 CAPTAIN Brian D. Koehr, born in Newfoundland, Canada and raised in Alexandria, Virginia, was commissioned an Ensign through the Naval Reserve Officers’ Training Corps at the University of Notre Dame in 1988 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering. He was designated a Naval Aviator in March 1990.

His first tour was as a SERGRAD flight instructor flying the TA-4J Skyhawk with VT-24 at NAS Chase Field in Beeville, Texas. In August 1992 he transferred to the GRIM REAPERS of Fighter Squadron 101 for training in the F-14 Tomcat. CAPT Koehr’s first fleet assignment was with the SWORDSMEN of Fighter Squadron 32 in November 1993 where he deployed aboard USS Dwight D. Eisenhower (CVN 69) to the Mediterranean Sea and Arabian Gulf in support of *Operation Southern Watch.* After deployment, he attended the Navy Fighter Weapons School (TOPGUN) at NAS Miramar, California where he received designation as a Strike Fighter Tactics Instructor. In March 1996, he reported to VF-101 for duty as a flight instructor serving as the Fighter Tactics Phase Leader followed by a return to VF-32. While assigned as Administrative and Maintenance Officer, he deployed aboard USS Enterprise (CVN 65) and flew combat missions over Iraq in support of *Operation Desert Fox*

In August 2000, CAPT Koehr reported to the Naval War College in Newport, Rhode Island where he was awarded a Masters Degree in National Security and Strategic Studies as well as designation as a Naval Operational Planner. From October 2001 to April 2003, he was on the staff of Commander Sixth Fleet based in Gaeta, Italy serving as Assistant Air Operations Officer. While at COMSIXTHFLT, he was selected for aviation command.

After duty as Executive Officer of VF-101, CAPT Koehr reported to the Arabian Gulf to join the VF-103 JOLLY ROGERS aboard USS John F. Kennedy (CV 67) as XO in September 2004 flying combat missions in support of *Operation Iraqi Freedom.*  He assumed command of the JOLLY ROGERS in February 2005 and the squadron was redesignated VFA-103 as it transitioned from the F-14B Tomcat to the F/A-18F Rhino. The squadron was awarded the Strike Fighter Wing Atlantic *Battle “E,”* and he was awarded the *2005 Commander Naval Air Forces Leadership Award.*

After his command tour, CAPT Koehr attended the Joint Forces Staff College in Norfolk, VA before reporting to Headquarters, U.S. Pacific Command in September 2006 as Deputy Director of the Joint Interagency Coordination Group. In December 2009, he reported to Headquarters, U.S. NORAD/Northern Command as Deputy Command Center Director also serving as Chief of Readiness and Sustainment. In 2012 he took command of the NROTC Chicago Area Consortium where he also earned an MBA from Northwestern University’s Kellogg School of Management. Departing in 2015 he assumed duty as Director, Maritime Advanced Warfighting School at the Naval War College in Newport, Rhode Island.

CAPT Koehr has logged over 3300 flight hours, 24 combat missions over Iraq and accumulated over 400 carrier arrested landings. His personal decorations include the Legion of Merit, Defense Meritorious Service Medal (2 awards), Meritorious Service Medal (2 awards), Air Medal with Combat V, Strike/Flight Air Medal (2 awards), Navy Commendation Medal (4 awards/1 with Combat V), Navy Achievement Medal (2 awards) and various service and campaign awards. He is married to the former Valerie Weidmann. They have a daughter, Chloe (16), and a son, Zackary (14).