

# CAPITAL DISTRICT CHAPTER, NEW YORK

## MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

Volume 4, Issue 1

January 2013

Visit us at [cdnymoaa.org](http://cdnymoaa.org)

## What are MOAA's Legislative Goals for 2013?



2009 4-Star Chapter



### VETERANS AND OTHER ISSUES

- Improve quality, efficiency, transparency, and timeliness of VA claims-processing system
- Establish Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits for surviving spouses of Iraq and Afghanistan conflicts
- Improve VA health services and access for women veterans
- Authorize pre-tax payment of health, dental and long-term care premiums
- Prevent disproportional Social Security/Medicare penalties for any population segment

### RETIREMENT/SURVIVOR ISSUES

- Oppose military benefit changes that are inconsistent with service career sacrifices
- Preserve full-inflation cost-of-living adjustments (COLAs)
- End deduction of VA disability compensation from military retired pay
- End deduction of VA survivor benefits (DIC) from military Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) annuities
- Implement a more equitable military disability retirement system
- Restore VA DIC compensation for qualifying survivors who remarry after age 55
- Reform same SBP calculation for a reservist who dies performing IDT as for active duty deaths
- Authorize survivors to retain a deceased retiree's full final-month retired pay
- Authorize SBP annuities to be paid to Special Needs Trusts for permanently disabled children
- Reform the Uniformed Services Former Spouse Protection Act (USFSPA)
- Authorize Space-A travel for 'gray area' Guard-Reserve retirees and qualifying survivors

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**REMINDER: Annual dues for 2013 are due, if you have not already paid.**

### Thank you, Ed!

Ed Scheiber is completing his third and final term as the Chapter President. At the February 10 luncheon, he will pass the baton of leadership to Tony Ficara.

Ed brought a lot of enthusiasm and energy to our Chapter as President. Building from the strong legacy left by the previous Presidents, Ed invigorated the drive to attract new members to MOAA and the Chapter.  
*(Continued on p. 2)*

# Chapter Happenings

## CHAPTER MEETINGS

### DINNER MEETINGS FOR 2013

*Dinner meetings are held at the Edison Club, Rexford, NY, unless specified otherwise*

- **February 10**
- April 14
- June 9
- [July-August - TBD - suggestions?]
- October 6
- December 8 (Annual Meeting)

### BOARD MEETINGS FOR 2013

*Board meetings are held at the NYS Military Heritage Museum, Saratoga Springs, NY, unless specified otherwise*

- January 26
- July 6 (Lake George)
- November 2

### 2013 NYS MOAA Council of Chapters Convention

- October 14-16
- Canandaigua Inn on the Lake
- Hosted by the Genesee Valley Chapter

*THANKS to everyone who donated supplies for the Troops at our Dec 9 Holiday party. The supplies were delivered the following week to the **Blue Star Mothers**, who thanked us profusely for our generosity!*



*Thank you, Ed! (Continued from p.1) Ed promoted participation in the Council of Chapters, joined with other NY chapters in "Storming the Hill" to save our hard-earned military benefits, and found a variety of ways the Chapter could support deployed troops and local causes for active military and veterans. Besides hard work, Ed is best known for his humorous stories. Ed will continue to serve the Chapter on the Board.*

Our newly elected Chapter Officers and Directors will be sworn in at the February 10 dinner.

<b>PRESIDENT</b>	* ANTHONY J. FICARA	COL	USA, RET
<b>1ST VICE PRESIDENT</b>	* PATRICK PICCIRILLI	LTC	USAR,RET
<b>2ND VICE PRESIDENT</b>	THOMAS LENAHAN	Capt	USAF, RET
<b>SECRETARY</b>	RALPH E FOLGER	LCDR	USNR, RET
<b>TREASURER</b>	FREDERICK AMES	CW4	AUS, RET
<b>Board of Directors</b>	ROCCO ACQUILANO	CDR	USNR ,RET
	* ERNEST BEBERNITZ	MAJ	USA, RET
	MARTIN LEUKHARDT	RADM	USNR, RET
	THOMAS MAGLIOCCA	CW02	USCGR, RET
	CHARLES MARSHALL	CWO4	USNR, RET
	ALFRED MEMOLE	LTC	USA, RET
	RONALD NEATON	CAPT	USNR, RET
	WILLIAM POTTS	CW4	AUS, RET
* EDMUND SCHEIBER	Lt Col	USAF, RET	

\* New to position

## WOUNDED WARRIOR SNOWFEST – Welcome Dinner March 8

Stride Adaptive Sports is hosting a weekend of skiing and snow sports at Jiminy Peak for Wounded Warriors this March. A Welcome ceremony and dinner will be held on **March 8**, from 6 to 10 pm, at the Hilton Garden Inn on Hoosick Street, Troy. Cash bar is from 6-7 pm, followed by dinner and ceremony. Keynote speaker is MG Donald L. Rutherford, US Army Chief of Chaplains. Open seating tickets cost \$35. Tickets and information are available at [www.stride.org](http://www.stride.org).

## MOAA Legislative Goals for 2013 *(continued from Page 1)*

### HEALTH CARE ISSUES

- Avert 27% Medicare/TRICARE payment cut and fix statutory formula to improve access to care
- Protect against disproportional increases in TRICARE fees
- Oppose enrollment fee for TRICARE For Life or curtailment of TFL coverage
- Allow three years of active-duty-level TRICARE coverage for disability retirees/families
- Improve seamless transition and protect Defense and VA health/benefits/support systems budgets
- Authorize option to subsidize retention of operational reservists' civilian family health insurance
- Expand TRICARE coverage for Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA) for active and retired members of the uniformed services

### Active/Reserve Force/Family Issues

- Sustain active duty, Guard and Reserve force sizes to meet mission requirements
- Sustain military pay comparability with private sector
- Protect currently serving and retiree benefits against significant degradation based on sequestration's arbitrary cuts
- Credit all post-9/11 active duty service toward Guard/Reserve early retirement
- Restore tax deduction for reservists' out-of-pocket expenses for military travel of 50 miles or more
- Create new incentives for employers to hire and retain drilling Guard/Reserve members
- Provide incentives for employers/government/contractors to hire military spouses
- Protect funding for commissary/exchange, dependent schools and family support programs
- Improve access to affordable child care
- Require better education on serious financial disadvantages of the REDUX retirement option
- Improve professional licensure transferability for service members and military spouses

### TRICARE News of interest from the MOAA website

January 11, 2013

“Pentagon officials announced this week that, as of Oct. 1, **TRICARE Prime** no longer will be available for most retired and survivor military beneficiaries who live more than 40 miles from a military hospital, clinic, or base closure site.

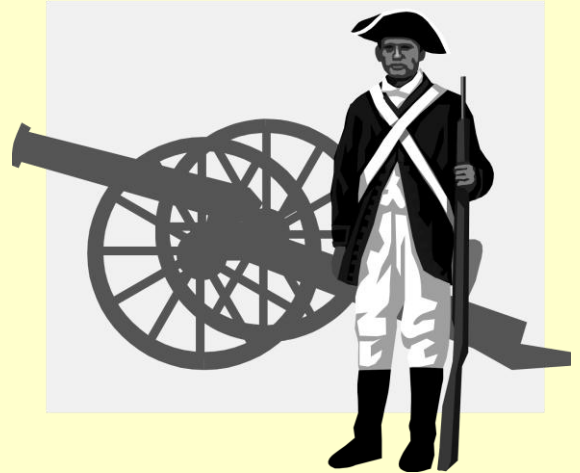
“Defense leaders say the change will affect about 170,000 beneficiaries across the country and most of those beneficiaries will need to switch to **TRICARE Standard**. About 37,000 beneficiaries in the North region ... will be affected. Retired and surviving beneficiaries using Medicare and TRICARE For Life won't be affected by the change. Neither will active duty servicemembers and their dependents. However, non-dependent children covered under the TRICARE Young Adult program until age 26 no longer will be eligible for Prime if they reside more than 40 miles from a military facility.

*“There is the potential for an exception for retired servicemembers, military families, and young adults to remain in Prime if they reside within 100 miles of an available primary care manager and sign a drive-time access waiver.*

“The main impacts for the affected beneficiaries are

- They might have to find a new doctor. Hopefully, most current Prime providers will continue seeing Standard patients, because Standard often pays doctors more per visit than the reduced rates they accepted under Prime.
- Rather than paying an annual enrollment fee and flat copayments per visit under Prime, retired Standard beneficiaries pay a \$150 (single) or \$300 (family) annual deductible and a 25-percent copayment for both inpatient and outpatient care (certain preventive care and immunizations are covered at no cost). Standard families who incur out-of-pocket costs of \$3,000 in a fiscal year are exempt from copayments for the rest of the year.

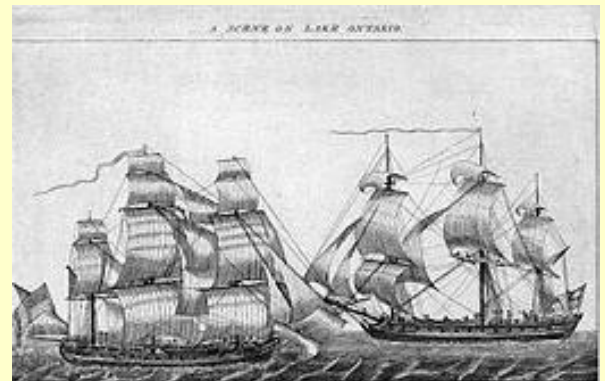
“The change is largely a cost-cutting measure, as coverage under Prime costs the government more than coverage under Standard. Defense officials say limiting Prime locations in this way will save up to \$56 million a year.”



#### WAR OF 1812 in NYS

##### Key 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dates

Feb 6, 1813	Raid on Elizabethtown
Feb 22, 1813	Battle of Ogdensburg



#### WAR OF 1812 in NYS DID YOU KNOW?

... that the Watervliet Arsenal was founded to support the war effort?

... that an army training post, the Greenbush barracks, was established in present day East Greenbush? (The site is now known as the Cantonment)

... that “Uncle Sam” Wilson of Troy supplied the troops?

## Editor's Appeal to All Members

### YOU are a source of news! YOU have a story to tell!!

This newsletter, along with the Chapter web site, offers all Chapter members, military and auxiliaries, a way to communicate and share information with other members.

Do you know of military and veterans' events coming up? *Please tell us!*

Do you have important personal, professional, or family developments that you would like to share, such as a successful surgery, a promotion, new grandchildren, or vacation trips to exotic places?

How about sharing YOUR story? We'd like to know about your professional and military career and experiences.

Send your input, including photos, by e-mail to [amemole1@nycap.rr.com](mailto:amemole1@nycap.rr.com) or by regular mail to Al at 8 Rose Lane, Rensselaer NY 12144. **[Don't let me dictate the content!]**

Cut-off for publishing in the next newsletter is March 15 - the Ides!

### NEWSLETTER online vs. printed copy

So far, 11 members have opted to receive *an e-mail with a link to the newsletter on the Chapter's website*, in lieu of getting a paper newsletter in the mail.

If you prefer to access this newsletter online in place of the usual paper copy, contact Al Memole at [amemole1@nycap.rr.com](mailto:amemole1@nycap.rr.com) or call (518) 479-7165 in the evening.

## Luncheon Reservation Form

Date: **February 10, 2013**      Location: **Edison Club, Rexford, NY**

Time: 1:00PM – Social Hour  
2:00PM – Dinner

**Menu Choices:**      Flat Iron Steak      Chicken Alexander      Stuffed Sole

**Price:** \$25.00 per person      *(Please make checks payable to: NYS-CDC.)*

***Chapter dues for 2013 are due; you may pay dues now by adding \$15.00 to your total.***

Send reservation form and check to:      Charles Marshall      (phone: 235-1713)  
5 Sunset Lane  
Troy, NY 12182

Your name: _____	Choices:	<u>Qty</u> <u>Menu Item</u>
Number of persons attending: _____		_____ Flat Iron Steak
		_____ Chicken Alexander
		_____ Stuffed Sole



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