

Council Comments

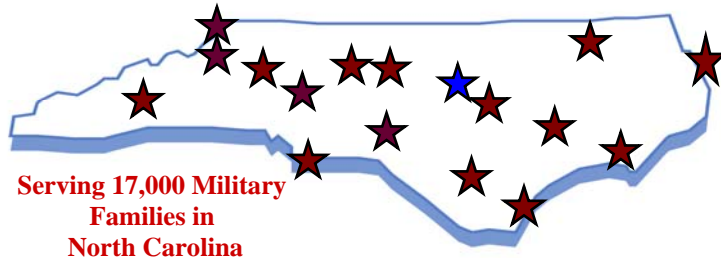
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Volume XV Issue 3

June 2011

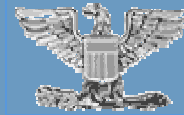


Published by the
North Carolina
Council of
Chapters of
MOAA

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Culler,
New Bern



The President's Message COL Fred Black USA (Ret.), Chapel Hill



Happy summer to everyone! Hope that it is a time that includes family, friends, and travel, for we all know how fast it will pass. On May 25th, the North Carolina Council of Chapters joined with the other 10 members of the North Carolina Veterans Council in their annual "Veterans Day at the General Assembly." Your president and our three vice presidents, **Bob Garman**, **Jeri Graham** and **Hal Keck**, as well as Triangle Chapter members, represented the Council. Members of the veterans groups assembled outside of the Legislative Building for an opening ceremony complete with a bagpiper and a color guard. Inside the building, each group had tables offering information on their organization.

As members moved about the legislative building visiting our elected representatives, the leaders had a meeting with the **President of the Senate, Lt. Governor Walter H. Dalton**, and **President Pro Tempore Philip E. Berger**. I served as the designated spokesperson for the

group and presented our legislative leaders with the Veterans Council legislative issues for 2011. Key issues include **creating a Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, equal tax treatment for government retirees, support of veteran contractors, restoring scholarship dollars for the children of disabled and KIA veterans, and enhancing property tax exemptions for disabled veterans.**

The group then met with the **Speaker of the House, Thom Tillis**. At his invitation, the group met with him in the House chamber where I again presented the legislative agenda. The group had the opportunity to ask the Speaker questions and left the very engaging session feeling that they positive about their meeting.

In the afternoon, we attended the sessions in each chamber where they passed resolutions expressing gratitude to the members of the military for their service and honoring the

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memory of those killed in the line of duty. After passing unanimously in both chambers, the members rose and gave the veteran-filled gallery a standing ovation in tribute to their service. There were tears in more than a few eyes and all of departed knowing that it was a worthwhile and productive day.

Speaking of a productive day, if you can make it, the organizers of the North Carolina Veterans Park promise that the 4th of July in Fayetteville will be just that. The dedication of the new memorial on Bragg Boulevard adjacent to the Airborne and Special Operations Museum (ASOM) begins at 10 a.m.

There will be remarks by various officials and the ribbon cutting at the Visitors Center.

We should also determine if any MOAA members have their right hand cast in bronze and placed in a display of veterans representing all 100 counties of North Carolina at the N. C. Veterans Park. Please let us know if your Chapter has anyone!

More information is available at their website, <http://www.ncveteranspark.org/north-carolina-veterans-park-pays-tribute-to-all-who-have-served/>

“Veterans Day” at the General Assembly - 25 May 2011



[Photo by Larry Rozier]

Upper Center, left to right: Tom Nichols (AMVETS), Commander, North Carolina Veterans Council, Speaker Thom Tillis, COL Fred Black (MOAA)



**Give Me 10 Recruiting in North Carolina
(Statistics as of 11 June 2011)
By 1stVP LTC Bob Garman USA (Ret.), Fayetteville**

	Give Me 10 Free	Give Me 10 Paid	Give Me 10 Life	Chap Life Conv	Outreach Credit	TOTAL
Cape Fear (NC01)	12	1	0	0	0	13
Coastal Carolina (NC02)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Eastern Carolina Chapter	4	0	0	0	4	4
Charlotte-Metrolina (NC04)	13	0	0	0	0	13
Sandhills (NC06)	1	1	0	0	0	2
SENCLand (NC07)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tarheel Central (NC08)	1	0	0	0	0	1
Triangle (NC09)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Western NC (NC10)	0	7	0	0	0	7
Catawba Valley (NC11)	0	1	0	0	0	1
Durham-Orange NC12)	0	0	0	0	0	0
COL Lloyd Osborne (NC14)	26	0	0	0	0	26
First Flight (NC17)	0	0	0	0	0	0
First in Freedom (NC19)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Central Carolina (NC20)	0	0	0	0	0	0
High Country (NC21)	0	0	0	0	0	0
New River (NC22)	0	0	0	0	0	0



**Marine Corps Keeps Vehicle Base Decals - For Now
(From *Armed Forces News* - 10 June 2011)**

The Marine Corps will continue to require members to procure decals for vehicles registered on bases, even though the Navy canceled Defense Department vehicle decal requirements on Navy installations.

“Present conditions warrant continuation of DoD vehicle decal issuance,” the Marine Corps stated in MARADMIN 325/11, issued June 6. The requirement could change when an automated access control system even-

tually comes into place that would protect the identity of military-affiliated drivers while off base, the administrative message stated.

In the meantime, off-base drivers of vehicles bearing Defense Department decals should be careful, the message said. “Displaying the DoD vehicle could potentially increase the risks of targeting by criminal/terrorist organizations,” the announcement said.

MOAA Member Appointed Assistant Secretary of Veterans Affairs

North Carolina

Beverly Eaves Perdue, Governor



Department of Administration

Moses Carey Jr., Secretary

Date June 17, 2011

Contact

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Release

Immediate

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WIPPERMAN APPOINTED AS ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR VETERANS AFFAIRS

RALEIGH - Administration Secretary Moses Carey today announced that **Timothy E. Wipperman** of Durham, an attorney and U.S. Army veteran, has been appointed as Assistant Secretary for Veterans Affairs, effective July 11. He will serve as Director of the N.C. Division of Veterans Affairs (NCDVA).

“Tim brings exceptional credentials and a welcome degree of experience and commitment in serving veterans,” Carey said. “At a time when our military community is expanding, his leadership will help us carry out the Division of Veterans Affairs’ motto of ‘helping those who served.’”

“I am excited about this opportunity,” Wipperman said. “Each generation of veterans faces unique challenges, while at the same time sharing in some that are common to veterans of all eras. I look forward to helping North Carolina’s veterans receive the benefits they deserve.”

NCDVA serves as an advocate for veterans and their families offering assistance through a network of District and County Veterans Service Offices. Its staff assists in the presentation, processing, proof and establishment of claims, privileges, rights and benefits as they may be entitled to under Federal, State or local laws. NCDVA also provides skilled level nursing care and provides burial plots to qualified veterans of North Carolina, as well as a scholarship program for

children of North Carolina disabled, combat or deceased war veterans.

Approximately 800,000 veterans currently reside in North Carolina, which also counts about 120,000 active members of the military and 25,000 guard and reserve forces. Combined with the many military bases located here, the total impact on the state’s economy is about \$25 billion annually.

Wipperman has 21 years of active duty in the U.S. Army, both as an officer and an enlisted man. He served with conventional and unconventional units including more than three years with the Alaska Army National Guard. As an attorney, he has represented clients in all levels of the North Carolina state court system in criminal and civil cases.

Wipperman earned his law degree in 2005 from N.C. Central University School of Law, where he was a Senior Editor of the NCCU Law review and received the Floyd B. McKissick Award for Leadership and Scholarship. He is a life member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, AMVETS, Association of the U.S. Army and **Military Officers of America Association**, as well as a member of the American Legion, the American Bar Association and N.C. Bar Association.



Photos from the State Council Meeting at Fort Fisher - 13-14 May (Photos by Maj Bill Culler USMC (Ret.), New Bern)



New River Chapter President **CAPT Doug Ehrhardt MSC USN (Ret.)** and his wife of Fleetwood enjoy a delicious steak dinner at the Friday night dinner at the Air Force Recreation Center at Fort Fisher during last month's State Council meeting.

Coastal Carolina Chapter President **Capt Jim Dargan USMC (Ret.)** and his wife, **Arlene** of Havelock chow down on grilled steak and corn on the cob for dinner at the State Council meeting at Fort Fisher.



SENCLand President and State Council 2d VP **COL Jeri Graham NC USA (Ret.)** of Carolina Beach addresses her Chapter members and Chapter and Council leaders from across North Carolina at the Friday night dinner at Fort Fisher last month.

COL Graham and her SENCLand team did a marvelous job in planning a terrific evening for the 82 people in attendance.

Photos from the 2d Quarter State Council Meeting at Fort Fisher



New River President **CAPT Doug Ehrhardt MSC USN (Ret.)** (L) of Fleetwood accepts the 1st Place Communications Award for the Chapter's newsletter, *The New River Current* from State Council President **COL Fred Black USA (Ret.)** of Chapel Hill at the State Council meeting at Fort Fisher on 14 May. The *Current* editor is **Lt Col Kenneth Lynn USAF (Ret.)**

SENCLand President and State Council 2d VP **COL Jeri Graham NC USA (Ret.)** of Carolina Beach accepts the 2010 State Council Website 1st Runner Up Communications Award on behalf of webmaster **Karrie Johnson** from **COL Black** at the State Council meeting on 14 May. You can access the State Council website at www.moaa-nc.org.



The Coastal Carolina Chapter received 3 Communications Awards for 2010: National Award Winning Website for Legislative News, 1st Runner Up for Overall Website www.ccmoaa.org and 2d Runner Up for its newsletter, *The Coastal Carolina Clarion*. The webmaster is **LtCol Roy Evans USMC (Ret.)** and the *Clarion* editors are **Maj Bill Culler USMC (Ret.)** and his wife **Dee**. Chapter President **Capt Jim Dargan USMC (Ret.)** of Havelock (L) accepts the awards on behalf of the Chapter from **COL Black**.

Photos from the 2d Quarter State Council Meeting at Fort Fisher



Council Comments co-editor **Maj Bill Culler USMC (Ret.)** of New Bern (L) accepts the 2010 Communications Award from **COL Black** at the 2d Quarter State Council meeting. *Council Comments* was the 1st Runner Up for State Council newsletters.

The Catawba Valley Chapter received an Honorable Mention Communications Award for its recruiting cards. Chapter President and Past State Council President **COL Joe Cansler USA (Ret.)** of Statesville is shown accepting the award from **COL Black**.



Col John A. Nicholson USMC (Ret.) (L) was appointed Military Advisor to Gov. Beverly Perdue last November. Col Nicholson was the guest speaker at the business meeting during the 2d Quarter State Council meeting last month at Fort Fisher. Here he accepts a MOAA tote bag from State Council President **COL Fred Black**.

North Carolina Council of Chapters



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Council Comments is the newsletter of the North Carolina Council of Chapters and is published six times per year. A current issue of the newsletter can be found on the North Carolina Council of Chapters website www.moaa-nc.org. Anyone wishing to receive this newsletter by E-mail may do so by contacting us at fourbranch@earthlink.net

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Address Correction Requested

