



May 2018



Cape Fear Infogram[®]

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

BREAKING NEWS

FAYETTEVILLE, NC...

► **Annual JROTC scholarship presentation and general membership meeting/luncheon, 1130 hours, The Mash House, Friday, May 18**

► **Memorial Day Global War on Terrorism monument dedication, 1000 hours, Freedom Memorial Park, Monday, May 28**

► **Member Appreciation Picnic, 1130 hours, Smith Lake, Saturday, July 21**
“fun, food and free for your family”

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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

Chapter website
<http://cfmoaa.org/>

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

MOAA website
<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

GWOT Expeditionary Medal

The Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal (GWOT-EM) is a United States Armed Forces award created by George W. Bush on 12 March 2003, through Executive Order 13289.

The medal recognizes those military service members who have deployed overseas in direct service to the War on Terrorism from 11 September 2001 to a date to be determined. Prior to 30 April 2005, the medal was awarded for service within Iraq and Afghanistan, but has been replaced with the Iraq Campaign Medal and

Afghanistan Campaign Medal and now serves primarily as

recognition for personnel who have deployed in support of the War on Terrorism to locations beyond Iraq and Afghanistan. In a similar fashion the Inherent Resolve Campaign Medal is now issued instead for service in the fight against ISIS, with eligibility retroactive to 15 June 2014.



The War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal was designed by John Sproston of the Army's Institute of Heraldry.

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia



Membership Update...

Our recruiting program has not been as successful as we need it to be in order to sustain our membership. If you have recommendations or would like to serve on the Membership Committee, please contact Stan Dodson at 1VP@cfmoaa.org.

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

MAJ (Ret) Michael T. Bryant,
USA

MAJ (Ret) LeShawn M.
Langford, USA

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 8 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/

If you are not sure of your status or have any questions, please call Don Gersh at (910) 624-4597 or email secretary@cfmoaa.org



President's Report

By COL (Ret) Juan I. Chavez, USA

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

Important events this month

There are two significant events on the May calendar that warrant your attention. First, our fourth annual JROTC Scholarship

Awards Luncheon will be held on Friday the 18th of May 2018 at The Mash House Restaurant.

We'll be awarding seven scholarships to some of our brightest JROTC cadets. Our keynote speaker will be none other than NC State Representative John Szoka. As most of you know, John, an ardent public servant, is one of our chapter members.

All scholarship recipients, their parents, and their JROTC instructors are expected to attend. Being that our scholarship program is our primary philanthropic endeavor, I encourage all chapter members to attend and help us celebrate this event. Please RSVP to George Blanc NLT 14 May 2018.

Secondly, the long-awaited dedication of the new Global War on Terrorism Memorial at Freedom Memorial Park will take place on Memorial Day the 28th of May 2018.

This is a long overdue tribute to our brave men and women who have made the supreme sacrifice in fighting terrorism worldwide since 9/11. The realization of this community undertaking was made possible by the

consideration and generosity of our chapter members.

The ceremony begins at 1000 hours at Freedom Memorial Park in downtown Fayetteville.

The keynote speaker will be General (Ret) Dan K. McNeill, another chapter member and a veteran of several global war on terrorism campaigns. Our chapter will participate in the wreath-laying part of the ceremony by laying a memorial wreath on the new monument.

This will be a historic event for our chapter. Let us all honor our fallen comrades by attending this meaningful and moving patriotic ritual.

I take this opportunity to thank all of you for your unfailing support. Funding our ROTC Scholarship Program and the Global War on Terrorism Monument are two glowing examples of your commitment to our purpose.

Happy Mother's Day to all our mothers, especially our Gold Star Mothers, we love you!

Juan



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

21 July - Member Appreciation Picnic, 1130, Smith Lake



Chaplain's Thoughts

By Chap (LTC) Timothy Atkinson, USA
phone (910) 978-3541 Chaplain@cfmoaa.org

*Created in the Image and Likeness of
Almighty God*

Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." Genesis 1:26 New King James Version

What does it mean to be human? According to the Bible, it is a very special thing. In speaking to the Greeks on Mars Hill, the Apostle Paul announces to them that we are all God's offspring or children through creation (See Acts 17).

We are the only creatures who bear the image of God (*imago Dei*). Although distorted through the fallen condition of mankind into sin, there are still implications of this fact that are worth bringing out.

Pastor Mike Leake says this means we are accountable to Him, we can trust Him, each person has great value, we have a God-centered purpose, and lastly, He intends for us to find our greatest satisfaction in Him.

I want to encourage all CFC MOAA members to know that you are valuable and precious to God. John Bartol said, "God

created man in his own image ... male and female He created them,' (Genesis 1:27). Together they reflected the glory of their creator. Not angels of pure spirit, not animals lacking in self-determination and creativity, but persons - soul and body, reason and passion, capable of love and moral choices, and the finest reflection of Himself that God could produce. *Homo imago Dei*, meaning made in the image of God, capable of living in two environments - physical and spiritual - and created to have a special relationship with God, both personal and eternal."

That means you are a very special creation to God and to others. "For God does not love us because we are so valuable; rather we are valuable because God loves us." - Helmut Thielicke

Children are created in the image of their mother and father who gave them birth and are special to the parents; likewise human

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being have inherit value to God who created them. Unlike the animals God breathed into his human creation the breath of life (Hebrew- Ruach).

Because God so personally did this means that he has given us spirits, and we have a spiritual capacity to know Him and love Him.

Speaking of His image come to the next MOAA meeting at the Mash House on 18 May at 1130; and see if you do not see His image on the young MOAA scholarship recipients who will be there with us to receive their awards.

No matter how marred by sin, His image is on each human being and I encourage you to value God's special creation and love people.

I know you do by the your caring for people like these and others you can and who you do help so graciously. Your help and love does not go unnoticed by God and the CFC MOAA board; and I greatly appreciate your patriotic and godly support for such good causes.

The fact that Jesus died on the cross and rose again also helps us to know that created human beings are redeemed by God in order to once again fully live in His image, and He restores us to stand tall and serve Him with gladness. Let's keep doing and never stop serving. Much love and care from Peg and me always.

Tim



Chapter News...

Member Appreciation Picnic

The chapter will hold a picnic for its members and their families on Saturday, July 21.

According to 2nd Vice President George Blanc, "We hope to see families enjoying the Smith Lake venue. We will have a wonderful lunch spread

catered by Mission BBQ. We encourage our members to bring their children and their grandchildren. I'm sure everyone will have a great time."

There is no charge to attend, but a "head count" is necessary for planning purposes .

A flier will be in the June *Infogram*.

MOAA News...

Lawmaker Wants SGLI Notification Fix

One House lawmaker wants to make a fix that would require officials to notify a spouse if his or her service member opts out of the Servicemembers Group Life Insurance (SGLI) policy.

SGLI gives troops life insurance coverage of up to \$400,000 for \$29 a month. Troops can opt out altogether or elect to be insured for lesser amounts, which carry a lower monthly cost.

Federal law currently requires the spouse to be notified if the policy is declined by the service member. However, the law also states that officials do not have to actually prove that they made that notification and that it can simply be done in "good faith."

"It says you must do it, the Secretary [of Defense] must notify the spouse, and then it says at the very bottom, 'Just kidding, you don't have to do any of that stuff it just said,' " said Rep. Duncan Hunter, a California Republican, speaking on the law that governs SGLI.

Hunter sat in on a hearing of the House Veterans' Affairs Committee's subcommittee on disability assistance and memorial affairs, which has purview over SGLI. He had included a measure in the 2018 National Defense Authorization Act to require that notification, but it was removed before the bill was signed into law.

Hunter spoke at the hearing to officials from veteran service organizations and representatives from the Department of Veterans Affairs. He cited the case of Theresa Jones, a Navy widow whose pilot husband turned down SGLI and then was killed. Jones said she was never notified that he had turned down the benefit. She was later awarded the money through a lawsuit.

"She got paid but only because we put it in the media and applied massive pressure to Prudential," which manages the SGLI program for the VA, Hunter said.

"Frankly, that part of the law needs to change," he said.

Hunter asked Robert Reynolds, deputy under secretary for disability assistance for the

Veterans Benefits Administration, whether he thinks spouses should be notified of an opt-out, but only gave him time for a one-word response.

"VA, you got anything here? It's your fund," Hunter said. "Do you think the spouse of an active-duty service member should be notified if they opt out of their life insurance?" "Yes," Reynolds said.

Meanwhile, Reynolds told the committee in his statement submitted for the record that more than 796,000 sailors, soldiers and airmen have used a new, online SGLI system to certify and update their benefit information.

The system, known as the SGLI Online Enrollment System (SOES), replaces the paper-based update system. The Navy, Army and Air Force started using the system last year, and it will come online for the Marine Corps and Coast Guard later this year, Reynolds said.

This article by Amy Bushatz originally appeared on Military.com

MOAA Headquarters Makes Temporary Move In May

The headquarters of the Military Officers Association of America will temporarily relocate in early May for up to 18 months, allowing for expansive repairs and upgrades to our national headquarters in Alexandria, Va.

MOAA staff have planned for a smooth transition, but members may experience a delay in response time as we relocate our entire team

to our temporary office space. Our Member Service Center, (800) 234-6622 (MOAA), will close at 12 p.m. (EDT) on Friday, May 4, as we make the move. The center is expected to be fully operational at 8 a.m. (EDT) on Monday, May 7. Phone numbers and e-mail addresses for individual staff members will not change, and we expect minimal disruption to member service.

MOAA Headquarters is only moving a few blocks away in the interim, sharing space with the Armed Forces Benefits Association. All mail, however, should still be sent to:

Military Officers Association of America
(MOAA)
201 N. Washington St.
Alexandria, VA 22314-2539

By: Tony Lombardo

Legislative Affairs

Access our Legislative Action Center to check your legislators' positions on key issues, contact your elected officials and view details on all the legislation affecting you and your family as well as information on how to contact your elected official to make a change.

Make sure you're always in the know about Capitol Hill by signing up for MOAA's Legislative Update.

VISIT OUR LEGISLATIVE ACTION CENTER and *Take Action!*

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



North Carolina

Support your USO

CAPE FEAR CHAPTER



General Membership Meeting
Scholarships Awards Luncheon

The Mash House Restaurant
4150 Sycamore Dairy Rd.

1130 hours, Friday, May 18, 2018

Cost: \$20.00 Per Person
(Tax & Gratuity Included)

Attire: Dressy Casual

Menu

Herb Roasted Chicken, Meatloaf,
Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Pasta
Primavera, Seasonal Veggies,
Chopped Salad, Fresh Baked
Dinner Rolls

Dessert: Peach Cobbler

Drinks: Water, Iced Tea, and
Coffee

(No Host Bar)

RSVP NLT May 16, 2018

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

George Blanc, 3490 Thamesford Rd.
Fayetteville, NC 28311

Reservations Request

Name _____

Name of Guests

Number of Reservations _____

X \$20.00 = _____



**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



*...We are a powerful voice speaking
for a strong national defense, and
representing the interests of military
officers and their families at every
stage of their career...*

visit our website at:

www.cfmoaa.org

Calendar of Events

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

28 May - Memorial Day GWOT Monument Dedication, 1000 hours, Freedom Memorial Park

5 June - Cape Fear Chapter Board of Directors Meeting at Iron Mike Conference Center, 1000 hours

3 July - Cape Fear Chapter Board of Directors Meeting at Iron Mike Conference Center, 1000 hours

21 July - Member Appreciation Picnic, 1130 hours, Smith Lake