



**Charleston Chapter, Military Officers Association of America**

**August, 2011 Issue 7-2011**

**Published monthly, except July**

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

## A GIFT THAT KEEPS ON GIVING

Our Future Military Officer Scholarship fund has contributed to one new Ensign in the U.S. Coast Guard and one new Air Force 2nd Lieutenant. All of this has been made possible through the contributions you have made.

Recipients come from all types of families in our tri-county area, but, all have one common trait—their goal is to get a college education and enter the military. It's possible they could not achieve this goal without the help of the members of Charleston Chapter of MOAA. Your contributions are the key element in helping local students achieve their goal.



You can make a gift to our Future Military Officer Scholarship fund and enjoy more than the good feeling of helping a future military officer. You can gain immediate tax benefits because your donation is fully tax deductible.



Say yes, I want to help educate the sons and daughters of the greater Charleston community. Make that check out to Future Military Officer Scholarship Fund and mail it to :

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

*"We make a living by what we get,  
but we make a life by what we give." --Winston Churchill*

## Sound the Alarm

MOAA relies on postcards and e-mail to sound the alarm and muster our members to action. To that end, we also rely on your e-mail addresses to get the word out to you.

By providing your e-mail address, you help your chapter, and National to strengthen our one powerful voice, and you enable us to share in a more timely way the personal services and news you have come to value.

Help us to reach you faster by submitting your current e-mail address. Contact Dave Farley at [deffarley@bellsouth.net](mailto:deffarley@bellsouth.net), or Al Smith at [Alandmarty@comcast.net](mailto:Alandmarty@comcast.net). We will not give your e-mail addresses out to anyone outside MOAA.

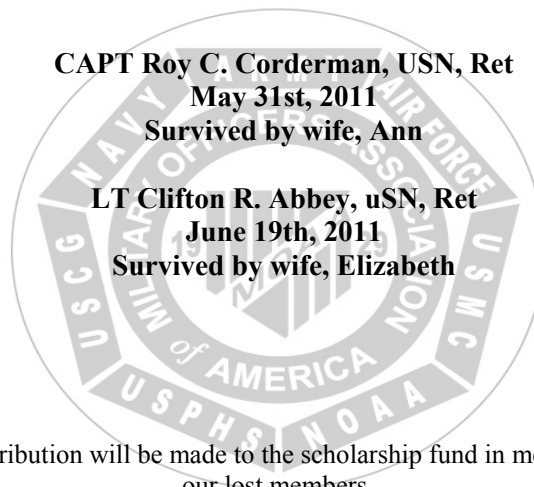
Thanks.

## REST IN PEACE

**A grateful nation thanks you for your contribution**

**CAPT Roy C. Corderman, USN, Ret**  
**May 31st, 2011**  
**Survived by wife, Ann**

**LT Clifton R. Abbey, uSN, Ret**  
**June 19th, 2011**  
**Survived by wife, Elizabeth**



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

## Legislative Update CDR Gordon B. Hobgood, USN Ret

### *View from the Crows Nest:*

***Rough seas ahead!*** Political posturing aside, both parties are guilty; national debt is in crisis. Both sides are playing to the crowd, but behind closed doors patting each other on the back and wheeling & dealing. On the one hand, if spending continues as is, the issue of no tax increase is a moot point ... have to pay the bills some day. On the other hand, the deficit is coupled with high unemployment and increasing inflation (yes ... we know the official party line is there is little to no inflation), too big to whittle down by just cutting spending ... there will have to be tax increases and benefits decreases.

Since "everything is on the table," that translates into potential cuts in Social Security, Medicare, government retirement, and defense spending.

So where does that leave us? The easy target has always been in DOD (guns vs. butter). The percentage of citizens receiving social security/Medicare/Medicaid (butter) is relative high while those receiving government benefits (guns) is low when bumped up against current U.S. population figures. Active duty personnel are required to be apolitical by nature and therefore tend to be a silent group. Once we retire, we tend to maintain a somewhat apolitical posture to our own detriment.

Today politicians give preference to those who shout the loudest, inundate them with letters, emails, phone calls, and have the biggest PAC/lobbying strength. The notion of doing what is best for the country, as a whole, seems to have taken a backseat.

***We ... you ...*** must assume a more active role! Write, email, and call your elected representatives. Let them know how you feel about the various issues and how they affect you. Give them the benefit of your military counsel on issues many of them have never faced. Less than ten percent of all Senators and Representatives have any military experience. Go to our website and click on Links to connect with MOAA national's website.

Take a moment to read the critical action section and take advantage of the suggested email/letter offerings. You will find there are more bills in play than those reaching the news channels or newspapers.

Another section lists the names of those who have agreed to sponsor a bill of interest (*unfortunately few sponsorships by our SC representatives*). When you contact your representatives, be sure to let them know you are a member of the Charleston MOAA chapter. Name recognition will aid our chapter when we contact them. We've invited them to speak at one of our monthly meetings and all have declined.

### ***Which way is the wind blowing?***

Senate Veterans Committee has passed a bill to stop subsidizing commissaries.

Consideration being given to merging commissaries and exchanges.

Raise in annual Tricare fee and copayments.

Requiring federal retirees go on Tricare For Life when they start Medicare rather than continue medical care under their Federal Healthcare plan.

Implementing means test for Tricare/Medicare-B ... if you make over a certain amount annually ... you could pay more for both coverage and co-pay.

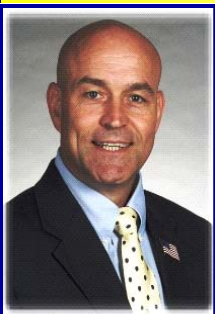
Another adjustment in how CPI is calculated (and possibly capping at X% below CPI) ... with a slant on reducing annual COLAs.

Some military pharmacies already discouraging retirees from having prescriptions filled on base if they have Medicare-D or private pharmacy insurance ... (could base pharmacy eventually be cut out altogether?).

Reintroduction of 3-tier military retirement system.

Change in combat pay calculations (pay only for the day actually in combat rather than whole month ... could that lead to flight or sea pay only for actual flight/at sea hours?)

Troop drawdown in Iraq/Afghanistan translates to a need for fewer active/reserve duty troops, sailors, and aviators ... more RIFs. (Continued on page 8)



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# IN MEMORIAM



## Lieutenant Clifton Abbey

## Captain Roy Corderman

Cliff served as First Vice President for two years, and as our president for four years. For two of those four years, he also performed the duties of First Vice President, a duty he was well aware of, but one which added innumerable hours of additional work for him, and for Libby.

He became quite ill during his tenure as president, but it didn't slow him down. He was a dedicated member of the Board, and always did his utmost to insure that the chapter remained on the right track.

Cliff was a loyal servant of his country. Spending a career in the Navy, he served faithfully. He enlisted in the Navy in 1947 and served until his retirement in 1969. He was in both the Korean Conflict and the Vietnam War. His ships included the FM Robinson, the Epperson and the Quincy, before he attended submarine school. He then served on the USS Jallao and the USS Bonefish. Not one able to retire, he became a civilian employee at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. He retired there in 1982, only to go to work here in Charleston at the M. Rosenblatt Company. After retirement from there, even serving as an usher at St. Johannes Church as lead usher.

Cliff was a loving husband to Libby, who was always seen with him, volunteering at the Charleston Chapter functions. He was a loving father and grandfather to Don, Donna and Mandy. They knew his delight in talking on the cell phone. They knew his joy in researching history and learning all that he could. He especially liked it when someone told him a project was too hard or impossible. If you told him that it would be impossible to train a squirrel that showed up in the yard to eat from his hand, he patiently worked with the squirrel, named "Peanut", until he had him eating out of his hand.



***BRAVO ZULU, Cliff***

Roy served as our Director of Personal Affairs for over 16 years. During that time, he was the primary contact for issues of military rights and entitlements. He was responsible for insuring the board was made aware of the deaths of chapter members, and was a direct point of contact with casualty assistance officers in matters of death and survivor benefits.

Roy was an active participant in chapter functions until illness precluded him from doing so. He had a great sense of humor, and will be missed by all.

Roy was born November 24, 1923 in Pittsburgh, PA, the son of Roy Clinton Corderman and Eva Bollinger Corderman. He attended the University of Maryland and Johns Hopkins University and was a graduate of the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill School of Dentistry. He also did a year of graduate study in Biblical Studies at the University of North Carolina.

He was an Eagle Scout, a member of the Charleston Lions Club, the Charleston Elks Lodge #242 and the Charleston Dental Association.

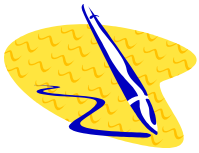
Prior to becoming a dentist, he was a tool design engineer. Captain Corderman retired from the US Navy Dental Corps practicing Endodontics and Periodontics. He was in the Honor Guard at the last inauguration of President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

He is survived by His wife, Ann, three brothers, Sidney A. Corderman, Allen B. Corderman and Warren Corderman.



Roy and Ann at the 2004 Christmas Dinner, with Forrest Ott.

***BRAVO ZULU, Roy***



## President's Pen

We have just passed the birthday of our country's independence. It is a sad day with so few service veterans serving in capacities of our nation's leadership. Because they have had no experience with the services, they have no problems with putting our earned and promised benefits on the table for attempting to balance our nation's budget.

What was most depressing was the Secretary of Defense and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs stating that military benefits are on the table. They, of all people, should be ones who are standing up for their people – that is what real leaders do – stand up for their people!! I guess being political appointees and dealing with politicians on a daily basis can lead one to become more like them. That is shameful!!

We recently lost two most influential members of our organization. One, I did not know as we have been here just a short time. However, the other was my mentor and guiding light!! From my first meeting with MOAA, Cliff seemed to be grooming me and cajoling me and slightly twisting my arm to replace him as president. Having held the office for two terms, it was time for him to hand it off. I was honored to be the chosen one and I was not shy in calling him to ask numerous questions and requesting advice on things which came up day to day. I already miss his smile and sense of humor. Let's not forget to include Libby in our future events and support her as much as we can.

I am missing the luncheon meetings in July and August as we take our summer break. Dave and Dot have done an outstanding job arranging interesting speakers at a variety of locations for our meetings. Please make sure you mark your calendars for September through December for our upcoming gatherings.

Again, please take time to write your congressman and senators to ask them to honor past promises to our nations service members and retirees. Pay special attention to Gordon's Legislative news. He and the MOAA magazine provide examples of correspondence for your use in contacting your representatives. These are **NOT** entitlements – they are promises made to those who put their lives on the line to protect our nation!!

Speaking of our Legislative news, MOAA National recently sent the Charleston MOAA Chapter our Legislative Award for 2010. Somehow they misplaced John's submittal. Butch called to inquire why an award had not been given for 2010 and they quickly corrected their mistake!! A great going away gift for John Nolan!!

*Ernie*

## Upcoming Events

Mark your calendars for these upcoming chapter events:

Friday, Aug 12th - Chapter Board Meeting, 12:15

Friday, Sep 9th - Chapter Board Meeting, 12:15

Friday, Sep 23rd - Chapter Luncheon, TBA

Friday, Oct 14th - Chapter Board Meeting, 12:15

Friday, Oct 28th - Chapter Luncheon, TBA

Friday, Nov 11th - Chapter Board Meeting, 12:15

Friday, Nov 18th - Red's Ice House

Friday, Dec 9th - Chapter Board Meeting, 12:15

Friday, Dec 16th - Dec Luncheon, Carraba's

## VA Hospital Visit

The next visit to the VA Hospital is scheduled for Saturday, August 27th. Make plans to go. This is always a nice function, and the Vets are glad to have visitors.

We usually meet at the Charleston Club, and depart around 9:15 to convoy down. Or, you can meet us at the hospital. Fort Dorchester JROTC

Call Terry Joyce at 871-6360, and let him know if you will be joining us

## REST IN PEACE

A grateful nation thanks you for your contribution

**COL G. Michael Girone, Ret**

**4 June 2011**

**Survived by wife Margaret**

**CDR Carl H. Newman, USN, Ret.**

**July 10, 2011**

**COL Bryce E. Thornburg, COL, USAF, Ret**

**June 21, 2011**

**Survived by wife Betty**

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

**John Nolan Wins MOAA Award**



John Nolan (right) is presented the MOAA Communications Award for the Best Legislative Coverage (Print Newsletter) for 2010. This is the fourth consecutive time that John has won this National Award. With that accomplishment, John has retired from the Board as Legislative Chair. Gordon Hobgood has replaced John.

Way to go, John!!                      Congratulations.

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## VA Women Vet Programs

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has embarked on a major initiative to reach out to women Veterans in order to solicit their input on ways to enhance the health care services VA provides to women Veterans. "We are taking a proactive approach to enhancing VA health care for women Veterans," said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki. "We are seeking the input of women Veterans so that VA can continue to provide high quality health care to the growing numbers of women Veterans."

Representatives at VA's Health Resource Center (HRC) are placing calls to women Veterans nationwide, asking them to share their experiences with VA and suggest potential enhancements that will further VA's mission to provide the best care anywhere. Women Veterans are one of the fastest growing segments of the Veteran population. Of the 22.7 million living Veterans, more than 1.8 million are women. They comprise nearly 8 percent of the total Veteran population and 6 percent of all Veterans who use VA health care services. VA estimates by 2020 women Veterans will constitute 10 percent of the Veteran population and 9.5 percent of VA patients.

The HRC, which started placing calls on 1 JUN, is contacting women Veterans who have enrolled, but have not begun using VA services. "We want these Veterans and their caregivers to talk candidly about why they are not using VA, whether they are aware of the gender-specific services we offer, and what additional services they would

like to see VA offer."

The HRC representatives making the calls are also informing women Veterans about the services VA offers and quickly connecting them with appropriate departments if they are interested in trying VA health care. Veterans who have complaints about VA are connected to a patient advocate who helps resolve issues. VA has trained professionals in all aspects of women's health. Preventive screenings for breast and cervical cancer are also areas in which VA excels. Soon, all VA facilities will offer comprehensive primary care for women from a single provider.

The Women Veterans Health Care program has made significant changes in the last few years to enhance the health care offered to eligible women Veterans. This progress includes:

- \* Adopting key policies to improve access and enhance services for women Veterans;
- \* Implementing comprehensive primary care for women Veterans;
- \* Conducting cutting-edge research on the effects of military service on women's lives;
- \* Improving communication and outreach to women Veterans; and
- \* Providing mental health, homelessness and other services designed to meet the unique needs of women Veterans.

For more information about VA programs and services for women Veterans, refer to <http://www.va.gov/womenvet> and <http://www.publichealth.va.gov/womenshealth>.

### 2011-2012 OFFICERS and BOARD OF DIRECTORS

<b>PRESIDENT</b>	<b>BG Ernest D. Brockman, USA (thru 2012)</b>	<b>875-4465</b>	<b>ebrockman@sc.rr.com</b>
<b>1st VP PROGRAMS</b>	<b>CDR David E. Farley, USN (thru 2012)</b>	<b>881-9452</b>	<b>defarley@bellsouth.net</b>
<b>2nd VP MEMBERSHIP</b>	<b>COL Allan T. Smith, USAF (thru 2012)</b>	<b>572-2011</b>	<b>alandmarty@comcast.net</b>
<b>PAST PRESIDENT</b>	<b>Vacant</b>		
<b>SECRETARY</b>	<b>COL Clinton L. Noren, USAF (thru 2012)</b>	<b>552-7579</b>	<b>cnoren@earthlink.net</b>
<b>TREASURER</b>	<b>LTCOL. Ed Knowles, USAF (thru 2012)</b>	<b>553-5299</b>	<b>r66837.comcast.net</b>
<b>DIR. HOSPITALITY</b>	<b>MRS. Virginia P. Chinnes, AUX (thru 2013)</b>	<b>572-8761</b>	
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<b>DIR PERSONAL AFFAIRS</b>	<b>LCDR William J. Mehard, USN (thru 2013)</b>	<b>554-8391</b>	<b>mehardw@bellsouth.net</b>
<b>DIR. LEGISLATIVE</b>	<b>CDR Gordon Hobgood, USN (thru 2014)</b>		<b>oxxo@aol.com</b>
<b>DIR. T.O.P.S/PUBLICITY</b>	<b>MAJOR Terry Joyce, USAF (thru 2013)</b>	<b>871-6360</b>	<b>wjoyce@sc.rr.com</b>
<b>ASST AWARDS DIR</b>	<b>COL Steve Rowe, USA (thru 2013)</b>	<b>303-7438</b>	<b>srowe@carolinaone.com</b>
<b>RECRUITING CHAIR</b>	<b>COL Beverly R. Brockman USA (thru 2013)</b>	<b>875-4465</b>	<b>bbrockman@sc.rr.com</b>

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<b>EDITOR</b>	<b>COL Josiah (Butch) Fuller, USA</b>	<b>821-0169</b>	<b>ButchFuller@aol.com</b>
<b>CHAPLAIN</b>	<b>CAPT Henry Lovelady, USN</b>	<b>553-9581</b>	<b>capthenryl@comcast.net</b>
<b>SCHOLARSHIP</b>	<b>COL Rudy Smart, USAF</b>	<b>824-1263</b>	<b>2smart1@gmail.com</b>

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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**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.**

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

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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: 422

Auxiliary Members: 92

Honorary Members: 27

**Receiving E-Mail Newsletters: 94**

### 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!!

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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.

Legislative Update (Cont'd from page 2)



### Beat To Quarters ... This Is Not A Drill:

With "everything on the table," we may see some hastily and ill advised decisions being made in Washington. Cuts will be made and taxes will have to be raised. The question is what will be cut and what will be raised? What will the tradeoffs be? Our elected representatives urgently need the benefit of your counsel. Contact them.. Help them make sound informed decisions on matters that concern the good and future of our great nation. Let's not stand by idly and see a return to the hollow forces of the 70's and 80's that were brought on by ill advised decisions that affected our armed forces ability to stand and protect.

Come to our monthly meetings, be vocal, and while you're at it ... how about helping us recruit more members for our chapter.



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