



**WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA CHAPTER  
MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, INC.  
Summer 2015/August**

**PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE**

Welcome to August and the approach to the end of summer with the anticipation of our much-loved fall season in the mountains. Autumn is on the horizon!!!

The Chapter’s August meeting is considered our “annual meeting”. In every odd-numbered year we elect our next slate of officers. In our chapter we have five (5) elected officers: President, 1<sup>st</sup>. Vice President, 2<sup>nd</sup>. Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. These officers, along with a number of appointed and advisory positions take office at our November general meeting. A nominating committee, made up of non-elected board members has done an outstanding job this year in selecting a slate of experienced, talented, and energetic members to fill the five positions, for whom those in attendance will vote. Those nominated for your consideration are as follows. President: Spence Campbell. First Vice President: Mike Covell. Second Vice President: Gary Gresh. Secretary: Marleen Varner. Treasurer: Herb Mensch. Please make every effort to attend this important meeting on Friday, 21 August, to vote and show your support to YOUR elected board of directors who will serve for the next two years.

We may be in the midst of summer...but your chapter members have not been vacationing...at least not for the whole summer. Some of the things chapter members have been up to are...

The VRQ “Kitchen Krews” continue their work in support of the 250 veterans housed there with lunch prep and service the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month. If you are interested in joining one of the Krews, please contact Jeff Snyder. We always have room for more “cooks in the kitchen”.

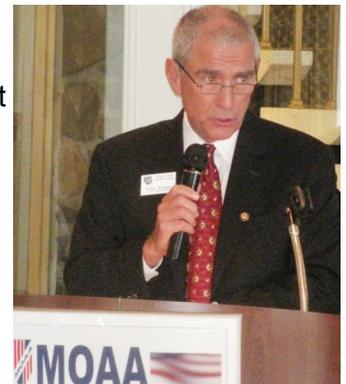
And at the CLC in Asheville, we hosted our second Ice Cream Social of the year the afternoon of 25 July. We had eight chapter members serving ice cream, toppings, and shakes (thanks to an imported blender!) to very appreciative residents and guests.

Our Hospice/Veteran’s Pinning Ceremonies continue at a steady and growing pace. We have now completed more than 50 pinning ceremonies. And I’m pleased to tell you that we welcomed eight new MOAA/Hospice volunteers from our very active Smokey Mountain Satellite Chapter, who will support our pinnings in the more westerly counties.

In closing, our program on 21 August will be very different from our usual fare, as it will be more of an “entertainment” evening. Read more further on in this issue. Save the date: Friday, 21 August, beginning with social hour at 1600. BBQ at 1700, with program to follow.

See you on the 21<sup>st</sup>.  
Please stay cool!  
Best Regards; John

**Friday, August 21 Quarterly General Meeting**  
**Hendersonville Country Club 4PM Social**



**LEGISLATIVE NEWS Karen McKay LTC USAR-Ret**  
*Legislation and news concerning the military and national security in Congress*

**Recent House Votes**

**Fiscal 2016 Military Construction - VA Appropriations - Passage - Vote Passed (255-163, 13 Not Voting)**

The House passed a bill that would provide \$171.1 billion in fiscal 2016 for the Veterans Affairs department, military construction and military housing. It would provide \$76.6 billion in discretionary spending, including \$60.2 billion for veterans' health programs.

Rep. Patrick McHenry voted YES      Rep. Mark Meadows voted YES

**Iran Nuclear Agreement Congressional Review – Passage - Vote Passed (400-25, 7 Not Voting)**

The House agreed to a motion to suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendments to the bill that would require that Congress be given an opportunity to review any final international agreement on Iran's nuclear program before the president could waive or suspend any sanctions on Iran that were imposed by Congress. Under the bill, Congress would have an initial 30 days to review any final nuclear pact with Iran, during which time the president could waive executive branch sanctions against Tehran - but could not use his authority to grant national security waivers for sanctions enacted into law by Congress.

Rep. Patrick McHenry voted YES      Rep. Mark Meadows voted YES

**Fiscal 2015 Defense Authorization – Passage - Vote Passed (269-151, 12 Not Voting)**

The House passed a bill that would authorize \$604.2 billion in discretionary funding for defense programs in fiscal 2016, including \$89.2 billion for overseas contingency operations, of which \$38.3 billion would be authorized for non-war base budget operations and maintenance. Excluding the war funding, the bill would authorize roughly: \$136.6 billion for operations and maintenance, \$109.7 billion for procurement, \$136.4 billion for military personnel, \$7.3 billion for military construction and family housing, \$68.4 billion for research, development, testing and evaluation, and \$31.7 billion for the Defense Health Program.

Rep. Patrick McHenry voted YES      Rep. Mark Meadows voted YES

**Fiscal 2016 Defense Appropriations – Passage - Vote Passed (278-149, 6 Not Voting)**

The House passed a bill that would provide \$578.6 billion in discretionary funding for the Defense department in fiscal 2016. The total would include \$490.2 billion in base Defense department funds and \$88.4 billion for the Overseas Contingency Operations account, and would provide that \$37.5 billion in OCO funding be used in support of base budget requirements.

Rep. Mark Meadows voted YES      Rep. Patrick McHenry voted YES

**U.S. Citizens in Iran - Passage - Vote Passed (391-0, 42 Not Voting)**

The House agreed to a motion to suspend the rules and pass a resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that Iran should immediately release U.S. citizens Jason Rezaian, Amir Hekmati and Saeed Abedini and provide all known information on the whereabouts of Robert Levinson.

Rep. Patrick McHenry voted YES      Rep. Mark Meadows voted YES

**Fiscal 2016 Intelligence Authorization – Passage - Vote Passed (247-178, 8 Not Voting)**

The House passed a bill that would authorize classified amounts in FY 2016 for 16 U.S. intelligence agencies and intelligence-related activities of the U.S. government, including the Office of the National Intelligence Director, the CIA and the National Security Agency (NSA), as well as foreign intelligence activities of the Defense Department, FBI, State Department, Homeland Security Department and other agencies. The measure covers general intelligence operations, including signals intelligence, clandestine human intelligence programs and analysis, and covert action programs, as well as research and development and projects to improve information dissemination.

Rep. Patrick McHenry voted Not Voting      Rep. Mark Meadows voted YES

**Iraq Troop Withdraw – Passage - Vote Failed (139-288, 1 Present, 5 Not Voting)**

The House rejected a concurrent resolution that would direct the president to withdraw U.S. forces deployed to Iraq in support of operations against the Islamic State in Syria and Iraq, other than armed forces required to protect U.S. diplomatic facilities and personnel within 30 days of enactment.

Rep. Patrick McHenry voted NO      Rep. Mark Meadows voted NO

**Veterans Loans - Passage - Vote Passed (410-1, 22 Not Voting)**

The House agreed to a motion to suspend the rules and pass a bill that would permanently waive the guarantee fee for veterans and their spouses applying for Small Business Administration (SBA) express loans, beginning Oct. 1, 2015. The bill defines eligibility for the waiver based on the veteran status of the loan applicant, rather than whether the business is considered a veteran-owned small business.

Rep. Patrick McHenry voted YES      Rep. Mark Meadows voted YES

**Recent Senate Votes**

**Iran Nuclear Agreement - Passage - Vote Passed (98-1, 1 Not Voting)**

The Senate passed a bill that would give Congress the right to deny Iran relief from statutory sanctions if two-thirds majorities from both chambers oppose the terms of a final nuclear deal. The bill would also require detailed reports on Iran's support of global terrorism and fulfillment of commitments under any agreement.

Sen. Richard Burr voted YES      Sen. Thom Tillis voted YES

**Patriot Act Reauthorization -- Cloture - Vote Rejected (57-42, 1 Not Voting)**

The Senate rejected a motion to invoke cloture on a bill that would modify domestic surveillance authorities by prohibiting the National Security Agency's bulk collection and storage of telephone metadata and ability to collect other bulk data.

Sen. Richard Burr voted NO      Sen. Thom Tillis voted NO

**Two-Month FISA Reauthorization -- Cloture - Vote Rejected (45-54, 1 Not Voting)**

The Senate rejected a motion to invoke cloture on bill that would amend the USA Patriot Improvement and Reauthorization Act of 2005 and the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 to extend until July 31, 2015, expiring provisions of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978.

Sen. Richard Burr voted YES      Sen. Thom Tillis voted YES

**Patriot Act Reauthorization -- Cloture - Vote Agreed to (77-17, 6 Not Voting)**

The Senate agreed to a motion to invoke cloture on a bill that would modify domestic surveillance authorities by prohibiting the National Security Agency's bulk collection and storage of telephone metadata and ability to collect other bulk data.

Sen. Richard Burr voted YES      Sen. Thom Tillis voted YES

**Patriot Act Reauthorization -- Passage - Vote Passed (67-32, 1 Not Voting)**

The Senate passed a bill that would modify domestic surveillance authorities by prohibiting the National Security Agency's bulk collection and storage of telephone metadata and limiting collection of other bulk data. The measure would require the NSA to obtain approval from the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court to examine the calling records of individual target telephone numbers on a case-by-case basis, before the request for information is made to a phone company, and limit the associated calling records of a telephone number that may be examined to two "hops" from the suspect's number - essentially codifying proposals made by the president in 2014.

Sen. Richard Burr voted NO      Sen. Thom Tillis voted NO

**Fiscal 2016 Defense Authorization -- Cloture - Vote Rejected (56-40, 4 Not Voting)**

The Senate rejected a motion to invoke cloture on amendment no. 1569, as modified, to substitute amendment no. 1463 that would require several national security entities to develop and promulgate procedures to promote the timely sharing of classified and declassified cyber threat indicators between government and the private sector.

Sen. Richard Burr voted YES      Sen. Thom Tillis voted YES

**Fiscal 2016 Defense Authorization - Passage - Vote Passed (71-25, 4 Not Voting)**

The Senate passed a bill that would authorize approximately \$612 billion in discretionary funding for defense programs in fiscal 2016, including \$88.9 billion in Overseas Contingency Operations funding. Excluding Overseas Contingency Operations funding, the bill would authorize, within the Senate Armed Services Committee's jurisdiction, approximately: \$134.1 billion for operations and maintenance, roughly \$112.2 billion for procurement, \$135.5 billion for military personnel, \$8.3 billion for military construction, family housing, and base realignment and closure, roughly \$70.9 billion for research, development, testing and evaluation, and \$32.2 billion for the Defense Health Program.

Sen. Richard Burr voted YES      Sen. Thom Tillis voted YES

## **2014/5 OFFICERS/BOARD MEMBERS**

### **Board of Directors**

President	John Knapp	CAPT USNR-Ret
1 <sup>st</sup> VP	Spence Campbell	Col USA-Ret
2 <sup>nd</sup> VP	Jeff Snyder	Col USAF-Ret
Secretary	Marleen Varner	Aux
Treasurer	Mike Covell	CAPT USN-Ret
Past Pres.	Don Jackman	LTC USA-Ret
USA	Chuck Luce	LTC USA-Ret
USMC	Robert Smith	LtCol USMC-Ret
USN	Herb Mensch	CAPT USN-Ret
USAF	Ken Hadeen	Col USAF-Ret
At Large	Frank Ortiz	MAJ USA-Ret
Satellite Rep	Bob Smith	Maj USA-Ret

### **Appointed Positions**

Sr Advisor	Rick Devereaux	MajGen USAF-Ret
Chaplain	Bob Lair	Col USA-Ret
NL Editor	Bob Smith	Maj USA-Ret
Legal Affairs	Micky Parnell	Capt USA-Ret
Legis. Affairs	Karen McKay	LTC USAR-Ret
Pers. Affairs	Ken Hadeen	Col USAF-Ret
VA Hosp LNO	Len Baker	LTC USA-Ret
Webmaster	Len Baker	LTC USA-Ret
Auxiliary LNO	Rev Nancy McCarthy	

***Go to: [WNC-MOAA.org](http://WNC-MOAA.org) for contact info***

## **2015 CALENDAR**

### **General Meetings** (all at Hendersonville CC)

Aug 21 Friday at 4PM Check-in/social BBQ/cookout Annual meeting/election

Nov 21 Saturday at 11AM Check-in/social

### **Board Meetings-12 Noon-Dates TBD**

### **VRQ Lunch Servings (Contact Jeff Snyder)**

Each fourth Wednesday 9:30-12:30

### **Black Mountain Satellite**

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**

Every odd numbered month on fourth Thursday at Noon,  
Location varies. Contact Brent Ramsey @  
shrblr@bellsouth.net or phone 828-452-4783

### **VA Hospital CLC Ice Cream Social**

A group of WNC MOAA members put on an ice cream social at the Community Living Center (CLC) of the VA Hospital on July 25th. We shared lots of ice cream and fixin's, milk shakes and not a few war stories with the residents, all of whom appreciated our visit. We will do it again in the

### **Auxiliary Activities: Nancy McCarthy**

Nancy McCarthy, Auxiliary representative, is looking for suggestions for a meeting of auxiliary members. Please contact her at revnancy1002@att.net or (828)274-6671 with ideas for locations or programs.

## **NOMINATING COMMITTEE and BOARD POSITIONS**

The President's article on the first page listed the chapter officers and those nominated to fill the positions for the term 2016-17. There are also six Directors on the board as well as many appointed positions serving at the request of the President and Board. The positions are listed above, and several have been nominated to serve as a few have served for many years are "retiring to be a member".

Three Service Representatives have been nominated: Jerry Tanner LTC-USA-Ret, Jerry Beschta CDR USN-Ret, James Grigsby and John Wilkerson Lt Col's USAF-Ret will share the duty.

To maintain consistency the JROTC Liaison will no longer be a rotating position, 2nd VP Jeff Snyder Col USAF-Ret will continue to perform this vital function. Larry Wilson LTC USA-Ret will return to Legislative Liaison duties. There are two unfilled positions, Personal Affairs; one filled many years in an outstanding manner by Ken Hadeen and Newsletter Editor.

Many of us have been on the board for 8-12 years plus and it is time for someone else to step up. We have been blessed with a great blend of long-time experience coupled with new members with new ideas and energy, this is what it takes to make a great chapter.

This Newsletter will be undergoing some dramatic change unless we find someone to take it over. If interested contact me at: editormountainnews@wnc-moaa.org. It will be changing to cut costs as it is the largest single line item in our budget. Our printer does a wonderful job but it costs around \$2600/year. If you want to get info electronically please let me know at e-mail above. We currently have almost 40 that do this however you must keep us aware of e-mail address changes for this to be effective. I have been sending in PDF which works for most people, we are looking at alternative formats also. This is a great cost saving. The board agrees that the money should be spent on our main efforts, Veteran/JROTC Support. Bob Smith

## MAY 8 QUARTERLY MEETING

Our members were blessed to hear from Ms Cynthia Breyfogle, Director of our local Five Star rated VA Hospital that has had the highest customer satisfaction in the country. She explained many facets of the care provided by their facility at the main hospital campus and outlying centers.

The colors were presented by the East Henderson AF JROTC color guard. John Knapp introduced MSgt. (Ret) Michael Jensen from E. Henderson HS AF JROTC as state-wide winner of the JROTC Instructor of the Year in the senior NCO category and received his award from President Knapp. Major (Ret) Russell Armentrout from Rutherfordton-Spindale Central HS Marine Corps J ROTC was named the winner of the JROTC instructor of the Year in the officer category. This is the first year for this award and both were awarded to instructors in our chapter area, congratulations gentlemen.

President Knapp then announced significant honors for our club. Chapter members were recipients of two national Communications Awards. Lt Col. Karen MacKay has been selected as winner of Best Legislative Web Coverage. LTC Len Baker was the second runner-up for the Best Website.

John reported on the Hospice We Honor Veterans Program that the chapter has been participating in. At that time we had participated in 34 "pinning" recognition ceremonies. At publication date that number has grown to over 50, with participation in more Hospice organizations.

Complete minutes of the meeting can be found on chapter website: [WNC-MOAA.org](http://WNC-MOAA.org).



## TAPS

Glenda C. Jackson, wife of LTC Dennis Jackson, USA-Ret; Marion, Feb 2, 2015

**Please notify the chapter of any member deaths by e-mail to: [HQ@wnc-moaa.org](mailto:HQ@wnc-moaa.org)**

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

David Lambert LtCol USAF-Ret, Wife Josephine; Hendersonville

Louis Odom CPT USAR, Wife Jan; Flat Rock

Ann Whaley Aux; Asheville

*Welcome aboard and hope to see you at the Aug 21 gathering!*

## OFFICE of PERSONELL MANAGEMENT DATA BREACH

As many of you may be aware there was a massive data breach by hackers accessing info that could effect some military retirees. OPM announced 9 JUL that the size of a hack that began last year led to the pilfering of sensitive personal information of 21.5 million former and current employees — including potentially millions of military personnel. Those primarily at risk had a background investigation or re-investigation 2000 and later. Those checked previously may be at risk but not likely according to DoD sources. DoD is selecting a contractor to provide a suite of services for data security probably including credit monitoring for those effected. The contract will call for identifying those whose information was stolen and notifying them. At a minimum you should watch for credit accounts opened that you did not initiate and you may consider getting one of the data/credit security monitoring services on your own. As always review credit card statements monthly, online monitoring periodically for activity is advised.

## ID CARD ALERT

As the DOD is helping fight ID theft by removing Social Security Account numbers from ID cards the next step is confiscation of ones with the number included. This may result in some major inconveniences to many, especially those that are retired and their ID card serves as the insurance card. It is highly recommended that you get the new one as soon a possible. In our area the Army National Guard facility offers this service. Retired Military personnel, spouses, and dependents needing to renew or to obtain a new ID card can do so at the National Guard Armory in Asheville. You must call for an appointment (828) 271-5000, option 3. The address is: 100 Minuteman Lane which is past the Baptist Home on Richmond Hills Drive, Asheville, NC. Many installations are now using entry lanes with scanners to open gates and some are also requiring that your card be registered with the installation for easy access. In the long run this is for your protection.

## 2015 DUES WERE DUE and PAYABLE JANUARY 1 and DELIQUENT MARCH 1

As of July our chapter is now 225 strong, unfortunately only 186 have paid their dues for 2015. We do not mail out invoices or bills. Look at the line above your address and it will indicate your National MOAA membership # and a DUES PAID THRU year. Unless it is 2015 or higher, the dues were due Jan 1 and they can be paid in advance at any time. If you feel the date or member number shown is incorrect please contact our treasurer Mike Covell at 828-242-6816. If your National MOAA number is missing or in error please e-mail to: [EditorMountainNews@WNC-MOAA.org](mailto:EditorMountainNews@WNC-MOAA.org). We hate to lose members and it would be a lot easier on the Board to not have to repeatedly contact members reminding them they are in arrears. National offers incentives to chapters that retain members and this also helps us serve our Veteran Community.

## ONLINE MEMBERSHIP DUES PAYMENT by CREDIT CARD

WNC MOAA members may now pay their annual membership dues by credit card. Here's how it works: Log on to [www.MOAA.org](http://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 filling out the form and your dues will be paid for the year. You have just saved time and postage. You have also saved me time from making deposits at the bank. It's a win-win operation. At this time, you can only pay for the current year and Auxiliary Members are not eligible for this service. If you have any questions, contact Mike Covell, Chapter Treasurer, 828-242-6816.

### WNC-MOAA Treasurer's Summary

**Bank Balance 1/1/15: \$9230; Bal 6/30/15: \$8788**

**Major expenses 2nd quarter: Newsletter-\$566, JROTC assistance-\$629**

**QUARTERLY MEETING**  
**Hendersonville Country Club**  
**Friday August 21, 4 PM Check-in and Social Hour**  
See more program info on page one in President's message

**MENU**

Chef-Grilled Angus Burgers, All Beef Hot Dogs, Herb Marinated Chicken Breasts, and BBQ Pork Rolls and Buns, Cheeses, Garnishes and Condiments, Baked Beans, House Made Potato Chips Macaroni Salad, Potato Salad, Tomato and Cucumber Salad, Coffee, Ice Tea and Lemonade  
Club-Made Ice Cream and Freshly Baked Cookies

**PROGRAM**

Our program will be a departure from our normal fare. We will be entertained by Ms Lisa Whitfield.

Lisa is a Florida girl, but made it to the mountains as fast as she could! With two degrees from Western Carolina University, both in music. (BSEd '77 and MME '89)

She taught music, then folk arts and then was director of Historic Johnson Farm in Henderson County from 1980 to 2006. As folk arts teacher and Johnson Farm director, she taught in all the elementary schools (and field trips to Johnson Farm), sharing local stories, music, crafts, community awareness, mountain speech, storytelling, foodways and much more.

After retirement, she was snatched up by the Smith-McDowell House Museum as education coordinator, where she has worked for 9 years. In her position, she is advisor for the Tar Heel Jr. Historians Club (SMH over History), coordinates the children's and school programs (including the Crafty Historian and Living History Days).

Lisa's interests range from music (bluegrass, old time, singer/songwriter, folk, folk/Christian, and a massive CD collection). riding her motorcycle, quilting, reading, TV, movies, crafting and grand-daughters.

Lisa is the director of Allelu!, a folk/traditional music group at St James Church (guitars, singers, keyboard, harmonica combo) and also plays guitar with Sassafras, a local bluegrass/oldtime band. She writes some of her own songs and loves to perform at Open Mike at the Ugly Mug on Wednesday nights. When she is singing, she plays guitar or ukelele, but she also plays piano, autoharp, and lap dulcimer.



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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**WNC MOUNTAIN MOAA NEWS**

Is the official publication of the WNC  
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***General Chapter Meeting Registration and Renewal Form***

Chapter Meeting/Cookout REGISTRATION: **Friday Aug 21, 2015** 4 PM 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, Aug 18, 2015***

Make Checks payable to: WNC MOAA Enclosed is my check for \_\_\_\_ meal (s) At **\$20 per person.**

I/We plan on attending the WNC MOAA General Chapter Meeting on Friday, Aug 21, 2015

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Guest:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone #:** \_\_\_\_\_ **E-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

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

***2015 Dues were Due and Payable Jan 1, 2015, past due March 1***

***Chapter Membership RENEWAL*** :\$25 Regular member and spouse; \$5 auxiliary (surviving spouse)

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Rank:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Service:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Spouse:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **ST:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**National MOAA#:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

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