



## Charleston Chapter, Military Officers Association of America

January, 2011 Issue 1-2011

Published monthly, except July

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

### Thank You, Thank You, Thank You

Thanks to all of our members who cheerfully gave their donations to the Toys for Tots Campaign. Through your generosity, we exceeded our goal, and were able to provide 80 basketballs, 40 footballs and 40 soccer balls to the Toys for Tots Campaign. For 14 years now, your chapter has participated in this worthy charity, and helped youngsters in the Charleston area to have a nice Christmas. We could not have done it without you. Again, we thank you.



From left, Rob Fowler, Cliff Abbey, Marine Capt. Matthew Verdin, Rudy Smart, Marine MSgt Katheryn Brennan and Ed Knowles enjoy a moment as Charleston MOAA donates basketballs, footballs and soccer balls for Toys for Tots.



Ed Knowles brings in five of the 160 game balls MOAA Charleston donated to Toys for Tots.



Rob Fowler, Cliff Abbey, CPT Verdin, Rudy Smart and MSGT Katheryn Brennan bring in the Balls for Toys for Tots.

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

### Chapter Installation Luncheon

Mark your calendars for the January luncheon event which will include the installation of officers for the coming months. In addition to this, we will have Col. Barry Wright, USA-Ret, as our guest speaker. Col Wright is deputy director of MOAA's Council and Chapter Affairs Department. So, make your reservations early and plan to attend this important luncheon. It will be your chance to see the Officers and Directors who will guide this chapter in the coming months. See the President's Pen on page 4 for a list of those who will be installed. We need the support of every chapter member, so join us for this luncheon and be a part of our fellowship.

Place: Charleston Club, Charleston Air Force Base

Date: Friday January 21, 2011

Time: Social Hour 11AM

Lunch: 12 Noon

Menu: Chicken Cordon Bleu, Salad, Vegetables, Parsley Brown Rice, Rolls & Butter, Cheesecake, Coffee & Tea service Cash Bar

Cost: \$18.00 per person. Club members: \$16.00 (provide last 4 member number) Make checks payable to Charleston MOAA

Dress: Coat & Tie for Officers and Directors, Sharp casual for others

RSVP: Check to arrive NLT Tuesday, January 18, 2011

Mail To: William Mehard, LCDR, USN, Ret  
5926 Commonwealth Circle, Hanahan, SC 29410-2431

Need additional information: Call: Home: 554-8391 or Cell: 834-0974 E-mail:

[mehardw@bellsouth.net](mailto:mehardw@bellsouth.net). If you prefer not to have the meal shown, call Bill at the numbers shown above, and he will arrange to have you go through the line for their Friday Seafood Buffet.

ONE POWERFUL VOICE

## Legislative Update

CDR John E. Nolan, SC, USN

### MEDICARE/TRICARE CUT STOPPED

After a year of wrangling, procrastination and four short term delays, the House and Senate finally agreed to a one-year fix for the 25% cut in Medicare and TRICARE payments to doctors that would have taken place on January 1, 2011. The legislation also extends important relief from the Medicare cap on payments for physical, speech, and occupational therapy.

While this is better than having to deal with another year of multiple, month to month uncertainties we saw throughout last year, it is far from a permanent fix to the underlying statutory payment formula that causes the problem. This means that Congress has to act again before the end of next year to fix the payment formula problem. If they do not, it will mean that we will be facing an even bigger cut in payments to doctors -in the range of 30% or more - on January 1, 2012.

In the signing ceremony at the White House, President Obama, leaders of the American Medical Association (AMA), American Association of Retired People (AARP) and Chairman Baucus of the Senate Finance Committee applauded MOAA's role in highlighting the impact the cuts would have had on military beneficiaries and for generating more than 300,000 messages to Congress on this topic.

However, as stated by Admiral Ryan in speaking at the event, "The new law provides a 12-month reprieve, not a fix to the underlying formula problem. But it gives Congress more time to find a long-term solution to a very complex physician payment structure. It makes sure that 2011 won't follow the pattern of 2010, when Congress had to act multiple times to delay cuts, in some cases as little as 30 days. It is extremely unsettling to our members to live with these constant threats of imminent loss of health care access."

### MILITARY SHOULD SHARE FED CIV'S SACRIFICE "

When President Obama stated a freeze on federal civilian pay for 2011 and 2012,, House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer (D-MD) said that the freeze should also extend to troops in uniform as it " would have produced significantly more savings had that sacrifice been shared between federal civilian and military personnel with a strong exception for the members of our military and civilian employees risking their lives on our behalf in Afghanistan , Iraq and anywhere else they are serving in harms way.

Excuse me, Mr. Hoyer. Anyone who implies that military people are coming up short on any scale of shared sacrifice hasn't been paying attention to the last ten years. While military members and families have been forced to absorb 100% of our national sacrifice - while the rest of America has been urged to contribute to the war effort by "going shopping".

How is one supposed to exempt only people serving in a war zone from a pay freeze?

Create a new and separate pay table for the deployed? Take back the raise when they return home? Do you get a raise if you are in Iraq on Jan. 1, but not if you don't deploy until Jan. 10 or if you come back on Dec. 31? Do you give a raise to the person who deploys on Jan.1, but not to the person who just returned from a fifth tour in Dec.?. Our war-time military is already off the scale in any comparison of relative sacrifice and anyone who thinks otherwise needs a serious reality check.



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## Captain Aaron Meadows Citadel Graduate and Chaplain



It isn't often that a Citadel cadet discovers he must simultaneously answer two callings - one to the military and the other to God.

Still, the Reverend (and Air Force Reserve Capt.) Aaron Meadows has done just that.

"I knew what God wanted me to do," Aaron said recently as he recalled his days at the state's military college. Fortunately, "I was able to get the Air Force to give me a chance to switch (career fields) to chaplain."

Aaron grew up in South Carolina, believing he always had connections with both the church and the military.

As a cadet, he ran some of The Citadel's religious programs at the same time he was studying physics for the Air Force. His request to become a chaplain took "lots of paperwork" and didn't become official until two weeks before graduation.

The change meant that Meadows would eventually become pastor at Aldersgate United Methodist Church in North Charleston. Traffic permitting, his church is less than 15 minutes from the chapel at Charleston Air Force Base, where he also serves on a part-time reserve basis.

Aaron graduated from The Citadel in 2004 and immediately enrolled in Erskine Theological Seminary in Due West, S.C. In the meantime, he attended military training during the summers to learn to be a chaplain.



**Captain Aaron Meadows, our newest member.**

He became a fully qualified military chaplain with the endorsement of the Methodist Church in 2007.

Aaron said that as a reservist, his toughest job is maintaining continuity with the people he wants to help.

"I remember the first call I received where someone threatened suicide," he said. "I felt prepared because of the training I had received. I managed to meet with him and set him up with counseling, but as a reservist you lose contact" when you come off active duty.

Aaron hasn't been deployed to Afghanistan but he has ministered to a number of service members as they prepare to depart. Suicide prevention, however, remains his toughest challenge.

Earlier this year he was also called to the scene of a fatal car crash. "It was a very tragic situation," he said.

Aaron's ministry at Aldersgate started last July. Typically, the average stay for a pastor at a Methodist church runs about six years. That should keep him here well into the coming decade.

Aaron, together with his wife Christy and their two young daughters, are now part of a community that can benefit from their energy. And at age 29, Aaron can enjoy the fact that he is one of Charleston MOAA's youngest members.

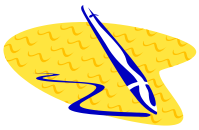
Welcome aboard, Aaron!

### **Start planning for our next VA Hospital visit**

Mark your calendars, members. Plans are in the works for our next visit to the VA Hospital.

The tentative date is Saturday, February 12th, 2011.

This is a great event, and you should plan to be there. As usual, we will meet at the Charleston Club around 9:15 AM, and convoy on down to the hospital. The patients will be glad to see you. Look for final details in the February Issue.



## President's Pen

For four years now I have been sending out a monthly president's pen. Since my term as your president is expiring, this will be the last one from me. I want to thank you all for allowing me to serve as your president and I also wish to complement each and every member of the chapter for your support and your overall contributions to our chapter programs these past four years. I can not remember when I have ever worked with a finer group of people.

The incoming officers listed below will be installed at the January meeting. Like most of our events the dress is casual, but I ask that each person being installed to please wear a coat and tie for official documentation of the event.

The officers to be installed in January for two-year terms in office are as follows:

BG Ernie Brockman, President  
CDR David Farley, First Vice-President and Program Chairman  
COL Allan Smith, Second Vice-President and Membership Chairman  
COL Clinton Noren, Secretary  
LTCOL Edward Knowles, Treasurer  
LT Clifton Abbey, Past President

The following officers will be installed as board members and will serve three year terms:

COL Beverly Brockman, Recruitment Chairman  
MAJOR Terry Joyce, Director Publicity/TOPS  
CDR Donald Lovelace, Director Awards  
COL Steve Rowe, Asst. Awards Director  
LCDR William Mehard, Jr., Director Personal Affairs

Representatives to the Board (appointed by the President):

COL Josiah (Butch) Fuller, Editor  
COL Rudy Smart, Scholarship  
CAPT Henry Lovelady, Chaplain

*Cliff*

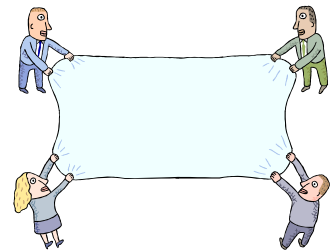
# THE END IS NEAR



The end of the year is almost here and now is your chance to make a tax deductible contribution to our Future Military Officer Scholarship program.

## PLEASE CONTINUE TO HELP

Make your check out to *Future Military Officer Scholarship Fund* and send it to the address below. You will be helping one of our own local students go to college.



Mail your contribution to:

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

**THANKS IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR HELP.**

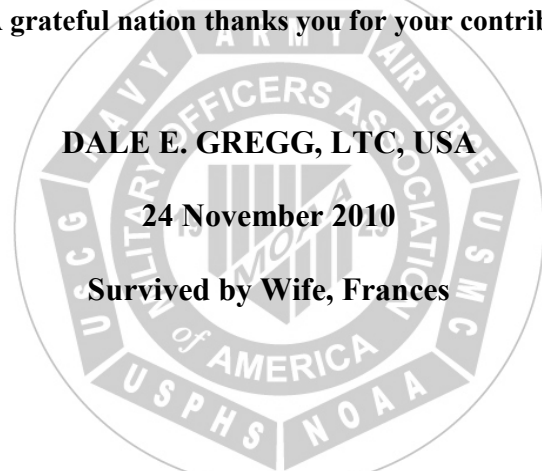
## REST IN PEACE

A grateful nation thanks you for your contribution

**DALE E. GREGG, LTC, USA**

**24 November 2010**

**Survived by Wife, Frances**



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

### Retired Military Officers attend Symposium in Fla.

Retired Army Brig Gen Ernest Brockman of Summerville, President-elect of the Chapter, recently attended the MOAA President's symposium in Jacksonville, Fla.

Brockman was one of 427 Council and Chapter leaders and their spouses from MOAA's Southeast Region who met for three days to learn more about current MOAA issues and chapter management practices, and discuss ways to increase chapter membership.

Council and Chapter presidents and other leaders participated in seminars on membership, grass-roots support of legislation and community actions. Leaders also heard a dinner speech by Maj. Gen. William Nesbitt, the Adjutant General of Georgia

Others from the chapter who attended the symposium included BG Brockman's wife, retired Army Colonel Beverly Brockman, retired Air Force Col Allan Smith and his wife, Martha of Goose Creek, retired Navy LT Cliff Abbey and his wife Elizabeth of Goose Creek, and retired Air Force Maj Terry Joyce and his wife Margaret, of Summerville.

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

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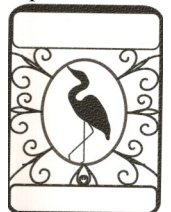
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(Membership, continued from page 8)

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

Fifteen additional members 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 members:

- COL Alan L. Armstrong, USA (Ret.)
- CAPT Sandiford S. Bee, USCG (Ret.)
- BG Ernest D. Brockman, USA (Ret.)
- COL Beverly R. Brockman, USA (Ret.)
- Lt Col Donald E. Brazelton, USAF (Ret.)
- LTC Charles J. Broderick, USA (Ret.)
- Mrs. Ann Dabbiere, AUX
- LTC Alfred L. Dovre, USA (Ret.)
- Col Charles W. Krecklow, USAF (Ret.)
- MAJ Bailey M. Morrow, AUS (Ret.)
- Mrs. Elizabeth Orser, AUX
- LTC Wilson R. Pierpoint, USAR (Ret.)  
( 97 Years Young)
- CDR George E. Shank, USN (Ret.)
- Col Halbert R. Smart, USAF (Ret.)
- Mrs. Owen Toland, AUX

**Special Note - LTC Wilson Pierpoint has renewed his dues for ten years, answering last month's challenge from COL William Price to become a "Life" member of the chapter. Thank you LTC Wilson. He is 97 years young.**  
**Special Note - LTC Wilson Pierpoint has renewed his dues for ten years, answering last month's challenge from COL William Price to become a "Life" member of the chapter. He says that he will renew again when this ten years is up.**

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| <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>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> | <b>Love29406@aol.com</b>      |
| <b>DIR AWARDS</b>              | <b>CDR Donald Lovelace, USN (thru 2013)</b>      | <b>797-6326</b> | <b>mehardw@bellsouth.net</b>  |
| <b>DIR PERSONAL AFFAIRS</b>    | <b>LCDR William J. Mehard, USN (thru 2013)</b>   | <b>554-8391</b> | <b>sandlappers@sc.rr.com</b>  |
| <b>DIR. LEGISLATIVE</b>        | <b>CDR John E. Nolan, USN</b>                    | <b>821-5767</b> | <b>cliffabbey@att.net</b>     |
| <b>PAST PRESIDENT</b>          | <b>LT Clifton Abbey, USN (thru 2012)</b>         | <b>553-2644</b> | <b>wjoyce@prodigy.net</b>     |
| <b>DIR. T.O.P.S/PUBLICITY</b>  | <b>MAJOR Terry Joyce, USAF (thru 2013)</b>       | <b>871-6360</b> | <b>rsrowe@carolinaone.com</b> |
| <b>ASST Awards Director</b>    | <b>COL Steve Rowe, USA (thru 2013)</b>           | <b>303-7438</b> | <b>bbrockman@sc.rr.com</b>    |
| <b>Recruitment Chairperson</b> | <b>COL Beverly R. Brockman USA (thru 2013)</b>   | <b>875-4465</b> |                               |

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

|                    |                                       |                 |                                |
|--------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|
| <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>captheryl@comcast.net</b>   |
| <b>SCHOLARSHIP</b> | <b>COL Rudy Smart, USAF</b>           | <b>824-1263</b> | <b>rudy@thesmartsplace.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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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: 461  
Auxiliary Members: 99  
Honorary Members: 26  
Receiving E-Mail Newsletters: 96

## MEMBERSHIP DUES 2011

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 Chapter member, please submit your dues by **1 January 2011**.

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 2011 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  
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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

## ADDRESS CHANGE

Capt. Stephen A. Grimaldi, USMC  
127 Lincoln Street  
Burbank, CA 91506

CAPT Watt W. Jordan, USN (Ret.)  
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Maj. Zane D. Wright, USAF (Ret.)  
2240 Camden Road  
Holly Hill, SC 29059

## WELCOME ABOARD

LTC Wayne L. Dandridge, USA (Ret.)  
236 N. Ainsdale Drive  
Charleston, SC 29414

Capt. S. Aaron Meadows, USAF  
6012 Rembert Drive  
Hanahan, SC 29401

(See page 6 for a listing of members who have renewed for 5 or more years.)

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