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.

(continued on page 3 (top)
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

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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

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**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](mailto:memorialcollection@nps.gov) 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.”
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.

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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.
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 deduction 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

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2016 ~2017 Luncheon Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8/6/2016</td>
<td>Clambake (PNSY)</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/17/2016</td>
<td>Bistro Nouveau at the Center at Eastman,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/5/2016</td>
<td>Annual Meeting, Nashua C. C., Nashua, NH</td>
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Jun, 2016 Taps

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