



VIPMOAA

NEWSLETTER



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PREZ SEZ

“A pessimist sees the difficulty in every opportunity; an optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty.”
Winston Churchill



It is my sincere hope that all of you had a very Merry Christmas and a great time with family and friends over the New Year holiday. I also wish all of you a very good and prosperous 2012.

With the advent of a new year upon us, I would like to reflect upon what your Chapter has accomplished this past year. In January, VIPMOAA joined the other Virginia MOAA Chapters in “Storming Richmond” when seven of our members took part in the day at the General Assembly. All Senators and Delegates from the Peninsula were visited to thank them for past support and present the JLC Legislative Objectives for 2011. In May, seven VIPMOAA members took part in the VCOC sponsored Congressional Appreciation Luncheon held annually in Washington, D.C. Ten of Virginia’s 13 Congressional representatives attended this function and VIPMOAA had the opportunity to discuss issues with Congressmen from the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Congressional Districts. And, we had regular contact with our elected representatives throughout the year on important issues.

In February, the VIPMOAA Executive Board decided to initiate a Military Community Service/Educational Scholarship Program to collect funds for Chapter awards to worthwhile military programs and JROTC students entering colleges and universities in 2012. I am happy to report that, to date, we have collected around \$1,800 for this cause. We will award at least five scholarships to the 11 high school JROTC programs that we support, with the remaining six to be awarded in 2013, if not sooner. Also, depending on the amount of money collected, we will make contributions to deserving military community programs such as Wounded Warrior, Operation Homefront, VA Veterans Services, etc.

In February, we also decided to participate in the Cell Phones for Soldiers Program adopted by the National MOAA Auxiliary Member Advisory Committee (AMAC) as a MOAA-wide project. The goal we set at that time was to collect at least 40 cell phones, which is the number quoted by the AMAC as needed from each chapter nationwide to reach their goal of 1,000,000 minutes of free talk-time for our deployed military. I am very proud to say that we have collected about 600 cell phones for this program as of this writing, with almost two months left to go in the campaign.

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