



THE TRIBUTE

The Bi-Monthly Newsletter of the Hampton Roads Chapter
Military Officers Association of America
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Newsletter 2017 and Website For 2017.
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NEVER STOP SERVING

December 2018

THE TRIBUTE

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



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Hampton Roads Chapter, Military Officers Association of America

November 16th Luncheon

Each year, the November luncheon is a highly anticipated event. This year was no different - packed with camaraderie, giving, and a look to the future.



With the holidays in full swing, the Marine Corps was well represented by our guest speaker Lieutenant General Mark A. Brilakis, Commander, U.S. Marine Corps Forces Command along with his fellow Marines who spearheaded the Toys for Tots collection by collecting multiple bins of new toys and generous cash donations by our members in attendance. These gifts and donations will support children in our local area.

Above, LG Mark Brilakis, USMC (MARFORCOM) is presented the Jefferson Cup by MG John McLaren, USA (ret), President, HRCMOAA.

SEE LUNCHEON CONTINUED ON PAGE 7



Visit our website at www.hrcmoaa.org, 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,

The Holiday Season is upon us all. It is typically a time for the renewal of family bonds and friendships. A season to share the joy of young people. It is also a time for reflection on this year and the ringing in of the New Year. Diane and I wish each of you joy and peace in this period of wonder and hope your holiday season is a joyous one.

November went quickly with many of us participating in the Veterans Day commemorations in Chesapeake and at the Virginia Beach Convention Center. We can never forget or thank our veterans enough for all they have done to protect our Nation. One hundred years ago on November 11th; at the eleventh hour, of the eleventh day, of the eleventh month an armistice in the War to End All Wars went into effect. Sadly, the title of the War to End All Wars was not to be true. The peace imposed upon the nations that lost that war lead to a bigger war less than twenty-five years later.



During the past year I have been amazed at the support our Chapter has given to veterans causes. We supported veterans that served in World War II, Korea and Vietnam by helping them visit their respective memorials in Washington DC. We helped homeless veterans in our cities. Our chapter has done a magnificent job for our Soldiers, Marines, Sailors, Airmen, and Coast Guardsmen. November was the month of veterans and I am proud of our support to those who have given so much. Each of you makes me proud to be a member of our Chapter!

This will be the end of my tenure as your Chapter President. I have been honored to be supported by each of you. The Hampton Roads Chapter of MOAA continues to set the standard, both in Virginia and across the Nation, because of the sponsorship of our members. Thank you for allowing me to represent you for the last two years. We will only move forward in the months and years ahead!

God Bless you all, our Service members, and the United States of America.

In Service, *John McLaren*



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Mayor’s Commission on Veterans Affairs (MCVA) Veterans Day Ceremony 2018
CDR Linc Smith, USNR (Ret)

The City of Chesapeake held the annual Veterans Day Ceremony on 11 November, honoring the 100th anniversary of Remembrance Day, now known Veterans Day. Mayor’s Commission Chair LSCM Julie Chandoo, USN (Ret) introduced Major General John P. McLaren, USA (Ret), keynote speaker for the ceremony. During his remarks, MG McLaren emphasized the need for service above self with the young people of our nation.



As part of the ceremony, the names of eleven Chesapeake residents killed during World War One were read by a student from Indian River High School. Presentation and installation of plaques honoring ten veterans were placed by veterans and family members of the honorees. Ceremony music was provided by the Indian River High School Band, with the National Anthem performed by Ms. Rebecca Young. Conducted in front of Chesapeake City Hall, the ceremony was attended by some 200 veterans, families and friends. From left to right: Speaker MG John McLaren, USA (Ret), Master of Ceremonies CDR Linc Smith, USNR (Ret), Mayor Rick West, Congressman Bobby Scott (D-VA 3rd) and Commission Vice Chairman COL Stan Romes, USAF (Ret).

Reminder —Time to renew Chapter Dues

If you haven’t renewed your dues for 2018, please remember that they expired on 31 December 2018.

Dues for 2019 remain unchanged from last year:

- \$20.00 for Regular Members (\$35 for 2-yr, \$45 for 3-yr)
- \$10.00 for Surviving Spouse (\$17 for 2-yr, \$23 for 3-yr)

Dues are payable by:

- Completing and mailing the form on Page 11, with payment, or
- Including payment with your February luncheon payment, or
- Visiting the MOAA website
<https://chapterdues.moaa.org/Membership.aspx>

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Legislative Affairs Update

Legislative Event Schedule - 2019 Virginia Council of Chapters (VCOC)

- January 15: First Quarter Meeting 1000 to 1400; American Legion - 1708 Commonwealth Avenue, Richmond VA
- January 16: Storming the General Assembly; Location TBA
- April 10: Second Quarter Meeting 1000 to 1400; American Legion - 1708 Commonwealth Avenue, Richmond VA
- July 17: Third Quarter Meeting 1000 to 1400; American Legion - 1708 Commonwealth Avenue, Richmond VA
- October 9: Fourth Quarter Meeting 1000 to 1400; American Legion - 1708 Commonwealth Avenue, Richmond, VA

All chapter members are invited to attend events. If you are interested in attending, would like more information, or have input for nominations, please contact Jim Smith, Chapter VCOC Representative at (757) 425-5934 or eaglenest6@cox.net.

Joint Leadership Council of Veterans Service Organizations

The mission of the Joint Leadership Council is to provide advice and assistance to the Governor, General Assembly and the Department of Veterans Services (DVS) on matters of concern to the veterans community and provides a conduit of information to and from the veterans service organizations on policy and legislation, pending and enacted, as well as information on existing services. Please see the below chart for a summary of 2019 JLC Policy Initiatives.

Initiative	Recommendation
JLC 2019-01 <i>Increased State Active Duty (SAD) Pay</i>	That the Governor and General Assembly appropriate \$50,000 to ensure that all Virginia National Guardsmen are paid at least at the E6 rate.
JLC 2019-02 <i>Income Tax Subtraction for Certain Low-Income 100% Disabled Veterans</i>	That the Governor and General Assembly approve an individual income tax subtraction for 100% service-connected disabled veterans with a federally adjusted gross income, not exceeding 150% of the federal poverty level for a four-person household, who have not already claimed another exemption.
JLC 2019-03 <i>Electronic Ballot Return</i>	That the Governor and General Assembly enact legislation and provide budget support of a pilot program at the Virginia State Board of Elections for \$100,000 and funding for one FTE, for a limited pilot program for the electronic return of absentee ballots by Virginia’s deployed military service members.
JLC 2019-04 <i>Personal Property Tax Relief for Certain Disabled Veterans</i>	That the Governor and General Assembly approve legislation creating a standardized, statewide personal property tax exemption for one vehicle for 100% service-connected, total and permanent disabled veterans.
JLC 2019-05 <i>Free Tuition for Virginia National Guardsmen</i>	That the Governor and General Assembly provide budget support of approximately a \$1 million increase in the annual State Tuition Assistance program for a pilot program to cover the estimated 3.5% of Guardsmen seeking a degree who are not currently completely covered by federal and state tuition assistance.
JLC 2019-06 <i>VMSDEP</i>	That the Governor and General Assembly remove the requirement that a veteran’s disability rating be combat related. Instead, a permanent service-connected disability rating of at least 90%, plus satisfaction of the other requirements currently in the Code, would qualify a veteran’s spouse or child for VMSDEP benefits.
JLC 2019-07 <i>Phased-in System for Partial State Tax Exemption for Military Retirement Income</i>	That the Governor and General Assembly support changes to the current Virginia tax laws for a phased in system to reduce state tax on military retirement income up to \$40,000, for retirees 65 years of age or older.

We encourage our chapter members to visit MOAA’s Legislative Update and the “Take Action” section of MOAA’s website periodically throughout the year. There is lots of great information and a clear way to act upon that great info. Find all the great info at: <http://www.moaa.org/takeaction/?tab=Legislative-Action-Center#Legislative-Action-Center>



Community Affairs - Hampton Roads Chapter ROTC Scholarship Fund

CDR John Uhrin, USN (ret)

As of 11/1/2018	Total Goal \$25,000	\$12,867	51%	Need by 12/31/2021	\$12,133
	Annual Goal \$5,000	\$7,867	157%	Need by 12/31/2018	\$0

We have reached our goal for this year! CONGRATULATIONS!!!

For more information on the scholarship fund, please contact John Uhrin or any member of the chapter board. The following is a breakdown of the chapter members who have contributed to the scholarship fund this year ([New contributors in blue](#)).

2018 Contributions

PLATINUM - \$500 and above

CAPT Doug Williams, USN (Ret)
 CDR Roberto S. Ortiz, USN (Ret)
 MAJ Clifton G. Furedy, USAF (Ret)
 CDR John J. Uhrin III, USN (Ret)
 Anonymous

GOLD - \$250 to \$499

COL Jack W. Hilgers, USMC (Ret.)
 CDR John E. Vermillion, USN (Ret)

SILVER - \$100 to \$249

MG John McLaren, USA (Ret)
 CAPT William Lehr, USCG (Ret)
 COL James G. Edge, USA (Ret)
 CDR Daniel Edwards, USN (Ret)
 LCDR Aaron J. Zielinski, USN (former)
 LCDR Daryl T. Holland, USN (Ret)
 CW2 Glen E. Caldwell, USA (Ret)
 Mrs. Jane L. Hart

Bronze Under \$100

CAPT Joan C. Kanter, USAF (Ret)
 CAPT Victor R. Olivarez, USN (Ret)
 LTC Franklin C. Haskins, USA (Ret)
 CDR Carl A. Thoren, USN (Ret)
 CDR John J. Uhrin III, USN (Ret)
 MAJ Michael P. Rohifs, USMC (Ret)
 Mrs. Laurel Rohifs
 Mrs. Lois J. Thomas



Military ID Card Notification Program

This voluntary 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 by mail: make copies of the form below for each dependent and fill out the required information. Mail to Military ID Card Notification Program, 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:

Feb 27, 2019

9:00am to 12:30pm
Corporate Gray Military Friendly Job Fair
Virginia Beach - Virginia Beach Convention Center
<https://www.corporategray.com/jobfairs/404>

May 9, 2019

11:00am to 3:00pm
DAV/Recruit Military - Norfolk Veterans Job Fair
Norfolk - Decker Half Moone Center
<https://events.recruitmilitary.com/events/norfolk-veterans-job-fair-may-9-2019>

May 30, 2019

9:00am to 12:30pm
Corporate Gray Military Friendly Job Fair
Virginia Beach - Virginia Beach Convention Center
<https://www.corporategray.com/jobfairs/407>

August 1, 2019

11:00am to 3:00pm
DAV/Recruit Military - Hampton Veterans Job Fair
Hampton - venue TBD
<https://events.recruitmilitary.com/events/hampton-veterans-job-fair-august-1-2019#venue>

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Please notify me of my ID card expiration by: Tel: _____ E-Mail _____ Mail _____

Signature and Date _____



LUNCHEON FROM PAGE 1

Eight cadets and midshipmen of Old Dominion's AROTC and NROTC units as well as cadets from Norfolk State University AROTC attended with NSU Senior Instructor, LTC Lisa M. Abel. It was a great opportunity to for our members and the cadets to hear how the latest and greatest about what's going on in our United States Marine Corps.

We also elected our slate our **Board of Directors for 2019 and 2020**, as designated by our by-laws. The nominated slate of Directors of the Board of Directors was unanimously approved and will be inducted into the board at the January 2019 luncheon.

Army Commissioning Ceremonies

Norfolk State University - 7 December 2018

COL Jim Smith, USA (ret)

The Norfolk State University (NSU) Army ROTC Department conducted its Fall Semester Commissioning Ceremony in the Brown Hall Auditorium. The commissioning ceremony was hosted by LTC Lisa Abel, USA, Professor of Military Science at NSU who introduced LTG Joseph Anderson, USA, Army Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations, Plans, and Training (G3/5/7), the guest speaker and commissioning officer.

Receiving commissions were, 2LT Nyree Bennett, 2LT Franklin Dunbar, 2LT Bismark Oduro-Sarpong, and 2LT Denzel Thomas. The NSU Military Alumni Association presented each officer with a copy of the Officer's Guide. In keeping with military tradition, each newly commissioned officer received his or her first salute from a military family member, mentor, or close friend or relative. Participating in the ceremony and presenting Gold Bars to the newly commissioned officers were MG John McLaren and COL Jim Smith, Hampton Roads Chapter, MOAA. Following the ceremony, the new officers and their families and friends joined General Anderson, Colonel Abel, and NSU staff and faculty members in a catered luncheon reception.

Old Dominion University - 14 December 2018

MG John McLaren, USA (ret)

The Old Dominion University (ODU) Army ROTC Department conducted its Fall Commissioning Ceremony on the University campus. The ceremony was hosted by Professor of Military Science, MAJ (P) Kurdi who introduced MG John McLaren, guest speaker and commissioning officer. Receiving commissions were, 2LTs Lexis Grudzinski, Dereck Scott, and Rosa Velasquez. Dr. Kate Hawkins, Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs, Strategic Initiatives, and Academic Affairs and Dr. Jeff Tanner Dean of ODU's Strome College of Business were in attendance. Each newly commissioned officer received her first salute from a military family member or relative. MG McLaren presented Gold Bars to the newly commissioned officers on behalf of HRC MOAA. Following the ceremony, the new officers and their families and friends joined General McLaren, MAJ (P) Kurdi, and the ODU staff and faculty members in a reception.



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Honor Flight Mission #20 - "The Final Mission"

CPT Michael "Breeze" Barea, USN (ret)

For the past 10 years, a Zero Dark Thirty muster occurred on two Saturdays annually. One in the Fall and the other during the Spring. Countless numbers of active duty, students, volunteers, family members and friends have come out to pay collective respects and render honors to WWII, Korean War and recently Vietnam War Veterans as they loaded up in waiting buses to take them to Washington DC to visit War Memorials built in their honor. This past muster that took place Saturday October 20, 2018



was the FINAL MISSION #20 under the title "Honor Flight Historic Triangle (Williamsburg, Virginia). For ten years, Old Dominion University NROTC Hampton Roads, Old Dominion University AROTC Monarch Battalion, Princess Anne and Landstown High Schools respective Navy/Army ROTC and NJROTC students were there supporting our veterans. Other civic organizations were also present during these events. Board of Director members from the Hampton Roads Chapter Military Officers Association of America, Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) members and VFW Riders were also present providing much needed support. Old Dominion University's (ODU) Army ROTC Monarch Battalion usually provided an Officer-In-Charge (OIC) and a Non-Commissioned Officer-In-Charge (NCOIC) ensuring the placement of personnel and adhering to the itinerary to make the Southside Departure Ceremony run smoothly and efficiently so that buses were loaded and departed on schedule.

The VFW Riders escorted Buses from Virginia Beach Southern Departure Point to places north of Quantico, Northern Virginia. A cloudy, damp morning and sunrise was the backdrop to the continued presence and support from University ROTC and High School NJROTC students. Their continued support is remarkable. Landstown High School's Color Guard and ODU's Army ROTC Color Guard, as always, was well received and for this Final Mission it was no different. Being that this was the Final Mission a call went out to many Active Duty Commands and organizations to ensure a good turnout would occur and did it ever. The following are the commands and organizations that actively participated during the Honor Flight's Final Mission: Board of Directors Hampton Roads Chapter Military Officers Association of America (HRCMOAA) / Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Posts 392 and 4809 / Hampton Roads Composite Squadron U.S. Air Force Auxiliary, Civil Air Patrol Composite Squadrons VA-035 and VA-141 / Strike Fighter Squadron One Zero Six (VFA 106) / Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron Two Eight (HSC-28) / Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 774 / Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron Two (HSC2) / USS DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (CVN-69) / USS TRUXTUN (DDG 103) / PCD DELBERT D. BLACK (DDG 119) / and Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center Atlantic. No words can express the thanks and gratitude to these Honor Flight participants who showed up in force to show their respects that left a favorable impressions with our treasured veterans.

Many of the veterans commented on the presence of our Active Duty, University and High School students stating how lucky we are having our country's youth take up the call to defend the cloth of our nation. The veterans were very proud of them all. It is very gratifying seeing all of them coming out supporting this very important and meaningful departure event for the past ten years.

SEE HONOR FLIGHT CONTINUED ON PAGE 9



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HONOR FLIGHT FROM PAGE 8

As many of you know Honor Flight is a national organization that takes WW II, KOREAN WAR VETS and now welcoming VIETNAM veterans to Washington, DC to visit their WAR MEMORIALS built in their honor. Honor Flight Historic Triangle Virginia (HFHTVA) is a Williamsburg-based non-profit organization established in October 2008 with one goal: To take every World War II, Korean War and terminally ill veteran in the Hampton Roads and Richmond areas that is able and has not visited the World War II Memorial built in their honor on a charter bus day trip to Washington, DC. There is no charge to the veterans as they paid for it through their dedicated service to our great nation more than sixty five years ago. 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 160,000 veterans to the memorial as of November 2014.

PLEASE NOTE: Honor Flight made their final two trips this year, missions 19 and 20 in the spring and fall of 2018. Participation of our WWII and Korean War Veterans on these missions to Washington D.C. has been trending down over the past few years. Additionally, the HFHTVA Board feels that by Mission 20 they will have successfully achieved their original mission to escort all local WWII Veterans willing and able to our Nation's Capital to visit the National WWII Memorial. During this Final Mission 41 veterans, 9 of which were WWII veterans departed, from the Southside. There is planning to continue these Missions but under another name. This decision to do so is expected sometime in January 2019 as donors are being considered to continue with these events. Thank you to Honor Flight participants for all of the assistance you provided in support of these missions it was greatly appreciated!



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SURVIVING SPOUSE CORNER: SURVIVING SPOUSE CORNER: EXPERIENCES FROM AN OVERSEAS ASSIGNMENT

Sharon A. DeVaney, Surviving Spouse Advisory Committee

A member of the Surviving Spouse Advisory Committee shares memories from her favorite military assignment.

An overseas assignment can be a wonderful experience. One of our favorite locations was a small base in England. My husband's role was installation commander and commander of an engineering unit that could deploy and establish a site complete with landing strip. This took place from 1986-89.

I was not planning to work during this assignment. However, the principal of the school system at our new base learned I had the certification and teaching experience that was needed, and I was offered a job. For the next three years, I taught six classes every day with one planning period.

Because the base had more enlisted personnel than officers, we had a consolidated spouses' club, which held monthly meetings with a variety of guest speakers. The wife of one of the mayors of a neighboring city owned a women's clothing store, so with her support, the spouses' club presented three fashion shows that were open to the public.

The Anglo American club was another highlight. A retired British business man (with a military background) and my spouse cochaired the club. The chairman and his wife invited base residents to a Sunday afternoon garden party at their home. Another special event was the George Washington Ball held annually in February. The first year, we encouraged our first sergeant and his wife to rent costumes and attend as George and Martha Washington. Our British and American guests loved it.

Our chaplain arranged for bus trips to events in London. My husband's favorite was a Roger Whittaker concert. A very memorable occasion for me was "finding" the locations of John Constable paintings.

When the spouses' club honored me with a farewell tea, we met at the Tea Cottage in our neighboring village. The staff served freshly baked scones, strawberry preserves with clotted cream, and tea. Our three years passed quickly and it was difficult to say good-bye to our friends on base and in the community.



UPCOMING
Events
2019

The planning committee is hard at work developing a great events calendar for the year ahead. Below is listed a very tentative listing of events for 2019. Events will be updated in the next newsletter, but stay tuned to the chapter website for the most up to date information:

<http://hrcmoaa.org>

January Luncheon (1/25)

February Luncheon (2/22)

March Luncheon (3/22)

April Luncheon (4/26)

May Luncheon (5/31)

June Luncheon (6/28)

Summer Multi-Chapter Brunch Mixer (July)

September Luncheon (9/20)

October Luncheon (10/18)

November Luncheon (11/15)

Look for more details on each event as they draw closer. Please keep in mind that sometimes speakers' schedules change and we may need to adjust this prospective schedule accordingly.

Also, we encourage you to invite an active duty, retired, or any prior service officer to our events. We'd love the opportunity to meet them and show them what our organization offers.



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Mail to:
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P.O. Box 4612
Virginia Beach, VA 23454-0612

Regular Dues NEW
1 Year: \$20.00 RENEWAL
2 Years: \$35.00
3 Years: \$45.00
Circle years & amount

Surviving Spouse Dues
1 Year: \$10.00
2 Years: \$17.00
3 Years: \$23.00

Regular Member: Active, Retired or Former Commissioned or Warrant Officer of the seven Uniformed Services.

Surviving Spouse: Survivor of any deceased individual who would, if living, be eligible for regular membership.

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** Surviving spouse enter your Name and MOAA Number, where indicated.

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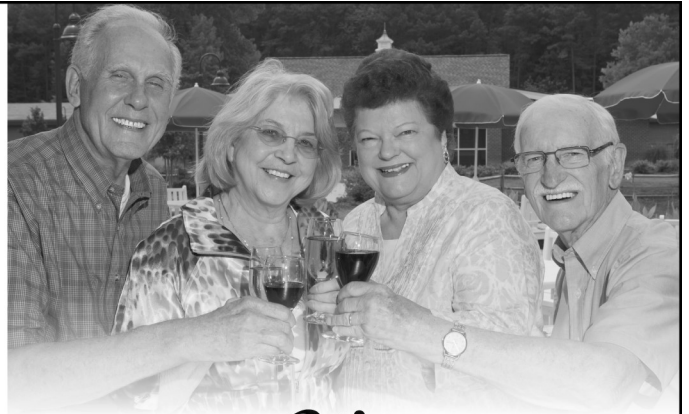


It's not WHAT our best amenities are, it's WHO they are.

You probably have more in common with our spirited residents than you might think. COL Blair Smith, USA, Ret. and COL Roy Rogers, USA, Ret. never expected to forge a lifetime friendship over their shared military experiences and passion for a perfectly blended merlot.

At Warwick Forest, we have more than first class amenities. We have a welcoming community of friends waiting to share life with you.

Call (757) 886-2200 today to schedule your visit to our exciting community.



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MEMBERSHIP ALERT

If the date on your mailing label shows 2018, your dues expire in December 2018. Please complete the membership renewal form on page 11. You may contact COL Larry King, USMC-Ret. at 650-1086, Membership Chair.

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You were proud to serve,
AND WE ARE PROUD TO SERVE YOU.



At Atlantic Shores you'll find comrades and mates who share your experiences, and a staff and community that honors and cares for you as you deserve. With a wealth of community activities and interest groups, you'll always have plenty to do. Don't feel like cooking? Atlantic Shores features three distinct dining venues and an award-winning culinary team. Situated on 100 beautiful wooded acres on the shores of Lake Redwing, our neighborhood is located within five miles of US Naval Air Station Oceana. The Commissary and Navy Exchange are conveniently accessible. In fact, within 10 minutes are major shopping districts, resort beaches, museums and performing arts. Secure and secluded, yet in the center of everything, at Atlantic Shores you have the freedom to create your perfect retirement – on your own terms.



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