

# CAPITAL DISTRICT CHAPTER, NEW YORK MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

Volume 5, Issue 1

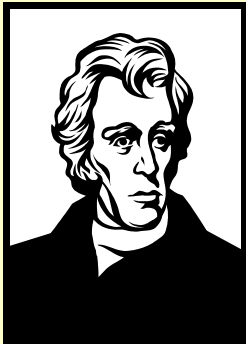
January 2014

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

2009 4-Star Chapter

## THE YEAR AHEAD

On the 8<sup>th</sup> of January ... 1814 ... two hundred years ago, American regulars, militia, armed citizens and slaves, commanded by future US President Andrew Jackson, defeated an invading force of 7,000 British regulars and West Indian troops at the Battle of New Orleans. It was the last major battle of the War of 1812.



Two hundred years later, American forces from all military services and components (regular, reserve, and National Guard) are fighting in Afghanistan (with the British) to protect our nation from terrorists. Many more are stationed around the country and around the world to preserve peace and protect our citizens and allies.

Meanwhile, in our nation's capital, Congress, the White House, and the Pentagon are struggling and juggling to balance military needs and federal spending/debt. They are not fighting a *bloody* battle, but their actions and decisions are vitally important to all Americans and especially to those who are serving and who have served this nation in her Armed Forces. For us, 2014 is a strategic key - an opportunity.



At the national level MOAA "has our back" protecting our hard-earned military benefits. But the Chapters are the backbone and we members are the muscle of MOAA. Without us, MOAA's national efforts would fail. So, what can we do?

(1) Stay up with the issues through MOAA's Military Officer magazine and the MOAA web site (<http://www.moaa.org>). Current hot issues include:

- Repealing Military Retirement COLA Cuts
- Stopping the 24% Medicare-TRICARE Cut
- Ending Sequestration Now
- Military Personnel/Health Care Costs

(2) Send a MOAA-supported message to your legislators. Check out the MOAA position on key bills here: <http://capwiz.com/moaa/issues/bills/>

(3) Become active in our Chapter. We are looking for members who would be interested in serving as contacts/liaisons with our Representatives. If that is you, please contact a Chapter Officer or Board Member.



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### CONGRESSIONAL REPRESENTATIVES in the Capital District Chapter:

- 19<sup>th</sup> District - Chris Gibson
- 20<sup>th</sup> District - Paul Tonko
- 21<sup>st</sup> District - Bill Owens

## CHAPTER HAPPENINGS

### NEXT MEETING - February 9 at the Edison Club, Rexford

- Guest speaker—Colonel Brian Anderson, USAF (Ret.)  
MOAA Deputy Director, Council and Chapter Affairs



The Edison Club needs a final count by the Wednesday before our Sunday meeting. **Therefore, we need your reservation and payment NOT LATER THAN Wednesday morning February 5.** Chuck Marshall will be away, so this time, please send your reservations and payment to **Rocco Acquilano**. His address is on the reservation form. If you plan to attend but aren't 100% sure, we ask that you pay in anticipation. Then, if for any reason you can't attend, we will refund your payment.

### DUES (\$15) FOR 2014 ARE DUE JANUARY

Why dues are crucial: We're a not-for-profit organization, but we need funding to take care of essential business, such as our website and these newsletters that communicate with members, and to fulfill our mission through activities and support to our troops and veterans.

If you have not paid dues in over three years or if you joined the Chapter but never paid dues, you are at risk of being dropped from Chapter membership rolls. We ask that you please pay dues for 2014 and also for all the years that you have been a Chapter member but have not paid. We ask out of fairness to the other members who have paid dues faithfully every year.

### Chapter Members on the Go!

Winter has smacked upstate NY with some bitter cold temps - punctuated by short thaws. Many Chapter members are "getting out of Dodge". Tom Lenahan is already in Florida; Bill Wyld calls FL home. Florida will see Pat Piccirilli, Fred Ames, and even Al Memole in February. Pat and Fred will miss the February meeting, as will Chuck Marshall, who is out of town, and possibly Rocco Acquilano. We pray for the safety of all our travelers, as well as those who are ill, or undergoing medical procedures this season.

**NEWSLETTER BUSINESS:** **Help the Chapter save money** -- E-mail Al Memole at [amemole1@nycap.rr.com](mailto:amemole1@nycap.rr.com) to request to receive future newsletters online, rather than the usual paper copy by mail.

Deadline for submitting news, photos, and articles for the next issue is **March 8**. **All members** are invited to send Al their bio's for future editions. Preferred means of submission is via e-mail; MS Word, .txt, and JPEG formats are acceptable.

### UPCOMING GENERAL MEMBERSHIP DINNER MEETINGS

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

- April 6, 2014
- June 8, 2014
- October 19, 2014
- December 14, 2014

### BOARD MEETINGS FOR 2014

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

- February 22, 2014  
(In the last issue we listed the winter Board meeting date incorrectly as January 22.)
- July 26, 2014 @ TBD
- November 8, 2014

### MARK THIS DATE!

**March 7, 2014**

6:00 p.m. at Troy Hilton Garden Inn

*The Stride Adaptive Sports \*\**

### **WOUNDED WARRIOR SNOWFEST WELCOME CEREMONY**

Tickets \$40 per person, or reserve a table of 10 (\$400) for preferred seating

*This event WILL sell out quickly!*

Our Chapter reserved a table; if interested contact a Chapter Officer or Board Member.

\*\* STRIDE Adaptive Sports ~ 476 North Greenbush Rd Suite 9, Rensselaer, NY 12144

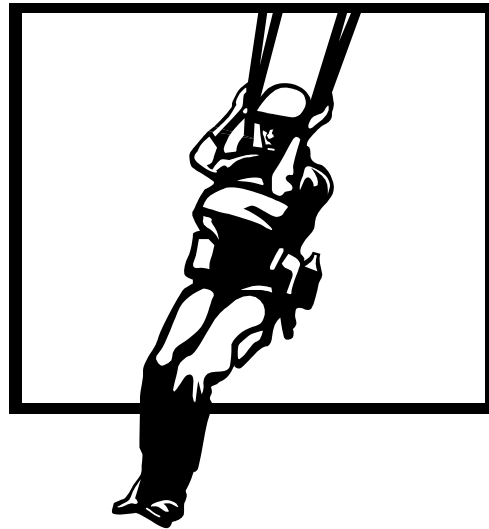
Web site: [www.stride.org](http://www.stride.org) / Email: [info@stride.org](mailto:info@stride.org) / Phone: 518-598-1279 / Fax: 518-391-2563

## Chapter Member Profiles

### Dorsey M. Whitehead, LTC USA, RET

*Military –*

- U.S. Army (24 years)
- ROTC Distinguished Military Graduate (DMG)
- Training and Schools:
  - Artillery Officer Courses, Fort Sill, OK
  - Airborne and Ranger schools, Fort Benning, GA
  - US Army Aviation School, Fort Rucker, AL
    - Fixed-wing/Helicopter Instructor
  - US Army Command & General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth, KS
- Duty assignments:
  - 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division
  - 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division
  - others
- Combat tours:
  - Dominican Republic
  - Vietnam (2)
- Military Awards: “numerous”



*Academic/Professional –*

- B.S. Virginia State University, Petersburg, VA
- M.A. Webster University, St. Louis, MO
- M.B.A. Northwestern University, Evanston, IL
- Kappa Alpha Psi (KAPΨ) Fraternity
- Urban League of Waukegan, IL, Employment Specialist
- City of Albany, NY, Community Center Executive Director
- New York State Senate
- New York State Commission on Veteran Affairs
- Capital District Cancer Awareness Project
- Capital District Community Loan Fund
- Albany County Airport Authority
- Capitalize Albany Corporation
- Latham NY Rotary Club
- League of Women Voters
- Masonic/Eastern Star Leadership Positions



*Personal –*

- Three adult sons
- Avid tennis player, bridge player, and gardener

## 2014 MOAA LEGISLATIVE GOALS

*(Reprinted from the MOAA web site for those who do not have access to the Internet)*

### 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 severe, arbitrary sequestration 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
- Require better education on serious financial disadvantages of the REDUX retirement option
- Improve professional licensure transferability for service members and military spouses
- Ensure Service sexual assault and suicide prevention measures provide positive outcomes

### HEALTH CARE ISSUES

- *Avert 25% Medicare/TRICARE payment cut and fix statutory formula to improve access to care*
- *Protect against increasing TRICARE fees beyond COLA-cap*
- *Oppose enrollment fee for TRICARE Standard and TFL For Life or curtailment of TRICARE Standard or TFL coverage*
- *Oppose means-testing TRICARE benefit*
- *Improve access for all beneficiaries by making participation in TRICARE more attractive to providers*
- *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*
- *Increase orthodontia payment cap under active duty dental plan*
- *Authorize TRICARE coverage for Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA) for active and retired members of all the uniformed services*

### RETIREMENT/SUVIVOR 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 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)
- Implement full Space-A travel for 'gray area' Guard-Reserve retirees and qualifying survivors

### VETERANS AND OTHER ISSUES

- *Eliminate VA claims backlog and improve quality, efficiency, transparency, of VA claims-processing*
- *Establish Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits for surviving spouses of Iraq and Afghanistan conflicts*
- *Extend advance (2 year) funding authority to all VA accounts, not only health care*
- *Improve VA health services and access for women veterans*
- *Review caregiver legislation to provide legislative proposals to address remaining gaps*
- *Authorize pre-tax payment of health, dental and long-term care premiums*
- *Reduce Social Security penalties for certain civil service and state retirees/survivors*
- *Prevent disproportional Social Security/Medicare penalties for any population segment*

## CHAPTER OFFICERS

CHAPTER OFFICE	INCUMBENT	E-MAIL
President	Anthony J. Ficara, COL USA, RET	pres@cdnymoaa.org
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	Patrick Piccirilli, LTC USA, RET	1vp@cdnymoaa.org
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	Thomas W. Lenahan, Capt USAF, RET	2vp@cdnymoaa.org
Secretary	Ralph Folger, Lt Cmdr USNR, RET	secr@cdnymoaa.org
Treasurer	Fred Ames, CW4 AUS, RET	treas@cdnymoaa.org

## BOARD MEMBERS

Rocco D. Acquilano, Cmdr, USNR, RET	Ernest Bebernitz, MAJ USA, RET
Martin Leukhardt, RAdm USNR, RET	Thomas Magliocca, CWO2 USCGR, RET
Charles Marshall, CWO4 USNR, RET	Alfred M. Memole, LTC USA, RET
Ronald Neaton, Capt USNR, RET	William Potts, CW4 AUS, RET
Edmund M. Scheiber, Jr., Lt Col USAF, RET	

## Luncheon Reservation Form

Date: **February 9, 2014**      Location: **Edison Club, Rexford, NY**

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

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

**Price: \$30.00 per person**      *(Please make checks payable to: NYS-CDC.)*

***If you wish to pay Chapter dues for 2014, you may pay dues by adding \$15.00 to your total.***

*If you not up to date with your dues, please add \$15 for each year you owe.*

Send reservation form and check to:    **Rocco Acquilano**    (phone: 477-5435)  
*Please make your reservation Not*    14 Rugby Rd  
*Later Than Wednesday, Feb 5.*    East Greenbush, NY 12061-2110

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



New York State Capital District Chapter  
Military Officers Association of America  
PO Box 293  
Guilderland, NY 12084

