

# THE TRIBUTE

The Bi-Monthly Newsletter of the Hampton Roads Chapter Military Officers Association of America A MOAA Five Star Level of Excellence Chapter Since 2004. A Winner Printed Newsletter 2014, Electronic Newsletter 2014, and Runner Up Website For 2014. Serving Chesapeake, Norfolk, and Virginia Beach since 1959



Email/Website: hrcmoaa@gmail.com www.hrcmoaa.org

January 2016

VOL 40-NO 1

## NEVER STOP SERVING

**THE TRIBUTE** In honor of those who have sacrificed to keep our country free.



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## 2015 In Review—Strong in the Community!

O nce again, each of us should be proud of the contributions made to our community in 2015. The chapter participated in 30 activities over the course of the year. This included more than a dozen ceremonies where we presented MOAA Leadership awards to ROTC cadets at three affiliated college programs, JROTC cadets at 10 affiliated high school programs, and 105 Gold Bar sets at ROTC commissioning ceremonies. The chapter supported local veterans with a donation to Vets House, Inc. and recognized our World War II and Korean veterans at departure ceremonies for two Honor Flights. Additionally, we made a substantial donation to the Virginia Wounded Warrior Program. Representatives of our chapter participated in Memorial Day and Veterans Day activities in both Virginia Beach and Chesapeake. There were a variety of other activities in which we were active participants. On top of all of this, we met our scholarship fund annual goal. None of this would be possible without you, the members. Job well done!



Visit our website at <u>www.hrcmoaa.org</u>, read the Electronic Newsletter, access Virginia Council of Chapters, MOAA National, Service Departments, Health and Benefit locations, U. S. Senators and Representatives and many others. If you do not have the Members Only "Password" please contact any of our Officers. The HRCMOAA Newsletter is published by the HR Chapter, which is an affiliate of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA). MOAA and its affiliated chapters are nonpartisan. The advertisements that appear in this publication do not reflect an endorsement by MOAA or this affiliate."



## President's Message

Fellow Officers and Spouses:

Happy New Year! We are very fortunate to start the New Year with our January luncheon featuring Congressman Scott Rigell. As we have noted before in past columns, MOAA's goal of achieving legislative objectives gets an early boost from HRCMOAA and we certainly hope you can find the time to join us to meet and discuss legislative priorities with Congressman Rigell. Enjoy a great meal at Atlantic Shores as well!

We enjoyed a strong close to chapter activities in 2015. The Chapter

presented Gold Bars and letters of congratulations to 14 newly commissioned officers of the Army, Navy and Marine Corps who graduated in mid-December. That brought the total number of Gold Bar sets and letters of congratulations presented on behalf of the Chapter in 2015 to 105 newly commissioned officers of the Army, Navy and Marine Corps from Old Dominion, Norfolk State, Hampton, Regent and Virginia Wesleyan Universities. A great send off to what we hope will be very successful careers.

Also, as we closed the year, the Chapter scholarship fund reached \$20,841, 83% of its 5-year \$25,000 goal which ends this year. That is a truly spectacular achievement considering the size of our Chapter. As we end our scholarship drive, we will shift our support focus to the new MOAA Military Family Initiative which you will hear more about throughout the year.

I hope to see you at one of our events or Board Meetings, which are always open to all members. We are looking for officer and board support so if you would like to join us in moving the Chapter forward, please let me know.

Yours in Service, Bert Ortiz

#### HRCMOAA DIRECTORY FIRST VP

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### From the Editor

appy New Year everyone. I hope that each of you had a wonderful holiday and didn't put on too many pounds like me while en-

joying all of the tasty treats this time of year brings us. I've enjoyed looking through the photographs of the ROWS Annual Christmas Dinner Dance and glad that we can share some of those with you in this edition of the newsletter. Please continue to support them as they continue to strongly support our chapter.

Your Chapter Officers and Board have an outstanding year planned for 2016 and we will share more details in the coming months. We decided to come strong out of the gate and are thrilled that we can bring Rep. Scott Rigell to join our group for the January Luncheon. Look in the March newsletter for a recap and photographs as well as a significant update on legislative affairs.

We have extremely dedicated chapter members who volunteer significant amounts of their time to the community and chapter. Please consider joining us at a board meeting, volunteer event, legislative action event, luncheon, or all of the above. We'd love to have you!

Remember, we are strong together and our voice grows commensurate with our membership. Please bring a friend or two to one of our events and help us find our next group of new HRCMOAA members.

Warmest Regards, **Aaron Zielinski** 



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### **Community Affairs Update**

#### Hampton Roads Chapter ROTC Scholarship Fund.

Our chapter has met our annual goal of \$5,000 and is on track to complete our goal of \$25,000 by the end of 2016! Students (under age 24) who are children of former, active or retired officers or active or retired enlisted military personnel are eligible to apply. Military academy cadets are not eligible for this program. Selected students must have a sponsor that is a PREMIUM or LIFE member of MOAA or if enlisted, a member of Voices for America's Troops. This chart reflects the current status of our chapter scholarship fund.

As of 12/17/2015	Total Goal \$25,000	\$20,841	83%
	Annual Goal \$5,000	\$5,841	117%

We remain committed to funding the HRCMOAA Scholarship Fund, which is managed under the MOAA Scholarship at MOAA headquarters.

- Checks should be made out to the *MOAA Scholarship Fund*. In the Memo section at the bottom left on the check, it should be noted that it is for the *HRC Scholarship Fund*. Donations are tax deductible.
- Checks can be sent directly to MOAA in the envelope found in each edition of the MOAA magazine, Military Officer or directly to MOAA at:

Military Officers Association of America Attn: MOAA Scholarship Fund 201 N. Washington Street Alexandria, Virginia 22314

With the exception of two gifts of \$500 and \$1000, donations during 2015 ranged from \$25 to \$250. If you have not participated in making a contribution to the fund, now is a good time to do so. The window to participate will be over in 12 shorts months.

## **2015** Contributions

PLATINUM - \$500 and above

CDR Roberto & Suzanne Ortiz, USN (ret) CAPT Douglas Williams, USN (ret)

GOLD - \$250 to \$499

CDR John Vermillion, USN (ret)

Rita Statzer

SILVER - \$100 to \$249

COL David Wade, USA (ret) LT Charles Haskins, USN Barbara Smith

CAPT Doug Williams, USN (ret) COL Mike Nickelsburg, USN (ret) LCDR Edward Hendren, USN (ret) CAPT William Lehr, USCG (ret) CDR Daniel D. Edwards, USN (ret) CAPT Gilbert Kraine, USN (ret) LTC James Dellaripa, USAF (ret)

#### BRONZE - \$1 to \$99

COL Martin Vozzo, USA MAJ Steve Hackney, USA (ret) Rita Statzer COL Jim Edge, USA (ret)



#### Scholarship Award Winner



Throughout 2015, we have shared updates on our scholarship program's progress as we move towards the five year goal of \$25,000. We are proud to share our 2015 winner and recipient of a \$5,000 interest free loan and \$500 grant, Mr. Eric O'Neal. Eric, a Chesapeake native and Chemistry major at Virginia Commonwealth University, has long been interested in the health professions, starting with an influence who is very close to home: his mother, a U.S. Navy commander nurse. While working hard to achieve his career aspirations and prepare for medical school, Eric is a coach at the YMCA where he serves as a mentor and positive role model for youth in our community. We hope to have Eric as a guest at one of our 2016 luncheons. Below is a thank you letter to the chapter from Eric.

Dear MOAA Hampton Roads Chapter,

my name is Eric O'Neal and I want to give my thanks to

your organization for selecting me as the Designated Scholar for the Hampton Roads Chapter

ROTC Scholarship Fund. I am a senior at Virginia Commonwealth University studying

Chemistry with a Spanish minor. I am applying for the 2016 medical school cycle and I plan to

be an endocrinologist. I plan to attend Stanford Medical School after I graduate in May, on the

assumption that I get accepted, and pursue an M.D./M.B.A dual degree in order to have my own

private practice. I am honored to receive this award on the behalf of your chapter. You've helped

my family significantly for my tuition at Virginia Commonwealth University and I am very

grateful for being selected for this award. Thank you so much again for selecting me.

Sincerely,

Eric PIOMERE II

Eric Patrick O'Neal II



#### January 2016

#### THE TRIBUTE

#### Retired Officers Wives Society (ROWS) Christmas Dinner/Dance 2015

A good time was had by all at the ROWS Christmas Dinner/Dance. 54 people attended the festivities in at Atlantic Shores and danced to the music of The Dudes. Thank you very much to David Goldstein for the photos.



O5.12.2015 CDR John & Mary Uhrin,





LT Steve & Rose Hackney, USN (ret)



*McLaren*, USA (ret)

Sabrina Earhart, Barbara Smith & Jackie Sears



USN (ret)

LtCol Bill &Marge Mischak, USAF (ret)



CAPT Jack & Catherine Colgan, USN (ret)



LCDR Jeff & Karin Barrett, USN (ret)



Lucy Woodall and Bob & Pat Rathbun



LT David & Arlene Goldstein, USN (ret)



CDR Bert & Suzanne Ortiz, USN (ret)



CDR Thomas Pieluszczak, USN (ret) & Sonya Myers

#### Military ID Card Notification Program

This program is designed to help Chapter members and their dependent's to renew their ID cards in a timely fashion. Once you and your dependents are enrolled, you will be notified of your impending ID card expiration date in sufficient time for renewal prior to the expiration date. To enroll in this voluntary program, make copies of the form below for each dependent and fill out the required information. Mail to Military Program, ID Card Notification HRCMOAA, PO Box 4612, Virginia Beach, VA 23454-0612. To enroll by email visit our website. www.hrcmoaa.org and click on About Our Chapter and the ID Card Notification Program link and follow the instructions. Note: Over age 75 members, who are eligible uniform family members and survivors of deceased personnel are now eligible for Permanent Identification Cards. Apply within 90 days of expiration of current ID card.

#### **CAREER CORNER**

Once you transition from active duty, we want you to stay in our community and chapter. Don't wait until the last minute to start networking, learning about transition, and talking with recruiters at career fairs. Here is a list of local military career fairs and networking opportunities:

February 23, 2016 9:00am to 12:30pm Corporate Gray Military Career Fair Virginia Beach - Virginia Beach Convention Center

May 12, 2016 11:00am to 3:00pm RecruitMilitary All Veterans Job Fair Virginia Beach - Sandler Center for the Performing Arts

May 18, 2016 9:00am to 12:30pm Corporate Gray Military Career Fair Virginia Beach - Virginia Beach Convention Center

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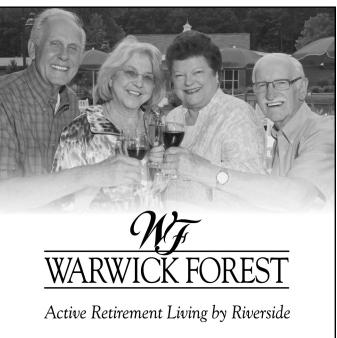
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E-mail address		Spouse's Date of bi	rth / ///	
Mailing Address	Number and Street		MM DD YYYY State	Zip code
Home Phone	Work Phone		Cell Phone	
Member of National MOA	A? Yes No If Yes, MOAA Numb	er** MOA	A Life Member? Yes	No
Enclosed is \$  ** Widow/Widower enter your Name	in dues payment and MOAAA Number, where indicated.	Signature		- 1

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#### Honor Flight Historic Triangle Virginia (HFHTVA): http://www.honorflighthtva.org/

onor Flight Historic Triangle Virginia (HFHTVA) is a Williamsburg-based non-profit organization established in October 2008 with one goal: take every World War II, Korean War and terminally ill veteran, in the Hampton Roads and Richmond areas, that are able and have not visited the various War Memorials built in their honor on a charter bus day trip to Washington, DC. In addition to the WWII Memorial, other stops include Arlington National Cemetery, the Marine Corps War (Iwo Jima) Memorial, Korean War, and/or Vietnam War Memorials. There is no charge to the veterans as they earned it through their dedicated service to our great nation. HFHTVA is a hub of the National Honor Flight Network, which was founded in 2005 and has over 130 hubs throughout the United States. They have taken over 118,000 veterans to the memorial as of November 2013.

The Hampton Roads Chapter Military Officers Association of America (HRCMOAA) serves as the Southside Coordinator, in contact with local University ROTC Units and High School Junior ROTC Units responsible for rendering honors while providing color guards for our veterans as they make their way to their bus for further transportation to Washington DC. Honor Flight takes place twice a year; Fall (October) and Spring (April/May). It occurs at Zero Dark Thirty on a Saturday morning where participants to arrive no later than 4:30am for a 5:15am departure. The next Honor Flight Mission (#15) is tentatively scheduled for Saturday April 23, 2016.

If you are interested in serving as a Guardian, you will have the opportunity to witness no greater display of patriotism. Guardians are essential to the success of the Honor Flight Historic Triangle Virginia Inc. Program. Without guardians the program would not be able to carry out the dreams of so many WW II and Korean War veterans, enabling them to see the memorials built in their honor. During trips, the veterans are divided into groups of eight and assigned three guardians to each group. Each wheelchair bound veteran is one on one with a guardian. Before the veterans arrive for their bus trip, the guardian's responsibilities begin with preparation and review of the veterans' packets of material. Once the veterans begin arriving, guardians will ensure that every the veteran has a safe, memorable, and rewarding experience. Guardians are volunteers and we ask them to pay for their portion of the trip, estimated to be between \$100-\$125. Because of such a significant role the Guardian plays in our program, we will provide a mini-training session for all guardians prior to participating in one of the scheduled trips. We aim to have at least one doctor and two nurses on each bus. Fire, police and active duty military are highly encouraged to volunteer to be Guardians. Please refer to the website provided and select <u>GUARDIAN APPLICATIONS</u> for further information to include but not limited to the date and location of Guardian training. When attending the training session, be prepared to pay the amount of \$100-\$125 that goes to portions of the trip that includes meals.

If you have any questions or comments that cannot be answered using the links available on the main menu bar, please CONTACT them by email or call 800-619-0578 or 757-655-4342 (please note they do not have a live phone operator). The Honor Flight program operates entirely on donated funds, so if you would like to make a tax deductible financial contribution, please visit the <u>DONATIONS</u> page on the website. If you are able to volunteer some time to help organize the trips, recruit veterans and guardians, or raise funds to pay for the veterans' travel costs, please call them at 800-619-0578 or 757-655-4342. Even a small amount of time would be very helpful. Please visit the "Before You Go" Website to hear their song and then pass it on to a World War II and/or Korean War Veteran you know: <u>http://www.beforeyougo.us</u>

"We can't all be heroes, some of us have to stand on the curb and clap as they go by" - Will Rogers







#### Looking For a Few Good Volunteers

The HRCMOAA Board Needs Volunteers!

Our chapter is in need of volunteers to help with the administration of the chapter. Our Board recently lost the help of a couple of key board members due to job responsibilities and military orders and may be losing a third in the near future. The Board works together to run the chapter and we help each other out so no one person has an over-whelming responsibility to shoulder on their own. This only works if we have plenty of volunteers and help. We are in need of a new chapter secretary and a new active duty liaison (or two). We are also looking for additional help on the community affairs committee. You can volunteer to help in any number of ways to get your feet wet and see where your time and talents will help out the chapter. If you are interested in helping, that interest would be greatly appreciated. You can come to our next board meeting to observe and see what might be a good fit for you. If interested, contact president Bert Ortiz or 1st Vice President Loren Heckelman for more information.

Bert Ortiz, <u>bertortiz@cox.net</u>, 757-560-3671 Loren Heckelman, <u>loren.heckelman@cox.net</u>, 757-646-6448

#### **Tell Us Your Email Address**

If you aren't receiving special email announcements from our chapter, or don't get to see the e-newsletter published every other month, it's probably because we don't have your email address. We're missing email addresses for over 100 of our current members. Add or verify your email address by sending it along with your name to <u>hrcmoaa@cox.net</u>. Then you'll be among the first to know what's happening!

#### Army (AROTC) and Navy Reserve Training Corps (NROTC) Fall Commissioning Ceremonies

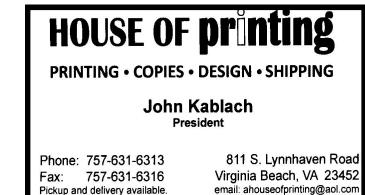
<u>Norfolk State University Army Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC)</u> (Spartan Battalion) conducted its Fall semester Army Officer Commissioning Ceremony, hosted by Major Cedric Lee, on 11 December 2015. Guest speaker and NSU graduate, Colonel Alonzo Wannamaker of the Defense Intelligence Agency, administered the oath of office to Second Lieutenants Shanece Adams, James Scott, and Keith Valentine. Among those attending were NSU President Dr. Eddie Moore, Jr., Dean of the College of Engineering and Technology, D. Larry Mattix, several members of the NSU Board of Visitors, and friends and families of the new officers. COL Jim Smith, USA (Ret) representing the Military Officers Association of America presented Gold Bars to the three new officers.

The Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps Hampton Roads conducted its Fall Commissioning ceremony on 11 December 2015 at Old Dominion University. RDML Kenneth Whitesell, USN, Assistant Commander, Navy Personnel Command (PERS-4) was the guest speaker. In attendance were the Presidents of Old Dominion University, Hampton University, and Norfolk State University. CDR Bert Ortiz, USN (ret) and CDR Scott Gordon, USN (ret) represented the chapter and welcomed the new officers to the fleet.

(cont. page 11)



JIM JONES REALTOR\*, (CAPT/USN/RET) ABR, SRES, RECS 3181 Shore Drive Virginia Beach, Va. 23451 Office: 757-481-1919 Fax: 757-496-3237 Toll Free: 800-941-2222 Cell: 757-777-5972 jim.jones@longandfoster.com



#### <u>(cont. from page 10)</u>

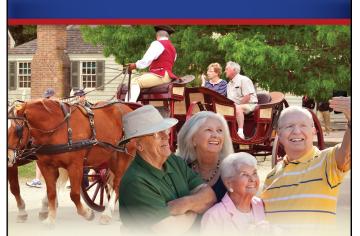
Chapter member, CDR Scott Gordon, USN (ret) congratulates ENS Martin Daigeu, Hampton University (top) and ENS Steven Nevils, Norfolk State University (middle) on their commissioning. Both are headed to the surface warfare communities.





Chapter President, CDR Bert Ortiz, USN (ret) shakes hands with ENS Christopher Brown below. ENS Brown graduated from Old Dominion University with a BS in Electrical Engineering. He will join the surface warfare community as an Engineering Duty Officer.





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Patriots Colony, sponsored by Riverside Health System, is a LifeCare community exclusively for retired military officers and retired federal civil employees and their spouses.

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#### ANNUAL SPRING AWARDS CEREMONY

The Hampton Roads Naval ROTC Unit holds its annual Pass-In-Review and Spring Awards Ceremony at Regent University, Virginia Beach, Virginia on a Saturday in April. Over 250 midshipmen march in a Pass-In-Review formation in front of family, friends, distinguished guests and senior military personnel. Regent University joined the Consortium of universities by hosting the Spring Awards Ceremony on their campus. The Hampton Roads Naval ROTC consortium is comprised of Old Dominion University, Norfolk State University, Hampton University, Regent University and Tidewater Community College. It's the fourth largest NROTC in the country and the largest east of the Mississippi River. More than 40 students are recognized for their academic accomplishments from various Military and Civilian Organizations. The MOAA LEADERSHIP AWARD is presented to a most deserving student. The annual award is routinely presented by CAPT. Mike "Breeze" Barea, USN (Ret) Hampton Roads MOAA Board of Director. CAPT Barea is a former Professor of Naval Science and Commanding Officer of the Hampton Roads Naval ROTC Unit.





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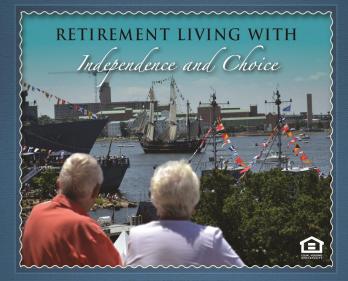
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#### <u>(cont. from page 12)</u>

The audience is normally greeted with opening remarks by Regent University's Chancellor and CEO Pat Robertson. The guest speakers are invited Flag/ General Officers who share their respective leadership experiences with the soon to be graduating student body who will be receiving officer commissions in the Navy and Marines Corps.



(left to right) RADM Pete A. Gumataotao, USN, Commander Naval Surface Forces Atlantic; CAPT Daniel Cave, USN, Professor of Naval Science Hampton Roads Naval ROTC Unit; CAPT Mike "Breeze" Barea, USN (Ret), Hampton Roads MOAA Board of Director; Officer Candidate John Plant.



<u>February Luncheon (2/19)</u> - Legislative Review Panel, VB Resort Hotel

<u>March Luncheon</u> (3/18) – Atlantic Shores. Guest speaker to be announced.

<u>April Luncheon (4/15)</u> - VB Resort Hotel. Guest speaker to be announced.

<u>May Luncheon (5/15) – Atlantic Shores</u>. Guest speaker to be announced.

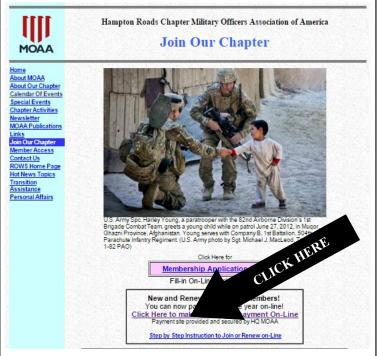
June Luncheon (6/17) - VB Resort Hotel. Guest speaker to be announced.

## Website Tips

The chapter's website at hrcmoaa.org provides a convenient way for you to renew your membership online. Go to the website homepage at hrcmoaa.org and place your cursor over "Join Our Chapter".



On the next page, hold your cursor over "Click Here to pay dues On-Line". Upon clicking, it will take you to <u>National MOAA's page to "Join/Renew Your Local</u> <u>Chapter"</u> and walk you step by step through the process.



Look for future spotlights on different sections of our website in future newsletters.

#### THE TRIBUTE

Hampton Roads Chapter, MOAA P. O. Box 4612 Virginia Beach, VA 23454-0612



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

"Dated Material Do Not Delay"

January 2016

(Label Here)

## "I'm never far from the military in my heart, or in my home."

Residents choose to live at Atlantic Shores for many reasons: the amenities, natural beauty, culinary excellence, personal connections with staff members, quality on-site healthcare, security and more. But for Bob Sage, U.S. Navy Capt. Ret., proximity to the area's military bases sealed the deal. Dam Neck and Oceana bases are less than a mile away.

Another factor in Bob's decision was financial, both in pricing and equity ownership. Bob also values the ability to be involved in the community instead of being told

what to do. "Independence means living your own lifestyle," he says. He especially loves getting together with "the guys" for meals and trading war stories - literally.

You can arrange a visit or learn more about our community at AtlanticShoresLiving.com/HRMOAA, or call 757.251.0030. Oh, and one last word from Bob, on our culinary offerings: "Our Sunday brunches are the best kept secret out here!" Not anymore, Bob. Not anymore.



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