



**THE SEVEN SERVICES NEWSLETTER**  
MOAA  
MONTGOMERY COUNTY CHAPTER

Spring  
2013

CHAPTER OFFICERS

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Vice President

Lt. Cdr. Art Glover, USN(Ret)

Secretary

Col. Ray Surman, USA(Ret)

Treasurer

Lt. Cdr. Bill Schultz, USN(Ret)

Immediate Past President

Col. Harvey Kaplan, USA(Ret)

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Maj. Jim Dittbrenner, USA

ROTC/Youth Leadership

Col. Lou Ferguson, USAF(Ret)

Auxiliary Chair

Lt. Col. Mary Sanders, USAF(Ret)

Chaplain/Personal Affairs Officer

Capt. Jim Campbell, USAF(Ret)

Newsletter Editor

Patricia Snowden

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Well, I am now a little over one-eighth of the way through my term as chapter president, and so far, so good. Like Harvey before me, I have an engaged group of members whom you have seen fit to re-elect, and we are trying to carry on in the manner as befits our recognition as a Five-Star chapter last year. But that said, let me speak plainly for a moment.

As I look at the list of chapter officers and appointees to the left, I see names that have been in those leadership positions for several years. There is going to come a time when these positions and duties are going to need to be assumed by some new names... either that or this chapter dies on the vine... and I don't think any one of us truly wants that. The leadership roster is set for the next two years, but I think there might well be a sense of "burnout" growing. I would truly like to see some other folks start to take a more direct interest in the affairs of the chapter. The chapter's board meets on the last Monday of the month. It would be nice to see new faces there. Think about it...please. DHP



Captain Peterson receives the commemorative glass eagle statuette from MOAA Chairman General John Tilleli, USA(Ret), upon completion of six years of MOAA National Board service. A proud mo-

## LUNCHEON PRESENTATIONS IN 2013

JANUARY 16TH



Our January guest speaker was Commander Jeremy Adams, NOAA, whose topic was "Shared Past and Future Collaborations," between NOAA Corps and the U.S. Coast Guard. CDR Adams is serving as the NOAA Liaison Officer to the Coast Guard.

He described and illustrated the history of the relationship between the predecessor Federal agencies, going back to the 19th Century. Of note, we learned that the treaty ratifying the U.S. purchase of Alaska from Russia was partly the result of a reconnaissance conducted by Coast Survey personnel working aboard the Revenue Cutter LINCOLN. The Revenue Service and Coast Survey are predecessors of our modern day NOAA and Coast Guard. Much of the early history between these two agencies, but certainly not all, revolves around Alaska.

The most recent examples of cutting edge collaboration between the two agencies involves projects involving the use of unmanned aerial surveillance vehicles for scientific purposes, particularly in the Arctic.

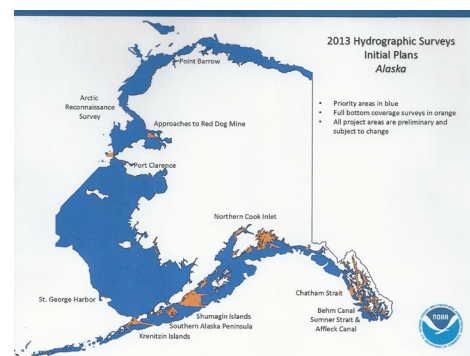
It was a presentation filled with a wonderful look at what the future of cooperative ocean science between the two premier ocean agencies might be.

FEBRUARY 20TH



Our February guest speaker was Rear Admiral Gerd Glang, NOAA, who is both the current Director, Office of Coast Survey, and National Hydrographer, the official responsible for all U.S. domestic nautical charting. RDML Glang's topic was "NOAA's New Charting Activities," with a focus on the Arctic areas being opened to navigation due to the retreat of the sea ice.

RDML Glang provided us with an interesting slide presentation describing a bit of NOAA's charting history, and at-sea operations, and showed us some diagrams of the plans for charting surveys in the Bering Sea and eventually along the North Slope to support both resource development and maritime commerce.



Much remains to be done to complete the chart suite of Alaska surveyed to modern hydrographic standards.

March 20th



Our March luncheon speaker was Mr. Steve Chaikin, Esq., from the Montgomery County State's Attorney's Office. Mr. Chaikin's topic was a subject of interest to senior folks everywhere: "Empowering Seniors Against Fraud, Abuse and Neglect." He made this serious subject entertaining by providing a "quiz" which was very useful in making his points.

A significant takeaway from his presentation was his advice that seniors should never sign any legal document that they do not understand. Have someone you trust review it with you. Don't be pressured into signing. His presentation covered all manner of frauds that one might encounter these days. His very informative handout quiz made you stop and think, with some of the correct answers obvious, while others were surprising.

It would not be inaccurate to say that all chapter members in attendance gained valuable information that will keep us alert to the dangers of those who would part us from our money by many of the methods that our modern digital age makes possible.

Mr. Chaikin has other presentations on a host of topics of interest to citizens of Montgomery County, and has offered to join us for another visit later this year.

April 17th



Our April luncheon speaker was Mr. Alan Ferraro, Commissioner of the Washington District Football Officials Association. In his talk, billed as "The Mysteries of Football Officiating," Mr. Ferraro discussed football at all levels—high school, college, and professional—and the challenges that are faced by officials in making the right call.

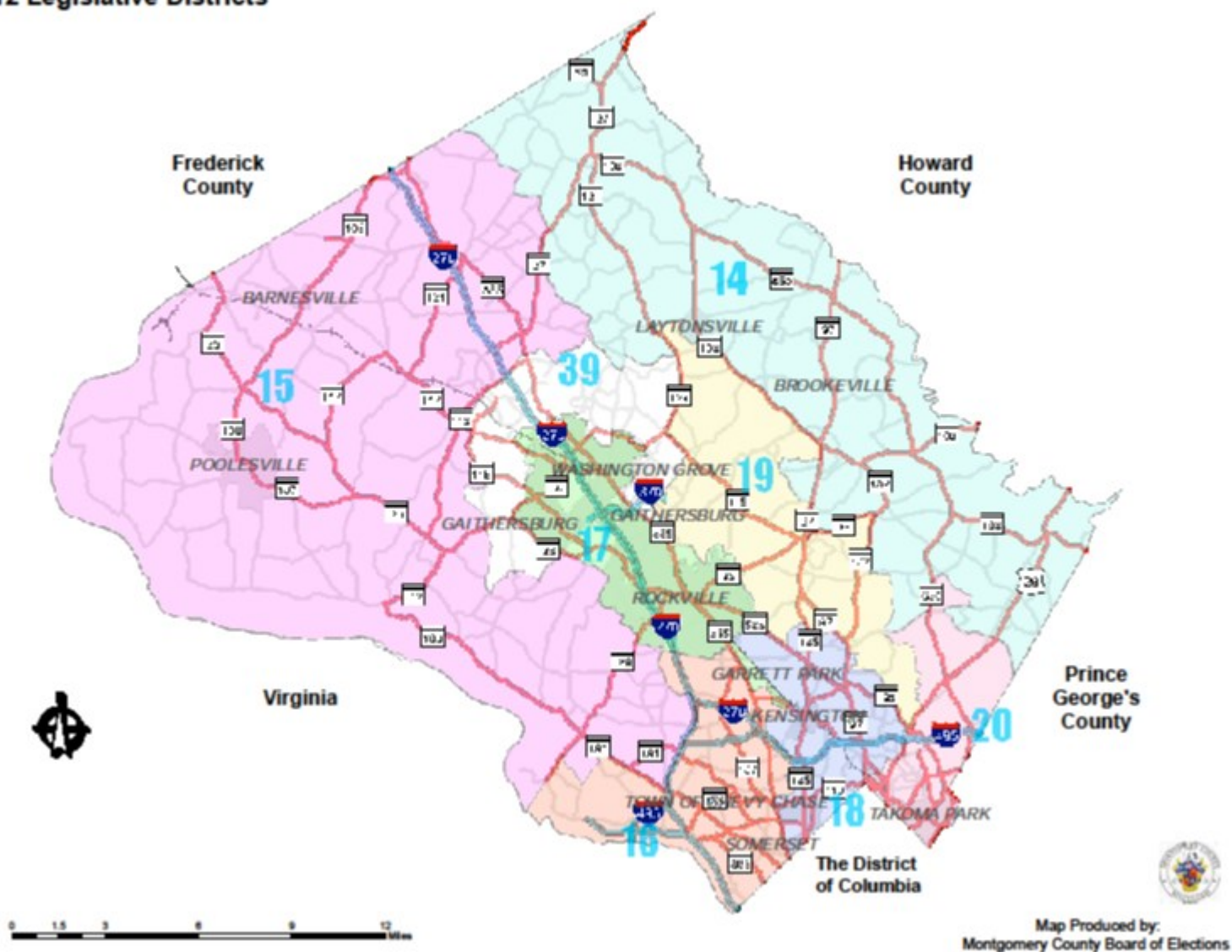
He began with a little history, and then described the management-labor issues that led to the recent football officials strike, and the uproar that accompanied it. He spoke passionately about the need for officials to pay attention to the dangers of injury from helmet-to-helmet contact.

Mr. Ferraro spoke of the incredible player size, strength, and speed at the professional level, and noted that most folks have no real conception of that as they watch the game on TV. A 250-lb running back colliding with a 300-lb defender is something awesome to see at the field level. He discussed how officials make calls, deal with Type-A personality coaches and players, and how they are themselves evaluated for on-the-field performance.

Interesting questions were posed to him, and all attending came away with a greater appreciation of the role of officials in keeping the game safe.

Here is an informative map of the Maryland State Legislative districts that are applicable to the Montgomery County Chapter membership

### Montgomery County 2012 Legislative Districts



These districts should not be confused with Congressional districts. As best you can, given the scale, locate your residence on the map, then look at the number in blue for the district number. Each of these districts is represented by one senator and three delegates. It is important to know who represents you in the Maryland General Assembly. When the Maryland Council of Chapters puts out the call to contact your senators and delegates regarding pending legislation of interest to MOAA members, it is vital to our efforts that you do so. You can also go on the Maryland General Assembly website and use the tool to help you determine who represents you and to obtain their contact information. Go to <http://mgaleg.maryland.gov>, click on the Legislators tab, then click on "Who represents me?", in the upper right hand corner, enter your address and zip code, then click Find.



## ***Veterans Dashboard of Maryland Services***



Visit our Veterans Dashboard. It contains links to services available from various Maryland departments and agencies

[www.mdva.state.md.us/state/index.html](http://www.mdva.state.md.us/state/index.html)

### Veterans Designation on Maryland Driver's Licenses

If you would like to have the veteran designation placed on your driver's license, you have two options:

- 1) Request it the next time your license is up for renewal (no cost to you), or:
- 2) Request it before your license is up for renewal (\$20 fee) \*

\* If you are within six months of your scheduled license expiration date applicable license renewal fees will apply.

#### **Instructions:**

Bring one of the following documents to your local Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) Branch Office:

- DD214 (original — copies not acceptable)
- Honorable Discharge Certificate

Letter from the Personnel Center in St. Louis confirming veteran status

If you do not have any one of these documents and you are a veteran with a discharge that is other than dishonorable, you will need to visit your nearest Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs (MDVA) Service Office to obtain a letter verifying your status as a veteran. (NOTE: The foregoing procedure is applicable to eligible retired or former NOAA Corps and U.S. Public Health Service officers.) To find the location of the MDVA Service Office closest to you, call 800.446.4926 ext. 6450 or visit the website at <http://www.mdva.state.md.us/about/serviceProgram.html>

Once you obtain this letter, you can then bring it to your local MVA Branch Office to request the veteran designation on your driver's license.

Questions: Contact Jerry Boden, MDVA, at 410.260.3841

Here is some interesting information received from the  
Maryland Veterans Commission

Projected Number of Veterans in Maryland by Congressional District – 2013  
(Provided by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs)

	<u>Female</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Total</u>
CD1 =	6,370	62,048	68,418
CD2=	9,112	49,951	59,063
CD3=	8,191	47,549	55,740
CD4 =	7,937	34,665	42,602
CD5=	14,917	61,905	76,822
CD6=	6,929	55,067	61,996
CD7=	5,796	37,936	43,732
CD8=	<u>4,904</u>	<u>29,798</u>	<u>34,702</u>
	64,156	378,920	443,076

NOTE: CD = Congressional District

OTHER NEWS OF POSSIBLE INTEREST

**Use of the Star (credit) Card**

Traditionally up to 70% of earnings generated at Exchange activities are paid to morale, welfare, and recreation (MWR) programs, while the remainder is invested in improvements that enhance the shopping experience.

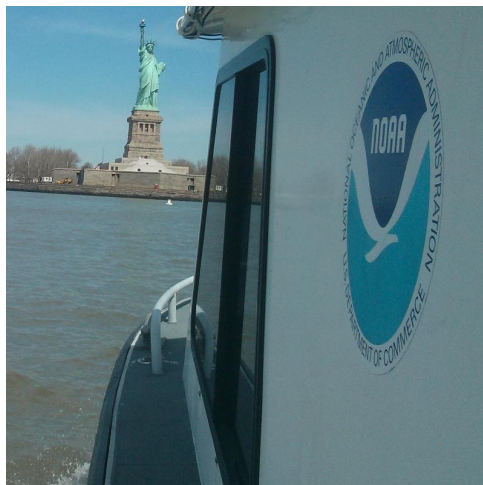
Like all other retailers, the Exchanges must pay a fee every time a customer uses a credit card or debit card to pay for merchandise. On average, banks charge nearly two percent of the transaction total when a credit or debit card is used. What may not be commonly known is that the Exchanges do not pay this fee to the Military Star Card, thus enhancing the benefit to the MWR.

Using 2009 statistics, nearly 54 percent of all transactions were paid for by credit cards while nearly 20 percent of customers used debit cards for purchases. The Navy exchanges paid over \$30 million in credit card transaction fees in 2009.

In 2011, total credit card fees for the entire year for one PX (Fort Benning) was \$1,774,180. Locally the Ft Belvoir Exchange reported \$1,221,935 in credit charges in 2011. It can be seen that the use of bank cards impacts profits and has a direct impact on contributions to the MWR.

# SEVEN SERVICES REVIEW

## This issue — NOAA Corps



### NOAA Starts 2013 Post-Sandy Statue of Liberty Surveys

NOAA kicked off its spring season for post-Sandy hydrographic work on April 11, as a navigation response team -- equipped with high-tech surveying equipment -- began a search for underwater storm debris and mapped the depths surrounding Liberty Island.

Coast Survey's Navigation Response Team 5 was one of the first [in-water responders to help re-open the Port of New York and New Jersey](#) immediately after Hurricane Sandy hit last year. They are returning now at the request of the National Park Service, which is working to re-establish safe navigation and docking at the Statue of Liberty, in preparation for its planned re-opening on the Fourth of July.

Dr. David Conlin, chief of the National Park Service's Submerged Resources Center, expressed his appreciation for the special survey.

"The Park Service needs highly qualified hydrographic assistance as we move forward with repairs to Liberty Island's permanent docks and as we make sure surrounding waters are safe for passenger ferries and private vessels," Conlin explained. "We are very pleased that Coast Survey is stepping up to help re-open this icon for the American people."

Equipped with multibeam echo-sounding technology and side scan sonar, NRT5 is locating storm debris and identifying areas that have depths suitable for the installation of temporary floating docks. If NRT5 finds a danger to navigation, they provide the information to Coast Survey cartographers. If warranted, Coast Survey will publish a [Notice to Mariners](#), and distribute the NM to the U.S. Coast Guard. The team will deliver survey results (including any pertinent images) to the National Park Service Submerged Resources Center.

## Upcoming Events

May 15: Luncheon — Our guest speaker will be

Ms. Natasha Sacks, Program Director

Lifelong Learning Institute, Montgomery College

May 27: Chapter Board meeting at 1900

Urban BBQ, Rock Creek Village Shopping Center

Jun 19: Luncheon — Program TBD

Jun 24: Chapter Board meeting at 1900

Urban BBQ, Rock Creek Village Shopping Center

July 17: Luncheon — Our guest speaker will be

Ms. Barbara Mulitz, Esq.

Montgomery County Commission on Aging

## SAVE THE DATE

**Tuesday, September 17th**

Third Annual Maryland Congressional Luncheon

Rayburn House Office Building, Room 2168

1100-1400

**Harken ye, to truth...**

There is a rank due to the United States, among nations, which will be withheld, if not absolutely lost, by the reputation of weakness. If we desire to avoid insult, we must be able to repel it; if we desire to secure peace, one of the most powerful instruments of our rising prosperity, it must be known that we are at all times ready for war."

--George Washington, *Fifth Annual Message*, 1793

***Here endth the lesson...let us all remember it***