

New River Chapter MOAA
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
25 January 2011

Call to Order: Chapter President Doug Ehrhardt called the meeting to order at 1330 hours on 25 January 2011 at the Coffee Shop on the Backstreet in West Jefferson.

Members Present: Doug Ehrhardt, President; Charles Knapp, 1st Vice President; Ken Lynn, Secretary/Treasurer; Mac Hunt, Programs and Membership Committee Chair; Ron Schuette Director at Large; Betty Schuette Auxiliary/Spouse Representative; Linda Marsh, Scholarship Committee and Cathy Ehrhardt.

Old/Unfinished Business:

NC Council and Chapters Report: President Doug Ehrhardt began the meeting by giving an overview following his recent quarterly meeting with the NC Council. The word from MOAA National is that 20011 is going to be a very tough year for lobbying efforts as the DoD is being eyed as a potential source for spending cuts...particularly with respect to healthcare. There will be more to follow throughout the year. Doug also relayed that it's now permissible for individual chapters to have among their membership local individuals who may not be eligible for membership in the national organization, but who the local chapters deem as bringing a benefit to their chapter. The Board agreed that it would consider any such potential member brought to its attention.

Chapter Budget/Dues Report: Chapter Secretary/Treasurer Ken Lynn reported that 28 of 42 members have paid their \$20.00 2011 annual dues. Dues for 2011 are considered delinquent after 31 January. Since the last meeting, two expenditures have been made: \$385.00 for the remainder of the website development cost and \$37.00 which went to the NC Council and Chapters. The current cash balance on-hand is \$1,383. 00.

Edith Jones: Due to health concerns, Edith Jones has informed the Chapter that she no longer feels she can continue on in an active capacity and has decided not to renew her membership. In a unanimous vote, the Board elected to change Edith's status to that of Auxiliary/Honorary non-paying member. As a charter member of the Chapter, the Board thought this highly appropriate.

Sears Scholarship Fund Report: The scholarship fund has been officially incorporated and an application for tax exempt status has been sent to and received by the IRS. To date, \$1,246.00 has been deposited into the fund (primarily as a result of the *Murals of West Jefferson* post card sales). Two expenditures have been made: \$60 to the NC Secretary of State to cover the cost of incorporation and \$400.00 to the IRS for our non-profit status determination fee. The current cash balance on hand is \$776.00. Linda Marsh has agreed to serve on the Scholarship Committee to help

oversee and manage all aspects of the fundraising activities and to eventually determine the actual award criteria of the scholarships. The Board would like to have at least three members on this committee and asks that anyone interested in helping Linda please contact Doug Ehrhardt.

2010 Give Me 10 Update: Ken reported that for 2010 we recruited two new paid members, had one member convert to a two-year paid membership and that four current members converted their membership to "Life Status"...giving us a total of seven members for Give Me 10 credit. Thus far, we've been reimbursed by national for two members and should receive the outstanding balance of \$100.00 that is due to our chapter soon.

Annual Meeting/Bylaws: Article VII of our Bylaws calls for an "annual meeting" to be held. Due to the Foxx/Kennedy debate superseding the October general membership meeting, the Board approved a motion in November to conduct the annual meeting via e-mail, webpage access and utilizing the Chapter buddy system. Consistent with our Bylaws, the following recommendations and amendments were put forward for voting by the membership and were unanimously approved by all members who cast a vote:

- Per Article VI, Section 1 and Section 2, the Board recommends that Chapter dues for 2011 remain at \$20.00 annually. Dues should be remitted between 1 January and 31 January and per Section 2, will be considered delinquent after 31 January 2011.
- Per Article VII, Section 1, amend the Section to read that the annual meeting will be held during the month of October vice November.
- Per Article VII, Section 2, a recommendation has been put forward to slightly increase the frequency of our meetings and utilize the summer months more effectively when our full membership is present in the area. The motion is to amend the first sentence of this Section to read as follows:
 - 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) unless otherwise decided by the board of directors.

(Note) No scheduled meetings would be held in January, February and November. The Board would likely hold their meetings immediately prior to the general membership meetings and at other times as deemed necessary by the president.

Committee Reports: Programs and Membership: Mac reiterated that he has a line on a potential speaker, the Commission Chair of the USS North Carolina. A decision will be made in the future about inviting him to speak.

New Business:

2011 Give Me 10 Starts: Doug Ehrhardt, having recently attended the NC Council of Chapters quarterly meeting, provided an overview of the 2011 program and distributed material received from MOAA national. Essentially the program is unchanged from last year...although the cost of a two-year membership increased from \$28 to \$30 dollars. Members are encouraged to continue to recruit potential new members under this program and should contact Ken Lynn or Mac Hunt for further information.

Valentine's Day Social: Due to weather cancelling the December holiday social, the Board recommended an alternate social to be held on Saturday, 12 February beginning at 1630 at the West Jefferson Coffee House on the Backstreet. Cost of the event is \$10 per person.

Rooster Ridge Stairlifts, LLC Offer: 1st Vice President Charles Knapp, owner of Rooster Ridge Stairlifts, LLC, proposed to the Board that he will make a cash donation to the Sears Scholarship Fund for every referral he receives from a New River Chapter member leading to the installation of a stairlift. Members who know of someone who might benefit from this type of quality of life improvement should contact Charles directly. A link to his business can be found on the Chapter's website.

Adjournment: The president adjourned the meeting at 1500 hours.

Submitted by Ken Lynn, Secretary

Approved by Doug Ehrhardt, President