



Charleston Chapter, Military Officers Association of America

April, 2011 Issue 4-2011

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Fort Moultrie today

The first fort on Sullivan's Island was still incomplete when Commodore Sir Peter Parker and nine warships attacked it on June 28, 1776. After a nine-hour battle, the ships were forced to retire. Charleston was saved from British occupation, and the fort was named in honor of its commander, Colonel William Moultrie. In 1870, the British finally captured Charleston, abandoning it only on the advent of peace.

Happy Easter



Looking for a Legislative Director

John Nolan's Term as Legislative Director has expired, and we are looking for someone to replace him. If you are interested, please contact President Brockman.

April Luncheon

April 12th, 1861 - the start of the bloodiest war in American history. Join us April 15th for a tour of historic Fort Moultrie. During this week various organizations will be marking the sesquicentennial of the firing on Fort Sumter, and the National Park Service will be hosting reenactors engaged in commemorating the event. We will be guided by selected reenactors who will share with us some of the history associated with Fort Moultrie during that historically significant period. Following the tour, we will adjourn to Sullivans Restaurant for refreshment and lunch.

- Place: Fort Moultrie, Sullivan's Island
- Date: Friday, April 15th, 2011.
- Time: 1030 tour Fort Moultrie (meet at Visitor's Center); 1130 Social Hour at Sullivans Restaurant (2019 Middle St., Sullivan's Island)
- Lunch: 12 Noon.
- Menu: One entrée (select from grilled chicken, fried/boiled shrimp, fried/broiled oysters, or fried/broiled flounder); two sides (select from coleslaw, French fries, baked potato, green beans, fresh collards or fried okra); homemade banana pudding, coffee, tea or soda.
- Cost: \$17.00 per person (includes admission to Fort Moultrie). Make checks payable to Charleston MOAA.
- Dress: Casual.
- RSVP: Check to arrive NLT Tuesday, April 12th, 2011.
- Mail to: Dave Farley, CDR, USN (ret)
126 Cainho Landing Road
Wando, SC 29492

For additional information call 881-9452 (home) or 708-8110 (cell) or E-mail: defarley@bellsouth.net

Who's this Month's MOAA Profile?
See Page Three

Legislative Update

CDR John E. Nolan, SC, USN

DON'T FORCE DUMB DEFENSE DECISIONS (THE SPENDING BILL)

Six months into FY 2011, and Congress still hasn't passed this crucial funding bill, leaving the Pentagon and the rest of the country operating under last year's restraints. While continuing to haggle over how much to cut federal spending, legislators have passed continuing resolutions (CR) that maintain funding for most programs at FY 2010 level through April 8.

Defense leaders have warned in increasingly dire terms that, if left under a CR without a new Defense appropriations act, military readiness will be at significant risk. DoD has stated that CR requirements will force the services to cut flying hours and steaming days, defer equipment maintenance, cancel training events and exercises and suspend new acquisition and military construction programs. Far from saving any money, they say, such disruptions raise defense costs significantly when the programs have to be restarted later. Operating under a CR also provides insufficient funds for "must pay bills" such as military pay and health care coverage, forcing Defense leaders to "rob Peter to pay Paul".

Questioned about the impact of a government shutdown on the Defense Department, DoD leaders say plans include an unannounced furlough of half the civilian workforce. The other half of the civilian workforce, as well as military members, would continue to work, but the Department would be unable to pay them.

They further state that the Services have started freezing civilian hiring and delaying permanent change of station moves, which is extremely disruptive to the affected families. These kind of changes are going to snowball. DoD will try to postpone any actions that would be most damaging to readiness as long as they could, but stated that they can only hold their breath so long.

SENATORS: DEFENSE WILL BE CUT

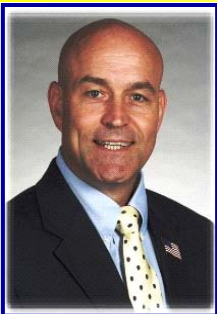
DoD people ran into a bipartisan wall in a Mid-March Senate Budget Committee hearing when they asserted that the FY 2012 defense budget request represented a "reasonable" amount to address the wartime national security needs while also supporting Administration efforts to contain the deficit.

The senior Republican, Sen. Jeff Sessions (R-AL) and the Committee Chairman Sen Kent Conrad (D-ND) agreed that the days of the open check-book are ended for everyone in light of the national debt that we have and the fiscal crisis in our country. Sessions noted that in contrast to cuts in other parts of the budget the Administration has proposed a five percent increase for defense and 10-percent increases for some other departments. These are not acceptable increases and he doesn't think they will be approved.

MOAA is as concerned and frustrated as anyone about Pentagon inefficiencies in contracting and elsewhere. Dozens of GAO and Defense Inspector General reports have documented that hundreds of billions are wasted or unaccounted for.

But Congress shares in this waste as dozens of legislators influence the authorizations and appropriations processes every year to push hardware and other projects aimed more at benefiting their states and districts than contributing to national defense needs.

There's no denying two competing facts: we're a nation fighting a two front war and we're a nation on the edge of a genuine fiscal crisis. And a third over-riding fact: we're in this terrible situation precisely because partisan and bi-partisan actions of Administrations and Congress of both parties put us there. It's the same bi-partisan, short-sighted deadlock that took our country to war but refused to fund a large enough force to meet the mission-leaving our troops and families to suffer the terrible consequences of unending deployments imposed on a too small force.



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Lt Col Jack Parker, US Army Reserve New Chapter Member



Military life can be a balancing act, especially when one must balance the nation's military and civilian worlds at the same time.

It's a life that retired Army Lt. Col. Jack Parker, U.S. Army Reserve, worked in for more than 23 years.

"My cousin and I enlisted while we were in college," Jack said recently. "I served first in the Infantry, then in Military Intelligence and finally in Civil Affairs. My longest period on active duty was six months at Fort Benning," in Georgia, he said, at the very start of his career as a reservist.

In fact, when Parker wasn't on active duty training for the Army Reserve he was busy learning the civilian world of banking.

Jack was born in Natchez, Miss., and grew up in Monroe, La. He attended a local college after high school then transferred to Louisiana State University. He signed up with Army ROTC while at LSU and was commissioned a second lieutenant upon graduation in 1959.

Jack arrived at Fort Benning a month later where he trained with the 29th Infantry Division. Once his six months on active duty were up, he moved to Memphis where he trained to become a branch manager with First National Bank of Memphis.

For the next 20 years he moved back and forth



Lt Col Jack Parker

During the early 1960s, Jack transferred from the Infantry to the 836th Military Intelligence Detachment.

"We worked administering summer field training problems," he said. It was probably the most satisfying period of his Army Reserve career.

"We were ready to do the job," Jack said. "It was a good unit with a good attitude."

Jack also was busy on the personal front. He and his wife, Wanda, were married in 1958. They have a son, Jack Jr., and a grandson, Alexander, who attends the College of Charleston.

The banks that Jack worked for as a civilian went through a series of mergers that eventually placed him with the Bank of America. At the same time, the Army placed him in a Civil Affairs reserve unit in Columbia.

"It was a blessing," he said. "I've had the best of both of those worlds."

Jack retired from the Army Reserve in 1982 but even then he wasn't quite finished. He was recalled for two weeks in 1983 to brief Gen. Norman Schwarzkopf on the Army's plan to deploy Army reservists to places like the Middle East.

In the meantime, he remained busy in his civilian career until he retired from UBS Financial Services in 2006.

Jack recently joined MOAA's Charleston chapter after several years with MOAA's national organization. He and Wanda reside in Mount Pleasant.

Welcome aboard to both of you!



President's Pen

Beware the Ides of March!! I've been reading the Legislative Updates that John has provided each month and I am concerned that our Washington leaders have forgotten the meaning of the word "promise". It may be that since few of our Washington leaders have even served in our nation's services, or in any real businesses, they are not sure what promises were made when service members signed up, put their lives on the line to ensure America stayed free. I ask each of you to pick up pen and paper, write your congress and senate members and remind them that promises were made – these are **NOT** entitlements – these are promises made to service members for life!!

I understand the COLA issues with no increases; however, I do not understand our Washington leaders accepting raises in their pay during this economic crisis this country is going through. Maybe they should be looking at **THEIR** entitlements as a way to reduce the national debt. Service members serve 20 years to retire at 50% base pay. Washington leaders retire at 100% of their salary for life after serving only ONE term – either 2 or 6 years!! That is a disgrace!!

Speaking of John – he has done an outstanding job as the Legislative Director. Also, he has done that outstanding job for a long time. It is time for someone else to take over that position and allow John to rest and enjoy attending meetings as just a member!! Please look at your schedule, talk with John or any other Board member to find out what is involved, and consider taking on this responsibility. You will be doing John, your chapter and yourself a favor by getting involved!!

Thanks to all who attend our meetings and functions and make our chapter a success.

Ernie

Upcoming Events

Mark your calendars for these upcoming chapter events:

Friday, May 13th - Chapter Board Meeting, 12:15

Friday, May 20th - Lunch at Sunfire Grill & Bistro, Sam Rittenburg, capacity ~50. Speaker will be Dennis Christensen. Menu & details not yet firm. Expect price to be ~\$16 -\$17. Will have details by April BOD.

Saturday, May 21st - Tentative date for Chapter visit to the VA Hospital (Armed Forces Day)

Friday, June 10th - Chapter Board Meeting, 12:15

June (Date TBA) - Possible Evening event on the USS Yorktown

Thank You, Thank You

A double Thank You to LTC Ellen Beckmann for her generous donations to the Scholarship Fund and to Toys For Tots.



REST IN PEACE

A grateful nation thanks you for your contribution

**COL William W. Thomas, USAF, Ret.
March 18, 2011**

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

Help Your Survivors Now

How, you ask? Where is your DD214? Your survivors may not receive all the entitlements for which you have worked so hard. MOAA has the answers in many publications available to members.

For more information on these publications, call (800) 234-MOAA (6622) or visit MOAA online at www.MOAA.ORG. You may also contact LCDR William J. Mehard, Director of Chapter Personal Affairs at 554-8391 or at mehardw@bellsouth.net.

Need to get in touch with the chapter?

Call one of the Board members listed on page 6 or mail us at

Chapter Mailing Address

Charleston Chapter MOAA
PO Box 70421
Charleston, SC 29415-0421

Chapter Board Meetings

Your Chapter Board conducts its meetings monthly at the Charleston Club. Meetings are held on the second Friday of the month, and begin at 12:15. The meetings are open, and members are welcome to attend, so stop in and see us as we discuss the business of the Chapter.

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Virtual Vietnam Wall



If you lost someone in the Vietnam War, or know someone who does, you may want to check out the link below.

This link is a virtual wall of all those lost during the Vietnam War with the names, bios and other information on our lost heroes. Those who remember that time frame, or perhaps lost friends or family can look them up on this site.

Pass the link on to others, as many knew wonderful people whose names are listed.

<http://www.virtualwall.org/iStates.htm>

First, click on a state. When it opens, scroll down to the city and the names will appear. Then click on their names. It should show you a picture of the person, or at least their bio and medals.



Earth Day - April 22nd

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EDITOR	COL Josiah (Butch) Fuller, USA	821-0169	ButchFuller@aol.com
CHAPLAIN	CAPT Henry Lovelady, USN	553-9581	capthenryl@comcast.net
SCHOLARSHIP	COL Rudy Smart, USAF	824-1263	rsmart1@gmail.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.

**Sam Stafford III, M.D.
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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: 465
Auxiliary Members: 101
Honorary Members: 27
Receiving E-Mail Newsletters: 100

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/. 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 up will go up again!!) 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.

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.

MEMBERS WHO HAVE PAID DUES FOR 5 OR MORE YEARS

One additional member has 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 member:

Maj. Harry S. O'Neal, USAFR (Ret.)

WELCOME ABOARD!

WO1 Gustav F Isaac, USA
5023 Foxwood Drive
North Charleston, SC 29418

LCDR Thomas K. Parsons, USN (Ret.)
129 Fox Chase Drive
Goose Creek, SC 29445

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