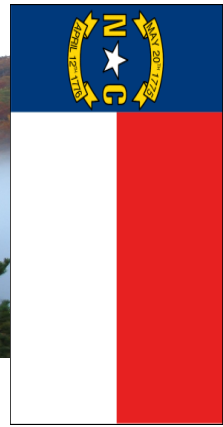
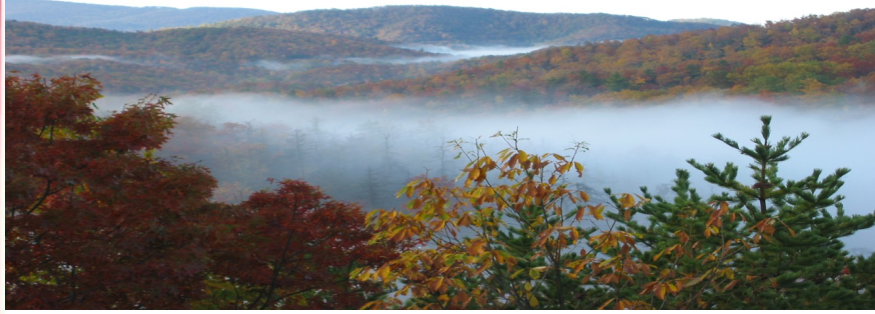




# WNC MOAA MOUNTAIN NEWS



WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA CHAPTER  
MILITARY OFFICERS of AMERICA ASSOCIATION, Inc.  
Spring 2010

## A MESSAGE FROM WNC-MOAA PRESIDENT MAJ BOB SMITH, USA- Ret.

Hello to all, this will be the second newsletter since your new board has taken office. I feel we have accomplished a good deal and will get a lot more done as we go through the year. I attended the Council of Chapters first quarter meeting in Winston Salem March 19/20. We enjoyed the hospitality of the Tarheel Central Chapter and got to know folks from other chapters. There was a great exchange of ideas and opportunities. On a sadder note the Lejeune Chapter (NC-15) is

turning in lack of I am dis-sponse to Strengths, tunities, Not very the time to input we



their charter due to support. appointed in the re-the survey from the Weaknesses, Oppor-and Threats analysis. many members took offer any input. The did receive was great

and certainly is appreciated. The board has elected to pursue the two projects described below in the near term and will be exploring others. The chapter will be sponsoring a breakfast and memorial service at the VA Community Living Center (CLC) on August 12th. On March 29, some of our board members attended a dinner at the Veteran’s Restoration Quarters (VRQ) and presented them toiletry packages to give new residents on check-in. Thanks to Gaye and Len Baker and Pat and Ron Botsford for getting this project started and to Kat Spencer for getting the project to completion. Our

members enjoyed a fine meal prepared and served by VRQ resident graduates of the A-B Tech culinary program and dined with residents and learned how this ministry has changed their lives.

I feel that this is an important operation and worthy of our continued support. Veterans from all periods of service are supported and get a chance to get their lives back together. Our organization has a lot to be grateful for and can and needs to be more involved in supporting our less fortunate Vets and Troops and their families. You will be hearing more about ways for us to help later.

Our Website has been growing thanks to inputs and our webmaster Len Baker. I thank all who have helped. Out of the 18 NC chapters only five have up and running sites, I feel ours is one of the best. One measure of effectiveness for sites is a “hit count”. Last year we had around 9500 visits or hits, in February alone in 2010 we had 3655. We intend to keep timely, useful information available while also improving its functionality.

Don Jackman is getting the recruiting drive going and needs volunteers to call prospective chapter members and potential members of National MOAA. The “Give Me Ten” program can be a very worthwhile financial benefit for the chapter as well as making the “One Powerful Voice” stronger. *“Let’s make a difference”* Bob Smith

- 2010-2011 WNCMOAA OFFICERS**  
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 donjackman@morrisbb.net  
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 COL Cecil E. Palmer, USA-Ret.  
 828-697-0706  
 zbpalmer@yahoo.com (see Board of Directors, p.5)

- WHAT’S INSIDE**
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Cyberspace

Cyberspace is a current and future battlefield and a realm that demands constant vigilance and increased resources. Today many civilian and government agencies are under constant attack by hackers and foreign intelligence groups. In addition natural events like earthquakes, or a simple fishing boat snagging of undersea cables can disrupt commerce and cause major havoc in both civilian and battlefield scenarios.

In January, Twenty Fourth Air Force, USAF's Cyberspace Combat Unit reached initial operational capability. Now 24<sup>th</sup> Air Force can step in and use its growing global situation awareness to help reroute traffic when there are disruptions. A planned US Cyber Command that will report to US Strategic Command and will be collocated with the National Security Agency at Ft. Meade, MD is in progress. When activated CYBERCOM will have three service components, including 24<sup>th</sup> Air Force, the Navy's US Fleet Cyber Command-10<sup>th</sup> Fleet, and the Army's Network Enterprise Technology Command. Education and training of personnel in all aspects of Cyberspace is a major challenge with the dearth of high school students in the hard sciences. The Air Force has a program called *CyberPatriot* which is a National High School Cyber Defense Competition starting its third year. There is an effort to expand and institutionalize the program in a multiyear effort to bring *CyberPatriot* to every high school in the nation

**2010 WNC MOAA Membership Committee Drive**

MOAA National has provided our Chapter with a "Prospect" list of approximately 1000 names of MOAA members who reside in WNC. On this list are Life Members, current members and members who have let their MOAA membership lapse.

Bringing in new members is critical and will also earn additional funds. The Membership Committee intends to begin an aggressive campaign to convert as many of these MOAA members to our Chapter. Our Chapter is doing great things with the Veterans Restoration Quarters, the Veterans Hospital and the JROTC program and we could do even more!

Help your Chapter by getting on the Membership band wagon. If you can help us tell our story, please contact Don Jackman at 828-697-5235 or donjackman@morrisbb.net.

**Give Me 10" Membership recruiting.**

Don't forget that we can earn cash from MOAA National for every new member we can sign up or every current member who converts their membership to "Life Member" status. A special form is required. Call or talk with Don Jackman our Membership Chairman for more details.

**We the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America**

**The Preamble of the Constitution  
Of the  
United States of America**



**FINANCIAL REPORT**

As of April 15, 2010  
COL Zeb Palmer, USA-Ret.

Checking account.....\$11,370  
Scholarship Fund ..... \$481  
TOTAL ASSETS.....\$11,851

**Hendersonville Country Club  
February 20, 2010**

Income..... \$1,388  
Expenses (Meals, Services and Entertainment). \$1,295  
Profit / (Loss).....\$93

<b>TAPS</b>		<b>Special Thanks To</b>
March 28, 2010:	Col Bryan Aleksich, USAF-Ret.	<b>JROTC Scholarship Donors</b>  - Leo and Gwen Gecewicz - Marshall and Bernardine Monroe - Mrs Jean Winslett - Mrs Betty Ude  - Paul Sutherland: for his generous donation for color newsletter printing costs  - Bill Bathurst: donation to chapter operations fund
February 12, 2010:	LTC Laurence G. Byrnes, USA-Ret.	
February 1, 2010:	Col Henry 'Hank' J. Benit, USAF Ret.	
January 27, 2010:	LtCol S. Clifton Pruett, Jr., USAF-Ret.	
October 17, 2009:	COL Herbert H. Smith, USA-Ret.	
October 9, 2009:	COL Thomas W. Johnson, USA-Ret.	
August 7, 2009:	CPT John L. Creech, USA-Ret.	
June, 2009:	LCDR Willis P. Ude, USN-Ret.	
September, 2008:	CPT Charles T. Thomblin, USA-Ret.	

### From the Chaplain

A young Spanish man named Ignatius lived a life of ease and luxury until he was seriously wounded by a cannon ball in an invasion by the French army in 1521. Painful surgery, reading spiritual writings and a mystical vision transformed his desire for chivalric honor into a spiritual desire to serve God. He entered a monastery and developed his Spiritual Exercises to be published later. A small band of his students who later came to be known as the Society of Jesus saw themselves as soldiers of Christ. At the time, Ignatius of Loyola had one thousand members of his Society also known as the Jesuits. The influence of the order continues until today in many educational institutions. One of Ignatius' prayers goes like this:

**Give me, O lord, a steadfast heart, which no unworthy thought can drag downward; an unconquered heart, which no tribulation can wear out; an upright heart, which no unworthy purpose may tempt aside. Bestow upon me also, O Lord my God, understanding to know thee, diligence to seek thee, wisdom to find thee, and a faithfulness that may finally embrace thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

April 15, 2010

## SPRING 2010 GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

SATURDAY, MAY 15, 2010

11:00 SOCIAL HOUR

12 NOON LUNCH AND PROGRAM

COST: \$18.50 PER PERSON

SPEAKER: CPT ADAM BENNETT, US ARMY

(See biographic summary page 5)

### MENU

Roast Turkey with Dressing and Pan Gravy

Beef Burgundy with Egg Noodles

Green Beans with Oregano Butter

Oven Roasted Potatoes

Broccoli Casserole

Garden Salad Bowl and Dressing

Old Fashioned Cole Slaw

Assorted Desserts

### A 25th Infantry Division soldier at war

Equipped 25th Infantry Division soldier in Afghanistan, 2008. On a routine 3-day foot patrol, each soldier carries anywhere from 130-160lbs of gear, food, ammo, and other equipment. If using vehicles on patrol, the amount they carry drops to a mere 60-100lbs



### **WNC-MOAA shirts.**

Please contact Bob Smith by phone or e-mail if you would like to order embroidered shirts with logo and lettering. If we get 12 of a style at a time the price is \$18.50 for Polo style and \$24.65 for long sleeve oxford plus the shipping which is minimal.

### **WELCOME NEW CHAPTER MEMBERS**

COL Thomas K. Galleher, USA-Ret., and his wife Beth  
COL James T. Ferguson, USAR-Ret., and his wife Carol  
CAPT Herb Mensch, USN-Ret., and his wife Linda  
Col Albert W. Hart, USAF-Ret., and his wife Stella  
MAJ Jerome L. Null, USA-Ret., and his wife Donna  
MAJ Johnathon Painter, USA-Ret.

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

### **Legislative Update LTC Larry Wilson, USA-Ret. Immediate Past President**

It is often said that the “price of liberty is eternal vigilance.” In the case of military retirees and their families, especially those of us over sixty-five, the price of our promised medical care is eternal vigilance. The mandatory cuts in MEDICARE payments are making it impossible to find doctors who will accept our “insurance.” Congress is continuing to fight over MEDICARE cuts and, as of 14 April, cannot agree on even a temporary fix for the problem. The House of Representatives wants to pass a temporary fix that will extend until October 2010; however, the Senate wishes to continue the “fix” on a month by month basis. The Senate did propose SB 1776 that would alleviate the problem; however, since the funds were not considered available, it was not successful. Both of our Senators, Burr and Hagen, are in favor of “fixing the problem.” Senator Burr did not support SB 1776 based on the funding question and is in favor of a month-by-month “fix” until the funding question is answered. Senator Hagen is also in favor of a long term fix, but supports the month-by-month fix also until the long-term question is answered. It is expected that the Senate will take up the problem next week. The House also recognizes the problem and is attempting to arrive at a temporary solution that will be agreed upon in both houses. Congressman Shuler fully supports the need for a long-term fix that will alleviate the problem completely. The first priority, of course, is solving the immediate problem. He did co-sponsor the Military Retirees Health Care Protection Act, HR 816, which would make permanent the previously enacted freeze on health fee increases for retired military personnel using the DOD TRICARE program. This legislation has not yet reached the House floor for a vote. In my opinion, there will continue to be short term “fixes” to the MEDICARE problem until after the elections. I doubt that any of our elected officials would want to be identified as being a “toad in the road” prior to the new Congress in 2011. But, as I have been wrong before, let us hope that we and our families will continue to receive the medical care we were promised and certainly earned. Although our families may not have “been in the military,” there is no doubt that they served and sacrificed as much, if not more, than the active duty member did. On the positive side, DOD has stated that it will not request any increases in TRICARE fees this year. This does not mean that future requests to increase fees will no be forthcoming. We must continue to let our elected representatives know where we stand on this issue and others that affect us. Please send in the MOAA-supplied cards, emails and letters to your representatives.

**SPRING 2010 GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING SPEAKER  
CPT ADAM BENNETT, UNITED STATES ARMY**

CPT Adam Bennett, USA, who is part of "Operation Tribute to Freedom," a speakers bureau headquartered in the Office of the Army Chief of Staff. CPT Bennett is a 6-year Army veteran and earned his commission at West Point. He was deployed to Tal Afar, Iraq, in support of 'Operation Iraqi Freedom' in 2006-2007, serving as Flight Company Executive Officer and Flight Company Platoon Leader. CPT Bennett will speak on his experiences as part of 'Operation Iraqi Freedom' and report on US Army commitments worldwide followed by Q&A. CPT Bennett is currently stationed in Asheville NC, as Commander, Asheville Recruiting Company and Columbia Recruiting Battalion

**WNC-MOAA AT WORK IN OUR COMMUNITY**

WNC Chapter of MOAA's President, MAJ Robert A. Smith, USA-Ret., presents one of 100 welcome kits to Asheville Buncombe Community Christen Ministry's Executive Director, Rev. Scott Rodgers. The kits were donated by the chapter and will be used at the Veteran's Restoration Quarters in Asheville.



**2010 Board of Directors**

**Immediate Past President**

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

**USA Representative**

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

**USMC Representative**

CWO3 Eric Magrath, USMC-Ret.  
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 Kat Spencer, USAF-Ret.

**Same as front page**

**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

**Legal Affairs - VACANT**

**Legislative Affairs**

LTC Larry Wilson, USA-Ret.

*Same as above*

**Personal Affairs**

Col Kenneth D. Hadeen, USAF-Ret.

*Same as above*

**Programs**

LTC Douglas W. Haldane, USA-Ret.  
828-253-9085

**VA Hospital Liaison**

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

lbaker@buncombe.main.nc.us

**Web Master**

LTC Leonard M. Baker, USA-Ret.

*Same as above*

## JROTC CADETS POST THE COLORS

At February 20, 2010, General Membership meeting, the chapter brought back the 'Posting of the Colors' tradition. We were honored by four sharp looking members of the East Henderson High School who did the honors. It was a fantastic way to start the meeting. We thank them.



## 2010-2011 BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTED

The newly elected Board of Director officers were officially inducted during the February 20, 2010 General Membership meeting. From left to right: Bob Smith, President; Don Jackman, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President; Mike Covell, 2d Vice President; Senior Advisor and Presiding Officer, Paul Sutherland; Zeb Palmer, Treasurer; and Kat Spencer, Secretary



**DUES NOTICE**

The year reflected in the upper left of your address label reflects the year you are current thru. If the year reflects 2009 or earlier, you are past due on dues and may result in being removed from the active membership roster and newsletters may no longer be sent.

Dues should be sent to: Secretary, WNC MOAA  
c/o 610 Turtle Creek Drive  
Asheville NC 28803

**Upcoming Special Military Events**

May 15th: Armed Forces Day  
May 22nd: Happy Birthday NOAA  
May 31st: Memorial Day  
June 14th: Happy Birthday US Army  
July 16th: Happy Birthday US Public Health Service  
August 4th: Happy Birthday US Coast Guard

**Black Mountain Satellite Chapter Update**

On April 21st, 21 Black Mountain Satellite Chapter members listened to guest speaker, Matt Mittan. Mr Mittan discussed his time as a military medic for 9 years. He then spoke on how he found himself in the communications field hosting his own local radio talk show for 3 hours/day, M-F and the controversy that can arise as a result.



**APPLICATION FOR MOAA MEMBERSHIP: WNC CHAPTER**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Spouse's First Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Rank: \_\_\_\_\_ Service: \_\_\_\_\_  
Retired: \_\_\_\_\_ Retired Reserve: \_\_\_\_\_ Active Duty: \_\_\_\_\_  
Former Officer: \_\_\_\_\_ Reserve Officer: \_\_\_\_\_ NG: \_\_\_\_\_  
Widow(er): \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Tel Number: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

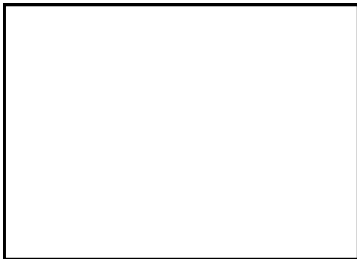
Nat'l MOAA Membership #: \_\_\_\_\_

Payment of Annual Membership Enclosed: Yes / No  
(Membership valid 1 Jan – 31 Dec)  
\_\_\_\_\_ \$20.00 for Regular Member (Includes Spouse)  
\_\_\_\_\_ \$5.00 for Auxiliary Member (Surviving Spouse)

Make check payable to WNC MOAA

Complete and mail your application with your check to:  
WNC MOAA Chapter  
Attn: Secretary  
610 Turtle Creek Drive  
Asheville, NC 28803

**THE WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA  
CHAPTER of the  
MILITARY OFFICERS  
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Of  
AMERICA, Inc.**



**MOUNTAIN MOAA NEWS**  
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COL Spence Campbell, USA-Ret.  
P. O. Box 370  
Hendersonville NC 28793



**General Chapter Meeting Registration Form**

Clip or Copy and Mail To:  
WNC MOAA, Inc.

Attn: Secretary  
610 Turtle Creek Drive  
Asheville, NC 28803

**DEADLINE: Payment must be received NLT: Tuesday, May 11, 2010**

Make Checks payable to: WNC MOAA

I / We plan on attending the WNC MOAA General Chapter Meeting on May 15, 2010.

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 1<sup>st</sup> WNC MOAA event attended: Y / N