

NORTH CAROLINA COUNCIL NEWSLETTER



NC Council of Chapters Website: www.moaa-nc.org

Serving Army, Marines, Navy, Air Force, Space Force, Coast Guard, Public Health Service, NOAA

Volume 2025 Issue 2

COUNCIL BOARD MEMBERS

- President - CW4 Jay E Garbus, USA (Ret)
- 1st VP - CDR Kenneth Klassen, USN (Ret)
- 2nd VP - COL Dana Tucker, ARNG (Ret)
- 3rd VP - LTC Tricia Vinson, USA (Ret)
- Immediate Past President - COL Jim Brumit, USA (Ret)
- Surviving Spouse Liaison - Dr. Vivianne Wersel, (SSL)
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- Council Web Manager - 1st LT Tracy Young, USA (FMR)
- Health and Welfare – MAJ Leon Rooks, USA (Ret)
- Chaplain - COL Malcolm Roberts III, USA (Ret)
- Lay Chaplain - LTC Ed Grant, USA (Ret)
- Parliamentarian - COL Vern Pike, USA (Ret)

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- March 13th
- April 10th
- May 8th
- Jun 12th
- July 10th
- August 14th
- September 11th
- October 9th
- November 7th & 8th **Annual Meeting In Person only**
Triangle Chapter hosting



5 STAR COUNCIL

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CW4 Jay E, Garbus, USA (Ret)

"No Disrespect in Respectfully Disagreeing with Leaders"



All,

Chapter Presidents, please submit for awards. MOAA Levels of Excellence Awards, Col. Marwin J. Harris Communications Awards, Col. Steve Strobridge Legislative Chair/Liaison Award, Surviving Spouse Liaison Excellence Award

The schedule for 2025 is posted as IMPORTANT INFORMATION on this page. Please pass this newsletter along to all of your members for council information. If you want a Council visit with your membership, it could be in person or on zoom. Right now I have the whole year open for a zoom meeting. Contact me asap to get on my calendar for in person or zoom.

Published by the North Carolina Council of Chapters of MOAA

OUR MISSION STATEMENT is in concert with the Military Officers Association of America purposes and objectives. The goal is to foster fraternal relations among retired, active, and former officers of the uniformed services and their Reserve and National Guard components. Our aim is to actively promote the protection of the rights and interests of members of the uniformed services, their family members, including survivors, provide useful services for members and their families, and serve the community, the active military forces (past, present, and future) and our nation.

Publisher and Editor – CW4 Jay E. Garbus, USA (Ret) and Sue Harris (SOM)

Editor may be reached at the Council website. **Further information is restricted due to scammers.**

Chapter Website - www.moaa-nc.org

The Newsletter is published monthly for members and friends of North Carolina Council of Chapters, MOAA.

Editorial Policy: The North Carolina Council of Chapters is affiliated with National MOAA. As such, the North Carolina Council of Chapters is nonprofit and politically nonpartisan. Editorial policies are established by the North Carolina Council of Chapters Publisher and Editor and are in consonance with MOAA's.

Advertising and sponsorship are accepted based on MOAA policies and standards.

MOAA "Take Action" <http://www.moaa.org/takeAction/>

A current issue of the newsletter can be found on the North Carolina Council of Chapters website, www.moaa-nc.org. Anyone wishing to receive this newsletter by e-mail may do so by contacting us using the "Contact Us" link

Early Bird Save the Date Invitation for a Cruise to Bermuda in 2025

6-Day Bermuda Cruise from Norfolk - Carnival Cruise Line Dates: October 12-18, 2025
Round trip from: Norfolk, VA - Open to MOAA members from anywhere, their adult family members and guests. MOAA membership is not required. **Please open the link below for details:**

[6-Day Bermuda Cruise from Norfolk - Carnival Cruise Line](#)

Cruise Line: Carnival on Sunshine! Special group rates apply and bookings are managed through our tour agent. Her contact details are listed below. 50 cabins have been reserved for our group and more can be added as needed.

Prices for double occupancy in each cabin are approximately \$800 for inside, \$900 for ocean view or \$1100 for balcony staterooms per person depending on selection. Suites and cabins for more than 2 people can be arranged. Minimal deposit is required to reserve cabins with final payments not due until July 14, 2025.

Call the agent below to discuss and reserve if interested. Lorna Tiller, AAA ITA 910-343-1978(O), 910-540-3390(M)
1823 Hawthorne Rd. Wilmington, NC 28403

Lorna Tiller, AAA ITA

email: tillertravels@gmail.com

910-343-1978

1823 Hawthorne Rd.

Wilmington, NC 28403

Thanks,

Ken Klassen





Leaders:

Passing along some important notes and happenings from Affiliated Councils and Chapters.

Committee Module / Near Real Time Report Update

We continue to thank you all for your gracious patience in this process. We continue to make good progress on the few remaining issues that prevent us from returning the CM/NRT to our volunteer leaders. This will be launched to small groups and North Carolina Chapters and Council are to be in the first group.

Apply through the new [MOAA Council and Chapter Annual Awards Portal](#). Note you'll need to register for an account and verify your email prior to submitting. Additional information on our awards program may be found here: [MOAA - Council and Chapter Awards](#).

Award Streamers

Council and chapter presidents should soon receive new streamers and updated guidelines for displaying annual LOE and Harris Communications awards. Please allow another week and then notify us at chapters@moaa.org if not received.

Enroll Now for New Chapter Dues Payment Portal

MOAA affiliates are welcome to join our new, hosted chapter dues pay portal, supported by a commercial platform, Cheddar Up. Please contact chapters@moaa.org to get started. You'll need to provide your affiliate name and the name and email of whoever will be the primary administrator. This must be someone who is an authorized user of your bank account. When your email request is received, we will reach out with a formal invitation to join our partner umbrella agreement with Cheddar Up. A recording of the September monthly leaders roundtable includes an overview of Cheddar Up and is found here: [MOAA - September 2024 Council and Chapter Virtual Roundtable](#).

Community Engagement Opportunities

Council and Chapter leaders are encouraged to inquire and support these important partner events:

- Our Community Salutes
 - Enlistee recognition ceremonies held by local communities across the country. Fifty locations in 2025. www.ourcommunitysalutes.org/
- Memorial Day Flag Relay
 - Involves runners moving 119 U. S. Flags along a coast-to-coast path from Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, VA. to Ft. Rosecrans National Cemetery, San Diego, CA, on Memorial Day. For more information see: www.NMDFR.org
- Military Order of the World Wars
 - The Military Order of the World Wars (MOWW) is a patriotic, nonpartisan, Veterans Service Organization (VSO) dedicated to promoting patriotism, civic responsibility, public service, and leadership in our nation's communities. moww.org/about-moww/

IMPORTANT DATES

- **Dec.1 -Feb 28:** MOAA Foundation Community Outreach Grant application window.
- **Feb 17:** Feb 17 – MOAA closed; Presidents’ Day holiday.
- **Feb 27:** Monthly chapter leader virtual roundtable, 7-9 p.m. EST: Topic to be the launch of the Committee Module. [Join here](#) at the time of the meeting. (Meeting ID: 925 4890 0894)
- **March 1:** Deadline for [MOAA Education Assistance Applications](#) for interest-free scholarships and grants for military families
- **March 5:** Council & Chapter Leadership Workshop for New Leaders (virtual). Invitation forthcoming. This needs to be emphasized to all new officers.
- **March 27:** Monthly chapter leader virtual roundtable, 7-9 p.m. EST: **Preparing for AiA 2025.** [Join here](#) at the time of the meeting. (Meeting ID: 966 1480 1229). Note this is a changed topic and the second of two roundtables on AiA.
- **April 7-10:** Advocacy in Action 2025
- **April 10:** MOAA Council Presidents Seminar
- **May 2-3:** Central Region Council & Chapter Leadership Workshop, Oklahoma City, OK
- **May 19:** MOAA Charities Golf Classic, TPC Potomac, MD
- **Aug. 13:** Council & Chapter Leadership Workshop for Experienced Leaders (virtual)
- **Oct. 27-29:** [Total Force+ Conference](#), Gaylord National Harbor, MD
- **Nov. 14-15:** Eastern Region Council & Chapter Leadership Workshop, Hershey, PA

CHAPTER VISITS THIS MONTH

- Feb 20 – East-Central, AL Chapter meeting; CAPT Frank Michael, USN (Ret)
- Feb 20 – Palm Springs, CA Chapter visit; CAPT Jim Carman, USN (Ret)
- Feb 25 – Judge Advocates Virtual Chapter meeting: CAPT Jim Carman, USN (Ret), Mr. Doug Sanders, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary
- Feb 27 – Tucson, AZ Chapter meeting; Dena Kilgore, CAE
- Feb 27 – Lancaster, PA Chapter meeting: Chaplain (Col.) Peter Baktis, USA (Ret)

RESOURCES

New leader and affiliate checklist ([Download](#))

Policies and Procedures Guide ([Download](#))

How-to video: [Using MOAA's Online Chapter Dues Program](#)

Access an archive of [Council and Chapter Roundtables](#)

List of [training events and other dates to know](#) Questions? Email chapters@moaa.org or call (800) 234-6622 and ask to speak with a Chapter Affairs Specialist.

A VIRTUAL CHAPTER

Virtual Chapters should be bound together by a shared affinity (e.g., warfare specialty) and/or mission (e.g., health care advocacy). While the possibilities are endless, some interest groups that may lend themselves to virtual chapters include, but are not limited to: Currently serving officers, Guard and reserve officers, Member spouses, Networking/mentoring specialists, State advocacy champions, Army and Navy Club members, Other military association members, Overseas military/expatriate, Dentists, and Financial professionals.

Are you interested in starting one of these virtual chapters, or in championing another group? Contact Capt. Pat L. Williams, USN (Ret), MOAA's program director for engagement, at patw@moaa.org.



2024 ANNUAL MEETING

November 16, 2024

Hawthorne Inn and Conference Center

Winston-Salem



VIETNAM ERA PINNING PHOTO Sue Harris

Minutes of the 13 February 2025 Council of Chapters Meeting

The monthly meeting of the MOAA NCCOC was held virtually and called to order at 10:01 on Thursday, 13 February 2025 by President CW4 Jay Garbus, USA (Ret). The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all. Chaplain COL Malcolm Roberts III, USA (Ret) read the opening prayer.

A quorum was present with ten officers present, nine chapters represented and seven guests including guest speaker CAPT Frank Michael, USN (Ret).

Frank elaborated on his recent letter to all MOAA Leaders.

- They are extremely close to rolling out the NRT and CM. It should be next week
- It will be rolled out in stages to manage potential issues, and North Carolina is in the first group.
- Councils and All chapters will have access to the rollout
- A workbook will be available, and the February 27 Roundtable will be dedicated to the CM
- The deadline for award applications is this Saturday, February 15th .
- Personal awards can be submitted via the website year-round (no deadline)
- Streamers have been mailed out for the Harris Award and the LOE, then annual pins will be sent to add to the streamers, and new medallions to signify a new level. Keep Legacy streamers.
- COL Dana Tucker, ARNG (Ret) and LCDR Mark Sandvigen, USN (Ret) will attend Advocacy in Action ☐ Stipends for travel and zoom accounts are for the Council only.
- AMBA advertising stipend (\$100) has a new point of contact which Frank will send to us
- Only three NC Chapters are using the new dues payment portal, Cheddar Up, which is a great improvement.
- Community Engagement Opportunities include Our Community Salutes, Memorial Day Flag Relay and Military Order of World Wars activities.

COL Herb Segal, USA (Ret) added American Battlefield Trust on April 26th , and COL Jeri Graham, USA (Ret) added Wreaths Across America to this list.

COL Herb Segal, USA (Ret) made a motion to accept the minutes as emailed. COL Jeri Graham, USA (Ret) seconded it, and it passed.

Treasurer Col Ken Hillman, USMC (Ret) reported that eight chapters have sent in their dues. The 2025 budget projects equal revenue and expenses.

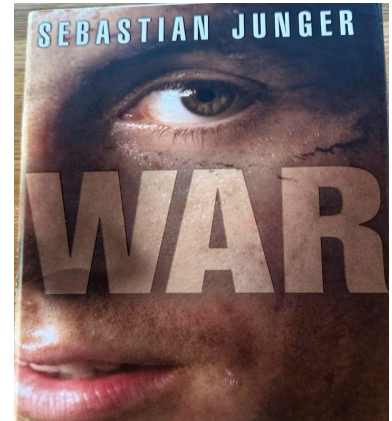
2nd Vice President COL Dana Tucker, ARNG (Ret) reported that he and LCDR Mark Sandvigen, USN (Ret) are registered for the AiA with COL Jeri Graham, USA (Ret) as a backup if needed. Five Tier-One Priorities have been identified. The list of the representatives they are to visit omits Districts 6 and 8.

3rd Vice President LTC Tricia Vinson, USA (Ret) reported that the state House has seven bills that pertain to Veterans or military. One is to establish November as Military Month. She has a list of committee members so you can see which ones your representative is on.

Immediate Past President COL Jim Brumit, USA (Ret) reminded everyone that the deadline to apply for Community Grants is February 28 th . The maximum for each grant is \$5000, but applications may be sent in for different projects. Chapter involvement is required, not just involvement by a chapter member.

COL Walt Havenstein, USMC (Ret) moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and passed.

MY BOOK SUGGESTION



Review by LTC John Culp, USA (Ret)

Member Western North Carolina Chapter

WAR, by Sebastian Junger, is a tightly written book about a group of men thrown together by their Army enlistment into a camp in Afghanistan. Combat is always there, sometimes intruding for a significant moment or two, but the story is about the men.

Junger, author of several critically acclaimed books and movies (including the movie *Restrepo*, which is a sort of companion to *WAR*) has a knack for getting into the heads and hearts of his subjects in a way that is unique. He tells their story, the story of boredom, fear, courage, and yes, love, in a unique way. Junger shared their experiences over five different trips, each lasting about a month, during their year in Afghanistan.

Is his depiction accurate, or even appropriate, given his limited time and his ability to leave when he wanted? The book says little about the chain of command or impact of officers and NCOs. It reduces the men to jokes about gay sex and masturbation and says almost nothing about the families they left behind, or how they may be dealing with that separation themselves. He adds in several research studies of dubious relevance, given how different the basis of these studies were from the war in Afghanistan. In his efforts to reduce the men to their lowest common denominator, he avoids any discussion of the meaning or import of the war itself, as if the soldiers (all double volunteers, Army and then Airborne) never cared about why they enlisted.

It is worth a read, but with the understanding that it may be a shallow look at the soldiers who fight our wars for us.

John Culp

North Carolina Council of Chapters (NCCOC)

Our purpose is to further the legislative and other objectives of MOAA.

- Foster fraternal relationships among retired, active, and former officers of the uniformed services and their National Guard or reserve components.
- Protect the interest of retired, active, reserve, and National Guard personnel of the uniformed services and their dependents and survivors
- Provide useful services for members and their dependents and survivors.
- Serve the community and the nation.
- Protect the interests of service retirees and active duty military members in matters of North Carolina state legislation.
- Organize and coordinate the collective action of the Member Chapters in the State of North Carolina.
- Provide the assistance necessary to Member Chapters to enable them to effectively serve their members, their communities, and the nation.

CHAPTER PRESIDENTS



- (NC01) - Cape Fear—COL Gregory K Williamson, USA (Ret)
- (NC02) - Coastal Carolina—CAPT Randall Ramian, USN, (Ret)
- (NC04) - Charlotte-Metrolina—Lt Col Nelson English, USAF (Ret)
- (NC06) - Sandhills—Col. Walter Havenstein, USMC (Ret)
- (NC07) - Southeastern—CAPT Allan Turner, USNR (Ret)
- (NC08) - Tarheel Central—CAPT Phil Briscoe, USN (Ret)
- (NC09) - Triangle—COL Herb Segal, USA, (Ret)
- (NC10) - Western Carolina—COL Steve Watkins, USA (Ret)
- (NC11) - Catawba Valley—LTC Clifford (Davey) Davenport, USA, (Ret)
- (NC14) - Piedmont—Maj Aimee S Corning, USAF (Ret)
- (NC17) - First in Flight— LCDR Al DelGarbino, USCG, (Ret)
- (NC20) - Central Carolina—LTC Gary Applewhite, USA, (Ret)
- (NC21) - High Country—Frankie Groff (SSL)
- (NC22) - New River—LCDR Steve Tucker, USN, (Ret)



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COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Executive Committee

1. President CW4 Jay E. Garbus, USA (Ret)
2. 1st Vice President CDR Kenneth Klassen, USN (Ret)
3. 2nd Vice President COL Dana Tucker, ARNG (Ret)
4. 3rd Vice President LTC Tricia Vinson, USA (Ret)
5. Immediate Past President COL Jim Brumit, USA (Ret)
6. Secretary Mrs. Sue Harris (SOM)— nonvoting
7. Treasurer Col Ken Hillman, USMC (Ret)
8. Surviving Spouse Liaison Dr. Vivianne Wersel (SSL)

Nominating Committee

1. Immediate Past President - COL Jim Brumit, USA (Ret)
2. Immediate Past President - Capt Donna Culp, USAF (FMR)
3. COL Jeri Graham, USA (Ret)
4. CAPT David Lee, USNR (Ret)

Finance Committee

1. President - CW4 Jay Garbus, USA (Ret)
2. Treasurer - Col Ken Hillman, USMC (Ret)
3. Immediate Past President - COL Jim Brumit, USA (Ret)

Education Committee

1. COL Jim Brumit, USA (Ret)
2. Capt Donna Culp, USAF (FMR)



AMBA

ASSOCIATION MEMBER BENEFITS ADVISORS

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Veterans Bridge Home

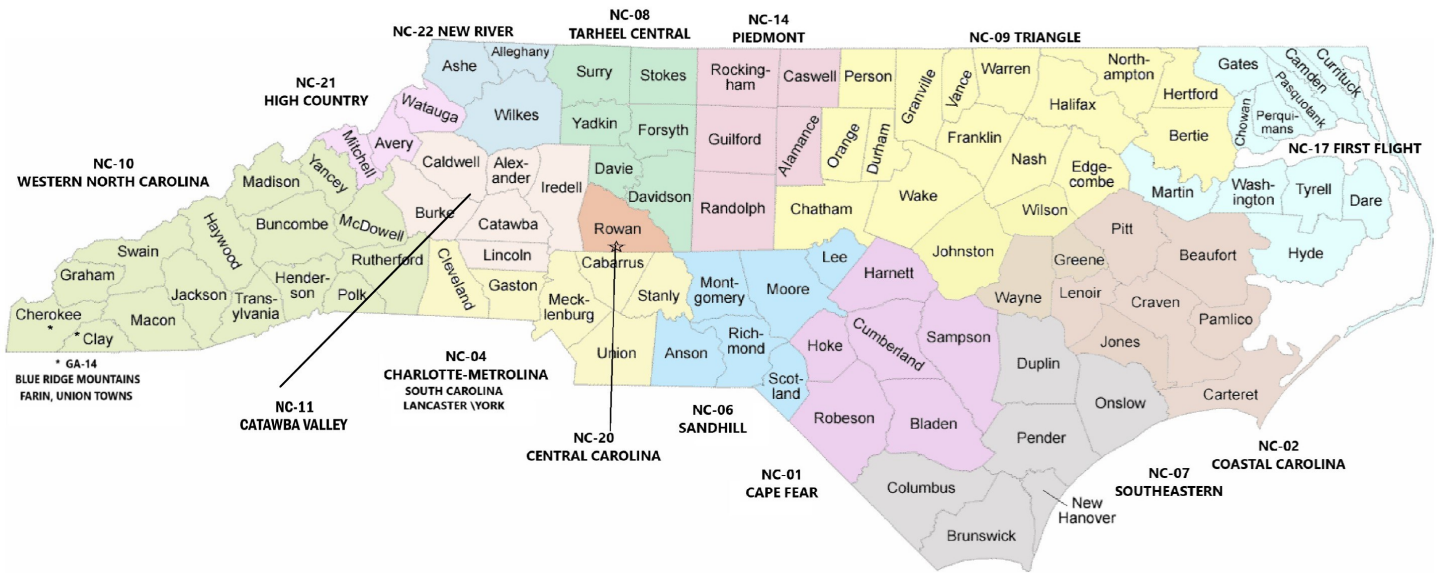
704-332-8802

www.veteransbridgehome.org



NCServes in collaboration with NCCARE360

CHAPTER NEWS



All Chapter Presidents you are welcome to put an article or announcement in the Chapters section.



CAPE FEAR CHAPTER NC-01

The Cape Fear Chapter, as is MOAA, is a non-partisan organization. As a chartered affiliate of MOAA since 1961 the Cape Fear Chapter is oldest in the state of North Carolina. Based in the Fayetteville-Fort Liberty-Spring Lake area, our current membership includes about 170 officers representing most of the uniformed services and all grades from warrant officer to flag rank. Additionally, our rolls include 25 surviving spouses.



COASTAL CAROLINA CHAPTER NC-02

We hold four scheduled events every year: 1) May's Scholarship Dinner; 2) July's Summer Activity; 3) September's Pig Pick'n; and 4) December's Toys-for-Tots Luncheon.

We also have several community events that CCMOAA participates in such as the MumFest, Veterans Day Luncheon, and Wreaths Across America. This information is on the website and in our Newsletter as well.



**CHARLOTTE
METROLINA
CHAPTER**

CHARLOTTE-METROLINA CHAPTER NC-04

Chapter Dues - Individual **\$30.00** Dues - Surviving Spouse **\$10.00**

Any active duty, retired, veteran, or reserve component commissioned or warrant officer of any of the seven uniformed services, or their widows, is eligible to join the Charlotte Metrolina Chapter. It is desired that applicants be members of the National MOAA or willing to join. Chapter dues are \$30.00 annually for regular members; auxiliary members (Surviving Spouse) pay \$10.00 annual dues.



SANDHILLS CHAPTER, MOAA NC-06

Our Chapter publishes a monthly e-newsletter regarding upcoming events, key legislative issues, other items of interest, and changes in our membership. We also annually publish a directory of all members with email addresses, and phone numbers.

We hope you consider joining the Sandhills MOAA Chapter and reestablishing ties with your military experience and your fellow comrades-in-arms.



SOUTHEASTERN NC CHAPTER NC-07

The mission of the SENCLAND Chapter is to benefit members of the uniformed services, their families and survivors and to advocate for a strong national defense, while providing needed support to the community and its members.

sencland.org



THE TARHEEL CENTRAL CHAPTER NC-08

"The Tarheel Central Chapter, MOAA, covers six N.C. counties: Davidson, Davie, Forsyth, Stokes, Surry, and Yadkin. Correspondence should be sent to: Tarheel Central Chapter, MOAA, c/o P. Briscoe, P.O. BOX 487, Yadkinville, N.C. 27055.

Visit our website, www.tarheelmoaa.org, to familiarize yourself with our chapter and the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA).

Our members, prospective members, spouses, and guests meet monthly on the second Tuesday at Salem Glen Country Club in Clemmons, N.C. The dress is business casual. The cost is \$25 per person including coffee and tea. A cash bar is available. The social hour begins at 5:45 p.m. followed by announcements, dinner and guest speaker."



THE TRIANGLE CHAPTER NC-09

* [Triangle Chapter website](#). The Chapter was originally chartered in 1963 and formed in 1964. Although the Chapter area includes Wake, Franklin, Granville, Nash and Vance Counties, most of the members are from Wake County. Our Chapter is a nonprofit organization formed under section 501(c)(19) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. **Correspondence should be sent to:** Triangle Chapter, MOAA, PO Box 19861, Raleigh, NC 27619



WESTERN CAROLINA CHAPTER NC-10

Membership in WNC-MOAA Chapter and MOAA National are nonpartisan and open to present and former commissioned officers and warrant officers (including retirees) with honorable service in any of the United States' eight uniformed services (including National Guard and Reserves): Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Coast Guard, Space Force, U.S. Public Health Service, and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

CATAWBA VALLEY CHAPTER NC-11

Chapter Affairs Specialist, Council and Chapter Affairs Dena Kilgore, CAE, will visit the NC11: Catawba Valley Chapter In-Person on 9/19/2024

Congradulation to Dana Tucker on his retirement.

The Catawba Valley Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) was chartered in 1982. It covers a region of North Carolina comprised of six counties: Alexander, Burke, Caldwell, Catawba, Iredell and Lincoln. Over the years, the chapter has won four MOAA national 4-Star Levels of Excellence Awards and five 5-Star awards; the most recent was for year 2022.

PIEDMONT CHAPTER NC-14

Correspondence should be sent to: Piedmont Chapter, MOAA, 545 Morton Ave, Asheboro, NC 27205

FIRST FLIGHT CHAPTER NC-17

Correspondence should be sent to: First Flight Chapter, MOAA, P.O. Box 50, Shiloh, NC 27974-0050

CENTRAL CAROLINA CHAPTER NC-20

Correspondence should be sent to: Central Carolina Chapter, MOAA, Rufty-Holmes Senior Citizens Center, Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue, Salisbury, NC 28144

High Country Chapter NC 21



HIGH COUNTRY CHAPTER NC-21

Correspondence should be sent to: High Country Chapter, MOAA, PO Box 3312, Boone, NC 28607

The High Country Chapter holds General Membership meetings quarterly at dates and times to be announced. The Board of Directors' meetings are held every month on the first Tuesday at 5:00 at Basil's in Boone. All non-Board members are welcome and encouraged to attend. Please give us a heads up if you do plan to join us and please check the events schedule for any changes to the date.

If you would like to join us as a new member, please download and print the [Application for Membership](#) in the High Country Chapter MOAA. Fill out and send the completed form to:

High Country Chapter MOAA
PO Box 3312
Boone, NC 28607-3312



NEW RIVER CHAPTER NC-22

Correspondence should be sent to New River Chapter, MOAA, PO Box 1202, Jefferson, NC 28640

NOTICE PLEASE READ

§ 143B-1222. Veterans' Affairs Commission Advisory Committee (VACAC) – members; compensation.

The department commander or official head of each veterans' organization which has been chartered by an act of the United States Congress and which is legally constituted and operating in this State pursuant to said charter shall constitute an Advisory Committee to the Veterans' Affairs Commission. Members of the VACAC shall receive per diem and necessary travel and subsistence expenses in accordance with the provisions of G.S. 138-5. (1977, c. 637, s. 3; 2015-241, s. 24.1(c); 2015-268, s.7.3(a).)



MOAA

NORTH CAROLINA & FEDERAL LEGISLATION

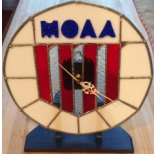
MOAA's Core Mission

The Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) is the country's leading organization protecting the rights of uniformed servicemembers and their families. MOAA's constituents proudly hail from every branch of the uniformed services. To them, we have made the same promise that they have made to their country: Never Stop Serving.

MOAA's greatest mission is to improve the lives of those who serve and their families, which is achieved largely through the tireless advocacy efforts taking place in our nation's capital. For more than 90 years, MOAA has supported legislation that benefits the uniformed services community and has remained equally vigilant when fighting to stop legislation that threatens our livelihood. The larger our numbers, the greater our voice.

- Ensuring pay at or above Employment Cost Index, allowances, and programs necessary to recruit and retain a quality force.
- Concurrent Receipt of military retirement pay and VA disability pay.
- Maintaining the hold on medical billet reductions until required reports clarify how any cuts will fully support both readiness and beneficiary access to care.
- Reversing the degradation of the pharmacy benefit, specifically ensure access and achieve limits to copay increases.
- Requiring DoD to establish a transparent and well-publicized problem reporting system for TRICARE beneficiaries experiencing access challenges within the direct care system of military hospitals and clinics, including an annual report to Congress on the number and types of beneficiary access problem reports by MTF and steps taken by DHA to address systemic access problems.
- Monitoring recent major legislation enacted such as the PACT Act in the areas of health care, compensation, and follow-on support for surviving spouses and families and seek statutory or policy changes as required.
- Compelling Congress and VA to accelerate caregiving and whole health care services, and modernization of VHA workforce and facility infrastructure to improve veterans access to high quality care.
- Improving congressional support for uniformed services families: enhancing programs to support spouse employment, ensuring implementation of an effective basic needs allowance, and providing accessible, affordable childcare options.
- Overcoming the lack of effective problem-reporting mechanisms and resolution systems in the Military Health System.
- Repealing the recoupment of last month's paycheck after retiree's passing, and continue to improve SGLI/VGLI updates to match inflation.
- Improving DIC baseline to align with other government entitlements' baseline of 55%.

MOAA NEVER STOPS SERVING TO HONOR THEIR SERVICE AND HELP THEM RETIRE THE WAY THEY ENVISIONED.



MOAA NEWS & INFORMATION

“Never Stop Serving”

Pay Chapter Dues Online: See if your local chapter is participating in the [Chapter Dues Payment System!](#) Only THREE NC Chapters have used the new payment system.

The **Lake and Sumter Counties (Fla.) Chapter** presented \$3,000 to Villagers for Veterans, a nonprofit that ensures “veterans receive assistance in healing, a return to normalcy, and an independent lifestyle.” The funds will help pay for food and other amenities needed for daily living for residents of Ashley’s Cottage in Fruitland Park, a transitional home for women veterans. .

The **Star Fort (S.C.) Chapter** is partnering with the City of Greenwood to recognize local veterans with banners on lamp posts for two weeks preceding and after Veterans Day. The double-sided vinyl banners include a photo of the veteran in uniform and their service branch and war/conflict served in.

The **Whidbey Island (Wash.) Chapter** recently presented awards to two junior officers, one from Sea Command and one from Shore Command. The recipients — Lt. Paige L. Brigham, Avionics Division officer, Fleet Air Reconnaissance Squadron, and Lt. J.G. Cameron Kinley, tactical watch officer, Theater Undersea Surveillance Command, Pacific — received from the chapter a glass engraved plaque and a challenge coin. In addition, the Oak Harbor Navy JROTC commander and five of his cadets performed the colors and a rifle drill at the event.



**2025 MOAA Signature Group
Burgundy & Provence River Cruise**
September 14-21, 2025

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NORTH CAROLINA COUNCIL OF CHAPTERS

QUARTERMASTER MARKET PLACE



THE TARHEEL CENTRAL CHAPTER

Challenge Coin is now available for purchase for \$15.00. On the front, the chapter name runs above the US Flag and the MOAA motto rings the bottom. The NC state symbol is representative of the state flag in color and has a single white star located in Tarheel Central Chapter catchment area – Surry; Stokes; Yadkin; Forsyth; Davie; and Davidson counties. On the Back of the coin is the official MOAA logo. Address purchase inquires to info@tarheelmoaa.org.



SOUTHEASTERN CHAPTER

With the help of Past President Joe Irrera, SENCLAND Chapter ordered and recently received our own Challenge Coins. We are selling these at Chapter events for \$5.00 each. Monies received over and above manufacturing costs will go back to the chapter. We started selling these at the 9/3/2024 chapter meeting and will make available at all subsequent meetings going forward.



CHARLOTTE-METROLINA CHAPTER

There's no better way to show your pride of MOAA and the Charlotte-Metrolina Chapter than wearing official merchandise, found at the [MOAA Store](https://www.moaa.org/store) online. There's a good selection of quality men's and women's apparel; it costs no more than you'd pay at the mall; and they deliver it to your front door. Wear it at official functions and in the community, where it can be a great conversation starter and generate more interest in our chapter from local veterans. Please check it out! Eric Kelly (USAF-Ret), Chapter Secretary. MOAA Chapter coins are available for \$10.00 at meetings or by contacting Susan Bryant at susrebry@yahoo.com



