



NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2018



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy holidays to all as December is just around the corner. We will have our annual holiday party at the Red Rock Café on December 9th at 3PM.

To add some fun to our dinner and party, we will have a **White Elephant** (or whatever you want to call it) "gift exchange". Numbers will be drawn and then gifts selected in order with each following number allowed to either "steal" a previously opened gift or select a new gift. Keeping a sense of humor, it is a lot of laughs. These are the rules: 1) Gifts should be under \$ 10 in value, 2) nice or humorous is fine, 3) all gifts should be wrapped, 4) regifting something you already have at home is fine or 5) if you can, bring a second gift to cover for some guests that may forget or not get this notice. FYI – a wine bottle under \$ 10 would be appreciated by some.

Toys for Tots – We are also still collecting Toys for Tots at the December meeting.

Dues for 2019 – As a reminder, annual dues for 2019 are due by December 31st. Many members have paid ahead for 5 years. If you don't remember if you have or not, contact Ron Wilsbach. First year dues remain \$ 5 and then annual dues renewals are \$ 25.

Chapter meetings are held at the Red Rocks Café, 4223-8 Providence Rd., Strawberry Hill area where Fairview/Sardis Rds. cross Providence, behind the old Fresh Market, in the Strawberry Hill shopping center. We start the meeting at 3:00 PM with a 30-minute social, followed by a short business meeting, then dinner (order from the menu) and then the program.

Thank you for your participation with and for our chapter goals attainment.

Jay E. Garbus, CW4, USA (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.

NEXT MEETING

Sunday, December 9th, 2018

Red Rocks Cafe

4223 Providence Rd

Social Time **1500**
 Meeting with Meal **1530**

NEW CHAPTER WEB SITE – We have a new chapter web site at <https://www.moaacharlotte.com/> Try the new site. Thanks to Dale Hogue for creating it.

PROGRAMS AND NOMINATIONS – JOHN WILLIS

December 9 – Annual holiday party for Hanukkah and Christmas. “White Elephant” gifts and Toys for Tots collection.

January 27 – Installation of Officers by David Lee, President NCCOC and Mr. Chris Perez, Volunteer Services Manager, Volunteer Services Central Division, Atrium Health - Atrium Health for veterans.

17 Feb 2019 will be Joe Anderson with a presentation on the Tuskegee Airmen

17 March – Ms. Catherine Hall, Atrium Health – will discuss Medical Power of Attorney and other health matters.

21 April – Kate McCullough, LifeShare of the Carolinas.

19 May – JROTC Scholarship Awards

LEGISLATION – DICK STEEVES – Federal - S 66 A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to permit certain retired members of the uniformed services who have a service-connected disability to receive both disability compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs for their disability and either retired pay by reason of their years of military service or Combat-Related Special Compensation, and for other purposes.

Federal - HR 333A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to permit retired members of the Armed Forces who have a service-connected disability rated less than 50 percent to receive concurrent payment of both retired pay and veterans' disability compensation, to extend eligibility for concurrent receipt to chapter 61 disability retirees with less than 20 years of service, and for other purposes.

MOAA/VETERANS BRIDGE HOME VETERANS (VBH) MENTORSHIP PROGRAM - We have 8-chapter members (and about 6 others) who have volunteers to serve as mentors for transitioning veterans. Initially, it is a 6-month program beginning with approximately ten selected mentors having a one-on-one mentor/mentee relationship with a transitioning veteran in need of and desire for support through some of the VBH/NC Serves network and in seeking employment and/or enhancement of professional skills.

THE UNCC ROTC GOLD BARS PROGRAM – Scott Morris heads up the Army program and Chuck Martin heads up the Air Force program. We will be presenting 3 sets of gold bars and a certificate for new Army Lieutenants and one for a new USAF Lieutenant for the December 2018 graduation.

JROTC SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISING - Chapter JROTC Scholarship Fund Golf Tournament on **October 4th, 2019.** For the 2019 tournament, we need additional chapter members to get involved and seek out prime and hole/team sponsors. Contact potential sponsors early in the new year. More info coming in January.

NORTH CAROLINA COUNCIL OF CHAPTER MEETINGS – Sandhills January 18th and 19th.

MOAA NATIONAL MEETING – Jay and Robin Garbus attended in November 1-2, 2018 - Phoenix, AZ and picked up our chapter's 5 Star Levels of Excellence award. See picture in this newsletter.

ON GOING EVENTS

1. Mecklenburg Veterans Council – 1st Tuesday every month at 11:30 am. 700 North Tryon Street
2. Veteran Network breakfasts on the first Thursday of every month, starting at 0730 at Another Broken Egg in Ballantyne. Total cost is \$ 13.

3. Veteran Network Uptown Lunches on the second Wednesday of every month starting at 11:45 at the Covenant Presbyterian Church Community Room. Total cost is \$ 10.00. Next lunch is December 12th. These are very good events for networking and meeting other veterans in the community.

AMAZON SMILE CHAPTER DONATIONS

Ronald Wilsbach,

Thank you for registering Charlotte-Metrolina Chapter of the MOAA at org.amazon.com and welcome to AmazonSmile, where Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of eligible smile.amazon.com purchases to the charities selected by customers. Spread the word to your supporters so they can generate donations for your organization when they shop.

When customers sign up for AmazonSmile, they're asked to select one of over a million charities to support. When customers click on your unique link, they skip this charity selection process. Instead, they're taken to smile.amazon.com and are automatically asked if they want to support Charlotte-Metrolina Chapter of the MOAA. **Your unique charity link:** <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/38-3779812>

HEARING AIDS - From Candice L. Graves CW5 Commissioned, USA, Retired

Where can you get help? The Retiree-At-Cost Hearing Aid Program (RACCHAP) may be able to assist. RACCHAP is a program that allows hearing aids to be purchased at cost at many military medical treatment facilities.

All MTFs do not support this program; here is a list of the MTFs that do by state:

Connecticut - Naval Hospital Groton

Florida (2 locations) - Eglin Air Force Base; or Naval Hospital Jacksonville

Kansas - Fort Riley

Kentucky - Fort Campbell

Louisiana - Fort Polk

Maryland (2 locations) - Walter Reed National Military Medical Center; or Andrews Air Force Base

New Hampshire - Naval Health Clinic Portsmouth

Rhode Island - Naval Health Clinic Newport

South Carolina (2 locations) - Naval Hospital Beaufort/Parris Island; or Fort Jackson

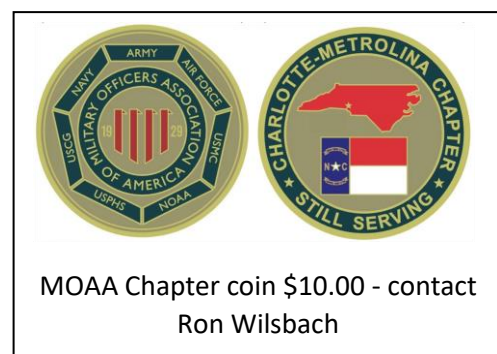
Texas (2 locations) - Fort Bliss; or Joint Base San Antonio-Lakeland

PICTURES FROM MOAA NATIONAL





MOAA PRIME SPONSORS/SUPPORTERS FOR CHAPTER'S JROTC SCHOLARSHIP FUND GOLF TOURNAMENT





Equal Tax Treatment for **ALL** Government Retirees

The Bailey Settlement and North Carolina's Government Employees

In November 1999, in **Bailey vs. State of North Carolina**, the North Carolina Supreme Court decided that federal, state and local government retiree pension income must be taxed in the same manner - and that all those retirees who were vested in a qualifying retirement system by August 12, 1989 would not be taxed on their retirement benefits.

However, as a result the NC legislature changed the tax law: Those who did not have the requisite service would be subject to the state tax laws. As an example, the retirement benefits of a military officer retiring with 20 years of service in 1989 are exempt from state taxation, while those of an officer serving in the same role and retiring now is not. **Same service, but inequitable treatment.**

The 4th Branch - a coalition of government employee and retiree organizations committed to leveling the playing field in North Carolina for **ALL** government retirees through fair taxation

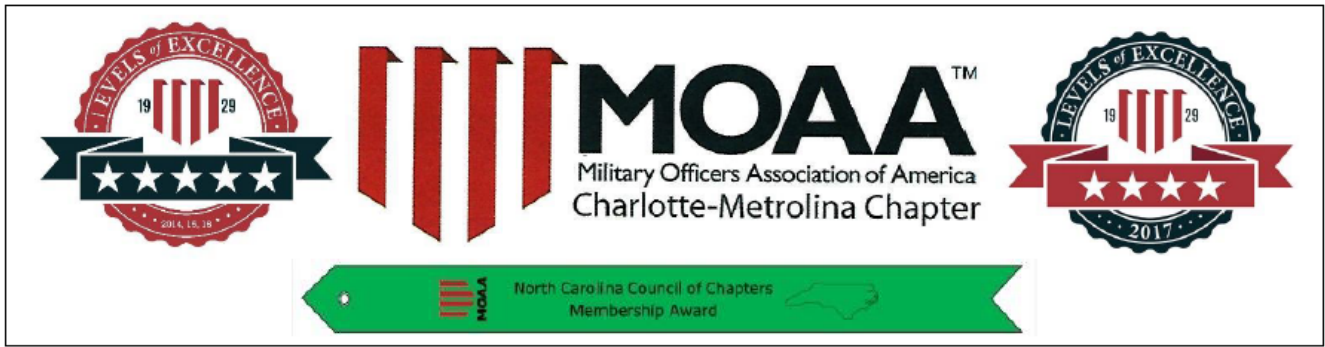
- is working to change the law so that all public retirees are treated the same by extending the Bailey settlement to all. To bolster our case, the 4th Branch commissioned a study that shows the many economic advantages to the state of such an extension, which include:

- For every \$1 a government retiree saves in state income tax, North Carolina accrues \$2.5 in economic benefits. Allowing ALL government retirees to deduct state, local or federal retirement benefits from their adjusted gross income is good policy.
- Without the need to save for retirement, government retirees direct most of their income BACK into the local economy which equals more sales tax revenue.
- New retirees would be attracted to North Carolina with no taxation of government benefits. Most buy homes - and about 20 percent are new housing which generates jobs directly and spending.
- Retirees use fewer public services. Without their own children in school, property taxes from just two retiree households can support one school child in their community.
- Most government retirees are motivated to volunteer in their communities. Based on our recent study, volunteer activities and skill contributions were worth nearly \$150 million per year to the state.

Get Involved - Its Free!

Join the 4th Branch and help advocate for equitable treatment of **ALL** government retirees. Register with the 4th Branch at www.4thbranchnc.org by clicking/completing "**Join Now**". Receive alerts on critical legislation and stay informed. *The 4th Branch will not reveal your email address to anyone else.*

Enter your address or Zip code in “Find **Your State Officials.**” Click their name to find out how to contact them and call, email or make an appointment with your legislator(s) when they are in their home office.



NC-04 CHARLOTTE-METROLINA CHAPTER MOAA

ENROLLMENT/RENEWAL FORM

New Member _____ Renewal _____ Date _____

First Name _____ Middle Initial _____ Last Name _____

Rank _____ Branch _____ DOB _____ Spouse's Name _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip _____

E-Mail Address _____ Phone # _____

I would like to receive my newsletter by: _____ US Mail _____ E-mail

National MOAA Member? Yes _____ No _____ Are you a life member? _____
Membership No. _____

(Found above your first name on magazine label)

First Year New Members \$5.00

Annual Renewal \$25.00

Surviving Spouses \$10.00

Renew for 5 years \$100.00

Mail to: Charlotte-Metrolina Chapter MOAA
P.O. Box 31394
Charlotte, NC 28231-1394

Scholarship Donation: _____ Receipt: Yes _____ No _____

Membership Requirements: Commissioned and Warrant Officers of the seven uniformed services (Army, Navy, Air Force Marine Corps, Coast Guard, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and U.S. Public Health Service) and the reserve and other components of these services may become regular members. Widows and widowers of any deceased individual, who would, if living, are eligible for membership as auxiliary members. Regular members must hold and maintain membership in both the national organization as well as the local chapter. Auxiliary members are encouraged but not required to hold both memberships.