



NEWSLETTER MAY 2017

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NEXT MEETING

Sunday, MAY 21, 2017

Red Rocks Cafe
 4223 Providence Rd

Social Time 1500
 Meeting with Meal 1530

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The May 21st meeting is the last one before our summer break. There could be a June or July picnic up in Davidson with our Pines satellite chapter, if so, we will notify all. However, the chapter golf tournament/JROTC Scholarship committee will continue meeting and working to raise sponsors and support for our Third Annual JROTC Scholarship Fund tournament on October 6 at Olde Sycamore Golf Plantation. FYI – we still need volunteers to assist in raising sponsors, support, golf/raffle gifts and GOLFERS. All are welcome and needed.

Attending this next meeting will be truly inspirational as you will meet our four (4) JROTC Scholarship awardees. We are very proud to be able to give each of these outstanding cadets, \$2,000 towards their higher education. They will be present with their parents and Senior JROTC Instructor.

Also at the meeting, will be our two JROTC Instructors of the Year awardees and their spouses. Recognized this year are Major Eric Graham, USAF (Ret), Senior Aerospace Instructor from North Mecklenburg HS and Sergeant Major John Logan, USMC (Ret), of the Nation Ford HS MCJROTC program in Fort Mill, SC. Come and meet these outstanding JROTC program leaders.

Once again, we are hosting a "MOAA Chapter Dining Day" on Wednesday, May 24th at the California Pizza Kitchen in SouthPark. Copy the flyer included in this newsletter, give to friends and neighbors and ask them to go to the CPK in SouthPark Mall any time on May 24th. Give the flyer to the wait staff and our chapter gets 20% of the total bill. This fund raiser will help offset JROTC/ROTC Leadership award costs for the chapter.

We will publish a newsletter in late August letting all know about a great beginning fall meeting on September 17th with our presenter, Dr. Larry Rogers, Combat Surgeon in Viet Nam.

Have a great summer. The chapter needs you in support of the JROTC Scholarship Fund Golf Tournament whose proceeds will ensure more great scholarships for cadet awardees in 2018.

See you on May 21st

Ron Morgan, Colonel, USMC (Ret), President

The mission of the Charlotte-Metrolina Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) is to promote MOAA purposes and objectives. This will foster fraternal relations among retired, active, and former officers of the uniformed services, and their Reserve and National Guard components. The goal is to actively promote the protection of the rights and interests of members of the uniform 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.

PROGRAMS – JAY GARBUS

Chapter meetings are held at the Red Rocks Café, 4223-8 Providence Rd., Strawberry Hill area where Fairview/Sardis Rds. cross Providence, behind Fresh Market. Social starts at 3:00 PM, followed by a short business meeting, then dinner (order from the menu) and speaker presentation.

May 21 - Our last meeting prior to the summer break, will include as our special guests, the four JROTC Scholarship awardees, their parents and JROTC Instructor. In addition, we will be honoring our chapter's JROTC Instructors of the Year presenting them with a certificate and gift card. We are planning for a full room of 60 at the Red Rocks Café. Come and meet these outstanding cadets and their dedicated Instructors.

Special Appeal for Contributions to the Chapter Operating Fund – for Chapter award costs and program expenses

As we have announced, the costs for MOAA Leadership Awards for JROTC/ROTC programs and the Gold Bar program for ROTC grads at UNCC are now 100% funded by MOAA chapters. MOAA National has had to pass these costs to the local level and, as a chapter, we have voted to continue to support both programs. Our first Dining Day at California Pizza Kitchen did not have the level of participation we desired to raise some funds to cover these additional costs. Note: Next CPK Dining Day is on May 24th. (See notice in newsletter).

Additionally, we could have up to 20 dinner guests (Scholarship and JROTC Instructor of the Year awardees/guests) for May 21 chapter meeting and need to cover these costs. We are putting out this special appeal for chapter member donations that will greatly help cover these expenses. Donations are tax exempt under our non-profit 501(c) 3 status. Give your check made out to Charlotte-Metrolina Chapter MOAA to Ron Wilsbach, our Treasurer, or send it to the P.O. Box. Thank you for your consideration.

Chapter JROTC Scholarship Awardees for 2017

I am very pleased to announce the 2017 Chapter JROTC Scholarship Awardees. Each will receive a \$ 2,000 scholarship, payable to their chosen college/university. The JROTC cadet awardees for 2017 are:

Asael N. Salinas	Rocky River High School
Abram G. Magaldi	Myers Park High School
Jessica Dohman	Weddington High School
Mitchell A. Roberts	Ardrey Kell High School

These awardees with their parents and JROTC Instructor will attend our May 21st meeting to be recognized and be presented with a certificate. Please join us then to meet these outstanding JROTC student cadets.

CHAPTER SECRETARY – RON WILSBACH

Charlotte-Metrolina MOAA Chapter Minutes for April 23, 2017

President Ron Morgan called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m. at the Red Rocks Café. The invocation was given by Chaplain John Samb and was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Ron introduced new member Hal DesChamp who gave a brief summary of his military experience.

The minutes of the March 19th, 2017 meeting were approved with the following change: paragraph 1. Under Officer Reports, the date of the Oktoberfest Chapter meeting should be October 15th. Ron Wilsbach, Treasurer reported that the General Fund has a balance of \$3,734.39 and the Scholarship Fund has a balance of \$23,008.09. The 50/50 Raffle of \$33 was won by Greg Ainslie.

Officer Reports:

1. **1st VP – Programs** - Jay Garbus reported that the **May 21st** meeting will be devoted to acknowledgment of Chapter 2017 JROTC Cadet Scholarship recipients and recognizing the Officer and Enlisted JROTC Instructors of the Year. Ron Morgan reported that he and Harley Ellinger were exploring the possibility of having a summer activity with our satellite chapter at Davidson, NC. No regular meetings will be held during the summer. The next regular Chapter meeting will be September 17th when Dr. Larry Rogers will tell us about his Viet Nam experiences as a combat surgeon. Meeting dates for the remainder of 2017 are: Oct. 15th; Nov. 12th; Dec 10th.
2. **Membership and Retention** – Ron Morgan reported for Dale Hogue that the Chapter has gained eight (8) new members in 2017. Also, the Chapter Survey results were summarized in the Chapter's April Newsletter.
3. **Legislative Affairs** - Dick Steeves advised members to be alert to the national budgetary process that is being discussed in Washington. Most watchers of this process are betting on Congress to provide only a short term solution to the question of "Sequestration". Also, the "Blended Retirement System" being proposed for present active duty personnel features an option of a lump sum payment at retirement that may very well lead to a reduction of payout over the lifetime of future retirees. MOAA is analyzing this new program and will provide recommendations and seek feedback from MOAA members. At the state level, numerous bills are being considered by committees and Dick will provide a summary of these initiatives at the May meeting. Keep informed at these websites: www.moaa.org; www.moaa-nc.org; <http://charlottemoaa.org>; www.4thbranch.org
4. **Newsletter** – input deadline for the May newsletter is May 4th.

Old/New Business:

1. **JROTC Scholarship Fund Golf Tournament** – In May the Chapter will award four (4) \$2000 scholarships to deserving cadets from the Charlotte Metropolitan Area. To fund these efforts requires a major effort by the Chapter. The JROTC Tournament Committee is requesting the assistance of "all hands" in making the October 6, 2017, golf tournament the best yet! Sponsors are critically needed to form the base of the tournament. Please lend a hand to make this effort a success. Ron Morgan noted the correspondence from Melody Alexander, a 2016 Scholarship winner, telling us about her first year experiences at University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. Melody's entire letter is available in the April Newsletter. Golf Committee meeting in May date and time to be announced. All Chapter members are encouraged to attend.

2. **JROTC Leadership Awards** – Award materials need to be distributed by Chapter volunteers. Please see Robin Garbus and Carol Morgan at the end of the meeting to secure a school and deliver the materials prior to school's award ceremony date.
3. **Fund Raiser to pay for JROTC Leadership Awards** – The next "Dining Days" at California Pizza Kitchen (CPK) is May 24th. Flyers for this event are available at Chapter meetings, at the Chapter Website, in the Chapter Newsletter and the Chapter eNewsletter, "The Gouge". Funds raised defray the costs of JROTC Leadership Medals and Certificates that are no longer supplied by MOAA national. Please pass this on to neighbors and friends.

Announcements:

1. April 27th – CMS JROTC Parade and Awards Ceremony at Bojangles Arena, 6 p.m.
2. April 27th – AF ROTC Leadership Award at UNCC to be presented by member Chuck Martin.
3. April 29th – Academy Day at Charlotte Catholic – 10 a.m.
4. May 9th – Next Chapter Board meeting at Red Rocks Café – 4:30 p.m.
5. May 12th – Air Force and Army ROTC Commissioning Ceremonies at UNCC.
6. May 11th – 12th – NCCOC Quarterly meeting in Winston-Salem.
7. Sept 7th – 10th – NCCOC at Colonial Williamsburg, VA

Presentation – Eli Edelkind, Capt., USMCR spoke about the recruiting process to assist high school students competing for selection to the US Naval Academy, Annapolis, MD.

Respectfully submitted,
Ron Wilsbach, Secretary/Treasurer



Eli Edelkind, Capt. USMCR, Blue & Gold Officer of US Naval Academy presented a program on April 23 about Naval Academy recruiting and life of mids on campus.

Trump to establish new VA accountability office

Lt. Gen. Dana Atkins USAF (ret), President of MOAA, will attend the signing.

By: [Leo Shane III](#), April 26, 2017

WASHINGTON — President Trump will establish a new accountability office for the Veterans Affairs employees and create a new task force to look for waste and fraud in the sprawling bureaucracy during a visit to department headquarters Thursday afternoon. The moves could lead to faster firing of problem employees at VA offices and a downsizing of corporate staffs across the 365,000-person department, VA Secretary David Shulkin told reporters on Thursday. “We’re working hard to make sure there is a culture (at VA) where everyone understands their mission is to serve veterans,” he said.

Trump’s short trip across Lafayette Park from the White House to VA headquarters in Washington is designed to follow his campaign promises to clean up the embattled department, which lawmakers have criticized in recent years for being slow to respond to incompetence or criminal behavior. The new Office of Accountability and Whistleblower Protection will help “discipline or terminate VA managers or employees who fail to carry out their duties in helping our veterans” by reviewing existing regulations for dismissing federal workers. Shulkin said that will include recommending new legislation governing department employment rules, and better enforcement of existing ones. But it won’t create new changes in the appeals processes for dismissal, a safety net that federal union officials have argued needs to be preserved to protect workers’ rights.

They’ve sparred with Republican lawmakers over new accountability legislation already passed by the House (and endorsed by Shulkin) which would shorten appeals times and allow easier firing of employees involved in wrongdoing. That legislation is currently under consideration in the Senate. Shulkin said the new office will also work to preserve whistleblower rights — “we will investigate any reports of retaliation” — but on a broader scope than past such initiatives.

The new task force will look at VA’s overall national footprint and whether current services are duplicating efforts. But they’ll take a particular focus on the headquarters staffs, with an eye towards reducing the number of department employees who don’t interact directly with veterans. “We’re not anticipating adding any new staff, but instead using our existing staff in a more efficient way,” he said.

Earlier in the day, VA officials announced they planned to leave open thousands of positions left vacant by the recent federal hiring freeze, citing the need for leaner department operations. Similar efforts on more efficient management were started by Shulkin’s predecessor, VA Secretary Bob McDonald, during President Obama’s administration. But while McDonald and Obama made promises of increased accountability within the department, neither made the issue a public point of emphasis like Shulkin and Trump.

Even before the official announcement, news of Trump’s new executive order drew concern from critics and praise from supporters of stronger VA accountability rules. “We appreciate that President Trump is taking steps to fix the VA’s toxic culture, but the job will not be finished with just this executive order,” said Dan Caldwell, policy director at Concerned Veterans for America. “This new office will only be effective if it is coupled with strong accountability legislation ... identifying bad VA employees won’t do any good if you still can’t fire them.” Shulkin said establishing the new office will incur some costs, but did not offer further details about its employee totals or budget. It will report directly to the VA Secretary with suggestions.



california
PIZZA KITCHEN



May 24th 2017

“MOAA DINING DAY”

CPK & CHARLOTTE- METROLINA CHAPTER ARE TEAMING UP TO
RAISE FUNDS FOR JROTC LEADERSHIP AWARDS AND ROTC
GOLD BARS.

CPK AT SOUTHPARK MALL

TAKE THIS FLYER WITH YOU FOR LUNCH OR DINNER – GIVE IT
TO YOUR WAITER - **CHAPTER GETS 20%** OF YOUR BILL – GIVE
FLYER TO YOUR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS.

HOW EASY IS THAT?

FEATURED MEMBER: Richard (Dick) Steeves, Colonel, USAF (Ret)

Richard grew up in Minneapolis and attended the University of Minnesota, earned a BA and a commission as a 2Lt in the USAF in 1960. Upon graduation he entered Primary Pilot Training at Graham Air Base, then Advanced Training at Webb Air Force Base, which he completed in 1961 and received his Pilot's Wings. He was then assigned to the 97th Bomb Wing as a KC135 copilot and later as an aircraft commander. After completing Squadron Officers School as a Captain in 1967, he volunteered for the F4 Phantom. He completed F4 upgrade training in 1968 and was assigned to the 366th Tactical Fighter Wing at DaNang AB, SVN. Over the next 12 months he flew 160 combat missions.

After his DaNang tour he was assigned to the Air Force Institute of Technology program at the University of Missouri. There he completed his MBA, then had directed duty as a staff planning officer at Strategic Air Command Headquarters. In August of 1973 he, as a Major, was transferred to Norfolk, VA to attend the Armed Forces Staff College. Upon completion he was reassigned to the Pentagon. First as a staff officer in the US Air Force Operations Directorate, then as Executive Officer to the Air Force Director of Operations. This assignment he held for over three years.

Now LtCol Steeves received an assignment to the Air War College as a student for a 10-month course. Subsequently he was assigned to Plattsburg AFB as a KC135 Squadron Commander. In 1981, now a Colonel, he was transferred to Grissom Air Force Base as Wing Assistant Deputy Commander of Operations. Subsequently he became Group Commander and then Vice Wing Commander. In 1983, Col Steeves became the Wing Commander of the 384th Air Refueling Wing, McConnell AFB, KS—a position he held until 1986. After a one year assignment at Strategic Air Command Headquarters as Director of Current Operations, he was reassigned, at his request, to the Air Force Air War College as a full-time faculty member where he headed the Department of Leadership and Management and National Security Affairs. He assumed the position of Vice Commandant of the school in his last year of active duty and retired in 1990 after a 30-year career.

In retirement, Richard assumed leadership of the Air University Foundation (a non-profit foundation) which provided financial support for study programs and awards that the Air Force did not have funds to support. In 1999, Richard Accepted a position with the J A Jones



Company in Charlotte where he was Director of Proposal Development. Most of his effort there was devoted to military-related facility contracts.



red in 1994. For the past ten years Richard has devoted considerable time Charlotte Douglas Airport USO. He heads up the USO Honors Support Team that provides escort and other services for the families of Fallen Service Members as they transit the airport. The Team has been involved in over 100 of these events.

Additionally Richard devotes time to the Carolina Z Club where he has been a member for 12 years. He has owned 8 Nissan Z's over the years and currently enjoys his G37 Coupe. Richard is has 2 children.

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VIETNAM WAR EXHIBIT

“Welcome Home”

Presented by : Matthews Veterans Advisory Committee (MVAC) & Matthews American Legion Post 235

Saturday, May 20 through Monday, May 29

Weekdays 10-4 pm – Weekends 9-4 pm – Memorial Day 10-1 pm

Matthews Community Center, Room 204, 100 W McDowell St, Matthews, NC

This exhibit features memorabilia and items from a local historian, including a map of Vietnam where veterans can place pins to mark their service locations. The display honors the service, valor, and sacrifice of Vietnam War Veterans. There will be a Visitor's Ledger available where remembrances and anecdotes from those who served, or their families, can be recorded and shared. The exhibit is on loan from the Charlotte-Metrolina Chapter of the Military Officers Association.

JROTC Scholarship Fund **BENEFIT GOLF TOURNAMENT**



SPONSORED BY



All tournament proceeds go to support higher education scholarships for outstanding JROTC cadets in Charlotte-Metrolina area high schools.

Friday, October 6, 2017
Olde Sycamore Golf Plantation - Mint Hill, NC

7:30a - 8:45a Registration, Continental Breakfast, Driving Range Balls, Practice Putting Green
9:00a Tee Off Captain's Choice / Scramble Format & Tournament Play (until 2p)
2:00p - 3:30p Barbecue Buffet Dinner, Awards, Door Prizes & Raffle Winners

(SEE PAGE 2 FOR PRICING, SPONSORSHIP LEVELS AND REGISTRATION FORM)

PRIZES AWARDED to 1st, 2nd, 3rd place teams, Closest to the Pins, Longest Drive & more!

HOLE-IN-ONE PRIZE: New Honda provided by



The Charlotte-Metrolina Chapter of MOAA is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit entity. The JROTC Scholarship Fund falls under that tax-exempt status and all donations are tax-free. Chapter Tax ID/EIN #38-3779812

JROTC Scholarship Fund Benefit Golf Tournament - Oct 6, 2017
LEVELS & REGISTRATION

PRICE INCLUDES: Green fees, Cart, 2 Beverage Tickets on Course, Continental Breakfast, Buffet Dinner, Door Prizes & Gifts. Sponsorships will also get signage at tee/green.

PARTICIPATION

Individual Golfer \$100 4 Person Team \$400

SPONSORSHIPS

TEE/GREEN SPONSORSHIP

Individual \$100 Company Signage \$200 4 Person Team + Signage \$500

PRIME COMPANY SPONSORSHIPS

All levels include: Reserved dining table at Awards Dinner, acknowledgement at Tournament Dinner, and company name and/or logo on printed material, press releases and MOAA website.

A representative of each sponsor company will be invited to and recognized at the JROTC scholarship awards dinner/ceremony on May 20, 2018.

Platinum Sponsor \$2,000

- (3) Foursomes
- Title Sponsor Banner
- MOAA Challenge Coin to each golfer
- Opportunity to speak at Awards Dinner

Gold Sponsor \$1,500

- (2) Foursomes
- Title Sponsor Banner
- MOAA Challenge Coin to each golfer

Silver Sponsor \$1,000

- (1) Foursome
- Title Sponsor Banner
- MOAA Challenge Coin to each golfer

Registration Form - JROTC Scholarship Fund BENEFIT GOLF TOURNAMENT 2017

Please Check One or Several: (Mulligan packages available at Registration)

PARTICIPATION: ☐ Individual Player \$100 ☐ 4 Person Team \$400

SPONSORSHIPS: ☐ Individual \$100 ☐ Company Tee/Green \$200 ☐ 4 Person Team Tee/Green \$500
☐ Prime Company Sponsorship (Level _____)

Team Captain/Player Name: _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____

1. _____ 2. _____

3. _____ 4. _____

PAYMENT: Checks payable to MOAA Charlotte-Metrolina Chapter

Please detach and send form by September 1, 2017 (and payment if by check) to:
Ron Wilsbach – MOAA Scholarship Golf Tournament, 10944 Casetta Drive, Matthews, NC 28105-5918