

# NCSC April Meeting Agenda

*Governing Board Meeting*

*Wednesday, April 16, 2025*

Meeting Called to Order: 9:30am

**Advisor: Sherri Naumann**

**Advisor: Jamye Gore**

**President: Penny Ezell**

**Scholarship Committee Update:** The scholarship committee met on Friday, April 11 at noon. We were able to tally the judges scores, and rank the total scores of each applicant. We had 21 applicants that submitted applications. We were able to award 4 high school students scholarships and 4 college students scholarships based on the judges highest scores and recommendations. We are thankful to our community judges and our member at large that served on this judging panel.

New Business: Congratulations to our new 2025-2026 Executive Board! I am so very excited for what is to come for this organization next year! Kudos to this year's board for an incredible year. Your hard work and dedication has made this year a HUGE success!!

[Goals and Norms 2024-2025](#)

Michael Stausser will have an article coming out about volunteerism highlighting the North Country Spouses' Club- Thank you to M. A., Tiff and Jenna for being interviewed for this article.

As we wrap up this last month and ½, we have a busy few weeks!

**May 3, 2025 Grants and Scholarships Ceremony combined with Thrift Shop**

11:00 Set Up

1:00 Ceremony

**May 9, 2025**

Military Spouse Appreciation 9:00-10:30 Alyssa, Penny, Nicole ( Anyone else want to help?)

Kentucky Derby Set Up 9:00-11:00 Allie, Patti ( Can we please get some others that can help with set up and tear down?

I know we discussed in March and I don't think the notes were added. I do apologize!

Kentucky Derby 11:00-1:00

The executive board discussed recognizing Laura Myer at the Kentucky Derby as well. She is not someone we normally do a farewell party for but she has been a huge supporter of the club so we would like to give her a gift and recognize her at our final social. Patti will be discussing this more for a vote based on the budget.

VoY 2:00-3:00 at the Peak Penny and Shelly need to be there by 1:30.

**Volunteer of the Month March-** Stefanie Brady

**Volunteer of the Quarter 2-** Rayna Gossett This ceremony has been moved to August. Rayna will be PCSing to Fort Johnson in July so I would like to recognize her at the Kentucky Derby and then she will receive her award from Garrison in the mail.

**May 21, 2025 End of Year Board Party at Shelly's-** Cait will be making an event in our Board FB, please RSVP by May 10th so we know how much pizza to order from Goodfellows.

Someone mentioned karaoke. Is that something we are interested in? Does anyone have a karaoke machine?

**May 29th Mountain Meet Up** - Allie and Patti will be heading up our table for this event! Does anyone else want to help with this?

**Passwords:** Please text me your current password for your NCSC email account. I want to make sure we have the correct password for each NCSC email account. I know a few of you have changed them this year, which is great, I just want to make sure my list is current. Thank you!!  
Orange

**Email from a Research Student needing our help- Would anyone like to help with this? See below:**

Message: I am a longtime military spouse and graduate student conducting research on how military spouses develop and communicate leadership roles in volunteer programs.

I am asking for your help in contacting spouses who have served in a leadership or advisor position with a unit SFRG or FRG program anytime from 2009 to present. I hope to speak with at least five spouses from Fort Drum this spring in brief interviews about their volunteer leadership experiences.

I know from personal experience the difference these volunteers make in our communities. It was the reason I chose this topic for my research, which is a thesis project in fulfillment of a Master of Arts degree in organizational communication and leadership at Murray State University (Murray, Ky.). It is my hope that once my research is completed, it may show ways to foster volunteer leadership and improve volunteer

experiences, including training and/or mentoring.

I also hope this study can amplify the voices of military spouses concerning volunteer leadership roles within military communities. My research uses concepts that have been developed to study employee experiences in business settings, but are modified to study volunteer experiences, particularly recruitment, retention and how spouses may influence the development of these important leadership roles.

I appreciate any help or guidance you can give me in connecting with potential participants at your post, including suggestions for contacts or organizations. I am happy to answer any questions about this project. I also have a recruitment email drafted for participants and would be happy to send you a copy that could be forwarded. I can also forward a copy of a participant recruitment flyer with additional details.

Thank you so much for all you do for our military community.

V/r

Virginia Klaus

Graduate Student/Academic Researcher

Dept. of Organizational Communication and Leadership

Murray State University

Mobile: 571-509-9764

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[vwklaus@outlook.com](mailto:vwklaus@outlook.com)

Old Business:

**Passwords:** Please text me your current password for your NCSC email account. I want to make sure we have the correct password for each NCSC email account. I know a few of you have changed them this year, which is great, I just want to make sure my list is current. Thank you!!

Vote Needed:

Income: None

Expenses:

Volunteer hours: Added into VMIS

*Added Notes:*

*Grants and Scholarships meetings is at Main Post Chapel 1pm 5/3*

*Volunteers for Derby set up and tear down recruited*

*Board party is at 6pm 5/21*

*Sheeri McFaden asked Penny if NCSC on 5/17 (morning) would like to be in the Advocate Drum parade with a float or truck that we can decorate in Watertown, Board is excited to help!Patti*

*Agard offered to spearhead this.*

## **1st Vice President: Stephanie Spika Hickey**

New Business:

- Chipotle Fundraiser - May 6 from 4-8 p.m. We get 25% of our supporters' sales. We have to have \$150 in sales in order to get a check. Supporters have to mention us when

they order, or use our promo code (**B7KCWRL**) when they order online through the Chipotle app or website. (Code only works on 5/6 from 4-8 p.m.). I will work with Cait to ensure we publicize on our website and that we (me) email our members to let them know. We all also need to help spread the word when the time is closer.

- Flock the Yard – be on the lookout for a volunteer sign up form. Same prices and structure as we did in the fall. Tentative nights for flocking:
  - ❖ Tuesday, April 29
  - ❖ Thursday, May 1
  - ❖ Saturday, May 3
  - ❖ Monday, May 5
  - ❖ Wednesday, May 7
  - ❖ Pick up on Friday, May 9

Old Business:

Vote Needed:

Income: None

Expenses: None

Volunteer hours: March – 6 hours

*Added Notes:*

*We need approval from Garrison and Housing to do flock the yard, process started*

## **2nd Vice President: Allie Iacovelli**

New Business: Gearing up for the April social! We have 38 folks coming so that's great! The Peak is catering, and we've got the guest speaker from Samaritan coming to chat about volunteer opportunities. Currently I have Patti down to help me set up - is there anyone else who would be available for set up? Ideally 3 people, that way I can run to the peak to grab the food at 11.

Agenda is as follows:

- welcome and mingle
- election info
- Eating lunch!
- Guest speaker
- First 2 rounds of bingo
- Opportunity prizes
- Next two rounds of bingo
- Election results
- Club business (flock and chipotle fundraiser info) and goodbye

Old Business: None

Vote Needed: None

Income: \$1,042 in Cheddar up sales (including opportunity prize ticket and bingo sales)

Expenses: \$646 for food, \$119.83 for prizes

Volunteer hours: 18.5

*Added notes:*

*Vitos is catering the Kentucky Derby in May*

### **Corresponding Secretary: Brittany Ferguson**

New Business: Nothing new to report

Old Business:

Vote Needed:

Income: None

Expenses:

Volunteer hours: 5

### **Recording Secretary: Rayna Gossett**

New Business:

Old Business:

Vote Needed: To approve March Minutes

Income: None

Expenses:

Volunteer hours: 10

Vote: March Meeting Minutes

Moved by: Allie Iacoveli

Second: MA Scott

All in favor: 12

### **Parliamentarian: Nicole Lockhart**

New Business:

**Election:** Executive board applications close on April 4th to prepare the slate. The slate was emailed to membership on April 7th with instructions for proxy voting. The election was held at the social on April 15th. The results of the election for the 25/26 Executive Board are:

President: Alyssa Faughnan  
First VP: Allie Iaceovelli  
Second VP: Alissa Meshesha  
Secretary: Rachel Klahs  
Publicity: Cait Lesco  
Treasurer: Patti Agard  
Parliamentarian: Stefanie Brady

Appointed board positions are still open. Appointed Committee Chairs are appointed by the President-elect. I will provide the president-elect with the applications to review. Please apply using the link provided.

<https://www.northcountryspousesclub.com/boardapplications>

**Binders:** I need to review binders. I have emailed the board the new Constitution and By-laws that need to replace the old ones. I will print everyone's new job descriptions as many of those have had some updates. Please work on your AAR's. I do have a sample if you would like to see it.

Old Business:

**AARs (After Action Reports):** AARs should include what you did. How it went. Any suggestions for next time. These are important for future NCSC boards. I would suggest when you are submitting your board report to update your AAR at the same time.

Vote Needed:

Income:

Volunteer hours: 40 hours

*Added notes:*

*Nicole will collect all binders, get with Nicole to give it to her once we start wrapping up or bring to next meeting*

## **Treasurer: Patti Aguard**

New Business: [NCSC March Finance Statement](#) and [OTBP March Finance Statement](#)

I am going after our board meeting to renew our club P.O. Box (\$210) and check the OTBP P.O. Box to see if it is ready for renewal.

The Executive Board discussed honoring Laura Meyers with a gift from NCSC at the Kentucky Derby social. She has been a great supporter of NCSC but is not in our traditional "farewell" grouping, but she is moving. We would like to propose purchasing her a [Small Adirondack pack](#) (\$70 + \$35 shipping + tax) This was not in the budget and will need a board vote.

After discussing at length with the Parliamentarian, then a follow up with the Executive board. I believe the section in the by-laws that outline our split for scholarships and grants could be refined to make things more clear. It addresses scholarships percentage (50%) and only alludes to the grants being the other 50%.

Currently it states:

Article IV - Finances, Taxes and Money - Section 2.

“The amount of funds used for scholarships shall be fifty percent (50%) of the annual Community Outreach income, unless deemed otherwise by the Governing Board”

My recommendation for this update would be:

“The amount of funds disbursed for scholarships and grants shall be split equally (50% to each), both parts total the annual Community Outreach income, unless deemed otherwise by the Governing Board”

I will be prepared for the scholarship and grants ceremony to write checks to those who have been awarded. I updated the Scholarships check request form to include a due date of August 1.

Update for Bank Accounts: Per our governing documents the following updates need to be made to our AmeriCu Checking Accounts:

North Country Spouses' Club: 00016703400105

Off The Beaten Path: 00016703560107

Penny Ezell (2024-2025 President) and Nicole Stephanie Spika Hickey (2024-2025 1st Vice President) need to be removed as signers, as their term is over.

Alyssa Pandora Faughnan (2025-2026 President) and Alissa Meshesha (2025-2026 2nd Vice President) need to be added as signers, as their term has begun.

Patricia Agard (2024-2025 Treasurer, now 2025-2026 Treasurer) and Alexandria Iacovelli (2024-2025 2nd Vice President, now 2025-2026 1st Vice President) will both stay as signers, as they remain on the Executive Board.

Old Business: \$17,000 in funds are ready for 50/50 split for grants and scholarships. Key Bank account was successfully closed on 3/19 and all funds were transferred to our AmeriCu accounts. The Blackwell Bookkeeping team is prepared for our year end audit and have asked to get our physical binder. I will deliver it to them shortly after 5/31

Vote: Bylaw update to Article IV - Section 2

Adding a gift for Laura Meyer (\$110 including shipping) to our budget

Income: None

Expenses: None

Volunteer hours: March - 32 hours

**Vote:** Gift for Laura Myer

**Moved by:** Alyssa Faughnan

**Second:** MA Scott

**All in favor:** 13

**Vote:** Article IV - Finances, Taxes and Money Section 2. (New language)

"The amount of funds disbursed for scholarships and grants shall be split equally (50% to each), both parts total the annual Community Outreach Income, unless deemed otherwise by the Governing Board. See Constitution, Article IX, Section 1 for the complete Methods of Finance."

**Moved by:** Cait Lesco

**Second:** Steph Hickey

**All in favor:** 13

## **Blue Star Family Liaisons: Molly Culley and Sarah Staib**

New Business: Final Coffee Connect for 24-25 board year will be May 6.

Old Business: None

Vote Needed: None

Income: None

Expenses: None

Volunteer hours: Added into VMIS

*Added Notes;*

*10 or 10:30am for Coffee Connect*



## Community Outreach: Stefanie Brady

New Business:

The grant committee met on 7 April to evaluate 18 applications. Granted 10 recipients a total of \$8500.

This month we are partnering with the St. Lawrence County Foster Care Program.

We will host 2 guests from Samaritan Hospital to talk about their volunteer program

Old Business:

Vote Needed: None

Income: None

Expenses: None

Volunteer hours: 45

*Added Notes:*

*Stefanie wants to Partner with the ambulance squad on Fort Drum and provide them with coffee , snacks, drinks etc for May Social. Will ask them to come out to the next social.*

## Donations Coordinator: Alyssa Faughnan

- Board Report not received

## Historian: M.A Scott

New Business: I will take pictures at the Plant Bingo, and continue working on the scrapbook

Old Business: took a few pictures at the sub club events and worked on the scrapbook

Vote Needed:

Expenses:.

Volunteer hours: 15 1/2

## Hospitality: Brittany Young

New Business: Nothing new to report

Old Business:  
Vote Needed:  
Income: None  
Expenses:  
  
Volunteer hours:

### **Membership: Morgan Sims**

New Business: 228 members!  
Old Business:  
Vote Needed:  
Income: None  
Expenses:  
  
Volunteer hours: 5 hours

### **ODYD: Tiff Gallo**

New Business: There are two SFRG special events coming up for 4-31 Infantry, April 28<sup>th</sup> 5:30-8:00PM and April 30<sup>th</sup> 11:00AM-1:30PM. ODYD will be attending the ACS Spring Mountain Meetup on May 29<sup>th</sup> 10:00AM-2:00PM at The Peak.

Old Business: ODYD Deployed 12 dresses and received 9 donations in the month of March. We are still planning on attending Military Spouse Appreciation Day on May 9th.

Vote Needed: None

Income: None

Expenses: \$41.34 on new aprons and hangers. I have already been reimbursed by Patti.

Volunteer hours (only if you did not enter them into Vmis yourself) : 33

### **Off The Beatin' Path Representative: (Board position open)**

### **Property Manager: Cara Arterburn**

### **Publicity: Caitlin Lesco**

New Business: Website updates, social media updates, Newsletter, promoting events and 2025-2026 Election, scholarships & grants ceremony invitation and program

Old Business: None

Vote Needed: No

Income: None

Expenses: N/A

Volunteer hours 21

*Added notes:*

*Cait mentioned she got an email that housing wants to partner with us for volunteer opportunities*

### **Reservations: Rachel Klahs**

New Business: Preparing for the April social. Currently we have a total of 38 guests planning to attend. Event ticket collections have been closed and bingo cards and opportunity tickets are still on sale. By the time of this meeting, we will have the final attendance stats.

Old Business: None

Vote Needed: None

Income: None

Expenses: None

Volunteer hours:12

*\$1107 dollars collected for yesterdays social and sold many tickets and bingo cards at the event*

### **Retiree Representative: Shelly Matthews & Kelly Bice**

New Business: Nothing new to report. Still working on both old business events.

Old Business:

Sackets Harbor Marathon water station team

Sunday, September 7th, 2025. We hydrate the runners, cheer and inspire them using costumes, props, anything loud and fun!! BONUS: this is also a contest \$100 participation/consolation prize with two teams eligible to win \$500. We will once again be stationed at the FULL MARATHON

halfway turnaround point. Shelly will provide more details to our team in the next two months as we transition over to a new board and will stay on to lead the team (I did apply for next year's board!) Volunteers so far: Shelly, Donnie, Patti, Mona, Ryan, Morgan, M.A., Jamye.

2025 Can-Am Festival in Sackets Harbor July 19-20. Every year, my (Shelly) husband coordinates with Fort Drum/10th CAB for participation in the parade and providing a military flyover/fly by and then setting up a static display where the crowd can sit in the vehicles and helicopters and ask the pilots and Soldiers questions. Possible opportunity for an information table for NCSC (to get the word out about our club and membership) placed on the Battlefield next to military static display (either next to the tactical vehicles or helicopters or both depending on who is available to volunteer in the summer). Lunch is provided for volunteers, pilots & Soldiers by the Matthews family.

\*\*\*Volunteers Shelly, Stefanie B, Brittany F, M.A., Penny if she is in town that weekend

Income: None

Expenses:

Volunteer hours : 7 hours (Shelly)

*Added Notes:*

*Shelly and her husband want to try and build a shade shower and maybe use super soakers to hose down runners at the marathon. Asked the board for help with ideas on how to build it.*

## **Scholarships: See Penny Ezell's (President) board report**

### **Social: Angel Hogan**

New Business: No new business, emailed Rosanna Tyree about Fit & Fabulous and have not heard back. Planning to table that until the next board. Working on the AAR for next month.

Old Business:

Vote Needed:

Income: None

Expenses:

Volunteer hours: 1

### **Volunteer Coordinator: Sarah Vanderleest**

New Business: Continued with volunteer appreciation - Stefanie Brady is our March volunteer of the month! Check out the Facebook page and the monthly newsletter to see her wonderful work within the community.

Please don't forget to include your hours volunteered in your board report! I will manually put them into VMIS for you if you'd like.

Old Business: N/A

Vote Needed: N/A

Income: None

Expenses: N/A

Volunteer hours: N/A

Meeting End Time: 10:26