



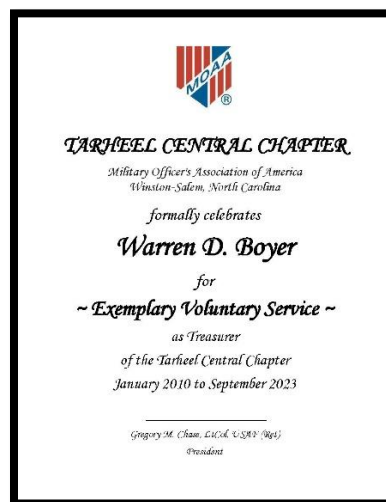
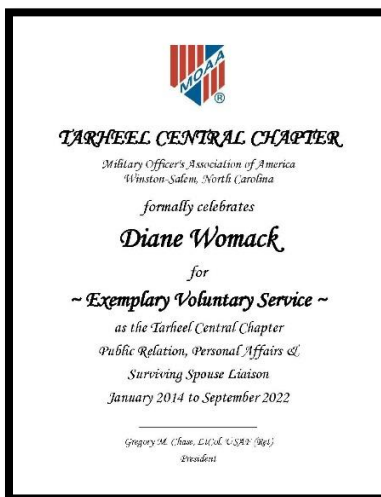
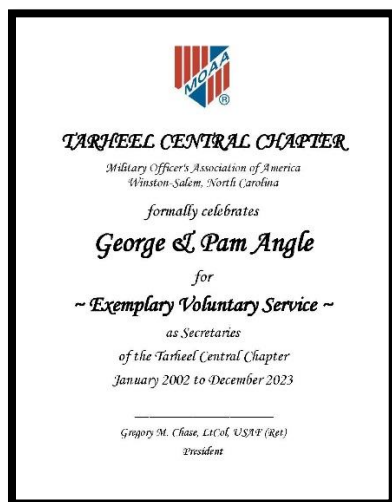
The Tarheel Central Chapter Newsletter Volume 2024, Issue 4, APR 2, 2023

Published by The Tarheel Central Chapter of MOAA, Inc., since 1977, chartered May 9, 1978, and serving Davidson, Davie, Forsyth, Stokes, Surry, and Yadkin Counties.

This Newsletter and others may be found at our website: <https://www.tarheelmoaa.org/about/> under Social Media. Please sign into and like us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1285830908624290>

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE:

The Mar 12th Dinner Meeting was one for the records. After a very cordial social hour, outgoing President Greg Chase called us to order and presented awards to George and Pam Angle, Diane Womack and Warren Boyer for their many years of “Exemplary Voluntary Service” to the chapter.



This was followed by his installation of your 2024-2025 Board of Directors and the “passing of the Gavel” to me as your 32nd president. My first official duty was the presentation of a small token of appreciation, a set of MOAA Logo coasters, from the chapter to Greg Chase for volunteer service above and beyond! Greg stepped up without hesitation when I had to step down two years ago and took on the duties of President for a second time while maintaining the responsibilities of Newsletter Drafter and Editor.

After dinner we were treated to a “My Story” by Jason Ford. For those of you who have not had the pleasure to hear one of our own recount a personal incident from their time in service you missed a good one. In typical Aviator fashion with elaborate hand gestures and exemplary sound effects Jason puts us all in a jet aircraft cockpit for a carrier flight deck landing.

Our guest speaker was Master Chief Steve Nash. USN Underwater Demolition Team and Seal Team qualified, his recount of service to our country from Vietnam to Afghanistan was enthralling.

The chapter Board meeting was held the night before and was our first virtual meeting. Your chapter Treasurer, Mike Chapman, reports that the General Account is in the black and the Worthy Cause funds are growing. A description of the Worthy Causes the chapter supports and how you can donate follows. Our Membership Committee Chair, Ted Robinson, reports that the chapter has 92 members and 8 prospects thanks to your referrals. Member referrals are the most effective way to grow the Chapter so please keep them coming.

We have three new members this month that I would like to introduce:

- Jim Savage and his wife Kay. Jim is a retired Major USA. He currently serves as the Director of Museum and Archives at Oak Ridge Military Academy. Jim and Kay live in Winston-Salem.
- Jeff Worth and his wife Susan. Jeff is a US Army Veteran. He and Susan live in Winston-Salem.
- Jerry Casey is a retired LtCol USAF who flew the L19 and C-130. He lives in Winston-Salem.

Finally, please take note of the addition here in the newsletter of a link to MOAA Insurance Plans. Securing protection for your family is readily available and affordable.

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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.

Editorial Policy: The Tarheel Central Chapter is affiliated with The North Carolina Council of Chapters <https://www.moaa-nc.org/> and with MOAA national organization - <http://www.moaa.org>. As such, The Tarheel Central Chapter is nonprofit and politically nonpartisan. Editorial policies are established by the Tarheel Central Chapter Publisher and Editor and are in consonance with MOAA's guidelines. Advertising and sponsorship are accepted based on MOAA policies and standards. The Tarheel Central Chapter (NC08) is a 501(c) 19 organization. Membership includes active, retired, veteran, and reserve officers (Warrant - Flag Officer) of the Armed Forces, NOAA, US Public Health Services, and the surviving spouses of

deceased eligible officers of all 8 uniformed services. MOAA is an independent, nonprofit, politically nonpartisan organization. 201 N. Washington St., Alexandria, Va. 22314 Phone: (800) 234-6622. “Never stop serving!” Use the Advocacy in Action section at: <https://www.moaa.org/content/take-action/advocacy-in-action/>.

5-Star Newsletter Publisher and Editor – Greg Chase, LtCol, USAF (Ret) and Vina Chase; Editor may be reached at (336) 946-2446 or gvchase98@gmail.com The Newsletter is published for members and friends of The Tarheel Central Chapter, MOAA.

5-Star Chapter Website & Social Media Manager - Thomas B. Denegre III, LCDR USN (Vet); The address is: <https://www.tarheelmoaa.org/> Anyone wishing to receive this newsletter by e-mail may do so by using the “Contact Us” link or contacting the editor. If we have your email, you will receive this newsletter 9 times per year.

CHAPTER ADMINISTRATIVE VOLUNTEERS

Elected Officers:

President – Phil Briscoe, CAPT, USN (Ret)
First Vice President – Tom Miller, Capt., USAF (Vet)
Second Vice President – Jason Ford, LT USN (Ret)
Secretary – Mary Laverdure, Capt., USAF (Vet)
Treasurer – Mike Chapman, CW4 USA (Ret)
Immediate Past-President – Gregory M. Chase, LtCol, USAF (Ret)

Directors:

Thomas B. Denegre III, LCDR USN (Vet)
Mark Ferketish, Col, USMCR (Ret)
Krista Ford, Member Spouse
Ted. Robinson, Col, USMC (Ret)
I.B. Southerland III, Maj USAF (Ret)
VACANT (Surviving Spouse Liaison)

Chapter Standing Committees:

Membership Committee - Ted. Robinson, Col, USMC (Ret)
Nominating Committee – Gregory M. Chase, LtCol, USAF (Ret)
Scholarship/JROTC Committee - I.B. Southerland, Maj USAF (Ret)

Chapter Assistants:

Chaplain – Dennis Lennon, CDR, USNR (Ret)
“Clipping Coupons for Troops” Program – VACANT
JROTC Programs Point of Contact - Al Chandler, LTC, USA (Ret)
Legislative Affairs Liaison – VACANT (Greg Chase – Acting)
Newsletter Editor – Gregory M. Chase, LtCol, USAF (Ret)
Personal Affairs – Dennis Ammons, 1Lt, USA (Vet)
Programs Chair - Jason Ford, LT USN (Ret)
Public Relations – Greg Bean, LtCol, USMCR (Ret)
Social Secretary – Warren Boyer, 1st Lt, USMCR (Vet)
Surviving Spouse Liaison – VACANT
Website/Social Media - Thomas B. Denegre III, LCDR USN (Vet)

Note: Contact Info is available under the Directory Tab in the Tarheel Central Chapter Website:

<https://www.tarheelmoaa.org/directory/>

NEXT CHAPTER MEETING: April 9, 2024— San Su, escaped from China 30 years ago to find the World of Freedom in the US, however she sees the United States taking the same track that China is taking today.

Salem Glen is the venue for all our dinner meetings – the second Tuesday of the month!

Address: Salem Glen Country Club, 1000 Glen Day Drive, Clemmons, NC 27012-9560.

A DINNER RESERVATION FORM for Tuesday, April 9, 2024, can be found on the last page of this newsletter.

Future Meetings - May 14, 2024—Scholarship Awards. Sign up with Jason to give your favorite 5–7-minute service story at any monthly meeting! **President’s Note:** If you do not call Jason, he will be calling you. We know you have a tale to tell!

MOAA Virtual Training Opportunities: Find out more and sign up at <https://www.moaa.org/content/benefits-and-discounts/transition-and-careers/webinar-archive/>

- Build your financial foundation - April 3 1400-1500
- Find your dream job - April 4 1200-1300
- Advanced Space-A travel - April 9 1400-1500
- Virtual Career Fair - April 10 1130-1300
- Maximize your compensation - April 25 1300-1600
- How AI can help land your dream job - April 30 1400-1500
- Understating your Guard and Reserve retirement benefits - May 2 1300-1530
- How your Federal Benefits work in retirement - May 8 1400-1500
- Southeast Leadership Workshop Greenville, SC - May 17-18 No Further Details

Chapter Membership Development News: The Tarheel Chapter continues to grow. Unfortunately, we also have to accept membership attrition due to many factors including moving and health issues. After recording the 2023 resignations and

the Enrollment form of one new member in February we are back to 90 members. As of this newsletter publishing date, we have received two new members, and our prospect list has grown to twelve. Most prospects have been referred to the Chapter by members so please continue to “keep your light on” by wearing your military apparel and staying aware of those you encounter who may be US Military officers. Work is progressing on the 2024 Membership Initiatives. and we are exploring coordinating efforts with the VA in Kernersville. The Tarheel Chapter will have a table at the April 10 Veterans event at the Childress Racing Museum honoring Vietnam Era veterans.

The Membership Committee meets once each month at Salem Glenn country Club. The April Committee meeting will be Monday April 8th at 12:30 PM and all members are welcome. Bringing new members into the Chapter is very rewarding and key to maintaining this vibrant organization. If you are interested and would like more information or If you have a prospective member and need assistance, please call Ted Robinson, Membership Committee chair, at (478) 719-7595 or email him at tcr@privateclubassociates.com.

Social Secretary: During the summer, members of the chapter have attended concerts given by the Piedmont Wind Symphony and had a great time. The Symphony is giving a FREE concert at the Centenary United Methodist Church on April 21, 2024, at 3:00 pm. It is titled: “FROZEN CATHEDRAL, Concert for all”. Please mark your calendars and hope to see you there. Reminders will be sent out as we get closer to the event. Some of us have gone to dinner after these concerts, so come hungry! -- Warren Boyer

To promote the Chapter locally, Jackie Kohler and I submitted an article to The Clemmons Courier. Entitled "Military Officers Association of America turns eyes to 2024." To read this outstanding article about our chapter go to: <https://www.clemmonscourier.net/2024/01/04/military-officers-association-of-america-turns-eyes-to-2024/>" -- Greg Bean

To apply for Chapter and National membership, please use the Application Form titled “THE LARGER OUR NUMBERS, THE GREATER YOUR VOICE. Why MOAA chapter membership matters.” Use the Form at the end of this newsletter.

MOAA National Chapter Recruiting (CR) offers the chapter financial incentives for both recruitment and retention of members. If you are aware of individuals in our community who are eligible for MOAA membership, please bring them to our attention, and educate them on the benefits of Tarheel Central Chapter and MOAA membership.

CHAPTER THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS LIST:

- Dennis Ammons - Illness
- Nalyn Hipwood - Recent Widow of Richard Hipwood
- Patricia Allen - Illness
- Peggy Wallace - Inability to Attend Meetings
- John Palmer - Health Issue
- Charlie Stott - Recovering from a Stroke
- Jerry Johnson - Recovering from Surgery
- Tom Denegre - Recovering from Surgery
- R C Moore - Family Illness
- Bob Allen - Family Illness
- Larry Lovvorn - Illness

Please notify any officer or member of the board if you hear that a member or spouse is having difficulties.



A LIVELY HAPPY BIRTHDAY APPLAUSE TO:

- George Angle, April 18
- Phil Briscoe, April 22
- Bill Gottenstrater, April 18
- David Harris, April 18
- Nalyn Hipwood, April 1
- Harry Howell, April 4
- Gwen Joyner, April 16
- Ronnie McDonald, April 5.

Tarheel Central Chapter DUES: Dues were approved for \$45 per year. Invoices have gone out. **If you have already paid \$35 for 2024, your invoice will request you to pay an additional \$10.** Please call Mike Chapman at (919) 601-3800 if you have any questions.

Surviving Spouse News: Please contact Greg Chase (Nominations Committee) if you are interested in volunteering to be the chapter Surviving Spouse Liaison. It is not a requirement that you be a surviving spouse. Activities include: monitoring the MOAA website for surviving spouse issues, keeping the chapter members and surviving spouses informed through the newsletter and personal announcements at the dinners, keeping our surviving spouses involved and recruiting surviving spouses. For our Surviving Spouses here is the link to MOAA Surviving Spouse data <https://www.moaa.org/content/about-moaa/meet-our-leaders/surviving-spouse-advisory-committee/surviving-spouse-corner/>

The Military Officers Association of America's (MOAA) most extraordinary mission is to improve the lives of military, Guard and Reserve, Veterans, Retirees, Survivors, and their families, mainly achieved through tireless advocacy efforts in our nation's capital. Advocacy in Action is an annual event where members nationwide meet with their elected officials in the House and Senate to educate and influence their support regarding MOAA's top three legislative priorities. A selected group from the North Carolina (NC) MOAA Chapters will represent NC at the Advocacy in Action event in Washington, DC, on April 17, 2024. However, as a member of the MOAA, you can participate through the outstanding Action Center section on the MOAA's Website without traveling to Washington. This is the link to the National MOAA Email Preference Center Search Page: https://moaa.highroadsolution.com/moaa_preference_page/EmailSearch.aspx ENTER YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS & CLICK SEARCH. View or change your newsletter subscriptions from MOAA National.

Why Get Involved? Being actively engaged in advocacy empowers you and the broader military community. Your participation encourages others to join the cause, creating a network of support that strengthens our collective impact. Learn about ongoing initiatives and how you can continue to be involved in advocating for the issues that matter most. FYI: Share with your friends; you need not be an MOAA member to use the Legislation Action Center (see link below).

Your involvement in Advocacy in Action can shape policies and initiatives that directly impact the lives of the military, veterans, and their families. Your input to the NC Advocacy in Action Team will provide us with powerful support regarding your challenges; by sharing your concerns, you become an essential part of the force driving positive change and progress. Your engagement matters, and together, we can make a difference.

Your Voice Matters: Advocacy in Action is a testament to our commitment to ensuring the voice of the Military, Guard and Reserve, Retirees, Survivors, and their Family members are heard on crucial issues affecting our communities. Your participation is critical to amplifying MOAA's collective voice and meaningfully impacting the issues that matter most to the military, retirees, and their family members. Also, this event provides a platform to voice your concerns, share personal experiences, and advocate for issues that resonate with you. Your unique perspective contributes to a more comprehensive and effective advocacy effort. Once the legislative priorities are selected, an email with instructions will be sent to allow you to participate and submit your letter to your Senator and Congressperson.

Voice Your Concerns: Click MOAA - Meet MOAA's New Legislative Action Center to learn more about MOAA's Advocacy in Action. Also, you may contact me directly at Drviviannewersel@gmail.com, (252) 646-2678 (mobile) for more support on how to use the Action Center or to share your story. Your input is valuable for our team to share with our policymakers. Participating makes you an integral part of crafting policies that address critical issues such as veterans' healthcare, educational opportunities, and retirement benefits. The decisions made due to MOAA's Advocacy in Action can shape the future of the military, Guard and Reserve, Retirees, and their families. Families. Never Stop Serving!

TARHEEL CENTRAL CHAPTER SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM: Please continue to accept the DAVE HARRIS CHALLENGE to donate at least \$100 to the JROTC Scholarship Fund each year. Mission: To provide scholarships to those deserving of help in pursuit of further education, preferably leading toward a military career.

TARHEEL CENTRAL CHAPTER WORTHY CAUSE OUTREACH:

Your Board of Directors has determined the following worthy causes are deserving of our support. As with the Scholarship Fund, donations can be sent to the Chapter Treasurer directly or included in your check for annual dues or monthly dinners. Just note on the check which cause you are supporting. We will ensure your donations get to your designated worthy cause.

TRIAD HONOR FLIGHT: To celebrate America's veterans by inviting them to share in a day of honor at our nation's memorials. It cost \$600.00 per participant. Vision: A nation where all of America's veterans experience the honor, gratitude, and community of support they deserve. For more information visit:

<https://www.honorflight.org/>

TOYS FOR TOTS: Mission: to collect new unwrapped toys and distribute those toys to less fortunate children at Christmas. Goal: through the gift of a new toy, help bring the joy of Christmas and send a message of hope to America's less fortunate children. For more information visit: <https://winston-salem-nc.toysfortots.org/local-coordinator-sites/lco-sites/default.aspx?nPageID=0&nPreviewInd=0&nRedirectInd=3>

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE MUD RUN: A CHARITY EVENT hosted by Marine Corps League Percy John Fulton Detachment #1075 Winston-Salem, NC. SUPPORTING the following Charities: Semper Fi & America's Fund, Camp Lejeune, NC / The Fisher House at Camp Lejeune, NC / Toys for Tots / Young Marines Youth Program, NC / State Veterans Home, Salisbury, NC / Wreaths Across America, National Cemetery, Salisbury, NC / City Lights Ministry, Winston Salem, NC / Savings Grace K-9, Lexington, NC / The Hero's Center, High Point, NC / Irreverent Warriors. For more information visit: <https://usmcmudrunnc.com/event-information/general-information/>



“Clipping coupons for Troops”: **Chapter Assistant needed.** The Coupons for Troops Overseas Program provides expired and non-expired coupons to military families stationed overseas. Military families can use manufacturers' coupons up to six months past their expiration at commissaries. Coupons can make a big difference since prices in overseas commissaries are significantly higher than those in the States. Families in overseas bases do not always have access to coupons in newspapers and inserts, you might be the only way they can receive coupons!

Please contact Greg Chase (Nominations Committee) if you are interested in volunteering to be the chapter Assistant for this chapter initiative. Activities include keeping the membership aware of the program through the newsletter and personal announcements at chapter meetings; and collecting coupons at chapter meetings for forward as required to the troops. Check out this website to learn

more: <https://supportourtroops.org/troopons>. All you must do is follow the instructions and send them on their way! Expired Coupons go to PO BOX 430, Whiting, IN 46394-0430 - If sending currently active coupons – send them to: CouponCabin.com, Attn: Active Coupons for Troops, PO BOX 231, Whiting, IN 46394-0231

FORTHCOMING OPPORTUNITIES FOR NC VETERANS - See the NC Division of Veterans Affairs newsletter at: <https://www.milvets.nc.gov/> and the North Carolina Council of Chapters Newsletter at: <https://www.moaa-nc.org/>

Families Go to: <https://www.military.com/daily-news/2022/11/09/free-lifetime-national-parks-passes-are-coming-veterans-and-gold-star-families.html>

Need assistance with VA benefits? The Winston-Salem VA Regional Office is here to help. Visitors to the [Winston-Salem VA Regional Office](#) can now park for free in the Third and Main Street Public Parking Facility. Just take your parking ticket to the VBA public contact office upon check-in and ask for parking validation. For those who are unable to travel to Winston-Salem, you can make a virtual appointment with us here: <https://va.my.site.com/VAVERA/s/> You can also find an accredited representative in your area by visiting <https://www.va.gov/disability/get-help-filing-claim/> Accredited representatives include accredited attorneys, claims agents, and Veterans Service Officers (VSOs). They work on behalf of Veterans and service members—as well as their dependents and survivors. VSOs work for you, and their services are free. Be sure to check VA's website before choosing a representative. The representative you choose should be accredited through VA to ensure your claim is managed professionally and fairly. Visit <https://www.va.gov/initiatives/protecting-veterans-from-fraud/> to learn more about protecting yourself from benefits fraud.

Retiree Assistance Office (RAO) bulletins are located at: <http://www.nhc-ul.org/rao.html> and <http://veteraninformationlinksasa.com/emos-rao.html> FOR ALL VETERANS - RETIREE ASSISTANCE OFFICE publications; VALUABLE INFORMATION FOR ALL VETERANS; Provided by: Lt. James "EMO" Tichacek, USN (Ret) Editor/Publisher of the RAO Bulletin; All words and phrases in the color as the link below will open another page when "clicked on." <http://thearmysecurityagency.com/index.html> Welcome to My VA Benefits / Veteran Information Links and ASA - Army

Security Agency. We provide the best veteran information portal for VA benefits. Visit us for all your VA needs! Site updated on January 15, 2021.

Find your nearest VA regional office <https://www.benefits.va.gov/ROWINSTONSALEM/directions.asp>

- You can work with a trained professional called an accredited representative to get help applying for VA pension benefits.

Get help filing your claim <https://www.va.gov/disability/get-help-filing-claim/>

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS: Please contact Greg Chase (Nominations Committee) if you are interested in volunteering to be the chapter Legislative Affairs Liaison. Activities include tracking national and/or state legislation which affects servicemembers, veterans, retirees, and their families and keeping the membership aware of the legislation through the newsletter and personal announcements at chapter meetings.

NATIONAL LEGISLATION:



The MOAA Advocacy Update - Every week, MOAA's advocacy leaders and other experts discuss issues of importance to our members and the uniformed services community. Watch the latest entries below, check out our Advocacy Update playlist for older entries, and subscribe to MOAA's YouTube channel for even more videos. Head back to our Legislative Advocacy Center homepage (<https://moaa.quorum.us/>) to engage with your lawmakers on some of these critical topics.

White House Budget Request Offers Good News for TRICARE Beneficiaries By: Karen Ruedisueli, **MARCH 27, 2024**

The FY 2025 DoD budget proposal includes no mention of TRICARE cost-sharing requirements or other fee increases – good news for beneficiaries, as past TRICARE fee increase proposals have originated with the annual budget request.

The [White House budget](#), released March 11, includes a Unified Medical Budget (UMB) request of \$61.4 billion, up 4.6% from the FY 2024 budget request. The UMB is made up of several accounts within the annual defense appropriations bill including Operations and Maintenance (O&M), MILPERS (funding for military personnel operating the MHS), and MILCON, which funds Military Health System (MHS) construction projects.

[RELATED: [What the FY 2025 Biden Budget Plan Could Mean for Military Pay, TRICARE, and More](#)]

The request for the Defense Health Program (DHP) sits at \$40.3 billion, up from \$38.4 billion in the FY 2024 request. DHP, a sub-account of O&M, funds MHS functions such as health care delivery in military treatment facilities (MTFs); TRICARE; certain medical readiness activities and expeditionary medical capabilities; and education and training programs.

DHP spending growth is driven predominantly by MTF investment designed to sustain direct care capabilities and modernize electronic health records/digital health. Within the FY 2025 DHP request, \$20.6 billion, or 51%, is for purchased care via TRICARE.

‘Strategic Imperative’

The budget narrative underscores the updated MHS strategy to restore MTF capacity, reattract beneficiaries to the direct care system of military hospitals and clinics, and increase opportunities to sustain uniformed medical provider clinical readiness.

[RELATED: [What a Major DoD Health Care Shift Could Mean for Your TRICARE Benefit](#)]

“We recognize a strategic imperative to rebuild our military and civilian medical workforce and resource the MHS,” [the budget overview states](#). “The DoD leadership determined the most effective way to take care of our people, support the National Defense Strategy, increase clinical readiness, mitigate risks to requirements, and reduce long-term cost growth in private sector care is to reattract beneficiaries to Military Treatment Facilities (MTFs) and maximize medical education and training pipelines.”

The budget document also provides an update on past medical billet cut proposals, an initiative [MOAA successfully advocated to halt](#) in several consecutive defense authorization bills. DoD has suspended planned clinical military medical end strength divestitures and will use this congressionally directed pause to conduct an assessment of current military medical end strength to match operational requirements.

Following this assessment, DoD will submit a report to the House and Senate Armed Services Committees that certifies the completion of a comprehensive review of military medical manning and justification for any proposed changes to the composition of military medical end strength. The report will include plans to address civilian backfill and persistent civilian vacancies or risks associated with the planned reductions.

[RELATED: [MOAA's TRICARE Guide](#)]

As the FY 2025 NDAA process moves forward, MOAA remains focused on legislation and congressional oversight that will ensure beneficiaries have access to quality care as DoD implements the new MHS stabilization strategy. Please watch your MOAA newsletter and our [Advocacy News page](#) for opportunities to support our efforts through MOAA's [Legislative Action Center](#).

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Note to Members: MOAA System Upgrade MARCH 27, 2024, By MOAA Staff

Visitors to MOAA.org may have limited access to some portions of the website as MOAA transitions to a new customer database over the next several weeks.

These changes are slated to begin on or around April 1. During the transition, members will not be able to log into their membership accounts online. To make a change to your account during this time, or to renew or upgrade your membership, email MOAA's Member Service Center (MSC) at msc@moaa.org or call (800) 234-MOAA (2622). These changes will go into effect following the completion of this transition. Please anticipate a brief delay before these are reflected on the website.

Other changes you may notice during the transition:

- Some MOAA.org features which generally require a member login, such as access to the [digital version of Military Officer magazine](#), will be open to all website visitors. Other features requiring member login, such as our webinar archive, will be offline during the transition.
- MOAA member benefits which require member login will not be available online during the transition. However, members interested in these benefits can contact the MSC, provide confirmation of their membership status, and receive directions to access these benefits, if available during the transition window.
- Some MOAA.org resources, such as our Chapter Locator feature, will not be available.

The changeover will make it easier for members to log into their online account, and will allow MOAA to provide enhanced customer service, meeting your needs faster and more efficiently.

Login Changes

Once the new system is in place, your "email of record" will replace your username when accessing your online account. Contact the MSC if you have multiple emails on file with MOAA to determine your email of record.

Your password will not change under the new system, and access to [MOAA's Legislative Action Center](#) will not be affected. Further instructions on using the new system will be available in the coming weeks.

Take Action With MOAA

MOAA is taking a stand in Washington on behalf of our active duty servicemembers and veterans. These issues may impact those you know or who are under your command.

[ADVOCACY IN ACTION 2024](#)

[LEGISLATIVE ACTION CENTER](#)

MILITARY RELATED CONTACT INFORMATION:

Casualty Assistance - Call toll free 877-353-6807. Overseas callers should contact the nearest U.S. Embassy.

Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS) Telephone Center- Call DEERS at 800-538-9552, Monday through Friday, excluding U.S. federal holidays.

Defense Finance and Accounting Service - The agency that pays military retirees and annuitants can be reached at 800-321-1080, or through AskDFAS online. Visit the retired military and annuitants webpage for more information about pay matters such as tax forms, pay verification, Direct Deposit, myPay and more.

Federal Long-Term Care Insurance Program - The program provides long-term care insurance to help pay for the costs of care you need if you can no longer perform everyday tasks (activities of daily living) by yourself because of chronic illness, injury, disability or the aging process. For assistance, call 800-LTC-FEDS (800-582-3337) or TTY 800-843-3557 to speak with a program consultant. You can also visit <https://www.ltcfeds.com/>.

Identification Cards - Call 800-525-0102 for location of the nearest issuing facility, or visit the site locator or find at: <https://idco.dmdc.osd.mil/idco/locator>

Legal Offices - Assists members with preparing wills and powers of attorney, and answers certain legal questions. Visit the Air Force Legal Assistance website at <https://aflegalassistance.law.af.mil>.

Medicare - 800-633-4227 or visit www.medicare.gov.

Social Security Office - Call toll free 800-772-1213; commercial 410-965- 8019; or write to Social Security Administration, Office of Public Inquiries, Windsor Park Building, 6401 Security Blvd., Baltimore, MD 21235. Visit the website for more information.

TRICARE Mail-Order Pharmacy Program (Express Scripts, Inc.) - In United States, call toll free 800-282-2881; or overseas, call 866-275-4732. Visit <https://www.express-scripts.com/TRICARE/index.shtml> for more information.

Veterans Affairs - For benefit inquiries call 800-827-1000; life insurance 800-669-8477; status of headstones and markers, 800-697-6947; special issues such as Gulf War/radiation/Agent Orange/Project Shad call 800-749-8387; GI Bill and education matters call 888-442-4551. Visit the website at www.va.gov/.Local Events You Might be Interested In:

Veterans Cup is another good source for local events and comradery: <https://www.veteranscup.org/>

- Join us for a special **Veterans' Coffee event at Richard Childress Racing!** This month we'll **recognize our Vietnam veterans.** Wednesday Morning, April 12, 2023, 9:00 – 11:00 am, Richard Childress Racing Banquet Hall, 425 Industrial Dr., Welcome/Lexington NC. We will have guest speakers Mike Mabe and Dr. Lewis. Coffee and donuts will be served.

The RCR Racing Museum will be open at no charge for our attendees after the Veterans Coffee. Various Veteran resource and support organizations will be present at each Veteran Coffee event to answer questions about their mission and activities.

- **Veterans Eligible for Travel and Hotel Discounts:** American Forces Discounts, <https://www.americanforcetravel.com/>, is a Department of Defense online leisure travel website managed by Morale, Welfare, and Recreation and supported by Priceline. Veterans can access exclusive deals on hotels, flights, rental cars, cruises, packages and event tickets.
- **COMMUNITY OUTREACH SPONSORSHIP:** Apply for up to \$300 per chapter or \$800 per council to support community service programs and recruiting/branding events. Get details at this link: <https://www.moaa.org/content/chapters-and-councils/council-and-chapter-management/community-outreach-sponsorship-for-moaa/>
- Veteran Coffees are held at various locations, (Winston-Salem, Walnut Cove, King, Burlington, Mooresville, etc.) throughout the month. Go to VETERANSCUP.ORG for listing and times.
- *****REMINDER***** There will be a Veterans Breakfast and Coffee honoring Vietnam & Vietnam Era Veterans on April 10, 2024 at 9:00am at Richard Childress Racing in Welcome, NC.
- **Don Timmons, Community Engagement Manager, Triad, Triangle & Sandhills Regions; Direct: 336 837-4347; dtimmons@veteransbridgehome.org; www.veteransbridgehome.org**

Veterans Crisis line: 1-800-273-8255 Press 1 - US Department of Veterans Affairs: Women Veterans Call Center – 855 829-6636. Link to Urgent Care organizations approved by the VA <https://vaurgentcarelocator.triwest.com/> If you are under the VA healthcare system for a service connected health condition and have had to or might need to use a Non-VA hospital

emergency department and/or emergency transportation for a medical emergency related to your service-connected health condition, you or a family member must report this to the VA within 72 hours. Call: 704 638-9000 ext. 12022. Year 'Round Veteran Discounts: <https://blogs.va.gov/VAntage/85765/veteran-discounts-available-year-round/>

GREAT QUOTES: "The people are not to be disarmed of their weapons. They are left in full possession of them." —Zacharia Johnson (1788): "But with respect to future debt; would it not be wise and just for that nation to declare in the constitution they are forming that neither the legislature, nor the nation itself can validly contract more debt, than they may pay within their own age, or within the term of 19 years." - Thomas Jefferson letter to James Madison — 1789; "It is not honorable to take mere legal advantage, when it happens to be contrary to justice." Thomas Jefferson - Opinion on Debts Due to Soldiers — 1790. "It is the duty of all Nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey his will, to be grateful for his benefits, and humbly to implore his protection and favors." —George Washington

HUMOR (Maybe?): The curse of the eviltron: One Air Force officer



told a story involving a small device called an eviltron or an annoyatron. About the size of a quarter, its sole purpose is to annoy the heck out of your chosen target. All the machine does is replay a sound of your choice every four minutes or so. The thing is, the battery lasts several months, so if you drop the eviltron in some hard-

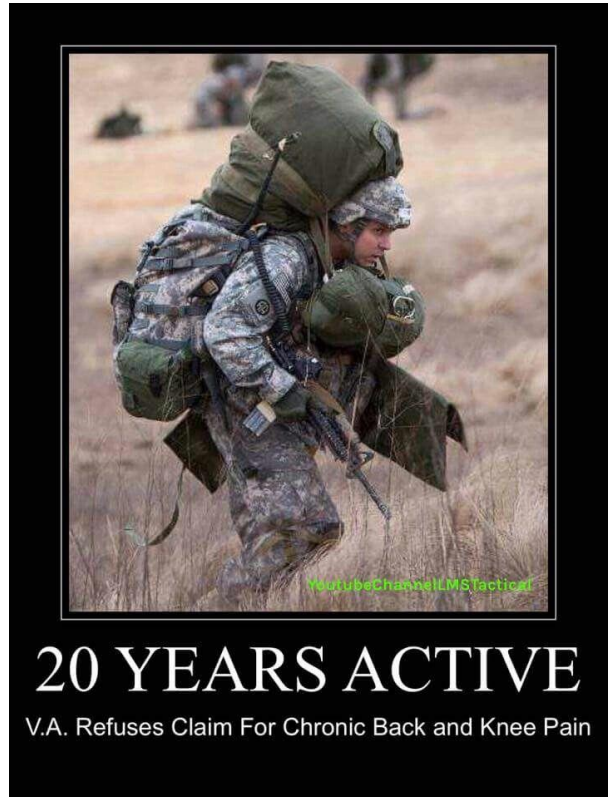
to-reach place like behind a desk or in some out-of-the-way drawer, then your target is stuck with it. While he was a squadron executive officer, or the unit's second-in-command, he found an eviltron saying "hey can you hear me" and dropped it behind the commander's desk before departing on a temporary duty assignment. He left chaos in his wake. "Two days into it the first sergeant texts me to say the boss is tearing apart his office because his computer is talking to him." "By day three it's even better because now the commander is ignoring it but everyone who comes into his office is confused when they hear 'hey, can you hear me,' and then the commander denies that he heard anything." "Nobody had a mental breakdown," the officer went on, "but it was apparently epic that people are hearing this voice in the commander's office, and he denies it." Please don't get any ideas for our next meeting!

It actually doesn't take much to be considered a difficult woman. That's why there are so many of us. — Jane Goodall

HISTORY: March 31, 2024 is/was Easter Sunday so what happened on March 31st in past years? In 1492, King Ferdinand II of Aragon and Queen Isabella I of Castille conquered the Nasrid Kingdom of Granada, finally freeing Spain from Muslim rule after nearly 800 years. Not long after, the monarchs, whose marriage and conquests cemented Spain as a unified kingdom, issued the Alhambra Decree, mandating that all Jews be expelled from the country.

On March 31, 1774, British Parliament passes the Boston Port Act, closing the port of Boston and demanding that the city's residents pay for the nearly \$1 million worth (in today's money) of tea dumped into Boston Harbor during the Boston Tea Party of December 16, 1773. Rather than abandon Boston, the colonial population shipped much-needed supplies to Boston and formed extra-legal Provincial Congresses to mobilize resistance to the crown. By the time General Thomas Gage attempted to enforce the Massachusetts Government Act, his authority had eroded beyond repair.

In a letter dated March 31, 1776, Abigail Adams wrote to her husband, John Adams, urging him and the other members of the Continental Congress not to forget about the nation's women when fighting for America's independence from Great Britain. The future First Lady wrote in part, "I long to hear that you have declared an independency. And, by the way, in the new code of laws which I suppose it will be necessary for you to make, I desire you would remember the ladies and be more generous and favorable to them than your ancestors. Do not put such unlimited power into the hands of the husbands. Remember, all men would be tyrants if they could. If particular care and attention is not paid to the ladies, we are determined to foment a rebellion, and will not hold ourselves bound by any laws in which we have no voice or representation." Nearly 150 years before the House of Representatives voted to pass the 19th Amendment giving women



the right to vote, Adams letter was a private first step in the fight for equal rights for women. Recognized and admired as a formidable woman in her own right, the union of Abigail and John Adams persists as a model of mutual respect and affection; they have since been referred to as “America’s first power couple.” Their correspondence of over 1,000 letters written between 1762 and 1801 remains in the Massachusetts Historical Society and continues to give historians a unique perspective on domestic and political life during the revolutionary era. Abigail bore six children, of whom five survived. Abigail and John’s eldest son, John Quincy Adams, served as the sixth president of the United States. Only two women, Abigail Adams and Barbara Bush, have been both wives and mothers of American presidents.

In **1854**, in Tokyo, Commodore Matthew Calbraith Perry, representing the U.S. government, signs the Treaty of Kanagawa with the Japanese government, opening the ports of Shimoda and Hakodate to American trade and permitting the establishment of a U.S. consulate in Japan.

To honor of the centenary of the French Revolution, **in 1889**, the Eiffel Tower is dedicated in Paris in a ceremony presided over by Gustave Eiffel, the tower’s designer, and attended by French Prime Minister Pierre Tirard, a handful of other dignitaries, and 200 construction workers. Eiffel contracted the Otis Elevator Company of the United States to design the tower’s famous glass-cage elevators. However, as they were not completed at the dedication, he and some workers climbed the stairs of the 984 feet tall ‘oil derrick’ to hang the large French tri-color flag. The Eiffel Tower remained the world’s tallest man-made structure until the completion of the Chrysler Building in New York in 1930.

In **1959**, the Dalai Lama, fleeing the Chinese suppression of a national uprising in Tibet, crossed the border into India, where he was granted political asylum. In 1989, he was awarded the Nobel Prize for Peace in recognition of his nonviolent campaign to end the Chinese domination of Tibet.

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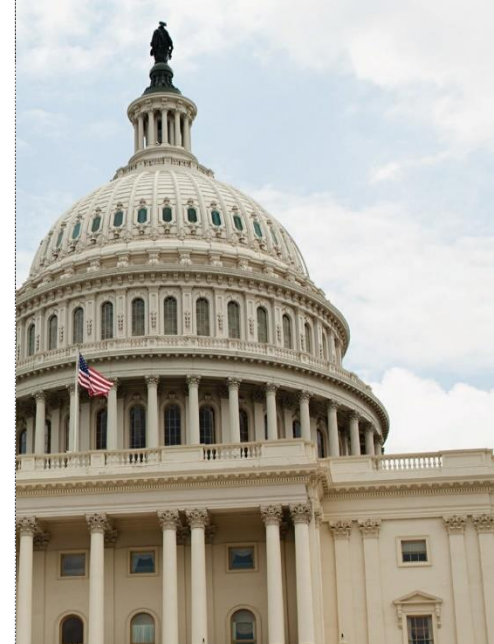
To apply for Chapter and National MOAA membership, please use the Application Form on the next page.

THE LARGER OUR NUMBERS, THE GREATER YOUR VOICE.

Why MOAA chapter membership matters.



Tarheel Central Chapter of MOAA, Inc.



MOAA AND CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP ENROLLMENT FORM

Name _____

Rank _____ Branch of Service _____

Active Retired Former Reserve National Guard Surviving Spouse

Spouse name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Date of birth _____ Telephone _____

Email _____

(To ensure deliverability of MOAA communications, please provide a personal email address.)

Are you a member of MOAA? Yes, No Unknown

MOAA Member Number (if known) _____

Not a MOAA national member yet? Check here to receive a BASIC Membership at no cost to you.



And, for only \$4 a month, you can upgrade to **PREMIUM** membership, giving you immediate access to a full spectrum of career and financial resources, exclusive publications, college scholarships for dependents, and countless discounts on products and travel.

Visit www.moaa.org/join to learn more.

How did you hear about MOAA Chapter involvement? _____

Are you a member of any other MOAA Chapter(s)? Yes No

If yes, which one(s)? _____

To complete enrollment:

- **Fill in this form** on your computer, save it, and email it to MOAA Membership: tcr@privateclubassociates.com. Mail your check (\$45.00 annual chapter dues) payable to TCC MOAA to: Treasurer, 3160 Presley Dr., Winston-Salem, NC 27107-4532
- Go to www.tarheelmoaa.org

You will be opted in to receive e-communications from MOAA and your local chapter. You will be able to opt out of any further e-communications at any time. MOAA will not sell or share personal information.

Chapter membership and dues information:

All US Military Service Officers and their spouses and Surviving Spouses – Active, Reserve, Retired Veteran, (Warrant - Flag Officer) of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Coast Guard, Space Force, NOAA, US Public Health Service, are welcome.

Affiliations:

North Carolina of Chapters <https://www.moaa-nc.org> MOAA, Inc <http://www.moaa.org>. **(independent, non-profit, politically nonpartisan)**

Dinner Meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month September thru May at Salem Glen Country Club. Social Hour begins at 5:45 PM; Dinner at 6:45 PM; and the Program at 7:30 PM.

Dinner Cost: \$25/person
Dress is Business Casual.

Chapter Dues: \$45/year.

Tarheel Central Chapter

DINNER RESERVATION FORM for Tuesday, April 9, 2024

Phone calls, emails and texts will be accepted until midnight on Thursday, April 4th; Salem Glen needs the reservation guarantee by Friday morning so the correct amount of food can be ordered for delivery in time for the meeting on the following Tuesday.

Your Name: _____

Birthday (DD/MMM – Member ONLY) _____

Number of Reservations: _____

Spouse Name: _____

Guests Names: _____

At **\$25** each: _____

Add Scholarship/Worthy Cause Donation: _____

Add CY2024 Dues at \$45: _____

Grand Total: _____ Check #: _____

Make all checks payable to: Tarheel Central Chapter, MOAA

Call Reservations into:

Mark Stanek

CALL: (336) 816-9932

EMAIL or TEXT: mstanek@triad.rr.com

Send Checks to Treasurer:

Tarheel Central Chapter MOAA

% Mike Chapman

3160 Presley Dr.

Winston-Salem, NC 27107

p8a284@yahoo.com