



Georgia Legal Services and The Salvation Army.

### ***Membership Chair Report***

*By: Don McArthur, Maj. USAF, Ret.*

I thought we had a nice attendance in July being another "vacation month". It was enjoyable to talk to some of you who had been on holiday in June.

It is a pleasure to welcome the newest member to our chapter, Col. Randy Richert. Randy is the 820th BDGp Commander at Moody AFB and was our guest speaker in July. Welcome aboard, Randy. It is refreshing to have an active duty member in the chapter.



Randy and Andrea Richert

### ***Smiling Faces in the Crowd***

We were delighted to have Fred and Sandra Jones attending our August meeting after and being away too long. Welcome back!



Fred and Sandra Jones

### ***News You Can Use from MOAA***

**From: MOAA's Legislative Update**

The Vice Chiefs of the four military services provided sobering testimony at a House Armed Services Subcommittee hearing recently.

Readiness Subcommittee Chairman Randy Forbes (R-VA) began by noting, "No one will dispute that we have the most capable and professional military in the world. However, I worry about the...looming defense budget cuts many in Congress seem willing to inflict on our military."

Asked about the readiness effects of the \$400 billion cut proposed by the President three months ago, all the Vice Chiefs said readiness is at an 'acceptable' level, but the services are unable to support all mission requirements of the combatant commanders.

They described declining trends in readiness and stress across forces and infrastructure. If required to sustain additional cuts above the \$400 billion, they said risks would grow significantly -- requiring substantial force structure cuts and altering national strategy requirements.

The Vice Chiefs summed up their people priorities by saying:

- Army: "We can't lose the trust of our soldiers - we need to make sure, whatever we do, we never take away his ability and his belief that if in combat, he asks for it, he's going to get it."
- Navy: "Sailors want to be challenged, they want to be

relevant, and they want to believe we will take care of their families."

- Marine Corps: "Keep the faith with our Marines by giving them what they need to do the mission and then letting them know we will support them when they come home."
- Air Force: "Don't send an Airman to the fight with second-best training and equipment. We need to recognize their sacrifice and the sacrifice of their families."

### ***Food for Thought***

*From: Thoughts on the Business of Life*

*By the editors of FORBES Magazine*

*"Whatever task you undertake, do it with all your heart and soul. Always be courteous, never be discouraged. Beware of him who promises something for nothing. Do not blame anybody for your mistakes and failures. Do not look for approval except the consciousness of doing your best."* **Bernard Baruch**

### ***Special August Program***

Our Thursday, August 11 program will be presented by Myrna Ballard. Recently elected chairman of the Georgia Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives, Myrna has been serving as president of the Valdosta-Lowndes County Chamber of Commerce since 1997. She's active in several community and professional organizations, a director and president designate of the Valdosta Rotary Club, former president of the Civic Roundtable and former member of the Valdosta

Technical College Board of Directors. She's been instrumental in the development of our Community Blueprint project through the Chamber's Military Affairs Committee.

### ***We Get Mail***

Dear South GA MOAA Chapter Members,

*The GA-081st cadets cannot thank you enough for your generous \$500.00 donation to our unit as well as your continued efforts in presenting an annual award to a deserving cadet. Thank you, thank you, thank you! The money will be used to help send 8 students to Drill Leadership School and to purchase new PT shorts for the corps. We could not do this without your generous support!*

*Thanks again for all you do for us!*

Norene Olsen & GA-081 cadets

Don't forget to bring to our monthly meetings "personal items" for residents of ***The Haven***. If you don't have hotel items from trips out of town, consider visiting one of our "Dollar" stores and filling a 1 gallon zip lock bag. You might include items like soap, lotion, shampoo, toothbrush, toothpaste, comb, brush, hand towel, washcloth and socks. Clients often arrive at the facility with nothing but the clothes on their back.

Our next meeting is Thursday August 11, 6:00 PM, Valdosta – Lowndes  
Conference Center on Norman Drive

*Please welcome our guests and ask them to join you for dinner.*

Dinner is served at 6:30 PM

Please make your reservations through chapter Secretary Buddy Johnson 229-561-0690 or email [buddy1612@bellsouth.net](mailto:buddy1612@bellsouth.net). We are required to provide an accurate meal count two work days prior to the event.

Cost is \$20 per person.

**Sorry, we must bill no-shows and late cancellations**

<b>President</b> Ron Borders Former USA CWO	<b>Vice President</b> Bill Piper Former USAF Captain
<b>Secretary</b> Alton “Buddy” Johnson Lt Col USAF, Ret.	<b>Treasurer</b> John Salter Former USAF Captain
<b>Directors</b> Norm Conant, Maj. USAF, Ret. James Smith, Lt Col USAFR Glenn Walden, Col USAR, Ret.	<b>Personal Affairs</b> Gil Gjertsen Former USMC Captain
<b>Tops Officer</b> Tim Oliver, Lt Col, USAF, Ret.	<b>Legislative Affairs</b> Jim Smith Lt Col USAFR, Ret.
<b>Public Affairs</b> Jack Sinnott, Col, AUS, Ret.	<b>Programs</b> Dr. Hugh Bassham Former USA Captain
<b>Remembrances and Memorials</b> Mrs Jacque Clark	<b>Membership</b> Don McArthur Maj. USAF, Ret
	<b>Auxiliary Advisory Chair</b> Mrs. Rose Marie Sinnott
<b>Chaplain</b> Rev. John McGowan, Lt Col, USAF, Ret.	

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