



THE CAPE FEAR CHAPTER of MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

P O BOX 53621

FAYETTEVILLE, NC 28305

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INFOGRAM - May 2014

EDITOR: LTC John W. Hazlett, US Army (Ret)

www.cfmoaa.org

PRESIDENT'S NOTES by Juan Chavez,

phone: (910)797-5419.

email: President@cfmoaa.org

First, I want to share some great news with all of you. MOAA National recently announced the results of the 2014 Colonel Marvin J. Harris Communication Awards contest and our Chapter won first place in the best chapter web site category, and first place in the chapter E-newsletter ("Gram of Info") category. The awards will be formally presented to us at our 30 May 2014 general membership meeting/dinner by NC Council President Jeri Graham. We can all be justifiably proud of these two first-time achievements by our chapter.

The month of May is shaping up to be a very active month for all of us. Mother's Day is on the 11th of May, Fort Bragg Retiree Appreciation Day on the 16th of May, Armed Forces Day on the 17th of May, Memorial Day on the 26th of May, and our bi-monthly general membership meeting and dinner are scheduled for the 30th.

The Fort Bragg Retiree Appreciation Day will be a one day affair this year with the Womack Army Medical Center services being held at the Pope Family Readiness Group Center on Pope Field from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM. All military retirees in the area should have already received a bulletin in the mail outlining all the events scheduled for the day.

Armed Forces Day observes its 65th anniversary this year with a celebration to be held at Veteran's Park in downtown Fayetteville on Saturday, 17 May. The program open to the public will include several entertainment events, demonstrations, and presentations at Veteran's Park. The Chapter has been invited to participate by presenting an ROTC scholarship to a deserving ROTC cadet representing the future of the Armed Forces.

At both events, the Fort Bragg Retiree Appreciation Day at Pope Field, and the Armed Forces Day celebration at Veteran's Park, the chapter will be manning an information and membership recruiting station; if anyone is interested in helping us staff the Cape Fear Chapter, MOAA station on either the 16th or 17th of May, please call me or any of the chapter officers.

Talking about volunteers, last month I appealed for volunteers to make a difference in our chapter by stepping up to the plate. We published a list of "volunteer opportunities" for everyone to consider. Three members volunteered to present ROTC awards to help ease the burden on Bill Dadek and that

is great. However, having said that, I was somewhat disappointed that no one called to even inquire about the other many opportunities, so I asked John Hazlett to republish the list in a second attempt to ignite your interests.

Finally, let us not forget to fly “Old Glory” at half-staff on Memorial Day to honor and remember those who gave their last measure of devotion while in the military service of their country.

MEMBERSHIP - RECRUITING AND RETENTION

by Juan Chavez, President, phone (910) 797-5419; email President @cfmoaa.org

RECRUITING

We closed the month of April 2014 with 5 new members giving us a total of 22 year-to-date. We welcome our newest members:

COL Nicholas W. Katers, USA

MAJ Pattric R. Patterson, USA

COL (Ret) Dennis Goodwin, USA

MAJ (Ret) Kenneth L. Krah, USA

LTC (Ret) Thomas R. Covington, USA

Once again, I enjoin everyone to continue to recruit vigorously. We must strengthen our voice more than ever to protect our hard-earned benefits and to fight against sequestration and defense budget cuts.

We live in one of the largest recruiting markets in the country, so there is no shortage of potentials! Once again, the **eligibility criteria** for membership are: ***any commissioned or warrant officer – active duty, retired, former, Reserve or National Guard, in any of the seven uniformed services.***

RETENTION

For the very few who have not responded to renewal notices, your membership can still be reinstated if you reapply. If you are one of the delinquents, please mail in your requests using the form on the back page of the Infogram. You can also renew online and pay by credit card by going to <http://www.moaa.org/OnlineChapterDuesPayment/>.

If you have any questions please call Secretary Don Gersh at (910) 484-4545.

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

Other than serving in one of the five elective positions, there are many other ways chapter members can serve and make meaningful contributions. We are in dire need of volunteers to help carry the load of operating the Chapter in an effective and efficient manner. The majority of the positions/jobs listed only require a commitment of a few hours a month of your time and most of the work can be performed from or in your home. Any member or their spouses may participate. Some of the positions listed below are currently filled, but having a replacement in queue to understudy would be ideal.

If anyone is interested in volunteering for one or more of the positions listed, please call our Secretary Don Gersh at (910) 484-4545, or email at Secretary@cfmoaa.org.

Executive Board and Special Staff Appointive Positions:

Auxiliary Liaison Officer (Auxiliary member preferred)

Personal Affairs Officer

Newsletter Editor

Assistant Newsletter Editor

Assistant Secretary

Web Master

TOPS (The Officer Placement Service)

On-Going Committees:

ROTC and Scholarship Committee

Personal Affairs Committee

Newsletter Editorial Committee

Legislative Committee

Programs Committee

Publicity Committee

Sponsorship Sales Committee

Membership Committee
Information Dissemination Committee
Membership Directory Committee
TOPS (The Officer Placement Service) Group

Special Purpose Committees:

Nominating Committee (On election years; 2014 is an election year)
Golf Tournament Committee
Veterans Day Parade Committee
Christmas Dance Gala Committee

Other Volunteer Opportunities:

Honor Guard Member
ROTC Awards Presenter
USO Airport Lounge Steward

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING/DINNER – 30 May 2014

Our next bi-monthly general membership meeting will be held at Chris's Open Hearth Steakhouse, 2620 Raeford Road, Fayetteville at 1800 hours, 30 May 2014.

Members are encouraged to bring prospective chapter members as their guests. Guests who are eligible for membership and who complete a membership application that evening will be awarded free membership for 2014 and their hosts will be reimbursed for the price of their dinner.

The evening's program will include a guest speaker to be announced as soon as confirmed.

This will be a sit-down dinner limited to 80 people so please make reservations NLT 26 May 2014. For more information and reservations see event flyer in this issue.

CHAPTER MEMBERS CAN PURCHASE ADS TO SPONSOR PUBLICATIONS

This year's membership directory will carry "sponsorships" in the form of business cards. The cards will be placed throughout the expanded and improved directory and will be mailed first class to Chapter Members in late April or early May. The sponsorship cards will be printed in black and white. The cost is \$50 for a one-year contract.

Beginning with the June issue, the monthly newsletter will also run sponsor ads. Contracts are for either six issues or 12 (a "baker's dozen" for those who buy the one-year commitment!). The INFOGRAM will also be available on the Chapter's web site at www.cfmoaa.org and will include the ads. Sponsors may buy full-page, half-page, quarter-page and business card-sized ads. Cost is:

Full-page 6 issues \$850 12 issues \$1,693
Half-page 6 issues \$419 12 issues \$753
Quarter-page 6 issues \$204 12 issues \$389
Business card 6 issues \$95 12 issues \$188

For more information or to reserve your sponsorship place, contact Don Gersh at 910.624.4597 or doneal.gersh@gmail.com. Checks are payable to Cape Fear Chapter MOAA and may be mailed to Post Office Box 53621, Fayetteville, NC 28305.

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER by Ch (MAJ) Ron Webb, phone: 910-635-8308, email: chaplain@cfmoaa.org

One hundred years ago—May 9th, 1914; President Woodrow Wilson proclaimed the first officially recognized Mother's Day in the United States. A day we celebrate on the second Sunday of May in order to honor our mothers. As with many worthwhile occurrences in American government this day was actually the result of years of lobbying, which included writing the President and the Congress. The key figure in this marvelous initiative was a lady named Anna Jarvis from Grafton, West Virginia.

Jarvis' mother—Anna Reeves Jarvis had started "Mother's Day Work Clubs" in West Virginia during the Civil War to teach local women how to care for their children. A few years following her mother's death the younger Anna as a way

**CAPE FEAR CHAPTER
MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA**

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING/DINNER

**CHRIS'S OPEN HEARTH STEAK HOUSE
2620 Raeford Rd.**

1800 Hours, Friday May 30, 2014

COST: \$27.00 Per Person (Tax & Gratuity Included)

DRESS: Coat and Tie

Menu

Choice of three entrees: 10 oz. Rib Eye, Stuffed Flounder Filled with Crabmeat, or 9 oz. Broiled Chicken Breast. Served with soup or salad, and a choice of one of the following: baked potato, twice baked potato, sweet potato, French fries, rice pilaf, or vegetable of the day.

Desert: Apple Cobbler with Vanilla Ice Cream

DRINKS: Pepsi Products, Iced Sweet or Unsweetened Tea, and Coffee

(No Host Bar)

RSVP NLT May 26, 2014

Send reservations and check (payable to CFC MOAA) to:

George Blanc 3490 Thamesford Rd. Fayetteville, NC 28311

NAME _____

NAME OF GUEST(S) _____

NUMBER OF RESERVATIONS _____ x \$27.00 _____

of honoring her mother as well as all mothers organized a “Mother’s Day” celebration in a Methodist church. Struck by the success of this event in 1908 and the need and desire among the people to continue its tradition, she started an international organization for Mother’s Day and promoted her cause for another six years until the United States Congress signed it into law.

As we celebrate a century of Mother’s Days this month let us remember first to our own mothers. Perhaps we can meditate on this wise anonymous adage, “no gift to your mother can ever equal her gift to you—life.” Moreover, let us also reflect upon that fact that Anna Jarvis had “one powerful voice” and she used it with perseverance! *Pro Deo Et Patria*



SENIOR ROTC AWARDS (SCHOOL YEAR 2013/2014)

The Air Force ROTC Spring 2014 Dining Out for the combined Fayetteville State University and UNC at Pembroke ROTC Detachment 607 was held on 17 April at the Ambiance on Legion Road.

Awards were presented to several cadets to recognize their accomplishments during the 2013/2014 school year. Six of the cadets receiving awards will be commissioned on 9 May. 3rd Vice President Bill Dadek presented the MOAA Leadership Medal to Cadet Tarron Sanders and the Cape Fear Chapter \$100.00 Leadership Award to Cadet Devonte Lee. The event was hosted by Lt Col Allen Gradnigo, the Air Force Professor of Military Science for Fayetteville State and UNCP.

JROTC HIGH SCHOOL AWARDS (SCHOOL YEAR 2013/2014)

Jack Britt High School’s JROTC Buccaneer Battalion’s 14th Annual Military Ball and Awards Ceremony were held April 4, 2014 at the Fort Bragg Club.

The program commenced at 1830 with a formal receiving line, followed by a grand march, introduction of the guests and the posting of the colors.

After an excellent meal, Senior Army Instructor COL (Ret) Richard A. Underwood and CSM (Ret) George Jackson assisted representatives of participating organizations in presenting medals and achievement awards recognizing cadet accomplishments during the school year.

LTC (R) John Hazlett, representing the Cape Fear Chapter, presented the MOAA Medal to Cadet Sergeant Major Tyler Graham.

The Harnett Central Army Junior ROTC held its Annual Military Ball on 26 April at the Lafayette Room of the Fort Bragg Club. Major (Ret) Watkins, Senior Army Instructor and the cadet Commander, Cadet Valintine, and his cadet staff provided a festive occasion for the cadets and their families/ friends. Cadet Valintine was the recipient of the MOAA Medal last year. Many awards were presented to deserving cadets from many national and fraternal organizations. Cadets were also awarded for their achievements in JROTC activities.

Our 3rd Vice-president, LTC (Ret) Bill Dadek, presented the MOAA Medal to Cadet Second Lieutenant Weston Hayes.

The evening’s guest speaker was North Carolina State Senator and retired Army Colonel Ronald J. Rabin. Senator Rabin represents Harnett County and two other counties.

IN MEMORIAM

Barbara Jean Avants (March 21, 1937 – March 10, 2014)

It is with deep regret that we announce that Barbara Jean Avants, wife of Henry (Hank) Avants, passed away on 10 March 2014. Barbara was a

staunch supporter of the chapter for many years. Barbara was also a loyal member and past president of the Ladies of MOAA; she will be dearly missed by all who knew her. Our heartfelt condolences are extended to the family.

MAJ (Ret) Henry Taylor Avants, Sr., US Army (Jun 14, 1925 – Apr 14, 2014)

Major (Ret) Henry Taylor Avants, Sr., one of our regular members passed away on 14 April 2014. “Hank” as he was affectionately called, was a loyal and very active member of the chapter for many years.

Hank served as Newsletter Editor from 1985-1986, Personal Affairs Officer from 1999-2000, 2nd Vice President and Programs Chairman from 2002-2006 and again from 2009-2010. Hank was also the 2002 recipient of the Robert F. DeMeter Chapter Service Award, the most prestigious award the chapter bestows upon a member. Hank’s sustained outstanding service to the chapter was extraordinary and exemplary; his loss will be keenly felt by all of us.

Our sincere sympathy is extended to the Avants family for their loss.

ALL – AUXILIARY LIAISON LETTER by Carol Ivey, phone: 910-868-3213, email: auxlo@cfmoaa.org

Following up on last month’s article we learn that this month every beneficiary identified as having used retail pharmacies of late for maintenance drug refills received a letter from Tricare explaining that those prescriptions must be switched to mail order. Elderly beneficiaries who continue to use retail druggists after the March 15th date will receive a second letter warning them to convert to mail order. They plan to contact these folks to help them set up this new system. If they still continue to use the retail way, a third letter will be sent because after May 31st, if they don’t switch they will have to pay 100 per cent of the cost of their maintenance drugs. Special waivers will be granted for beneficiaries in assisted living or nursing homes where mail order is not practical.

MEMORIAL DAY US federal holiday which is celebrated every year on the final Monday of May. Memorial Day is a day of remembering the men and women who died while serving in the United States Armed Forces. Formerly known as Decoration Day, it originated after the American Civil War to commemorate the Union and Confederate soldiers who died in the Civil War. By the 20th century, Memorial Day had been extended to honor all Americans who have died while in the military service.

ARMED FORCES DAY is celebrated on the third Saturday in May. It falls near the end of Armed Forces Week, which begins on the second Saturday of May and ends on the third Sunday of May. First observed on 20 May 1950, the day was created on 31 August 1949, to honor Americans serving in the five U.S. military branches – the U.S. Army, U.S. Navy, U.S. Marine Corps, U.S. Air Force and U.S. Coast Guard – following the consolidation of the military services in the U.S. Department of Defense. It was intended to replace the separate Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps and Coast Guard Days, but the separate days are still observed, especially within the respective services.

LEGISLATIVE BRIEF

Last week the Pentagon released a report that underscores the potential cuts to military end strength, modernization, and readiness if defense budgets are held at sequester-levels in the years beyond fiscal year 2015.

The Department received some sequestration relief in FY 2014 and FY 2015 as a result of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2013, but sequestration’s discretionary spending caps still remain for FY 2016 through 2021.

The report highlights force-level and weapons system cuts that would be required across the military services:

Army would be reduced to 420,000 active duty soldiers, 315,000 in the National Guard, and 185,000 in the Army Reserve.

Marine Corps would be reduced to 175,000 active duty personnel.

Air Force would eliminate the KC-10 tanker fleet.

Navy would reduce the aircraft carrier inventory to a total of ten carriers. Navy would reduce production by one fewer Virginia-class submarine and three fewer DDG-51 destroyers while delaying delivery of a new carrier by two years.

The Services would reduce the joint strike fighter production by 17 aircraft, five fewer KC-46 tankers, and six fewer P-8A aircraft.

Concern over readiness and national security were reinforced during a press conference earlier this year when Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel stated, “. . . the only way to implement sequestration is to sharply reduce spending on readiness and modernization, which would almost certainly result in a hollow force. . . the resulting force would be too small to fully execute the President’s defense strategy.”

Debt reduction is a national priority, but MOAA believes the meat-axe approach of sequestration will force deep cuts that increase threats to our national security and our men and women in uniform.

(Source: MOAA Legislative Update, 25 April 2014)

Express Scripts Awarded New Contract

Express Scripts, the Pentagon's pharmacy benefit management company, has been awarded a contract worth up to \$5.4 billion over eight years to continue providing pharmacy services for TRICARE beneficiaries.

The Defense Department announced Friday it awarded the St. Louis-based company an initial \$33.8 million for the first year of the contract, renewable yearly for up to seven years, to provide pharmacy services for active-duty troops, retirees and their family members who use TRICARE.

Express Scripts has managed the contract since 2003, overseeing the military's pharmacies at clinics and hospitals and providing prescription services through more than 50,000 retail stores and by mail.

"Express Scripts is proud to continue providing world-class service and specialized pharmacy care to our men and women in uniform, along with their dependents and also to military retirees," Chairman and CEO George Paz said April 18 after the announcement.

The pharmacy benefit manager is considered a key partner in the Pentagon's goal to reduce health care spending by \$17 billion to \$22 billion over the next five years. The pharmaceutical operations directorate is expected to contribute \$1.3 billion to that savings.

Under the new contract, Express Scripts will continue managing all aspects of TRICARE pharmacy operations, including a program started earlier this year that requires TRICARE beneficiaries age 65 and older to use mail order to fill long-term maintenance prescriptions.

Express Scripts officials say they are especially proud of their mail-order business, which filled 4.3 million TRICARE prescriptions in fiscal 2012. An audit last year by the DoD inspector general found that prescriptions were nearly 100 percent free of clinical errors in the home delivery system while retail pharmacies had a 98.5 percent accuracy rate.

"The results showed [mail order] was more affordable ... it was safer and it maintained a high level of beneficiary satisfaction," said Nancy Gilbride, vice president of Express Scripts' federal pharmacy services division.

(Source: NAUS Weekly Update for April 25, 2014)

LADIES OF MOAA CLUB NOTES by Janet Shipp, President, phone: 910-868-4998, email: shippahoyx8@gmail.com

Those of us who were able to attend April's luncheon at the club were treated to an entertaining and informative presentation by Chef Sarah Bogan, "*The Whisking Apprentice*". You can find out so much more about her online. She writes about healthy eating on her blog "*SurvivingOnStamps.wordpress.com*", and on her web site "*WhiskingApprentice.com*". Many thanks to Joan Nelson and Beth Mason for suggesting this program. Ladies, you all are a great source of help!

A big concern has been solved. I am sure many of us know people with out-of-state telephone numbers, i.e., area codes other than 910. At least two of our luncheon callers fall into that category; you may be called by an Arizona, Tennessee, or a 919 [N. Eastern NC] area code. All of these younger wives are now board members, who have graciously stepped up to help us.

If you are called for a luncheon let them leave a message. We love to see you come to the luncheons. If you need a ride, let us know.

The 2014 Directory is here! Thanks, Donna!

CALENDAR

MAY

05	Ladies of MOAA Board Meeting	Fort Bragg Club	1000
06	CFC Board of Directors Meeting	Fort Bragg Club	1100
22	Ladies of MOAA Luncheon	Fort Bragg Club	1100
30	CFC General Membership Meeting/Dinner	Chris's Steakhouse	1800

JUNE

02	Ladies of MOAA Board Meeting	Fort Bragg Club	1000
03	CFC Board of Directors Meeting	Fort Bragg Club	1100
26	Ladies of MOAA Luncheon	Fort Bragg Club	1100

JULY

01	CFC Board of Directors Meeting	Fort Bragg Club	1100
07	Ladies of MOAA Board Meeting	Fort Bragg Club	1000
24	Ladies of MOAA Luncheon	Fort Bragg Club	1100
25	CFC General Membership Meeting/Social	TBA	TBA

THE CAPE FEAR CHAPTER
of
MILITARY OFFICERS
ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA
POST OFFICE BOX 53621
FAYETTEVILLE, NC 28305



PLEASE ENROLL ME AS A MEMBER OF THE CAPE FEAR CHAPTER, MOAA

____ Initial Enrollment ____ Annual Renewal Date: _____

Category: Regular ____ (\$20) Auxiliary ____ (\$10)

NAME: _____ SPOUSE'S NAME: _____

RANK: ____ SERVICE: _____ Active Duty ____ Retired ____ Veteran ____

ADDRESS: _____ ZIP: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____ TELEPHONE: _____

NATIONAL MOAA MEMBER? Yes ____ Membership # _____; No ____

I would like to receive my Infogram by: ____ Regular Mail ____ E-mail

Please mail with any payment due to:
Cape Fear Chapter, MOAA
PO Box 53621, Fayetteville, NC 28305

05/2014