



# TriangleGram



## MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA TRIANGLE CHAPTER

P.O. Box 19861, Raleigh, NC 27619



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**VOLUME VII**

**NUMBER 2**

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**THIS MEETING HAS BEEN CANCELLED**

**Dinner Meeting  
Annual Scholarship Award Presentation  
Wednesday, 13 May 2020  
Guest Speaker**

**Ms. Cathy Moore**  
Superintendent, Wake County School System

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**Meet the scholarship recipients, inside!**

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**MOAA Legislative Action Center**  
(<http://www.moaa.org/takeaction/?tab=Legislative-Action-Center#Legislative-Action-Center>)

*The Triangle Chapter and National MOAA are nonpartisan organizations*

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

### **COL HERB SEGAL**

Greetings from my north Raleigh shelter. I hope the newsletter finds you well and surviving the many inconveniences that are life today. Grab your favorite beverage and get comfortable in your easy chair; this is going to be a long message. Before I put on my Chapter President's hat, let me offer a few thoughts as the Army infectious disease epidemiologist that I was. We should permit the scientists and politicians to hash out the question of how soon we will "reopen" the country and how much data we need to have before we do so. Our membership is largely in a high-risk demographic. Regardless of the demonstrations and the hype, we each need to make prudent and conservative decisions about our own health and safety. For some, that may mean cutting off all contact with the outside, it may mean an occasional well-planned grocery shopping trip (at hours reserved for seniors at many stores) or a yet higher level of interaction. Good health habits, including keeping a reasonable distance ("social distancing") from the next person, are essential and use of masks should be strongly considered. There is still a lot to learn about the many complications of coronavirus infection; the statistical models predicting how long we can expect new cases are all over the place! Given those unknowns, let's agree not to do anything foolish! And please, be mindful of the scam artists and quacks who have surfaced with get rich quick or get-well quick schemes! We will survive this challenge and celebrate together at a later date.

An early casualty of the pandemic was the last-minute cancellations of our March dinner speakers. Mr. Crews and Dr. Goldberg were understandably preoccupied with the VA's response to the pandemic and begged off. They have agreed to reschedule for our September dinner meeting. In their absence, dinner attendees had the opportunity to discuss the several ongoing Chapter initiatives.

Our Chapter has established a Facebook group, MOAA Triangle Chapter (NC). This is a private closed group so that only members may contribute posts, although any may read the posts. Our expectation is that this group will serve as a second channel to distribute Chapter information and will attract new members who rely on social media for their information. You must be "invited" to join the group. It is our intention to invite all Chapter members and members of the community with a special interest in military and veterans' affairs. This is a somewhat lengthy and burdensome process; if you would like an invitation please email directly at [herbsegal1941@gmail.com](mailto:herbsegal1941@gmail.com) and I will "invite" you!

We have applied for two grants from the MOAA Community Foundation. One will extend our long-term commitment to the RDU USO by providing funds for the Honor Support Team and for the Tuesday Marines program. The second will fund a newly established collaboration with Vetstovets United. We will be participating at both the leadership and worker level and are seeking funding to sponsor the initial expenses for a veteran about to enter training with his or her selected canine.

Elsewhere in the newsletter we will share the biographies of the outstanding students selected for our Chapter scholarships. A legislative affairs update is also provided. And, oh yes, we continue to chase down those members who have forgotten to bring their Chapter dues current. Wouldn't

you consider becoming a Chapter Life Member (details on our website) and not be harassed every year?

I would also be remiss if I did not yet again renew my plea or additional volunteers to serve on our Chapter's leadership team. We are especially in need of a secretary, a newsletter editor and a public affairs chair. Please consider stepping up!

Be safe and well.... Herb

## **USO STATUS REPORT**

LtCol Chris Froeschner, First Vice President

As many of our members support the USO of North Carolina through their time, talent and treasure, I'd like to provide an update of what we have been doing since the onslaught of COVID-19 on our nation and economy. We closed all our centers in mid-March upon receiving guidance from USO headquarters. All centers continue to remain closed until further notice with staff working remotely, only one person at a time goes into offices for minor work and to check on facilities. While most all volunteer opportunities to serve directly have been discontinued for the safety of our volunteers, our Honor Support Teams (which include several MOAA Triangle Area chapter members) continue to provide support to the fallen passing through RDU and Charlotte airports with modified missions.

To date, we have assisted over 7,800 military and families in NC with food and snacks through installation pop up pantries, delivery of nonperishable food and hygiene items for service members in quarantine or low mobility zones where they cannot leave military bases; food, hygiene, and baby supplies to military families.

We have been using our locations in Charlotte, Raleigh and Fort Bragg as supply hubs for gathering supplies and distributing to where they are most needed, both in and out of the state. Two weeks ago, we were able to receive 10 pallets of KIND Bars donated through USO headquarters. Our mobile center director loaded the mobile truck and our USO of NC 14-foot trailer with five pallets and delivered them to USO Ft. Campbell, KY. Meanwhile, American Airlines donated over 10 pallets of snacks from their operations at Charlotte Airport and wanted them moved quickly. In the absence of other transportation options, our Piedmont area operations director, on her own initiative, rented a 26 ft. U-Haul truck and personally moved the 10 pallets from American Airlines storage to our USO of NC storage in Charlotte. From there our teams and partners moved 15 pallets of goodies from American Airlines and Kind bar to take back to Ft. Bragg for distribution across the state where needed most.

With Marines continuously returning to Camp Lejeune, our Coastal area team has made several supply runs to Lumberton and Raleigh where they have filled their van with supplies from the Piedmont and Triangle areas. Our Sandhills team have stayed very busy supplying Fort Bragg soldiers and families while now serving as a new supply hub. Additionally, the Sandhills team just received a Coca-Cola truck filled with Powerade to distribute where needed. And in the Triangle area, staff worked together to pick up 4 pallets of snacks from a donor in Winston Salem and

brought them to our storage in Durham for distribution to the coastal area. Most recently, we have supported over 750 North Carolina National Guard soldiers and airmen called up to serve for COVID-19 response at 14 different locations across the state. Supplies continue to be moved across the state to have them at the right place and the right time. Locations for support include Raleigh, Charlotte, Asheboro, Morrisville, Greensboro, Durham, and Mocksville. Activation expected to last at least 30 days.

Our programming for service members and their families has moved to a virtual format, and it has not stopped their momentum at all! Every day on Facebook there is a new “Reset from Home” program launched. On Mondays and Saturdays we do some music making with Greg Whitt. On Tuesdays at 10am we have virtual Story Time with one of our staff or volunteers. On Wednesdays you can check out Wellness Wednesdays with our fitness and nutrition guru, Brad Robinson. Thursdays are Transition Thursdays with different transition topics taught by our corporate partners and Fridays you can use your creativity in making your very own skill toys with Flow Circus. We had an exciting Virtual 4 Lenses Date Night in Jacksonville where couples picked up a free meal from Texas Roadhouse and then joined us online for some communication skills. This week, we will have a live Q&A with Medal of Honor Recipient Gary Biekirch – you are welcome to join in; find details on our USO of NC Facebook page.

We continue to work together to create innovative, fun and engaging activities to bring in revenue and boost visibility. Events include: **Strengthen the Force 2020**, a campaign geared to support the USO of NC response to COVID-19; **Forces on the Move**, a virtual Fitness Campaign, a **Virtual Auction** to bid on creative items and experiences and an **Online Gaming Fundraiser**. All of these are live and information can be found on Facebook. We would greatly appreciate your checking our activities out online and sharing them to your Facebook friends and contacts!

## **DURHAM BULLS BASEBALL OUTING, JULY 22<sup>ND</sup>**

LtCol Chris Froeschner

It is truly hard to believe how the world has changed in the last six weeks. If you are anything like me, as you stay safe at home and with personal distancing you yearn for the simple things you took for granted...like gathering with friends, eating ball park food while drinking your favorite beverage. We are hopeful that plans for our Fourth annual Night at the Ballpark event are far enough in the future to become a reality. On Wednesday, July 22nd, come enjoy a night out with the Durham Bulls as they take on the Pawtucket Red Sox at Durham Bulls Athletic Park (DBAP)!

To date, we have sold eight tickets to the event. As we must sell at least 60 seats for the party deck we have reserved (don't worry if we go over, it holds over 100), we have opened this event up to all associates of MOAA members for maximum participation and a fun night out! Feel free to bring your family, invite friends, business associates, members from other MOAA chapters; any one you'd like to enjoy a ballgame and all that comes with it! Feel free to share this email as you reach out to those you may want to join us.

For just \$29.50 per person (plus about a \$3 per ticket service fee), we will enjoy a private picnic in the Volt Doctor Party Deck located along 3rd base line behind sections 209 and 211 that will include a 2 hour All You Can Eat Ballpark Fare Menu of: Hot Dogs, Burgers, Grilled Chicken, Mac & Cheese, Potato Salad, Chips & Dip and Water/Pepsi products.

For easy online ticket purchase and download via email, just go to the following link: <https://groupmatics.events/s/other/Moaatriangle3>

## **LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS REPORT**

COL Mike Flynn, Legislative Affairs Chair

Your chapter continues to pursue a “pro-active” legislative affairs program. We participate in state legislative days similar to "Storming the Hill". This “Legislative Day” is conducted coordination with other veterans groups in the state. We also meet with U.S. House of Representatives members and their staff on a yearly basis. State Representative Grier Martin is a member of our Chapter and is very supportive of MOAA and our goals.

We are Involved with the Council of Chapters and other groups in the State Advocacy Program where we focus on the ten issues noted in the Department of Defense State Liaison Office.

To keep current on legislation pertinent to our members we refer you to the “ Legislative Issues” section in the chapter’s web site and the link to the NC Council of Chapters and National MOAA Legislative web sites. Checking these resources will provide the current status of items of interest to you and your families We also suggest our members to sign up for the weekly MOAA newsletter and to respond to the Calls to Action

During the last legislative session the General Assembly passed and the Governor signed legislation authorizing the use of Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy for our veterans diagnosed with Traumatic Brain Injury or Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. We applaud this move to care for our veterans.

The following bills were not enacted into law during the 2019 session. Veterans groups including Triangle MOAA will continue to press our representatives in the General Assembly to enact these pieces of legislation:

- Limit Soldiers Community College Tuition. Suggested legislation would cap tuition for service members at the amount of tuition available from the federal government.
- Equal Tax Treatment of Government Employees. Current State law created a “two tiered” treatment regarding retiree pay. Those who are vested have all retired pay exempt from state income tax while those not vested have all retired pay tax. We continue to work with our elected officials to redress this inequity and are encouraged that in the upcoming legislative “Short Session” (April 2020) promising bills will be introduced which remedy this issue.

## **2020 Triangle Chapter MOAA Scholarship Winners**

**Col. Bob Penny, Second Vice President**

It's my pleasure to introduce the three recipients of our 2020 **Colonel William Frank Rawley** Triangle Chapter MOAA JROTC scholarships. These high school seniors share similar experiences in their respective JROTC programs. They are members of their competitive drill teams. They performed hundreds of hours serving their JROTC units, their schools, and their communities. All three have maintained "A plus" averages all four years of high school. Additionally, they hold top leadership roles in their respective JROTC units.

Because of the restrictions placed on public gatherings because of COVID-19, the Scholarship checks and certificates were mailed to the recipients. This year, each recipient received \$1000.

Our first recipient is Cadet Cody Sawyer Broughton from Cary High School in Cary, North Carolina. He is a member of their Navy JROTC program. Cody is a member of National Honor Society, is an Eagle Scout, and was a Tar Heel Boys State Delegate (nominated to the House of Representatives). Cody is Commander of Cary High School's NJROTC cadet corps. He is also commandant of the unit's Marksmanship Team and is on Cary's varsity track and cross country teams. Cody was awarded 4-year Army and Navy ROTC scholarships and has been accepted at The Citadel, ECU, UNC-CH, NCSU, and VA Tech. Cody will attend NCSU on the Army Scholarship valued at over \$100,000 majoring in Political Science.

Our second recipient is Cadet Heaven Lee Sullivan from Sanderson High School in Raleigh. Lee is a member of their Air Force JROTC program. She is a member of the National Honor Society and AFJROTC Kitty Hawk Air Society. Lee is Commander of the school's AFJROTC cadet corps, color guard commander, and a four-year drill team member. Lee is also Deputy Commander of the Raleigh-Wake County Civil Air Patrol Squadron and CAP color guard Commander. Cadet Sullivan has been awarded a 3-year Air Force ROTC Language Scholarship valued at more than \$60,000. She will attend Stetson University where she also was awarded the Stetson University Presidential Scholarship (\$51,000 freshman year, \$33,000 a year for 3 years) and the Stetson Achievement Award (\$3,000). She received Federal Grants of \$9,195 and the Daughters of the American Revolution Good Citizen \$1000 Scholarship.

Our third recipient is Cadet Julian Elijah Teague also from Sanderson High School in Raleigh. He is a member of National Honor Society and AFJROTC Kitty Hawk Air Society. Elijah is the Force Support Squadron Commander of the school's AFJROTC unit. He is also a four-year member of their drill team. Because of his corps' position, Cadet Teague was a key contributor in securing the unit's Exceeds Standards in their HQ AFJROTC unit inspection leading to selection as Distinguished Unit Award with Merit. Elijah is also a member of school's award-winning marching band. Cadet Teague has been awarded a 4-year AFROTC scholarship valued at over \$100,000 to major in Engineering at NC State Univ.

**Scholarship Fund Update (as of 15 April 2020)**  
Col. Bob Penny

The MOAA Triangle Chapter ROTC Scholarships are one of the primary ways we interact with our community and show our support.

With the donations forwarded with registrations for the March Chapter Dinner Meeting and the raffle at the meeting, our account balance in the Triangle Chapter ROTC Scholarship Fund is \$2049.85. Our goal is to continue awarding at least three \$1000 scholarships annually to deserving JROTC cadets from the twenty-six high school units we support. The long-term goal is to provide at least \$5000.00 in scholarships each year – and with generous donations, we might reach that goal in 2021. We could either increase the number of scholarships we award or increase the amount of each scholarship. To do that, we need members to continue to contribute. That can easily be done when you sign up for membership meeting attendance and meals. There is a line on the signup sheet for MOAA ROTC Scholarships. Please check it out and contribute if you can.

**Triangle Chapter Treasurer's Report**  
CAPT Bob Caron  
(2020 DUES were due in January)

A reminder to all that the dues year runs from January to December, so that dues for the 2020 year were due in January. An email reminder was sent to all members not current in March. Unfortunately, the response was not good. To date only 17 of the 63 members contacted have responded. Hoping that mail this month will improve the response. Please mail your 2020 dues to the Treasurer at the address below. If not sure of your status, a short email to the Treasurer will provide the answer.

You might also want to consider “upgrading” your Chapter membership to Life Member and never have to think about dues again! Our website, [Trianglemoaa.com](http://Trianglemoaa.com), provides the details.

Questions contact CAPT Bob Caron at 919-747-1030, or email at [rrcaron61@gmail.com](mailto:rrcaron61@gmail.com)  
Address: 304 Silverhawk Lane, Durham, NC 27703-1127.

## Business Support for the Triangle Chapter COL Matt Segal

As you know, members continue to reach out to local businesses and ask them to support our scholarship fund by contributing \$100 or more. In return, we will post their business cards in the TriangleGram for a calendar year.

### HOW YOU CAN HELP:

- Support the businesses that support our chapter's scholarship fund so they can continue to support us while you enjoy their products or services!
- Tell your friends and family to support those businesses. When you or someone you have told about the businesses visits them, thank them for their support of our chapter!

If you know of a business that might want to support us in this way for an annual donation of \$100, please encourage them to do so. Print off a color copy of the TriangleGram and show it to the potential sponsor or have them check our chapter website ("Google" Triangle MOAA) to view recent TriangleGram issues. Once they have accepted, just let me know and we can take it from there!



## 2019 Triangle Chapter Officers and Committee Chairs

All telephone numbers are the 919-area code except as shown

### Officers

President	COL Herb Segal, USA	845-2686	<a href="mailto:herbsegal1941@gmail.com">herbsegal1941@gmail.com</a>
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	Lt Col Chris Froeschner, USAF	753-5611	<a href="mailto:frosh90@gmail.com">frosh90@gmail.com</a>
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	Col Bob Penny, USAF	847-2453	<a href="mailto:penny.bob@gmail.com">penny.bob@gmail.com</a>
Secretary	Vacant		
Treasurer	CAPT Bob Caron, USCG	747-1030	<a href="mailto:rrcaron61@gmail.com">rrcaron61@gmail.com</a>

### Committee Chairs

Immediate Past President	CDR Edgar Dean Block, USNR	500-9567	<a href="mailto:falcon1941@gmail.com">falcon1941@gmail.com</a>
Legislative/Liaison	COL Michael Flynn, USA	847-9695	<a href="mailto:mjflynn2@gmail.com">mjflynn2@gmail.com</a>
Public Relations	Vacant		
Personal Affairs and Survivor Assistance	CAPT Bob Caron, USCG	650-2098	<a href="mailto:rrcaron61@gmail.com">rrcaron61@gmail.com</a>
Surviving Spouse	Sunshine Hollowell	467-3097	<a href="mailto:sunshine.39@att.net">sunshine.39@att.net</a>
Newsletter and Website Editor	Vacant		
Membership	COL Herb Segal, USA	845-2686	<a href="mailto:herbsegal1941@gmail.com">herbsegal1941@gmail.com</a>
ROTC/JROTC Awards/Scholarship	Col Bob Penny, USAF	847-2453	<a href="mailto:penny.bob@gmail.com">penny.bob@gmail.com</a>
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Legal Advisor	CAPT David D. Lennon, USN	846-7400	<a href="mailto:lawdrudge@yahoo.com">lawdrudge@yahoo.com</a>
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Tops Officer	COL Matt Segal, USA	632-4964	<a href="mailto:sega3245@bellsouth.net">sega3245@bellsouth.net</a>
USO Support	LTC Ken Tigges, USA	219-0356	<a href="mailto:ktigges001@att.net">ktigges001@att.net</a>