

**Central Virginia Chapter, VCOC – MOAA  
2nd Quarter Report from CVC/MOAA  
1 April 2022 to 30 June 2022**

<b><u>I. Membership:</u></b>	<b><u>Regular</u></b>	<b><u>Surviving Spouses</u></b>	<b><u>Honorary</u></b>	<b><u>Total</u></b>
As of 31 Mar:	139*	16	4	158
Gains:	2	2	0	4
Losses:	<u>2</u>	0	<u>0</u>	<u>2</u>
As of 30 Jun:	<b>139</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>161</b>

Gains: LCDR August Thornton, USN (Ret); Capt Michael Hayden, USAF (Ret)

Deaths: LTJG Eugene “Jeep” Joseph Meyung, USN; 1LT John Post, USAF

Resignations: None

Moved: None

Surviving Spouses Gains: Mrs. Candy Wagner; Mrs. Shirley Forde

**\* We have 3 regular members who are exempt from paying dues because of advanced age making them unable to participate in Chapter programs. We have previously only reported 2 exempt members in past reports due to a database error. This report corrects that discrepancy.**

**II. Legislative Affairs:**

- A. John Down attended the VCOC meeting on 6 April. COL (Ret) Monti Zimmerman provided an overview of on-going legislative efforts at the state level – highlighting the need for a State Constitutional Amendment to enact the Legislative approved surviving spouse bill.
- B. John Down updated the Chapter on National level advocacy status reminding the members that 1-30 April was MOAA’s established period to conduct the virtual “Advocacy in Action” campaign. Key issues are: Passing the “Major Richard Star Act,” the “Stop the Copay Overpay Act,” and Supporting a military pay raise of 4.6%.
- C. The VCOC awarded “State Legislator of the Year” to Delegate Kathy Tran for her outstanding efforts to sponsor HB957; and “Federal Legislator of the Year” to 2<sup>nd</sup> District Representative Elaine Luria for her support for Federal Bills helping military families, veterans, and retirees.
- D. John Down conducted an “Advocacy in Action” virtual meeting in May with 5<sup>th</sup> District Senior Legislative Assistant Peter Holland to advocate support from Rep. Bob Good for the three key MOAA issues listed above. Good/his staff not available in April for this.

E. John Down also wrote letters to Sen. Mark Warner (May) and Rep. Bob Good (June) requesting their support for The Major Richard Star Act and Honoring the Pact Act, respectively. As of June 30th, both elected officials have responded with their positions/ actions with these key issues. Support hoped for from both. (Sen. Warner had been a Major Richard Star Act co-sponsor in March, 2021.)

F. **Upcoming soon:**

1. Next VCOC LegCom virtual meeting 7 July 2022.
2. JLC Meeting #2 for 2022 on 14 July 2022.

**III. Public Affairs:**

- A. Directors voted to wave the 2022 annual dues for those members who paid dues in 2021
- B. Chapter submitted submitted annual Level of Excellence Award nomination for calendar year 2021
- C. John Down presented American Flag from Rep Bob Good – flown over Capital – to new Eagle Scout Joseph O’Connor at his Eagle Court of Honor on 25 June 2022.

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

- A. 5 Star LOE
- B. Self-evaluation, 5 Star.
- C. 5 Star for Col Marvin J. Harris Communications Award

**V. Most Significant Chapter Events of the Quarter:**

- A. At the April 29 luncheon, the Chapter welcomed Col Michael Hough, US Air Force, current Professor of Air Science and Commander of the University of Virginia (UVA) Air Force ROTC unit, Det 890. He emphasized that ROTC is a major source of Air Force Officers annually. He also gave an update on the ROTC program at UVA, which includes Naval ROTC and Army ROTC.
- B. At the May 26 luncheon, Chapter member COL Lettie Bien, US Army (Ret), gave a presentation. She serves as the Defense Affairs Program Manager for the Greater Charlottesville Chamber of Commerce. She also holds a special appointed position as the U.S. Army Reserve Ambassador in Virginia, representing the Chief of the Army Reserve. She is also on the Board of the Virginia Veterans Service Foundation. Her presentation inspired some to consider additional opportunities to volunteer in support of our military and veteran community.

- C. At the June 23 luncheon, our first guest speaker was CDR Lincoln Smith, USNR (Ret), current President of the Virginia Council of Chapters (VCOC). He gave a brief overview of the VCOC legislative initiatives. He was followed by LTC Walter Smiley, US Army (Ret), a member of the national MOAA Board of Directors and Chairman of the Councils and Chapters Committee. He gave an overview of MOAA initiatives.
- D. The Chapter welcomed new members LCDR August Thornton, US Navy (Ret), and Col Michael Hayden USAF (Ret) in the first quarter FY 2022. We also welcomed new Surviving Spouse/Auxiliary members Mrs. Candy Wagner and Mrs. Shirley Forde during this second quarter.
- E. The Chapter newsletter, *The Bugle*, is once again being printed and mailed monthly to all Chapter members and is posted on the Chapter's webpage. It is also mailed to other Chapters, the VCOC, and a number of other VSO's.
- F. The Chapter was awarded 5 stars for the Colonel Marvin Harris Communications Award for both the chapter newsletter *The Bugle*, and the Chapter website.
- G. The Chapter Board of Directors elected Captain John Warnecke, US Navy (Ret) as Chapter President. After the election, acting Secretary Lucy Johnson promised to become the permanent Secretary, as well as leading the Chapter Surviving Spouses. The Chapter also elected Mrs. Carolyn Still, a member of the Surviving Spouses, as the Membership Chairman. The Chapter is still searching for a permanent Legislative Affairs representative, a position currently held temporarily by Lt Col John Down, US Air Force (Ret), former Chapter President and current Chapter Vice-President. Lt Col Down is also the VCOC Secretary.

Submitted by responsible submitting officer:

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