

THE ROGUE



NCOA®

January 2023

REPORT

From the Desk of the Chairman

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January is the start of a new year and is centered on things like college football bowl games and the race for the National Championship. It is also a time when many evaluate the past year and make resolutions on how we are going to make the upcoming year better than the last. For some it is a pledge to lose weight, stop a behavior that we consider a bad habit or perhaps start or finish that chore that has been nagging you for some time.

I am going to ask a favor of you. All of you have either served in the military for a few years or perhaps even retired or you are a family member or spouse to someone who has served. Most of you are a member of at least one if not many organizations and there is something special about the comradery of service. This year can you decide to do something; volunteer to help with a project to help a veteran or kids within your community? Maybe share some of the valuable lessons that you learned in the service to your country with your kids or grandkids. Our younger generation is being deprived of what the word sacrifice really means because our educational system is trying to create a participation society and our kids no longer know how to cope with the concept of winning and losing. Perhaps teach what my college economics professor once said, "There is no such thing as a free lunch. Someone somewhere is paying for it."

The Rogue Chapter has set an example for how to recognize the service of our war veterans with the WW2, Korean and now Vietnam Medallions. I urge all of you to find someone to present one of these medallions to. Maybe it is a family member or a neighbor or friend. The cost is \$15 for the WW2 & \$23 for the rest and the benefit to the veteran and their family is priceless. Get a picture of the presentation and send it to me along with the details of the presentation

Most of you reading this article are life members and I thank you for your membership. There are also quite a few of you who have joined NCOA because you were coerced by a friend and did so out of a sense of guilt. Every one of you is a valuable member. The chapter just lost another WW2 Navy veteran and it pains me greatly when a member passes away, but to lose someone for failure to renew pains me even more because I wonder what I could have done to make that member feel like their membership was too valuable to give up. This chapter has been the "Large Chapter of the Year for NCOA" for many years which means that many of you have contributed either time or finances to support our efforts to make our respective communities a better place to live. We strive to make a positive difference and I pray that you also strive for the same thing. If you are up for renewal in 2023, please know that you are valued and needed!

If you have any ideas or suggestions, either contact me at retiredveteran89@outlook.com and I can assure you that your leadership will take note.

Strength in Unity & Leadership By Example,

MCPO (SCW) Terry M. Haines, USNR Retired
Chairman, Rogue Chapter #1260



Support NCOA
Korean Medallion
Fundraiser



The association has selected the design for the next generation of Medallions for the Korean War veterans. A prototype is being manufactured and the plan is that an initial order of 500 will be placed once a sponsor is found. There are several pending options for sponsorship that will cover the estimated \$5,000 startup investment. Once the medallions become available, distribution will happen immediately, so be ready to let me know how many medallions you will need.

"Patriotism is not short, frenzied outbursts of emotion, but the tranquil and steady dedication of a lifetime." — Adlai Stevenson

Important Dates in January

- January 1 New Year's Day
- January 16 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- January 17 Persian Gulf War Began (1991)
- January 27 Signing of Vietnam Peace Accord (1973)

Upcoming Events

- January 7 Chapter Executive Meeting @1300
- February 4 Executive Meeting @1200
- February 4 Pizza Social @ Angelo's in Phoenix @1300
- April 18 National Tax Day

WARRIOR'S PIPELINE

Updates for Veterans and Service Members

The **NCOA Rogue Chapter Scholarship Fund** is one of the newest and most important benefits within the Chapter.

Established in 2019, its sole purpose is to help dependents of NCOA members continue their education beyond high school.

The deadline to submit an application in is May 15th of each year! Don't wait until the last minute.

Consider donating by visiting www.ncoarogue.org/donate

All donations received are used for scholarships and grants. No administrative or overhead expenses are deducted from the donations received.

Your donation will help enable the NCOA Rogue Chapter Scholarship Fund continue to be a valuable resource for NCOA members and their dependents!

“Where liberty dwells, there is my country.”

—
Benjamin Franklin

Membership categories:

I have been asked so many questions about whether someone is eligible to join NCOA, it is clear that many of you are confused. I will do my best to clarify the issue.

My experience as to why people don't recruit members is that either they don't care, or they get so busy they just don't think about it. We need help and you are it!

Regular Division: Anyone who has served honorably in the rank of E1 through E9 in any branch of the military, active, guard or reserve.

Veteran Division: Any officer of any branch of the military, active, guard or reserve.

Auxiliary: Anyone over the age of 18 who is related to someone who would have qualified for regular division status.

That includes spouses, brothers, sisters, nieces, nephews, parents, aunts, uncles, cousins, grandkids. That included pretty much anyone related either directly or indirectly to someone who has served.

Associate Division: People who have never served but support what NCOA does. They can be politicians, business people who support veterans etc.

Chapter Activities

Fund Raising:

I want to thank Ken Wilson & Kris Stevens for stepping up to coordinate a fund-raising event. We still have about \$400 to raise in order to replenish the scholarship fund which will be awarded towards the end of the current school year. We also need to raise funds to purchase more medallions to honor our service men and women who have served. Finally, as one of the most active and supportive chapters in the Association, we raise funds to support our annual conference, either by sponsoring part of the conference or helping members to attend. If you know of businesses that support veterans, please tell them about what we are doing and see if they can help us continue to excel.

Rogue Chapter Happenings

Pizza Social: February 4, 2023, Angelo's Pizza in Phoenix at 1300. The executive meeting will take place at noon. The chapter will buy the pizza. Come out and have a good time with friends and see what is planned for the new year!

The following members have birthdays in January:

Sal Aviles	Richard Boyle III	Philbern Brown	Charles Buckner
Albert Cardona	Robert Davis	David Galati	Terry Goff
Brittany Haines	Darold Hutsell	Rae Ann Janz	Elizabeth Laustalot
Johnnie Martin	Donald Mott	Sharon Novak	Matthew Parker
Richard Pendleton	Earl Poole Jr	Jesse Smith	Alice Thomsen
Mark Willis	Sherman Willis	Tanya Wilson	Michael Youmans

Medallions: We are still going strong with WW2 Medallions, but we now have Korean as well as Vietnam Medallions available. The Korean and Vietnam Medallions cost us \$23 each. We have been raising funds to purchase medallions. We do not charge the recipient for the medallions. These medallions are our way of honoring the service and sacrifice of our veterans. If one of these period veterans has passed away, we can still present one to the family to honor the veteran's service and to give the family something to pass down to educate the younger generation about the honored veteran. Can you help by identifying veterans to recognize or perhaps identify funding sources so that we can honor those who have served?

VeteRun: On December 3rd we presented checks for \$14,075 each to Mighty Oaks Foundation and David's Chair. We look forward to our 7th year in 2023 where we hope to improve on our record performance in 2022. A huge thanks goes out to Russ Schweikert, Melanie Madden & Lauren Tranthem who have been on the committee with Chairman Terry Haines since the beginning.

Operation Gratitude: This program was introduced to us at the recent conference. Check out Operation Gratitude on the web. There are opportunities for all of us to make a difference. If you can either write or collect letters/notes or if you can make things that might be useful for a troop or first responder, you can help. Here are some links to obtain more information or perhaps request a box for someone serving that you would like to show support for.

For those unfamiliar with our organization, the link to our 2021 Stakeholder report is <https://online.flippingbook.com/view/783925703/>

To request a care package: <https://www.operationgratitude.com/care-packages/>

Write notes to be included in Care Packages

- Recipients say it's the most meaningful part of the care package
- Instructions to participate are <https://www.operationgratitude.com/volunteer/anywhere/letters/>

Purchase Wish List Items

- Amazon Wish List <https://www.amazon.com/hz/charitylist/lr/1y7v0h90fe69f?>
- Give to Get List is <https://yougivegoods.com/drive/shop/21655>

Make a monetary contribution

Show your support to a service member or first responder, link to donate is <https://www.operationgratitude.com/give/>

Legislative Resolution help needed. Each chapter is being asked to see if there is someone interested in the legislative process that can not only keep the chapter updated on current legislative matters but also participate on the National Resolution Committee. That committee meets on Zoom most of the year and at conference once a year. If interested, please let Chairman Haines know ASAP.

Conference 2023: Next year's conference will be in San Antonio down on the Riverwalk instead of out by the airport. Plans are in the works to make this a family friendly event with some surprise events. It is not too early to pencil this conference in your schedule. We hope to keep our string of Chapter of the Year going, so make plans to attend.

Thanks: Thanks goes out to Phil Mills who has filled a trustee slot since shortly after joining NCOA. New job requirements have created scheduling conflicts and he will not be able to fulfill the trustee requirements. Bravo Zulu goes out to Kris Stevens who has stepped up to fill the vacancy!

“Freedom is nothing but a chance to be better.”

—
Albert Camus

If you have a spouse or 18+ year old dependent that supports you and what NCOA does, sign them up in the Auxiliary. It will only cost you \$15 for 1 year if you send the application back through the chapter so that we can make up the difference. Need an application, contact the Chairman.

Do you have an interesting military story or joke? Consider sharing it in writing (in 150-250 words) for possible publication in our next newsletter. Send your text and/or picture (keep it rated PG-13) to retiredveteran89@outlook.com

**“One flag,
one land,
one heart,
one hand,
one nation
evermore!”**

—
**Oliver Wendell
Holmes**



Jesse smith receives 2022 Super Saxon (top left)

Kris Steven our new trustee (top right)

Chairman Haines presents VeteRun proceeds to Jeremy Stalnecker from Mighty Oaks Foundation (middle left)

Chairman Haines presents VeteRun proceeds to Wyndess James from David's Chair (middle right)

Rogue Chapter awardees at Christmas social (bottom)

The following is an excerpt from the most current guidance on Cost of Living Adjustments (COLA) from a letter from the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense, dated November 14, 2022. This letter and more information about COLA can be found at this website: <https://www.ssa.gov/cola/>

2023 ADJUSTMENTS TO RETIRED/RETAINER PAY, SURVIVOR ANNUITIES AND PREMIUMS

The following Cost-of-Living Adjustments (COLAs) are effective December 1, 2022, based on the increase in the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) through the third quarter calendar year 2022. The term "retired pay" includes retainer pay and the term "members" includes former members. Where applicable, the appropriate section of United States Code (U.S.C.) is cited.

COLAs for Retired Pay

1. The retired pay COLA for those who first became members of a Uniformed Service before September 8, 1980, is specified according to the effective date of their retirement, as follows:

<u>Retired Pay Based on Rates of Pay Effective</u>	<u>Percent Increase</u>	<u>10 U.S.C. Authority</u>
Before January 1, 2022	8.7 percent	1401a(b)(2)
January 1 – December 31, 2022	7.0 percent	1401a(c)

2. The retired pay COLA for those who first became members of a Uniformed Service on or after September 8, 1980, including those members covered by the High-3 or Blended Retirement System (BRS), is specified according to the effective date of their retirement, as follows:

<u>Retirement Effective:</u>	<u>Percent Increase</u>	<u>10 U.S.C. Authority</u>
Before January 1, 2022	8.7 percent	1401a(b)(2)
January 1 - March 31, 2022	7.0 percent	1401a(d)
April 1 - June 30, 2022	4.4 percent	1401a(d)
July 1 - September 30, 2022	1.2 percent	1401a(d)
October 1 - December 31, 2022	0.0 percent	1401a(d)

3. The retired pay COLA for those who first became members of a Uniformed Service on or after August 1, 1986, and also elected to receive a career status bonus under the provisions of Sections 322 (as in effect before January 28, 2008) or 354 of Title 37 U.S.C. is specified according to the date of their retirement, as follows:

<u>Retirement Effective</u>	<u>Percent Increase</u>	<u>10 U.S.C. Authority</u>
Before January 1, 2022	7.7 percent	1401a(e)
January 1 - March 31, 2022	6.2 percent	1401a(e)
April 1 - June 30, 2022	3.9 percent	1401a(e)
July 1 - September 30, 2022	1.0 percent	1401a(e)
October 1 - December 31, 2022	0.0 percent	1401a(e)

January 2023 Security

Tax Scams — How to Report Them

To help the public recognize and avoid abusive tax schemes, the IRS offers an abundance of educational materials. Participating in an illegal scheme to avoid paying taxes can result in imprisonment and fines, as well as the repayment of taxes owed with penalties and interest. Education is the best way to avoid the pitfalls of these “too good to be true” tax scams.

Reporting Tax Scams

Phishing Scams

Phishing is a scam typically carried out through unsolicited email and/or websites that pose as legitimate sites and lure unsuspecting victims to provide personal and financial information.

Report all unsolicited email claiming to be from the IRS or an IRS-related function to phishing@irs.gov. If you've experienced any monetary losses due to an IRS-related incident, please report it to the [Treasury Inspector General Administration \(TIGTA\)](#) and file a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) through their [Complaint Assistant](#) to make the information available to investigators.

How Do You Report Suspected Tax Fraud Activity?

- Quick reference chart outlines [how to report suspected tax fraud activity](#) in different situations.
- [State ID Theft Resources](#) - State information on what to do if you or your employees are victims of identity theft.
- Employers and tax professionals should notify states of any disclosures of W-2s or other identity information by emailing StateAlert@taxadmin.org.

Report Suspected Tax Law Violations

Submit [Form 3949-A, Information Referral online](#) [PDF](#) if you suspect an individual or a business is not complying with the tax laws. We don't take tax law violation referrals over the phone. We will keep your identity confidential when you file a tax fraud report. You won't receive a status or progress update due to tax return confidentiality under IRC 6103.

Tax fraud includes:

- False exemptions or deductions
- Kickbacks
- A false or altered document
- Failure to pay tax
- Unreported income
- Organized crime
- Failure to withhold
- Failure to follow the tax laws

MEET YOUR ROGUE CHAPTER BOARD

CONTACT INFORMATION

Address:

Rogue Chapter #1260 NCOA
PO Box 5597
Central Point, OR 97502

Telephone Contact:

Terry M. Haines
541-601-8467 (mobile)

Websites:

ncoarogue.org

ncoausa.org

E-mails:

retiredveteran89@outlook.com

For Newsletter Correspondence:

retiredveteran89@outlook.com

“Strength in Unity!”



NCOA Creed

“It is with the conception and full understanding that many things of great need and importance can be accomplished in unity and cooperation. Thus, do the members of the Non-commissioned Officers Association of the United States of America agree to join their efforts and strength to work together for the well-being of the individual, the group, and for the greatest benefit of our beloved nation.”



(A drawing depicting the entrance to the Vietnam Wall scheduled for installation at US Cellular Park in Medford, Oregon)

Terry Haines, Chairman: Terry enlisted in the US Navy for active duty between 1971-1977, honorably discharging as an E5. He then served in the US Naval Reserves between 1982-2006, retiring as a Master Chief Petty Officer (E-9), and he deployed twice for Iraqi Freedom between 2002-2003 and 2005-2006.

Ron Kohl, Treasurer/Trustee: Ron served in both the Air Force as a Tech Sergeant, and the Army as a Staff Sergeant before he retired. He also served in law enforcement and is committed to helping locals avoid fraud and scams.

Bud Cordes, Knight Advisor: Bud Cordes was a USAF Tech Sergeant who retired after 20 years of service in 1978. He served in Vietnam between 1968-1969.

Kris Stevens, Trustee: Kris served in the Coast Guard as a Machinery Technician 2nd class, E-5, from 1975 to 1979. He served the majority of his enlistment at a small boat rescue station at the northwest tip of the Washington Olympic peninsula.

Ken Wilson, Vice Chair: Ken served in the United States Navy for 4 years and was honorably discharged as an E-5 Boiler Tech. He served on four ships during his time. The first three he was part of the decommissioning party and he ended his career on board the USS Camden (AOE-2).

David Haines, Trustee: David served 24 years in the navy and Navy Reserve and 7 years in the Air Force Reserves where he deployed to Qatar in 2007-8. He achieved the rank of E-6.

NCOA MEMBERSHIP

Membership is the lifeblood of the Association!

Today the NCOA remains a vital fraternal, benevolent non-profit organization and acts as a conduit between the military and civilian communities in local areas and promotes positive community relations. The Association is proud of its efforts in three primary areas: Legislative Representation; Social and Fraternal Programs; and Member Benefits in the area of specialized services and discount programs. NCOA has much to offer its members and you too can join our numbers. Membership in NCOA is open to all, however, you must meet certain criteria to be a voting member of the Association, but this does not prevent you from being an Associate member and supporting our organization and reaping the benefits of being a member.

If you are already a member, please promote this fantastic and beneficial membership to fellow service members and Veterans looking for a supportive military community. If they are interested or have questions have them contact us or visit <https://www.ncoausa.org/>