



Coastal Carolina Military Officer's Association

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CLARION

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From the 1st Vice President Capt Curtis Bare USMC (Ret.)



Hi everyone,
 I hope everyone has enjoyed their summer. With the help of our Board of Directors, I've tried to hold things together until **Chapter President Marie Senzig** returns from Wisconsin at the end of this month.

MOAA has announced the Levels of Excellence winners and our Chapter was selected as a 4-Star recipient for the fourth straight year. CC/MOA was one of 10 North Carolina MOAA Chapters so honored. Marie will attend the MOAA Annual Meeting in Orlando, FL in late October as a guest of MOAA to receive our streamer.

We had a very successful Sunday Summer Brunch at Taberna on 12 July. Partnering with our friends from the Coastal Carolina Navy League, we had 63 attending who enjoyed an informative presentation from our **Congressman Walter B. Jones** as well as a delicious meal.

Our next event will be our Annual Fall BBQ which will be on **Thursday, 17 September at Moore's Olde Tyme BBQ in New Bern**. We have invited six of our MOAA Medal winning JROTC cadets from the previous school year, their parents and their instructors to be our guests at this event where you will have the chance to meet them in person and learn all about them. We received a \$300 grant from USAA to help us fund this event.

We have our 2015-16 Scholarship Raffle tickets and will have them available at our Fall BBQ. Tickets are \$25 and cash prizes will range from \$25 to \$200. There will be a total of 150 tickets with a drawing every Saturday for 26 weeks starting 1 November. Winning tickets also have multiple chances to be repeat winners as some of our members found out last year. Please contact me at **(252) 447-5043** for your tickets if you can't be at the Fall BBQ. As of this writing we have 54 tickets remaining.

Curtis

Next Event

Fall BBQ at Moore's Olde Tyme BBQ in New Bern on Thursday, 17 September. We will honor our MOAA Medal winning JROTC Cadets their parents and instructors.

CC/MOA Selected for a 4-Star Level of Excellence Award



Every year, MOAA recognizes its top affiliates who compete to receive a five or four-star Level of Excellence (LOE) Award. This year, 114 of MOAA's very best Councils and Chapters earned five-star awards, while 51 above-average Councils and Chapters received four-star awards.

North Carolina did exceptionally well this year with our State Council earning a 5-Star Award along with seven of our Chapters and three of our Chapters were named as 4-Star recipients. This is the fourth year in a row that CC/MOA has been named to receive a 4-Star designation.

Invitations have been emailed to the leaders of winning affiliates who will be presented with streamers at a special LOE dinner ceremony during MOAA's 2015 annual meeting in Orlando, FL, 29-31 October and Chapter President **CAPT Marie Senzig** will be attending as a guest of MOAA to receive our streamer.



2015-2016 Scholarship Raffle



No. 071

CCMOA

Help Support Our
2016 Scholarships

\$25 Donation for your chance to win \$25 to \$200 a week for 26 weeks
Drawings start November 1, 2015

Nov 1 \$25	Jan 31 \$50
Nov 8 \$50	Feb 7 \$75
Nov 15 \$75	Feb 14 \$100
Nov 22 \$100	Feb 21 \$25
Nov 29 \$25	Feb 28 \$50
Dec 6 \$50	Mar 7 \$75
Dec 13 \$75	Mar 14 \$100
Dec 20 \$100	Mar 21 \$25
Dec 27 \$25	Mar 28 \$50
Jan 3 \$50	Apr 4 \$75
Jan 10 \$75	Apr 11 \$100
Jan 17 \$100	Apr 18 \$75
Jan 24 \$25	Apr 25 \$200

Make checks payable and mail to: No. 071
CCMOA, P.O. Box 373, Havelock, NC 28532

Name: BILL & DEE CULLER

Address: 111 BOROS ROAD
NEW BERN, NC

Phone: 447-5173

Email: wsculler@yahoo.com

Capt Curtis Bare is again chairing our Scholarship Raffle this year and tickets will be available at the Fall BBQ at Moore's Olde Tyme BBQ on 17 September. We're asking all attendees to take some to buy and sell. There are a total of 150 raffle tickets.

Tickets are \$25.00 and each one will have multiple chances of winning. **John Murphy** won \$25, \$50 and \$75 last year.

Prizes will vary from \$25 to \$200 and drawings will be held every Saturday for 26 weeks from 1 November 2015 to 25 April 2016.

Thanks to Curtis our Scholarship Raffle was most successful last year netting our Scholarship Fund about \$1,850.

As in the past, we hope to be able to award five \$1,000 college scholarships to deserving family members of active duty or retired military members.

DAR to Honor Veterans Who Served in Vietnam



The Otway Burns Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) in Swansboro has joined together with DoD and numerous other groups across the U.S. as a Vietnam War Commemoration Partner and is planning six commemorative events to be held over the next three years.

The Otway Burns Daughters are hosting the events to honor veterans who served in Vietnam and thank them for their service. At the time of their return to the U.S., many veterans did not receive a proper welcome. The Chapter is using the occasion of the 50th anniversary to thank and honor veterans of the Vietnam War including those who were held as prisoners of war or listed as missing in action, for their service and sacrifice on behalf of the U.S. and to thank and honor the fami-

lies of those veterans.

The following is a tentative schedule of events (two per year in 2015, 2016 and 2017):

25 Oct 2015 Picnic at Camp Albemarle in Newport

7 Nov 2015 Morehead City Veterans Day Parade

30 Apr 2016 Celebration and meal and entertainment at Chrystal Coast Civic Center in Morehead City

Fall 2016 Family Day at Camp Albemarle in Newport (tentative)

Spring 2017 Hosting the Vietnam Memorial Traveling Wall at location TBD

Fall 2017 Concert (tentative)

For further information contact **Margaret (Missy) de Tenley** at (252) 504-1336 or ddetenley@ec.rr.com

Photos from the Summer Sunday Brunch Event at Taberna



Our Summer Sunday Brunch Event was held on 12 July at the Taberna Country Club.

Pictured here (l-r) are **Virginia Powell, Shirley Kelly, Barbara Krantz, Agnes Curran-Tonkin** and **Susie Bare**.

CC/MOA partnered with the Coastal Carolina Navy League to host the Summer Sunday Brunch event which featured **Congressman Walter Jones** as our guest speaker.

Pictured here (l-r) are CC/MOA 1stVP **Capt Curtis Bare USMC (Ret.)**, **Congressman Jones** and Navy League President **Dr. Bob Gillham**.



DFAS E-Mail Scam Alert (From MOAA's *Legislative Update* - 28 August 2015)

Email scams are targeting military servicemembers, retirees, and their families by posing as the Defense and Finance Accounting Service (DFAS).

The most recent scam looks like a "SmartDoc" email with the subject line "myPay IMPORTANT SECURITY UPDATE," and appears to come from a DFAS-SmartDocs email address. The links provided in the emails direct the user to a malicious website that requests personal information. Several attentive MOAA members provided an example of an email they recently received:

Dear Account Holder,

It has come to our attention that your myPay account information needs to be updated as part of our continued commitment to protect your account and to reduce the instance of fraud on our website. If you could please take 3 minutes out of your online experience and update your personal records you will not run into any future problems with the online service.

However, failure to update your records will result in account suspension.

Once you have updated your account records, your Online sessions will not be interrupted and will continue as normal. To update your myPay records click on the Update button.

Thank you,

myPay Customer Center

DFAS provided the following statement regarding this scam:

"Valid SmartDocs messages from DFAS are always sent in plain text, do not include attachments and do not ask you to send any

information in response. Your email program may automatically convert a valid SmartDocs message into HTML and convert some text into clickable links. We recommend that you do NOT click on any links within any email message. To access a site referenced in an email, open your browser and type the link (URL) directly into the browser.

Don't get fooled. If you receive a SmartDocs message that contains a link, don't click on it. If a URL is listed in the message type it in manually within your browser. Delete unexpected or unsolicited messages that contain attachments or that request you to send information back."

Online scams and cyber-attacks are increasing daily. MOAA members should be on alert for emails like this. Links that ask users to go to a website and submit personal information should always be taken as suspect.

When asked to follow a link, follow the advice provided by DFAS, and enter the URL manually into the browser for verification. While it may seem cumbersome to constantly be on guard about these issues, taking a few basic steps can protect yourself and your family from scam artists.

You can read the DFAS online protection guidelines at the following link: <http://www.dfas.mil/pressroom/onlineprotection.html>



TRICARE Fees to go up in October (From MOAA's *Legislative Update* - 28 August 2015)

Annual TRICARE Prime Enrollment Fees

Through Sept 30

Single: \$277

Family: \$555

Beginning Oct 1

Single: \$282

Family: \$565

TRICARE beneficiaries will see an increase in health care fees starting in October.

Beginning Oct 1, TRICARE Prime enrollment fees will be \$565 for a family and \$282 for a single person.

The increases will affect military families and retirees under age 65. Increases to TRICARE enrollment fees are based on the annual cost of living adjustment for retired military pay.

Surviving family members of sponsors who died on active duty, and medically retired servicemembers and their family members, are exempt from the fee increases.

Since 2011, beneficiaries have seen TRICARE Prime enrollment fees increase by 23 percent, double the rate of inflation over the same period. Pharmacy copays vary by class, but over the same time span, beneficiaries have seen a 60 percent increase in medication costs.

After freezing annual TRICARE fees for 13 consecutive years, defense planners tried for several years to play catch up by propos-

ing rate increases up to 300 and 400 percent over a five year period. MOAA argued that such a dramatic spike in fees could financially devastate retired military families.

In an attempt to prevent disproportionate increases, MOAA successfully convinced Congress to index TRICARE Prime enrollment fees to COLA versus health care inflation in the FY12 defense bill. In the FY14 defense bill, MOAA secured another legislative win by getting Congress to tie pharmacy fee increases to COLA as well.

However, when it comes to pharmacy fees, Congress hasn't been able to follow its own law. In addition to last year's disproportionate pharmacy fee increase above inflation, Congress is now considering increasing pharmacy fees by 66 to 75 percent over the next decade.

"Beneficiaries are paying enough," said **CAPT Kathy Beasley USN (Ret)**, MOAA's Deputy Director for Government Relations. "Congress needs to look at other ways to control health care costs before trying to pass the buck to military families."

Two Women Earn Army Ranger Tab (From *Armed Forces News* - 28 August 2015)

Two women and 94 men successfully completed the third (swamp) phase of the 62-day Ranger course Aug. 17. The women become the first females to earn the Ranger tab. "This course has proven that every soldier, regardless of gender, can achieve his or her

full potential," Army Secretary **John M. McHugh** said. When the course began April 20, 381 men and 19 women were among the candidates. They received their tabs during an Aug. 21 ceremony at Fort Benning, Ga.

Marines Deploy to Eastern Europe (From *Armed Forces News* - 28 August 2015)

A contingent of 160 Marines, equipped with tanks, artillery and light-armored reconnaissance vehicles, are deploying to Bulgaria from Bremerhaven, Germany. The Marines will support NATO allies and other international partners in the Black Sea region, spe-

cifically with the intent of curbing potential Russian aggression. They are part of a regular, semi-annual rotation to the area, and ultimately will operate out of Mihail Koglinceanu Air Base, Romania.

Contributed by COL Vern Pike USA (Ret.), Cary

OFFICER RANKS EXPLAINED

1st Lt (Yellow Bar): Thinks he has authority. He doesn't. Everybody knows it.

Capt (Silver Bar): Think he's better than him. But nobody knows the difference.

Maj (Two Silver Bars): He's in charge. And makes it up as he goes along. We all know it, but do it anyways.

1st Lt (Gold Flower): Thinks he's this guy. Hides in an office all day. Nobody misses him.

Lt Col (Silver Flower): First real rank achieved by an officer. He's termed a 'good' officer if he still does PT with the men.

Col (Eagle): Stopped doing PT. Nobody questions it.

1st Lt (Gold Star): Gives a lot of speeches. Thinks troops actually listen and are inspired. Neither is true.

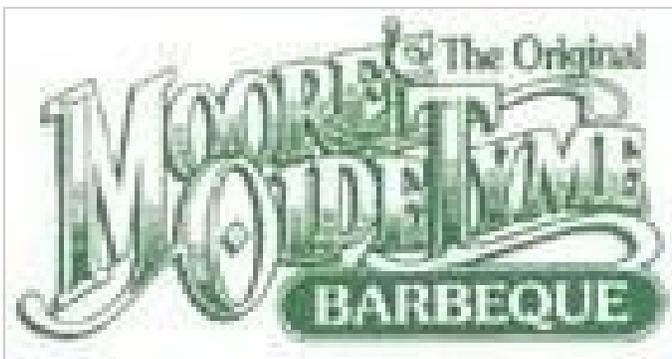
Lt Col (Two Silver Stars): If you noticed more than one star... you've been staring too long. Your CSM has already verbally assaulted you for something you didn't do because you were there

Maj (Three Silver Stars):

Lt Col (Four Silver Stars):

www.facebook.com/gruntstyle

For all you fellow officer retirees . . .now you know what the troops really thought of us all these years.



You and your spouse/friends are cordially invited to our Fall BBQ Event on **Thursday, 17 September at Moore's Olde Tyme BBQ, 3621 Dr. MLK Blvd. in New Bern.**

Social Hour: 1730

Dinner: 1800

Attire: Casual

We will meet and honor our 2015 JROTC Cadet MOAA Medal winners, their parents and instructors.

Menu

Eastern NC Pork BBQ, Fried Chicken, Baked Beans, 1 Additional Side Item (Cole Slaw or Potato Salad), Hush Puppies, Banana Pudding for Dessert, Iced Tea and Soft Drinks

Cost: \$12/per person including all taxes and gratuities. Iced tea and soft drinks available during social hour and dinner also included.

Reservations are requested **NLT Monday, 14 September**. Contact **Maj John Murphy** with cancellations NLT 48 hours prior to 17 September at **(252) 571-5710** or by E-mail at lmurfn@earthlink.net

Please confirm _____ reservations in the name of members, spouses and guests:

Phone Number _____, E-mail _____

Check enclosed for _____ (\$12 per person).
Make checks payable to **CC/MOA**.

Mail to: Maj John D. Murphy
243 Snead Road
New Bern, NC 28560



**Coastal Carolina Military Officers
Association
P.O. Box 373
Havelock, NC 28532**



*A 4 Star Level of Excellence
Chapter for 2012, 2013, 2014
and 2015*

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SCHEDULE OF EVENTS FOR 2015		

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Uniform</u>
17 Sep	1730	Fall BBQ at Moore's Olde Tyme BBQ in New Bern. We will recognize our JROTC. MOAA Medal recipients. Details on page 7.	Casual
25 Oct	TBD	The local Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) picnic at Camp Albemarle in Newport to honor area veterans who served in Vietnam. Details on page 3.	Casual
29-31 Oct		MOAA Annual Meeting at the Buena Vista Palace Hotel in Orlando, FL. Details at www.moaa.org and in upcoming issues of <i>The Military Officer</i> magazine.	
19 Nov (tentative)		Possible dinner event at New Bern G&CC	
17 Dec		Toys for Tots Luncheon at Taberna.	Holiday Casual