

MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA  
**MOAA TRUMPET**  
FORT BENNING AREA CHAPTER



Published as a service to the members of the Fort Benning Area Chapter MOAA • September 2014

## NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

**CONGRATULATIONS - Fort Benning Chapter has been recognized by MOAA National as a 4 STAR Chapter.** Of the seventeen Chapters in Georgia, our Fort Benning Chapter was one of seven that achieved either 5 or 4 Star recognition. This is a testament to our monthly programs, Scholarship program, school speaker bureau, Flag support along Victory Drive, the newsletter and the web site, and overall Chapter support of MOAA National programs.

August was a really good month. We had a great meeting with COL William Butler, Assistant Commandant of Infantry as our speaker, and several prospective members attending. He had a very informative presentation that included the new army Parachute. **Thank You, COL Butler.** We presented the remaining two MOAA Chapter Scholarships. We placed the first order for our new "Name Tags". If you desire one please let us know, and we will place another order. The price is \$10 per name tag.

September will be a busy month with MOAA National Training for four of us in Jacksonville, Florida, September 4-6. There is lot to learn as MOAA continues to improve, set in place new initiatives, and offer training to leaders. Frank McCanham, Gary DeMars, Roy Burns and myself will be attending with our wives, and bringing back the latest information.

In September we will announce the committee to prepare the election slate for the November meeting. If you would be willing to be part of this committee please let either Frank McCanham or myself know. We only have a couple of position vacancies, and know we can find leaders willing to stand up and continue to lead this Chapter, and support its successes.

Big change - Galaxy Printing which has done a magnificent job of supporting our Chapter and our newsletter for many years has announced that it will close effective with the end of September. Ron Allison and his young bride are going to retire. We will have to find a printer over the next month and develop a good relationship with them for the years ahead.

Thank you for all you do for YOUR Fort Benning MOAA Chapter.

Your Board is working hard on your behalf.  
[www.FBCMOAA.com](http://www.FBCMOAA.com)  
Very Respectfully,

Biff Hadden  
Chapter President

### - NEW MEMBERS -

We extend a Warm Welcome  
to

LTC (Ret) George Sommerfield  
& Glenda

### *Healthcare Watch & Prayers*

Dave Smart, Director

*Who's This Month's Profile? See Page 5*

*Visit Our Web Site  
at  
[www.FBCMOAA.com](http://www.FBCMOAA.com)*

## Ladies Auxiliary



Wednesday, September 3, 2014

Fort Benning

Social: 11:30 a.m.

Dinner Served: 12:00 Noon

Callers need reservations by

August 29, 2014

### SEPTEMBER HOSTESSES

Nancy Skaiff, Jan Litton, Marg Brock

### SEPTEMBER MENU

Pork w/Cranberry Sauce  
Mashed Sweet Potato w/ Pecans  
Zucchini  
Rolls, Tea & Coffee  
Dessert - Sherbert

Sit Down Lunch: Cost \$15.00

### SEPTEMBER LUNCHEON PROGRAM

Look for another fun time  
Judy Bell surprise entertainment!  
Come get acquainted with members we don't  
see every day, and enjoy the delightful food!

### 2014 DUES ARE WELL PAST DUE

Please support our club by paying your 2014 annual  
dues, \$10.00.

If dues are not paid by December meeting, the  
member's name will be dropped from our  
2015 Membership Roster.

Members, look for and invite any new 2nd LT & UP  
officers' spouses you meet. Our female officers'  
spouses are also invited to join.

SEE YOU THERE!

This club is for YOUR enjoyment.!

GOD BLESS OUR TROOPS,  
OUR VETERANS  
AND THEIR FAMILIES  
FOR OUR FREEDOM!

## 2014 Scholarship Honor Roll

LTC (Ret) Frank and Assunta McCanham  
(in memory of COL (Ret) James Kivicula)

Frank and Lorraine Kolar, Jr.

COL (Ret) and Mrs. C.S. Fabrigar  
(in memory of LTC (Ret) George Osborne)

Benjamin and Ann Stahl  
(in memory of COL (Ret) Ron Jebavy)

COL (Ret) and Mrs. Biff Hadden  
(in memory of Roy Leggett)

COL (Ret) and Mrs. Bob Poydasheff  
(in memory of Roy Leggett)

Frank Harmon

## Legislative Update

WRITE YOUR CONGRESSMAN  
OR SENATOR

### ISSUE #1: JUNE COLA ANNOUNCED

The Consumer Price Index increased another 0.2 percent  
in June, rising to 234.702. It now stands 1.9 percent above  
the FY 2014 COLA baseline of 230.327

### ISSUE #2: SOCIAL SECURITY REPORT CALLS FOR REFORM

In July the Social Security Board of Trustees issued its annual  
report on the financial status of the program. According to the report,  
Social Security will no be able to cover its full obligations as early as  
2033. If no action is taken, after 2033 Social Security could only pay  
three-fourths of scheduled benefits.

The Trustees recommend Congress act sooner rather than later to  
right the programs trajectory, so there is more time to phase in  
potential changes. Earlier action will also help minimize any adverse  
impacts on affected beneficiaries.

Resolving the financial shortfall will likely require a bipartisan  
solution that raises taxes, reduces benefits, increases the retirement  
age, or some combination of the three. None of the available options  
are politically popular, but a  
(Continued on Page 7)

**LTC (Ret) Benjamin "Ben" Stahl III**

**LTC (Ret) Ben Stahl III** works at St. Anne-Pacelli Catholic School as both teacher and Director of the Annual Fund, and enjoys the challenges of each equally. Ben grew up in a military family, one of 6 children of COL Benjamin F. Stahl, Jr., US Army. His Dad joined the Wisconsin National Guard in 1923, and served with the Horse Cavalry.

The entire Stahl family had the experience of living in South Viet Nam during the 1950s. While still in high school, Ben joined the US Marine Corps Reserve, and graduated from Parris Island, South Carolina. After serving four years, Ben won an Army ROTC scholarship, and earned a BS in History from Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska.

Ben went on to receive Masters in Human Relations from the University of Oklahoma, and later a Masters in HR Management from Troy State. He is a graduate of the Infantry Basic and Advanced Officer Courses, Airborne, Scuba/Para-Rescue and Special Forces Officer Courses, and the Army Command and General Staff Officers Course.

Ben served in Europe, Central and South America working within the 10th, 8th and 7th Special Forces Groups. Some of Ben's stateside assignments included serving as Secretary of the General Staffing in St. Louis, Assistant G1 (Plans) for the 7th Infantry Division at Fort Ord, and as Deputy Secretary of the Infantry School at Ft. Benning. Ben also served as Executive Officer of the 29th Infantry Regiment at Ft. Benning. Ben, being an Army rated multilingual linguist, served as Director of Training and as an instructor in the Army School of the Americas, both in Panama and at Ft. Benning.

After retiring from the Army in 1990, LTC Stahl worked for a period of time with Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Georgia. Ben then became a Registered Rep and Agent as a Financial Planner/Advisor at USPA-IRA, First Command, AG Edwards, Wachovia and Wells Fargo Wealth Management.

Ben married his college sweetheart, Ann. They reside in Cataula, and are the parents of two sons and proud grandparents of four wonderful grandchildren. Life is good!

**WHAT MAKES BEN SPECIAL:**

1. Why did you join the Armed Forces? I was following a family tradition of service.
2. How long did you serve? 1963 to 1990
3. What's one word you'd use to describe your time in the military? Rewarding
4. What did you want to grow up to be as a child? An Army Officer

## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT (Continued)

5. **Who was your childhood hero?** My Father
6. **What's your biggest pet peeve?** People who do not serve anyone except themselves
7. **Name of your favorite sports team, college or pro?**  
Our teams of US Army Special Operations members are the true heroes, not sport teams!
8. **Who inspired your life the most and why?** Jesus Christ who served even the blind and lowly
9. **What's the oddest thing you ate while serving overseas?** Balut-fertilized eggs in the Philippines
10. **What's the first thing you'd buy if you won the lottery?**  
A sophisticated language lab for Saint Anne-Pacelli Catholic School
11. **If you could have dinner with anyone in the world who would it be?** My wife, Ann.
12. **What's the oddest thing in your garage or attic?** A McClellan US Army Cavalry Saddle
13. **What's your biggest fear?**  
That our leaders in Washington are not living up to their oath to support and defend the Constitution of the United States
14. **What's the best advice you would give someone?**  
Work like it all depends on you and pray like it all depends on God.
15. **What is your hobby or favorite thing to do for fun & relaxation?**  
Reading and practicing other languages

### *Fort Benning Chapter MOAA 2014 Scholarship Recipients*

In last month's newsletter we highlighted three of our scholarship recipients. This month we highlight the remaining two, and offer our CONGRATULATIONS to two outstanding young adults.

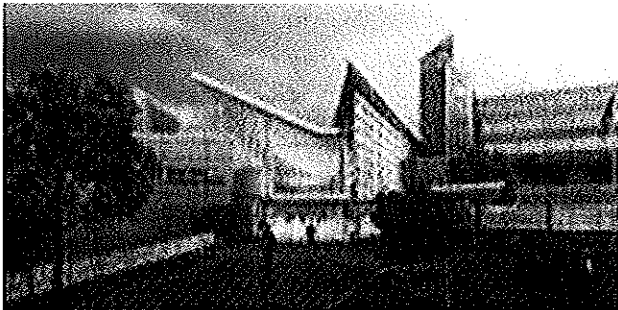
**Wyatt Peterson** graduated from Saint Anne-Pacelli Catholic School. He had a 3.987 GPA. He was their star quarterback on the football team, and was known as a true leader both on and off the field. He is attending Berry College in Rome, Georgia. His father is COL (Ret) Jay Peterson, who recently retired from the Army at Fort Benning, and is working as a contractor training soldiers. Ben Stahl is presenting a certificate for the Scholarship and more importantly, a check, to Suzi Peterson for her son.



**Trevor Dempsey** graduated from Saint Anne-Pacelli Catholic School. He had a GPA of 3.8 and played soccer. He is attending Georgia Southwestern University on a Soccer Scholarship, and is an outstanding student athlete. He hopes to follow his father in a military career. His father is LTC (Ret) Mike Dempsey who works as a DA Civilian at Fort Benning. Here is his mother, Evelyn Dempsey, shown receiving the Certificate for the Scholarship, and the check to help him with his education.

Special Thanks to Ben Stahl and his committee for putting a really great process in place and chairing our Scholarship Committee. We are looking forward to next year's outstanding young men and women who we can recognize with scholarships.

## SEPTEMBER MEETING FORT BENNING MOAA CHAPTER MOAA TO TOUR NEW 500 MILLION DOLLAR HOSPITAL



The new and much anticipated contemporary, world-class hospital at Ft. Benning will officially open November this year. However, thanks to our MOAA Chapter President, COL (Ret) "Biff" Hadden and COL Scott Avery, Commander of Martin Army Community Hospital, we are invited to tour and preview the hospital for our September 16th MOAA meeting! Please mark your calendar and join us for the tour.

The hospital looks like no other building on Ft. Benning. The modern structure has a visually impressive glass walled entryway that filters in natural light, and has views of the surrounding landscape throughout the five-level atrium. Three healing gardens provide serene outdoor environments and the central garden has a 50-foot high water fall that flows into a 125 foot long stream.

Parking will be readily available and in close proximity to the building for both patients and staff. Patients and visitors have a dedicated four-level parking structure. Hospital staff has a separate dedicated parking structure. The layout provides the shortest possible path from check-in to exam.

The new facility replaces the original Martin Army Community Hospital, built in 1958, which was one of the oldest active hospitals in the US Army. Our soldiers, their families and retirees will soon be receiving care in a world class medical facility with the finest state-of-the-art diagnostic equipment, and with a superior, well trained staff.

Special thanks to Martin Army Community Hospital Commander, COL Avery, for extending this opportunity to our Chapter, and to Terry Beckwith, Chief, Public Affairs for USAMEDDAC and her staff for their assistance with coordinating the numerous details.

NOTE: This is for MOAA members, their spouses, and Auxiliary members. You MUST RSVP by September 10 to Trish Hadden at [trishhadden1@gmail.com](mailto:trishhadden1@gmail.com). We are having the lunch catered, and everyone who submits a RSVP will be charged. Anticipated cost is \$15 per person for the lunch. For those who need to call in reservations, call Trish at 706-593-5201.

## FUTURE OFFICERS CSU ROTC CADETS CULP TEAM AIDS IN HABITAT FOR HUMANITY MISSIONS IN MACEDONIA

Cadets who embarked on the Cultural Understanding and Language Program (CULP) mission to Macedonia, June-July have wrapped up their time there. But while we were there we've done our best to help the people of Macedonia, and to learn as much about the country and its people as possible.



The team worked on a Habitat for Humanity build site; helped throw a picnic for schoolchildren; donated clothes collected from back home before they left to give to those in need, and served as camp counselors for students interested in going to the United States for a university education. Informally, cadets and cadre have tried to show great love and goodwill to the many Roma (Gypsies) of the country, and we provided a lot of food and affection (bought with personal funds) to the many stray dogs that roam the countryside.

After participating in a week long joint exercise hosted by the Macedonian Military Academy, the team worked with the Office for Defense Cooperation (ODC) to organize a picnic for schoolchildren in the scenic mountain village of Lesново. The primary students were from Probiship, in eastern Macedonia, where last year funds from the Department of Defense were used to renovate their school as part of an initiative promoting inter-ethnic relations in education. Cadets played volleyball with the students, enjoyed a display of traditional Macedonian song and dance (and joined in), and supped on traditional Macedonian barbecue while exchanging stories of near and far. To learn more:

<http://futurearmyofficers.com/2014/07/culp-team-aids-in-habitat-for-humanity-missions-in-macedonia/>



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Trish Hadden  
at  
trishhadden1@gmail.com*

## FBAC MOAA CALENDAR FOR 2014

- September 4-6.....MOAA National Training, Jacksonville, Florida
- September 16.....Chapter Meeting, MACH
- October 21.....Chapter Meeting, Tentative Alabama National Guard
- October 20-24.....Georgia MOAA Convention Cruise
- November.....Dinner Party, Green Island, Election of Officers
- December 12.....Christmas Party, Green Island

### *Victory Drive Flag Support (Iwo Jima Team)*

- November 8.....Flag Raising, Victory Drive
- November 22.....Flag Retrieval, Victory Drive

## Legislative Update

(Continued)

compromise solution has been discussed in recent attempts to tackle the deficit.

The report's projections are largely unchanged from last year, meaning that the program has neither deteriorated nor improved significantly since the Board's 2013 report.

Those who fear that Social Security will not be around at all when today's working-age population retires misunderstand the Trustees' projections.

The Social Security program shortfall is relatively modest, amounting to 1 percent of gross domestic product (GDP) over the next 75 years. The Trustees and others have sought a combination of tax increases and benefit modifications, carefully crafted to shield recipients with limited means and to give ample notice to all participants. Such action could put the program on a sound footing indefinitely.

Social Security benefits are hardly lavish. The average retiree or survivor receives less than \$16,000 a year from Social Security; the average disabled person even less.

Congress will have to replenish a smaller, but separate, disability insurance trust fund by 2016 to keep it solvent. Because the retirement and disability components of Social Security are closely woven together, the Trustees recommend a comprehensive solvency package.

This is hardly a new issue, and with the November elections on the horizon a "grand bargain" on deficit reduction and entitlement reform is very unlikely in the near future.

**Congress may have an appetite to tackle these tough issues in 2015, when the threat of sequestration returns and concerns over Social Security and Medicare continue to intensify.**

## Legislative Update

(Continued)

### ISSUE #3: ARMY "PINK SLIP" DETAILS EMERGE

Earlier this week, Army officials provided greater clarity behind its ongoing involuntary drawdown efforts with MOAA and other major veteran and military service organizations.

The teleconference followed swift negative reaction by the press and legislators when various "pink slip" news stories surfaced regarding the way the Army handed the notification of nearly 1,200 officers involuntarily selected to separate; some while deployed in combat zones.

During the teleconference, Army officials emphasized that leaders were involved in the notification process. The 87 deployed captains (O-3), once notified, immediately received "change of mission" orders and will be out of country within 30 days. They were given the choice to either return to home duty station or to a transition location of choice and given 10 months to separate.

These separations are just one method the Army is undertaking to bring their active duty force down from 570,000 members to 490,000 by 2015. Enlisted drawdown efforts will largely be adjusted by reducing the accession pipeline but more officers can expect pink slips early next month when the involuntary separation board results are released for majors (O-4).

The Army is in a difficult predicament. Sequestration and other budget cuts have led to significant end strength reductions that hit the Army and Marine Corps hardest.

The Army's Soldier for Life Transition program is working with MOAA and other Military and Veterans Service Organizations to assist in providing transition services for these service members.

As a member benefit, MOAA also offers a military-friendly job board, interview preparation tools, and career transition seminars around the country. The Career Transition Team is prepared to assist with military-to-civilian resume critiques, personalized one-on-one counseling, salary negotiation, and more.

## MOAA Ft. Benning Area Chapter Membership / Renewal Application

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Rank \_\_\_\_\_ Branch of Service \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Spouse \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Commission \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Retired  Active Duty  Reserve  National Guard  Widow  Former Officer NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**MAIL TO: MOAA FBAC, P.O. BOX 6613, Columbus, GA 31917-6613**

# 2014 MOAAFBC OFFICERS / DIRECTORS

## OFFICERS

President/Chairman	COL Biff Hadden	706-615-2455
President Elect		
Vice President	COL Mark Suich	706-587-3452
Secretary	LTC Frank McCanham	706-324-2926
Ass't Secretary		
Treasurer	COL Joe Thornton	706-327-1101
Ass't Treasurer	MAJ Tom Lokey	904-868-9540
Staff Judge Advocate	COL Bob Poydasheff	706-327-9415
Auxiliary President	Jan Litton	

## DIRECTORS

MAJ Roy Burns	2014-2015	706-323-9387
LTC Gary DeMars	2014-2015	334-291-9864
LTC Sam Nelson	2013-2014	706-568-4592
LTC Bob Madayag	2014-2015	706-321-0065
LTC Don Mortenson	2013-2014	706-718-4879
COL John House	2013-2014	706-573-2389
LTC Earl Cheal	Immediate Past Pres.	706-575-6761

## COMMITTEE CHAIRS-Volunteer not Elected

Auxiliary Rep.	Glenda Osborne	334-298-1076
Chaplain		
Commissary/PX	LTC Nev Holder	706-561-7870
CVVC	LTC Sam Nelson	706-568-4592
Legislative	LTC Gary DeMars	334-291-9864
Membership	COL Biff Hadden	706-615-2455
Military Affairs/NIA	COL Dick Nurnberg	706-321-0065
Newsletter	Ron Allison, Galaxy Printing	706-322-3864
Personal Affairs	MAJ Dave Smart	706-323-9765
Programs	Trish Hadden	706-953-5201
ROTC/JROTC Awards	1LT Don Dakin	706-561-8082
TOPS Liaison	COL Joe Thornton	706-327-1101
Public Affairs/Flags	CW4 Johnny Hemingway	706-568-4854
Scholarships	LTC Ben Stahl III	706-576-6681
Webmaster	COL Bob Madayag	706-327-6573
Medical/VA	George "Doc" James	706-329-3927

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