



General William Smallwood Chapter
Military Officers Association of America
P.O. Box 554
Waldorf, MD 20604



The Smallwood Crier

Year 35 No. 6 October/November 2009

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Fall has arrived, and we are finalizing plans for our November and December luncheons. The scheduled speaker for October is Ranger Patrick Bright of Smallwood State Park, who will speak to us about General William Smallwood. For December, we are planning an exciting round of Chinese gift exchange. No guest speaker is planned for this luncheon.



The guest speaker at the 19 September luncheon, Mr. Wallace Hill, provided a most informative overview of the military health care system. Mr. Hill made available brochures, booklets and other information on all aspects of TRICARE. His talk was very well received; he answered many questions and offered to return at a future date.

John Neves, SMSgt, USAF (Ret.), Director of the Retiree Activities Office (RAO) at Andrews AFB, contacted us about participating in this year's annual Retiree Appreciation Day on Saturday, 7 November at *The Club at Andrews*. MOAA will be given space during the day's activities. The local Wing assembles a one-stop information event on many topics of interest to us, and in the past has provided health care and information stations. Anyone who is interested in helping out please contact one of the Chapter officers. Feel free to call the RAO at 301-981-2726 for more information. I encourage all to attend this event.

A number of Chapter members have agreed to provide a personal profile, and also to speak for a few minutes at future luncheons. We will take photos of participants at the 31 October luncheon, and we will begin incorporating these beginning in February.

The following luncheon dates are planned for calendar year 2010:

- Feb 20
- Apr 17
- Jun 12 (cribbage)
- Sep 11 (date is tentative due to Charles County Fair)
- Oct 23
- Dec11

I look forward to seeing all of you on Saturday, 31 October!

Günter Finkenauer
President

New Members

We would like to welcome our newest members to the Chapter: Neil Johnson, Colonel, USA (Ret.), and his wife Norma of La Plata, MD; and Kenneth McCreedy, Colonel, USA (Ret.), and his wife LeAnn of Waldorf, MD. We look forward to meeting you at our next luncheon!

Veterans Parade

The Salute to Veterans Parade is an annual event that will take place at the Town Hall in La Plata on 8 November 2009. All Chapter members are encouraged to participate and bring friends and family. Following the parade, a "Salute to Veterans" ceremony will take place, also at the Town Hall. This event has been quite memorable to all who have attended. Anyone wishing to participate may call Amy Peña at 301-934-8421.

Care Packages for the Troops

One of our members, Dan Donohue, Colonel, USMC (Ret.) has a son, James Donohue, 2LT, USA who is currently serving in Afghanistan. We have an opportunity to make the lives of some of our soldiers in harm's way a bit more pleasant by providing care packages. Suggested items for personal hygiene are soap bars, shaving cream, toothbrushes, baby wipes, cotton swabs, etc.; and general interest items include such things as books, magazines, assorted snacks, and more. Anyone wishing to participate is asked to bring items to the 31 October luncheon. We will collect, wrap, and mail them to the troops. Thank you for your generosity!

Korean War Pins

Sandy Mitchell has more 50th anniversary Korean War Service pins available. All eligible members are encouraged to contact her at 301-934-8086 or see her at the next luncheon.

American Freedom Day

An American Freedom Day program will be held at La Plata High School on Monday, 16 November at 8:30 a.m. All veterans and service members are invited to attend. Those who have attended in the past agree the program is worthwhile and memorable. For additional information about the previous years' programs, please call Sandy Mitchell at 301-934-8086.

General Smallwood Chapter Notes

Officers serving for calendar years 2009–2010

President	Günter Finkenauer
First VP	Roy Hale
Second VP	Terry Briggs
Treasurer	Jim Goldsmith
Secretary	Polly Zimmerman

Directors: Darlene Keller, Ernie Wallace

Chapter Committees:

The chapter has several standing committees that assist the officers and board in conducting Chapter business. We are always looking for members to participate on a committee. Please contact Günter Finkenauer or any of the Chapter officers if you have any questions. Listed below are the standing committees:

- **Programs:** This committee secures guest speakers and entertainment for Chapter events.
- **Personal Affairs:** This committee answers questions about benefits for members and spouses, and assists when a member passes away.
- **Legislative Affairs:** This committee keeps the membership up to date on legislation of interest to the group.
- **Special Projects:** This committee manages the aluminum recycling program, the JROTC programs and Boys and Girls State programs.
- **Newsletter:** This committee writes and distributes the newsletter.

Chapter Luncheon Schedule for 2009

The remaining dates for this year's calendar:

- October 31 – Scheduled Speaker: Ranger Patrick Bright, General Smallwood State Park
- December 12 – Chinese gift exchange

Luncheon, October 31, 2009

Date: Saturday, October 31, 2009	Cost: \$17.00
Place: VFW Post 8810	Menu: Rotisserie chicken, mashed & sweet potatoes, gravy, California Medley vegetables, salad, rolls
RT 925 (Old Washington Road) Waldorf, MD	Dessert provided by the Smallwood Chapter members
Time: 1130: Social hour 1200: Lunch 1300: Speaker	Speaker: Ranger Patrick Bright General Smallwood State Park

Please Note: We need to provide a count of luncheon attendees to our hosts at the VFW no later than Saturday, 24 October, so please confirm your reservations with Sandy Mitchell (call Sandy at 301-934-8086 and/or reply with reservation form) at the soonest possible date before our deadline—THANK YOU!

Reservation Form for Luncheon, October 31, 2009

Name: _____

Number attending: _____

Cost: \$17.00 per person

**Mail check to: General Smallwood Chapter, MOAA
 P.O. Box 554
 Waldorf, MD 20604-0554**

Please contact Sandy Mitchell with your reservation information at 301-934-8086 if the reservation form will not reach her by Saturday, October 24.

Payment may be made at the door.

Please mail this form so it reaches Sandy no later than October 24, 2009.



MOAA

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**GENERAL WILLIAM SMALLWOOD CHAPTER
P.O. BOX 554
WALDORF, MD 20604-0554**

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DELIVER PROMPTLY**