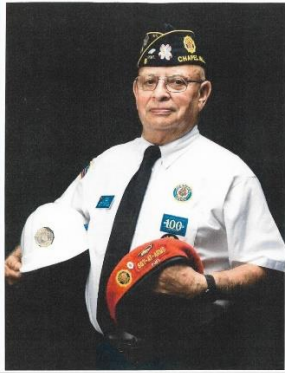


CHAPEL HILL POST NO. 6, AMERICAN LEGION, INC., OFFICER CANDIDATE PROFILES 2023-2024

**Robert Medred
For Post Commander**

Past Post 2nd Vice Commander, 6 yrs.
Chairman, Revitalization Committee, 2 yrs.
Member, Post 4-person construction committee.
Past Chairman, Officer Nomination Committees.
Retired USAF meteorologist. Local business owner.






**Jim Parise
For Post Commander**


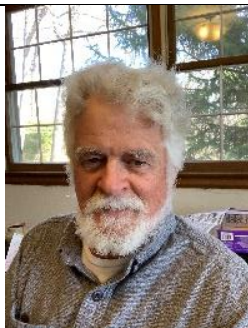

US Army Security Agency – 4yrs: Post 787 Cicero, NY (now the largest in NY State) – 8yrs: Post 6 Memorial Brick Sales Manager 6yrs: Post 6 Sgt-at-Arms – 4yrs: Department Sgt-at-Arms, Promoted to Chief by Dept. Commander Donnelly – 3yrs: Post 6 Facility Manager – 4yrs: Post 6 Construction Committee - 6yrs: Post 6 3rd Vice Commander – 2yrs: Orange County Veterans Memorial Committee – 5yrs: Orange County Veterans Wall of Honor – 3yrs: North Carolina Legionnaire of the Year – 2021: The distinct honor of Raising Old Glory for the first time at our new home.

The pandemic caused havoc in so many parts of our lives and disrupted our daily functionality. The PEC met and took up the burden of operating the facility until some semblance of order could be returned to our daily lives.

My vision for the future of Post 6 is to restore us to our roots in the Four Pillars for which we were founded. We are a bottom-up organization with the power belonging to the members and owners of the post and this wonderful facility. The building is the place where the post comes to meet and enjoy the comradeship of other veteran owners. I will direct us toward a directed fiscal policy to ensure our survival. I will promote the fundamentals upon which we were formed one hundred and four years ago. I will open the door for all members to have input into the operation of their facility and post functions. I will strive to make the post more family and community friendly. I believe that this facility should be a safe haven for all of our fellow veterans and their families. I promise to work

		just as hard as I have in the office of Facility Manager to serve you, the owners, my brothers, and sisters to comply with your mandates for our facility and operations and be the best steward of our legacy possible.
	Adjutant Matt Attaway	A very ACTIVE and impacting Post Adjutant for 2 years, and ACTIVE Member for 4 years. Of recent, a direct contributor to the Executive, Finance, Membership and Election Committees and numerous volunteer hours in support of a wide variety of Post functions. Sustained superior performance and leader whose record speaks for itself! • Retired Naval Submarine Officer (20+ years) • 2nd Career in Business and IT Management • Defacto Gym Rat
	1st Vice Commander Violet DeKnicker	My focus will be on Veterans, making Post 6 a destination place for Veterans and the four Pillars of the Legion: Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation, National Security, Americanism and Children and Youth.
	2 nd Vice Commander Martha Avery	My name is Martha Avery and I am running for Second Vice Commander of Chapel Hill Post 6, American Legion. I am a mother, wife, veteran, ex-fire fighter, home health nurse, and entrepreneur of two small businesses, to which my husband and I ran for 21 years. I am currently employed at the Hillsborough BBQ in Hillsborough, NC. I also participate in a BBQ team (The Back Yard Chefs).
	3rd Vice Commander Michael Hatcher	Mike serves as communications and internet manager. He is systems oriented and has managed our support services. Mike is the recipient of the Department of North Carolina Post Website Award, First Place, to be presented at the June State Convention.
	Finance Officer Keith Caraway	Keith is keenly interested in ensuring our finances are handled correctly and promptly.

	<p>Judge Advocate Joseph O'Connor</p>	<p>Joseph O'Connor is an out-of-state licensed attorney who has made application to the State Bar of North Carolina. He has served as the Post Judge Advocate for the past year, and has a life-long history of service, including Enlistment in the U.S. Army and Commissioning in the U.S. Army Reserves for over 28 years. He is a Life-Time Member of The American Legion, The Military Officers Association, and The Noncommissioned Officers Association. In his civilian life, Joseph served as a Michigan State Trooper for over 20 years, and has been a solo attorney practitioner for almost 30 years. Joseph has two young adult sons with the oldest serving in Syria as a U.S. Soldier, and the other is a certified firefighter, studying at Oklahoma State University. Joseph lives in Durham with his female Pitbull-mix dog, Clover.</p>
	<p>Chaplain James Mackorell</p>	<p>Multiple year chaplain. Boy Scout Program Chair. Flag Disposal program. Liaison with Boy Scouts of America, Occonechee Council. Long time Boy Scout Leader in Chapel Hill. Many of his kids now have grandchildren in Scouts and some of his Scouts serve or have served as officers in Post 6. A behind the scenes one-man post renewal team and project doer. Local historian.</p>
	<p>Historian Lee Heavlin</p>	<p>A Past Post Adjutant (4 years), Past Post Commander (4 years), Past Vice District Commander, and now serving on the Department NC Public Relations and Communications Committee. Orange County. Historian works in concert with Post Adjutant and Department Historian. Orange County Veterans Memorial, Inc., Secretary/Treasurer. USN (Ret.)</p>
	<p>Service Officer William Munsee</p>	<p>Immediate Past Post Commander and first Post Commander for our New Post Home. Qualifications: former E-5; former Navy O-6; former Post 6 Commander 2016-2021. As a ten-year member of this post, I am well aware of the requirements and importance of the VSO. If elected, I will focus on suicide prevention; veteran claims; and act as a first-tier counselor for those needing assistance.</p>

	Service Officer Wade Gutreuter	Ready to serve others as a Service Officer
	Service Officer Frank Horner	My father, Dewey Horner, was a founding member of the Post. I served in Korea and was a Post Commander here. I will do my best to assist members and area veterans, because I understand the difficulties of finding help when needed.
	Sergeant-at-Arms Wally Washburn	Wally says, "I do what I do for all of us. Teamwork is what makes our engine move. Not sure how to send a selfish, but if it needs fixing. I will give it my best. SEMPER FI" Wally is everywhere and active in all post events.
	Sergeant-at-Arms Robert "Sarge" Sweeney	Honor Guard member. Sarge retired 28 years ago after serving 23 years in the Army. Three years active and 20 years in the reserves. "I was a drill instructor for 8 years and First Sergeant 7 years. I will support the Commander of post six to the best of my ability." Chapter President at Sleep In Heavenly Peace Durham NC – Build Beds for Kids.
	Sergeant-at-Arms Lance Kress	Lance Kress , 77, served active duty with the US Naval Air Reserve, patrol squadron VP-10 from 1968-1970. Has been a Post 6 member for 5 ? years and a sergeant at arms for 3 years. Civilian occupation was with the US Forest Service (retired in 2008) as an air pollution scientist (Ph D in Plant Pathology). I am willing to continue to serve the Post and assist my Commander and other officers.
	Sergeant-at-Arms Edward Gerhardt	"I'm ready to serve. How can I volunteer?" He is ready and eager to participate as a member of the Sergeant-at-Arms.
	Sergeant-at-Arms Jason Torgerson	