



The Granite Slate

The official newsletter published quarterly for the
New Hampshire Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America
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Winter Edition

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The MOAA-NH Chapter's Mission

- To promote the aims of the MOAA stated in the By-Laws of that Association
- To further legislative goals and objectives of MOAA
- To encourage and facilitate camaraderie among our membership
- To provide useful services for and to protect the interests of members, their dependents, and survivors
- To encourage participation in community services deemed to be in the Chapter's best interest

Fall Meeting Started at the Inn on Main

The day began overcast and gloomy; but by mid-day, the sun came out and the afternoon was clear and bright when the chapter held its fall luncheon and meeting on September 16, 2017 at the Inn on Main in



Wolfeboro, NH. The 127 members and guests enjoyed a tasty meal with good conversation and fellowship. Also joining us were three members from the Wright Museum Board — Anne Blodget, Mary Collins, and Carole Wright, widow of the museum's founder. In addition, twelve first-time attendees and three potential members joined us: Andy & Peggy Beaulé of Bedford; Geoffrey Corson of Rochester; Thomas & Susan Dalton of Melrose, MA; Sidney & Susan Katz of Nashua; Eric Murdock of Plymouth; Ronald & Diane Nadreau of Hudson; and Robert & Carolyn Schroeder of Hooksett. The potential members were Bob & Lori Kline of Wolfeboro and Robert Viscio of Wolfeboro. We hope they join!

We were pleased to have Michael Culver, Executive Director of the Wright Museum of WWII in Wolfeboro, as our guest speaker. He presented an overview of the

museum and its goal to not let history be forgotten. He did not want to say too much about the museum itself as we were going to have a free tour of the museum after today's luncheon. He emphasized an ongoing exhibit, "The American Soldier, A Photographic Tribute from the Civil War to the War in Iraq."



Chapter President Peter Burdett (seen here on the left) presented Mr. Culver with a copy of James E. Wright's book entitled, *Enduring Vietnam*. Included in the book was a personalized bookplate suggesting that the book become part of the museum's collection.

Those members who attended the free tour of the museum after the luncheon were very impressed with what they saw!



*Credit for article and pictures:
Michael McLean, MOAA-NH
Secretary*

CHAPTER OFFICERS

PRESIDENT	CAPT F. Warren Coulter, USN (Ret), 603-465-2744; Warren.Coulter49@outlook.com
VICE PRESIDENT	CWO4 Robert D. Jaffin, USN (Ret), 207-850-1009; robertdjaffin@gmail.com
TREASURER	CDR James R. Day, Jr., USN (Ret), 603-642-7956; fuzzbutthall@comcast.net
SECRETARY	CDR Michael McLean, USN (Ret), 603-692-4648; mamclean@comcast.net

Visit the chapter's website at www.moaa-nh.org

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President's Corner

CAPT F. Warren Coulter, USN (Ret)



November seems to be one of the busiest months of the year. On the 7th of the month, we observed Election Day; on the 11th, Veterans Day; and on the 23rd, Thanksgiving Day.

On the 10th of the month, we observed the 242nd anniversary of the founding of the United States Marine Corps. Founded in 1775, the Corps continues to uphold its tradition as one of the premier services in our military. The few and the proud have good reason to be so, and we salute them this month.

November is also the month of the chapter's annual meeting during which the year's activities are reviewed and new officers and board members are elected. Peter Burdett stepped down as president (for the third time), and we extend our thanks for his exemplary service. Bob Jaffin was welcomed aboard as our new vice president. Bob joins Mike McLean (secretary), Roby Day (treasurer), and yours truly as chapter officers for the coming year. With Bob's election, it continues to be an all-navy group for another year.

Welcomed to the chapter's Board of Directors are five new members: William Luti, James Spotts, James LeFebvre, Wayne Balcom, and Ray D'Amante. With the addition of these gentlemen to our leadership, the chapter looks forward to an active and successful year.

The Public Affairs Officer's main responsibility is to keep the public up to speed on the chapter's doings. However, that position is currently still vacant. There just has to be an aspiring author in our membership who would take on that position. Hopefully, that someone will step forward soon!

Another ongoing topic of discussion is our declining membership. While demographics seem to be the main reason for the decline, nevertheless, it puts the onus on all of us to become recruiters and seek out new members. The most effective approach is to have a supply of applications that explain what MOAA is and does, offering a very painless way to join. It has been my experience that qualified candidates are everywhere. They are usually unaware of our chapter, so all it takes is for one of us to ask them if they are interested. Application forms are made available at each luncheon and can be obtained from any of the officers, board members, or downloaded from the chapter website at MOAA-NH.org then click on "How to Join."

Warren Coulter



2017 MOAA-NH Granite State Warriors Award

The MOAA-NH Granite State Warriors Award was established in 2011 to annually recognize the superb contributions of a New Hampshire-based company and/or New Hampshire resident that have:

- Enhanced the warfighting capabilities of US military forces through the development and deployment of weapon systems or subsystems that have led to the strengthening of our national security or
- Improved the health, morale, welfare and recognition of US military personnel and their direct families through the creation and delivery of unique services either in the US or where US military forces are deployed. Such unique services are specifically designed to improve the quality of life of our military forces and their families.

At the October Board Meeting, the Award Selection Committee announced that this year will see three recipients of the Granite State Warriors Award: Sig Sauer, Camp Resilience, and DV Farm. The presentation of these awards will be made at our January 2018 luncheon at the Portsmouth Country Club.

Credit for article and graphic: 2017 Granite State Warriors Award Committee and CDR Bruce Avery



ANNUAL DUES REMINDER

MOAA-NH annual membership dues are due in January 2018.

Regular and new members — \$19.00
Surviving spouses — \$12.00

Cut and paste or type the link below into your browser. It will take you directly to National MOAA's "Take Action" tab. There you can learn about current legislative issues and voice your opinions about their efforts.

<http://www.moaa.org/takeaction>

Change of Command Took Place at MOAA-NH's Annual Meeting on November 4

It was a breezy, chilly, crisp autumn day but the golfers were out at the Nashua Country Club in Nashua where the chapter held its Annual Meeting and Luncheon on November 4, 2017.

While the members' business meeting was going on, spouses and friends listened to a presentation by chapter member CDR Sharon Day, USN (Ret) about the insights, organization, and resources she used in relocating her 94-year-old mother cross country to New Hampshire and the lessons learned along the way. Those in attendance found it very informative!

Prior to the luncheon, a 50/50 raffle was run by Chapter Board member-elect Jim LeFebvre to raise money to support veterans organizations in New Hampshire. The raffle resulted in a total of \$334 — which meant \$167 for the chapter. The winner of the raffle, Jere Ericson, guest of Tony Burdo, donated his winnings to the chapter's Scholarship Loan Fund. What a noble person!

In addition, our guest of honor, MG Richard C. "Buck" Marr, wanted to pay for his and his wife's meals, but he was told they were our guests. So, he contributed \$54 to the Scholarship Loan Fund as well.

The MOAA-NH Virtual Store was also open for business, holding a 50% off sale on hats, challenge coins, and golf balls. The store took in \$145 for the chapter. Not too shabby!



A total of 105 members and guests participated in the traditional playing of all the service marches. Unfortunately, again this year, no one was present from USPHS to stand up for their march. Outgoing chapter president, CDR

Peter Burdett, USN (Ret), called on all the previous chapter presidents present to stand and be acknowledged as he pointed out the chapter's fifteenth medallion signifying being recognized as a 5-Star Level of Excellence Chapter recipient by MOAA.

We were pleased to have as our guest of honor, Major General Richard C. "Buck" Marr, USAF (Ret), former MOAA National Board Member. MG Marr



presided over the installation of this year's officers and Board of Directors for the chapter. The results of the annual elections are listed in the next column.

Chapter Officers (one-year term)

President CAPT F. Warren Coulter, USN (Ret)
Vice President CWO4 Robert D. Jaffin, USN (Ret)
Secretary CDR Michael A. McLean, USN (Ret)
Treasurer CDR James R. Day, Jr., USN (Ret)

Board of Directors (three-year term)

CAPT William Luti, USN (Ret)
 CAPT James P. Spotts, USCG (Ret)
 CPT James R. LeFebvre, USAR
 Capt Raymond P. D'Amante, USAF

Board of Directors (one-year term)

Lt Col Wayne E. Balcom, USAF (Ret)



Following the swearing in, Peter turned over the gavel to incoming President, CAPT F. Warren Coulter, USN (Ret), and they exchanged president and past president lapel pins.

Once again, we acknowledged the passing of chapter members who have died since the last annual meeting.

Everyone enjoyed a delicious meal as always excellently prepared by the staff of the club.



Following the meal, our speaker, Maj Gen Marr, warmed up the group with several amusing stories before getting into the somewhat depressing subject of "Legislative Update" and what is happening in Congress regarding

military and veterans benefits according to MOAA. He did not paint a very rosy picture for the future. Notwithstanding the subject, MG Marr's candor was appreciated by all present.

Our chapter's newly installed president, CAPT F. Warren Coulter, USN (Ret), presented MG Marr with a coffee table book about the sites of New Hampshire.



We were joined by six first-time attendees: Harold & Gail Mahar of Nashua; Eric Murdock of Plymouth; Laurence Sanford of Tewksbury, MA; and Stephen & Melinda Tourangeau of Hollis.

*Credit for article and pictures:
 Michael McLean, MOAA-NH Secretary*

2018 MOAA-NH Luncheons and Annual Meeting

January 27	Portsmouth Country Club (GSWA)
April 21	Common Man, Plymouth
June 23	Eagle Mountain Hotel, Jackson
August 4	PNSY World-famous CLAMBAKE
September 22	Bistro Nouveau, Grantham
November 10	Nashua Country Club, Annual Meeting

Reflections . . .



I was the Communications Officer for Admiral Arleigh A. Burke USN (CNO) (31 knot) in the Pentagon. Without the conveniences of today,

all the top secret and personal messages were hand-carried to each admiral in the “E” ring. The Suez Canal crisis of 1956 demanded that my armed driver and I travel after hours to the homes of DNI, Secretary of State, as well as the four senior admirals. My most memorable experiences were dining with admirals representing our interests around the globe at the Burke’s home. Also meeting distinguished WWII admirals such as RADM “Red” Ramage USN. Trust, discretion, and loyalty were paramount.

Virginia M. Deady
LTJG, USNR



Two young New Jersey Army National Guard Captains were ordered to retrieve an M48A1 tank from a recruiting event in Vineland, New Jersey, back in the '70s. It was a hot, summer day; and Jim and I were maneuvering the tank down Delsea Drive toward the armory and spotted Stewart’s Root Beer stand. Why not stop for a snack? We did — drove the tank onto one (maybe two) of the parking stalls with the main gun forward into the open side of the stand and waited for curb service. Not fazed at all, our waitress came out and said, “What can I get you?” but had a little trouble figuring out where to put the food tray. Little did we know, the Brigade Commander was right across the street and made note of our side track!



Lewis A. Chipola
LTC, USA (Ret)



Women in the Navy

As recently as the 1970’s, opportunities for women in the Navy were rather narrow by virtue of misplaced paternalism, all sorts of federal titles and such. But yet, there was fun to be had.

I managed to heft 250-lb general purpose bombs, fly in light attack A4s and A7s, climb Jacob’s ladders, exercise NJP authority, and act as “Mother” to all NROTC midshipmen (aka Mom). Things did change, however. Today, women drive ships, fly airplanes, and aspire to command afloat. It’s all great fun. And today, I am MOAA-NH’s Nametag Lady and still having fun.



“Yes, I’m not driving the ship!”
(USS CORAL SEA, ca 1977)

Sharon Day
CDR, USN (Ret)

Still Serving . . .

As the son of members of the greatest generation, one of whom got a walking tour of Europe courtesy of the US Army and the other who worked in a defense plant on the home front, I have always had examples of what service to our nation and community looked like. Thus, it surprised no one that I enrolled in ROTC in the midst of the turmoil rocking our nation in the late 1960s. Upon graduation and commissioning as an Infantry officer, I began what was to be a stereotypical cold warrior career: Germany, stateside at various posts and schools, Korea, and a final tour in Germany.

The first few years after retirement saw me utilizing my military experiences to continue to serve the needs of our nation. First as a member of the professional staff on the 1993 BRAC, helping to shape the future facility needs of the Army. The second, following my move to NH, was the opportunity to work with the Croatian Ministry of Defense in Zagreb to help them reorganize their military into a force that would lead to eventual NATO membership. We must have done something right since Croatia is now a full-fledged member.

Returning to the states, I realized I wanted to remain active in my community and retain my connections to fellow veterans and those still serving. The first thing that happened was an invitation from TROA to attend a meeting of the NH Chapter at the Mt. Washington Hotel. Following a delightful weekend, how could I not join the NH Chapter in order to continue going to such events? Within a very short time, I was elected to our Board of Directors on which I was to serve as either a director or officer for 16 years.

Following a similar track, I am also active in the American Legion here in NH, culminating my serving as the state commander two years ago. I continue my work with the Legion, most notably as a member of the National Legislative Commission. One reason I was selected for this Commission was, of course, my political involvement here in the state. I am currently serving my eighth term in the NH House.

If there is a moral to this small tale, it is that all of us continue to serve in some fashion. We have members who have lead the American Legion and the VFW at the local and state levels, who serve on Select Boards around the state, who work raising funds for various scholarship programs or veteran-related causes such as Veterans Count. It is who we are, and we all should feel proud that we are all still serving America.

John A. Graham
LTC, USA (Ret)

Share your service-related stories with your MOAA brothers and sisters by sending them to marie.chipola@gmail.com for the next issue!

*Is travelling on your bucket list?
Maybe this list will help . . .*



Here is the 2018 MOAA Travel Program:

- California & America's Western Wonders (10-24 Mar)
- Romantic Road & Fairy Tale Road [Germany] (12-23 Apr)
- America's Cowboy Country (16-23 May)
- America's Historic Mid-Atlantic (13-20 July)
- Discover Scotland, 14-21 Aug 2018
- Charming French Canada (14-21 Sept)
- Spain's Classics & Portugal (24 Oct - 6 Nov)

Log into our website "moaa-nh.org" and click on "Group Travel" to review all the details on the trips. For reservations or additional information contact Tony Burdo, 603-391-7106 or email: tonyajjb@gmail.com.

Advanced Notice: The travel event of the decade! — The Passion Play in Oberammergau, Germany in 2020. Book early. Information on the available trips and prices will be put on our website in the near future.

**Let's Welcome Our New
2017 Chapter Members!**

LTC Geoffrey A. Corson, USMC (Ret) [Joanne]
17 Angela Lane, Rochester, NH 03867-5251

Capt Thomas A. Dalton, USAF [Susan]
117 Sewall Woods Road, Melrose, MA 02176-1721

MAJ William E. DuVall, USA [Lynda]
149 Calef Island Road, Barrington, NH 03825-5374

Maj Sidney R. Katz, USAF [Susan]
13 Reservoir Street, Nashua, NH 03064-6221

1LT Gail S. Mahar, USA [Harold]
30 Mercury Lane, Nashua, NH 03062-1164

CPT Harold W. Mahar, Jr., USA [Gail]
30 Mercury Lane, Nashua, NH 03062-1164

LTC Kenneth R. McCann, USAR (Ret)
708 Martha's Way, Dover, NH 03820-5432

LT Laurence F. Sanford, USNR [Marilyn]
218 Ames Hill Drive, Tewksbury, MA 01876-1150

LT Rebekah L. Spotts, USCG [James]
47 Century Lane, Litchfield, NH 03052-1095

CAPT Robin D. Tyner, USN (Ret)
9 Millstream Drive, Exeter, NH 03833-4537

CPT R. Kent Whitman, USA (Ret) [Shirley]
37 Sesame Street, Keene, NH 03431-4844

**Consider applying for
this job with MOAA-NH!**

PUBLIC AFFAIRS DIRECTOR

MOAA-NH's membership is dwindling as are many veterans' organizations. Ironically, we have never been more successful: the Granite Slate Warrior Awards, membership on two NH state veterans committees, another (15th year) MOAA National 5 Star Excellence Award, and fundraising events which support veterans' needs.

Publicizing our chapter's existence and achievements is vital. It helps recruit new members and enables us to continue our good work. MOAA-NH needs a Public Affairs Director to achieve that. Please consider applying. The job is open to members, spouses and surviving spouses.

The job requirements and parameters are:

1. Ability to write clear and concise press releases (PRs) for local newspapers, social media outlets (Facebook and MOAA national and NH websites), television, and radio.
2. Good computer and writing skills are essential as media outlets rarely edit PR submissions.
3. Writing articles for media outlets reporting the luncheons, annual clambake, and annual meeting. The articles are normally published using MS-Word and less than 1000 words.
4. High resolution photos are usually incorporated in all written PRs. These photos are taken by either the Public Affairs Director or other MOAA-NH members.
5. Attend the monthly Board of Directors meetings and brief the Board on Public Affairs issues. Established media points of contact, formats, and example historic articles published in the media are available.

Please consider helping MOAA-NH. Contact Michael McLean (mamclean@comcast.net), tel: 603-692-4648 to volunteer. Questions about the job requirements and parameters should be addressed to Ken Lull (longbow1962@msn.com), tel: 603-833-5260.

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15th Year



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WHY MOAA?

BG Mikolaities Assumes Role as the New Hampshire Adjutant General



BG Mikolaities

Congratulations to Brig. Gen. David J. Mikolaities who assumed command as the 26th Adjutant General of the State of New Hampshire in a solemn ceremony on September 23, 2017 at the Air National Guard 157th Refueling Wing, Pease International Tradeport. BG Mikolaities' immediate past position was Construction and Facilities Management Officer of the New Hampshire National Guard.

He is a graduate of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, Webster University, and the U.S. Army College, BG Mikolaities was born in Manchester, NH and now resides in Portsmouth, NH, with his wife, Sandy, and their three children, Skyler, Adam, and Sierra.

December 2017

Taps



All from New Hampshire:

LTC Roger L. Bergevin, USA (Ret) [Concord]
MAJ Francis W. Carter, Jr., USAF (Ret) [Durham]
Mrs. Helen P. Closson [Manchester]
Mrs. Ellen F. Cogan [Exeter]
Mrs. Anna Doris Cricenti [Bow]
COL Joseph H.R. Girard, USAF (Ret) [Plaistow]
LTC Robert E. Hinds, USAR (Ret) [Laconia]
Mrs. M. Patricia Hines [Belmont]
COL Royal B. Holmes, USA (Ret) [Charlestown]
LTC Russell K. Knox, USAFR (Ret) [Portsmouth]
COL Helen A. Maslanka, USAF (Ret) [Portsmouth]
1LT John J. Meaney, Jr., USMC [Hampton]
Mrs. Betty E. Robson [Concord]
LTC Paul D. Saladino, USAR (Ret) [Rochester]
MAJ Frances L. Swallow, USA (Ret) [Kingston]
Mrs. Irene J. Thalheimer [Dunbarton]
COL Amos R. Townsend, USAF (Ret) [Madbury]
Mrs. Carol H. Warren [New London]