



SEPTEMBER 2021

THE ONS NEWS & REALLY!  
Operation North State's Monthly Newsletter  
Edition: September 2021

Hello,

September has Operation North State (ONS) in high gear. We officially kicked-off our NCCARES Christmas Box Project now in its 12 th Season. And, our fishing, golf and cycling activities are wide-open too! See below for the current status and NEEDS / SUPPORT associated these projects. VOLUNTEERS / SUPPORTERS ARE ALWAYS NEEDED. Lend a hand when you can! ONS welcomes your support. Operation North State is all about utilizing North Carolina's People, Places, Products and Pride (that is you) to do what we can to support North Carolina's active military and veterans – especially those veterans-in-need.

### **CURRENT / UPCOMING PROJECTS**

Visit our Facebook pages for more details (posts and photo albums).

#### **ONS Facebook Pages**

Operation North State, [Cycling Heals- Vets Connect](#), [Foursomes for Heroes](#),  
[Tarheel Anglers Therapy Trail \(TATT\)](#), [Terry Snyder](#)

**NCCARES Christmas Box Project:** Now through mid-December

We're happy and honored to report that support and demand for this year's NCCARES Christmas Boxes is off to an incredible start. All 1000 boxes will be distributed to veterans in North Carolina by December 23. How Can You Help?

**Submit name(s) of a “shut-in” veteran(s)** that you would like to receive a NCCARES Christmas Box this Christmas. Go to [www.operationnorthstate.com](http://www.operationnorthstate.com) and use the “Submit Tab” on the Home Page. You can also submit names to [mailbox@operationnorthstate.com](mailto:mailbox@operationnorthstate.com). We need name, address and t-shirt size. Note: A “Shut-in Veteran” to ONS is a veteran that is dependent on others; confined to his/her living quarters. And, he/she doesn't drive and can't leave the home without the assistance of others.

**Ask one of North Carolina's premier companies, brands and logos to provide items / products for the NCCARES Christmas Boxes.** We currently have 17 premier partners lending a hand.

**Sponsor a Collection Box Drive** – a “key” component of the NCCARES Christmas Box Project:

So rewarding and so much fun! Operation North State is currently recruiting Collection Box Project Partners throughout the state. The Collection Box Drive Partners will collect 8 – 10 items that our veterans are telling us they would love to receive. These goodies along with approximately 15 premier North Carolina-made products will go into the NCCARES Christmas Boxes that we will be handing out to 1000 NC's shut-in veterans and veterans-in-need this Christmas. Any assistance would be greatly appreciated. Share, Share and SHARE this message. And, I'm happy to report we have already confirmed 41 Collection Box Drive Partners (churches, veterans' organizations, companies, schools, etc.) for this year – but, we still need more!

Need: For you, your club, workplace, church or school to serve as a Collection Box Drive Partner. Contact Operation North State ASAP at [mailbox@operationnorthstate.com](mailto:mailbox@operationnorthstate.com) to pledge your support. This is a FUN and REWARDING project; and, it does so much good for North Carolina's shut-in veterans and veterans- in-need. These veterans truly are in need..... And, these Special Americans are most deserving of a “Thank You For Your Service” show of appreciation gift from all of us this Christmas.

Peer Fishin' Festival on Ocean Crest Pier at Oak Island: October 18 - 22

It's back. One of Operation North State's most popular family outings. We're BEYOND EXCITED to welcome the event back. Operation North State, our partners, volunteers, supporters and venue- partner Ocean Crest Pier have begun the planning activities for the outing. We are bringing back our popular "Peer Fishin' Festival" to Ocean Crest Pier at Oak Island!!! We have been through a few tough years related to hurricanes, rebuilding communities and then COVID but, the Peer Fishin' Festival is back. And, it's not just for a day - BUT for the week of Monday, October 18 - Friday, October 22.

Needs: Bottom-rigs, volunteers to serve as pier-mates for a day and financial assistance to assist in purchasing lunches, snacks and bait. The pier fishing passes, t-shirts and daily lunches and snacks will be made available to all participants.

Hosting Cycling Heals – Vets Connect Outings: Monthly

Hosted the second Tuesday of every month at Salem Lake in Winston-Salem. It's an incredible venue. All Veterans – especially wounded warriors / DVets and the general public are welcomed.

Need: Come out and support this great cause; we have around 40 attendees each month. And, we always need cash donations to assist in purchasing snacks and beverages. Our expenses are very low for this outing but every cash donation helps. AND, we always need used-bike donations which we rework and provide to wounded warriors / DVets requesting bikes back in their respective communities.

Host Boaters offering One-on-One Fishing Trips throughout the state to wounded warriors / DVets: Daily

Need: Host Boaters to host wounded warriors / DVets throughout the state to ALL TYPES of fishing – including private pond / lake fishing too. And, we always are in need of rod & reel combos and fishing tackle / equipment donations which we match up with our wounded warriors / DVets in need.

Foursomes for Heroes Bucket-List / Premier Golf Outings: Daily

North Carolina's avid golfers, country clubs and premier golf courses host NC's wounded warriors / DVets to quality rounds of golf followed by lunch (quality golf, fellowship and making new friends).

Needed: More host golfers, host golf clubs, discount tickets to driving ranges AND some teaching pros and low – handicap golfers to provide basic instructions / teaching both to beginners and to our veterans that have some game and can play but want to get better yet!

**WHAT DRIVES ONSers TO DO WHAT WE DO.... SEE A FEW RECENT COMMENTS FROM THE VETERANS WE SERVE.**

“Thank you! This was my first time with the one on one boaters. What a wonderful thing you have done. I look forward to the next trip. Once again THANK YOU!”

“I'm Bxxxxx Bxxxxx, Retired Army and Disable Gulf War Veteran. I would like to thank all the Captain and Sponsors for everything you have provided to ONS. Your service provides me the opportunity to get into the outdoors. I'm 100% PTSD. The outings provided therapy to other veterans and me. It's helped me create new life time relationship. Again thanks for everything you have done.”

“I am so grateful and thankful for all ONS does and provides. I look forward to the yearly outings, gatherings, and knowing that we are not forgotten. ONS is dedicated to giving me a sense of life and something to look forward to every year, and when I get the emails you should see my smile and the wife. Me getting the opportunity to attend these events also gives my wife some respite while knowing I'm in good hands. To everyone that helps make this possible THANK YOU, please continue, and God Bless you.”

“Terry and Host Boaters and ONS Sponsors - I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you for your time and efforts to help wounded warriors and disabled veterans. I love fishing and I have been amazed with all the host boaters providing their time, boats and fishing equipment to make a fun day of fishing. I look forward to participating in additional fishing events as soon as Covid passes. Thank you very much for making these fishing events possible. I would like to also thank all the sponsors to ONS, who without you, these events would not be possible.”

“Well from the bottom of my heart I would like to thank all involved, the volunteers, the boaters and esp. Mr. Snyder I actually have no idea where I'd be right now without ONS, THANK YOU”

"I just wanted to say Thank you so very much! My Dad is a veteran and received one of your boxes in December. He called me the day he got it and was telling me about everything that was in it. He was so excited and happy. I'm pretty sure that's the first time I have heard him laugh since Covid started. You all absolutely made his day and mine. I can't thank you enough! You have no idea how much that means to him and to me. Thanks again"

"Good Morning Terry,

I received an emotional phone call from my father, Lxxxx Sxxxxxx over the holidays, he lives in an assisted living facility in Monroe NC. He told me he received an unexpected package from some type of veterans organization, Operation North State immediately came to mind. He confirmed it was from ONS. This was the greatest gift he could have ever received, ONS touched his soul, he was in tears. He now knows he is not forgotten and I will never be able to properly express my appreciation for what you have done for my father. I explained to him that ONS is the same organization that I have been fortunate enough to take part in their fishing events. Count me in for Lake Norman and if there is anything I can do in the Monroe area, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you!"

### **CURRENT NEEDS**

All those mentioned above and, click on this [link](#) to view our Current Needs in a Facebook photo album. ONS' needs change daily based on the needs that are being communicated to us by the wounded warriors / DVets we serve. ONS is just the messenger. To pledge your support, send an email to [mailbox@operationnorthstate.com](mailto:mailbox@operationnorthstate.com)

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