

## 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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**VOL 46-NO 2** 

#### NEVER STOP SERVING

April 2022

#### THE TRIBUTE

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



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## New Member Spotlight: Major Greg Lewis, USMC (Ret)



Please welcome aboard our most recent chapter member, retired Marine Major, Greg Lewis of Virginia Beach. A Norwich University graduate with a B.S. in Business Management, Greg has served as a Marine Corps and Joint Logistician at the tactical, operational and strategic levels. Greg currently serves as a Principle Logistics Analyst for CANA Advisors, as well as a Senior Associate for Commanding Holdings Group. In both positions

Greg pursues and advances cutting edge innovations in Naval Logistics.

Previously, Greg worked for Team Prevailance, supporting Expeditionary Warfighting Development Center at Little Creek, serving an exercise developer, instructor, and analyst in rigorous training programs in support of Distributed Maritime Operations and Operational Logistics in a Contested Maritime Environment.

Prior tours include Battalion Executive officer of Combat Logistics Battalion 7 in Helmand Province, Afghanistan; Security Cooperation Planner for Marine Corps Security Cooperation Group; Transportation Department Head instructor Senior Mentor at Marine Corps Logistics Operations Group; and a tour In US Africa Command (USAFRICOM) as a country desk officer.

Greg holds a Master of National Security Affairs from Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, California and received a Secondary Military Occupational Specialty of Regional Affairs Officer. He earned his Joint Professional Military Education Phase One through the Naval War College Extension, Monterey, California and completed Amphibious/Expeditionary Warfare School.

Greg is also a member of the Association of Marine Corps Logisticians. Married with children, Greg looks forward to volunteering in the Hampton Roads Chapter while balancing a very busy professional career and family.

We welcome him into our ranks and are thankful for his membership and future service.

















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,

Thanks to all who attended our March luncheon. It was good to see everyone in person again and we look forward to the rest of our 2022 schedule of events.

At the luncheon, I summarized the results of our efforts to date in reviewing the chapter's board structure and engagement and the proposal that has been accepted by the board. Our focus was on retaining what is most important to the chapter membership and what enables us to remain viable as a chapter given the reality of our declining membership and inability to bring new volunteers to the board. An article in this issue provides a summary of what has been accepted by the board. Next steps are to revise our chapter Constitution and By-Laws and bring that revised document to the chapter membership for approval. We expect to have that completed in the next few months. Any questions or comments can be directed to me via email or phone.

Also included in this issue is a current summary of our scholarship fund drive status. We are in the fifth year of our five-year campaign and we hope to close out the year strong by achieving both the 2022 annual goal of \$5,000 and the five-year goal of \$25,000.

Sustaining current membership and bringing aboard new members are both critical to sustaining our chapter and continuing to offer the luncheons, printed newsletter and other benefits of chapter membership. Each year at the end of December, a number of memberships expire and we urgently need those expiring members to renew with us to help keep our numbers up. To help us with our membership efforts, we ask that you invite your friends and neighbors who are eligible for MOAA membership to visit our website or one of our events to see what we offer. In addition, please share your Tribute newsletter with potential members in your neighborhood and other organizations you belong to. The best recruiters of new members are our current members and the best way to get a new member is through a personal contact. We need your help to grow and sustain our membership numbers and you can help by

#### SEE PRESIDENT CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

	HRCMOAA DIRECTORY			
PRESIDENT: 646-6448 CAPT Loren Heckelman, USN (ret)	FIRST VP: 482-1995 CDR Bert Ortiz, USN (ret)	SECOND VP: 708-5229 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>			
Barbara Smith	CDR John Uhrin, USN (ret) CAPT Mike "Breeze" Barea, USN (ret)	Col Larry King "Live", USMC (ret) LCDR Jeff Barrett, USN (ret)		
	<u>COMMITTEES</u>			
PROGRAMS: 482-1995 CDR Bert Ortiz, USN (ret)	VCOC REP: 237-3611 MG John McLaren, USA (ret)	SURVIVING SPOUSES LIAISON: Barbara Smith		
PERSONAL AFFAIRS 646-6448 Vacant	MEMBERSHIP: 650-1086 Col Larry King, USMC (ret)	EDITOR/PUBLICITY: 618-6945 LCDR Aaron Zielinski, USN (fmr)		
COMMUNITY AFFAIRS: Vacant	INFO SYSTEMS: 490-5792 Maj Clifton G. Furedy, USAF (ret)	WEBMASTER: 490-5792 Maj Clifton G. Furedy, USAF (ret)		
TRANSITION LIAISON: 646-6448 CAPT Loren Heckelman, USN (ret)	ACTIVE DUTY LIAISON:  Vacant	ID CARD NOTIFICATION: 375-3973 CAPT Jim Daniels, USN (ret)		
LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS: 406-2949 CDR Linc Smith, USN (ret)	ASST LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS: 754-1667 COL Jack Hilgers, USMC (ret)			

#### PRESIDENT FROM PAGE 2

bringing neighbors and friends who are eligible for membership to one of our events and introduce them to the chapter. The best way to get someone to join our chapter is for you – our current members – to invite them.

If you haven't been on the chapter website recently, please go take a look at www.hrcmoaa.org. We work hard to keep it current and to provide valuable information on a variety of topics to our membership.

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 2022, please remember that they expired on 31 December 2021. We encourage you to renew for three years as it's the best deal and helps the chapter!

Dues for 2022 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 · 23h

As part of @TheMilCoalition, MOAA continues to support the Major Richard Star Act. Contact your lawmakers and help MOAA advocate for veterans here: lnkd.in/dG6v59kq





Military Officers Association of America (MOAA)

The new museum will enshrine the stories of Medal of Honor recipients for future generations. Will you be visiting?



AUDACY.COM

#### New museum honors Medal of Honor recipients

The National Medal of Honor Museum will enshrine the stories of ...



#### Surviving Spouse Corner: Tips for Downsizing and Decluttering

By: Renée Brunelle, MOAA Surviving Spouse Advisory Council

Most people would agree they have experienced a move that did not go as planned. Missing items, broken items, and often a vague timeline for delivery from the moving company can make anyone have a few sleepless nights. Perhaps you have decades of "treasures" in your home you had planned on sharing with family. Then it is revealed all are not going to get passed down after all. Where do you start?

You must consider how long you have lived in the residence and how many people have lived there. As you add number of years and people, you also increase the number of weeks it will take to declutter.

I use the Marie Kondo "<u>Magic of Tidying Up</u>" approach to look at a client's home with my business as a senior move manager. Start where there is the least emotional connection: clothing and accessories. Often, if you just declutter the clothes that don't fit any longer and donate them, it can be a great way to start. Then tackle the books, papers, and general items (including bedroom, bathroom, office, and kitchen). End with mementos that hold the most sentimental triggers.

Luckily, help is available to begin this process and provide some professional guidance when needed. The <u>National Association</u> of <u>Senior Move Managers</u> has a website to find trusted professionals in a specific geographic area. They are experienced in helping someone sort their belongings and decide what is best to take, possibly sell, donate, or throw out. They can help with floorplan designs and mover scheduling if the final plan is to move. Depending on the business, they will charge by the hour or by the project.

Senior move managers often are a wealth of resources that can save you and your family time and/or money. They network with movers, senior placement specialists, senior living communities, Realtors, estate sale professionals, and many other businesses to be sure they can assist their clients when needed.

Family members often have good intentions to help with the decluttering and downsizing process. However, their own emotional attachment to items can complicate the downsizing process.

This and more Surviving Spouse Corner articles can be found at the MOAA website: <a href="https://www.moaa.org/content/about-moaa/meet-our-leaders/surviving-spouse-advisory-committee/surviving-spouse-corner/">https://www.moaa.org/content/about-moaa/meet-our-leaders/surviving-spouse-advisory-committee/surviving-spouse-corner/</a>

#### 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://hrcmoaa@gmail.com">hrcmoaa@gmail.com</a> or (757) 618-6945.

#### Legislative Affairs Update: View the status of veteran bills in the VA General Assembly

By: COL Jack Hilgers, USMC (ret) - Assistant Legislative Affairs Committee Chair

The 2022 General Assembly Session is over. The Constitution requires that the session end 60 days, unless agreed to by 2/3 of both the House and Senate. The session was not extended to complete the budget. The House budget which has substantially higher tax cuts and rebates is about \$3 billion different from the Senate budget. The budget negotiators will continue their work and the Governor will call a Special Session to pass the budget and deal with the budget related bills.

On April 27, there will be a one-day reconvene session to consider the Governor's amendments to bills and vetoes. However, the Special Session may be called prior to that for the budget and any bill that was tied to the budget, such as the legislation that allows for a state income tax subtraction of military retired pay. There are about 40 bills like this that will be addressed in the Special Session.

Veterans' legislation that passed covered: transfer of disabled veteran's license plate to the surviving spouse; providing special hunting and fishing licenses to disabled veterans; waving permit fees to establish a veteran-owned small business; helping qualified veterans get a commercial driver's license; allowing honor guards to be under arms; real property tax clarification for surviving spouses; providing the Department of Veterans Services with a suicide prevention coordinator; and expanding the Virginia Military Survivors and Dependents Education Program definition of "qualified survivors and dependents" to include that a child who is a stepchild of a deceased military service member.

The major veterans' legislation still pending the resolution of the budget is the military benefits income tax subtraction that is a priority for Governor Youngkin. As currently agreed to by the House and Senate Conference Committee, it will provide for taxable years: 2022, up to \$10,000 of military benefits; 2023, up to \$20,000 of military benefits; 2024, up to \$30,000 of military benefits; and for 2025, up to \$40,000 of military benefits. Military benefits means any military retirement income received for service in the U.S. Armed Forces and military benefits paid to the surviving spouse of a veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces. The subtraction only is allowed for military benefits received at age 55 or older.

#### In Memorium



CAPT Paul Chris Nelson, USN (Ret.) 04MAR22



CAPT William "Bill" Chin, USN (Ret.) 07FEB22

**PGA Hope Tidewater** is sponsoring HOPE clinics in April/ May leading up to the MOAA/HOPE tournament on May 31, 2022.

MOAA/HOPE tournament details are provided below:

Date: Tuesday, May 31st

Location: TPC Potomac at Avenel Farms

#### Schedule of Events:

7:30am - Registration, Continental Breakfast, Putting Contest, Announcements 9:00am - Shotgun Start 1:30pm - Lunch, Refreshments, Awards 3:15pm - Grand Prize Winner Announced

For more information: https://www.moaa.org/content/publicationsand-media/news-articles/2022



PGA HOPE is the flagship military program of PGA REACH, the charitable foundation of the PGA of America. PGA HOPE introduces golf to all veterans in order to enhance their mental, social, physical and emotional well-being.

The PGA of America and local PGA Professionals are working closely with the VA system across the country to assist veterans in their transition.

Sessions are taught by local PGA Professionals with assistance from trained volunteers and include clubs and equipment if needed, training aids, range balls and weekly golf course access.

#### INSTRUCTIONAL SESSIONS

Tuesdays, April 19th - May 24th 5:00pm - 7:00pm

ALL SESSIONS HOSTED BY: Bide-A-Wee Golf Course 1 Bide-A-Wee Ln, Portsmouth, VA 23701

**GRADUATION DAY | MAY 24TH 5PM** 

#### LIMITED SPOTS, REGISTER BY USING THE LINK OR QR CODE TODAY!

https://forms.gle/Dri16mbGe7mSnrCi6









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# Our New Neighbors Quickly Became Friends

Although Sharon and Boyd Nix can easily rattle off a list of what they love about living at Patriots Colony, the friendships they have made has meant the most.

— Enjoy ——

- ★ Fine dining options at every meal
- ★ Social and cultural activities calendar
- ★ Fitness center with an indoor heated saltwater pool



**Schedule a Personal Tour Today** 757-220-9000 | PatriotsColony.com

Patriots Colony is a Riverside Health System active retirement community whose Independent Living is exclusive to former military officers, federal civil employees and their spouses or widow(ers).

## 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.



Join the HRCMOAA on LinkedIn at:

 $\underline{https://www.linkedin.com/groups/5047678/}$ 



MOAA Career Networking

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

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

#### June 28, 2022

Military X Virtual Job Fair - Virginia Beach, VA (11:00am to 2:00pm) <a href="https://www.militaryx.com/seeker/Virginia-Beach-career-fair/26435?">https://www.militaryx.com/seeker/Virginia-Beach-career-fair/26435?</a> <a href="https://www.militaryx.com/seeker/Virginia-Be

#### July 21, 2022

Recruit Military - Hampton, VA (11:00am to 3:00pm) <a href="https://success.recruitmilitary.com/events/hampton-veterans-job-fair-july-21-2022">https://success.recruitmilitary.com/events/hampton-veterans-job-fair-july-21-2022</a>

#### August 16, 2022

National Virtual Career Fairs for Veterans (12:00pm to 4:00pm) <a href="https://success.recruitmilitary.com/events/national-virtual-career-fair-for-veterans-august-16-2022">https://success.recruitmilitary.com/events/national-virtual-career-fair-for-veterans-august-16-2022</a>

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Signature and Date	

#### Strategic Review of Chapter Activities and Board

CAPT Loren Heckelman, USN (Ret.)

#### Assumptions about needs & wants of chapter membership:

- 1. Social events and comradery
- 2. Legislative information
- 3. Benefits (health, dental, etc) and survivor info
- 4. Other topics of interest

#### Difficult to get new volunteers for the board and committees

Current Board:

Officers - President, 1<sup>st</sup> VP, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP, Secretary, Treasurer, Immediate Past President and seven directors Committee Chairs – 12 formal committees; ad hoc (nominations and strategic planning)

#### Smaller Board/Executive Committee - From 25 positions down to 5 or 6

- -President
- -Vice President
- -Secretary/Treasurer (primary for financial accounts/checkbook; president is alternate)
- -Membership Director
- -Surviving Spouse/Spouse Director
- -One other?

#### Activities to continue (focus of chapter is on social, benefits & survivor info, legislative info):

- -bi-monthly meeting of board for event planning (alternating with luncheon months)
- -chapter events
- luncheons (bi-monthly)
- -joint brunch
- -annual Christmas dinner dance
- -quarterly dinners
- -surviving spouse/spouse luncheons
- -networking/recruiting events (winery, brewery, etc)
- -ad-hoc events (ship tours, community projects, Tides baseball, etc)
- -committees to continue
  - -legislative
  - -transition assistance (linked with Loren's network as it is today)
  - -communications
    - -website
    - -printed and electronic newsletter (quarterly vice bi-monthly)
      - -survivor column
      - -transition column
      - -legislative column
      - -ad-hoc articles of interest (benefits, etc)
    - -printed RSVP cards to be larger and include newsletter-like info
    - -social media

#### **Activities to discontinue:**

- -community affairs
  - -cease gold bar and leadership awards
  - -cease formal Honor Flight participation
  - -cease scholarship fund drive at chapter level
  - -cease donations (PAHS, Vets House, Wounded Warrior, etc)
- -personal affairs / condolence letters (if notified, include in newsletter "In Memoriam" column
- -communication award and five star award nominations to MOAA
- -committee reports... all would be ad hoc only
- -active duty liaison
- -MEDAC
- -HRCVO membership and participation in Veterans' Day events
- -newsletter advertising (unless someone contacts us)

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

The MOAA Scholarship Fund Board 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. Thank you to all that have contributed and hope you will all continue to contribute in 2022 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.

	GOAL	Contributed	% of Goal	Need Dates	Still Need
HRCMOAA Scholarship Drive Status as of April 1, 2022	Total 5-Year Goal \$25,000	23,616.50	94%	Need by 12/31/2022	\$1,383.50
	Annual Goal for 2022 \$5,000 (Year 5 of 5)	\$1,350.00	27%	Needed by 12/31/2022	\$3,650.00

#### **2022 Contributions**

PLATINUM - \$500 and above

**CDR Roberto Ortiz, USN (Ret.)** 

GOLD - \$250 to \$499

**CAPT Loren Heckelman, USN (Ret.)** 

SILVER - \$100 to \$249

Mrs. Joyce Harlan

**Bronze Under \$100** 

# Events 2022

As you have read in the President's message, we have started pacing back into our chapter luncheon and social events for 2022. We kicked off with our March luncheon which was very successful and had 32 members and guests in attendance this past Friday, 18 Mar. We are planning a couple of evening dinner and social mixer events during the year, and they will be announced as we firm up a venue. These events will be a pay as you go with no RSVP required. Just show up, reconnect with friends, and have fun.

Our remaining luncheons have been firmed up with Atlantic Shores who have always provided us excellently prepared meals at a great value to the Chapter. Speakers and menu are TBD but some themes have been set. Dates are:

Friday, May 20 – Spouse Appreciation Luncheon

Friday, August 19 – Legislative

Friday, September 16 - TBD

Friday, November 18 – Chapter Elections, Toys for Tots

We are still planning for the multi-chapter brunch with the Portsmouth and Peninsula MOAA Chapters in June and will announce the details when we receive the details. Lastly, we will hold an annual Christmas Dinner Dance at Atlantic Shores on Saturday, December 3 beginning with a social hour at 1800.

If you have an idea in mind for a social event, please reach out to either me or our President, Loren Heckelman anytime. Please mark your calendars and we hope to see you at our next event.

CDR Bert Ortiz, USN (Ret)

1st VP – Programs Chair

757-560-3671

bertortiz@cox.net

#### March HRCMOAA Luncheon Photos by CAPT Loren Heckelman, USN (Ret.) and CDR Bert Ortiz, USN (Ret.)













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

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

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

Surviving

O	Make checks payable to <b>HRCMOAA</b>		Regular Dues NEW		Spouse Dues	
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Hampton Roads Chapter MOAA						
P.O. Box 4612		2 Years: \$	Circle vegre 8	amount		\$17.00
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Home Phone	Work Phone	Cell	Phone			_
Member of National MOAA? Yes No	If Yes, MOAA Number**	MO	DAA Life Member?	Yes No		
Not a National MOAA member yet? Check her	re to receive a BASIC National Memb	ership at no cost to	you			
Enclosed is \$ in dues payment						
** Surviving spouse enter your Name and MOAA Number, where	e indicated	Signat	ure			

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

#### **REVIEW FROM PAGE 8**

#### **To Be Determined:**

-VCOC membership & participation (depending on ROI analysis in April)

-ID card notification program (how many are on our current active list?)

Official status remains as is... an affiliate chapter of national MOAA and 501(c)(19) status with IRS Maintain existing MOAA interfaces (Committee Module, On-Line Dues platform, Chapter Leader emails)

Need to bring a revised Constitution & By-Laws document to chapter membership for a vote

Continue to mail postcards and collect RSVPs for luncheons and other events but may do some "pay as you go" events

Special events like ship tours, football or baseball games, Honor Flight, etc. would only be done if there is a volunteer willing to coordinate

#### **Questions or comments:**

Loren Heckelman, Captain, USN (Ret) Chapter President Loren.Heckelman@cox.net

#### THE TRIBUTE

Hampton Roads Chapter, MOAA P. O. Box 4612 Virginia Beach, VA 23454-0612 NON-PROFIT US POSTAGE PAID NORFOLK, VA PERMIT #2135



#### **MEMBERSHIP ALERT**

If the date on your mailing label shows 2021, your membership expired 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"

April 2022

(Label Here)



Please consider volunteering your time with your chapter. Newsletter Editor and Board of Director positions are available.