



**From the Desk of the NCOA Chairman of the Board
August 2020**

Several years ago I made telephone calls to several members at large in the Midwest and New England areas as part of a project to clean up our database. At that time I was encouraged by many of you regarding your support for NCOA. Several of you even indicated that you might be interested in getting chapters going if enough people could be located to form the core of chapter leadership.

Between 75 and 80% of our association membership is what we call members at large. Recently with the development of new technology anyone with internet access can connect with another member anywhere in the world. We have been toying with the idea of bringing members together virtually to at least communicate with other members. Some ideas have surfaced where members looking for work can come together and exchange information, develop and share leads and assist with all facets of job search. Another option might be members that like to ride motorcycles and want to plan group rides. The options are only limited by ones imagination. For those still on active duty or in the Reserves, there are members available to assist with development of your career options and guide your advancement.

The Non Commissioned Officers Association (NCOA) is here to be what you need us to be. We are here to champion issues in Washington and be the voice that the wearing of the uniform prevents you from directly exercising. NCOA has the potential to be whatever you need it to be. We have a new Facebook page titled "NCOA-The Voice of the Enlisted". It is a great forum to find out what other members have going and to share issues or concerns that you may need help with, but it is a member only group. It is also a great platform to make suggestions for new programs or benefits that you would like to see.

Let's use the extra time that we have due to restrictions from COVID-19 to engage our collective creativity and make NCOA the leading Military Service Organization out there. We all want to be on a winning team and your leadership will work day and night to make that happen.

If you have any ideas or suggestions, either contact headquarters or contact me at chairman@ncoausa.org and I can assure you that your leadership will take note.

Strength in Unity & Leadership by Example,

MCPO (SCW) Terry M. Haines, USN (Ret)
Chairman, International Board of Directors