



Cape Cod Currents



Cape Cod Chapter Military Officers Association of America

September 2013 Event - Advanced Directives and Medical Orders

by CCC member LtCol Bill Yates USMC, elder law attorney

based on his series of three articles published in the June and July 2013 issues of *Currents*
(to obtain a single document containing all three, contact the editor – info at end of this issue)

Tuesday 10 Sep 2013 – 1130 registration; meal 1200

Location: Yarmouth House Restaurant, 335 Route 28, West Yarmouth MA 02673-4461
phone 508-771-5154 web site - yarmouthhouse.com

Cost: \$27.00/person Reservations: by 2 Sep 2013 – Labor Day – to Hank Bertsch

Entrée choices: baked Chatham scrod w/ seasoned crumbs or
boneless chicken breast w/ apple sage stuffing & sauce (vegetarian – ask)
clam chowder, smashed potatoes, mixed vegetables, carrot cake; beverages; cash bar



Annual Meeting Doings (upper left) Ashley Raye Barattini, Barnstable High School, to attend Connecticut College, New London, receives her grant 11 Jun 2013. (lower right) CCC member COL Steve Schrader USAF presents a Scholarship Fund gift of \$2,000.00 from the Otis Chapter of the Air Force Association to outgoing Treasurer LTC Hank Bertsch USA 11 Jun 2013.

IT IS 2014 ANNUAL DUES TIME - \$25.00 – the form on page 6 is to accompany payment. PLEASE NOTE: only regular members pay dues! Auxiliary, Honorary and Life members do not. “Life” means only those so designated by the Chapter, not national MOAA life members. Auxiliary members are surviving spouses of former members. **FURTHER NOTE: no individual dues letters will come to members** in order to save printing and postage costs.

OUR MEMBER DIRECTORY is being updated. Please provide changes in any information listed in the 2010 edition. Please include seasonal addresses and phone numbers. We need email addresses if you use email. If you do not check your email, don't include the address.

Upcoming events already set

11 Sep 2013, Wed 1000 – Chapter Officers meeting, location to be announced
08 Oct 2013, Tue Lunch, Alberto’s, Hyannis, with Tom Cahir, Administrator, Cape Cod Rapid Transit Authority re: Cape Cod Flyer train & state of the CCRTA
09 Oct 2013, Wed 1000 – Chapter Officers meeting, location to be announced
12 Nov 2013, Tue Lunch, Falcon Club House with (invited) CAPT Stephen Torpey USCG, CO, Air Station Cape Cod
13 Nov 2013, Wed 1000 – Chapter Officers meeting, location to be announced
10 Dec 2013, Tue Lunch, Riverway Lobster House, South Yarmouth with CAPT John Kondratowicz USCG, Commander, USCG Sector Southeastern New England, plus our annual **Toys for Tots** donation collection
11 Dec 2013, Wed 1000 – Chapter Officers meeting, location to be announced

Planned for the future

11 Mar 2014, Tue Lunch, Holiday Inn, Falmouth with sing-along led by Cathy Bonnett
08 Apr 2014, Tue Lunch, Captains Golf Course, Brewster; speaker TBD
03 May 2014, Sat Lunch, Coonamesset Inn, Falmouth; scholarship awards speaker TBD
10 Jun 2014, Tue Annual Meeting with possible 1700 start time – details, speaker TBD
08 Jul 2014, Tue Lunch, Falcon Club House – details, speaker TBD

By this schedule the Board intends to set events at various locations perhaps better to serve those from Mid-Cape and Outer Cape. Input is encouraged, especially to Gene Tierney (508-240-7201, cg_tierney@yahoo.com) and Russ Pittenger (508-534-9411, russpit123@aol.com), our program people, or to any of the “smiling” Board folks shown in the first page photo. In 2014 the Board plans nine events, as each raffle we have is important to the Scholarship Fund.

Treasurer John Martins reported on 1 Aug 2013 the following balances.

| | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|-------------|
| Charity Fund 07/31/13 | \$ 347.45 | Scholarship Fund 07/31/13 | \$ 3,291.00 |
| | Operating Fund 07/31/13 | | \$ 1,579.88 |

Business At the Chapter Annual Meeting on 11 Jun 2013 those shown in the page one photo were elected to the Board of Directors, following unanimous adoption of the 2013 revision of the Bylaws which added the two Director positions. The following day at the Officers Meeting, the President appointed, with the advice and consent of the Board, the following committees and committee members: Legislative - Bill Reade, Chair; Membership - Jimmy Dishner, Chair; Personal Affairs - Doris Condon, Chair; Program - Gene Tierney, Chair, Russ Pittenger, member; Public Affairs - Lee Clark, Chair; Scholarship - Ed Lambert, Chair, Tom Keating, Carolyn Canavosio, members. In doing so – under the Bylaws revision – Carolyn becomes our first Spouse member of the Chapter during her term of service.

A further item and a welcome: Using the electronic voting process via email made possible by the Bylaws revision adopted at the Annual Meeting, the seven Board members voted unanimously to approve the membership application of LCDR Kristina Meservey USN, Eastham MA. This process was completed on 30 Jun 2013, two weeks after its starting date. Since an application for membership must be acted upon within 60 days of its receipt, using the electronic method meant the vote could be tallied in a timely manner. **Welcome, Kristina Meservey.**

The **Board** on 10 Jul 2013 made William M. Yates its annual appointee as the Chapter’s registered agent, and the official address/physical location of the Chapter (Bylaws Art. 1 Sec. 2) as 128 Highway 6A, Sandwich MA 02563 (Bill’s office) to meet Mass. legal requirements.

Obituary At the request of members George A. Jonic, Jr. and Charlie Aftosmis, among others, the following is included in tribute to Jake O'Rourke, a friend of MOAA who received our annual Toy for Tots donations and provided the feast for our summer clambakes. He was one of the "Chosin Few" survivors of the 1st Marine Division among the 30,000 UN troops surrounded by 67,000 Chinese soldiers in North Korea 27 Nov–13 Dec 1950 at the Battle of the Chosin Reservoir. The UN forces broke the Chinese encirclement, inflicting crippling losses in doing so. Defeat at the Chosin Reservoir and the evacuation of the U.S. X Corps amphibious force from the port of Hungnam marked the complete withdrawal of UN forces from North Korea.

John Francis "Jake" O'Rourke, of South Yarmouth, died of a massive heart attack in Hyannis on Tuesday evening, 18 Jun 2013, age 82.

Jake, born in Cambridge, MA 4 Feb 1931 to George and Clara (West) O'Rourke, married Ann Carmody, Carlinville, IL on 16 Sep 1967. They settled on Cape Cod where they owned and operated several family restaurants and a seasonal clambake business.

A Korean War combat veteran and "Frozen Chosin" survivor, Jake proudly served his country as a United States Marine. Honorably discharged in 1954, he continued to serve country and community in Cape veterans organizations where his dedication and tireless volunteer spirit made a significant impact, including creation of the Korean War Veterans' Memorial in Hyannis, as well as a successful regional Toys for Tots program, and the annual visit of the Marine Corps Drum & Bugle Corps and Silent Drill Team.

Jake is survived by his wife, Ann; his children, Colleen, Kathy and Danny, and their spouses, Rick and Kristen; his grandchildren, Emily, Kendall, Keely and Olivia; and his best friend of 73 years, Mr. Jay Nolan.

Jake, loved by family and friends, will be dearly missed. He is best remembered for his strong work ethic, infectious sense of humor, dedication to family, church, community and country, and his passion for veterans and service members.

A full military honors interment at Massachusetts National Cemetery followed the 25 Jun 2013 funeral Mass at St. Pius X Roman Catholic Church, South Yarmouth. Memorial donations may be made to Toys for Tots of Cape Cod, or the St. Pius X Building Fund, 5 Barbara St., South Yarmouth MA 02664. [adapted from *Cape Cod Times* 23 Jun 2013]

"The Marines' Hymn," stanza four
Here's health to you and to our Corps,
Which we are proud to serve.
In many a strife we've fought for life,
And never lost our nerve.
If the Army and the Navy
Ever look on Heaven's scenes,
They will find the streets are guarded
By United States Marines.

Change – On 19 Jul 2013, Massachusetts Military Reservation (MMR) became **Joint Base Cape Cod (JBCC)** at Governor Deval Patrick's executive order. See below. Pres. Don asks, "Is the first medical marijuana pharmacy in Barnstable County to be located on the 'joint' base?"

JBCC Falmouth gate – drill weekends open: 24-25 Aug, 14-15 Sep, 5-6 Oct

Annuity Changes [copied from Defense Finance & Accounting Service web site 24 Jun 2013]

If you have elected to cover your spouse or loved ones under the Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP), you should be aware of a recent change to the process for application for benefits.

Effective 1 Apr 2013, all applications for annuities under the SBP plan will require a photocopy submission of the annuitant's Social Security Card. If your designated beneficiary does not submit a Social Security card photocopy with the application, the annuity will still be established and the annuitant will be allotted 90 days to submit the photocopy to DFAS. If it is not received after 90 days, the account will be suspended and no further payments will be made until the card photocopy is received.

It will apply to all annuities established after 11 Apr 2013, but will have no effect on annuitants in receipt of SBP payments prior to 11 Apr 2013. Military retirees should make the necessary preparations for their beneficiaries. Keep your files up to date so both you and your beneficiary can be prepared for unexpected events.

[Editor – Do you, like me, have your original Social Security card? Since the article mentions no alternative method of obtaining SBP payments, it would be best to check this out before the copy of that card is needed.]

From member Charlie Aftosmis Many states offer **veterans benefits**, which may include educational grants and scholarships, special exemptions or discounts on fees and taxes, home loans, veterans homes, free hunting and fishing privileges, and more. Each state manages its own programs. Go to the following web site for a review.

www.military.com/benefits/veteran-state-benefits/state-veterans-benefits-directory.html

Recommended reading [editor] *A Storm Too Soon* by Michael J. Tougias (New York: Scribner, Jan. 2013, \$24.00, ISBN 978-1-4516-8333-2 or ISBN 978-1-4516-8335-6 for e-book, available through CLAMS (Cape Libraries Automated Materials Sharing) at 9 libraries in book form (not e-book) only. The carefully researched account is of a May 2007 rescue 225 nautical miles southeast of Elizabeth City NC on the eastern side of the Gulf Stream near the center of an unpredicted and suddenly arising storm. All USCG assets were used, directed from the SAR Command Center, Portsmouth VA. The author is from Massachusetts, perhaps Plymouth.

DOD Counters Internet Posts on Religion Issue by Jim Garamone, American Forces Press Service [copied unedited from Summer 2013 *Shift Colors*, Navy retiree newsletter]

Washington, May 3, 2013 – Internet posts making the rounds claiming that the Defense Department will court-martial service members who espouse Christianity are not true, a Pentagon spokesman said today.

“The Department of Defense places a high value on the rights of members of the military services to observe the tenets of their respective religions and respects, [and supports by its policy] the rights of others to their own religious beliefs, including the right to hold no beliefs,” Navy Lt. Cmdr. Nate Christensen said in a written statement on the issue.

“The department does not endorse any one religion or religious organization, and provides free access of religion for all members of the military services,” he added.

Internet posts are attributing a statement that superior officers who try to convert those under their command should face court-martial to Mikey Weinstein, president of the Albuquerque, N.M.-based Military Religious Freedom Foundation, and are identifying him as a Pentagon advisor, Christensen noted.

“Mr. Weinstein is not part of any DOD advisory group or committee, nor is he a consultant to the Defense Department regarding religious matters,” Christensen said. “Mr. Weinstein requested, and was granted, a meeting at the Pentagon April 23, with the Air Force judge advocate general and others, to include the deputy chief of chaplains, to express his concerns of religious issues in the military.”

Some bloggers have taken sections of Air Force Instruction 1-1 "Air Force Standards" -- specifically, the section titled "Government Neutrality Regarding Religion" -- out of context in supporting their take, Christensen said.

"Leaders at all levels must balance constitutional protections for an individual's free exercise of religion or other personal beliefs and the constitutional prohibition against governmental establishment of religion," the instruction states.

Air Force leaders at all levels "must avoid the actual or apparent use of their position to promote their personal religious beliefs to their subordinates or to extend preferential treatment for any religion. Commanders or supervisors who engage in such behavior may cause members to doubt their impartiality and objectivity. The potential result is a degradation of the unit's morale, good order, and discipline," the instruction goes on to say.

The instruction further says all airmen "are able to choose to practice their particular religion, or subscribe to no religious belief at all." It tells airmen to practice their own beliefs while respecting differing viewpoints.

The right to practice religious beliefs does not excuse airmen from complying with directives, instructions and lawful orders, the instruction says.

It adds that airmen "must ensure that in exercising their right of religious free expression, they do not degrade morale, good order, and discipline in the Air Force or degrade the trust and confidence that the public has in the United States Air Force."

Thank You The following is a sampling of the sentiments expressed in the notes of three 2013 scholarship recipients. From Hunter Maher: "This will help my personal financial burden and will be applied directly to my tuition at Bentley University.... I hope to be able to give back one day and help others achieve their goals.... Please know that your generosity is greatly appreciated." From Katherine Smith, Simmons College: "Thank you so much for your generous scholarship. I appreciate the assistance in making my goals possible." From Thomas Moakley, Georgetown University: " I wanted to thank you again for the honor of being chosen as one of your scholarship recipients. The future of America lies with its youth, and you have contributed so much to 'secure the blessings of liberty' not only through the scholarships, but also through your service in the military. Thank you...." Notice the convenience of what follows just below.

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 1553, Mashpee MA 02649-1553.

Signature _____ Date _____ check # _____

2014 ANNUAL DUES. PLEASE INCLUDE THIS FORM WITH PAYMENT.

Fill in all applicable spaces – the Board needs the information for its files.

The June 2013 Annual Meeting set the amount of dues for 2014 at \$25.00.

See text of newsletter – only Regular members pay, not Auxiliary, Honorary, or (Chapter) Life.

Name _____
last [please print legibly] first m.i. rank service

Addr _____
nمبر street/box apt city/town state zip + 4

Phone _____
home mobile spouse's given name

Other addr _____
nمبر street/box apt city/town state zip + 4

Dates at other addr _____ Phone at other addr _____

Email addr (if used regularly) _____

Dates (e.g. 1980-90) of active duty _____ of inactive/Reserve/Guard _____
include all extended periods of each - do not include as active any Reserve/Guard ACDUTRA,
TEMDU, TDY, TAD periods of less than 1 year

2014 DUES ARE DUE AND PAYABLE AT THIS TIME – NOT LATER THAN 31 DEC.

Questions go to John Martins, Treasurer, 508.392.9102, john.martins@comcast.net, or the editor.

Make check payable to Cape Cod Chapter, MOAA.

Mail to CCC MOAA, PO Box 1553, Mashpee MA 02649-1553.

Signature _____ Date _____ check # _____

Reservation – 10 Sep 2013 Event: Advanced Directives & Medical Orders – Bill Yates
1130 - Yarmouth House Restaurant, 335 Route 28, West Yarmouth MA 02673

Name _____ entrée: scrod chicken breast

Guest _____ entrée: scrod chicken breast

Guest _____ entrée: scrod chicken breast

Guest _____ entrée: scrod chicken breast

**Note that the
deadline is
Labor Day.
Plan mailings
accordingly.**

Cost: \$27.00 per person – checks to CCC MOAA – **responses** due not later than **2 Sep 2013**

check # _____ date _____ in the amount of \$ _____ is enclosed

Mail to LTC Hank Bertsch USA, PO Box 755, North Falmouth MA 02556-0755

email – ltcghb@verizon.net phone – 508-563-3966 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