



Pine Knoll Shores
North Carolina

CLAM DIGGER INN



Presidents Corner

I hope all of you had a great holiday season and have made it safely through the winter. I know that I am glad winter is over. I am ready for Spring. I look forward to seeing you all at Atlantic Beach. Our Education Team has put together an outstanding 3 days of training for us. In addition to the outstanding training, let's enjoy our time together whether it is during our Hospitality Night, Scholarship Auction, relaxing and walking on the beach or enjoying some good seafood.

I have been recently appointed to the North Carolina Governor's Working Group for Veterans and their Families. I look forward to being part of this team in the next year. CVSOs will have a voice at the table as we move forward in making North Carolina the "Most Veteran Friendly State". I encourage all of you to attend when this Group meets in Raleigh or call in to listen and be part of this very important Working Group going forward.



As you all know we will be holding election for President, Vice President, Secretary, & Treasurer at our Spring Conference at Atlantic Beach. I have served as your President for the past 2 years. I greatly appreciate the support you have given me and our Executive Board. It has been a pleasure. I look forward to the election of new officers. I have no doubt that their vision and ideas will help to carry NCACVSO to even greater levels.

Again thank you for your support the past 2 years and thank you for what you do for the Veterans and their families in North Carolina.

Eric Truesdale

President

The Chaplain's Corner

I can smell the "PIG" cooking on the grill, and the sound of the wave's crashing on the beach. It's time to go back to our spot The Claimdigger at Atlantic Beach. The spring conference is here and we will have a great time this year. Thanks to all that attended the Prayer Breakfast in Hickory, we had an overflow crowd, and we hope this year's beach prayer breakfast will have an ever larger crowd. This year we are having the National Training session (The Big Boys) this is some of the best training you could have, plus

they bring money to help out our scholarship auction.

I have a work from God that I would like to share with you. Moses was looking for the credentials of the One who sent him. He ask God's name. And he got a simple, but infinitely complicated reply "I am who I am" (Exodus 3:14). The best thing that ever happen to us is when God shows us that he is who he is, and in the eyes of God you are what you are. People get mixed up in being someone that they are not, and follow other people that lead them down the wrong way. Be

who God wants you to be. The more you are who you really are, the better person you will be. Be the real person that God made you to be, the real you. Be the person that God made you, because he made you in his image and that is who you are.

Always be strong in the Lord and will see the difference. See you all at the beach.

Chaplain, Gary Raiford

Visit the Aquarium at Pine Knoll Shores

Feel the spray of a mountain waterfall. Watch [river otters](#) play. Touch a [stingray](#). Look a [shark](#) in the eye. Explore [shipwrecks](#) – without getting wet. See a rare [white sea turtle](#). Thousands of aquatic animals take you on a journey from the state's grand peaks to the open Atlantic, much as a raindrop makes its way to the ocean.

ADMISSION:

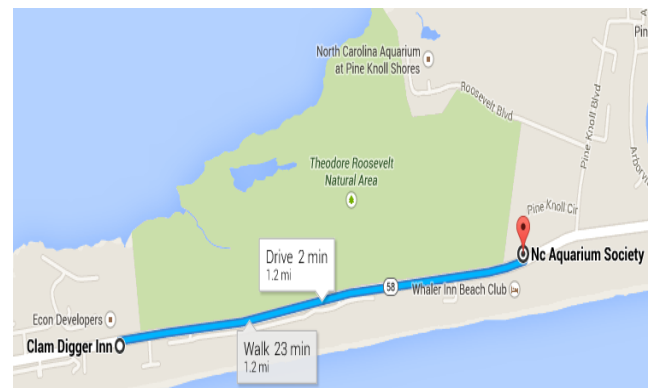
\$10.95 *ages 13-61;*

\$9.95 *ages 62 and over;*

\$9.95 *military;*

\$8.95 *children aged 3-12.*

Children 2 and under, are admitted free.



Address: 1 Roosevelt Blvd, Pine Knoll Shores, NC 28512

Phone: (252) 247-4003 ext. 0

Hours: Monday 9:00 am – 5:00 pm
 Tuesday 9:00 am – 5:00 pm
 Wednesday 9:00 am – 5:00 pm
 Thursday 9:00 am – 5:00 pm
 Friday 9:00 am – 5:00 pm
 Saturday 9:00 am – 5:00 pm
 Sunday 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

Potential Exposure at Fort McClellan

Fort McClellan was an Army installation in Alabama that opened in 1917.

Some members of the U.S. Army Chemical Corp School, Army Combat Development Command Chemical/Biological/Radiological Agency, Army Military Police School and Women's Army Corps, among others, may have been exposed to one or more of several hazardous materials, likely at low levels, during their service at Fort McClellan. Potential exposures could have included, but are not limited to, the following:

Radioactive compounds (cesium-137 and cobalt-60) used in decontamination training activities in isolated locations on base.

Chemical warfare agents (mustard gas and nerve agents) used in decontamination testing activities in isolated locations on base.

Airborne polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) from the Monsanto plant in the neighboring town.

Although exposures to high levels of these compounds have been shown to cause a variety of adverse health effects in humans and laboratory animals, there is no evidence of exposures of this magnitude having occurred at Fort McClellan.

PCBs and the Monsanto chemical plant

From 1929 to 1971, an off-post Monsanto chemical plant operated south of Fort McClellan in Anniston. PCBs from the plant entered into the environment, and the surrounding community was exposed.

In 2013, the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) completed an assessment of the potential health risks caused by airborne PCBs in Anniston and concluded that the concentrations found were "not expected to result in an increased cancer risk or other harmful health effects in people living in the neighborhoods outside the perimeter of the former PCB manufacturing facility."

Fort McClellan today

Fort McClellan closed in 1999 as part of the Army Base Closure and Realignment Committee (BRAC) program. The BRAC legislation required the environmental cleanup of Fort McClellan prior to its transfer to the public domain. Oversight of parts of the base have since been transferred to the Alabama Army National Guard, Department of Health and Human Services, Department of Justice, and the Department of the Interior, as well as to the community of Anniston, where the re-development and re-use of the land is overseen by the McClellan Development Authority.

Veteran health care and compensation benefits

Veterans who are experiencing health issues that they associate with their service while at Fort McClellan should see their primary care provider or contact their local [Environmental Health Coordinator](#).

Veterans may also file a claim for [disability compensation](#). VA decides these claims on a case-by-case basis.

<http://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/fort-mcclellan/>

Training Agenda

Tuesday April 21

Time	Event	Presenter	Location
2:00 – 4:00*	Tour of the Wounded Warrior Barracks	Amelia Grissett	Camp Lejeune
4:30 – 5:30	Scholarship Committee	Ann Knowles	Meeting Room 2 nd Floor
5:30 – 6:30	Education Committee Meeting	Jim Prosser	Meeting Room 2 nd Floor
6:30 – 7:30	Executive Board Meeting	Eric Truesdale	Meeting Room 2 nd Floor

Wednesday April 22

Time	Event	Presenter	Location
08:00 – 08:30	Registration	Teresa Ball	Meeting Room 2 nd Floor
08:45 – 09:00	Opening Remarks	Eric Truesdale	Meeting Room 2 nd Floor
09:00 – 09:45	Wounded Warrior Program	Lt Col Suttee	Meeting Room 2 nd Floor
09:45 – 10:00	Break		
10:00 – 11:00	Delta Dental Programs	Michelle Banks	Meeting Room 2 nd Floor
11:00 – 12:00	Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy	Eric Sutton	Meeting Room 2 nd Floor
12:00 – 1:15	Lunch		
1:15 – 2:15	Women Veteran Programs	Shenekia Williams-Johnson	Meeting Room 2 nd Floor
2:15 – 3:15	Incarcerated Veterans	Lucas Vrbsky	Meeting Room 2 nd Floor
3:15 – 3:30	Break		
3:30 – 4:30	Ethics	Darryl Crenshaw	Meeting Room 2 nd Floor
5:30 – 7:00	Hospitality	John Sandrock	Meeting Room 2 nd Floor

Thursday April 23





Time	Event	Presenter	Location
07:30 – 08:30	Prayer Breakfast (Optional)	Gary Raiford/Jimi Sowell	Restaurant
08:45 – 09:00	Opening Remarks	Eric Truesdale	Meeting Room 2 nd Floor
09:00 – 10:00	General Business Meeting/Elections	Eric Truesdale	Meeting Room 2 nd Floor
10:00 – 10:15	Break		
10:15 – 11:00	Business Meeting/Elections (Cont.)	Eric Truesdale	Meeting Room 2 nd Floor
11:00 – 12:00	NCDVA Training/Education	Jeff Smith/Brandon Wilson	Meeting Room 2 nd Floor
12:00 – 1:15	Lunch		
1:15 – 2:45	TRICARE	Deborah Harvey	Meeting Room 2 nd Floor
2:45 – 3:00	Break		
3:00 – 4:30	Appeals (American Legion)	Cajun Comeau	Meeting Room 2 nd Floor
6:00 – 8:30	Banquet/Auction	Darryl Crenshaw	Patio/Bar Area

Friday April 24

Time	Event	Presenter	Location
8:30 – 9:30	VARO Director Update	Cheryl Rawls	Meeting Room 2 nd Floor
9:30 – 10:30	NCDVA Director Update	Ilario Pantano	Meeting Room 2 nd Floor
10:30 – 11:00	Closing Remarks/Critiques	Jim Prosser	Meeting Room 2 nd Floor

*Optional Tour – Please call Amelia at (910) 347-3309 for info or to sign up for the tour.

Weather at the beach

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
20 Thunderstorm 	21 Chance of a Thunderstorm 	22 Partly Cloudy 	23 Clear 	24
Forecast: 71° 59° 0.21 in	Forecast: 71° 58° 0.05 in	Forecast: 69° 59° 0.0 in	Forecast: 70° 57° 0.0 in	Record: 88° 37° 1.60 in
Average: 71° 52° 0.06 in	Average: 71° 52° 0.03 in	Average: 72° 53° 0.07 in	Average: 73° 53° 0.06 in	Average: 74° 55° 0.09 in

Find things to do

Morehead City
Downtown



Fort Macon State Park

The Crystal Coast
NORTH CAROLINA'S GEM

Theodore Roosevelt Natural Area

NCACVSO Leadership

ELECTED OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: ERIC TRUES-
DALE

VICE PRESIDENT JIM PROSSER

SECRETARY LORI HINSON

TREASURER TERESA BALL

APPOINTED POSITIONS:

MEMBER-AT-LARGE JIMI SOWELL
AMELIA GRISSETT

CHAPLAIN GARY RAIFORD

JUDGE ADVOCATE LARRY TOWNSEND

NEWSLETTER JIM PEDERSEN

HISTORIAN VICTOR ALSTON

WEBSITE EDITOR ERIC TRUESDALE



Committee Chairs

Education Committee
Jim Prosser

Scholarship Committee
Anne Knowles

Membership Committee
Brenda Perry

Budget and Finance Committee
Teresa Ball

Legislation Committee
Anne Knowles

Women Veterans Committee
Brenda Dubose

Nominations Committee
Daren Graves

Hospitality Committee
John Sandrock

Agent Orange residue on Post-Vietnam war planes

Some Air Force Reservists who were crew members on C-123 Provider aircraft, formerly used to spray Agent Orange during the Vietnam War, have raised health concerns about exposure to residual amounts of herbicides on the plane surfaces.

Responding to these concerns, VA asked the Institute of Medicine (IOM) to study possible exposure and increase in adverse health effects in C-123 crew members.

IOM released its report, Post-Vietnam Dioxin Exposure in Agent Orange-Contaminated C-123 Aircraft, Jan. 9, 2015. VA appreciates IOM's extensive review. We have assembled a group of clinical and other subject matter experts to review and respond to the report.

If you have health concerns, talk to your health care provider or local VA Environmental Health Coordinator.

How Reservists may have been exposed

TCDD, the toxic substance in Agent Orange, may be inhaled as an aerosol or ingested by contaminated food or water or from hand-to-mouth transfer.

During the Vietnam War, the U.S. Air Force used C-123 aircraft to spray Agent Orange to clear jungles that provided enemy cover in Vietnam. At the end of the spraying campaign in 1971, the remaining C-123 planes were reassigned to reserve units in the U.S.

for routine cargo and medical evacuation missions spanning the next 10 years.

View VA's Office of Public Health's [review of scientific reports](#) related to Agent Orange in C-123 aircraft.

Research studies on Agent Orange

Research on the health effects of Agent Orange has been extensive and it continues. Diverse populations have been studied, including herbicide sprayers and manufacturers, other Vietnam-era Veterans, and those exposed during industrial accidents. This information helps us to determine what potential health effects may be related to different levels of exposure.

Health concerns? If you have health concerns about Agent Orange, talk to your health care provider or [local VA Environmental Health Coordinator](#).

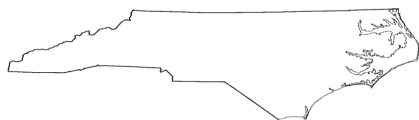
Veterans may file a claim for disability compensation for health problems they believe are related to exposure to Agent Orange residue on post-Vietnam C-123 airplanes.

Veterans must show on a factual basis that they were exposed in order to receive disability compensation for diseases related to Agent Orange exposure.

VA decides these claims on a case-by-case basis.

See more at:

<http://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/agentorange/locations/residue-c123-aircraft/index.asp>



North Carolina - The Tar Heel State

NCACVSO

North Carolina
Association of County
Veterans Service
Officers

www.ncacvso.org



Training time.

Hospitality

Hello Everyone.

It is that time of year again for us to gather together receive some good training, swap stories and.....have our HOSPITALITY NIGHT. As you know, we are trying to have a theme as we meet each year and our theme this year will be the "Roaring Twenties." So don't be a Rag a Muffin, bring your Glad Rags and lets have some fun. I look forward to seeing you all at the beach.

Your Hospitality Committee