



THE TRIBUTE

The Bi-Monthly Newsletter of the Hampton Roads Chapter
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**NEVER STOP
SERVING**

August 2019

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

GREAT EVENTS COMING TO HRCMOAA

HRCMOAA August Luncheon (8/23)



On August 23rd, U.S. Rep. Elaine Luria will be the guest speaker at our monthly luncheon at Atlantic Shores. Rep. Luria represents Virginia's Second Congressional District. Prior to her election in 2018, Rep. Luria served two decades in the Navy, retiring at the rank of Commander. Rep. Luria served at sea on six ships as a nuclear-trained Surface Warfare Officer, deployed to the Middle East and Western Pacific, and culminated her Navy career by commanding a combat-ready unit of 400 sailors. A member of the House Armed Services Committee and the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Rep. Luria was one of the first women in the Navy's nuclear power program and among the first women to serve the entirety of her career in combatant ships. She leads the House Veterans' Affairs Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and

SEE EVENTS CONTINUED ON PAGE 8



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,

Thank you to those who were able to attend the summer tri-chapter brunch on July 14th at Smithfield Station. I was in San Diego attending my Navy son's wedding so was unfortunately not able to attend. This annual event has always been a great opportunity to break bread and spend time with our friends from the Portsmouth Chapter (PAC) and the Peninsula Chapter (VIP).

Several very interesting events are on the horizon. Our August luncheon will feature U.S. Congressional Representative Elaine Luria, VA-02, as our speaker. Congresswoman Luria is currently serving on the House Armed Services Committee, Vice Chair of the Seapower and the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Chair of the Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs Subcommittee. Please note that we have changed the venue and will hold this luncheon at Atlantic Shores. On September 14th, the chapter is sponsoring a tour of a U.S. Navy attack submarine at Naval Station Norfolk. Family members and guests of members are welcome. Details and guidelines for the requirements to participate will be out soon. For our September luncheon, we'll have the 65th Commanding Officer of "Old Ironsides", Captain Chris Melhuish, USN (Ret.) speaking about the history of the ship and his experiences in command. On the slate for October's luncheon is the Commander of Naval Air Forces Atlantic, Rear Admiral Roy Kelley. There will also be another afternoon networking social in late October. More details will be published soon on all of these events.

Maintaining membership remains our biggest challenge. The best recruiters of new members are our current members. We need your help to grow and sustain our membership numbers. Please bring a potential new member to one of our events and introduce them to the chapter. We are also beginning to plan our calendar of events and programs for 2020 so if you have ideas, please share them with Bert Ortiz, Bob Armour or me.

SEE **PRESIDENT** CONTINUED ON **PAGE 3**

HRCMOAA DIRECTORY		
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PRESIDENT FROM PAGE 2

Don't forget to save the date for the chapter's 60th Anniversary celebration on December 7, 2019. Our chapter was granted chapter status on April 23, 1959. In celebration of this landmark for our chapter, we will hold a commemoration celebration dinner and dance for our membership on December 7, 2019 at Atlantic Shores. Lieutenant General Dana Atkins, USAF (Ret.), CEO of MOAA, has accepted our invitation to attend and present the chapter with its 60th anniversary certificate. Please plan to attend this special anniversary event. If you would like to help the 60th Anniversary planning committee in any way, please contact Bert Ortiz or me directly.

We are still searching for a chapter secretary. Please consider visiting a board meeting, giving us a hand with setting up an event, joining one of our committees or participating in one of the many community service or veteran related events we participate in throughout the course of the year. You will find the experience very rewarding. Never stop serving!

Thank you for your support of our chapter.

Yours in service, *Loren Heckelman*



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: Late Summer Update

CDR Linc Smith, USNR (Ret)

As we approach the latter part of summer, our chapter legislative affairs efforts remain active. This month, we host Congresswoman Elaine Luria (D-VA-2) as our chapter luncheon speaker. Our lunch is an opportunity for Congresswoman Luria to speak about her most recent initiatives pertaining to Veterans, with question and answer session following. We look forward to hosting Congresswoman Luria.

MOAA Southeast Regional Legislative Affairs Committee

On 26 June, the MOAA Southeast Regional Legislative Affairs Committee met at the Town Point Club Executive Board Room, Norfolk, Virginia. The purpose of our meeting was to hear testimony regarding elimination of the widows tax (SPB-DIC Offset) from military widows, differing generations. Present were representatives from the offices of Senator Kaine, Senator Warner and Congresswoman Luria.

Per Colonel Dan Merry, MOAA National Vice President for Government Relations, everyone welcomes a good listener, such as when conducting grass roots level advocacy. In this vein, our meeting sought be an example of same, also serving in follow up to our MOAA National Storming in April on the now long running SBP-DIC Offset issue. Widow testimony was factual, detailed and most convincing.



(L-R) CWO3 Karl Wilson, USA-Ret, Legislative Chair, Portsmouth Chapter, Col Hal Hostetler, USA-Ret, Portsmouth Chapter Legislative Committee Member, Ms Barbara Smith, Surviving Spouse, member of the Hampton Roads Chapter & member of MOAA National "Surviving Spouse Advisory Committee, Ms Pat Farnsworth, member of VIP-MOAA Chapter & member of MOAA National "Surviving Spouse Advisory Committee, Diane Kaufman, Regional Director Eastern VA for Senator Tim Kaine, Col Jim Pauls, USAF-Ret, Director VIPMOAA Legislative Committee & the Southeastern Regional Legislative Committee, Charlotte M. Hurd, Military Liaison, Senator Mark Warner, Ms Terra Johnson, Constituent Services Representative, Rep Elaine Luria, Ms Jackie Peters, Surviving Spouse & member of VIPMOAA chapter, and Ms Kristen Fenty, Surviving Spouse, Hampton Roads Chapter.



SURVIVING SPOUSE CORNER: SURVIVING SPOUSES STORM THE HILL

Members of the Surviving Spouse Advisory Committee urge legislators to eliminate the widows tax.

By Lt. Col. Suzanne Walker, USA (Ret), MOAA staff advisor to the Surviving Spouse Advisory Committee

MOAA annually demonstrates its advocacy acumen by arranging for councils and chapter leaders, board members, and staff to meet with elected representatives face-to-face to explain and discuss issues of importance to uniformed servicemembers and their families.

This year was no exception. Included in the cohort of grassroots advocates during this year's Storming the Hill event were the members of the Surviving Spouse Advisory Committee. This group of six committee members — each of whom lost a spouse in or because of military service — was especially helpful in explaining why it is unfair to deduct an earned veterans compensation benefit (Dependency and Indemnity Compensation or DIC) from an annuity funded by premium payments by the servicemember (Survivor Benefit Plan).

The surviving spouses joined more than 160 participants in the effort to educate and gain support for two bills under consideration on the measure: H.R. 553, the Military Surviving Spouses Equity Act, and S. 622, the Military Widow's Tax Elimination Act. This ongoing issue has previously failed to gain traction due to cost. Estimates of \$7 billion in mandatory spending in the first 10 years without a way to fund this is the problem.

As in past years, participants visited the offices of their senators and congressional representatives and explained the problem, shared stories of the impact, and encouraged members to co-sign the bill. New this year, however, was the additional attention the issue received from local media. A local news station accompanied the group and reported on the issue ([view the news story](#)), which increased public awareness and encouraged support for MOAA's advocacy effort. As a result, the number of cosponsors has increased and a remedy might be on the horizon.

In mid-May, H.R. 553 reached 290 cosponsors, so bill sponsor Rep. Joe Wilson filed paperwork to advance the bill out of committee and onto the calendar for a floor vote. The vote could come possibly as early as mid-July.

<https://www.moaa.org/content/chapters-and-councils/council-and-chapter-newsletters/council-and-chapter-news/past-editions/june-2019-council-and-chapter-news/>



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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:

October 16, 2019

9:00am to 12:30pm
Corporate Gray Military Friendly Job Fair
Virginia Beach - Virginia Beach Convention Center
<https://www.corporategray.com/jobfairs/412>

October 31, 2019

11:00am to 3:00pm
DAV/Recruit Military - Norfolk Veterans Job Fair
Norfolk - Decker Half Moone Center
<https://success.recruitmilitary.com/events/norfolk-veterans-job-fair-october-31-2019>

February 26, 2020

9:00am to 12:30pm
Corporate Gray Military Friendly Job Fair
Virginia Beach - Virginia Beach Convention Center
<https://www.corporategray.com/jobfairs/417>

May 28 26, 2020

9:00am to 12:30pm
Corporate Gray Military Friendly Job Fair
Virginia Beach - Virginia Beach Convention Center
<https://www.corporategray.com/jobfairs/418>

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Signature and Date _____



EVENTS FROM PAGE 1

Memorial Affairs, and is Vice Chair of the House Armed Services Subcommittee on Seapower and Projection Forces. Of all members in the House Democratic Caucus, she served the longest on active duty, having completed 20 years of active military service with the U.S. Navy. Rep. Luria graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy and received a master's in engineering management from Old Dominion University.

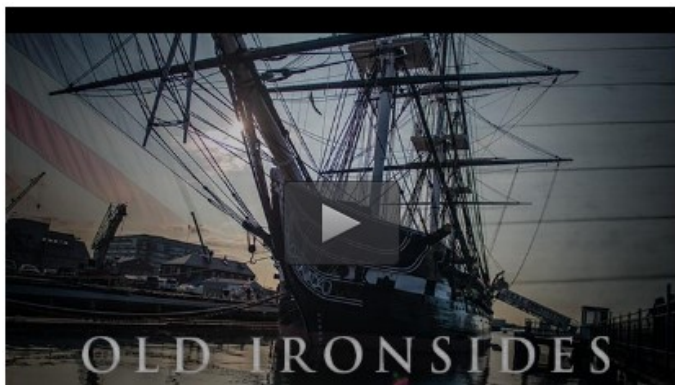
More details on the venue, time, meal choices and how to RSVP can [be found on page nine of this newsletter](#).

HRCMOAA Tour of the Nuclear Attack Submarines USS BOISE and USS JOHN WARNER (9/14)

HRCMOAA has arranged a members tour aboard Nuclear Attack Submarines USS Boise and USS John Warner on **Saturday, September 14, 2019**. Crew members will lead the tours. The two submarines will be moored at Naval Station Norfolk. HRCMOAA Members may invite their spouses, children, children's spouses and grandchildren. Members may also invite current, former and retired officers as well as surviving spouses along with their spouses, children and grandchildren.

Tours will begin at 9 AM and will continue to 1 PM if needed. You must be registered by **Tuesday, September 10th**. To register, please email or contact HRCMOAA's 2nd VP, CDR Bob Armour, USN (Ret) at bobpetraarmour@cox.net with your Rank, Full Name, Email Address, phone number whether you prefer an early, mid or late morning tour. Every attendee must carry a photo ID. Attendees must be a minimum of 12 years old, cannot be claustrophobic, must be very agile and able to climb 10-foot vertical ladders to enter and leave the submarine. Submarines have no accommodations for the handicapped. Contact CDR Bob Armour for more information.

HRCMOAA September Luncheon (9/20) - "Old Ironsides"



The Chapter's September luncheon will feature **CAPT Christopher Melhuish, USN (Ret)**, the **65th Commander of the USS Constitution**, also known as "Old Ironsides". CAPT Melhuish will discuss his experiences serving as the ship's commander as well as a brief history of the ship. CAPT Melhuish is presently serving as the civilian co-director at U.S. Fleet Forces Command, Strategy and Policy Division and is a member of the Norfolk Historical Society board of directors. The luncheon will be held at the Atlantic Shores, Magnolia Room; 1200 Atlantic Shores Drive, Virginia Beach, VA 23454 on **Friday, September 20th, from 1100-1330**. Please make plans to join us.

If viewing the electronic version of the website, please click on the photo of "Old Ironsides" above to read an excellent feature article, "The Legend Restored" and view videos about the ship from "ALL HANDS", Magazine of the U.S. Navy. If you're reading the print edition, go to https://www.navy.mil/ah_online/constitution/ in your web browser of choice to view the excellent content.



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Coming Soon: August Luncheon

WHEN: Friday, 23 Aug 2019

WHERE: Atlantic Shores, Magnolia Room; 1200 Atlantic Shores Drive, Virginia Beach, VA 23454.

TIME: Social-1100 hours, Lunch-1200 hours

MENU: Fried Catfish with Parmesan Cream Sauce or Sautéed Chicken Breast with Boursin Mushroom Sauce served with a Caesar Salad, Wild Rice Pilaf, Green Beans, Baked Rolls with Butter and Tiramisu. Coffee, tea and water provided. Cash Bar.

PRICE: \$25.00

PROGRAM: U.S. Congressional Representative Elaine Luria, VA-02. Congresswoman Luria is currently serving on the House Armed Services Committee, Vice Chair of the Seapower and the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Chair of the Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs Subcommittee.



RESERVATIONS / CANCELLATIONS:
Reservations due by 1200 hours Tuesday, 20 August.

Please RSVP to **Barb Smith:** 576-1114 (cell), 427-3475 (home) or e-mail: barb4mom@cox.net. If providing an email or leaving a message, please give the names of those attending, phone number, and meal choice. RSVPs are critical to ensure our accuracy of luncheon participants for the meal and seat planning of the venue. Please make your reservations in a timely manner.

LEGISLATIVE FROM PAGE 4

Along with myself, Colonel Jim Pauls, USAF (Ret) (VIPMOAA) and Warrant Officer, Karl Wilson, USA (Ret) (Portsmouth Chapter), we formed the MOAA Southeast regional Legislative Affairs committee last year, with approval from our Chapter Presidents. With each of us serving as chapter legislative committee chairs, our committee mission is to review ongoing legislative issues at both the Federal and State level which may impact the chapters in the Southeastern Region and formulate initiatives, when necessary and appropriate, to support and protect the benefits and entitlements of active duty, national guard, Reserve, retired military members and their families.

In Closing

Make your voice heard with MOAA. The MOAA National Top Legislative Action Center is located at:

<http://takeaction.moaa.org/?0>

From your home computer, the Action Center serves as a one stop shop to make your voice heard and become more aware of the MOAA Top Legislative Priorities. Thank you for your unending support of our Chapter Legislative Affairs Program.

Do Not Dismantle Military Medicine



The readiness and effectiveness of America's armed forces depend on the complement of well-trained medical professionals. But the fiscal 2020 budget would eliminate roughly 20 percent of military medical positions, along with other reorganization measures. This "reform" effort could have drastic, even deadly, consequences for our troops in the battlefield and throughout American health care.

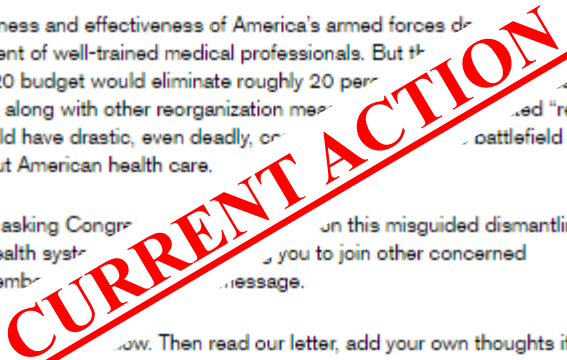
MOAA is asking Congress to stop this misguided dismantling of the military health system. We are asking you to join other concerned servicemembers and families in writing a message.

Just fill out the form below. Then read our letter, add your own thoughts if you wish, and submit. Thank you.

Please enter all information as you would like it to appear on the message sent.

* Prefix

* First Name



UPCOMING Events 2019

August Luncheon (8/23) - Atlantic Shores, Virginia Beach. 4th Congressional District, Rep. Elaine Luria.

Quarterly Spouses/Surviving Spouses Luncheon (9/12) - The first quarterly luncheon for spouses and surviving spouses will be held at Atlantic Shores (Magnolia Room).

Nuclear Attack Submarine Tour (9/14) - Naval Station Norfolk, 9 AM - 1PM. Register by email with CDR Bob Armour, USN (Ret) at bobpetraarmour@cox.net

September Luncheon (9/20) - Atlantic Shores, Virginia Beach. CAPT Chris Melhuish, USN.(Ret) - 65th Commander of USS Constitution

October Luncheon (10/18) - Harbor's Edge. TBD.

Pizza and Beer Social (10/24) - The Casual Pint, 5-7PM

November Luncheon (11/15) - Atlantic Shores, Virginia Beach. Toys for Tots w/ USMC Speaker and ROTC.

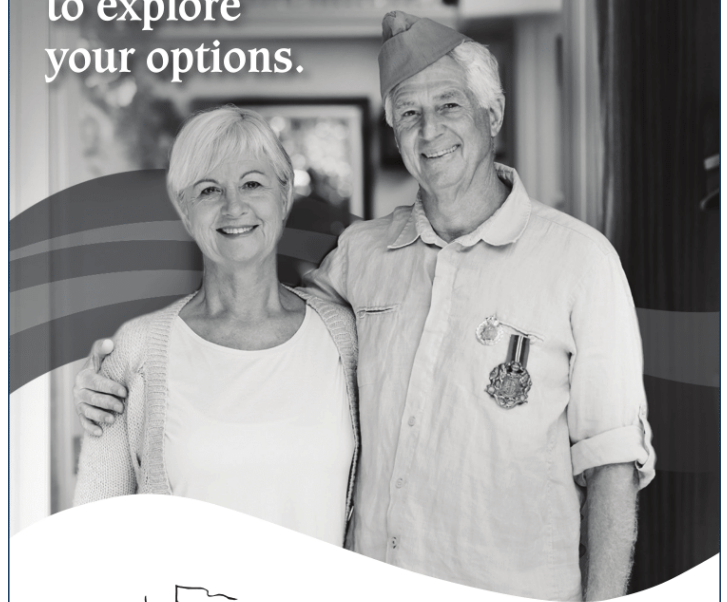
HRCMOAA 60th Anniversary Celebration and Christmas Dinner Dance (12/7) - Atlantic Shores.

Summer Multi-Chapter Brunch Mixer

On July 14th, about 50 members of the Portsmouth, Peninsula, and Hampton Roads chapters of MOAA gathered for some great food and camaraderie at The Smithfield Station in Smithfield for the Annual Multi-Chapter Brunch Mixer. This event is always a hit and gets better each year. Running more than fifteen years now, it continues to be a great venue to come together, share stories, ideas, and figure out ways to make our chapters even better! If you weren't able to attend this year, pencil in next July as you won't want to miss the fun next time.



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Join or Renew on-line: www.hrcmoaa.org/join.shtml

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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

Make checks payable to HRCMOAA

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.

Please print (If renewing, enter only your name and information that has changed)

Form fields for Date, Recruiter, Name, Grade, Service, Component, Status, Service Dates, Retired Date, Spouse's Name, E-mail address, Mailing Address, Home Phone, Work Phone, Cell Phone, Member of National MOAA, Enclosed is \$, Signature.

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

Click on the above form to renew online (or print and mail)

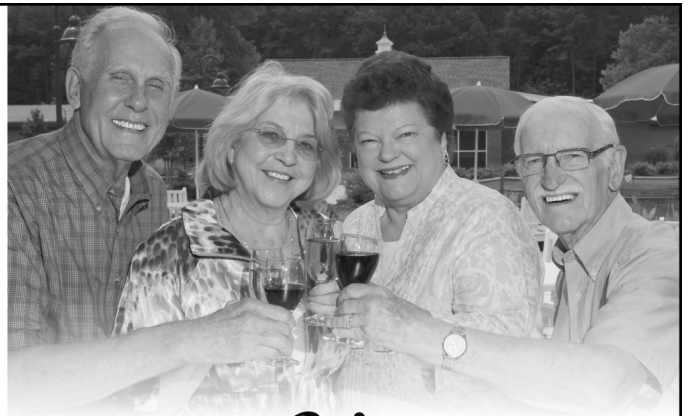


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