



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



The Smallwood Crier

Year 41 No. 2 Mar/Apr 2017

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends and Fellow Members of the General Smallwood Chapter,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for having me be your Chapter President. Mike Rhoden has left me with a big task to follow. I hope I can meet the standard he and other Chapter Presidents have set.

The photo below shows Harvey Kaplan, COL, USA (Retired), current Maryland Council of Chapters President swearing in our current team of officers. I want to thank Harvey and support his efforts.

Mike will continue as our Legislative Liaison and below is some important information on the current Maryland Legislative session that you all will find of interest.

Unfortunately, I will be unable to attend the March luncheon, due to a commitment to attend a Memorial Service for a cousin on that date. Neil Johnson, COL, USA (Retired), our Chapter Vice President, will lead the meeting. I'm sorry to miss the meatloaf.

I would like you all to please consider participating in the Fort A.P. Hill Earth Day Event on 27 April, they need some assistance, last year they had over 1,000 school children attend. I will send more details separately.

Very respectfully,

Dan Donohue
Col, USMC (Ret)
Chapter President



The New Leadership Team Takes Their Oath

Legislative Update

Status of Maryland State Income Tax Exemption (House Bill 0375/Senate Bill 0321) submitted by Governor Hogan:

If you are not familiar with these bills, military retirement income would be exempted beginning in tax year 2018. The amount that may be exempted is equal to (1) the greater of \$10,000 or **50%** of eligible income in tax year 2018; (2) the greater of \$10,000 or **75%** of eligible income in tax year 2019; and (3) **100%** of eligible income beginning in tax year 2020.

The Maryland House Ways and Means Committee heard testimony on 15 February from Maryland Secretary of Veterans Affairs Owings and several Veterans and Retirees regarding House Bill 0375. The committee members asked good questions and Chairwoman Kaiser gave ample time for answers to be provided. When those present who supported the bill were asked to stand, the Committee offered a round of applause.

The hearing for SB0321 (cross-filed with HB0375) in the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, 22 February, 1:00 PM, in 3 West Miller Senate Building, 11 Bladen Street, Annapolis, MD 21401-1991.

We would like as many people as possible to be present during the testimony, so please come whether you want to testify or not. And, encourage your fellow Chapter members and friends to attend, as well. The Hometown Heroes legislation for the First Responders will be considered at the same time; I am sure they will show up, and we need to match their strength.

I would like to coordinate our comments to get the most time for our speakers and be efficient with our presentation, with as little redundancy as possible, so please, let me know if you wish to testify personally. The electronic register will open at 12:00 PM on the 21st, and close at 12:30 PM on the 22nd.

If you would like to provide written testimony, even if you do not testify in person, you must submit 30 copies to the committee staff for distribution by 11:00 AM on the 22nd.

Chapter Notes

Next Chapter Luncheon on 18 March 2017

Our next luncheon will be held at the Waldorf VFW on 18 March 2017. Our guest speaker is U.S. Air Force Chief Master Sergeant (Retired) Michael W. Tedford, former Air Force One Chief of Communications and member of the Air Force One aircrew. He will provide background information and a description of the Air Force One mission, discuss the communications capabilities and programmatic environment prior to 9/11, and review lessons learned on 9/11. He will provide insight into the roadmap and project path used to get Air Force One communications updated and modified for the 21st century in the post 9/11 environment.

2017 General William Smallwood Chapter Calendar

18 March	Luncheon at VFW
6 April	Board Meeting
6 May	Luncheon at VFW
10 June	Picnic (Location to be determined)

3 August	Board Meeting
23 September	Luncheon at VFW
5 October	Board Meeting
4 November	Luncheon followed by Board Meeting
2 December	Holiday Party

Looking for a New Chapter Chaplain Our long time Chaplain, Marge Asman, will be spending more time away from the local area and has resigned from her office. Marge did a great job as Chaplain and we wish her much happiness. We'll miss seeing her smiling face as a luncheon regular. If you would like to serve as Chaplain, please contact Neil Johnson, Chapter VP, at 301-392-1819.

Do You Know a Chapter Member or Spouse Who is Ill? If you know of a chapter member or spouse who is ill, please contact Dan Donohue at 301-283-6414. We want to at least send them a Get Well card.

Changes to Your E-mail Address or Telephone Number? If you change your e-mail address or telephone number, please provide the new information to Sandy Wadsworth, our Chapter Secretary (Sandy.Wadsworth@comcast.net).

Speaker Suggestions? If you would like to recommend a speaker or a luncheon topic, please contact Dan Donohue at dadonohue@hotmail.com or 301-283-6414.

Recycle and Support Your Chapter!!!

A reminder that Jake Mitchell will be happy to take your aluminum cans for recycling, **if you make arrangements with him by calling 301-934-8086**. All proceeds go into the Chapter Treasury to benefit the JROTC programs we support at St. Charles, McDonough, Stone, Lackey, La Plata, Westlake, and North Point high schools.

Date: Saturday, 18 March 2017

Cost: \$20.00 (please pay in advance if possible)

**Place: VFW Post 8810, 2310 Old
Washington Rd, Waldorf, MD 20601**

**Menu: Meat Loaf, Scalloped Potatoes, Green
Bean Casserole, Salad, Tea, Water, Coffee**

Dessert: Please bring some to share!

Time:

1130, Social Hour

1200, Luncheon

Please call Sandy Mitchell at 301-934-8086 to RSVP by 13 March 2017.

Please mail your check to Sandy: General Smallwood Chapter MOAA, P.O. Box 554, Waldorf, MD 20604.