The Granite Slate

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

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Programs for 2012

Aug 4th  Clambake, Portsmouth Naval Ship Yard

Sep 29th  Bistro Nouveau, Grantham, NH
CAPT Kathryn M. Beasley, USN (Ret.), Deputy Director of Government Relations, Health Affairs; MOAA National Office
"MOAA’s 12-Point Plan and What’s Going on in Washington With Our Benefits"

Nov 10th  Manchester Country Club

ANNUAL CLAMBAKE
SATURDAY, AUGUST 4, 2012
PORTSMOUTH NAVAL SHIP YARD

1100: Beverage Line Opens  1200: Lunch served

Menu
Clam Chowder, Steamed Clams
Lobster OR Char-Broiled Steak
Corn-on-the-cob, Potatoes, Onions, Bratwurst,
All this for just $18.00 !!!

Any questions and reservations through
Tom Kyle  tkyleh@yahoo.com

Flyers to signup will be mailed to all members or go to the Program Notes page at www.moaa-nh.org

NH Chapter President Pete Burdett thanks March and June guest speakers with the chapter coin. In March Andrew Cline (above), Political Editor of the Union Leader, gave a very informative talk on the media and the military, including the historical perspective. June guest speaker BG John Dailey, USA (Ret.) (below), former Commander TF-160 (US Army Special Ops Air) provided an enthralling presentation TF-160 and their role in the Bin Laden raid.

Chapter Officers

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Visit the Chapter’s website at: www.moaa-nh.org
This year represented my third opportunity to “Storm the Hill” for MOAA and the NH Chapter. The first time was back in 1997, if I recall correctly, and now twice in a row. Participating in this MOAA program is worth the time and the cost. Key, I think, is the respect on the Hill that MOAA is receiving. Why? Because MOAA provides leadership on military and veteran issues that is well reasoned and topical to the current legislative process. The issues are listed in the latest issue of the Military Officer Magazine on page 42. For the most part, the issues are being addressed favorably as the 410 chapters from all 50 states and Puerto Rico are represented by the 35 Council and 15 Chapter Presidents who attended the Storm the Hill week. Congress listens to us! Personal visits and emails still count!! They are playing attention.

I met with both of our Congressmen and Senator Kelly Ayotte on 18 April. Senator Shaheen was engaged in other matters at our appointment time, but I still visited with the Military Legislative Assistants. In all cases they attended the meetings and coordinated efforts for our issues. An example of the impact of asking a question was the speed of Senator Ayotte and her staff when asked about supporting a House Bill (filed and supported by our NH Congressmen) to restore the abandoned Clark AFB Veterans Cemetery in the Philippines. Just 4 business days later a bill was introduce on 24 April with the help of Senator Mark Begich (D-AK) to require the American Battle Monuments Commission (ABMC) to restore, operate, and maintain Clark Veterans Cemetery to honor the courageous 8300 Americans buried there.

This year the MOAA has changed a focus. You also know it is not a message from me if you don’t hear about adding members to the NH Chapter. The number of chapters has declined nationally and the number of CHAPTER members is also down. As I indicated above, the chapter members are the ones that influence legislation with direct contacts with our Congressional Delegation. So keeping the membership number holding strong is KEY to having a strong influence in Washington DC. At MOAA national, recruiting for chapters is the new focus.

So, with the challenges facing us, and you know what they are, mostly involving $$$$$, help us keep America and our military strong. Go to: www.moaa-nh.org and print out a membership flier for a friend or colleague. If you have any ideas, just call me: 1-800-778-4251. I would be pleased to speak to any group that may have a large % of eligible possible members.

Thank you, Pete

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**CLAMBAKE HELP WANTED**

**NO EXPERIENCE REQUIRED:**

The Clambake is coming up August 4th; again we are looking for new participants to continue making the Clambake the great event it has become.

- **Beverage pickup and delivery**
- **Help with serving beverages**
- **Making butter for the lobster**
- **Making clam chowder**
- **Preparation and setup on Aug 6th**

Contact Jeff Olson at jnjolson@comcast.net or call in the evening at 603-659-2343.

**Note:** Chef Jeff’s computer crashed and he may not have a current helper list. If you have been part of the team in the past or would like to join please email so he has your current contact info...thanks!

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This summer, the Aviation Museum of New Hampshire plans to have special displays in honor of the Marine Corps aviation 100th Anniversary. New Hampshire Marine aviators from various eras and communities will conduct displays and presentations at the Museum over the weekend of July 13 - 15. On August 11, the family of Colonel Louis L. Frank, North Woodstock, has arranged to have a vintage F4U Corsair flown to the Manchester Airport to be on display at the Museum in his memory July 13 – 15 at the Aviation Museum of New Hampshire for this special commemoration! More Info Charles Gerhan candpgerhan@mindspring.com
Mrs. Helen I. Bathel; Hampton, NH

LCDR Richard Chesebrough, USN (Ret.); Laconia, NH

LT John J. Deady, Sr., USN; Bedford, NH

CDR Jerry Fraher, USN (Ret.); Londonderry, NH

CAPT Steven L. Hollis, NOAA (Ret.); New London, NH

2012 NH MOAA Cruise
Royal Caribbean’s “Jewel Of The Seas”
OCT. 14 – 21, 2012
Come join us in our first MOAA Reunion Cruise which will launch the beginning of many reunion cruises in the future. This fabulous cruise sails from Boston to Maine, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. We provide the cruise and nature provides the natural beauty and color of the foliage as we pass along lighthouses dotting the coastlines full of history and charm. A wonderful cruise experience. Questions: consult MOAA member and cruise expert Dick Vitale at 603-356-0136

2012 NH MOAA Travel Program
In October, we travel to the Imperial Cities of Prague, Vienna, and Budapest. We start with 3 days in Prague and see the Hradcany Castle, St Vitus Cathedral, the Charles Bridge, and the Old Jewish Quarter. Then on to Vienna for the Schoenbrunn Palace, St Stephen’s Cathedral, a cruise on the Danube and a visit to Melk Abbey. Our final 3 days are in Budapest for a Hungarian Horse Show and visits to the Mathias Church, the Fishermen’s Bastion, Heroes Square, Szentendre and Visegrad. The price for this trip is $3,149 including airfare from Boston. Your point of contact for the Travel Program is Bruce Avery at (603) 526-2854 or bruceavery@tds.net
NH Chapter Wins Two First Place Awards

Webmaster and Membership Chairman for the NH Chapter of the MOAA, Michael McLean, holds two National awards earned by the chapter in the annual Col. Marvin J. Harris Communications Award competition. One recognized the chapter’s website, which tied for first place, and the best recruiting brochure, both in the Large Chapter Category (600+ Members) for 2011. Michael’s commitment to excellence in both his critical roles was the key to this outstanding recognition. Thanks Michael, and all who had a role in this achievement.

NH MOAA Chapter President meets with NH members of Congress during “Stormin’ the Hill.” Read the highlights in his column on page 2. (Left to Right Senator Ayotte, Congressman Bass, Congressman Guinta).