



MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, SENCLAND CHAPTER

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October 2025

SENTINEL

Chapter Awards



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

We had a very nice turnout at our first meeting of the season at the Bluewater Grill. On Tuesday, 9/2/2025, it was a pleasure to welcome CAPT Frank (Tank) Michael, USN (ret) from MOAA National as our keynote speaker. He gave an excellent update of MOAA's status and priorities going into 2026. He was also very impressed with not only the size of the SENCLAND Chapter, but as to how well it was run and organized. So my thanks to all of you for making us the best MOAA Chapter in the country (in my humble opinion!).



We have two events to look forward to in October. For our 7 October meeting, we will return to the Bluewater Grill and have Mr. Cameron Kinard, the Education and Outreach Coordinator at Fort Fisher State Historic Site. He will speak on Fort Fisher's history and recent site renovations. As you probably know, the Fort Fisher museum has recently completed a multi-million dollar renovation and upgrade. To follow up on that, Greg Cook has organized a group tour of the museum and battlefield on Tuesday, 28 October. You'll find details on these two events on the [Programs page](#).

Once you receive your luncheon invitation, you will need to RSVP by Tuesday 9/30/25 as we have to give a final number to the Bluewater by then. Please, please send in your RSVP in as early as possible.

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

**Happy 250th Birthday to the U.S. Navy – 13 October 1775.
Happy 55th Birthday to NOAA – 3 October 1970
You all have served this Nation well.**

[Continued on next page.](#)



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Continued



President's Message (Continued)

Submitted by President Allan Turner

Welcome

Welcome to our newest member:

- Alex Graham, Col, USAF (Ret.) and Rosemary

Many Thanks

Once again, thanks to those of you who continue to contribute to our JROTC, Veterans Scholarships, and Veteran Outreach programs. These in addition to our BG Jim Carper Scholarship Fund are doing great work in our catchment area. Next month, we will be making scholarship presentations to some very deserving veteran students at the local institutes of higher learning: UNCW, CFCC, and BCC. Without your generosity and continued support, we would be unable to help the deserving individuals in our community who sorely need our help.

Thank you again so much for your support!



At the September meeting, I made mention of the Ashley Center that is providing Veterans who are in need of short-term, transitional Bridge Housing. This is being administered by Good Shepherd Ministries of Wilmington. They are in need of volunteers to help run this program. There are more details and contact information on the [SENCLAND News](#) page, if you would like to help out.

On 7-8 November, the NC Council of Chapters (NCCOC) will hold their annual in-person meeting in Raleigh. This will involve a Friday night gathering with a buffet dinner and meeting Saturday morning until approximately lunchtime. LTG Brian T. Kelly, USAF (ret), the CEO of MOAA will be attending and will be the keynote speaker. All SENCLAND Chapter members are welcome to attend. Please contact me directly if you are interested and I will provide you with hotel booking information and other details as the NCCOC has a special group rate. The hotel is Holiday Inn Express & Suites Raleigh West – Cary, 6115 Corporate Ridge Rd, Raleigh, North Carolina 27607.

Also, the NCCOC has several positions open for the upcoming year. They are listed on the next two pages. Please look these over and if you are interested in applying, please contact Jim Brumit. His contact information is provided on the second of the two pages.

Please keep reading your newsletter in its entirety! You can find more MOAA news throughout the newsletter. Check-out the October's [SENCLAND Member's Profile](#).

President's Message (Continued)

Submitted by President Allan Turner

MOAA NCCOC Nominations

On November 8, 2025 at the annual North Carolina Council of Chapters' business meeting, the NCCOC will be voting to fill the President's, three Vice Presidents' and potentially a fourth Vice president's position depending on the wishes of the Council. Below are position requirements:

President:

- The NCCOC President serves as the chief executive officer and official representative of the Council.
- Presides at all Council and Executive Committee meetings.
- Appoints standing and special committees, subject to the approval of the Council.
- Acts as an ex-officio member of all committees with voting rights on all except the Nominations Committee.
- Confers with the Secretary regarding contents of notices of meetings, meeting agendas, and distribution of minutes
- Confers with other officers and chairs regarding their respective duties.
- Be familiar with the NCCOC Bylaws, "Council and Chapter Polies and Procedures Guide", and the "National MOAA Strategic Plan".
- Must be a National MOAA member.

Vice-President/ Membership

- Chairs the Membership Committee.
- Oversees the committee efforts to retain existing members and recruit new ones.
- Maintains the Council CM with National MOAA.
- Ensures all Council and chapter officers are National MOAA members.
- Coordinates with chapters to ensure upkeep of chapter's, the CM, Committee Module.

The VP, Membership must be able to teach classes on the CM.

- Maintains records on chapter growth, losses, and retention using the CM.
- Maintains the status of chapters health
- Be familiar with the NCCOC Bylaws, Council and Chapter Policies and Procedures Guide", and National MOAA "Strategic Plan."
- Must be a National MOAA member.

Vice-President/ Federal Advocacy in Action

- Executive advocacy-related tasks as directed by the Council.
- Chairs the Federal Advocacy Committee
- Ensures a designated chapter legislative chair or liaison is assigned to each U.S. congressional district and both senators are contacted as needed.
- Ensures representation is sent to Washington for the annual AiA.
- Creates and executes an annual legislative plan in coordination with National MOAA
- Be familiar with the NCCOC Bylaws, "Council and Chapter Policies and Procedures Guide", and National MOAA "Strategic Plan".
- Must be a National MOAA member.

Vice-President/ N.C. State Advocacy in Action

- Executive advocacy-related tasks as directed by the Council.
- Chairs the State Advocacy Committee.
- Ensures a designated chapter legislative chair or liaison is assigned to each 170 General assembly members and state senators are contacted as needed and to reach "green" status on the DSLO map.
- Ensures representation is sent to Raleigh on an as needed basis.
- Creates and executes an annual legislative plan and coordinates with the NC Veterans Committee.
- Be familiar with the NCCOC Bylaws, "Council and Chapter Policies and Procedures Guide" and national MOAA Strategic Plan".
- Must be a national MOAA member.

Assistant Vice-President/Transition and Career (reporting to VP Membership)

This position is subject to the approval of the Council

President's Message (Continued)

Submitted by President Allan Turner

MOAA NCCOC Nominations (continued)

Assistant Vice-President/Transition and Career (reporting to VP Membership)

This position is subject to the approval of the Council

- Oversees the committee efforts to recruit officers transitioning from active duty to civilian careers.
- Creates an annual Transitioning plan to include a directory of Transition offices at each military facility.
- Coordinates with chapter membership chair on establishing a Transition plan.
- Contacts military Transition offices to provide information on MOAA Transition and Careers
- Assist in maintaining records on chapter growth, losses, and retention.
- Be familiar with the NCCOC Bylaws, Council and Chapter Policies and Procedures Guide", and National MOAA "Strategic Plan."
- Must be a National MOAA member.

Vice-Presidents' additional duties as determined by the Council president.

- Assist the President when called upon.
- Stays informed about the health of member chapters along with Council president.
- Performs the duties of the President in the event of temporary disability or absence of the President "Former chapter officers and chapter delegates are well suited for council leadership positions; chapter delegates should not simultaneously serve as elected officials on the council"

THE BYLAWS OF NORTH CAROLINA STATE COUNCIL OF CHAPTERS, LLC, MOAA, ARTICLE VIII: OFFICERS, Section 1. determines how often an election is held. Each chapter president will have one vote for each position.

Please send an email to jimbrumit@aol.com about your interest in the elected Council positions. Include in the email a brief summary of your military background, civilian work experience, and MOAA participation; only one page will do.

Deadline is October, 24, 2025.

NEVER STOP SERVING

Jim Brumit

COL, USA, Retired

Immediate Past President/ Nominations Committee Chairman, NCCOC, MOAA

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
Mark Steelman, CAPT, USNR (ret), Programs Chair
Greg Cook, CAPT, USN (ret), Special Events Chair
Albert H Schroetel, COL, USAF (ret), Membership Co-Chair
Leslie Roberson, LtCol, USAF (ret), Membership Co-Chair and Nametags
Dianne Jinwright, LtCol, USAF (ret), Public Affairs, Facebook, Media Publicity
Marco Vialpando, MAJ, USA (ret), Surviving Spouse Coordinator
Mike Apicella, COL, USA (ret), Outreach
Allen Allegretto, CDR, USNR (ret), Webmaster, Member Communication System Manager
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
USMC Service Director. Vacant
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 Updates

Submitted by Al Schroetel and Leslie Roberson, Membership Co-Chairs



Welcome

We are pleased to welcome the Chapter's newest member:

- Alex Graham, Col, USAF (Ret.). Alex and Rosemary live in River Lights



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.

Keeping Current: We try to keep abreast of the current status of all Chapters Members. In that regard, please let us know of major changes such as relocations, major illness or deaths by sending an e-mail to Al at downeast@bellsouth.net or Leslie at lesliecotu@hotmail.com

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

September 2025 Luncheon/Meeting



September 2 2025
Luncheon/Meeting
At the *Bluewater Waterfront Grill*

CAPT Frank "Tank" Michael, USN (ret), Senior Director, MOAA Affiliated Councils and Chapters, spoke to a "full house" at the 2 September SENCLAND MOAA Chapter luncheon. CAPT Michael spoke about the challenges of retaining active MOAA chapters and getting younger MOAA members. He gave Kudos to the SENCLAND chapter for its membership size, attracting young members such as new active duty member Brendan Flynn, LT, USCG, and for having an outstanding website/webmaster, Allen Allegretto.



CONGRATULATIONS!

SENCLAND Chapter member Irene Glaeser received the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) Leadership Award for her service as the chapter's Programs and Special Events Chairperson, during the 2 September luncheon. The award was presented to Irene by CAPT Frank Michael, USN (ret), Senior Director, MOAA Affiliated Councils and Chapters, and SENCLAND Chapter President Allan Turner.



LUNCHEONS/ MEETINGS

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





LUNCHEONS/ MEETINGS



SENCLAND Monthly Luncheon

Date: Tuesday 7 October 2025

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

Time: Please arrive by 11:15am to allow for registration and menu selections. The program will start at 11:30.

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, check or credit card.

Menu Selection:

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

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

Please RSVP no later than Tuesday, 30 September.

Upcoming 2025 Programs

Oct 7, 2025 , Bluewater Grill: Al Schroetel will give a brief presentation on the results of the recently conducted chapter survey, followed by our *Featured Presenter Cameron Kinard*, Education and Outreach Coordinator, on Fort Fisher's history and recent site renovations.

Nov 4, 2025 , Bluewater Grill: We will hold our annual business meeting and election of new officers for 2026-2027, followed by our *Featured Presenter Dr. Robert McKenzie* - COL, U.S. Army (retired), Chief of Psychiatry with the VA region, on Veteran mental health, PTSD, and treatment.

Dec 2, 2025, Bluewater Grill: Cape Fear Chordsmen - Holiday Program. 

Jan 6, 2026 , Bluewater Grill: Jeffrey Bourk, ILM Airport Director, on current airport upgrades.

Feb 3, 2026, Bluewater Grill: Moores Creek National Battlefield (250th



October 2025 Luncheon/Meeting



The featured presenter for the 7 October SENCLAND MOAA luncheon/meeting will be Cameron Kinard, the Education and Outreach Coordinator for the Fort Fisher State Historic Site.

BIO

Cameron Kinard grew up in West Hartford, Connecticut with an interest in history from early childhood. To follow his passion for Civil War history, he went to Gettysburg College in Pennsylvania for his undergraduate education, graduating in 2018. After the worst of the COVID pandemic passed, Cameron moved to Wilmington, NC to attend UNCW where he received his Master's Degree in Public History. During this time, he was accepted as Fort Fisher's 2023 Mary Holloway Summer Intern, and quickly came to love the unique historic site. After interning for a second summer and performing a practicum at Fort Fisher to complete his Master's program, he was hired into his current position in November 2024.

PRESENTATION TOPIC:

Until the last few months of the Civil War, Fort Fisher kept North Carolina's port of Wilmington open to blockade-runners supplying necessary goods to Confederate armies inland. By 1865, the supply line through Wilmington was the last remaining supply route open to Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia. When Ft. Fisher fell after a massive U.S. amphibious assault on January 15, 1865, its defeat helped seal the fate of the Confederacy. Our guest speaker, Cameron Kinard, using maps and art from the period, will illustrate the basic details around Fort Fisher's design, construction, and strategic importance during the Civil War. He will also describe the creative process behind the new visitors center and reconstructed earthworks, which opened to the public in October 2024. These additions allow the historic site many exciting new opportunities to expand methods, interpretations, and offerings for community involvement.

Cameron will also discuss the special events scheduled at Fort Fisher over the next few months.



Fort Fisher Reenactment Pictures taken in 2020 by SENCLAND member Mark Steelman.



PROGRAMS

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JROTC Awards & Scholarship Program

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

We would like to thank everyone who donated 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.

SCHOLARSHIPS



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

JROTC Scholarships and Leadership Awards

As we start the new fiscal 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 2026 but there are several new instructors so I just want them to know I will be contacting them in January.

I am also reaching out to all schools in our area to start collecting nominations for our MOAA Leadership Awards. Once I start to get their dates I will be reaching out to our SENCLAND membership to get help in making the presentations. This is a very rewarding experience so I hope you will help us this spring.



Veteran Student Education Scholarship

Submitted by Tim Johnson, Capt., USMC, Scholarship Coordinator

This year's Veteran's Scholarship Grants events will begin with Brunswick County Community College on November 3rd at 11:00 in the Odell Williamson Auditorium. We expect to be giving two \$500 awards at the ceremony. The event will be followed by a lunch and a chance to meet all who attend.

The event at University of North Carolina at Wilmington will be held at 3:00 PM (15:00) on November 5th at the Veterans Hall in the offices of the Veterans Support group. We expect to award three \$500 grants. It's usually a smaller ceremony with MOAA taking centre stage.

The final event will be held at Cape Fear Community College on November 11th at 11:00. We will be granting 4 awards to the chosen veteran students. This is a full Veterans Day event with honor guard and key note speaker. MOAA is recognized as part of the program. This event will be held in "Tabitha's Courtyard" on the downtown campus with Union Station as a backup for inclement weather. The event is usually followed by a light lunch and a time to socialize.

We will be recognizing and awarding a BGEN James Carper grant at each ceremony and will also have an opportunity to present our mission during the awards.

Please try and find the time to attend at least one of these events. Our efforts with these grants are truly impactful for the veterans who receive them .

Each year since 2017 the SENCLAND Chapter has, as an organization, endeavored to raise funds for this worthy cause and continue our tradition of taking care of the troops. We have done stellar work as an organization and will continue to do so. We should, though, recognize that the need far outstrips the funds.

If anyone has any good ideas to assist in adding to the war chest please feel free to speak up. No idea is too small.

Thanks, Tim



SCHOLARSHIPS



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LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS



www.moaa.org/takeaction



Legislative Affairs

Submitted by Barry Coyle, Legislative Affairs Chair

In Washington

The FY 2026 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) continues to move forward. The House passed their version of the Act on 10 September. The Senate version has not yet passed while various amendments are debated. Once the Senate version passes, the bills will go to a Conference Committee which will iron out the differences and present a final version of the NDAA to both chambers for approval. It is now unlikely that the bill will pass prior to the end of the fiscal year on 30 September. Both versions of the NDAA contain many MOAA-supported provisions to help active-duty members, families, retirees, and veterans. The Senate has introduced an amendment to include the Richard Star Act within the NDAA. The House passed the FY 2026 DoD Appropriations Act on 18 July. This bill has not been taken up by the Senate. And there are still 10 other appropriations bills that have not been cleared by either chamber. So, once again we have a set-up for a partial Government shutdown or Continuing Resolution to begin FY 2026. On 22 September, the House passed a Continuing Resolution (CR) that would fund the Government through 21 November. The House CR is not supported in the Senate, so it is not clear if a funding measure will be passed by 30 September.

On 26 August Barry Coyle briefed Congressman Rouzer's District Director, Chance Lambeth, on MOAA's Summer AIA topics, which are: finally passing the Richard Starr Act; passing the Military Spouse Hiring Act; and improved TRI-CARE access. Details of these priorities and other MOAA action issues are available at the Legislative Action Center at [MOAA - MOAA's Legislative Priorities for the 119th Congress](#)

Municipal Elections

Municipal Elections will be held this year for those who reside in an incorporated city or town, such as Wilmington, Wrightsville Beach, Carolina Beach, Leland or Oak Island. These elections are for mayor, town council or alderman and other local elected positions. Election Day is 4 November. You can also vote in person during the Early Voting period which runs from 16 October – 1 November. Photo ID is required. You can find early voting locations on your county Board of Elections website. Any NC resident can also vote by mail, if desired, but the process is a little complicated. To vote by mail (absentee ballot), you must submit a request for an absentee ballot form by 21 October. These forms can be obtained on-line at the NC State Board of Elections web site, or at your county board of elections office.

Legislative Affairs (Continued)

Submitted by Barry Coyle, Legislative Affairs Chair

The ballot must be marked in the presence of two witnesses or one notary. A copy of your photo ID must be included when returning the ballot. Absentee ballots can be returned by mail or in-person but must be received in your county Board of Elections office by 1930 on 4 November.

In North Carolina

The General Assembly passed the Military and Veteran Support Act (Senate Bill 118), which was signed into law on July 9, 2025 and becomes effective 1 October 2025. This Bill included provisions from 4 House and Senate Bills, plus some new benefits. The major sections of this bill include: reducing concealed handgun fees for certain veterans, and authorizing sheriffs to send permit expiration notices via email; provides additional time for military families to submit proof of residency for public school enrollment; prohibits discriminatory admissions policies regarding active-duty service members and veterans; requires military admissions deferment for certain persons admitted to the UNC system; provides in-state tuition to certain honorably discharged veterans; regulates compensation for services related to veterans' benefits matters; authorizes remote drivers' license renewals for active-duty military and their families; provides children of wartime veterans scholarship funds award flexibility. Another bill, House Bill 373, was also passed and signed into law, providing tuition discounts for active-duty military students in the UNC System to make higher education more accessible. These acts aim to improve the quality of life and provide educational and administrative support for North Carolina's military members, veterans, and their families. You can see details of the progression of these Bills on the SENCLAND Website at this link: [SENCLAND : Legislative Information](#).

The General Assembly continues to meet a few days each month, primarily trying to reach consensus on a state budget and override Governor Stein's vetoes.

Open Season

The annual Open Season periods for Federal medical programs are coming up. Open Season is when you can enroll in, or make changes to, your coverages in these programs. This year the Open Season periods are:

Medicare: 15 October – 7 December

TRICARE: 10 November – 9 December

FEDVIP: 10 November – 8 December



LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS





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 \$1,750 dollars to grant to deserving individuals in need of financial assistance thanks to a generous grant from the National MOAA organization to SENCLAND this year. In addition, SENCLAND received a grant from the North Carolina Council of Chapters for \$333.

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 of 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...

It was wonderful to see everyone at our September meeting. I hope you all enjoyed a refreshing summer break.

Can you believe how quickly 2025 has flown by? We're already entering the final three months of the year - wow!

Our Wellness Committee has been busy supporting several members who are facing medical issues and other challenges. I asked that you keep SENCLAND MOAA members in your thoughts and prayers, for healing and good health.

If you know of any members-or family members who could use a friendly call, a card, or a visit please let me or any board member know. We care deeply about our members and want to offer assistance whenever possible.

SENCLAND MOAA CARES

Wellness Team

Leon Rooks - Chair
Stephen Bird
Karen Murphy
David Foster

Surviving Spouse Corner

Submitted by Marco Vialpando, Surviving Spouse Liaison

I continue the search for a transportation solution to help our "mobility challenged" Surviving Spouses.

I am working on a distribution list for all the Surviving Spouses that have active email addresses.

One of the spouses suggested going to the movies as a group, I will look into that possibility.

Marco Vialpando
SENCLAND Surviving Spouse Liaison
910-530-4025, vipp6@yahoo.com



WELLNESS

SURVIVING
SPOUSES



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 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 NEWS

Good Shepherd Ministries: The Sgt. Eugene Ashley Memorial Center is Asking for Volunteer Help



From President Allan Turner: *I recently was made aware of a great resource here in Wilmington for Veterans who are in need of short-term, transitional Bridge Housing. The Ashley Memorial Center is named after Wilmington native and Medal of Honor winner SFC Eugene Ashley. SFC Ashley gave his life during the Vietnam War and the local Ashley High School was named after him. Ashley Center is in constant need of volunteers to help administer this facility.*

Our SENCLAND MOAA Outreach Chair, Mike Apicella's Knights of Columbus Chapter at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church and Pat Litzinger of St Andrew's Covenant Presbyterian Church are both supporters of this facility as well as many other churches and non-profits.

If you would like to see more information about the Ashley Center please click on this link:

<https://www.goodshepherdwilmington.org/project/ashley-center/>

If you would like to consider volunteering, please reach out to Pat Litzinger at 910-232-8603 or email to: patlitzinger@gmail.com

SENCLAND Challenge Coins

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



SENCLAND Member's Profile

Melvin L. Jones, LTC, U.S. Army Reserve (ret)

Lieutenant Colonel Jones grew-up in Long Branch, New Jersey, a popular beach resort town for that area. He received his 4-year college degree in Education and his Master's of Education from The College of New Jersey, located in Trenton.



Colonel Jones served two years of enlisted service before receiving his direct commission. He started his commissioned service as a Equal Opportunity (EO) Officer in the Army National Guard, at the New Jersey Military Academy. Two years later he transferred to the Army Reserve, serving in many postings to include, Training Officer, Weight Control Officer, Ammo Officer, Chief of Armor Carrier Operations,

S-1 Administrative Support, and Simulation Controller/Evaluator.

Colonel Jones has twenty-five years of "Federal Officer Service." He and his wife Patricia live in Leland, NC.

They have two children, a daughter Jenn, and a son Drew. Jenn's profession includes international workplace positions in areas of project management, technology, infrastructure technology, and vice president for financial institutions such as

Goldman Sachs, Credit Swisse, Deutsche Bank, J.P. Morgan, and Colliers Finance in London, England. Drew is an Executive Producer for National Geographic/Disney+. Drew, his wife Marnie, and their two children live in Severna Park, Maryland.



Colonel Jones and his wife Patricia have been SENCLAND members since 2017.

EDITOR: Why did you join the SENCLAND MOAA chapter and what do you enjoy most about the chapter? *I joined SENCLAND so that I could interact with former service members.*

EDITOR: What activities do you most enjoy or most frequently engage in within your community or local area? *I serve the youth of our community as an Athletic Program Assistant with the Brunswick Parks and Recreation Department where we live. I am an active member of our church serving on the Usher Board, Church Council, and Church Book Club. In addition, I enjoy watching athletic events: (high school, college, and Pro – especially the Philadelphia Eagles).*

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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
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