

MARCH 2019

INFOGRAM

CAPE FEAR FEAR CHAPTER CHARTERED MARCH 22, 1961

An informative monthly newsletter for members and friends of Cape Fear Chapter (NC-01)

VISIT OUR HOMEPAGE AT WWW.CFMOAA.ORG



March 16, McKellar's Lodge

Annual awards and recognition luncheon



There is still time to make reservations for the annual awards and recognition luncheon that will be held on Saturday, March 16 at McKellar's Lodge.

The cost is \$20 per person, and the social hour begins at 1130 hours.

The event flier is on page 7, and has all of the information.

President Ira Watkins will recognize members who have contributed to the chapter's success in 2018.

DeMeter Award

Ira will also announce the 2018 recipient of the chapter's most prestigious award, the Robert F. DeMeter Chapter Service.

As has become a recent tradition, the previous year's DeMeter Award recipient will



2017 DeMeter Award recipient George Blanc (right) receives the award from 2016 recipient Ralph Hinrichs. (Photo by Art Rodriguez)

present the trophy during the ceremony.

State of the Chapter

The sixth annual State of the Chapter Report will be presented by President Watkins

recapping last year's accomplishments and challenges, and identifying 2019's goals.

Over 70? Been a chapter member for 25 years?

The Board of Directors is considering creating a Life Member category, and needs your help.

Life Members would be exempt from annual dues.

If you are more than 70 years of age and have been a member of the Cape Fear Chapter for 25 years or longer, please email Secretary Sara Ballard at secretary@cfmoaa.org or call her at (256) 426-7487.



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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

BY RETIRED ARMY MAJ. IRA M. WATKINS
(910) 308-7702 PRESIDENT@CFMOAA.ORG

Annual awards meeting March 16

March is a month that presents several events and activities to celebrate, or eagerly anticipate. Of the many events in March, I will highlight three after a brief review of the history, and some fun facts about March.

The name "March" comes from the Roman God of War, Mars. For many years, March being the start of spring, was also the start of the new year. The symbolic flower for the month of March is the Daffodil. March is the time of year when animals start to wake up from hibernation. Did you know that each year March and June end on the same day of the week?

Some events in March to consider celebrating, planning for, or reflection include: the beginning of spring, Saint Patrick's Day, the beginning of Daylight Saving Time, March Madness for basketball fans, National Nutrition Month, Women's History Month, and our bi-monthly general membership meeting.

I want to place emphasis on the last three events listed above. First, I hope most of you have the general membership meeting on your March calendar. This meeting is scheduled for March 16, at McKellar's Lodge, Fort Bragg, at 1130 hours. The attire is casual. The cost is \$20.00 per person. Make your reservation as soon as possible, but not later than March 12, using the event flier on page 6.

If history is an indicator, you should anticipate a great atmosphere that promotes

comradery among members. Highlights for this meeting are the State of the Chapter Report, awards for select members who, by their actions and deeds, have earned special recognition, and presentation of the chapter's prestigious DeMeter Award.

A strong membership turn-out will contribute to showing appreciation for awardees who have gone above and beyond in service to the chapter and community.

The second point of emphasis is Women's History Month. I hope each member will take the time this month to reflect on the contributions of women, and their contributions to the defense of the nation. Women have contributed immeasurably to the success of our military force from the beginning of the country.

Currently women make up 16 percent of an active military force of more than a million. Approximately 18 percent of the estimated 229,611 active duty military officers are women. As we honor the historical contributions of women this month, I ask that women who are members of the chapter set aside a little time to reflect on volunteering to serve on one of the chapter committees, or in a leadership position when the opportunities arise.

I also ask that all members make a special effort this month to reach out to women who are eligible to be members of our chapter and urge them to consider joining.

Continued on next page)

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This includes female officers and surviving spouses.

The health and well-being of all members are always of paramount concern and leads to the last point of emphasis for this month, which is participation in National Nutrition Month.

This campaign, celebrated each year during March, focuses on the importance of making informed food choices and developing sound eating and physical activity habits.

If you are looking to make some changes or to simply validate you're eating and physical habits, check this web address for food and nutrition information that is pro-

moted as credible scientifically based information:

<https://www.eatright.org/food/resources/national-nutrition-month/national-nutrition-month>.

I conclude by again urging you to make your reservations for the March general membership meeting as soon as possible, honor and reflect on the selfless service of women during Women's History Month, and as always, stay focus on your health and well-being.

"Never Stop Serving".

Ira



Have you paid your 2019 dues? Not sure?



Check with **1st Vice President George Bond** [email 2vp@cfmoaa.org, phone (910) 308-0829] or **Secretary Sara Ballard** [email secretary@cfmoaa.org, phone (256) 426-7487].

Dues are \$20 for Regular Members and \$10 for Surviving Spouses.

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

Chapter Website <http://www.cfmoaa.org/>

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

MOAA "Take Action" <http://www.moaa.org/take Action/>

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



CHAPLAIN'S THOUGHTS

RETIRED ARMY CHAPLAIN (LT. COL.) TIMOTHY ATKINSON
(910) 978-3541 CHAPLAIN@CFMOAA.ORG

Send Me

*Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying,
'Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?'
And I said, 'Here am I. Send me!'" - Isaiah 6:8v*

As we get ready for Spring, let's declare for ourselves a new beginning under God. The Lord demonstrates this concept of new birth each day with the sunrise. And in nature, after a long hot-spell, the rain comes and the dry places come back to life again. In Spring buds start to form, flowers start to bloom and the earth transforms into a beautiful expression of color and life after a long hard winter. Through His Word we can have hope and start anew.

In our passage at the top of the page, the beloved king of Israel had passed away in that very year, and it was a time of transition. The man, Isaiah, was being called by the Lord in a heavenly vision. He sees the angels, and as they were flying, they were calling out to each other: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, the

whole earth is full of his glory (verse 3)." As he sees and hears the great manifestations of the holy in heaven, Isaiah cries out "Woe is me." He says he is a man of unclean lips and dwells among a people who have unclean lips, yet he has "seen the King, the Lord Almighty." He cries out that he is ruined.

He needs a new beginning. We all do, and by his grace we can have one, and several new ones if we call on him for them each time. In Isaiah's vision, an angel takes a hot coal off of the altar and touches his mouth and says his sins are atoned for and his guilt removed. That is when he hears the call of our verse above: "Whom shall I send, who will go for us?"

The motto of MOAA is "NEVER STOP SERVING." There is a cleansing and a call

each day from God to go forward in service and love, with the Word of God on our lips to people all around us who need our help.

The new beginning for Isaiah was a life of service to God and humanity. Israel needed the Word of the Lord. God was looking for a messenger of hope during transition.

Some elite special operations units of U.S. Special Operations Command take this response from Isaiah, "Here am I, Send me," as their motto. In CFC MOAA, let's take it as ours this year and declare a new beginning. Let us see what the Lord will do in and through us.

Tim

An editorial by Don Gersh

Robert F. DeMeter Chapter Service Award

The Robert F. DeMeter Chapter Service Award was established in 1998 in memory of the late Robert F. DeMeter.

The retired USMC lieutenant colonel was chapter president in 1989 and died before his term was completed.

In 1998, the first recipient of the DeMeter Award was Jerry Holstad.

It has been awarded annually to recognize a chapter member for outstanding service to the chapter. The award is the most prestigious award the chapter bestows upon one of its members.

By tradition, the DeMeter Award will not be presented more than once to an individual. The sole exception was to Harry Meinhardt who received it in 2009 and 2011. Again by tradition, the serving chapter president selects

the recipient after requesting nominations



from the membership. If the president wishes, he or she can form an awards board to review the nominations, or have the full board of directors review nominations and either select the recipient or submit its recommendation.

In this case, it is similar to the U.S. Senate's "advise and consent" role. However, it is the president of the chapter who decides who receives the award.

Please note, the DeMeter Award has never been presented to a serving president.

Outstanding service is defined as: A significant and extraordinary achievement in support of the chapter during the calendar year for which considered, or (2) Sustained meritorious and extraordinary service to the chapter over a period of time.

The award consists of a certificate and a rotating trophy, which the recipient retains for one year.

Nominations for the DeMeter Award are solicited from the general membership every January, boarded or reviewed, and then awarded during the March general membership meeting.

Can you guess who will receive it on the 16th?





RSVP NLT March 12, 2019

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

Underwood

2933 Wedgeview Dr.

Fayetteville, NC 28306

General Membership Meeting

Awards & Recognition Luncheon

*McKellar's Lodge
Fort Bragg*

1130 hours, Saturday, March 16, 2019

Cost: \$20.00 Per Person

(Tax & Gratuity Included)

Buffet Menu

Baked Chicken, Pulled Pork,

Mashed Potatoes w/Gravy,

Baked Beans, Green Beans

Salad Bar, Coleslaw, Potato Salad

Corn Bread & Butter

Endless Beverage Station

Peach Cobbler & Coffee

(No Host Bar)

Reservations Request

Name _____

Number of Reservations ___ *X \$20 =* _____

Name of Guests

Program Includes:

*Presentation of DeMeter
Trophy and other awards.*



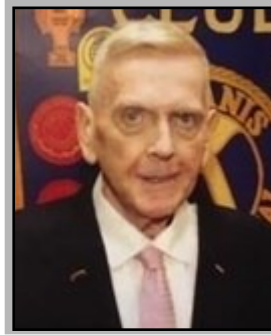
*State of the Chapter
Report*

ROBERT F. DEMETER CHAPTER SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENTS

- 2017—COL (Ret) George J. Blanc, USA
2016 – LTC (Ret) Ralph W. Hinrichs, USA
2015 – Mrs. Tammy Beshlin
2014 – LTC (Ret) Doneal G. Gersh, USA
2013 – LTC (Ret) William F. Dadek, USA
2012 – LTC (Ret) Arlie R. Smith, USA
2011 – COL (Ret) Harry P. Meinhardt, USA
2010 – MAJ (Ret) Robert P. Ives, USA
2009 – COL (Ret) Harry P. Meinhardt, USA
2008 – LTC (Ret) Edward R. Thomas, II, USA
2007 – COL (Ret) Juan I. Chavez, USA
2006 – COL (Ret) Arturo Rodriguez, USA
2005 – LTC (Ret) Robert T. Garman, USA
2004 – LTC (Ret) John W. Hazlett, USA
2003 – COL (Ret) Ralph R. Smoot, USA
2002 – MAJ (Ret) Henry T. Avants, USA
2001 – COL (Ret) Louis A. Waple, USA
2000 – COL (Ret) Ted Jakubowski, USAF
1999 – COL (Ret) Robert P. Fuqua, USAF
1998 – LTC (Ret) Jerry E. Holstad, USA



IN MEMORIAM



Retired U.S. Army Major Frank R. Till June 5, 1941 – February 10, 2019

It is with deep regret that we announce that retired Army Major Frank R. Till, one of our regular members died on February 10, 2019.

Frank enlisted in the US Army as a private and rapidly rose through the ranks to sergeant first class before attending Officer Candidate School at Fort Benning, Georgia, and earning a commission as a second lieutenant of Infantry in June 1965. He served in Vietnam as a rifle Company Commander with the 9th Infantry Division and was seriously wounded in June 1968 and spent many months in numerous Army hospitals.

Frank was awarded the Silver Star, the Bronze Star for valor, the Purple Heart, and the Combat Infantryman Badge among many other awards. He retired from the Army as a Major in 1983 and spent the next 20 years as a teacher and administrator in the Fayetteville Academy.

Frank was a loyal member of the chapter for several years and his reputation as an extraordinary soldier and leader was well known; his loss will be keenly felt by all of us. His over 25 years of distinguished military service and personal sacrifices to our country will never be forgotten.

Our heartfelt condolences are extended to the entire Till 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

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

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AT IRON MIKE CONFERENCE CENTER, 1000 HOURS

**16 - AWARDS AND RECOGNITION LUNCHEON MEETING AT
MCKELLAR'S LODGE, 1130 HOURS**

APRIL

2 - CAPE FEAR CHAPTER BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING AT
IRON MIKE CONFERENCE CENTER, 1000 HOURS

MAY

7 - CAPE FEAR CHAPTER BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING AT
IRON MIKE CONFERENCE CENTER, 1000 HOURS

**10 MAY - JROTC SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDS GENERAL MEMBERSHIP
MEETING/LUNCHEON, 1130 HOURS, THE MASH HOUSE**

18 - ARMED FORCES DAY

27 - MEMORIAL DAY

**NEVER STOP
SERVING**