



The Communiqué

Southwest Virginia Chapter
Military Officers Association of America



A Five-Star Chapter

VOLUME 13 NUMBER 4

ROANOKE, VIRGINIA

OCT-NOV-DEC 2021

A YEAR IN TRANSITION

President's Corner

The year 2021 continued under the COVID-19 protocols that necessitated continuing ZOOM meetings.

On **21 January 2021** Major General Randal D Fullhart, USAF, Commandant of Cadets presented to Cadet William M. Lloyd of Radford University the General William B. Rosson USA Leadership Award and later presented to Cadet Mame B. Ngom of Virginia Tech the Major General Lloyd B. Ramsey USA Leadership Award. The two Southwest Virginia Chapter Leadership Awards were for 2020 and would have normally been presented in the spring of 2020 but due to the COVID-19 pandemic were presented in January 2021. Following the awards presentations Ms. Amy White and Ms. Michele Hilts from Virginia Western Community College (VWCC) presented an outstanding program including PowerPoint slides on the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) Program and Veterans. The focus is on project based learning.

On **18 February 2021** chapter member Joe Obenshain presented a program on his recent trip to Southeast Asia and Vietnam titled "Tour of the 'Hanoi Hilton' in the company of POW Porter Halyburton." Porter Halyburton was a Navy pilot shot down over North Vietnam and was held in the Hoan Lo Prison (the infamous Hanoi Hilton) as a POW. Porter's plane crashed and exploded into a Karst Ridge 40 miles northeast of Hanoi on 17 October 1965.

On **18 March 2021** Mr. Ed Glover a Vinton, VA resident with Team Rubicon works as a technology analyst on their technology team, configuring their systems that help deploy Team Rubicon members to disaster zones here at home and internationally. From 2018-2020 Ed was the volunteer Roanoke City Coordinator with Team Rubicon, tasked with growing the team, and engaging our local members with meaningful service projects, social and training opportunities. He spoke about Jake Woods a Marine sniper and his book "Once A Warrior" and Team Rubicon. The book is the powerful story of one Marine who found healing and renewed purpose after returning from combat, for himself and tens of thousands of fellow veterans. The book chronicles his early life and military and post military transition experiences.

On **15 April 2021** CDR Youssef Aboul-Enein, USN in the Medical Service Corps presented a program titled "*Countering Terrorism Threats in the Context of Great Power Competition: Russia, China, Iran, and Managing Terrorism.*" Since 9/11, he has been immersed in and advised on counterterrorism and Middle East affairs at the highest levels of the defense department and intelligence community. CDR Aboul-Enein addressed what he termed counter terrorism "Hot Spots" and the need to have oversight and management of these various terrorist threats which he considered were more of a nuisance and not critical threats. He addressed what he saw as the "great powers competition" between the United States, China and Russia and the challenges for access to critical minerals and hegemony throughout critical areas of the globe.

On **20 May 2021** BGEN Scott Van Cleef, USAF (Ret) presented an excellent detailed program using a power point slide presentation on the Civil Air Patrol including the CAP mission



This is my final column, as my two-year term in this office is ending. CAPT MATT HAAG, USN, Ret., assumes our presidency. Matt brings a wealth of leadership experience to this role from his Naval Aviation career.

It has been an interesting two years – a mix of great and complicated. The coronavirus has taken 800,000 American lives, a tragic and unexpected loss. I am truly grateful that our chapter members and, I believe, most of their families, have come through the pandemic into what we hope is a less dangerous moment.

Early on, our board made the decision to continue chapter functions virtually through Zoom meetings, a Godsend tech-answer to our challenged world at the right time. Safety first was our operative principle.

Yet, this group has had some big losses in the past year among our members, dear friends and family. General Scott Van Cleef, Gretchen Flynn, Bernard Marie, and Mike and Bea Kasnick's son-in-law Charlie have died and are deeply missed.

Despite the isolation of the pandemic, I believe this chapter has continued to serve our community.

Continued on Page 2 "A Year In Transition"

Continued on Page 3 "President's Corner"

<p>2022 OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS</p>	<p><i>Continued from Page 1 A Year In Transition”</i></p>	
<p>PRESIDENT CAPT Matthew K Haag USN (Ret)</p> <p>FIRST VP CAPT Gary Powers, USN (Ret)</p> <p>SECOND VP LTC Dan Karnes, USAR (Ret)</p> <p>SECRETARY LTC Steve Jamison, USA (Ret)</p> <p>TREASURER COL Robert F Brown USA (Ret)</p> <p>PROGRAMS COL Thomas J Dalzell, USMC (Ret)</p> <p>CHAPLAIN LTC Dave Gilleran, USA (Ret)</p> <p>MEMBERSHIP CHAIR COL Robert F Brown USA (Ret)</p> <p>VCOC REPRESENTATIVE COL Anita White, USA (Ret)</p> <p>LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS REP LTC Robert Habermann, USA (Ret)</p> <p>PERSONAL AFFAIRS REP LTC Steve Jamison, USA (Ret)</p> <p>NEWSLETTER EDITOR COL Thomas J Dalzell, USMC (Ret)</p> <p>FACEBOOK EDITOR CDR Lee M Ensley, USN (Ret)</p> <p>WEBMASTER LCDR Klaus (Ted) Lonitz, USN (Ret)</p> <p>PUBLIC AFFAIRS LTC Steve Jamison, USA (Ret)</p> <p>AWARDS CHAIR LTC Robert Habermann, USA (Ret)</p> <p>SERGEANT-AT-ARMS MAJ Michael Kasnick, USA (Ret)</p> <p>BEREAVEMENT COMMITTEE LTC Dave Gilleran, USA (Ret)</p> <p>TRANSITION TEAM REP CDR Michael Leigh, USN (Ret)</p> <p>COMMUNITY SERV VOL REP LTC Dan Karnes, USAR (Ret)</p> <p>PAST PRESIDENT CDR Lee M Ensley, USN (Ret)</p> <p>SURVIVING SPOUSE REP Mrs. Mary Lou Summers</p> <p>SMITH MOUNT SATELLITE REP CAPT Richard Cocrane, USN (Ret)</p>	<p>statement, Congressional Charter, local resources, emergency services and educational programs.</p> <p>On 16 September 2021 Mr. Edward F. Palm, Ph.D. Major, USMC (Ret.) presented a program on his book “Tiger Papa Three: Memoir of a Combined Action Marine in Vietnam”.</p> <p>On 21 October 2021 the chapter had scheduled a program by Major General Fullhart USAF on status VT Corps of Cadets but it had to be cancelled due to technical issues with ZOOM.</p> <p>On 18 November 2021 a Zoom program was presented by Mr. James Triesler, Director of Education Virginia War Memorial Richmond Virginia. The program was a most interesting and extensive presentation on the Virginia War Memorial. James Triesler used a Power Point slide presentation showing the many exhibits available at the War Memorial, a must visit destination in Richmond. The depth and breadth of the educational programs offered by the Virginia War Memorial is breathtaking. James Triesler’s passion for education was most evident in his presentation and the Board of Directors wish more of the membership had signed on to witness the power point slides and his description of the Memorial, its exhibits and programs.</p> <p>On 16 December 2021 A Zoom program on MOAA update and installation of Officers and Board of Directors for 2022 by Lt Col Walter J. Smiley Jr., USA (Ret) a member of MOAA's Board of Directors</p> <p>More details and pictures can be found in the previous editions of the Chapter newsletter, <i>The Communiqué</i>.</p>	
	<p>CHAPTER PRESIDENT CDR LEE ENSLEY, USN (Ret) SPEAKS TO THE DOWNTOWN ROANOKE KIWANIS CLUB ABOUT VETERANS DAY</p>	
<p>DIRECTORS COL Robert F Brown USA (Ret) CAPT Roger Burnett, USN (Ret) CAPT Richard Cocrane, USN (Ret) COL Thomas J Dalzell, USMC (Ret) CDR Lee M Ensley, USN (Ret) LTC Dave Gilleran, USA (Ret) CAPT Matthew K Haag USN (Ret) LTC Robert Habermann, USA (Ret) LTC Steve Jamison, USA (Ret) CPT Larry Johnson, USAR (former) LTC Dan Karnes, USAR (Ret) MAJ Michael Kasnick, USA (Ret) CDR Michael Leigh, USN (Ret) COL John Miller, USA (Ret) CAPT Gary Powers, USN (Ret) COL Anita White, USA (Ret) Mrs. Mary Lou Summers</p>	<p>On Wednesday 10 November 2021 Chapter President CDR Lee Ensley, USN (Ret) was the guest speaker at the Downtown Roanoke Kiwanis Club weekly meeting at Charter Hall. CDR Ensley spoke about Veterans Day; it's meaning and history, along with his personal observations and experiences. CDR Ensley served in the United States Navy, was a Radar Intercept Officer with 1600 hours in the F-4 Phantom and F-14 Tomcat had 400+ carrier landings, spent three years in the Pentagon, and 3 years in NATO-London. Significant topics during the presentation were the employment and importance of Naval Aviation and Carrier Battle Groups to project American sea power and foreign policy. Specific periods discussed were combat operations during the 1983 Lebanon War, and the First Gulf War in 1990.</p>	   

Continued from Page 1 President's Corner Our support for the Military Family Support Center remains strong, particularly for that organization's Food Pantry. Our Leadership Program continued to award and reward outstanding ROTC and JROTC students at Virginia Tech and Radford and 15 area high schools. We have contributed to the patriotic spirit in our area by participating in several important events, including Memorial Day and Veterans Day commemorations and the Military Appreciation Day at Salem Red Sox ball park. We have supported the Brain Injury Awareness fundraiser and the Southwest Virginia Veterans Cemetery by actively joining in several of their events, including the Veterans Cemetery's recent Annual Wreath Ceremony which this year drew more than 400 participants. And in a time when most service organizations have struggled to maintain their membership or actually survive, we have increased our membership by approximately 25 percent. We've kept our membership informed through a variety of interesting and educational programs during our monthly virtual meetings, and through our award-winning social media, including the quarterly newsletter, our chapter website and Facebook. Our members regularly donate their time to many other area service organizations, adding their leadership and management skills to these groups, such as Kiwanis, which perform such a variety of important contributions to Southwest Virginia. And our members continue to actively advocate for legislative actions that benefit and affect all service members.

Our chapter is eagerly looking to the future, searching for ways to cast a wider membership and service net. Also, on a brighter note, a lesson-learned has been communicated from our national organization to all chapters: MORE FUN!!! This is feedback that MOAA has received country-wide. Seems to be what its members want. The "lock-down" of the past two years has undoubtedly pumped-up our desire for human interaction and our membership's eagerness for a return to in-person meetings makes this clear. Some of our members have expressed interest in doing other social activities in addition to our luncheons and outstanding guest-speaker programs, perhaps at time slots that are convenient to more members.

Always eager to follow good leadership examples/suggestions/orders, our board has been brain-storming this possibly slightly surprising idea. We're thinking chapter activities like: picnic or BBQ; gathering for the Army-Navy game (save the date – Saturday, December 10, 2022); Salem Red Sox game; day-trip to D-Day Memorial; college campus visits - we already have an invitation for a tour at Virginia Western and can always make a return visit to VT and its Corps of Cadets; VT tailgate and football game; a group trip to one of our excellent local wineries for a tasting; a group Mill Mountain Theater trip, or a Roanoke Symphony performance, or an outdoor concert at Elmwood Park, or the Taubman Museum, or a walk on the Greenway with a burger and beer afterward to reward our activity output; enhanced participation in the Roanoke Veterans Day Parade (a parade that is a celebration of veterans and the organizations which support them and is surprisingly lots of fun and for which, for next year, we have been promised the use of an authentic, Shore Patrol jeep by one of our Board members).

There are so many MORE FUN possibilities. We would love to hear ideas from any and all of our members.

In closing, I will tell you this has been a deeply rewarding and fulfilling two years for me. We've managed some interesting challenges. I have been so fortunate to be supported by such a great group of people on our board and in our membership. I won't mention names but as you read this, you will recognize yourselves in our accomplishments during this term. Thank you, one and all for the work you have given and, most importantly, for your friendship and camaraderie. *Lee Ensley*

CHAPTER MEMBERS PARTICIPATE IN THE 9TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS WREATH LAYING PROGRAM AT THE VIRGINIA VETERANS CEMETERY IN DUBLIN VIRGINIA

On Saturday 18 December 2021 members of the SWVA chapter participated in the 9th Annual Wreath Laying program at the Virginia



Veterans Cemetery in Dublin, Virginia. This event is sponsored each year by The Southwest Virginia Veterans Cemetery Volunteers aptly led by the Chapter Surviving Spouse Representative Mrs. Mary Lou Summers. Pictured are L-R: LTC Bob Habermann, USA; Mary Lou Summers, CDR Lee Ensley, USN; COL Tom Dalzell, USMC; COL John Rogers, USAF; CDR Dick At Lee, USCG; LTC Dan Karnes, USAR; COL John Miller, USA. Chapter members also donated funds to purchase the some 1,600 Christmas wreaths put on the headstones by family members and guests.



TRICARE Costs Announced: What You Need to Know for 2022

By: Kevin Lilley 10 November 2021

Days before the Nov. 9 start of Open Season, TRICARE announced updated enrollment fees, premiums, and other rates for its plans taking effect in 2022. The full list can be accessed at this link. Charts from 2021, for comparison purposes, can be accessed here (PDF format).

[NEW!: MOAA's 2021-2022 TRICARE Guide]

Many TRICARE fees are increased annually by the amount of the military retired pay cost-of-living adjustment (COLA). Because COLA for 2022 is higher than it has been for decades (5.9%), the dollar amounts of TRICARE fee increases will also be higher than we have seen in the recent past. However, there were no new TRICARE fees announced for 2022, and the new fees from 2021 – TRICARE Select annual enrollment fees for most Group A retirees and their families – saw increases in line with COLA: from \$150 to \$158 for individuals and from \$300 to \$317 for families. MOAA has supported recent legislation that would remove these fees, which were part of the FY 2017 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), and has successfully fought so these Group A retirees remain grandfathered into a lower enrollment rate. Group B retiree enrollment costs for TRICARE Select in 2022 will be \$504 for individuals (up from \$474) and \$1,008 for families (up from \$948). Some notes on other changes:

Catastrophic Cap Updates

After jumping from \$3,000 in 2020 to \$3,500 in 2021, the TRICARE Select Group A catastrophic cap for retirees and families will sit at \$3,706 per family in 2022. The annual enrollment fee applies to the cap. Group B retirees will have a \$3,921 cap per family, up from \$3,703 in 2021. Catastrophic caps will be unchanged for retirees and families in TRICARE Prime Group A in 2022 (\$3,000), but will rise slightly for Group B beneficiaries (\$3,921 up from \$3,703, same as Select). Caps also will be unchanged for active duty family members in Group A under TRICARE Prime and Select (\$1,000), but will rise for those in Group B (\$1,120, up from \$1,058). Get a further breakdown of catastrophic cap figures at the TRICARE West website (applies to all TRICARE regions).

[RELATED: Here Are Your New TRICARE Pharmacy Drug Prices]

2022 Premiums

The TRICARE Reserve Select premium will fall in 2022, the only TRICARE premium set to decline. Individual beneficiaries will pay a \$46.70 monthly premium in the new year, with family plans costing \$229.99 per month. That's down from \$47.20 and \$238.99, respectively, in 2021. TRICARE Retired Reserve monthly premiums will rise slightly, from \$484.83 (individual)/\$1,165.01 (family) in 2021 to \$502.32 (individual)/\$1,206.99 (family) in 2022. The largest increase by percentage comes in the TRICARE Young Adult Prime plan, which went from a \$459 monthly premium in 2021 to \$512 in 2022. The Select variant also increased, from \$257 per month in 2021 to \$265 in 2022. MOAA has made TRICARE young adult coverage a legislative priority, fighting to ensure TRICARE's coverage for dependents under 26 keeps up with private-sector plans. While legislation drafted to fix this inequity did not make the final NDAA, efforts in both chambers will continue in the new year. Other out of pocket changes tied to medical visits inched up slightly across the board, ranging from a \$1 increase in primary care visits for retirees and family members on TRICARE Prime (\$21 to \$22)

Continued on Page 5 "TRICARE Costs Announced"

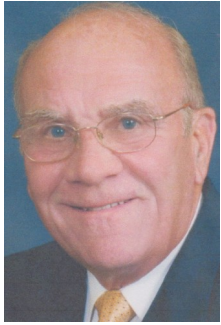


2303 Williamson Road, NE
Roanoke, VA 24014



MEMBER PROFILE

Donald D. Sowder, an alumni of Virginia Tech class of 1959, grew up on a small farm in Franklin County, Virginia where he learned the value of hard work and responsibility. He exemplified those values throughout his career as a pharmaceutical industry executive and a U.S. Army Reservist. In addition to Virginia Tech Donald attended Columbia University, Graduate School of Business, Executive Certificate Sales Management in 1976, Columbia University, Graduate School of Business, Executive Certificate Finance in 1984 and the University of Virginia, Darden Graduate School of Business, Executive Certificate, Management in 1993. His leadership skills emerged as a teenager, when he joined the Virginia National Guard and was elected student body president of Franklin County High School. Throughout his adult life he continued to serve his communities in similar fashion.



While in the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets, Donald held a variety of jobs; met and married his wife, Mary; and started a family, all while rising to the demands of his academic and Corps of Cadets responsibilities. He graduated with a degree in dairy science and was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Army.

He served one active duty tour, and then transferred to the Virginia National Guard and later to the U.S. Army Reserve. His last duty assignment was serving as the Inspector General (ima) at the U.S. Military Academy, West Point. He retired from the U.S. Army Reserve after a 30-year career retiring with the rank of Colonel.

In pharmaceuticals, he was in sales with Lederle/Wyeth Laboratories, now part of Pfizer Labs. He worked his way up the ranks to national sales management, earning worldwide responsibility for all U.S. government business and all healthcare agencies in Washington, D.C.

Donald retired from the pharmaceutical industry in 1995 and became a consultant. He and his family returned to Virginia, where he became active in the Richmond community. Among his roles, he represented the Midlothian District on the Chesterfield County Board of Supervisors.

During his life he has volunteered serving on many Boards' of Directors, planning commissions and advisory boards both in Virginia and North Carolina.

Donald joined the Virginia Tech Corps of Cadets' Alumni Board in its early years. He helped develop a recruitment-training manual and served as chairman of the Government Affairs Task Force. For his efforts, he was honored as a Director Emeritus of the board. He endowed an Emerging Leader Scholarship and is chairman of the Class of '59 Corps of Cadets scholarship. In recognition of all his success and commitment to community, Donald was recognized with the Distinguished Alumni Award for the year 2020 from the Corps of Cadets.

THE MILITARY FAMILY SUPPORT CENTER.

Our military service members represent only one percent of our population, but they carry the responsibility of protecting our entire country. But they do not do it alone. Their spouses, children, parents and other members of their family share in the duty and sacrifice of serving our country. We provide support for all of our remote military service men and women and their families. Many families are unfamiliar with where they can find information, due to the limited resources available at local military armories and reserve centers. This is where we bridge the gap by providing a place for service-specific military and general civilian information. We need your support both financially and as a volunteer. Contact: MFSC 1215 McNeil Dr. SW Roanoke, VA 24015. Phone (540) 353-8609 or (540) 345-8755. E-mail ctalmadge@cox.net or rogertalmadge@cox.net. Facebook - Military Family Support Center @milfamily.org.



ROANOKE VETERANS DAY PARADE 2021

The Southwest Virginia Chapter of MOAA participated in the 12th Annual Virginia’s Veterans Day Parade on Saturday 6 November 2021. Riding in the vehicle with the MOAA signs are representatives of the Southwest Virginia Chapter, COL Thomas Dalzell, USMC (Ret) and Chapter President CDR Lee Ensley USN (Ret). Other chapter members joined the crowd in the Market Square Building speaking with and sharing stories with the many WW II, Korean, Viet Nam, Iraq and Afghanistan veterans and students from the VT Corps of Cadets.”



CDR Lee Ensley, USN (Ret) waving to the crowd during the parade.



COL Tom Dalzell, USMC (Ret) alongside the parade vehicle with MOAA signs.



SWVC chapter members with veterans at the veterans day parade. L to R: LTC Bob Habermann, USA (Ret); COL John Miller USA (Ret); COL Tom Dalzell, USMC (Ret); COL Bob Brown USA (Ret) and his wife Jackie; CDR Lee Ensley USN (Ret).

SOUTHWEST VIRGINIA CHAPTER AWARDED MOAA 5 STAR LEVEL OF EXCELLENCE AWARD FOR 2020

LTC Dan Karnes, USAR (Ret), center, representing the Southwest Virginia Chapter is shown receiving the MOAA 5 Star Levels of Excellence Award for 2020 presented to the Southwest Virginia Chapter by MOAA President and CEO Lt. Gen. Dana Atkins, USAF (Ret), left, and MOAA Board Chairman Gen. Walter “Skip” Sharp, USA (Ret), right during the MOAA Annual Meeting and awards dinner at the Sheraton Pentagon City Hotel in Arlington, Va. on 15 October 2021. The Levels of Excellence (LOE) Awards is one of MOAA’s most prestigious awards earned by self-nominating councils and chapters. The award is a look back on the 2020 calendar year programs, initiatives and successful experiences shared by council and chapter leaders. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, which began in March 2020, many councils and chapters did not conduct face-to-face meetings and events due to venue unavailability and state restrictions. The LOE questions take that into consideration and also recognize councils and chapters that were able to adapt using electronic and virtual tools during the 2020 calendar year. Leaders incorporated into the subjective scoring responses any successful events that occurred prior to the pandemic as well as virtual tools that were used to keep council and chapter members engaged in the latter part of the year.



Changes to Your TRICARE Prescription Drug Copayments In 2022

On January 1, 2022, you and your covered family members may experience an increase to prescription drug copayments.

Why the change?

Congress determined this change to prescription drug copayments in the Fiscal Year 2018 National Defense Authorization Act. Your prescription copayments vary based on where you fill your prescription and on the drug category they are in.

If you are an active duty service member (ADSM), you will continue to have \$0 copays for covered drugs at military pharmacies, retail pharmacies and home delivery through Express Scripts Pharmacy.

Copayments for dependent survivors of ADSMs and medically retired service members and their dependents will remain the same.

What are the copayment changes as of January 1, 2022?

Home Delivery through Express Scripts Pharmacy (Up to a 90-day supply)

- Generic formulary drugs will increase from \$10 to \$12
- Brand-name formulary drugs will increase from \$29 to \$34
- Non-formulary drugs will increase from \$60 to \$68

TRICARE retail network pharmacies (Up to a 30-day supply)

- Generic formulary drugs will increase from \$13 to \$14
- Brand-name formulary drugs will increase from \$33 to \$38
- Non-formulary drugs will increase from \$60 to \$68

Non-network pharmacies (Up to a 30-day supply)

- Generic formulary drugs and brand-name formulary drugs will cost \$38 (up from \$33) or 20% of the total cost, whichever is more, after you meet your annual deductible
- Non-formulary drugs will cost \$68 (up from \$60) or 20% of the total cost, whichever is more, after you meet your annual deductible

Beneficiaries with a TRICARE Prime plan (including US Family Health Plan and TRICARE Young Adult - Prime option) will pay a 50% copayment after meeting the point-of-service deductibles.

How can I learn more about the cost and coverage of a medication?

The Formulary Search Tool is a digital tool that provides information about your medication coverage and cost at military pharmacies, retail network pharmacies and at home delivery through Express Scripts Pharmacy. A medication search through the Formulary Search Tool will show you:

- Information about the drug and where it can be filled
- Coverage results and review requirements, such as prior authorization and medical necessity forms
- Alternative drug options

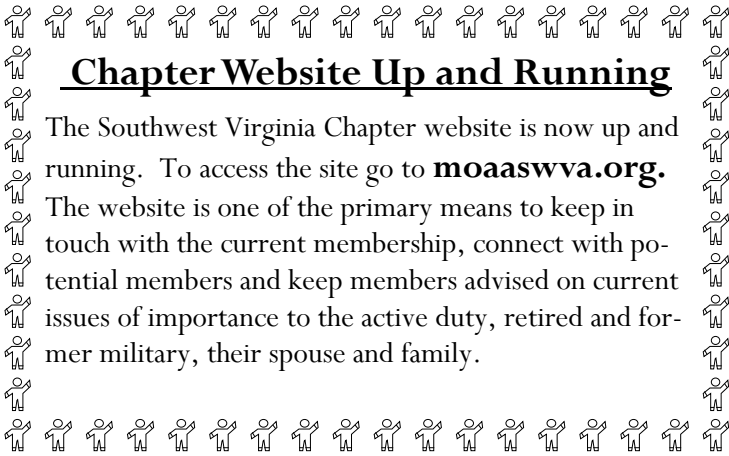
Copayments (if applicable)

Copayment changes for your prescription drugs will go into effect January 1, 2022.

Published on October 19, 2021

State Tax Roundup: New Year Will Mean Big Tax Breaks for Thousands of Retirees

Virginia's governor-elect is calling for a bigger tax break for military retirees in the state. During the campaign, Glenn Youngkin promised a range of tax cuts, including a partial exemption for military retiree income. According to a Lynchburg, Va.-based ABC affiliate, Youngkin's Day 1 plan calls for exempting up to \$40,000 of military retiree pay from income tax. Youngkin takes the oath of office Jan. 15. In other Virginia tax news, MOAA's Virginia Council of Chapters (VCOC) continues work to expand property tax exemption to more surviving spouses. Current law exempts surviving spouses whose loved one was killed by enemy fire while on active duty. The hope is to expand this exemption to spouses whose loved ones are killed in an accident or due to a medical condition while on active duty. "Surviving spouses are a unique group that are not necessarily positioned to have a good income and therefore helping this group is significant." The survivors' property tax exemption is a priority of the JLC a nonpartisan advisory board that reports to the state's governor, said COL Monti Zimmerman, USA (Ret) who represents MOAA on the JLC council.



Chapter Website Up and Running

The Southwest Virginia Chapter website is now up and running. To access the site go to **moaaswva.org**. The website is one of the primary means to keep in touch with the current membership, connect with potential members and keep members advised on current issues of importance to the active duty, retired and former military, their spouse and family.

WANT TO KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON AT MOAA

- Legislative Accomplishments?
- Legislative TAKE ACTION Center?
- Publications and Reports?
- Military Officer Magazine?
- Newsletters?

Log on to MOAA.org

MOAA Southwest Virginia Chapter
P.O. Box 3090
Roanoke, VA 24015-1090
Email: info@moaaswva.org
Webpage: www.moaaswva.org
Facebook: MOAA SWVA

The Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) and the Southwest Virginia Chapter (SWVC) of MOAA are a nonprofit veterans' association dedicated to maintaining a strong national defense and ensuring our nation keeps its commitments to currently serving, retired, and former members of the uniformed services and their families and survivors. Membership is open to those who hold or have ever held a warrant or commission in any component of the Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, Public Health Service, or National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and their surviving spouses.

UPCOMING MEMBERSHIP PROGRAMS

- 20 January 2022** – In person membership meeting followed by a program by Mr. Ron Bradbury, Director of Admissions Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine.
- 17 February 2022** – Board of Directors in person meeting. Program (tentative) by Carilion Clinic Life-Guard air medical service.
- 17 March 2022** – In Person membership meeting. Program by Ms. Estelle Cooke Sampson on her background and experience as a Medical Doctor, Army National Guard veteran and Korean War orphan.
- 21 April 2022** – Board of Directors meeting. Program by Ms. Ginny Ayers on her experience as a historian and author about Mother Jones an Irish-born American schoolteacher and dressmaker who became a prominent union organizer, community organizer, and activist. She helped coordinate major strikes and co-founded the Industrial Workers of the World. She was called "the most dangerous woman in America" for her success in organizing mine workers and their families against the mine owner and the mining wars in West Virginia.
- 9 May 2022** – In person outing catered by Mission BBQ at the American Legion Post 3 on Apperson Drive .



NEW YORK LIFE
The Company You Keep.®

Donna L. Fore, Agent
434-665-1434
 Term Life•Whole Life•Long Term Care
 Family Protection•Universal Life
<http://www.donnalfore.com>

NOTE The Chapter Newsletter *The Communique*' is published quarterly and sent to the membership by email. Printed copies will be provided upon request





Northwest Ace Hardware
 3647 Brambleton Ave SW,
 Roanoke, VA 24018

CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP
as of 31 December 2021

Regular Members 113
 Surviving Spouses 14
 Total Members 127
 Talk to a fellow officer about
 joining the Southwest Virginia
 Chapter!



JOIN THE CHAPTER

Looking to join the Southwest Virginia Chapter? Want more information on how to join and become involved? Check us out on the chapter website at **moaswva.org** or on face book at **moaswva** then Contact COL Bob Brown, USA (Ret), Chapter Membership Chair at (540) 904-2810 or email at **rfbrown68@gmail.com**.

MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA
SOUTHWEST VIRGINIA CHAPTER - ENROLLMENT/RENEWAL FORM

Name (First ,Middle, Last, Rank) _____
 Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____ Email Address _____
 Branch of Service _____ Retired _____ Active Duty _____ NG _____ Former Officer _____
 Date of Birth _____ Spouse Name _____ MOAA Membership ID No. _____

Annual Chapter Dues are \$30.00. Widows (ers) dues are \$15.00. Dues for those entering MOAA between 1 July and 31 December are \$20.00. Please mail dues payment to: **MOAA, Southwest Virginia Chapter, P.O. Box 3090, Roanoke, VA 24015-1090**

Note: The Chapter Newsletter *The Communicator* is published quarterly and sent to the membership by email. Printed copies will be provided upon request. The next issue will be published **March 2022**.

Presidents Reflection on 2 Years as President
 Member Profile - Col Donald Sowder, USAR
 Chapter President speaks to Kiwanis Club
 Chapter members participate in 12th Veterans Day Parade
 Chapter members participate in 9th Annual Wreath Laying
 TRICARE Costs Announced

Featured in this Issue

**Bring a fellow officer
 and their spouse to
 our next meeting.**



'NEVER STOP SERVING'

Military Officers Association of America
 Southwest Virginia Chapter
 P.O. Box 3090
 Roanoke, VA 24015-1090

