



# The Granite Slate

The Official Newsletter for the  
New Hampshire Chapter of The Military Officers Association of America



March 2012

Published quarterly for the information of members of the NH Chapter of MOAA  
P.O. Box 712, Dover, NH 03821

Volume 34, No. 1

## Programs for 2012

**Jun 2nd** White Mountain Hotel, North Conway

**BG John Dailey, USA (Ret)**

Former commander of TF-160

*"TF 160 (US Army Special Ops Air)  
and the Osama bin Laden raid"*

**Aug 4th** Clambake, Portsmouth Naval Ship Yard

**Sep 29th** Bistro Nouveau, Grantham, NH

**CAPT Kathryn M. Beasley, USN (Ret.),**

Deputy Director of Government Relations, (Health Affairs);  
MOAA National Office

*"MOAA's 12-Point Plan and What's Going on in Washington  
With Our Benefits"*

**Nov 10th** Manchester Country Club  
2012 Annual Meeting



### 2012 Recipients of the Granite State Warriors Award

Presented at the January Luncheon (left to right)

**Bob LaPree, Joseph McQuaid and  
Paul Moore**

## Granite State Warriors Awards for 2011

The MOAA New Hampshire Chapter is honored to present the initial Granite State Warriors Awards to three outstanding individuals. Established by the chapter, this award will annually recognize New Hampshire residents or New Hampshire based organizations making the most significant contribution to the Armed Forces of the United States. Selected for 2011 are:

**Joseph W. McQuaid**, *President and Publisher of the New Hampshire Union Leader* and **Bob LaPree**, *Union Leader Photographer*. Both spent several months embedded with Charlie Company of the New Hampshire National Guard on deployment to Afghanistan. Their reporting on the men and women of Charlie Company and their Afghan mission provided invaluable insight into and recognition of Charlie Company's contributions to the War on Terror

**Paul Moore**, *MooreMart*. Paul is the driving force and backbone of MooreMart. Since 2004 over 44,000 "Care Packages" have been provided to service men and women from New Hampshire. They have reached those deployed in a combat zone, hospitalized at the Walter Reed National Medical Center, as well as homeless veterans and residents at New Hampshire Veterans Home.

## Chapter Officers

<b>President</b>	<b>CDR Peter S. Burdett, USN (Ret)</b>	(800) 778-4251, <a href="mailto:peter_burdett@ml.com">peter_burdett@ml.com</a>
<b>Vice President</b>	<b>CDR Bruce F. Avery, USN (Ret)</b>	(603) 526-2854, <a href="mailto:bruceavery@tds.net">bruceavery@tds.net</a>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>MAJ Patricia A. Graham, USA (Ret)</b>	(603) 644-1630, <a href="mailto:smowcy@comcast.net">smowcy@comcast.net</a>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>CAPT Joan M. Huber, NC, USN (Ret)</b>	(603) 863-5731, <a href="mailto:joanhuber@aol.com">joanhuber@aol.com</a>

Visit the Chapter's website at: [www.moaa-nh.org](http://www.moaa-nh.org)



## President's Corner

*Pete Burdett*

Time for the Spring MOAA NH Chapter Newsletter and it seems that Winter 2011/2012 never arrived! Your MOAA chapter has been busy however and I will attempt to fill you in on a few of the efforts underway. This Newsletter has a number of features of interest: please review the Trips and Cruises offered and the upcoming Luncheon programs. The key way to see things going on with the NH Chapter is to visit the **WEBSITE**:

[www.moaa-nh.org](http://www.moaa-nh.org) Use your smart phone:



I would also like to announce that we are continuing the Auxiliary Liaison position, until recently filled by Cindy Lefebvre, with a team of three (at least so far): Mrs. Jane Heineke, Mrs. Beverly Kemp and Mrs. Marian Despres. More on this position later!

I will be participating again in April during the MOAA Storm the Hill event where I will meet with each of our congressional members. This is an exceptional opportunity to pass along our concerns, so pass them along to the email on the front page.

**RECRUITING:** We are all recruiters for the NH Chapter. Did you know that the 900 members of our chapter is about 1.5% of the total of chapter members nationwide? There are only about 62,000 chapter members nationwide and it is this group of members that are doing the heavy lifting by coordinating with their statewide events to benefit the military and sending the letters, emails and postcards. I would like to see us with a growing number. Again, go to the website and download a chapter application and give it to a fellow officer.....

Lastly, please remember it is scholarship application time. And no matter what the topic, a phone call is always welcome: 800-778-4251. See you at the next event!

Thanks, Pete

## New Chapter Members

LTC Armand Francoeur  
USAR (ret)

8 Dean Ave  
Bow, NH 03304  
Spouse: Nancy

Capt Eric Katzman  
USAF (former)

121 Stratham Heights  
Stratham, NH 03885  
Spouse: Julee

Capt James Hoffard  
USAFR (former)  
55 Faxon Hill  
Washington, NH 03280  
Spouse: Ellen

We look forward to welcoming you in person at an MOAA event in the near future



## Mar 2012 Taps

Mrs. Eleanor Bostick

Nashua, NH

Mrs. Kathren S. Brennan

Hampton NH

Maj Leland R. Brennan, USAF (Ret.)

Hampton, NH

LTC Charles R. Gamper, USA (Ret),

Towson, MD

Mrs. Helen R. Johnson

Bristol, NH

CDR Gerard W. Pyne, USN (Ret.)

Braintree, MA

Col Paul L. Raymond, USAFR (Ret.)

Rochester, NH

LTC William R. Roth, USA (Ret),

Nashua NH

CPT Hazel W. Sims, USAR

Loudon, NH

LT Richard F. Wilcox, USAR (Ret.)

Eaton Center, NH

Mrs. Lily C. Wilkerson

Warner, NH

LTJG Roy E. Worthen, USN (Ret.)

Durham, NH

LTC John M. Zehner, USA (Ret.)

White River Junction, VT

## REP. FRANK GUINTA'S STAFF TO HOLD OPEN OFFICE HOURS FOR VETERANS

U.S. Rep. Frank Guinta (NH-1) announced today that his Senior Projects Director and Veterans Liaison, David Tille, will be available to hold public office hours to veterans' service organizations to assist New Hampshire veterans at posts and legions throughout the district. "I strongly believe that caring for those who served in the military is one of our nation's highest priorities. As your Congressman, ensuring that our former and returning veterans receive the finest care this country can offer will always be of the up most importance to me. If New Hampshire veterans have questions or need assistance regarding their VA benefits, Social Security, obtaining medals earned or military records, obtaining a flag flown over our nation's capitol, or a letter for special recognitions and events, I encourage them to talk with David and schedule a time for him to be available to your post or veterans service organization meeting," Guinta said.

Congressman Guinta encourages any veteran organization that would like to set up a time for our staff to be available to your V.S.O. or any veterans who is in need of assistance on the federal level to contact David Tille at his Manchester office: 33 Lowell Street, Manchester, NH 03103, (603) 641-9536

### \$\$\$ CHANGE OF ADDRESS \$\$\$

Are you about to move? Do you go south for the winter (Snowbirds)? The chapter needs for you to notify us of your new address (and telephone number, if possible). If you are a snowbird, we would also appreciate informing us of the approximate dates that you are out of New Hampshire.

Last year the chapter spent almost \$40.00 on postage due to the post office for notification of change of addresses for chapter members. Every nickel and dime we can save helps this chapter! Please help us keep your address up to date by providing the information to MOAA-NH at PO Box 712, Dover, NH 03820-0712 or email to [chapter@moaa-nh.org](mailto:chapter@moaa-nh.org).

Thank you for your assistance.

## Senator Webb Challenges Fee Hikes

At a Senate Armed Services Committee hearing on Thursday, Sen. Jim Webb (D-VA) warned fellow panel members and witnesses how proposed TRICARE fee increases appear to those who have served in uniform, and those currently serving.

Secretary of the Army John McHugh and Army Chief of Staff Gen. Ray Odierno, witnesses at the hearing, were asked to consider how increased TRICARE fees for retirees would be perceived by currently serving troops. "How we take care of [military retirees] is one of the great litmus tests that people who are serving right now are going to be looking at," said Webb.

He noted that the debate on TRICARE fee increases was only beginning in Congress, but pointed out that health care cost growth is a national problem, and not localized to the Department of Defense. Webb emphasized the importance of the moral contract established with those who have served a military career.

"I grew up in the Marine Corps tradition, and no Marine is ever left behind. A great model of that was the Chosin Reservoir when the 1st Marine Division brought out not only its wounded, but it strapped its dead on the trucks. We will not leave a Marine behind. I feel just as strongly about the commitment that we have made to lifetime medical care to the people who have served. They have relied on this – I know there is no written contract – but they have relied on it as a moral contract. I have lived that. I have observed it," said Webb.

MOAA is grateful Senator Webb has challenged the perception that this is just another Pentagon cost-saving exercise and focusing on the reality that it's imposing big penalties on those who serve and have served.

The New Hampshire Chapter of the MOAA  
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9<sup>th</sup> YEAR



## 2012 NH MOAA Travel Program

Our 2012 Travel Program opens in May with a 13 day **Alaska Discovery** trip. This trip starts in Fairbanks with a cruise on the Stern Wheeler **Discovery**. We then go to Denali National Park for 2 days. The **Denali Express** train takes us from Denali to Whittier where we board the **Island Princess** for a 6 day cruise past the Hubbard Glacier through Glacier Bay to Skagway. Then on to Juneau, Ketchikan, down the Inside Passage ending in Vancouver. The price for this trip is \$3,040 which includes round trip airfare from Boston.

In October, we travel to the **Imperial Cities** of Prague, Vienna, and Budapest. We start with 3 days in Prague and see the Hradcany Castle, St Vitus Cathedral, the Charles Bridge, and the Old Jewish Quarter. Then on to Vienna for the Schronbrunn Palace, St Stephen's Cathedral, a cruise on the Danube and Melk. Our final 3 days are in Budapest for a Hungarian Horse Show and visits to the Mathias Church, the Fishermen's Bastion, Heroes Square, Szentendre and Visegrad. The price for this trip is \$3,149 including airfare from Boston.

Your point of contact for the Travel Program is Bruce Avery at (603) 526-2854 or [bruceavery@tds.net](mailto:bruceavery@tds.net)

## 2012 NH MOAA Cruise

**Royal Caribbean's Jewel Of The Seas" OCT. 14 – 21, 2012**

Come join us in our first MOAA Reunion Cruise which will launch the beginning of many reunion cruises in the future. It will be a special yearly event much like the clam bakes and such, giving the opportunity of seeing one another, sharing memories and making new ones. You will enjoy ship board activities, amenities, cocktail parties, gourmet cuisine and a darn good time. Rates are budgeted for everyone's pockets; family and friends are welcome. This fabulous cruise sails from Boston to Maine, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. We provide the cruise and nature provides the natural beauty and color of the foliage as we pass along lighthouses dotting the coastlines full of history and charm. A wonderful cruise experience.

Interior \$594 - Ocean view \$794 - Balcony \$974 (Rates - per person, based on double occupancy and availability at time of booking. Port charges, taxes and fees are additional at \$267.83 per person)

Questions: consult MOAA member and cruise expert Dick Vitale at 603-356-0136

For reservations / information call Interline Travels at 1-888-592-7245 or email [interlinetravels@yahoo.com](mailto:interlinetravels@yahoo.com)