

Cape Cod Currents

Cape Cod Chapter Military Officers Association of America

OCTOBER 2021 Lunch Event – USCG Auxiliary & Its Air Operations with Commodore Byron Moe, District Commodore, First Northern District, USCG Auxiliary

<u>Tuesday 12 October 21</u> – 1130 registration; meal 1200

Location: Hearth 'n Kettle Restaurant, 1196 Route 28, South Yarmouth MA 02664

entrée choices – roast sage stuffed <u>chicken</u> breast, mashed potatoes, butternut squash /or/ <u>seafood</u> casserole (broiled scrod, scallops, shrimp), baked potato, butternut squash salad; dessert - apple crisp; beverages; rolls/butter; cash bar

Cost: \$32.00/person by 05 Oct 2021 to Sheldon Segerman – see page 6



10 AUGUST 2021 EVENT On 11 June 2021, Cape Cod Air Force Station became Cape Cod Space Force Station. What developing changes in culture and identity mean for the operations of the Sixth Space Warning Squadron which is located aboard the station, and for those who staff the site, was presented as "U.S. Space Force on Cape Cod" by Lt Col Timothy "Skip" Sheehan USSF, Commander of the station and of the squadron. His audio/visual presentation, shared with the 23 folks present, included a military-style slide briefing with details of the completely new Space Force organization. We learned the acronym SpOC which stands for Space Operations Command. One salient point is that between the squadron commander (O-5, Lt Col) and the Chief Operations Officer (O-9, 3 stars) there is only the Commander, Space Delta (O-6, Col). This allows quicker reactions to developing threat situations and decisions specific to the operational needs of the moment. There are seven Deltas in Combined Space Force Component Command (6th SWS is under Delta 4), with more Deltas under other component commands. The Chief of Space Operations is similar to the Commandant of the Marine Corps in that, as the USMC is part of the Department of the Navy, Space Force is part of the Department of the Air Force. The Chief sits on the Joint Chiefs of Staff (JCS) in Washington. We thank Colonel Sheehan for making all of this timely and pertinent to our Chapter audience.

12 OCTOBER 2021 EVENT - USCG AUXILIARY & ITS AIR OPERATIONS

The United States Coast Guard Auxiliary is the uniformed volunteer component of the United States Coast Guard. It was founded in 1939 by an Act of Congress as the US Coast Guard Reserves and was re-designated the Auxiliary in 1941. The 26,000 volunteer members (women and men) in 825 local units donate 3.8 million hours per year in classrooms, at the pier, on the water, and in the air, operating 1,800 vessels and 160 aircraft, all personally owned by Auxiliarists, plus 1,400 radio facilities. Every year Auxiliarists help to preserve approximately 500 lives, assist 15,000 distressed boaters, conduct over 150,000 safety examinations of recreational vessels, and provide boater safety instruction to over 500,000 students. In total the Coast Guard Auxiliary saves taxpayers hundreds of millions of dollars each year.

The Auxiliary operates in safety and security patrols, search and rescue operations, mass casualty situations, disaster settings, pollution response and hazardous spills circumstances, homeland security assignments, recreational boating safety education and training, commercial fishing and vessel examinations, and by recruiting for service in the Coast Guard itself. In doing so the Auxiliary promotes and improves recreational boating safety, provides trained crews and facilities to augment the Coast Guard and enhance the safety and security of our ports, waterways, and coastal regions, and supports active duty Coast Guard operational, administrative, and logistical requirements.

The Auxiliary has units in all 50 states, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, American Samoa, and Guam. Local units are called Flotillas. These are organized into regional Divisions. Providing administrative and supervisory support to Divisions is the next level, Districts. The entire operation is overseen by the National staff which makes policy, along with the Commandant of the Coast Guard. The Cape Cod area is part of the First Northern District comprised of Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island.

Our speaker, Commodore Byron Moe, is the District Commodore, First Northern District, USCG Auxiliary. He joined the Auxiliary in 1983 while serving on active duty as a

USCG Aviator. Through the years Byron has held numerous Flotilla, Division, District, and National posts. In recent years he was deployed to assist in air operations at Hurricane Katrina, the Haitian earthquake, and in Puerto Rico after Hurricane Maria hit. He is also the Executive Assistant for the Chief Director of CG-113, USCG Office of Safety and Environmental Health, Washington DC. Byron is an AUXOP member (Operational Auxiliarist, a program sometimes called the "Ph.D. of the Auxiliary"), and has achieved qualifications as a Marine Safety and Environmental Specialist, Aircraft Commander, Instructor, CRM Trainer (Auxiliary Aviation Initial Crew Resource Management Course), Vessel Examiner, Vessel Operator, and Watch Stander.

Byron flew as an active-duty USCG C-130 Aircraft Commander and Instructor Pilot.



Missions included search and rescue, drug interdiction, fisheries enforcement, maritime domain patrols, logistical support, and two years with the International Ice Patrol. Upon leaving the USCG, Byron began his airline career as a pilot with Mesaba Northwest Airlink, serving as a Captain, Check Airman, and Instructor. During that time he also represented his airline as a safety professional, assisting in six major airline accident investigations, working with numerous Federal Aviation Administration rulemaking committees, and testifying as a safety expert before both the National Transportation Safety Board and the United States Congress. Having switched companies in 2006, he is now

a Captain at JetBlue. He holds an Airline Transport license with nine type ratings, plus a flight instructor license with a gold seal.

Originally from Minnesota, Byron attended the University of Minnesota on an athletic scholarship and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Aeronautical Engineering, graduating Suma Cum Laude. He was later awarded a Master of Science degree in Aerospace Engineering, Cum Laude, by the University of North Dakota, Grand Forks. His certifications from the Department of Transportation include Hazardous Materials Transportation and Safety Management Systems. Married for 30 years, he has three children and three grandchildren. As a Masonic lodge member he is a Master Mason, a 32nd Degree Mason, and a Knight Templar Mason. He is a fellow of the International Society of Air Safety Investigators. His personal awards include an Air Medal, the Auxiliary Commendation Award (2), the Auxiliary Achievement Award (2), a Commandant's Letter of Commendation, the Auxiliary Sustained Service Award (11), the Coast Guard Achievement Medal (3), and the Coast Guard Arctic Service award. He is entitled to wear the Naval Aviator and permanent Marine Safety devices.

MEMBERSHIP ACTIONS - 4 new Chapter members in August, with one departing

The Board of Directors approved the application for membership of former Army Captain Frank Reynolds of North Falmouth on 12 August. He served active duty 1965-1967 and completed service in the Army Reserve in 1969. Prior to coming to Cape Cod he was a member of a MOAA chapter in Poughkeepsie NY.

LCDR <u>Diana Lantz</u> USN (ret) received Board approval on 21 August. She attended the August Chapter event at the suggestion of member Bill Reade. Originally from Invercargill, South Island, New Zealand, Diana served on active duty as a Navy chaplain from 1999-2019. She now resides in South Yarmouth.

web site: capecodmoaa.angelfire.com

Retired Army LTC <u>Thomas LeBlanc</u> of Mashnee Island, Bourne, was welcomed by the Board on 26 August. His active duty spanned 1979-1982, with Reserve service following from 1982-2002. He had been on our email list since January 2021 as a referral from MOAA national.

Living across the street on Mashnee Island from member LeBlanc is retired Navy Lieutenant <u>Donald Turcotte</u>. The Board acted on his application on 28 August. His active duty time spanned 1978-1998. Which one of the two recruited the other remains to be determined.

Because he is leaving the Bourne area, COL <u>Richard B O'Connor II</u> USA asked to be released from membership. The Board's affirmative action came on 23 August.

Chapter membership totals 98, with an additional 22 Surviving Spouse members. The four gained in August 2021 was certainly a greater number than in any brief period in recent memory.

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, <u>capecodmoaa.angelfire.com</u>, 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.

OFFICERS MEETING This gathering is open to all and is the planning session where Board action occurs. The group is always looking for program suggestions. Officers Meetings are being held via Zoom at present. There is one on Wednesday, 15 Sep, 1015; the next is 13 Oct. Should you wish to sign in, contact Secretary Chuck Sands at cerssands@comcast.net.

<u>BOARD ACTION</u> On 11 Aug 21 the Board voted to <u>donate</u> \$100.00 from the Charity Fund to Cape Cod PATH (People Against Trafficking Humans), the September event program.

Charity + Scholarship Goal by 30 Mar 22: \$10K / Receipts - 31 Aug 21: \$4,329/74 / 43.3% Fund balances 31 Aug 21: Charity \$881.45 Scholarship \$4,329.56 Operating \$4,927.67 Aug. event: inc. \$768.00; meals \$648.05; raffle prizes \$0.00; Operating Fund gain \$119.95

<u>GIVE TO OUR PHILANTHROPIC EFFORTS</u> The Chapter does no outside fund raising - all monies come from members and friends. At the August event the raffle netted \$245.00 for the Scholarship Fund. To insure our making 2022 awards (45th year), donate now - and again later.

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

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2022 ANNUAL DUES - PAYMENT DUE NOT LATER THAN 01 JANUARY 2022

DUES <u>DO NOT APPLY</u> TO SURVIVING SPOUSE, HONORARY (we have one) OR <u>CHAPTER</u> LIFE (we have three) MEMBERS

Regular Chapter members who are life members of MOAA national DO PAY. Use of the form helps the Chapter keep track of members. Often its contents reveal changes of street and email addresses, phone numbers, and other key information.

<u>ID CARDS ON CAPE COD</u> The May 2021 newsletter contained information on obtaining ID cards. The phone number listed for the USCG Base Cape Cod issuing office was incorrect. Here is the current information for the office at 3159 Herbert Road, Buzzards Bay MA 02542. If you cannot use the online Real-Time Automated Personnel Identification System (RAPIDS) site at https://idco.dmdc.osd.mil/idco/locator to make the required appointment, phone (508) 968-6318 for assistance. Hours: Tues. 0800-1540; Wed. 0900-1200; Thurs. 0800-1540.

How Military, Veteran Caregivers Can Apply for Well-Earned Respite Relief

by Pat Williams 27 Aug 21 [downloaded from the MOAA.org web site; edited] A recent webinar hosted by MOAA and the Elizabeth Dole Foundation offered details on a new program providing respite relief for military and veteran caregivers, and a firsthand account from one caregiver who benefitted from the relief. [Here is a link to watch the 70 minute video on YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2M9eRdlpTQ0.]

Jackie Henry, the programs manager, Direct Care Services, with the Elizabeth Dole Foundation, shared eligibility requirements and details on the application process for Respite Relief for Military and Veteran Caregivers, a program offering family caregivers of veterans or servicemembers access to free, short-term relief with the help of in-home care professionals. Jenny Jeffery – whose husband, CPT Mark Jeffery USA (ret), suffered a career-ending injury in 2007 in Iraq – shared details on the great support she found within the respite relief program.

The program offers 35 hours annually of free respite care. Respite relief services include meals, housekeeping, transportation, exercise, companionship, mobility, medication reminders, toileting, bathing, and grooming.

Learn more about the program by <u>downloading this fact sheet (PDF)</u>. For more details and to complete the online application process, visit <u>HiddenHeroes.org/respite</u>. [The fact sheet asserts that the online registration process is simple. Ed.]

Navy Captain Makes History as First Woman to Command an Aircraft Carrier

by Kevin Lilley 24 Aug 21 [downloaded from MOAA.org web site; edited] CAPT Amy Bauernschmidt USN became the first woman to take command of a nuclear-powered aircraft carrier 19 Aug 21 at a change-of-command ceremony for USS *Abraham Lincoln* (CVN-72) in San Diego.

Bauernschmidt, who was tapped for a 2022 carrier command in December along with five fellow officers, served as the carrier's executive officer from 2016-2019, the first woman to occupy that position aboard a nuclear-powered flattop. She recently commanded USS *San Diego* (LPD-22), an amphibious transport dock.

"There is no more humbling sense of responsibility than to know you are entrusted with the care of the people who have chosen to protect our nation," Bauernschmidt said at the 19 Aug. ceremony, according to a Navy press release. She also thanked outgoing commanding officer CAPT Walt "Sarge" Slaughter for turning over "the finest ship in the fleet."

Bauernschmidt graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy, Annapolis MD, in 1994 and was designated as a naval aviator in 1996. She has amassed more than 3,000 Navy flight hours.

The San Diego-based carrier is set to deploy in the coming months, according to the San Diego Union-Tribune. The ship returned in January 2020 from a 295-day deployment.

Reservation – 12 Oct 21 Event: USCG Auxiliary & Its Air Operations COMO Byron Moe 1130 – Hearth 'n Kettle Restaurant, 1196 Route 28, South Yarmouth MA 02664							
Name	_ seafood □	chicken \square					
Guest	_ seafood □	chicken \square					
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Cost: \$32.00 per person – checks to CCC MOAA – responses due not later than 05 Oct 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							

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