



TriangleGram



MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA TRIANGLE CHAPTER

P.O. Box 19861, Raleigh, NC 27619



VOLUME V

NUMBER 4

AUGUST 2018

Dinner Meeting

Wednesday, 12 September 2018

Speaker

Stuart C. Ruffin
Executive Director
North Carolina Veterans Foundation

1815 - Social time, Cash Bar

Cheese/fruit platter, registration & raffle ticket sales

1910 Dinner

Printable Reservation Form Inside

Reservations MUST Be Received by Friday, 7 September 2018

MOAA Legislative Action Center

<http://www.moaa.org/takeaction/?tab=Legislative-Action-Center#Legislative-Action-Center>

The Triangle Chapter and National MOAA are nonpartisan organizations

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

CDR Dean Block

Summer is winding down and as this is written, we are enjoying a short and last trip of the summer to Onslow Beach. The facilities are spartan but the beach is incredible. About three hours travel time. You are a short hop from Swansboro and there is a great place to eat called the Riverview Café in Snead's Ferry. Get there early to avoid the line. We really enjoy our time here.

It was good to see many of you at our July dinner as we recognized our scholarship award winners. Thanks for coming out. Secretary Hall's remarks were well received and September's speaker ties into the theme of the economic importance of the military and defense related business to North Carolina. Mr. Stuart Ruffin, Executive Director, North Carolina Military Foundation will share with us their efforts, experience and plans to bring military and defense related jobs and industry to North Carolina. Please plan to attend.

One last reminder that we should be getting our new Medicare cards in the near term. Remember that these new cards will provide each of us with a unique ID number; the cards are free and sent to us automatically. Scammers are of course out there so be careful and don't respond to phone calls. Finally, as I mentioned in the past, the Tricare Retiree Dental Program (TRPD) is terminating December 31. If you are currently covered, you will be eligible under FEDVIP for coverage, but it is not automatic, and you must sign up during Open Season. Please check Tricare.benefeds.com for full information. If you are not currently covered, this could be an opportunity.

Thank you and Never Stop Serving.

Triangle Chapter Treasurer's Report

CAPT Bob Caron

After a two-month effort, the Chapter has regained dues status compliance with almost all members. Unfortunately, the Board had to recommend dropping 17 members who failed after two notices to get current. This loss has been offset somewhat by the transfer in of 22 members from the Durham-Orange County Chapter as they closed. We also have welcomed 6 new members. The Chapter now stands at 148 members. We welcome the transferees and new members and hope to see them at our dinner meetings. Membership is everyone's business, so try and recruit new members to the Chapter.

Our 2019 meeting calendar has been set. Our dinner meetings will be: 16 January, 13 March, 10 July, 11 September and 13 November. Our May meeting will be an outing, date and place TBD. Our Board meetings will be: 7 February, 11 April, 13 June, 8 August, 10 October and 12 December. All meetings are held at the NC State University Club. Meeting details are published in the TriangleGram and the schedule is posted on the Web Site.

August Speaker

Stuart C. Ruffin Executive Director North Carolina Veterans Foundation



Stuart Ruffin has served as the Foundation's Executive Director since March 2018

As Executive Director, he is charged with developing the vision, mission, and goals of the Foundation, along with leading the Foundation's efforts to drive growth in the six target markets laid out by the Foundation's NC Defense Asset Inventory and Target Industry Cluster Analysis.

Ruffin began his career with the Foundation in 2012 as the organization's inaugural intern. He was quickly promoted to the role of Outreach Coordinator where he designed and implemented the Foundation's outreach strategy. In late

2013, he was selected for the role of Deputy Director, where he assisted the organization's Executive Director and led a number of the Foundation's development initiatives, including those involving unmanned systems, human factors, and C4ISR.

Ruffin received his B.A. in political science, including minors in economics and Middle Eastern studies from North Carolina State University. He spent the summer of 2010 studying abroad in Egypt, where he honed his Arabic language skills and completed coursework in Modern Egyptian History. In 2013, he earned a Masters in International Studies from NC State University, and wrote his capstone on the efficacy of funding economic development efforts in Egypt through loans from the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

A native of Winston-Salem, NC, Ruffin currently resides in Charlotte, NC. In his spare time, he serves as a board member of the Joedance Film Festival supporting pediatric cancer research and assists the Foreign Area Officer Association's quarterly Journal of International Affairs in a variety of ways, including by contributing book reviews.

Legislative Update

COL Mike Flynn

Representatives Cleveland, Isler, Setzer and Dollar again sponsored legislation House Bill 103 to end the “two-tiered” retirement system for military and civilian retirees. As our readers may know, those who were not grandfathered under the Bailey, Emory, Patton settlement are subject to income tax on their full retired pay. The General Assembly elected not to address the proposed legislation during the current session. In discussions with legislators, the preference among the legislative leadership is for broad tax reductions as opposed to treatment for selective groups. The Fourth Branch in coordination with the North Carolina Military Coalition is working to develop strategies for addressing this issue when the General Assembly reconvenes for the 2019 - 2020 session. We will keep our members informed of developments.

In discussions with the office of the Secretary for Military and Veterans Affairs, the Secretary is aware of the issue. He was provided the booklet on the benefits of tax breaks for retirees and was also provided an information paper for use in communicating with other state officials and legislators.

Scholarship Fund Update (as of 1 September 2018)

Col Bob Penny

With the donations forwarded with registrations for the July Chapter Dinner Meeting and the raffle at the meeting, our account balance in the Triangle Chapter Scholarship Fund is \$2951.35. Our goal is to continue awarding at least three \$1000 scholarships annually to deserving JROTC cadets from the twenty-five high school units we support.

These MOAA scholarships are one of the primary ways we interact with our community and show our support for future military leaders of all Branches. The long-term goal is to provide at least \$5000.00 in scholarships each year. To do that, we need members to continue to contribute. That can easily be done when you sign up for membership meeting attendance and meals. There is a line on the signup sheet for MOAA JROTC Scholarships. Please check it out and contribute if you can.

Here are our 2018 Chapter Scholarship Winners

Col Bob Penny

For those of you unable to attend the July meeting, I'd like to introduce the three recipients of our 2018 **Colonel William Frank Rawley** Triangle Chapter MOAA JROTC scholarship. All three of these recent high school graduates shared similar experiences in their respective JROTC programs. All were members of their competitive drill teams. All performed hundreds of hours serving their JROTC units, their schools, and their respective communities. All three had "A plus" averages all four years of high school. Additionally, they were all top leaders in their JROTC units during their senior year. This year, all three recipients received \$1000.



Our first recipient (left picture) is Mathis Dean from Broughton High School in Raleigh where he was a member of their Air Force JROTC program. Mathis is attending the University of South Carolina majoring in Business with a concentration in Finance. He was awarded a Type Two Air Force ROTC Scholarship worth over \$100,000 and is a cadet in USC's Air Force ROTC program. Mathis also received the Roland Memorial Fund Scholarship and the Chick-fil-A Remarkable Futures Scholarship. Mathis missed the dinner presentation because he was serving at a Young Life Camp in New York for the month of July. Accepting the MOAA Triangle Chapter Scholarship on his behalf were his mother and father – Susan and Perry Dean.

Our second recipient (middle picture) is Joshua Copeland from Wake Forest High School where he was a member of their Army JROTC program. He is attending NC State University majoring in Biological Sciences and is a cadet in NC State's Navy ROTC Marine contingent program. Joshua also received the Crowns at High Noon Delta Sigma Theta Scholarship, the Optimist Club of Raleigh Scholarship, the Wake Forest High School Army JROTC Booster Club Scholarship, the Wake Forest Rotary Club Scholarship, and the Wake Forest High School PTSA Scholarship. Combined with our MOAA Scholarship, that is over \$6000. Accompanying Joshua were his mother and father, Janice and Ken Copeland and his sister, Kaitlin.

Our third recipient (right picture) is Claire O'Reilly from Cary High School where she was a cadet in Cary's Navy JROTC program. Claire is attending the University of Idaho in Moscow, Idaho majoring in Broadcasting & Digital Media. She earned a Navy ROTC Scholarship worth over \$170,000 and is a cadet in Idaho's Navy ROTC program. Claire also received the Navy JROTC Legacy Scholarship and the Discover Idaho Bronze Scholarship. Accompanying Claire were her mother and father – Lisa and Jim O'Reilly.

The Scholarship checks and certificates were presented by Chapter President CDR Dean Block, Col. William Frank Rawley, and our guest speaker at the event Larry D. Hall, Secretary, NC Department of Military & Veterans Affairs.

Business Support for the Triangle Chapter

COL Matt Segal

As you know, members continue reaching out to local businesses and ask them to support our scholarship fund making a contribution of \$100 or more. In return, we will post their business cards in the TriangleGram for a calendar year.

HOW YOU CAN HELP:

- Support the businesses that support our chapter's scholarship fund so they can continue to support us while you enjoy their products or services!
- Tell your friends and family to support those businesses. When you or someone you have told about the businesses visits them, thank them for their support of our chapter!

If you know of a business that might want to support us in this way for an annual donation of \$100, please encourage them to do so. Print off a color copy of the TriangleGram and show it to the potential sponsor or have them check our chapter website ("Google" Triangle MOAA) to view recent TriangleGram issues. Once they have accepted, just let me know and we can take it from there!



Triangle Chapter Officers and Committee Chairs

All telephone numbers are the 919 area code except as shown

Officers

| | | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|----------|--|
| President | CDR Edgar Dean Block, USNR | 500-9567 | falcon1941@gmail.com |
| 1 st Vice President | Vacant | | |
| 2 nd Vice President | Col Bob Penny, USAF | 847-2453 | penny.bob@gmail.com |
| Secretary | LtCol Chris Froeschner, USAF | 753-5611 | frosh90@gmail.com |
| Treasurer | CAPT Bob Caron, USCG | 650-2098 | rrcaron61@nc.rr.com |

Committee Chairs

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|----------|--|
| At Large Committee Chair | Vacant | | |
| Immediate Past President | Col Matt Segal, USA | 632-4964 | sega3245@bellsouth.net |
| Legislative/Liaison | COL Michael Flynn, USA | 847-9695 | mjflynn2@gmail.com |
| Public Relations | Vacant | | |
| Personal Affairs | Vacant | | |
| Newsletter and Website Editor | LTC Ken Tigges, USA | 219-0356 | ktigges001@att.net |
| Membership | COL Herb Segal, USA | 845-2686 | dukedocsegal@bellsouth.net |
| ROTC/JROTC Awards/Scholarship | Col Bob Penny, USAF | 847-2453 | penny.bob@gmail.com |
| Chaplain | LTC Tracy Maness, USA | 781-1098 | tracy.maness@yahoo.com |
| Sunshine | Vacant | | |
| Legal Advisor | CAPT David D. Lennon, USN | 846-7400 | lawdrudge@yahoo.com |
| Historian | Vacant | | |
| Surviving Spouse Liaison | CAPT Bob Caron, USCG | 650-2098 | rrcaron61@nc.rr.com |
| Tops Officer | COL Matt Segal, USA | 632-4964 | sega3245@bellsouth.net |
| USO Support | LTC Ken Tigges, USA | 219-0356 | ktigges001@att.net |

TRIANGLE CHAPTER OF MOAA



Dinner Meeting

Wednesday, 12 September 2018

**North Carolina State University Club
1815 Social (Cash Bar) 1910 Dinner**



Speaker

Stuart C. Ruffin

Executive Director

North Carolina Veterans Foundation

RESERVATION FORM

CAPT Robert Caron must receive your reservation by Friday, 7 September 2018

Entrees:

Pecan Crusted Boneless Pork Cutlet with Maple Demi Glaze. _____

Or

Grilled Atlantic Salmon with Dill Fennel Slaw. _____

Entrees will be served with Classic Caesar salad, Rice pilaf, Fresh Steamed Broccoli, Rolls, Butter, Carrot cake, Ice Tea and Coffee

During the social hour (1815-1855) there will be a fruit and cheese platter

Please Reserve _____ Meals at \$30.00 each

DUES

Active Duty, Former, or Retired Officer \$25.00; Widow \$5.00; Dues Amount \$ _____

Contribution to the JROTC Fund: \$ _____

TOTAL REMITTED \$ _____

Member's Name _____ Please check here if you are a surviving spouse and would like to sit at a reserved table for surviving spouses.

Name(s) of Spouse and/or Guest(s) _____

E-Mail address _____

Make checks payable to MOAA/TRIANGLE CHAPTER

Mail to: Captain Robert Caron, 805 Allforth Pl, Cary, NC 27519-6349

QUESTIONS? Please call CAPT Robert Caron at: 919-650-2098