



**WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA CHAPTER
MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, INC.
Fall 2016/November**

President's Remarks

With the indulgence of our members, I would like to share a bit of my personal history, at least that part which relates to the Department of Defense (DOD) commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War. Fifty years ago, 1966, I was newly married, had a child on the way, and was about to receive my ROTC commission from the University of Tennessee. A year later, I would be in Vietnam as a 2d lieutenant, United States Army. I was about to take the first steps in my life-long education about what it means to be an American soldier, a husband of an Army wife, and a father. It was truly the most important year in my young life.

Fifty years on, our Nation is thanking and honoring veterans of the that war for their sacrifice and service, paying tribute to Americans who served on the home front, POW's and MIA's, government agencies that supported the war effort and its warriors, and our allies. Based on a show of hands in our Chapter, we have more than a few members who served on active duty and spouses who served at home from November 1, 1955 to May 15, 1975, the official period of recognition.

Our program in November will be a tribute to those who wore the uniform during the conflict. Those who are present will receive a pin identifying them as a Vietnam Veteran, as is provided for by the commemoration agency of the DOD. Respectfully, Spence



November Speaker
CAPT Douglas Ehrhardt, Medical Service Corps, USN (Ret)
The MOAA North Carolina Council of Chapters (NCCOC)

Captain Doug Ehrhardt joined the Navy via the Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Illinois, but later received a direct commission as an entomologist in the Medical Service Corps in 1970. He served in a variety of positions relating to preventive medicine support and earned a PH.D. in the field in 1978. He served in a variety of related assignments, including the Naval Medical Research Institute, Bethesda, MD. He also served as Director, Naval Officer Indoctrination School, Newport Rhode Island from 1988-1991. He retired in 2000. He has recently served as the President of MOAA's New River Chapter and is currently the President of the NC Council of Chapters (NCCOC). At the November meeting he will give us an update on NC MOAA.

TAPS

Col Kenneth "Ken" Huff Campbell, 78, of Horse Shoe, NC died Sept. 16, 2016.

WNC MOAA wishes to express our condolences to the Campbell family.

JROTC Update

The Smoky Mountain Satellite (SMS) hosted an August 18 luncheon with 4 of the 5 JROTC units located in the far western part of NC. The purpose of the gathering was to increase dialogue between the JROTC units and SMS to identify additional opportunities in which the SMS could be of further assistance to the units.

The agenda centered around the top issues that each unit felt were the most pressing. The consistent theme was difficulty recruiting new cadets in an on-going competitive atmosphere with the school bands and HS athletic programs. In addition, many key activities rely on field trips, including community involvement/volunteering, and student transportation has been significantly impaired due to today's litigious-wary environment.

Despite these challenges, the managing officers and senior NCOs are excelling at teaching citizenship and leadership to these young adults, and the SMS's efforts to assist them has been a highlight of the Satellite's endeavors over the past several years. Jeff Snyder, Col. USAF (ret) JROTC Liaison, WNC Chapter, MOAA.

Surviving Spouse Activities

Nancy McCarthy, surviving spouse representative, is asking all surviving spouse members to join her at a special table at the next meeting.

Menu For General Meeting

Beef Burgandy with noodles, Pan Roasted White Fish with Tomatoes, Spinach, Onions and Herbs, Salad Bar, Chef's Choice of Starch and Vegetables, Assorted Deserts. *For Gluten free or vegetarian options contact Ms Dayna Kelsey, clubhouse manager (828-692-2261 ex 115). Emailclubhousemanager@hendersonvillecc.com*

Website: www.wnc-moaa.org

Like us at Facebook:

www.facebook.com/WNC-MOAA

WNC MOAA Work with the

Charles A. George VA Medical Center

Marlene Warner, Chapter VAVS Representative

Our seat on the Volunteer Services Committee involves attending quarterly meetings, sharing needs, and encouraging participation as volunteers. Recently we have participated in the Asheville Stand Down for homeless vets by donating 99 tee shirts and 15 dozen pairs of socks and providing two volunteers, run a bingo game at the Community Living Center (CLC), donating magazines and various cracker packets. As one of three regularly active volunteers, I work in the Intensive Care waiting room five hours a week. The work of volunteers is greatly appreciated by the veterans, who need contact with friendly folks who can provide many things regular staff cannot. The Volunteer Program at our hospital is very well organized and the time volunteered is invaluable.

Free Flu Vaccinations for VA healthcare system enrollees

The Department of Veterans Affairs has once again teamed up with Walgreens Pharmacies nationwide to allow all **veterans who are currently enrolled in the VA healthcare system** to be able walk into any of the over 8000 Walgreens nationally to receive a vaccination at no cost. Vaccinations will be available through March 31, 2017. Veterans must fill out a voucher, and present a Veterans ID card and a photo ID at any participating Walgreens to receive the vaccination.

Reminder: Columbus NC Veterans Day Parade (11 Nov 2016)

Come join the MOAA crew march in the Veteran's Day parade in Columbus, NC. This will be the fourth year that we have participated in this event. Wear your uniform or veteran motif clothing if you have it. Meet at McDonalds just off I-26 in Columbus at 0930. The parade usually lasts about 30-45 minutes.

Membership/Renewal

The Online Chapter Membership Dues Join and Renewal tool has been significantly improved. Both regular members and surviving spouses may join or renew their chapter membership for up to 3 years. There is an option of including a donation (up to \$100) to our chapter general fund in addition to dues. Here is the link:

<http://www.moaa.org/Content/Chapters-and-Councils/Chapters-and-Councils.aspx#Chapter-Dues>

If you are not a national MOAA member, your chapter membership does not contribute toward the end-of-year \$250 retention incentive. The chapter must retain 95 percent or more of its members, as determined by national MOAA. Adjustments are made for newly recruited members, those who move away from the local area or die, and chapter members who are not national MOAA members in good standing as of Dec 31 of the calendar year. To become a national MOAA member, sign up at www.moaa.org/join.

2016-2017 CALENDAR

General Meetings *(all at Hendersonville CC)*

Nov 19 Saturday 11AM Check-in/social
Feb 18, 2017 11AM Check-in/social
May 20, 2017 11AM Check-in/social
Aug 18, 2017 4PM (BBQ)
Nov 18, 2017 11AM Check-in/social

Upcoming 2017 Board Meetings-12 Noon

(at Deerfield) January 11 and
(at HCC) April 12, July 12, Oct 11.

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 AM. Givens Highland Farms in Black Mountain, for info contact Gaye or Len Baker

Smoky Mountains Satellite of WNC MOAA

The SMS of WNC MOAA will meet on 14 Nov at noon at the Rendezvous Restaurant in Maggie Valley. All MOAA members are welcome. The 2017 meeting schedule: No Jan meeting. 20 Mar, 15 May, 18 Sept, and 13 Nov. Meetings at the same time and location. For info, contact Brent Ramsey, shrbler@bellsouth.net or 828-452-4783.

Help Keep Our Roster Current

It is important that we keep our roster current so we can communicate with you. If any of your information changes, please inform us by sending it to treasurer@wnc-moaa.org. Also, we cannot change any of your information in the national MOAA database, only the individual members are allowed to do this. To update your profile information, go to www.moaa.org, and click "login," (located in the upper right corner). Your user ID is the email address where you provided MOAA and your password should be your last name (unless you have changed it). Next, click "My Profile Info" under your personalized greeting on the right-hand side of the home page. Remember to add your spouse's name and email address to your account if you haven't already done so.

Newsletter

The cost of printing and mailing our quarterly newsletter (~\$2000 annually) is one of our largest expenses. About 25 members either do not have or have not shared their email address with us. What we cannot tell is whether or not they look at it. If you would be willing to receive the newsletter electronically and have not already let us know, please send an email to treasurer@wnc-moaa.org. Also note that the newsletter is posted at wnc-moaa.org as soon as it is sent to the printer.

Legislative Affairs

LTC Larry Wilson USA (Ret), chapter Legislative Affairs Liaison, met this summer with Rep Mark Meadows (R NC-11) to discuss national MOAA legislative priorities. He gave our congressman position papers on MOAA's Top Ten objectives, including preventing disproportional TRICARE increases, protecting military retirements/COLA's, and assuring timely access to the VA and eliminating claims backlogs. The congressman was knowledgeable and supportive of the issues.

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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P. O. Box 1984
Hendersonville NC 28793



General Chapter Meeting Registration and Renewal Form

Chapter Meeting/Lunch REGISTRATION: Saturday, November 19, 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, November 15, 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, November 19, 2016

NAME: _____ **Guest:** _____

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

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

2017 Dues are Due and Payable Jan 1, 2017, past due March 1

Chapter Membership RENEWAL: \$30 Regular member and spouse; \$10 Surviving Spouse

Name: _____ National MOAA#: _____

Rank: _____ Service: _____ Spouse: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ ST: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Donation: _____ (All donations are to the chapter general fund)

Check payable to **WNC MOAA.**
Mail this form with payment to:
WNC MOAA
PO Box 1984
Hendersonville NC 28793

Or Pay ONLINE with Credit Card — Easy as 1,2,3

1. Go to www.MOAA.org
2. Select **Chapters & Councils** at the top of the page.
3. On the Chapters page, select **Chapter Dues**, fill our the form and your dues are paid.