



February 2011

Vol. 2, Issue 1

New River Chapter Newsletter

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**Special February Program:** Valentine's Day social beginning at 1630 on Saturday, 12 February at the West Jefferson Coffee House. Cost is \$10 per person.



## From the President...



Greetings, and happy 2011! I hope this year's winter snowfall to date isn't an indication that we're in for another long, cold spell before we thaw out and begin to "enjoy" our beautiful Ashe County mountains.

As we enter our second full year as a Chapter, I want to take this opportunity to recognize, and thank, the members of our still small, but active, organization. First off, our Secretary/Treasurer Ken Lynn has done an outstanding job taking care of business, all the while producing this excellent newsletter for our membership. In 2010, Ken also logged many administrative hours in getting our tax exempt status up to speed, not only for the Chapter, but also for our developing Scholarship program.

On that note, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Charles Knapp was instrumental in coordinating all the work to meet with, and gain approval, for our "Wall Murals of Downtown West Jefferson" project, as well as working with photographer Anna Wurster who shot the murals gratis!

In August, our Chapter's congressional candidates' debate would not have been possible without Membership/Programs Chairperson Mac Hunt's hard work. His attention to detail made all the pieces come together seamlessly, as proven by the great media coverage and kudos we got from numerous sources, and MOAA National!

Finally, Personal Affairs Chairperson Karen Strickland, At-Large Director Ron Schuette, and Auxiliary/Spouse Representative Betty Schuette have been busy keeping everyone informed about issues important to our members. Thanks also to those serving as "Buddies" and helping to keep other members without electronic means of communication informed about what is happening.

**Guess what?** In 2011, we have positions that still need filling... our dedicated team of officers and directors would love to have your input and support. Give it some thought...it's not all work, we have a lot of fun, too! Thanks and I hope to see everyone at the February 12<sup>th</sup> pre-Valentine's Day social...it's going to be a lot of fun.

Very Respectfully, *Doug* (MOAA Life Member)

# New River Chapter Happenings

**February Holiday Social:** Saturday, 12 February beginning at 1630 at the West Jefferson Coffee House. Cost is \$10 per person...but guaranteed to be well worth that small price!



**Need a MOAA Flag Lapel Pin or MOAA Pocket Badge?:** See Ken Lynn who has a limited quantity. The flag pin is \$2.25 and the badge is \$6.00



**2011 Chapter Dues are Due:** If you've not yet done so, please mail your 2011 Chapter dues of \$20, that were due by 31 January, to: New River Chapter, MOAA, P.O. Box 1202, Jefferson, NC 28640...or hand-deliver to Ken Lynn at the February social.

**“2010 Give Me 10” Final Membership Drive Scorecard:** Goal: 10 new “paid” members — life member upgrades: 4; new members: 3; total: 7. The 2011 drive kicked off in January. Contact Ken Lynn or Mac Hunt for more information if you know of a potential new member to recruit.

**Chapter Bylaws Amended:** The New River Chapter's Bylaws were amended by a vote of the general membership as follows:

- **Article VII, Section 1:** amended to read that the annual meeting will be held during the month of October vice November.
- **Article VII, Section 2:** amended to read that regular meetings of the Chapter shall be held in March, April, May, June, July, August (picnic social), September, October (annual meeting) and December (holiday social). Note that Board of Director meetings will now generally precede the regular membership meetings.

**Sears Scholarship Fund Committee Forms:** Linda Marsh has graciously stepped forward as the first volunteer to sit on the RADM Scott L. Sears Scholarship Fund Committee.



Linda Marsh

This committee will oversee the fundraising efforts centered primarily around the distribution and sale of the West Jefferson Wall Mural post cards. In addition, the committee will eventually establish the criteria for the awarding of the scholarships and for the selection of scholarship recipients. Ideally it's hoped this committee will have, as a minimum, three members. Therefore, a need exists for willing members to step forward and volunteer to serve on this and our other current standing committees: Sears Scholarship Fund, Programs and Membership and Personal Affairs. Please contact Doug Ehrhardt if you're interested in helping our Chapter and our community by volunteering just a small fraction of your time to serve on a committee.



Scott L. Sears

**Chapter Competes for Communication Awards:** Chapter President Doug Ehrhardt recently submitted our Chapter website, newsletter and our Murals of West Jefferson post cards to MOAA National to compete for three communication awards. The website will compete in the website category, the *New River Current* in the print newsletter competition and the post cards will vie in the unique communication category.

**Knapp Makes Scholarship Fund Proposal:** First Vice President Charles Knapp, an MOAA Life Member and owner of Rooster Ridge Stairlifts, LLC, an ACORN Stairlifts dealership offering the sale and installation of the world's premier stairlifts covered by a 5-Star Customer Service Plan, has generously made the following proposal in support of the RADM Scott L. Sears Scholarship Fund. Rooster Ridge Stairlifts will contribute \$250 to the fund for every stairlift sale resulting in an installation that has been referred by a NRC member or an immediate family member\*. The sale can be to anyone but the client must mention the referring NRC member's name. The referral must be made to Charles Knapp directly and not through a Rooster Ridge Mobility Assistant. In addition, Roster Ridge Stairlifts will discount the sales price by 10% if the client is a veteran or spouse; will discount the price by 15% if the client is a member or of the immediate family\* of a member in good standing of any MOAA Chapter; and will discount the price by 20% for NRC members in good standing and their immediate family\*. Indoor, outdoor, curved and HD stairlifts are available: <http://roosterridgestairlifts.com>. (\* Immediate family - father, mother, in-laws, brothers, sisters, sons, daughters and their families.)



## Programs & Membership Committee Report

Mac Hunt, CDR, USN (Ret) & MOAA Life Member

Two of the three new members of New River Chapter (NRC) noted elsewhere in this newsletter in the 2010 "Give Me 10! (GMT)" Scorecard, also contributed to the 5,394 new MOAA members recruited in the very successful nationwide effort last year. "Welcome aboard!," is extended to our newest member — former USAF Captain Robert Burgess of West Jefferson.

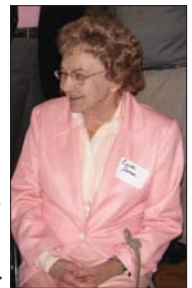
The 2011 national MOAA GMT membership expansion program is underway with features and goals similar to those for 2010. Once again, new recruits to MOAA, and current NRC members converting to Life Member status, will contribute to Chapter credits for financial rewards from MOAA — with a minimum total of 10 members from both categories during this year earning the Chapter even greater incentives for itself and for its recruiters of those new members. Details on the 2011 GMT campaign, as well as on successful recruiting strategies can be accessed at: [www.moaa.org/chapters/comm\\_chapters\\_members/chapters\\_givemetten/default.htm](http://www.moaa.org/chapters/comm_chapters_members/chapters_givemetten/default.htm).

Those NRC members without computers who wish to have copies of this document can obtain them from me, or can request them from the MOAA Alexandria, Virginia office (800.234.6622). As an incentive for joining MOAA for 2011, a special offer is being extended for paid membership — two years for \$30 — to prospective members and auxiliary members (surviving spouses of eligible officers). Additionally, free one-year memberships are being offered to active-duty, National Guard and Reserve officers.

I feel that it is useful for me to share some information gleaned by NRC President Doug Ehrhardt during his attendance at two MOAA-related regional and state functions in recent months: MOAA's Southeast Region Chapter Presidents' Symposium; September, 2010, Jacksonville, FL and the most recent quarterly North Carolina State Council of MOAA Chapters meeting; Roanoke Rapids, NC. Each MOAA chapter retains a significant degree of autonomy from MOAA membership-eligibility requirements with regards to its granting of chapter membership. For example, a chapter may elect to open its membership to community leaders and others who make significant contributions to the life of the unit and to support of the members of the armed forces. In other words, honorary chapter membership is appropriate. Furthermore, it has been emphasized that each chapter should develop and operate its programs in order to ensure its flexibility and viability to meet the needs of its members and of military personnel in the local area. However, it is important to note that these chapter-specific membership categories have no relationship to the national MOAA "Give Me 10!" campaign efforts.

The NRC MOAA pictorial postcards "Murals of Downtown West Jefferson, NC" are now being sold (12 cards per set) by eight vendors in Ashe County: Ashe County Arts Council, Inc.; Shatley Springs Restaurant & Inn (closed until April); For Goodness Sake, a consignment shop also located at Shatley Springs; The Warrensville Drug Store; West Jefferson Coffee House; Sallie Mae's Emporium; The Artists' Theatre; and the gift shop of the Museum of Ashe County History. As noted elsewhere in this issue, NRC's share of the proceeds from the sales of these cards will benefit the Sears Scholarship Fund. NRC members are reminded that the December *New River Current* (pages 8 & 9) contained images of these cards, as well as a form permitting them to apply to serve as agents for the distribution of the postcard sets in exchange for donations to the Fund. These can also be accessed through: [www.newrivermoaa.org/HbG/documents/1291261779/uploads/101201](http://www.newrivermoaa.org/HbG/documents/1291261779/uploads/101201)

NRC Charter and auxiliary member Edith Jones recently informed Secretary/Treasurer Ken Lynn that her health status would preclude participating in future Chapter activities and, consequently, she had made the decision not to renew her membership for 2011. In view of these circumstances, the Board of Directors, at its 25 January meeting, voted to extend complimentary auxiliary member status to her. In late 2010, Edith transitioned from her home on Main Street in West Jefferson to become a resident of *Villages of Ashe* Assisted Living; 151 Village Park Drive; West Jefferson 28694; 336.846.1008. We extend our best wishes to Edith, and urge her to contact me or another member of the Chapter Board of Directors — OR any member of NRC — to inform us of ways in which we may be of assistance to her. The same invitation, of course, is extended to each of the members of New River Chapter, as we strive to represent and uphold your interests as stakeholders in this organization.



Edith

As also noted elsewhere in this newsletter, the Chapter Bylaws have been amended with regards to the designated months for its activities in order to permit a maximum number of its members to participate in NRC's programs. This change recognizes the facts that more than a few of us are less-than-full-time Ashe County residents, and that spring, summer and fall are our peak-presence times.

Once again, I encourage your participation in the programs and membership functions of NRC by becoming a member of this committee. Your talents are needed. And, I urge all of you to provide input into the recommendation and selection of activities and presentations which will aid us in fulfilling our missions of support to our fellow members, the local community and armed services members and their families. I can be reached via [hunt@qibraltar.net](mailto:hunt@qibraltar.net); 910.326.2028 (Swansboro home); or 910.358.5114 (mobile).

## Personal Affairs Committee Report

Karen Strickland, CAPT, USNR (Ret) & MOAA Life Member



Do you have a dental plan? Once a military member retires he/she can choose to continue with dental insurance through TRICARE. The TRICARE dental plan (TRDP) is offered through Delta Dental of California and covers the North, South, West and East regions of the U.S.

**Enrollment:** You can enroll online, by telephone or by mail. Coverage will begin on the first day of the month following the approval of your application and payment of a required premium. Once you are enrolled you will receive a welcome packet with information and an identification card.

**Eligibility:** A member of the uniformed service, entitled to retirement pay even if you are 65 years or older; A member of the retired National Guard/Reserves including those who are entitled to retirement pay but have not reached the age of 60; The current spouse of an enrolled member; Children of enrolled members up to the age of 21 years or 23 years if they are full time college students or older only if disabled; An un-remarried spouse or eligible child of a deceased member who died on active duty or in a retired status; Medal of Honor recipient (living or deceased) and his/her family members who are eligible.

**Benefits:** During the first 12 months of enrollment in the Enhanced TRICARE Retiree Dental Program Delta Dental will provide/pay 1) 100 % for exams, 2) cleaning, 3) and dental accident coverage. They will pay 80% for fillings (basic restoration) and dental emergencies such as dental pain. Other benefits include 60% for root canals, gum treatments and oral surgery. After you have been enrolled for 12 months then benefits will include coverage for crowns, onlays, bridges, partial/full dentures, dental implants and orthodontics which will be covered by TRDP at 50%. The benefit year runs from 01 October to 30 September. Annual maximum per person per benefit per year is \$1200 with the orthodontic maximum at \$1500.

Point of Contact for the TRICARE Dental Plan:

Website – [www.trdp.org](http://www.trdp.org)

North region phone # - 1-877-874-2273

Or the TRICARE Dental Plan/Healthnet Federal Services Phone number at 1-800-866-8499.



One thing to remember is that if you choose a dentist who is out of the network or if you have a problem while traveling overseas and go to a dentist in that country then the out of pocket expenses may be higher. Delta Dental's network does have over 100,000 locations nationwide.

Presently there is a local dentist who is listed in the network (West Jefferson), and one dentist in Boone, North Carolina who is listed in the network. Please check the network listing on the website or call Delta Dental to confirm that your dentist is listed. One never knows when they may need major dental work or an unforeseen accident with damage to their teeth and the cost of out of pocket dental care without dental insurance can be astronomical especially for retirees. Dental Insurance is definitely something to consider.

## MOAA and USAA Form Mutual Alliance for Customers

The [Military Officers Association of America \(MOAA\)](http://www.moaa.org), the nation's largest association for current, former and retired military officers, and award-winning financial services provider USAA have announced a new alliance between the two organizations. Under the agreement, USAA will be MOAA's preferred provider of automobile, homeowners and renters insurance, as well as investment products and services for MOAA's membership. USAA will participate in MOAA's advocacy efforts and strategic goals.



USAA is offering an exclusive "MOAA only" dedicated toll-free number at 877-913-MOAA (6622) and web page ([www.usaa.com/moaa](http://www.usaa.com/moaa)) so MOAA members can get outstanding products and services at great rates and support MOAA at the same time. MOAA's president, Vice Adm. Norb Ryan, Jr. USN (Ret), said that in its continuing efforts to identify and support top-notch financial services products for its members, MOAA did months of research and analysis of various companies and products across the financial services industry. "USAA far exceeds our criteria with its property and casualty insurance (i.e., automobile, homeowners and renters insurance) and investment services."



USAA President and CEO, Maj. Gen. Joe Robles, USA (Ret), said that USAA is very careful about who it selects to join forces with to ensure that they align with the organization's core values and goals. Robles said that MOAA's passion for a strong national defense and serving the interests of military officers at every stage of their careers makes this an ideal alliance between two like-minded organizations. — © 2011 MOAA.

## Legislative Update



Here's an estimated timeline of when important actions will occur in the first year of the 112th Congress.

**Fourteen February:** The president will submit his annual budget proposal to Congress. On this date we'll find out what the Pentagon will propose for military manpower levels, the 2012 pay raise, TRICARE fee levels and more.

**Late March:** Six weeks after the president delivers his budget to Congress, congressional committees are required to submit their "views and estimates" of spending and revenues within their respective jurisdictions to the House and Senate Budget Committees.

**April:** House and Senate Budget Committees draft and mark up concurrent resolution on the budget, which sets spending limits for the year. Fifteen April is the deadline for completion of action on the budget resolution (though partisan and fiscal differences have precluded approval of a formal budget resolution in recent years, and that may prove true again in 2011).

**May:** The House and Senate Armed Services Committees will likely begin work on the FY2012 Defense Authorization Bill, including any changes that may be imposed by budget resolution spending limits.

**May - July:** Full House and Senate pass their respective versions of the defense bill.

**July - October:** House and Senate negotiators resolve differences between their respective versions.

**October - December:** Final Defense Authorization Bill passed by the House and Senate and becomes law.

In other news, two more concurrent receipt bills were recently introduced in the House: H.R. 333 (Rep Bishop, D-GA) would end the disability offset of retired pay for service members with less than 20 years of service and a disability rating of less than 50%. H.R. 333 has more than 70 original bipartisan cosponsors. H.R. 303 (Gus Bilirakis, R-FL) would end the disability offset of retired pay for service members with 20+ years of service and a disability rating of less than 50%.

Finally, the following link will take you to a listing of MOAA National's 2011 legislative goals [http://www.moaa.org/action/lac\\_goals/lac\\_goals\\_2011.htm](http://www.moaa.org/action/lac_goals/lac_goals_2011.htm). These goals, and a more detailed explanation, can also be found in the January issue of *Military Officer* magazine beginning on page 38. To subscribe to MOAA National's weekly legislative updates, follow the following link: <http://www.qg.com/smartools/ebook/hosted.rails?issue=1e149544e3ff476e8445e8f7b860ef1272098110706646c7944ae8f7b860ef12>. — © 2011 MOAA.

## How to Contact Your State and Federal Representatives

**Rep. Jonathan Jordan:** NC House of Representatives, 300 North Salisbury St., Room 418C, Raleigh, NC 27603-5925; Tel.: 919-733-7727; E-mail: [jonathan.jordan@ncleg.net](mailto:jonathan.jordan@ncleg.net)

**Sen. Dan Soucek** NC Senate, 300 North Salisbury St., Room 310, Raleigh, NC 27603-5925; Tel.: (919) 733-5742; E-mail: [dan.soucek@ncleg.net](mailto:dan.soucek@ncleg.net)

**Rep. Virginia Foxx:** 1230 Longworth House Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20515; Tel.: 202- 225-207 [nc05reply@mail.house.gov](mailto:nc05reply@mail.house.gov)

**Sen. Kay Hagan:** 521 Dirksen Senate Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20510; Tel: 202-224-6342

**Sen. Richard Burr:** 217 Russell Senate Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20510; Tel.: 202- 224-3154

### TidBits

- The following auto license plates are available to eligible persons in NC:

American Legion	National Guard Member
Bronze Star Recipient	Partially Disabled Veteran
Combat Veterans	Pearl Harbor Survivor
Disabled Veteran	Prisoner of War
Distinguished Flying Cross	Purple Heart Recipient
Legion of Valor	Silver Star Recipient
Military Reservist	Veterans of Foreign War
Military Retiree	Vietnam Veteran

### Funny Bone



Sign at an unidentified USAF base...



## Navy News

Compiled by Ken Lynn, Col, USAF (Ret) & MOAA Life Member

- At the Naval War College students learn that the US Navy's traditions came from the British Navy, so the following may or may not be a true description of shipboard life: The USS Constitution (Old Ironsides) carried 48,600 gallons of fresh water for her crew of 475 officers and men. This was sufficient to last six months of operations at sea. She carried no evaporators (i.e., fresh water distillers). However, let it be noted that according to her ship's log, "On July 27, 1798, the USS Constitution sailed from Boston with a full complement of 475 officers and men, 48,600 gallons of fresh water, 7,400 cannon shot,

11,600 pounds of black powder and 79,400 gallons of rum." Her mission: "To destroy and harass English shipping." Making Jamaica on 6 October, she took on 826 pounds of flour and 68,300 gallons of rum. Then she headed for the Azores, arriving there 12 November. She provisioned with 550 pounds of beef and 64,300 gallons of Portuguese wine. On 18 November, she set sail for England. In the ensuing days she defeated five British men-of-war and captured and scuttled 12 English merchant ships, salvaging only the rum aboard each. By 26 January, her powder and shot were exhausted. Nevertheless, although unarmed, she made a night raid up the Firth of Clyde in Scotland. Her landing party captured a whisky distillery and transferred 40,000 gallons of single malt Scotch aboard by dawn. Then she headed home. The USS Constitution arrived in Boston on 20 February 1799, with NO cannon shot, NO food, NO powder, NO rum, NO wine, NO whisky, but still had 38,600 gallons of water; to which, Doug Ehrhardt, Captain, USN (Ret) exclaimed: "GO NAVY!"



- USS Constitution Sailors taught more than 100 students about their ship's history at Turkey Creek Middle School in Plant City, Florida on 25 January. Sailors gave their presentation as part of Tampa Bay Navy Week, 22 – 29 January. Sailors talked about the ship's construction, its famous battles and answered general Navy questions from the students. Sailors assigned to the USS Constitution undergo 20 weeks of naval history training. The Tampa Bay area is the first of 21 "Navy Weeks" planned across America in 2011 to raise Navy awareness. It's a safe bet, however, that the history shared in the first bullet above is likely not part of the current program!

## Marine Corps News

Compiled by Ken Lynn, Col, USAF (Ret) & MOAA Life Member

- The Corps is about to field a new mobile kitchen designed to deliver hot food to Marines downrange. The Expeditionary Field Kitchen (EFK) will feed up to 500 Marines three times each day. The contract calls for 112 kitchen systems to be delivered and procurement is expected to begin later this year. Each EFK contains a three-basin sink, two ovens, two tray-ration heaters, two refrigerators and two 30-gallon tilt-skillets with griddle-like surfaces that can be used to fry, grill or simmer food. In addition, each kitchen has 390 square feet of floor space.



**Marines**

- The Washington memorial depicting one of WWII's most iconic images, the raising of the American flag by five Marines and one Sailor over Mount Suribachi on the island of Iwo Jima in 1945, is starting to show its age. The bronze sculpture, recreated from an image captured by news photographer Joe Rosenthal is now close to 60 years old and is affectionately referred to as the *Iwo Jima Memorial*. The sculpture's original green patina is fading, polished granite panels are loose, the substructure is cracked and water is reported to accumulate in depressions around the base of the parade deck. But a plan is in place to refurbish the memorial as the newly formed Marine Corps War Memorial Foundation and the National Park Service are working in tandem. Dedicated on 10 November, 1954, the memorial is a popular tourist destination, but also serves as a place where those who have served go to reflect and honor the sacrifices of Marines who have fallen in support of their country.



- The leadership at Marine base Twentynine Palms, California has unveiled their latest training ground in the form of a mock city the size of downtown San Diego. The \$170 million Combined Arms Military Operations on Urban Terrain has 1,560 buildings on 274 acres within view of Highway 62 and will serve as an urban warfare training center.

## Army News

Compiled by Ken Lynn, Col, USAF (Ret) & MOAA Life Member



- The Department of the Army recently unveiled its FY 2011 Tactical Wheeled Vehicle strategy depicting how it plans to modernize and sustain its tactical wheeled vehicle fleets through FY 2025. The strategy represents the culmination of nearly four years worth of study. Central to the study was the Army's goal of ensuring that Soldiers have the correct vehicle to match the mission. The strategy emphasizes the integration of the Mine Resistant Ambush Protected-family of vehicles along with the service's continued support of the development and procurement of the Joint Light Tactical Vehicle.

- In the movie RoboCop an anthropomorphic exoskeleton allows a severely injured police officer to return to duty. Today this science fiction technology is a reality as the Natick Soldier Research, Development and Engineering Center and Lockheed Martin have developed the Human Universal Load Carriage or HULC (of course). Wearing this system, which is designed to mirror a Soldier's body, lifting loads of up to 200 pounds and improvement of rapid movement to reduce combat fatigue are possible. The HULC is currently being tested and evaluated at the REDCOM research center in Natick, Massachusetts and field tests by both the Army and Marines are scheduled to begin at the end of summer. "This is a robot that you can wear. When you move, it moves, and it will do everything you do," remarked Keith Maxwell, business development manager for Lockheed Martin.



- Among the bystanders who quickly intervened in the Tucson shooting incident was 74-year-old retired U.S. Army Colonel William Badger. The 38 year veteran is a former Army pilot who retired in 1991. Badger, who holds slightly different political views from U.S. Rep. Gabrielle Giffords, said he'd written to her numerous times. "She's been exceptionally good at getting back to me and trying to accomplish what's best for the military," Badger explained. He had never met the Congresswoman and went to the event to meet her. Shortly after arriving, he heard the loud "bang, bang, bang" and dropped to the ground. Later, he helped subdue the shooter. Badger was slightly wounded.



## Air Force News

Compiled by Ken Lynn, Col, USAF (Ret) & MOAA Life Member

- Completing its first flight powered by hydrogen-fueled propulsion system, the Global Observer unmanned aircraft safely touched down at Edwards AFB on 6 January. This aircraft is designed to provide 24/7/365 unblinking eye in the sky coverage over any surface of the planet. The flight lasted four hours and the aircraft reached an altitude of 5,000 feet above mean sea level. Designed as a "stratospheric geosynchronous satellite system," two Global Observer aircraft, each flying for a week at a time, could alternate their coverage providing seamless, long-term surveillance coverage.



- According to the Associated Press, the Defense Department announced on 27 January that a 36-year-old airman has died in Afghanistan. Technical Sgt. Leslie D. Williams died on Tuesday, 25 January in connection with what officials are calling a noncombat related incident at Bagram Airfield. More information was not immediately available. Williams was assigned to the 4th Maintenance Group at Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, North Carolina. He was a native of Juneau, Alaska.

- General Philip Breedlove took over as the Air Force Vice Chief of Staff on 14 January. He succeeds retiring General Howie Chandler who leaves the service after almost 37 years of service. As the vice chief, he will preside over the Air Staff and will serve as a member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Requirements Oversight Council and the Deputy's Advisory Working Group. He assists the Chief of Staff with organizing, training, and equipping of 680,000 active-duty, Guard, Reserve and civilian forces serving in the United States and overseas. The general is a command pilot with over 3,500 flying hours, primarily in the F-16 aircraft.



# Calendar of Events

**Regular membership meetings** are held at the *West Jefferson Coffee House* on the Backstreet in West Jefferson starting at 1830 hours on the third Tuesday of the following months unless otherwise noted: March, April, May, June, July, August (picnic social), September, October (annual meeting) and December (holiday social). Board of Director meetings are generally held immediately prior to general membership meetings.

**Upcoming:** Valentine's Day social at the West Jefferson Coffee House starting at 1630 on Saturday, 12 February. Cost is \$10.00 per person.

**Want to Comment on Something You Read in the *New River Current*?:** Mail your response to: Editor, *New River Current*, P.O. Box 1202, Jefferson, NC 28640...or e-mail the editor at: [Lynn001@aol.com](mailto:Lynn001@aol.com). Please keep your comments to no more than 150 words. All responses must include your name, retired/former rank, and/or affiliation.

## NRC Thanks These Local Businesses for Outstanding Chapter Support



 <b>Dealer</b>	 <b>STAIRLIFTS</b> <b>Charles Knapp</b> Dealer • Mobility Assistant
roosterridgestairlifts.com P.O. Box 1278 West Jefferson, NC 28694 336.384.2415	336.877.6360 <a href="mailto:charles927@roosterridgestairlifts.com">charles927@roosterridgestairlifts.com</a> 500 Rooster Ridge Rd • Lansing, NC 28643

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Visit MOAA National's website: <http://www.moaa.org/>

MOAA is a nonprofit veterans' association dedicated to maintaining a strong national defense and the preservation of earned entitlements for uniformed services members, their families and survivors. Membership is open to those who hold or have ever held a warrant or commission in any component of the Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, Public Health Service, or NOAA and their surviving spouses.