



March 2018



# Cape Fear Infogram<sup>®</sup>

*A Five-Star Chapter*

Publisher COL (Ret) Juan I. Chavez, USA † Editor LTC (Ret) Don Gersh, USA  
*An informative monthly newsletter for members and friends of Cape Fear Chapter (NC-01)*

VISIT OUR HOMEPAGE AT [WWW.CFMOAA.ORG](http://WWW.CFMOAA.ORG)



## ST. PATRICK'S DAY BRUNCH

Our annual awards and recognition event will be held on St. Patrick's Day, Saturday, March 17 as a brunch in the Iron Mike Conference Center on post. It will begin at 1000 hours.

The Robert F. DeMeter chapter service award will be presented to a most deserving member. Several other chapter members will also be recognized for special contributions and accomplishments.

Please join us celebrate those who have gone above and beyond to make our organization so successful. Make your reservations if you haven't already, the RSVP deadline is March 14.



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The *Cape Fear Infogram* is published monthly for members and friends of the Cape Fear Chapter, Military Officers Association of America  
Post Office Box 53621  
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#### Editorial Policy

The Cape Fear Chapter is affiliated with MOAA. As such, the Cape Fear Chapter is nonpartisan. Editorial policies are established by the Chapter's Publisher and Editor and are in consonance with MOAA's.

Advertising and sponsorship are accepted based on MOAA policies and standards.

**Editor** may be reached at  
(910) 624-4597 or  
Secretary@cfmoaa.org

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<http://cfmoaa.org/>

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<http://www.facebook.com/CapeFearChapterMOAA/>

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<http://www.moaa.org/>

#### MOAA "Take Action"

<http://www.moaa.org/takeAction/>

#### Membership

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



## Editorial

by LTC (Ret) Don Gersh, USA  
(910) 624-4597    secretary@cfmoaa.org

### *Create a lasting legacy*

**Y**our donations to the Cape Fear Chapter MOAA Scholarship Fund allows us to financially support our future military leaders with their college expenses.

Please consider a Planned Gift and create a legacy to ensure the Scholarship Fund's future.

Your financial planner or insurance professional can work with you to set up a plan to fund or endow a scholarship.

If you would like to fund a scholarship this academic year, the amount required is \$1,500.

The cost of attending college continues to increase at a greater rate than when many of us were in school. The wages I earned working in a factory every summer and school vacation

were enough to cover my expenses. That's not the situation today's high school graduates face today.

Even with our help, our sons had to borrow heavily to pay for tuition, academic and athletic fees, textbooks, room and board. Sadly, they are still paying off their college loans.

The amount of tax dollars going to support state and yes, even private universities, seems to be reduced every year.

It won't be long before the cost of earning a bachelor's degree will be out of reach for many of today's youth.

If you were fortunate to have earned a full or partial scholarship to attend your alma mater, you may now be in a financial position to help another generation of leaders.

## UPDATE: Membership Renewal

The 2018 membership renewal period officially ended on the 1st of March, only 45% of our members renewed! We are now into a 30-day grace period for the 131 members who have yet to remit. If you are in the group, please spare us additional grief and renew today!





# President's Report

By COL (Ret) Juan I. Chavez, USA

Phone (910)797-5419, email: President@cfmoaa.org

## *DeMeter Award to be presented*

It has been a long-standing tradition of our chapter to present the DeMeter Chapter Service Award at our March general membership meeting each year, and we shall observe that tradition on the 17<sup>th</sup> of March at our Saint Patrick's Day brunch.

While we give the DeMeter award top-billing, as we should since it's the most prestigious award the chapter bestows upon one of its members, we should keep in mind that we also use the occasion to recognize other chapter members who have contributed in special ways above and beyond what is expected. We'll have several members who will be so recognized on the 17<sup>th</sup> of March.

In the spirit of our March theme, I want to take this opportunity to thank the chapter's

Executive Board of Directors and special staff, as well as the general membership at large. Our chapter officers have provided outstanding leadership and our members have responded in kind. This dynamic has resulted in our chapter being recognized by National MOAA as a 5-star chapter for the past four consecutive years.

We can all be justifiably proud of our chapter and its accomplishments since it was chartered in 1961, the first in the state of North Carolina. It has been a distinct honor for me to be its president for the past five years.

I hope to see many of you on Saint Patrick's Day, we have much to be thankful for and much to celebrate. Come join us!

*Juan*



## DONATION TO THE FORT BRAGG ARMY SOLDIER & FAMILY ASSISTANCE CENTER

Cape Fear Chapter President Juan Chavez (left), assisted by his wife Maria (second from right), presents Ms. Martha Brown, Director, Army Soldier and Family Assistance Center, Fort Bragg \$1,000 in \$25 grocery gift cards redeemable at the post commissaries as a

donation from the Cape Fear Chapter.

The gift cards are given to soldiers and their families as needed while assigned to the Warrior Transition Battalion at Fort Bragg undergoing medical treatment, evaluation, and/or rehabilitation at Womack Army Medical Center (WAMC). Witnessing the presentation is LTC Phil Brown, Commander, Warrior Transition Battalion, WAMC.





# Membership Update

By COL (Ret) Stan Dodson, USA

Phone (910) 486-8143, 1VP@cfmoaa.org

*As professionals, we should do better*

**A**n update on Recruiting and Retention: "fair and not so good." Actually, there is very little difference in the two terms. We have some new members. Don has diligently posted our new members each month. The recruiting effort is an issue that will never go away. The great majority of all voluntary organizations face this issue. To hold our own in memberships is good, but an organization of Professionals, as we are, should do better. Continue to explain our great work at each opportunity to all eligible prospective members.

If anyone has any ideas in recruiting, please contact me. We need all the help we can get.

Don is working on the roster of members who have somehow "forgotten " to renew their membership. Go on-line, mail-in your form, or call me or any of the Board members so we know you are still there.

## VA

There has been a lot of nation-wide movement on several important treatment programs. As the "Choice Program," the "non-VA Care Program" and the collaborative treatment program with WAMC evolve, veterans should closely monitor their needs with their Primary Care Physician.

These programs are very dependent on each individual situation, and the VAMC will not talk to organizational representatives about individual issues. My best advice is to contact the VAMC directly. I will stay tuned to all of the VA programs and continue to put out the word as I get it.

Grab me at the St. Patrick's Day brunch or send me an email with your concerns, and I will take them to the next VAMC meeting.

And now, it is a pleasure to introduce our newest member:

**LTC (Ret) Tina M. Ellis, USA**

*Stan*



The **eligibility criteria** for membership are:

**any commissioned or warrant officer – active duty, retired, former, Guard or Reserve, in any of the seven uniformed services, and their surviving spouses.**

Dues are \$20 for regular members and \$10 for surviving spouses. Use the renewal form on page 11 and attach your check made out to Cape Fear Chapter, MOAA. You can also renew online for next year by credit card at:

[www.moaa.org/OnlineChapterDuesPayment/](http://www.moaa.org/OnlineChapterDuesPayment/).

If you are not sure of your status or have any questions, please call Don Gersh at (910) 484-4545 or cell phone (910) 624-4597.





# Chaplain's Thoughts

By Chap (LTC) Timothy Atkinson, USA

phone (910) 978-3541

Chaplain@cfmoaa.org

## *Purim and Our Jewish Roots*

**For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance for the Jews will arise from another place, but you and your father's family will perish. And who knows but that you have come to your position for such a time as this? Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord?" (Esther 4:14 (NIV))**

**W**hen Jewish immigrants first came to America they had more freedom, equality and opportunity than in any other country in the world after the Diaspora. I thank God for the Jewish people, and they have indeed help to make America the great nation that it is.

As we know Jesus was Jewish, and because of this we should all love the Jews.

Some 160 Jews fought alongside Christian neighbors as equal in the fight for freedom in the American revolution. Jewish merchants Aaron Lopez of Newport, and Isaac Moses of Philadelphia, sailed their ships past British blockades to provide clothing, guns, powder and food to the needy revolutionary soldiers.

Some Jewish merchants lost everything. Francis Salvador of South Carolina was the first Jewish state legislator killed in the Revolutionary War. Another was Abigail Menis who supplied provisions to American Soldiers in 1779. George Washington's personal physician was Dr. Philip Moses Russell, a Jew who suffered with him at Valley Forge (Federher lecture on his program "Faith in History.").

Haym Solomon, a Polish-born American Jewish businessman and political financial broker, was held prisoner by British forces in New York. After he escaped to Philadelphia, Salomon resumed his activities as a broker. There he negotiated all the loans for Robert Morris, the newly appointed Superintendent for Finance for the Thirteen Colonies.

Solomon pledged his faith and fortune to the Patriot cause, and personally advanced large sums to James Madison, Thomas Jefferson, General St. Clair and many other leaders. They acknowledged that without his aid, they could not have carried on the cause.

A generation later, in 1845, David Levy Yulee (known as the "father of Florida's railroads") was the first Jew to be elected to the US Senate.

Jews were elected to other offices and served in positions of distinction. Uriah P. Levy, for example, was the first Jewish commodore in the US Navy. He fought in the war of 1812 and was later in command of a squadron in the Barbary Pirate Wars fighting the Muslims. These are just a few examples of those who have worked to make a difference.

As we remember Purim this year (March 1) in which God had Jewish Queen Esther save her people from the wicked schemes of Haman, I am also reminded of how the Lord has used the Jewish people to bless our own United States of America.

For such a time as this, we are all called upon to make an impact. Please make time to read the "Book of Esther."

And let's work together as CFC MOAA goes forward, making a difference. Hope to see you at the awards and recognition brunch!

Blessings always.

*Tim*

Chairman: Marty Williams



# Chapter News...

## Member Exchange

**COL Eli Ballard, USA**, is the Senior Army Instructor at Westover High School in Fayetteville.

FROM: Eli Ballard  
<eliballard@ccs.k12.nc.us>

I am sending you all this message to solicit your help in raising funds to fix the track at our school, Westover in Fayetteville.

You can help us by signing up to run/walk in our event on 28 April 2018, by making a donation, and/or by helping us get the word out.

When my kids went here over 20 years ago, there was a muddy, slick track around the football field that could not be used, after even a light rain. I was shocked to find that after so many years, nothing has been done to improve this situation.

CSM Caldwell and I have taken this on as a service learning project with our JROTC kids. They are excited about participating in a project much bigger than themselves. We know that this will not be done overnight, maybe not over 5 five years. However, we plan to make a start, hoping that the either school and community will get involved and we'll make a difference.

Before I started teaching, I assumed that our tax dollars paid for all of this stuff. I was wrong. In the public schools, we seem to fund-raise for just about everything other than the very basics. Unfortunately, this track has been a low priority for years.

Should you elect to contribute funds, and donate \$300.00 or more, we will put your organization's logo on our race T-shirt as a token of our great appreciation.

Thank You,

*Eli*

## Scholarship Committee formed Feb. 14

President Juan Chavez recently appointed the Scholarship Awards Selection Sub-Committee.

The sub-committee will review and score all 2018-2019 scholarship applications and establish an order-of-merit list for submission to the Board of Directors for final approval.

3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President Marty Williams will chair the committee. Members are Stan Dodson, George Blanc, Ralph Hinrichs and Tim Atkinson. Alternates are Carol Ivey and Art Rodriguez.



Marty Williams

## Member and spouse volunteers sought for Nominating Committee

This is an election year for chapter officers. In accordance with the constitution and bylaws, a five-member nominating committee will be appointed by the board of directors.

The elected officers are president, first vice president, a second vice president, a third vice president, a secretary and a treasurer. The committee may be members, spouses and surviving spouses who are not currently holding elective or appointive office.

If you are interested in serving on the committee, please contact Juan Chavez or Don Gersh.

## ***Membership Renewal***

In accordance with the chapter constitution and bylaws, Annual Dues must be paid by March 1. Dues are \$20 for regular members and \$10 for surviving spouses. Use the renewal form on page 11 and attach your check made out to Cape Fear Chapter, MOAA. You can also renew online for next year by credit card at:

[www.moaa.org/OnlineChapterDuesPayment/](http://www.moaa.org/OnlineChapterDuesPayment/).

### **Dues have been received from the following members:**

Asbury Fleming	Carter Allen	Foxx Ronnie
Atkinson Tim	Ceria Paul	Franken Dennis
Azzarelli Barbara	Chavez Juan	Garman Bob
Babigan Alan	Chavis Kenneth	Gersh Don
Baker Betty	Connelly Daniel	Gibson Hubert
Baker James	Croll Jerry	Glann George
Baldwin Marty	Dadek Maureen	Glockzin Tom
Ballard Eli	Davis Tad	Graham Jeri
Bass Ilse	Davis Robert	Grates Christopher
Bean Ron	Delahunty Thomas	Gushin Lisa
Beery Lester	Dicker Charles	Hall George
Beshlin David	Dodson Stan	Hill Peter
Bell John	Donnelly Thomas	Hinrichs Ralph
Bell William H.	Dunigan John	Hodges Alex
Blanc George	Easingwood Richard	Holgate Stanley
Bond George	Ecklund Clark	Holt Bobbie
Boyatt Mark	Elrod Ron	Hutnan George
Brennan Tim	Emmer Mark	Ives Robert
Brown Bruce	Elrod Ron	Ivey Carol
Byrnes Stephen	Fleming James	Ivey Karl
Carrion Beddy	Foster Elizabeth	Karakos Andrew

(Membership Renewal  
continued on next page)

(Membership Renewal continued)

Kendziera Christopher

Kilman Gisela

King Tom

Klinck Earl

Krahl Ken

Lanier Lawrence

Larsen Hank

Lewis Thelma

McGowan Geraldine

McLaughlin Robert

Macal tao Art

Macon Tommy

Mannell Steve

Mason Louis

Mitchell Carl

Nagel Joseph

Neilson Loren

Oehme Chet

O'Neil Thomas

Paquette Omer

Patton Mark

Pendell Jon

Pimble Charles

Pittman Deena

Porter Eric

Quigley George

Reale James

Riggins Jimmie

Rodriguez Art

Schowalter Edward

Simpson Henry

Smith Arlie

Smith Phyllis

Stankiewicz Stanley

Streit Phyllis

Stump Frank

Swift Barry

Swing Walter

Thacker Harold

Tripp Vencent

VanderClute Burt

Vanhout Mary

Volkman Jim

Vroom David

Wahl Jean

Walko Dennis

Wallen Claudie

Webster Jeanette

Weininger Jorge

White Bob

Wilde Jim

Williams Horace

Williams Marty

Williamson Gregory

Wolfe Timucin

Wright Mary

Wright Willie F.

Ziegler Drew

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CAPE FEAR CHAPTER



**General Membership  
Awards & Recognition  
St. Patrick's Day  
Brunch**

*Iron Mike Conference Center  
Fort Bragg*

*1000 hours, Saturday, 17 March  
2018*

*Cost: \$25.00 Per Person  
(Tax & Gratuity Included)*

*Attire: Casual (green)*

*Brunch Buffet Menu*

*Irish scrambled eggs*

*Irish pork sausage*

*Corn beef & cabbage*

*Mashed potatoes w/cheese  
& bacon*

*Irish vegetables medley*

*Irish soda bread*

*Vanilla ice cream w/Irish  
crème de mint*

*Water, iced tea, and coffee*

*(Honor Bar)*

*RSVP NLT March 14,  
2018*

*Send reservations and check  
(payable to CFC MOAA) to:  
George Blanc  
3490 Thamesford Rd.  
Fayetteville, NC 28311*

*Reservations Request*

*Name\_\_\_\_\_*

*Number of Reservations\_\_\_\_\_*

*X \$25 =\$ \_\_\_\_\_*

*Name of Guests*

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



# MOAA News... February 20, 2018



## *Health Care Options at Age 65*

*By Lt. Col. Shane Ostrom, USAF (Ret.), CFP  
Program Director, Finance and Benefits Information*

**A**t age 65, it's decision time: employer health plan and/or Medicare/TRICARE known as TRICARE For Life (TFL)? At age 65, TRICARE converts to a Medicare supplement plan and TRICARE Prime and Select are not available.

TFL requires Medicare Parts A&B. Younger spouses continue under your employer health plan, stay under TRICARE Prime/Select, or stay with both until age 65.

Here are your options:

A) You keep your employer plan while working and delay Medicare/TFL. You're allowed to delay Part B while working and covered by an employer's health plan. You temporarily lose TFL benefits until you enroll in Part B.

B) Go with both the employer plan and Medicare/TFL. Enroll in Parts A/B Medicare, get your TFL benefits and have

your employer's plan. You'll pay for all programs and you might be over insured.

C) Go Medicare/TFL only. Check to see whether you can suspend your employer's plan before you cancel it. Enroll in Medicare Parts A/B up to three months prior to age 65.

As long as you are working and covered by your employer's plan, the employer's plan pays first, Medicare second, and TRICARE third.

Once you stop working, the payment order is: Medicare pays first, then your employer's plan, and finally TRICARE.

If you have TFL only, Medicare is the first payer, then TRICARE.

It's best not to enroll in another drug plan. Another drug plan has to pay first, and you'll be filing manual claims with TRICARE. In addition, another drug plan disqualifies you from the TRICARE Pharmacy Home Delivery program.

About the author: Ostrom retired from the Air Force in 2000 after serving in a variety of personnel, education and training, and executive officer assignments. His assignments included tours in North Dakota, Florida, Korea, Australia, and the Pentagon. His final assignment was on the Joint Staff, writing and championing legislation related to joint officer personnel management issues. He earned numerous decorations and awards over his Air Force career.



## *Should the Military Draft be Reinstated?*

*By Col. Dan Merry, USAF (Ret.),  
Vice President, Government Relations*

Should we bring back the draft? Should women be required to register for selective service? Every now and then, we get these questions or requests for MOAA to engage directly toward one result or the other. From our broad audience come equally broad opinions on both of these subjects.

MOAA's position on the draft has been consistent: We support the all-volunteer "career" force as a necessary component of a strong national defense. Ever since the draft was eliminated in 1973, our military services have worked to recruit, train, and equip volunteers who join by choice — the result continues to be the most formidable, capable military on the planet. See our previous article, "The Core of Our Nation's Military is the All-Volunteer Force," for more on the topic of the all-volunteer force.

MOAA has deferred to the service and defense secretaries regarding women in combat, and in December 2015, then-Secretary of Defense Ash Carter opened all combat jobs to women. What didn't follow was a decision to require women to register for selective service (the draft), and the following year was somewhat contentious on the topic because men registered, women did not.

In a 2016 survey, MOAA solicited feedback from our currently serving members on this issue. We found the majority of those currently serving said that with the opening of all combat roles to women, women should be required to register for the draft.

But not everyone agreed, thus keeping the issue of women registering for the draft alive on

Capitol Hill and earning the attention of Congress, which stepped in to solve the problem by identifying the need for a study.

The FY 2017 National Defense Authorization Act established the National Commission on Military, National, and Public Service to "conduct a review of the military selective service process (commonly referred to as "the draft"); and consider methods to increase participation in military, national, and public service in order to address national security and other public service needs of the Nation."

This study will take place over 30 months and will include the gathering of opinions and subject-matter reviews.

MOAA already has shared with commission members concerns regarding conscription as an offset to the challenges of getting volunteers. We were assured the efforts of the commission are quite broad and more focused on generally affecting the desire or propensity to serve. This might help solve the national problem without conscription. They did agree conscription would only be likely in a national crisis requiring the likes and numbers of citizens who quickly could be amassed, trained, and equipped — in other words, a global engagement.

The debate will continue, but you now get a voice in the process. You can provide your comments directly through the commission's website, [www.inspire2serve.gov](http://www.inspire2serve.gov). Share your thoughts on these seven questions, which are posted on the website above the answer block:

(Continued on next page)



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- 1) Is a military draft or draft contingency still a necessary component of U.S. national security?
- 2) Are modifications to the selective service system needed?
- 3) How can the U.S. increase participation in military, national, and public service by individuals with skills critical to address the national security and other public service needs of the nation?
- 4) What are the barriers to participation in military, national, or public service?
- 5) Does service have inherent value, and, if so, what is it?
- 6) Is a mandatory service requirement for all Americans necessary, valuable, and feasible?
- 7) How does the U.S. increase the propensity for Americans, particularly young Americans, to serve?

**About the author:** Merry, a native of Southern California, enlisted in the Air Force in 1982 as a Personnel Specialist. He was commissioned through AFROTC in 1989, earning his degree in Marketing from Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff Arizona. He holds a master's degrees in Human Resources Management and Military Arts & Science. After his commissioning, Merry returned to the Personnel career field and served at every level of the Air Force. He was the Career Field Manager for Personnel, Manpower and Services, and was selected as the Air Force's Chief of Compensation and member of the 10th Quadrennial Review of Military Compensation. Merry is a graduate of Air Command and Staff College at Maxwell AFB, Alabama; and was the Senior Air Force Fellow at the RAND Corporation in Santa Monica, California. At the time of his retirement he was the Commander of Air Force Mortuary Affairs Operations (AFMAO) responsible for DoD's sole Port Mortuary at Dover AFB, Delaware.



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# **IN MEMORIAM**

**CW4 (Ret) Thomas M. Vick, III, USA**

**July 16, 1941 – February 17, 2018**

**It is with deep regret that we announce that CW4 Thomas M. Vick, III, US Army, Retired, one of our regular members, died on February 17, 2018.**

**Our heartfelt condolences are extended to his wife Su and the extended Vick family during their bereavement.**







**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE CAPE FEAR CHAPTER OF THE  
MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION *of* AMERICA**

Initial Application ☐ Renewal ☐ Date \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Last Name) (First Name) (MI) (Rank) (Branch of Service)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Mailing Address: Number and Street) (Preferred Telephone Number)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(City) (State) (Zip) (Email Address)

Birth date \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse's name \_\_\_\_\_

Status: Retired ☐ Active Duty ☐ Former Officer ☐ Reserve ☐ National Guard ☐

Cadet/Midshipman ☐ Surviving Spouse ☐ (Please fill in the above information but show  
Your deceased spouse's rank and branch of service)

I am ☐ a member of National MOAA; my member # is \_\_\_\_\_. I am a Life Member ☐

I am not ☐ a National MOAA member, but will consider joining.

In addition to my dues, I have included a donation of \$\_\_\_\_\_ for the Chapter's ROTC Scholarship Fund.

If a new applicant, how did you learn about the Cape Fear Chapter of MOAA? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Annual Chapter membership dues: \$20.00 for Regular Members  
\$10.00 for Surviving Spouses**

**Please mail this application with your check (payable to CFC, MOAA) to:**

**CAPE FEAR CHAPTER, MOAA  
P.O. Box 53621  
Fayetteville, NC 28305**

Cape Fear Chapter, MOAA  
Post Office Box 53621  
Fayetteville, NC 28305



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officers and their families at every  
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visit our website at:

**[www.cfmoaa.org](http://www.cfmoaa.org)**



## *Calendar of Events*

- 6 Mar - Cape Fear Chapter Board of Directors Meeting at Iron Mike Conference Center, 1000 hours
- 17 Mar - Annual Awards and Recognition General Membership Meeting and St. Patrick's Day Brunch, 1000 hours, Iron Mike Conference Center**
- 3 Apr - Cape Fear Chapter Board of Directors Meeting at Iron Mike Conference Center, 1000 hours
- 1 May - Cape Fear Chapter Board of Directors Meeting at Iron Mike Conference Center, 1000 hours
- 18 May - JROTC Scholarships Awards General Membership Meeting/Luncheon, 1130 hours, The Mash House**
- 5 Jun - Cape Fear Chapter Board of Directors Meeting at Iron Mike Conference Center, 1000 hours