

Minutes of Charlotte – Metrolina Chapter (NC-04)
Of the Military Officers Association of America
April 6, 2014

President Ellinger called the business meeting to order at 3:30. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance followed. New members and/or first (some second) time attendees were invited to introduce themselves.

The 50/50 raffle was held.

Minutes of the March 16, 2014 meeting were approved as distributed in the newsletter.

Treasurer Report (Gary Aljets for Ron Wilsbach): \$ 4,857.23 including \$ 1,342.15 in the Scholarship Fund. We are in a profit situation with car wash ticket sales of \$ 284.89.

Officer Reports:

1st VP and Acting Secretary (Ron Morgan): The May 18th meeting program will be Dr. Jim Hogue, History Professor at UNCC, and a West Point grad who later taught history at the US Military Academy. We are planning for a summer meeting held in conjunction with the Lake Norman/Pines at Davidson satellite chapter. It will be a picnic and/or Lake Norman cruise is being planned for this summer. Date/time and place to be announced.

2nd VP (Carol Aljets): Carol talked about new MOAA-sponsored “Voices” membership program for enlisted and civilian personnel, providing legislative information and new affecting our active, former and retired military communities. **Larry Stawicki, ROTC/JROTC Awards Chairman**, then discussed our JROTC awards program and requested that members assist in the distribution and/or presentation of the medals and certificates to the 32 high schools we support. A sign up list was passed around and all deliveries were scheduled. Greg Ainslie requested assistance in early May for the presentation of Gold Bars to the new Lts. At UNCC

3rd VP (Gloria Scienski): Gloria discussed the national MOAA initiatives for this week’s “Storming the Hill” campaign in Washington DC. She also requested that the membership contact their congressional representatives regarding these issues using the post cards included with the latest MOAA magazine and info included on the national MOAA web site.

Newsletter (Carol Morgan): Newsletter input is due by 4/25/2014 for publication around 5/2/2014. An appeal was made for member military bios to feature in upcoming newsletters.

Old Business: - Another California Pizza Kitchen Fund Raiser for the Scholarship Fund is scheduled for April 24 and 30. A flyer was enclosed in the April newsletter for copying and distribution to friends, associates and family. The Chapter Board meeting will be held there on April 30.

Larry Stawicki reported that there are still 30 Auto Bell coupons to be distributed/sold. Gloria Scienski reported that work on the Scholarship Fund continues and we will accept donations at any time which are tax free for this 501(c) 3 effort.

New Business: - Will discuss future fundraiser at April 30 Board meeting. Summer meeting details to be planned and published. The potential for a satellite chapter at Sun City, SC is being discussed and explored. Zip codes 29707 (Indian Land) and 29708 (Fort Mill, SC), etc. will be requested to be assigned to our chapter.

Announcements:

- Chapter member support was again requested for the Blessed Assurance Adult Day Care Annual Charity Golf Tournament to be held on April 17th.

- MOAA NC Council of Chapters will hold a quarterly meeting in Durham on May 16-17.

Program: Paul Passaro, Local/State Director for Concerned Veterans for America - Paul presented an overview of his military and civilian career which led to his desire and decision to get involved in some form of direct support for veterans. He discussed last week's successful CVA's visit "to the hill" to develop congressional support for CVA's 2014 Legislative Priorities: 1) VA Reform through the Dept. of VA Management Accountability Act of 2014 (now has gained over 80 sponsors which is the number one mission, 2) DoD Reform, Audit the Pentagon, 3) Spending Reform (Federal and State-level Balanced Budget Amendments and 4) Military Voting Reform (Safeguarding Elections for our nations troops). Also discussed that "the real delay" for VA disability claims processing, largely because of the slow appeals process, is 4 ½ years. The VA and its leaders must be held accountable.

The meeting and presentation adjourned around 5:45 PM.

Our next Chapter meeting on May 18, 2014 will be the 41st Anniversary of the chapter's founding.

Respectfully submitted,
Ron Morgan, Acting Secretary