



THE SANDHILLS CHAPTER

of the
MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA
P.O. Box 4205
PINEHURST N.C. 28374



NEWSLETTER

Volume XXXIII. No. 5
Editor: Dave Humbert 910-295-1101

May 2011
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PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

JACK WOOD



WARRIORS REMEMBERED - VIETNAM

On March 8, 2011 the US Senate agreed unanimously to a resolution introduced by Senator Richard Burr (R-NC) declaring March 30th to be designated "Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day". March 30th, 1973 was the day all remaining US troops withdrew from Vietnam under the terms of the Treaty of Paris. Through passage of this resolution the Senate is encouraging Americans across the country to recognize Vietnam veterans for their sacrifice and to demonstrate appreciation to these soldiers who returned from war to a politically divided country.

"It's time they receive the recognition they have earned and deserve", said Senator Burr. "This day also provides our nation with an important teaching instrument. Never again should our men and women serving in the armed forces receive the same treatment as those returning from Vietnam." The resolution will now move to the House of Representatives for consideration.

There were 2,709,918 of us who served in Vietnam, or 9.7% of our generation. Of this number 58,202 lost their lives. Most of us knew many of these gallant men, and when we close our eyes we can still see their smiling young faces and hear their voices. To this day I get tears in my eyes when I think of those I knew well. The Vietnam Wall in Washington D.C. remains the top attraction for visitors to our Nation's capitol.

In our Chapter we have more veterans of Vietnam than any other war. It has been 43 years since I served in Vietnam. An interesting statistic that will surely make your day is that of the 2.7 million who served in Vietnam, it is estimated that only 850,000 are still alive today. So if you are a Vietnam veteran, you are among the last one third of all the US veterans who served in Vietnam.

Throughout the Nation local communities have memorialized their young men who never returned from Vietnam. Finally these memorials have been cataloged by geographic areas, and their stories told in one compelling volume. Warriors Remembered by Al Nahas captures the true sacrifice and terrible toll of this war. Check it out at: www.warriorsremembered.com. Be thou at peace.

APRIL LUNCHEON A BIG SUCCESS



On April 19th, 73 members and guests attended our monthly luncheon at Belle Meade. Our guest speaker was Nick Picerno, Chairman of the Moore County Board of Commissioners. Chairman Picerno gave a captivating talk on priority setting in the Moore County government, and on his personal views on government's responsibility to the people it represents. Commissioner Picerno began his remarks by relating a heart-warming story about his father who was a POW for 19 months during the Korean War and was the first New York City prisoner repatriated when the armistice was signed.

Also honored at the luncheon were 7 of this year's 8 JROTC scholarship winners, each selected based on their demonstrated leadership abilities. Each of the cadets told the attendees their future plans and ambitions. The 8 scholarship winners will each receive from the Sandhills Chapter a \$2000 scholarship payable to the college they attend.

MAY 2011 MOAA LUNCHEON

DATE: Tuesday, 17 May 2011
PLACE: The Club at Belle Meade
TIME: 1130 hours
COST: \$16.00 per person inclusive

PROGRAM: Mr Charles T. Frock, CEO, FirstHealth of the Carolinas will give a presentation-"State of Health Care--Elsewhere & Here". Mr Frock is quite an expert and is up to date in all matters of health care. He will take our questions.

MENU: Stir Fried Chicken & Vegetables
Over Rice
Warm rolls & butter
Chocolate Cake

Please cut here and send the below form to:
MOAA, P.O. Box 4205, Pinehurst, NC 28374
to arrive *not later than 13 May 2011* (this is a hard deadline)!

May Luncheon at Belle Meade

Your name

Guest(s)

Please include a check payable to "MOAA" for \$16.00 per person

Vegetarian plates available upon request.

For those few and unavoidable late reservations, please call:

Jack Raffaele 295-3031.

(Optional) Included in my check is \$ _____ for the Chapter's JROTC Scholarship

Fund and/or \$ _____ for the Chapter's Fisher House Fund.



CHARLES T. FROCK
Chief Executive Office
FirstHealth of the Carolinas

Charles Frock is CEO of FirstHealth of the Carolinas based in Pinehurst, North Carolina and has served in that capacity since its founding in 1995. Previously, he served as CEO of Moore Regional Hospital, the predecessor organization to FirstHealth. Prior to joining FirstHealth, Mr. Frock was Chief Operating Officer of Mease Health Care in Dunedin, Florida from 1989 to 1991 and the Administrator of Mease Hospital in Dunedin, Florida from 1986 to 1989. Previously, Mr. Frock was the CEO of hospitals in Valdese, Lexington, and Oxford, North Carolina.

Mr. Frock is a 1971 graduate of the University of Florida, majoring in Industrial and Systems Engineering, and received a Masters Degree in Health Administration from Duke University in 1974. He completed Certificate Programs at Harvard University and Kings Fund College in London, England.

Mr. Frock is a Member of the American Hospital Association Region 3 Regional Policy Board; Member of the NC Medical Care Commission; Member of the N.C. Advisory Board on Patient Safety and Hospital Quality; Member of Carolinas Center for Medical Excellence (CCME) Board of Directors; Member of the NC Institute of Medicine; Member of the N.C. Prevention Partners Board of Directors; Treasurer and Member of CareShare Health Alliance; and a Fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives. Other professional activities have included past Chairman and board member of the North Carolina Hospital Association. Community service includes member of the Partners in Progress Economic Development Board. He has also served as past Chairman of the Moore County Area Chamber of Commerce, as well as past member of the Moore County United Way Board, Habitat for Humanity of Moore County, and Village of Pinehurst Comprehensive Long Range Planning Steering Committee. Mr. Frock was the recipient of the 2007 Cornerstone Award from the United Way of Moore County, the 2009 Builders Cup Award from the Kiwanis Club of the Sandhills, and 2010 Distinguished Service Award from the North Carolina Hospital Association.

ATTENTION! ATTENTION!

SPECIAL OFFER FOR THE MAY LUNCHEON

Our Chapter Board of Directors has extended the special offer for bringing a prospective new member to lunch.

Bring a perspective new member as your guest to this luncheon and **your guest's lunch is free and your lunch is half price (\$8)**. If you know someone who could be a member, but is not, you should consider giving that person a call and bringing him or her to our May luncheon

So start thinking about who you will invite. The reservation form is in this newsletter

UPCOMING EVENTS 2011

- May 17--- Monthly Luncheon at Belle Meade
Charles T. Frock, CEO FirstHealth
- May 30--- Memorial Day at Village Chapel
Monsignor Frank A. Hendrick
- June 21---Quarterly Dinner at CCNC
General Lance Smith, USAF
- July 19---Monthly Luncheon at Belle Meade
- September 15--- MOAA Annual Golf Outing
- October 18--- Quarterly Dinner at CCNC
- November 11--- Veterans Day at Pinehurst Village Hall
- November 15---Monthly Luncheon at Belle Meade
- December 16--- Christmas Dinner/Dance at PCC



MOAA MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE PROGRAM

By Bob Hopkins

Our Sandhills MOAA Memorial Day service will be held again at the Village Chapel on **Monday, May 30th at 3 PM**. All members and their guests are welcome as well as the general public. We are pleased to have Monsignor Frank J. Hendrick as our Guest Speaker.



Monsignor Frank J. Hendrick

The Monsignor is a native of Richmond, Virginia and a member of the Catholic Diocese of Arlington, Virginia. After serving forty years as a parish priest he retired and moved to Moore County, North Carolina. He has assisted at both the local St. Anthony's and Sacred Heart parishes.

As a teenager, The Monsignor served in the U.S. Navy during World War II as a medical corpsman. Later he served as a chaplain with the 199th Light Infantry Brigade during combat operations in Viet Nam. He completed his military service in Germany.

The service also will include our MOAA Chaplain, Tom Parsons; the support of our local US Marine Corps League Detachment, 1001, of Aberdeen; the Pinecrest High School AFJROTC Color Guard; the Golf Capital Chorus Ensemble; Chris Dunn, the Executive Director of the Arts Council of Moore County as Guest Bugler; and musical interludes by John W. Shannon, Director of Music Ministry for the Village Chapel. Following the service, the MOAA Women will host a reception with refreshments in the Meeting Room of the Village Chapel.

We hope to see you May 30th.



UPDATE ON BAILEY-PATTON

Vern Pike

In last month's newsletter I wrote an article about the Bailey-Patton Settlement and the ongoing campaign to extend Bailey-Patton to all government retirees, including those who entered government service since August of 1984. Well, I would now like to update you on that campaign with some good news.

Our very own State Representative, Jamie Boles, stepped up to become a primary sponsor of HB 473, a bill to amend the Bailey-Patton legislation by extending it to all government retirees. This bill was recently referred to the House Committee on State Personnel. We expect a hearing on the bill sometime in May, and then, if successful, it will be referred to the House Finance Committee for action. We can all thank Jamie Boles for his support of this important and overdue legislation to correct the Bailey-Patton Agreement.

It is the sense of our advisors that the General Assembly might be more amenable to changing Bailey-Patton than they have been in the past. The "tone" of the debate seems to be changing from a "stonewall" of anything associated with loss of tax revenue, to one of "lets figure out how we can get this done". As usual MOAA has been a key player with the 4th Branch in working for this legislation.



AUXILIARY MEMBER CORNER

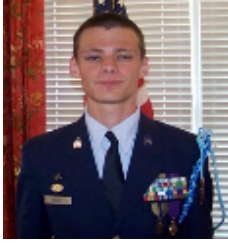
Juanita Davenport

A blitz of media stories about the new national health care plan and the recommendations of the Deficit Commission are leaving many surviving military spouses with concerns about their benefits. Put your mind at ease, little will change for you in 2011.

Surviving military spouses will continue their current level of drug coverage. Despite what you hear, you do not need to participate in Medicare's Part D Drug Program. Your TRICARE FOR LIFE (TFL) provides drug coverage and is a federally approved and recognized alternative medical and drug program. In fact, if you have TFL and are eligible for Medicare, participation in another medical or drug supplemental program could complicate your claims resulting in a delay of payments. So do not think you have to get additional coverage; it's just not necessary.

We hope you can make it to the luncheon on May 17th. It will be a wonderful program with the CEO of First Health as our guest speaker. Call me and I'll save you a seat, **910 235-0294**.

On June 21st, we will be having our first ever luncheon for Auxiliary Members only, so please be sure to mark you calendars ladies. This will be a special luncheon at the Table on the Green Restaurant, and will be held in conjunction with the MOAA Women. Ginsey Fallon, the Mayor of Pinehurst, will be our guest speaker. There will be more details about this luncheon in our next newsletter.



Cadet Lt Col Patrick Dillon Knight

East Montgomery High School

This is the first in a series of short biographies of our Sandhills Chapter Junior ROTC Cadet Scholarship winners for 2011. We proudly award scholarships to eight cadets each year, one at each of the JROTC detachments at high schools in our geographic area.

Cadet Knight is the Cadet Squadron Commander for Air Force Junior ROTC, NC-20062 at East Montgomery High School. He is the son of Randal Knight of Star, NC and Dana Fields of Siler City, NC. He began his education at High Falls Elementary School in Moore County and later East Middle School before coming to East Montgomery High School. In the East Montgomery Corps of Cadets he has served as an element leader, flight sergeant, and flight commander. He has attended summer leadership school twice; once as a basic cadet and once as a member of the cadet cadre, serving as a squadron commander. He is an active member of the East Montgomery Drill Team and a charter member of the East Montgomery Kitty Hawk Air Society, an AFJROTC honor society/service organization. Additionally, Cadet Knight is a member of the East Montgomery Varsity track team and serves as a cadet mentor at Candor Elementary School. His awards include the American Legion Scholastic Excellence Award, the Scottish Right of Freemasonry JROTC Americanism Medal, the AFJROTC Top Performer Award, and the AFJROTC Leadership Ribbon. Upon graduation, Cadet Knight plans on attending

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

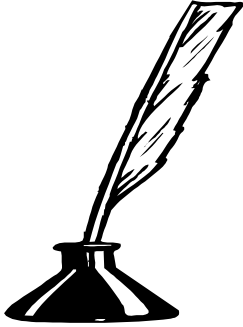
Gary & Brenda Geist

The following is quoted from the MOAA News Exchange dated April 6, 2011:

MAIL YOUR POSTCARDS

Unless current law is changed, Medicare and TRICARE payments to doctors will be cut 28% as of January 1, 2012 – jeopardizing health care access for elderly and military patients.

The cover of your April Military Officer magazine (which you'll receive shortly if you haven't already) has four postcards pre-addressed to your legislators, urging them to address this crucial issue. Please sign, stamp, and mail the postcards to your legislators right away.



SECRETARY'S REPORT

JACK RAFFAELE

New Members:

LtCol Vic Szalankiewicz USMC-ret, 30 Dalrymple Road, Pinehurst.
Spouse: Elizabeth; tel: 215-5895; email: vical@earthlink.net

Patricia Gatti. Auxiliary Member, 230 Pinehurst Trace Drive,
Pinehurst. Tel: 295-4345

Address Information: Additions and Corrections to the 2011 Membership Roster

BEAVER, EDWARD E LCDR USNR, 10 WICKER LANE, PINEHURST NC 28374:
JACKIE Email: BEA198@EMBARQMAIL.COM 295-6727

BIZZELL, BEVERLY LTC USANG-RET, 35 HIGHLAND VIEW DRIVE, SOUTHERN
PINES NC 28387, CHARLES: Email: BIZZELLB@NC.RR.COM 692-1777

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HURST NC 28374 295-4345

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THOMPSON, THOMAS M MAJ USAF 210 TARTAN TRAIL SOUTHERN PINES
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60091-1975

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A FEW WORDS ABOUT THE COAST GUARD

Ed Bartley

Over the years many have asked why I enlisted in the Coast Guard. Well, as a young lad I grew up playing around a Coast Guard life saving station and a Coast Guard manned lighthouse in Evanston, Illinois, so the Coast Guard was not unknown to me. When our nation entered World War II it quickly became apparent that youths my age would be called up. But I found out that we could have a choice of service if we enlisted before being drafted.

On my college campus, Indiana University, I saw a Coast Guard recruiting poster offering an opportunity to obtain a commission by completing reserve officers training at the Coast Guard Academy in New London, Connecticut. This was appealing! I enlisted in May, 1942, received orders to report to the Academy in July and completed training in December.

Five weeks after my commission I was aboard the Coast Guard Cutter Antietam standing deck watch—the sole officer—on convoy and patrol duty. One grows up fast in times of war.

After 18 months at sea, I was selected to attend a school on Loran, a new and somewhat secret aid to navigation. As the executive officer of a command unit in the Pacific, I coordinated the installation of Loran stations on Guam, Saipan, Ulithi, Iwo Jima and Okinawa, sometimes even before the islands were officially declared secure. Our new navigation tool was loved by the B-29 crews on their bombing runs to Japan. Over the years I have observed that the role of the Coast Guard, in times of peace and war, is frequently misunderstood. I have actually been asked many times “Did you ever get out of sight of land?” And then I have been tempted to reply “No, I spent the War walking the beaches of Florida.” I would like to clarify some of those misunderstandings about the Coast Guard, the smallest of our nation’s five armed services. Congress, in the early 1920’s, passed this legislation: “The Coast Guard is a military service and a branch of the Armed Forces of the United States at all times.” Parenthetically the Coast Guard, then known as the Revenue Cutter Service, was the nation’s sole naval force for eight years until Congress established the U.S. Navy in 1778.

In World War II the Coast Guard operated under the Navy. The Navy was responsible for the tactical direction of the Coast Guard. Many times Coast Guard and Navy vessels served side-by-side. The Coast Guard, on the other hand, remained responsible for recruitment, training and assignment of its personnel and manning its vessels and aircraft

Insert is LT (jg) Ed Bartley at CG Loran Station Iwo Jima, Feb 1945

Continued on page 11

Continued from page 10

In terms of manpower, the war-time Coast Guard was quite small with officer count peaking at about 12,000 by the end of the war. For some reason Coast Guard officers had no assigned serial numbers. This caused great concern to the Army and Navy, which relied on serial numbers for identification of officers.

During World War II the Coast Guard manned a diverse group of ships ranging in size from troop transports (31), large cargo ships (21), destroyer escorts (75), LST's (77), LCI's, cutters of all sizes, a myriad of smaller vessels and aircraft for patrol duty. On D-Day 50 Coast Guard 83' cutters were a part of the invasion flotilla.

Today the Coast Guard, now a part of Homeland Security because of its law enforcement roles and is deployed around the globe on maritime police duties, interdiction, port security, aids to navigation, and rescue. It is spread thin with 70% of its reserve component on active duty.

Needless to say, I am very proud of the Coast Guard and of being a World War II Coast Guard veteran.



JEFF GILBERT

MEMBER HIGHLIGHT

We publish this column every month to pay tribute to some of our members who have distinguished themselves by making significant contributions to our community. Jeff Gilbert is one of our members who just loves to be busy, and he seems to have more energy than a guy half his age. For the past six years since moving to Pinehurst Jeff has been stepping up and giving freely of his time and energy to help make our community a better place to live. His list of volunteer activities is almost overwhelming.

Jeff grew up as a Marine Corps brat, so he moved around a lot. But after 25 years in the Pittsburgh, PA area working for PPG, Jeff and his wife, Julie, retired and moved to the Pinehurst area in 2005.

Jeff was co-chairman of the Moore County Empty Stocking Fund for two years, and did a superb job of managing the client and sponsor data bases. And for the last five years he has been a tutor in Business and Business Law at Sandhills Community College where he is also a presenter and a judge. He belongs to Brownson Memorial Church where he is an Elder and a trained Stephen Minister who administers to congregation members who are under various types of severe stress or in crisis. For the past two years Jeff has volunteered for the Palustris Festival, and for five years has been a volunteer at the Sandhills Coalition.

He just recently completed a term as the President of the Rotary Club of Southern Pines, and before that he occupied many key positions in the Rotary Club such as co-chair of the Long Range Planning Committee, newsletter, website, and Club Service Director. Jeff has escorted WW II veterans to the WW II Memorial in Washington, DC as Guardian for the WW II Flight of Honor. In addition, he personally chaired a Committee that raised \$24k for shelter boxes for displaced Haitians during the aftermath of the earthquake in Port au Prince.

More recently Jeff was elected treasurer of the Forum, Pinehurst's premier social organization dedicated to the performing arts. And he also just began a term on the Government and Infrastructure Committee of Pinehurst Village.

With 3 kids and 5 grandkids, Jeff and Julie stay even busier keeping up with the family. And as if that isn't enough, Jeff gets up most days long before first light, and reports for his job cutting the greens at the Pinehurst #7 golf course. "I'm not a golfer," says Jeff, "I just like to get an early start to my day and get some exercise."

We are proud to have guys like Jeff in our Chapter.



Military Officers Association of America
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