CHARLOTTE-METROLINA CHAPTER NEWS

January 2014

The Military Officers Association of America

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy New Year!

As we usher in the New Year we face many challenges. The years go by fast, and we cannot let the grass grow under our feet. First and foremost is to continue to increase our membership and participation in our chapter meetings for two big reasons: 1) our programs are excellent and Ron Morgan works very hard at obtaining informative and entertaining speakers, and 2) as the legislative process and government influence into military affairs seems to be coming more chaotic and uncertain (ie. The recent budget bill that passed both US House and Senate with the law that caps COLA at 1% up to age 62 years for military personnel), the chapter members must respond in a prompt manner to influence the process. This problem is compounded by the Senators and Representatives spending less and less time in Washington DC studying these bills, and more time back home campaigning and raising money. This will make local chapter influence more important as they spend a greater amount of time in our neighborhood than in national MOAA's.

Our second big challenge is to get the JROTC scholarship program up and running, and develop more fund raisers to fund the scholarships. We must make sure that we sell all the AutoBell Car Wash tickets to maximize our return on this fundraiser. Third challenge is to get the website, e-newsletter, and FaceBook page operating before May 2014 so we have better contact with our members and encourage veterans moving to our area to join our chapter. This also increases our image and presence in our community.

One part of our mission is to help veterans in our area, and our speaker, Mr. Blake Bourne from Charlotte Bridge Home, will present a program on January 19, 2014 that addresses helping veterans. See all of you then at 3:00 P.M.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Harley Ellinger, COL USA (RET)

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NEXT MEETING

Sunday, Jan. 19, 2014

Red Rocks Cafe

4223 Providence Rd

Social Time 1500

Meeting with Meal 1530

PROGRAMS – RON MORGAN—1st Vice President

January 19, 2014, 3:00 PM -- Blake Bourne, Director Community Initiatives, Charlotte Bridge Home - Learn about this important, effective and influential community organization that assists our area veterans. Visit their web site at: www.CharlotteBridgeHome.org
February 16, 2014, 3:00 PM--Kurt Geske, Historian, Writer and Veteran Services Administrator for Gaston County - Kurt, a chapter member, will join us to provide a presentation on Camp Greene and Charlotte during World War I. He is part of a project, working with the History faculty at UNC Charlotte, to commemorate the 100th anniversary of WW I and its impact on North Carolina.
Future Meeting Dates: March 16, 2014 -- April 6, 2014 -- May 18, 2014

MEMBERSHIP – CAROL ALJETS—2nd Vice President

Happy New Year everyone and hope you had a great holiday period. We added two new members in December and are getting visitors at almost every meeting. This is due to our members recruiting and also individuals who have moved into the area and are looking for a great local MOAA chapter – and we are it. There is a veteran's networking group that meets the second Wednesday of the month at the Dilworth Grille on Morehead Ave for lunch, sometimes they have a special speaker and others times just good socializing amongst fellow veterans. The Ellingers, Gary and I have been to a few of these meetings and have met potential new members and other interesting contacts. It is a group on the LinkedIn network site.
See you next year and be prepared for an All Hands evolution on recruiting!

LEGISLATIVE -- GLORIA SCIENSKI – 3rd Vice President

We welcome 2014 with hope for a more stable year. It appears that the country will not experience another government shutdown for the next couple years. Unfortunately, the budget impact continues to challenge the military stability on many fronts.

At several Chapter meetings Harley has educated us on the impact the military has on North Carolina. Recently Governor McCrory reported how vital a strong military is to our state. A new report highlights the economic impact the military has in North Carolina (the full report can be viewed online at http://www.nccommerce.com/lead/research-publications/special-reports/industry-research).

JOBS AND THE ECONOMY, • MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS
Raleigh, NC – The military supports 540,000 jobs, including 340,000 in the private sector, according to a new report released today by the N.C. Department of Commerce. The report also found the military boosts the state's personal income by more than $30 billion.

The study, released by the Labor & Economic Analysis Division, concludes the military accounts for nearly 10 percent of all economic activity in North Carolina.

"This report confirms the importance of supporting our bases and the North Carolina businesses that benefit from our significant military footprint," said Governor Pat McCrory. "We're committed to strengthening our partnership with the military and defense sectors because they create additional jobs for our state."

Professional and technical services, administrative and waste services and construction are the top three military-supported private industry sectors.

North Carolina has the third-largest military population in the United States. Nearly 110,000 active duty military personnel are assigned to units in North Carolina. However, more than 60,000 individuals are projected to leave the military over the next five years.

"North Carolina has a tremendous opportunity to grow our state's economy by helping military personnel find employment after their service ends," said Commerce Secretary Sharon Decker. "These men and women have the skills and character that are desirable to employers across the state."

Other key findings from the report:

- Department of Defense contracting in FY 2012 totaled $3.4 billion, with 40 percent of that work being performed in the Southeast region and 37 percent in the Eastern region
- Military is responsible for $48 billion, or 12 percent, of gross state product
- North Carolina has a total of 769,000 veterans that reside across the state
- Impact of military has remained relatively stable during the past five years despite the ongoing realignment of military personnel and the recent recession
- Military operations located outside of North Carolina account for roughly 20 percent of the overall economic impact to the state.

The economic impact analysis was completed using the Policy Insight Plus (PI+) model licensed by Regional Economic Models Incorporated (REMI). The model uses data from the Bureau of Economic Analysis, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Census Bureau, Department of Defense, Department of Homeland Security and other public data sources.

Welcome 2014 by joining the MOAA Legislative Action Center at http://www.moaa.org. Stay informed. Keep up to date on legislative action that affects you and your world. Remember, your voice counts.

CHAPTER SECRETARY – GREGORY AINSLIE

Minutes of the Charlotte-Metrolina Chapter (NC-04) Of the Military Officers Association of America December 8, 2013

President Harley Ellinger called the meeting to order at 3:30PM. Darrell Long gave the invocation followed by Col Ellinger leading the chapter in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes for the November 17, 2013 meeting were presented and approved.

Election of officers was held with the following elected: President – Harley Ellinger, 1st Vice President – Ron Morgan, 2nd Vice President – Carol Aljets, 3rd Vice President – Gloria Scienski, Secretary – Open, Treasurer – Ron Wilsbach, Newsletter Editor – Carol Morgan, Directors – Martha Ellinger and Larry Stawicki.

Officer Reports: Officer reports were received: .

1st VP: Ron Morgan talked about the upcoming programs, on January 19, 2014 the Charlotte Bridge Home will make a presentation, on February 15 Kurt Geske will talk about Charlotte's contribution to World War I which might be the start of a continuing series about Charlotte's role in other conflicts; finally we may expect a speaker from MOAA headquarters later in the spring.

2nd VP Carol Aljets thanked everyone who contributed to Toys-for Tots. Then she briefly mentioned the upcoming recruiting efforts we'll try with potential member lists form national. She concluded mentioned the Star Spangled Girls presentation at the Matthews American Legion this coming March.

3rd VP: Gloria spoke about our need to continue paying attention to legislation such as the impending 2014 National Defense Authorization. Harley mentioned a commentary by former Senators Lott and Daschle in the November 29 *Charlotte Observer*.

Secretary: Greg Ainslie requested more photos to post on the Facebook page.

Treasurer: Ron Wilsbach presented the chapter treasury balance of $3,537.17 with and additional $1020.00 in the scholarship fund. He also told about a new method national will implement to help chapters collect chapters' annual dues.

Old Business: Larry Stawicki offered 102 tickets from Autobell carwash as a fundraiser. The tickets are $14.99 of which the chapter will keep ½ of the price of each ticket sold. Speaking on behalf of the Scholarship Committee of Larry said they are off to a good start more information will be forthcoming as the plans are solidified for the spring of 2015 start.

New Business: Harley Ellinger mentioned that after the election of officers the chapter still needs a Secretary.

Announcements: The next Council meeting is at Pinehurst January 17-18, 2014. The next chapter board meeting will be January 8, 2014 at 5:00PM at Red Rocks Café. The next chapter meeting is January 19.

Program: Mark Glaeser led the Christ Lutheran Church Chorale in a medley of Christmas seasonal music.

The meeting adjourned at 5:10PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Gregory Ainslie, Secretary

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS:

January 8, 2014 (Wed) – MOAA Chapter Board Meeting, Red Rocks Café, 5:00 pm
January 17-18, 2014 – NC Council of Chapters Meeting, Pinehurst
January 19, 2014 – MOAA Chapter Meeting – Red Rocks Café, 3:00 pm
February 16, 2014 – MOAA Chapter Meeting, Red Rocks Café, 3:00 pm
March 15-16, 2014 – Star Spangled Girls, Matthews Fullwood Theatre
March 16, 2014 – MOAA Chapter Meeting, Red Rocks Café, 3:00 pm

FEATURED MEMBER: Harley Andrew Ellinger Jr. DDS, COL USA (RET)

Born in Columbus, Ohio on April 7, 1940, I grew up in the small industrial and farming community of Logan located in the hills of southeastern Ohio. My mother and father were school teachers and by the time I was in high school my father was my high school principal and my mother was my guidance counselor. My parents also operated a painting company and a farm where I worked during high school and college. Always interested in music, I played a trumpet in the high school marching and concert bands, and The Ohio State University Marching Band. In 1964, I graduated from The Ohio State University Dental School.

I served two years in the reserves during dental school and upon graduation I entered active duty in the United States Army attending a one year general dentistry practice residency (internship) at Brooke General Hospital where I met and married Martha Cobb, an Army Nurse. Two children soon followed: Laura in 1966 and Charles in 1969. I served in the 769th Den. Det., Augsburg, Germany followed by graduate school to specialize in periodontology. I was the Chief of Periodontology at Ft. Devens, MA and Ft. Bragg, NC. Next, I attended the Command and General Staff Course, Fort Leavenworth, KS where I learned to talk loud. Fort Sam Houston, TX was our next stop where I was Chief of the Dental Specialty Branch of the Dental Science Division, Academy of Health Sciences. From a warm climate to a cold one, I served as Commander of the DENTAC, Alaska. We moved to Washington, DC where I was Chief of Periodontology and Commander of the Walter Reed Army Medical Center DENTAC. This culminated in being selected by the Army Surgeon General as the dental representative on the Army Medical Department Study Group to design and develop the medical and dental care for Air Land Battle 2000. This study determined how medical and dental care would be provided on the battlefield and communization zones in the 21st century. Our plan was accepted by the Army Chief of Staff, and has resulted in over 99% survival rate of our wounded soldiers on the battlefield. During this entire 24 years Martha loyally supported my career as we moved to 18 different homes.

With the work of the study group completed, Laura and Charles in or finished with college, I retired from the army. We moved to Charlotte, NC to establish a private practice of periodontology. With Martha as the business manager and Harley treating the patients, our practice prospered. Over the next 25 years we became active in the Sardis Presbyterian Church and I served as president of Charlotte East Rotary Club and the North Carolina Society of Periodontists. I am in my third year as president of the Charlotte-Metrolina Chapter of MOAA. Laura married Mike Scheid in 1994 and they live in Arlington, VA. Charles married Diane Racioppo in 2003. We are fortunate that Chuck, Diane and our grandchildren: Jackson, Jolie and Justine live near us in Charlotte.

With the sale of the periodontal practice in 2008, Martha retired and Harley went to teach one day a week at UNC Dental School at Chapel Hill, NC. A great need arose in the Carolinas Health Care System at Carolinas Mobile Dentistry when an opening for a dentist went unfilled. In early 2011, I went back to work 2-3 days a week providing dental care in nursing and retirement homes. After 54 years in dentistry, I retire at the end of 2013. I look forward to more time with the grandchildren, travel with Martha, and continuing to restore antique farm tractors. I plan to look after the organizations I am a member of and continue to help people. Martha and I still have much to accomplish while we are still able.

NC-04 CHARLOTTE-METROLINA CHAPTER
Of the Military Officers Association of America
ENROLLMENT/RENEWAL FORM

New Member? _____ Renewal? _____

First Name _____ Middle Initial ____ Last Name _____

Rank _____ Branch _____ Spouse's Name _____

Address: _____
Street

_____
City State Zip code

E-Mail Address _____ Phone No. _____

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

National MOAA Member? Yes ___ No ___
Membership No. _____
(Found above your first name on magazine mailing label)

*Enclosed is my check for $25.00
$10.00 for Surviving Spouses
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.