

## CHAPTER AFFAIRS *By John Baumgarten, CDR, USN, Ret, VCOC 3<sup>rd</sup> VP*

The Virginia Council of Chapters (VCOC) is all about Virginia's eighteen MOAA chapters, and is run **for chapters, by chapters and with chapters**. VCOC elected and appointed officers are unpaid volunteers who are members of Virginia chapters. **Each chapter has a vote at VCOC meetings**. VCOC operations were developed with input from and consensus with Virginia chapters - including VCOC goals, meeting schedule, legislative objectives, and chapter report format.

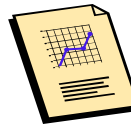
### CHAPTER QUARTERLY REPORTS

#### *New Format to Help Your Chapter Achieve Excellence*

At press time, all but one VCOC chapter had submitted reports for the first quarter of 2010 (three were over a month late). Some of the reports were not precisely in the new format voted on at the January VCOC meeting, regarding the provision of **membership statistics, Give-Me-10 info, chapter self-evaluation and listing news releases**.

Chapter representatives are asked to use the correct (new) format for 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter reports and provide all requested information. Chapter membership data is essential for a complete picture of council membership (see page 7).

**Reports for the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2010 (1 April - 30 June) are due not later than 1 July 2010.** To support the July VCOC meeting no extensions can be granted. The required report format is on the VCOC website at: <http://www.virginiamoaa.com/chapters/chapterreportformat.html>. Email your chapter report to VCOC Secretary & 3<sup>rd</sup> VP.



Reports are due quickly at end-of-quarter so **consolidated Virginia-wide** info can be provided at the VCOC meeting held shortly after the quarter's end. There was an exception when the second 2010 VCOC meeting was held before the end of 1<sup>st</sup> quarter. Chapter reports are posted on VCOC website for access by chapter and VCOC leaders. Paper copies of chapter reports are no longer provided by the VCOC.

### CHAPTER EXCELLENCE AWARDS

#### *Appendix M-2 MOAA Council & Chapter Policies & Procedures Guide*

All competitive chapters are reminded the deadline for submission for the MOAA Levels of Excellence awards is **not later than 1 June 2010**. Please keep in mind that the submission covers chapter activities for **calendar year 2009** and should not include accomplishments/activities which occurred during 2010. Winning chapters receive either a 4 or 5-star streamer for their chapter flag.

### CHAPTER COOKIES TO TROOPS

#### *Partnership with Girl Scout Troop - A big Success*

Virginia's **Richmond Area Chapter (RAC-MOAA)** assisted

Girl Scout Troop 590's "Cookies to Troops" program, generating 280 orders for boxes of Girl Scout cookies, which were packed and shipped by the scouts to deployed combat troops in four locations – three in Iraq and one in Afghanistan. RAC-MOAA picked up the postage cost. Troop 590 is led by RAC-MOAA member CW3 Gabriela Wetherington, USA, Ret.

Photos at left and right show troops in Iraq enjoying the donated cookies.

*Photos courtesy of CW3 Wetherington, RAC-MOAA*



LCDR John Thornton, USN, Ret, RAC-MOAA president, with Girl Scouts who prepared cookies for shipment



### CHAPTER PRESIDENT spoke at McGUIRE

COL Victoria Revilla, US Army, Ret, was the guest speaker at the Twentieth Annual Women Veterans Recognition Program, 19 March 2010, at the McGuire Veterans Medical Center in Richmond. The theme was

**"Celebrating Women Veterans – United in our Diversity."** Women Veterans from wars in Korea, Vietnam, Persian Gulf and current operations in Iraq and Afghanistan were represented during the event. COL Revilla highlighted MOAA's role in bringing additional space to McGuire Center a few years ago and the current support it is providing to improve medical services to women veterans across the nation." President of **Southside Virginia Chapter** (Petersburg Virginia & Fort Lee area), Victoria also serves as VCOC Treasurer.



*Photo of Col Revilla speaking, courtesy of McGuire Veterans Center*