

# The Granite Slate

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



December, 2016

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

Autumn News and Events

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## Annual Meeting - Nashua Country Club



Our chapter held its Annual Meeting and Luncheon on November 5, 2016 at the Nashua Country Club with 120 members, spouses, and guests in attendance. Once again, the staff of the country club was extremely helpful

Col. Chadwick transfers command to Cdr. Burdett (Photo by Peter W. Dawson/MOAA-NH)

and we appreciate the oversight of Mr. Scott Hobden and Marilyn DiFillipo.

During the members' business meeting, spouses and friends listened to Mrs. **Susie Burdett** discussing the importance of physical therapy after major joint surgery. Her talk was well received by all in attendance. Prior to the luncheon, a 50/50 raffle was run by chapter vice president-elect **Warren Coulter** to raise money in support of the NH Veterans Home and other chapter charities.

Outgoing chapter president COL H. Allen "Chad" Chadwick, USA (Ret.) called previous chapter presi-

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Chapter Officers swearing in (Photo by Peter W. Dawson/MOAA-NH)



The chapter held its late summer meeting at the Bistro Nouveau located at the Center, Eastman, in Grantham. Over 70 members and guests attended and similar to last year we enjoyed a wonderful meal, perfect surroundings, and a welcoming staff.

Lt Col Edward Josephson, USAF (Ret.) was remembered

MOAA pres. Chad Chadwick (Photo by Peter W. Dauson / MOAA-NH)

during our opening ceremony. His passing was unexpected and we shall miss his kindness and friendship. A congratulatory letter from Sen. K. Ayotte was read by staff member Mr. J. Maslin. Her letter outlined some of the great work being done by our NH chapter directly benefitting Veterans (the document can be seen on the MOAA-NH website).

We were honored to have Major General William N. Reddel, III, the Adjutant General, New Hampshire National Guard as our guest speaker. He provided an in-depth review of the New Hampshire National Guard covering all aspects of their mission and its composition.

During Gen. Reddel's military service he has received numerous awards and decorations including the Meritorious Service Medal and the Air Force Commendation Medal. Additionally, the General has flown support missions across the globe with the 157th Air Refueling Wing some of



Wing some o which were combat missions in Afghanistan and Iraq.

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## Presídent's Corner Pete Burdett

#### December, 2016

hank you for allowing me be become your NH Chapter L President once again. The this chapter excels and having achieved 14 years of 5 STAR status from the National MOAA we need to remember why. It is each of you! Being a member, adding your name to our membership rolls, helping to recruit others and attending our events has given this Chapter strength other chapters' wish they could experience.

We are working hard to keep our numbers strong here in New Hampshire. You know it is not a message from me if you don't hear about adding members to the NH Chapter. As you have heard many times, the chapter members are the ones that influence legislation with direct contacts with our Congressional Delegation. So keeping our membership numbers high is KEY to having a strong influence in Washington DC. So, with the challenges facing us, and you know what they are, mostly involving \$\$\$\$\$, help us keep America and our military strong. Go to: www.moaa-nh.org and print out a membership flier for a friend or colleague, or they can now sign-up online! If you need some help, watch this by using your smart device. Check it out: WHY MOAA?

If you've ever found yourself at a loss for words when a potential new members asks, "Why should I join MOAA?" then you're not alone. That's why national MOAA created a new tool to help you spread the word about all the great work MOAA does for the military community. The new "Why MOAA?" video is designed to help you easily share with colleagues and prospective members the value of MOAA membership. You can view the video at https://www.moaa.org/whyMOAA/ or use the QR Code (below) and share it with up to five of your friends



at a time. Just add a personal message and send to the social media of your choice!

THANKS, and if you have any ideas, just call me: 1-800-778-4251. I would also be pleased to speak to any group that may have a large % of eligible possible members or would like to hear about those that have served in NH.

## Pete Burdett

One of the most famous Christmas days in American military history occurred in 1776. Gen. George Washington made his iconic crossing of the Delaware River from Pennsylvania into New Jersey, and marched his army toward Trenton.



The next morning, he surprised 1,500 Hes-

sian forces fighting for the British, many of whom were alleged hungover from Christmas holiday celebrations the night before. The Hessians couldn't get their units organized in time, and Washington's army ended up capturing more than a third of the enemy force suffering only two deaths. Their actions followed by a similar victory a week later electrified people across the colonies. Washington handed two sound defeats to the most powerful fighting force on the planet, and to Americans, independence suddenly became a real possibility.

## 2016 New Chapter Members Welcome Aboard !

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COL Hunt W Kerrigan ARNG (Ret.) 4 Razorbill Cir Durham, NH 03824-3340

CAPT Chester T Parks USN Tammy PO Box 2135 Portsmouth, NH 03804-2135

CPT Kathleen M Redmond-Catania USAR CDR Robert A. Catania 98 King Rd Bedford, NH 03110-4215

CAPT William Luti USN (Ret.) PO Box 297 Hebron, NH 03241-0297

CPT Gregg S Postage USA Anne K 12 Sherry Cir Brentwood, NH 03833-6541

Col Harold B Wilber USMC (Ret.) Beverley A 18 Schooner Dr Dover, NH 03820-5018

## **TRICARE**

## October 21, 2016

MOAA has been pushing for better preventative care within TRICARE for quite some time, and thankfully this week some progress was made. TRICARE announced they are now covering several preventative services that previously were uncovered or required cost-share payments from beneficiaries.

TRICARE will cover Cologuard, a new effective and non-invasive colorectal cancer screening exam. Given the devastating mortality rate of late-stage colorectal cancer, providing this U.S. Preventative Task Forceapproved test as an option is a crucial milestone in addressing the second-leading cause of cancer deaths.

In the realm of women's health, new genetic counseling and genetic testing will be covered for women identified by their primary care provider as being at high risk for breast cancer.

- See more at: http://www.moaa.org/NewTRICARE/ #sthash.IlzjQcxB.dpuf





**Travel Update** 

We have the following trips scheduled for 2017: Springtime Tulip Cruise, Dutch & Belgium Waterways, April 20 - 28

Hawaiian Adventure, 23 Feb - 4 Mar Southern Charm, USA, 26 Mar - 1 Apr Canadian Rockies By Train, 26 Aug-3 Sep Pacific Northwest & California, September 17 - 24 Wonders of South America, 2-13 Nov. For details contact Tony Burdo, 603-391-7106 email tonyajjb@gmail.com

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dents who were in attendance to the podium for a <u>Battle</u> <u>Streamer</u> presentation. The award is in recognition of our chapter's fourteenth consecutive year of receiving a 5 Star rating. Chad was pleased to formally transfer our battle streamer to the chapter's incoming president **CDR Peter S. Burdett, USN (Ret.)**.

We were pleased to have as our guest of honor, **Dr**. **James Wright**, President Emeritus and Elazar Wheelock Professor of History Emeritus at Dartmouth College. Dr. Wright presided over the installation of this year's Officers and Board of Directors for the chapter. The results of the <u>annual elections</u> can be found on the "**Chapter News**" page.

Following the swearing in, "Chad" turned over the gavel to Peter (Burdett) and they exchanged president and past president lapel pins. Once again we acknowledged the passing of chapter members who had died since the last annual meeting. A list of those members can be seen at the bottom of page 4. TAPS was played for these fallen. At the conclusion of the luncheon meal, we listened to a

detailed summary by Dr. Wright of his new book containing stories and vignettes of individuals who fought in the Vietnam war. Dr. Wright's book includes a focus on the human face of war (picture below).

Additionally, our chapter had the privilege of welcoming **three new members** to their first meeting: Lewis **Chipola** of Nashua and Harold & Beverly **Wilber** of Dover. We look forward to them joining us at future meetings especially at our nationally famous "clam bake" scheduled after the return of much warmer weather.

A s stated above, our chapter was very fortunate to have Dr. J. Wright as a guest, as his long-term dedication to veterans is exceptional. One bio excerpt follows:

"In 2005, Dr. Wright began a series of visits to U.S. military medical facilities in Washington, D.C., where he met Ma-



ton, D.C., where he met Ma- *Photo by Peter W. Dawson/MOAA-NH*) rines and other U.S. military personnel who had been wounded in the course of service in Iraq and Afghanistan. He encouraged the injured servicemen and women to continue their education, and he subsequently joined in establishing and assumed responsibility for raising funds to support an educational counseling program for wounded U.S. veterans.

During has tenure as the President of Dartmouth College, Dr. Wright worked with Senators Jim Webb, John Warner, and Chuck Hagel on language for the GI Bill that was passed by Congress and signed by President Bush in June 2008. His interest, **successfully met**, was to provide a means for private institutions to partner with Veterans Affairs in supporting veterans who matriculated at these institutions.

## MOAA News:

Alexandria, Va. - The Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) issued the following statement in response to



the current effort by the Department of Defense to recoup re-enlistment bonuses improperly awarded to National Guard soldiers 10 years ago. "MOAA believes strongly there should be no recoupment of re-enlistment bonuses paid to California National Guard members a decade ago to induce their re-enlistment," said MOAA President Lt. Gen. Dana Atkins, USAF (Ret). "If the bonuses were paid in error that was no fault of the troops who accepted them - and fulfilled their re-enlistments - in good faith. MOAA has written the Secretary of the Army and the Chief of the National Guard Bureau urging an equitable solution using existing statutory protocols."

**F** or artist Carol Culhane, the holiday season begins with her visit to Walter Reed Medical Center in Bethesda, Md. to visit wounded veterans and present them with Christmas ornaments, which she designed with a variety



of military designs and donates. "I play a very small part in the effort to honor our servicemen and servicewomen, along with their families and caregivers," Culhane said.

Culhane has met three of the five living quadruple amputees. She painted ornaments for Taylor and Danielle Morris — one for Taylor with a Bronze Star for valor, and Rosie the Riveter for Danielle, because she worked out to be strong enough to carry Taylor as he recovered.

My message is simple. Remember the sacrifices of these soldiers and Marines and their families. Don't let them ever think we don't care."

## Holiday Thanks

Our MOAA-NH chapter continues to recognize Senator Kelly Ayotte's work on behalf of US Servicemen and women across the world. We have all received news of the Senate's successfully passing the annual Defense Bill after extensive work.

New Hampshire chapter members thank you for your steadfast work and dedication particularly on portions of this bill affecting our local military efforts, and we consider news of your many successes to be a wonderful addition to our holiday season.

Authoring and editing many sections of this bill have both increased our readiness, and decreased threats toward further reductions locally. More specifically, areas at the PNSY and our ANG capabilities have received much needed support.

With the shipyard guaranteed abundant work into the future and the ideas of another BRAC suppressed, many of our military have much to celebrate this season.

Additionally, we look forward to your being part of the lobster serving line next summer at PSNY and I'm re-stating my promise to take you water-skiing on Lake Winnipesaukee. The beach and boat are both ready; you can bring the Joe and

the kids. For New Hampshire MOAA, Merry Christmas, *Peter W. Dawson* USNR



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www.moaa-nh.org



WHY MOAA? YouTube video

## 2016 - 2017 Luncheon Schedule

- 01/28/2017 Granite State Warrior Awards, Portsmouth C. C., Greenland
  04/29/2017 The Common Man Inn and Spa, Plymouth
- 06/10/2017 White Mountain Hotel & Resort, North Conway
- 08/05/2017 Clambake, (PNSY)
- 09/16/2017 Wolfeboro Inn, Wolfeboro

Maj Owen M. Rogers, USAF (Ret.)

11/04/2017 Annual Meeting, Nashua C. C., Nashua





Chapter Members,

While sorting through and downsizing our elderly parents' possessions several months ago, Rosemary came across a box containing 500 ancient family photos. Miracles of technology placed these treasures onto our computer allowing us to look back 60+ years. Surprisingly, there were dozens of pictures taken during my childhood days including many surrounding Christmas throughout the 1960's. While some images contained people and places long since forgotten, the spirit of the holidays was displayed in most of them. Decorations, gifts, trees, Santa Claus, lights, snow +++

During my first cruise aboard the USS Carl Vinson, Christmas day was cold, windy, cloudy, and pouring rain. I was soaked and frozen sitting alone in my cockpit on the catapult waiting to launch into the fog for an Air-Wing exercise into Europe.

My thoughts at that moment keeping me confident during that Christmas catapult-shot brought me back to those same 1960's childhood Christmas days. It's intriguing to ponder two lifetimes back this Christmas season: one in the 1980's, the other in the 1960's.

Our servicemen across the world may be looking only one lifetime back this Christmas to protect them from harm. Take a moment this season to step several paces back in your own lifetime as a US Veteran. You may be touched by what you find. Merry Christmas,

Merry Christmas, --Editor— Peter W. Dawson LCDR, USNR NONPROFIT ORG AUTO US POSTAGE PAID DOVER, NH PERMIT 615

Durham, NH