

North Carolina Council of Chapters
State Convention/4th Quarterly Council Meeting
15 – 17 November 2019

The Council meeting on 16 November 2019 was called to order by President David Lee at 0830 at the Cherry Point Inn, Cherry Point Marine Corps Air Station. David welcomed all attendees including Lt. Gen. Dana Atkins, USAF (Ret.), President and CEO MOAA and CAPT Erin Stone, JAGC, USN (Ret.), MOAA Program Director, Council & Chapter Affairs.

He also thanked Council Officers for their due diligence over the past year and the planners for the State Convention. The Convention Committee included: CAPT Marie Senzig, USN (Ret.), CAPT Randall Ramian, USN (Ret.), LCDR Mark Sandvigan, USN (Ret.), COL Ed Baisdan, USA (Ret.). David was also a member of the committee.

The slate of officers nominated for the 2020-2021 term are:

President: COL Jim Brumit, USA (Ret.)

1st VP: COL Iggy Husar, USA (Ret.)

2nd VP: Lt Col Ed Brown, USAF (Ret.)

Treasurer: CAPT Mike Covell, USN (Ret.)

Secretary: COL Jeri Graham, USA (Ret.)

Surviving Spouse Liaison: Ms. Sandi Adams

A motion was made, seconded and passed approving this slate of leaders for the 2020-2021 term.

Treasurer's Report: Ed Baisdan presented the treasurer's report stating that all bills have been paid and the Council has a balance of \$16,846.19. There was a motion to approve, second and approved, accepting the treasurer's report. Details can be found on the website.

Ed also presented the **2020 Budget**. It reflects an anticipated 5% reduction in membership resulting in total expenses of \$2,550. The primary source of income comes from dues which are \$1.50 per dues paying chapter members and are due the 1st of January. Dues paid after 1 March will be \$1.75 per dues paying chapter member. A motion was made, seconded and approved, accepting the Budget for 2020.

Lt. Gen. Atkins announced a couple of changes for the coming year:

- National MOAA is renegotiating the USAA Infinity Contract where the funds we get from USAA will go to MOAA and National will dispense the funds. Applications for the payment will have to go to MOAA and not USAA. Payments will remain at \$800 per Council and \$300 per chapter. He also mentioned that Mercer Insurance will give chapters \$100 for placing their advertisement in their newsletter.
- Reimbursement for Council President's travel mileage will be for 2,000 miles.

Old Business/New Business:

- Reviewing his term in office, David reminded of his goals and objectives for 2018-19 (Chapter Health and Membership; support of Legislative issues; and strong communications) He went over all the initiatives and provided his analysis of how he performed. He was satisfied with the results and thanked all chapters for their support.
- COL Jeri Graham was honored as the Outstanding Alumnus of the US Army War College.
- Four and Five Star Awards were presented to the chapters by Lt Gen Atkins and CAPT David Lee.
- COL Jim Brumit announced meetings dates for 2020: 15 February, 16 May, 15 August and 14 November. Details will be forthcoming on the website.

CAPT Erin Stone gave an update of the status of MOAA Councils and Chapters. Highlights include:

- Recruiting challenges: lack of a chapter mission, making a right first impression, failing to emphasize benefits of chapter membership (what is the compelling story?), and complacency.
- What is working:
 - Chapters with a mission
 - Access to new/existing MOAA membership. There are 350,000 members in MOAA but only 45,000 are in chapters. To help, MOAA will send monthly notification of MOAA members in our catchment area that are new or recently moved to the area. The new list will not be cumulative. Over 4,000 members have agreed to allow MOAA to share their email address to local chapters.
 - A viable recruiting package to include an invitation letter and the newsletter
 - The personal touch of following up showing an interest in them
 - Virtual chapters/networking
 - Social media
 - An inclusive program.
- Twice per year, MOAA will send an electronic message to all national members advising of chapter meetings. They just need a 60-90 lead time.

- Help can be gotten by going to www.chapters.moaa.org , chapters@moaa.org or calling 10800-234-MOAA.
- Key dates for 2019/2020:
 - 1 Dec – USAA Sponsorship Grant submission periods begins
 - 1 Dec – Community Grant submission period begins
 - 31 Dec – Chapter recruiting program period ends
 - 1 Feb – Marvin A. Harris Communications Awards submissions due
 - 22-26 Mar – Storming of the Hill/Council Presidents Seminar
 - 1 May – Levels of Excellence Awards submissions due
 - 1 June – Surviving Spouse Liaison Awards submissions due
 - 1 June – Steve Strobridge Legislative Liaison Awards submissions due
- See more details and valuable information on the website where CAPT Stone’s power point is posted.

Legislative Update:

COL Jeri Graham updated the attendees recapping the accomplishments of the Legislative Strategy on the state and national level. She also discussed two concerns that need to be watched carefully in the next year. First of all, the changes that are being reviewed concerning medical treatment. Discussion includes the reduction of 18,000 positions therefore impacting treatment, especially for dependents, veterans and retirees. Secondly, NC is rated 21st in treatment of the military/veterans and the military is the second highest source of revenue to the state. She handed out a sheet of personal and readiness issues that have been and need to be addressed. These are key issues reviewed by BRAC which is coming soon.

David thanked all for attending and outlined a few of the options available for free time.

This evening, Lt. Gen. Atkins will be the guest speaker providing his assessment of the state of MOAA and the year in review.

David dismissed the meeting at 1000.

Respectfully submitted:

David Lee

President

Gary Aljets for Carol Aljets

Secretary