

6. During a visit with the **Pittsburgh Chapter**, Col. Terri Coles, USA (Ret), senior director of Council and Chapter Affairs, second from right, meets with the chapter's oldest and youngest members: Maj. Scipio White, USA (Ret), right, age 101, and Lt. Dan Kysela, ARNG, second from left, age 34, and his wife, Julia.



7. Col. Mary J. Mayer, USAF (Ret), president of the **Portland (Ore.) Chapter**, and Capt. Tony Sebbio, USN (Ret), the chapter's liaison to the USS *Portland* Commissioning Committee (far left), present a \$2,500 check to Gary Piercy, chair of the Commissioning Committee (far right); this donation entitled the MOAA Portland Chapter to the "Ensign" donor level recognition in the ship's commemorative program, the website and social media, honorary Plank Owner's Certificate, and other VIP participation of activities.



8. (from left to right) Edie Sandoval, Ann Morey, and Bob and Nancy Norman from the **Southwest Illinois Chapter** deliver two loads of supplies and goodies — plus checks in excess of \$3,000 — to Fisher House, Jefferson Barracks. The chapter holds an annual drive to collect items for both Fisher House and the St. Louis USO.

9. The Sarasota Military Officers Foundation, an affiliate of the **Sarasota (Fla.) Chapter**, awarded \$2,000 scholarships and certificates of merit to

13 local graduating students. (from left to right) Claire Power, scholarship committee chair; Lt. Col. Ron Wozniak, USMC (Ret), chapter president; Fiona Hart, scholarship recipient; Liz Alpert, City of Sarasota mayor; and Rear Adm. Brian McCarthy, USN (Ret), foundation executive director, pose for a photo at the

foundation's annual Scholars Dinner at the Bird Key Yacht Club on May 10.

10. The **Western Connecticut Chapter** presented its 44th annual Young American Awards (YAA) on June 9. The function honored 31 exceptional high school seniors (pictured) from

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Capt. Mary Lou Wassel, USN (Ret)

President, Richmond Area (Va.) Chapter, and first vice president, Virginia Council

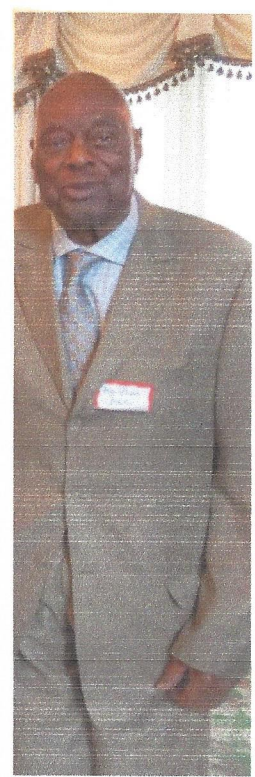
of Chapters

Joined chapter: 2009

Why did you join? One of the main reasons I joined a local chapter was to try and reconnect with other veterans in my area. I was hoping to network for both social and professional reasons.

Why is chapter membership important to you? I firmly believe my membership in MOAA at the chapter and council levels has enabled me to meet and work with so many talented and committed individuals. My military career and good fortune have enabled me to dedicate time and efforts during my retirement years to advocate for all veterans. Over the years, I have benefited from unselfish mentors who did so much to help me. It seems fair that I now contribute to protecting the benefits I enjoy for current and future servicemembers.

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across Fairfield County, Conn., for their excellence in academics, extracurricular activities, community service, and overall leadership. This year, 11 of the 31

students were awarded \$12,000 in scholarships, made possible by donations from corporate sponsors, businesses, and individual chapter members.