

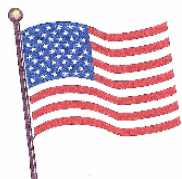


## Charleston Chapter, Military Officers Association of America

February, 2010



Web site: [www.chasmoaa.org](http://www.chasmoaa.org)



### MASSING OF THE COLORS

**Sunday, March 7, 2010 at 3:00 PM**

**Summerall Chapel**

**on The Citadel Campus**

The Citadel Buglers, Bagpiper, and Color Guards of over 40 invited Organizations

Principal Speaker

Rear Admiral William L. Schachte, USN (Ret.)  
former Judge Advocate General, United States Navy

A colorful, dignified, patriotic ceremony dedicated to the Flag of our country and the Colors of participating Organizations, the memory of those members of the Military Services who gave their lives to preserve our liberties, and to honor those who have served and are now serving to ensure our continued freedom



Presented by

**The General Westmoreland/Charleston, SC Chapter  
of  
The Military Order of the World Wars**

The general public is invited to attend. Guests are requested to arrive in time to be seated in the chapel prior to 2:45 PM. Parking is available on The Citadel campus.

The General Westmoreland/Charleston Chapter of the Military Order of World Wars has been presenting this program for twelve years. The Charleston Chapter of MOAA has participated in this patriotic function in the past, and will continue to do so again this year. Chapter Members are urged to attend.

### FIRE SALE

Well, not really, but you can expect a roaring good time at this month's luncheon. We will enjoy a catered lunch at the North Charleston and American LaFrance Fire Museum and Education Center. Come out and see this wonderful museum and the history it portrays in the way of fire fighting equipment, both vintage and not so vintage. You will be amazed at this facility right in the heart of North Charleston. So hook on to this event and I will see you ladder.

Your program chairman, Bill Mehard

### February Luncheon

Make your plans early to attend the American LaFrance Fire Museum located at 4975 Center Pointe Drive, North Charleston 29418. This is just west of Tanger Outlet off International Blvd. and easy access off I-526.

Date: Friday February 26 2010

Time: Social Hour 11:30 AM

Lunch: 12 Noon

Menu: Pulled Pork and Beef Brisket, Macaroni & Cheese, Cole Slaw, Baked Beans, Buns and Biscuits, Lemon Bars, Iced Tea

Cost: \$18.00 person includes lunch and admission to the museum

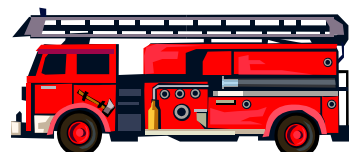
RSVP: Check to arrive No Later than 23 February 2010

This is a casual dress affair. Make checks payable to Charleston MOAA and mail to LCDR William Mehard, 5926 Commonwealth Circle, Hanahan, SC 29410-24312.

If you have special diet needs contact LCDR Mehard.

Tel: 554-8391, Cell 834-0974

E-mail: [mehardw@bellsouth.net](mailto:mehardw@bellsouth.net)



# Legislative Update

CDR John E. Nolan, SC, USN

## MOAA LEGISLATIVE GOALS FOR 2010

### Health Care Issues:

- \* Ensure proper DoD and VA care for /outreach to wounded warriors and families.
- \* Protect against benefit cuts/avoid disproportional cost shifting to beneficiaries.
- \* Upgrade TRICARE to attract more provide and improve beneficiaries access.
- \* Allow three years of active –duty-level health care for disability retirees/families.
- \* Fix Medicare/TRICARE payment rate formula to promote provider participation.
- \* Improve seamless transition between Defense and VA health care/benefits systems.
- \* Provide full funding for veterans enrolled in the VA health care system.
- \* Authorize option to subsidize retention of reservists civilian family health insurance
- \* Increase orthodontia payment cap under active duty dental plan.

### Retirement/Survivors Issues:

- \* Preserve full-inflation cost-of-living adjustments (COLAs).
- \* Eliminate the Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) deduction from SBP
- \* Authorize full concurrent receipt of military retired pay and VA disability compensation.
- \* Restore VA survivor annuities for qualifying widows who remarry after age 55.
- \* Oppose military benefit changes that are inconsistent with service career sacrifices.
- \* Expand permanent id card eligibility for elderly/ disabled beneficiaries.
- \* Reform the Uniform Services Former Spouse Protection Act (USFSPE).
- \* Authorize survivors to retain the deceased sponsor's

full final month retired pay.

- \* Implement a more equitable military disability retirement system

### Veterans and Other Issues:

- \* Improve quality, efficiency and timeliness of VA Claims-processing system.
  - \* Authorize pre-tax payment of health, dental and long-term care premiums.
  - \* Win Congressional approval of flag anti-desecration amendment.
  - \* Reduce Social Security penalties for certain civil service and state retirees / survivors.
  - \* Prevent disproportional Social Security/Medicare penalties for any population segment.
- ### Active / Reserve Force/Family Issues:

- \* Sustain Defense budget of at least 4% of GDP to fund both people/weapons needs.
- \* Restore full military pay comparability with private sector (2.4% gap remains).
- \* Upgrade G/R retirement/compensation to reflect “operational reserve” demands.
- \* Protect funding for commissary, dependent schools and other military benefits.
- \* Improve access to affordable child care.
- \* Provide incentives for employers/government contractors to hire military spouses.
- \* Strengthen financial, legal, redeployment protections for mobilized G/R force.
- \* Raise relocation payments to cover members costs for government directed moves.

## HEALTH CARE REFORM

Stay alert to Congressional shenanigans in reforming Health Care and its affect on TRICARE programs. Continue to frequently let our Senators and Representatives know your feelings.

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**Lt Col Harvey Dick**  
**Marine, Vietnam Veteran**  
**Assistant Commandant of Cadets at The Citadel**



Retired Army Lt. Col. Harvey Dick has what he calls his "I Love Me" room at his home near The Citadel. Anyone who visits Harvey and his wife, Margie, can see why.

"You could say it's full of memories," Harvey said recently. And hundreds of photographs and mementoes.

Harvey's connection to The Citadel is apparent in the "I Love Me" room. Citadel banners and photos date back to the early 1950s when Harvey played center on the Bulldogs' football team.

His military connections date back even farther than the photos. He was born in 1927 at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. His father was a career soldier who in the 1930s became the youngest sergeant major in the Army.

Harvey's mother died when he was 2 years old and his father transferred to Fort Screven on Tybee Island, Ga. From that point on, his grandmother in Charleston and a nanny named Lottie in Georgia shared the task of raising him. His schooling in Charleston was his first introduction to the Lowcountry.

Harvey's dad was stationed in Washington during the war so "I went to junior high, then high school, in Arlington, Va.," he said. "And when I turned 17 my dad signed the papers so I could join the Marines."

Harvey first trained at Parris Island, then Camp Lejeune and Camp Pendleton, Calif. He was about to head for the Pacific when the atomic bombs ended the war.

Harvey returned to Charleston in 1948, first to finish high school and then to enroll at The Citadel with the Brigadier Foundation's first scholarship. He graduated and received his Army commission in January, 1953. It marked the beginning of a life of service both to the nation and the military college.



Marine PFC Harvey Dick in 1946

"My first post was Fort Bliss, Texas," he said, where he commanded his first artillery battery.

Two years later he transferred to Fort Knox, Ky., where he joined the 3rd Armored Division as it prepared to deploy to Hanau, Germany.

He returned to the U.S. in 1959. Four years later he received a month's notice to head for Vietnam. "I had to look in the encyclopedia to see where it was," he said.

He worked 366 days training the Vietnamese Army without a break.

Harvey spent the next seven years in the U.S. and Germany. In 1971, he was ordered back to Vietnam and the toughest assignment of his life. The North Vietnamese tried to overrun the central highlands. Most U.S. troops had returned home. "Congress deserted" the South Vietnamese, he said.

Harvey retired from the Army in 1977 and embarked on the most rewarding work of his life, assistant Commandant of Cadets at The Citadel.

"I helped train almost 10,000 wonderful young cadets," he said. "Not a day goes by that I don't hear from one or more of them."

Harvey spent 16 years as assistant commandant, then two 6-year terms on the college's Board of Visitors.

He also has been treasurer of The Citadel's Brigadier Foundation going on 30 years. "This past year the foundation provided \$1.3 million for athletic scholarships," he said. "I believe I have raised in excess of \$3 million for both the Citadel Foundation and the Brigadier Foundation."

However, "this is a small thing compared to what God gave to me, my wonderful Charleston wife, three wonderful children and the privilege of being part of thousands of young Citadel men and now women these 32-plus years."



LTC Harvey Dick today



## President's Pen

There will be an event in February with information on the first page of this newsletter. Please try to attend these events which are planned for you. Enjoy the fun of just being together for fellowship and camaraderie.

We will be recruiting new members to participate in your chapter by assisting us and serving on the board of directors. This is not the first time that current board members are nearly exhausted and we need new people us to carry the chapter forward.

On behalf of the board of directors I urge you to consider taking a position to help us out. Board officers serve for 2 years and directors serve for 3 years. We really do need your help.

I have been president for 3 years and all board positions will be filled by the election of new officers in December 2010. The first Vice-President may or may not desire to go to the position of president. All other officers which are second vice, secretary, and treasurer will be up for re-election also.

This is a very important event this year. All of our board members have been in their positions for several years. They have held the chapter together and in fact, made it one of the best of 476 chapters in the MOAA System.

*Cliff*

### Next VA Hospital Visit

**Mark your calendars for the next VA Hospital visit on February 13, 2010. We plan to meet at the Charleston Club at 09:15, then convoy on down to the hospital. Be sure to contact Terry Joyce at 871-6360 if you plan on going with us.**



**Sam Stafford III, M.D.**  
**Mt. Pleasant Dermatology**  
**1280 Johnnie Dodds Blvd.**  
**Suite 300**  
**Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464**  
**(843) 881-0320**

## Military Spouses Residency Relief Act

The President signed a bill Nov. 11 to help ease the strain on military families who frequently travel from state to state and country to country.

President Barack Obama signed the bill, known as the 'Military Spouses Residency Relief Act,' as an amendment to the 2003 Service members Civil Relief Act.

The MSRRA allows military spouses to claim residency in the same state as their sponsor and retain that residency as long as the service member is in the military.

For more than 60 years, service members have had the privilege of keeping residency in the same state no matter where they traveled. This means Service members pay income taxes to their home state, and they don't have to change their driver's license or vehicle and voters registration during each permanent change of station.

Spouses now have these same privileges.

"Prior to the passage of the amendment, a service member's spouse had to change his or her legal residence with every (permanent change of station)," said Capt. David Cromwell, an assistant staff judge advocate at Incirlik Air Base. "Now, the spouse can retain the same legal residence as the active-duty service member so long as the spouse once shared that legal residency. This not only provides the military spouse with a stable legal residence, but also it has significant tax implications."

Abbey Yates, the 39th Comptroller Squadron assistant and wife of 1st Lt. Kyle Yates of the 39th Security Forces Squadron, recently switched her residency back to her husband's home of record and said this bill will really help her in the years to come.

"That will be the last time I'll ever have to do all that paperwork," Mrs. Yates said. "Not only do I get to keep my residency with a tax-free state, but I never have to do that paperwork during a PCS again. I'm really excited they passed this bill."

There are states such as Texas, Florida, South Dakota, Washington and others that are well-known for being tax-free for their residents.

"If a service member's spouse has ever been a resident of a tax-free state while married to the service member and is only absent from the state due to the service member's military duties, the spouse can now regain that legal residency," Captain Cromwell said. "Since income earned by a spouse will now be treated the same as military income, a spouse will only have to pay taxes to his or her state of legal residency. If that state is a tax-free state, then the spouse does not have to pay taxes even when the income is earned in a state that has an annual income tax."

A military spouse can now claim residency in the same state as their active-duty spouse regardless of their current residency as long as they have previously acquired that residency during some point of their marriage.

"The law permits military spouses to reach back and regain that residency no matter how long ago it was," Captain Cromwell said. "However, the law does not create the right to pick, choose or claim just any state of legal residence. The spouse may only regain the right to claim the same state of legal residence as their military spouse if they had once established such residency. A spouse cannot just claim the active-duty member's legal residency based purely on the marital relationship."

Although the MSRRA was passed to help relieve stress on military families during hectic times, remember there are requirements to changing your legal residency, Captain Cromwell said. "With these new changes, state tax authorities will most likely scrutinize our legal residencies since they will lose revenue," he said. "They will look at spouses and the active-duty member, since it is the active-duty member's status that determines whether or not the spouse is entitled to the protection."

Military members and their spouses must maintain sufficient ties to their legal residence. Claims of changed residency that have no basis in fact may be viewed as fraudulent by state taxing authorities and subject the military family to significant additional taxes and penalties."

For assistance with the MSRRA, contact your local legal office to setup a legal assistance appointment.

## HooahMail Speeds Delivery

The Army's HooahMail program makes it possible for friends and family members to put a paper letter and photograph into the hands of their loved ones in Afghanistan, in some cases, on the same day it is sent.

The one-year pilot program began in December and makes use of the Internet combined with physical mail delivery to create a hybrid mail system that can get letters into the hands of Soldiers in remote locations much faster than regular mail delivery alone.

Family members that want to send a letter and a photograph to a Soldier in Afghanistan will be able to log into the program's website at (<http://www.hooahmail.us/>) [ww.hooahmail.us](http://www.hooahmail.us) to type in their message and delivery information.

The HooahMail program is free for family members and friends, and is available for Soldiers in Afghanistan only.

## More Photos from the VA Hospital Visit in November



Terry Joyce shakes hands with a patient at the VA Hospital in Charleston.



Al Dovre spends some time with a patient.

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# VALENTINES FOR VETERANS CONCERT

February 12, 2010 at 6 p.m.

Featuring

**Aaron Tippin**

at the Citadel's  
**McAlister Field House**  
171 Moultrie St.



- \* Concert & Parking are FREE \*
- \* Free T-shirts to first 500 Veterans \*
- \* Free Portraits by Stacy Pearsall \*
- \* VA Volunteer booth \*
- \* VA MOVE information booth \*
- \* Mobile Vet Center \*

**FOR TICKET INFORMATION CALL (843) 789-7095**

The concert is free but tickets are required. POC is Carolyn Martel at the VA Hospital, phone 789-7095 or 789-7488. Carolyn said she'll hand out tickets until she runs out of them.

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<b>1st VP PROGRAMS</b>	LCDR William J. Mehard, Jr. USN (thru 2010)	554-8391	mehardw@bellsouth.net 2nd
<b>2nd VP MEMBERSHIP</b>	COL Allan T. Smith, USAF (thru 2010)	572-2011	alandmarty@comcast.net
<b>SECRETARY</b>	COL Clinton L. Noren, USAF (thru 2010)	552-7579	cnoren@earthlink.net
<b>TREASURER</b>	LTCOL. Ed Knowles, USAF (thru 2010)	553-5299	r66837.comcast.net
<b>DIR. HOSPITALITY</b>	MRS. Virginia P. CHINNES, AUX (thru 2009)	572-8761	
<b>DIR AWARDS</b>	COL Steve A. Rowe, USA (thru 2010)	303-7438	srowe@carolinaone.com
<b>DIR PERSONAL AFFAIRS</b>	CAPT Roy Corderman, USN (thru 2009)	571-5061	
<b>DIR. LEGISLATIVE</b>	CDR John E. Nolan, USN (thru 2010)	821-5767	sandlappers@sc.rr.com.
<b>DIR. T.O.P.S/PUBLICITY</b>	MAJOR Terry Joyce, USAF (thru 2010)	871-6360	wjoyce@prodigy.net
<b>PAST PRESIDENT</b>	COL Josiah (Butch) Fuller, USA (thru 2010)	821-0169	ButchFuller@aol.com

### REPRESENTATIVES TO THE BOARD (Appointed by the President)

<b>EDITOR</b>	COL Josiah (Butch) Fuller	821-0169	ButchFuller@aol.com
<b>CHAPLAIN</b>	CAPT Henry Lovelady, USAF	553-9581	capthensyl@comcast.net
<b>SCHOLARSHIP</b>	COL Rudy Smart, USAF	824-1263	rudy@thesmartsplace.com

News and Views herein are not necessary those of any Government Department or of other Chapters or Members. **Prospective Chapter Members:** if you are not a member of the Charleston Chapter, MOAA, you have received this copy as a courtesy invitation to call any Officer or Director for information about joining.

## Wanted: ROTC Awards Presenters

Spring is not that far away, and one thing that Spring brings in the Lowcountry are the annual Award Presentations at the various schools in the area.

Again this year, we are looking for volunteers from the Chapter to be presenters at one or more of these events. Ceremonies are usually on a weekday, daytime or evening, during late March, April or early May. Those who have presented in the past say the event is typically enjoyable.

Volunteers can contact Steve Rowe at 843-303-7438, or at [srowe@carolinaone.com](mailto:srowe@carolinaone.com).

## Donald Hurley

**D.O., F.A.A.F.P**  
 Commander, USN, MC (Ret)  
 Member of MOAA

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**Charleston Chapter MOAA** *Membership Application Renewal Change of Address*  
 (circle one). Chapter Dues: \$10.00 a year for Regular membership. Auxiliary membership \$5.00 per year.  
 Multiple year dues are encouraged in order to reduce paperwork. Make check payable to "Charleston  
 MOAA". Mail to: Charleston MOAA, P.O. Box 70421, Charleston SC 29415-0421.

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_ MI \_\_\_\_\_

DOB \_\_\_\_\_ Rank \_\_\_\_\_ Service \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

If you are a member of National MOAA, please provide your membership number \_\_\_\_\_

Your status (circle one) Retired Active Duty Reserve National Guard Former Officer Auxiliary

Dues for Year (s) \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Total Membership: 472  
Auxiliary Members: 97  
Honorary Members: 25

### MEMBERSHIP DUES 2010

To those members who have not yet paid their annual dues, please note that your Membership is highly valued and we sincerely hope to continue counting you among us as we press on to further the goals and objectives of this Chapter. To remain a Charter member, please submit your dues at this time.

Please remember that the Chapter's annual dues are expected at the beginning of each year. Check the mailing label on this newsletter, where it says, "**DUES PAID THRU.....**" **date** to see if your dues are current for the year 2009 or beyond.

If not, please mail your dues at your earliest convenience (\$10.00 for members or \$5.00 for Auxiliary members) payable to **Charleston MOAA**. Along with your dues please complete the Membership Application/Renewal form inside the back page of this Newsletter. Attach your check to the application and mail both to:

**Charleston Chapter, MOAA  
P.O. Box 70421  
Charleston, SC 29415-0421.**

**Thanks in advance.**

### Dues Questions

Questions concerning your status should be directed to:

Al Smith, Membership VP. 572-2011  
alandmarty@comcast.net

## MEMBERS WHO HAVE PAID DUES FOR 5 OR MORE YEARS

Six additional members have joined the ranks of those who have paid their dues for five or more years. In addition to those previously recognized, we are pleased to extend our wholehearted thanks to the following members:

Lt Col Donald D Brock, USAF (Ret.)

Mrs. Lucille Brown, AUX

Mrs. Phyllis J. Griffith, AUX

CDR Richard D. Knight, USN (Ret.)

Mrs. Lois T. Seaman, AUX

Lt. Col Robert W. Ticknor, USAF (Ret.)

### WELCOME ABOARD!

LCDR W. Scott Kibler, USNR (Ret.)  
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