



The Granite Slate

The Official Newsletter for the
New Hampshire Chapter of The Military Officers Association of America



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Spring Edition

*April Luncheon
Common Man, Plymouth, NH*



Award Presentation (Photo by Peter W. Dawson/MOAA-NH)

This was our second visit to this Common Man restaurant for our spring meeting, and our luncheon consisted of 107 members and several guests. We were joined by Danielle Ocker, the new head of the VAMC in Manchester, and Mr. Bob Stevens, host of a TV recorded interview of veterans called "The Veteran's Forum".

Our guest speaker, Joe Byron, founder of Honor Flights New England gave a very moving presentation on the program which allows WWII veterans (and a sponsor) to fly round trip from New England to Washington, DC to visit the WWII Memorial. Mr. Byron provided a number of touching stories about the veterans' experiences and concluded with a comprehensive video of a typical trip from New Hampshire to Washington.

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Luncheon guests (WW2 veterans) included: Mr. Bob Stevens (Seabee), Lt Joseph Simpson, USN ret, and chapter member Mr. Leo S. Stacy (standing L-R between president Chadwick and honor flight MGR Joe Byron).
(Photo by Peter W. Dawson/MOAA-NH)

Local event honors Veterans

On Sunday July 24th, Service Credit Union will host Seacoast Salutes, a one day event to honor the sacrifices of our active duty military personnel and their families.

As a fundraiser for the Chaplain Emergency Relief Fund 100% of donations raised at this year's event will help military personnel and families in crisis.

Hosted by Greg Kretschmar from WHEB FM's Greg & The Morning Buzz Show, the event will be held at **Redhook Brewery** in Portsmouth, NH, and include live musical performances, a BMX stunt show, kids' activities, and an all-day New England Style BBQ.

Chapter Officers

President	COL H. Allen Chadwick, USA (Ret)	(603) 379-2147, achad21396@hotmail.com
Vice-President	CDR Pete Burdett, USN (Ret)	(800) 778-4251, Peter_Burdett@ml.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



President's Corner

Chad Chadwick

Memorial Day is our most solemn national holiday. It is a unique time for both celebration and poignant remembrances. We celebrate our freedom and way of life through backyard barbecues, ballgames, and beach outings. We also pause to remember our fallen in ceremonies mourning the loss of those who gave their lives so that we might live ours in peace and freedom.

At its core, the eloquence of Memorial Day speaks of personal sacrifice for a greater, common good. It also resonates in the stories of ordinary Americans who fought and died drawing on extraordinary inner strength and determination to preserve our nation. They did so out of an abiding sense of duty and immense personal courage.

Our land has been truly blessed and honored with Veterans who have given their lives to ensure that we have the freedom to enjoy the blessings given to us by God and assured in Liberty by the vision of our Founding Fathers. Let us remember those who have given their lives to make America strong, and to those who remain prepared to fight for our country today. The men and women who serve, and who have served in the Armed Forces are no less committed to protecting our nation than were the men who signed The Declaration of Independence.

Our Armed Forces continue to maintain that same standard of commitment and honor that was declared more than two centuries ago. On this Memorial Day pause to reflect on just what has been given and sacrificed so that freedom could ring across this great land.

Let us never forget the countless others who have given so much in service to our nation, and let us strive to honor the memory of the fallen.

--Chad--

Travel Update

We have the following remaining for 2016:

Italian Lakes, Greek Islands Cruise and Venice, 31 Aug - 12 Sep

Discover Switzerland, Austria and Bavaria, Sep 14-23
Treasures of N. CA. 23 - 31 October

2017:

Springtime Tulip Cruise, Dutch & Belgium Waterways, April 20 - 28

Hawaiian Adventure, 23 Feb - 4 Mar

Southern Charm, USA, 26 Mar - 1 Apr

Canadian Rockies By Train, 26 Aug - 3 Sep

Pacific Northwest & California, September 17 - 24

Wonders of South America, 2-13 Nov.

For details contact Tony Burdo, 603-391-7106,

email tonyajjb@gmail.com

2016 New Chapter Members Welcome Aboard!

LTC Lewis A Chipola
ARNG (Ret.) Anna M
120 Coliseum Ave, Apt 209
Nashua, NH 03063-3258

LTC Jeffrey J Corton
USA (Ret.) Jennifer E
51 McQuade Brook Rd
Bedford, NH 03110-5018

Capt Robert J Giuda
USMCR Christine M
660 Beech Hill Rd
Warren, NH 03279-4356



Honor Flight New England veterans / Wash, DC May, 2015

For more information: honorflightnewengland@gmail.com

In the news, Memorial day, the Vietnam Wall

May 30, 2016, MOAA news online

Every day, visitors to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C. - known as the Wall -- leave behind mementos honoring fallen family members, friends, and fellow service-members. And every evening, those mementos are gathered and given to the [Vietnam Veterans Memorial Museum Collection](#) where they are carefully preserved and archived.

Hundreds of thousands of items have been collected since the memorial's dedication in 1982 reports Janet Donlin, a museum technician with the National Mall which is under the auspices of the National Park Service. The most common items include letters, photographs, poems, and other ephemera as well as POW/MIA bracelets and military medals and insignia and patches.

The collection includes some rather unusual items as well Donlin notes, including a PRC-25 radio used by service members in the field, a motorcycle donated by a group of Rolling Thunder veterans from Wisconsin in honor of their fallen brothers, a replica of a bamboo cage used to hold American POWs, a race-car hood featuring a 1st Cavalry Division insignia, part of a door panel from a downed Huey helicopter, and a letter left by President Ronald Reagan.

"Our goal in collecting items left at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall is to tell the stories of the service members whose names are on it," Donlin notes. "We don't focus on the war itself - we focus on the individuals who fought in it."

After his presentation, Chapter Board member CAPT F. Warren Coulter, USN (Ret.) gave a brief summary of his recent trip to Wash-



ington, DC participating in MOAA's annual "Storming the Hill" convention allowing MOAA members to meet with their Congressional delegates. MOAA's position on important legislative issues are presented as part of this event.

At the conclusion of his briefing, Warren presented to chapter webmaster CDR Michael A. McLean, USN (Ret.), a certificate in recognition of the New Hampshire Chapter being a Five Star Award winner in MOAA's annual Communications commendation. We were also joined by three first time chapter members: Gerard & Barbara Boyle of Campton. and Michael Conlan of Waterville Valley.

— MOAA News —

April, 2016; Alexandria, Va. - Retired Air Force Lt. Gen. Dana Atkins, President and CEO of the [Military Officers Association of America \(MOAA\)](#), accepted a \$100,000 donation to the [MOAA Military Family Initiative](#) from the PenFed Foundation for a cooperative military financial education effort to launch later this year. MOAA will deliver financial education content tailored in conjunction with military transition program coordinators. The content will focus on one or more of the following themes based on the demographics and interests of each audience:

- * Strategic money management
 - * New military retirement plan
 - * Dollars and cents of working outside the home (optimized for military spouses)
 - * Legislative issues of interest to the military community
- Retired Air Force Lt. Col. Shane Ostrom, MOAA certified financial planner, will lead the program which prepares service members for life outside of the military. Ostrom has a deep background in financial and benefits education and prior experience in the financial industry. "We are looking forward to working with the PenFed Foundation leadership and the military community to advance our shared goal of increasing financial and military retirement planning awareness in the military community," said Atkins.

President and CEO of the PenFed Foundation James Schenck said, "This type of tailored financial education contributes to the financial readiness of our service members. Whether they serve for 30 years or for 3 years, we want them to be prepared for the future."

"Our partnership with MOAA reflects the DNA of the PenFed Foundation. Serving our nation's defenders and their families is who we are as an organization," said Schenck.



Chapter webmaster CDR Michael A. McLean, USN (Ret.), receives a certificate of recognition designating the New Hampshire chapter of MOAA as a Five-Star annual communications awardee. CDR McLean manages all chapter communications. He also serves as our Chapter secretary.

In the News: **Monument Dedication**

BOSCAWEN, N.H. (AP) — With dozens of family members looking on, New Hampshire has unveiled a monument to soldiers killed fighting in conflicts since 9/11. The 12-foot granite memorial called the Global War on Terror Monument was unveiled on Memorial Day at the New Hampshire State Veterans Cemetery in Boscawen.



The memorial features four hero walls with the names of 50 state residents. It also has a globe on top and benches representing all five military branches as well as a helmet, combat boots, dog tags, and an inverted rifle known as a "field memorial."

The monument was the idea of Preston Lawrence who led efforts to raise the \$100,000 necessary for its construction.

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13th YEAR



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|---|---------------------|
| 2LT Ruth A. Bryant, USA (Ret.) | Londonderry, NH |
| LCDR George R. Clark, USNR (Ret.) | Wolfeboro, NH |
| Col Paul W. Glover, Jr., USMC (Ret.) | White River Jct, VT |
| Maj Karl W. Hoff, USAF (Ret.) | Myrtle Beach, SC |
| Maj Max L. Jenness, USAFR (Ret.) | Meredith, NH |
| Maj James K. Mitchell, Jr., USAF (Ret.) | Lancaster, PA |
| COL Lawrence C. Ross, USA (Ret.) | Dublin, NH |
| COL Arnold H. Taylor, USA (Ret.) | Concord, NH |



2016 -2017 Luncheon Schedule

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| 6/11/2016 | White Mtn. Hotel & Resort, N. Conway, NH |
| 8/6/2016 | Clambake (PNSY) |
| 9/17/2016 | Bistro Nouveau at the Center at Eastman, |
| 11/5/2016 | Annual Meeting, Nashua C. C., Nashua, NH |

Chapter Members,

Another spring is turning into summer with Memorial Day almost separating the two this year. Like me, each of you may have spent this holiday years ago across the globe in countries where Memorial day wasn't celebrated.

It's fun to take a look back through old photos, journals, or our special "wall" covered with instants frozen in time when each of us were champions. Our star performance may have lasted only while the shutter snapped, but the picture tells the rest of the story.

During this Memorial Day take a moment to consider friends past and present who had their days as heroes too, and let's be thankful that our world is a safer place because we each had the courage, desire, and dedication to make our own contributions. We weren't all heroes, but it's fun sharing our stories while recalling those wonderful moments.

--editor--
 Peter W. Dawson
 LCDR, USNR