

ALL VIRGINIA CHAPTERS on WALKWAY OF HONOR



I wish to express my sincere appreciation to chapter leadership and members for their support of the Virginia War Memorial (VWM) "Walkway of Honor". All should take pride in what the VWM stands for and the financial support given by the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) over the years.

The "Walkway of Honor" will reflect MOAA's Virginia Council of Chapters' (VCOC's) **loyal support of the impressive Paul and Phyllis Galanti Educational Center**. As most probably know, Paul is a MOAA member and effective 15 April 2010 was appointed by fellow MOAA member, Gov. Bob McDonnell, as the new Commissioner of the Virginia Department of Veterans Services. (Galanti & McDonnell are members of the Richmond Area Chapter.)

The centerpiece of our layout is an 8X8 inch VCOC brick surrounded by the Virginia chapters' smaller 4X8 inch bricks and bricks purchased by individual MOAA members. This layout leaves a lasting legacy to MOAA members who have served their nation, many still serving as active members of chapter leadership and other Veteran Services Organizations within Virginia.

It proved to be slightly more difficult than expected but in the end, I'm most pleased to report **all 18** chapters purchased a chapter brick to complete the layout which, after several discussions, was accepted by VWM staff. **Our bricks and the recognition on the reception desk in the main lobby** reflect our contributions (by chapters and their membership) to these Virginia showcases: Our Veterans' "**Wall of Honor**" and the **Galanti Educational Center**, two of the Nation's most unique facilities dedicated to the military community and to those who made the supreme sacrifice to protect our freedoms. The "Walkway" will clearly reflect the **unity** within VCOC and MOAA chapters having **common goals within the Commonwealth for our military family**.

I believe I speak for many, by saying, I look forward to the **ribbon-cutting** event to open the new facility (currently scheduled for the weekend of **17-19 September 2010**). Hope to see many MOAA friends at the VWM that week-end.

WEBSITE:

<http://www.vawarmemorial.org>

/Don Kaiserman, COL, USA, Ret, VCOC 1st Vice President

VIRGINIA CHAPTERS SUPPORT HONOR FLIGHT 17 April 2010

The **Hampton Roads** Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America helped coordinate the departure ceremonies for World War II veterans in South Hampton Roads to visit Washington DC as part of the Honor Flight program. Military officers and uniformed cadets from Old Dominion (ODU) and Norfolk State Universities (NSU) were on hand at 4:30 AM on a balmy spring day, to form an honor guard for the World War II veterans as they boarded the buses. Color Guards were provided by ODU ROTC Monarch Battalion.

Fifteen members of the **Virginia Peninsula** chapter helped out at the Williamsburg send-off and found the experience rewarding. Photos of VIPMOAA participants were featured in local military and civilian newspapers, separate from the two pages of articles by Daily Press military reporter, Hugh Lessig, who rode with Honor Flight Historic Triangle Virginia (HFHTV)..

HFHTV is accepting Veteran and Guardian applications for the next Honor Flight currently scheduled for **Saturday 16 October 2010** (for World War II and terminally ill veterans who have not yet participated in an Honor Flight). Website for info & applications is <http://www.honorflighthtva.org/>



Above: A few of the VIPMOAA participants at Williamsburg send-off, Honor Flight, Historic Triangle Virginia.

Photo by Melva Mallison, VIPMOAA PAO



Left: Honor Flight departure, Virginia Beach

photo by David Wade, HRCMOAA Community Affairs.

Other Virginia chapters also participated in various Honor Flights on April 17th, including at the DC memorials, and meal stops. Chapter members also volunteered to serve as guardians.

/ John Vermillion, CDR, USN, Ret, PAO HRCMOAA & Melva Mallison, Maj, USAF, Ret, VCOC PAO