

# The Companion



January 2012

## Augusta Chapter Officers for 2011-2012 Elected and Appointed

Commander-	COL Susy Roper
Sr Vice CDR-	LT Rich Herdegen
Jr Vice CDR-	
Adjutant-	CDR Earl Richardson
Treasurer-	COL Steven Amster
Marshall-	COL Don Stephens
Surgeon-	BG Robert Cutting
Historian-Archivist	LTC Larry Russell
Chaplain-	FR Bill Williams
Judge Advocate-	MAJ Dewitt Dent
Public Affairs-	LTC Sam Booher
Publicity-	
Editor Companion-	LCDR Ron Freeman
Finance & Budget-	CDR Earl Richardson
Legislative Liaison-	LTC Sam Booher
National Security-	
Speakers Bureau-	
Homeland Security-	
Membership-	LTC Gary Engen
Program-	COL Richard Manion
Asst Program-	COL Harry Pund
Patriotic Education-	LTC Gary Engen
Law and Order-	LT Richard Herdegen
Ceremonies-	COL Don Stephens
ROTC-	COL Don Stephens
Massing of the Colors-	
Memorial Service-	
Youth Leadership Advisor-	MAJ Dewitt Dent
BSA Liaison-	COL Steve Amster
Chapter Activities-	CDR Earl Richardson
Independence Day-	LTC Dave Titus
YLC	LTC Gary Engen

## Message From Chapter Commander COL Suzy Roper

We are now almost half way through the Chapter year. There are some very important programs coming up very soon. Youth Leadership Conference is well into its planning stages to take place later next month. This program is intended to help develop patriotic leaders in the

students of the Augusta area. Contact LTC Gary Engen or Major Bud Dent if you are interested in volunteering your time by participating in this two day conference. Colonel Don Stephens will be awarding medals to outstanding JROTC students in the local high schools and will need volunteers to help make these presentations. Colonel Steve Amster is extremely involved with Boy Scouts events and would appreciate any companions' assistance in these endeavors. There are several Chapter staff positions that still remain unfilled. We would appreciate your assistance in filling these positions. If you are interested see me or any staff member for information?

Hours of happy times with Friends and Family  
Abundant Time for Relaxation  
Prosperity  
Plenty of Love When You Need It The Most  
Youthful Excitement At life's Simple Pleasures

Nights of Restful Slumber  
Everything You Need  
Wishing You Love and Light

Years and Years of Good Health  
Enjoyment and Mirth  
Angels to Watch over You  
Remembrances of a Happy Years!

## Jack Hayes Guest Speaker For January Meeting

Jack is the Chairman of the Criminal Justice Department for the entire Georgia Military College (GMC) system, and is based out of the Augusta Branch. He is also a past (2008) Recipient of our MOWW LAW AND ORDER ACHIEVEMENT AWARD. This was given for his service in the U.S. Navy and his outstanding and extensive work at GMC College. In addition to chairing the Georgia Military College Program, Jack was instrumental in setting up the CRIMINAL JUSTICE training program for the Georgia State Patrol. Recently his hard work and thorough efforts resulted in the award of

"GMC TEACHER OF THE YEAR for 2011." This has brought the additional prestige of being designated a "MASTER ADVISOR" for Georgia Military College. Of note, Jack was also a reserve officer for the Columbia County Sheriff's Office and is also a retiree from the Massachusetts, State Patrol.

Jack and his lovely wife, Carol reside in Augusta, Georgia, along with their children and grandchildren.

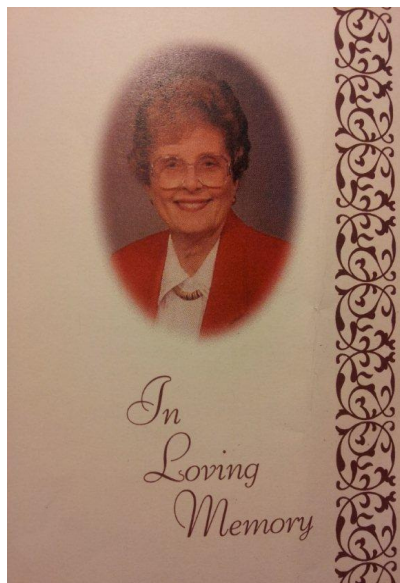
### Happy News

Companions LCDR Ron Freeman and LT Andy Freeman greet Oliver David Freeman born on January 6 2012 at the Walter Reed Naval Hospital, Bethesda Maryland.



### Sad News

Rose Kitchen, wife of LTC Al Kitchen, Jr, passed away on 31 Dec 2011. She was 88 years old. A number of Augusta companions have paid their respects to the Kitchen family at the family visitation at Poteet Funeral Home.



## National Security by LTC David Titus

### Obama Unveils Sweeping Military Cuts

WASHINGTON —President Barack Obama on Thursday unveiled a new defense strategy that will shrink the country's armed forces at a time of tight budgets but pledged to maintain U.S. military superiority in the world.

"Our military will be leaner but the world must know -- the United States is going to maintain our military superiority with armed forces that are agile, flexible and ready for the full range of contingencies and threats," Obama told a news briefing at the Pentagon.

Emphasizing the American presence in the Asia-Pacific region, where there is growing U.S. rivalry with an increasingly assertive China, Obama cautioned the military would remain vigilant in the Middle East.

U.S. troops last month completed their withdrawal from Iraq, which was invaded in 2003 to topple dictator Saddam Hussein, and are winding down their presence in Afghanistan.

Obama, focused on boosting economic growth and curbing stubbornly high U.S. unemployment as he fights for reelection in November, said that ending those two wars was an opportunity to rebalance national spending priorities after a decade of conflict.

Noting the defense budget had witnessed "extraordinary" growth after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks on the United States, Obama said that pace of spending would slow but continue to grow.

"I firmly believe, and I think the American people understand, that we can keep our military strong -- and our nation secure -- with a defense budget that continues to be larger than roughly the next 10 countries combined," he said.

Obama has already earmarked defense budget cuts of \$489 billion over 10 years. The defense budget faces an additional \$600 billion in cuts after Congress failed to agree to broad deficit reduction after an August 2011 debt ceiling deal.

The president's budget proposal for 2013 will be published in early February

## Homeland Security By LTC Wayman Johnson

### The Personal Effects of Homeland Security War on Terror

The conflict called the War on Terror has been different and the National Guard has shouldered a substantial burden, affecting not only them but their families, their employers and their communities. The personal, social and health-care costs for many of these veterans will continue for decades.

A decade after the United States and Britain attacked Kabul, on Oct. 7, 2001, the conflict in Afghanistan and Iraq has surpassed the Vietnam War as the longest in

American history. More women and middle-age people have seen combat, leaving more children at home. More soldiers, sailors and airmen have seen multiple deployments.

After 9/11, thousands National Guard members have bravely answered the call to service to supplement our regular forces. They stand up for us, just as every veteran has, and their courage and sacrifice is inspirational. And the National Guard has been transformed. In years past, the National Guard was a strategic reserve. Now they have become a critical element of the operational force and Homeland Security. From citizen-soldiers largely preoccupied with duties such as disaster relief and crowd control, the Guard since 9/11 has become a warrior force tasked with a large share of overseas combat. Several National Guard units from the CSRA had multiple deployments.

Aspects of the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan differ from previous U.S. wars. In Iraq especially, urban combat had been extensive. Much of the battle has been against unpredictable insurgents, and not a tightly organized, unified force. Improved armor and battlefield medicine have increased survival rates but one that in turn has created a class of veterans with more profound needs, including mental health. An explosive force that might have killed a soldier before now no longer has to, but the brain remains vulnerable. So do limbs.

The survival rate goes up, yet those survivors are now left to deal with what can be a long-term, life-impairing injury. Americans continue to support the troops, unlike during Vietnam, when many returned home to contempt and ridicule. But as the second decade begins, the war is receding from the national consciousness. And as time goes on it will become less visible. The public doesn't keep that keen awareness that we had early on and when we start moving forward with these operations we've become somewhat complacent.

MOWW has requested the President not to sacrifice the nation's military health care benefits of those willing to defend this country. We should all strongly support our Commander-in Chief in this worthy cause. Not only professional soldiers need military health care but also our citizen soldiers of the National Guard. Let us not become complacent.

### **Homeland Security Training Opportunities:**

Back in 2004 LTC Engen had the opportunity to attend the Citizen Community Response Team (CERT) training conducted by the Richmond County Emergency Management Dept. The training consisted of a couple hours one night a week for about 8 weeks and was very beneficial. Unfortunately Richmond County has not taken the initiative (or found funding) to continue with CERT training. There are a couple options though that our chapter members should consider if they qualify. First, if you are a resident of Columbia County, their Emergency response director, Pam Tucker has been conducting CERT training throughout the past many years. Their next session starts on 21 Feb 2012 and meets every Tuesday until graduation on 17 April. For more info about this

opportunity go to the county CERT website at <http://www.columbiacountyga.gov/index.aspx?page=2565> Another opportunity for disaster preparedness training is being conducted at Trinity United Methodist Church, starting on 4 Feb as follows (copied from the 5 Jan Augusta Chronicle), if you attend any of these or have attended similar training, contact our Chapter Sr VCDR , Richard Herdegen (706 825-1760) so our chapter can get credit in the annual chapter Homeland Security Report/Award:

***DISASTER-RELIEF TRAINING*** All training events will be held at Trinity on the Hill United Methodist Church, 1330 Monte Sano Ave. Lunch will be provided. See [trinityonthehill.net](http://trinityonthehill.net) or call (706) 738-8822 for more information or to register by Jan. 13:

***SHELTER CHILD CARE TRAINING:*** An overnight course on how to set up and operate a child care center within a temporary disaster-response shelter, 5 p.m. Feb. 3 to 6 p.m. Feb. 4; the cost is \$45 and scholarships will be available. Meals are included.

***DISASTER ASSESSMENT:*** A three-hour course on the United Methodist Committee on Relief approach and coordination of disaster assessment immediately following a tornado or hurricane;

12:30 p.m. Feb. 4 ***DISASTER PREPARED CHURCH:*** A three-hour course to instruct churches how to prepare their facilities before a disaster strikes and respond to the needs of the community following a disaster;

9 a.m. Feb. 4 ***BASIC SPIRITUAL & EMOTIONAL CARE:*** An eight-hour course that trains people to provide support and information following a disaster while helping survivors connect with personal, community, spiritual, emotional and basic life resources;

9 a.m. Feb. 4; the cost is \$10. ***EARLY RESPONSE TRAINING:*** An eight-hour course that provides an introduction to disaster response ministry, with hands-on experience in the specific tasks early responders are expected to accomplish;

9 a.m. Feb. 4; the cost is \$10. ***MISSION TEAM LEADER TRAINING:*** An eight-hour course for team leaders who also want to network and lead United Methodist Volunteers in Mission teams nationally and internationally; 9 a.m. Feb. 4; the cost is \$25.

### **Legislative Affairs By LTC Sam Boohers**

#### **2012 NDAA Signed by the President**

The President signed the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2012 on Saturday, January 31, 2011. The \$662 billion act funds an active-duty end strength of 1,422,600 and Reserve Component end strength of 847,100. It fully funds a 1.6 percent authorized pay raise for military personnel, as well as adds \$1 billion to the National Guard and Reserve Equipment Account

**Treasurer's Report  
By Col Steven Amster**

31 December 2011

Non-Profit Checking (Queensborough National Bank)	
Opening balance 12/01	\$2018.12
Deposits and other credits	+0.00
Checks -- cleared	-0.00
Checks -- not cleared	.00
Service charges & other debits	-0.00
Closing checking statement balance 12/31	\$2018.12
Closing balance including outstanding checks	\$2018.12
Cash Balance	
Opening balance 12/01	\$47.50
Changes	+0.00
Closing Balance 12/31	\$47.50
Opening Financial Asset Balance 12/01	
Net Change	.00
Closing Financial Asset Balance 12/31	\$2065.62

**YLC Reminder  
By LTC Gary Engen**

The 2012 Augusta Youth Leadership Conference (YLC) is still scheduled for 24-25 February 2012 (last Friday and Saturday of the month) at Westminster School. Letters have gone out to CSRA school superintendents and invitations are going out to school Principals and JROTC Instructors. We will also be inviting the students we sent to the Charleston (Patriot's Point) YLC in June to assist with our YLC this year as alumni counselors on our staff.

If you have helped out with our YLC in the past, please put these dates on your calendar and plan to assist us accomplish another successful event for high school juniors in the CSRA. Bud Dent has some conflicts this year causing his role as conference co-director to be limited. I'll be needing some help with a number of planning tasks and loose ends, especially as I'll be a bit immobile for a while after a knee replacement I'm having later this month. Those that have assisted in the past are being contacted and there will be a coordination meeting scheduled for all the YLC staff in early February.

**Chaplain's Corner  
Fr Bill Williams**

Year's end is neither an end nor a beginning but a going on, with all the wisdom that experience can instill in us.

- Hal Borland

Be always at war with your vices, at peace with your neighbors, and let each new year find you a better man.

- Benjamin Franklin

Always bear in mind that your own resolution to succeed is more important than any other.

- Abraham Lincoln

We will open the book. Its pages are blank. We are going to put words on them ourselves. The book is called Opportunity and its first chapter is New Year's Day.

- Edith Lovejoy Pierce

**BSA Information  
By Col Steven Amster**

Kiokee's  
2012 District Recognition Banquet  
Thursday February 2nd, 2012 6:30pm  
Evans LDS Church (Next to Wesley UMC)  
835 N. Bel Air Rd., Evans GA 30907

Cost: Early Bird \$12.00 before/on January 28<sup>th</sup>  
\$18.00 after January 28<sup>th</sup> and at the door.

Join us for an evening of fun & fellowship as we recognize the great Scouter's in the Kiokee District. All Eagle Scouts and Religious Award recipients of 2011 are invited to be our guest for the banquet.

Note: This will take the place of the February Roundtable

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2012 Kiokee District Recognition Dinner

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Number Attending \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Unit # \_\_\_ Circle One: Pack Troop Crew Team Ship Post District

\_\_\_ Eagle Scout Recipient \_\_\_ Religious Award Recipient  
(No charge for Eagle Scout or Religious Award Recipient, Parent still Pays)

Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Method of Payment:  
\_\_\_ Cash \_\_\_ Check \_\_\_ Visa \_\_\_ MasterCard \_\_\_ Discover \_\_\_ Am  
Ex Card # \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_  
Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Mail To: Georgia-Carolina Council  
1450 Greene St., Suite 150  
Augusta, GA 30907

Fax To: 706-733-0765 Phone: 706-733-5277 Email To:  
[asuthar@gacacouncil.org](mailto:asuthar@gacacouncil.org)

**Membership Committee  
By LTC Gary Engen**

*Membership Report  
Total Living Members: 132  
New Members in December = 0  
Recruit a New Member for MOWW Today*

What have you done for the MOWW lately? How about spending some time and effort to recruit at least one new Companion for our chapter and the Order? If each of our Companions recruited just one new member, we could add almost 100 members to our chapter, thus more than doubling our membership. Recruiting is relatively easy - all you have to do is go out and do it! Know a friend or acquaintance who qualifies for MOWW membership? Invite them to one of our meetings, tell them about our programs - inspire them to join and help us serve the youth of the CSRA and America - Today!



The Horse-drawn casket at COL Bob Deshler's burial ceremony, Arlington Cemetery 30 Dec 2011. Attended by LTC Gary Engen.

### Happy Birthday

Happy Birthday to all companions born during the Month of January:

CPT Debra A. Shelby	04 JAN
COL Donald G. Stephens	05 JAN
LTC William Scandrett, Jr.	09 JAN
COL C. Dale Preetorius	11 JAN
LTC Samuel W. Booher	13 JAN
MAJ Thomas Mc Farland	15 JAN
MRS..John W.(Audrey)Tompkins	17 JAN
MR.. Clifford Rosten Beasley Jr.	23 JAN

### Dirty Magazines Discovered In Marine Barracks

Soon after being transferred to a new duty station, my Marine husband called home to tell me he would be late - again. He went on to say that dirty magazines had been discovered in the platoon's quarters and they had to police the area. I launched into a tirade, arguing that many men had pictures hanging in their quarters at our previous post, so his new platoon should not be penalized for something trivial. My husband

calmly listened to my gripes and then explained, "Kathy, Dirty Magazines means the clips from their rifles had not been properly cleaned."

### MEETING SCHEDULE 2010-2011

<u>Day, Date Time</u>	<u>Miscellaneous</u>
Sun, 15 Jan, 1330, Lunch 1230-1330	Staff Mtg Tues, 10 Jan USCG Birthday, 20 Jan (1915) MOWW Birthday 27 Jan (1919)

Sun, 19 Feb, 1330, Lunch 1230-1330	Staff Mtg Tues, 14 Feb Presidents Day 20 Feb
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### Youth Leadership Conference 24-25 Feb

Sun, 18 Mar, 1330, Lunch 1230-1330	Staff Mtg Tues, 13 Mar
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### Memorial Service

Sun, 15 Apr, 1330, Lunch 1230-1330	Staff Mtg Tues, 10 Apr
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### Chapter Elections

Sun, 20 May, 1330, Lunch 1230-1330	Staff Mtg Tues, 15 May
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### Installation Of Officers ROTC Awards

Sun, 10 Jun, 1330, Lunch 1230-1330	Staff Mtg Tues, 5 Jun Flag Day, 14 June Army Birthday, 14 June (1775)
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### Link to the MOWW Augusta Chapter Website:

<http://www.augustamoww.com>

### Link To the MOWW National Website:

<http://militaryorder.net/>

### MOWW now has a presence on Face book at

<http://www.facebook.com/?ref=hp#!/militaryorder>

### Link to the Region V Website:

<https://sites.google.com/site/mowwregionv/home>

### To contact the editor of the Companion:

[CDRRHW@aol.com](mailto:CDRRHW@aol.com)

Please put MOWW in the subject line or your e-mail will go to spam. Let us know if you want to receive the newsletter electronically.