

Volume 53, Issue 5
May 2014

Award Winning
Website

Huntsville Chapter
Military Officers Association of America

The Sentinel



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE Dr. Bruce T. Robinson, MAJ, USA, Ret



Hi Everyone –

I have an important announcement to make that will affect a considerable portion of the Chapter membership. At the end of this calendar year, we must discontinue the hardcopy edition of *The Sentinel*. Your board has been wrestling with this issue for many months. The fact of the matter is that it is no longer cost effective to print and mail out a hardcopy newsletter. The Chapter loses over \$2000 every year by publishing the newsletter. The actual cost for a single issue is \$3, or \$36 per year, and we can no longer afford to subsidize the cost for publication. We are not the only MOAA Chapter or Veteran's organization that is dealing with this problem. Even the Huntsville Times reduced its home delivery to three times a week. This is happening all over the country.

We don't want you to be left out. There are a couple of options available to address this issue. The preferred solution is to subscribe to *The Sentinel* electronically. There is no cost to the Chapter to deliver the newsletter via e-mail, and you'll receive it in color. If for some reason you are unable to subscribe to the newsletter electronically, there is another solution, albeit more complex. There are currently about 50 Chapter members who have paid to receive a hardcopy newsletter. Several of our officers have said they would be willing to "adopt" one of these members. Once a month, the adopting member could print out *The Sentinel* and get the printed copy to the adopted member. I think these "adopting" members would be joined by others who are willing to provide this service as a part of their special contribution to the chapter.

Finally, I would like to send kudos to our members who answered the call for donations to allow eleven JROTC cadets from Butler High School to attend summer camp this year. Over \$1000 was donated to help defray the cost of transportation, equipment and supplies. You should feel proud to be a part of such great organization as our Huntsville Chapter of MOAA.

- Bruce

In This Issue

President's Message	1
Legislative Corner	2
Concerns	3
PX/Commissary	3
Carrie's Notes	5
Fox Army Health Clinic	5
Legislative (continued)	6
Chaplain's Corner	8
Widow's Luncheon	8
New Members	8
Fox (continued)	10
Guest Speaker	12
Treasurer's Report	15
Birthdays	15
TAPS	15
Legislative (continued)	16

Get Involved!

REMINDERS

Monthly Membership Meeting: Next meeting is Wednesday 28 May 2014, 1100 hours at the Summit Club. Guest Speaker is Dawn Pumpelly, co-owner of "The Commons" adult community.

Auxiliary, WOW Support Group & MOAA Widow's Luncheon are scheduled. See articles inside for dates & times.

Breakfast: Next breakfast is Saturday 31 May 2014, 0900 hours at the Steak & Shake Madison Square Mall.

Governing Board: Next meeting is Thursday 8 May 2014, 1100 hours at the Summit Club.



Legislative Corner

Lt Col Gerald W. (Jerry) Haynes, USAF-Ret



• **A Push for Veterans' Benefits Bill (S. 944 and S.1982)**

House of Representatives Veterans Affairs Committee, as well as the full House of Representatives, have passed a number of bills, over the last half year, that address the needs of veterans. This past February the House unanimously (390-0) passed a measure that would require states to charge the in-state tuition rate for all student veterans who enroll at a public college within three years of separating from active duty. The bill would enable non-resident veterans to get a nearly cost-free education at any public college under the Post 9/11 GI Bill.

The in-state tuition provision is embedded in multiple veterans' benefits bills that have not cleared the Senate. The omnibus Veterans Health and Benefits Improvement Act (S. 944) was voted out of the Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs last fall on a bi-partisan basis but failed to clear an accelerated "unanimous consent" vote on the Senate Floor.

In addition to the in-state tuition measure, this bill would:

- Permit surviving spouses who receive dependency and indemnity payments (DIC) from the VA to retain the pay if they remarry at age 55
- Increase DIC for survivors with children for each month over a three-year period from the date of entitlement — currently, the increase is limited to a two-year period
- Require the VA to provide medical exams, counseling and treatment for veterans who file for disability based on military sexual trauma
- Authorize Gunnery Sergeant John D. Fry Scholarships to the surviving spouses of the Afghanistan and Iraq conflicts (their children are eligible for the Scholarship)
- Establish that career reservists with no service under active duty orders may be honored as veterans
- Expand complementary and alternative therapies, prosthetics and chiropractic care at VA medical facilities
- Extend the date of eligibility from 1 Jan. 1957 to 1 Aug. 1953 for health care for veterans and their dependents that were exposed to contaminated water at Camp Lejeune
- Require states to consider military training for the purpose of issuing state licenses and credentials to veterans
- Require federal agencies (other than the VA and DoD) to plan to hire 15,000 veterans under existing law during a 5 year period after passage of the legislation
- Require quarterly reports on the backlog of veterans' claims

A subsequent, even bigger version of the omnibus, S.1982, was assembled

Continued on page 6

2013-2014 GOVERNING BOARD

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Legislative Affairs: Lt Col Gerald Haynes, USAF-Ret, 256-882-7857, jerry15@hiwaay.net

Personal Affairs: COL Bill Stevenson, USA-Ret, 256-424-1334, mbill5779@comcast.net

Public Affairs (Publicity): CH (COL) Danny W. Burttram, USA-Ret, 256-651-6378, dburttram198@gmail.com

Chapter Historian: Vacant

Chapter Auxiliary & Hospitality: Mrs. Carrie Hightower, 256-882-3992

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Chapter Chaplain: CH (LTC) Bert E. Wiggers, AUS-Ret, 256-617-0055, chbwig@mediacommbb.net

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FAHCLiaison: Col Edward L. Uher, USAF-Ret, 256-882-6824, bged992K@aol.com

Golf: CDR John Inman, USN-Ret, 256-425-8802, inman331@msn.com

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TOPS: MAJ Bruce T. Robinson, USA-Ret, 256-450-2252, brobinso@mitre.org

THE SENTINEL Editor: MAJ Bruce T. Robinson, USA-Ret, 256-450-2252, brobinso@mitre.org

Life Membership Trust

MAJ Robert C. Szeremi, USA-Ret, 256-883-5127, szeremi@comcast.net (June 2014)

CH (COL) Danny W. Burttram, USA-Ret, 256-651-6378, dburttram198@gmail.com (July 2015)

LTC John C. Franks, USA-Ret, 703-489-2701, john.franks@ingenuityinc.net (July 2016)



PX / Commissary
CW4 William W. Wright, AUS-Ret



Attention: Bill Wright was injured in an automobile accident, and is currently recovering. As such, his "PX / Commissary" column will go on hiatus for a while. If anyone might be interested in standing in for Bill for a few months, that would be excellent. All you would need to do is visit the PX and Commissary a couple of times a month and see what is going on. Talk to the managers concerning upcoming events. Then write a short column to keep the members informed. If interested, contact Bruce Robinson, 256-450-3191, or brobinso@mitre.org

Need Addresses

Mrs Dorothy Ambrose
Mrs Jean Ellen Braurer
LTC Edward Murphy
LTC Wallace Johnson

We have lost track of the above members. If you know their whereabouts, please have them contact Chris Downing at 256-828-9740 to update their addresses.

Concerns

This month the following people were reported as being ill or recuperating and need our support and prayers:

CPT Albert L. Castelli
CW4 William Wright

Persons to contact are:

Army Representative:

LTC Arno Hoerle

256-837-6253

arhoerle@mediacombb.net

Navy/USMC Representative:

CW4 Louis J. Kubik

256-859-3054

lkubik@mediacombb.net

Air Force Representative:

Col Edward L. Uher

256-882-6824

biged992K@aol.com

Personal Affairs Officer
COL William Stevenson

256-424-1334

Mrbill5779@comcast.net



Saturday, May 10th
10 AM until 2 PM



FOOD **2-Legged Friends Welcome!**

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Phone: 256 520-1771
darrylgoldman@gmail.com
U.S. Army Chaplain (RET)





Carrie's Notes

Mrs. Carrie Hightower, 256-882-3992

MOAA Auxiliary

Lunch was enjoyed at the Summit Club on Redstone Arsenal by some of our members after our meeting in April. Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, May 20th, same time and place. Our point of contact is Ursula Spicer, 256-881-4741.

WOW Support Group

A group of our members met at Ding How restaurant on Thursday, April 17th. We missed those of you that had to cancel at the last minute. Our next luncheon will be at the Po Boy Factory, 815 Andrew Jackson Way, on Thursday, May 15th, at 11:00AM. Reservations are required.



Fox Army Health Center

Col Edward L. Uher, USAF-Ret



Have Medical Questions? Call the TRICARE NURSE Advice Line

Sometimes it is difficult to know if and when to seek medical help for acute health problems, so having professional help at a moment's notice is invaluable. The Military Health System's (MHS) new Nurse Advice Line (NAL) for TRICARE beneficiaries does just that. Beginning the second week of April 2014, TRICARE beneficiaries in the continental United States, Alaska and Hawaii can call the NAL toll-free twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week.

The NAL is a team of registered nurses who are available to answer a variety of urgent healthcare questions. They can help you decide whether self-care is the best option, or if it is better to see a healthcare provider. There will always be a live-person on the line to address beneficiary concerns.

The NAL offers a variety of solutions for all TRICARE beneficiaries. For pediatric issues, the NAL will route the beneficiary to a pediatric nurse. If follow-up is necessary or requested, the NAL will call the beneficiary back to check the child's status a few hours later. The NAL will make same-day appointments with the beneficiary's primary care manager (PCM) for TRICARE Prime beneficiaries who are enrolled to Military Treatment Facilities (MTFs). If a same day appointment is not available, the NAL will re-direct the beneficiary to the closest urgent care center, and advise the PCM that an urgent care referral is needed so the patient does not have to worry about paying any point of service co-pays. All other TRICARE beneficiaries who are not enrolled to a MTF will receive professional health advice about their urgent health concern and when to seek urgent care.

Continued on page 10

The Commons

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MOAA Connect

MOAA's Social Media
Application

Go to www.moaa.org, and on
the pull-down menu "Connect
with MOAA" select "MOAA
Connect"

Set up your profile, and begin
collaborating with MOAA
members across the country

Give it a try!

Legislative – continued from page 2

assembled from S. 944 components earlier this year, but failed to progress on a procedural vote. S.1982 includes a provision that would have repealed the 1 percentage point COLA cut on working age military retirees' pensions. Thanks to us MOAA members, The Military Coalition, and other stakeholders Congress repealed the COLA cut except for future entrants into military service.

S. 1982 would also extend special services and support under the Caregivers Act to severely disabled veterans of all wartime periods. Currently caregiver services and support are available only to severely disabled veterans of the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan. The bill would also expand enrollment in VA health care to certain uninsured veterans, as well as authorize additional VA leases for health clinics in 18 states. The bill would be paid for in large part by a future cap on Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO) funding.

In case, you are confused, so is MOAA. As with the COLA cut repeal issue, MOAA feels strongly that the way ahead on the veterans' omnibus bill is a negotiated, bipartisan solution. MOAA urges Senate Veterans Affairs Committee Chairman Sen. Sanders (I-Vt.), Ranking Member Sen. Richard Burr (R-N.C.) and the Senate leadership to pass a veterans omnibus bill by Memorial Day. Please see more at:

<http://www.moaa.org/Main Menu/Take Action/Top Issues/Retired Still Working/Benefits/Veterans Benefits Bill Push.html#sthash.dEcySmYm.dpuf>


and send the MOAA-suggested message to your senators in support of S 944. I did.

- **Military Retired Pay and COLA Adjustments**

Government retired pay promises must be kept, including annual cost-of-living adjustments (COLAs) which were established to prevent the erosion of retirees' purchasing power by inflation.

Background: Despite previous prospective changes that reduced future retired pay value by 25% since 1980, and subsequent retention problems that led Congress to repeal those changes in 1999, some government and private sector critics continue to allege the military retirement system is "overly generous." During the 1990's, legislators proposed or enacted multiple changes or delays in annual cost-of-living adjustments (COLA), singling out retired service members for discriminatory COLA penalties. Too often, critics wrongly equate

Continued on page 16

A woman with long brown hair, wearing a white short-sleeved top, is sitting on a couch and holding a framed black and white photograph of a man in a military uniform. The man is wearing glasses and has a name tag that says "HARRIS". The background is a blurred interior with bookshelves.

Mine was earned in Vietnam. By my dad.

Barbara Q., USAA member

Once earned, access to USAA Auto Insurance is often passed down from generation to generation.

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Chaplain's Corner
CH (LTC) Bert Wiggers, AUS-Ret

Commanders-in-Chief and the Bible

"...Therefore render unto Caesar things which are Caesar's, and unto God the things that are God's" Matthew 21:21 – Jesus

"It is impossible to rightly govern the world without God and the Bible." --George Washington

"The first and almost the only book deserving of universal attention is the Bible I speak as man of the world and I say to you, 'Search the Scriptures!'" --John Quincy Adams

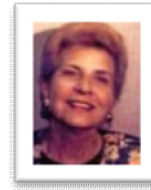
"That Book, sir, is the Rock on which our Republic rests." – Andrew Jackson

"In regard for this Great Book, I have this to say, it is the best gift God has given to man. All the good the Savior gave to the world was communicated through this book." – Abraham Lincoln

"Hold fast to the Bible as the sheet-anchor of your liberties; write its precept in your hearts, and practice them in your lives. To the influence of this book we are indebted for all the progress made in true civilization and to this we must look as our guide in the future. 'Righteousness exalteth a nation; but sin is a reproach to any people.' " (Proverbs 14:34) – Ulysses Grant

"If you take out of your statutes, your constitution, your family life all that is taken from the Sacred Book, what would there be left to bind society together?" –Benjamin Harrison

"When the righteous are in authority the people rejoice."
Proverbs 29:2



MOAA Widow's Luncheon
Liz Townsend
256-721-9762

9 May 2014

The MOAA widow's luncheon will be held on Friday, 9 May at the Olive Garden, 3730 University Drive, phone 256-539-1955.

Ursula Spicer will be our hostess. We will meet at 11:00 AM.

Please call the telephone committee: Fran Tyra, 256-881-6938 for reservations.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS TO HUNTSVILLE CHAPTER MOAA

LTC Malcom Sams, USA

HCMOAA is reporting time spent on volunteer activities to Redstone Arsenal. Please keep track of your volunteer hours throughout the month and report them to Ray Weinberg at 256-885-0089 or ray.kw@juno.com.

Scholarships



The Chapter has instituted an active scholarship program. In conjunction with the Redstone Women's Club, we will issue one or more scholarship each year to a deserving student.

Please consider making a donation to our program. Contact Norb Patla for details.

HCMOAA SUMMER PARTY

A Country & Western Affair

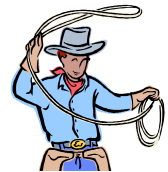
WHERE: The Overlook at Redstone
WHEN: Saturday, 21 June 2014 from 6:00- 9:30 PM
PRICE: \$20.00 per person (gratuity included)

Reservations are required no later than Friday, 13 June 2014
Mail the form below with your check
Call Carrie Hightower for more info at 256-882-3992

Western (prizes for best costumes) or Casual Dress

MENU

House Tossed Salad with Sliced Cucumbers & Cherry Tomatoes
Thousand Island & Blue Cheese Dressings
Bone-in Fried Chicken
Home Style Pot Roast with Potatoes & Carrots
Grilled Pork Chops with Baked Apples
Whole Green Beans
Mashed Potatoes with Brown Gravy
Rolls with Butter
German Chocolate Sheet Cake
Coffee, Ice Tea



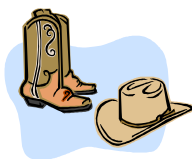
Entertainment by the AMC Band (requested)

Please reserve ____ spaces for me (us)

Enclosed is a check for \$ _____ (\$20.00 per person) payable to HCMOAA
Please mail to: HCMOAA, P.O. Box 1301, Huntsville, AL 35807

The people in my party will be:

- | | |
|----------|----------|
| 1. _____ | 3. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 4. _____ |



Fox – continued from page 5

When calling the NAL, a customer service representative will verify the beneficiary's eligibility through the Defense Enrollment and Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS). Beneficiaries with an acute health care concern or question will be connected with a registered nurse that will ask the beneficiary a series of very standard questions to determine the next steps and allow the NAL nurse to provide the best advice possible.

Beneficiaries can still call their PCM or clinic, but the NAL is another option for beneficiaries to access the care they need and want in a timely fashion. To access the NAL, once it launches, dial 1-800-TRICARE (874-2273) and select Option 1. Additionally, you can call the Fox Army Health Center central number 256-955-8888 and press option 2. 🇺🇸

Military Appreciation Night Arena Football 7:00pm, May 24, 2014

The Redstone-Huntsville AUSA Chapter will hold its annual Military Appreciation Arena Football Night on 24 May 2014 at 7:00 PM. If your schedule allows, please come out and enjoy this exciting event between Alabama Hammers and the Georgia Fire. All active military personnel are asked to wear their duty uniforms.

Complimentary tickets provided by AUSA will be available to "Team Redstone" starting 05 May 14 at Redstone Pershing Welcome Center, Building 3343.

Tickets will be distributed for Active Duty Military personnel, ROTC/JROTC cadets, USAR, National Guard, Retirees and family members from 05-20 May. If any tickets are still available DA Civilians can pick them up from 21-23 May. Tickets will be passed out on a first-come first-served basis. There is a limit of 4 tickets per family.

Who: Redstone-Huntsville AUSA Chapter

What: Alabama Hammers Military Appreciation Arena Football Night

When: 24 May 2014

Where: VBC – 7:00 PM-Until

If you need more information on the event, please contact Willie Pullom @ 256-658-6025 or email: pullomwillie@aol.com





Huntsville Chapter
Military Officers Association of America
P.O. Box 1301
Huntsville, AL 35807-0301

Membership Application or Renewal Confirmation

Yes! I'd like to add my voice to the Huntsville Chapter.

New

Renewal

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Contact us for pricing (based on your age)

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Total amount enclosed

First Name

MI

Last Name

Preferred Name

Birthday

Spouse's Name

Grade

Branch of Service

MOAA National Membership Number

Active

Retired

Former Officer

Reserve

NG

Surviving Spouse

Mailing Address

City

State

Zip Code

Telephone Number

Email address

Military OneSource

Military OneSource is a confidential Department of Defense-funded program providing comprehensive information on every aspect of military life at no cost to active duty, Guard and Reserve Component members, and their families. Information includes, but is not limited to, deployment, reunion, relationship, grief, spouse employment and education, parenting and childhood, and much more.

Military OneSource has policy and programmatic information, helpful resources, products, articles and tips on numerous topics related to military life. Confidential services are available 24 hours a day by telephone and online. In addition to the website support, Military OneSource offers confidential call center and online support for consultations on a number of issues such as spouse education and career opportunities, issues specific to families with a member with special needs, health coaching, financial support, and resources. Visit www.militaryonesource.mil

The Alabama Military OneSource Joint Family Support Assistance Program Consultant is Corina M. Carrillo, 334-703-1791, corina.carrillo@militaryonesource.com

Membership Meeting – 28 May 2014



The Commons

55+ ACTIVE ADULT COMMUNITY

Dawn White Pumpelly

Dawn Pumpelly is the co-owner of The Commons, Huntsville's new 55+ active adult community and Country Cottage assisted living community. Today, she focuses her passion and energy on introducing Huntsville to the concept and benefits of living an active adult lifestyle and the opportunity to live "your life, your way." For the previous 10 years, Dawn served as the Executive Vice President and Co-owner for Huntsville-based Cottage Senior Living, the management company for 10 assisted living communities in Alabama, Mississippi and Tennessee.

Pumpelly grew up in the family business of serving seniors. At the age of 10, Dawn began working in her parents' retirement communities, answering phones, working in the office and spending time with the residents. Fresh out of college, she joined the fledgling Assisted Living Federation of America (ALFA) where she helped develop many of the key standards and concepts of care that we now know today as assisted living.

Prior to rejoining her family's senior living business in 2003, Dawn spent several years working in sales and marketing with BellSouth and IDC Technology Research. In addition, immediately prior to her return, she gained invaluable hands-on experience working with Sunrise Senior Living, one of the nation's largest assisted living providers.

A 1994 magna cum laude graduate of the University of the South-Sewanee, Pumpelly has served seven years as a board member and the last two as board chair of CASA of Madison County. She is one of the founders of Womenade of Madison County, an organization whose mission is to benefit and better the lives of local women in all stages of life. She is a member of the Huntsville Rotary Club, through which she also serves as a STRIVE mentor for a Lee high school student. Dawn has volunteered her time for the Alzheimer's Association, Habitat for Humanity, the Avon Breast Cancer 3 Day Walk, and has served as a past board member and officer of the Assisted Living Association of Alabama (ALAA.)

Dawn and her husband David have a son who attends third grade at Randolph. They enjoy family time, skiing, swimming and travel.



ALL ACTIVE DUTY RETIRED MILITARY WOUNDED WARRIORS DoD EMPLOYEES

U.S. MILITARY ON THE MOVE is a free real estate rebate and information program that allows you to earn cash back when you buy or sell a home (in states where allowed by law*).

TO BE ELIGIBLE, you must register with U.S. Military on the Move before contacting a real estate agent, and you must be either active duty, retired military (20 years of service), a wounded warrior or a DoD employee. Then, connect with an experienced, knowledgeable real estate professional who will guide you through the process.

WHEN YOU BUY OR SELL A HOME through U.S. Military on the Move, you'll receive a cash rebate* based on the actual sales price – not a fixed amount based on a range of values – and you'll receive your rebate at closing!

REBATES ARE GREAT, but there are many other important considerations when choosing a real estate company. Leading Real Estate Companies of the World® is a global network of over 500 premier real estate firms with 4,600 offices and 140,000 sales associates in over 30 countries around the world. Collectively, this group produces over \$235 billion in home sales annually, more than any national real estate brand. Leading Real Estate Companies of the World® dominates the United States' list of top 500 real estate firms, with more of the Number One market leaders in the top 103 markets than any national brand.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN TO YOU?

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- No required mortgage lender – choose any lender you wish
- No dollar limit on rebates
- Rebate paid at settlement

*Rebates are not allowed in all states. In some states, a gift card or commission credit at closing may be provided in lieu of the Cash-Back bonus. You must register with U.S. Military on the Move before contacting a real estate agent and be represented by the assigned real estate firm at closing to qualify. All real estate transactions are negotiable. Other terms and conditions may apply.

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THROUGH COMMON SENSE
AND DEDICATION,

ONE CLIENT
AT A TIME.



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Investment advice is offered by Horter Investment Management, LLC, a Registered Investment Adviser. Insurance and annuity products are sold separately through Cloud Financial, Inc. Securities transactions for Horter Investment Management clients are placed through Pershing Advisor Solutions, Trust Company of America, Jefferson National Monument Advisor, Fidelity, Security Benefit Life, and Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.

STRATEGY. ETHICS. PERFORMANCE.



Membership Statistics

Total Members: 452
Auxiliary Members: 74
Life Members: 245

New this month: 1
Deaths this month: 5
Renewals: 2

Save the Date

BBQ with the Vets

Tut Fann VA Home

14 June 2014

Come on out and have
lunch with some of our
heroes

Music by the AMC Band

26 May is Memorial Day



Join the Chapter and other local dignitaries at Maple Hill Cemetery as we lay a wreath in honor of our fallen service men and women

**28 Birthdays in May
Happy Birthday!**



LCDR Edward King, USN
LTC James Carter, USA
LTC Hector New, USA
Col William Gibson, USAF
Col John Morrison, USAF
Mrs Mabel Byrd
COL Harold Hicks, USA
CDR Steven Middleton, USN
Col Howard Camp, USAF
CAPT Lawrence Grimes, USN
COL James Allred, USA
LTC Paul Hays, USA
Lt Col Arthur Miller, USAF
LTC Donnie Henley, USA

Mrs Hannelore Murphy
Lt Col Louis Davis, USAF
COL James Bizer, USA
MAJ James Powel, USA
CW4 Jeffrey Sumners, USA
Mrs Claudia Jersey
LTC Randall Withrow, USA
MAJ John Norton, USMC
LTC David Pray, USA
LTC Allyn Griffiths, USA
MAJ Robert Rutledge, USA
MAJ Loran McKinley, USA
COL James Treadway, USA
CH (LTC) James Johnson, USA



TAPS

**CW4 Burl Dykes
MAJ Sheppard Newell
Mrs Judith Filippa
COL Charles Crockett
LCDR Joseph Sloan
Jean Turnmeyer (spouse of
MG George Turnmeyer)**

Our deepest sympathy to the
families of our departed friends

MEMORIALS

If you would like to send a
memorial contribution to the
Huntsville Chapter MOAA, please
send the following information
along with your check to:
Memorials, HCMOAA, P.O. Box
1301, Huntsville, AL 35807

In memory of:

By:



alroosters.com

2710 Carl T. Jones Dr. 256.270.7197

475 Providence Main St. 256.489.0886

Mon-Fri 9-7 Sat 9-4

Menu of Services

Roosters Club Cut... Precision cut, shampoo, hot towel and style...	\$26.00
Hot Towel Shave... Our special seven step process.....	\$22.00
Gentlemen's Choice... Club cut AND hot towel shave.....	\$45.00
Hero Cut... Club cut for active duty servicemen, police and firemen.....	\$22.00
Head Shave... Same special seven step process as the face.....	\$22.00
Beard Trim.....	\$12.00
Beard Trim with Clean Shaved outline.....	\$18.00
Littlemen... Age 10 and under.....	\$18.00

**Treasurer's Report
CAPT Richard West, USN**

For the Month of March 2014

Beginning Balance	\$15,725.42
Credits	1418.24
Debits	1940.72

Ending Balance \$15,265.94





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Legislative – continued from page 6

federal retirement compensation--earned by decades of selfless service and sacrifice--with unearned federal welfare programs.

Civilian world retirement standards don't apply to the military, which entails far more arduous service conditions: 20 to 30 years of hazardous duty, frequent moves, extended family separations, overseas service, long hours of overtime without extra pay, forfeiture of many personal freedoms most civilians take for granted, and an "up-or-out" promotion system. The vast majority of military members face forced departure from service before age 50, with no vesting before 20 years. Retaining a high-quality career force over the long term requires a strong reciprocal commitment between member and service. Retired pay increases, provided for in statute since 1871, are part of the commitment. Since 1963, COLAs have been tied to the Consumer Price Index (CPI), a Bureau of Statistics metric that measures changes in inflation. Without COLA protection, inflation would erode nearly half of real retired pay value for a 20-year retiree by age 62.

The 2009 COLA, announced in October 2008, was an incredible 5.8% for most recipients of military retired pay, VA disability compensation, Survivor benefit Plan annuities, Social Security, and other federal annuity programs. However, inflation in 2009, 2010 and 2011 (when compared to the 2008 baseline) actually declined providing no COLA for 2010, 2011 and 2012. A quick reminder: the law doesn't allow a negative COLA. Modest COLAs of less than 2% followed in 2013 and 2014.

MOAA Position: MOAA is committed to resisting any attempts to single out uniformed services retirees for special COLA penalties and any proposals that would allow long-term erosion of real retired pay value.

Key Bills/Status: No bills have been introduced, but the Deficit Commission and others have recommended adopting a "chained COLA" that would depress the current COLA as a means of reducing long-term costs and would have a huge impact on the value of retired pay over the long term. MOAA will remain vigilant in the 113th Congress to fend off any proposals that will devalue earned retired pay. 🇺🇸