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Membership Dinner

CCMOAA will be holding its annual membership dinner at the Taberna Country Club, 19 March 2020, at 5:30-8:00 P.M. An RSVP Form will be circulated soon for dinner selections and addresses. This will be a very special evening as we swear our new officers and hold a very special presentation. We will be installing the following officers to the Board:

- Randal Ramian – President
- Randy Bogle – 2nd Vice President
- Jerry Kirk - Director

The Year Ahead

The Board is very energized and looking forward to planning events in the year ahead that may be of interest to you. In the initial phases of planning are our:

- Freedom Classic in Kinston 21-23 Feb (Navy vs. USAF Baseball)
- Spring Scholarship Dinner – 28 May 2020
- Summer Cruise - July
- Fall Pig Pickin' – 17 September 2020
- Winter Toys for Tots Luncheon – 11 December 2020

There will be several other activities we are looking into CCMOAA can participate in to raise money for our scholarship fund, such as Wreaths Across America at the MumFest. The Board is also very keen to continue our outreach to the Kinston Veterans Home. Col. Jerry Kirk is coordinating the rebuilding of their library and refilling their Canteen with needed items. Keep a lookout in our newsletter on how you can participate.

Voting (non-partisan announcement)

Your time at the ballot box will be here sooner than you think. You can go on line (<https://www.cravencountync.gov/1497/Voter-Information>) to check your voter information, find out where to vote, or download the primary ballot. If you have an issue or candidate

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important to you, make the effort to vote and get your friends to vote. Last elections, less than 15% of the residents of North Carolina cast a ballot, do not forfeit your Constitutional right by not voting. If you need help in getting an absentee ballot or getting to the voting center (either curbside or booth) contact someone on the Board and we can provide transportation.

The Vietnam Wall

The Vietnam Wall will be arriving in New Bern the 24th of March and will be erected at Lawson Creek Park. There will be extensive media coverage leading up to the Wall's arrival along with opening and closing ceremonies. If you are a Facebook Fan, please follow at @thewallthathealsnewbern or on the Web at <https://newbernpost539.com/>.

If you ride motorcycles, be part of The Wall escort leaving Goldsboro and arriving in New Bern – details on Facebook. There are plenty of volunteer positions, sign up sheets will be going up this week for docents, parking attendants, traffic control, and security. Volunteer links are being provided on Facebook and the Web (<https://signup.com/go/vpXaDGw>).

Recruiting

Every member is a recruiter. Networking is the key to keep our current members and recruiting new members. Please ask your fellow officers and their spouses to join CCMOAA. If you have not reached out to a CCMOAA Member in a while, give them a call. In our disconnected world, a kind voice goes a long way.

Your Input

We continue to do our best for you as a Chapter, however we cannot do this alone. The Board values your ideas and thoughts. We are open to fresh ideas, fresh criticism, or a word of encouragement. Please send us your feedback by email, phone, txt or letter.

MOAA Launches 'DD-214' Podcast to Help Servicemembers, Veterans Find Post-Military Success

By: Kevin Lilley

MOAA has launched *DD-214: Discover What's Next*, a five-part podcast designed for servicemembers preparing for the transition into the private sector and for veterans seeking advice as they navigate the early stages of their post-military career field.

The podcast, available at MOAA.org/dd214podcast and via traditional podcast platforms ([SoundCloud](#), [TuneIn](#) and [Spotify](#), and searchable in your iTunes or Apple Podcasts app), includes portions of panel discussions with industry-leading veterans conducted during the 2019 Military and Veteran Networking Forum, MOAA's signature annual transition event. Hundreds of servicemembers, veterans, and military spouses [attended the event](#), along with nearly 100 exhibitors, at the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum in Washington, D.C.

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“The podcast is another way MOAA wants to help servicemembers with what can be a stressful transition,” said Alan English, MOAA’s vice president of communications. “It goes alongside our web resources, our [Job Board](#), our personalized advice for Life and Premium members, and the rest of MOAA’s transition toolkit. No two servicemembers have the same needs, but the tips and advice within *DD-214* are of use to anybody preparing to take off the uniform for the last time.”

The five episodes tackle a range of topics related to leaving uniform:

- Defining Success, entrepreneurial passion, networking, The Right Fit, and transition

For more advice on taking on a civilian career, including the ins and outs of franchising, check out [MOAA’s 2020 Transition Guide](#).

SBP-DIC Offset Elimination: What We Know So Far

By: Shane Ostrom

Regarding the elimination of the Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP)-Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) offset colloquially known as the "widows tax", which starts in 2021.

Spouse SBP annuitants subject to the DIC offset won’t see the first change in their payments until the Feb. 1, 2021, payment.

You do not need to notify your pay agency that your SBP payment is affected by this change in the law. The pay agencies know who you are — they are docking your SBP now.

Make sure your SBP account information is up to date and includes your correct mailing address so pay agencies can contact you. Establish a DFAS “myPay” or a USCG “Direct-Access (DA) Self-Service” account now and add your email address if you aren’t already on DFAS or the USCG online programs (learn more at DFAS.mil for DoD or <https://www.dcms.uscg.mil/ppc/ras/> for Coast Guard).

Pay agencies cannot provide individual estimates of spouse SBP annuity payments at this time. Please do not call their Customer Service Centers to request an individual estimate.

Survivors will not have to pay back any premium refunds if you previously received a refund of SBP premiums due to the SBP-DIC offset.

The law is not retroactive, so there will not be any back payments for past offset amounts.

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Your 2020 Military and Benefits Forecast

By: Gina Harkins

MOAA members can expect a host of changes to their benefits in 2020, along with lots of shifts in how the military is preparing for a new kind of fight.

This year, elections could shake up congressional committees, new TRICARE pharmacy fees and commissary benefits go into effect, and service leaders continue grappling with threats from China, Iran, North Korea, and Russia.

That all points to big changes for troops, veterans, retirees, and their families. Here's a look at what to expect in 2020.

Your 2020 Benefits Forecast: New dental and vision premiums, Blue-water Navy claims, new TRICARE pharmacy rates, and commissary benefits expand.

Your 2020 Military Forecast: Military housing concerns, new promotion rules for Air Force officers, a stronger Pacific presence, Defender Europe, going unmanned, functional fitness, a restructured Corps, and next-gen cutters.

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