



COL Lloyd A. Osborne, USA Piedmont Chapter, MOAA



February 2011 Newsletter

Chapter Leadership

- Pres – Aimee Corning
- VP – Lee Richmond
- VP for Awards & Membership – Chris Canipe
- Treas – Ken Horvath
- TOPS Rep – vacant
- Auxiliary Rep - vacant

Board Members

- Larry Phillips
(fund raising)
- Harold McLeod
- Steele Smith
- Dick Fisher
(membership)
- Greg Bartley
(membership)

Chapter President's Column:

Greetings! I'll assume you are all enjoying the warmer weather as much as I am! There's a lot going on, both in the near and not-so-near future, and more detailed info on all of it is included in this newsletter.

On Monday, Feb 28th (yes, it's right on top of us), the Greensboro Chapter of the Red Cross is hosting the first Salute to Heroes event, highlighting local individuals who were nominated for this recognition.

Then in March, we are returning to Mahi's for our meeting, and have a special speaker coming from MOAA National – COL Robert Norton, USA-retired. COL Norton's position, and the fact that he is a MOAA registered lobbyist, guarantees that we will get the latest and greatest on current legislative moves, as well as what MOAA is doing for us to ensure our quality of life as retirees and beneficiaries.

When the April newsletter comes out, look for info on the Eastern Music Festival which will be in July. I attended for the first time last year, and I assure you, the talent there is not to be missed, and never to be forgotten!

In May, we will again enjoy a picnic / potluck / BBQ at a local park. We enjoyed some great food and friendship at this purely social event last year. It will be on a Saturday during the day, so those folks who cannot attend our evening meetings can join us!

That is all for now. Enjoy the weather, and hope to see you all soon!

- *Aimee S. Corning*



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From Lee Richmond, VP

Mahi's is Back in the Schedule

Recently Aimee, Ken and myself met with Marikay about our usage of Mahi's Restaurant. It was productive in that we aired many of the concerns our members have had regarding the food at Mahi's. Marikay was very responsive and attentive to our thoughts and wishes for us to continue to use that restaurant. We discussed a full range of issues . We will be going back to Mahi's for our March 17th meeting and we encourage all of our members to evaluate all aspects of food service there and let us know your thoughts. In addition we are always ready to entertain using another facility that might accommodate our group. It was good to clear the air with Mahi's so that we all know how things are going. Give us feedback.

Lee Richmond, VP

Greensboro Red Cross Honors Heroes

Greensboro, NC -- Ten Guilford County residents will be among those honored at the inaugural Greensboro Chapter of the American Red Cross "Salute to Heroes" celebration on Monday, February 28 at the Carolina Theatre. "Salute to Heroes" is an event honoring Guilford County residents from the military and public safety for heroic, meritorious or humanitarian actions.

Nominations for "Salute to Heroes" were solicited from the public over a two month period in late 2010 and early 2011. A selection committee of volunteers then reviewed the nominations and selected this year's honorees.

Senator Kay Hagan and Congressman Howard Coble are serving as honorary co-chairs for "Salute to Heroes". The keynote speaker will be Ambassador Bonnie McElveen-Hunter. Live music will be provided by the UNCG Jazz Ensemble, Kristy Jackson, Robert Johnson and Sir Robert Bell. Tanya Rivera from WFMY News 2 will serve as master of ceremonies.

The event, open to the public, begins at 7:00pm. Music provided by the UNCG jazz ensemble will begin at 6:15pm. Tickets are \$8.00 for adults, and \$5.00 for seniors, students, children, and members of the military (active duty, reserves or veterans). Veterans of World War II are honored guests and will be admitted without charge, but we encourage you to call ahead (336) 333-2111 to reserve your ticket.

Tickets may be purchased at the Carolina Theatre box office or by calling 336-333-2605. Tickets may also be purchased at the American Red Cross Chapter offices in Greensboro or High Point. For additional information, call the American Red Cross at 336-333-2111.



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March Meeting Guest Speaker
COL Robert F. Norton, USA - Ret
Deputy Director, Government Relations
MOAA National

For our March meeting, we are so fortunate to have a visitor from MOAA National, an individual with ties in the very heart of the issues that impact our lives daily. His message is guaranteed to be pertinent to all members, as well as potential members. I hope you will consider bring former military members, regardless of their membership status or eligibility. **As a MOAA registered lobbyist, COL Norton specializes in National Guard, Reserve, and veterans' benefits issues.**

COL Norton entered the Army in 1966 and was commissioned a second lieutenant of infantry in August 1967. He served in South Vietnam (1968-1969) as a civil affairs platoon leader and transferred to the U.S. Army Reserve in 1969. COL Norton volunteered for full-time active duty in 1978. He served in various assignments on the Army Staff and the office of the Secretary of the Army specializing in Reserve manpower and personnel policy matters. He served two tours in the Office of Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs, first as a personnel policy officer (1982-1985) and then as the senior military assistant to the Assistant Secretary (1989-1994). Reserve Affairs oversaw the call-up of more than 250,000 members of the Guard / Reserve during the first Gulf War. He retired in 1995 and joined then-TROA's Government Relations staff in 1997.

COL Norton holds a B.A. from Niagara University (1966) and a M.S.Ed. from Canisius College. He is a graduate of the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, the Army War College, and the Kennedy School of Government., Harvard, senior officials in national security course.

His military awards include the Legion of Merit, Defense Superior Service Medal, Bronze Star, Vietnam Service Medal, and the Armed Forces Reserve Medal.



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Military Writers Needed

Examiner.com, one of the fastest-growing websites, is seeking military writers to cover various topics such as military history, technology, news, careers, family issues, specific bases and operations. This is an exciting opportunity to lend your expertise and keep the public informed. Besides earning pay for performance and referring other successful applicants, our writers (or Examiners) learn about Web publishing and how to build audiences. Examiner.com has local editions in 244 markets throughout North America. For more information, go to <http://www.examiner.com/examiner-com-recruitment-in-national/seeking-military-writers>

Questions? Contact Nate Ferguson at nferguson@examiner.com

Military Discount Information (continued from last newsletter)

We have found many stores and services doing their part to make life easier by offering discounts to active, reserve, and retired members of the US Military and their immediate family members. I get additions to this list each week, and will get them to you as space allows in the newsletter

Two important caveats. First, some stores offer discounts only at the owner's discretion and other discounts vary by state. Second, many stores that give a military discount don't advertise it. It is always worth asking a store whether they have one or not and to have your military ID on you.

Cingular – 17 to 18% Discount off your bill and 25% off accessories

Clarion Inn – Rates within allowable per diem while on travel orders. Must present valid military ID with check-in

Comfort Inn – Rates within allowable per diem while on travel orders. Must Present valid military ID with check-in

Copeland's Sports - Discount varies per location

D.S.W. Shoe Warehouse – 10% military discount

Dairy Queen - 10% off, location dependent

Days Inn – Rates within allowable per diem. Must present valid military ID with check-in

Dell Computers – Discount varies, simply ask and have a valid military ID with you.

Denny's – Discount varies, simply ask and have a valid military ID with you.

Dick's Sporting Goods – Discount varies, simply ask and have a valid military ID with you. **Dick's Sporting Goods** – Varies per location

Discovery Channel Store – Discount varies, simply ask and have a valid military ID with you. **Disney Resorts** – Discount varies, simply ask and have a valid military ID with you.

Disneyland - Military discounts are available only for tickets purchased at installation MWRs. Prices vary per date and length of visit

Dollar Car Rental – Allowable per diem rates

Dunkin' Donuts – Veterans advantage members save 10% on all online orders. They also send free coffee to the troops overseas.

El Molino Coffee Shop - Free Shipping, online



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Excerpt from the Bailey Amendment Letter

Dear Task Force Member

Nov 2010

It's time for another update on our progress with the legislation for extending the Emory, Bailey, Patton settlement. As you know the 4th Branch did an economic analysis of what the Federal, State, Local and Military retiree brings to the State of North Carolina. The results of that study showed that for every \$1.00 the state gives us in tax benefits we give them \$2.50 in return. The study shows that we are an asset and not a liability to North Carolina.

We had limited success in the legislature with our efforts this year but the first effort took over 10 years to come to fruition and we will continue our efforts on behalf of all federal /military retirees. You will recall again "The purpose of this organization shall be to further the long term interests of all military and civilian federal retirees and their beneficiaries, residing in NC; to communicate with and advise them or their rights and obligations; to use such lawful efforts including legislative activities as needed to accomplish this purpose in a nonpartisan manner".

Unfortunately for us the financial situation in the State has left us in a difficult predicament. Our lobbyist met with several key people in the House, Senate and also the governor's office and had a tentative approval for us to make a presentation to the 2009 Revenue Laws committee. When they returned for the short session of the legislature the finances were in such bad shape that they did not invite us to appear before the committee. According to Ken Melton, our lobbyist, most of the people on the committee thought that we had a good case but the "timing was not very good for the economic environment to send this to the house" and that it would be voted down. We decided to not press the issue but wait until another day/another session of the legislature.

This leads to another issue, some of the data in the economic analysis has to be updated. The 4th Branch has contracted with Dr Hedrick again for him to update the study. When he finishes we have to update our material and have it ready when the legislature returns in January. We have house/senate members lined up to introduce our bills and some cosponsors as well.

We continue to need your support. Our numbers are getting smaller, simply because of age. This group started over 20 years ago and the people that started this effort were already retired then. I again want to thank them for their efforts back then and we will continue their efforts for the next generation. We need your help in contacting your state representatives and senators. The grass roots effort still goes a long way with most politicians. With having to update our study and our new contract with our lobbyist we will have additional expenditures. I understand these are tough economic times - that's why we really need your continued support.

Paul E Sams
Director, Federal Retiree Task Force

PS: If your retirement benefits are \$1,000.00 a month you get an additional \$70.00 a month or \$840.00 a year in tax relief thanks to the Federal Retiree Task Force.

Mail all Contributions to: Federal Retiree Task Force
C/O Paul E Sams
86 Pine Lake Drive
Whispering Pines NC 28327

PERSISTENT: EXISTING FOR A LONG OR LONGER THAN USUAL TIME OR CONTINUOUSLY



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DID YOU KNOW

Contact information for Aimee:

majmom6979@aol.com Or

7144 Racine Rd
Pleasant Garden, NC 27313-8213

Upcoming Chapter Events

- Chapter Board Meeting: (Thurs, Mar 3rd, 11:15) J Butlers Bar and Grill at 3030 High Point Rd in Greensboro - all are welcome
- Salute to Heroes (Mon, Feb 28th, 7 – 9 pm) Carolina Theater
- Chapter Dinner Meeting (Thurs, Mar 17th, 6 pm) Mahi's Restaurant at 4721 Lawndale Drive
- Chapter Meeting for May:
Potluck / Picnic / BBQ: Time and Place TBD I need a volunteer to help set this up!!

Members Needed

The Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) has always been at the forefront of the battle to preserve entitlements and benefits earned by all military personnel, regardless of rank or pay grade and whether they are on active duty, in the National Guard or Reserve, or are retired. Our success over the years in fighting against the erosion of our earned entitlements and benefits is largely due to the tremendous amount of “grassroots” support we enjoy from our members who are affiliated with one of our 416 chapters. Together, we are “One Powerful Voice®!” in helping to influence legislation. The strength of our voice in Washington depends on membership numbers. Let's all get involved, and increase that voice!!

The Bailey Amendment is alive, and needs your support. Quote from Fred Black, “Those of us not paying taxes on our retirement pay can do something to “pay back” those who worked so tirelessly to secure this benefit for us --- we can support the effort financially and obtain the benefit for those currently not eligible.” See the excerpt in this newsletter from a letter sent out in November for how you can help. Also, go to <http://www.seanc.org/docs/Retirees/4thBranchBaileySettlementEconomicImpactStudy.pdf> for more information.

Whatever you are, be a good one.

-Abraham Lincoln



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Chapter Dinner Meeting
March 17, 2011
6 p.m. Social --- 6:40 p.m. Buffet Dinner Mahi's Restaurant
4721 Lawndale Drive, Greensboro

Directions: Mahi's is located at 4721 Lawndale Drive between Cottage Place and Cotswold Avenue in a small shopping center. We are in the back room.

Menu: Buffet with Chicken Alfredo, Crab Cakes, and Chef's selection – diners choose 2 of three entrees. Included are salad/ dressings, dinner rolls, butter, coffee or tea. Dessert is included---chef's choice. Wine, beer, etc. will be available from server at additional cost and on your tab to be paid at the end of the function.

Guest Speaker: COL Robert F. Norton, USA-Ret, deputy director of MOAA's Government Relations Department.

Cost: \$17.00 per person—includes meal, taxes, gratuity and coffee/tea.

Please RSVP by March 13th: You can send an e-mail to MOAApiedmont@aol.com and then pay at the door. If you prefer to respond by mail, please return the response form below.

Need a Lift? If you need a ride to any of our Piedmont MOAA Chapter meetings, do not hesitate to call. Arrangements will be made to pick you up and to take you home from any of our meetings. Point of Contact is **Lee Richmond, 336-454-1983**

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MOAA Chapter Meeting and Dinner on Thursday, March 17, 2011

Name _____ @ \$17.00 \$ _____

Spouse/guest _____ @\$17.00 \$ _____

Total enclosed: \$ _____

Make check out to: MOAA

Mail this sheet and a check to: Col. Lloyd A. Osborne, USA, Piedmont Chapter, MOAA
P.O. Box 10292 Greensboro, NC 27404-0292



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