



MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, SENCLAND CHAPTER

P.O. BOX 10015, WILMINGTON, NC 28404. WWW.SENCLAND.ORG

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February 2024

SENTINEL

February 2024 Message from President Allan Turner – sencland.president@gmail.com



Greetings!

Happy Birthday to all our February-born members; *May you have many more happy, healthy years ahead.*

Happy Valentine's Day – Wednesday 14 February.

February also marks the 248th anniversary of the Battle of Moore's Creek Bridge, a critical Revolutionary War Battle that took place in what is now Pender County.

Welcome To Our Newest Members:

- ♦ Robert S. Carter, Jr., COL, USA (Ret). Bob and Elizabeth Lynn live in Wilmington (Riverlights)
- ♦ Ron Costella, LTC, USA (Ret.). Ron and Barbara live in Wilmington (Mayfaire)
- ♦ Eleanor Jana Swan, Capt., USAF (Ret.). Jana and David live in Wilmington (Riverlights)
- ♦ James J. Watkins, COL, USA (Ret). Jim and Kimberly live in Wilmington (Riverlights)

My thanks to Admiral Karl Schultz for his excellent and informative presentation as the 26th Commandant of the U.S. Coast Guard during the January meeting. Also, an excellent installation ceremony during that same meeting. My thanks again to Ken Klassen for serving as the Installation Officer.

We have a very interesting presentation for the February meeting from MSGT Rossi Nance, USA (ret) entitled "Vietnam Revisited." I think you'll find it enjoyable, especially from MSGT Nance's perspective as a Vietnam Veteran with the 1st Cavalry Division.

Continued on next page.

Chapter Awards



Level of Excellence Chapter



Col. Marvin J. Harris
Communication Award

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2023 DONORS



President's Message (Continued) Submitted by President Allan Turner

Many thanks to those of you who have contributed to the several programs we are fortunate to support each year. In addition to our BG Jim Carper Scholarship Fund we also support the JROTC, Veterans Scholarships and Veteran Outreach programs. Please consider a donation if you haven't already. As a thank you for your generosity, those who made a contribution names are listed in this month's newsletter.

Reminder, that annual membership dues were due in January. If you still need to pay, information is listed in the 2024 Chapter Membership Dues and Donations Section.

2023 Donors

Submitted by Anna Marie Allegretto, SENCLAND Treasurer

Adams, Sandi	Gould, David W.	Nelson, Susan (Linda)
Air Force Association	Grace, Betty	Neumeister, Juanita S.
Allegretto, Allen	Graham, Jeri	Patterson, Bruce
Apicella, Michael	Hanna, LeeRoy	Petersen, Rosemary
Apple, James	Harrity, Bernadine	Profit, Gary
Bell, Merlin G.	Hicks, Hamilton	Roberts Jr., Olen Franklin
Benton, David	Hood, Floyd	Roesink, William E.
Blair, Jim	Irrera, Joseph	Ross, Don
Calabria, Robert	Jaffe, Stephen	Schroetel, Albert ("Al")
Carper, Bonnie	Joens, Sue	Shaffer, Eric
Chagaris, Donna	Johannesen, Robert E.	Shetler, Michael
Charest, Jerry R.	Jones, Jr., William (Ed)	Smith, Brian
Coombs, Marian	Jones, Melvin	Sniffin, Edward "Kim"
Coyle, Barry J.	Jones, Thomas C.	Snyder, Catherine
Dawson, Ann	Keegan, Jay	Steelman, Mark
Dawson, Wallace	Kelly, John P.	Stephenson, William A. "Bill"
Deas, Harry "Brud"	Klassen, Kenneth	Tilmon, Ronald
Eaton, Gaython	Leanos, Anne	Turner, James "Allan"
Elvey, William	Loftin, Don	Usher, Jr., Howard C
Felmy, Mike	Marvin, Timothy H	Vadola, Francis
Fields, Ronald W	McCluskey, Phil (Sr.)	Vernon, Elizabeth (Liz)
Flynn, William (Bill)	Melia, John F	Walston, Abe II
Folcher, Albert (Al) Jr.		Watters, David "Mike"
Foley, Robert J.		Wilson, Larry D.
Foster, David		Womble, Burton
Freccia, Bill		

2023 Total Donated: \$24, 955.98

Chapter Leadership

Below is a list of Officers, Board Members, and Service Directors that comprise the SENCLAND Chapter's leadership. You can contact chapter leaders by emailing senclandchapter@gmail.com

Officers

Allan Turner, CAPT USNR (ret), President, SENCLAND Chapter

Tom Welke, CAPT USN (ret), 1st Vice President

Barry Coyle, CAPT USN (ret), 2nd Vice President

Mike Apicella, COL USA (ret), 3rd Vice President

Board Members

Joe Irrera, COL, USMC (ret) Immediate Past President

Ken Klassen, CDR USN (Ret), Past President

Bob Doleman, MAJ USA (Ret), Secretary, Veteran Benefits & Resource Support

Anna Marie Allegretto, ITC USNR (Ret), Treasurer

Barry Coyle, CAPT USN (Ret), Legislative Affairs Chair

Dianne Jinwright, LtCol USAF (Ret), Newsletter Editor, Sponsorship Coordinator

LeeRoy Hanna, LTC USA (Ret), JROTC Scholarships & Leadership Awards Chair, Historian

Leon Rooks, MAJ USAR, Wellness Chair

Tim Johnson, CPT, USMC, Veteran Scholarship Chair

Irene Glaeser, COL USA (Ret), Programs and special Events Chair

Albert H Schroetel, COL USAF (Ret), Membership Chair

Dianne Jinwright, LtCol USAF (Ret), Public Affairs, Facebook, Media Publicity

JoAnn Doleman, LTC USA (Ret), RSVPs for Meetings and Email Distro

Sandi Adams, Surviving Spouse of David Spetrino, CAPT USN (Ret),
Surviving Spouse Coordinator

Mike Apicella, COL USA (Ret), Outreach

Allen Allegretto, CDR USNR (Ret), Webmaster for SENCLAND.org

Karen Murphy, Social Committee

Service Directors

Greg Cook, CAPT, USN (ret) US Navy Service Director

David Renquist, CAPT USPHS, Public Health Service Director

Dianne Jinwright, LtCol USAF (Ret), USAF Service Director

Thomas C. Jones, BG USA (Ret), US Army Service Director

Doug Holdstein, COL USMC (Ret), USMC Service Director

Frank Roberts, LCDR USCG (Ret), USCG Service Director



LEADERS

Our Mission

The mission of the SENCLAND Chapter is to benefit members of the uniformed services, their families and survivors and to advocate for a strong national defense, while providing needed support to the community and its members.





MEMBERSHIP



Membership Update

Submitted by Al Schroetel, Membership Chair



Welcome

We are pleased to welcome our newest Chapter members:

- ♦ Robert S. Carter, Jr., COL, USA (Ret). Bob and Elizabeth Lynn live in Wilmington (Riverlights)
- ♦ Ron Costella, LTC, USA (Ret.). Ron and Barbara live in Wilmington (Mayfaire)
- ♦ Eleanor Jana Swan, Capt., USAF (Ret.). Jana and David live in Wilmington (Riverlights)
- ♦ James J. Watkins, COL, USA (Ret). Jim and Kimberly live in Wilmington (Riverlights)

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.

The Chapter's membership roster is available in the password protected section of the Chapter's web-site. 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@bellsouth.net or Allen Allegretto at allegrettoa@yahoo.com

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.

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Monthly Luncheon Meetings

January 2, 2024
Luncheon/Meeting



The SENCLAND MOAA January 2nd Luncheon/Meeting featured two main events; the installation of Officers and Service Directors for 2024-2026, and an interesting picture-presentation on the U.S. Coast Guard by retired four-star admiral Karl Schultz, who served as the 26th Commandant of the United States Coast Guard from 01 June 2018 to 01 June 2022.



LUNCHEONS /
MEETINGS





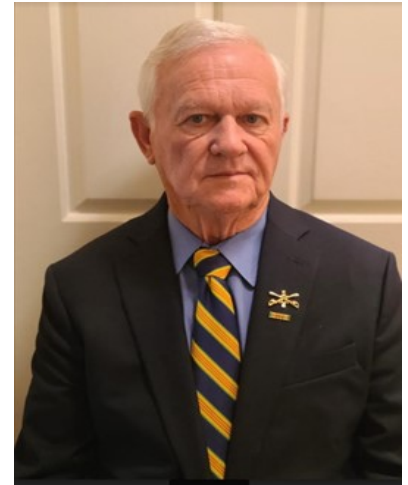
LUNCHEONS / MEETINGS



February 2024 Luncheon/Meeting

The next MOAA SENCLAND luncheon meeting will be held on Tuesday, 6 February 2024, 1130, hrs. at the Bluewater Waterfront Grill on Wrightsville Beach. Our featured presenter will be Rossi Nance, Chairman, Region 3 of the Vietnam Veterans of America, "Revisiting Vietnam" presentation.

Bio: Rossi Grant



Rossi Nance is a Vietnam Veteran and Regional Director, Vietnam Veterans of America, Region 3. In this capacity he oversees the seven southeastern states to include the District of Columbia. Mr. Nance served in the U.S. Army from 4 Mar 1969 through May 1997 and retired as a Master Sergeant (E-8). He served in Vietnam in 1970 with the 1st Calvary Division.

Upon retirement Mr. Nance went to work at the Military Ocean Terminal located at Southport, NC and retired again after 26 years. Not ready to hang up his shingle, he is now in business for himself doing electrical contracting.

In February of 2023, after 53 years of soul searching, Mr. Nance returned as a private citizen to Vietnam to revisit locations where he had served, to view first-hand the country's restoration and revival, to speak with a then-enemy, North Vietnamese Army (NVA) soldier who had fought against his unit, and to speak with the U.S ambassador to Vietnam.

Mr. Nance and his wife Catherine have two daughters and four grandchildren.

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2024 Luncheon Menu Choices and Price

With the new year, we have some new menu items.

- ♦ Classic Chicken Caesar Salad
- ♦ Fried Oyster Salad (**new**)
- ♦ BW Cheeseburger w/seasoned fries
- ♦ Grilled Chicken Club w/seasoned fries

Priced at \$30.00, the menu includes soft beverages (water, sweet and unsweet iced tea, soft drinks), cookies for dessert, taxes and gratuities. Beer, wine and cocktails are available for purchase. Entree choices are made once seated at your table (no pre-orders).

PLEASE NOTE: Payment and entree selection are made at check-in using cash or check only.

We need everyone to help by being conscious of RSVP deadlines, both for the Blue Water staff and the SENCLAND team that puts these events together.

Thanks so much and we look forward to seeing you!

Upcoming 2024 Programs

- **6 February, Blue Water Grill** - Rossi Nance, Chairman, Region 3 of the Vietnam Veterans of America, "Revisiting Vietnam" presentation.
- **5 March, Blue Water Grill** - Sara Johnson, NHC Veterans Treatment Court Coordinator
- **2 April, Blue Water Grill** - Elizabeth Goad – The Rosie Network (military spousal entrepreneurship program).
- **7 May – “Southern Meeting,” Island Way Restaurant, Oak Island, NC** - Ron Henderson, RDML (Ret) “Bay of Pigs”

SAVE THE DATES

- **7 June Seaspray Clubhouse**, Annual “Pig Pickin” Picnic
- **20 July Hanover Seaside Club**, Annual Evening Social



LUNCHEONS / MEETINGS

PROGRAMS





SCHOLARSHIPS



Veteran Student Education Scholarship

Submitted Tim Johnson, Capt., USMC, Scholarship Coordinator

The Veteran's Scholarship Program for 2024 is off to a well-funded start. Building on the success of the last several years under Chrissy Sanford COL, USA (Ret) we have grown the funding available to include a generous contribution from the Vietnamese Veterans Association (VVA), Chapter 885. Thank you to chapter member Bob Doleman, MAJ. USA, VVA 885 Treasurer, for his assistance in making this happen. We can also count on a contribution from the Jim Carper BG NG Memorial Fund as well as a generous SENCLAND MOAA budgeted contribution. We are also looking for a contribution from the Air Force Association to round out our funding for the year.

As with last year, the program will include award ceremonies at the respective colleges we support. Please follow the SENCLAND chapter notices and this newsletter for more information. It would help to better highlight our veterans' scholarship program if several members attended the college awards ceremonies that will be held in November 2024.

JROTC Scholarship Program

**Submitted by LeeRoy Hanna, LTC (ret) USA,
Leadership/Scholarship Chair**

We will be notifying all schools of the scholarship application period that will start in January 2024. 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.

2024 Honor Flight of the Cape Fear Area

Submitted by Chrissy Sanford, COL, USA (ret)

- Flight is scheduled for 20 Apr 2024
- World War II and Korean Veterans are the priority group. We already have 69 Veterans registered: 35 Veterans on the waitlist
- Visit our website <https://www.honorflightcfa.org> to submit your application for the 2024 flight.
- Please consider attending as a Veteran, Guardian, or Volunteer.

Veteran Outreach

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

This year SENCLAND Community Outreach Program has \$2,000 dollars to grant to deserving individuals in need of financial assistance. If you know of any Veterans that may benefit from one of these Community Outreach Grants, please contact Mike Apicella, Chairperson, Community Outreach Committee. The [Grant Request Form](#) is in the Outreach Section of the SENCLAND Website.

Grants are made to qualified individuals with the following needs:

- ◆ Housing,
- ◆ Food assistance,
- ◆ Employment,
- ◆ Health (including behavioral health),
- ◆ Family support,
- ◆ Community reintegration,
- ◆ Financial assistance,
- ◆ Legal assistance,
- ◆ Transportation, and
- ◆ Emergency relief.

In addition, donations can also be made to the SENCLAND MOAA Chapter to help support the Outreach Grant Program. I will once again be requesting Community Outreach funds from the National MOAA organization for FY 2024.

Committee Members

**Mike Apicella – Chair
Leon Rooks
Hondo Davids**

Thanks for your support.

We would like to thank everyone who donated to the scholarship and outreach programs. Please keep these important programs in mind and consider donating to these worthwhile projects now. We are always accepting applications for outreach support.



SCHOLARSHIPS

OUTREACH





LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS



www.moaa.org/takeaction



Legislative Affairs

Submitted by Barry Coyle, Legislative Affairs Chair

2024 General Election

If you watch the news, you will know that the 2024 General Election is already underway – at least for President. In NC, a General Election occurs every 4 years and is aligned with the U.S. Presidential Election. On 5 November we will cast ballots for many elected officials at the national, state, and local levels. These include: U.S. President and Vice President; U.S. House of Representatives; NC Governor and Lt Governor; all State Senators and Representatives; Secretary of State; State Treasurer; Attorney General; Judges of N.C. Supreme Court and Court of Appeals; County Commissioners and other county elected offices. There are many people running for office, so some homework will be required to make good choices. Local media outlets are running candidate profiles that may be helpful.

The first major event leading up to the General Election in November is the NC Primary Election, which will be held on 5 March. In NC, all registered voters can participate in the Primary. If you are a registered member of a political party, you must vote that party's ballot. If you are registered as "unaffiliated" you may choose and vote a ballot for only one party. There are three options for voting – early in person voting, mail-in (absentee) ballot, or in person voting on election day. Anyone may request a mail-in ballot from the [NC State Board of Elections](https://www.ncsbe.gov/) (or your county board of elections online, by mail, or in person. Mail-in ballots must be received by Election Day to be counted. They must be witnessed by two people or a Notary. In person voting, either early, or on election day, requires photo identification. Additional information, early voting locations, detailed instructions, and sample ballots can be obtained from the state or county boards of election. Important dates for the Primary Election are shown below. I will keep you updated as we get closer to the General Election.

9 February – Deadline for new voter Registration

15 February – 2 March – One-Stop (early) voting and same-day registration period

27 February – Absentee Mail-in Ballot request deadline

5 March – **PRIMARY ELECTION DAY**/ Mail-in Absentee Ballots due

the NC Primary Election will be held on 5 March

Legislative Affairs (continued)

In Washington, D.C.

Congress managed to pass the FY2024 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) before leaving for the Holiday recess. Upon return, they passed yet another Continuing Resolution that will keep some Government agencies, including Military Construction and Veterans Affairs funded at FY2023 levels through 1 March 2024. DoD and other major cabinet agencies are funded through 8 March. This sets up another attempt to pass full appropriation bills this month, possibly leading to another Continuing Resolution or Government Shutdown scenario. The President's Supplemental request for additional funding for Ukraine and Israel was not included due to disagreements over U.S. border security provisions. MOAA is conducting a strong lobbying effort in the new year to get these, and other important bills passed quickly. MOAA has started a new advocacy education program using videos to cover current legislative events. You can view these videos at www.moaa.org/takeaction/videos and then contact your elected officials to make your voice heard.

In North Carolina

The North Carolina General Assembly reconvened for the Short Session on 17 January and met for only two days. They plan to meet for one or two days per month through May before adjourning the 2023-24 Session. No military-related legislation was considered in January.

The MOAA NC Council of Chapters has joined the NC Veterans Council and other Veterans Service Organizations to lobby the NC General Assembly to expedite funding to replace the Fayetteville Veterans Home. This facility was ordered closed on short notice due to the deteriorating facility conditions that were recently determined to be beyond economic repair. SENCLAND Chapter has contacted all 15 of the elected officials who serve our area and urged them to support this effort. A big "thank you" to all Chapter Members who participated in this campaign.

The MOAA NC Council of Chapters has joined the NC Veterans Council and other Veterans Service Organizations to lobby the NC General Assembly to expedite funding to replace the Fayetteville Veterans Home.



LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS





SURVIVING SPOUSES



Surviving Spouse Corner

Submitted Sandi Adams Surviving Spouse Coordinator
earlsandi@gmail.com 910-443-0470

Surviving spouse members - if you're reading this, you have made it into 2024! Congrats and welcome. Stay in touch with questions and ideas for us. Watch for emails from me about outings and regular chapter luncheons. Also, think if you are willing to step in as the surviving spouse liaison next year.

The following checklist should be reviewed by military retirees and their beneficiaries on an annual basis. This checklist is designed to equip you and your loved ones with knowledge and information that may prove helpful. While it may be impossible to truly prepare for the overwhelming emotions and dilemmas that arise with the loss of a loved one, it does help when most of the below issues have been put into place.

- Create a military file that includes your retirement orders, separation papers, medical records, etc. Make sure your spouse knows the location and telephone number of the nearest military installation.
- Create a military retired pay file that includes pertinent information for DFAS. *(This file should also include the number of any VA claim still pending and the address of the VA office being used; a list of deductions currently being made from benefits; and the name, relationship and address of the person you have made the beneficiary of any unpaid retired pay at the time of death.)*
- Create an annuities file. This file should have information about the Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP), Reserve Component Survivor Benefit Plan (RCSBP) or the Retired Serviceman's Family Protection Plan (RSFPP), Civil Service annuity, etc. Additional information regarding SBP annuity claims can be obtained from the DFAS-Cleveland office at 800-321-1080.
- Create a personal document file that has copies of marriage certificates, divorce decrees, adoptions, and naturalization papers.
- Create an income tax file. Include copies of your state and federal income tax returns.
- Create a property tax file. Include copies of tax bills, deeds, and any other related information.
- Create an insurance policy file. Include life, property, accident, liability, and hospitalization policies.
- In a secure location, maintain a list of all bank accounts (joint or individual). Include the location of all deposit boxes, savings bonds, stocks, bonds, and any securities owned.
- In a secure location, maintain a list of all charge accounts and credit cards. Include account numbers and mailing addresses.
- Maintain a list of all associations and organizations of which you are a member. Some of them could be helpful to your spouse.
- Maintain a list of all friends and business associates who may be helpful. Include name, address, and phone number.
- Spend time with your spouse discussing your plans with respect to the type and place of your funeral service. You should decide which cemetery, whether ground burial, or cremation, etc. If your spouse knows your desires, it will resolve some of the questions that might arise later.
- Visit a local funeral home and pre-arrange your services. Many states will allow you to pre-pay for services.
- Investigate the decisions that you and your family have agreed upon.
- Once your decisions have been made and you're comfortable with them, have a will drawn up outlining all your wishes. Ensure that your will and all other official documents are maintained in a secure location known by your loved ones. This includes all your DD214s or Retirement Orders.
- When all the decision-making and documenting is completed, sit back and continue to enjoy life.

(Many states have specific laws and guidelines regulating cremation and burials at sea. Some states require a letter of authority signed by the deceased to authorize cremation. Know the laws in your specific area and how they may affect your decisions. Information regarding Burials at Sea can be obtained by phoning the Navy Mortuary Branch within the Navy Casualty Assistance Division ensures prompt and uniform death benefits are provided to all Navy beneficiaries worldwide. Included as be at 866-787-0081.)

(Source: Military.com, Published August 11, 2011, <https://www.military.com/benefits/survivor-benefits/military-retiree-survivor-checklist.html>)

Wellness Coordinator's Corner

Submitted Leon Rooks Wellness Chair
leon.rooks@hotmail.com or 910-799-2488

I hope this issue of the SENCLAND Sentinel finds all doing well. With cold weather we have experienced in mid January and temperatures breaking records; February, another cold month presents a strong opportunity to get the flu and other cold weather related illnesses. 2024 is up and running as February is just around the corner. Wow, how time moves on! Every day is precious, use it wisely. In February we celebrate Valentine's Day. This is a day that women want to feel extra loved, appreciated and special to their partners. It is a very significant day. Don't forget February 14th. As always, I ask that if any of you or any family member we like to reach out with a card, a phone call or a visit if possible to let you know we care about each of you. Please keep in your hearts and prayers our service members who are on "duty" around the world in a unstable time.

Steve Bird, CAPT, USN (ret) has joined the Wellness team with me for 2024

I mentioned last month that if anyone has some spare time to volunteer at Lower Cape Fear Life Care, it would be appreciated. Jason Clamme is the coordinator (also a member of SENCLAND MOAA) at Lower Cape Fear LifeCare would be grateful for your help. He can be reached at 910-796-7943 or 1414 Physicians Dr, Wilmington, NC.



This year, 2024, Four Chaplains Day is observed on February 3rd.



Four Army chaplains were on aboard the U.S.A.T. Dorchester on February 3, 1943, when a German submarine fired a torpedo at the ship, sinking it. Reverend George L. Fox of the Methodist faith, Jewish Rabbi Alexander D. Goode, Father John P. Washington of the Catholic faith, and Reverend Clark V. Poling from the Dutch Reformed Church offered their life jackets to four people in need and went down with the ship. Four Chaplains

Day honors the sacrifice they made of their own lives to save the lives of other service members. The Four Chaplains Memorial Foundation's mission is to tell the story of the "Four Chaplains," to promote Interfaith Cooperation and Selfless Service in individuals and organizations, to encourage selfless service in the tradition of *The Four Chaplains* and to teach and promote interfaith understanding and cooperation among all peoples. Its motto is "Unity without Uniformity." (Source: <https://fourchaplains.org>)



WELLNESS



SENCLAND MOAA Membership Benefits

The MOAA SENCLAND Chapter Offers Outstanding Programs to its Members and Community

The SENCLAND chapter has meetings with outstanding programs ten months of the year, usually the first Tuesday of the month. The chapter meeting in June is a picnic where we include our JrROTC Scholarship winners and their families. The May meeting is held in Southport and the December meeting is a Holiday social. All other SENCLAND Chapter meetings are held at the Blue-water Waterfront Grill in Wrightsville Beach. Our Board meets several times during the year.

The *Sentinel*, our monthly newsletter is available electronically and in hard copy. Our chapter supports 18 local JROTC programs and provides generous Scholarships to High School students each year. We also have scholarships for veterans attending local colleges and an Outreach Program that helps local veterans and their families. The Chapter also supports Honor Flights that take veterans on all-expenses-paid flights from the Wilmington International Airport (ILM) to Washington, DC for a day of remembrance as they visit memorials and monuments built in their honor.

Join SENCLAND

To join the SENCLAND MOAA Chapter, click on the “Join SENCLAND” button to download and print the application form. Then email the application form to the Membership Chair Al Schroetel at downeast@bellsouth.net or mail it to the chapter at **SENCLAND CHAPTER MOAA P.O. Box 10015 Wilmington, NC 28404**

SENCLAND Website

Submitted by Allen Allegretto, Webmaster, AllegrettoA@yahoo.com, or call: [910-617-2307](tel:910-617-2307)

The SENCLAND 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 information, 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.

Our chapter Membership Roster is also available on the website. This is the only page that requires log-on to access. If you need help logging onto the website to view the chapter roster, please email or call Allen Allegretto.

SENCLAND Facebook Page

SENCLAND Chapter Facebook Page - View “Like” and “Share” the SENCLAND Chapter’s Facebook posts with other members and prospective members. The web address for the SENCLAND Chapter’s Facebook page is <https://www.facebook.com/sencland>.



MOAA National and NC Chapters Websites

MOAA 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 National Newsletter

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”.

About the Sentinel

The SENCLAND Sentinel 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, our efforts to stay connected with each other, and our support of 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/>.

We encourage you to provide content for publication in our newsletter and online. Simply send your notices, letters, articles, and photos to our editor, Dianne Jinwright (senclandsentinel@gmail.com) by the 15th of the month to be considered for inclusion in the following month's newsletter. All items are subject to editing.

Statement of Affiliations

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.

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 Marstellar 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.

MOAA SENCLAND Nametags Available for Purchase

Submitted by 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: PayPal Payment can be made at: SENCLAND : Membership: (<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

MOAA SENCLAND Nametags Available for Purchase (Continued)

	SENCLAND NAME TAG NAME/RANK/SERVICE BRANCH/STATUS
1	<p>FIRST/NICK NAME _____</p> <p>LAST NAME _____</p> <p>RANK _____</p> <p>SERVICE BRANCH _____</p> <p>STATUS _____ Active Duty, Reserve or Guard, Retired, Former Officer (not retired)</p>
2 (Form for a spouse's nametag)	<p>FIRST/NICK NAME _____</p> <p>LAST NAME _____</p>

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)

FEATURE STORY

Military Love Stories—Happy Valentine's Day



In observance of Valentine's Day below are a few [SENCLAND Military Love Stories](#);

SENCLAND Military Love Story #1: Anna and Allen Marie Allegretto



Anna's and Allen's love store began after SENCLAND member Allen Allegretto left the Navy and moved to Wilmington, NC, where his friends at Corning Incorporated convinced him to join the Navy Reserves. During a two-week training assignment in Norfolk, he met his now

After a couple of years of missing the military camaraderie Anna Marie joined the NC National Guard where she worked for a young Jim Carper. [The late Brigadier General Jim Carper subsequently became a SENCLAND Chapter President]. By this time, Allen had left the Navy Reserves to focus on his busy civilian career and their young family.

After four years, Anna Marie was able to affiliate with the Navy Reserves and was subsequently mobilized for Operation Enduring Freedom to Djibouti, a Country in East Africa for a year, leaving Allen at home with their 15-year-old special needs son.

Following retirement, Anna Marie showed Allen a NAVADMIN message which provided him an opportunity to rejoin the Navy Reserves after a long gap in service. Allan Turner, Allen's colleague, and fellow Navy veteran, [and now

Although geographically separated, Allen and Anna Marie kept in touch with frequent letters, phone calls, and visits.

wife and SENCLAND member, Anna Marie. She was active-duty Navy at the time and was also one of his instructors.

Although geographically separated, Allen and Anna Marie kept in touch with frequent letters, phone calls, and visits. They would often talk about their experiences in the Navy, sharing their dreams and aspirations. Sometime later Anna Marie left the Navy and moved to Wilmington to be with Allen. They were married in a small ceremony surrounded by close friends and family.

SENCLAND President], participated in Allen's oath of office ceremony on the roof of the Corning Incorporated factory in Wilmington, NC. Allen gladly rejoined the Submarine Force Reserve Component and retired with 29 years of service.

Allen and Anna Marie cherish their shared Navy background and are now enjoying retired life in a beautiful Wilmington, NC community. They often reminisce about their time in the Navy and the adventures they experienced. They are grateful for the love they found and the life they have built together.

By Allen Allegretto

FEATURE STORY

Military Love Stories—Happy Valentine's Day (continued)



SENCLAND Military Love Story #2: Irene and Al Glaeser



When SENCLAND members Irene and Al Glaeser met, they were both young second lieutenant U.S. Army officers on their first assignments during the Cold War in the Frankfurt, Germany area. Irene was an Army Military Police Officer, and Al was a Combat Engineer Officer.

One day there was to be a picnic with multiple local Army units, and Irene's commander found an excuse not to go because he had heard there would be a dunking booth.

Everyone wanted to dunk the commanding officers! Irene found herself at the dunking booth as a very unhappy "Acting Commander" that day! After being drenched in her picnic clothing (very noticeable due to the small number of women at that picnic), a handsome guy was standing by with a towel and a wine cooler. Sometime not too long after that, while she was still a second lieutenant and they were still in Frankfurt, Irene asked Al to marry her! They knew that separations in those days meant that they would have very little ability to communicate with each other.

Irene's and Al's careers took many twists and turns. At one point Irene got out of the Army while Al stayed in. Then Al got out, and Irene went back in. Through all the ins and outs, Al and Irene's marriage has withstood 35 years of constant moves, separations, and multiple career changes. Al completed his military obligation and transitioned to a career in leading large organizations including in the Defense Industry, and Irene worked her way through the ranks to retire as a full colonel.

By Irene Glaeser

They knew that separations in those days meant that they would have very little ability to communicate with each other.

News, Events, and Observances



Celebrate the 248th anniversary of the Battle of Moores Creek Bridge February 24- 25, 2024 at the Moores Creek National Battlefield located at 40 Patriots Hall Drive, Currie, NC 28435. The victorious Battle of Moores Creek Bridge occurred February 27, 1776. It marked a turning point in the Revolutionary war. Events for the celebration include battle reenactments with cannon/musket firing, soldier encampments, food eaten by the colonial soldiers and militia, reenactors ready to answer questions, demonstrations of

blacksmithing, candle dipping, spinning, cooking, and colonial toys and games. There will also be live music, and much more! The event is free for spectators. Learn more here. <https://www.wilmingtonandbeaches.com/event/anniversary-of-the-battle-of-moores-creek-bridge/4070/>



The Defense Department is expanding a pilot program that began in 2023. to allow online USID card renewals for U.S.-based retirees, their dependents, and reservists. The opportunity is only for people who already have a USID and need to renew it. Those applying for the first time will still need to go to an on-base office. Other requirements include that the USID card being renewed is active (not expired), the card recipient has a photo in DEERS taken in the last 12 years, the recipient has an email address saved in DEERS, and has a physical address (not a post office box) saved in DEERS in the continental U.S., Alaska or Hawaii. (Source: www.Military.com, By Amanda Miller, Published January 16, 2024 at 5:42pm ET)



MOAA's North Carolina Council of Chapters (NCCOC) is inviting you to a Bermuda cruise in 2025. Please open the link below for details: [6-Day Bermuda Cruise from Norfolk - Carnival Cruise Line](#), October 12-18, 2025 Round trip from: Norfolk, VA Open to MOAA members from anywhere, their adult family members and guests. MOAA membership not required. Cruise Line: Carnival Sunshine Special group rates apply and bookings are

managed through our tour agent. Her contact details are listed below. 50 cabins have been reserved for our group and more can be added as needed. Prices for double occupancy in each cabin are approximately \$800 for inside, \$900 for ocean view or \$1100 for balcony state-rooms per person depending on selection. Suites and cabins for more than 2 people can be arranged. Minimal deposit is required to reserve cabins with final payments not due until July 14, 2025. Call the agent below to discuss and reserve if interested. Lorna Tiller, AAA ITA, 910-343-1978(O), 910-540-3390(M), 1823 Hawthorne Rd., Wilmington, NC 28403

SPONSORS

The 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, support organizations, or anyone else that appreciates the mission of SENCLAND MOAA, please email President Allan Turner, sencland.president@gmail.com.

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