



Cape Cod Currents



Cape Cod Chapter Military Officers Association of America

**JULY 2021 Event – “Military Activity on Cape Cod” presented by
Mr. Bill Burke, Cultural Resources Program Manager, Cape Cod National Seashore**

Tuesday 13 July 21 – 1130 registration; meal 1200

Location: Yarmouth House Rest., 335 Rte 28, West Yarmouth MA 02673 ph. 508-771-5154

entrée picks – baked haddock w seasoned bread crumbs or chicken piccata w lemon caper sauce
clam chowder; mixed vegetables; roast potatoes; dessert; beverages; rolls/butter; cash bar

Cost: \$34.00/person by 06 Jul 2021 to **Sheldon Segerman – see page 6**

NOTE: 05 July is a holiday with no mail delivery. Send reservations early, please.



13 JULY EVENT GUEST SPEAKER Mr. Bill Burke, Cultural Resources Program Manager, Cape Cod National Seashore, a unit of the National Park Service, functions as the historian for this operation. As such, he has studied the record of the multiple locations and units of the various military services as they have come and gone on Cape Cod and the Islands over the years. For example, the North Truro Air Force Station was a United States Air Force General Surveillance Radar Station which was inactivated by 1994. Most of the site was turned over to the National Park Service, to become part of the National Seashore. Bill will explain in his program “Military Activity on Cape Cod.”



Mr. Burke describes himself as a “wash-ashore” from Western Massachusetts and as a National Park Service employee who serves as the Historian for the National Seashore. He has worked there in a number of roles over the past 30 years. He assists researchers and educators by providing access to the park's collection of archives, historic photographs, and objects. The National Seashore contains a treasure trove of historic items, including homes, archeological sites, and landscapes. Bill enjoys pondering the meaning of it all and teaching – as well as learning from – others about the small universe that is known as the Outer Cape.



Bill holds a BA in History from Providence College, Providence RI, and a MA in History and Archeology from The College of William and Mary, Williamsburg VA. He began his career with the National Park Service at Saratoga Battlefield, part of Saratoga National Historical Park, Stillwater NY, as a living history interpreter and black powder weapons expert. After stints at Revolutionary War sites including Washington's Headquarters, Morristown NJ, and at Yorktown VA, as well as Independence Hall, Philadelphia; he went on to Fort Laramie National Historic Site, Ft. Laramie WY, then to the textile mills at Lowell National Historical Site, Lowell MA. Bill next settled into his position at Cape Cod National Seashore. He lives in Harwich with his wife of 33 years, Stasia. There they enjoy the lives of their three daughters. He also coaches high school tennis in season and is an instructor at the Open University of Wellfleet MA.

WE ARE BACK! NOTES FROM THE MAY EVENT AT THE FALCON CLUB, JBCC

The Chapter Board of Directors decided to be pro-active in restarting in-person events. We gathered on 25 May 21 for lunch and a briefing. Operating under Federal rules that fully COVID-19 vaccinated individuals need not wear masks, smiling faces were totally visible everywhere, as shown on the first page photo montage. Those who helped make the day possible included (1) Sheldon Segerman, our venue and menu master, and Brian Arthur, club manager and function coordinator. Cooking and serving the meal were (2) Cathy Parmenter, head cook, and line cook Carol Nugent; plus (3) kitchen staff members Lorraine Carreiro, Alexandra Minos, and Caiti O’Keefe. The program on the USCG Northeast Regional Fisheries Training Center was presented by (4) its Commanding Officer, LCDR Christopher A. Bradbury USCG, a Chapter member. Another in attendance who was asked to introduce himself was (5) Brig Gen Christopher M. Faux USAF (ret), Executive Director, Joint Base Cape Cod.

Sharing the day were (6) Hank Bertsch and Cynthia Kaleskas, plus (7) Len DiLorenzo and Tom Keating. Waiting their turn for the buffet food line were (8) Carol and Charlie Aftosmis. Two Surviving Spouse members present were (9) Judy Perchard and (15) Janice Leary. The first one to reserve a spot for the event was (10) Howard Tripp. Looking pleased at sharing the time were (11) Nancy and (12) Bill Kelley. Chapter President (13) Don Lynde kept things moving. Our usual Scholarship Fund raffle runner Carolyn Canavosio (14) presented his merchandise prize to Chuck Sands. Another who garnered a gift certificate was (16) Pat McNamara. On this occasion the raffle added \$205.00 to the Scholarship Fund toward awards to be presented in 2022. All in all the day made an excellent beginning to our 2021 schedule of events - in-person again.

BOARD ACTIONS In March the Board did an email survey as to the willingness of members to attend an in-person May event. From 58 total responses we had 33 positives representing a potential of 47 people. This prompted the decision for the May event.

In April the Board again sent a poll to the email list as to the cost folks were willing to pay for event meals. From 38 replies the average for a lunch was \$34.61. For dinner, \$42.24 was what people would accept. Note the \$34 cost for the 13 July lunch. For information, one venue wanted \$56.00 per person to serve us lunch. Costs have gone up. Also in April the Board authorized an August event, a month we usually hold none, due to having no March or April gatherings.

In May the Board noted that JBCC had cancelled the Navy's Blue Angels flight demonstration team appearance there on Labor Day weekend. The Board had planned to have some sort of presence at this event to publicize the Chapter and its activities.

OFFICERS MEETING The next Zoom meeting is Wed. 09 Jun 21, 1015. As always, all members are invited. Contact Chuck Sands, cerssands@comcast.net, for a meeting link via email. Location for the 14 July meeting will be announced, pending reopening of the Hyannis Library.

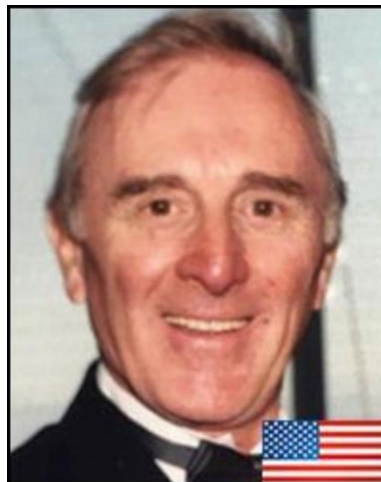
Charity + Scholarship Goal by 30 Mar 22: \$10K / Receipts - 31 May 21: \$ 1,595.98 / 16%

Fund balances 31 May 21: Charity \$ 881.34 Scholarship \$ 11,900.13 Operating \$ 6,553.88
May event: inc. \$775.00; meal cost \$627.00; raffle prizes \$42.97; net to Operating Fund \$105.03

IN MEMORIAM Chapter member COL Francis (Frank) J. Bowen, Jr. USA, East Falmouth MA, died 23 Apr 21 at home surrounded by his family. Eldest of six children, Frank was born in Melrose MA 06 Aug 1931 to Ethel M. (Bangs) and Francis J. Bowen, Sr. At the age of 17, Frank graduated from Malden high school and enlisted in the Army National Guard. He worked with his family in the painting business while attending night school at Northeastern University, Boston MA.

On a blind date with mutual friends Frank met his future wife Eugenia (Jean) Camerano from Everett MA; they married 04 Jun 1955, starting 65 years together. He and Jean moved with their two young children to Burlington MA in 1966. Frank was a longtime fan of the Red Sox and Patriots and rarely missed a televised game. He was a voracious reader of books about the Revolutionary War, American Civil War, and the First and Second World Wars.

Frank served in the Massachusetts National Guard for 35 years, retiring in 1984. He was also a mechanical engineer for 35 years at Raytheon Corporation's Missiles Systems Division, and was part of the Patriot surface-to-air missile system's research and development team.



Frank and Jean moved to East Falmouth in 1993 and immediately fell in love with the community. Frank served as president of their neighborhood association for several years and Jean as the landscape chairperson. They looked forward to annual neighborhood picnics and to planning large holiday parties. Travel took them to South Carolina and Florida each year to visit family and friends. Frank enjoyed working part-time at a local country club, playing in two golf leagues, and perfecting his game on its links.

Frank was a devoted husband, a loving and generous father and grandfather. He is predeceased by his wife Jean (see below) and survived by his son Paul, wife Mary, and their three children: Matthew, Kayla and Julia; his daughter Christina and grandson Domenic; and his siblings, Richard (Justine), Marion (Arthur), Patricia (Len), Barbara (Jack), Arthur (Linda), plus many nieces and nephews. A committal service took place for both Frank and Jean on 04 Jun 21 at Massachusetts National Cemetery, Bourne MA. [from *Falmouth Enterprise* 12 May 21]

IN MEMORIAM Eugenia (Jean) Mary Bowen of East Falmouth passed away peacefully 27 Nov 20 at age 89. She was born 14 Jan 1931 in Everett MA, youngest of 12. Her parents Domenico and Maria (Lettieri) Camerano immigrated to the United States from southern Italy in 1912. After graduating from Everett High School in 1950, Jean worked as a telephone operator at New England Telephone & Telegraph in downtown Boston. She met Francis James Bowen, Jr., from Malden MA, through mutual friends; they married 04 Jun 1955. She became a stay-at-home mom after the birth of their first child. In 1966 the family moved to Burlington MA.



Jean enjoyed reading and cooking large Sunday dinners. She was an avid gardener, flower arranger, and flower show organizer, having been a longtime member and president of the Burlington Garden Club. Jean and Frank retired to East Falmouth in 1993. They looked forward to their annual road trips to South Carolina and Florida to visit extended family and friends along the way.

Jean is survived by her son Paul and daughter-in-law Mary Ella of Manasquan NJ, plus their three children, as well as her daughter Christina of East Falmouth and grandson Domenic. Jean will forever remain in their hearts. [from the Chapman Funerals & Cremations web site]

ARMY: LONG PONYTAILS, BUZZ CUTS NOW OKAY FOR WOMEN

On 26 Jan 21 the U.S. Army released significant changes to its hair and grooming standards in Army Regulation 670-1, "Wear and Appearance of Army Uniforms and Insignia." Among other changes, the rules now permit both short and long ponytails and buzz cuts for female soldiers of all ranks, enlisted and officer. On 06 May 21 a news release said policy had been further adjusted to allow long ponytails with all uniforms. The changes are based on recommendations from the field, according to SGM Brian Sanders USA, Uniform Policy Branch sergeant major. The suggestions, especially those of Black women, were reviewed by a panel of primarily female soldiers. According to Brian, many of the changes will help to prevent a type of alopecia (hair loss) caused by tension on the scalp or



hair follicles, sometimes the result of requiring women's hair to be in a tight bun, help to prevent headaches caused by buns, and to help express cultural preferences and gender identity. Women's hair can be in a bun, single ponytail, two braids or a single braid; locks, braids, twists or cornrows can come together in one or two braids or a ponytail; and braids or a ponytail can go as far down as the bottom of the shoulder blades. There are exceptions on the length of the ponytail or braid for women doing tactical or physical training. No minimum length for a ponytail or braid is specified.

Positive operational gains from the change in hair regs include the way combat helmets fit.



The required buns often forced the headgear over the eyes. This also hindered range firing of weapons. One enlisted female reported that she scored in the Sharpshooter category for the first time in her career after the change in rules. - seeing the target helps.

Another major change permits buzz cuts for women, based on needs of female soldiers attending Ranger School and other combat arms training courses. The revision allows any length of hair, removing the quarter-inch minimum previously in effect. In other changes, hair highlights are now allowed in natural colors, lipstick and nail polish can be worn in "non-extreme" colors for women, earrings are permitted for women in combat uniforms, and

clear nail polish may be worn by men.

The Army notes that "professionalism" is important in how soldiers appear. MAJ Terri Taylor USA, who is stationed at Fort Stewart in Georgia, says being professional isn't limited to one hairstyle. She used to use chemical relaxer in her hair, but now wears her hair in barrel rolls. She comments, "Who's to say that a ponytail is not professional in appearance? Who's to say that locks are not professional in appearance? As long as you can properly wear your headgear and look professional in your uniform, I think that's what matters at the end of the day." [compiled from multiple internet web sites and from Army Regulations; photos from U.S. Army]

2022 WHITE HOUSE BUDGET REQUEST - No new fees for health care beneficiaries

[from MOAA web site 05-29-21 - originally by Patricia Kime on Military.com]

The White House's proposed \$769 billion Defense Department budget includes a 5.3% increase for the military health system but contains no new provisions that would transfer any of the cost burden to beneficiaries. The budget request supports the ongoing reorganization of the military health system, launched in 2017 to refocus on providing treatment for service members.

The proposed \$2.7 billion increase from fiscal 2021 would address anticipated cost increases for Tricare, pandemic-related expenses, and projected care for service members as they retire. Four years ago, the proposed fiscal 2017 budget called for new Tricare fees for all "working-age" retirees - those who have retired from military service but haven't reached age 65 - and it altered Tricare's structure into two programs: Tricare Prime and Tricare Select.

Last year, shortly after the DoD announced that 50 military treatment facilities were targeted for downsizing or closure - a move that affects more than 200,000 beneficiaries - the budget proposal said more non-uniformed beneficiaries such as family members and retirees would receive health services from civilian doctors and contractors, even if they go to military treatment facilities. The fiscal 2022 budget makes no similar grand pronouncements or sweeping changes, however. Instead, the proposal supports the ongoing transformation of the military health system, which calls for grouping military treatment facilities into "markets" with an aim to streamline management, reduce redundancies and resize military medical forces while

reinvigorating their focus on service member care. The budget request addresses the increased costs for Tricare that are expected with the changes.

JOIN Chapter members are, first, current members of MOAA national. Go to MOAA.org for information for those currently in any component - active, Guard, Reserve - of the eight uniformed services, a retiree of any of these, or a former officer of any of them.

The Chapter web site, capecodmoaa.angelfire.com, and Membership Chair, Brig Gen Jimmy Dishner USAF, dishner101@comcast.net, have application forms. More information on the Chapter as well as copies of past newsletters and photos of events are also on the web site.

Note: new members pay no dues for the first year.



CCC MOAA Scholarship and Charity Fund contribution Chapter members and any others who would like to make a federal tax deductible donation to either our Charity or Scholarship Fund may do so by providing the requested information and mailing a check or money order.

The Chapter thanks you very much for your generosity.

I/we, _____, contribute to the CCC MOAA
[please print name(s) legibly]

Scholarship Fund the amount of \$50 \$100 \$200 Other \$ _____

Charity Fund the amount of \$50 \$100 \$200 Other \$ _____

Make instruments payable to CCC MOAA with a "memo" indicating the fund name.

Mail to CCC MOAA, PO Box 2272, Mashpee MA 02649-8272.

Signature _____ Date _____ check # _____

Reservation – 13 July 21 Event: "Military Activity on Cape Cod," Bill Burke, presenter
1130 – **Yarmouth House Restaurant**, 335 Route 28, West Yarmouth MA 02673

Name _____

fish chicken

Guest _____

fish chicken

Guest _____

fish chicken

Guest _____

fish chicken

**Note: 5
Jul is a
holiday
- mail
early!**

Cost: **\$34.00** per person – checks to CCC MOAA – **responses** due not later than **06 July 2021**
check # _____ date _____ in the amount of \$ _____ is enclosed

Mail to CPT Sheldon B Segerman USA, PO Box 198, Yarmouth Port MA 02675-0198

email – marshaven@comcast.net mobile – 508.776.2198 deadline day phone-ins accepted if necessary

Currents editor Lee Clark, 248 Wheeler Rd, Mashpee MA 02649 lee.s.clark@Comcast.net 774.521.3388