

HIGH COUNTRY CHAPTER NEWS

BOARD NEWS:

Your High-Country Chapter has been pretty busy lately. Here's an update on our activities. On Saturday, 15 April 2023, members of the chapter, in conjunction with Appalachian State University ROTC "Scabbard and Blade" honor society (full team picture with CPT Steven Pressley, USA, leading, far left, on following page) met at Mount Lawn Cemetery in order to place marking decals on the tombstones of local military veterans. The purpose of marking the tombstones and gravesites was to identify who the veterans are and where specifically they are buried as part of a MOAA program initiative "Flags Over Our High-Country Veterans".



George Brudzinski briefs AppState ROTC cadets



Two cadets mark a gravesite while one checks rosters



Bob Love and two AppState cadets verify a veteran grave



Adopt-A-Street clean up

Did you know that the High-Country Chapter has adopted a street in Boone? Chapter members joined together in order to beautify our community and enjoy some time together. Volunteers included Jim Brannam, Bob Love, Jim and Lori Fisher, Frankie Groff, Lance Campbell, and Doug May. Good job team....four bags of trash.



You can contact the High Country Chapter of MOAA through the following avenues:

Website: www.hccmoaa.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/HCCMOAA
E-Mail: hccmoaa@gmail.com

Serving our Veterans and Community

HIGH COUNTRY CHAPTER NEWS

MEMORIAL DAY ACTIVITIES

As we've done in the past, the High-Country Chapter of MOAA takes pride in honoring and remembering local veterans who have served our nation. In particular, on Memorial Day, we seek to recognize those community members who provided the ultimate cost for their sacrificial service. In preparation for our regular Memorial Day remembrance at the Boone Mall, our chapter will place American flags on veteran gravesites at Mount Lawn Cemetery on the Saturday before Memorial Day, 27 May at 10:00 am. All gravesites marked with the decal of a saluting veteran will receive a flag. Our Boone Mall remembrance ceremony will be held on Monday, 29 May 2023 at 1100am. Finally, our chapter chaplain will officiate a Service of Reflection at the Mount Lawn Cemetery columbarium at 3:00 pm on Memorial Day, 29 May 2023.



Photos of past programs



Here's some News You Can Use (maybe): Our own Bob Love informed us that the state of North Carolina has an unclaimed property fund...and you might be on it. The fund consists of money from bank accounts, wages, utility deposits and the like. This is the real deal, Bob received money after going online to www.NCCash.com and entering his name. (I looked as well, no funds.) North Carolina brings this to you as a public service.



VIETNAM VETS – ACT QUICK – APPLICATION DUE NOW: In partnership with the United States of America Vietnam War Commemoration, Congresswoman Virginia Foxx invites all Vietnam veterans and families in North Carolina's 5th Congressional District to be honored in a Vietnam War 50th Anniversary Commemoration Certificate of Honor Ceremony this Memorial Day weekend. The ceremony will be held on May 27th, 2023 from 2PM – 4PM at the Clemmons Branch of the Forsyth County Public Library

System. For those who are interesting in being recognized please complete and return the application form found on the website, Foxx.House.Gov, and submit a copy of the eligible veteran's DD-214 to the Congresswoman's Clemmons District Office no later than May 5th, 2023. If you need a copy of your DD-214, please place a request with the Congresswoman's district staff as soon as possible. For additional information contact Patricia Bandy at Patricia.Bandy@mail.house.gov. APPLY BY MAY 5TH!!!



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Mountaineer Battalion
"Fire on the Mountain"

Members of the Scabbard and Blade honor society helped mark veteran gravesites at Mount Lawn Cemetery in Boone.

This month, the App State Pershing Rifles team placed 1st out of 23 programs from across the country in the drill competition at the National Convention, and they placed 2nd for highest GPA. Additionally, Cadet Austin Smith (MS III) was elected as the Pershing Rifles National Commander. He is joined by six other App State cadets who are also on the national staff.



Serving our Veterans and Community



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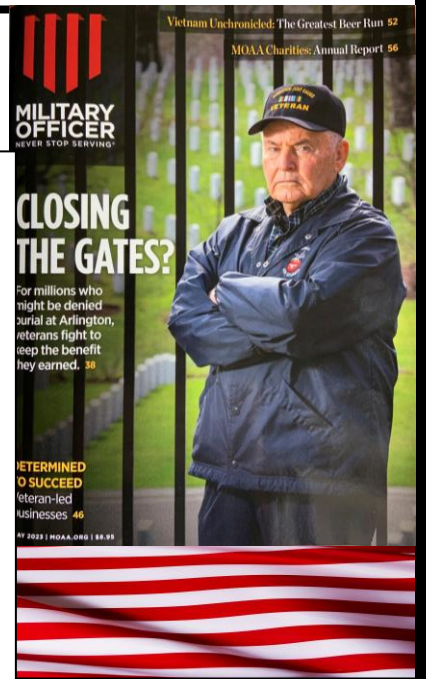
NATIONAL NEWS



MOAA MAGAZINE:

The last two MOAA magazines have focused on several issues that may have an impact on your future planning. The April magazine, pictured on the left, addressed issues that influence your benefits, perhaps most importantly, the issue of TRICARE pharmacy networking dropping 15,000 pharmacies from the system. Additionally, there was the article, “The Final Chapter” which provided insight into how to prepare for a military’s sponsor’s death and what to do when it happens. Most of MOAA’s membership is on the side of “senior” so the article is pertinent. Also, the article is a good reminder that surviving spouses can be an active participant in local leadership.

Likewise, the May issue is significant, in that it addressed the issue of Arlington National Cemetery closing its gates to many of us based on eligibility requirements. Recognizing the limitation of land expansion, the article raises awareness regarding eligibility. For those of us hoping for interment there, especially female veterans, this article is a “must read.”



NATIONAL MISSION STATEMENT:
The Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) is a nonprofit veteran’s association dedicated to maintaining a strong national defense and ensuring our nation keeps its commitments to currently serving, retired, and former members of the uniformed services and 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, Space Force, Public Health Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and their surviving spouses.

GETTING INVOLVED WITH MOAA ON A NATIONAL LEVEL:

1. As a nonprofit veteran’s association MOAA is a nonpartisan organization that does not lobby for any political party or affiliation.
2. National MOAA does have opportunities for members to impact legislation on national and state levels. Go to MOAA’s online legislative Take Action Center at www.moaa.org/takeaction for more information.
3. Go to [Help \(indeed.com\)](http://Help.indeed.com) for information about jobs for veterans and spouses seeking new job opportunities.






MOAA[®]
Military Officers Association of America
April-May 2023

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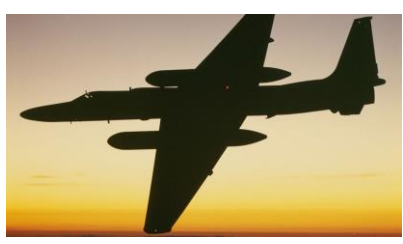
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April-May Military Events

April 4, 1949 - Twelve nations signed the treaty creating NATO, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. The nations united for common military defense against the threat of expansion by Soviet Russia into Western Europe.



April 6, 1917 - Following a vote by Congress approving a declaration of war, the U.S. entered World War I in Europe.



May 1, 1960 - An American U-2 spy plane flying at 60,000 feet was shot down over Sverdlovsk in central Russia on the eve of a meeting between President Dwight D. Eisenhower and Soviet Russia's Premier Nikita Khrushchev. The incident caused a cancellation of the meeting and heightened existing Cold War tensions.

May 2, 2011 - U.S. Special Operations Forces killed Osama bin Laden during a raid on his secret compound in Abbottabad, Pakistan. The raid marked the culmination of a decade-long manhunt for the elusive leader of the al-Qaeda terrorist organization based in the Middle East.



We recently received news that our High Country Chapter has been awarded the Col Marvin J. Harris Communication award for excellence in membership communication. Our chapter continues to receive national recognition as a chapter of excellence and leadership. KUDOs!!



HIGH COUNTRY CHAPTER 5 GOALS:

1. To protect the rights and interests of members by supporting national and state initiatives.
2. To highlight the contributions of the military throughout the Chapter area.
3. To contribute to Chapter area communities by focusing on military related projects and programs.
4. To support and enhance interaction among and between all Chapter area military organizations.
5. To foster fraternal relations among those who serve and have served and family members of deceased member officers.