

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

Volume 5, Issue 4

September 2014

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2009 4-Star Chapter

## To Russia with Love

Tom & Nancy Lenahan did it big time - an 11-day tour of Russia in August. (Were they spying for Ukraine or just having a ball?) With Tom's permission, we are pleased to present their grand adventure in this and subsequent issues of our newsletter. (Editor)

### DAY 1

Diane Hogan drove us to the Park & Ride on Crescent Road to be picked up by the limousine service to JFK. Great trip! and thanks to Diane. At JFK, Oscar Santana, a student from HCCC, now at NYPD and a long time friend came to see us off. We had supper with Oscar (thanks Oscar) and the long wait went quickly in good company.

We learned that not all overhead bins are equal on a B767-300ER - *use the outside ones for larger carry-ons*. The trip lasted almost 8 hours, and we were happy to disembark in Amsterdam, Netherlands. We had a layover of about 3 hours - time to get through security check, buy a bottle of cognac at the duty free store and find our gate - not yet open. We talked to some Americans waiting and discovered several couples who are on our same Viking cruise. A Russian man had been chatting with another Viking couple - was welcoming us as well. He disappeared and came back with a dozen of red roses for Nancy and the other wife. They were gorgeous and are in a vase in our room on the boat.

Finally we arrived in St. Petersburg and discovered many of our fellow Viking passengers were on the same plane. After collecting our luggage and checking lists of names we departed the terminal and were transported to the boat. Dinner was served, our luggage was delivered to our room and we had a 9:30pm orientation. I think we both kind of nodded off during the presentation - it was a long day. We unpacked the bags and opened the cognac for our first toast on the veranda on our Russian adventure.



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## NY State delegates "storming the Hill" - 2014



Sue Margolius, Rep. Richard Hanna (R-NY), Ben Margolius, and COL Bob Norton



Peggy Phillips with the Military Affairs Assistant to Rep. Dan Maffei (D-NY)



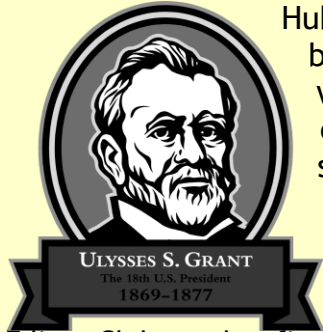
The Military Legislative Assistant to Sen. Chuck Schumer (D-NY) meets with COL Bob Norton

## CHAPTER HAPPENINGS

### Come to our next meeting on October 19 at the Edison Club

Another treat for all you history buffs: Our guest speaker for the October meeting will be Dave Hubbard. He is the Site Manager for the Grant Cottage on Mount McGregor in Wilton, NY, just off of Route 9 between Saratoga Springs and Glens Falls. Mr.

Hubbard, accompanied by his wife, Paula, will be taking us on a virtual tour of the Cottage where President Grant, broke and dying of cancer, went with his family in 1885 to spend his last days on Earth.



REMINDER: Please get your reservation and payment to ROCCO ACQUILANO NOT LATER THAN Wednesday morning October 15. The Edison Club needs a final count by the Wednesday before our Sunday meeting. If you plan to attend, even if you aren't 100% sure, please pay in anticipation. If for any reason you can't attend, we will refund your payment, no problem.

### Member Activities

Arnold Townsend was honored for his service to our country by Albany County Veterans Service Bureau on June 10. You can watch a nine-minute video of the ceremony highlights on You Tube.

Pat and Eileen Piccirilli were off touring Ireland for 13 days in June.

Al & Mary Memole took daughter #4, Teresa, to a homeschooling HS graduation ceremony in Front Royal, VA, at the end of May. They visited two Civil War battlefields: Antietam on the way down, and Gettysburgh on Memorial Day, on the way back. On June 21, they married off daughter #3, Regina, in Rochester, NY, - but no battlefield tours there.

### In Memory

We lost two Chapter members this past May. News reached us after the May newsletter went to print.

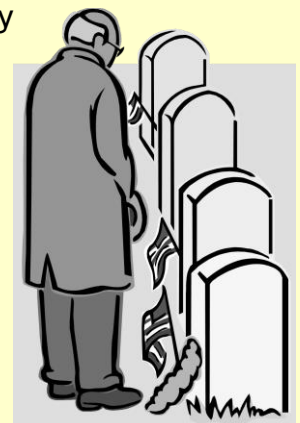
Long time Chapter member, world traveler, and dear friend, Art Small, 87, died on May 19 in St. Augustine, Florida, where he had moved after leaving the Capital District. Art was recuperating from a tragic April 30 car accident when he suffered a second and fatal heart attack. Gunnar Pederson of Clifton Park, a World War II vet, also passed away.

Both brother officers were laid to rest in the Arlington National Cemetery. We send our deepest sympathies to their widows, Sheila and Marian, and their families.

### Mark your calendar:

The Annual Chapter Business Meeting & Christmas Party is set for December 14, 1300 to 1600 hours (approx.) at the Edison Club, Rexford, NY

The last Board Meeting for 2014 will be held at the NYS Military Heritage Museum, Saratoga Springs, NY, on November 8, starting at 1000 hrs.



**ODDS & ENDS**

**Empire State trivia**

According to Chapter Board Member **Skip Bebernitz**, reporting from the Spirit of America Show on September 20, the host, LTG Halverson, gave the following interesting facts:

1. There have been 65 Medal of Honor recipients from NY State
2. There are currently over 50,000 New Yorkers in all of the branches of the Army. (Wow, that's over 10% of the force.)



**NYS Council of Chapters (COC) Convention, October 13-16, Corning, NY**

This year's is being hosted by the *Southern Tier Chapter* at the Radisson Hotel Corning. *Nine* members and spouses from our Capital District Chapter will be attending. The convention is organized around

three major business events - the Annual Business Meeting, the Chapter Workshop, and Council Staff and President's Breakfast - and two key social events - the Annual Banquet and an informal Social Networking get-together.

*Most Chapter members probably have little or no idea what the Council of Chapters (COC) is, or what it does. The COC is a voluntary association of MOAA affiliated Chapters in a State, which helps Chapters achieve common goals. The COC mission is really the MOAA mission.*

**NYS COC Mission**

1. Promote the aims of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA), as stated in the preamble to the bylaws of that association;
2. Further the legislative and other objectives of MOAA;
3. Foster fraternal relationships among retired, active and former officers of the uniformed services and their reserve components;
4. Protect the rights and interests of retired, active, and reserve component personnel of the uniformed services and their families and survivors;
5. Provide useful services for servicemembers and their families and survivors;
6. Serve the community and the nation;
7. Protect the rights and interests of service retirees and active duty military members in matters of state legislation; and
8. Provide the assistance necessary to member chapters to enable them to effectively serve their members, their communities, and the nation.

Convention attendees will also tour two famous area attractions -- the Corning Museum of Glass (CMOG) and the Rockwell Museum of Western Art. Main activities will take place on the 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, and morning of the 15<sup>th</sup>. Optional tours and activities available on the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> (other than sleeping-in) include swimming, exercise, AgeLess Spa, exploring Market Street shops and restaurants, and exploring the sights and sounds of Corning and Steuben County.

**More Storming the Hill, April 2014**



Sue & Ben Margolius, Rep. Chris Collins (R-NY), and COL Bob Norton

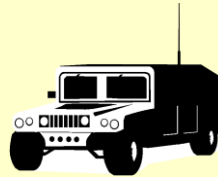
- *Deadline for submitting news, photos, and articles for the next issue is **Nov 15**. E-mail newsletter editor Al Memole at [amemole1@nycap.rr.com](mailto:amemole1@nycap.rr.com).*
- **All members** are invited to send Al their bio's for future editions. *Preferred means of submission is via e-mail: MS Word, .txt, and JPEG formats are acceptable.*

## Chapter Member Profiles

### Alden F. Saddlemire, COL USA, RET

#### Military –

- Military Education:
  - Combat Life Saver, Combat Advisor .....2011
  - G2/ACE Chief, Ft. Huachuca, AZ .....2003
  - Military Intelligence (MI) Battalion Pre-Command Course, Ft. Huachuca, AZ.....2001
  - MI Officer Advanced Course (Signals Intelligence) Ft. Huachuca, AZ .....2000
  - Command & General Staff College .....1997
  - Combined Arms & Services Staff School, Dover, DE.....1993
  - Engineer Officer Advanced Course, Ft. Leonard Wood, MO.....1993
  - MI Officer Advanced Course (Counterintelligence), Ft. Huachuca, AZ .....1989
  - MI Officer Transition Course (Tactical Intelligence, Ft. Huachuca, AZ .....1989
  - Military Police Officer Basic Course, Ft. McClellan, AL.....1981
- Combat Tours and Deployments:
  - Afghanistan (2012)
  - Iraq (2005)
  - New York City (post 9/11)
- Leadership Positions:
  - Deputy Brigade Commander
  - Senior Combat Advisor
  - Counterdrug Task Force Commander
  - J2
  - Division G2
  - MI Battalion Commander
  - Battalion S4
  - Company Commander
  - Senior Instructor
  - Platoon Leader
- Medals: Legion of Merit, Bronze Star w/ bronze oak leaf cluster (OLC), Meritorious Service w/3 OLC, Army Commendation w/OLC, Army Achievement w/OLC, Army Reserve Components Achievement w/4 OLC, National Defense Service w/bronze service star, Iraq Campaign w/ campaign star, Afghanistan Campaign w/campaign star, Global War on Terrorism, Humanitarian Service, Armed Forces Reserve w/M device and bronze hourglass, NATO Medal,
- Ribbons and Other Awards: Army Service Ribbon, Meritorious Unit Award w/OLC, National Security Agency Director's Award for Excellence (Outstanding Signals Intelligence Unit in the US Army , 2005), various New York State awards



#### Academic/Professional –

- Marist College, MA, MPA (Human Resources Management) 2000
- Western New England College, BA (Sociology) 1981
- Employed as a Supervisory US Probation & Parole Officer

#### Personal –

- Married to Kathleen (Ames) Saddlemire; son-in-law of Chapter Treasurer, Fred Ames
- Four children: Jennifer, Katherine, James, and Anna
- Hobbies: golf, travel

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: **October 19, 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 Road  
*Later Than Wednesday, October 15.*    East Greenbush NY 12061-2110

	Qty	Menu Item
Your name: _____	_____	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

