



THE TRIBUTE

The Bi-Monthly Newsletter of the Hampton Roads Chapter
Military Officers Association of America
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**NEVER STOP
SERVING**

October 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

HRCMOAA NOVEMBER LUNCHEON (11/15/19)



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

With the holidays in full swing, the Marine Corps will be represented by our guest speaker by MARFORCOM LtGen Robert F. Hedelund, USMC along with his fellow Marines who spearhead the annual Toys for Tots collection drive supporting children in our local area.

Lieutenant General Robert Hedelund is currently assigned as the Commander U.S. Marine Corps Forces Command and Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Atlantic.

A native of Pompano Beach, Florida, LtGen Hedelund graduated from Florida Atlantic University and was commissioned in April 1983. He was designated an unrestricted Naval Aviator in May 1985.

Previous command assignments include Headquarters Squadron, Marine Aircraft Group 29; Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron (HMM) 162; Marine Aviation Weapons and Tactics Squadron One (MAWTS-1); Marine Corps Warfighting Laboratory (concurrently serving as the Vice Chief, Office of Naval Research); the 2d Marine Aircraft Wing; U.S. Marine Corps Forces Korea; and II Marine Expeditionary Force.

SEE MARFORCOM 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 everyone who was able to attend our August chapter luncheon with U.S. Congressional Representative Elaine Luria, VA-02, as our speaker. Congresswoman Luria serves on the House Armed Services Committee and is Vice Chair of the Seapower Subcommittee. She also serves on the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and is Chair of the Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs Subcommittee. Congresswoman Luria described her efforts to help service members, military families, and veterans. Among other topics, Congresswoman Luria mentioned her bipartisan Gold Star Family Tax Relief Act, which the House passed as part of a larger legislative package. That bill would correct a 2017 legislative flaw that raised taxes on the families of fallen service members. Congresswoman Luria also told attendees that the House-passed National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) includes a provision that would permit the surviving spouses of deceased veterans who are eligible for Survivors Benefit Plan (SBP) annuities and Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) to receive the full amount of both of those benefits that have been paid for and earned by the veterans, and she remains hopeful this provision will be included in the final NDAA. Finally, Congresswoman Luria said she has expressed her concerns to the Chairman of the House Armed Services Committee regarding the

Department of Defense proposal to decrease its medical positions by nearly 20%. She has called any proposal that threatens access to quality care a “non-starter.”

I'd like to include a big note of appreciation to our 2nd Vice President, CDR Bob Armour, SC, USN (Ret.) for arranging and coordinating the submarine tour aboard USS ALBANY (SSN-753) on Saturday, September 14th. 106 sponsors and guests were signed up to tour the submarine. Bob coordinated the tour with the Public Affairs Officer at Naval Submarine Force Atlantic and leadership on the submarine. The tours started at 9:00 am and were completed by mid-afternoon. The crew members who hosted us and served as tour guides were impressive representatives of the ALBANY and the United States Navy and were very knowledgeable in telling us about their submarine. USS Albany (SSN 753) is a Los Angeles-class attack submarine. The Los Angeles-class, sometimes called the LA-class or the 688-class, is a class of nuclear-powered fast attack submarines that forms the backbone of the U.S. Navy's submarine force. Again a big thanks to Bob Armour for putting on a fantastic tour. Bravo Zulu!

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

 HRCMOAA DIRECTORY 		
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PRESIDENT FROM PAGE 2

Our October luncheon, at Atlantic Shores on October 18th, will feature the Commander of Naval Air Forces Atlantic, Rear Admiral Roy Kelley, as our guest speaker. We will be joined at that luncheon by Ms. Andrea Rand, from national MOAA, who is the Executive Director of the MOAA Scholarship program. Also in October on Thursday, the 24th, we will have another networking social at the Casual Pint in Virginia Beach offering pizza and beer. This is an opportunity for chapter members to bring potential members to a casual chapter casual event and hopefully encourage them to join our chapter. Details will be out soon.

We have received confirmation that Lieutenant General Robert F. Hedelund, USMC, will be our guest speaker for our annual Toys for Tots and ROTC Appreciation luncheon on 11/15. LtGen Hedelund is the Commander, U.S. Marine Corps Forces Command and Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, Atlantic.

Lastly, planning is well underway for our gala event of the year celebrating our chapter's 60th Anniversary. Our chapter was chartered and 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, will attend and present the chapter with its 60th anniversary certificate. Please plan to attend this special anniversary event.

The board has been working hard to provide the types of events that will help us not only sustain our current membership but also attract new members to the chapter as well. We're working hard to offer new and innovative activities and events and welcome your requests and ideas. We had approximately 60 people participate in the submarine tours we sponsored and we plan to have more events like this in the future. Membership numbers matter and you can help us with our efforts regarding membership. The best recruiters of new members are our current members. We need your help to grow and sustain our membership numbers and you can help by bringing neighbors and friends who are eligible for membership to one of our events and introduce them to the chapter. Our calendar of events and programs for 2020 is being in the final planning stages and we are looking forward to a lot of great events and speakers next year. Please plan to bring a potential member and help us sign them up for membership.

Lastly, we are a small group of volunteers working hard as your board officers and committee chairs and we can always use more help on the board and with our committees. There are a number of ways to contribute depending on the level of effort you can offer. None of our volunteer opportunities are very time consuming but every single one of them is very rewarding and meaningful. Please consider visiting a board meeting, 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.

Thank you for your support of our chapter. Never stop serving!

Yours in service, *Loren Heckelman*

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Legislative Affairs: Fall Update: “Get Out There”

CDR Linc Smith, USNR (Ret)

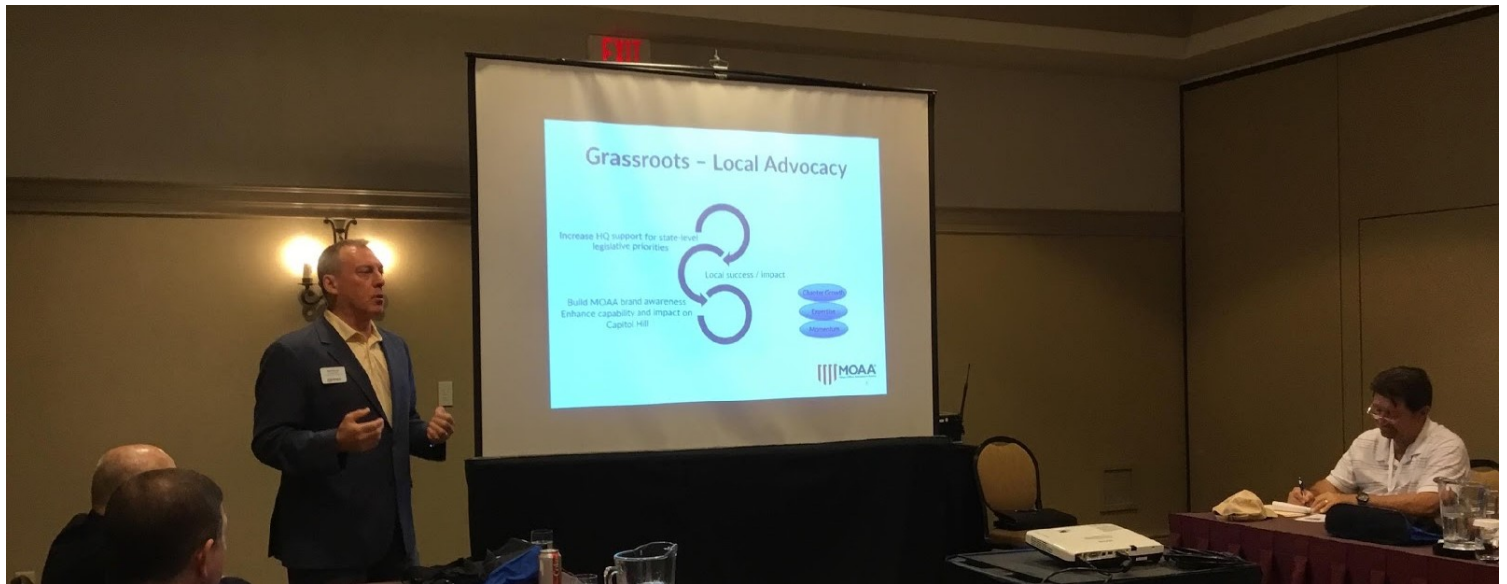
As we enter Fall Season of 2019, our chapter legislative affairs program continues to move forward. The United States Congress reconvened on 8 September and the Virginia General Assembly is scheduled to convene 9 January 2019. These dates noted, persistent advocacy for both the MOAA Top Legislative Priorities and Virginia Joint Leadership Council Legislative Initiatives remains more important than ever.

MOAA Northeast Regional Council/Chapter Leaders’ Workshop

Earlier this month, HRCMOAA Surviving Spouse Liaison Barbara Smith and myself attended the MOAA Northeast Regional Council/Chapter Leaders’ Workshop, Hershey Pennsylvania. The purpose of the workshop was to provide MOAA Leaders from the Northeast Region training in chapter management, membership, legislative affairs, surviving spouse liaison and marketing.

The MOAA Leaders Workbook, which provided the basis for our workshop, may be viewed online at: <https://www.moaa.org/content/publications-and-media/moaa-publications/council-and-chapter-leaders-workbook/>.

MOAA Vice President for Government Relations COL Dan Merry, USAF (Ret) led the training session for legislative affairs, attended by chapter legislative affairs committee chairs from the length and breath of the MOAA Northeast Region. COL Merry’s training included a national legislative overview, update on the fiscal year 2020 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) and a state report card on military tax assessment.



COL Dan Merry spotlighting grassroots advocacy at the MOAA Northeast Regional Council/Chapter Leaders’ Workshop

Front and center was MOAA advocacy for a military pay raise of 3.1%, ending the widows tax (H.R. 553 and S. 622) and stabilization of TRICARE fees and copayments. Over to NDAA 2020, H.R. 2500 was received in the Senate on 10 August. NDAA 2020 progress may be viewed at: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/2500/all-actions?overview=closed#tabs>

With the aforementioned, COL Merry emphasized, “get out there.” Grassroots advocacy remains among the most effective techniques in the legislative affairs advocacy tool box. In concert with this thought, MOAA President and CEO LTGEN Dana Atkins, USAF (Ret) recounted a visit to a legislators office on Capitol Hill, during which a staffer pointed to a box full of cards from MOAA members, a visible demonstration of grassroots advocacy power.





U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

News Release

Office of Public Affairs
Media Relations

Washington, DC 20420
(202) 461-7600
www.va.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 5, 2019

VA extends Agent Orange presumption to ‘Blue Water Navy’ Veterans

Eligible Veterans may now be entitled to disability compensation benefits

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is preparing to process Agent Orange exposure claims for [“Blue Water Navy” Veterans](#) who served offshore of the Republic of Vietnam between Jan. 9, 1962, and May 7, 1975.

These Veterans may be eligible for presumption of herbicide exposure through [Public Law 116-23, Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2019](#), which was signed into law June 25, 2019, and goes into effect Jan. 1, 2020. They may also qualify for a presumption of service connection if they have a disease that is recognized as being associated with herbicide exposure.

The bipartisan Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act gives VA until Jan. 1, 2020, to begin deciding Blue Water Navy related claims. By staying claims decisions until that date, VA is complying with the law that Congress wrote and passed.

“VA is dedicated to ensuring that all Veterans receive the benefits they have earned,” said VA Secretary Robert Wilkie. “We are working to ensure that we have the proper resources in place to meet the needs of our Blue Water Veteran community and minimize the impact on all Veterans filing for disability compensation.”

Blue Water Navy Veterans are encouraged to submit disability compensation claims for conditions presumed to be related to Agent Orange exposure. Veterans over age 85 or with life-threatening illnesses will have priority in claims processing.

Veterans who previously were denied for an Agent Orange related presumptive condition can file a new claim based on the change in law. Eligible survivors of deceased Blue Water Navy Veterans also may benefit from the new law and may file claims for benefits based on the Veterans’ service.

The new law affects Veterans who served on a vessel operating not more than 12 nautical miles seaward from the demarcation line of the waters of Vietnam and Cambodia, as defined in [Public Law 116-23](#). An estimated 420,000 to 560,000 Vietnam-era Veterans may be considered Blue Water Navy Veterans.

To qualify, under the new law, these Veterans must have a disease associated with herbicide exposure, as listed in [38 Code of Federal Regulations](#) section 3.309(e).

Agent Orange presumptive conditions are:

- AL amyloidosis
- Chloracne or similar acneform disease
- Chronic B-cell leukemias
- Diabetes mellitus Type 2
- Hodgkin lymphoma, formerly known as Hodgkin’s disease
- Ischemic heart disease
- Multiple myeloma
- Non-Hodgkin lymphoma, formerly known as Non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma
- Parkinson’s disease
- Peripheral neuropathy, early-onset
- Porphyria cutanea tarda
- Prostate cancer
- Respiratory cancers (lung, bronchus, larynx or trachea)
- Soft-tissue sarcoma (other than osteosarcoma, chondrosarcoma, Kaposi’s sarcoma or mesothelioma).

For more information about Agent Orange exposure in Vietnam waters (Blue Water Navy Veterans), visit <https://www.va.gov/disability/eligibility/hazardous-materials-exposure/agent-orange/navy-coast-guard-ships-vietnam/>.

Veterans seeking more information should contact their [Veterans Service Officer](#), call VA’s toll-free number at 800-827-1000 or visit the VA Blue Water Navy Agent Orange [website](#).

###

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The appearance of external hyperlinks does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Veterans Affairs of the linked web sites, or the information, products or services contained therein. For other than authorized VA activities, the Department does not exercise any editorial control over the information you may find at these locations. All links are provided with the intent of meeting the mission of the Department and the VA website. Please let us know about existing external links which you believe are inappropriate and about specific additional external links which you believe ought to be included by emailing newmedia@va.gov.



EMERGENCY/SURVIVOR CORNER

Co-authored by MG John McLaren, USA (ret) and COL James Edge, USA (ret)

We all need to be prepared for an emergency and for the inevitable survivor mode that we will find ourselves in at some point in our lives. This is edition one of four. It is comprehensive and will take too much space for one edition of the Tribute. With this CORNER, your Board of Directors will provide some suggestions and guidelines we hope will be helpful to all of us. There are Checklists available from many organizations such as National MOAA, Army Emergency Relief, the Navy Mutual Aid Association and just about all Veteran Organizations. Additionally, we have several checklists on our HRCMOAA WEB SITE under the Personal Affairs tab. Please note, what we are presenting here is not a be all or end all for families or survivors. It is a guide for you to use and for you to prepare for the future. Your specific information and requirements may differ. We would encourage you to look at all available resources for items requiring you to take action on with the passing of a spouse or family member.

So, let's get going: For a Veteran, the most important document needed on their passing is the DD Form 214. Don't have a copy of the DD Form 214?! Well, you will need to obtain a copy of a Standard Form 180 (SF- 180). Log on to National Personnel Records Center (<https://www.archives.gov/personnel-records-center/military-personnel>), click on the link for the Standard Form 180 and you should be able to download a copy. Let Jim Edge or Barbara Smith know if you have a problem. Like all FORMs, it isn't easy to complete but you have to do the best you can. Compose a letter requesting a copy of the DD Form 214 and with the completed SF 180 mail to the: National Personnel Records Center, 1 Archive Drive, St. Louis, MO 63138 or Fax your letter and the SF 180 to NPRC at (515) 801-9049. For your information, there are 3rd Party Companies who will perform this service for a fee (suggest you try yourself first).

DOCUMENTS

Other documents include but are not limited to: Marriage/ Divorce Records, Birth Certificates, Social Security, VA Disability Documentation, all military retirement documentation you have available, home and vehicle titles and check book, savings accounts, and Investment records..

PHONE NUMBERS

Now let's start assembling key contact telephone numbers – here are some key contact numbers for starters: DFAS - 1-888-332-7411; ; Social Security Administration - 1-800-772-1213; ; US Department of Veterans Affairs, Norfolk – 757-888-6148. These are only a few of the numbers which will be needed – you will need many more. This is a good start – we will get into additional information you need to assemble in future issues of the Tribute.

Questions: COL Jim Edge, USA (Ret), HRCMOAA Personal Affairs Officer – phone (757)434-1259 and email – jedge13@cox.net.



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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 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>

July 30, 2020

11:00am to 3:00pm
Recruit Military—Hampton Veterans Job Fair
Hampton - Hampton Roads Convention Center
<https://success.recruitmilitary.com/events/hampton-veterans-job-fair-july-30-2020>

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(Include area code)

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CITY, STATE, ZIP: _____

TELEPHONE: _____ E-MAIL _____
(Include area code)

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

Signature and Date _____



MARFORCOM FROM PAGE 1

As a CH46E pilot, LtGen Hedelund has deployed with HMM-264, HMM-365, and HMM-162. He has served as a Basic and Advanced Flight Instructor at Helicopter Training Squadron (HT) 18, NAS Whiting Field, FL. LtGen Hedelund has also served as a CH46E Instructor, Division Head and Assault Support Department Head at MAWTS-1, MCAS Yuma, AZ. LtGen Hedelund has flown over 5200 flight hours in rotary wing, tilt-rotor, and fixed wing aircraft.

Staff assignments include the Marine Corps Strategic Studies Group, MCCDC; U.S. Northern Command Desk Officer, U.S. Joint Forces Command; Senior Military Assistant and Marine Aide to the Secretary of the Navy; Director, Marine and Family Programs Division (MF), Manpower & Reserve Affairs; Assistant Chief of Staff UCJ-5, United Nations Command, ROK-U.S. Combined Forces Command, U.S. Forces Korea.

LtGen Hedelund is a distinguished graduate of The Basic School and Marine Corps Command and Staff College. He has also attended the Air War College and Joint Force Air Component Command Course, Montgomery, AL and the Joint Forces Staff College and CAPSTONE Program, Norfolk, VA.

Looking to the future, we are fortunate to be joined by eight cadets and midshipmen from the Hampton Roads Naval ROTC, Old Dominion Monarch Battalion, and Norfolk State Spartan Battalion. This is always a cherished moment for our members to share a table and conversations with the future officers who will lead our military for years to come.

Please be sure to bring one or more unwrapped toys for a boy or girl. Let's ensure the Marines leave with vehicles stocked full of toys. This is a great opportunity to support some of our local children at the holidays. We will also conduct elections from our slate of officers and Board of Directors for the 2020-2022 term.

**ODU AROTC 50th ANNIVERSARY CEREMONY**

COL James Edge, USA (ret)

The U.S. Army ROTC Monarch Battalion, Old Dominion University celebrated their 50 th Anniversary on 27 September 2019. The ceremony included remarks by ODU President John R. Broderick and ODU alumnus Major General Brian P. Cummings, Inspection of the Cadets and singing of the "Army Song". The ceremony was followed with lunch hosted by ODU. Also, in attendance was Dr. Jeff Tanner, Dean of the Business College, recently assigned Professor of Military Science (PMS) Army ROTC, LTC Camala L. Coats, several active duty personnel and former officers who served as the ODU PMS. Members of our Chapter participating were MG John McLaren, USA (Ret), COL Jack Hilgers, USMC (Ret) and COL Jim Edge, USA (Ret). As always, the ODU AROTC Monarch Battalion conducted a superb ceremony.



Coming Soon: November Luncheon

WHEN: Friday, 15 Nov 2019

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

TIME: Social-1100 hours, Lunch-1200 hours

MENU: **Chicken Piccata** served in a rich lemon sauce with capers or **Lemon Garlic Tilapia** served with a Tomato Basil Bisque Soup. Buttermilk Mashed Potatoes with Chives, Fresh Steamed Green Beans, Freshly Baked Rolls with Butter and a Sweet Potato Crumble Pie. Coffee, tea and water provided. Cash Bar.

PRICE: \$25.00

PROGRAM: Guest speaker will be **MARFORCOM, LtGen Hedelund**. this is our ROTC recognition and Toys For Tots luncheon. Election for the 2020 slate of chapter officers will also be held.

ALL ACTIVE DUTY OFFICERS ARE HIGHLY ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND (whether currently a MOAA member or not)

RESERVATIONS / CANCELLATIONS:
Reservations due by 1200 hours Tuesday, 12 November.

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

Virginia MOAA Southeast Regional Legislative Affairs Committee

In brief review, the Virginia MOAA Southeast Regional Legislative Affairs Committee was founded by COL Jim Pauls, USAF (Ret) (VIPMOAA), CWO3 Karl Wilson, USA (Ret) (PACMOAA), and myself (HRCMOAA) in 2018. 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.

Our committee is now planning a grassroots advocacy session with Hampton Roads and Peninsula legislators at the state level. With late November or early December as the target timeframe, specific date and time of our meeting forthcoming. Potential policy papers for Virginia Joint Leadership Council Initiatives 2020 may be viewed at: <https://www.dvs.virginia.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/JLC-Minutes-DRAFT-7-24-19.pdf>.

As with all chapter legislative events, any interested chapter member is welcome to attend our session.

In Closing

From a home computer, we can advocate anytime for MOAA Legislative Priorities at the MOAA Legislative Action Center. A one stop shop for your voice to be heard with our Legislators, the Center is located at: <http://takeaction.moaa.org/?0>.

As we approach the final quarter of 2019, thank you for your support of our chapter legislative affairs program. Be it at home on the computer or in the community, lets "get out there." In so doing, we build not only support for legislative priorities, but for MOAA brand awareness. Our nation's veterans are depending on us to do so.

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2019 ^{UPCOMING} Events

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

November Luncheon (11/15) - Atlantic Shores, Virginia Beach. MARFORCOM, LtGen Hedelund, Toys for Tots

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

HRCMOAA SPOUSE/SURVIVING SPOUSE LUNCH

by Carol Tippin

The following are the photos taken of the models at the fashion show by DRESS BARN for the HRCMOAA Spouse/Surviving Spouse Luncheon on September 11, 2019

“The Casual Look”



Lourdes “Lou” Miller; Jill Harry; Laurel Rohlfs; Carol Tippin; Ann Williams; Patty Ann Werner; Donna Branson & Sonya Myers

“The Dressy Look”



Lourdes “Lou” Miller; Carol Tippin; Donna Branson; Ann Williams; Patty Ann Werner; Sonya Myers; Laurel Rohlfs & Jill Harry



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*Service available to the Greater Williamsburg Area



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WilliamsburgLanding.org





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National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
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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

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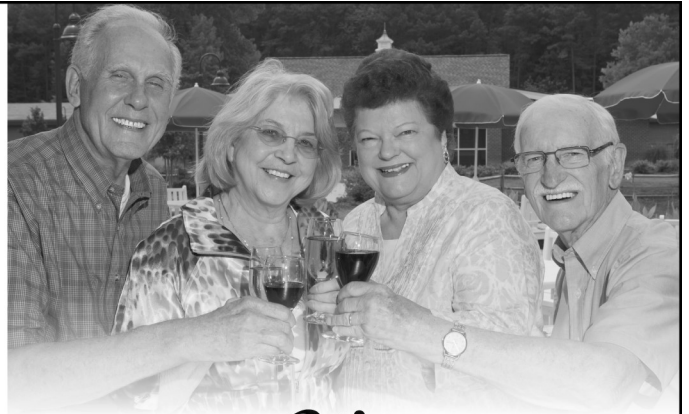


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