

Veterans

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Military Officers Association honors two at Granite State Warriors Luncheon

GREENLAND — Col. Allen “Chad” Chadwick, U.S. Army (ret.), president of the New Hampshire chapter of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA-NH) and the board of directors was pleased to honor this year’s award recipients for their service to military members and their families at the fifth annual Granite State Warriors Luncheon this past Saturday.

The luncheon and ceremony was held at the Portsmouth Country Club in Greenland.

The Granite State Warriors Award is presented annually by MOAA-NH to individuals or organizations who have gone above and beyond in their service to the men and women of the U.S. military and their families.

Honored at this year’s ceremony was Matthew Albuquerque, president and founder of Next Step Bionics & Prosthetics, Inc., and Tara Sue Myers, executive director along with Larry Vogelmann, legal director of the Veterans Law Project, commonly called Legal Boots on the Ground.

The Veterans Law Project-Legal Boots on the Ground was the brainchild of Larry Vogelmann when he served as president of the NH Bar Association three years ago. Legal Boots on the Ground is a project of the NH Veterans Foundation, the philanthropic arm of the New Hampshire Chapter of Veterans of Foreign Wars, which is a non-profit 503(c)3.

The program, funded by a donor who wishes to remain anonymous, and other donations from private individuals and Easter Seals of New Hampshire aims to match all veterans and members of the reserve components and their family members who need legal services with lawyers who are willing to provide them on a pro-bono or reduced fee schedule.



Matthew Albuquerque, president and founder of Next Step Bionics & Prosthetics, Inc., accepts an award on behalf of his company from the NH chapter of the Military Officers Association of America. (Courtesy)

Since its inception in 2015, over 500 servicemen and women and their families have been the recipients of free legal services. The efforts of the Veterans Law Project have given many of clients a new and fresh start leading to a better life for them and their families. More information is available at <http://vfnh.org/the-veterans-law-project-deploys-legal-boots-on-the-ground>.

Next Step Bionics & Prosthetics was founded in 1996 and prides itself in its dedication of all possible resources to the art and science of precisely fitting artificial limbs. If the connection between device and residual limb lacks a proper fit, the amputee cannot live comfortably, regardless of the technology used. Technicians and scientists at Next Step Bionics & Prosthetics understand that individuals are unique, each Next Step facility is equipped with an on-site fabrication lab where the necessary time to mold, shape and finish every prosthesis to get the right fit for every client is paramount.

Since the beginning of the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan, Next Step has served hundreds of the nation's warriors who have lost limbs in the fight against global terrorism. "It is with great honor and pride that I, on behalf of Next Step Bionics & Prosthetics, accept the Granite State Warrior award from the Military Officers Association of America. Being the son of a retired Navy master chief, it gives me great satisfaction to help in improving the health, morale, welfare and recognition of U.S. military personnel and their families through the creation and delivery of our unique and state-of-the art services. The prosthetic devices we design continue to make a difference in the quality of lives of those who have sacrificed so much for our liberties and freedom." said Albuquerque

For detailed information about Next Step visit their website at <http://nextstepbionicsandprosthetics.com>.

MOAA is the nation's largest and most influential association of military officers. It is an independent, nonprofit, politically nonpartisan affiliation with more than 380,000 members from every branch of service, including active duty, National Guard, Reserve, retired, former officers and their families. It represents a powerful force that speaks for a strong national defense and representing the interests of military officers at every stage of their careers.

The New Hampshire Chapter of the MOAA consists of just under 850 members. More information can be found at <http://www.moaa-nh.org> or <http://www.moaa.org>.