



October 2024

SENTINEL

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



Greetings!

I enjoyed seeing many of you – (87 to be exact) at our September meeting. Great crowd and an excellent presentation by David Garrigus on his upcoming PBS Documentary on the U.S. Constitution. I am also looking

forward to seeing all of again you at our next monthly meeting on 10/1/2024 at the [Blue Water Waterfront Grill](#).

We will have another very interesting and informative presentation at our meeting on Tuesday 10/1/2024 at the Blue Water with our very own Surviving Spouse Liaison – Sandi Adams. She will give us all a great deal of information we need to provide to our loved ones before we pass on.

Also on Thursday 10/3/2024 our own RDML Ron Henderson, USN (ret) will provide those interested members with a brief history of the Battleship Memorial – USS NORTH CAROLINA (BB-55) followed by a tour of the ship and lunch afterwards. Please see additional details for these events in *Programs*.

Happy Birthday!

- Happy Birthday to all our October members; May you have many more happy, healthy years ahead.
- Happy 54th Birthday to the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) on 03 October!
- Happy 249th Birthday to the United States Navy on 13 October!

Continued on next page.

Chapter Awards



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Continued



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

Condolences

We were saddened to learn of the loss of our eldest chapter member, Rosalian (Roz) Mills on Wednesday 9/11/2024 at the age of 104.

The SENCLAND Challenge Coins have Arrived



As I reported previously, SENCLAND Chapter now has its very own Challenge Coin! Initial sales in September were strong. We have many left and will continue to offer these at \$5.00 each at upcoming chapter functions.

Many Thanks

Your contributions to our Scholarship and Outreach programs are very much appreciated. Many thanks to those of you who continue to contribute to these programs. Our JROTC, Veterans Scholarships, and Veteran Outreach programs, in addition to our BG Jim Carper Scholarship Fund are doing great work in our catchment area. Outreach Chair Mike Apicella has identified three Veterans in our catchment area that will soon be presented with checks to assist with financial and medical difficulties. Also in November we will be presenting scholarships to Veteran students at UNCW, CFCC, and BCC. Without your generosity and continued support, we would be unable to help these deserving individuals.

Thank you again so much for your support!

Please keep reading your newsletter in its entirety! You can find more MOAA news throughout the newsletter and also please read the [Featured Member's Profile, In Memoriam for Roz Mills.](#)

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
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 Update

Submitted by Al Schroetel, Membership Chair



Farewell

We bid "Farewell" to long-time SENCLAND Chapter member Mike Cooper, LTC, USA (Ret.) and his wife Eva. They have moved to High Point NC from Southport (St. James)



Condolences

We regret the passing of Chapter member Rosalian (Roz) Mills on September 11, 2024 at the age of 104. Roz was the Surviving Spouse of WWII veteran MAJ Ralph Mills, USAF (ret). Our thoughts and prayers go out to her children; Jeff (Ed), Anita (James), her grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. Roz's son Bruce preceded her in death in March of this year.

You can more extensive article on Roz's wonderful life in the "[Featured Profile](#)" article in this newsletter. Services arrangements for Roz are also included in the article.

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.

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 how we can make potential members aware of the benefits of Chapter membership.

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@bellsouth.net or Allen Allegretto at allegrettoa@yahoo.com

MEMBERSHIP



2024 Luncheon Menu Choices and Price

[Bluewater Waterfront Grill](#)

- ◆ Classic Chicken Caesar Salad
- ◆ Fried Oyster Salad
- ◆ 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).

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

Irene V. Glaeser Programs and Special Events Chair

[SAVE THE DATES](#)

- 1 October:** Bluewater Grill, Sandi Adams: "Know Before They Go"
- 3 October:** USS North Carolina Battleship Tour with RADM Ron Henderson
- 5 November:** Bluewater Grill, Dan Monahan, "USAF Support to White House Airlift"
- 3 December:** Blue Water Grill: Annual Holiday Party with the Cape Fear Chordsmen, a local Barbershop Quartet.

More details will follow in the near future. I look forward to seeing all of you soon.



LUNCHEONS / MEETINGS

"Please be aware that participants attending MOAA SENCLAND Chapter events may be photographed or recorded for Chapter products."





LUNCHEONS / MEETINGS



Monthly Luncheon Meetings

September 3, 2024
Luncheon/Meeting



Film Producer David Garrigus

SENCLAND MOAA guest presenter, movie producer, David Garrigus captured the attention and interest of attendees at the chapter's September 3, 2024 meeting/luncheon with a 14-minute excerpt, information, and Q&A about his produced documentary film, titled, The American Constitution:1787. Look for it on PBS in 2025 or 2026.



Scan the QR Code

Scan the QR Code to give David Garrigus feedback on your impression of the film, get future updates, and for opportunities to share the film with other interested groups and organizations.

October 2024 Luncheon/Meeting

The next MOAA SENCLAND luncheon meeting will be held on Tuesday, 1 October 2024, 1130, hrs. at the [Bluewater Waterfront Grill](#)

Our featured presenter will be the MOAA SENCLAND Chapter's Surviving Spouse Liaison, Sandi Adams .



Sandi Adams is the Surviving Spouse Liaison of the MOAA SENCLAND Chapter and widow of former member Captain Dave Spetrino, U.S. Navy (Ret). She has personally experienced what we or our spouses are often not prepared for. She has made hundreds of presentations to companies, nonprofit and other organizations and agencies, and families about the importance of preparedness to face the inevitable, along with valuable and helpful resources and

ABOUT Sandi Adams

Sandi Adams previously served as a director of mediation and conflict resolution programs in Philadelphia and Vermont, as well being the owner of Queen of Hearts Conflict Resolution Services, and SandiCastles, LLC. Today, she volunteers for numerous community activities including the [paws4people Foundation](#), [Lower Cape Fear Life Care](#), [StepUp Wilmington](#), and the [NHC Senior Resource Center](#).

In Sandi's words: *"Perhaps you haven't wanted to think about the reality that none of us get out of life alive, but this presentation will be upbeat, informative, and easy to digest. I want to help SENCLAND Chapter members make a terrible, no-good, very hard time just a bit easier on your survivors. Remember, you won't be here then to help your spouse and family, but you can help them now."*

So, don't forget: you and your spouse are going to attend this luncheon, Tuesday, October 1st!"

Submitted by Irene V. Glaeser, Programs and Special Events Chair



LUNCHEONS / MEETINGS

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SCHOLARSHIPS

"Please be aware that participants attending MOAA SENCLAND Chapter events may be photographed or recorded for Chapter products."



JROTC Awards & Scholarship Program

Submitted by LeeRoy Hanna, LTC (ret) USA,

JROTC Scholarship Program

&

JROTC Leadership Awards Support

As we start the new school year I am contacting all the JROTC programs we support so they know about our scholarship opportunities. We won't be doing applications until February but there are several new instructors so I just want them to know I will be contacting them in January.

Please consider making a donation now so that the next time our chapter board discusses the budget for scholarships we will have a good idea of what funds we will have available to work with for JROTC, colleges, and Veteran Outreach.



Veteran Student Education Scholarship

Tim Johnson, Capt., USMC, Scholarship Coordinator

SENCLAND MOAA has been awarding Veteran scholarships since 2017. The Veteran's Scholarship Program for 2024 continues to be well-funded thanks to generous contributions. We have a total of \$5,500 to award this year. Contributions from the Jim Carper BG NG Memorial Fund, Air Force Association, Vietnam Veterans Association, and a generous SENCLAND MOAA budgeted contributions have grown available funds.

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.

Community Outreach

Submitted by Mike Apicella, Outreach Chair

This year SENCLAND Community Outreach Program has \$3,000 dollars to grant to deserving individuals in need of financial assistance. I am pleased to announce that our chapter has received a Grant from the National MOAA organization in the amount of \$1,000. This Grant should help sustain the viability of the program. The Outreach Program still has \$1,500 this year to grant to deserving veterans in need of financial assistance.

Please contact me if you know of any Veterans that may benefit from one of these Community Outreach Grants, Mike Apicella, Chairperson, Community Outreach Committee. The grant request form is in the Outreach Section of the SENCLAND Web page. I can be reached at endodoc97@gmail.com if you have any further questions about the program.

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.

Thanks for your support with this program that services our Nation's Veterans in Need.

Committee Members

Mike Apicella - Chair
Hondo Davids
Leon Rooks

We would like to thank everyone who donates to the scholarship/outreach programs and ask you to keep these important programs in mind. Please consider a donation to these worthwhile projects now. We are always accepting applications for outreach support. Thank you again to all our generous contributors.



OUTREACH

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LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

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Legislative Affairs

Submitted by Barry Coyle, Legislative Affairs Chair

2024 General Election

The 2024 General Election is rapidly approaching. 5 November is Election Day, although you also have several options for early voting, including absentee ballots and in-person early voting. Photo identification is required when voting in-person and absentee ballots must be mailed in time to arrive by election day. This year we will be electing U.S. President and Vice President, U.S. Representatives (neither NC U.S. Senate seat is open for election this year), Governor and Lt. Governor, State Senators and Representatives and a long list of other state officials and justices. This is certainly going to be a historic election. Please make your plans now to cast your ballot in November. You can find detailed information and resources on the NC State Board of Elections website at [Home Page | NCSBE](#), or on your County Board of Elections page. Sample ballots should be available through your County Board of Elections by the end of September. Important dates for this year are shown below:

- Oct. 11, 2024: Voter registration deadline (5 p.m.).
- Oct. 17, 2024: In-person early voting begins; same-day registration available.
- Oct. 29, 2024: Absentee ballot request deadline (5 p.m.).
- Nov. 2, 2024: In-person early voting ends (3 p.m.).
- Nov. 5, 2024: General Election Day.
- Nov. 5, 2024: Absentee ballot return deadline (7:30 p.m.).

In Washington, D.C.

Congress returned from Summer recess on 9 September but will only be in session until 27 September before going home again for election duties. Congress will then not reconvene in Washington until after the election. Congress' September To-Do List includes confirming a new National Guard Chief, funding a \$2.9B shortfall in VA Benefits, and completing the NDAA and Appropriation bills. There are still significant differences in the House and Senate versions of the NDAA. So, it seems likely that neither the authorization nor appropriations legislation will pass before the 30 September end of the Fiscal Year. That will mean another Continuing Resolution, or even a Government shutdown. There has been little progress on funding legislation as I am writing this on 17 September. Stay tuned for breaking news.

Legislative Affairs (Continued)

In North Carolina

The North Carolina General Assembly has continued to meet for a couple of days each month during the Summer. They next convene on 9 October. September business was mostly budget adjustments and overriding the Governor's vetoes. Still nothing of interest to MOAA members is under active consideration in either Chamber.

New Hanover County Veterans Council (NHCVC)

NOTES FROM THE 18 JUL 2024 NHCVC MEETING MINUTES

- Veterans Banner Project: 48 banners were installed by Memorial Day including the Medal of Honor banners at the Hannah Block USO and many along Water St. The Council paid to have them mounted on the poles and will pay to have them taken down after Veterans Day this year.
- Purple Heart Dinner: FRI, 2 AUG at the Burney Center on UNCW.
- There is a coffee program at the VA Clinic operated by veterans groups.
- Veterans Resilience Project meeting on 24 JUL about the County Veterans Engagement Board.
- Home Depot Vets Foundation: a 501(c) providing assistance thru local Home Depots for housing, food and legal help.
- Wilmington NABVETS will again be having a feed the homeless event.
- There will be a Four Chaplains Day national memorial day on 4 FEB (these chaplains gave up life-boat seats and life jackets during WW II) and suggested NHCVC organize an event.
- The Veterans Day Parade committee is looking for golfers for their tournament 14 OCT (\$200/player)
- The next NHCVC meeting will be THU, 19 SEP, at Room 155, New Hanover County Administration Building (same location as the July meeting).



LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

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WELLNESS

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Wellness Coordinator's Corner

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

Greetings SENCLAND MOAA.....

*I hope this newsletter finds all well.
It was great seeing everyone at our September luncheon and I look forward to seeing you in October!*

The October meeting is going to be very informative for all of us. Sandi Adams, Surviving Spouse Chair, will be talking about "good rules" to follow in preparing for sudden events. I attended a presentation presented by MOAA National concerning "having things" in order! MOAA shared that many members thought their affairs were in order but in fact they were not! Sandi is very informed on these issues and has even witnessed cases here in Wilmington.

I also want to invite you to the NC Council of Chapters sponsored FREE Zoom presentation on October 23rd at 10:00 AM (EST). The topic is **Veteran Mental Health, Addiction, and Suicide.** Retired Marine Corp Pilot, [Garret Biss](#), will delve into the critical factors that contribute to these issues among Veterans. Garret will also provide coping strategies and tools.

Here is the link to join: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84637133459?>

Password =HtVI64nzID4052H74HHroy4cX06oaY.1

Zoom ID is 846 3713 3459

Passcode is 249027

Join the Zoom meeting by clicking on "Join Meeting" button.



Surviving Spouse Corner

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

SENCLAND Surviving Spouses

Welcome to Fall

As my term as liaison is coming to a close, I have invited the surviving spouse members to come and meet the incoming liaison,
Marco Vialpando.

We will gather on Wednesday, October 9th at 1:00pm at [CHOPT Creative Salad Co.](#) located in the Forum at 1125 Military Cutoff Road. It is an easy counter order. You can come join us even if you do not want to order anything to eat.

As you see in this newsletter, I will be speaking at the chapter luncheon in October and want to encourage all members who have one, to bring their spouse.

I look forward to seeing everyone, and as always, if there is anything we can do for you, please reach out.

Sandi Adams

SENCLAND Surviving Spouse Liaison
910-443-0470, earlsandi@gmail.com



SURVIVING SPOUSES

"Please be aware that participants attending MOAA SENCLAND Chapter events may be photographed or recorded for Chapter products."



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)

SAVE THE DATE

October 3, USS North Carolina Battleship Tour



<https://www.wilmingtonandbeaches.com/event/hidden-battleship-tour/5266/>

The USS North Carolina Battleship serves as a National Historic Landmark and our State's World War II Memorial to the 11,000 North Carolinians who made the ultimate sacrifice. She served in every major offense in the Pacific theater, earning 15 battle stars. Her enduring presence serves as an iconic backdrop for the city of Wilmington, rich with historical significance.

On October 3, MOAA members desiring to have a group tour of the Battleship USS North Carolina will have the opportunity. The cost will be \$10 per person for entry and an additional \$10 for the guided tour.

Members of the Friends of the Battleship do not have to pay for the tour, and pay only \$10.00. \$10.00 is the rate for over 65, and/or veterans having an ID card. Membership information is located here: www.battleshipnc.com

Plan on arriving at 10:00 as we will make our way to the Wardroom whereby RDML Henderson, USN (Ret), Chapter member Chairman of the Board of Directors for Friends of the Battleship North Carolina, will give a 30 – 40 minute overview. RDML Henderson led a storied career as a Naval Aviator prior to settling in Wilmington. He has served on the advisory board for the Osher Lifelong Institute of UNCW among his many other activities. SENCLAND Chapter has benefited on numerous occasions RDML Anderson's passion for, and knowledge of, U.S. Naval history.

Following the overview we will break into small groups of eight for guided tours provided by Friends of the Battleship volunteers. One group is designed for accessibility to those requiring it. The tour is 90 minutes in length. We will have a no-host lunch at a local restaurant to be determined. There is no cap for participation, but an accurate headcount is an absolute must. Please refer to the RSVP notice or email irene.v.glaeser@gmail.com

October 12, 2025, MOAA sponsored cruise to Bermuda

Past President and NCCOC 1st VP Ken Klassen has spoken to us many times about the upcoming MOAA sponsored cruise to Bermuda. This six day cruise departs Norfolk, VA on 12 October 2025. Now is not too soon to reserve your stateroom. If you're interested and would like more information, please contact **Lorna Tiller**, our dedicated travel agent: at 910-343-1978 (Office) or 910-540-3390 (Mobile). Lorna's email is: ltillertravels@gmail.com.



Set Sail for Paradise with MOAA: Early Bird Discounts on a 6-Day Bermuda Getaway!

<https://www.moaa-nc.org/journal/?id=1723050859>

Submitted By President Allan Turner

SENCLAND MEMBER'S PROFILE

IN MEMORIAM

A Member of the Greatest Generation: A life Very Well Lived

We deeply regret that Chapter member and Surviving Spouse of MAJ Ralph Mills, USAF (ret), Rosalian (Roz) Mills, of Wilmington, passed away on September 11, 2024 at the age of 104. However, we are not saddened because Roz led a wonderful and amazing life.

Roz was a Charter member of "The Greatest Generation" She was born in 1920 in Bridgeport, Connecticut to immigrant parents. Her family moved to Western Massachusetts where Roz graduated from High School and immediately went to work in Springfield, Massachusetts. During World War II she contributed to the cause by working in a company that made airplane parts and working for an attorney that issued ration tickets for scarce foods like butter and supplies such as gasoline.

Always looking for new adventures, in 1945 Roz moved with a friend to Palm Beach, Florida and found a job. Soon after that she met and fell in love with a handsome young Army pilot named Ralph Mills who was flying weather reconnaissance for the Army Air Force at the time. He received orders to Guam and then proposed to Roz (which she accepted) and then drove from Florida to Sacramento, California in a 1938 Chevrolet Roadster. Roz and Ralph were married there before he had to

leave for Guam. Roz returned to Massachusetts and waited to join Ralph. During this time, their first child, Jeffrey, was born. When Jeffrey was old enough, they traveled by Navy ship to Guam where they lived until they returned a year later to the CONUS on a Military Sealift charter.

While they were on leave in Massachusetts Ralph received orders to Tacoma, Washington. Ralph flew the Douglas C-124 Transport aircraft while they were in Tacoma for a couple of years and then were reassigned to San Antonio, Texas. However, in less than a year the unit was reassigned back to Tacoma, Washington where they remained for 30 months. The Korean conflict was taking place at that time and Ralph was constantly flying missions in and out of that theatre. Ralph's Squadron was moved once again to Moses Lake a remote location on the eastern side of the Cascade Mountains in Washington State. Their second son, Bruce, was born there in 1953. The squadron was transferred in 1954 to Tachikawa Air Force Base in Japan where their daughter Anita was born. In 1958 the family returned to Dover AFB, Delaware where Ralph retired from the Air Force in 1962. Unfortunately, he passed away in 1988 at the age of 68 from cancer and was buried in Arlington National Cemetery on the week of Memorial Day.

Roz moved to Wilmington in 2018 to live with her son Jeff and almost immediately joined the SENCLAND Chapter of MOAA where she rarely missed a Chapter event and has formed many Friendships.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to her children - Jeff (Ed), Anita (James), her grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. Roz's son Bruce preceded her in death in March of this year. See Services arrangements for Roz on the inset picture and this link of her [obituary](#).



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