MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, SENCLAND CHAPTER
P.O. BOX 10015 . WILMINGTON NC 28404 . WWW.SENCLAND.ORG
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SENTINEL

October 2026

Chapter Awards

MOAA Levels of Excellence Award 5-Star Award

Col. Marvin J. Harris Communications 5-Star Award

October 2026 Message from President Mike Apicella
sencland.president@gmail.com

Greetings

We had an awesome turnout at our first meeting of the season at the Bluewater Grill on September 1st. Our keynote speaker was GEN Curtis Scaparrotti who gave a very timely and informative presentation on military operations in the Mideast and the Ukraine. As always, the members of SENCLAND had many insightful questions for GEN Scaparrotti and we all learned a lot.

Unfortunately, September 11, 2001, remains a defining moment in our nation's 250-year history. Please remember, all those who gave their lives on that day in history; and for those who continue to fight for our freedom.

Happy Birthday to all of members who were born in October.

In addition, let us remember the following:

Happy 56th Birthday to NOAA – October 3, 1970

Happy 251st Birthday to the U.S. Navy – October 13, 1775

You all have served this Nation well.

Our next chapter meeting will be held on October 6th. Our speaker will be Abby Lorenzo, Deputy Director, Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization. She oversees the organization's long-range planning and technical services, and coordinates with regional and statewide transportation planning initiatives.

Once again, thanks to those of you who continue to contribute to our Scholarship and Outreach 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. Without your generosity and continued support, we would be unable to help these deserving individuals.

Thank you again so much for your support!

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President's Message (Continued)

By President Mike Apicella

National MOAA Summer Advocacy In Action 2026

National, States, and Local Chapters of MOAA met with many congressional members this summer to support the following high-priority issues:

- Reauthorize the Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC) for Veterans and Add Military Spouses
- Restore GLP-1 Coverage for TRICARE for Life (TFL)
- Pass the Major Richard Star Act

Please see the MOAA website under Advocacy In Action for further details.

MOAA's Strategic Plan

Advocacy, Membership, and Community Engagement

Vision, Mission, and Values

- **Vision:** To be the foremost organization advocating for the uniformed services communities and their families.
- **Mission:** To preserve and protect earned benefits for the uniformed services members, veterans, and their families through advocacy and education.
- **Values:** Commitment to service, leadership, diversity, inclusion, and professionalism.

If not a Premium MOAA member currently, please consider upgrading your membership.

Please keep reading your newsletter in its entirety! This edition has some very nice, featured articles I know you will enjoy.

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

Mike Apicella, COL, USA (ret), President, SENCLAND Chapter
Sean Murphy, Maj Gen USAF (ret), 1st Vice President, Legislative Affairs Committee
Barry Coyle, CAPT USN (ret), 2nd Vice President
Fred Kuhm, CAPT, USN (ret), 3rd Vice President, Outreach Committee

Board Members

Allan Turner, CAPT USNR (ret), Immediate Past President, and Membership Co-Chair
Joe Irrera, COL, USMC (ret) 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
David Everette, CDR, USNR (ret), JROTC Scholarships & Leadership Awards Chair
LeeRoy Hanna, LTC, USA (ret), Historian
Leon Rooks, MAJ, USAR, Outreach Chair
David Foster, CWO2, USCG (ret), 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
Allen Allegretto, CDR, USNR (ret), Webmaster, Member Communication System Manager
Karen Murphy, Military Spouse**,** Social Committee
Hondo Davids, MAJ, USMC (ret), Outreach Committee
Stephen Bird, CAPT, USN (ret), Wellness Committee
Mike Burrous, CPT, USMC, Wellness 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
Tim Johnson, CPT, USMC, USMC 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

by Al Schroetel, Leslie Roberson, and Allan Turner Membership Co-Chairs

Albert H Schroetel
COL USAF (Ret)

Leslie Roberson
LtCol USAF (Ret)

Allan Turner
CAPT USNR (Ret)

New Members

Welcome to the SENCLAND Chapter

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

- **Nicholas Frazier, LTC, USA (Ret.),** Nick and Katie live in Scotts Hill, NC
- **John R. Lee, LTC, USA (Ret.),** John and Barbara live in the Porters Neck area of Wilmington
- **David Suter, CAPT, USN (Ret.),** Dave and Pat live in Supply, NC.

Membership Updates (Continued)

We Like Guests: Please invite a friend or neighbor 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 chapter members, but we need your help to do this. Please let us know of major changes such as 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 Al at downeast@bellsouth.net or Allen Allegretto at allegrettoa@yahoo.com

SENCLAND Challenge Coins Still Available.

The SENCLAND Chapter now has its very own Challenge Coin! Initial sales have been strong, but we have many left and will continue to offer them at $5.00 each at upcoming chapter luncheons/meetings and other functions.

September 2026, Meeting/Luncheon

September 1, 2026
Luncheon/Meeting
At the Bluewater Waterfront Grill

There was a record attendance at the SENCLAND September 1st luncheon. Guest presenter and chapter member, General Curtis Scaparrotti, USA retired, gave an extensive presentation on current military tactics and strategies, political decisions, and ongoing threats and challenges to military operations in several theaters, followed by a brief Q&A

During the SENCLAND September 1st luncheon. Chapter President, Mike Apicella presented the MOAA 2025 Levels of Excellence 5-Star Award to Immediate Past President Allan Turner, the Colonel Marvin J. Harris Award for the *Sentinel* Newsletter to Dianne Jinwright, and the award for the SENCLAND Website to Allen Allegretto. 2025 marks the 11th consecutive year that the SENCLAND Chapter received the 5-Star Levels of Excellence Award and the 9th year that it has received the Colonel Marvin J. Harris Award for its newsletter and website.

2025 Levels of Excellence Award

Five-Star Affiliate
Southeastern NC Chapter of MOAA

2025 Col. Marvin J. Harris Communications Award

Southeastern NC Chapter of MOAA:
5-Star Newsletter; 5-Star Website

Meetings/Luncheons

By Mark Steelman, Programs Chair

SENCLAND Monthly Luncheon

Date: Tuesday, 6 October 2026
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, 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 Caesar Salad w/Chicken
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 Saturday, 26 September

Scheduled 2026 Luncheons/Programs

Oct 6, 2026,	Bluewater Grill: Abby Lorenzo, Deputy Director, WMPO Transportation Planning
Nov 3, 2026,	Bluewater Grill: LTGEN Tom Conant – Pacific Rim Geopolitics
Dec 1, 2026,	Bluewater Grill: Holiday program with Zach Hanner and Katie Villecco

October 6, 2026, Meeting/Luncheon

By Mark Steelman, Programs Chair

Presenter: Abby Lorenzo, Deputy Director, Wilmington Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (WMPO.org).

The WMPO is the federally designated and funded entity responsible for providing a regional, continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive transportation planning process for the greater Wilmington region. The presentation will provide an overview of the WMPO's role in the transportation planning process, from project concept through implementation, including how regionally significant projects are identified, prioritized, and programmed for funding. The presentation will also touch on the WMPO's other core federal requirements and programs.

Bio: Abby Lorenzo oversees the WMPO's long-range planning and technical services, and coordinates with regional and statewide transportation planning initiatives. She joined the WMPO in September 2017, bringing a diverse background in both public and private sector planning and engineering. Prior to joining the WMPO, she served as a planner for the Town of Carolina Beach and worked at an engineering consulting firm, where she specialized in traffic engineering and civil site design. Mrs. Lorenzo holds a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from the University of Vermont and a Master of Public Administration from the University of North Carolina Wilmington. She resides in Leland with her husband and their three children.

Legislative Affairs

By Barry Coyle, Sean Murphy, Ray Pelletier, and Jeff Morgan

2026 General Election

Note: The election information below is current as of mid-September 2026. Please be aware that the NC General Assembly could override a veto of Election Law Changes which would make some changes in election procedures. Changes to mail-in voting procedures ordered by the President of the United States have been placed on hold for this election by the U.S. Supreme Court. Nevertheless, I think it would be wise to keep up with news and developments regarding election procedures. The NC State Board of Elections at Home Page | NCSBE is your best source of accurate information. There you can also check your voter registration status, track your ballot after you vote, and obtain mail-in ballots and sample ballots.

The 2026 General Election is rapidly approaching. 3 November is Election Day, although you also have several options for early voting, including mail-in absentee ballots and in-person early voting. Photo identification is required when voting in-person and absentee ballots must be mailed in time to arrive by election day. This year we will be electing one U.S. Senator, all U.S. Representatives, all State Senators and Representatives and a long list of other state officials and justices and County elected officials. In addition to candidates, there will be three proposed Constitutional Amendments on the ballot: (1) to require all voters, not just those presenting to vote in person, to present photo identification before voting; (2) to keep the State income tax rate from being raised higher than three and one-half percent (3.5%): (3) requiring limits on property tax increases by local governments.

This is certainly going to be an interesting mid-term election. Please make your plans now to cast your ballot in November. You can find detailed information and resources on the NC State Board of Elections website at **Home Page | NCSBE**, or on your County Board of Elections page. Sample ballots are now available through your County Board of Elections. Important dates for this year are shown below:

Important dates for this year are shown below:

- Oct. 9, 2026: Voter registration deadline (5 p.m.).
- Oct. 15, 2026: In-person early voting begins; same-day registration available.
- Oct. 20, 2026: Absentee (Mail-in) ballot request deadline (5 p.m.).
- Oct. 31, 2026: In-person early voting ends (3 p.m.).
- Nov. 3, 2026: General Election Day.
- Nov. 3, 2026: Absentee ballot return deadline (7:30 p.m.).

Legislative Affairs (Continued)

In Washington

The Houses of Representatives is in recess from 15 September to 9 November and the Senate will recess from 5 October to 9 November. No progress was made on major legislation affecting national MOAA priorities during the few days both Houses were at work in September. As reported last month, both the House and Senate have decided to not even try to pass any FY2027 Appropriations bills by the legally required 30 September deadline. Instead, both passed a final Continuing Resolution (CR) that funds the Government at FY 2026 levels through 11 December and avoids a Government shutdown prior to the mid-term elections. The President signed the CR bill into law on 2 September.

MOAA is conducting several advocacy campaigns in the Legislative Action Center. You can participate in these advocacy efforts by signing up for the Legislative Action Center at https://moaa.quorum.us.

Finally, our Chapter participated in MOAA's Summer Advocacy in Action (AIA) campaign. Mike Apicella, and Barry Coyle met with Representative Rouzer's (R-7th) District staff on 25 August. We presented MOAA's AIA priorities,

1. Supporting combat-injured veterans: the Major Richard Star Act.
2. Expanding employment opportunities for veterans and military spouses.
3. Restoring pharmacy coverage of certain GLP-1 drugs for TRICARE For Life beneficiaries

We will request Mr. Rouzer's support for these issues in Congress.

In North Carolina

The General Assembly was in recess for all of September and will reconvene on 28 September. As reported last month, the recently passed Appropriations Act contains funding for a replacement of the Fayetteville State Veterans Home. On 14 September, the U.S. House of Representatives passed House Resolution 10159 which cedes federal land at Fort Bragg to NC for the new Veterans' Home. This Resolution was sent to the Senate on 15 September and is now under consideration in the Senate Armed Services Committee. It seems likely that this Resolution will pass in the Senate soon, keeping the new Veterans' Home project on track.

JROTC Awards & Scholarship Program

By David Everette, JROTC Coordinator

Matrix of the SENCLAND MOAA Six Scholarship Recipients

NAME **School** **Attendance at Picnic**	Application Completion Date	**SAT/ACT** Scores	**Activities**	**GPA / School Ranking**	Character Letters	**College Acceptance**	**Child of Active or Retired Military** Y/N	**GOAL**	**Interview**	**Qualified**
Seamus Ostrosky **Topsail HS** **One parent -William**	3/14/26	**SAT** 1120	Unit Executive Officer CGJROTC National Honor Society	4.107 weighted 172 of 478	MCPO Brown	UNCW NC State	N	Film Studies	4/3/26,	**Y**
Connor McAuliffe **Hoggard HS** **Both Parents- Sean & Danielle / Instructor - CAPT Stoney Mitchell**	3/18/26	**SAT** 1110 **ACT** 22	Unit Commanding Officer NJROTC Boys State	3.929 weighted 241 of 481	CAPT Mitchell	The Citadel Jacksonville State	N	Commissioned Officer, Army or Navy	4/1/26	**Y**
Treasure Grimes **Laney HS** **Both Parents Kimberly & Frank/Instructor Colonel Amy Russo**	3/26/26	**ACT** 19	Unit Master Sergeant AFJROTC	3.275 weighted 271 of 482	Colonel Russo	Guilford College UNC Charlotte	N	Military law enforcement, FBI	4/2/26	**Y**
Jesilyn Nelson **Lejeune HS** **Both Parents Troy & Jesilyn**	3/21/26	**SAT** 1220	Unit Commanding Officer MCJROTC National Honor Society	4.034 weighted 8 of 86	Major Griffing	Campbell U. UNCW	Y	Pharmaceutical Studies	4/3/26	**Y**
Jane Gwinn **Lejeune HS** **Not Attending**	3/21/26	**SAT** 1460	Unit Executive Officer MCJROTC	4.327 weighted 7 of 86	Major Griffing	Georgia Institute of Technology	Y	Commissioned Officer, Pilot USMC Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering	4/4/26	**Y**
Robbiana Fields **James Kenan HS** **Mom- Shavell Miller & Instructor -MSG Graves**	3/30/26	ACT 20	Captain Cheerleaders BETA FCA Secretary	4.470 weighted 10 of 56	Kristen Lee School Counselor	Winston Salem State	N	Business Administration Own a business	4/2/26	**Y**

We would like to thank everyone who donated to the <u>JROTC Scholarships and Leadership Awards</u> programs and ask you to keep these important programs in mind. Please consider a donation to these worthwhile projects now.

Thank you again to all our generous contributors.

Veteran Student Education Scholarship

By Tim Johnson, Captain, USMC, Scholarship Coordinator

Thanks to all donors that have supported our 2026 Veteran Grant/Scholarship Program so far. We are working with a budget shortfall and are always looking for additional funding. Please reach out to your friends.

The schedule for this year's veteran student grant program is as follows.

Brunswick County Community College will have their annual Veterans Day celebration at 11:00 on November 3rd at the Odell Williamson Auditorium. We will be presenting two $500 grants. There will be several speakers present and local Veterans will supply an honor guard. Lunch will be served for all guests.

This year's UNCW's presentation will be on November 9th after 13:00, during their annual chili cook off. The location will be at Veterans Hall on campus, and we will be presenting three $500 grants. A good size crowd is expected.

The CFCC presentation will be on November 11th at their annual veterans day celebration. Weather permitting it will be outside at the "Tabitha's courtyard" location on campus. We will be presenting three $500 grants."

Community Outreach

By Leon Rooks, Outreach Committee Chair

The SENCLAND MOAA Community Outreach Committee has provided assistance to three veterans this year. We have been working closely with the New Hanover County Veteran Services Office helping with housing needs, utilities, and medical care for these three veterans. We have also reached out to veteran organizations in Brunswick County to assist veterans who are in need in that area.

Our committee is also working with the ECU Dental School who has a dental program in Bolivia NC for veterans who are in need of dental care.

In the months ahead, we will continue to reach out to surrounding veteran organizations in our catchment area to assist our veterans in need.

Leon Rooks, Chair, Community Outreach Committee
Fred Kuhm, Committee Member
Hondo Davids, Committee Member

Wellness Committee

By David Foster Wellness Chair
Email: dwfcwo2@msn.com, Cell: 910-604-0034

Genesis 8:22, "While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, winter and summer, and day and night shall not cease."

God's promise gives us the hope of stability and the assurance that God cares for us. Many hardcore heat lovers are sad to see summer move on, but the beginning of fall ushers in a wonderful time of year. We are very blessed to live in this great country, and it is an extra blessing to be in North Carolina! Enjoy the fall season and take advantage of all the wonderful activities that happen this time of year.

We continue to pray for wisdom for our leaders and the servicemen and women who are putting it all on the line for us. We are grateful for their sacrifice and service, and we pray for God's peace to be with their families and loved ones. Please let us know of any members in need who may enjoy an uplifting visit, prayer, or card. Your SENCLAND MOAA family is active and available to provide support to you and your family.

Please feel free to reach out if you would like a word of prayer, a home visit, or if you are called to serve on the Wellness Committee.

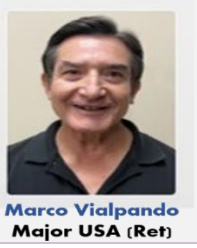
Wellness Committee

David Foster, Chair
Stephen Bird
Mike Burrous

Psalm 1:3, "He shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that brings forth its fruit in its season, whose leaf also shall not wither; and whatever he does shall prosper."

Surviving Spouse Corner

By Marco Vialpando, Surviving Spouse Liaison



I continue to maintain contact with our Surviving spouses, providing information that I think they could use from various media. I recently reached out to the spouses on the NRT list, and I await a response from those contacted. If anyone knows of a MOAA Surviving Spouse in the area that is not a Chapter member, please let me know their contact information and I will welcome them and provide them with background information on our chapter.

Below is an article written **by Lt Col Roy Yenchesky, USA (Ret),** that provides some interesting information.

The death of a military spouse reshapes emotional well-being in ways that reach far beyond grief itself. It is a loss that touches identity, daily rhythm, and the quiet sense of safety that comes from sharing life with someone who understood both the burdens and the pride of service.

For many, the brain responds to this kind of profound disruption with a mix of numbness, hypervigilance, and deep fatigue — natural reactions to a heart trying to make sense of a world suddenly changed. Yet within that upheaval, emotional well-being becomes not just a hope but a necessity: a steadying force that helps the mind process sorrow, rebuild resilience, and slowly rediscover moments of connection, purpose, and peace. This journey is neither quick nor linear, but it reflects the same courage and endurance that military families have always carried.

Emotional well-being and brain health are deeply interconnected, shaping how we think, cope, and experience daily life. Strong emotional balance supports healthier brain function, while a well-nourished brain strengthens our ability to manage stress, build relationships, and maintain resilience.

Research shows that chronic stress can harm key brain regions involved in emotional control, memory, and decision-making, including the prefrontal cortex, amygdala, and hippocampus. When these areas are disrupted, people might experience anxiety, irritability, or difficulty concentrating.

How Emotions Shape the Brain

Positive emotional states — such as purpose, connection, and calm — help regulate stress hormones and support cognitive performance. People who report higher emotional stability and life satisfaction tend to support stronger memory and decision-making abilities as they age.

Conversely, chronic stress elevates cortisol, which can shrink the hippocampus and over activate the amygdala, making emotional regulation more difficult and increasing vulnerability to depression or anxiety.

The Brain–Body Connection

The brain communicates constantly with the body through neural pathways and chemical messengers. Neurotransmitters like serotonin, dopamine, and norepinephrine influence mood, motivation, and focus. When these systems are imbalanced, emotional well-being can suffer. Physical factors such as sleep, inflammation, and fatigue also affect how the brain processes emotions, reinforcing the need for whole-body care.

Strengthening Emotional and Brain Health

Several habits support both emotional balance and neurological resilience:

- Regular physical activity boosts serotonin and dopamine, improving mood and cognitive flexibility.
- Quality sleep helps the brain detoxify and consolidate memories.
- Social connection reduces stress responses and protects cognitive health.
- Mindfulness and gratitude practices calm the nervous system and enhance emotional regulation.
- Balanced nutrition, especially omega-3s and antioxidants, supports neural communication.

Together, these practices create a reinforcing cycle: A healthier brain supports stronger emotional well-being, and emotional well-being protects the brain. (Source: https://www.moaa.org/content/publications-and-media/news-articles/2026-news-articles/spotlight/surviving-spouse-corner-strengthening-emotional-well-being/)

SENCLAND MOAA Membership Benefits

The MOAA SENCLAND Chapter Offers Outstanding Programs to its Members and Community

The SENCLAND chapter has meetings with outstanding programs for 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 Bluewater 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.

To join the SENCLAND MOAA Chapter, click on "**Join MOAA SENCLAND**" 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

By Allen Allegretto, Webmaster, allegrettoa@yahoo.com , or call: 910-617-2307)

The SENCLAND website (http://www.sencland.org) can help you stay informed about upcoming chapter events and current activities. It is easy to access and requires no logon. Our website provides Membership information, News and Events, calendar of chapter events, Legislative Information, updates on chapter programs including outreach, scholarships, and JROTC leadership awards, newsletter and meeting minutes, and a page honoring Fallen Heroes. It shows how to make donations and online payments. You can also read about our chapter mission and view current leadership.

Our chapter Membership Roster is also available on the website. This is the only page that requires log-on 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 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 our members 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 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

The Chapter offers the opportunity for members and their spouses to purchase engraved plastic nametags. The cost of the nametags is $15 per nametag, and they will be the same style and size as in the past (with a magnetic clasp). We will order quarterly or when we have at least 10 paid orders. There are two ways to order:

ON-LINE:

Step #1: PayPal Payment can be made at: SENCLAND: Membership: (https://sencland.org/membership/index.php?id=1636387310)

This will take you to a window where you can pay for your nametag or nametags. (If that link does not work, go to the SENCLAND Website (https://sencland.org) and click on the tab for "News & Events" on the home page and scroll down to "SENCLAND Nametags").

Step #2: Send an e-mail to Leslie Robinson at lesliecotu@hotmail.com including the information you want on the nametag (name, including nick name if you prefer, Branch of military service, rank and current duty status (Retired, former, active duty). Nametags for spouses only require the spouse's name and / or nickname if desired. Use the form below as a guide.

US POSTAL SERVICE MAIL:

Step #1: Complete the information on the form below and mail it with a check made out to SENCLAND MOAA ($15.00 per ordered nametag) to:

SENCLAND Chapter of MOAA, PO Box 10015, Wilmington NC 28404

MOAA SENCLAND Nametags Available for Purchase (Continued)

	SENCLAND NAME TAG NAME/RANK/SERVICE BRANCH/STATUS
1	**FIRST/NICK NAME** _____ **LAST NAME** _____ **RANK** _____ **SERVICE BRANCH** _____ **STATUS** _____ Active Duty, Reserve or Guard, Retired, Former Officer (not retired)
2 (Form for a spouse's nametag)	**FIRST/NICK NAME** _____ **LAST NAME** _____

Orders will be placed as soon as we have enough completed orders to meet the minimum required by the supplier, but no later than each calendar quarter.

When the nametags are received, they will be available for pickup at Chapter luncheons or other events. If you have any questions, please contact Leslie at lesliecotu@hotmail.com or 703-470-3392.

(Example of completed nametag)

Topics of Interest

This section includes information and insights that some SENCLAND Chapter members felt would be of interest to other SENCLAND newsletter readers.

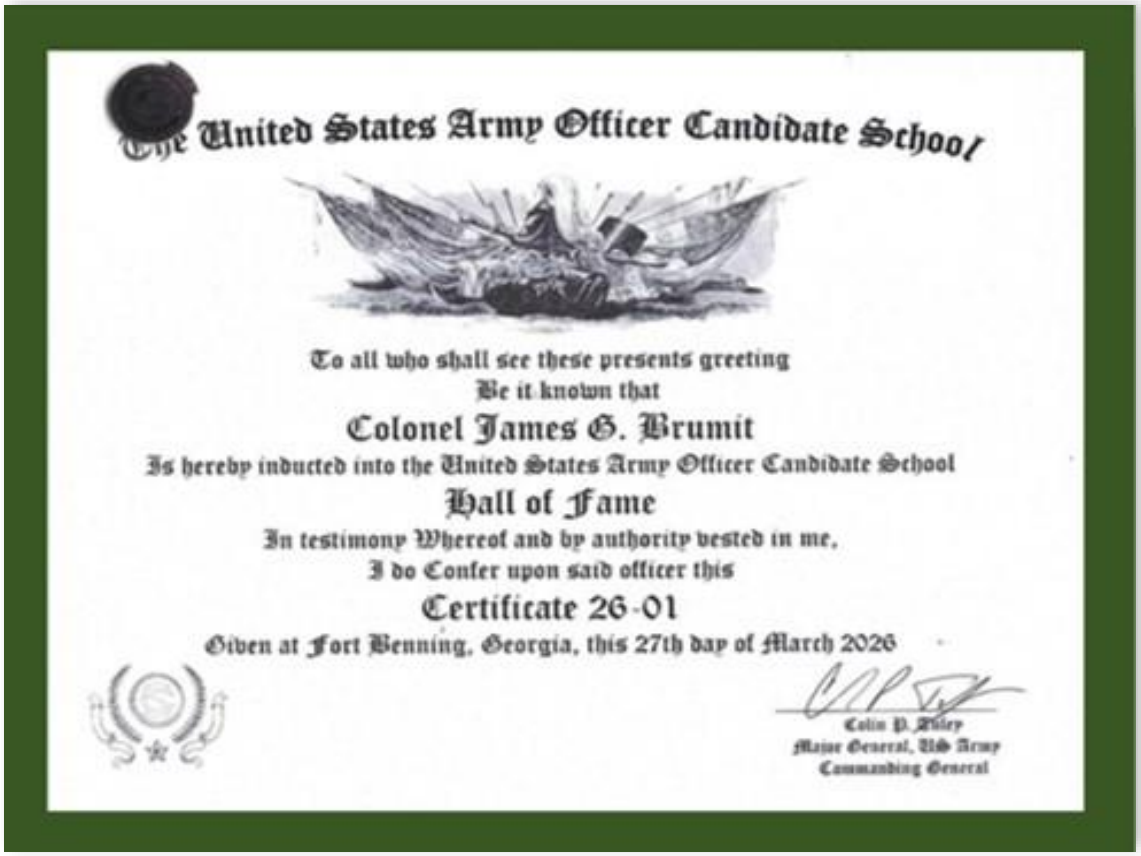
Congratulations SENCLAND Past President Jim Brumit!

Submitted by Gary O. Green Lt Col, USAF (Ret), Member, SENCLAND MOAA

Congratulations to SENCLAND member and Past President Jim Brumit on his induction into the U.S. Army Officer Candidate School (OCS) Hall of Fame, Class 2026!

The U.S. Army Officer Candidate School (OCS) Hall of Fame was established in 1958 to honor graduates of the Army Officer Candidate School who have distinguished themselves in military or civilian pursuits.

The Hall of Fame induction ceremony was held March 27, 2026, at the National Infantry Museum, Fort Benning, Georgia.



The United States Army Officer Candidate School

To all who shall see these presents greeting
Be it known that
Colonel James G. Brumit
Is hereby inducted into the United States Army Officer Candidate School
Hall of Fame
In testimony Whereof and by authority vested in me,
I do Confer upon said officer this
Certificate 26-01
Given at Fort Benning, Georgia, this 27th day of March 2026

Colin P. Riley
Major General, USA Army
Commanding General

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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 Mike Apicella, sencland.president@gmail.com

Whenever possible, please patronize our sponsors and let them know we all appreciate their support of our important initiatives.

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SENCLAND SENTINEL

SOUTHEASTERN NC CHAPTER

MOAA

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THE SENCLAND CHAPTER
of the
MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA
P.O. BOX 10015
Wilmington, NC 28404
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REQUESTED

October 2026

MOAA
Military Officers Association of America

North Carolina Council of Chapters