



THE TRIBUTE

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

June 2022

THE TRIBUTE

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



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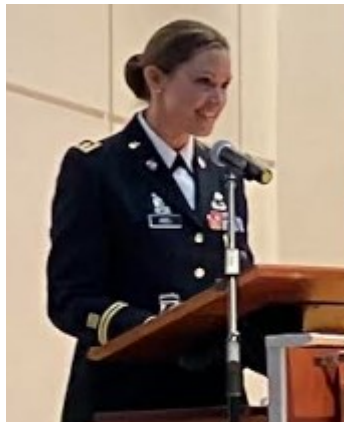


Hampton Roads Chapter, Military Officers Association of America

A Flurry of Army and Navy ROTC/JROTC Ceremonies!

Norfolk State University AROTC Commissioning - 06MAY22
CDR Andy Baan, USN (ret)

MOAA was the only non DoD or non Norfolk State University (NSU) group represented and participating in the ceremony that saw six NSU ROTC cadets become 2nd Lieutenants in the Army. The event began with the National Anthem, prayer, and a video message from the NSU President. Then MOAA began the interactions with the cadets, ceremonially presenting gold bars. Each cadet had a place on the award table with their individual commission, the Army Officers' Guide (given by the NSU Alumni Association) and our MOAA bars so they didn't move from the table. CDR Baan shook each cadet's hand, congratulating them, and inviting them to the MOAA chapter that they will find in the area they are ordered to.



Commanding Officer, LTC Lisa Able gave her remarks and then introduced the guest speaker, COL Michael Patrick, who is stationed at the White House at the time this edition of The Tribute goes to print.

COL Patrick administered the oath and then each new Lieutenant had their bars placed on their uniforms by family members and loved ones. It was clear that each family was justifiably proud of their Lieutenant, if there was military history in the family or not because you could see how comfortable the family members were with the process. Tears were shed by many!

It was great to see that the future of the Army, and of the country, is in good hands! CDR Baan expressed gratitude for the opportunity to return to his alma mater and participate in the ceremony.

Behold....the Green and Gold!

SEE CEREMONIES CONTINUED ON PAGE 5



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,

Thanks to all who attended our spouse appreciation luncheon on May 20th. We are slowly but surely getting back into a routine of in-person events again. Stay tuned for future programmed events.

I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to Captain Doug Williams, USN (Ret.) and CDR Linc Smith, USN (Ret.) for their many years of service on our chapter board as treasurer and legislative affairs chair respectively. Both have stepped down from the board after many years of contributions on behalf of the entire membership. It will be hard to replace their dedication and commitment on the board but we wish them well and look forward to seeing them at future chapter events as continuing chapter members.

The Hampton Roads Council of Veterans Organizations (HRCVO) will host the annual Tidewater Veterans Day Parade in Virginia Beach on Friday, 11 November 2022. The parade will begin at 9:00 AM. In addition to the parade, a short ceremony is held at the Tidewater Veterans Memorial immediately following the parade and a luncheon honoring our Veterans is held at the DoubleTree Hotel at approximately 12:00 PM. If any chapter members are interested in participating in the parade and/or attending the luncheon, please contact me. Additional information is provided in the newsletter.

We still solicit your support with bringing new members to the chapter and ask that you invite eligible neighbors and friends to join us for a luncheon or other event to see what we offer. Membership is the lifeblood of our chapter and we need everyone's help to sustain current membership and bring aboard new members. 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.

And as always, I encourage you to review the chapter website at www.hrcmoaa.org.

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

HRCMOAA DIRECTORY		
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GREEN RUN HIGH SCHOOL NJROTC AWARDS

MG John McLaren, USA (ret)

On 12 May 2022, MG (Ret) John McLaren presented the MOAA Leadership award to Cadet Ahmad McDaniels at Green Run High School's NJROTC awards presentation. Cadet McDaniels is a member of a very highly successful NJROTC program, headed by CDR Brown and First Sergeant Robles. This leadership team has developed outstanding NJROTC Cadets that have placed first in the Nation in 2018, second in the Nation in 2019, and 4th in the Nation in 2022. In addition, Green Run's NJROTC program placed 1st in Area 5, Delaware, Virginia, Maryland, and the District of Columbia in 2020 and 2022.



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



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Dana T. Atkins @MOAAPrez · May 18

Toxic exposure reform requires immediate action. We appreciate the efforts of Sens. Tester, Moran, and their staff for finding a bipartisan path for the PACT Act. We urge all Senators to follow their lead and support immediate passage of this bill. #PactAct



militarytimes.com

Senators reach deal to advance sweeping military toxic exposure legis... The measure could be passed out of the chamber in the next few weeks and become law later this summer.

1 3 4



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Military Officers Association of America (MOAA)

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"Let's just say...this is the best prepared trainee ever."



TASKANDPURPOSE.COM

This new soldier's first Army mentor was a general sitting next to him on the way to basic training

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SURVIVING SPOUSE CORNER: A MONTH OF REMEMBRANCE

Pat Green, MOAA Surviving Spouse Advisory Council

May is a month with many special events and memories. For some, it means graduations or wedding showers. For gardeners, seedlings are fulfilling their promise; perennials are blooming; and the scent of lilacs and peonies enter the home as windows are finally opened. For children, it's the promise of lazy summer days or the opening of the community pool. For schools, it's the month of awards and scholarships. For the family, it's the appreciation of mothers. My May memories are of Mother's Day and Memorial Day traditions.

When I was young, we had a lovely tradition of women and girls wearing corsages and men wearing boutonnières to church on Mother's Day. In my family, we made our own. If you wore white flowers that meant your mother was dead. Colored flowers signified your mother was living. Nearly everyone wore flowers on Mother's Day.

After church, we changed into our work clothes and went to the graveyards. We cleared away dead leaves and weeds, overturned the earth in front of the headstones, and planted flowers and watered them so they would be blooming when we came to visit the gravesites on Memorial Day.

Memorial Day usually meant a parade through town. Afterward, there was often a picnic. We always visited the graves of our loved ones and shared memories of them. Flags were placed at the gravestone of each veteran.

Today, still, there are many commemorative ceremonies. I usually go to the national cemetery where my husband and many of our friends are buried. The American flags are beautiful, lining every street and positioned at each headstone. The music is inspiring, and the speaker's message is notable.

May is a month for remembering those we've lost. There is an atmosphere of sadness, patriotism, and pride. I've known sorrow, we all have, but I can't imagine the grief of a Gold Star Mother in May. Remember her in your prayers on Mother's Day and hold her in your heart on Memorial Day.

This and more Surviving Spouse Corner articles can be found at the MOAA website:

<https://www.moaa.org/content/about-moaa/meet-our-leaders/surviving-spouse-advisory-committee/surviving-spouse-corner/>

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 hremoaa@gmail.com or (757) 618-6945.



CEREMONIES FROM PAGE 1

Below: Photos of new Army Second Lieutenants commissioned on 06 May 2022.

**2022 SPRING JOINT ARMY / NAVY ROTC COMMISSION CEREMONY**

CAPT Mike "Breeze" Barea, USN (ret)

After two years of virtual commission ceremonies where in-person participation was strictly limited to immediate family and mandatory mask mandates were in place Old Dominion University held its "first back to normal" Joint Army / Navy Joint Commission Ceremony in front of a large gathering of family, friends and colleagues. The Chartway Arena of Old Dominion University's (ODU) Ted Constant Convocation Center was the site for the annual Spring US ARMY and US NAVAL SERVICE ROTC Commission Ceremony held on Thursday, 5 May 2022. The US Army's ODU Monarch Battalion, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel (LTC) Camala L. Coats, USA commissioned 12 Second Lieutenants in the US Army, Army National Guard and Army Reserves. The Hampton Roads NROTC Unit, commanded by Captain (CAPT) Michael "Dan-O" Bratley, USN is a consortium comprised of four universities and a community college; Old Dominion University, Norfolk State University, Regent University, Hampton University and Tidewater Community College. The Naval Service ROTC Unit commissioned 19 Ensigns in the Navy and 1 Second Lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps. A total of 32 students were developed morally, mentally, physically and were imbued with the highest ideals of duty, honor, and loyalty in order to commission college graduates as military officers. These newly commissioned officers possess a basic professional background, are motivated toward careers in the military, and have a potential for future development in mind and character so as to assume the highest responsibilities of command, citizenship and government. Opening remarks were provided by LTC Coats, USA, Dr. Brian O. Hemphill, the ninth president of Old Dominion University and CAPT Bratley, USN. The commission ceremony was honored to have, as its guest speaker, Vice Admiral (VADM) James Kilby, USN, Deputy Commander U.S. Fleet Forces Command who provided keynote remarks and issued the Oath of Office.

VADM Kilby is a native of Pound Ridge, New York and graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1986. VADM Kilby commanded several surface warfare combatants where he received the Vice Admiral James B. Stockdale Award for inspirational leadership. He also served as commander, Carl Vinson Strike Group, and deployed to the Western Pacific in 2017. He assumed his role as Deputy Commander U.S. Fleet Forces in August 2021.



MOAA Hampton Roads Chapter past president Colonel Jim Edge, USA (Ret) and Board of Director Captain Mike "Breeze" Barea, USN (Ret), attended the ceremony presenting GOLD BARS to newly Commissioned Officers following respective congratulations from the Official Party on stage. Following the ceremony a reception was held with food and beverages. Musical entertainment was provided by the Old Dominion University Faculty Brass Quintet.

Pictured from L-R: LTC Coats, USA, COL Edge, USA (Ret), CAPT Barea, USN (Ret), CAPT Bratley, USN



OLD DOMINION HONOR FLIGHT MISSION #2

CAPT Mike "Breeze" Barea, USN (ret)

Following a two-year hiatus due to COVID restrictions and a change in venue and departure location, south side participants, university ROTC units and high school JROTC units, participated in the Old Dominion Honor Flight Mission #2 in the early morning hours of Saturday April 23, 2022. Old Dominion University Army / Navy ROTC, Princess Anne High School and Landstown High School JROTC joined other Coast Guard and Air Force JROTC units from Yorktown and Williamsburg in rendering honors to veterans into waiting buses. Several veteran motorcycle clubs were on hand to escort the buses to Washington, DC. Col Larry King "Live", USMC (Ret) and CAPT Mike "Breeze" Barea, USN (Ret) participated in the event on behalf of the Hampton Roads Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America (HRCMOAA).



The Old Dominion Honor Flight mission is to celebrate our veterans and to transport them to Washington D.C. to visit war memorials dedicated to honor their sacrifice and service. Old Dominion Honor Flight is funded 100% by personal donations, memorials and corporate gifts. This is how these all-expense-paid bus trips are funded which provides our Veterans with a trip to Washington, D.C. to visit and reflect at the memorials built and dedicated in their honor. Veterans who served honorably in WWII, the Korean War and the Vietnam War are invited to apply. Guardians are individuals who accompany a veteran on their trip to

SEE HONOR CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

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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.



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:

June 28, 2022

Military X Virtual Job Fair - Virginia Beach, VA (11:00am to 2:00pm)
https://www.militaryx.com/seeker/Virginia-Beach-career-fair/26435?utm_campaign=google_jobs_apply&utm_source=google_jobs_apply&utm_medium=organic

July 21, 2022

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

October 21, 2022

Corporate Gray Job Fair - Virtual/Internet (11:00am to 2:00pm)
<https://www.corporategray.com/jobfairs/454>

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VIRGINIA BEACH VETERANS DAY EVENT

CAPT Loren Heckelman, USN (ret)

The Hampton Roads Council of Veterans Organizations (HRCVO) will host the annual Tidewater Veterans Day Parade in Virginia Beach on Friday, 11 November 2022. The parade will begin at 9:00 AM. The parade route this year has changed and will start from the Virginia Beach Oceanfront on Atlantic Avenue and proceed up 17th Street, right turn onto Mediterranean Avenue, then a left turn onto 19th Street pass the Tidewater Veterans Memorial (across from the Virginia Beach Convention Center) ending at the DoubleTree Hotel.

For over thirty years, the HRCVO has been coordinating the Veterans Day Parade and associated events. Each year, one of the HRCVO member organizations co-sponsors the parade. This year the Sons of Confederate Veterans is the co-sponsor organization. In addition to the parade, a short ceremony is held at the Tidewater Veterans Memorial immediately following the parade and a luncheon honoring our Veterans is held at the DoubleTree Hotel at approximately 12:00 PM.

The Veterans Day Parade is sanctioned by the Department of Veterans Affairs National Veterans Day Committee and the Mayors of Chesapeake, Norfolk, Portsmouth, Suffolk and Virginia Beach who sign a proclamation resolving that “citizens, businesses and organizations demonstrate due appreciation, admiration and respect for all veterans who have served our great nation”.

As usual, following the parade, there will be a ceremony at the Tidewater Veterans Memorial and a Luncheon at the DoubleTree Hotel.

The Hampton Roads Chapter of MOAA has been invited to participate in the parade and the luncheon. We must submit our application for parade participation no later than 1 October 2022 to the HRCVO Parade Coordinator.

The Hampton Roads Chapter of MOAA has also been invited to attend the Veterans Day Luncheon at approximately 1200 (or immediately following the Memorial Ceremony at the completion of the parade). The luncheon will be held at the Double Tree Hotel, 1900 Pavilion Drive, Virginia Beach, Virginia and the price is \$25.00 per person. Tickets are sold in advance and must be presented at the door. If a number of people from the chapter want to attend and sit together, we can coordinate as a group and purchase a group of tickets. Otherwise, RSVP separately by 30 October to 757-663-1495 and make your check payable to Hampton Roads Council of Veterans Organizations.

Point of contact for coordination within our chapter is Loren Heckelman, Loren.Heckelman@cox.net, 757-646-6448.

HONOR FLIGHT FROM PAGE 6

Washington DC for the day. Typically, a guardian is a family member (not a spouse) or other loved one or friend but can be anyone interested in helping support the Honor Flight Mission and the veterans who participate. Guardians are requested to make a donation of \$100.00 to help in covering a portion of their participation in this celebratory trip. Those interested in serving as a Guardian should apply on the Honor Flight website. Please go to the following website for further information: <https://olddominionhonorflight.org/apply-now/> or call (877) 261-3430 for more information.

The National Honor Flight Network, which was founded in 2005 has over 130 hubs throughout the United States. They have taken nearly 180,000 veterans to memorials in D.C. to date.

Old Dominion Honor Flight Mission #3 will be Saturday October 22, 2022 and will depart from Embassy Suites by the Hilton Convention Center, 1700 Coliseum Drive, Hampton, Virginia. For more information and to participate as a member of the HRCMOAA, contact Captain Mike Barea at Michael.Barea@gmail.com.



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.](#)

HRCMOAA Scholarship Drive Status as of April 1, 2022	GOAL	Contributed	% of Goal	Need Dates	Still Need
	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	27%	Needed by 12/31/2022	\$3,650

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

CDR Bert Ortiz, USN (Ret)

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 on Friday, 18 Mar. We even topped that for our Spouse Appreciation Luncheon in May with 55 in attendance! We are planning a couple of 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, August 19 – Legislative Luncheon

Friday, September 16

Friday, November 18 – Chapter Elections, Toys for Tots

We have also set for the multi-chapter brunch with the Portsmouth and Peninsula MOAA Chapters on 17 July at Roger Browns in Downtown Portsmouth. You can RSVP your attendance to me at my contact info below. Hope to see you there! 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. (757) 560-3671; bertortiz@cox.net



UPCOMING *Events* 2022

Please see the Upcoming Events article on page nine by CDR Bert Ortiz, USN (Ret). Keep an eye out in future editions of The Tribute and postcard mailers for updates to the 2022 Events Schedule.

MAY 2022 LUNCHEON PHOTOS



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

Hampton Roads Chapter MOAA
P.O. Box 4612
Virginia Beach, VA 23454-0612

Table with membership dues: Regular Dues (1 Year: \$20.00, 2 Years: \$35.00, 3 Years: \$45.00), NEW RENEWAL, Surviving Spouse Dues (1 Year: \$10.00, 2 Years: \$17.00, 3 Years: \$23.00)

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

Form fields for membership application including 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, and Signature.

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

Member Acknowledgment

CAPT Loren Heckelman, USN (ret)

Recently one of our chapter members, CDR Fred Johnson, USN (Ret.), contacted the chapter board to ask if we knew of a local ROTC or JROTC unit with a professional library that would be interested in his collection of Battle of Gettysburg books, magazines and maps.

It was quite an extensive and interesting collection. We got CDR Johnson in contact with chapter board member Captain Jim Daniels, who is the coordinator for Area 5 NJROTC units, who arranged for the donation of CDR Johnson's collection to the NJROTC unit at York High School in Yorktown, Virginia. The Naval Science Instructors there have committed to using CDR Johnson's collection in the daily education of their NJROTC cadets. The board extends recognition and appreciation to CDR Johnson for his very generous donation.



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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.

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June 2022

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

