



Cape Cod Currents



Military Officers Association of America Cape Cod Chapter Monthly Newsletter



May 2010



Scholarship Night at the COONAMESSETT 11 May, 2010

Cash bar and registration - 1730

Dinner at 1800

New England Clam Chowder

Entrees

Baked Chatham Scrod

Encrusted with Fresh Herb Crumbs, Chive, Tomato Beurre Blanc

Chicken Picatta

Tomatoes, Mushrooms and Capers in a Lemon Butter Sauce

Steak Tips

Grilled Marinated Beef Tips in Garlic Butter

Dessert

Strawberry Shortcake

Coffee, Tea

Charge is \$30 per person

See insert for reservations

Scholarship Presenter

We are proud to have as our scholarship presenter at the dinner Captain Brad Lima, the Chief Academic Officer (Dean) of the Massachusetts Maritime Academy. Captain Lima is responsible for the management of all education including graduate, undergraduate, and non-credit professional training at the Academy. His service includes Merchant sailing with Exxon. His Navel Reserve service includes Chief Engineer on the USS Valdez (FF1096) and Engineering Repair Officer at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. CAPT Lima has served 20 years on the facility of MMA, the last 8 years as Dean.

News You Can Use

Military re-assessing Disability Ratings - A recent review by a Department of Defense Physical Disability Board of Review (PDBR) resulted in 61 percent of applicants having their status changed from a medical separation to retirement on the permanent disability list. This review is open to eligible veterans of the DoD, Guard and Reserve and Coast Guard. Eligible veterans can request a PDBR by submitting a Department of Defense Form 294, which is available at <http://www.dtic.mil/whs/directives/infomgt/forms/eforms/dd0294.pdf>. Veterans requesting a PDBR must mail their completed and signed DD Form 294 to SAF/MRBR, 550 C St. W., Suite 41, Randolph Air Force Base, TX 78150-4743. Applicants may submit statements, briefs, medical records or affidavits supporting their application.

Chapter affairs

Please mark 8 June as an important meeting date. The luncheon will be at the Riverway restaurant in Yarmouth. This was chosen due to its midcape location. We will be voting in our Chapter Officers. Needed are President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary. The successful people will need a computer in order to keep abreast of communications between Chapter members and national MOAA. There is also need for someone to take over Mario's roll as program as he has served in this capacity for at least 7 years that I know of. Other committees are also short staffed but are able to struggle on. There is nothing planned after the 13 July clam bake-lobster bake at Grays Beach in Yarmouth. The board will be meeting at the VFW in Hyannis on 15 April and 13 May at 1000 hrs. All members are invited to attend.

Worth Bookmarking

Technology through the Years - Technology has been around a long time. The wheel, for instance, is a prime example. However, when we think of technology, it's usually the modern kind. Many chronicles exist of the rise of 20th century technology. These can come in various formats. One of the most comprehensive is the magazine.

Popular Science is one such magazine. It has been around for over 130 years. Now, it's partnered with Google to present the PopSci Archives. Every Popular Science magazine is available in digital form for free browsing. You can search through the archive for any topic or year. Learn about advances in the car in 1915. Read articles about scientific discoveries at the time they happened. View the modern world through the eyes of the past. Go to www.popsi.com.

Foster Care for Veterans

The Department of Veteran Affairs has a Medical Foster Care program providing room and board and 24 hour care in private homes now operating in 25 cities throughout the U.S. Vets pay between \$1500 and \$4000 a month to their caregivers. For information about the program, call 202-461-6786, or email Thomas.edes@va.gov. (courtesy AARP)

Taps

We note with sadness the passing of a long time member Maj. Frederick Harris Jr. USA.

A Poem Worth Reading

He was getting old and paunchy and his hair was falling fast,
He sat around the Legion telling stories of the past
Of a war that he once fought in and the deeds that he had done
In his exploits with his buddies; they were heroes, every one.
And 'tho sometimes to his neighbors his tales became a joke,
All his buddies listened quietly for they knew where he spoke.
But we will hear his tails no longer for ol' Bob has passed away,
And the world's a little poorer for a Soldier died today.
He won't be mourned by many, just his children and his wife
For he lived an ordinary, very quiet sort of life...
He held a job and raised a family going quietly on his way;
And the world won't note his passing 'tho a Soldier died today
When politicians leave this earth, their bodies lie in state,
While thousands note their passing and proclaim they were great.
Papers tell of their life stories from the time they were young
But the passing of a Soldier goes unnoticed and unsung.
Is the greatest contribution to the welfare of our land
Some jerk who breaks his promise and cons his fellow man?
Or the ordinary fellow who in times of war and strife
Goes off to serve his country and offers up his life?
The politician's stipend and the style in which he lives
Are often disproportionate to the service that he gives
While the ordinary Soldier who offered his all
Is paid off with a medal and perhaps a pension, small
Its so easy to forget them for it is so many times
That our Bobs and Jims and Johnnys went to battle, but we know
It is not the politicians with their compromise and ploys
Who won for us the freedoms that our country now enjoys
Should you find yourself in danger with your enemies at hand
Would you really want some cop-out with his ever waffling stand
Or would you want a Soldier, his home, his country, his kin
Just a common Soldier who would fight to the end
He was just a common Soldier and his ranks are growing thin
But his presents should remind us we may need his like again
For when countries are in conflict we find the Soldier's part
Is to clean up all the troubles that the politicians start.

