



OFFICERS CALL



WESTERN CONNECTICUT MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

An Affiliate Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America

P. O. Box 2145, Norwalk, CT 06852-2145

www.wcmoa.org

Our 54th Year! Founded November 14, 1958

Lt Col John Simonetti, USAF (Ret.), President

simo@snet.net

(203) 929-4085

FOURTH QUARTER 2012

***** New Place - New Time *****

DECEMBER 9th LUNCHEON AT ADAM'S RIB RESTAURANT IN NORWALK



WCMOA ANNUAL HOLIDAY LUNCHEON

Come celebrate the holidays with your fellow officers, family and friends!



Our quarterly luncheon will be at **ADAM'S RIB** Restaurant, in the Norwalk Inn, on Sunday, December 9th
Social Hour at 1200 hours - Lunch served and Program begins promptly at 1300 hours
Please note the change from previous lunch meeting time and location!

We have a great program planned plus:

- Holiday Dessert Potluck and Exchange
- Holiday Luncheon Raffle
- 6 Terrific Entrée Choices

More info and menu details are on the next page along with directions to the Norwalk Inn

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December 9th RESERVATIONS:

Please detach and return in time to ensure receipt by Wednesday, December 5th to:
LT Susan Monks, USNR, 46 Saxony Drive, Trumbull, CT 06611.

Please reserve _____ place(s) for _____ Tel No _____

Enclosed is a check for \$ _____ (\$30.00 per person) payable to WCMOA.

Please indicate choice(s) below by placing number of entrées ordered in the appropriate box(es)
(see menu details on next page)

Soup or Salad Steak Prime Rib Salmon Shrimp Chicken Parm Grilled Chicken

Due to the short time frame for response, please **ALSO** send a confirming email to Susan Monks with your menu choice(s) to shsmonks@hotmail.com

If remittance is not received by December 5th or by email to Susan, the charge will be \$35.00 per person at the door.

Fourth Quarter Luncheon Info



Western CT Military Officers Association Special Holiday Lunch Menu

Cash Bar

Choice of Soup or Salad

**Rib Eye Steak
With Roasted Potatoes & Vegetables**

**Prime Rib
Roasted Potatoes & Vegetables**

**Grilled Salmon Filet with Lemon Zest
Over Rice Pilaf & Vegetables**

**Shrimp Kebob
Rice Pilaf and Vegetables**

Chicken Parmigiana with Pasta

**Spinach Fettuccini & Grilled Chicken Breast
With Mushrooms, Garlic, Herbs & Olive Oil**

Coffee/Tea/Soda/Ice Tea



Holiday Luncheon Dessert

Adams Rib has graciously allowed us to bring our own dessert to the luncheon! So we now have the wonderful opportunity to do a holiday dessert potluck and exchange. In the spirit of the season, bring a dessert of your choice to share. Naturally, if everyone participates, we will have lots of left-over desserts. We will supply containers so you will be able to take home your own selection of favorites!

Holiday Luncheon Raffle

A raffle will be conducted similar to last year with profits benefiting the YAA 2013 program. Please consider donating a prize to raffle and contact:

Susan Monks shsmonks@hotmail.com

with your contributions. Last year we had donations of various varieties of wine, gift cards, and a leather briefcase. No guidelines for the prizes; it's up to you. We will put all raffle prizes on display during the luncheon.

Directions to

Adam's Rib Restaurant

located in the Norwalk Inn at 99 East Avenue, Norwalk, CT

Via Merritt Parkway (Rt. 15)

From New York:

Take Exit 39A. Take Route 7 southbound to I-95 North (towards New Haven). Take Exit 16 (East Norwalk).

Take a left at the traffic light, then go straight for 1/4 mile; the Inn is on the right.

From New Haven:

Take Exit 41. Take a left at end of the ramp, then go to first traffic light. Take a left on to Newtown Avenue (which becomes East Avenue) and continue for approximately three miles; the Inn is on the left, just past the Norwalk Town Green.

Via I- 95

From New York:

Take Exit 16 (East Norwalk). Take a left at the traffic light, then go straight for 1/4 mile; the Inn is on the right.

From New Haven:

Take Exit 16 (East Norwalk). Take a right at the traffic light, then go straight for 1/4 mile; the Inn is on the right.

Further information can be found on their website:

<http://www.norwalkinn.com/>

or by calling (203) 838-2000

2013 Slate of Officers for Membership Vote

Date: 20 November 2012

From: CAPT Bill Glass, Chair, Nominating Committee, WCMOA

To: WCMOA Executive Board

Via: Lt. Col. John Simonetti, President, WCMOA Inc.

The Nominating Committee hereby presents the following slate of officers for election to their respective positions for year 2013:

President (1 year term): Lt. Col. John Simonetti

1st Vice President/President-Elect Vacant

VP Secretary: CAPT Bill Glass

VP Treasurer: CDR Jim Botten

VP Chaplain: COL Serge Gabriel

VP Membership: LT Tom Gabrielson

VP CT Council Liaison: CDR Jim Botten

VP Newsletter: LT Roger Wanamaker

VP Webmaster: Vacant

VP Programs: LT Don Boyle

VP Public Relations: LT Susan Monks

All elected officers also serve on the Executive Board for 2013.

In addition, the Committee nominates the following members for administrative positions as noted below:

YAA 2013 Co-Chairs: CAPT Dori Freer, LT Susan Monks

Respectfully submitted,

William O. Glass Jr.

CAPT USN (Ret.)





President's Message



Sunday, Dec 9th. It will be fun since we ALWAYS try something new! See the details in the Newsletter and come enjoy some Holiday fellowship and cheer.

I am happy to report that we have been adding members every quarter. I have seen many of you at a few of the numerous patriotic events in Fairfield County over the summer and have had a lot of fun meeting some new veterans out there, many of whom are former officers. I was pleasantly surprised to find great turnouts at the many Veterans' Day events right in my home town this year. I was able to attend 5 of them! Snippets of many of our members participating in Veterans' Day events appear in the Newsletter. Each Newsletter now highlights at least one of our members. Look for LT Roger Wanamaker's Bio in this one! Our plan is to post more info, and some numbers, about our membership in future Newsletters. As a reminder, membership dues are payable at this time of year for 2013 so print out or tear off the stub and send it in. And you can use the same form for your reservation to the Holiday Meeting!

On to the Holidays! Wishing everyone a fun, healthy, and safe Holiday Season!

Simo

Dear fellow officers, spouses and auxiliary members,

Whew! We survived a huge hurricane, a national election, and freak snowstorm....helluva month! The other day I was going to drain the gas out of generator (not to store the generator but because I needed the gas to run the chainsaw!). But I couldn't do it because it was snowing so hard! Luckily there was gas in the snowblower! One of these days I'll get the yard back in shape. Anyone need firewood?

Hope everyone weathered the storm without too much damage and I hope everyone has power back by now. Just in time to get ready for the holidays. This year, for our holiday membership meeting we have a new venue: Adam's Rib at the Norwalk Inn. It will be on

Third Quarter Luncheon Report



CAPT David Young USCG (Ret) on the left with speaker RADM Richard W. Schneider USCGR (Ret)

Dr. Richard W. Schneider, Rear Admiral USCGR (Ret.) was the featured speaker at our luncheon on October 7th at The Red Barn. As the President of Norwich University he spoke of the University's advancement in academic, student life, financial matters and positioning the University for continued growth and success in the future.



Photos by Susan Monks



"Here we are at the Red Barn, Westport! Outstanding Speaker, Delicious Brunch Menu, Sparkling Champagne and Excellent Company! It was a wonderful afternoon."

Susan

Veterans Day 2012



Lt Col David Cole, USA (Ret) spoke eloquently at a fundraiser for Heroes Village and Fisher House on Veterans' Day at Marissa's in Trumbull. He is shown here during the event with Antonio St Lorenzo presenting a momento to Linda McMahon. Ms McMahon is a generous contributor to Heroes Village, Fisher House, and WCMOA. Antonio St. Lorenzo is Founder and CEO of Heroes Villages, an organization specializing in constructing homes and transitional housing for our young and needy veterans.



CAPT Bill Glass reads the invocation at the start of the 2012 Wilton Veterans Day ceremony at the town's Veterans Memorial Green on 11 Nov. LT Bud Boucher (center) was the Master of Ceremonies. LT Roger Wanamaker was also in attendance.



Simo reports he was pleasantly surprised to find great turnouts at the many Veterans' Day events right in his home town this year. He was able to attend 5 of them!

CT Drivers' License to Show Veteran Status

Governor Dannel P. Malloy and Lieutenant Governor Nancy Wyman recently announced that military veterans can now apply to have their status marked on a Connecticut Driver's License or state-issued ID. The Department of Motor Vehicles and AAA offices on January 2, 2013 will begin issuing drivers' licenses and ID cards that will include the symbol of an American Flag to identify veteran status.

The veteran identifier on the CT driver's license or state-issued ID card will help first responders, emergency rooms and healthcare providers to identify veterans that are eligible for programs and services from both the Department of Veterans' Affairs and the VA.

At least 30 days prior to visiting a DMV or AAA office, veterans must submit to the state Department of Veterans' Affairs

a completed application and proof of honorable discharge, such as a DD-214. The Department of Veterans Affairs will verify the veteran's military status and electronically notify DMV of the request prior to the driver's license or ID card being issued.

The application can be downloaded online at the Department of Veterans' Affairs website by visiting www.ct.gov/ctva and clicking the "Application for Veteran's Flag" link. The flag symbol will be added to veteran's license or ID card at no additional cost at renewal time or when it is first issued. Veterans can request a flag symbol by mailing an application and additional documentation to the state Department of Veterans' Affairs at: CT DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS, ATTN: VETERAN'S FLAG ON DRIVER LICENSE OR ID CARD, 287 WEST ST., ROCKY HILL, CT 06067.

For more information on DMV services and office locations, please visit www.ct.gov/dmv



Notes from the YAA Co-Chairman

Lt Susan Monks, USNR
YAA Co-Chair

Young American Awards (YAA) Program – YAA 2013 planning has begun. It is with pleasure that I announce the addition of CAPT Dori Freer to the ranks of the YAA organizational committee. Members rejoining this year’s committee are myself, LtCol John Simonetti and LCDR Jim Botten. Any member interested in joining the committee or contributing to this special event please contact me ASAP. We especially need someone who is computer savvy (MS Word and

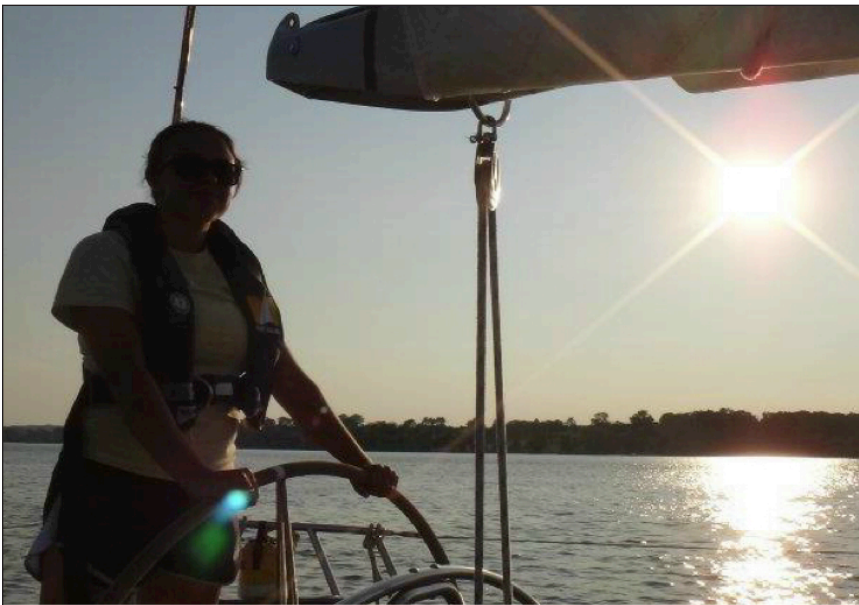
Excel) to help with common administrative tasks. We are open to banquet speaker suggestions. In the past, we have had Congressman Jim Himes, Mrs. Linda McMahon and LT Steven Obsitnik as speakers. 2012 veteran high school Liaisons will be contacted soon to confirm your continued volunteer involvement for 2013. New Liaisons are welcome. Please consider participating in this rewarding capacity. It is a great way to socialize with our members outside the luncheon meetings. Once our member liaison list is finalized, a date will be set for our fun kickoff luncheon. As always thank you for your time and money in support of this event. The success of this event lies in the efforts of our members.

YAA Recipient Update

In 2011 Kelli Freer, a Senior at Shelton High, was a YAA recipient. Now attending the U.S. Naval Academy, class of 2015, she is in her second year and is a SOPHOMORE - YOUNGSTER as it is called at the Academy. MIDN 3/C Kelli Freer took the time out of her busy schedule to send us this

This summer I was fortunate to have two awesome opportunities. The first was three weeks aboard a US Navy Destroyer. I spent three weeks in San Diego, California living and working aboard the USS Gridley. While aboard the USS Gridley I was shadowing a Petty Officer Second Class and learning all I could about enlisted life aboard a Navy ship.

In addition, I gained invaluable information about the opportunities in the Navy through talking with the officers and other enlisted on board. I got to drive the ship, learned how to plot our course on the navigation charts, and spent countless hours on the bridge just watching operations. The second great opportunity I had was to learn how to sail on a 44-ft offshore sail boat. Randomly assigned to a crew of seven midshipmen and a skipper and XO, of them only one I had met before, we quickly got to know each other by spending an immense amount of time together learning how to sail. We spent a week learning about the boats and sail theory in a classroom setting. The next week was spent out on the boats sailing around in the Annapolis Harbor area. Once tested, we spent a week sailing up to Rockport, MA where we were warmly received by the town and were met with a host of activities for our ‘fleet’ of sailors. We then spent a week sailing back to the Naval Academy. I learned not only a lot about sailing, but also about small unit leadership and teamwork, and performance under stress. Trying to change a sail at three in the morning with water crashing over the bow of the boat teaches a lot more than sail theory!



MIDN 3/c Kelli Freer USN at the Helm

(continued on next page)



YAA 2011 Midshipman Tim Cotell USMMA (on the left) aids citizens in Rockaway Beach post Storm Sandy

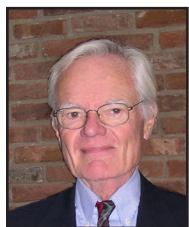


YAA 2009 USCGA Cadet Lydia Monks (3rd from the left) Regimental Staff 2012

Chapter News

Tom Gabrielson reports two new members. Captain John M. Fitzgerald, USCG and Major Michael J. Liberta, USA. Their bios will appear in the next issue of *Officers Call*.

LT Roger Wanamaker, USNR (Ret) was recently appointed to our Executive Board as V. P. Newsletter. Here is his bio:



One spring day in 1960 a gray station wagon with “Fly Navy” on the side drove onto the Colgate University campus. I was finishing my senior year as a physics major and the opportunity to become a Naval Aviator was very intriguing.

After a couple of days of extensive physical and aptitude testing at NAS Floyd Bennett, I was accepted into the Navy’s Aviation Officer Candidate program. That summer, following graduation from Colgate, I was on my way to Pensacola for Officer Candidate School and Navy flight training. My career in physics was on permanent hold, as was my gig as lead guitarist for the “Rhythm Demons” planned for that summer at a Lake George resort.

Upon completing OCS and receiving my commission as Ensign in October of 1960, it was on to flight training where I received my Navy Wings in November of 1961. While on active duty, I flew the F8 Crusader, a single engine, single seat fighter, capable of speeds over Mach 2 and 1,000 mph.

In 1962 I served on Naval Intelligence staff at Key West during the Cuban Missile Crisis. I was involved in the hotline to President Kennedy at the White House in October of that year, as a fellow Navy pilot flew an F8 Photo Crusader at tree top level over Cuba and obtained the Russian missile site images that many subsequently saw on television.

In 1965, I left active duty as a Lieutenant and moved west

to Palo Alto to attend the Stanford University MBA program. While waiting for classes to begin, I joined a reserve squadron at NAS Alameda and became qualified on the A4, a small, single seat attack bomber, capable of nuclear delivery. Again, aviation lured me away from higher study and I joined TWA in October 1965, co-piloting the new Boeing 727. Once back in New York, I flew A4’s in the reserves at NAS Floyd Bennett where it had all begun in 1960. In 1968 I became a Captain and then Check Airman and Flight instructor for TWA on the Boeing 727.

In 1970, I began several years in TWA’s Flight Operations Department at corporate headquarters in New York. My duties involved negotiating pilot labor agreements, handling grievances and developing operational procedures. In 1975 I returned to full time flying, international and domestic, logging about 18,000 hours prior to retirement in 2000. I hold airline pilot ratings on B-727, B-707, B-757, B-767, B-747, L-1011, MD-80 and G-IV aircraft.

After returning to full time flying, I had the good fortune to meet and marry my wife Julie. Then, in the late ‘80’s, it appeared Carl Ican was going to dismantle TWA. With my airline career in peril, Julie and I started an advertising business. Our advertising business continues to this day. Unfortunately, TWA does not.

In 2001, I became Chief Pilot of an aircraft management company at BDR in Stratford, CT, flew a Gulfstream G-4 world wide and managed a couple of dozen corporate pilots until retirement in September 2008. Julie and I have two fine children. Activities include skiing and sailing.

MEMBERSHIP POLICY

The WCMOA membership year runs from January 1st to December 31st, and dues are payable annually before January 1st. New members joining after October 1st are credited with dues for the ensuing year. There are three categories of membership: **Regular** members are those qualified for membership in the Military Officers Association, and are required to pay annual dues. **Auxiliary** members are the widows of regular members, or of persons eligible for regular membership, and are not required to pay annual dues, but are required to renew their membership annually. **Honorary** members are persons not eligible for Regular or Auxiliary membership but are elected for a special service to our cause.

Please note that Regular Chapter members must be MOAA members also.

Use the web address below to join or update your MOAA membership

<https://ebiz.moaa.org/PersonifyEbusiness/Default.aspx?tabid=153>

ANNUAL DUES!!

This is your opportunity to renew your membership for the year 2013! Individual dues notices are not sent out. Please complete the mailer below and send it to the WCMOA with your check, or bring it with you to the next meeting. In addition you are urged to make a donation to the Young American Awards Program (YAA). This is our main annual charitable event. We recommend a minimum donation of \$20, but larger donations are always welcome!

Make your checks payable to **WCMOA**, detach the form below and mail to:

Treasurer - WCMOA
P. O. Box 2145
Norwalk, CT 06852-2145

2013 Annual dues (\$20.00) \$ _____

Young American Awards Contribution

(Suggested Minimum - \$20.00) \$ _____

Total \$ _____

Name _____ **Rank** _____ **Branch** _____ **DOB** _____

Spouse _____ **Date of Birth** _____

Address _____ **Town** _____ **ST** _____ **Zip** _____

Telephone # (with area code) _____

Email address _____

OFFICERS CALL
WCMOA, INC.
PO BOX 2145
NORWALK, CT 06852-2145

FIRST CLASS MAIL



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Date	Event	Time	Location
9 December	Holiday Luncheon Meeting	1200	Adam's Rib Restaurant, Norwalk Inn, 99 East Avenue, Norwalk
TBD	Spring Luncheon Meeting	TBD	TBD
4 June 2013	YAA Dinner	1730	TBD

NOTE: Any member receiving this newsletter by regular mail, who would like to receive it by email, please send your email address to tcgabe@aol.com