



The Granite Slate

The official newsletter published quarterly for the
New Hampshire Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America
P. O. Box 712, Dover, NH 03821



March, 2019

Winter Edition

Volume 41, No. 1



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

Granite State Warriors Awards Presented at First Meeting of 2019

It was a clear, chilly winter day when the chapter held its first meeting of the new year on January 26, 2019 at the Portsmouth Country Club in Greenland. The staff was friendly and responsive to our needs. A total of 100 members and guests enjoyed their choice of either sole florentine, medallions of beef, or apple cranberry stuffed chicken breast. We were there to honor the recipients of the eighth annual *Granite State Warriors Awards* (GSWA). These awards are given to the New Hampshire resident or NH-based organization making the most significant contribution to the Armed Forces of the United States that year. Prior to the presentation of the awards, we were pleased to have US Senator Maggie Hassan join us to deliver a few remarks about the current goings-on in Washington, DC.



US Senator
Maggie Hassan

MOAA-NH President Warren Coulter presented the awards to the 2018 recipients, who were:

■ **Norman Langlois** (Dover) with the following citation: Norman Langlois is awarded the 2018 Granite State Warriors Award for his support of veterans. Entering the US Navy at the age of 17, Langlois served on a PT boat and destroyer escort during WWII. After WWII, he started his civilian career as a machinist in Newfield, NH.



In the Spring of 1958, Norman started his career in the hair styling industry. Throughout the following years, his efforts expanded and he went on to establish multiple salons, hair stylist academies, and beauty supply stores throughout the Eastern United States. At one

point, all of his operations supported a total of 1,000 employees; and he became known as the "King of the Beauty Business."

Through all of Norman's success, he never forgot his roots as a US Navy Motor Machinist Third Class. Norman served his country with pride and made sure that all veterans entering one of his operations were given the treatment and service they deserved.

One policy in all his operations best exemplifies Norman's love and respect for those who have served their country – veterans will always be given the best service at NO charge.

■ **HALO Maritime Defense Systems** (Newton) with the following citation:

HALO Maritime Defense Systems is awarded the 2018 Granite State Warriors Award. HALO provides advanced technology and state-of-the-art maritime security barrier systems to protect US naval bases, ports, oil and gas facilities, and other commercial and maritime assets to prevent incursion of unauthorized small-to-medium-size boats as well as swimmers.



To prevent future incidents like the 2000 bombing of the USS Cole in Yemen, the US Navy is highly dependent on HALO-provided defensive systems in use in both stateside bases like Norfolk and numerous foreign locations.

The HALO barrier is a passive, durable, low-maintenance, easily installed, highly customizable system capable of countering multi-vessel attacks. HALO security solutions are the only waterside barrier systems on the market to have been

(continued on page 2)

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 A. McLean, USN (Ret), 603-692-4648; mamclean@comcast.net

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

NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Marie Chipola, 603-521-7708; marie.chipola@gmail.com

President's Corner

CAPT F. Warren Coulter, USN (Ret)



A perennial theme heard from Congress and DOD concerns proposed increases in TRICARE for Life based on their belief that retiree health costs are spiraling out of control. One of our Board members, Bill Luti, has researched the matter; and he agrees with MOAA National's opinion that such increases are not needed since costs have actually been declining. He has authored a letter signed by our chapter leadership and board which has been sent to our congressional delegation asking for their help in protecting TRICARE for Life from any fees. The letter can be found on our chapter website, www.moaa-nh.org, along with an accompanying PowerPoint presentation.

We encourage all members to review those materials, contact your congressional representatives and senators, and echo the findings. Links to each of our legislative representatives are available on the chapter website.

Peter Burdett, who is our representative to April's Storming the Hill in Washington, DC, plans to carry the message. At our next luncheon, he will give us some insight as to what occurred there.

Speaking of the next luncheon, we look forward to seeing you on April 27 as we return to the Common Man Restaurant in Plymouth. Please bring along a guest or two who are qualified to join the chapter so they can share in the fun.

Warren Coulter

Granite State Warriors Awards

(continued from page 1)

vigorously tested and operationally deployed by the US Navy. Systems are designed to provide complete security solutions filling the spans between piers, breakwaters, buoys, and platforms and provide automated access control at the push of a button.

Five first-time MOAA-NH members joined us: David Hadley of Weare, Raymond Jarvis of Rye, Stephen Lotterhand of New London, Monika Parker of Lee, and Thomas Wilk of Epping.

CDR Michael A. McLean, USN (Ret)
MOAA-NH Secretary

Let's Welcome Our New 2019 Chapter Members!

Capt William J. Britton, USMCR—Atkinson
LTC Jorge F. Camacho, USAF (Ret) — Dover
CPT Kevin L. Hallenbeck, USAR — Bedford
Maj Hobart (Hoby) Harmon, USMCR (Ret) - Newfield
CAPT John M. Horan, USPHS (Ret) — Grantham
Maj Paul T. Lipari, Jr., USAF (Ret) — Nashua
1st Lt Winston M. Rogers, USAF — Hollis



FOUND!

An aqua-and-silver Cross ball-point pen was found on one of the tables after the January luncheon

at the Portsmouth Country Club. Will the owner please contact Sharon Day at 642-7956 or cimice89@comcast.net.

MOAA – NH Statistical Summary as of 12/31/2018

Prepared by CDR Michael A. McLean, USN (Ret)
MOAA-NH Secretary

RANK BREAKDOWN		SERVICE BREAKDOWN		AGE BREAKDOWN		WHERE MEMBERS LIVE (R E G I O N S)	
O10	0	USAF	179	< 40 YO	2	Dartmouth - Sunapee	53
O9	0						
O8	6	USA	176	40 – 49 YO	16	Lakes	73
O7	7						
O6	161	USN	122	50 – 59 YO	48	Monadnock	31
O5	188						
O4	83	USMC	37	60 – 69 YO	102	Seacoast	176
O3	51						
O2	13	USCG	27	70 – 79 YO	190	Merrimack Valley	230
O1	2						
CWO5	6	USPHS	1	80 – 89 YO	205	White Mountains	31
CWO4	17						
CWO3	7	NOAA	2	> 90 YO	144	North Country	5
CWO2	3						
CIV	163	CIV	163	UNK	0	Other States	108
TOTAL	707	TOTAL	707	TOTAL	707	TOTAL	707



Reflections . . . In Service to My Country

I am a brother of Delta Tau Delta fraternity. This story is about a Navy war hero. It was published in our recent *Delt Publication* on November 28, 2018 and full credit for article and picture is *Delt's*. I hope you enjoy this article as much as I do.

With appreciation for all of your service,

Raymond P. D'Amante
CAPT, USAF
Lincoln, NH

Lone Survivor Accepts Award for Heroism

In August 2018, Marcus Luttrell (Sam Houston State University, 1998) accepted Delta Tau Delta's William L. McLaughlin Award for Heroism at the St. Louis Karnea's Alumni Achievement Awards luncheon.

Luttrell is a United States Navy SEAL who received the Navy Cross and Purple Heart for his actions in June 2005 against Taliban fighters during Operation Red Wing.

Born and raised in Texas Luttrell and his twin brother, Morgan, attended Sam Houston State University where he joined the Fraternity in the fall of 1995.



Marcus Luttrell

Long before college, the brothers began training for the SEALs with former United States Army soldier, Billy Shelton, who lived nearby. As kids, they loved to hunt, fish, and wrestle alligators.

Luttrell joined the United States Navy in March 1999 and began Basic Underwater Demolition/SEAL training with Class 226 in Coronado, Calif. After suffering a fractured femur early in his training, he graduated with Class 228. Marcus graduated 18 Delta 2001, making him a team medic.

On June 28, 2005, Luttrell and three other SEALs were assigned to Operation Red Wing, a mission to kill or capture a high-ranking Taliban leader responsible for killings in eastern Afghanistan and the Hindu-Kush mountains. The SEAL team was made up of Luttrell, Michael P. Murphy, Danny Dietz, and Matthew Axelson.

A group of goat herders stumbled upon the SEALs, and the four SEALs immediately took control of the situation and discussed what to do with the herders. The herders were subsequently released and disappeared over the mountain ridge. Luttrell believes they immediately betrayed the team's location to local Taliban forces and with an hour, the SEALs were engaged in an intense gun battle. In the ensuing battle, the rest of the SEAL team members were killed.

A MH-47 Chinook helicopter was dispatched with a force consisting of SEALs and 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment "Nightstalkers" to rescue the team,

but the helicopter was shot down by an RPG. All 16 men on the Chinook were killed. Luttrell was the only survivor. Badly wounded, he managed to walk and crawl seven miles to evade capture. He was given shelter by an Afghan tribe, who alerted the Americans of his presence and American forces finally rescued him six days after the gun battle.

Following his physical recovery from Operation Red Wing, Luttrell returned and completed one more tour before medically retired. He wrote the book, *Lone Survivor*, to share the story of his brothers who paid the ultimate sacrifice. In 2013, *Lone Survivor* became a major motion picture starring Marc Wahlberg. Luttrell's second book, *Service*, answers questions remaining from *Lone Survivor* and gives honor and praise to other members of the military.

Today, Luttrell is married to the woman of his dreams and the couple has a son, Axe, who is named after Matthew Axelson, and a daughter, Addie.

In 2010, Luttrell established the Lone Survivor Foundation providing therapeutic retreats for service members and their families affected by Post-Traumatic Stress, mild Traumatic Brain Injury, Chronic Pain and Military Sexual Trauma. In 2017, the Lone Survivor Foundation provided 38 retreats for 335 veterans and family members, all at no cost to the participants.

He is also deeply involved in The Boot Campaign, a charitable organization that focuses on support for service members, veterans and their families from every generation.

WILLIAM L. MCLAUGHLIN AWARD FOR HEROISM

Established in 2003, the William L. McLaughlin Award for Heroism recognizes exceptional heroism by members of the Fraternity—those who are distinguished by an act of valor at the risk of life above and beyond what is called for by ordinary citizens.

The first recipient, William L. McLaughlin, (Ohio Wesleyan University, 1906) was an undergraduate when he rescued victims of an infamous Chicago theater fire in 1903. McLaughlin succumbed to the injuries he suffered in that fire.

Subsequent recipients of the award include:

- Major Archibald Butt, (Sewanee: The University of the South, 1891), credited for saving numerous passengers on the Titanic before he perished
- Former International President William J. Fraering (Tulane University, 1946) who was killed by armed robbers while protecting his family
- Timothy J. McCarthy, (University of Illinois, 1971), a Secret Service agent who was wounded but survived while protecting President Ronald Reagan in a 1981 assassination attempt



Reflections . . . In Service to My Country

TDY Honduras Task Force Engineer

From August 1983 to February 1984, the US conducted Exercise AHUAS TARA II, also known as Big Pine II, a JTX in Honduras based out of the Palmerola Air Base, now known as Soto Cano. Ahuas Tara means Big Pine in Miskito Indian language. At the time, the leftist Nicaraguan Sandinistas were threatening Honduras. The U.S. troops were there at the request of the government of Honduras because the Sandinistas were kicking up their heels and it appeared they may try to invade Honduras.



Palmerola Air Base

The U.S. presence was to support the Honduran military should the invasion take place or as a minimum thwart the possible invasion. We were all always armed, locked, and loaded with live ammo even although it was “just an exercise.”

The Air Base was constructed in 1982 in support of the U.S.-Honduran combined military exercises. It is a Honduran military base five miles to the south of Comayagua, Honduras. It is about 60 miles from the Honduran capital of Tegucigalpa. The paved runway at Palmerola is about an 8,000-foot, jet-capable strip with parking aprons and taxiways.

The U.S. government used Palmerola as a base of operations to support its foreign policy objectives in the 1980s. Now the U.S. military uses Soto Cano as a launching point for counter-narcotics missions in Central America as well as humanitarian aid missions throughout Honduras and Central America.

In 1984 while stationed at Fort Sheridan, IL in Army Readiness and Mobilization Region V (ARMR V) my boss, COL Serge Demyanenko, asked me if I wanted to take a trip to Honduras. He had received a request from the Department of the Army looking for an engineer to serve as the Joint Task Force Staff Engineer. The trip would be in TDY status and may last up to six months. I tentatively agreed, but wanted to check with my wife before giving him a firm yes answer.

We lived in government quarters on Fort Sheridan along with my two daughters and my wife's two daughters. My wife had a job and one of her daughters also worked. The other three girls were enrolled in the local school system. My wife agreed to support the TDY trip, so I was deployed to Honduras. While waiting for orders, I had been in contact with my sponsor, Captain Thomas Titus, who worked in the S-4 Office of the Exercise Headquarters, who prepared me for the deployment and arriving in country. I took a commercial flight from Chicago with a stopover for briefings from SOCOM in Florida. I departed Miami, landing in Tegucigalpa where I

was met by a driver with ground transportation to the air base. That was a memorable 1.5-hour ride with the driver having to swerve several times to avoid hitting the very large (6 feet long, 2 feet wide and 30 inches tall) black spiny-tailed Iguana darting across the road. Hitting one will do severe damage to a Jeep or sedan car. We were in a Jeep.

CPT Titus met me and took me to the CAT (Central American Tropical) hut, which was the temporary barracks built by Army Engineers when the air base was originally constructed. They were wooden 16' x 32' open bay half wall barracks built on stilts up off the ground that slept about eight or ten soldiers. The roof was covered with corrugated metal roofing. That became my home away from home during the deployment. After dropping my gear on my cot and changing into BDUs, we went to the unit armorer who issued me a M1911 Colt .45 pistol with several loaded magazines. I was instructed to wear it loaded at all times, which I did. I was able to find a piece of plywood and cut it to fit over the Army cot. Later, CPT Titus took me to the local village where I was able to procure a piece of 4-inch-thick foam, 3' x 6', that I set on top of the plywood. It made a nice bunk to sleep on.

I served as the Joint Task Force Staff Engineer in support of Exercise AHUAS TARA II, Republic of Honduras, during the period 15 March 1984 to 30 June 1984. I was responsible for all exercise engineering efforts in support of the exercising troop units. This was normally a lieutenant colonel's position; however, I was a very senior captain with a lot of experience and was accepted by DOD to fill this position. My duties included supervising the construction of two C-130 dirt airfields in the jungles, numerous base camp projects, and the maintenance of the same all while supervising the exercise Engineer Units performing the required work. All exercise construction effort was very closely watched by the Congress of the United States. It is now my understanding (2019) that there were some Congressional investigations of the funding for some parts of the operations in Honduras.

One special project assignment included the reconnaissance and investigation of a site to install a Voice of America radio transmitter station in the Choluteca Province in southern Honduras on the border of Nicaragua. This mission was accomplished in civilian clothes covertly as it was right on the border of Nicaragua. For this mission, I had to go through the Honduran Infantry unit responsible for security of that area of the border with Nicaragua. I met with the battalion commander and his staff before going on the recon. They told me that I would be on my own out in the open with no direct security support. They informed me that there were no border markings in the area, that it would be difficult to know if I violated the border. They added that the Sandinistas were very active on their side of the border and cautioned me to be very careful. It was explained to me that they could not

(continued on page 5)

HELP WANTED

The Chapter's Board of Directors needs a back-up Recording Secretary to fill in if the regular Recording Secretary is not available for a Board of Directors meeting. The position requires the individual to take notes/record the conduct of the meeting and prepare written minutes for distribution to the Directors. The Board meetings are held on the 2nd Thursday of each month at the Red Blazer Restaurant in Concord from 6:30 pm until approximately 8:30 pm, with a break for dinner in the middle. The person filling this position need not be a member of the Chapter – spouses are welcome! Again, this is a stand-by position required only if the Recording Secretary is not available. For more information, contact CDR Michael McLean, USN (Ret) at 603-692-4648 or mamclean@comcast.net

Three Newly Commissioned Officers



CW5 Bernie Satterfield, USA (Ret) [Right] with newly commissioned US Army 2LTs at UNH Commissioning Ceremony on December 19, 2018. From left: 2LT Jack Luth (Infantry), 2LT Eric Wallace (Aviation), and 2LT John Riley (Quartermaster).



Reflections . . . In Service to My Country

TDY Honduras Task Force Engineer (continued from page 4)

show themselves as it might insight the Sandinistas to cross the border and cause an international incident. Needless to say, this was a stress-filled mission. The Colt .45 was carried in a shoulder holster under my civilian shirt.

The continued presence of U.S. military forces in Honduras appears to have been the driving force in preventing an invasion from Nicaragua and has accomplished much to interdict the drug trade coming from Central America headed for the United States. Even the small but real terrorism threat against U.S. forces in Honduras has all but disappeared. The only thing the troops must worry about is getting rushed by the local kids asking for candy and cigarettes. The U.S. keeps about 1,300 soldiers in Honduras permanently to support the maneuvers and all indications are that the presence will continue.



I was awarded a Joint Service Commendation Medal (JSCM) for the assignment.

R. Kent Whitman
CPT, USA (Ret)
Keene, NH

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



2019 MOAA Travel Program: (Additional information on the available 2019 and 2020 trips are posted on our website under "Group Travel")

- Magnificent Cities of Central and Eastern Europe, 14 days, August 4 — 17 (\$4,699 with air)
- Discover Canyon Country, October 8 — 15, eight days, (\$2,999 with air)
- Alaska Discovery, Land and Cruise, (featuring a seven-night Princess Cruise), July 16 — 28, 13 days, (\$5,414 with air and cruise)
- Magical Christmas Markets, Austria and Germany. December 7 — 14, eight days, (\$2,899 with air)
- London and Paris, eight days, May 1 — 8 (\$3,449 with air)

2020 MOAA Travel Program:

- **The travel event of the decade! Book early! One of the tours is already sold out. All the trips listed below include the Passion Play in Oberammergau, Germany.**
- Classic Danube River Cruise, 10 days, June 6 — 16, (\$6,499 with air)
- Classic Danube River Cruise, 10 days, Aug 30 — Sept 10 (\$6,499 with air)
- Exploring the Alpine Countries, (several dates available), 13 days, (\$6,999 with air)
- Austrian Delight, (several dates available), 10 days, (\$4,999 with air) — **Soon to be sold out!**
- Discover Switzerland, Austria and Bavaria, (several dates available), 10 days, (\$4,999 with air)
- Imperial Cities, (several dates available), 11 days, (\$4,199 without air), air contract pending
- Germany's Cultural Cities and the Romantic Roads, (several dates available), 13 days, without air, contract pending
- Memorials of World War II, 10 days, 15 - 22 April 2020 (\$4,349 with air from Logan)
- Spotlights on the French Riviera, 9 days, 18–26 April 2020 (\$3,399 with air from Logan)

The following trips are contracted with Collette; however, brochures have not been published. Exact dates and final costs have not yet been established:

- Treasures of Europe, 12 days, September 2020 (approximate cost \$4,499 with air)
- Mackinac Island, 8 days, August 2020 (approximate cost \$3,399 with air)
- Heritage of America, 10 days, October 2020 (approximate cost \$3,600 with air)
- Maritimes Coastal Wonders of Canada, 11 days, (approximate cost \$3,999 with air)

Look for our "Trip of the Month" email blasts sent out periodically. Log into our website "moaa-nh.org" and click on "Group Travel." **For reservations or additional information, contact Tony Burdo, 603-391-7106 or email: tonyajjb@gmail.com.**

The New Hampshire Chapter of the MOAA
PO Box 712
Dover NH 03821-0712
Address Service Requested

NONPROFIT ORG
AUTO
US POSTAGE PAID
DOVER, NH
PERMIT 615



16th YEAR



WHY MOAA?
YouTube video

March 2019

Taps

Mrs. Jane C. Chandler, Meredith, NH
Mrs. Barbara B. Cheney, Norwich, VT
CW4 Salvatore Garofalo, USA (Ret), Sebring, FL
Mrs. Nancy D. Maynard, Lowell, MA
COL David W. Tellman, USA (Ret.), Whitefield, NH

**2019 MOAA-NH
Luncheons and Annual Meeting**

April 27	Common Man Inn & Spa, Plymouth
June 22	White Mountains Region (<i>TBD</i>)
August 3	Clambake, PNSY
September 21	Bistro Nouveau at the Ctr at Eastman, Grantham
November 9	Annual Meeting, Nashua Country Club, Nashua



CHECK US OUT ON FACEBOOK

Did you know that MOAA-NH has a Facebook page? We do . . . at <https://www.facebook.com/MOAA-NH-403462326493407/> Check out all the latest pictures and information about the chapter. While you're there, be sure to "like" us.

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>

FOR LINKED-IN USERS

MOAA-NH members: We have established a group on LinkedIn for the purpose of helping members find employment in the New Hampshire area. If you have a LinkedIn account, please request to join the "New Hampshire Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA-NH)" group. If you are seeking employment or know a prospective member who will be, create a post for the group with a link to the member's profile. We also ask that recruiters and human resource professionals from companies around New Hampshire who are interested in hiring former officers to join the group. If you have suggestions for the LinkedIn Group, please contact Jim Spotts at jim.spotts@hotmail.com.