



The COUNCIL CRIER
Quarterly Newsletter of the
Virginia Council of Chapters (VCOC)
Military Officers Association of America (MOAA)

For leaders of Virginia's
18 MOAA chapters.
Published March, June,
September & December.
Editor: M. Mallison
VCOC Website: <http://www.VirginiaMOAA.com>

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SEPTEMBER 2010

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Levels of Excellence Awards: Congratulations to the chapters who earned Four and Five Star status for their efforts in 2009! The five-star winning chapters are: Richmond Area, Hampton Roads, Mount Vernon, Virginia Peninsula, GC Marshall, Southside Virginia, and Potomac Chapter. The four-star winning chapters are MOAA SW Virginia and Heritage Hunt. Kudos are particularly appropriate for SW Virginia and Heritage Hunt for their first time awards. Level of Excellence Awards are certainly good indicators of excellence in chapter activities and the chapter members can be justly proud of their accomplishments. While we did not accomplish our objective of raising the number of five-star chapters we have again made a very respectable showing. Let's start looking at what it will take to make your chapter a five-star chapter for next year. *See page 3*

State Legislative: The JLC has voted on its top priority legislative objectives for the 2011 General Assembly and the VCOC made a significant contribution to the selection of these objectives. As in past years, the VCOC is playing the major role in the JLC to spearhead the accomplishment of these objectives. I am particularly pleased that the JLC unanimously voted to make the establishment of a **veterans' lottery our number one priority**. If we are able to get this passed, it would provide funding for so many needed veterans' programs that are currently going un-funded. Its impact could be huge. Please plan to meet with your state legislators this fall to advocate for our state legislative agenda.

National Legislative: We will be focusing on updating our VCOC National Legislative Objectives at our October VCOC meeting. The VCOC Legislative Committee has begun to work on them and I expect that we will vote on new objectives then. The outlook for defense spending does not look good. I hope that we can resolve the problem of the 21% Medicare/TRICARE cut to providers this fall. We must have a final resolution of this problem.

Recruiting: Again congratulations are in order for the great effort in winning the 2nd Quarter bonus for the Give-Me-Ten program. I received the \$1000 check and a very nice letter from Admiral Ryan. Cdr John Baumgarten and I have been invited to attend a meeting at HQs MOAA on 22 September to review the Give Me Ten program. If you have any suggestions that you would like passed on to HQs MOAA about the program, please let either John or I know.

VCOC Meetings: We had an excellent meeting on 8 July at the Globe and Laurel Restaurant in Quantico. Marv Harris from MOAA attended and led an excellent discussion on Public Affairs. Thanks to the many chapter PAOs who attended. Also, we had attendance from all of the chapters, which we would like to continue for all of our future meetings. Our next VCOC meeting will be at the **Petersburg Country Club on 14 October**. We will discuss, and probably vote on, our updated **VCOC National Legislative Objectives**. I plan to invite someone from **MOAA Government Affairs Department** to lead a discussion. We will also need to finalize a decision about a **Convention Cruise** – if we should decide to do it.

/ Sam Wilder, COL, USA, Ret, VCOC President

VCOC ELECTED OFFICERS 2010-2011:

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VCOC APPOINTED OFFICERS:

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CRIER EDITOR: 2ND VP

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Alternate: **John Clickener** - See Legis Committee 2nd Vice Chair

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE:(Chaired by 1st VP)
1st Vice Chair for National Legislative: **Stuart Williams**,
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9158 Rockefeller Lane Springfield VA 22153-1414
2nd Vice Chair for State Legislative: **John Clickener**, LTC,
USMC, Ret click03@verizon.net 804-443-9226
161 Youhill Drive Tappahannock VA 22560

PERSONAL AFFAIRS: Chaplain
SCHOLARSHIPS (Virginia MOAA): Treasurer

SCHEDULE & IMPORTANT DATES:

31 AUG INPUT ON MINUTES of July VCOC Mtg to VCOC Secr
9 SEP NOTIFY LEGISLATIVE CHAIR of Legis Mtg attendance
16 SEP VCOC LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING,
Richmond Housing Authority Building, near VWM. *see page 5*
7 OCT CHAPTER QUARTERLY REPORTS DUE *see page 7*
11 OCT RESERVATIONS for OCT 14th VCOC MEETING *see page 8*

14 OCT (Thursday) VCOC MEETING, Petersburg
Country Club *see page 8*

10 NOV Input for Dec edition of Council Crier due to editor

15-16 NOV MOAA CAPITAL EVENT, Washington
DC: Annual Meeting, Excellence Award Dinner, Chapter Workshops,
Professional Symposium, www.moaa.org/capitalevent.

__ & __ JAN 2011 VCOC Meeting & VCOC Storms Richmond
Schedule as of 15 Aug 2010 – see also website (schedule is in home section)

CHAPTER CONTACTS: The master VCOC Directory/
roster/"constituent chapter listing" is maintained by VCOC
Secretary and posted on the VCOC website, in the
"Contact" section. It is **password-protected**. **User Name:**
vcoc4dir (all lower case). **Password:** chapter (all lower
case). Note: everybody has same user name & password).
Please notify Secretary, COL Jim Rose, of changes to
chapter VCOC officers' addresses, phone numbers, emails,
spouse name, etc). *Also note his recommended change on page 7*

THIS VCOC NEWSLETTER: The *Council Crier* is published
quarterly for Virginia chapter leaders. Publication months are March,
June, September & December. Input is due 10th of previous month.
DISTRIBUTION: Currently* mailed to VCOC Directory listing of
Virginia chapter leaders that interact with VCOC [Chapter Presidents,
VCOC Rep, VCOC Legislative Rep (primary), & Public Affairs
Officers] using the addresses in the VCOC Directory * – note, Secretary
maintains directory. Copies are also sent to VCOC Officers & Past
Presidents, plus select MOAA staff. An electronic edition, in color, is
posted on VCOC website (newsletter section) in Word & PDF formats.
* **See Secretary proposed change concerning mail** *page 7*.

CHAPTER NEWSLETTERS: Please send your newsletter
to each Virginia chapter president and to the officers of the
VCOC. Electronic (email or weblink) copies are preferred
(see VCOC addresses at left and chapter presidents in
directory). Please indicate **name of chapter** in subject line
of the email sending the newsletter or link.

VCOC WEBSITE: VirginiaMOAA.com *see page 7*

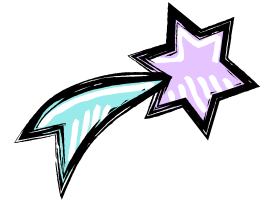
LEGISLATIVE ALERT WEBSITE: vavet.org
New this year, for legislative emails. Created and Maintained by
John Clickener, VCOC Legislative Committee Vice Chair.

CHAPTER HIGHLIGHTS

43 Stars of Excellence (up from 39 last year)

for Nine Virginia Chapters of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA)

Congratulations to Virginia Council of Chapters' (VCOC's) winners in MOAA's Levels of Excellence (LOE) competition for excellence in 2009.



FOUR-star Awards (2): Heritage Hunt & Southwest Virginia chapters

FIVE-star Awards (7):

ACT NOW to earn your chapter LOE Award for 2010 (in 2011). Chapters compete against standards, not against each other. VCOC quarterly reports can help track progress.

**George C. Marshall
Hampton Roads
Mount Vernon
Potomac
Richmond Area
Southside Virginia
Virginia Peninsula**

VCOC president & presidents of chapters winning 2009 Levels of Excellence Awards will be invited to attend MOAA's Annual Meeting 14-16 Nov 2010. An Excellence Awards presentation (of flag streamers dated 2010) will be held at the MOAA annual meeting at the Sheraton National Hotel in Arlington. MOAA provides lodging and meals for winning council & chapter presidents and their spouses.

/ provided by VCOC 2nd & 3rd VPs

Charity Golf Tournament for Virginia Wounded Warrior Program

The **George C. Marshall Chapter's (GCMC's) Second Annual** Charity Golf Tournament to benefit Virginia Wounded Warrior Program (VWWP) proved to be the 'pot of gold at the end of the rainbow' Aug 9th.

One hundred nineteen golfers participated at the Lexington Golf And Country Club including players from as far away as Washington, DC, Richmond, and Norfolk. Col **Barry Wright**, USA, Ret, of MOAA Council & Chapter Affairs noted "It was an absolutely great event with a fantastic turnout. **GCMC continues to be an excellent model for other chapters** who want to run similar events." It is anticipated that, after expenses, **over \$12,000** will be given to the VWWP at an upcoming chapter luncheon.

Fifty sponsors contributed \$100 to \$1,000. GCMC is particularly appreciative of the \$1,000 Major Sponsors led by the **Richmond Area Chapter** of MOAA, RADON Corporation, and HDT Engineered Technologies (formerly known as Base X Corp.). Sponsors were recognized with posters throughout the golf course and a half-page newspaper ad.

Prior to the 'shotgun start', GCMC President, LtCol Bob Hopkins, USAF, Ret, thanked participants and introduced four club members all of whom were awarded Purple Hearts for wounds received in Vietnam and are residents of Rockbridge County, thus illustrating that Virginia's wounded warriors are everywhere among us.

/Ross Schmoll, Col, USAF, Ret, GCMC MOAA Public Affairs



Above: LtCol **Bob Hopkins**, USAF, Ret, President of GCMC MOAA, addressed golfers. Hopkins reported "Not only did the turn-out maximize the entire golf course, it also was a fun event with a nice barbeque lunch and approximately \$1,000 in prizes. The golf format was Captain's Choice but one feature made it most interesting. That was the ability to purchase unlimited extra strokes or "mulligans" for \$5 each. One foursome used 7 mulligans to try to make a six foot putt and missed every one. Bad for them but \$35 more for the VWWP."

Purple Heart Recipients, pictured.

From Left Retired officers: Col. James N. Joyner, USA, former Commandant of Cadets at Virginia Military Institute. Col. Michael Bissell, USA, Commandant of Cadets for the Virginia Women's Institute for Leadership at Mary Baldwin College in Staunton - a Brigadier General in the Virginia Militia. Major General Thomas H. Tait, USA, founder of Lexington's George C. Marshall Chapter, MOAA. Lt. Col. Wallace E. Fogo, USMC, veteran of WW II, Korea and Vietnam, a long time Rockbridge County real estate broker.



Joyner, Bissell, Tait, Fogo

Photos courtesy of GCMC MOAA

Golf for Families of The Wounded Fund



Members of the Heritage Virginia chapter participated in the sold-out Families of the Wounded Fund (FOTWF) Charity Golf Classic & Reception August 20th & 21st, hosted by Ms. America, Caressa Cameron, at the Augustine Golf Club. Attendees included General Richard Myers, former Chairman JCS and Commissioner Virginia Department of Veterans Services, Paul Galanti. Proceeds go to assisting families with travel expenses when visiting wounded warriors undergoing treatment. FOTWF is different than the

Virginia Wounded Warrior Program (VWWP). Info can be found on line at www.familiesofthewoundedfund.org/ or simply fotwf.org. The next golf fund raiser for the FOTWF is 20 Sep 2010 at Brandermill Country Club of Midlothian VA – The 4th Annual Classic for FOTWF at this club, which is under new management. Brandermill phone: (804) 744-1185 (Mike Hatch). Entry Fee is \$400 for team (\$100 per player). Format is Captain's Choice, Stableford Scoring. Players may enter as individuals and be placed with others to create a team. Sponsorships are available from \$500 to \$1,500.

/ provided by Lt Dave Hawtin, Heritage Chapter Legislative Rep & VCOC Secretary Col Jim Rose (of Richmond Area Chapter)

Next Honor Flight – 16 October 2010

Help World War II Veterans see the monument dedicated to their honor.

Chapters near Washington DC assist with various portions of the national honor flight events, which in addition to the WWII Memorial, include stops at Arlington National Cemetery and National Museum of the Marine Corps. Virginia Chapters on the Peninsula and Southside of Hampton Roads help with send-offs from Virginia Beach & Williamsburg and soliciting volunteers to train as guardians to assist a WWII veteran for the day. All MOAA chapters can help with soliciting participants for the twice-a-year event. Honor Flights are open to all WWII veterans who have not already visited the WWII memorial and are free of charge. Paramedics accompany each flight. Virginia “flights” are via buses. A Richmond departure point is being added. **Honor Flight Historic Triangle** Virginia info is at www.honorflighthtva.org or 1-877-424-VETS.



/ provided by VCOC Public Affairs Officer (PAO)

DVS Commissioner Honored By Central Virginia Chapter



Paul Galanti & CVC President, Carl Heubner, Col, Ret

The Central Virginia chapter held a dinner meeting in honor of Paul Galanti, CDR, USN, Ret, at the Glenmore Country Club in Keswick, June 25, 2010. Galanti provided candid insights of what life was like as a “guest” of the North Vietnamese for seven grueling years during the Vietnam War. As Virginia’s newly appointed Commissioner of the Department of Veterans Services (DVS), we know Paul will dedicate the same high level of service to veterans in our Commonwealth.

/story and photo provided by CVC MOAA Public Affair Officer, Kevin Lavin, Col, USAF, Ret

PUBLIC AFFAIRS at July Meeting of the VCOC

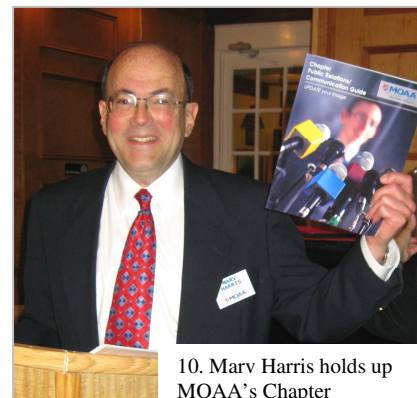
VCOC president, Col Sam Wilder, USA, Ret, invited MOAA’s Director of Public Relations, Col Marv Harris, USA, Ret, to lead an open discussion about **publishing in the media**. Wilder invited Virginia chapters to bring their person in charge of working with the media. Due to time constraints, VCOC Public Affairs Committee Chair, Maj Melva Mallison, USAF, Ret, provided a written report to all meeting attendees, foregoing her usual 2nd VP verbal report. Ten lunched together, before Harris’ presentation. At lunch they went over part of Mallison’s report, received a list of Virginia chapter Public Affairs / Public Relations contacts (with mini-bios) and swapped stories and ideas. The VCOC Public Affairs Committee will continue operating primarily via email.



1. John Vermillion of Hampton Roads 2. Mike Weppner of Heritage Hunt
3. Paul Mehler of Mount Vernon 4. Louis Preysz of George C. Marshall
5. Carl Huebner of Central Virginia 6. Unidentified



7. Mike Patierno of Shenandoah Valley
8. Joe Tarantino of Richmond Area
9. Melva Mallison of Virginia Peninsula



10. Marv Harris holds up MOAA’s Chapter Communications Guide. He also provided a copy of slides from his News Media Training Course. His complete presentation is at VirginiaMOAA.com in Meetings, Section, July 2010 meeting..

LIST CHAPTER NEWS STORIES (published & attempted) in QUARTERLY VCOC REPORTS

/ by VCOC Public Affairs Officer (PAO) & 2nd VP, Melva Mallison, Maj, USAF, Ret

STATE LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

The Military Officers Association of America's Virginia Council of Chapters (VCOC) is one of the **23 organizations** working with-in Virginia's Joint Leadership Council of Veterans Service Organizations (JLC) to **speak with one voice on state legislative issues**. VCOC's representative to the JLC, BG Wes Edwards, USMC, Ret, presented the VCOC's proposed legislative objectives for 2011 (ranked in order of importance by Virginia chapters and approved by VCOC at July 2010 meeting) to the JLC at their July 21st meeting. All but one (Homeless Veterans) were adopted as a JLC Priority Legislative Objective (PLO). All JLC organizations are asked to promote the JLC top PLOs, with any additional objectives ranked after the agreed-upon JLC top PLOs.



/ VCOC PAO, Melva Mallison, Maj, USAF, Ret

2011 STATE

PRIORITY LEGISLATIVE OBJECTIVES:

- **Alternative Dedicated Revenue Sources.**
- **Restore Staffing at State-wide DVS Offices.**
- **Fund State Veteran Cemetery Requirements.**
- **Address Veteran Court Requirements.**
- **Virginia War Memorial - additional funding.**
- **In-state Tuition Fees for Veterans.**

Joint Leadership Council Picks Top priorities for 2011:

At left are the Priority Legislative Objectives approved by the JLC. Priority ranking will be reviewed/re-addressed by the JLC in October. In the meantime when the briefing papers and point papers have been edited they will become available to post on JLC and VCOC Web sites.

/ VCOC's JLC Rep, Wes Edwards, BG, USMC, Ret

Initial Prep for 2011 General Assembly:

The Joint Leadership Council (JLC) Primary Legislative Objectives (PLOs) were selected at their 21 July Meeting. JLC activity during the next month will focus on the JLC Sponsors for each PLO refining and submitting a one-page point paper, the JLC Legislative Committee selecting House and Senate patrons for each PLO, and the JLC Legislative Chair preparing the one page list of the Objectives. These work products should be delivered to each Chapter Legislative Representative before the end of September.

The Governor's Budget Amendments will not be available until the end of the year. Although the PLOs will have an initial priority ranking, the JLC will establish the final ranking after reviewing the proposed changes.

Your Chapter Legislative Representative will distribute the information as it becomes available. You can help get the PLOs passed by urging your Delegate and Senator to co-patron the PLOs. After you receive the info use VAVET to contact your state legislators during the legislative session, and sending a "Thank You" after the session adjourns..

FYI:

Selection of PATRONS has become a JLC responsibility to select best qualified Patrons (based upon JLC selection factors). JLC has established a "Patron Selection Committee" to insure we have Patrons that can carry legislation thru passage by the General Assembly (GA). The JLC Selection Committee welcomes any VCOC member's input on a GA legislator expressing interest in being a PLO Patron but members SHOULD NOT make any commitment. JLC does not wish to miss a valid opportunity to have the best qualified patrons, insuring a successful 2011 Legislative Program with the Assembly.

*/ VCOC Legislative Chair & 1st VP,
Don Kaiserman, COL, USA, Ret*

/ VCOC Legislative Committee Vice Chair, John Clickener, LTC, USMC, Ret

State Constitutional Amendment:

VCOC and the JLC spent 2008, 2009, and 2010 working to obtain **Real Estate Tax Relief** for the Primary Residence of **100% Disabled Veterans**. This legislation was strongly opposed by the cities and counties. However, we prevailed and the Tax Relief Objective, which must be passed as an Amendment to the Virginia Constitution, will be on **YOUR ballot on November 2**. **YOU** (and you family, friends, neighbors, etc.) have to vote yes on November 2nd to achieve our objective. (*Think about climbing Mount Suribachi.*)



The VCOC Legislative Committee will be discussing additional grass roots measures at our next meeting. Gen. Wes Edwards, the VCOC Representative to the JLC, will also propose that the other 22 Veterans Service Organizations join in the grass roots effort to ensure passage of the Amendment.

/ VCOC Legislative Committee Vice Chair, John Clickener, LTC, USMC, Ret

The Virginia War Memorial:

Another long term legislative effort will be completed Saturday 18 September when the Paul and Phyllis Galanti Education Center will be opened with a ribbon cutting ceremony. This is the fulfillment of over eight years of effort. (Think about raising the American Flag on Mount Suribachi.)

/ VCOC Legislative Committee Vice Chair, John Clickener, LTC, USMC, Ret



GILANTI EDUCATION CENTER - GRAND OPENING WEEKEND

MAJOR EVENTS

17-19 SEPTEMBER 2010

www.vawarmemorial.org

At past VCOC meetings, discussions were held on the Virginia War Memorial (VWM). Contributions to the planned Paul and Phyllis Galanti Education Center were made by Virginia chapters of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) as well as the Virginia Council of Chapters (VCOC) and individual MOAA members. On the week-end of 17-19 September the center will become reality with a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Saturday at 10:20 A.M. An open invitation is extended by the Virginia War Memorial staff to **all veterans** in the Commonwealth to join in on this historic event at our nationally recognized facility, dedicated to some 17,000+ members of the military who served/died in defense of our Nation. Join your fellow VCOC/MOAA members and many other veteran service organizations to celebrate the opening of this new Education Center named in honor of MOAA member Paul Gilanti and his charming wife Phyllis.

FRIDAY, 17 SEP: NATIONAL POW/MIA RECOGNITION CEREMONY

starting at 10:00 A.M. with guest speaker RADM Shumaker (Ex POW) who duded the name the Hanoi Hilton, where Paul Galanti spent many years as a POW.

SATURDAY, 18 SEP: FAMILY DAY OPEN HOUSE 10:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M., with ribbon-cutting at 10:20. See VWM website, news-events section, for the day's happenings.

SUNDAY, 19 SEP: GRAND OPENING CONCERT by VWI Regimental Band & Pipes at 2 PM

FREE ADMISSION & PARKING.

Let's have a great turn-out to show our respect for a real hero (a RACMOAA member and our new Commissioner of the Department of Veterans Services) – Paul Galanti.

If you attend, please wear your MOAA badge and chapter or VCOC name tag.

Virginia War Memorial is located at 621 Belvidere Street, Richmond VA 23220

Office (804) 786-2060, Visitor Center (804) 786-2050

Website: VAWarMemorial.org

Other upcoming events at Virginia War Memorial include:

OCT 2, Massing of Colors Ceremony 2 – 3 PM; **11 NOV** Veterans Day Ceremony 11 AM to Noon.

DEC 7, Pearl Harbor Remembrance noon to 1 PM

/ VCOC Public Affairs Officer (PAO), Maj Melva Mallison, USAF, Ret

Honor and Remember Flag:

Each year there are a number of worthwhile legislative proposals that are not included in the Joint Leadership Council's top priority legislative objectives (PLOs). In 2010, Delegate John Cosgrove was the patron for HJ 137. His resolution, which was one of several similar House and Senate Resolutions, proposed that the Commonwealth adopt the Honor and Remember Flag to commemorate and recognize fallen warriors.

The General Assembly unanimously approved Joint Resolution 137, which now designates the flag as Virginia's official emblem to honor the brave men and women of the Armed Forces who give their lives in the line of duty.

Visit the website for more details and to order flags of various types and sizes. www.honorandremember.org

/ VCOC Legislative Committee Vice Chair, John Clickener, LTC, USMC, Ret



Central Virginia Legislative Caucus (state)

Forum to be Held by Richmond Area Chapter 30 Sep 2010 at Virginia War Memorial

RAC/MOAA will host members of the General Assembly (GA) that form the Central Virginia Legislative Caucus. The chapter is also inviting Joint Leadership Council (JLC) sponsors of Priority Legislative Objectives (PLO's). JLC sponsors are responsible for position papers and obtaining patrons, so should be the most knowledgeable. VCOC Legislative Chair, Col Don Kaiserman, USA, Ret plans to cover this topic at VCOC Legislative meeting, 16 Sept, and suggest other Virginia chapters consider similar forums, possibly with several chapters collectively running a forum. "The RAC/MOAA forum has been well received by GA attendees and provides a great kick-off for VCOC & JLC Legislative programs" said Kaiserman, who is Vice President of the Virginia Council of Chapters (VCOC), as well as an active member of RAC/MOAA. Kaiserman will discuss results of the 2010 "RAC/MOAA Forum" at the October VCOC meeting.

/ provided by VCOC PAO

NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

2010 Virginia Council of Chapters (VCOC) National Legislative Objectives adopted in January are working their way through the legislative process. FY2011 Defense Authorization Bill S 3454 is pending in the Senate. HR 5136 passed the House in May. FY2011 Appropriations Bills are in committee phase.



| ISSUE | SENATE (S.3454) | HOUSE (H.R. 5136) | MOAA POSITION* |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Support Strong Defense Budget** | Base is 3.6% of GDP. With OCO*** it is 4.6% of GDP | Base is 3.6% of GDP. With OCO*** it is 4.6% of GDP | Not included in current report |
| Increase size of Ground Forces | Matches increases in FY2011 budget request. | Matches increases in FY2011 budget request. | Not included in current report |
| Congress not DoD to Control TRICARE Fees | Bar TRICARE Standard in-patient fee increase for FY 2011 | Prohibit TRICARE Prime, Standard, and pharmacy increases for FY 2011 | Support House provision |
| Survivor Benefit Plan/ Dependency & Indemnity Compensation offset | Sen. Bill Nelson is expected to introduce an amendment to repeal the offset | Extend Special Survivor Indemnity Allowance to qualifying "forgotten widows". | Support Senate amendment and House provision. |
| Concurrent Receipt | Majority Leader Harry Reid is expected to introduce an amendment similar to H.R. 4213 | Separate bill H.R. 4213 would extend to severely disabled medical retirees with less than 20 years | Support H.R. 4213 as next step toward phasing out the VA offset for all disabled retirees |

* As reported in August 2010 issue of "Military Officer"

** Although there are internal differences the base and OCO match the submitted budget.

*** Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO)

2011 VCOC legislative issues will be addressed at VCOC Legislative Committee meeting September 16, 2010 (for presentation to VCOC at October meeting). Agenda will include:

- Status on 2010 objectives
- Proposed MOAA 2010 Resolutions as reported in the August 2010 *Military Officer*
- Effects of various efforts to reduce Defense spending
- Draft initial 2011 objectives



LEGISLATIVE IN NEWSLETTER

/ VCOC Legislative Committee Vice Chair for National Legislation: *Stu Williams, COL, USA, Ret*

NEXT LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING 16 Sep 2010

The VCOC Legislative Committee will meet at 10:00 AM on Thursday, 16 September at the **Virginia Housing Authority Building** (adjacent to the Virginia War Memorial).

All VCOC Legislative Reps, or one of their alternates are requested to attend for full representation of our 18 Chapters. Major items include development of the 2011 National Objectives, planning to support passage of the Constitutional Amendment, and completion of the carry-over items from the last meeting. All alternate Legislative Reps are welcome. Please **notify Don Kaiserman, by 9 September** if you plan to attend.

/ VCOC Legislative Committee Vice Chair, *John Clickener, LTC, USMC, Ret*





CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP - Cover-Wrap Initiative

In the July 2010 issue of *Military Officer Magazine*, MOAA included a “cover-wrap” to encourage “non-chapter” MOAA members to join a local MOAA chapter. At the end of July, August and September, MOAA will send electronic spreadsheets to chapters listing respondents from the cover-wrap initiative. If and when your chapter receives the MOAA spreadsheets, you must accomplish four things to earn a \$15 per capita rebate from MOAA for each respondent: (1) create a chapter membership record for the respondent; (2) give the respondent a first-year **free** membership in your chapter; (3) contact the respondent by either telephone or letter; and (4) invite the respondent to the next chapter meeting. Once you have accomplished these actions, you must notify MOAA Council and Chapter Affairs by either telephone or e-mail to receive the \$15 rebate for each respondent. The rebates are intended to help offset the cost to the chapter for the one-year free membership given to the respondents.

NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP

MOAA Life Memberships and Conversions –

Recently there has been some confusion concerning the MOAA Life Membership discount for 2010 and the amount of the rebate payable to chapters under the Give-Me-10 program. Here is the official policy: the discount for new MOAA members signing-up for Life Memberships or for current MOAA annual members converting to life membership is 10%. The amount rebated to MOAA chapters sponsoring these applications is \$20 per capita. Be sure to promote the Life Membership discount in your chapter newsletters - this is a great way to earn “paid” Give-Me-10 program credits and rebates for your chapter!



GIVE ME TEN Virginia Stats:



| Chapter | Free | Paid | Life | Other | Total |
|--------------|------------|-----------|----------|----------|------------|
| CSV | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| CVC | 27 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 30 |
| FLC | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| GCM | 105 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 108 |
| HHC | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| HRC | 66 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 68 |
| HVC | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| MVC | 12 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 19 |
| NNC | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| NVA | 69 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 77 |
| PAC | 6 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 8 |
| POT | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| PVC | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 |
| RAC | 16 | 12 | 1 | 0 | 29 |
| SSV | 205 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 205 |
| SVC | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| SWV | 97 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 98 |
| <u>VIP</u> | <u>64</u> | <u>3</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>67</u> |
| Total | 672 | 35 | 5 | 5 | 717 |

Shown at left are the “Give-Me-10” (GMT) statistics for all Virginia chapters, per the MOAA on-line report for 6 August 2010. Based on second quarter “paid” GMT membership gains, VCOC earned a \$1,000 quarterly bonus. To date, the total of GMT rebates earned by VCOC chapters stands at \$8,670 - good work and congrats to all!

We are still not making significant progress in earning the number of “paid” equivalents to qualify for periodic chapter bonuses, or for the coveted “Night Out on MOAA” at year’s end. Only one chapter has earned enough paid equivalents to reach our year-end goal of 14 chapters with at least 8 paid equivalents and only one chapter has earned a \$100 chapter bonus thus far this year.

To earn more “paid” equivalents, chapters should encourage their “regular” MOAA members to convert to “life” membership and identify and aggressively pursue chapter members with “lapsed” MOAA memberships to have them “reinstate” their MOAA memberships.

Chapters should also continue to work the prospect list from MOAA which shows “non-chapter” MOAA members in their area, who have “lapsed” MOAA memberships - another potential source for gaining “paid” equivalents in the program.

Overall, the combined efforts of VCOC chapters have accounted for 21.3% of all GMT membership gains for MOAA during 2010 - **a very impressive achievement** - keep up the good work!

USE THE NEWS RELEASE provided by MOAA in the Give Me Ten 2010 package. VCOC Public Affairs Chair recommends tailoring it to your chapter then sending to local civilian & military newspapers, promoting your chapter’s participation in Give Me Ten. Be sure to give local chapter point-of-contact (POC) info, including phone, email or website.

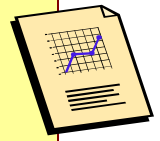
CHAPTER REPORTS (covering July Through September)

Chapter reports for the third quarter should be submitted to VCOC Chapter Affairs not later than **7 October 2010** for summary presentation at the 14 October meeting in Petersburg. Please submit reports by e-mail and include a “copy to:” the VCOC Secretary. Report format can be found on the VCOC website at:

<http://www.virginiamoaa.com/chapters/chapterreportformat.html>

/John Baumgarten, CDR, USN, Ret, VCOC 3rd VP & Chair of Membership/Chapter Affairs

__Quarterly Reports help track progress toward Excellence Awards & VCOC goals.
__Format includes sections on membership recruiting, legislative advocacy and publishing in media.



SECRETARY SMORGASBORD



Additions/comments/deletions to 3rd quarter VCOC meeting minutes (July) are due by 30 Aug 2010. Draft minutes were emailed and are on the VCOC website.

Since the majority of Chapter Officers have welcomed the **move to electronic** contact and communication, those who **still desire to receive snail mail will be identified on the VCOC Directory and Chapter Listing by an asterisk (*)**. Please let me know the names for this identification.

Info about the 14 Oct VCOC meeting is covered on page 8 and on the VCOC website.

Send the attendance sheets to me, preferably by email, and pay the Treasurer at the door.

Agenda is forthcoming.

/Jim Rose, Col, USA, Ret, VCOC Secretary



VCOC WEBSITE

Who, What, Where, When, Why & How

Melva Mallison created and manages the Virginia Council of Chapters (VCOC) Website using Network Solutions hosting package. Access the site on the internet at Virginia MOAA.com. The site has existed since January 2006, with the same hosting package and domain name at annual cost of about \$140 and same web manager at no cost.

The purpose of the website is to **enhance communications** with Virginia’s MOAA chapters and others interested in the VCOC. The website is **in addition to** other communication methods which include Email, *The Council Crier* and VCOC meetings (with handouts). Chapters may refer members to relevant portions of the VCOC website for more info about particular items, such as VCOC meetings or events, legislative issues, or Give Me Ten recruiting.

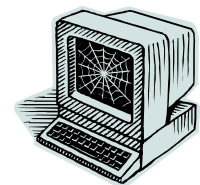
To navigate the website, note the menu of categories On the left and either select the main category by clicking on it or you may point your cursor at the main category to see the sub-sections and click on one of those. Example: click on “**Chapters**” to go to the webpage with a summary of each Virginia chapter (provided by the chapter) or point your cursor to “**Chapter**” and see the sub sections you may click on: Chapter Report Format, Quarterly Reports, a couple of chapter happenings, Chapter President’s Symposium last year (with pictures), Chapter Zipcode Listing & MOAA Chapter Codes (for our Virginia chapters).

The new **legislative alert system, VAVET**, is addressed in “state legislative” section. There are two legislative sections on VCOC website: National & State, with content provided by VCOC Legislative Committee leaders.

Contact info for VCOC Officers and often-used links are in the main “Contacts” web page. Additional info is in sub-sections including directory (constituent chapter leaders list). Directory requires user name “vcoc4dir” and password “chapter” to protect chapter leaders from spam.



/Melva Mallison, Maj, USAF, Ret, VCOC 2nd VP & Web Manager



Please note, you cannot change the VCOC website without going through the web manager. If you download a document, make a change and save it, you have saved it to your computer, but not to the web server.

Send website input via email (plain text or word doc), with any photos separate from documents to melvamaj@cox.net
Items to be posted on the VCOC website should come **through** (or at least info copy to) the relevant VCOC committee chair (i.e. Legislative Chair for legislative, Membership Chair for membership/Give Me ten). These subject-matter-experts are listed in page 2 of this newsletter and on the website.

Chapters without websites can refer to their summary on the Chapters webpage when applying for Excellence Awards.

If your chapter website is developed with a great-easy-to use web-hosting package, please let VCOC and other chapters know about it (including cost).



VCOC MOAA Newsletter Editor and 2nd VP
 Melva Mallison, Maj, USAF, Ret
 90 Huber Rd
 Newport News VA 23601

SEPTEMBER 2010
The Council Crier
 Quarterly Newsletter of
Virginia Council of Chapters (VCOC)
 Military Officers Association of America (MOAA)

See Table of Contents, below.

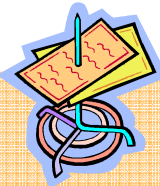
VCOC MEETS 14 OCT
 (Legislative Committee meets 16 Sep)

| PAGE | CONTENTS |
|-----------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | President Column |
| 2 | Contacts & Reminders for quick reference |
| 3 | Chapter Highlights |
| 4 | More Chapter Highlights & Public Affairs |
| Insert A & B | Legislative State Update. Includes 2011 Objectives, 2010 State Constitution Amendment, Virginia War Memorial Ed Ctr Opening, Honor & Remember Flag |
| 5 | Legislative State Continued - RACMOAA Forum, Legislative National Update & Committee Meeting |
| 6 | Membership: Chapter & Give Me Ten |
| 7 | Chapter Reports, Secretary Smorgasbord & VCOC Web |
| 8 | Outside Cover, October Meeting at right Directions to Meeting below |

DIRECTIONS:

Follow I-95 South to exit 48B (Wagner Rd - West). Proceed to stop light at S. Crater Rd, turn Right. Proceed one block to next stop light, then turn Left onto Flank Rd. Proceed on Flank Rd thru first 4-way stop sign (Birdsong Rd.) Petersburg Country Club is approximately 500 yards on left.

CLUB PHONE: (804) 733-4451
 address at right



NEXT VCOC MEETING
Thursday, 14 OCT 2010
10AM to 2 PM
 (coffee & pastries at 9:30 AM)

At The Petersburg Country Club
 1250 Flank Road Petersburg VA 23805

Attendance Notification due OCT 11th
 Please send **reply form**, via **email** if possible,
To VCOC Secretary JimRose1@verizon.net

\$18 (pay Treasurer on site – make checks out to VCOC)
 Covers morning pastries, room, lunch & refreshments

Host Chapter: Southside
 (President: Col Victoria Revilla, USA, Ret
 Victoria is also VCOC's Treasurer)

- No Legislative break-out (Legislative Committee meets in September)
- **Open Discussion will cover Government Relations**
- **Vote on National Legislative Priority Objectives for 2011**
- **Vote on whether to hold Convention Cruise October 2011**

More info, including agenda, will be available in the meetings section of VCOC website: VirginiaMOAA.com

info as of 15Aug 2010
 / Jim Rose, COL, USA, Ret, VCOC Secretary