

ORA® THE TRIBUTE

The Bi-Monthly Newsletter of the Hampton Roads Chapter Military Officers Association of America



Serving Chesapeake, Norfolk, and Virginia Beach since 1959

Email: hrcmoaa@gmail.com Website: www.hrcmoaa.org

VOL 48-No. 5

NEVER STOP SERVING

SEP & OCT Issue 2024

THE TRIBUTE

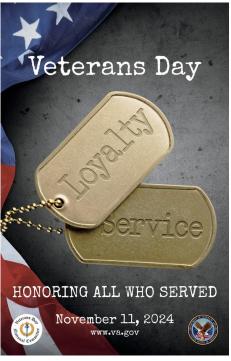
In honor of those who have sacrificed to keep our country free.



In This Issue

- 2 President's Message
- 2 HRCMOAA Directory
- 3 Surviving Spouse Corner
- 3 Social Media Clicks
- 4 ODU Honor Flight
- 5 President, cont.
- 5 Surviving Spouse Corner, cont.
- 5 Real ID
- 6 Upcoming Events
- 6 Chapter Events
- 7 Real ID, cont.
- 8 Career Corner
- 9 & 10 5 Year Scholarship program update
- 11 From the Editor

Virginia Beach Veterans Day 2024 Events



The Hampton Roads Council of Veterans Organizations (HRCVO) is once again organizing and hosting the Virginia Beach Veterans Day parade and luncheon on Monday, November 11, 2024. Last year the Hampton Roads Chapter of MOAA participated in both the parade and luncheon and we are seeking chapter members and family members who would like to participate this year in either the parade, luncheon or both.

We have a volunteer to drive his vehicle in the parade with our magnetic HRCMOAA signs affixed to the vehicle. The vehicle holds driver plus three additional people. If there is enough interest, we can have a second vehicle or we can have people march in the parade in front of or behind our HRCMOAA vehicle.

Upon conclusion of the parade, there is a brief ceremony at the Veterans Memorial by the convention center and that is followed by the luncheon at The Doubletree Hotel (across from and to the left of the Veteran's Memorial. The parade and ceremony are generally completed in time for the luncheon to begin at 12:00 noon.

Tickets to the luncheon are \$30 each and will be available from HRCMOAA Chapter President, Loren Heckelman at the September HRCMOAA luncheon on September 20th or by contacting him for separate arrangements via email at Loren.Heckelman@cox.net.



Hampton Roads Chapter, Military Officers Association of America

















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.

Vietnam Veterans! If you are a Vietnam Veteran, then September and October events are dedicated to you. Our September 20th luncheon at Atlantic Shores coincides with National POW/MIA day this year. Our speakers will be Mr. Dave Huffman and Jeanie Huffman from the organization "Mission: POW-MIA". They recently returned from a trip to Vietnam and have a lot to share about what they saw and learned while they were there. Check out the organization's website at https://missionpowmia.org/. If you are a Vietnam Veteran and have not received your Vietnam Veteran lapel pin, they will have some with them at the luncheon.

In addition, Old Dominion Honor Flight is looking for more veterans to take on their missions to visit the war memorials in DC. Of greatest interest is the large population of Vietnam War era veterans in the Hampton Roads area. You don't have to be an actual com-

bat Vietnam War veteran to attend. If you were on active duty anywhere in the world during the Vietnam War era (1955-1975), then you qualify to participate in an Honor Flight mission. The next Old Dominion Honor Flight mission from our area is on October 19, 2024. There are details about Honor Flight and how to sign up at their website: https://olddominionhonorflight.org. The website also provides information on how you can assist with the Honor Flight mission as a guardian. Lastly, the Hampton Roads Chapter will again participate in the send-off for the veterans participating on October 19th.

Here are the highlights of upcoming chapter events:

September 20, 2024: Mr. Dave Huffman, Executive Director of Mission: POW-MIA.

October 18, 2024: Ms. Barb Smith, "What to do before your spouse becomes a survivor"

November 15, 2024: Annual Meeting/Election/Toys for Tots/USMC Luncheon

December 7, 2024: Christmas Dinner Dance at Atlantic Shores

SEE PRESIDENT CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

HRCMOAA DIRECTORY

PRESIDENT: (757) 646-6448 **CAPT Loren Heckelman, USN (Ret.)**

> TREASURER: Vacant

VICE PRESIDENT: (757) 482-1995 CDR Bert Ortiz, USN (Ret.)

<u>SECRETARY: (910) 554-85</u>75 LtCol Matt Dumenigo, USMC (Ret.)

PAST PRESIDENT: (757) 237-3611 MG John McLaren, USA (Ret.)

DIRECTORS

Col Larry King "Live", USMC (Ret.) LCDR Christopher Mayfield, USN (Ret.) CDR John Uhrin, USN (Ret.)

Vacant

COMMITTEES

PROGRAMS: (757) 482-1995 CDR Bert Ortiz, USN (Ret.)

INFO SYSTEMS: (757) 490-5792 Maj Clifton G. Furedy, USAF (Ret.)

TRANSITION LIAISON: (757) 646-6448 CAPT Loren Heckelman, USN (Ret.)

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS:

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS: (757) 754-1667 COL Jack Hilgers, USMC (Ret.)

> MEMBERSHIP: (757) 650-1086 Col Larry King, USMC (Ret.)

ID CARD NOTIFICATION: (757) 375-3973 **CAPT Jim Daniels, USN (Ret.)**

> **ACTIVE DUTY LIAISON:** Lt Col. Clarissa Blair USMC

EDITOR/PUBLICITY: (757) 343-0114 LT Hans P. Juhl Hidle, USN (Ret.)

WEBMASTER: (757) 490-5792 Maj Clifton G. Furedy, USAF (Ret.)

SURVIVING SPOUSE LIAISON: LtCol Matt Dumenigo, USMC (Ret.)

PERSONAL AFFAIRS

Vacant

DISCLAIMER The MOAA Newsletter is published bi-monthly by the Hampton Roads Chapter, Military Officers Association of America, P.O. Box 4612, Virginia Beach, VA 23454-0612 and is intended primarily for distribution to, and non-commercial use by, members and associates of the Chapter and MOAA. Editor: LT Hans P. Juhl Hidle, USN (Ret). Telephone (757) 343-0114 and e-mail: https://hrcmoaa@gmail.com. Permission for reproduction of locally-generated articles is hereby granted, with appropriate credit, to other MOAA chapters, or publications serving the military community, active, reserve, or retired.



SURVIVORS



Surviving Spouse Corner: Who Is Best to Serve as an Executor?

By: Suzanne Walker

July 30, 2024

One of the many important decisions when making an estate plan is whom to trust to be the executor (of the will) of the deceased's estate. Usually, the executor is named in the last will and testament and is likely the surviving spouse, adult child, a trusted family member, or a trusted friend. Sometimes the executor is an attorney, bank officer, or other impartial agent.

The person named for this important role should be asked if they are willing to assume responsibility and if they understand what the duty entails and what they will be responsible for when the time comes. The duty of executor can be a very complicated and time-consuming role, and no one should be "surprised" to learn they are the executor of an estate. The executor has a legal duty to act primarily for the benefit of another with duties involving good faith, trust, special confidence, and candor.

Many times, married couples just assume their spouse will be the executor of the estate, and that spouse might have no idea of the complexities and requirements, which can vary from state to state. A person who manages money or property for the deceased must exercise a standard of care as imposed by law or contract with specific responsibilities.

The administration of an estate generally requires a fair amount of time and energy. Often compensation is allowed, and a court or commissioner of accounts must approve the compensation, which is often a percentage of

SEE EXECUTOR PAGE 5



(757) 631-6313 · contact@houseofprintingva.com

811 S. Lynnhaven Road • Virginia Beach, VA 23452 (757) 631-6316 Fax • www.houseofprintingva.com

PRINTING - CORIES - DESIGN







An Elvis concert raised funds for a USS Arizona memorial to recognize those who died in a surprise attack.



MILITARY COM

How Elvis Presley Revitalized Efforts to Build a Pearl Harbor Memorial Support for a USS Arizona memorial received a huge boost on March 25, 1961, when Elvis Pres..

These officers could be offered up to \$150,000 to stay in the service.



MOAA.ORG

Navy Unveils New Retention Bonuses for Surface Warfare Officers

Some officers could receive up to \$150,000 under the new setup, which was announced July 30.



Your nation asked for everything We have one more request....



We ask simply that you allow us the enormous privilege of showing you the appreciation and honor that you deserve with a day of honor and gratitude at the nation's capitol. Old Dominion Honor Flight gives local veterans the opportunity to share this momentous occasion with other comrades, remember the fallen, and share their stories and experiences with other veterans. Honoree veterans always travel free of charge.

Join us for our last 2024 Honor Flight Mission Departing from American Legion Post 25 7609 Marshall Ave Newport News, VA 23605



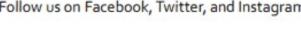






Sign up today at www.olddominionhonorflight.org or call us at (877) 261-3430

Follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram





PRESIDENT CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

Please note that our October 18th luncheon will be held at Princess Anne Country Club vice our usual venue of Atlantic Shores. Details for upcoming luncheons and other events are available on our chapter website (www.hrcmoaa.org). Be sure to check there often for the latest information and updates on future events.

At the November luncheon, we will have our annual Toys for Tots / USMC luncheon. This is also the occasion of our annual meeting and election. Positions open on the slate include president, vice president, secretary, treasurer and all four director positions. Please consider giving back to the chapter by helping in a position on the board. Even if you aren't interested in an elected position, the chapter could use your help with one of our committees or in helping with recruiting events throughout the year.

We continue to have mail for chapter members returned to us as undeliverable. Please keep us updated on email or postal address changes so we can keep in touch. You can very quickly and easily provide an update by visiting this link and filling in your name and email address: www.hrcmoaa.org/member. There are spaces for other information if you wish to provide it. The most important part is your name and email address. As a reminder, we do not share our member email addresses with anyone.

Sincerely, Loren Heckelman Captain, USN (Ret.) Never Stop Serving

EXECUTOR CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

the assets handled.

Some other duties of an executor include:

- Understand the rules of probate (the official proving and recording of the will as the authentic and valid last will and testament of the deceased).
- Know which asset types that do and do not pass through probate.
- Keep assets under control as a fiduciary, separate from individual, personal and business assets.
- Prepare a complete inventory of all assets in the estate (stocks, bonds, brokerage accounts, bank accounts, life insurance policies, real property, automobiles, and any other assets). Having a complete and accurate inventory of the assets enables the executor to properly manage the estate and satisfy all of the terms of the will.
- Open a separate fiduciary (estate) bank account at a bank that can provide you with the original canceled checks or statements with images of all canceled checks.
- Take possession of the assets of the deceased and inquire about safe deposit boxes and accounts they may have maintained.
- Make an online search for any unclaimed property in the name of the deceased.
- Close bank accounts and transfer funds in a separate account (create an estate account with a separate tax identification number).
- Follow the disbursements to heirs as instructed in the will.
- Document all transactions and prepare to file income tax.

Real IDs required by May 2025

Flying within the U.S. will soon require an extra document that's more secure than a state-issued driver's license or ID if you don't want to lug around your passport with you.

Beginning in May of next year, all U.S. travelers will be required to have the official document, known as a Real ID, on hand when traveling domestically by air. As an alternative, they may carry their passports with them.

The initiative is a long time coming. It was initially slated for enforcement beginning in May 2023, but the deadline was pushed back due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Here's everything you need to know, including what is required to apply, and how and where to do so.



UPCOMING SUPERITY

September 20th, 2024 - Atlantic Shores—Virginia Beach, VA. Social—1100 hours and Lunch—1200 hours. Speaker: Mr. Dave Huffman, Executive Director of Mission: POW-MIA. Reservations required NLT 1200 hours Tuesday, September 17th, 2024. Please RSVP to Barb Smith: 576-1114 (cell) or via e-mail at carmelk123@gmail.com

October 18th, 2024 - Princess Anne Country Club—Virginia Beach, VA. Social—1100 hours and Lunch—1200 hours. Speaker: Ms. Barbara Smith, HRCMOAA Surviving Spouse Member—What to do before Your Spouse becomes a Survivor". Reservations required NLT 1200 hours Tuesday, September 18th, 2024. Please RSVP to Barb Smith: 576-1114 (cell) or via e-mail at carmelk123@gmail.com

Chapter Member Events







Pictures from our last two luncheons in June and August. On the left and above left. Presidents Jefferson and Monroe reenactors from their performance. While on the right and above right, Congresswoman Jen Kiggans visited and briefed chapter members on her latest initiatives in Washington D.C.





REAL ID CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

What is a Real ID?

It's essentially an enhanced form of identification which, beginning May 7, 2025, will be required to access certain federal facilities, board commercial aircraft, and enter nuclear power plants, according to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

The Real ID Act, passed by Congress in 2005, establishes minimum security standards for stateissued driver's licenses, permits, and ID cards. It's designed to reduce identity fraud, as it also prohibits Transportation Security Administration (TSA) personnel from accepting cards that don't meet the new minimum standards, according to the DHS.

Who needs one?

Any traveler who is 18 years or older who plans to fly domestically or visit certain federal facilities will require a Real ID, or an alternative acceptable form of identification, such as a passport. Beginning May 7, 2025, TSA will only accept Real ID cards with the compliant star marking. A handful of states including Washington, Michigan, Minnesota, New York and Vermont are issuing Enhanced Driver's Licenses (EDL) with a flag marking, which also meet Real ID standards.

Do I have a Real ID?

All Real IDs have a star marking in their top right corner.

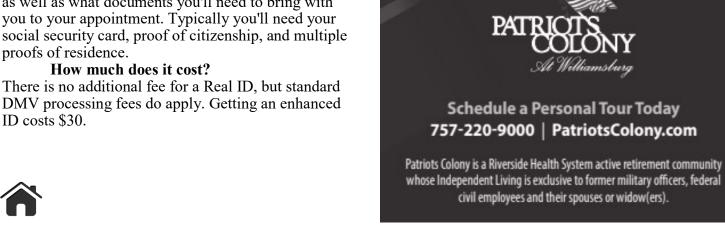
If you recently renewed your driver's license, it could be an Enhanced Driver's License, or EDL, which also meets Real ID standards. Check the top right corner of your license for an American flag, indicating it is Real ID-compliant. If it doesn't have the stamp, it is not in compliance with the act.

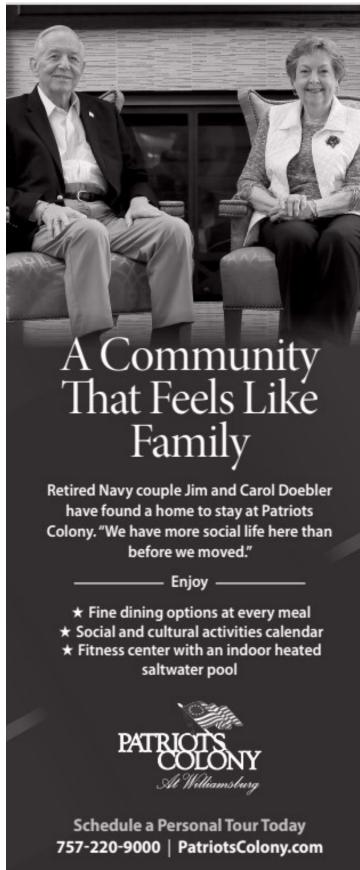
How do I get one?

All U.S. states are issuing Real ID cards through their driver's licensing agencies, with requirements varying by state. Many offices require a reservation, which you can make online.

Visit the DHS website, and click on your state of residence for specific instructions on how to apply, as well as what documents you'll need to bring with you to your appointment. Typically you'll need your social security card, proof of citizenship, and multiple

DMV processing fees do apply. Getting an enhanced ID costs \$30.







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/



Virginia Employment Commission at: https://https//www.vex.virginia.gov/job-fairs

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

September 19th, 2024.

Corporate Gray | Corporate Gray Virtual Job Fair (11:00am to 2:00pm https://www.corporategray.com/jobfairs/493

October 17, 2024.

Corporate Gray | Corporate Gray Virtual Job Fair (11:00am to 2:00pm https://www.corporategray.com/jobfairs/494

Name:	ID CARD EXPIRE
(Last, First, MI)	(Day, Month, Year
STREET ADDRESS:	
CITY, STATE, ZIP:	
TELEPHONE:	E-MAIL
(Include area code) ALTERNATE CONTACT:	RELATIONSHIP
STREET ADDRESS:	
CITY, STATE, ZIP:	
TELEPHONE:(Include area code)	E-MAIL



New Five-Year Scholarship Fund Campaign Update

The MOAA Scholarship Fund Board gives preference in awarding scholarships and grants to children with HRCMOAA 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 the MOAA scholarships in the chapter's name will always be from the area represented by our Hampton Roads Chapter.

Below is the current status of our chapter scholarship fund campaign for 2024 and for the five-year campaign that will cover 2023 - 2027:

	<u>GOAL</u>	Amount Contributed	% of Goal	Need by Date	<u>\$ Still Needed</u>
HRCMOAA Scholarship Drive Status as of	Total 5-Year Goal: \$25,000	6,054.00	24.2	12/31/2027	\$18,946.00
August 19, 2024	Annual Goal for 2024 (Year 2 of 5): \$5,000	\$2,49.00	49%	12/31/2024	\$2,551.00

New Five-Year Campaign began January 1, 2023 and runs through December 31, 2027

How You Can Contribute to the Hampton Roads Chapter Scholarship Fund

The Hampton Roads Chapter has been very successful and fortunate in its previous two five-year scholarship fund campaigns thanks to the generosity of the chapter members and their commitment to helping young men and women attend college through scholarships and grants from MOAA. As a result of the success in the previous two campaigns, the board decided to commission another five-year scholarship fund campaign to run from 2023 through 2027 with an annual goal in each year of \$5,000.00 and an overall five-year goal of \$25,000.00.

There are several ways you can donate to the HRCMOAA scholarship fund. All donations are tax deductible as the MOAA Scholarship Fund is a qualified IRS 501(c)(3) entity.

The first way is for members to submit their donations online by using the following website URL: https://charities.moaa.org/

The second way is to submit a check, made out to the MOAA Scholarship Fund and mail it to: MOAA Scholarship Fund P.O. Box 1824
Merrifield, VA 22116-9917

Note on your check that it is for the Hampton Roads Chapter Scholarship Fund. MOAA will continue to send receipts to all contributors. A third way is to make a Qualified Charitable Distribution. The fund tax identification number is 54-1659039. By contributing from the Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) of a qualified IRA, the taxable IRA income can be reduced by the amount of the contribution. The contribution check must be marked as a charitable contribution. With the recent changes in the tax laws, some of our members have found this method to be beneficial. You can make qualified charitable distributions (QCDs) of varying amounts to more than one charitable organization each year. IRA owners age 70 ½ or older can give up to \$100,000 a year directly from their IRA to qualified charities. But you can split that amount among multiple charities. Say you want to give a total of \$50,000 through the QCD move. You could give five charities \$10,000 each, for instance, or two charities \$25,000 each. Just tell your custodian which charities you want to support and how much to transfer directly from your IRA.



2024 CONTRIBUTIONS FROM PAGE 12

Not only will the charity benefit from the QCDs, but you will too. The QCD amount is excluded from your taxable income and can also count toward your annual required minimum distribution. It's a win-win-win. For additional details, it would be best to contact your IRA fund manager, personal financial planner or tax accountant for specifics.

You also may contribute directly from bequests, wills, or trusts. You can find suggested language here: https://www.moaa.org/content/HamptonRoadsDonates

Finally, the chapter treasurer or president will accept cash contributions or checks at any of our chapter events.

2024 Contributions

PLATINUM— \$500 and above

CAPT Roger Blood, USN (Ret.)

CDR Daniel Edwards, USN (Ret.)

GOLD— \$250 to \$499

CAPT Loren Heckelman, USN (Ret.)

Major & Mrs. Clifton Furedy, USAF (Ret.)

LCDR Daryl Holland, USN (Ret.)

SILVER— \$100 to \$249

COL Jack Hilgers, USMC (Ret.) CAPT Stephen Nowak, USN (Ret.)

CDR Carl Thoren, USN (Ret.)

LT & Mrs. Hans P. Juhl Hidle, USN (Ret.)

BRONZE— Under \$100

CAPT James V. Daniels, USN (Ret.)

LCDR Eddie Seaton, USN (Ret.)

LT Stephen Hackney, USN (Ret.) Mrs. Sharron D'Angelo

COL Charles Shaver, USA (Ret.)

Thank you to our new and renewing members and in Memory of those who have passed in our Hampton Roads Chapter of MOAA

In order to ensure you know how much we appreciate our new members who have joined and our current members who have renewed their membership, we are starting a new practice of listing those members who have renewed since the last newsletter was published. Since this is our first time doing this, we've included new and renewing members going back several months. If we missed anyone, please let our newsletter editor, Hans Juhl Hidle know at (hansjuhlhidle@gmail.com) and we'll be sure to include you in our next "Thank you" list.

RENEWALS

Mrs. Jan Cooke
Mrs. Carol Dobbins
Mrs. Barbara Smith
Mrs. Rita Smith
CDR Jeffrey Russell
Captain Douglas Schlaefer

NEW MEMBERS

Mrs. Ruth Mallek

TAPS

Hampton Roads Chapter is saddened by the news of the passing of former chapter member Captain Gil Kraine, USCG (Ret), on July 10, 2024. His late wife Ann was a former president of ROWS.





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

	Mak	e checks payable to HRC M	IOAA	Regular	Dues	NEW		Spo	use Di	ıes
Hampton Roads Chapter MOAA P.O. Box 4612 Virginia Beach, VA 23454-0612				1 Year: 2 Years: 3 Years:	\$35.00	RENEW A		2 Y	ears: S	\$10.00 \$17.00 \$23.00
Please print (If renewing, enter	only your name and inform	0 ,		or Warrant Surviving	ember: Active Officer of the Spouse: Sur- ligible for regu	eight Unifor	rmed Ser decease	vices.		
Vame**Last	,	First	Middle	or Initial	Date	e of birth _	/_	/_	YYYY	- 1
	Service	Component		(Ex: U	SAR, USMCR,	USAFR, USN	R, ANG, A	RNG)		
Status Active - Reserve - Retired - Circle one	Former - Surviving Spouse	Service Dates/_	yy to _	/	_ Retir	red Date _	/_	DD / _	YYYY	-
Spouse's NameLast	,	First		Middle or						
E-mail address				Sp	ouse's Date	e of birth _	/_	/_	YYYY	-
Mailing AddressNumber	er and Street		City			State		Zip co		-
Home Phone				Ce	ell Phone					
Member of National MOAA? Yes Not a National MOAA member yet	? Check here to receive a					Member?	Yes	No_	20	

<u>Click on the above form to renew online (or print and mail)</u>



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

From the Editor

Signature

Hans Peter Juhl Hidle, LT USN (Ret.)

Summer, almost done. Where did it go? The Grand-daughters are heading back to school for another year of knowledge. I am still going to rock the are you smarter than 5th grader. Sophia, Anabella and Madelena's favorite phrase seems to be—No Grandpa that is not right when I try to explain something.

We did some traveling this year. Already told you about the Aviation Rescue Swimmer meet in Pensacola in April. We went to West Palm for the 4th of July weekend and for the first weekend in August we flew off to Minnesota for an extended family gathering. In other words, we got around. Not planning any travel till next year when we are off to something big to celebrate both of us turning the big SIX OH.

Have to apologize for the lack of World War II articles. It's not that I haven't been writing about what happened 80 years ago this year, but there has been a lot of local news to fill the newsletter with instead of WWII stuff..

Local events, such as the up coming ODU's Honor Flight to Washington D.C. and Congresswoman Jen Kiggans luncheon attendance are a lot important than what happened a log time ago.

Appreciate all the help from members of the chapter in filling the pages of our newsletter. Makes it really easy for me to get the newsletter out on time and packed with interesting information for you. That said, it goes from feast to famine in one newsletter, so keep the information coming to me at—<u>hansjuhlhidle@gmail.com</u>.



THE TRIBUTE

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED
"Dated Material Do Not Delay"
SEP/ OCT 2024

(Label Here)	

MEMBERSHIP ALERT

If the date on your mailing label shows 2024, your membership expires on December 31, 2024. Please complete the membership renewal form on page 11. You may contact COL Larry King, USMC-Ret. at (757) 650-1086, Membership Chair. Rather than recycling your newsletter, please consider sharing your copy with a prospective member.







VA's Claim Status Tool allows Veterans to view the status of their VA claims online using their VA.gov login. This tool displays which claims are in process and identifies any actions Veterans need to take. It also gives Veterans the ability to review recent claim activity.

Claim Status Tool enhancements

VA recently enhanced the Claim Status Tool to improve your digital, self-service experience. The tool now shows a breakdown of the eight-step disability claims process, making it easier to understand where your claim currently is. The steps include:

- Step 1: Claim received
 - o VA receives your claim in its system.
 - o Step 2: Initial review
 - o VA reviews your claim for basic information (e.g., name, Social Security Number).
 - o Step 3: Evidence gathering
 - o VA reviews your claim to ensure it contains all necessary information. VA may ask for more evidence at this step of the claims process. Additional evidence could include a claim-related medical exam or medical records from a VA or non-VA provider.
 - o Step 4: Evidence review
 - o VA reviews all collected evidence for a claim.
 - o Step 5: Rating
 - o VA decides your claim and determines the disability rating.
 - o Step 6: Preparing decision letter
 - o VA prepares the decision letter. Though this letter cannot by viewed in VA.gov until Step 8, it will identify if you are eligible for additional benefits. This letter will include details such as disability ratings, amount of monthly payments and when payments begin.
 - o Step 7: Final review
 - o A senior reviewer from VA will conduct a final review of the claim and decision letter.
 - o Step 8: Decision letter available

You can view and download your decision letter for the claim on the Status page of the Claim Status Tool.

More about the Claim Status Tool

The Claim Status Tool contains three main tabs:

- Status: The Status tab tells you what actions you can take to support your claim and lists requests for third parties.
- Files: The Files tab displays information requests to you, a button for uploading files and a list of supporting documents you have submitted to VA.
- Overview: The Overview tab provides you with a description of the claims process, spotlights each step, and explains the process may return to a previous step if more information is needed.

You no longer have to contact a call center or regional office for claims information. The claim status tool allows you to access important claim information when you need it. This tool is another step forward in VBA's ongoing mission to support Veterans and their families. To learn more about using the claim status tool, please visit the Claims Status page (http://www.va.gov/claim-or-appeal-status/)



Transition to Digital Prescriptions



E-prescriptions are safer and quicker to process than hard copy (paper) prescriptions.

Naval Medical Center Portsmouth Pharmacy will soon transition to only accepting E-prescriptions.



What this means for you, our patrons:



As of 3 January 2023, hard copy (paper) prescriptions will no longer be accepted at Naval Medical Center Portsmouth or its Branch and TRICARE Prime Pharmacies.

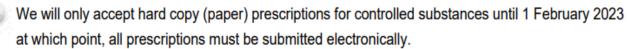
Hard copy (paper) prescriptions for controlled substances will be accepted through 1 February 2023

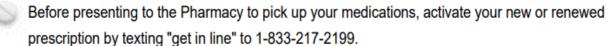
Please share this information with all of your healthcare providers.

Starting 3 January 2023, all non-controlled prescriptions must be sent electronically from your Doctor's office.

The Doctor's office can E-prescribe to our pharmacy at:







Please ask any pharmacy staff member for clarification or additional information.



Q-Anywhere New Prescription Activation by Text

It's easy to activate your new prescriptions at the pharmacy by text using the Q-Anywhere system. Just follow these 10 steps.

- Step 1 Just text the words "get in line" to 833-217-2199.
- Step 2 The system will ask for the 10-digit DoD Id number for the patient receiving the medication.
- Step 3 Enter the DoD ID Number found on the patients ID or in DEERS.
- Step 4 The system will verify who the prescription is for.
- Step 5 -- Reply "edit" if the information needs to be changed. Reply "done" if it is correct. Or add an additional patients DoD ID if you are activating prescriptions for multiple patients.
- Step 6 The system will ask you to select the pharmacy you would like to pick up your prescription from.
- Step 7 Once you choose you will receive a confirmation and a Q-number for your prescription.
- Step 8 If there is a problem or question regarding your request, a pharmacy representative may reach out to you via phone or via text for clarification.
- Step 9 You will receive a text when your prescription is ready to pick up. Please do not report to the pharmacy until you receive this text.
 - Simply text "I am here" when you arrive at the pharmacy you chose that day.
 - If you are returning any day within the following 14 days, you will need to check in at the kiosk and get a Return for Pickup ticket.
- Step 10 The system will send you a message acknowledging your arrival. When it is your turn to be served, your Q-number will then be called to a pharmacy window.

Activate your prescription from anywhere Pick them up when they are ready



January 6, 2023

MILITARY HEALTH SYSTEM MHS GENESIS

You can now request prescription **REFILLS** online

Through the MHS GENESIS Patient Portal



To access the MHS GENESIS Patient Portal, visit

patientportal.mhsgenesis.health.mil
or scan this QR code.
(CAC or DS Logon Required)

Log in to your account and look for the Rx Refills tab.



