

## **VCOC AWARDS POLICY 2010 -2011**

### **I. GENERAL:**

This awards policy will apply to awards presented by the Virginia Council of Chapters. Under this policy, no standing Awards Committee is required. The criteria and manner of determining recipients is specified. If necessary, votes from council members may be conducted via electronic mail. This policy will be in force from 1 Jan 2010 to 31 Dec 2011. Thereafter, this policy will either be reinstated by a vote of the full Council or amended as desired.

### **II. MINUTE MAN AWARD (National MOAA):**

The Minute Man Award has been a VCOC award for over a decade. It has traditionally been awarded to a deserving individual at MOAA National Hqs. This award shall be presented to the individual at MOAA National Hqs who has demonstrated outstanding consistent support for our Virginia chapters and our military/veterans community. Nominations for this award will be solicited from all council members. Selection will be by a majority vote of the Council members. This award will normally be presented annually at the Congressional Appreciation Luncheon in Washington, D.C. This is a rotating award with the name of the new awardee affixed to the Minute Man statue. The Mt. Vernon chapter has the responsibility to recover the statue from MOAA Hqs and have the new nameplate affixed to the statue.

### **III. MINUTE MAN AWARD (VCOC):**

This award is a statue similar to the statue of the Minute Man Award (National MOAA). It is a rotating award presented every two years. The recipient's name is added to the statue and the same statue is presented to the next recipient. This award is made to an individual who is a member of the Virginia Council of Chapters. It may be awarded to Chapter Representatives, Legislative Representatives, elected officers or appointed officers who serve at the Council level. The presentation will normally be made at the biennial dinner in the odd numbered years. The criteria for this award shall be for the person who has contributed the most to the accomplishment of the goals and objectives of the Virginia Council of Chapters. Nominations will be solicited from all Council members and selection will be by a full vote of the Council. A new plate on the current statue will be added which will be titled "Outstanding Service". The present plate, which has no room for more names and is titled. "Legislative Service", will be placed on the base at the rear of the statue. .

### **IV. LEGISLATIVE AWARDS:**

The VCOC will make awards to legislators at both the national and state level *when warranted*. These awards are reserved for only those legislators who have made truly outstanding contributions affecting our military and veterans' communities. The legislative awards will be the Stamp Plaques that commemorate the lives of the legislators. Repeat awards to the same legislator will not normally be made. The Stamp Plaque is considered the highest

award made to legislators by the VCOC. Chapters should not normally present a Stamp Plaque award to their local legislator, but they may elect to award an Honorary Chapter Membership or a Certificate for Meritorious Service. Nominations for Stamp Plaque awards at both the national and state level will be made by the VCOC Legislative Committee. The full council will determine the recipients by majority vote. The Heritage Chapter has the responsibility for having the stamp plaques made.

- a) National. Awards to congressional legislators, if any, will be made at the annual Congressional Appreciation Luncheon. The nomination and vote for this award will normally be made at the VCOC meeting prior to the Congressional Appreciation Luncheon in the spring of each year.
- b) State. Awards to state legislators, if any, will normally be made by the chapters with the most constituents in that legislator's district. However, an appropriate VCOC function and venue may also be used.

#### **V. IMPACT AWARDS:**

Impact awards for meritorious service to recognize specific contributions by members of the VCOC will be determined by the President of the VCOC. These types of awards may consist of those certificates of recognition and pins provided by Hqs MOAA or other items as determined by the President. Mementos and Thank You gifts to guest speakers and others will also be determined by the president. Recommendations for recognition of meritorious service from any council member to the VCOC President is encouraged. Awards for "service only" on the VCOC (e.g. so called "end of tour" awards) will not normally be sufficient criteria for an award for meritorious service. Chapters may desire to recognize VCOC service in their chapter awards program.

*/ Approved at VCOC meeting 8 Jan 2010*