

The Companion



October 2011

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-	COL Bob Deshler
FEMA-	LT Rich Herdegen
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

of our human nature. It has been said, "It's the thought that counts." Do you know what? It's not really the thought that counts. What really counts in keeping Companions and memberships is action! We need more than words to make memberships and Companions happen and last!

There are a number of Companions that for whatever reason have stopped coming and participating in our chapter meetings and activities. We, all of us need to take a few minutes and call a Companion who has not been to a meeting in a while. Everyone needs to know they have a friend and as Companions we are all friends in this Chapter, so pick up the phone or send an email, let's invite back those Companions who have wondered away. Remind them that they are valued as members of the Augusta Chapter of the MOWW.

I look forward to seeing all of us at the Sunday meeting!

For the Good of the Order



Message From Chapter Commander COL Suzy Roper

Today, more than ever, there is an increased need to be in touch with people. We must learn to balance the material wonders of technology with the spiritual demands

Vice CDR Richard Herdegen presents the MOWW Chapter Activity Award Large Chapter, 2nd Runner-up to Chapter Adjutant CDR Earl Richardson at the September Meeting.

**Chapter Awards Presented at the 2011 Convention
BY LTC Gary Engen**

The awards won by the Augusta chapter were announced at last month's meeting and were published in the September Officer Review magazine. Many members were not at the meeting and some may have missed reading the article in the Officer Review. We can be extremely proud of the many accomplishments of our chapter this past year. The Augusta chapter won or was a runner up in every category in which the chapter submitted an award packet submission. The results were as follows:

- 1st Place: ROTC Annual Award
- 1st Place: Patriotic Education Program Award
- 1st Place : Law & Order Program Individual Award
- 2nd Place: Law & Order Program Chapter Award
- 2nd Place: Chapter Newsletter Award
- 3rd Place: Chapter Activities Award
- National Citation Recipient: LT Richard Herdegen



Chapter Commander COL Susy Roper (at left) with one of many chapter awards received at the 2011 convention in Bozeman, Montana.

**LT Andy Carrier
Guest Speaker for October Meeting**

Lt. Carrier has been a long time resident of Augusta, Georgia and is the Assistant Troop -E Commander for the Georgia State Patrol, which covers 5 (five) patrol posts: Washington, Grovetown, Milledgeville, Monroe, and Madison, all in Georgia. He has recently graduated from the FBI NATIONAL ACADEMY. Lt Carrier is very happy to be able to be the guest speaker wanting to talk about the NEW GROVETOWN FACILITY recently built near Grovetown High School.

**Law and Order Awards
By Lt Richard Herdegen**

Lt. Carrier was honored, along with his Post -25 Commander SFC Jason Johnson to select SFC RICHIE HOWARD AS THE CANDIDATE FOR THE MOWW

LAW AND ORDER APPRECIATION AWARD-LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OF THE YEAR 2011-GEORGIA STATE PATROL.

According to these officers, SFC Howard was stationed at Post 25-Grovetown as Assistant Post Commander and was recently promoted to Post Commander at Post-17 in Washington, Georgia. During his tenure at Post -25, SFC Howard was in charge of the Georgia Department of Public Safety's Honor Guard. In this capacity, SFC Howard not only excelled in his duties but was one of the top Georgia State Troopers. Additionally, he is also a member of the United States Air Force Reserve, and has performed two tours of duty in Iraq. Both Lt. Carrier, and SFC Johnson are very happy and honored to be able to nominate SFC Richie Howard to receive the prestigious MOWW LAW AND ORDER APPRECIATION AWARD FOR THE OUTSTANDING LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OF THE YEAR 2011 FOR THE GEORGIA STATE PATROL -TROOP-E DIVISION.

**National Law and Order Performance Award For Heroic Actions
By Lt Richard Herdegen**

FIREFIGHTER CAMERON HUTCHERSON-EMERGENCY SERVICES FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, GEORGIA IS TO RECEIVE THE MILITARY ORDER OF THE WORLD WARS- 2011- "NATIONAL LAW AND ORDER PERFORMANCE AWARD FOR HEROIC ACTIONS

**EXCOM Info
By LTC Gary Engen**

As a member of the MOWW Executive Committee (EXCOM), I will be involved in the 2012 national Veterans Day Ceremony at Arlington Cemetery and the subsequent Veterans Day Reception. The reception is always hosted each year by one of the 18 national Veterans Service Organizations (VSO) on an annual rotational schedule. This year the MOWW is scheduled to be the host VSO for the reception which requires amongst other tasks the securing of a location, sending out formal invitations (to major organizations) and providing the refreshments. Most advanced work is being accomplished by the 2-man MOWW HQS staff and members of the nearby Fort Meade chapter supplemented by all EXCOM members on the day of the reception. All veterans are invited to the reception which will be on 11 November at the Crystal Gateway Marriott hotel, Arlington, VA immediately following the 11am national Veterans Day Ceremony.

**Membership Committee
By LTC Gary Engen**

The process of updating the new Membership Roster is almost complete and a new roster should be produced by the printer and be available by the October monthly meeting. Remember to let the chapter commander or adjutant know of any address, phone or email changes when they occur. The Augusta chapter currently has 131 members which is 7 less than this time last year. I ask

each of you to recruit at least one new member between now and our June 2012 meeting. Try to identify younger officers recently released from active duty in all branches of the service and invite them to a meeting. Share the MOWW preamble with them and our patriotic mission. Share with them the camaraderie and the opportunity members have for fellowship at our monthly meetings. I would also hope that more of our past chapter commanders and staff will be able to return and participate more actively, I look forward to seeing some of you at our next regular scheduled meeting. Let's all help make a positive increase in our membership this year!



Past CINC LTC Dave Titus presents the MOWW Chapter Law and Order 1st Runner-up Award for Large Chapters to Vice Commander LT Richard Herdegen at the September Meeting.

**National Security
by LTC David Titus**

Cuts Could Mean Return to a Draft

(Associated Press/ by Donna Cassata)

WASHINGTON - The House Armed Services Committee chairman is warning that further reductions to projected defense spending could make a military career so unattractive that it would force the Pentagon to revive the draft.

Rep. Howard "Buck" McKeon, R-Calif., suggested that spending cuts beyond the \$350 billion that President Barack Obama and Congress agreed to in the debt accord this past summer could force the military to slash the number of service members, now some 2.3 million, including National Guard and reserves.

A special bipartisan committee is trying to come up with \$1.5 trillion in spending cuts from all government spending. If it fails, or if Congress rejects its proposal, automatic cuts of \$1.2 trillion would kick in, with half coming from defense.

"We also need to understand what it's going to mean to keep an all-volunteer force. Do we want to reinstitute the draft? Some of the cuts we're talking about would take

over 200,000 out" McKeon said Monday in an interview with Fox News.

The military draft ended in 1973 as the U.S. switched to an all-volunteer force after the Vietnam War. In the decades since, some in Congress have suggested reviving the draft, but the Pentagon has rejected the idea and efforts have gone nowhere with Republicans or Democrats.

**Boy Scouts Of America Troop 119
Invite to the Members of MOWW Augusta Chapter**

You are invited to an
Eagle Scout Court of Honor
For
Samuel Aaron Ball
Brandt Elliott Boudreaux
Nathan Scott Matos
Matthew Scott Northrup
Sunday October 16, 2011
4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Savannah Rapids Park Dance Pavilion
3300 Evans to Locks Road
Martinez, GA

Food and beverages served after the ceremony

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

Non-Profit Checking (Queensborough National Bank)

Opening balance 09/01	\$2468.87
Deposits and other credits	+271.00
Annual membership premium	30.00
Meeting receipts	241.00
Checks -- cleared	-420.62
9/18 1014 Darrin's Pantry	350.00
9/18 1015 Newsletter printing/postage	70.62
Service charges & other debits	-0.00
Closing checking balance 09/30	\$2319.25

Closing balance including outstanding checks \$2319.25

Cash Balance	
Opening balance 09/01	\$40.00
Changes	+.00
Closing Balance 09/30	\$40.00

Opening Financial Asset Balance 09/01	\$2359.25
Net Change	-0.00
Closing Financial Asset Balance 09/30	\$2359.25

**VCINC Talk
By LTC Gary Engen**

1. Some of our members may not be aware of where other MOWW chapters are in Georgia or in the geographic area (Region V) in which our chapter belongs. Listed below are the 11 Region V chapters and their current membership numbers:

<u>CHAPTER</u>	<u>MEMBERSHIP</u>
Charlotte NC	29
Columbia SC	115
Atlanta GA	111
Columbus GA	91
Savannah GA	120
Knoxville TN	63
Memphis TN	104
Augusta GA	131
Middle GA	28
Col Bill Sheets, Wilmington NC	19
Gen Westmoreland, Charleston SC	95
TOTALS REGION V:	906



Ms Claudia Collins, Adapted Aquatics Director, explaining the aquatics program available for individuals with and/or developmental challenges at the Family Y.

**Legislative Affairs
By LTC Sam Boohers**

DoD Cuts Could Fund Vet Benefits

The Pentagon was told to reduce its 10-year budget by another \$25 billion to protect VA healthcare from spending cuts. Sources within the White House reported that the move was done in an effort to protect VA medical funding from deep cuts in the future. The Budget Control Act is the source of tension between Defense spending and Veterans Benefits.

GE Hiring Returning Veterans

Attention service members coming back from Iraq and

Afghanistan: GE is looking for you. The company currently employs 11,000 veterans (that's one employee for every fourteen) and it wants more. The company is participating in over 100 career fairs this year hosted by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and Student Veterans of America, focusing on getting veterans back to work.

"We're expecting an influx of troops coming back from Iraq and Afghanistan, and they need jobs," said Kris Urbauer, who was in the Army for ten years as an engineer officer and is now program manager for GE's veterans' initiatives. For more details, and for more news on jobs for veterans, visit the Military.com Jobs for Veterans blog. For comprehensive job listings across the country, visit the Military.com Veteran Jobs Center.

TRICARE Prime Enrollment Fees

Military retirees enrolling in the TRICARE Prime health plan after October 1, 2011, will begin paying slightly higher annual fees, but fees for retirees currently enrolled in the program will remain at \$230 and \$460 per year (for individual coverage and family coverage, respectively) until October 1, 2012. The fees for new enrollees will be \$260 per year for members and \$520 per year for members and family, an increase of \$2.50 per month for individual members and \$5 per month for members and family. The change does not affect active duty service members and their families, survivors of active duty deceased sponsors or medically retired service members and their families. Visit www.tricare.mil/costs for more information about TRICARE Prime enrollment fees.

**Patriotic Committee
By LTC Gary Engen**

Planning has already started for the next Augusta Youth Leadership Conference (YLC) currently scheduled for 24 & 25 February 2012 at Westminster School. Letters will soon be going out to CSRA School Superintendents encouraging them to support our YLC. Hopefully we'll have another good turnout of high school juniors and plenty of adult assistance from companions. Volunteers are always needed for the Patriotic Committee's YLC staff.

We will soon be contacting our membership and forming our 2012 YLC staff. Contributions are always welcome to for support of our YLC and for expenses in funding students each year to the Patriots Point YLC in the June timeframe. Anyone who would like to contribute to the Patriotic Education Fund, perhaps in memory of a friend or loved one, please contact LTC Dave Titus, the Endowment Fund Treasurer, on how you can assist in building up our Patriotic Education Fund to support the Youth Leadership Program.

Fort Gordon Retiree Day

This year the Retiree Appreciation Day (RAD) will be held on Saturday, 29 October, at Darling Hall on Fort Gordon from 8 am-12 pm. Luncheon will follow at the Fort Gordon Club

Happy Birthday

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

COL Nancy N. Nooney	03 OCT
LTC Lawrence Russell, III	04 OCT
LTC Hal Dayhuff	08 OCT
MRS.. Maureen Juwig	11 OCT
2LT Derek LaChance	11 OCT
LT Richard Herdegen	17 OCT
LTG Robert E. Gray	18 OCT
COL Brian J. Mulherin	18 OCT
LTC(Tom)Thomas Murphy,Jr.	19 OCT
COL John W. Geiger	19 OCT
LTC Nate Pulliam	21 OCT
COL Paul T. Inman	24 OCT
COL Steven Amster	25 OCT
COL Brion V. Chabot	25 OCT
MAJ Coke Geddings	25 OCT
BG Robert T. Cutting	28 OCT
LTC Leo N. Capria, Jr.	29 OCT
MAJ Douglas Flanagan	30 OCT

Staff Meeting COL Suzy Roper

Please make arrangements to meet at Theresa's Mexican restaurant at Ft. Gordon for the staff meeting. In case anyone does not know the location of Teresa's, it is the restaurant currently located inside the old Officer's Club building now called "The Courtyard", Bldg 36708 Brainard Ave (their tel # is 706 910-1044). See you there.

We will hold our scheduled Tuesday evening meeting on October 11th at 6 p.m. at Theresa's.

MEETING SCHEDULE 2010-2011

<u>Day, Date Time</u>	<u>Miscellaneous</u>
Sun, 16 Oct, 1330, Lunch 1230-1330	Staff Mtg Tues, 11 Oct Columbus Day 8 Oct Navy Birthday, 13 Oct (1775)
Sun, 20 Nov, 1330, Lunch 1230-1330	Staff Mtg Tues, 15 Nov

Massing of Colors TBD

Veterans Day, 11 Nov
USMC Birthday, 10 Nov (1775)

16 Dec ,
MOWW/MOAA

**Christmas Party at Gordon
Club**

U.S. Navy Birthday

This month we celebrate the 236th birthday of the United States Navy. At an October 13, 1775 meeting in Philadelphia, the Continental Congress voted to fit out two sailing vessels armed with ten carriage guns and swivel guns. The frigates were to be manned by crews of eighty and to cruise the Atlantic for three months to intercept transports carrying munitions and stores to the British army in America. This was the original legislation out of which the Continental Navy grew and as such constitutes the birth certificate of the Navy. If you meet a current or former member of the Navy, say Happy Birthday!

Nobel Peace Prize and Pulitzer Prize?

John was in the fertilized egg business. He had several hundred young layers (hens), called 'pullets,' and ten roosters to fertilize the eggs.

He kept records, and any rooster not performing went into the soup pot and was replaced. This took a lot of time, so he bought some tiny bells and attached them to his roosters.

Each bell had a different tone, so he could tell from a distance, which rooster was performing. Now, he could sit on the porch and fill out an efficiency report by just listening to the bells.

John's favorite rooster, old Butch, was a very fine specimen, but this morning he noticed old Butch's bell hadn't rung at all! When he went to investigate, he saw the other roosters were busy chasing pullets, bells-a-ringing, but the pullets, hearing the roosters coming, could run for cover.

To John's amazement, old Butch had his bell in his beak, so it couldn't ring. He'd sneak up on a pullet, do his job and walk on to the next one.

John was so proud of old Butch, he entered him in the Renfrew County Fair and he became an overnight sensation among the judges. The result was the judges not only awarded old Butch the No Bell Piece Prize but they also awarded him the Pullet surprise as well.

Link to the MOWW Augusta Chapter Website:
<http://www.augustamoww.com>

Link To the MOWW National Website:
<http://militaryorder.net/>

To contact the editor of the Companion:
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.