Upcoming Programs for 2009

Jan 24th
Nashua, NH-Crowne Plaza; Guest Speaker
Morrill Worcester, President of the Worcester Wreath Company

August 1st
Lobster Bake Portsmouth Naval Shipyard

Nov 7th
Annual Meeting, Manchester Country Club, Bedford

A Heart Felt Thanks for your Service to the outgoing Officers and Board of Directors
A well-deserved message of thanks to those whose terms of service ended at the Annual Meeting held Nov 8th. Your selfless, dedicated commitment to goals of the Military Officers Association of America ensured the New Hampshire Chapter was at the forefront of the important issues.

Outgoing Chapter Officers
President: Joan Huber
Vice President: Gary Terhune
Secretary: Mary Moran
Treasurer: Joan Huber

Board of Directors members whose terms expired
Robert Introne
Russell Ober
Jennifer Wright
Steve Waterman

Chapter Officers
President: LTC Gary S. Terhune, USA (Ret), (603) 570-4885, schoonergst@yahoo.com
Vice President: CPT Jim LeFebvre, USAR (603) 356-7296, lefebvrej@att.net
Secretary: Col Mary E. Moran, USAF, NC (Ret) (603) 528-5744, moran@metrocast.net
Treasurer: CAPT Joan M. Huber, NC,USN, (Ret) (603) 863-5731, joanhuber@aol.com

Visit the Chapter's website at: www.moaa-nh.org
President’s Corner
As I take over the reins of our chapter for 2009 I feel fortunate because this organization has been excellent by any standard and as attested to by National with 6 straight 5 star awards. It doesn’t get any better than that. At the same time we do have a few challenges as we move forward. Our decreasing membership, rising costs in an increasingly hostile economic environment, and of course maintaining the high standards that this chapter has grown accustomed to will have to be dealt with. However, we have a great team of dedicated people who have a sincere desire to continue the level of excellence that has made us so successful in the past. New to our BOD this year is Bruce Avery whom we welcome warmly and, although he is not new to the BOD, we welcome Jim Lefebvre in his new position as Vice President.

Our membership has been dropping steadily since 2005. We want to get our numbers back up not for the sake of numbers but because we have a great chapter and want to share what we do with as many former and current officers as we can. Here is what we plan to do. First, the BOD is undertaking a letter writing and calling campaign to contact members of National that our living in our communities. We will encourage them to join us and send a brochure. Unfortunately, there are about 850 people in the state who are not members of our chapter so there aren’t enough of us on the BOD to contact everyone. Therefore we need your help to make this a successful campaign. Please contact Michael McLean, our membership chairman, if you would like to help out. We will supply you with a ready to personalize recruiting letter, brochures and a list of names in your community to contact. Second, there are former officers, as well as current NHANG, USAR officers, and ROTC officers in our state that may not know about us. If you know any of these people, please tell them about us. We are discussing dividing the state up into regions similar to how we’re doing our luncheons. Stay tuned for more later.

The life blood of our chapter is our luncheons and clambake. In case you haven’t already heard, our first luncheon of 2009 is 24 Jan at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Nashua. We are delighted to have as our guest speaker, Mr. Morrill Worcester and his wife Karen, who will tell us about how his company came to provide Christmas wreaths to the Arlington National Cemetery every year. We are lining up some exciting venues and speakers. In this same vein, we are looking for ways to enhance our luncheons. One idea would be to add an event following a luncheon for those members that would like to do something with local flavor. For example, if a luncheon were held in North Conway we might be able to arrange a reduced price to take a ride on the Conway Scenic Railroad. Please let Jim Lefebvre, our program coordinator, or a member of the BOD, know if you have some good ideas or want to join a team that sponsors an activity.

We have had inquiries about a travel program. There are a number of reasons we haven’t had one, not the least of which is having an enthusiastic person(s) to coordinate it. National is willing to help including sending a person to speak to the chapter. 2009 may be a little ambitious but we would like to hear from you if you want a travel program.

Finally, I have been a member of this chapter since 1992 and I am very proud of it. We have one of the best chapters in the country with many dedicated volunteers and I look forward to serving with you in our communities, state, and country!

Gary
Update on the New Hampshire MOAA Scholarship Loan Program

Children and Grandchildren of active members of the New Hampshire Chapter of the MOAA are eligible for interest fee loans. The actual amount is dependent upon funds available and number of students applying and according to Cal Hosmer, the committee chair. This year students could be awarded up to $3000. Many thanks to Cal Hosmer, and all those who work to ensure resources are available to our next generation.

Here is a short summary of what this program has accomplished

- Students paying off in full: 33
- Students actively paying off loans: 14
- Students who begin paying this month: 6
- Students in still in school with loans: 12

**Current Financial Status**

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<td>Portion in active repayment</td>
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Vets Aren’t Taking the Hill

In the current 110th Congress, only 28% of U.S. senators and 23% of U.S. representatives have served in the military (active duty, Guard, or Reserve). That percentage has been declining steadily since it peaked at 74% in the House (1969-70) and 78% in the Senate (1977-78). (See the post-WWII year-by-year changes.) Not all of the results are in yet, but it looks like this year’s election will continue that downward trend.

In the Senate, there are ten certain seat changes so far, including Senators Obama and Biden. Four of the departures are vets, and none of the nine known replacements are. In the Georgia runoff the challenger for Sen. Chambliss’ (R-GA) seat is a veteran. That means the new Senate will have a minimum of 25 vets, but could have up to 28 if a veteran wins the Georgia seat and if veterans are appointed by the Illinois and Delaware governors to fill the Obama and Biden seats.

In the House, there are 50 certain seat changes so far. Sixteen of the departures are vets, and only 12 of the replacements are. So the new House will have a minimum of 93 veterans (a decline to 21.4%) the lowest number in the post World War II era.

(source: MOAA National Website)
WREATH LAYING CEREMONY AT NEW HAMPSHIRE VETERANS CEMETERY

There will be a 45 minute Wreaths Across America ceremony at the New Hampshire State Veteran’s Home a donation of $453.77 from the membership of the NH Military Officers Association of America. The gift will be used for resident Christmas presents. In a note to the Chapter, Alice expressed her thanks on behalf of the all the residents.

Wreaths Across America program, as well as, the other sites being honored on this day, visit their website at [www.wreathsacrossamerica.org](http://www.wreathsacrossamerica.org)

Steve Waterman, from the Board of Directors, presents Alice Brown, Assistant to the Commandant New Hampshire Veteran’s Home a donation of $453.77 from the membership of the NH Military Officers Association of America. The gift will be used for resident Christmas presents. In a note to the Chapter, Alice expressed her thanks on behalf of the all the residents.

Take Command of Your Future! Join Up Today!

Live an active and healthy lifestyle while preparing for the future. Protect assets from the shocking cost of long term care with our Life Care program.

CALL TO LEARN MORE!

In addition to our 124 apartment homes, 23 Cottages are being developed. Amenities include indoor swimming pool/spa, exercise center with personal trainer, beautiful dining venues, library/computer center, woodworking shop, convenience store and movie theatre.

THE HUNTINGTON

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