



# OFFICERS CALL



**MOAA™**  
Military  
Officers  
Association  
of America

MOAA Excellent Chapter Award

2001/2004/2005/2006/2007/2008/2009/2010/2011/2012/2013/2014/2015/2016/2017/2018

MOAA Newsletter Award—2001/2003/2009/2013

MOAA Recruiting Award—2001/2002

Volume 20 Issue 2

MAR-APR 2020

**NORTH DFW MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION**  
**P.O. Box 294685, Lewisville, TX 75029-4685**



FELLOW MEMBERS, The planned Dinner Party Meeting on 8 April 2020 has been postponed due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Our board is projecting a possible date of 13 May, but will continue to monitor the problem and make ongoing decisions as the situation evolves.

Taking a cue from Ginger's great article on P.6 about the need of helping brother/sister veterans during this time of self-imposed social isolation, maybe you could reach out to some of these vet's during these trying times. Ginger is the go-to person to assist you if you want to help.

Hopefully, when the May issue of the OC is published, it will have a dinner menu and reservation form included indicating this present scourge has passed and things have returned to a more normal time.

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**PRESIDENT**  
COL. Si Simonson,  
USAR(RET.)



Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, we are suspending our Dinner meeting for April. We have concluded that avoiding crowds in the near future is a prudent decision. We have tentatively rescheduled the dinner meeting for May; however, we will continue to monitor the situation over the next several weeks and make a call on whether to continue to suspend dinner meetings for the near future.

On another note, the board reviewed our income and expenditures for the previous year. We approved a budget for this year, which included a five hundred dollar donation to the Fort Worth JROTC program for the staff ride scheduled to take a tour of Normandy this year. Like last year, we will have some of the students give a presentation of their trip to us at one of our Dinner meetings in the fall.

Rich Crossley gave us details on the JROTC awards ceremonies for the eight or so high schools that we support. We are looking for volunteers for each venue to present the awards from our chapter. If you can assist by presenting the award for the recipient at the high school nearest you, that will help spread the chore so that Rich and I will not have to do all the presentations. The awards ceremonies will begin in late April and run through mid-May. All of this is contingent on the Covid-19 situation. If you would like to volunteer, contact Rich at [rcrossley30@gmail.com](mailto:rcrossley30@gmail.com).

Finally, we are receiving the applications for our annual scholarship awards. Thanks again to Rich Crossley for coordinating with the local JROTC programs. All applications received by the end of March will be considered for one of the scholarships. We tentatively decided to award two scholarships, but a final decision will be made on the quality of the applications. We will award the scholarships at the May or June dinner meetings. Your continued support from donating raffle items and participating in the dinner meeting raffles continues to make this a successful and self-sustaining program.

Stay safe, and I hope to see you all again in the near future.



## **2nd VP —MEMBERSHIP**

**LT Dick Cook USN (RET)**

Charlie Correll has served the chapter on the board in pretty much every position. This year as he stepped down as Treasurer he promptly won free dues for 2021. Every year we have a lottery for those members that pay their annual dues before 1 January. Thirty of our eighty-eight members paid early and Charlie won! All thirty were already winners because they saved five bucks by paying early. They paid 20 bucks for 2020 dues. When you pay during the fiscal year you pay the full \$25! Bill Lawrence won last year so he's good until 2021.

Currently we list 88 chapter members. The chapter has exempted surviving spouses and active duty members from paying dues. We currently list nine surviving spouse members and two active duty member which means seventy-seven of us pay dues. By counting on my fingers I have deduced that we are almost half way there with forty-seven of us yet to pay for 2020 dues. Dues are expected on or before 1 January so I am hopeful that laggards pony up and save themselves from receiving nagging e-mails and letters.

The chapter receives monthly lists of national MOAA members who have moved into our area. We send invitations to all. In February, the chapter sent out 43 invitations, all but one via e-mail, and three invitations in March – all snail mail. Some members moving into the area provide an e-mail address but until the February list almost all furnished only postal addresses. We got an outstanding response from the e-mail invitations. Five responded as interested and one is already a member. Welcome LCDR Jerry Jensen, a seasoned Damage Control Specialist. Jerry has been invited to the April dinner so come to the Saltgrass Steakhouse in Lewisville and welcome him to the chapter! Ray Glynn who many of you met at the December Meeting has sent in an application that was lost in the mail. Doug Brown indicated that Ray will try again. We only send an invitation once. Nobody likes to be pestered with junk mail so we do not do it.

Still the best source of new chapter members comes directly from you. Your friends and associates that qualify for chapter membership make great members. Just let President Si Simonson or me know how to contact your prospects and Si will invite them to a chapter dinner in your name and let you introduce them around. Do your friends a favor and invite them to enjoy the benefits of chapter membership.

Our multi-year Five Star Excellence awarded chapter has been successful in recruiting new members mainly because of the good things done both by the chapter and National MOAA. For example, Ginger Simonson and Doug Brown



headed up our efforts on Veterans Court and the Tiny House project for homeless vets.

Our January board meeting was held at the Victory Therapy Center. I'd never been there before. It's a beautiful facility located in the boonies on a country road in Roanoke. Ginger is there almost every day helping our veterans. The building used to be called the Chris Kyle Center and was originally sponsored by Chris' family. Ginger has taken over the facility and schedules veteran's events there. The newest event is a Vietnam Veterans Day open house on March 28<sup>th</sup>. I believe a flyer providing an RSVP address is included in this issue. Among the center amenities is library and reading room and a state of the art computer center for veterans to use. Past President Doug Brown built the computer center and keeps it up to date. At our dinner meetings we raise money for a scholarship fund and every year we award scholarships to deserving graduating seniors in Rich Crossley's Fort Worth JROTC program. The list of accomplishments goes on and on. The chapter is directly involved in legislative affairs at the state and national level and we take care of our members. Who do you know that would benefit from chapter membership?

**Fellow Members, our Organization is a self-funded one which depends on your Member dues in order to provide scholarships to deserving students and to support veteran-related projects.**

**Please keep this in mind if you are late in paying your dues and help us keep this organization a vibrant and healthy one.**

**THANKS**

**Now and Always  
We'll be There.**



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**3rd VICE PRESIDENT — LEGISLATIVE  
& COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES**  
LTC Ginger Simonson. USA (Ret)



I was fortunate to attend the first (and maybe the last for a while) Texas Senate committee meeting on Veteran Affairs and Border Security. The Chair, led by Senator Donna Campbell, head testimony about improving and expanding Veteran Treatment Courts; preventing Veteran suicides; and examining the adequacy of long-term health care services and support options for veterans in Texas. While I was underwhelmed by the testimony of the Texas Veterans Commission, I was heartened by the committee's deep knowledge of these issues and their desire to continue to improve the lives of service-members, veterans and their families in Texas.



**What's Up in Congress**

Due to ongoing health concerns, MOAA has canceled the in-person events connected to Storming the Hill 2020, including board meetings, the Council Presidents' Seminar, and the annual awards ceremony. MOAA will use virtual platforms in lieu of on-site meetings in the Washington, D.C. Our local chapter advocacy efforts will continue; and I ask all members to engage with our representatives as often as you can. While you are hunkered down trying to avoid the corona virus, take a few moments to advocate.

**MOAA National's Legislative Action Center**

**Click these Links and Make a Difference!**

**Tell Congress the Reserve Component Deserves the Same Pay for the Same Risks**

Reserve component personnel receive only 1/30th of the incentive pay that their active duty counterparts receive. To remain eligible for the incentive pays, Guard and Reserve servicemembers must meet the same qualifications and take the same risks. You can read more about this issue here <https://www.moaa.org/content/publications-and-media/news-articles/2020-news-articles/advocacy/reservists-deserve-the-same-pay-for-the-same-risks/>

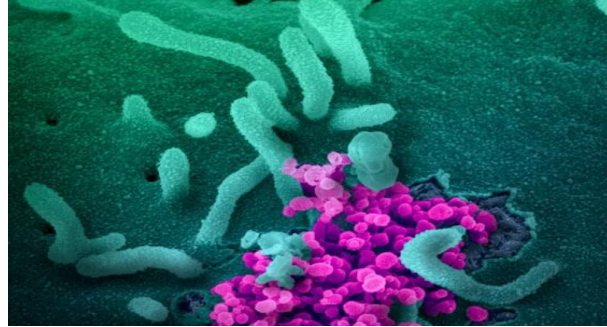
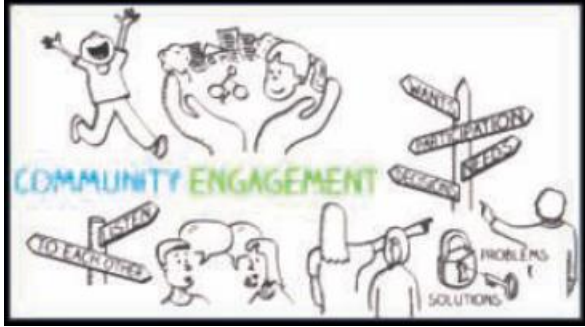
Please address this inequity -- contact your representatives and ask them to fix Hazardous Duty Incentive Pay!

<http://takeaction.moaa.org/moaa/app/write-a-letter?4&engagementId=506700>

## 2. Protect Gold Star spouses during future shutdowns

Under current law, Gold Star spouses receiving benefits from the Department of Defense are protected from interruptions in payments during a government shutdown. But because Coast Guard paychecks come from the Department of Homeland Security, these survivors are still at risk.

<http://takeaction.moaa.org/app/write-a-letter?12&engagementId=496048>



Credit: NIAID-RML/de Wit/Fischer Corona Virus

The term “social distancing” is becoming wide-spread and being practiced more and more. While that is vitally important for our physical health, we should also be aware of the psychological toll it can take on many of us. Loneliness is a risk factor for suicide while social connectedness is a protective factor. If you know someone who suffers from PTSD or depression, consider increasing phone contact with them.

Even better, take some time to use new technologies like Zoom, Facetime and Skype. It is important that we find ways to stay connected, despite our social distancing. "Humans are wired to be social creatures, and that's how we cope when a big disaster happens," said Judith Moskowitz, a professor of medical social science at Northwestern University's Feinberg School of Medicine. "Now, we're being told to cope with this by staying away from each other."

If you'd like more info on this topic, check out these links:

<https://www.nbcnews.com/health/health-news/social-distancing-could-have-devastating-effect-people-depression-n1157871>

<https://qz.com/1818798/coronavirus-quarantine-has-serious-mental-health-implications/>

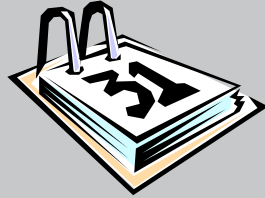
<https://www.apa.org/practice/programs/dmhi/research-information/social-distancing>

As a trained Veteran peer specialist, I can help you work through these types of issues. Please call me if you'd like to talk or would like to be connected with services. Also, if you need any errands run and can't do it yourself, please call me. I or one of our volunteers will be happy to help.

## Mark Your Calendar NOW For Future North DFW MOA Meetings

**April 8, 2020**  
**Dinner Meeting CX'D**  
**TBD**

**June 10, 2020**  
**Dinner Meeting**  
**TBD**



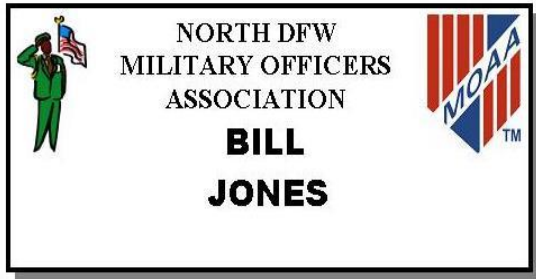
**September 9, 2020**  
**Dinner Meeting**  
**TBD**

**November 11, 2020**  
**Dinner Meeting**  
**TBD**

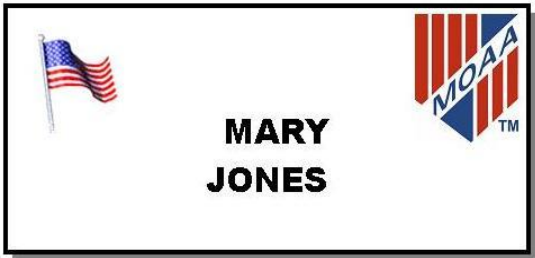
**December 9, 2020**  
**Dinner Meeting**  
**TBD**

### NOTICE

*PERMANENT NAME BADGES ARE AVAILABLE*



*MEMBER*



*SPOUSE/GUEST*

FIRST NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
 NAME \_\_\_\_\_

LAST

VERSION (CIRCLE ONE)

**MEMBER**

**SPOUSE/GUEST**

ATTACHMENT (CIRCLE ONE)

**CLUTCH (\$10)**

**PIN (\$10)**

**MAGNETIC (\$13)**

FIRST NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
 NAME \_\_\_\_\_

LAST

VERSION (CIRCLE ONE)

**MEMBER**

**SPOUSE/GUEST**

ATTACHMENT (CIRCLE ONE)

**CLUTCH (\$10)**

**PIN (\$10)**

**MAGNETIC (\$13)**



## Coupon Report

Coupon Report...

The paper recently ran a column about sending coupons to military bases. I was pleased to see we are doing things right. Under the "coupons we can use" I found this list.... Save 'em whether they're active or expired!. Only manufacturers' coupons can be used.

They can be from the newspaper, dispensers in grocery stores, tear-pads, and elsewhere, as long as they state "Manufacturer's Coupon" on them.

The most important coupons our troops need are for **FOOD SUPPLIES**.

Baby supplies are another priority, and common household goods help troops as well.

Under coupons we can't use, I found this list:

No assistance vouchers.

No food stamps or the like.

No store coupons. For example, we can't use store coupons for Walmart, Kroger, Safeway, Walgreens, etc.

No restaurant coupons.

No coupons that have been printed from the Internet.

Our chapter sends coupons that are either current when mailed or expired just 1-2 months. In order to contribute any unused coupons you have from magazines and newspapers in a timely manner please MAIL them to me: Debby Allbach, 1116 Carousel Drive, Bedford, Texas 76021 or bring them to the April meeting. Thank you. Debby

## Shopping Coupons Debby Allbach

SHOPPING  
COUPONS



Like us on Facebook: **North DFW Military Officers Association**  
<https://www.facebook.com/North-DFW-Military-Officers-Association>

And

Visit our Website at:

<https://www.northdfwmoaa.com>





## Surviving Spouse Report

### Debby Allbach

#### Surviving Spouse News...

Surviving spouses have access to an excellent virtual chapter. This chapter

- \*\*Provides information and exchange ideas
- \*\*Finds solutions to problems or issues affecting surviving spouses
- \*\*Provides resource for surviving spouses
- \*\*Reaches out to younger surviving spouses and to those living where MOAA chapters are not available
- \*\*Be an enhancement to regular chapters—the virtual chapter does not take the place of a regular MOAA chapter

The virtual chapter is accessed via your phone and **costs nothing** to join. There are quarterly conference calls. Unfortunately the calls are routinely in a Tuesday at noon which conflicts with my personal schedule. However now you can listen to the January call at any time by dialing 1-712-775-7279; enter access code: 966859#; enter reference number: 2#. Press 6 to fast forward one minute; press 4 to rewind for one minute; press 5 to pause and resume. I did this and it works great, again there is no cost.

The majority of the January calls addressed the repeal of the SBP/DIC (widow's tax) offset. The "payback" is complicated and different for each surviving spouse affected by the offset. This bill was for the **elimination of the offset**—not for the phasing in of the SBP. It becomes effective February 2021 and will be completed by 2023; however, most will not receive 1/3, 1/3, 1/3 payout each year. The amount of money received each year will depend on each individual's circumstances. If the original SBP amount was relatively small—perhaps \$400 or less, then the surviving spouse would not receive anything probably until 2023. However, SSIA will remain in place for those not receiving any restitution until 2023 at which point the SSIA will be phased out completely. The SSIA was only instituted as a partial remedy for the offset.

There is **opportunity** to serve on the MOAA Surviving Spouse Advisory Committee (SSAC). Applications are now being accepted to fill **3 vacancies** that will occur in October 2020. There are a total of 6 members on the committee. The job requires a 4-year commitment with a 2-year option to coincide with the Board of Directors term. There are 2 meetings a year to attend. Every other year both meetings are held in the Washington DC area—one in April and one in October-- and then in even years one meeting will be in DC and the other one in a place to be determined. This year the meeting is scheduled for Kansas City, October 21-24. She added that the meetings usually require a stay of 4-5 days and that expenses for travel, lodging and meals are reimbursed by MOAA. This is a most rewarding job—one where you learn about new issues, ways to solve relevant issues for surviving spouses and spouses, how to recruit new members and how to be a good advocate. It is also an opportunity to meet a lot of great people--both MOAA staff and volunteers! Go to the MOAA website and get the SSAC Member Application and qualifications and to fill it out. Deadline for submission of the application is March 31, 2020.

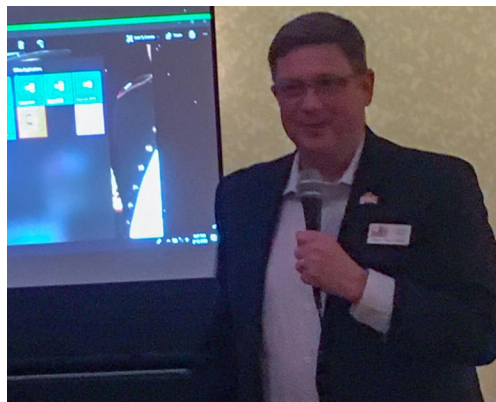
## Treasurer's Report

Greetings from the Finance Department. I would like to report all is well with the chapter and for the most part that is very true. The only area where we are a behind in is our dues collection for 2020. Well its been 2020 for about 3 months now. We have a total of 88 members in our chapter and to date, 31 have paid their 2020 chapter dues. Yes, you know who you are. Many of these folks actually paid early and enjoyed a reduced yearly rate of \$20. I am extending a plea to you folks to send in that \$25. As you know, the chapter has operating expenses in many categories. You can see the spending report for some examples. Again, please consider adding your 2020 dues with the check for the next dinner meeting (looking forward to a good steak this time...) You might also consider paying your 2021 dues early for the \$5.00 discount. Thank you very much. If you have any questions, email me at [davenelson@tx.r.com](mailto:davenelson@tx.r.com) or phone 972-740-8449. Dave.

**Income and Expense Report 1/1/2020 through 2/29/2020**

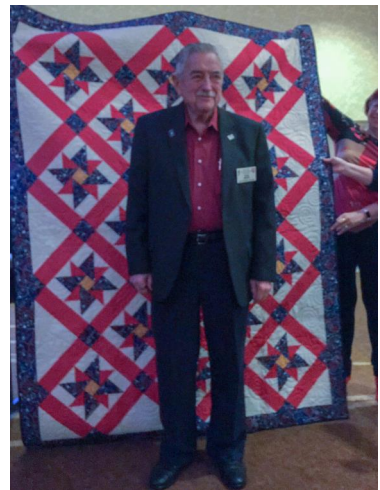
<u>Category</u>	<u>1/1/2020- 2/29/2020</u>
<b>INCOME</b>	
Advertising Income:MOAA	100.00
Meeting Income:February 2020	1,295.00
Membership Income	170.00
MOAA Foundation	-2,500.00
Scholarship Income	275.00
FROM Scholarship	4,190.00
TOTAL INCOME	3,530.00
<b>EXPENSES</b>	
Meeting Expense:Color Guard	50.00
Meeting Expense:Food Service	1,493.16
TOTAL Meeting Expense	1,543.16
MOAA:Texas Council Of Chapters	34.00
TO Checking 0051443144	4,190.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	5,767.16
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>	<b>-2,237.16</b>

PICTURES FROM OUR FEBRUARY DINNER





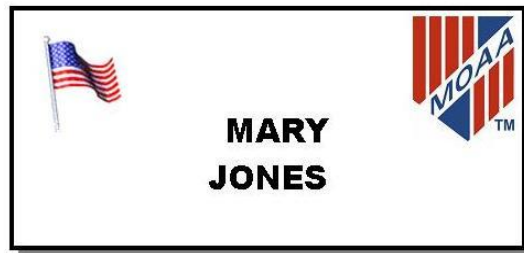
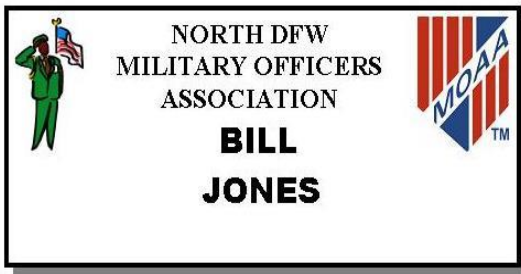
MORE FEBRUARY PICS




  
**Like us on Facebook: North DFW Military Officers Association**  
<https://www.facebook.com/North-DFW-Military-Officers-Association>  
**And**  
 Visit our Website at:  
<https://www.northdfwmoaa.com>

NOTICE

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*SPOUSE/GUEST*

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**SPOUSE/GUEST**

ATTACHMENT (CIRCLE ONE)

**CLUTCH (\$10)**

**PIN (\$10)**

**MAGNETIC (\$13)**





# Scholarship



TICKETS STILL only \$1  
11 for \$10 — 23 for \$20



**18 YEARS SUPPORTING**  
**OUR SCHOLARSHIP FUND RAFFLE**  
With — *Premium Bottles of Wine*  
**GOODY GOODY WINE & SPIRITS**

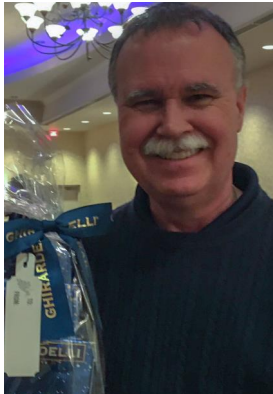
*Any Wine — Any Beer — Any Spirit*

1950 FM 407 Highland Village  
THANKS TO

**Andrew Tristram, Mgr.**

Stop by and tell Andrew that you appreciate his support

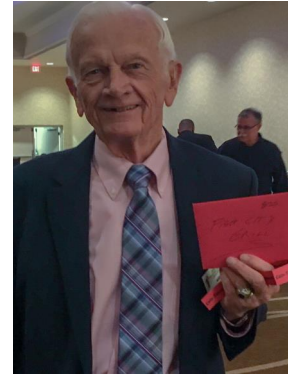
## February Raffle Winners



**Bruce Thompson**  
Chocolates



**Jim "Taco" Bell and Guest**  
Wine and Cookies



**Keith Lockhart**  
Fish City Coupons



**Claire Brown**  
Tin of Cookies



**Debby Allbach**  
Wine



**Jackie Kerbow**  
Wine



**North DFW Military Officers Association**  
**Elected Officers and**  
**Committee/Project Leaders**



Elected Officers

PRESIDENT — COL Si Simonson USAR (Ret), 817-683-2874 [si.simonson@verizon.net](mailto:si.simonson@verizon.net)

1st VICE PRESIDENT — PROGRAMS & SUPPORT

LtCol Bob Little USAFR (Ret), 972-355-8355 [heedlock@gmail.com](mailto:heedlock@gmail.com)

2nd VICE PRESIDENT — MEMBERSHIP LT Dick Cook USN (Ret), 817-430-1427 [dickcook@tx.rr.com](mailto:dickcook@tx.rr.com)

3rd VICE PRESIDENT — LEGISLATIVE & COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES LTC Ginger Simonson. USA (Ret), 817-683-2870, [vgws56@gmail.com](mailto:vgws56@gmail.com)

SECRETARY — LTC Doug Allbach, USA (Ret), 817-788-2652, [dallbach@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dallbach@sbcglobal.net)

TREASURER — MAJ Dave Nelson, USAF(Ret), 972-740-8449, [davenelson@tx.rr.com](mailto:davenelson@tx.rr.com)

PAST PRESIDENT CW2 Doug Brown, USAR(Ret), 214-755-1153, [douglasabrown@verizon.net](mailto:douglasabrown@verizon.net)

Appointed Committee/Project Leaders

Community Activities:

AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIP

LTC Rich Crossley Jr., USA (Ret), & Gail Crossley, 972-355-7015, [Richard.Crossley@FWISD.org](mailto:Richard.Crossley@FWISD.org)

USO DFW SUPPORT — LTC Ann Treleven, USA (Ret), 817-571-6253, [anniemctree@sbcglobal.net](mailto:anniemctree@sbcglobal.net)

SHOPPING COUPONS OVERSEAS — Debby Allbach, 817-788-2652, [dallbach@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dallbach@sbcglobal.net)

COMMUNITY MILITARY ADVISOR/COORDINATOR — CW2 Doug Brown, USAR (Ret), 214-755-1153  
[douglasabrown@verizon.net](mailto:douglasabrown@verizon.net)

Support:

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HISTORIAN — CW2 Doug Brown, USAR (Ret), 214-755-1153, [douglasbrown@verizon.net](mailto:douglasbrown@verizon.net)

**Bruce Thompson**  
**REALTOR®**

**exp**  
**REALTY**

Cell: 214-415-8305  
 1901 Long Prairie Rd Ste 220-132  
 Flower Mound, TX 75022  
[bruce@bruce-thompson.com](mailto:bruce@bruce-thompson.com)

**Ebby** HALLIDAY  
 REALTORS  
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Cell 214-801-5587

6000 Long Prairie Rd. #100  
 Flower Mound, TX 75028

Voice Mail 972-355-5618  
 Fax 972-355-4500  
 E-Mail [georgettecook@ebby.com](mailto:georgettecook@ebby.com)  
**Website [www.georgetteGcook.com](http://www.georgetteGcook.com)**  
 Senior Residential Specialist

**Georgette G. Cook**  
 ABR, CRS, GRI, SRES  
 REALTOR®



*"One Powerful Voice"*  
**North DFW Military Officers Association**  
 P. O. Box 294685, Lewisville, Texas 75029-4685  
[encorrell@verizon.net](mailto:encorrell@verizon.net)



**2020 Membership Application/Renewal**

Invoice Date: 01/01/2020

<b>Bill To:</b>
Name: _____
Address: _____
_____ PHONE _____
Email: _____

Description	Amount
<b>2020 North DFW MOAA Chapter Membership Dues</b> North DFW MOAA Chapter membership dues are separate from and in addition to your National MOAA Dues. <b>Amount due if paid in 2019:        \$20.00</b> <b>Amount due after 01/01/2020:    \$25.00</b>	
<b>Voluntary Scholarship Contribution</b> Contributions go toward our annual scholarships awarded each September. Contributions to the scholarship fund are tax deductible. Please make a copy of this invoice and retain it as proof of payment for your taxes.	
<b>Total Amount Enclosed:</b>	<b>Check #</b>

**Make Checks payable to:    North DFW MOAA**

**Payment Due by 01/01/2020**

*"An Association of Military Officers(& their surviving spouses) of the Seven Uniformed Services of the United States"*  
 Affiliated with the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) 370,000 Members — "One Powerful Voice"  
 MOAA is an information services association and advocate for active and retired families .