

**Feb 2016**

## President's Corner

*by Chris Walton, LTC USA (Ret)*



Greetings fellow officers, friends, and members:

Welcome to 2016! I am honored and proud to have been elected the President of the Admiral Arleigh Burke Chapter and I am greatly looking forward to seeing all of you each month at our meetings.

We have a schedule of very interesting topics for our meetings throughout this year and I encourage you to attend when possible and to please bring along family and friends if you wish. I am defined by my military service and am proud to have been an officer in the greatest military in history. The military has always been a family to Maria and I and we're very happy to include the members of AABC-MOAA in that family. As we did when serving, we'll look out for our battle buddies—we took care of our own then, and we'll do so now. My two primary goals for this year are to strengthen the bonds among our current members through effective communication, and locate fellow officers and welcome them to the chapter as new members. Please feel free to offer suggestions to that you feel may benefit and improve our chapter, I'm always open to new ideas. On behalf of Mark, Jim, Veronica, and John—looking forward to seeing everyone throughout the year.

All The Way,

*Chris*

## From the Treasurer's Desk

*by Gary Reid*

AABC ended 2015 financially sound for another year thanks specifically to our loyal membership and to those who generously donated to both the ROTC and USO funds. At the start of this year, the General Fund, which covers all the operating income and expenses, had \$3,963.58, the ROTC Scholarship Fund had \$4,192.35, and the USO Fund has \$782.44. Last year AABC granted four \$500 scholarships, one to each of the branches. AABC also made quarterly donations of food to the Denver International Airport USO. The Chapter finished the year with \$8,938.34

The General Fund took in \$820.81 more than it spent, which is good for our financial health. At the recent Executive Board meeting, the 2016 budget was approved. AABC plans to again finish in the black by spending \$1,196 less than what the Chapter takes in.

On a related note and a friendly reminder, 2016 DUES ARE NOW DUE! For Regular members they are \$30 for the year. Auxiliary members get by for half that at \$15 for the year. The best way to pay your dues is to come to the monthly meetings. This way you can see what we do with your dues. If for some chance you want to pay by mail, make your check out to

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### Chapter Officers

Chris Walton	President 970-480-5113
Jim Morfeld	1st VP Program Chair 303-641-4631
Mark Menich	2nd VP Membership Chair / ROTC 719-659-5607
Veronica Herbert	Secretary 720-242-6977
Gary Reid	Treasurer 303-494-5053

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*(continued)*

AABC MOAA and send it to:

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P. O. Box 17224  
Boulder, CO 80308-0224

## **Welcome Aboard!**

*by Gary Reid*

Since the last report, AABC has gained three new members. Please welcome:

**Veronica Hebert**, Capt., USN, Retired. Veronica, who lives in Boulder with her husband **Bruce Firtha**, served during the Gulf war. Veronica has become the Chapter secretary.

**Dottie Nazareus**, Capt., USN, Retired. Dottie lives in Fort Collins and will be taking pictures for the Chapter.

**Denean Hill**, CPT., USAF, former. Denean lives in Boulder and served during the Gulf War.

If you know someone who was an officer, bring them to a meeting for some good food and lively discussions.

## **AABC'S Night out at the Theater**

*by Gary Reid*

No shows are on the schedule at this time, HOWEVER, don't miss out on the next one! Join with other members and spouses on a Sunday evening for a great performance (regardless of the program) at what is now called 'BDT Stage'. For about \$40 per person you get a good dinner, beverage, gratuity paid, AND a great show.

On January 31<sup>st</sup>, a large group of members, spouses and friends saw the comedy "The Addams Family". Based on the past, we laughed and had a good time. Either late spring and/or fall we will plan another outing(s), so keep Sunday evenings open and join us.



*Budget cuts move the Air Force to economize with new training methods.*

## **Taps**

*submitted by R. Smith*

**Frederick Carlton "Fred" Sage**, 91, passed away December 3, 2015, after a brief illness. His family was at his bedside throughout his illness and gives thanks for his life of service in the spirit of "Non Sibi," not for self. Fred was born in Iowa City, Iowa, on September 19, 1924, to Erwin C. Sage, MD and Katherine Miles Sage. Growing up in Eagle Grove, Iowa, in the busy family life of a country doctor, he learned quickly of the hardships but even more so the joys of middle-American life.

After a year in Baltimore's Johns Hopkins Institute his father moved the family to Burlington, Iowa, to initiate the first Public Health Center and introduce essential modern medicine to a rural state suffering the depths of the Great Depression. With a mounting interest in community, Fred pursued his BA degree in Economics at Washington and Lee University in Lexington, Virginia.

World War II interrupted his studies and Fred answered the call to duty by entering the Navy's V-12 program, leading to a commission as Ensign. He was deployed in the Pacific theater as skipper of Landing Craft Tank LCT6-1377 and part of the U.S. force taking command of Okinawa during the war's final year. Meanwhile his father served as hospital ship's Surgeon and his brother Rod also served in the Navy's Pacific campaign. This experience inspired a lifelong passion for the Navy and the service to which our nation's men and women are called in time of war.

Returning to the States and his studies at Washington & Lee, he married his high school sweetheart, **Dorothy Schwarz**. On completion of undergraduate study, they moved to New York City where he attended Columbia University and Columbia Presbyterian Hospital for a Masters Degree in the emerging field of Hospital Administration. After his Internship program at Stanford Hospital in San Francisco, he entered into a 35-year career in hospital administration in Iowa, California and Colorado.

From 1963 to 1975 Fred was Hospital Administrator for Brighton Community Hospital, introducing a number of technological and operational innovations as well as launching the Emergency Medical Technician and Platte Valley Ambulance services for the area. After this long career, he committed the next 15 years to putting into practice Medicare programs within Health and Human Services in Colorado and regional hospitals and nursing facilities. With 5 decades of professional healthcare experience, Fred developed a deep understanding of public health and the challenges for the uninsured and under-



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insured as well as the harmful economic impact on hospitals and healthcare delivery. He devoted much of his retired life to advancing thought and understanding of Single Payer healthcare through writings and community symposiums.

With a natural sense of civic responsibility true for so many of our too-quickly passing "Greatest Generation," Fred was committed to numerous organizations over the years. He more recently was active in the Boulder Evening Optimists, National and Active Retired Federal Employees, Admiral Arleigh Burke chapter of Military Officers, the Boulder Friends of Jazz and in serving St. Andrew Presbyterian church in roles of both Deacon and Elder. Fred is well known by his family and friends for his quick wit and bright sense of humor that could leave you with a laugh and often thoughtful reflection. He is survived by his wife, **Dorothy**, of over 68 years; his brother **Roderick Sage**, MD; his three sons and spouses: **Hugh (Claranne Knittel)**, **David (Jeanette Sewell)**, and **Rod (Christine Barnes)**; and two grandchildren **Lindsay (Aaron Johnson)** and **Jeffrey (Alicia Anton)**, and four great-grandchildren **Sophia**, **Elliana**, **Adelyn** and **Benjamin**. A family memorial and internment at Fort Logan National Cemetery is to be held in the future. The family encourages that your contributions be made to the St. Andrew Presbyterian Church: 3700 Baseline Road, Boulder, CO 80303; or to the Military Officers Association of America: PO Box 17224, Boulder, CO 80308

See more at <http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/dailycamera/obituary.aspx?n=frederick-c-sage&pid=176786802#sthash.cP3pZWry.dpuf>

**Virginia Carhartt**

Virginia Whipple Carhartt died peacefully Nov. 23, 2015 at her Boulder home, following six months of compassionate and graceful hospice care. She was 93. A memorial service in celebration of Jinny's life was held on Thursday, December 10, 2015 at St. John Episcopal Church, 1419 Pine Street, Boulder, CO.

Military honors were presented by the United States Army, and a reception followed the service at the church. Despite living with dementia, Jinny retained her vibrant, ecumenical- and peace-based Christian faith and action, through love and outreach to the poor, marginalized and friendless people of the world. God is good!

She is survived by her husband of 69 years and closest follower, **Forrest Andy Carhartt**; two daughters, **Mary Carhartt** and her husband **David Broberg** of Broomfield, and **Deborah Lang** and her husband **Peter Lang** of Pearl City, Hawaii; and two sons, **Andrew Carhartt** and his

spouse **Ken Bordman** of Patzcuaro, Mexico, and **Paul Wesley Carhartt** and his wife **Cindy** of Gig Harbor, Wash. Jinny was preceded in death by a son, **John Forrest**, two infant daughters, **Priscilla** and **Susan**, three older sisters, and her parents, **John B.** and **Minnie Ferguson Whipple**.

She received compassionate care from many former and present neighbors, including the **Steinigers**, **Sheas**, **Boardmans** and **Leanne Davis**. Hospice TRU Community Care, St. John's Episcopal Church, Atonement Lutheran Church, the Presbyterian Church of the Apostles and the Military Officers of America Association also provided care and compassion. The family is deeply grateful to Jinny and Andy's beloved physician, **Dr. Pierre Brunschwig** and all the staff at Helios Integrated Medicine.

Jinny, a native of Bridgeport, Conn., faced adversity during the Great Depression and later was a living testimony to Andy's West Point wrestling coach, who taught, "There ain't no 'holt' (hold) that can't be broke!"

She was a veteran of World War II, having volunteered with the U.S. Army WAC service. She served as a physical therapist at Halloran Army Hospital in Staten Island, N.Y. and rose to the rank of Technical Sergeant. While in the Army, she met Andy, also a World War II veteran, and they married on Oct. 12, 1946.

Jinny's musical talents in voice and piano, and her remarkable memory of classical, religious and secular piano pieces, delighted many. Always joyful and positive, her many close friends included people from across every socio-economic, racial, ethnic and religious persuasions. Memorial contributions may be made to the charity of your choice.

*"For every problem there is always a simple, obvious solution - and it's always wrong." -- Anonymous*

  
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### **VA Benefits**

*Submitted by Dick Smith*

Under new rules proposed earlier this month by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), most veterans can expect to see \$1 - \$4 in savings per prescription for outpatient medications, starting next year.

The new regulations will change the VA's drug payment schedule for veterans with non-service connected conditions in priority groups 2 through 8, to a three-tiered system, similar to the TRICARE pharmacy program.

Under the current system, these veterans pay a flat fee of \$8 - \$9 per medication for a 30-day supply, with copayments capped at \$960 per year.

Starting in 2017, the VA will implement a three-tier copayment system, capping the annual maximum for copayments at \$700:

Because many medications are generics, most veterans should see the new system reduce their out-of-pocket costs.

Those with service-connected conditions in priority group one - veterans with disability ratings of 50 percent or more or unemployable - will still be exempt from paying copays under the new rule.

VA wants to encourage veterans to use one pharmacy instead of shopping around at multiple pharmacies to fill medications. By using one pharmacy at lower drug costs, VA anticipates veterans will be more likely to take the medications they're prescribed. VA, in turn, will be able to collect better patient data and better manage patient health.

See more at: <http://www.moaa.org/Content/Take-Action/Top-Issues/Former-Officers/Veterans-to-Save-Money-on-VA-Prescriptions.aspx#sthash.PXI7m8VW.dpuf>

### **No COLA in 2016**

*Provided by St. Petersburg Florida Chapter*

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) released the September inflation figure this week and confirmed what most retirees already knew – there won't be a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) in 2016 for people collecting military retired pay, Social Security, VA compensation, or survivor benefits. Falling gas prices are a key reason why the inflation index (and your COLA) tanked over the summer. Retired pay increases are made each year to maintain the same level of purchasing power each service member had

at retirement. This is accomplished through annual COLAs, which are based on the BLS' Consumer Price Index (CPI) – the measure of inflation.

While most COLA increases are automatic, Congress must approve COLAs for veterans every year. This is largely so lawmakers can return to their home districts and say they did something for local constituents. One question we get every year is "Why is the retired pay COLA (higher or lower) than the active duty pay raise?" The simple answer is they're tied to different things. COLAs are tied to changes in consumer prices, whereas active duty pay raises are (supposed to be) tied to the average American's pay growth, as measured by BLS' Employment Cost Index (ECI). In many years from the mid-1970's through the mid-90's, COLAs were higher than active duty pay raises, primarily because active duty pay raises were capped below the ECI. The track record for keeping annual retired pay COLAs up with the CPI has been far better, in part because inflation has been relatively low for many years. In the late 1990's, chronic retention problems (from all those years of pay raise caps) led Congress to plus up active duty pay, so those raises were larger than COLAs from 1997-2005.

### **VA Changes Veterans Choice**

*by Donnie La Curan in Veteran News*

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) today announced a number of changes to make participation in the Veterans Choice Program easier and more convenient for Veterans who need to use it. The move, which streamlines eligibility requirements, follows feedback from Veterans along with organizations working

on their behalf. "As we implement the Veterans Choice Program, we are learning from our stakeholders what works and what needs to be refined," said VA Secretary Robert A. McDonald. "It is our goal to do all that we can to remove barriers that separate Veterans from the care they deserve." To date, more than 400,000 medical appointments have been scheduled since the Veterans Choice Program went into effect on November 5, 2014.

Under the old policy, a Veteran was eligible for the Veterans Choice Program if he or she met the following criteria:

- Enrolled in VA health care by 8/1/14 or able to enroll as a combat Veteran to be eligible for the Veterans Choice
- Experienced unusual or excessive burden eligibility



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determined by geographical challenges, environmental factors or a medical condition impacting the Veteran's ability to travel;

- Determined eligible based on the Veteran's current residence being more than 40 miles driving distance from the closest VA medical facility.

Under the updated eligibility requirements, a Veteran is eligible for the Veterans Choice Program if he or she is enrolled in the VA health care system and meets at least one of the following criteria:

- Told by his or her local VA medical facility that they will not be able to schedule an appointment for care within 30 days of the date the Veteran's physician determines he/she needs to be seen or within 30 days of the date the Veteran wishes to be seen if there is no specific date from his or her physician;

- Lives more than 40 miles driving distance from the closest VA medical facility with a full-time primary care physician;

- Needs to travel by air, boat or ferry to the VA medical facility closest to his/her home;

- Faces an unusual or excessive burden in traveling to the closest VA medical facility based on geographic challenges, environmental factors, a medical condition, the nature or simplicity or frequency of the care needed and whether an attendant is needed.

Staff at the Veteran's local VA medical facility will work with him or her to determine if the Veteran is eligible for any of these reasons; or medical facility which includes: Alaska, Hawaii, New Hampshire (Note: this excludes New Hampshire Veterans who live within 20 miles of the White River Junction VAMC) and the United States Territories (excluding Puerto Rico, which has a full service VA medical facility).

Veterans seeking to use the Veterans Choice Program or wanting to know more about it, can call 1-866-606-8198 to confirm their eligibility and to schedule an appointment. For more details about the Veterans Choice Program and VA's progress, visit: [www.va.gov/opa/choiceact](http://www.va.gov/opa/choiceact).



*An unfortunate outcome to a NATO Low-Altitude-Recon Drill*

## **DEERS/ID Card Information**

*Richard Smith citing NOSC sources from Buckley AFB*

Nationwide: <https://www2.dmdc.osd.mil/rsl/appj/site>

Self Service Site: [https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/self\\_service](https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/self_service)

### **BUCKLEY AFB**

#### **460 FSS Military Personnel Section**

18401 E. A-Basin Ave (Bldg 606)

Appointments encouraged!

720-847-9159/4357

Walk in hours: Mon, Tue, Thu, & Fri (0800-1600) Wed (0900-1600) with the exception of the 2nd Wed of the month (1200-1600)

#### **Air National Guard -140 ANG**

Buckley AFB: Hangar 801, Rm 224, 18860 E. Breckenridge Ave.

Phone: 720-847-9295

Hours: Tues - Fri (0800 - 1200)

#### **NAVOPS Support Center - Navy Reserve Center**

Buckley AFB: 7 N Snowmass St., Bldg 1301

Link: <https://rapids-appointments.dmdc.osd.mil/>

Hours: Mon (0900 - 1100) (by appt. Only)

Tue - Thurs (0900 - 1100 & 1300 - 1500) (by appt. Only)

Fri 0900 - 1100 Walk-Ins Only!

### **ADDITIONAL LOCATIONS - DENVER METRO AREA**

#### **Fitzsimmons Medical Center- (Army Reserve)**

12963 E. 23rd Avenue, Bldg 262 Room 121

Phone: 303-365-3060

Hours: Mon - Fri (0800 - 1100 & 1300 - 1600)

#### **Centennial**

Colorado HQ Army National Guard

6848 South Revere Pkwy.

Phone: 720-250-315

Hours (by appt. Only): Tues - Fri (0800 - 1600)

#### **Greely**

Air National Guard

2605 E. 8th St

Phone: 970-378-5080

Hours (by appt. Only): Tues - Fri (0800 - 1600)

#### **Boulder**

NOAA Boulder

325 Broadway

Phone: 303-497-6119

Hours (by appt. Only): Mon, Wed, Fri (0700 - 1500)

## AABC-MOAA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Checks payable to ADM Arleigh Burke Chapter MOAA. Please mail to Secretary, PO Box 17224, Boulder, CO 80308-0224

Officer's Last Name: _____	Officer Status: <input type="checkbox"/> Former <input type="checkbox"/> Retired <input type="checkbox"/> Active <input type="checkbox"/> Reserve
First Name: _____ MI: _____	National MOAA Member? <input type="checkbox"/> Annual <input type="checkbox"/> Life <input type="checkbox"/> No
Rank: _____ Service: _____	National MOAA Member Number: _____
Spouse's Last Name: _____	Period(s) of Service: (see address label on MOAA Magazine) (check all period(s) you or your spouse served on active duty)
First Name: _____ MI: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> WWI (07 Dec 41 - 31 Dec 46) <input type="checkbox"/> Korea (27 Jan 50 - 31 Jan 55)
Street Address: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Vietnam (05 Aug 64 - 07 May 75) <input type="checkbox"/> Gulf War (02 Aug 90 - TBA)
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Afghanistan (2002 - 2013) <input type="checkbox"/> Iraq (2003 - 2011)
Home Phone: _____	Annual Chapter Dues & Donations
Cell Phone: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> New member Regular (\$30/yr) \$ _____
Email: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Renewal Auxiliary (\$15/yr) \$ _____
Please Notify By <input type="checkbox"/> Email <input type="checkbox"/> Postal Mail <input type="checkbox"/> Both	ROTC Scholarship Donation \$ _____
	Current Date: _____ Total enclosed: \$ _____

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## Upcoming Meetings

by John Toth

March, 2016

**Speaker:** Rick Brennan

**Topic:** *Unmanned Air Systems (UAS's) and Their Future in our Military.* We will discuss the use of drones in combat and the challenges they represent in today's complex world.

April, 2016

**Speaker:** Joanna Sprtel Walters

**Topic:** *Girl At Sea.* This presentation covers the author's time as one of the first women to serve aboard U.S. Navy warships.

Unless otherwise indicated, all AABC Breakfast Meetings are to be held at the Frasier Meadows facility in Boulder, which is located at 350 Ponca Place, roughly three blocks south of Baseline (off Mohawk) and near to Arleigh Burke Memorial Anchor.

Members are invited to enter the door with the green canopy, located on the west side of the building, and take the elevator to the Sky Lounge on the top floor.

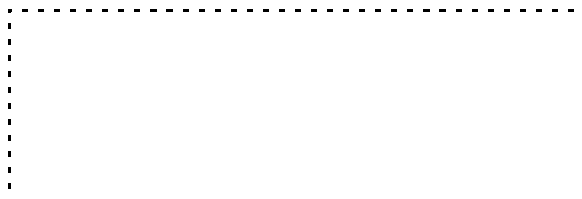
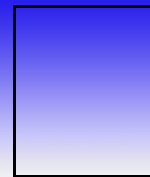
A full breakfast costs \$15, and a continental one only \$12.50. For reservations, please call Gary Reid at (720) 253-8616.



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**BOULDER MOAA NEWS**  
The Military Officers Association of America  
*Admiral Arleigh Burke Chapter*  
PO Box 17224  
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**Note: Annual Dues and Contributions to the Scholarship, USO or General Operating accounts may be made at Members' Breakfast Meetings or sent by mail to AABC, P.O. Box 17224, Boulder, Colorado.**



*The Admiral Arleigh Burke Chapter*

**BOULDER MOAA NEWS**

**The Military Officers Association of America**



***About the Program:***

Speaker: CAPT Alfred Scott McLaren, USN (Ret.)

Date: Saturday, February 13, 2016

Topic: ***Silent and Unseen: On Patrol in Three Cold War Attack Submarines***

This month we will have another opportunity to hear a presentation from CAPT Alfred Scott McLaren, USN (Ret.). For this presentation CAPT McLaren will tell us about his recent book "Silent and Unseen: On Patrol in Three Cold War Attack Submarines" which is a memoir of a submariner's life on a U.S. attack submarine during the Cold War.

CAPT McLaren, a former nuclear submarine commanding officer, is a Director of Sub Aviator Systems and Senior Pilot of the deep-diving Super Aviator submersible. He is also President of the American Polar Society and President Emeritus of The Explorers Club, founded in 1904 to promote scientific exploration and field research. He has been honored with *The Explorers Club's Lowell Thomas Medal for Ocean Exploration* in 2000 and its highest honor, *The Explorers Club Medal* in 2012 for "His extraordinary contributions to Arctic exploration and deep sea research". He has also received *The Societe de Geographic Paris' Silver Medal for Polar Exploration* and *La Medaille de La Ville De Paris (Echelon Argent)*. A veteran of more than 20 Cold War submarine operations, his awards, as a Cold War submarine captain, include the *Distinguished Service Medal*, the nation's highest peacetime award; two Legions of Merit and four Navy Unit Citations. Currently a deep sea explorer and scientist, Captain McLaren completed lengthy dives using the Russian deep-diving MIR submersibles to: R.M.S. Titanic in 1999 and 2003, the hydrothermal Vents along the Mid-Atlantic Ridge in 1999, and during June 2001; one of the first manned dives to the wreck of the German battleship Bismarck at a depth of 4,750 meters beneath the sea

He is a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy and U.S. Naval War College. He holds masters degrees from George Washington University and Cambridge University (Peterhouse), and his PhD from the University of Colorado.

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