



MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, SENCLAND CHAPTER

P.O. BOX 10015 • WILMINGTON NC 28404 • [WWW.SENCLAND.ORG](http://WWW.SENCLAND.ORG)

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**December 2025**



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



**Greetings and Happy Holidays!**

I enjoyed seeing everyone at our 4 November meeting and I am looking forward to seeing everyone at our special Holiday 3 December meeting at the Bluewater Grill. We need to have a good headcount by Tuesday 25 November 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.

**Thanks to all of you for your prompt RSVPs**

**for the November meeting.** There were several “day of” cancellations, and that was great as we were able to provide the Bluewater with an almost perfect count for that event. Please, please keep in mind that if you RSVP that you can attend and then can’t make it, please let us know – even if it’s at the last minute. It really does make a difference.

We had a very interesting and informative presentation at our 4 November meeting by Dr. Robert McKenzie, COL, USA (ret), Chief of Psychiatry for our local VA Region on the assessment and treatment of PTSD.

Our special guests for our 2 December meeting will be the Local Cape Fear Chordsmen Barbershop Chorus who will treat us to patriotic and holiday music. If you recall, they performed for this event last December and did such a great job, we invited them back!

**Welcome to our newest members:**

- ◆ Suzanne Bergmeister, Col, USAF, (Ret.)
- ◆ Laura Dickey, RADM, USCG, (Ret.).
- ◆ Maynard M. Henry, Sr., Major, USMC. (Ret.) and his wife Sandra
- ◆ Albert “Al” Martin, LtCol, USMC, (Ret.) and his wife Jenna

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

**Happy 389th Birthday to the National Guard on 13 December.**

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**Chapter Awards**



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## President's Message (Continued)

### Submitted by President Allan Turner



Time to pay dues is approaching - With the 2026 New Year, it will be time once again to collect annual dues. An article that spells out the details included in the [Membership section of this newsletter](#)

For our 6 January meeting, we will install the following new officers for 2026-2027, approved by the membership during our 4 November Business meeting:

- President: Michael Apicella, COL, USA, Ret.
- 1st VP: Sean Murphy. Maj Gen, USAF, Ret.
- 2nd VP: Barry Coyle, CAPT, USN Ret.
- 3rd 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.

Congratulation to all of these officers for being selected for these roles!

In addition, on January 6th we are pleased to have a presentation by Jeffrey Bourk, Director of our ILM Airport. Director Bourk will speak on their current upgrades at the airport. If you've been out to the airport recently, it is very obvious they are upgrading and expanding to keep up with the growth in our area. Please see additional details for these events in the [Programs](#) section of this newsletter.

Your contributions to our Scholarship and Outreach programs are very much appreciated. Many thanks to those of you who continue to contribute to these programs. Our JROTC, Veterans Scholarships, and Veteran Outreach programs, in addition to our BG Jim Carper Scholarship Fund are doing great work in our catchment area. During the month of November we presented a total of 9 scholarships to Veteran students at UNCW, CFCC, and BCC. Without your generosity and continued support, we would be unable to help these deserving individuals. Thank you again so much for your support!

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

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***The December 2025 meeting will be my last full chapter event as your President. I have been honored to serve in this role and my heartfelt thanks to all the Board of Directors and members who have supported me during my time. I will be proud to pass the Chapter Gavel to COL Mike Apicella next month, as I'm quite certain he will continue SENCLAND's mission without missing a beat. In addition to myself, there are many members who are transitioning in and out of leadership roles in the chapter. For those who are leaving, thank you for your many years of dedicated service, and to those assuming those roles, thank you for stepping up to continue to make SENCLAND the largest and best chapter in North Carolina.***

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# 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

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



# Welcome

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

- ◆ Suzanne Bergmeister, Col, USAF, (Ret.). Suzanne lives in the River Lights area of Wilmington
- ◆ Laura Dickey, RADM, USCG, (Ret.). Laura lives in the Porters Neck section of Wilmington.
- ◆ Maynard M. Henry, Sr., Major, USMC. (Ret.). Maynard and Sandra live in the Compass Point area of Leland
- ◆ Albert "Al" Martin, LtCol, USSMC, Ret. Al & Jenna live in the Porters Neck area of Wilmington.



**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](mailto:downeast@bellsouth.net) or Leslie at [lesliecotu@hotmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:downeast@bellsouth.net) or Allen Allegretto at [allegrettoa@yahoo.com](mailto:allegrettoa@yahoo.com)





## **2026 Chapter Membership Dues & Donations**

**Submitted by Al Schroetel , Membership Co-Chair**

Annual Chapter membership payments are each January. The fees are:: \$20 for Regular Members, \$15 for Surviving Spouses

Dues are waived for the following two categories of members:

- All members 90 years of age or older.
- New chapter members for the remainder of the calendar year in which they join.

If you have a question about your payment status, please contact Al Schroetel at [downeast@bellsouth.net](mailto:downeast@bellsouth.net) or 910-352-4378

You can pay at a chapter luncheon **or** by mailing check to:

**SENCLAND Chapter of MOAA**

**PO Box 10015**

**Wilmington, NC 28404**

Please include the following information on your letter: E-mail Address and Preferred Telephone number.

When mailing your dues payment please also consider a donation to the Chapter's Junior ROTC Scholarship, Outreach Program, or Veteran Education Assistance Programs...or as a un-designated donation.

If you prefer to pay on-line, please wait until January when the chapter plans to implement a simplified online payment system More information about the on-line system will be sent by e-mail in a few weeks.



## November 2025 Luncheon/Meeting



November 4, 2025  
Luncheon/Meeting  
At the [Bluewater Waterfront Grill](#)

During the November 4th SENCLAND Luncheon featured presenter *Dr. Robert McKenzie*, COL, U.S. Army (retired), Chief of Psychiatry with the VA region, gave an informative presentation on Veteran mental health, PTSD, and treatments.



Al Schroetel, Membership Committee Chair, presented the results of the recently conducted chapter survey.



Joe Irrera, Chair of the Nominations Committee presented the slate of officers for 2026-2027 operational year.

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



## SENCLAND Holiday Luncheon

**Date:** Tuesday 2 December 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.

**The price for this event is \$40.00 Menu:**

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



### Garden Salad and Dinner Rolls

#### ENTRÉE Choices:

- Shrimp and Grits with mushrooms, shallots and Cajun cream sauce
- Hoisin Baked Salmon with sweet Asian sesame glaze, served with rice and roasted green beans
- Grilled Chicken Marsala with mushroom marsala sauce, served with mashed potatoes and green beans
- Rosemary Dijon crusted Pork Loin, served with mashed potatoes and roasted green beans

#### DESSERT Choices:

- Flourless Chocolate Cake (gluten free)
- Cheesecake topped w/raspberry sauce
- Fresh berries with whipped cream

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



**Please RSVP no later than Tuesday, 25 November**



## November 2025 Luncheon/Meeting



### *SENCLAND Holiday Luncheon featuring The Cape Fear Chordsmen*



The Cape Fear Chordsmen are returning for the SENCLAND's December luncheon with their impressive gift of Christmas cheer through song! Established in 1988, Cape Fear Chordsmen is a renowned barbershop chorus dedicated to providing a platform for men to harmonize through singing. Their goal is to preserve and promote the beauty of barbershop harmony music, bringing joy and entertainment to audiences in the greater Wilmington area. The group gives back to the community by donating their talents to local assisted living and memory care facilities.



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## Scheduled 2026 Luncheons/Programs

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

**Feb 3, 2026, Bluewater Grill:** Ranger from Moores Creek National Battlefield (250th anniversary)

**Mar 3, 2026, Bluewater Grill:** Major General Joe Shrader, NC Museum of the Marine, Jacksonville, NC

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

**May 5, 2026, Bluewater Grill:** Stuart Pike (Character actor) signer of Declaration of Independence (1776 Recognition)



### ***SENCLAND Challenge Coins***

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





## 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.*

This will be my last input as the JROTC Leadership Awards and Scholarship Chairman. In January these jobs will pass to Commander (Ret) Dave Everette. He was the Senior Naval Instructor at JT Hoggard before his retirement.

As we transition, I thought I would put on my Historian’s hat and give you a summary of what the SENCLand MOAA Leadership Awards and Scholarships have contributed to our local schools. First, SENCLand MOAA has presented 200 MOAA JROTC Leadership awards since I took over the program in 2015. These have gone to all 19 of the schools we support. I don’t have the total since their inception with SENCLand. We have had different numbers of schools in other counties and many schools started their JROTC programs around 1993.

Scholarship wise, the SENCLand MOAA JROTC Scholarship presentations date back to 2002. LTC (Ret) Robert Jones, who started the Brunswick County and Pender High School programs conceived the idea of presenting scholarships to high school students in our catchment area. I believe that prior to that there was a check given to the Leadership Awards recipients. Since the scholarships started in 2002, SENCLand MOAA has awarded \$124,200 in scholarships. These were presented to a total of 103 students in 18 different high schools.

***Since the scholarships started in 2002, SENCLand MOAA has awarded \$124,200 in scholarships. These were presented to a total of 103 students in 18 different high schools.***

Since 2015 when I became chairman we have presented 62 scholarships to students at 13 schools. These scholarships totaled \$63,200. As you can see we have made significant contributions to our high school students. When you add in the Veteran’s scholarship and outreach payments over this same period of time we have benefited a wide range of students and veterans. As I leave these jobs I would challenge every member to resolve to make at least one annual contribution to these programs.



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## Veteran Student Education Scholarship

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

This year's awards ceremonies went well with good attendance from both the academic community, MOAA members, and the veteran community at large.

The first ceremony was at Brunswick County Community College on November 3rd. It began with a color guard presentation from American Legion Post 543, followed by a rendition of the National Anthem by a Marie-Pierre Fletcher, Director of Season Notes Choral Society. The MC for the event was Brigadier General Edward Naessens, the Director of Engineering at BCC. This year's PAVE recipient was Tar-teeshia Hooper-Andrews. Allan Turner, Gene Palmer, and Tim Johnson of SENCLAND MOAA were present to award the scholarship grants to veterans Sierra Gross USA receiving the BG Jim Carper award and Mathew Dominic Hennessy USA. Interestingly the keynote address was given by Jesse Miller USA, a 2024 MOAA grant recipient, who is doing quite well. The Ceremony closed with an invocation from Angela Locklear USN. The colors were then retired by the American legion post followed by a catered lunch.



The Second ceremony was held at UNCW's Veterans Hall on November 5th to good size group of student veterans in attendance. SENCLAND MOAA members, Allan Turner, Gene Palmer, and Tim Johnson were introduced by Bill Kawczynski, the Veteran's Service Director for UNCW. Unfortunately, only two of the grant recipients were present due to a class scheduling conflict. The two recipients present were Andrew Jazdzewski, USN and Peter Rebeck USA, who received the BG Jim Carper award. We were then treated to grilled cheese sandwiches and pancakes in a casual atmosphere.



The third and final presentation ceremony this year was held at Cape Fear Community College on November 11th in the Union Station building due to unsettled weather. Always a well put together event. Unfortunately, only two of the four recipients were able to attend.

Thank you to all who contributed to the Scholarship Grant program. It has been a very successful year with a total disbursement of \$5,000. We look forward to receiving and publishing thank you notes from the recipients as well as inviting them to attend a luncheon in 2026.



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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 \$683 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 be made to the SENCLAND MOAA Chapter to help support the Outreach Grant Program.

This month the Outreach Committee awarded \$600 to Matthew Masher. Matthew A. Masher is an honorably discharged Army Veteran with five years of active federal service. He requests \$600 to help cover his rent this month. Matthew is

currently unable to work due to a back injury. He is on Medicaid for his medical treatment. The Check was presented to Mr. Masher at the Veterans Service Organization in Wilmington by Committee Chair Mike Apicella, Committee member Hondo Davids, and New Hanover County Veterans Service Officer James Brown.



## Committee Members

Mike Apicella – Chair  
Hondo Davids  
Leon Rooks



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## Wellness Coordinator's Corner

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



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

Well, 2025 is coming to a close and as we enter December, we should reflect on the year behinds us. So much was accomplished by the hard work of SENCLAND MOAA.

But, December is a month that invites us to pause, reflect, and appreciate the light that entered the world so many years ago. As we gather with friends and family, we are reminded the true significance of the season- the birth of our Lord and Savior. His arrival brought hope, peace and purpose, and gifts that guide us today. May this December fill our hearts with gratitude.

I wish all our members and families a "Happy Holiday Season "

### *Committee Members*

**Leon Rooks – Chair**  
**David Foster**  
**Mike Burrous**



## Surviving Spouse Corner

Submitted by Marco Vialpando, Surviving Spouse Liaison



Fellow Surviving Spouses,

Thank you to the ladies that supported the November meeting, it was a wonderful event. I look forward to the December meeting, as we ring in the Holidays, which are quickly upon us. I wish that everyone takes time to get out and enjoy the spirit of those holidays, whatever your beliefs. I wish all a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous new year.

**Marco Vialpando**  
SENCLAND Surviving Spouse Liaison  
910-530-4025, [vipp6@yahoo.com](mailto:vipp6@yahoo.com)



## Legislative Affairs

Submitted by Barry Coyle, Legislative Affairs Chair



### In Washington

I am sure that you have seen media reports that the record-setting 43-day Government shut-down finally ended on 12 November. This was accomplished by both Houses of Congress passing, and the President signing, a hybrid funding bill. This legislation provides full appropriations for the remainder of FY 2026 for the Legislative Branch, Military Construction, Veterans' Affairs, and the Department of Agriculture (including FDA and the Rural Development Agency). The rest of the Government, including DoD is funded only until 30 January 2026 by another Continuing Resolution which provides funding at 2025 levels. Congress claims to be working on the remaining 12 Appropriations bills that would provide full funding for the rest of FY 2026. Their goal is to complete these bills before the current funding legislation expires. We shall see.

The FY 2026 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) continues to move forward slowly. 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.

The 2026 Cost of Living Adjustment for Military Retired Pay and Social Security has been announced as 2.8%. This is less than planned cost increases for MEDICARE and TRICARE benefits, including the TRICARE pharmacy program.

### 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. They also managed to pass yet another redistricting map that is sure to be tied up in court for months. No proposed legislation affecting active-duty personnel, retirees, or veterans is currently under consideration.

### Open Season

The annual Open Season periods for Federal medical programs are underway. 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



## 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 JROTC 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 NEWS



## ***SENCLAND Members visit Fort Fisher State Historic Site***

Thirty-three SENCLAND Chapter members enjoyed a visit to Fort Fisher State Historic Site and took in the massive earthwork fortifications that once guarded the Cape Fear River during the Civil War. The group was guided along a scenic trail, and saw reconstructed batteries, interpretive signs, and views of the coastline that highlight the fort's strategic importance. The tour guide created a clear sense of how the final battle at Fort Fisher helped shape the outcome of the war.



## ***SENCLAND Members visit Noble Middle School***

Several SENCLAND Chapter members attended the Noble Middle School's "Honoring Our Veterans" event on November 7th: Ritt Schiano, Chrissy Sanford, Anne Leanos, RADM Laura Dickey, and Jim Brumit





## *The Cape Fear Chordsmen*

The Cape Fear Chordsmen have invited SENCLAND Chapter members to their Christmas Concert at Temple Baptist Church at 2:30pm on December 14th. Annually, they donate the proceeds of their Christmas concert to various charities. In 2024 they were able to send \$2,500 to the disaster recovery effort in western North Carolina. This year they will donate to the Salvation Army of Wilmington.

## *Wreaths Across America—December 13, 2025*

The Wilmington National Cemetery's Wreaths Across America will be held on Saturday, December 13, 2025, at the Wilmington National Cemetery, 2011 Market Street, Wilmington, NC to Remember and Honor our veterans through the laying of Remembrance Wreaths on the graves of our country's fallen heroes and the act of saying the name of each and every veteran aloud. Sponsor wreaths today by visiting [NCWNCE - Wilmington National Cemetery](https://www.ncwnce.org) and clicking the Red Sponsor button. Every contribution helps us get closer to placing 5,172 wreaths and ensuring no veteran is forgotten.





# SENCLAND Member's Profile



## Heather Hanning, CDR, U.S. Coast Guard (ret)

Following graduation from Purdue University, CDR Hanning enlisted in the Coast Guard in 1999, spending a short time as a Boatswain's Mate 3rd Class on an internationally-crewed Coast Guard cutter, bringing supplies and training to several Caribbean nation Coast Guards. She was soon accepted into OCS and began her career specialization as a Prevention Officer. In the following years, CDR Hanning completed qualifications in domestic and foreign ship and facility inspections, maritime accident investigations, and safety, security, and disaster management for waterways and major ports. In addition, she earned a Master's degree in Organizational Leadership, with an emphasis in servant leadership from Gonzaga University. Commander Hanning's duty stations included Miami, Washington D.C., Mobile AL, Cincinnati, New Orleans, Paducah, KY, and Wilmington, NC. Successes of note as a senior leader included leading port disaster preparation and recovery for numerous hurricanes on the Gulf and East



coasts, including Katrina and Florence. During COVID-19, she guided her department in balancing foreign-crewed vessels' health risks with protecting international trade and health of U.S citizens in the ports of Wilmington and Morehead City. Commander Hanning retired from Coast Guard Sector Wilmington in 2020, and has settled into Carolina Beach with her 9th grade son, Brody and their dog Tannin. After retiring, CDR Hanning quickly founded her small business, **H Squared**

**Handywoman Services, LLC**, where she completes small scale home repair and improvements in southern New Hanover County.

**EDITOR: Why did you join MOAA, what is MOAA's best benefits and what MOAA services have you used?** *I joined at the suggestion of a friend as a way to stay informed of issues facing veterans and to support a solid organization.*

**EDITOR: Why did you join the SENCLAND MOAA chapter and what do you enjoy most about the chapter?** *I joined to find community in members who understand military service and hope to replace the missing comradery brought on by retirement. I have been a member for just a short time and enjoy learning at the lunch presentations and getting to know officers from many different eras of service and experiences.*

**EDITOR: What activities do you most enjoy or most frequently engage in within your community or local area?** *I am a member of the Town of Carolina Beach's Beautification Committee, where I enjoy planning and planting green spaces in community public spaces. At home, I like to raise fruits and vegetables and incorporate as many native species as possible in my landscaping. I also enjoy camping in my tiny travel trailer, taking nature walks with my dog, and cheering my son on at his motocross races.*



## 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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## SPONSORS (Continued)

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

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