Dave* rolled in immediately followed by Bill. I rolled inverted with Bill but instinctively saw that we were going to have less than a 60-degree dive angle so I held my pull for a moment. I do not know the reason for the shallow dive angle, perhaps the fact that Crossbow Flight was the back right flight and we were rolling in to the left. A shallow dive angle increases the time from roll-in to bomb

release thus providing the AAA gunners more time to track you. Plus the fact that Bill and I were the 15th & 16th aircraft down the chute didn't increase our odds of remaining unscathed.

"When I rolled out in the dive, I had to sit up straight and lean forward to keep Bill in sight just below and to the left of my nose. As soon as I saw him pickle his bombs and begin his pull up and hard left turn, I took my eyes off him and put my sight mid-way down the runway, my assigned aiming point. I pickled my bombs at 7,500' and started my pull up and hard left turn to follow Bill.

I did not see Bill get hit but heard his call just prior to my weapons release. I initiated my pull up and turn to our egress heading of 100 degrees, varying my backpressure in an attempt to spoil AAA tracking. I did not pick Bill up visually during the turn because, unbeknownst to me, he had rolled wings level when hit and was headed approximately 134 degrees. (The direction from Kep Airfield to where Bill ejected, 106-28N and 21-12E, was a distance of 16 NM.) I had turned past him. Bob called and asked if I had Crossbow 3 in sight and I said 'negative.' To this very day, I question whether I was the wingman I should have been.

"Bob and Dave were ahead of Bill but got a visual on him after making a 360-degree turn ending up behind him. I do recall Bill's transmission indicating that he had locked the slab but had lost oil pressure. Very shortly thereafter Bob was telling Bill to 'get out'. By this time I had turned back to the right and, although I did not see the ejection, I immediately heard his beeper and picked him up in his chute. Moments later I saw the fireball when his aircraft impacted the ground. The time between Bill calling being hit and his ejection was a blur to me then and is certainly not clear in my memory now. Assuming Bill averaged a groundspeed of 550 KTS and traveled 16 NMs.

History elapsed time would have been approximately 1 minute 40 seconds. As Sam Armstrong mentioned in his combat log, Bill flew the aircraft on slab lock for about 30 seconds, so he was apparently nursing the aircraft for just over a minute before engaging the slab lock configuration. "I began circling Bill at a safe distance so as not to draw AAA in his vicinity. Due to that distance, I could not tell what kind of shape he was in. Bob tried several times to raise him on his survival radio without success.

On one circle going through a northwest direction, I picked up two aircraft approaching almost head on. I leveled my wings in preparation for a head-on attack and was greatly relieved to find that they were two Thuds and not MiGs. I think [they were] an Iron Hand element. Eventually, I rejoined with Bob and Dave and we remained in the area for about 15 minutes then went to the tanker to top off and wait for a possible rescue effort, which, regrettably never materialized.

"The flight back to Korat was somber. In honor of Bill, I flew initial in the number 4 position."

388 TFW history, Jan - Mar 68, USAF microfilm NO 584, frames 0459 and 0495 - 0497

SENCLAND Chapter Embroidered Apparel

SENCLAND Embroidered LOGO Shirts, Caps, & Outerwear are now available at our Chapter Online Store hosted by Queensboro Shirt Co. You can access the store using:

<https://senclandmoaa.qbstores.com>

You can save shipping cost if you are willing to pick up at Queensboro Shirt Co at 1400 Marsteller Street in Wilmington. Call Queensboro at [800-847-4478](tel:800-847-4478) after you have placed your order and tell them you want to pick up when ready. They will credit back the shipping cost and call you when ready for pickup.

Membership Rosters - Al Schroetel, Allen Allegretto

Several years ago the Chapter leadership due to cost of printing/mailing and constant revisions decided to change the Chapter's Membership Lists from a paper "hard copy" to an on-line version. The membership rosters (updated monthly) are available on the Chapter's website (<https://sencland.org/>). To ensure privacy the membership roster is in a password protected section of the website. If you need assistance accessing the roster please contact:

Al Schroetel at downeast@bellsouth.net or [910-686-6905](tel:910-686-6905) *or*

Allen Allegretto at AllegrettoA@yahoo.com) or [910-617-2307](tel:910-617-2307)

SENCLAND Chapter Facebook Information – Dianne Jinwright, Administrator

Dianne works hard to have relevant information and updates posted to our Facebook page. Viewing this page, "Liking" and "Sharing" the information helps to get it in front of other members and prospective members. If you are a Facebook user, simply enter "*SENCLand Chapter*" in the search bar to view postings. If you don't have a Facebook account just google on "*Facebook SENCLand chapter*".

MOAA National and NC Chapters Website Information Our national website (www.MOAA.org) is a wealth of information for current, former, retired officers, and surviving spouses. Every chapter member is encouraged to visit and explore this site and take advantage of the resources available. Similarly, the North Carolina Council of Chapters website (www.moaa-nc.org) is also a great resource for what MOAA is doing at the state level as well as information on other NC Chapters.

MOAA Newsletter – MOAA National members can easily take advantage of this free email newsletter which publishes news and information that is taking place at the national level. If you would like to receive this go to www.moaa.org, click on the "News & Info" pulldown menu on the upper right hand side and then click on "Newsletters".

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 and August) in time to provide information on upcoming meetings. We want this newsletter to be of value, but we do not aim to compete with established media, and we do not simply distill what MOAA National is publishing in *Military Officer* each month. We want to keep you informed about the chapter and our SENCLAND efforts to stay connected with each

other and support our local military and veteran communities. Our newsletter is distributed electronically by email to our members when published. Current and previous editions are also available on our website at <https://sencland.org/documents/>.

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, Allan Turner, (turnerjao6@outlook.com) by the 15th of the month to 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. 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 Allan Turner turnerja@ec.rr.com . **Whenever possible, please patronize our sponsors and let them know we all appreciate their support of our important initiatives.**

Remember that it is the actions, and not the commission that make the officer, and that there is more expected from him, than the title.

— George Washington, 1756

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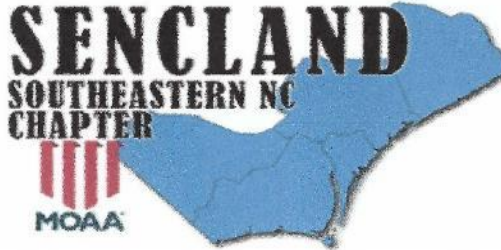


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How did you hear about MOAA Chapter involvement? _____

To complete enrollment:

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SENCLAND SENTINEL

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The MOAA logo features four red vertical stripes of varying heights to the left of the acronym "MOAA" in a bold, blue, sans-serif font. A light blue map of North Carolina is positioned behind the text.

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