September 2010

Programs for 2010

November 13
Annual Meeting
Manchester CC, Bedford
Speaker-Kelly Ayotte
Former NH State Attorney General

Programs for 2011
(save the dates)
Jan 22 Manchester
April 16 NH Seacoast
June 4 Conway/Berlin
August 6 Ports. Shipyard
Oct 1 Lakes Region
Nov 5 Manchester CC
(Annual Meeting)

Scenes from the 2010 Clambake

2010 NH MOAA Scholarship Awards
As a result of the generosity of the membership of the New Hampshire MOAA, the Scholarship Committee awarded loans to seven outstanding men and women for the 2010-11 academic year.

1. Troy French, Senior, Springfield College Grandson of Col David Penniman
2. Christina Casper Sophomore, Vanderbilt Univ. Daughter of CAPT Rob Kasper
3. Mary Levin Sophomore, Rivier College Daughter of CDR Stephen Levin
4. John McDonald IV Freshman, Loyola University Grandson of Col Ed Fagouri
5. Sydney Thren Freshman, California State Univ Granddaughter of CDR John Zanella
6. Alexandra Zanella Sophomore, Boston University Granddaughter of CDR Zanella
7. Michael Zanella Freshman, Pittsburgh Tech Inst Grandson of CDR Zanella

In addition, two students the Chapter supported graduated this year—congratulations to:
Alexander H. Bennett, Western New England College
Grandson of late Col Donald Holroyd
Anne Kasper, Washington and Lee University
Daughter, CAPT Rob Kasper

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Visit the Chapter's website at: www.moaa-nh.org
In the blink of eye Summer has come and gone. What a fantastic one it was. Very little rain and few bugs! A great luncheon in June at the beautiful White Mountain Hotel in Conway where we welcomed the Commander of the USS Constitution to speak. In addition we made Chuck Cove, co-founder of the Pease Greeters, an honorary member of the Chapter. On the 1st Sat in Aug, Bake Master Olson spun his magic yet again as over 400 members and guests enjoyed great camaraderie and food at the 2010 Clambake. The weather? You could not have asked for a more beautiful day. Mother nature really does watch over this event!

As if I need to remind you, election season is here again as we are all bombarded with TV ads, endless phone calls and “junk” mail that fill up our mail boxes! Just think, by the time we hold our Annual meeting Nov 13 it will all be over with! Yessss! Speaking of which, the Board is putting together our slate of leaders who will take over in November for the upcoming year.

In case you haven’t heard, we have won the 5 Star Award for the 8th year in a row. This doesn’t happen by chance as it takes a team of dedicated volunteers to accomplish this feat! Congratulations, once again, to all of you!

By the time you read this our Fall luncheon will have been held out in Grantham on the west side of the state where Tom Galligan spoke to us about life as a college president. He is currently the President of Colby Sawyer College in New London. Hope you made it out there to enjoy our last luncheon of the year.

In case any of you didn’t know, this is my last issue of the President’s Corner as my term comes to a close. Indeed, it has been a very quick 2 years and so much has happened. It has been a pleasure and an honor serving you as President. The great volunteers in this chapter have been wonderful and have made my job very enjoyable. This chapter enjoys a great reputation in Washington at MOAA National and by our Congressional Delegation who I have gotten to know well over the years. I salute you all and I thank you so very much!

This is a tribute to the Officers, Board Members, Committee Chairs, spouses and all of our members. You are to be congratulated.

I leave you with two thoughts. Enjoy the beautiful fall color of this state we are so blessed to have and please do not forget to vote on Nov 2. See you at the Annual Meeting!

Gary
**MOAA Legislative Update**

MOAA’s national website provides weekly updates on the legislative priorities and pending legislation impacting members both here in New Hampshire and nationally. The link through MOAA.org also archives weekly summaries for reference. Highlights from Sep include:

**VASRD (VA Schedule of Rating Disabilities) Revisions Coming – But Not Soon**
The Advisory Committee is charged with advising Secretary Shinseki on the maintenance and periodic readjustment of the VA Schedule of Rating Disabilities (VASRD). The Committee’s focus is in three areas of disability compensation:

- Requirements and methodology for updating the VASRD
- Adequacy and sequencing of compensation procedures for transitioning service members
- Disability compensation for non-economic loss (referred to as “quality of life”)

The Committee recommended last year the need for a systematic VASRD review and reiterated that recommendation in its most recent report. The VASRD, which has not been significantly updated since its development in 1945, has been labeled “out-of-date” and in need of major and immediate revisions by several past commissions and veterans’ organizations.

Since the interim report, Secretary Shinseki has endorsed a comprehensive review and subsequently developed a four-phase project management plan to revise and update all 15 body systems in the VASRD.

**Senate Military Family Caucus Announced**

Senators Barbara Boxer (D-CA) and Richard Burr (R-NC) announced the creation of the bipartisan Senate Military Family Caucus. The intent of the caucus is to address military family issues such as child care, education, spouse employment, and the stress of multiple deployments on military families and caregivers. Sen. Burr stated that “[the caucus members] recognize a need to support military families and provide an avenue to push for legislation that will benefit these families.”

The motivation for organizing the 20 member caucus is exemplified in a statement by Sen. Boxer during the announcement. “We recognize that when a service member puts on a uniform, the entire family sacrifices for our country,” stated Boxer.

This initiative is necessary to protect the interests of active duty service members and their families – especially with the multiple deployments that many military families have had to face in the midst of nearly nine years of war.

(go to [www.MOAA.org](http://www.MOAA.org) to follow these or learn about other initiatives)

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**2011 NH MOAA Travel Program Information**

Canadian Rockies in the Spring or Tuscany in the Fall?

Join your fellow members of the New Hampshire Chapter of MOAA in two great travel opportunities. We open our 2011 Season with a 9 Day trip to the Canadian Rockies. This trip starts with a flight from Boston to Vancouver on the 26th of May. After sightseeing in Vancouver, you will travel on VIA Rail overnight to the heart of the Canadian Rockies. We travel to Jasper, the Icefields Parkway, Lake Louise, Banff ending up in Calgary for our flight back to Boston. The per person price for a Double is $3,369 inclusive of airfare.

In the Fall, we travel to Tuscany. Per person price for a double for this 10 day trip is $2,599 including round trip airfare from Boston. This trip includes Rome, Assisi, Montecatini Terme, Siena, San Gimignano, and Florence.

Please call Bruce Avery at (603) 526-2854 or send an email to bruceavery@tds.net for your detailed itinerary. We will also showing a slide show of highlights from both of these trips during the reception at future luncheons.

Get your passport ready for exciting and rewarding travel experiences.
Mr. Tom Galligan, President of Colby-Sawyer College shared his experiences as a college president to 80 interested members. On the left are the head table members for the event, and right President Galligan receives a thank you from NH MOAA President Gary Terhune.

NH MOAA Chapter Earns Eighth Consecutive 5-Star Award

The National Chapter handbook states the 5-Star Award is presented to the “very, very best chapters.” The evaluation of membership retention and recruitment, chapter communications, legislative liaison and updates, and civic support must produce a score of 91% or above to reach this pinnacle. For the eighth straight year NH MOAA attained this surpassed 91% and is a “Five-Star” Chapter.