



MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, SENCLAND CHAPTER

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November 2025

# SENTINEL

**November 2025 Message from President Allan Turner –**  
[sencland.president@gmail.com](mailto:sencland.president@gmail.com)



Another great meeting on 7 October at the Bluewater to hear Mr. Cameron Kincaid, Education and Outreach Coordinator talk about the Fort Fisher State Historic Site. He spoke extensively on Fort Fisher’s history and recent site renovations. Fort Fisher’s museum has recently completed a multi-million dollar renovation and upgrade as well as access to some of the “bombproofs” inside the earthworks. If you didn’t get enough about Fort Fisher from Cameron’s presentation, Greg

Cook has organized a group tour of the museum and battlefield on Tuesday, 28 October.

For our 4 November meeting at the Bluewater, we will be pleased to present Dr. Robert McKenzie who is Chief of Psychiatry for our local VA Region. Dr. McKenzie is a retired U.S. Army Colonel and spent 36 years on active duty. His presentation will focus on Veteran mental health, PTSD, and treatment. We will also hold our annual business meeting where we will vote on the upcoming budget for 2026 and a new slate of elected officers for 2026-2027. Lastly, Al Schroetel has prepared a summary of the recent Chapter survey many of you participated in.

With regard to our programs, I do have a request. For our October meeting, we did have a large group of 63 attendees. That’s great, and thanks to all of you who made it. However, our RSVPs indicated we would have 75 attendees. While the Bluewater was gracious about it, they had to make some last minute adjustments. We all have last minute events in our lives that cause us to change plans. ask each of you that if you cannot make a meeting you previously indicated you would attend, please send a quick email to Al Schroetel at [downeast@bellsouth.net](mailto:downeast@bellsouth.net) or Leslie Roberson at [esliecotu@hotmail.com](mailto:esliecotu@hotmail.com). Thank you.

You’ll find details on these events on the [Programs page](#).

**Continued on next page.**

## Chapter Awards



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## President's Message (Continued)

Submitted by President Allan Turner

Our November meeting day is also on Election Day – Please exercise your right to vote either before or after our meeting. Once you receive your invitation, you will need to RSVP by Tuesday 10/28/25 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 November born members;  
May you have many more happy, healthy years ahead.***

***Happy 250th Birthday and "Semper Fi" to the U.S. Marine Corps – 10 November 1775.  
You all have served this Nation well.***

Welcome to our newest member:

**Willaim "Bill" Randall, former Navy Lieutenant and his wife Christine**



This month, we will be making scholarship presentations to some very deserving Veteran students at our local institutes of higher learning: UNCW, CFCC, and BCC. If you would like to attend any or all of these events, Tim Johnson has outlined the dates and locations in the [Veteran Student Education Scholarship Section](#) We would love to have you participate. These are usually very nice events to recognize these Veterans.

In September and October, we gratefully received several large donations which will help sustain these programs. Thanks to all of you who helped us out. In case you were curious – the Cheddar Up Voting we did an email blast for in September netted us \$250.00. Thanks to all of you who took the time to vote.

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!

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

## President's Message (Continued)

Submitted by President Allan Turner

### **Noble Middle School - Honoring Our Veterans 11/7/25**

As Jim Brumit mentioned during our October meeting - Noble Middle School in Wilmington on Friday, November 7th will be doing their "Honoring Our Veterans" again. The following events are planned:

- The Pledge of Allegiance
- The National Anthem
- Sharing of experiences in classrooms from 8:35 -9:35
- Veterans Walk of Honor through the halls of Noble Middle School
- Continental Breakfast in the Media Center 9:40 - 10:45

If you are free that morning, Noble Middle School would love to honor YOU. They will once again have about 20 classes that would LOVE to have Veterans come in and speak with. If you are able to participate and if there is a specific classroom you would like to visit, please contact Sharon Leinwand, who is the 7th and 8th Grade School Counselor. She can be reached at 910-350-2112 ext.74630 or email: sharon.leinwand@nhcs.net Noble Middle School is located at: 6520 Market Street Wilmington, NC 28405.

### **WWII Warbirds to Wilmington - Veterans Jamboree**

As I mentioned during the October meeting, SENCLand Chapter member and author/military historian CAPT Wilbur Jones, USNR (Ret.), is leading the effort to celebrate America 250 and World War II Wilmington. It's underway: hundreds attended the V-J Day 80th anniversary celebration honoring 12 WWII veterans.

Jones chairs the WWII Wilmington Home Front Heritage Coalition, an all-volunteer, 501c3 preservation group organizing the events. Their theme is to recognize and promote Wilmington's designation as America's first WWII Heritage City, announced here in 2020 by the president at the Battleship North Carolina.

The Coalition seeks assistance from SENCLand members particularly with 3 major events. They are:

- WWII warbirds fly ins to ILM (tentative, April, Azalea Festival week);
- NC National Guard 30th Armored Brigade Combat Team staging (tentative, April);
- all-hands veterans jamboree (date TBD) paying tribute to all area veterans who have served our country, working with UNCW Director of Military Affairs and Marine veteran Bill Kawczynski.

If you would like to help, please contact CAPT Jones at 910-612-4749 or joneswd@ec.rr.com.

## 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 [senlandchapter@gmail.com](mailto:senlandchapter@gmail.com)

### Officers

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

**Tom Welke**, CAPT USN (ret), 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President

**Barry Coyle**, CAPT USN (ret), 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President

**Mike Apicella**, COL USA (ret), 3<sup>rd</sup> 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

### 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 Updates (Continued)



### Nominations for SENCLAND Chapter of MOAA 2026- 2027 Elected Positions

In accordance with the Article VIII Section 2 of the Chapter's Bylaws the election of Officers and Service Directors will take place at the Chapter's biennial election meeting in November.

A Nomination Committee was appointed to develop a Slate of nominations for the Officer and Service Directors positions.. That Committee was composed of Joe Irrera, Leslie Roberson, Marco Vialpando, Mark Steelman and Al Schroetel. The Nomination Committee has developed the following Slate for the Chapter's 2026 - 2027 Elected Positions:

- President:** Michael Apicella, COL, USA, Ret
- 2nd VP:** Barry Coyle, CAPT , USN Ret.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> VP:** Fred Kuhm, CAPT , USN Ret.
- USA Director:** Tom Jones, BGEN, USA, Ret.
- USN Director:** Greg Cook, CAPT, USN Ret
- USMC Director:** Tim Johnson , Captain, USMC
- USAF Director:** Dianne Jinwright, LtCol, USAF, Ret.
- USCG Director:** Wayne Gibson, CAPT, USCG, Ret
- USPHS Director:** Dave Renquist, CAPT, USPHS Ret
- 1<sup>st</sup> VP:** Remains under development

The election will be held at the 4 November 2025 General Membership meeting and luncheon at the Bluewater Waterfront Grill on Wrightsville Beach, NC. If you are not attending the November 4th meeting you may vote by e-mail to Al Schroetel at [downeast@bellsouth.net](mailto:downeast@bellsouth.net). Please submit any e-mail votes by 31 October. Absence of a vote will be considered an approval of the full Slate of Nominees.

Semper fi,  
Joe Irrera, Colonel, USMC Ret.  
Chair, 2026 Nominating Committee

## October 2025 Luncheon/Meeting

October 7 2025  
Luncheon/Meeting  
At the *Bluewater Waterfront Grill*



During the October 7th SENCLAND Luncheon Cameron Kinard, the Education and Outreach Coordinator for the Fort Fisher State Historic Site gave a wonderfully descriptive presentation about the 1865 attack on Fort Fisher.

SENCLAND celebrated the U.S. Navy's 250th birthday with a cake cutting with Navy officers' swords, by the oldest, and youngest SENCLAND Chapter members Barry Coyle, CAPT, USN, Retired and Anne Leanos, CAPT, USNR, Active, respectively.

## Happy 250<sup>th</sup> Birthday to the U.S. Navy



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## SENCLAND Monthly Luncheon

**Date:** Tuesday 4 November 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 un sweet 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. Garden Salad w/Chicken
2. Shrimp Tacos 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, 28 October**

## Upcoming 2025 Programs

**Nov 4, 2025 , Bluewater Grill:** Al Schroetel will give a brief presentation on the results of the recently conducted chapter survey, followed by 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 anniversary)

**Mar 3, 2026 Bluewater Grill:** Speaker TBD

**Apr 7, 2026 Bluewater Grill:** Thomas (Rob) Tempel - Major General, U.S. Army (Retired)

## November 2025 Luncheon/Meeting

*The featured presenter for the 4 November SENCLAND MOAA luncheon/meeting will be COL USA (Ret) Robert McKenzie.*

### BIOGRAPHY



Dr. Robert C. McKenzie DO, has worked for Veteran Affairs since 2020, following his retirement as Colonel from the U.S. Army. Dr. McKenzie has been the Chief of Psychiatry for the VA Coastal Healthcare System since January 2023, and served as the Transition Psychiatrist, in Wilmington, prior to that.

Prior to joining the VA, Dr. McKenzie served in the United States Army for 36 years. His last assignment was the Medical Director, Department of Behavioral Health, Fort Bragg North Carolina, and the Forensic Consultant, Atlantic Region, Office of the Surgeon General. Previous positions held included Psychiatry Consultant, Europe, European Medical Command; Forensic Consultant Europe, Medical Director Department of Behavioral Health, Landstuhl Regional Medical

Center, Landstuhl Germany; Deputy Commander for Clinical Services, Vicenza Italy; Chief Department of Behavioral Health, Vicenza Italy; Chief Department of Behavioral Health Fort Campbell Kentucky; Chief Inpatient Services, Fort Bragg North Carolina.

COL McKenzie deployed three times: in support of Peacekeeping Operations SFOR 9, to Bosnia-Herzegovina, 528th CSH, OEF Detainee operations; Joint Task Force GITMO, Guantanamo Bay Cuba; and Combat operations to Afghanistan as the Brigade Surgeon 43rd Sustainment BDE. Col McKenzie also deployed separately to Afghanistan to conduct a High-Risk Unit Assessment, and Redeployment mission with the 173rd ABN BDE. He has been awarded the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, among others, and inducted into the Order of Military Medical Merit.

### PRESENTATION TOPIC

In the past few months, national media have covered many tragic stories of veteran suicide and events involving gun violence by accused individuals who were veterans. Recent events include: the shooting deaths at Southport NC in late September 2025; deaths at a church in Michigan in late September 2025; a veteran suicide in a Cybertruck at Trump International Hotel in Las Vegas in January 2025; a mass shooting in October 2023 in Lewiston, Maine. Can these behaviors be predicted, treated and prevented? Can we recognize these potential tendencies in ourselves as well as other people? COL McKenzie will address important aspects of veteran mental health, including Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), and our current understanding of this condition. He will review risk factors for developing PTSD and how the diagnosis is made and the current treatment options available. *Bring your questions for him!*

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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 JROTC Scholarships and Leadership Awards 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

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

We are in the middle of the awards preparation and have received the names and some background info on the candidates. It's been a highly competitive process with large amounts of qualified candidates available for our limited funds.

**UNCW** has well over 800 veteran students. They have vetted over 130 applicants to boil it down to three finalists. All three are strong academic candidates with GPAs from 3.7 to 4.0 representing the US Army, US Navy, and US Air Force. A proud group. The UNCW ceremony will be on Nov 5th at 3:00 pm (15:00) in Veterans Hall on campus.

**BCC** has offered up two outstanding candidates both proudly serving in the US Army with one continuing on in the reserves as a Vocational Nurse and the other working towards being a Primary Care Provider for the V.A. These candidates will be recognized and awarded their grants on Nov 3 at 11:00 in Odell Williams Auditorium.

**CFCC** has well over 720 veteran students and has offered us four finalists. At the time of writing we do not have the full details, however as with past candidates we should be proud to help these people. Their grants will be awarded on Nov 11th at 11:00 on the CFCC campus in "Tabitha's Courtyard" or "Union Station" weather dependent.

It must be noted that the need far outstrips our humble offering. I'd ask all hands to see what we can do to help make our 2026 awards/grants help close that gap. Our interesting and varied lives have exposed us to many other organizations both public and private that could easily afford to sponsor a grant for some deserving veterans who still wants to serve, "If you don't ask you don't get!"

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## Community Outreach

Submitted by Mike Apicella, Outreach Chair

This year SENCLAND Community Outreach Program had \$3,583 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. At this time, we have \$1,033 remaining for the year. 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](mailto: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.

This month the Outreach Committee awarded \$1,000 to Dominick Bowen.

Dominick Bowen is an honorably discharged father of a 3-year-old. This Veteran has multiple disabilities both physical and mental. He was behind on his mortgage and utilities. He had been working with the Brunswick County Veterans Coalition to help with his mortgage and utilities. The grant check was presented to Mr. Bowen in Leland by Leon Rooks and Gary Crowden, Chairman, Brunswick County Veterans Coalition.

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

### **Committee Members**

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

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photographed or recorded for Chapter products."***

## Wellness Coordinator's Corner

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

### *News from the Wellness Corner...*

As we enter November, we're reminded of several important things. First, it is a time for all of us to honor our Veterans for their service and sacrifices. Each year, on November 11th we celebrate Veterans Day to recognize the courage and dedication of those who served our country.

November is also an important month for our Veterans to review their health plans with Tri-care. The open enrollment period runs from November 11th through December 9th, allowing time to make any desired changes or updates to health coverage.

This month, we also celebrate Thanksgiving- a time to give thanks for the many blessings we have received throughout the year. Just like the First Thanksgiving back in 1621, when the Colonists gathered to celebrate a bountiful harvest. It is quite interesting, that our modern traditions - complete with turkey, stuffing, and pumpkin pie remain similar to those early Thanksgiving celebrations.

As your Wellness Chair, I want to wish each of you a Blessed and Happy Thanksgiving this year.

### *Wellness Team*

**Leon Rooks – Chair**  
**Stephen Bird**  
**Karen Murphy**  
**David Foster**

## Surviving Spouse Corner

Submitted by Marco Vialpando, Surviving Spouse Liaison

I hope you had a wonderful summer and are looking forward to cooler weather. At the 4 November meeting, I will have a separate table for us and will ask the President to make mention of our sacrifice to the Nation. The table seats eight and if more of you can make it, I'll plan a second table.

Also, I developed an email distribution list and sent it out to all of you that verified your email address. Please contact me if you did not receive that email. Also, please check your Spam folder as well. I look forward to seeing you all soon.

**Marco Vialpando**  
**SENCLAND Surviving Spouse Liaison**  
910-530-4025, [yipp6@yahoo.com](mailto:yipp6@yahoo.com)

## Legislative Affairs

Submitted by Barry Coyle, Legislative Affairs Chair

### In Washington

On 22 September, the House passed a Continuing Resolution (CR) that would fund the Government through 21 November. The House CR was not supported in the Senate, so, as of 23 October, no appropriations for FY 2026 have been approved. This means a partial Government shutdown has been in effect since 1 October. Non-essential personnel have been furloughed without pay and many programs suspended. The Senate remains deadlocked over terms for a funding resolution and the House has gone into recess until the Senate passes a funding bill. It's uncertain how all this will be resolved. 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. 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.

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](#)



[www.moaa.org/takeaction](http://www.moaa.org/takeaction)

### In North Carolina

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. No proposed legislation affecting active-duty personnel, retirees, or veterans is currently under consideration.

### 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. If you requested an Absentee ballot, it must be returned by mail or in-person to your county Board of Elections office by 1930 on 4 November.

## Legislative Affairs (Continued)

Submitted by Barry Coyle, Legislative Affairs Chair

### 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

### ID Card Update

Contrary to some published social media stories, the DoD has not set a deadline for replacing of older paper-based Military/Retiree/ Family ID cards, including those with Indefinite expiration dates. A replacement deadline in 2026 has been discussed in the past but has not yet been enacted. It might be smart to replace your older card at your earliest convenience, if you have not already done so.

## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://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](http://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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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.**

	<b>SENCLAND NAME TAG NAME/RANK/SERVICE BRANCH/STATUS</b>
<b>1</b>	<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>
<b>2</b> (Form for a spouse's nametag)	<p>FIRST/NICK NAME _____</p> <p>LAST NAME _____</p>



## SENCLAND Member's Profile

### *John V. Heitman, Lt Col, U.S. Air Force (ret)*



Following graduation and commissioning through Air Force ROTC at Kansas State University in 1968, Lt Col Heitman began his career as a Communications Computer Systems Officer. During his first year in tech school at Keesler AFB, MS, he met and married his wife Carolyn who accompanied him throughout his entire career.

Lt Col Heitman's career included tours of duty in Turkey; Greece (Crete); Kelly AFB, San Antonio, Texas; Osan AB, Korea; McClellan AFB, Sacramento, CA; Griffiss AFB, Rome NY; and Maxwell AFB, Montgomery, AL. Throughout his career, he continued to advance his education, completing two Masters degrees, one in Business Administration and one in Computer Science. His awards include several Air Force Commendation Medals and Meritorious Service Medals, and he was selected as the Air Force Maintenance Officer of the Year in 1982.

He retired from the Air Force in 1991. Lt Col Heitman was

heavily involved with the evolution of information technology in the Air Force. In his early career, he supported the use of one large mainframe computer at each base. As his career progressed, he implemented new technologies with the introduction of desktops and mini computers for communications and intelligence operations. Finally, in the late 1980s, he participated in several Air Force projects to employ emerging networking technologies.

After retiring from the Air Force, Lt Col Heitman began a second career with the Department of Public Health for the State of Alabama, retiring from that position in 2015. In that capacity, he served as the Department's Chief Information Officer. He built upon his Air Force experience to develop, modernize, and implement several IT systems which enhanced the delivery of public health services.



**EDITOR:** Why did you join the SENCLAND MOAA chapter and what do you enjoy most about the chapter? *I joined MOAA in 2012 because I wanted to network with other officers and keep involved with the military community. I have enjoyed the MOAA magazine and the monthly luncheons.*

**EDITOR:** Why did you join the SENCLAND MOAA chapter and what do you enjoy most about the chapter? *The first chapter I joined was in Montgomery Alabama. When I moved to North Carolina in 2022, I wanted to meet retired officers in this area so I reached out to the chapter from the website. I enjoy all the monthly meetings, the friendship with other officers, and the informative programs offered by SENCLAND chapter.*

**EDITOR:** What activities do you most enjoy or most frequently engage in within your community or local area? *The one activity I enjoy tremendously is the [UNCW OLLI New Horizons Band](#). This is a program for older adults to rehearse weekly in the fall and spring semesters and present a concert for the community. I enjoy this very much because I am able to use my music skills and it keeps me mentally challenged. I also enjoy golf and worshipping at my local church.*

**EDITOR:** Do you have other comments to share with SENCLAND members or other newsletter readers? *This chapter of MOAA is a treasure for the Wilmington area. Your programs and support for local area initiatives is outstanding and I am proud to be a member of SENCLAND.*

## 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](mailto:sencland.president@gmail.com).



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

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