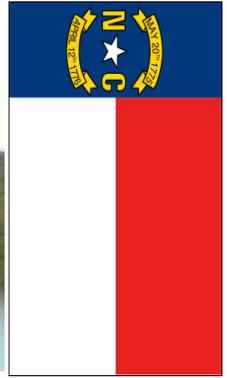




WNC MOAA MOUNTAIN NEWS



WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA CHAPTER MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

President's Message

It has been a quick two years, in several weeks I will trade my Chapter President pin for the Past President one. It is certainly bittersweet as I have really enjoyed this time primarily because of the great executive group and board members that supported me to the nth degree, but it is now time to pass the torch on to a most capable successor, Don Jackman. Our Nov 5 meeting will have the installation of new officers for our chapter. I have invited our NC Council President COL Fred Black, USA-Ret to do the honors.

I feel the chapter has done some very good things to support our causes and has enjoyed some growth while having some very good general meetings. My heartfelt thanks go out to all who have helped with these efforts. Under Don's leadership we should continue to move forward even further toward excellence. There are many projects we can become involved with to serve the community. I hope the chapter will continue to grow and accomplish good things for JROTC and veteran causes. I have not given up on our chapter building a wives and auxiliary group that can have additional programs for fellowship and service.

I could fill this newsletter with comments and thanks to those that helped me through these two years. There has been a lot of passion and work by many board members and chairpersons. I will say a broad thank you to all! One of those unsung heroes was Beverly Jackman, who took over the menu selection for our meetings. Gail Wilson kept us well and healthfully fed when Larry was President and Bev followed in an admirable manner. I also thank the Hendersonville Country Club and Staff. We could not have a better place to meet. Everything is always top shelf and the service fantastic. Remember to mention that to them at the meetings. One of the most important assets for a chapter President is a strong and

supportive VP, I certainly was lucky to have Don in that role. Again thanks to all.

Special thanks to Zeb Palmer who served as Treasurer during some especially trying family medical issues, and to Mike Covell for stepping up and taking over those duties. I also thank Larry Wilson for his guidance as Immediate Past President and his relentless work as Legislative Liaison; we will be lucky to have the continuing benefit of his efforts on that front. Thanks to Doug Haldane for the work with programs. We welcome two new officers; CAPT John Knapp USN-Ret, first VP; and Capt Gene Frame USAF-Former, as second VP.

We have lost a few members over the past two years but have had many great folks join up with us. Our best recruiting effort is one on one asking someone you know and telling them about us.

Our November program will be very interesting as we will hear from one of our newest members MAJ Diana Stumpf, NCNG. This is one very impressive young soldier. Our Reserve Components now perform as a pivotal force in our National Defense; it is not the same operation as when many of us were on active duty. Many of them have seen more deployments in a few years than some active members experienced in a twenty year career.

I look forward to working with the Board as Past President and Secretary, we have such a great chapter and we all should be proud!

Cheers, Bob Smith



US Air Force Items of Interest

Iraq Drawdown More than Halfway Complete: US Transportation Command already has moved 1.7 million pieces of military equipment, or 60 percent, out of Iraq. The command also has plans in place to remove the final one million pieces of equipment and the remainder of the troops by the end of the year. "The mission is looking good," said Air Force Maj. John Rozsnyai, USTRANSCOM's joint planning team lead. The majority of the equipment will return to the United States, but US Central Command makes the final decision whether the gear will head home, stay in Iraq for the Iraqi forces to use, or be sent to Afghanistan to help with the war effort there.

Jupiter Explorer Launched: The Air Force and its industry partners successfully launched NASA's Juno spacecraft into space aboard a United Launch Alliance Atlas V rocket from Cape Canaveral AFS, Fla. "As always, the 45th Space Wing is pleased to have supported NASA on another successful and safe launch," said Brig. Gen. Ed Wilson, 45th SW commander.

An Offensive Cyber Strategy: The Air Force has released an updated instruction outlining guidance and procedures for cyber capabilities that appears to go beyond the Pentagon's typical defensive cyber rhetoric. Unlike, the Defense Department's recently released **cyber strategy**, which focused primarily on preventing cyber attacks, the new policy directive specifically addresses offensive cyber capabilities, requiring "a thorough and accurate legal review" of all offensive cyber actions. The document also offers a clear definition of those capabilities, including "any device or software payload intended to disrupt, deny, degrade, negate, impair, or destroy adversarial computer systems, data, activities, or capabilities."

China's Warning: Chinese Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi warned Secretary of State Hillary Clinton that the US plan to upgrade Taiwan's fleet of F-16s could ruin relations between the two super powers, reported Reuters. Monday's warning apparently did not come as a surprise to the Obama Administration, although Chinese officials did up the ante by saying they may cancel or postpone military-to-military engagements—a top priority for the Pentagon.

US Army Items of Interest

Chinook Helicopter Milestone: Typically most aircraft are retired before the 50 year mark, but the CH-47 Chinook helicopter recognized its 50th year in service in a ceremony on 21 September at Boeing's plant in Ridley Park, Philadelphia.

The Army and NASCAR: The Army plans to run special paint schemes honoring the men and women who served in the Vietnam War on the "Soldiers" race cars over Veterans Day weekend. The special tribute is to honor the service and sacrifices of all veterans who served in the conflict which began 50 years ago.

US Navy Items of Interest

USS Cole: Families of the 17 Sailors who died in the October 2000 attack on the destroyer Cole were denied another attempt to recover millions of dollars from Sudan. A federal judge recently threw out their lawsuit saying they had filed too late. He also ruled that Congress overstepped its authority in passing a law to help the families. An appeal is expected.

CNO Retires: Admiral Gary Roughhead stepped down as CNO on 23 September during a change of command ceremony at the U. S. Naval Academy. Admiral Jonathan W. Greenert took the helm as the 30th CNO.

USMC Item of Interest

Medal of Honor Awarded: Former Marine Dakota Meyer was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor by President Obama at the White House on 15 September.

Thanks to The New River Current; New River Chapter, for the above information!

WNC MOAA Board of Directors

President

LTC Donald L. Jackman, USA-Ret.
828-697-5411
djackman3842@att.net

1st Vice President

CAPT John Knapp, USN-Ret.
828-890-3544
J.knapp@att.net

2nd Vice President

Capt USAF (Former) Gene Frame
828-808-3210
framejm@aol.com

Secretary

MAJ Robert A. Smith, USA-Ret.
828-668-7070 /925-7070 mobile
robertsmith656@msn.com

Treasurer

CAPT Mike Covell, USN-Ret.
828-694-1358
mjcovell@bellsouth.net

Immediate Past President

MAJ Bob Smith, USA-Ret.

USA Representative

LTC Charles M. Luce, USA-Ret.
828-452-2746

USMC Representative

CWO3 Eric Magrath, USMC
828-894-2482

USN Representative

CDR J. Edward Craig, USN-Ret.
828-859-9205

USAF Representative

Col Kenneth D. Hadeen, USAF-Ret.
828-645-4902

At Large Representative

COL Otis W. Livingston, Jr., USA-Ret.
828-894-0637
hootL3@windstream.net

Black Mountain Satellite Chapter

COL Bill Creed, USA-Ret., Acting

Appointed Positions

Senior Advisor

RADM Paul E. Sutherland, USN-Ret.
828-894-2514

Chaplain

COL Robert E. Lair, USA-Ret.
828-894-8744

Editor, "Mountain News" Newsletter

COL Spence Campbell, USA-Ret.
828-697-5970

editormountainnews@wnc-moaa.org

WNC MOAA Directors (continued)

Legal Affairs –Vacant

Legislative Affairs

LTC Larry Wilson, USA-Ret.
828-606-4952 (cell #)

Personal Affairs

Col Kenneth D. Hadeen, USAF-Ret.

Programs

MAJ Bob Smith, USA-Ret.

VA Medical Center Liaison

LTC Leonard M. Baker, USA-Ret.
828-669-1030

lbaker@buncombe.main.nc.us

Chapter Web Master

LTC Leonard M. Baker, USA-Ret.

(As of November 2011)

WNC MOAA 2012 Meeting Dates

Hendersonville Country Club

Wednesday January 18 Board Meeting 12:00PM
Saturday February 18 General Membership Meeting
11:00 AM

Wednesday April 11 Board Meeting 12:00 PM
Saturday May 12 General Membership Meeting 11:00
AM

Wednesday July 11 Board Meeting 12:00 PM
Friday August 17 General Membership Meeting
4:00 PM

Wednesday October 10 Board Meeting 12:00 PM
Saturday November 10 General Membership Meet-
ing 11:00 AM

**Note: August General Membership Meeting is on
FRIDAY**



**WNC MOAA WEBSITE
WWW. WNC-MOAA.ORG**

AARP Honors Veterans with Free Class

During the month of November, AARP Driver Safety classes will be offered free of charge to all who have served in the armed services, as well as their spouses, widows/widowers, and children. The four-hour driver safety classes present strategies and refreshers for driving in today's environment.

Knowing that more veterans have been killed in traffic crashes than in all of our nation's wars combined, and that many veterans learned to drive years ago when cars, roads, and traffic were quite different, AARP instructors are scheduling classes to express gratitude to all who have served the nation to protect and defend the country - hoping that a review of driving techniques and rules of the road will keep these valued Americans safer.

During the class, attendees will receive updated knowledge of current highway laws and an opportunity for self-analysis of driving skills. This is a classroom-based event with no driving – and no tests. The popular class has been conducted successfully for a number of years, but this is the first time it will be offered free to veterans and their family members. Our chapter is sponsoring this event.

97% of those who have taken the class say they would recommend it to a friend or relative. We intend to present this at St James Episcopal Church in Hendersonville on Wednesday Nov 16 at 10 AM. A complementary lunch will be served. The instructor will be former chapter President Clinton Smoke. We need a headcount and reservations so materials and lunch can be available for all. For more information and reservations, contact Clinton Smoke at 828-551-5788 or e-mail: chsmoke@bellsouth.net.

Personal Affairs Information

By Col Kenneth D Hadeen, USAF-Ret.

As we approach the end of another year, it is a good time to stop and take the time to Review and Update Wills, Power of Attorneys, and Beneficiaries for all accounts and sources of income. Don't forget to share the location of this information with a Spouse or potential or designated Caretaker of your estate.

As a heads up, normally you receive your Retirement pay dated the First of the month. This year your January 1, 2012 check will be written with a date of December 31, 2011. This means you will get 13 checks this year instead of 12. This might impact your Income tax obligations. By the way, your Retiree Account Statement from DFAS lists the beneficiaries you have designated for any Arrears of Pay for your beneficiaries. It is a simple matter to update this listing by contacting DFAS at (216) 522-5955.

January 20-22 Big Band Swing for the USO

The Grove Park Inn annual Big Band Event will honor and raise funds for the USO. The entertainment will be the Glenn Miller Band and the Liberty Belles, an Andrews Sisters tribute group that performs for the USO all over the country. It would be great if our chapter could put together a tables or tables and support this great cause. Tickets for the Saturday night dance are \$35 per person and overnight packages are available. Additional details will be provided at a later date. Keep checking the website.

WNC MOAA General Membership Meeting Saturday, November 5, 2011

Our Guest Speaker (and new member)

Major Diana Stumpf, North Carolina Army National Guard, will be our speaker at the November 5 meeting. This 1995 graduate of the United States Military Academy currently serves as Executive Officer, 105 Military Police Battalion. She returned with her unit on February 13, 2011 following a year long second deployment to Iraq. Major Stumpf, holds, among other awards, the Bronze Star medal.

The principal mission of the 105th in Iraq was to train Iraqi personnel to assume control of the Cropper Theater Internment Facility. Major Stumpf, then the Unit Operation's Officer, will discuss her experiences in accomplishing the Unit's mission.

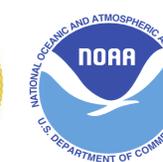
WNC MOAA Luncheon Menu Saturday, November 5, 2011

BEEF STROGANOFF W/NOODLES
SOUTHERN FRIED CATFISH
SCALLOPED POTATOES
BROCCOLI & CARROTS
BUTTERED PEAS
GARDEN SALAD BOWL
SPINACH & MUSHROOM SALAD
TOMATO & MOZZARELLA SALAD
ASSORTED DESERTS

**See Registration Form on Back Page
Deadline to Register is Tuesday, November 1st**

August 2011 Meeting—MAJ Bob Smith, USA-Ret.

August is our annual meeting and every other year election of officers occurs, the slate provided by the nominating committee was approved and a suggested dues structure of \$25 for regular member and spouse while Auxiliary remained at \$5. Our speaker was CAPT John Plehal from MOAA HQ who delivered a very informative talk and responded to questions of interest to all. One of the benefits of having a speaker from National is that they contact potential members and let them know about the meeting. We had a lot of new faces; some of those are now chapter members and hopefully more will join. Our attendance was 94, one of the highest except when the guest speaker was a sitting Congressman. Based on the comments received the board scheduled the same time for next year. One of the reasons we tried this was to be able to host a NC Council of chapters meeting. We are on the list to host one in August of next year. In this issue we are providing the schedule for board and general meetings for 2012. Our board meetings are open and any members wishing to come with an issue are welcome.



WNC MOAA MEMBERS IN ACTION



**Serving Residents at the
VA Hospital CLC**



**The Gang at the
VA CLC
Omelet Station**



**WNC MOAA President Bob
Smith Thanks CAPT Plehal
for joining us**

JROTC Corner – CAPT Mike Covell, USN-Ret.

As we complete another WNC-MOAA year, an outstanding JROTC Cadet/ Midshipman from each unit that we support received a JROTC Medal, certificate and \$1000 US Savings Bond. In all but two cases, representatives from WNC-MOAA presented the award at an end of the year award ceremony. The recipients will be listed on the web site.

In addition to the JROTC Medal recognition, one outstanding senior continuing their education at an accredited school of higher education received the Cyrus Anderson JROTC Scholarship of \$1000. This year's winner was Andrea Posey, a graduate of Swain County High School who is attending University of North Carolina – Pembroke.

I encourage members of our chapter to support these programs by a \$50.00 donation to purchase a Savings Bond for the school of your choice or a donation of any amount designated for the Cyrus Anderson JROTC Scholarship. As we currently do not conduct fund raising events for these programs, we depend on our members to support these meaningful programs in support of our youth.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my two years being connected with the JROTC programs and have turned over this task to Gene Frame as I move on to the Treasurer position.





Dues for 2012

Our dues are payable on Jan 1 of each year. At the last Annual Membership meeting the board suggested and the membership approved a rate of \$25 for member and spouse and \$5 for Auxiliary (surviving spouse). We still have a few members who have not paid for 2011. Because of the omission of the dues date from the address block by the printer we will not automatically drop folks from the rolls unless we cannot locate them. Please look near your name and the four digit number will indicate your paid thru date, any number less than 2012 will be due in January, 2010 date shown means you are past due and would owe \$20 for 2011 and \$25 for 2012 and beyond. If dues for 2011 are not received you will be dropped from the rolls unless there are extenuating circumstances.

VRQ Car Show

The chapter sponsored a food booth at a car show at the VRQ on October 15. Our chapter provided \$500 for the kitchen to purchase food to be sold as a fundraiser for the operation and Don Jackman led a group of volunteers to cook and serve. Due to press deadline details are not available but participants will be recognized and details provided on the website later. Thanks to all!

VA Breakfast

Once again the chapter will sponsor and serve the Breakfast to Order at the Community Living Center at the VA Hospital on Nov 9 at 7AM. Anyone wishing to volunteer please contact Bob Smith at 925-7070 or email at: robertsmith656@msn.com. We hope to continue this program each quarter next year, it is a rewarding experience.

Dues Renewal

Name: _____ Rank: _____ Service: _____

Spouse: _____ E-mail: _____

Member and Spouse \$25, Auxiliary (surviving Spouse) \$5 Check payable

I would also like to contribute \$ _____ to the program below:

_____ ABCCM Veteran's Restoration Quarters

_____ Sponsor a JROTC Savings Bond (\$100 bond full cost \$50)

_____ Cyrus E. Anderson JROTC Scholarship

_____ General operating fund

_____ Quarterly VA Hospital Community Living Center Breakfast in Honor of Col Kat Spencer

_____ Other

THE WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA
CHAPTER
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EditorMountainNews@WNC-MOAA.org



General Chapter Meeting Registration Form
(Clip or Copy and Mail To:)

WNC MOAA
P. O. Box 1984
Hendersonville, NC 28793

DEADLINE: Payment must be received NLT: Tuesday, November 1, 2011

Make Checks payable to: WNC MOAA

I/We plan on attending the WNC MOAA General Chapter Meeting on November 5, 2011

NAME: _____

Phone #: _____

Enclosed is my check for ____ meal(s) at **\$18.50 per person.**

I plan on bringing a guest: Y/N: If Yes: Name: _____

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