



NORTH CAROLINA ARMY RETIREE COUNCIL

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8 July 2009

MEMORANDUM FOR: SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Minutes of the North Carolina Army Retiree Council Meeting 20 June 2009

1. The quarterly meeting of the North Carolina Army Retiree Council (NCARC) was called to order by Co-Chairman COL(R) Donald Latella at 1030 hours, 20 June 2009 at the Defense Security Technology Accelerator (DSTA) Building, 455 Ramsey St., Fayetteville, NC 28301.

MEMBERS PRESENT

() indicates regional area
COL(R) Donald Latella, Co-Chairman
CSM(R) Steven R. England, Co-Chairman
COL(R) Rudy Baker
COL(R) David F. Borresen
COL(R) James W. Oxford (II)
COL(R) George F. Heberer (IV)
COL(R) William F. Rawley, Sr. (VI)
COL(R) Edward Mennona (VII)
CPT John H. Bell Jr.
SGM(R) Robert Traxler (I)
SGM(R) John H. Large (VIII)
1SG(R) Robert Ward (II)
MSG(R) Moses Best
SFC(R) Claridge Rice (VII)
SFC(R) Dudley Herman
SFC(R) Richard A. Clemmons (IV)

OTHERS PRESENT

Mr. Donnell Edwards, RSO
Mr. Daniel Catalano, North
Post Commissary Manager

2. Mr. Catalano, North Post Commissary Manager, reported the Little Hero Baby Program is a web base site that can be accessed by visiting the commissary webpage. This program is for Families with newborns which will have articles from the DECA dietician and DECA Home Economics representative Kay Blakey that will also lead you to other government sources. During RAD dates the commissary will host a case lot sale from 18 – 20 September; Mr. Catalano request to have a table at WAMC on 19 September to pass out flyers with items offered at the case lot sale to promote and enhance the shopping experience for retirees. Mr. Edwards included comments suggesting that with the commissary case lot sale this provides a triple play which includes RAD events, AAFES “Still Serving” recognition and the commissary case lot sale.

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3. COL(R) Rawley spoke briefly on the passing of his wife; He commended Arlington National Cemetery staff on how well they handled his wife burial.
4. MSG(R) Best reported that AAFES is in the preparation stage in adding a new gas station, coffee shop and Pop Eyes Chicken which will be located behind the North Post Commissary; the project should be completed by the end of 2010.
5. Mr. Edwards reported on new initiatives to enhance the services to USAR and National Guard Soldiers. Department of the Army has created separate hand books that is specific for each component. The proposed revision of AR 600-8-7 Retirement Services Program indicates the Installation Retirement Services Office as the governing agency to oversee the two programs; Mr. Edwards reported on a retiree that called suggesting that during the RAD dinner prior to posting of the colors that someone give instructions to the audience on the requirement during the posting of the colors. CSM(R) England stated that he will ensure instructions are given prior to the posting of the colors. Mr. Edwards provided an update on RAD 2009 with an announcement on the news bulletin has been funded and will be mailed this year. He also added that the council needs to continue to promote establishing e-mail addresses for retirees and register the e-mail addresses with the retirement services office. CSM(R) England provided a brief overview on the collective efforts of the various installation directorates and agencies that will continue to support the efforts in making RAD a success. Mr. Edwards stated that all issues that the NCARC wants presented to the CSA Retiree council must be submitted to the RSO in a timely manner so these issues can be reviewed and approved by COL(R) Latella and CSM(R) England prior to submission to CSA Retiree Council in October 2009. Mr. Edwards provided a presentation on "How to Register for Army Knowledge Online (AKO) and subsequently provided a live demonstration within AKO to show the various features AKO provides.
6. CSM(R) England announced that GEN(Ret) Eric K. Shinseki has been invited to be the keynote speaker for RAD; he will notify Mr. Edwards when the acceptance has been confirmed. CSM(R) England will start sending Mr. Edwards information flyers on the times and dates of the different events that are hosted by Fort Bragg such as: National Airborne Day, All American Week, and a host of other events. Mr. Edwards will send these flyers to the NCARC members to post in their respective areas. CSM(R) England also announced the reassignment of LTG Llyod J. Austin, III to the Pentagon.

Regional Reports:

Region I – Western – SGM(R) Traxler reported that there is a multi-services honor guard that works within the local VA Medical Center that provides burial services for local veterans. SGM Traxler work at the VA Medical Center one day a week and conducts phone surveys soliciting information on the quality of services that VA provides; he reports the information received is A+; he have not received any information that discredit the services veterans experience while using the VA Medical Center. Their local VA has unveiled a Combat Infantryman Memorial within the last six months.

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Region II – Catawba & Northwest – 1SG(R) Ward reported that the Military Officers Association put on a nice ceremony during Memorial Day.

Region III – Southern Piedmont – No Report

Region IV – Triad – No Report

Region V – Cape Fear – No Report

Region VI – Triangle – No Report

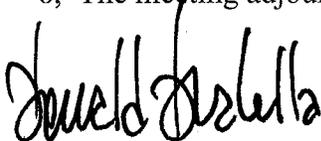
Region VII – Southeastern – COL(R) Mennona reported Camp LeJeune will conduct a Retiree Day on 19 September 2009 which is a one day event that will have various vendors and medical personnel available to render services to retirees. COL(R) Mennona made an inquiry identifying the requirement to establish a North Carolina “Combat Infantry Badge” license tag. CPT(R) Bell stated that it requires at least 300 signatures to have the license tag approved.

Region VIII – Coastal Plains – SFC(R) Rice reported that COL(R) Parsons could not attend the meeting due to a car accident that resulted in him breaking some bones in his neck. In conjunction with Vets Services during Memorial Day weekend, they took some World War II veterans to view the World War II Monument and the Vietnam Veterans Wall and were able to see the annual Rolling Thunder event in Washington DC.

7. Co-Chairman comments:

COL(R) Latella reminded everyone of the importance of attending RAD; as CSM(R) England reported earlier, RAD has the potential to get better each year. COL(R) Latella announced the next NCARC meeting will be during RAD at 1400 hours on 19 September 2009 after the Golf Tournament at the Officers’ Club.

8, The meeting adjourned at 1250 hours.



Donald Latella
COL, USA Retired
Co-Chairman



Steven R. England
CSM, USA Retired
Co-Chairman

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