



**WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA CHAPTER
MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, INC.
Winter 2016/February**

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

Happy New Year! I am honored to be part of this great MOAA chapter. MOAA's motto "Never Stop Serving" reminds us that we who have served have much yet to offer to our community, our State and Nation. The 2015 5-star Level of Excellence award we received last year from national MOAA was a tribute to the leadership of Past President John Knapp and a sign of our commitment to MOAA's goals. Our members who served in various programs supporting veterans, JROTC units, families and surviving spouses made a difference in the lives of many members of America's military family. The new NC Military Veterans Program (NCMVP) has raised public awareness of the needs of our military after 10 years of war, and I believe highlights another area of potential WNC MOAA involvement: public outreach. We are uniquely qualified to help the public understand what military service is all about and we should consider leading the way in our communities in promoting public understanding of and appreciation for the realities of the military. Our "One Powerful Voice" will play an important role in strengthening the bond between the public and the armed forces. It's a key step in MOAA's long-standing efforts to help maintain force readiness, and fit will help fulfill our Nation's debt to those who are and have worn the uniform of our great Nation. Join us at the February membership meeting to hear more. Respectfully, Spence Campbell, President

2016 DUES ARE DUE!!

Regular membership dues may now be paid by credit card. Log on to www.MOAA.org. Select **Chapters** from the drop down tab at the top of the page. When on the Chapters page, select **Online Chapter Dues Payment**. Complete the form and your dues will be paid for the year. You have just saved time and postage. You can only pay for the current year. Auxiliary Members are not eligible for this service. **Please note that chapter regular member's dues have been **increased** from \$25 to \$30 per year beginning January 1, 2016, when they are due and payable. If your newsletter has 2016 above your address, then you are current and not in arrears. If you have any questions, contact Herb Mensch. george.mensch@gmail.com or 828-693-3817.

Help Keep Our Roster Current

It's important we have an accurate roster so we can notify members of events and activities. By the end of January each year, chapters are required to submit a roster of currently paid members to MOAA. If there is a change in your address, phone, email, etc, please inform us and we'll update our local roster. MOAA, however, does NOT change your MOAA profile on our submission. To update your MOAA profile you must go to moaa.org > LOGIN, > ACCOUNT > MY PROFILE and make the necessary changes. In March, MOAA sends each chapter their updated roster.

Feb 20th Meeting

Our program will feature Hon. David Fox.

David is an expert in NC Civil War history and an avid life-long collector of militaria, a lot of which is on display in the Heritage Museum. He will be making a presentation on Stoneman's raid that occurred in April 1865 in Western NC.

Below is David's brief Bio.

My Granddad, son of a Civil War veteran of Antietam and Fredericksburg, encouraged our mutual interest in his father's war. He and my grandmother took me on trips visiting battlefields each spring from my 5th grade through high school. Grandmother was an antique hound. There were no interstates then; we stopped at every antique shop in every town we passed through. Those shops often had umbrella stands full of \$15 swords and \$50 muskets standing in corners. I saved money from lawn mowing and caddying all year and began my accumulation in 1955...and haven't stopped collecting and studying America's wars in the 60 years since. I enlisted in the Army in 1967 and acted as an artillery recon sergeant and forward observer with Airmobile and Riverine forces in the Mekong Delta in 1968.



I attended law school at Chapel Hill on the GI Bill. I served as an assistant DA; I have 20 years of private practice, and I was a trial judge for 16 years. My primary hobby is shooting 19th Century weaponry.

The Steadfast House:

A Residence for Female Homeless Veterans

Steadfast House is the only facility in the Asheville/Hendersonville area that provides shelter for homeless women and children, including homeless female veterans. While it is associated with ABCCM, it doesn't receive anywhere near the level of support that the VRQ does. As of December 15, 2015, there were eleven veterans at the House.

I am hoping that WNC MOAA members will consider contributing to the Steadfast House on behalf of their female veteran residents. You can do that by donating at our February membership meeting or by mailing your donation to me at 129 Larchmont Drive, Hendersonville, NC 28791. I am sure that the veteran residents would be very grateful. Micky Parnell

50th Anniversary Vietnam War Commemoration

In 2008, Congress passed legislation authorizing the Secretary of Defense to conduct a program to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War; this program runs through 2017. The NC Council of Chapters of the Military Officers Association of America is a registered partner in this program. At the NC Council of Chapters meeting in Charlotte on January 8th, Vietnam veterans were presented a commemorative pin in recognition of their service in the War. NCMOAA chapters are also conducting similar ceremonies in chapter and community events. WNC MOAA will participate later this year.

2016/17 OFFICERS/BOARD MEMBERS

Board of Directors

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| President | Spence Campbell Col USA-Ret |
| 1 st VP | Mike Covell CAPT USN-Ret |
| 2 nd VP | Gary Gresh COL USA-Ret |
| Secretary | Marleen Vamer Aux |
| Treasurer | Herb Mensch CAPT USN-Ret |
| Past Pres. | John Knapp CAPT USNR-Ret |
| USA | Jerry Tanner LTC USA-Ret |
| USMC | Robert Smith LtCol USMC-Ret |
| USN | Jerry Beschta CDR USN-Ret |
| USAF | J. Grigsby/J. Wilkerson LtCol USAF- Ret Shared |
| At Large | Frank Ortiz MAJ USA-Ret |
| Satellite Rep | Vacant |

Appointed Positions

| | |
|----------------|----------------------------------|
| Sr Advisor | Rick Devereaux Maj Gen USAF- Ret |
| Chaplain | Bob Lair Col USA-Ret |
| JROTC LNO | Jeff Snyder Col USAF-Ret |
| NL Editor | Gerry Lawton CDR USN-Ret |
| Legal Affairs | Micky Pamell Capt USA-Ret |
| Legis. Affairs | Larry Wilson LTC USA-Ret |
| Pers. Affairs | Vacant |
| Membership | Vacant |
| VA Hosp LNO | Marleen Vamer |
| Webmaster | Len Baker LTC USA-Ret |
| Auxiliary LNO | Rev Nancy McCarthy |

Go to: WNC-MOAA.org for contact info

2016 CALENDAR

General Meetings (all at Hendersonville CC)

Feb 20 Saturday 11AM Check-in/social
May * Date TBD
Aug 19 Friday 4PM Check-in/social BBQ/cookout
Nov 19 Saturday 11AM Check-in/social

Board Meetings-12 Noon (at HCC)

Jan 20, Apr 13, Jul 13, Oct 12

VRQ Lunch Servings (Contact Jeff Snyder)

Each fourth Wednesday 9:30-12:30

Black Mountain Satellite of WNC MOAA

Every odd numbered month on second Wed at 11:30. Givens Highland Farms in Black Mountain, for info contact Gaye or Len Baker

Smoky Mountains Satellite of WNC MOAA

The Smoky Mountains Satellite of WNC MOAA meets the last Monday of odd numbered months at noon at the Rendezvous Restaurant in Maggie Valley. All MOAA members welcome. For info, contact Brent Ramsey, shrblr@bellsouth.net or (828)452-4783

Auxiliary Activities: Nancy McCarthy

Nancy McCarthy, Auxiliary representative, is asking all Surviving Spouse members to join her at a special table at the next meeting.

Update on Meal Cost and Charges

The Board has approved a \$5 per meal increase to defray the expense of the following; meals for the ROTC cadets (Color Guard) and the invited speaker; the Hendersonville Country Club's new \$100 surcharge for Saturday events.

Menu

Beef Burgundy with noodles, Pan Roasted White Fish, Chef's choice of Starch and Vegetables, Salad Bar, and assorted desserts. For Gluten free options contact Ms Dayna Kelsey, clubhouse manager (828-692-2261 ex 115).

Email: clubhousemanager@hendersonvillecc.com

THE WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA
CHAPTER MILITARY OFFICERS
ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, Inc.
WWW.WNC-MOAA.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

WNC MOUNTAIN MOAA NEWS

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General Chapter Meeting Registration and Renewal Form

Chapter Meeting/Lunch REGISTRATION: **Saturday Feb 20, 2016** 11 AM Check-in/Social Hour

Clip or Copy and Mail To: **WNC MOAA; P. O. Box 1984; Hendersonville, NC 28793**

DEADLINE: Payment must be received NLT: *Tuesday, Feb 16, 2016.*

Make Checks payable to: WNC MOAA Enclosed is my check for ____ meal (s) At **\$25 per person.**

I/We plan on attending the WNC MOAA General Chapter Meeting on Saturday, Feb 20, 2016

NAME: _____ **Guest:** _____

Phone #: _____ **E-mail:** _____

This is the 1st WNC MOAA event attended: **Y/N**

2016 Dues are Due and Payable Jan 1, 2016, past due March 1

Chapter Membership RENEWAL 2016 :\$30 Regular member and spouse; \$10 Surviving Spouse(aux)

Name: _____ **Rank:** _____ **Service:** _____ **Spouse:** _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **ST:** _____ **Zip:** _____

National MOAA#: _____

Email: _____ **Phone:** _____

I would also like to contribute \$ _____ to : _____