

New River Chapter MOAA Meeting Minutes 27 October 2009

Call to Order: Chapter President Doug Ehrhardt called the meeting to order at 1830 hours on 27 October 2009 at the Ashe County Agricultural Center. After extending welcoming remarks, Doug asked for everyone present to introduce themselves and provide some background information so the other members could learn more about one another.

Members Present: Doug Ehrhardt, Charles Knapp, Ken Lynn, Jim Gee, Bob Matthias, Hugh Halsey, Wilbur Wright, Louis Burge, Bill Wheatley, Ron Schuette, Bill Horner, Porter Hicks, Mac Hunt, Paul Baschon, Lee Eldreth, Linda Marsh (auxiliary), Bernadette Zimmerman (auxiliary), Pat Gobble (auxiliary), Cas Wheatley (member-spouse), Betty Schuette (member-spouse), Cathy Ehrhardt (member-spouse), Monica Madden-Lynn (member-spouse)

Old/Unfinished Business: None discussed

New Business:

Bylaws: Amendments to the provisional Bylaws, originally approved on 25 March 2009, were presented to the membership for approval. Several small changes were proposed including Lee Eldreth's recommendation to reorder the sections in Article VIII and Mac Hunt's recommendation to allow for proxy voting. The amended Bylaws were unanimously approved by all members present. An immediate need now exists for two members to serve as "at large" members on the Board of Directors. Any member interested in one of these positions should contact the president. Eventually the Bylaws will reside on the Chapter's Web Page.

Membership Dues: Doug reiterated our goal of \$20 annual Chapter membership dues...and reminded members of their obligation to be a member of MOAA national as well. Chapter dues paid in 2009 will also cover calendar year 2010. The amended Bylaws call for annual dues to be paid in subsequent years during the month of January. Dues for 2009/2010 and the membership application can be given to the Chapter Secretary, Ken Lynn, or mailed to: New River Chapter, MOAA, P.O. Box 1202, Jefferson, NC 28640.

Chapter Web Page: Doug reviewed the Chapter Web Page that's currently under construction. He explained the intent of using the Web Page as a primary means of communication and keeping the membership updated on events, activities and meetings. The Web Page address is: <http://www.newrivermoaa.org/>. The Web Page also has an e-mail function that will send e-mail directly to the president and that address is: info@newrivermoaa.org.

Budget/Non-Profit Update: Secretary/Treasurer Ken Lynn provided an overview of the Chapter's start-up cost totaling \$1,177.50. These costs were incurred

by Doug Ehrhardt, Charles Knapp and Ken Lynn who are not currently seeking any reimbursement in order to provide the Chapter with some initial operating capital. MOAA national reimbursed the Chapter for \$1,000 to cover these costs. Ken then discussed some initial post start-up costs totaling \$476 that will need to be paid. Of that, \$300 will go to the IRS as a “determination fee” for reviewing and making a decision on our application for non-profit status; \$150 will go to cover the registration of the Web Page address; and \$26 will go to the Chapter’s postal box rental for 6 months.

Committee Discussion: Doug recommended the Chapter initially form three committees: Programs/Membership; Personal Affairs; Legislative. Porter Hicks volunteered on the spot to head the Legislative Committee. Any member interested in heading one of the other committees or joining one of the three committees as a member should contact the president.

Other Business:

Meeting Location: Doug reiterated our desire to meet on a bi-monthly basis. However, the Chapter is in need of a permanent meeting location. Louis Burge is checking with Family Central; Lee Eldreth is checking with his church; Ken Lynn is checking with the Fleetwood Community Center...but all members were asked to investigate potential meeting locations that would allow for “set dates” bi-monthly.

Holiday Social/Party: A proposal was put forward by Doug to have a holiday social sometime in December. All present thought this to be a good idea. Charles Knapp volunteered to host the event at his house. Details are forthcoming.

Flag Discussion: A lengthy discussion centered on the need to obtain a U.S. flag, service flags and a chapter flag. An idea put forward was for service members to chip in and buy their respective service flags and donate them to the Chapter. No conclusive decisions were reached other than a need to first decide on the size flags to purchase so they will be uniformed.

Membership Roster: Lee Eldreth requested a membership roster be supplied to the membership and the secretary agreed to send out an updated roster via e-mail.

Adjournment: The president adjourned the meeting at 1955 hours.

Submitted by Ken Lynn, Secretary

Approved by Doug Ehrhardt, President