



The Tarheel Central Chapter Newsletter Volume 2025, Issue 7, OCT 2, 2025

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>

For the full experience go to our website and enjoy the pictures, too! Click on this link: <https://tarheelmoaa.org/about/> then click on the current edition.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE – Phil Briscoe: Chapter Members,



We had a great turnout and memorable time at last month's Dinner Meeting. We started off the evening with the presentation of an Outstanding Service Award from MOAA National to Jerry Johnson for his service as the chapter Calling Chain coordinator and unwavering commitment to "Never Stop Serving". The "My Story" by Barry Moore was a good one. Many of us have experienced jungle training but his ending was totally unexpected. If you were not there, ask him about it at the next Dinner Meeting. We got to hear briefly from two new members, Robert Weiss and Devin Dell, celebrated the receipt of three 5 Star awards from MOAA National, and presented a \$600 dollar check to the Triad Honor Flight to support the participation of one veteran. My thanks to you who continue to donate to our "Worthy Cause" organizations – The Triad Honor Flight, Marine Corps League Mud Run, and Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots. Please do not forget about the chapter Scholarship Fund. We need your support to continue to support two local high school graduates with scholarships. Last, but certainly not least, our guest speaker Erin Dearth of Letters from Home was outstanding. Many thanks to Jason Ford for continuing to provide memorable guest speakers.

I look forward to seeing you at the October 14th dinner meeting.

As always, Take Care and Beware,

Phil Briscoe

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/>.



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TARHEEL CENTRAL CHAPTER:



The Tarheel Central Chapter Challenge Coin
Available for purchase at the monthly dinner meeting for \$15.00. On the front the chapter name runs above the US Flag and the MOAA motto rings the bottom. The NC state symbol is representative of the state flag in color and has a single white star located in Tarheel Central Chapter catchment area – Surry; Stokes; Yadkin; Forsyth; Davie; and Davidson counties. On the Back of the coin is the official MOAA logo. Can't make the dinner meeting and wish to purchase?

Address purchase inquiries to info@tarheelmoaa.org.

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.

5-Star Newsletter Publisher and Editor – Greg Chase, LtCol, USAF (Ret) and Vina Chase; Editor may be reached at (336) 946-2446 or gvchase@outlook.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 email 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**– Barry N. Moore, MAJ, USMC (Ret) (Legislative Affairs)
- **Secretary** – Mary Laverdure, Capt., USAF (Vet)
- **Treasurer** – Mike Chapman, CW4, ANG (Ret)
- **Immediate Past-President** - Gregory M. Chase, LtCol, USAF (Ret) (Nominations Committee) (Newsletter Editor)

Directors:

1. Ted. Robinson, Col, USMC (Ret) (Membership Committee)
2. I.B. Southerland III, Maj USAF (Ret) (Scholarship/R-JROTC Program Committee)

3. Jason Ford, LT USN (Ret) (Programs Committee)
4. Thomas B. Denegre III, LCDR USNR (Vet) (Website/Social Media)
5. Mark Ferketish, Col USMC (Ret)
6. Dennis Ammons, 1Lt, USA (Vet) (Personal Affairs)
7. Jackie Kohler, (Surviving Spouse Liaison)

Chapter Assistants:

8. **Chaplain** – Dennis Lennon, CDR, USNR (Ret)
9. **R-JROTC Programs** – Al Chandler, LTC (Ret)
10. **Public Relations** – Al Nealeans, COL USA (Ret)
11. **Social Secretary** – Warren Boyer, 1 Lt, USMCR (Vet)
12. **Calling Chain** – George Lawson, LtCol, USAF (Ret) (Interim)

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

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



MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE CHAIR – Ted Robinson:

Please welcome three new members to our Chapter:

- Allan Shapiro, US Navy Veteran and Skyraider pilot.
- Devin Dell, Retired US Marine Corps Major and helicopter pilot
- Adam Horne, Retired US Marine Corps LtCol, Marine One pilot

Our roster is now 86 and growing again. Thanks to Jere Carter for sponsoring Adam Horne.

Now you have received your second "EVITE", inviting you to the October meeting, Tuesday October 14th. This App (at no cost to the Chapter) allows the Membership Committee to contact you on a timely basis, and more efficiently enable us to present an accurate number of meeting reservations to Salem Glen CC. When you receive your email, merely click on the correct response: "Attending", "Number in Party", or Regrets. It is very important that you respond so we can provide an accurate attendance number to Salem Glen. You will no longer receive telephone notices, except for the Christmas Dance and the Summer Social.

The Membership Committee is continuing to recruit new Committee members for this year. If you are interested, please contact George Lawson or any Committee member. Those are:

- | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| • Dennis Ammons | • Hank Rudge |
| • Pam Angle | • Mark Stanek |
| • George Lawson Vice Chair | • Laurie Wesely |
| • Alan Nealeans | • Wes Whittaker |
| • Joe Rogers | • Ted Robinson, Chair |

The October Membership Committee meeting will be held on Monday October 13, 2025, for lunch, from 12:30 – 2:00 PM at Salem Glen CC. If you would like to know more about what we do and/or would like to attend the meeting, please call George at (803) 439-4818.

MOAA / CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP ENROLLMENT FORM:

Membership is open to active duty, former, retired, and National Guard and Reserve commissioned and warrant officers of the uniformed services and their surviving spouses.

The Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) is the country's leading organization protecting the rights of military servicemembers and their families. Those who belong to MOAA not only lend their voices to a greater cause, but they also gain access to extensive benefits tailored to the needs and lifestyles of military officers. 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. Or go to our Chapter website at: <https://www.tarheelmoaa.org/about/>



REAL & VIRTUAL TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES - Tom Miller our 1st VP:

October Available Training: • VA, Veterans Groups Partner for Progress on Mental Health • Pentagon Takes Another Step Toward Commissary Privatization • Report Backs Long Sought Changes to TRICARE Autism Programs • House NDAA Includes TRICARE Reforms, Military Housing Improvements • Report Targets Cancer Rates on Aircrews, But Toxic-Exposure Work is Far From Done. All available on MOAA .org: <https://www.moaa.org/content/events/moaa-events/> and

<https://www.moaa.org/content/search-results/?keyword=VA,%20Veterans%20Groups%20Partner%20for%20Progress%20on%20Mental%20Health%20%E2%80%A2Pentagon%20Takes%20Another%20Step%20Toward%20Commissary%20Privatization>

Council of Chapters Dates open to all MOAA members (Note: you cannot officially represent the chapter without the president's approval):

- Oct. 23: Monthly chapter leader virtual roundtable, 7 p.m. Eastern: MOAA Foundation. Join here at the time of the meeting. (Meeting ID: 914 4733 5409)
- Oct. 28-29: Total Force+ Conference, Gaylord National Harbor, MD
- Oct. 30: Annual Meeting of the Membership, Gaylord National Harbor
- Nov. 14-15: Leader Training: East Workshop (Hershey, Pa.)
- Nov. 20: Monthly chapter leader virtual roundtable, 7 p.m. Eastern: MOAA Annual Awards. Join here at the time of the meeting. (Meeting ID: 995 5369 6751)
- Dec. 18: Monthly chapter leader virtual roundtable, 7 p.m. Eastern: Year in Review/2026 Outlook. Join here at the time of the meeting. (Meeting ID: 929 1511 3996)



DINNER MEETING PROGRAMS - Jason Ford: Our October speaker is Don Brown, a former U.S. Navy JAG officer and United States Senate candidate and the author of the books "*Kangaroo Court: How Dirty Prosecutors and Sleazy Lawyers Destroy Political Opponents, Attack Free Speech, and Subvert the Constitution*"; "*Travesty of Justice: The Shocking Prosecution of Lieutenant Clint Lorange*," "*The Last Fighter Pilot: The True Story of the Final Combat Mission of World War II*", and "*CALL SIGN EXTORTION 17: The Shootdown of SEAL Team Six*." He is the author of 15 books on the United States Military, including three national bestsellers, and is a Publisher's Weekly National Bestseller. He is one of four former JAG officers serving on the Lorange legal team. Lorange was pardoned by President Trump in November 2019. Brown is also a former military prosecutor, a former Special Assistant United States Attorney, and can be reached at don@brownfornc.com

Next Meeting set for Tuesday, 14 October 2025, Cocktail hour starts at 5 PM, dinner buffet starts at 6:15, SALEM GLEN COUNTRY CLUB, 1000 GLEN DAY DR., CLEMMONS, N.C. \$25.00 a person. The dress is business casual. The Tarheel Central Chapter of MOAA must guarantee the host site the number in attendance for each Chapter dinner meeting. The Chapter is then obligated to pay for those dinners whether the member who made a reservation for dinner attends or not.

TREASURER – Mike Chapman:



2026 Annual Dues Billing

The annual dues for Regular Members for the next calendar year (2026) shall be determined by the membership at the annual November meeting after receiving the Board's recommendation on the matter.

Upon membership approval of the annual dues rate at the Annual Membership Meeting in November the Treasurer will, no later than November 20 send a single message email to all paying members, specifying (1) the

amount of the annual dues for the next year along with an explanation of any increase, and (2) the date payment is due, which in accordance with the Chapter Bylaws is the date of the succeeding January Chapter meeting.

The timely payment of annual dues by members of Tarheel central Chapter MOAA is required to maintain your membership in good standing. It is one of the primary obligations and responsibilities of membership.

A Tarheel Central Chapter MOAA pay portal has been established with an online service called "Cheddar Up". This is the preferred collection point for Dues, Dinner and Donations payments. **The Link to Cheddar Up is : <https://my.cheddarup.com/c/2025-member-collection-67809/items>**

Mailed in payments or payments at the door will still be accepted.

October Dinner Reservations: See the reservation form at the end for important details! Reservations may be made by calling George Lawson (803) 439-4818 or galaws71@gmail.com. Telephone calls, emails and texts will be accepted until 5:30 PM on Thursday, Oct 9th. Sign up with Mike Chapman, Treasurer, to reserve your place at the meeting. The contact information is on the Dinner Reservation Form at the end.



PUBLIC RELATIONS - Al Nealeans: Our enthusiastic promoter of chapter public relations gets the word out to the Winston Salem Journal, Clemmons Courier and WXII News. So, if you know any additional avenues for publicity, please contact him at: Alan Nealeans, 336-403-5254 or alan.nealeans@yahoo.com



SECRETARY - Mary Laverdure:

"In accordance with the Chapter Bylaws Amendments - "Each elected officer shall have a designated assistant to assure a smooth continuation of Chapter functions in the event of an unforeseen absence or resignation."

Please contact me if you are interested.



WEBMASTER - Tom Denegre:

See our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1285830908624290>

Don't Forget ... RAFFLE, RAFFLE, RAFFLE! held at all Regular Dinner Meetings where you could win 10 times what you put into the pot. Tickets are \$1 and \$5 for six. So don't forget to bring some cash to dinner.



SURVIVING SPOUSE LIAISON – Jackie Kohler:

There will be a **Surviving Spouse Recognition** for Diane Womack Boyer, Laura Wesely and Nan Dewey at the **October Dinner**.

Parity for Surviving Spouses: Increase Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) - a benefit for survivors of those who die in service or from service-connected conditions lags other federal survivor benefits. DIC provides only 43% of what a 100% service-disabled veteran receives. Civilian federal survivor programs provide up to 55% of the employee's calculated retirement pay. This inequity leaves military

survivors with less support than their civilian counterparts, despite the sacrifices their loved ones made in service to our country. **Here is the progress:** The Caring for Survivors Act of 2025 (S. 611/H.R. 2055) has been introduced in both the Senate and the House of Representatives. The Senate bill, S. 611, was introduced on February 18, 2025, and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs. The House bill, H.R. 2055, was introduced on March 11, 2025, and referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs. A subcommittee hearing was held on June 24, 2025. Currently, both bills are in the committee stage. Please write to your Senators and Congressmen to support this effort. It is imperative that everyone not only those affected by the passage of this bill continue to engage with their Senators and Congressmen/women to lend support to this very worthy cause. Go to: <https://www.moaa.org/content/publications-and-media/news-articles/2023-news-articles/advocacy/this-bipartisan-bill-would-strengthen-earned-support-for-survivors-of-veterans/>

Please contact Jackie at jackie.kohler53@gmail.com or (336) 829-8011.

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM CHAIR - I.B. Southerland: The JROTC Scholarship selection process for our 2026 selectees will begin in January 2026. **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.



SOCIAL SECRETARY - Warren Boyer:

Call 336 407-2374 if you have input.



TARHEEL CENTRAL CHAPTER OUTREACH:

Your Board of Directors has determined the following worthy causes are deserving of our donations. PLEASE MAKE DONATIONS THROUGH CHEDDAR UP; it is easy and safe: .

TRIAD HONOR FLIGHT: Celebrates America's veterans by inviting them to share in a day of honor at our nation's memorials. It cost \$600.00 per participant. **The 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/>

The Marine Corps League of Winston Salem sponsors a Pancake Breakfast

EVERY SATURDAY morning from 7:30 to 11:00 a.m.

WHERE: American Legion Post #55, 111 Miller Street, Winston Salem.

COST (cheap): \$10 adults, children 11 and under \$5.00. YOU WILL NOT LEAVE HUNGRY. Complimenting the pancakes are coffee, juices, bacon, sausage, and both regular and sugar free syrups.

We often have guests like members of the Executive Board representing the Triad Honor Flight. The Marine Corps League will be making a donation to the Triangle Honor Flight program to help pay the way for Veteran's to make the flight at their assigned times. We are hoping to have WXII-12 there for media support and hope YOU will join us at these special events. Bring your family, TELL YOUR FRIENDS and let's all help The Marine Corps League help our Community. We promise, the Pancakes are delicious.....

Semper Fi,

Jerry Johnson

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA

Wreaths Across America is a nationwide program honoring our fellow deceased Veterans by placing wreaths on their grave sites.

FOR ALL OUR MEMBERSHIP, this is how you can participate in the program and honor our deceased Veterans.

1. Donate wreaths to honor our Veterans so they can be placed on their grave sights. Donation is the purchase of an individual wreath at \$17 each or donate to purchase four wreaths at the same price each and a fifth wreath is included free of charge. Wreath donations to the ELKS Lodge collection is 23% toward a goal of 562 for this event; will you help?

Wreaths can be purchased at the following link: <http://www.wreathsacrossamerica.org/nc0275>

PLEASE use this above link exclusively so the wreathes will go to Westlawn Gardens of Memory through the local sponsors, Elks Lodge #449, with whom we are coordinating.

2. Attend the wreath laying ceremony on, 13 December 2025, 12:00 noon, at Westlawn Gardens of Memory, in Clemmons and actually lay a wreath at the grave site of a Veteran.

Last year your TCC leaders supported laying wreaths at gravesites. We hope you will join us this year through your donations and laying wreaths.

Thank you!

Col G. Mark Ferketish, Board of Directors Member, USMCR (Ret)

gmarkferk@gmail.com

504-491-7269.

PERSONAL AFFAIRS - Dennis Ammons:



Please notify Dennis, if you hear that a member or spouse is having difficulties at: dennis.a.ammons@gmail.com; 336 491-4123.

CELEBRATIONS AND CONGRATULATIONS

We celebrate those who have recently been listed on our Concerns and Prayers list, but who have recovered from either their illness or accident; we thank our Creator for that blessing.

CONCERNS AND PRAYERS:

- Kay Savage (Jim) Prayer
- John Palmer Prayer
- George Angle Prayers for a Complete Recovery
- Dennis Ammons Prayers for a Complete Recovery
- John Palmer Family Needs our Prayers

A LIVELY HAPPY BIRTHDAY APPLAUSE TO:



- Mike Chapman 10/1
- Jack Hogan 10/2
- Michael Julian 10/2
- Tom Denegre III 10/17
- Skip Broome 10/20



LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS – Barry N. Moore, 2nd VP: MOAA urges all of us to take action ([Legislative Action Center](#))! Please use this link (<https://moaa.quorum.us/>) and endorse the support: Improve Tricare Access For Families. Please consider contacting our elected officials and let them know to support this valuable initiative. Within the article there is a simple link that will allow you to send your support to the applicable officials.
[https://www.moaa.org/content/publications-and-media/news-articles/2025-news-articles/health-care-and-earned-benefits/push-to-help-combat-injured-retirees-continues-with-](https://www.moaa.org/content/publications-and-media/news-articles/2025-news-articles/health-care-and-earned-benefits/push-to-help-combat-injured-retirees-continues-with-senate-ndaa/)

[senate-ndaa/](#)

Government Shutdown: Healthcare will not be interrupted, but some ancillary services such as counseling and transition assistance are on hold.

#VetResources is a weekly newsletter for Veterans, their families, caregivers, and survivors. [Connect with Secretary Collins on X](#)

As you may be aware, funding for some government agencies, including portions of the Department of Veterans Affairs, expired at midnight this morning.

President Trump opposes a lapse in appropriations, and on September 19, the House of Representatives passed, with the Trump Administration's support, a clean continuing resolution to fund the government through November 21. Unfortunately, Democrats are blocking this Continuing Resolution in the U.S. Senate due to unrelated policy demands.

During the current lapse in funding, the vast majority of VA benefits and services will continue uninterrupted, but the government shutdown is not without consequences to VA. Here is what you need to know:

The following critical Veterans care and assistance programs will be impacted by the government shutdown:

- VA will not provide Veteran career counseling or transition assistance program activities.
- The GI Bill Hotline will be closed.
- VA regional benefits offices will be closed.
- VA will cease public affairs and outreach to Veterans.
- VA will not permanently place headstones or maintain the grounds at VA national cemeteries.
- VA will not process applications for pre-need burials.
- VA will not print new presidential memorial certificates.

Thankfully, the government shutdown will not impact the following VA services:

- Veteran health care is not impacted. VA Medical Centers, Outpatient Clinics, and Vet Centers will be open.
- VA benefits will continue to be processed and delivered, including compensation, pension, education, and housing benefits.
- Burials will continue at VA national cemeteries. Applications for headstones, markers, and burial benefits processing will continue.
- The Board of Veterans' Appeals will continue decisions on Veterans' cases.
- VA Contact Centers (1-800-MyVA411) and the Veterans Crisis Line (Dial 988, Press 1) are open 24/7.

Suggested visit to WWII The National D-Day Memorial, Bedford, VA see: <https://www.dday.org/visit/>

North Carolina Priorities for the Military!

1. **Secure and increase funding for the North Carolina Scholarship for Children of Wartime Veterans (Wartime Scholarship).** Reward/Impact: By strengthening this scholarship program, we honor the sacrifices of North Carolina's veterans while investing in the educational success of their children. Expanding and protecting this funding provides stability for military families, promotes higher education, and ensures dependents have the opportunities their parents fought to defend.
2. **The establishment of Veterans Treatment Courts in ALL North Carolina counties and jurisdictions, coupled with increased funding to adequately support Veterans Suicide Prevention programs at the local community level.** Reward/Impact: This ensures that every veteran across the state has equal access to justice, rehabilitation, and lifesaving resources. By expanding treatment courts and suicide prevention funding, North Carolina will reduce recidivism, save taxpayer dollars, strengthen families, and most importantly—save veterans' lives.
3. **Expand property tax relief for North Carolina veterans. Reward/Impact:** Providing greater property tax exemptions ensures financial stability for disabled veterans allowing them to remain in their homes and communities. This measure reduces economic hardship, honors military service and sacrifice, and demonstrates North Carolina's commitment to supporting veterans and their families long after service. Adjustments & Improvements to NC Property Tax language and exclusions.
4. **Update statutory language to reflect current 38 CFR guidance for Veterans and surviving spouses.** This technical change to the NC General Statutes—along with updated eligibility requirements on the NCDVA Form 9—is urgently needed. (NO COST). Reward/Impact: Many surviving spouses across North Carolina are negatively impacted because state law does not align with current VA Dependency & Indemnity Compensation (DIC) eligibilities. Additionally, the current \$45,000 property tax exclusion for 100% disabled veterans fails to reflect today's economic realities and excludes veterans with significant—but less than 100%—disability ratings.
5. **Advance HB 288 POW/MIA Flag/State Bldgs. & Schools.** Reward/Impact: Passing HB 746 ensures that North Carolina visibly honors those still unaccounted for, reinforces public awareness of the sacrifices made by service members and their families, and demonstrates the state's unwavering commitment to the principle of leaving no one behind.
6. **Expand support and resources for veterans and dependents affected by toxic exposure. Strengthen state-level programs to address the long-term health impacts of toxic exposure (such as burn pits, Agent Orange, and contaminated water).** Ensure that dependents also have access to screenings, healthcare resources, and financial relief when impacted by a veteran's service-connected exposure. Reward/Impact: By addressing toxic exposure comprehensively, North Carolina can close critical gaps in care, reduce long-term health costs, and honor its obligation to veterans and their families. This investment saves lives, supports dependents who often bear hidden burdens, and demonstrates leadership in safeguarding the health of future generations.

---- Regards/Barry N. Moore

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 _____ Email: _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Date of birth _____ Telephone-Cell _____

Email _____ Telephone-Land _____

(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: tedrobinson128@gmail.com. Mail your check (\$45.00 annual chapter dues) payable to TCC MOAA to: Treasurer, 3160 Presley Dr., Winston-Salem, NC 27107-4532

- For more information, please go to the Chapter website: 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. M1900DMC



Our Chapter is open to all active, reserve, retired, veteran and former (Warrant - Flag) officers of the US Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, Space Force, NOAA and US Public Health Service, their spouses, and surviving spouses.

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 (Sept – May) at Salem Glen Country Club, 1000 Glen Day Dr, Clemmons, NC 27012.

Social Hour begins at 5:00 PM; Dinner at 6:00 PM; and the Program at 7:00 PM.

Dinner Cost: \$25/person
Dress is Business Casual.
Chapter Dues: \$45/year.

THE MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA (MOAA) MISSION:



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, achieved through tireless advocacy efforts in our nation's capital. 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.

MOAA Announces New Medicare Advantage Partnership

To help Medicare-eligible MOAA members have access to Medicare information and options available to them, MOAA is partnering with Veterans Healthcare (VHC) to provide access to Medicare Advantage plans designed for veterans. VHC is a veterans-focused organization that can walk members through Medicare options and share how Medicare Advantage plans can provide enhancements to traditional Medicare – such as dental and hearing benefits – as well as the potential for a partial Medicare Part B reimbursement.

Below is a link to a webinar produced by VHC providing important information in advance of Medicare open enrollment season, which runs October 15 to December 7 (or January 1 to March 15 for those already enrolled in Medicare Advantage). Please share this information with your members and encourage them to consider their options. Additionally, Veterans Healthcare will provide one-on-one consultations to walk through members' specific needs. Members may register for a consultation by visiting: <https://www.veteran.healthcare/MOAA>. To view the webinar, click here: [View Recording](#)

Registration Is Open for Eastern Region Leadership Workshop on Nov. 14 & 15

Registration for the next in-person MOAA Leaders Workshop for Eastern Region volunteer leaders is open. The event will be held November 14-15, in Hershey, PA, at the [Hershey Lodge](#). Council and Chapter Presidents, Membership Chairs, Legislative Chairs/Liaisons, and Surviving Spouse Liaisons from CT, DE, IL, IN, MA, MD, ME, MI, NH, NJ, NY, OH, PA, RI, VA, VT, WI, and WV should have received an invitation. Presidents, please reach out to individuals serving in these roles to remind them that registration must be completed by October 17. An FAQ document has been created: [PDF FAQs for Eastern Regional Council & Chapter Leaders Workshop.pdf](#). Please contact chapters@moaa.org with any questions.

SET SAIL FOR PARADISE WITH MOAA - Contact Lorna Tiller, our dedicated travel agent: Call: 910-343-1978 (Office) or 910-540-3390 (Mobile), Email: tillertravels@gmail.com **PS** Share this with your family and friends - they're welcome to join the fun too! (MOAA membership not required)

2026 MOAA Signature Group 9-night Western Europe

October 1-10 - 2026 | Dublin to Porto

Dear MOAA Member,

We're delighted to invite you on an exclusive, MOAA-only journey along the storied coast of Western Europe aboard *World Voyager*, one of Atlas Ocean Voyages' boutique expedition yachts. This 9-night sailing offers a unique chance to explore centuries of history, culture, and breathtaking scenery—while enjoying the relaxed luxury of small-ship travel and the camaraderie of fellow MOAA members and their guests.

Coastal Charms of Western Europe

Sail from Ireland's lively capital to Portugal's scenic Douro coast on a journey rich in history, flavor, and coastal beauty. From classic pubs in Waterford to the vineyards of Bordeaux, medieval towns of Northern Spain, and the sun-drenched streets of Porto, this immersive itinerary traces centuries of cultural exchange and maritime legacy.

Aboard your elegant expedition yacht, *World Voyager*, enjoy an intimate and all-inclusive experience with fewer than 200 guests. Dine on regionally inspired cuisine, sip fine wines, and unwind in spacious ocean-view staterooms—all while discovering hidden gems and iconic ports across six different countries.

With seamless travel and the luxury of unpacking just once, this journey blends relaxed sophistication with authentic, up-close exploration.

Cruise Highlights:

- **Four Countries, One Seamless Journey** - From the Celtic charm of Ireland to the wine regions of France, the vibrant coasts of Spain, and the riverfront beauty of Portugal, experience the best of Western Europe in a single, unforgettable sailing.
- **Ports Steeped in Story** - Walk cobbled lanes in Waterford, taste world-famous wines in Bordeaux, marvel at Bilbao's Guggenheim, and stroll Gijón's vibrant waterfront.
- **Culinary Encounters** - Snack on Dutch treats, savor fresh seafood in La Rochelle, and enjoy private tastings in renowned wine regions.
- **Yacht-Style Luxury** - Enjoy a refined onboard experience with oceanview accommodations, open-air lounges, locally inspired menus, and an included cultural excursion—all aboard Atlas's boutique expedition yacht.
- **Extend Your Journey** - Enhance your adventure with curated add-ons: sail back-to-back 19-nights from Reykjavík to Dublin, explore Ireland on a guided pre-cruise tour, or continue your journey with a post-cruise Douro River sailing.
- **Exclusive MOAA Benefits** - Enjoy special MOAA pricing, including free onboard credit, and the unique experience of traveling with fellow MOAA members aboard a ship reserved exclusively for our group.

Join Us for a Special Preview Webinar – September 9
Get an insider's look at our October 2026 Dublin-to-Porto sailing during this exclusive webinar hosted by MOAA Vacations and Atlas Ocean Voyages. We'll share first-hand insights from the recent MOAA Atlas Signature Yacht cruise, along with photos, videos, and highlights from our exclusive onboard events. Discover what makes these intimate, small-ship cruises so special, explore the detailed itinerary, and learn about exclusive MOAA savings and perks. Don't miss out —[register now!](#)

When MOAA Speaks, Congress Listens

Learn more about MOAA's key advocacy issues and contact your elected officials using our messaging platform.

[TAKE ACTION](#)

Exclusive Discounts for MOAA Members - Members save year-round on shipping, storage, and so much more. Access your deals today! [Click Here](#)

CURRENT VA INFO: <https://www.moaa.org/content/events/healthcare-and-benefits/understanding-your-va-benefits-june-2024/>

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 (<https://www.benefits.va.gov/winstonsalem/>) 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>

VA pension benefits: 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/>

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/>

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:

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Tarheel Central Chapter

DINNER RESERVATION FORM for Tuesday, Oct 14, 2025

Cheddar Up reservations, indicated by Dinner payment on Cheddar Up, Telephone calls, emails and texts will be accepted until 5:30 PM on Thursday, Oct 9th; 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 CY2025 Dues at \$45: _____

Grand Total: _____ **Check #:** _____

Make all checks payable to: Tarheel Central Chapter, MOAA

Call Reservations into (919) 601-3800 and Send Checks to Treasurer:

Tarheel Central Chapter MOAA
% Mike Chapman
3160 Presley Dr.
Winston-Salem, NC 27107
p8a284@yahoo.com