

## 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 2020 and Website For 2020.

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October 2021

### NEVER STOP SERVING

### THE TRIBUTE

**VOL 45-NO 5** 

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



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### Legislative Affairs Update: Fall 2021

By: CDR Linc Smith, USNR (Ret) - Legislative Affairs Committee Chair



As we enter Fall 2021, MOAA Advocacy in Action 2021 presses forward. In concert, the National Defense Authorization Act 2022 (NDAA 2022) also moves forward. This update focuses on the status of two bills: Tricare Young Adult Parity and The Richard Star Act. In close, this Fall 2021 update spotlights the MOAA Council and Chapter Policies and Procedures Guide, Chapter Four, Section One, which is Legislative Support.

### **MOAA Advocacy in Action 2021**

TRICARE Young Adult Parity

As of early September, legislation to expand TRICARE eligibility to young adult dependents up to age 26 and align TRICARE was not written into the House Armed Services Committee (HASC) version of the FY 2022 NDAA. Rep. Elaine Luria (D-Va.) introduced H.R. 475, the Health Care Fairness for Military Families Act, which served as amendment during the September HASC committee markup. She withdrew the amendment, knowing budget impact would ruled the act out of order. The better news is that the bill may well have been better positioned for success next year.

To our ongoing advocacy with Tricare Young Adult Parity, MOAA President and Chief Executive Officer Lt. Gen. Dana Atkins, USAF (Ret) says, "It's time to modernize TRICARE eligibility and bring it on par with commercial

### SEE **LEGISLATIVE** CONTINUED ON PAGE 5















Visit our website at <a href="www.hrcmoaa.org">www.hrcmoaa.org</a>, 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,

As I'm sure you are all aware by now, we had to cancel our luncheon that had been planned for September due to the surge of the COVID Delta variant. We will try again to have that luncheon later with the previously scheduled speaker, Lt. Col. Shane Ostrom, USAF (Ret), CFP®, who is MOAA's Program Director, Financial & Benefits Education/Counseling. Currently we are working on a potential luncheon for late October. More information will be published as soon as we have details. We still have our annual Christmas dinner dance penciled in at Atlantic Shores for Saturday, December 4, 2021. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend.

The chapter's program planning committee is working on the planning calendar for next year so if you have ideas or events that you would like to see on the chapter's calendar, please send your ideas to Bert Ortiz at BertOrtiz@cox.net. We are also looking for venues that would be appropriate in size and cost so if you know of a place that would be suitable

for a luncheon or other event, please pass that on to Bert as well.

As a reminder, you can stay abreast of the legislative issues that may impact benefits for you and your family by going to MOAA's Legislative Action page on the MOAA website. Here is the link: <a href="https://takeaction.moaa.org/">https://takeaction.moaa.org/</a>

Many hands make light work! Have you ever heard that phrase before? Many of us have and likely in a time of need, when something needs to be done quickly and efficiently as a team. The phrase is simple, true, and is relevant to the Hampton Roads Chapter of MOAA. Each year in November, the chapter holds its annual meeting and election of officers and directors for the following two years of board membership and leadership of the chapter. We need additional help on the board. All but two of our officer and director positions are up for election this November. This is unusual and results from extending the officers and directors who would have been up for election last November for an additional year due to the COVID pandemic. That means we have eleven positions up for election. Many of the current board members have been serving on the board for ten years or more and they have done outstanding work in

### SEE PRESIDENT CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

	HRCMOAA DIRECTORY	
PRESIDENT: 646-6448	FIRST VP: 482-1995	SECOND VP: 708-5229
CAPT Loren Heckelman, USN (ret)	CDR Bert Ortiz, USN (ret)	Andy Baan, CAPT, USN (ret)
SECRETARY: 910-554-8575 LtCol Matt Dumenigo, USMC	TREASURER: 233-7218 CAPT Doug Williams, USN (ret)	PAST PRESIDENT: 495-3611 MG John McLaren, USA (ret)
	<u>DIRECTORS</u>	
CDR Robert Armour, USN (ret) CAPT Mike "Breeze" Barea, USN (ret)	COL James Edge, USA (ret) CDR John Uhrin, USN (ret) Barbara Smith	Col Larry King "Live", USMC (ret) LCDR Jeff Barrett, USN (ret)
	<u>COMMITTEES</u>	
PROGRAMS: 482-1995	VCOC REP: 237-3611	LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS: 406-2949
CDR Bert Ortiz, USN (ret)	MG John McLaren, USA (ret)	CDR Linc Smith, USN (ret)
PERSONAL AFFAIRS 434-1259	MEMBERSHIP: 650-1086	EDITOR/PUBLICITY: 618-6945
COL James Edge, USA (ret)	Col Larry King, USMC (ret)	LCDR Aaron Zielinski, USN (fmr)
COMMUNITY AFFAIRS: 477-5348	INFO SYSTEMS: 490-5792	WEBMASTER: 490-5792
CDR Robert Armour, USN (ret)	Maj Clifton G. Furedy, USAF (ret)	Maj Clifton G. Furedy, USAF (ret)
TRANSITION LIAISON: 646-6448	ACTIVE DUTY LIAISON: 760-213-0936	ID CARD NOTIFICATION: 427-2066
CAPT Loren Heckelman, USN (ret)	LtCol Adam Winslow, USMC	CAPT Jim Daniels, USN (ret)
ASST LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS: 754-1667	SURVIVING SPOUSES LIAISON: 576-1114	4th DIST CONGRESS LIAISON: 406-2949
COL Jack Hilgers, USMC (ret)	Barbara Smith	CDR Linc Smith, USN (ret)



### PRESIDENT FROM PAGE 2

support of the chapter. They continue to volunteer and serve in a variety of capacities and epitomize the MOAA motto of "Never Stop Serving" but we need additional help and we are asking that current and new chapter members consider stepping up and give back to the chapter by serving on the board. Please consider joining your chapter leadership by volunteering to be on the slate for a board position. John McLaren will be heading up the nominations committee and you can reach him with your interest at johnpmclaren@yahoo.com or via phone at 757-237-3611.

Last, but certainly not least, please visit our chapter website at <a href="www.hrcmoaa.org">www.hrcmoaa.org</a>. You can provide any feedback about the website to me at <a href="Loren.Heckelman@cox.net">Loren.Heckelman@cox.net</a>. A lot of time and effort goes into the website so please let us know how we can make it an effective resource for you.

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

Sincerely, **Loren Heckelman** Captain, USN (Ret.)

## Reminder — Time to renew Chapter Dues

If you haven't renewed your dues for 2021, please remember that they expired on 31 December 2020. Also, it's not too late to go ahead and renew if your dues expire on 31 December 2021!

Dues for 2021 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

Visiting the MOAA website https://chapterdues.moaa.org/Membership.aspx

## Social Media Clicks





MOAA 🤣 @MilitaryOfficer · Aug 31

The House is considering including Incentive Pay Parity for the reserve component in this year's NDAA. We have a limited time to make sure this they act. Reach out to your lawmaker now: takeaction.moaa.org/moaa/app/write...

(U.S. Marine Corps photo by Lance Cpl. Juan Carpanzano)







### CHAPTER BOARD OF DIRECTORS SEEKING TO FILL VACANCIES FOR 2022-2023

By CAPT Loren Heckelman, USN (ret)

Be a part of the award-winning Hampton Roads Chapter's leadership team!

Each November at the annual meeting of the chapter membership, chapter members vote for officers and directors to serve on the Chapter's Board of Directors for the upcoming year. Prior to the election, the Board appoints a Nominating Committee, typically chaired by the immediate past president (currently John McLaren) to identify candidates for the chapter members to vote on. We are underway with this process of identifying candidates and are soliciting your support.

In accordance with the bylaws, the administration of the Chapter shall be vested in a Board of Directors and an Executive Committee. The Board meets monthly for an informal meeting to conduct business. During the COVID pandemic, Board meetings have been conducted via Zoom, but in-person meetings will resume when it is safe to do so. Our last two meetings have been a hybrid format with some members attending in person and some via Zoom. Meetings typically include a review of the minutes from the last meeting, and reports from the Treasurer and the chairs of the programs, membership, legislative and community affairs committees. There is also an update from the Personal Affairs and the Surviving Spouse/Spouse committee chairs.

If you are interested in serving on the Chapter's Board of Directors, please contact the Chapter's Nominating Committee Chairman John McLaren (<u>JohnPMcLaren@yahoo.com</u>); Chapter President Loren Heckelman (<u>Loren.Heckelman@cox.net</u>) or any member of the Board. Officers and Directors are listed on the inside cover of the Tribute newsletter along with their telephone numbers.

### SEEKING NEWSLETTER EDITOR TO WORK WITH 2022 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

By LCDR Aaron Zielinski, USN (fmr)

The Hampton Roads Chapter has delivered an award winning newsletter to our members for many years. An annual recipient of MOAA's Colonel Marvin J. Harris Communications Award, our chapter has been recognized for its outstanding job communicating with our members and community through both the newsletter and website. In 2015, long-time newsletter editor CDR John Vermillion, USN (ret) handed me the reigns. Over the past seven years, I have had the pleasure of working with our Board of Directors to provide timely, important, and interesting chapter content to all of our members.

I'm extremely fortunate to have burgeoning career and family obligations and I am looking for the chapter's next newsletter editor. We publish the chapter newsletter, The Tribute, six times a year and it is one of the chapter's main instruments for keeping our membership up to date with news, upcoming chapter events, legislative updates, career transition advice, community affairs, and many other topics. Just like we are in need of volunteers to serve on the Chapter's Board of Directors, we are in need of the next Newsletter Editor. No need to be a publishing expert. If you have basic computer skills, you're well equipped to succeed! This veterans organization's lifeblood is its volunteers. This is a great opportunity to contribute to the veterans of the Hampton Roads community. If interested, please e-mail or call Aaron Zielinski at <a href="https://example.com">https://example.com</a> or (757) 618-6945.





### **LEGISLATIVE FROM PAGE 1**

plans, Congressionally-directed military health system reforms have meant increased costs for many military families. Reform must also include addressing glaring parity gaps to ensure the TRICARE benefit reflects the extraordinary risks and sacrifices associated with military service and remains an effective recruiting and retention tool."

To the aforementioned statement by Lt. Gen. Atkins and introduction of the Health Care Fairness for Military Families Act by Representative Elaine Luria (D-VA) and Michael Waltz (R-FL), let us continue our vigorous support and dedicated legislative advocacy.

### Richard Star Act





During FY 2022 NDAA deliberations in last September, the House Rules Committee found the Star Act (H.R. 1282/S. 344) not in order as an NDAA 2022 amendment. Why? No avenue is yet identified to fund concurrent receipt for the 48,000 combat injured the Star Act would support. In short, the bill must gain majority support in the House to facilitate budgetary "Pay as You Go" procedures, which would allow progression to vote.

As of this writing, Senators Jon Tester (D-Mont.) and Mike Crapo (R-Idaho) are moving the Star Act as an amendment to the Senate version of the NDAA 2022. Pictured from left to right: Senator Crapo and Senator Tester

### MOAA Council and Chapter Policies and Procedures Guide,

The subject of Chapter Four, Section One of the MOAA Council and Chapter Policies and Procedures Guide is Legislative Support. In this section, the guide reviews advocacy basics all MOAA members should follow:

- Know and respect the basic legislative process.
- Maintain a positive attitude.
- Know the facts about the issues MOAA supports, as well as the opposing arguments.
- Promote only MOAA's legislative agenda as approved by its board of directors.
- Present MOAA issues factually and unemotionally, with clarity and brevity.
- Be respectful and courteous, especially when disagreeing.

Whether the TRICARE Young Adult Parity and Richard Star Act, let us renew our Chapter Legislative Affairs Advocacy efforts. In so doing, let us proceed in the spirit of the aforementioned basics. Our Nation's Veterans are depending on us to do so. Thank you for your support of HRCMOAA Legislative Affairs.

Learn more and support MOAA's advocacy efforts at MOAA's Take Action Center: https://takeaction.moaa.org/moaa/?1





### HONOR FLIGHT SUSPENDS ITS MISSION

By CAPT Mike "Breeze" Barea, USN (ret)

The continuing battle against the COVID -19 virus and the increasing threat of the Delta variant has led the Old Dominion Honor Flight (ODHF) Board of Directors to make the very tough decision to again suspend ODHF Mission 2 scheduled to travel on October 16, 2021. Another factor that led to this decision is the Korean War Veterans Memorial is currently being renovated. The statues are covered and a portion of the memorial is closed until Spring 2022. As with earlier decisions, the health and safety of our Veterans is and will always be the biggest concern. ODHF Mission 2 will now travel on April 23, 2022. HRCMOAA Board of Directors will provide further details as they become available. Keep checking the TRIBUTE for more information as the date draws closer. Thank you for your understanding and continuing support.

Portions of the above excerpt was taken from the ODHF Facebook page.

Veterans or guardians desiring to participate can fill out the application and mail it to the address shown on the application. Please click on the PDF forms for the Veteran and/or Guardian which are on this page. For veteran and guardian applications go to <a href="https://www.facebook.com/Old-Dominion-Honor-Flight-416148685825985/menu/">www.facebook.com/Old-Dominion-Honor-Flight-416148685825985/menu/</a>

This is an amazing experience for both veteran and guardian. Those that have been participants have always expressed sincere appreciation for the opportunity. Contact April Maletz (757) 581-4103, or email OldDominionHF@gmail.com with any questions.



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757-327-4547 | patriotscolony.org. | **[**]

Patriots Colony Independent Living, sponsored by Riverside Health System, is a Continuing Care Retirement Community exclusively for retired and former military officers and retired and former federal employees and their spouses.

## 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.

TELEPHONE:

Signature and Date

#### 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.



Join the HRCMOAA on LinkedIn at:

https://www.linkedin.com/groups/5047678/



MOAA Career Networking

https://www.linkedin.com/groups/164686/

Here is a list of local military career fairs and networking opportunities:

### October 21, 2021

9:00am to 12:00pm

Corporate Gray - Military Friendly Job Fair

Virginia Beach Convention Center - Virginia Beach

https://www.corporategray.com/jobfairs/440

### November 23, 2021

12:00pm to 4:00pm

Recruit Military - National Virtual Career Fair for Veterans

https://recruitmilitary.careereco.com/Fair/EventDetails?fairId=c259ce6c-bfa3-4785-9d4e-ac720168af3f

### November 4, 2021

11:00am to 2:00pm

Norfolk Veterans Virtual Job Fair

https://www.militaryx.com/seeker/Norfolk-career-fair/1849?

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E-MAIL



### **Volunteer Opportunity for HRCMOAA Members**

By: CDR Bob Armour, USN (Ret)

Would you like to Volunteer to help those in Hampton Roads with too little to eat? The Foodbank of Southeastern Virginia and the Eastern Shore could use our help as Volunteers for a two-hour shift at their warehouse at 800 Tidewater Drive in Norfolk. They need our help to do a little physical labor to organize the food they have for distribution. Usually, they are looking for volunteers from 1:00 PM to 3:00 pm Monday through Friday. If we have enough volunteers, HRCMOAA could cover an entire shift for one day by providing about 20 volunteers for one of these 2-hour shifts. Since most of us have had our COVID19 shots, masks will probably be optional.

If you are interested in volunteering, please email Bob Armour at <a href="bobpetraarmour@cox.net">bobpetraarmour@cox.net</a>. Please let Bob know your name, cell #, email address, and which days in the week you are most likely to be available. Once we know how many volunteers we have, we will contact the Food Bank Volunteer Coordinator. He should be able to assign us a date several weeks in advance. We like to get more than 20 volunteers as we will want to have extra "standby volunteers" in case a primary volunteer has a last-minute emergency. Contact Bob if you have questions or suggestions. If there is enough interest, we will attempt to provide teams to the Food Bank on a regular basis.





### Chapter Earns MOAA's 5-Star Level of Excellence Award for 18th Consecutive Year!

Our Hampton Roads Chapter was awarded MOAA's Five-Star Level of Excellence recognition for accomplishments, community service, legislative affairs work, and activities in 2020. The Chapter has earned the highest level award every year dating back to 2004. According to the MOAA website: "Every year, MOAA's affiliates compete to receive a four- or five-star Levels of Excellence Award. The very best councils and chapters receive five-star awards, while above-average councils and chapters receive four-star awards." The MOAA website goes on to say: "[The top winners] didn't just maintain satisfactory performance, but persevered and excelled during the pandemic, earning five -star awards. These councils and chapters, their volunteer leaders, and their members found new and innovative ways to serve their communities and help veterans, excelled in grassroots advocacy by nurturing relationships and educating elected officials (often virtually) and grew our shared membership even without in-person meetings."

Competition for the Levels of Excellence awards is based on criteria including percentage of chapter membership that belong to national MOAA; the number of chapter events; the number of newsletters published; proactive legislative affairs program; membership recruiting and retention; programs that enhance the image of the chapter and MOAA, including participation in community civic/patriotic events, collaboration with local ROTC units; and so forth. In spite of the COVID pandemic, the Chapter continued to promote its legislative mission with virtual meetings with Congressional representatives and their staffs. CDR Linc Smith, USNR (Ret) works tirelessly to promote and advocate for veterans issues. He routinely meets with both local and national legislators to educate them on MOAA's priorities and topics important to our chapter members.

Huge kudos go to our First Vice President, CDR Bert Ortiz, USN (Ret) for crafting HRCMOAA's Five-Star Award submission again this year and showing National MOAA the great things our chapter and Board of Directors accomplished during 2020.



### Community Affairs - Hampton Roads Chapter ROTC Scholarship Fund

CDR Bob Armour, USN (ret)

This past year, several of your HRCMOAA board members met with Ms. Andrea Rand, the director of the MOAA Scholarship program to request some changes to how scholarships in our chapter name were being awarded. As a result of our suggestions and input, the MOAA Scholarship Fund Board has agreed to make several important changes. The MOAA Scholarship Fund Board now gives preference in awarding scholarships and grants to children with HRCMOAA chapter member parents. While not guaranteed to go to the child of a chapter member, those children applying for MOAA scholarships with a parent who is a chapter member will receive favorable consideration and the review board will give preference in awarding scholarships to those children. Regardless of whether the student's parent is a chapter member or not, students selected for MOAA scholarships in the chapter name will always be from the area represented by our Hampton Roads Chapter. Below is the status of our chapter scholarship fund both for this year and overall for the 5-year goal.

	GOAL	Contributed	% of Goal	Need Dates	Still Need
As of 06/01/2021	Total Goal \$25,000	23,266.50	93%	Need by 12/31/2022	\$1,733.50
	Annual Goal \$5,000	\$5,566.95	111%	Needed by 12/31/2021	\$566.95 OVER

Thank you to all that have contributed and hope you will all continue to contribute in 2021 and beyond. The following is a breakdown of the chapter members who have contributed to the scholarship fund this year. New contributions are shown in blue.

### **2021 Contributions**

### PLATINUM - \$500 and above

CDR Roberto S. Ortiz, USN (Ret.)

CAPT Douglas B. Williams, USN (Ret.)

**CAPT Daniel E. Ries, USN** 

GOLD - \$250 to \$499

CAPT Roger J. Blood, USN (Ret.) LCDR Darryl Holland, USN (Ret.)

CAPT Loren J. Heckelman, USN (Ret)

Clifton and Bobbie Furedy

### SILVER - \$100 to \$249

CAPT Patricia A. McFadden USN

### **Bronze Under \$100**

MAJ Warren E. Boisselle, USA CDR Pat Grillo, USN CDR Frederick G. Johnson USN

CAPT Joan C. Kanter, USAF

CAPT Robert P Lacoursiere, USMC CWO4 Alfred R. Rathbun, USN CDR Stanley W. Schnell USN



# UPCOMING Events 2021

Surviving Spouse Luncheon (12/02) - Princess Anne Country Club at 1130. Chicken Tetrazzini with asparagus Rolls, Coffee, Tea, and Apple Pie a la mode. The program will be floral arrangements by Fairfield Flowers, with three arrangements being raffled off.

<u>Christmas Dinner Dance</u> (12/04) - Atlantic Shores. Details to be announced later. Please save the date!



CDR Paul G, Coughlin, USN (Ret)



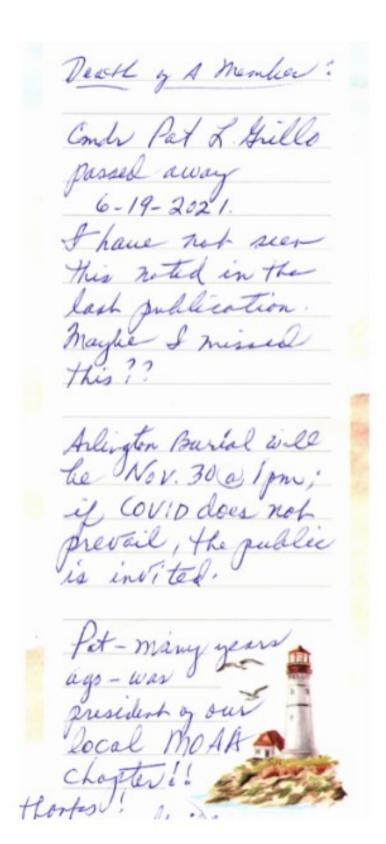
LTC Franklin "Lin" C. Haskins, USA (Ret)



CDR Pat Grillo, USN (Ret)



Below is a note sent by Mrs. Grillo to the Board of Directors sharing the details of CDR Grillo's Arlington burial plans for November 30, 2021 at 1300.







### **Chapter Membership or Renewal Application**

Army • Navy • Air Force • Marine Corps • Coast Guard • Public Health Service National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

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

Make checks payable to HRCMOAA			NEW			
Hampton Roads Chapter MOAA P.O. Box 4612 Virginia Beach, VA 23454-0612		2 Years: \$35.00	RENEWAL Circle years & amount	2 Years: 3 Years:	\$17.00	
Please print (If renewing, enter only your name and	<b>Regular Member:</b> Active, Reserve, Retired or Former Commissioned or Warrant Officer of the seven Uniformed Services.					
Date/ / Recruiter		Surviving Spouse: Surviving, be eligible for regu		individual wh	o would,	
Name**,,	First	Middle or Initial Date	e of birth/	/	YYYY	
Grade Service		(Ex: USAR, USMCR,	USAFR, USNR, ANG, AR	NG)		
Status Active - Reserve - Retired - Former - Surviving Sp Circle one	ouse Service Dates/to	/Retir	red Date/	_ / <sub>DD</sub>		
Spouse's Name,	First	Middle or Initial				
E-mail address		Spouse's Date	e of birth /	_ / <sub>DD</sub>	YYYY	
Mailing AddressNumber and Street	City		State	Zip	code	
Home Phone World		Cell Phone			_	
Member of National MOAA? Yes No If Yes Not a National MOAA member yet? Check here to rec			Member? Yes	No		
Enclosed is \$ in dues payment		Signature				

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





### THE TRIBUTE

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### **MEMBERSHIP ALERT**

If the date on your mailing label shows 2021, your membership will expire on December 31, 2021. Please complete the membership renewal form on page 11. You may contact COL Larry King, USMC-Ret. at 650-1086, Membership Chair. Rather than recycling your newsletter, please consider sharing your copy with a prospective member.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

"Dated Material Do Not Delay"

October 2021

(Label Here)



Please see the articles on page four for volunteer opportunities. Newsletter Editor and Board of Director positions.

