



Bulletin #6 - The Tarheel Central Chapter – 8 MAR 2025

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NOTE: Bulletins will be sent out on an as needed basis, outside the regular monthly newsletter to address one to three subjects of personal, local, state and national importance, particularly to military service. The bulletins are numbered starting in January of each year, so if you need one resent to you, please let me know at: gvchase@outlook.com.



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Tarheel Central Chapter Board of Directors Policy Statement

Annual Dues Billing – Accounts Receivable Process Policy Effective 6 March 2024

BYLAWS ARTICLE VI—DUES approved 11 April 2023

Section 1. The annual dues for Regular Members for the next calendar year shall be determined by the membership at the annual November meeting after receiving the Board's recommendation on the matter.

Section 2. The annual dues for a calendar year shall become due, and payable by the first meeting of that year.

The timely payment of annual dues by members of Tarheel central Chapter MOAA is required to maintain membership in good standing. It is one of the primary obligations and responsibilities of membership. In addition to paying dues, a member, if financially able, is expected and encouraged to contribute to both the chapter Scholarship Fund and the designated Worthy Causes. Timely payment of annual dues is necessary to provide for the Chapter's annual expenditure, appropriate reserves, and the Chapter's continuing sound condition.

Upon membership approval of the annual dues rate at the Annual Membership Meeting in November of each year the Treasurer shall, no later than November 20, each year, send a single message email to all paying members, specifying (1) the amount of the annual dues for the next year along with an explanation of any increase, and (2) the date payment is due, which in accordance with the Chapter Bylaws is the date of the succeeding January Chapter meeting.

No later than January 16 of each year, the Treasurer shall send a single message email reminding all paying members if they have not already paid the current year's dues, to pay their chapter dues before the February Chapter meeting.

No later than February 16 of each year, the Treasurer shall send an email invoice to each Member whose dues are not current, advising that member of their past due status.

No later than March 16 of each year, the Treasurer shall send a letter advising the Member whose dues are not current that the membership is in arrears and will be terminated if payment is not received on or before the April Chapter meeting. This letter will also advise the member that the membership, upon approval of the Board, may be reinstated upon payment of the annual dues.

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Tarheel Central Chapter Board of Directors Policy **Statement – Dinner NO SHOW Policy** **Effective 6 March 2024**

Tarheel Central Chapter MOAA must guarantee the host site the number in attendance for each Chapter dinner meeting. The Chapter is then obligated to pay for those dinners whether the member who made a reservation for dinner attends or not.

The following policy is necessary to manage the Chapter's budgeted expenditures – and keep the annual dues as low as possible:

- Any member who makes a reservation for a Chapter dinner is obligated to pay for the dinner(s), even if he/she/they do not attend. Exceptions will be made due to sudden illness or other unusual personal circumstances.
- Any member with a Chapter dinner reservation that cannot attend due to sudden illness or other unusual personal circumstance and informs the Calling Chain Manager or

Treasurer as soon as possible prior to the Chapter dinner will not be considered a "No Show".

- The Calling Chain Manager is to provide a report of "No Shows" to the Chapter Treasurer within 24 hours of the conclusion of the meeting.
- Within one week of the meeting, the Chapter Treasurer will email an invoice for the cost of the dinner(s) to the "No Show" member(s) with a copy to the Chapter President.
- If the delinquent member has not paid the invoice by the next succeeding Chapter meeting, the Treasurer will send a second, "past due" invoice requesting payment by the next Chapter meeting and advising the member that non-payment will result in the Suspension of Membership privileges.
- Should the members not pay by the second succeeding Chapter meeting, the Board of Directors will suspend and after 30 days terminate the membership.

The National MOAA is very explicit about "partisanship" and "non-partisanship" activities.

The purpose of Tarheel Central Chapter MOAA is to "promote the purposes and objectives of the MOAA". As such we are a non-partisan organization and partisan comments and activities are not allowed in a MOAA forum. We can lose our 501(c)(19) tax designation. And, this could affect the national MOAA.

The above does not affect your personal feelings and statements made in a private forum outside of MOAA.

The information below is the policy of the national MOAA.

"PARTISAN POLITICAL ACTIVITIES: As organizations exempt from federal taxation under Sec. 501(c)(19) of the Internal Revenue Code, MOAA and its affiliates must take care to avoid engaging in partisan political activities. Under IRS rules, we are prohibited from directly or indirectly participating in, or intervening in, any political campaign on behalf of (or in opposition to) any candidate for public office."

"CANDIDATES FOR PUBLIC OFFICE: A candidate for public office is an individual who offers himself or herself, or is proposed by others, as a contestant for an elective public office, whether such office is national, state, or local, and includes incumbent candidates. The prohibition also extends beyond declared candidates and may apply to efforts to recruit an individual to run for office or advance exploratory activities. The prohibition also applies to advocating for the platform of one political party over another."

"PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES: Activities which constitute participation or intervention in a political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to a candidate include, but are not limited to, the publication or distribution of written or printed statements or the making of oral statements on behalf of or in opposition to such a candidate. It is clear that the prohibition on partisan political activity prohibits such outright actions such as posting a "Vote for Biden" or "Vote for Trump" on the organization's web site, or "Support Republican Candidates" or "Vote Democratic." In addition to these obvious examples, the prohibition goes well beyond direct expressions of support. In determining whether an organization is engaged in unlawful partisan political activities, the IRS applies a "facts and circumstances" test. The IRS looks not only to the expressed language, but to external factors, such as the communications' timing, its targeted audience, and how the message relates to public policy positions that distinguish a candidate in a campaign."

"CONSEQUENCES FOR VIOLATIONS: The consequences to an organization that violates the prohibition on partisan political activity can be severe including the loss of its tax exempt status and the imposition of certain excise taxes. For public charities, like The MOAA Foundation and the MOAA Scholarship Fund, the IRS can disallow tax deductions for charitable contributions. In addition, for an organization whose mission involves advocacy on key military community issues, MOAA must seek support from elected representatives from both parties. Engaging in partisan political activities on behalf of one party or candidate would seriously undermine MOAA's ability to achieve the bipartisan consensus on key issues essential to achieving its legislative objectives. "

"PERSONAL OPINIONS: As individuals, members and leaders of MOAA and MOAA's affiliates are not prohibited from engaging in partisan political activities so long as they do so in way that makes it clear they are acting for themselves and do not appear to be speaking on behalf of MOAA or its affiliates. For example, it is permissible for an individual to express his or her personal preference in support of or in opposition to a candidate or political party. And they may do so publicly. However, when expressing their personal opinions or preferences, they may not make reference to their MOAA position, use MOAA communications channels, use MOAA letterhead or newsletters, identify themselves as MOAA leaders, or imply that MOAA or its members share their beliefs."

"LEADERSHIP RESPONSIBILITIES: Those in leadership positions have a special responsibility to separate their personal political opinions from statements that are or can be attributed to MOAA or its affiliates. For example, it is improper for a chapter leader to use the chapter's newsletter to advance the leader's personal political beliefs. This goes beyond statements expressly advocating for a specific candidate or party by name. Statements that incorporate campaign messaging, campaign slogans, and political positions identified with a particular candidate or party are also prohibited. No MOAA leader is authorized to use MOAA's or an affiliate's resources to communicate their personal political beliefs. This is an outright violation of the leader's fiduciary duty to the organization and a serious leadership and ethical failure."

"DIVISIVE SOCIAL ISSUES: We are all aware of the divisive nature of the debate over today's leading social issues – protesting during the national anthem at sporting events, racial justice, public protests, and the conduct of law enforcement officers. These are issues over which many Americans have deeply held, but differing, personal beliefs. This is also true within the military community among the ranks of active duty and retired officers and within MOAA itself. MOAA leaders have an obligation to keep this in mind when communicating on behalf of MOAA or its affiliates. Suggesting that MOAA only supports one side of a deeply divisive issue sends a message to those with a different belief that MOAA is not for them. Officers today have grown up in a military culture that is very different than the past. Many are accepting of attitudes and views that were not mainstream when many of us were in uniform. If MOAA is going to connect with the newest generation of uniformed officers, it needs to be clear that those with strong views on racial and social justice imperatives are just as welcome as those who adhere to more traditional expressions of patriotism and officership."