

HIGH COUNTRY CHAPTER
MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA



SECRETARY'S REPORT

Board of Directors Meeting 6 Feb 2024

- I. The Board of Directors meeting of the High Country Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America was conducted on 6 Feb 2024 at Basils restaurant, Boone, NC. The call to order by President Frankie Pennington Groff occurred at 1715.
 - A. Directors attending:
 1. Mary (Frankie) Groff (President)(Surviving Spouse)
 2. Frederick (Fred) Schmitt CAPT, USCG (Ret)(1st Vice President)(Chair Nominating Committee)
 3. George Brudzinski LtCol, USMC (Ret)(Treasurer)
 4. Lance Campbell LTC, USA (Ret)(Secretary)
 5. Robert (Bob) Love LT USN (Fmr)(ROTC/WHS MCJROTC Liaison)(Chair Membership)
 6. James (Jim) Fisher CAPT USN (Ret)(Chaplain)(Personal Affairs)(Newsletter)
 7. Melanie Trado MAJ USAR
 8. Patsy Alley (Surviving Spouse)
 9. Adam Greene LTC, USA Professor of Military Science & Chair Military Affairs Committee App State University (Legislative Affairs aka Advocacy Chair)
 10. David Hollis LTC, USA (Ret)
 - B. Directors absent:
 1. Douglas (Doug) May PhD, Capt, USMC (Fmr)(Immediate Past President)
 2. Eric Timmens CAPT, USN (Ret)
 3. Communication with Rick Williams was not productive, per Frankie, & Rick will be dropped from HCCMOAA BOD.
 - C. Quorum (8req) - Yes (10)
 1. Per Chapter by laws we should have 14 Directors - currently, we have 12.
 2. The BOD acknowledges & appreciates the early notification by Directors if unable to attend meetings.

HIGH COUNTRY CHAPTER
MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA



SECRETARY'S REPORT

- II. The Agenda (Frankie), Secretary's Report (Lance) & Treasurer's Report (George) were sent electronically to the Board prior to the meeting.
 - A. BOD acknowledged receipt of same.

- III. The Pledge of Allegiance occurred at 1716 in presence of the American Flag.

- IV. An invocation was offered at 1718 by Jim, emphasizing the history of St. Valentines Day noting strong marriages, patience & kindness. Additionally, keeping the families of recently deceased Army soldiers who perished in service to their country in mind.

- V. The Secretary's Report, for the 23 Jan 2024 BOD meeting, held at Basils restaurant, was received electronically by the Board prior to the meeting.
 - A. The Secretary's Report was summarized by Lance including comments/edits.
 1. The only edit: correcting the name of the possible Holiday Party venue to Rhodes Motel (vs Rose).
 - B. The report was accepted unanimously by the Board.
 - C. Lance offered to prepare an updated Chapter roster in 1 page format, scrubbed with our National MOAA Committee Module.

- VI. A detailed Treasurer's Report was submitted by George electronically to the Board. Income/Expenses were clearly itemized stating a checking account balance of \$18,152.58 as of 1 Feb 2024 (vs \$16,442.98 as of 1 Oct 2023 [beginning of FY]). Included was the operating budget itemizing revenue/expenses & budget/actual amounts, again clearly communicated. Balance reflects cumulative fiscal YTD checking account interest and member dues.
 - A. Discussion involved yearly dues:
 1. 1 March was offered by George as the date for dues notices.
 2. George responded that surviving spouses would not be obliged for dues since the deceased spouse was a Life member.

HIGH COUNTRY CHAPTER
MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA



SECRETARY'S REPORT

- B. George mentioned he had applied for & received approval for a MOAA/USAA/MOAA Community Sponsorship Program of \$300 in support of our Memorial Day event.
- C. Also, George mentioned he had applied for a similar award from National for our excellent updated Chapter website.

VII. Standing Business

A. Update of Chapter By-Laws:

- 1. Lance investigated the Chapter By-Laws as presented on the HCCMOAA Website. Apparently, an overlay/addendum was added a few years ago but not included in the web-published by-laws.
 - a) Suggested additions:
 - (1) Article I - Organization - Section 5: adding 501c19 as the tax exempt non-profit as clarification.
 - (2) Article III - Membership - Section 1: adding United States Space Force in the 1st sentence.
 - (a) Section 2 B. Surviving spouses: adding may serve as "Board members". (vs as Assistant Secretary or Assistant Treasurer).
 - (3) Article VIII - Duties and Responsibilities - Section 3: The 2nd Vice President will be the Legislative Committee Chair - we have no 2nd VP identified. (Adam?)
 - 2. Action item: Shall these edits be included as an additional "addendum" or merely adopted as timely proofreading edits?
 - 3. Lance called National which responded there was no 'official' US Space Force flag identified & was encouraged to visit Amazon for a vendor.
 - a) Amazon offered 3ft x 5ft flags for ~\$22 & 4ft x 6ft flags for ~\$30.
 - b) David offered high quality flags were available for larger amount\$.
- B. The Chapter's flag installation activity at the Mount Lawn Cemetery prior to Memorial Day & Veterans Day was discussed.

HIGH COUNTRY CHAPTER
MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA



SECRETARY'S REPORT

1. Patsy & George led the discussion of perhaps utilizing the program to include a fund raising activity such as asking a 'donation' from interested citizens for a flag/decal combo.
 - a) \$10 was agreed upon as a reasonable fee for remembrances of Veteran service to be offered to the public.
 - (1) Mentioning this in the Memorial Day flyer, the Chapter Newsletter & to Chapter members perhaps at the Holiday Party was discussed.
 - (2) David offered to staff a table at the Memorial Day event for flag/decal combo sales.
- C. Fred had previously offered to initiate logistics for the 2024 Memorial Day event at the Boone Mall.
 1. Fred has offered to 'MC' the ceremony.
 - a) Fred has contacted C.K. @ Boone Mall; as well as Community Band & will contact American Legion to confirm participation in flag-folding ceremony.
 2. George has contacted 'Festive Elk' group for quote on providing chairs (300) for the Memorial Day event.
 - a) George further contacted a group from Wilkesboro for a competitive bid.
 - b) George offered 'Team Brudzinski' to prepare the flyer similar to previous events.
 - (1) Ads on reverse of flyer @ \$10 each will again be solicited by George.
 3. Patsy suggested Bricca Sweet as a speaker for this event.
 - a) Frankie agreed to contact Bricca.
 4. A suggested timeline was offered:
 - a) 24 May 1000 walk thru @ Mall
 - b) 25 May - flag placement @ Mount Lawn cemetery
 - (1) Girl Scouts, DAR & WHS MCJROTC may participate
 - c) 27 May - Memorial Day event
 - d) 1 June - retrieve flags
- D. Update on 2024 GMM/Holiday Party

HIGH COUNTRY CHAPTER
MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA



SECRETARY'S REPORT

1. Melanie Trado graciously offered to coordinate the event & discussed her inquiries regarding venues:
 - a) Date: 23 Mar 2024
 - b) Venue: Boone Golf - Fairway Cafe
 - c) Caterer: Casa Rustica
 - (1) \$35/person; cash bar
 - (2) No dessert - perhaps members could bring desserts - (C.R. OK with this).
 2. Suggestions concerning a speaker centered on this being a 'social' event but allowing a Chapter update for members.
 3. Frankie will initiate an email invitation within a week.
 - a) Team Brudzinski will generate an invite.
- E. App State ROTC/WHS M CJROTC update:
1. Bob had previously summarized the HCCMOAA speaker series for WHS M CJROTC.
 - a) Revised speaker lineup:
 - (1) 15 Feb - USCG - Petty Officer (Ret) Phil Holland - Fred has contacted
 - (2) 22 Feb - USAF - Steve Burrell
 - (3) 29 Feb - USA - D.J. Weatherford
 - (4) 7 Mar - USN - Eric
 - (5) 14 Mar - George - USMC (possible WHS date conflict??)
 - b) A yearly screening/clearance for participants is required by WHS.
 - (1) Bob mentioned that all screenings had been approved.
 2. Bob previously mentioned he had received a set of questions re the HCCMOAA scholarship/leadership awards offered to WHS M CJROTC students from the WHS coordinator (Ms. House) for awards.
 - a) Bob has responded & further informed Ms. House of the doubled awards offering now at \$2000.
 3. Dates for WHS & App State awards events TBD.

HIGH COUNTRY CHAPTER
MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA



SECRETARY'S REPORT

- F. Adam, in his role as Legislative Affairs representative, offered to explore an advocacy framework including local, state & NC Council of Chapters initiatives.
 - 1. Legislative delays have prevented action items getting through at State & Federal levels - efforts to be continued.
 - 2. Contacts:
 - a) 2ND VP: COL Dana Tucker, ARNG (National MOAA Advocacy) drdtucker@gmail.com 801-473-3628
 - b) 3RD VP: LTC Tricia Vison, USA (Ret) (NC MOAA Advocacy). wing23pav@gmail.com 757-617-3343
 - G. Frankie has prepared the Level of Excellence award application to National.
 - H. Jim has submitted the application for the Harris Communication award for his energetic efforts to generate our excellent Chapter Newsletter.
- VIII. The meeting was adjourned at 1825 by unanimous decision with next BOD meeting scheduled for 5 Mar 2024 (Tues) @1700 Basils Restaurant.
- A. Frankie has communicated with Basils regarding continuation of hosting - we are confirmed through July 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

Lance Campbell LTC, USA (Ret)