

**Central Virginia Chapter, VCOC – MOAA
3rd Quarter Report from CVC/MOAA
1 July 2020 to 30 September 2020**

<u>I. Membership:</u>	<u>Regular</u>	<u>Surviving Spouses</u>	<u>Honorary</u>	<u>Total</u>
As of 30 Jun:	160	20	4	184
Gains:	1	0	0	1
Losses:	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	1
As of 30 Sep:	160	20	4	184

Gains: 1 (1LT James L. Tsikerdanos II, USA)
 Deaths: 1 (LTC William Collier, USA)
 Resignations: None
 Moved: None
 Surviving Spouses Gains: None

II. Legislative Affairs:

- A. Attended the VCOC 3rd Qtr LegCom meeting on 17 July via ZOOM. COL (Ret) Monti Zimmerman temporarily took over as the Chairman of the VCOC Legislative Committee and permanently as the new JLC representative for MOAA. During the LegCom meeting, prior to the official VCOC 3rd Quarter meeting, Monti covered Legislative issues at the State level and CDR (Ret) Lincoln Smith covered issues at the National Level.
- B. The Virginia Council of Chapters (VCOC) called for chapters to follow its first Summer Storming on Congressional representatives with Summer Storming meetings with Virginia’s two Senators, Tim Kaine and Mark Warner. Commander Linc Smith coordinated the set up of the two zoom meetings with members from Northern Virginia, Hampton Roads, Richmond and Central Virginia chapters. The main focus remained concern over the pending cuts to military medical billets and changes or elimination to Military Treatment Facilities (MTF’s):
- C. In the meetings with Senators Kaine and Warner, Linc Smith gave an overview of MOAA’s objective to halt military medical cuts/restructure with limitations on realignment/restructure for medical manning, billet reductions, and Medical Treatment Facilities (MTFs) outlined in Sections 715 and 716 of the House version of the FY21 NDAA. MOAA seeks to ensure military families maintain access to high quality health care and are not sent into civilian health care markets that lack capacity to meet their needs. MOAA is also seeking co-sponsorship of the Major Richard Star Act in the FY 2021 NCAA

- D. The zoom meeting with Senator Warner was conducted on 19 August 2020. Senator Warner stated that he generally supports many of MOAA's issues previously and presently. He commended MOAA for its successful, persistent advocacy for the repeal of the widow's tax and wanted to know if we had any data regarding the legislation's impact on widows. He also stated that he understands our concerns about "concurrent receipt" issues and thus, became a co-sponsor of the Major Richard Starr Act. He voiced his concern about the quality of military housing, which he felt deteriorated since its management was outsourced in the late 1990's. He noted that there was no oversight provided over the companies managing housing in Norfolk bases. Although he was glad that there is now a Housing Bill of Rights, more needed to be done to put pressure on the companies to maintain quality housing for military families. After expressing his deep concern over recent actions taken by the Postal Service, he commented on Congress' intent to vote assistance to bail out the USPS and to restrict changes during this presidential election season. Additionally, Senator Warner stated that he would inquire about how and if military medical research was used in response to COVID-19. Senator Warner thanked all present and commended MOAA members who continue to be very strong advocates for military members, families and veterans.
- E. The zoom meeting with Senator Kaine's staff (Senator Kaine was not present) was conducted on 27 August 2020. The VCOC reps reiterated all the previous concerns expressed during the meeting with Senator Warner. Senator Kaine's staff was receptive, but were not aware of Senator Warner's support of the Richard Star Act and indicated they would follow up with Senator Warner's office to work together on the way forward. Senator Kaine's staff also indicated that a top priority after return from recess will be the Hero's Heals Act for stimulus funding.
- F. **Upcoming soon:**
1. LegCom members look forward to presenting Congressman Riggleman with his award for VCOC Federal Legislator of the Year. CVC President John Down is in contact with Congressman Riggleman's office to facilitate the presentation – pending the latest COVID restrictions.

III. Public Affairs:

- A. Scheduled activities have been postponed until further notice due to the coronavirus.

IV. Levels of Excellence Award Scoring & Chapter Self-Evaluation Status:

- A. 5 Star.
- B. Self-evaluation, 5 Star.
- C. 5 Star for Marvin J. Harris Communications Award for printed newsletter and website.

V. Most Significant Chapter Events of the Quarter:

- A. The Chapter received notification that it has received the 5 Star Marvin J. Harris Award for 2019. Award certificate and medallion received from HQs MOAA
- B. The Chapter believes that support to the local community is needed. Accordingly, we provided a donation to the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank in September and will consider other similar support as our budget will allow.
- C. The chapter revised and mailed its Chapter Directory to the membership.
- D. The Chapter added a new Membership Chair during the quarter, and she is getting up to speed quickly.
- E. In view of the recommendations and guidance received from HQs MOAA, the Chapter purchased, for the first time, general liability insurance to provide coverage in the event such coverage would be needed.
- F. To support budget preparation for 2021, our Chapter participated in a teleconference with our local country club to determine future costs and validate prior menu for the next year.
- G. The Chapter continues publishing its monthly newsletter, *The Bugle*, during the pandemic despite the cancellation of Chapter social functions and community activities. The newsletter, normally printed and mailed to all Chapter members, is being distributed via email and paper copies are being sent via USPS to those few members who do not have email. The Chapter's Board of Directors believes that *The Bugle* plays an important role in keeping the Chapter members "connected" even though we cannot meet in person.
- H. While the COVID-19 pandemic continues to impact all chapter in-person activities, we continue to conduct our monthly Board meetings via teleconferencing.

Submitted by responsible submitting officer:

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