



The Granite Slate

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



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Clambake

The Chapter's world famous (only a slight exaggeration) annual Clambake is scheduled for August 5, 2006, at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. If you have attended in the past, you **know** why people come from Vermont, Maine, New York, Massachusetts, and Washington, DC to attend. If you have not attended before, please be assured that 400+ people each year cannot be wrong!

Although it is billed as a "clambake" we also offer lobster (the Maine kind), steak, corn on the cob, potatoes, wurst, as well as drinks. This is a family affair—so plan early and bring the family! As you know, this is a volunteer organization, and the lobsters don't cook themselves. If you might be interested in lending a helping hand, please let John Graham know. Hope to see you there!

Coming Events

2006

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|--------|---|--------|--|
| Jun 24 | Mt. Washington Cruise, Lake Winnepesaukee | Mar 24 | Great Bay Gallery, Somersworth; <i>Speaker: CAPT Terry Pudas, USN (Ret), Director, Office of Force Transformation (Dept. of Defense)</i> |
| Aug 5 | Clambake, PNSY | May 19 | Indian Head Resort, Lincoln |
| Sep 23 | Steele Hill Resorts, Sanbornton; <i>Speaker: NH State Senator Joe Kenney; "Inside the NH Legislature"</i> | Aug 4 | Clambake, PNSY |
| Nov 4 | Manchester C. C., Bedford; <i>Speaker: Admiral Samuel DeBow, NOAA</i> | Sep 22 | Brass Heart Inn, Chocorua |

2007

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| Jan 20 | Executive Court Conf. Center, Manchester ; <i>Speaker: CAPT W. G. "Bud" Schneeweis, USCG (Ret), Director, Benefits Information, MOAA</i> | Nov 10 | Manchester C. C., Bedford |
|--------|--|--------|---------------------------|

Chapter Officers

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| President | LTC John A. Graham, USA (Ret), (603) 472-4637, pjgraham@comcast.net |
| Vice President | CAPT Joan M. Huber, USN, NC, (Ret) 863-5731, joanhuber@aol.com |
| Secretary | COL Mary E. Moran, USAF (Ret) 528-5744, moran@metrocast.net |
| Treasurer | COL Richard L. Dennis, USMC (Ret), (603) 362-4981, rld6nh4@adelphia.net |

Visit the Chapter's website at: <http://moaa-nh.home.comcast.net/>

President's Corner

By John Graham



As I write this we have just celebrated Memorial Day, with all of its connotations for those of us who have served, and are now looking forward to our summer activities. One of these is our annual clambake at the Portsmouth Shipyard. This year it will be held on August 5th, and the flyers will be arriving shortly.

I would like to use this event to both promote our chapter and recruit some additional members. You can help in this effort by inviting any eligible individual to attend. This will give them the opportunity to meet many of our members in a relaxed atmosphere, as well as to get to know more about our chapter and its activities.

Finally, I wish to thank three long-term and dedicated members of the chapter's board of directors who have had to recently resign from their positions due to a variety of reasons. They are Dick Dennis, Paul Bernard and Arnold Sayer. Their advice and willingness to serve our chapter will be sorely missed.

John A. Graham

Website

In case you have not visited the Chapter's website recently, it is worth a visit. Our webmaster, Michael McLean, keeps the site up to date and frequently adds new links. If you have information related to MOAA or veterans' activities and would like it posted on the website, please contact Michael.

The website is at: <http://moanh.home.comcast.net/>

Letter to the Editor

New Multi-Lingual Navy

I had an awful dream the other night. I was the captain of a multi-lingual U.S. Naval warship going into battle, part of the Gibberish Fleet.

I gave the order to the engine room to increase to flank speed, but the engineman could not understand English, only German. I then ordered a course change, but the helmsman didn't understand, he spoke only Spanish. I called down to the Combat Information Center to get the latest on the position of the enemy ships, but there was no response. They had to translate my English into Cambodian and the translator was not available. I asked the Officer of Deck if we could do anything and he said something to me in Russian.

Finally I decided the heck with it and gave the order to the Swahili Gunnery Department to fire our weaponry. I called out "fire" and everyone jumped overboard.

Oh well, such is life in the new multi-lingual Navy.

Don Moskowitz
Londonderry, NH

HELP WANTED PROGRAM CHAIRMAN

Do you want to make a huge contribution to the success of our chapter and want a challenge? The Program Chairman is seeking someone to "step up to the plate" to continue the success of our winning luncheon programs. The work is vital to the success of the chapter! For more information, please contact John Graham, Joan Huber or Michael McLean.

TRANSITION

By Paul Bernard

Our chapter has social meetings, business meetings, outings, an annual clambake, but the only viable means of communicating with all chapter members, is through the newsletter. Craig MacPherson is relieving me as the editor of the newsletter, and the September 2006 issue will be his first publication in his new role. I want to thank Craig for volunteering to take over this vital chapter function. I also want to thank all chapter members for overlooking the occasional typographical error, or incorrect data that was published during my tenure as editor. Statistically, proofreading will only identify 80% of the mistakes - so every now and then one slips through the cracks. Thanks again, and best of luck to Craig!

Program Notes

Submitted by Michael McLean

Highlander Inn - What a beautiful day in March it was for our luncheon - a far cry from the weather for our event last March! The Second Meeting of 2006 was held on March 11, 2006 at the Highlander Inn, Manchester. 167 members and guests enjoyed the good weather and filled the ballroom of the Highlander Inn. Everyone had compliments for the meals served. Our guest speaker, John Clayton, Senior Reporter and Columnist for the New Hampshire Union Leader, was thoroughly entertaining with stories of New Hampshire veterans from the Civil War through WWII. These fascinating anecdotes were taken from his book, *New Hampshire: War and Peace*, which he had for sale at a special reduced price for our members! He also graciously autographed copies for all who wished! We were joined by one first time member - Claira Monier of Goffstown.

Diamond's Edge North Restaurant - After some confusion as to where the luncheon was to be held, the Spring Meeting and Luncheon was held at the Diamond's Edge North Restaurant in Waterville Valley on May 6, 2006. It was a lovely May day for a drive up to the White Mountains Region. As it turned out, the restaurant was a better choice than the originally scheduled location. It was pleasant and airy, located on the second level of the Town Village. Although elevator service was available, most people made the climb up the stairs. (As far as we know, no one suffered.) 100 members and guests enjoyed a tasty meal. We were pleased to have our own chapter vice president CAPT Joan Huber, NC, USN (Ret.) as our speaker. She treated everyone to a delightful account of her experiences in the White House during the Reagan and Bush Senior administrations. You would not believe some of the stories she told! People were falling off their chairs with laughter. We were joined by two first time members - Preston Eames of Meredith and John Fleming of Manchester.

New Chapter Members — Welcome Aboard !

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|---|--|
| CDR Richard E Bennink, USN (Ret) Spouse: Carole Franconia, NH | CPT Albert Hansen, USA (FRM) Spouse: Cecelia Moultonborough, NH |
| CDR John M. Brown, USN (Ret) Spouse: Becky Swanzey, NH | COL Eugene F. Madigan, USA (Ret) Spouse: Janet Amherst, NH |
| BG Stephen J. Curry, USA (ret) Spouse: Marie Concord, NH | LtCol Steven D. Rients, USAF (Ret) Spouse: Sue A. Martin Merrimack, NH |
| LTC Edward K. Ernstrom, USA (Ret) Towaco, NJ | LtCol Kris E. Roberts, USMC (Ret) Keene, NH |
| MAJ John M. Fleming, USMC (Ret) Spouse: Joan Manchester, NH | CDR Steven J. Wyrsh, USN (Ret) Spouse: Christine Dover, NH |

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