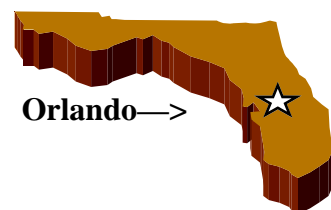


MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

Central Florida Chapter



FOCUS



Four Star Chapter—2003—2004—2006

August 2010 Volume 52 Issue 7



LTC Sylvester Johnson, USA, Ret.

President's Message

I do hope that you are enjoying your summer vacation--- spending quality time with loved ones and traveling to exciting places. I am excited by a planned Mission Trip with my youngest granddaughter.

Those of you who participated in our Rivership Romance Cruise are well aware of the benefits of sharing dedicated fun time with our family and friends. The turn-out was proven evidence that similar events should be worth of future considerations. Thanks to Captain Bob Rosen for being the catalyst for this change of pace.

The Florida Council of Chapters held its 2010 conven-

tion in Fort Myers May 21-23, 2010. In addition to the normal business and high caliber speakers, we shared ideas for improving chapter growth and viability within our communities.

After more than five (5) years, MOAA has received a Federal Charter which provides councils and chapter leaders access to state-level veterans' advisory panels. This access will allow councils and chapters greater influence in support of matters pertinent to providing needed services to veterans in our state.

MOAA's Chapter Presidents' Symposium will be held in Jacksonville, FL. September 16-18, 2010, for the South East Region. Chapter's officers invited to attend are Presidents, Vice Presidents, Membership Chairs, and The

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DATES TO NOTE!

Board of Directors meetings are schedule at 1000 am at Ascension Lutheran Church Office conference room on the following dates:

August 14, 2010
September 11, 2010

GOLF SILENT AUCTION STONEBROOK EAST GOLF CLUB OCTOBER 23, 2010

This years Central Florida Chapter of MOAA JROTC Golf Tournament will include a Silent Auction. To ensure the Chapters general membership is aware of the Silent Auction donations, and give all a chance to bid on these items, we will have a display at the September membership luncheon showing the Auction items. **We will have bid forms available at the October membership luncheon to allow anyone interested to submit bids.** The final bids will be received at the Golf Tournament on October, 23, 2010, at the Stoneybrook East Golf Course. **See page 5 for items for Auction as of July 15, 2010.**

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LTC Robert M. LePage, USA, Ret. 298-7228

PERSONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Chaplain (MAJ) David P. Mulder 831-7788

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AUDIT COMMITTEE

CWO Robert L. Hoy, USA, Ret 324-7616

RESERVATIONS COMMITTEE

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CHAPTER NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

Mrs. Fay Hollis, AUX 677-9596

CHAPTER NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

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The Officer Replacement System (TOPS)

LTC John Ruzich, USA Ret. 359-7273

ROSTER/MEMBER DATA BASE

LTC Robert M. LePage, USA, Ret 298-7228

Web Site Coordinator

Mrs. Patricia Green, AUX 774-7933

**RIVERSHIP ROMANCE CRUISE
 JUNE 13, 2010**



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NEW MEMBERS

MAJ John S. Barnett, USAF, Ret.
5301 Rocking Horse Place
Oviedo, FL 32765 407-924-8066

CDR Harry Caulton, USCG, Ret.
1096 Glenraven Lane
Clermont, FL 34711 352-482-3012
Spouse: Joann

MAJ William L. Gaught, USAF, Active
4908 Petra Ct.
Winter Springs, FL 32708 407-699-8416

MAJ Christine A. Malkemes, USA, Ret.
917 Glendora Rd South
Poinciana, FL 34759 963-547-4145
Spouse: Robert, LTC, USA, Ret.

CAPT Arne J. Nelson, USN, Ret.
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Sanford, FL 32771 407-549-3644

CW2 Julio Perez, USA, Ret.
951 Park Manor Dr. 407-286-1708
Orlando, FL 32825
Spouse: Migdalia

NOMINATIONS OF OFFICERS for 2011/2013

Nominations for the MOAA Central Florida Chapter officers are now being accepted. If you would like to be nominated for one of the Central Florida Chapter's offices, please contact **Bob Rosen** at 407-880-6279, **Bob LePage** at 407-298-7228 or **Phillip Rosenberg** at 407-869-4167. The nominating committee would like to nominate candidates for all the chapter offices listed on page 2 of this newsletter, plus four directors.

TAPS

The Chapter extends deepest sympathy and sincerest condolences to the family and friends of:

Mrs. Elizabeth Havenick, AUX, died June 14, 2010.

Mrs. Edyth Stiess, AUX, died in January 2010

Chaplain's Message

"You know what, LT? I am getting old". "Aw, First Sergeant, You're always saying that". "I know. You're right. I must sound like a broken record". "A what?"



Sister Mary Ann, who worked for a home health agency, was out making her rounds visiting homebound patients when she ran out of gas. A Texaco Gasoline station was just a block away. She walked to the station to get some gas but they did not have a gas can for her to carry the gas to her car. So the very bright Sister went back to her car and got a bed pan and went back to the station. After filling the bedpan with gas she walked back to her car. As she was pouring the gas into her tank, two Baptists watched from the across the street. One of them turned to the other and said, "If it starts, I'm turning Catholic!"

A family had spent the day moving from their Iowa farmhouse into a brand new house in a suburban development. Very early the next morning their 4 year old son ran outside to play. About 30 minutes later he came running back into the house. "Wow Mom, everyone on our street has a door bell and they all work"!

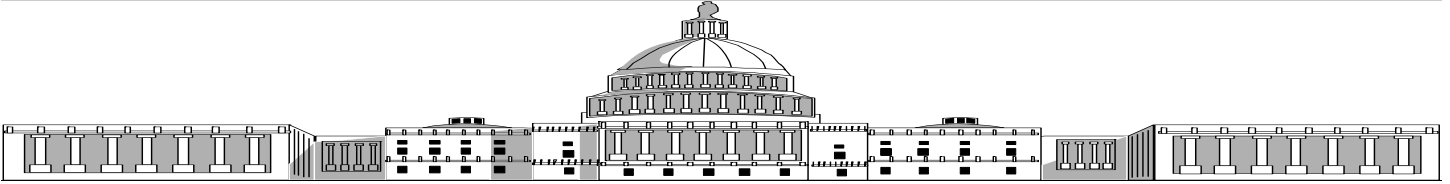
Ladies, is your dog or your husband your best friend? To find out, put them in the trunk of the car and drive around for awhile. Stop. Open the trunk and see which one is the happiest to see you.

A father was approached by his small son who told him proudly, "I know what the Bible means!" It stands for **Basic Information Before Leaving Earth**".

In His Grip

Chaplain Mulder

HEALTH, TERM LIFE AND LONG TERM CARE INSURANCE: MOAA has worked with Marsh Affinity Group Services, a service of Seabury & Smith, Inc. since 1981 to administer Group Insurance Plans. These plans have been negotiated exclusively on behalf of MOAA members and their families. As an active duty or retired MOAA member, you may qualify for insurance to complement your and your family's military entitlements. Choose from TRICARE Supplements, Term Life insurance, Long Term Care insurance and others. For more information, go to www.moaa.org.



**LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION
BY LTC ROBERT M. LEPAGE, USA, RET.**

Concurrent Receipt, War Spending On Table: The hottest defense "iron in the fire" is the 2010 war supplemental appropriations bill. Last month, we reported Defense Secretary Gates' concern over the lack of progress on H.R. 4899, which passed the House on July 1. Gates told the Senate Defense Appropriations Subcommittee that, unless the supplemental funds are provided in August, the Pentagon would need to begin furloughs for civilian employees and curtail pay for active duty personnel.

This concern prompted MOAA to send a letter to Congress urging passage of the war supplemental appropriations bill prior to the July recess. The Senate failed to act before the July recess and they are now expected to take up the bill next week. However there's a major flap between the House, the Senate, and the White House over non-defense issues in the bill (most notably a funding proposal to prevent large layoffs among teachers) that threatens to delay essential war funding.

Help expedite the process by sending your senators a letter asking them to quickly pass the war supplemental.

Another major issue on next week's Senate agenda is H.R. 4213, the American Jobs and Closing Tax Loopholes Act of 2010, which includes an extremely important provision that would phase out the VA disability offset to military retired pay for severely disabled medical (chapter 61) retirees.

If the Senate passes it next week which seems likely, it will have to go to the House for one last vote. While we don't want to "count our chickens" just yet, we're hopeful that prospects for meaningful concurrent receipt progress are looking better than they have in two years.

Unfortunately, Senate action on the Defense Authorization bill (S. 3454) - which often entails hundreds of amendments and a week or two of debate - appears to be a "bridge too far" before August recess. The House passed its version, H.R. 5136, in late May, but it looks almost certain that Senate action will have to wait until September.

PTSD Rating Rules Eased: Until now, service members seeking a disability rating for PTSD had to prove it resulted from a documented "stressor" such as witnessing an IED attack, coming under enemy fire, or a mortar attack that killed fellow troops or wounded the individual.

But the VA has now softened the evidentiary standard for disability claims related to PTSD. Under the new rule, a veteran or separating service member still must have a confirmed diagnosis of PTSD from a VA psychiatrist to be awarded service-connection for the condition. But proof of a specific combat or combat-related event associated with the PTSD is no longer required for justification. Instead, the trauma claimed by a veteran must be shown to be related to anxiety about hostile military or terrorist activity and be consistent with the places, types, and circumstances of the veteran's service (e.g., if they served in a war zone).

The rule change applies to veterans of any conflict period, not just to Iraq and Afghanistan veterans. In the past, some women veterans have been denied a disability for PTSD simply because military policies bar women from serving in direct combat roles - despite the reality that many have served with ground force units and other formations that have come under attack.

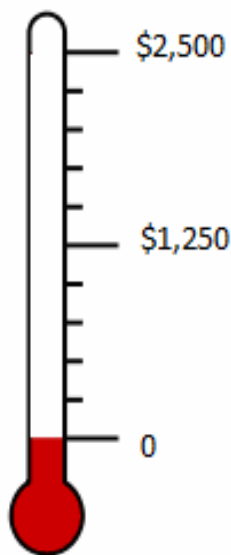
In a hearing on the backlog of disability claims before the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee, VA leaders said the new rule should save money in the long run because more veterans will get treatment and reduce incidences of unemployment, homelessness, and substance abuse, which are much more difficult and expensive to deal with over time.

MOAA joins the VA in urging veterans to apply under the new rule if they were denied benefits previously for a confirmed diagnosis of PTSD or if they never applied but believe they have PTSD symptoms from wartime. Applicants should work with a knowledgeable county or veteran service officer.

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WHEELCHAIR RAMP PROJECT

In February 2011, the Central Florida Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) will construct a wheel chair ramp at the home of a local veteran. This event is the second time the Chapter will partner with the Center for Independent Living right here in Central Florida. The Chapter has started it's fund raising campaign seeking cash contributions to offset ramp material costs. If you have always wanted to make the difference in the life of veteran in need, this is your opportunity. Over the next several months, the chapter will inform you of the fund raising status as we progress to our goal of \$2,500. Help your chapter raise the "temperature"!



If you want to contribute, make your check payable to MOAA, CFC, Inc. and mail to PO Box 141025, Orlando, FL 32814 Please make sure to designate "Wheelchair Ramp Project".

Thank you for your Support!

If you have any questions, need additional information or want to be a volunteer during construction, please call John Ruzich, The Chapter's Project Coordinator at (407) 832-7601

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (Con't)

Officer Placement Service (TOPS) Liaisons. An additional attendee from our chapter is Bob LePage, Florida Council of Chapters, Area Vice President, East Central. The Symposium is to provide leaders a review on effective management techniques, best practices, and to share ideas. Special focus will be placed on recruitment, retention, and direction for effective TOPS program. **THE DATE OF SYMPOSIUM IS IN CONFLICT WITH OUR SEPTEMBER LUNCHEON DATE, SO STAY ALERT FOR A POSSIBLE CHANGE!**

Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) was made easier to justify. No longer will veterans have to prove what caused their illness. They only have to show that conditions surrounding the time and place of their source could have contributed to their illness. Claims processing should be less cumbersome and time consuming. Please advise veterans previously denied to resubmit claim.

SYL JOHNSON

A FEW OF THE SILENT AUCTION ITEMS

Hotel Certificates

- Marriott World Center Resort—2 night/3 day certificate
- Elizabeth Pointe Lodge, Amelia Island—1 night/2 day sunset gift certificate.
- Comfort Inn & Suites, Cocoa Beach—1 night/2 day gift certificate
- Grand Palms Hotel, Pembroke Pines—2 night/3 day gift certificate.
- Caribe Royale Hotel, Orlando—2 night/3 day gift certificate.
- The Resort on Cocoa Beach—2 night/3 day gift certificate.
- Chalet Suzanne, Lake Wales—1 night w/breakfast for two.
- Sirata Beach Resort, St Pete Beach—2 night/3 day gift certificate.

Golf Certificates

- Ridgewood Lakes Golf Club—4 rounds of golf w/cart.
- Orange national Golf Center—4 rounds Crooked Cat or Panther Lake w/o cart.
- Amellia Island National Golf Course—4 rounds of golf w/cart.
- PGA Golf Club, Port St Lucie—4 rounds of golf w/cart.
- DeBary Golf & Country Club—2 rounds of golf w/cart.
- Kissimmee Bay & Remington Country Clubs—2 rounds of golf w/cart.
- Rolling Hills Golf Club—foursome w/cart.

**Military Officer Association of America
(MOAA)
Central Florida Chapter
JROTC Scholarship Fund
5th Annual Golf Tournament**



Saturday, October 23, 2010

at

Stoneybrook East Golf Club

Cost \$80.00

Sign In: 7:00 am Scramble Format Shot Gun Start: 8:00 am

Includes: Continental Breakfast, Greens Fee, Cart, Driving Range Balls, Silent Auction, Door Prizes and Lunch

Option: Donate \$80 and you sponsor a soldier from a local Reserve or National Guard unit to play in the tournament

For Information call:

Dick Aldinger (407)859-7436, famdinger@aim.com

Mike Patterson (407)240-7609, dmphome@earthlink.net

**MILITARY OFFICER ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA
JROTC SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM GOLF TOURNAMENT
REGISTRATION FORM**

October 23, 2010 at Stoneybrook East Golf Club

Sign In: 7:00 a.m.

Shot Gun Start 8:00 a.m.

INDIVIDUAL PLAYERS:

1. _____ 2. _____
3. _____ 4. _____
Team Contact: _____ Phone: _____

Players may register as individuals, partial, or full four-man teams. Registration fee is \$80.00 per player.

HOLE SPONSORSHIPS

Hole sponsorships are available as shown below.

Gold Sponsor: \$500 donation includes; four (4) person tournament entry; recognition sign on the course and in programs.

Silver Sponsor: \$250 donation includes; two (2) person tournament entry; recognition sign on the course and in programs.

Bronze Sponsor: \$125 donation includes; one (1) person Tournament entry; recognition sign on the course and in programs.

HOLE SPONSORSHIPS

Gold Sponsor: _____ **Silver Sponsor:** _____ **Bronze Sponsor:** _____

Firm/Company: _____

Contact: _____

Phone: _____

PLAYERS

1. _____ 2. _____
3. _____ 4. _____

PRIZES will be given to the *three teams with the lowest scores* and for *men's & women's closest to the pin, the longest drive.*

Make checks payable to: MOAA and mail with your registration form to:

MOAA – Central Florida Chapter Inc.
P.O. Box 141025
Orlando, FL 32814-1025
Attn: Golf Committee

Registration: Players and hole sponsorships must be received no later than Oct. 15, 2010. Space is limited and registration will be based on a first-come first-serve policy. \$80.00 registration fee includes Green and Cart Fees, Range Balls, Continental Breakfast, Silent Auction, Door Prizes, and a Deli-Buffer Lunch.

PLEASE LET US KNOW WHEN YOU WILL BE TEMPORARILY AWAY OR PLAN TO MOVE!!

A returned newsletter means the Chapter has wasted approximately \$1.00 !

**Military Officers Association of America
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