



February 2025

SENTINEL

Chapter Awards



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

[From the President](#)
[Chapter Leadership](#)
[Membership Updates](#)
[Monthly Luncheons](#)
[2025 Programs](#)
[Luncheons/Meetings](#)
[JROTC Scholarships](#)
[Veterans Scholarships](#)
[Legislative Affairs](#)
[Community Outreach](#)
[Wellness Corner](#)
[Surviving Spouse Corner](#)
[Membership Benefits](#)
[SENCLAND Website](#)
[SENCLAND Facebook Page](#)
[MOAA National and
NC Chapters Websites](#)
[MOAA National Newsletter](#)
[About the Sentinel](#)
[Statement of Affiliations](#)
[Embroidered Apparel](#)
[SENCLAND Nametags](#)

FEATURED PROFILE

[MOAA Vacations Ad](#)
[Sponsors](#)

February 2025 Message from President Allan Turner – sencland.president@gmail.com

We had a great meeting on 7 January to kick off the New Year. There were a total of 82 attendees at the [Bluewater Grill](#) to hear the former Commander, U.S. European Command and NATO Supreme Allied Commander Europe, General Mike Scaparrotti, USA (ret). His presentation focused on the world situation with a specific focus on the Ukraine-Russia war.



We'll continue our 2025 meetings with our February meeting on Tuesday 4 February at the [Bluewater Grill](#). We need to have a good headcount by Tuesday 28 January and ask that you please RSVP by then. This deadline set by the Bluewater is to ensure they have the correct set-up, staff, and meals on hand for our meetings.

For our 4 February meeting, we are pleased to have a presentation on Artificial Intelligence in the Healthcare Industry by COL John LaSala, USA (ret). You may remember him from our 14 March 2023 meeting when he delivered a very interesting presentation on climate change. Please see additional details for these events on the [Programs](#) page.

Welcome!

Please welcome to our seven newest member:

Gen Mike Scaparrotti, USA (ret) and his wife Cindy.

LtGen Tom "Stash" Conant, USMC (ret) and his wife Bev.

LtCol Jody Finnefrock, USAF (ret).

Maj Paul Niggel, USMC and his wife Christina.

Edna Perkins, Surviving Spouse of COL Stuart Perkins, USA.

CPT Dan Ludwig, USA and his wife Heidi.

Maj Gary Solom, USA (ret) and his wife Terri.

Continued on next page.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Continued



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

Happy Birthday!

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

Many Thanks

Please consider a contribution to our Scholarship and Outreach programs. 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. But, 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. Travel enthusiasts should check out the [MOAA's Vacation 2025 Signature Group ad](#) and you should find this month's [Featured Member's Profile](#), on Mark Steelman, CAPT, U.S. Navy Reserve (Retired), interesting.

SENCLAND Challenge Coins

The SENCLAND Challenge Coin will continue to be offered for \$5.00 each at chapter luncheons/meetings and other functions.



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

Marco Vialpando, 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



Welcome

Please welcome the Chapter's seven newest members:

1. Thomas L. Conant, Lt Gen, USMC (Ret.). Tom and Bev live in Porters Neck, Wilmington.
2. Jodelle A. Finnefrock, LtCol, USAF (Ret.). Jody lives in River Lights, Wilmington.
3. Daniel S. Ludwig, Former Captain, USA. Dan and Heidi live in Wilmington
4. Curtis M. "Mike" Scaparrotti, General, USA (Ret.). Mike and Cindy live in Topsail Beach
5. Paul Niggel, Major, USMC., Paul and Christina live in Wilmington
6. Edna Perkins, Surviving Spouse of COL Stuart Perkins, USA. Edna lives in Bolivia, NC
7. Gary Q. Solom, Major, USA (Ret.). Gary and Terri live in River Lights, Wilmington

Longtime chapter member Edward "Ed" Jones has moved to Birmingham, Alabama. We thank Ed for his more than 20 years of chapter membership.

Membership Roster: 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

Invite a friend or neighbor to a chapter luncheon! 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.

MEMBERSHIP





SENCLAND Monthly Luncheon

Date: Tuesday 4 February 2025

Location: Bluewater Waterfront Grill, 4 Marina St, Wrightsville Beach NC 28480. [Bluewater Map](#)

Time: Please arrive before 11:30AM to have time to register and make menu selections.

Price: \$30.00

1. Includes water, sweet and unsweet iced tea, soft drinks, cookies for dessert, taxes and gratuities.
2. Beer, wine and cocktails are available for purchase.
3. Payment is made at check-in using cash or check only

Menu Selection:

1. Classic Chicken Caesar Salad
2. Atlantic Salmon Wrap
3. BW Cheeseburger w/seasoned fries
4. Grilled Chicken Club w/seasoned fries

Menu Choices are made at event, at your table (no pre-orders).

Please RSVP no later than Tuesday, 28 January

Upcoming 2025 Programs

- February 4: Blue Water Grill, John LaSala (previous speaker), Artificial Intelligence in Healthcare
- March 4: Blue Water Grill, Shannon Jackson, Hospice Care, Dementia, and Community Resources
- April 1: Blue Water Grill - **TBD**
- May 6: Island Way Restaurant, Oak Island – Speaker **TBD**
- June 6, Chapter Annual Picnic and Scholarship Awards (Need volunteers for planning committee)
- July (TBD) Annual Social at Sea Spray Clubhouse
- September 2: Blue Water Grill, CAPT (Ret) Frank (Tank) Michael, MOAA National Update



LUNCHEONS / MEETINGS

PROGRAMS



Monthly Luncheon Meetings



LUNCHEONS / MEETINGS

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



January 7, 2025
Luncheon/Meeting
At the [Bluewater Waterfront Grill](#)



The January 7, 2025 SENCLAND MOAA Luncheon/Meeting ranks as one of our best. Keynote speaker, retired U.S. Army four-star General Curtis Michael "Mike" Scaparrotti spoke to the audience about NATO and the Ukraine-Russia War triggering an engaging questions and answers segment. General Scaparrotti last served as the commander of United States European Command. He concurrently served as NATO's Supreme Allied Commander Europe. GEN Scaparrotti is a native of Logan, Ohio. He graduated from the United States Military Academy, West Point, in 1978, and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Army

February 2025 Luncheon/Meeting

The next MOAA SENCLAND luncheon meeting will be held on Tuesday, 4 February 2025, 1130, hrs. at the Bluewater Waterfront Grill on Wrightsville Beach.

Our featured presenter will be Colonel John LaSala, USA (Ret.)

The February luncheon monthly topic will be, Artificial Intelligence: The future of medicine? Recent revolutionary capabilities of new and powerful Artificial Intelligence (AI) Systems, especially in the ChatGPT category, are finding their way into our healthcare system. Indeed, there are many ways AI in various forms is starting to be utilized including: image interpretation, ER triaging, drug discovery, clinical decision support, and others. This lecture will explain how modern AI systems are structured and trained for different applications and look at examples of real-world applications and current limitations in healthcare

Bio: John La Sala

John La Sala is a 1972 graduate of the United States Military Academy and holds a doctorate in Applied Physics from Stanford University. He served 24 years as an Army Corps of Engineers Officer, with assignments



in the US and Europe and an extended assignment as a Professor of Physics at West Point, from which he retired in 1996. He then spent 15 years in industry, directing new product development in large (Fortune 500) and small (microcap) companies over the course of his industrial career. He and his wife Joyce moved to Wilmington in 2012 where he co-founded the Cape Fear West Point Society, became a mentor at UNCW business school and began teaching classes at the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, (OLLI) focused on the intersection of technology and society. This talk emerged from several classes he gave at OLLI on Artificial Intelligence.



PROGRAMS

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





SCHOLARSHIPS



JROTC Awards & Scholarship Program

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

JROTC Scholarship & JROTC Leadership Awards Support

JROTC Scholarships 2025

Application went online and out to schools.

JROTC Leadership Awards 2025

- Medals and certificates are on hand.
- Reminders to the JROTC units have been sent out.
- We have received one student's name and one award program date, so far.

We would like to thank everyone who continue to donate 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.

Veteran Student Education Scholarship

Tim Johnson, Capt., USMC, Scholarship Coordinator

In 2024 SENCLAND MOAA awarded \$8,000 in Veteran Student Grants .

- 16 at \$500 each going to qualified students at UNCW (6), CFCC (7), and BCCC (3).
- Contributions were received from MOAA \$3,500, the BG Jim Carper Grant \$1,500, and Vietnam Veterans Association \$3,000.

The 2025 expectation for the Veteran Student Education Program is for a similar or greater contribution level than received in 2024. We will,

- Continue awarding a minimum grant of \$500 per student.
- Make a budget request of \$4,000 from MOAA, \$1,500 from the BG Jim Carper Grant, and \$3,000 from the Vietnam Veterans Association.
- Be searching for additional funding from other outside organizations.

Legislative Affairs

Submitted by Barry Coyle, Legislative Affairs Chair

In Washington

The Presidential Inauguration ceremonies were completed without incident on Monday, 20 January 2025. Donald Trump is now President. When the Senate confirmation process is completed, we will see new appointed leaders throughout the Departments of Defense, Homeland Security and Veterans Affairs.

The 119th Congress convened 3 January 2025. MOAA HQ has announced legislative priorities for the new Congress. These include improved funding for military housing, additional protections for toxic exposures, expanded access to health care, support for VA caregivers, and the perennial concurrent receipt campaign.

On 2 January, President Biden signed the landmark Elizabeth Dole 21st Century Veterans Healthcare and Benefits Improvement Act. It provides expanded benefits, enhanced services, and improved long-term care solutions for veterans.

The 2025 NDAA was passed 18 December 2024. A Continuing Resolution (CR) passed at the same time, expires 14 March 2025. It is unlikely that this Congress will address full funding of DoD prior to expiration of the CR.

Both the Social Security Administration and Veterans Administration are transitioning to new on-line account sign-in procedures using Login.gov or ID.me systems. When you access your account, you will be prompted to set up new log-in credentials in one of those systems.

We have updated our elected officials' contact data on the SENCLAND Website.

In North Carolina

The NC General Assembly convened 8 January 2025 to open the 2025-26 Legislative Session with an organizing day. They will reconvene 29 January to begin the Long Session. Jocelyn Mitnaul Mallette, Esq. has been appointed as the 5th Secretary of the North Carolina Department of Military and Veteran Affairs.

The NC Council of Chapters has approved three legislative priorities for state advocacy during the 2025-26 Legislative Session. They are:

- Updating Veteran Property Tax Exemptions
- Supporting Veteran In-State Housing/Care Programs
- Occupational Certification Portability & Economic Opportunities

Sean Murphy and Ray Pelletier have become members of the chapter's Legislative Affairs Committee. They will cover NC legislative activities.



LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS



www.moaa.org/takeaction





OUTREACH

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



Community Outreach

Submitted by Mike Apicella, Outreach Chair

This year SENCLAND Community Outreach Program has \$1,500 dollars to grant to deserving individuals in need of financial assistance. I am currently applying for grant money from the National MOAA to reimburse SENCLAND for these grants. In 2024, the community outreach committee through SENCLAND awarded 3,000 to seven deserving Veterans in the Wilmington area.



A check was presented to Barney McAteer for \$250 to help with significant medical costs associated with his wife, JoAnn, who is very ill and is confined to her bed in the house. The check will help cover the costs associated with the equipment needed for her care.

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**

Wellness Coordinator's Corner

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

News from the Wellness Corner...

Well, 2025 is underway and I think it is going to be a great year. Some good news, Dave Renquist has returned home after 3 months of rehabilitation from a fall he experienced in October. I thank those who were able to visit him during his stay. Like wise, Bob Doleman returned to the recent board meeting and we look forward to seeing both, Bob and JoAnn, at our next meeting.

I do need your help, I need your help in informing me of members or family members who may suffering with Covid, rehab, or hospital stays so we can send a card or visit. You can do so by calling me or emailing me. You can also contact any board member.

A "Winter Tip ". We all know snow in Wilmington is rare. But we experienced a true "Snow storm" on Wednesday. I would guess that 4 to 6 inches of snow covered the city. As temperatures change, (up/down) there will be some melting. When below freezing temperatures exist remaining snow can make steps, sidewalks, and roads very slippery. Please Be Cautious.. For the "New Members", welcome to SENCLAND MOAA.

Wellness Team

Leon Rooks - Chair
Stephen Bird
Karen Murphy

Surviving Spouse Corner

Widowhood represents one of the most challenging life transitions any of us may face.

Surrounding yourself with positive people encourages a positive attitude and good mental health.

<https://www.nextavenue.org/9-empowering-activities-first-year-of-widowhood>

Marco Vialpando

SENCLAND Surviving Spouse Liaison

910-530-4025, vipp6@yahoo.com



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**)

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.gbstores.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 Leslie Roberson, Nametag Program. The SENCLAND Chapter offers the opportunity for members and their spouses to purchase engraved plastic nametags. The cost is \$15 per name-tag 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 the minimum number required by the vendor. Nametags are delivered at monthly luncheons and chapter events.

You can order your nametags either online, in person at a meeting, or by mailing a personal check and order form as follows. Pay for your nametags (s) in one of the following 3 ways:

1. **ON-LINE:** PayPal Payment can be made at: SENCLAND: Membership: (<https://sencland.org/membership/?tp=Nametags>) 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/membership/>) and click on the tab for "Membership" on the home page and scroll down to "SENCLAND Nametags").
2. **In Person at a meeting** (cash or check), please print the page of the Newsletter with the SENCLAND NAME TAG boxes (below), complete it, and bring it with you to a meeting. You can turn it in and pay at check-in. The Treasurer will provide the POC your form.
3. **Mail Personal Check and Order Form:** Please print the page of the Newsletter with the SENCLAND NAME TAG boxes (below), complete it, and mail it with a check to SENCLAND MOAA to:

SENCLAND Chapter of MOAA
P.O. Box 10015
Wilmington, NC 28404

MOAA SENCLAND Nametags Available for Purchase (Continued)

After paying (on-line or via mail), send an e-mail to Leslie Roberson, lesliecotu@hotmail.com, include the information you want on the nametag (1) name, including nick name if you prefer, (2) rank, (3) military service, and (4) current duty status. Nametags for spouses only require the person's name and nickname if desired.

If you have any questions, please contact Leslie Roberson at the email above or (703) 470-3392.

	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>



SENCLAND MEMBER'S PROFILE

Mark Steelman , Captain , U.S. Navy Reserve (Retired)



To enter CAPT Steelman's house from the garage, you walk on a colorful 6' x 6' vinyl link entrance mat of a military shield that proudly says, "Trained and Ready". Over the years, thousands of reservists (including him) stood on the same mat and saluted the Officer of the Deck as they entered the Navy and Marine Corps Reserve Center in Raleigh, NC. (Eventually the mat was retired, and he bought it as part of an MWR fundraiser auction in 2006.) At his home the mat serves as a daily reminder of his country and his Navy service.

After four years of active duty (1979 – 1983) CAPT Steelman moved to Raleigh, NC. He served 23 years in the Navy Reserve, normally drilling in Raleigh and Greensboro, and retired in 2006. As a small-town kid from Scotland County, NC, CAPT Steelman says he "had some incredible Navy experiences" which include qualifying as Surface Warfare Officer, surviving Blue Nose and Shellback initiations, a Suez Canal transit, and port visits to Israel, Rio de Janeiro, and multiple Caribbean islands and Mediterranean ports.

CAPT Steelman was honored to serve with some notable people: His CO on the USS Concord was CAPT Donald V. Boecker, who avoided capture in North Vietnam when he ejected from his A-6 and later rose to Rear Admiral and Vice Commander, Naval Air Systems Command. As a Midshipman, he had a Polaris Patrol on the USS Alexander Hamilton (SSBN-617) with fellow midshipman classmate Joe Aucoin, who ultimately became Vice Admiral and Commander, U.S. 7th Fleet. But even more well-known is CAPT Allan Turner (SENCLAND MOAA's very own chapter president!!) – who CAPT Steelman first met in 2003 when they had turnover briefings so CAPT Turner could relieve him as the NC Emergency Preparedness Liaison Officer (EPLO).

EDITOR: Why did you join MOAA, what are MOAA's best benefits, and what MOAA services have you used? *For many years I was a member of the Navy Reserve Association (NRA) and carefully studied its guidance on the officer promotion process and retirement planning. Now, as an MOAA member, I appreciate the monthly magazine's excellent information on military topics and issues, especially on medical and retirement benefits.*

EDITOR: Why did you join the SENCLAND MOAA chapter and what do you enjoy most about the chapter? *Allan Turner invited me to join a few years ago, and now I very much appreciate keeping informed of current and historical military events, meeting other chapter members, and learning of their significant active and reserve duty achievements. By interacting with other veterans, I am regularly reminded of how great it is to live in the United States and be in the company of others who have served to preserve our values and freedoms.*

EDITOR: What activities do you most enjoy or most frequently engage in within your community or local area? *Most of my community service centers around serving my church (First Baptist) as usher, deacon, committee member, and mission team volunteer. I am also a board member of the Harrelson Center in Wilmington, which is a campus of non-profit organizations and helps them thrive by providing resources, information and network opportunities. I also enjoy travelling with my wife, Diane, and spending time with her four daughters and grandkids.*



Set Sail With Fellow Members on a MOAA Signature Greek Isles Cruise



2025 MOAA SIGNATURE GROUP GREEK ISLES CRUISE

7-nights roundtrip Athens

August 9-16, 2025

Learn more about the Greek Isles Cruise at <https://brennco.com/MOAAVACATIONS/Greece/>

SAVE THE DATE

October 12, 2025, 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: ltiller-travels@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>

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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

University Square & The Forum



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SENCLAND SENTINEL

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February 2025

