

# Bridge View



## Charleston Chapter, Military Officers Association of America

September, 2010



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



### President's Pen

In my last two columns I have written about the critical need to recruit new members for our chapter. MOAA National recently announced a great program which will provide a free one year membership if a MOAA National member joins our chapter. This new initiative complements the other recruiting programs we currently have including the GIVE ME TEN program.

Your board of directors is seeking nominations for this year's Lahm Award. See page 4 for details.

At the September chapter board meeting BG Ernie Brockman and his wife Col Beverly Brockman will be installed as members of the Board of Directors. The board will also form a nominating committee to begin the process of identifying potential candidates for positions on the 2011 chapter board. Our current Personal Affairs Officer, Roy Corderman, is in poor health and we urgently need a replacement for him. Please remember him in your prayers.

We will have events each month the rest of the year. For our September event Bill Mehard has lined up a program at the Old Fire Museum in North Charleston. Details are provided on the front page of the of this newsletter. The October event is not yet finalized. Presentation of the Lahm Award, if there is a nominee, will be at the November meeting at Red's Ice House. The December meeting is our annual meeting at which the nominating committee will present the proposed slate of officers for the next two years.

January 2011 is extremely important to me as I will be stepping down as your president after four years at the helm of your chapter. Our January member meeting will be preceded by a chapter board meeting and a representative from MOAA National will participate. After lunch the installation of officers will be conducted by the visiting National MOAA member who will then be our guest speaker for the day.

*Cliff*

Who's this month's profile? See Page 3.

### September Event

Our Chapter luncheon for September will be at the North Charleston American LaFrance Fire Museum, where we will enjoy another catered meal provided by Jim 'N Nicks Southern Kitchen Bar-B-Q.

As you recall, our last event at the Fire Museum was a large success and therefore several members requested we do it again.

Our guest speaker for the event is North Charleston Mayor Keith Summey. Although recovering from July hip replacement surgery, at this time we will plan on his presence at the function.

You will be amazed at the Fire Museum right in the heart of North Charleston and close to Tanger Outlet and many fine dining establishments. So make your plans early to join your Chapter members for a visit to the Museum and Education Center and enjoy a Bar-B-Q lunch provided by Jim 'N Nicks Southern Kitchen.

The Museum is located at 4975 Center Point Drive in North Charleston, just off International Blvd. and I-526

Date: Friday September 24 2010

Time: Social Hour 11:30 AM

Lunch: 12 Noon

Menu: Jim 'N Nicks famous Pulled Pork, Beef Brisket, Macaroni & Cheese, Creamy Cole Slaw, Baked Beans, Buns and Biscuits, Lemon Bars and Iced Tea

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

RSVP: Check to arrive No Later than 21 Sep 2010

Dress: Comfortable Casual

Make checks payable to Charleston MOAA and mail to LCDR William Mehard, 5926 Commonwealth Circle, Hanahan, SC 29410-2431. If you have special diet needs contact LCDR Mehard at 554-8391. Cell 834-0974.

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

**LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**  
**CDR John E. Nolan, SC, USN**

**MILITARY RETIREMENT**  
**“UNAFFORDABLE ”**

On July 22 the Defense Business Board task force recommended that the Secretary of Defense reduce the civilian workforce by more than 110,000 and laid the ground work for potential future recommendations to cut spending on military retirement, health care, family support, and other programs.

Additionally, the task force recommended drastic reductions in combatant command staffing, hiring freezes, and elimination of organizational duplication. These preliminary recommendations will be followed in October by additional cost cutting proposals.

For the last year, the Defense Business Board has predicted major problems for the Defense Budget as the nation deals with deficit reduction efforts, the economic slowdown, escalating health care and personnel costs, and the potential exit from two wars. Board members believe that avoiding a looming fiscal crisis will require cutting the Defense budget beyond Secretary Gates' recently announced target of a \$100-billion reduction of overhead spending.

The Board's initial observations briefing devoted an entire section to costs for military compensation, retirement, health care, veterans affairs, concurrent receipt, commissaries, dependent education, and military family housing. It particularly highlighted costs associated with TRICARE FOR LIFE.

A page titled “The Military Retirement' Sacred Cow Is Increasingly Unaffordable” cites increases in the number of military retirees since 1980 (as if this weren't the direct result of decisions by every administration and Congress since the 1950s to induce a large standing career force to protect America and the world) and criticizes the 20-year retirement system (as if the military could have sustained the force over the last ten years of repeated wartime deployments without it).

Another personnel cost growth since 1998—conveniently overlooking that 1998 was the nadir of two decades of erosion of military pay, retirement, health care and other benefits, and that the resulting retention problems of that era were what sparked Congress to embark on an extended program to fix them.

Unfortunately, the Defense Business Board report is only one of the early shots in what likely will be years of budget battles to reconcile military and other needs with truly daunting deficit projections.

In the coming years it is going to take all our efforts to fight efforts to cut military pay, retirement benefits and particularly efforts to cut TRICARE FOR LIFE BENEFITS, which when enacted finally kept the governments promise to many veterans that government health care would be provided to them and their dependents for life.

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## Nominations are now being accepted for the Robert J. Lahm Award

The Robert J. Lahm Award was established to honor the memory of Lieutenant Colonel Robert J. Lahm, who served as Chapter Secretary from January 1997 to April 2003. Lt Col Lahm made many significant contributions to both the community and to this Chapter. The Award recognizes the efforts of an individual in providing outstanding service to the Charleston community and Charleston Chapter MOAA

**Nominations:** Any chapter member (including Honorary) making a significant contribution to this Chapter and/or the Charleston Trident Community is eligible. Any chapter member may nominate a member of the Charleston MOAA Chapter for this award. Eligibility will be considered for non-members, on a case-by-case basis, who have clearly demonstrated outstanding service regarding the purpose of this chapter.

**Submission:** Nominations are to be submitted to the Chapter President not later than 31 October 2010. Mail it to LT Cliff Abbey, 100 Cheshire Drive, Goose Creek, SC 29445-7128

Recipient's name will be added to a permanent trophy.

Award will be presented at the November member function at Red's Ice House.

Restrictions:

- (a) Sitting Chapter President is not eligible.
- (b) Normal duties of office performed by Board members are not deemed significant contributions and thus are not eligible for this award

## REST IN PEACE

A grateful nation thanks you for your contribution

LT COL William K. Houston, USAF, (Ret)  
18 April 2010  
Survived by Wife, Carol

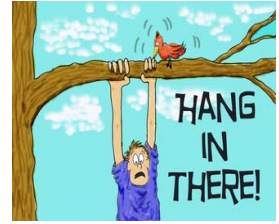
LCDR Charles B. Martin, USN, (Ret)  
23 July 2010  
Survived by Wife, Jacqueline

LCDR William F. Kopacka, USN, (Ret)  
24 July 2010

CAPT David N. Planton, USN, (Ret)  
4 August 2010  
Survived by Wife, Norma

A contribution will be made to the scholarship fund in memory of our lost members.

## MORE RESCUERS SHOW UP & HELP



More Chapter members pitch in to help our scholarship fund. Their tax deductible contributions are helping build our account up to a level where we can easily support one student.



A contribution was gratefully received from LCDR Elinor S. Kessel.

**PLEASE CONTINUE TO HELP.** Make your check out to Future Military Officers Scholarship Fund and send it to us. You will be helping one of our own local students go to college.

### MAIL YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS TO:

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

**THANKS IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR HELP.**



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

## HOW ABOUT BECOMING A MEMBER OF YOUR CHAPTER'S BOARD?

If you would take a look at the list of Officers and Board of Directors on page 6, you will notice that there several whose term expires this year. Have you ever given any thought to serving in one of the positions that will become available?

Many of you could be really helpful to the chapter if you would raise your hand and volunteer to serve as a member of the board. Most of you have had experience serving as board members, advisors, etc., during your years of military and civilian retired service. Providing your expertise and assistance to your chapter would be a both a benefit to members as well as our community and country.

Just think about it, and volunteer your services to your chapter. Contact Cliff Abbey at 553-2644, or Butch Fuller at 821-0169, and we will put your name on the ballot.

Is there work to it? Sure there is.

Can you do the job? I am betting that you can.

## The Charleston Chapter has done it gain!!

Again this year, your chapter has been awarded the Five Star Award of Excellence awarded by MOAA National.

This is the time that the chapter has received this award, along with being awarded the Four Star award twice.

The competition is based upon a point system based on points being awarded for objective criteria and subjective criteria.

Chapters are also allowed to present accomplishments in membership, programs, community service activities like Toys For Tots and Veterans affairs, publications such as this newsletter and working with ROTC and JROTC.

Thanks to all of you for your contributions during the year, which go a long way toward the Chapter being recognized as a Five Star Award of Excellence recipient.



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## MOAA MIXED BOWLING LEAGUE

### \*REMINDER\*

We have completed another fun-filled season and are taking a break until we start a new season in September, 2010. WE NEED BOWLERS!

(Regular and substitutes are needed; both men and women).

We bowl on Thursday evenings at 6:30 p.m. The only thing needed to join us is a desire to enjoy the sport and the camaraderie of good folks.

For further information or to sign up for our next season, please contact: Norm Wolff 216 6433 or [ju-nowolff@bellsouth.net](mailto:junowolff@bellsouth.net)

There are two women's leagues that bowl at the Starlifter Lanes on Wednesday and Thursday mornings. If there are any ladies who would like to join us, please contact: Judy Wolff 216 6433 or [ju-nowolff@bellsouth.net](mailto:junowolff@bellsouth.net)

You do not need to be a member of MOAA for the women's leagues.



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### 2009-2010 OFFICERS and BOARD OF DIRECTORS

<b>PRESIDENT</b>	LT Clifton R. Abbey, USN (thru 2010)	553-2644	<a href="mailto:cliffabbey@att.net">cliffabbey@att.net</a>
<b>1st VP PROGRAMS</b>	LCDR William J. Mehard, Jr. USN (thru 2010)	554-8391	<a href="mailto:mehardw@bellsouth.net">mehardw@bellsouth.net</a>
<b>2nd VP MEMBERSHIP</b>	COL Allan T. Smith, USAF (thru 2010)	572-2011	<a href="mailto:alandmarty@comcast.net">alandmarty@comcast.net</a>
<b>SECRETARY</b>	COL Clinton L. Noren, USAF (thru 2010)	552-7579	<a href="mailto:cnoren@earthlink.net">cnoren@earthlink.net</a>
<b>TREASURER</b>	LTCOL. Ed Knowles, USAF (thru 2010)	553-5299	<a href="mailto:r66837.comcast.net">r66837.comcast.net</a>
<b>DIR. HOSPITALITY</b>	MRS. Virginia P. Chinnes, AUX (thru 2013)	572-8761	
<b>DIR AWARDS</b>	COL Steve A. Rowe, USA (thru 2010)	303-7438	<a href="mailto:srowe@carolinaone.com">srowe@carolinaone.com</a>
<b>DIR PERSONAL AFFAIRS</b>	CAPT Roy Corderman, USN (thru 2013)	571-5061	
<b>DIR. LEGISLATIVE</b>	CDR John E. Nolan, USN (thru 2010)	821-5767	<a href="mailto:sandlappers@sc.rr.com">sandlappers@sc.rr.com</a>
<b>DIR. T.O.P.S/PUBLICITY</b>	MAJOR Terry Joyce, USAF (thru 2010)	871-6360	<a href="mailto:wjoyce@prodigy.net">wjoyce@prodigy.net</a>
<b>PAST PRESIDENT</b>	COL Josiah (Butch) Fuller, USA (thru 2010)	821-0169	<a href="mailto:ButchFuller@aol.com">ButchFuller@aol.com</a>
<b>MEMBER AT LARGE</b>	CDR Donald Lovelace, USN (thru 2013)	797-6326	<a href="mailto:Love29406@aol.com">Love29406@aol.com</a>
<b>MEMBER AT LARGE</b>	BG Ernest D. Brockman USA (thru 2013)	875-4465	<a href="mailto:ebrockman@sc.rr.com">ebrockman@sc.rr.com</a>
<b>MEMBER AT LARGE</b>	COL Beverly R. Brockman USA (thru 2013)	875-4465	<a href="mailto:bbrockman@sc.rr.com">bbrockman@sc.rr.com</a>

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

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

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.

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Contact Terry Joyce at 871-6360, and he will give you all of the details.

**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: 447  
Auxiliary Members: 95  
Honorary Members: 24  
Receiving E-Mail Newsletters: 85

### Dues Questions

Questions concerning your status should be directed to:

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

### BE THE NEXT IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD!!

Did you know that this newsletter is on line and in living color? Check out our website at [www.chasmoaa.org/](http://www.chasmoaa.org/). You will need the latest version of Adobe Reader which is available on our site, and it's free. If you choose to access the newsletter from the web on a regular monthly basis instead of the U.S. Post Office "snail mail", you will:

- Be notified as soon as the newsletter is on the web.
- Receive your copy 5 to 7 days earlier.
- Help the environment by reducing paper waste and diminishing the number of trees needed to make paper.
- Help your Chapter to reduce the price tag involved in the cost of postage (postage rates go up again (Jan 2011) and printing!

I hope this sounds like something you would like to do to help your chapter. If so, let Al Smith know at [alandmarty@comcast.net](mailto:alandmarty@comcast.net).

If you select this option you will receive a personal e-mail in October and December of each year showing you your annual dues expiration date.

## ADDRESS CHANGE

**CAPT STEPHEN A. Grimaldi**  
1137 N. Central Ave., Apt. 330  
Glendale, CA 91202



### Base Stickers Required to Access the Naval Nuclear Power Training Center

You can't get through the gate to the Naval Nuclear Power Training Facility, the new location of the Naval Health Clinic in September, and to the other facilities located there unless you have a base sticker, so you will have to get one from the Naval Weapons Station, or Fort Jackson, or any post which provides such services.

The Charleston Air Force Base no longer issues base stickers, so that option is out.

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