



# The Salute online



Monthly newsletter of the Portsmouth Area Chapter, an affiliate of the Military Officers Association of America, serving Portsmouth, Chesapeake, Suffolk, Smithfield and Franklin, Virginia, since 1983. Dinner meetings are held the Second Thursday of each month except July and August.

VOLUME XXXVII ISSUE II

[thesalute1@gmail.com](mailto:thesalute1@gmail.com)

[pacmoaa.org](http://pacmoaa.org)

February 2018



## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

PACMOAA had a great start to the New Year with thirty members, spouses, and guests attending the January meeting! Guests attending included Ms. Terri Davis, Public Affairs Officer for the Norfolk Naval Shipyard (NNSY) and CAPT Scott M. Brown, USN, CO, NNSY. It was a pleasure to meet one of our new members, Dan Hartman, who attended his first dinner meeting in January. Chuck Kuehn again donated one of his beautiful birdhouses for a raffle item. It takes Chuck at least 12 hours to paint each birdhouse and he brings one to almost every dinner meeting he attends! Thank you Chuck for being a long time PACMOAA member and contributing so much interest in the 50/50. Everyone wants to win one of Chuck's birdhouses!

After dinner, CAPT Brown, inducted the new Leadership Team Members: 1st Vice President – CDR Ken App, USN (Ret) was ill and could not attend, 2nd Vice President - LCDR Dolly Cherrington, USN (Ret), Treasurer - CDR Hans Sachse, USN (Ret) and Board Of Directors – CDR Scott Dickinson, USN (Ret), and CWO3 Karl Wilson, USA (Ret).

After the induction ceremony, CAPT Brown gave a fascinating presentation on the history and current status of the NNSY. I grew up in Norfolk and both my parents worked in and retired from the NNSY but I had no idea how many firsts the shipyard had or how far reaching it is.

Some examples of firsts include:

- 1767 - the Navy's oldest shipyard
- 1794-99 -USS Chesapeake, sister ship of the USS constitution and one of the first 6 ships built for the US Navy after the Revolution
- 1833 - Dry dock one - 1st functioning drydock in America
- 1833 - USS Delaware - 1st ship to be drydocked
- CSS Virginia - 1st confederate ironclad warship (burned out hull of the USS Merrimac)
- 1889-92 - USS Texas - 1st battleship
- 1889-92 - USS Raleigh - 1st modern cruiser
- 1910 - USS Birmingham (CS-2) -1st flight from a flight deck built on a ship
- 1919 - 22 - USS Langley - 1st aircraft carrier (converted from collier Jupiter)

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Shirley S Barker  
Traci Green  
Joyce Janke  
Robert C Parker Jr.  
Lynn M Terry

The overview of the shipyard noted 4 main items: Full service waterfront support with 5 drydocks, fully capable Depot Maintenance Plant, Operating Profile includes employing 19, 552 civilians and 750 military with an additional 6,000 tenants as well as annual business of \$1.5 billion, and Fleet support. According to CAPT Brown, the shipyard has 20,000 to 25,000 individuals working on the on base each day and is the 4th largest employer in Hampton Roads. The shipyard has 685 facilities on the main site and 6 annexes. The shipyard also has

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Click Here for  
DIRECTORY

## Chapter Happenings

**Feb 02 Ground Hog Day**

**Feb 04 Super Bowl Sunday**

**Feb 08 PACMOAA meeting**

**Feb 13 Fat Tuesday**

**Feb 14 Valentine's Day**

**Feb 19 Presidents' Day**

### FEBRUARY MEETING

Our February dinner meeting will be held on Thursday the 8th at Hilton Garden Inn Harbour View. Social hour will begin at 1800 with dinner at 1900. The cost of the meal is \$30.00 including tax and gratuity.

#### DINNER MENU

Iceberg Tossed Salad with Ranch or Italian Dressing  
Pork Tenderloin with Apples  
Jasmine Rice and Green Beans Almandine  
Dinner Rolls and Chef's choice of Desserts  
Ice, Tea, Coffee, Water

Please make your reservation **no later than Sunday 4 February** with Sherry \_\_\_\_\_.

**PLEASE REMEMBER THAT A RESERVATION MADE IS A RESERVATION PAID!**



#### **Adm. Walter F. Doran USN (Ret)**

Admiral Doran a native of Albany, N.Y., received a Bachelor of Arts in history from Villanova University 1967. At graduation, he was commissioned an ensign in the U.S. Navy through the Naval ROTC program. He holds a Master of Science in communication from Oklahoma University. He is also a graduate of the Indian Defense Services Staff College in Tamil Nadu, India, as well as the University of Chicago Executive Program on finance for non-finance majors.

He has served in command positions in the U.S. Navy in both the Atlantic and Pacific Fleets. He commanded *USS DeWert* (FFG-45), *USS Belknap* (CG-26), The Amphibious Forces in the US Seventh Fleet (CTF-76), the U.S. Seventh Fleet, and the U.S. Pacific Fleet. Ashore, he served as military assistant to the Vice President and Assistant to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. He transitioned from the USN as the Pacific Fleet Commander in December of 2005.

Admiral Doran joined Raytheon as Navy Service Executive in 2005, and in 2006, he was named president of Raytheon Asia. He has served on the board of directors of the Military Child Education Coalition, the U.S. India Business Council and the Dean's Advisory Board for the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at Villanova University. He retired from Raytheon in 2012 and now works as a private consultant on Defense and Asian Pacific issues.

He joined the Board of Directors of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) in October 2014 where he is a Life Member. While serving on the Board of Directors of MOAA he has focused on strength-



ening the links between the National MOAA organization and the local Councils and Chapters.

The Admiral lives in Williamsburg , VA with his wife Ginny.

His presentation to PACMOAA will be "MOAA 2018 - Challenges and Opportunities".

**MANY THANKS FROM  
PORTSMOUTH VOLUNTEERS  
FOR THE HOMELESS (PVH)**

The employees at PVH were overwhelmed when Bob Steorts took all the items members donated at the January PACMOAA meeting. His back seat and trunk were packed with the items and it took 4 people helping him to empty his car.

This winter had been very difficult for the homeless and the agencies serving them. Their needs are ongoing so please continue to donate whenever you can. Laundry detergent, cleaning supplies and personal size toiletries are always needed.

Thank you all for your donations to this most worthwhile cause.

Sherry Ferki, President

**DRIVERS AND RIDERS WANTED**

PACMOAA always attempts to coordinate volunteer drivers and members needing transportation to various functions. Please, if you are able to pick up members or need a ride, contact Sherry Ferki or *The Salute* to meet these requirements. Thanks in advance.

**PACMOAA 1st QUARTER 2018 EVENTS**

**11 January Dinner** CAPT Scott Brown, USN, Commanding Officer, Norfolk Naval Shipyard. He installed New Leadership Team. Presented a "History of the Norfolk Naval Shipyard.

**21 January** - VCOC 1st Quarter meeting

**8 February Dinner** - ADM Walter Doran, USN (Ret), MOAA Foundation Board of Directors will give a presentation on "MOAA 2018 -

Challenges and Opportunities"

**8 February**-Registration Deadline for DoD certificates and pins to be presented at the HRCMOAA Luncheon in March. See article below for details.

**22 February**-PACMOAA Board Meeting

**08 March Dinner**—Speaker and TBD

**12 April Dinner** - PACMOAA 35th Anniversary Celebration.

**LUNCHEON HONORING  
VIETNAM ERA VETERANS**

The Hampton Roads Chapter of MOAA is having a **luncheon on Friday 23 March** from 1100 to 1300 at the VA Beach Resort Hotel on Shore Drive (the same location of our annual joint chapter brunch each summer). Many of their members missed the large event sponsored by VA Beach several months ago. Our members have been invited to attend if they would like to. In order to get appropriate **Honorary Certificates and pins from DOD, I need to get your info to the HRCMOAA coordinator by 15 February so I need to know by our next dinner meeting on 8 February.** Any Vietnam era veteran, surviving spouse, or family member of a Vietnam era veteran era is eligible for certificates and pins.

The luncheon costs \$25.00/person and will have a choice of a entree (usually fish or chicken). I will receive more info on menu and dinner reservations later. Portsmouth didn't have many ceremonies honoring Vietnam veterans that the community knew about so this is a way all of us can be honored for our service in that timeframe.

**PERSONAL AFFAIRS CORNER**

For many of us, PACMOAA is like a family and families help each other out. Many of our members and some spouses have had a rather difficult year. Being a caregiver is also a very stressful situation. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers. If you know of a member or spouse that is having problems and needs assistance, please let me know. Most of

our members are retired and someone may be able to help. There also may be other resources that I or other Leadership Team members are aware of in the community that may be of assistance. All of the members/spouses listed recently are having the same issues except:

CAPT Bob Parker, USNR (Ret) is doing well and making many friends. Bob is still very interested in PACMOAA and looks forward to hearing from members.

Bob's corrected address:

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-  
-  
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## PACMOAA LEGISLATIVE REP TO VISIT LEGISLATORS

Each year for the past 20 years, members of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) chapters from around the state have partnered with the MOAA Virginia Council of Chapters (VCOC) to visit members of the Virginia legislature. to discuss and encourage support for legislative initiatives which have been adopted by the Joint Leadership Council (JLC) of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

This year because of the turmoil related to the renovation of the General Assembly Building, there will be no formally organized event by the VCOC and they have encouraged chapters to arrange their own visits. I will be in Richmond on January 22 and Wednesday, January 24 visiting with legislators to discuss the JLC initiatives.

CW3 Karl Wilson, USA (Ret)  
Legislative Representative

*(Continued from page 1) PRESIDENT'S DESK*

an active apprentice program and accepts 250 new apprentices each year with a total of 1000 apprentices covering the 4 year program.

The NNSY is one of 4 Navy shipyards in the

US currently and sends personnel all over the world. It specializes in handling nuclear ships. The motto of the shipyard is: Service to the Fleet - Any Ship, Any Time, Any Where with Safety being a top priority! The NNSY has 600 - 1000 workers per day supporting the Navy's mission worldwide. Another interesting fact that CAPT Brown mentioned was that President Reagan was trying to build up the Navy to 600 ships but that goal changed direction after the end of the Cold War. With China and Russia building up their navies, we seem to be shifting back to more ships again.

The above information includes some of the facts CAPT Brown discussed. I received a copy of his power point presentation and can send a copy to anyone interested in it.

Thank you all for your assistance and participation over the past year. Even though we had a lot of new members last year, membership is an ongoing issue and involvement of the membership in running the organization is vital. **Please renew your membership**, either at a meeting or via the mail. Many of us on the Leadership Team have been serving in one role or another for some time, most for over 10 years. We need new ideas and approaches to continue to make PACMOAA a successful organization. If any of you have any ideas or suggestions, please share them with me or any of the Leadership Team. For example, if you have any ideas for a good speaker or program, please share your ideas with myself or our program chair, Ken App. I look forward to working with everyone for a successful and productive 2018. Please continue to keep our service members and their families in your thoughts and prayers as well as the local homeless population. Remember we collect items for the Portsmouth Volunteers for the Homeless every month.

Sherry

Never Stop Serving

**CHAPLAIN'S CORNER**

by Bob Steorts, Chaplain

**ON LOVE**

Faith, hope, and love abide, but the greatest of these is love (1 COR 13:13)

We are told to love God, our country, and everyone. This story comes from *Chicken Soup for the Golden Soul*.

**The Golden Gift**

"Our Golden Wedding Day draws near," the husband said.

The elderly woman, smiling, raising her head, "Will you write me a poem as you used to do? That's the gift I'd like most from you!"

The old man, agreeing, limped from the room, went out on the porch in the twilight's gloom, leaned on the railing and reminisced:

"Often we sat here, shared hopes and kissed. Dear Lord, how the years have hurried by—those memories of youth make an old man sigh! Now we grow weary and bent and gray, what clever words can I possibly say to show that I love her just as much as I did when her cheeks were soft to my touch, when her eyes were bright and her lips were warm, and we happily walked with her hands on my arm!"

So the husband stood while the evening breeze echoed his sigh through the nearby trees till the joys they had shared in days long past merged into thoughts he could voice at last, and he went inside and got paper and pen; sat down at the kitchen table and then carefully wrote what his wife had desired: a gift as "golden" as a love inspired.

"Sweetheart, dear wife, my closest friend, with you my days begin and end, Though time has stolen strength and youth, it cannot change this shining true:

"Our love has lasted all these years, while hardships came with sorrow's tears. we've met each test and gotten by, and I will love you till I die!

"We are not rich in worldly wealth but we own nothing gained by stealth,

And you remain my greatest treasure, my sources of pride and quiet pleasure.

I wish you all the happiness with which two loving hearts are blessed; you were, and are , my choice for life, my girl, my lady, my sweet wife!"

The poem finished, the husband arose, went into the room where his wife dozed and tenderly kissed her nodding head,

"Wake up, 'sleeping beauty,' and come to bed!"

May we all love others as taught by God.

**OASIS SOCIAL MINISTRY**

Oasis is a private, not for profit, charitable corporation. For over 45 years, Oasis has been providing comprehensive services to the disadvantaged/low income community, homebound seniors and homeless in Portsmouth, Western Chesapeake and Northern Suffolk.

Oasis operates a full kitchen to provide a hot breakfast and lunch, a pantry to provide a 3-day supply of food and hygiene items, groceries and meal delivery to homebound seniors, and a thrift shop that provides free clothing and household items, and seasonal holiday food distribution.

Donations of money, food, clothing are accepted Monday- Friday between the hours of 8am - 3pm. You may also donate online.

Oasis needs and welcomes volunteers. Hours are flexible to suit the individual. Help in the pantry, thrift shop, and soup kitchen is always needed.

Last year Oasis distributed over 244,000 pounds of food. We are always in need of canned meats or tuna, breads, peanut butter, jelly, canned fruits, milk and cereal. Food and fund drives are at the heart of what we do. We can help you organize a food drive that will get critical food to the elderly, children and families who need it most. *All above information from the Oasis Social Ministry website*

Lynn Terry, a long time member of PAC-MOAA volunteers with Oasis and sent me an email to clarify the difference between Portsmouth Volunteers for the Homeless (PVH) and Oasis. "PVH does not have a kitchen or dining room, Oasis Social Ministry does. Oasis Social Ministry provides homeless people and low income individuals with breakfast and lunches most days during the week, as well as 96 seniors with monthly food from the Pantry.

Oasis is located in front of the PVH building. PVH provides showers and a place where the homeless can wash their clothes. They give the homeless plastic bags with personal care items.

Thank you, Sherry Ferki

Editor's Note. Last month I published a request from PVH requesting "food" in addition to the usual items we provide. I checked with PVH and found that the "food" they provide is actually individual service nonperishable snacks. These snack items are provided under unusual circumstances when a regular meal is not available elsewhere. I can best describe the food as items found in vending machines not requiring refrigeration and do not require microwave preparation prior to consumption.

**2017 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT**



JOHN WALKER

Texas A&M showed me that college was different from high school, and just what an adjustment it was. The Corps of Cadets at Texas A&M challenges everyone mentally, physically, and emotionally, but I rose to the challenge. My eighteen buddies and I, constituting this year's freshman class of

Squadron Twenty-one, are the most hard-charging freshmen (or "fish") in Second Wing, and the Corps of Cadets. The upperclassmen put every effort into making life as hard as it

could possibly be, it seemed like, but we were soon taught that nothing was done without purpose. There were lessons pulled from every activity, and our commanding officer ensured that we knew exactly what they were. We awoke from our racks at 0500 every morning, only to return again after lights out at 2230, or possibly even later, depending on the day, but we trained more and more as time went on. As our class dwindled from twenty-two strong down to nineteen, we became more and more individualized, only to learn to work together again. Fish year in the Texas A&M corps is impossible to accomplish alone, but eventually we formed the greatest sense of unity any of us had ever known, and we truly became a "buddy class."

Below is squadron 21/2021.



**NEWS FROM MOAA**

**MOAA PROMPTS TRICARE FEE CORRECTIONS**

January 12, 2018

As we start off new year, it's dawning on beneficiaries - if they previously were unaware - that [big changes are occurring](#) in the TRICARE program. The key changes are:

- consolidation of TRICARE's existing three regions into two (East and West);
- consolidation of TRICARE Standard and Extra into TRICARE Select;
- shifting of TRICARE operations to the calendar year (beginning Jan. 1) rather than the fiscal year (beginning Oct. 1);

- new enrollment requirements starting with an open enrollment period in December 2018; and
- a new cost structure for TRICARE Select and some fee increases in TRICARE Prime.

Over the past several weeks, MOAA heard loud and clear from beneficiaries who examined these new fees - especially those associated with the TRICARE Select option - and became concerned with the impacts of these fee increases.

In regards to this new cost structure, MOAA led an effort encouraging the Defense Health Agency (DHA) to be transparent in how it calculated these new fees - and we succeeded. MOAA's advocacy has resulted in some fee reductions.

As we had anticipated, the DHA used an incorrect methodology in some of its fee calculations. Upon a reexamination, several fee categories in TRICARE Select for both active duty family members (ADFM) and retirees were revised to be lower.

For example, in the "grandfathered" Group A, ADFM primary care and specialty care visits (in network) were reduced from \$27 to \$21 and \$34 to \$31, respectively. For retirees, the same visits were reduced from \$35 to \$28 and \$45 to \$41. Click [here](#) and choose your plan for more detailed information on all of the cost changes.

"We are thankful the DHA listened to us and reexamined the way they determined these new fees. As we had suspected, they discovered some flaws in their calculations, and this resulted in lower fees for our beneficiaries," said Capt. Kathy Beasley, USN (Ret), MOAA's director of Government Relations for health affairs.

The bottom line on this story is MOAA's persistence in its advocacy pays off - for you. Keep us informed of your experiences and opinions on TRICARE via discussions on [MOAA's Facebook page](#) so we can better represent *you* on Capitol Hill.

## **Blue Water Navy & Agent Orange: Taking the Fight to the Courts**

January 12, 2018

The effort to get the VA to acknowledge those who served on ships off the coast of Vietnam were also exposed to Agent Orange has been one of the longest battles in the history of veterans' benefits. Unfortunately, for every small win achieved by veterans, other roadblocks appeared. This week, MOAA and other organizations challenged one of those roadblocks in court.

An estimated 90,000 Vietnam veterans served off the coast of Vietnam. Though they never set foot on the landmass, they might have nonetheless been exposed to Agent Orange. It is unknown precisely how many of them were in the bays and harbors of Vietnam, such as Da Nang Harbor or Nha Trang Harbor, but based on ship logs, military weapons, and logistics technology at the time, a majority likely were in the harbors at some point to support the war effort.

The VA refuses to recognize service on ships in bays and harbors as service within the territory of Vietnam for the purposes of presuming exposure by Agent Orange, despite scientific evidence of aerial spraying and the presence of Agent Orange in the water.

In 2015 the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims, in a case named *Gray v. McDonald*, determined the VA's exclusion of the bays and harbors was an unsupported legal fiction, saying it was "devoid of any indication that VA made a fact-based assessment of the probability of exposure." It ordered the VA to go back and reevaluate their definition of inland waterways as it applied to bays and harbors. The VA did so and decided they still would exclude bays and harbors. It revised its internal manual directing VA claims adjudicators to exclude service in bays and harbors from the Agent Orange presumption.

The case went back to court, this time with a challenge to the VA's internal manual instructions. The VA argued that because this was

merely an internal manual provision the courts had no authority to review it. In 2017, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit agreed with the VA and refused to review their internal manual provisions. This left 90,000 Vietnam veterans with little to no recourse to challenge the VA's determination, which was no less "devoid of indication that VA made a fact-based assessment of the probability of exposure" in 2017 than it was in 2015, just this time shielded from judicial review through the VA's own actions.

Earlier this week, MOAA joined other veterans advocacy groups in asking the court to reconsider that decision, pointing out the "VA, in adopting this new approach of ensconcing massive substantive policy changes in the manual, thereby steering the adjudication process into the shadows, for the sake of its own convenience, is both anti-veteran and menacing to the productivity of the system." MOAA asked for immediate action by the court because "a number of these veterans will die appealing the VA's flawed policy."

The case is *Gray v. Secretary of Veterans Affairs*, No. 16-1782, in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit. It's uncertain how long the court will take to decide whether a rehearing is warranted, but MOAA will keep you updated of any developments.

If you have ideas or questions about this topic, email them to [legis@moaa.org](mailto:legis@moaa.org).

### **TRICARE Prime Users No Longer Need Referrals for Urgent Care**

TRICARE Prime enrollees will now have an easier time accessing urgent medical care.

As of Jan. 1, most TRICARE Prime users won't need referrals for urgent-care visits - something that was previously required after the first two urgent-care visits each year. Point-of-service charges also will no longer apply for urgent-care claims, the Defense Health Agency announced.

"We wanted our servicemembers' families and others to have easier access to urgent care,"

Ken Canestrini, acting director of TRICARE Health Plan, said in a release about the changes. "Beneficiaries can go visit an urgent-care center right away anytime they have a need."

Active duty servicemembers should still use military hospitals and clinics for their medical care. Those enrolled in TRICARE Prime Remote who don't live near a military hospital or clinic, however, won't need a referral when seeking urgent care.

Those on [TRICARE Select](#) or any other TRICARE plan can visit any authorized provider - in- or out-of-network - for urgent care.

"MOAA is encouraged by these changes, which address situational realities our families face regarding urgent medical care," says Col. Dan Merry, USAF (Ret), MOAA's vice president of Government Relations. "TRICARE remains a service-earned value to our troops and their families, and we will continue to advocate on behalf of those currently serving, retirees, and their families to ensure it remains so."

[Urgent care](#) is for non-emergency illnesses or injuries requiring treatment within 24 hours. Examples, according to the DHA, include a sprain, a rising temperature, or a sore throat.

If you're not sure whether to seek urgent care, you can call the 24/7 [Nurse Advice Line](#) at (800) TRICARE (874-2273)-Option 1, according to the release. A registered nurse can answer questions, give advice, and assist with finding a provider or scheduling an appointment.

Urgent care can serve as a good option if you're traveling or your primary doctor is unavailable. TRICARE users can find a nearby facility by using the [provider-search tool](#).

Any TRICARE Overseas Prime users in need of care while on temporary duty or leave status in the U.S. may access urgent care without a referral or an authorization. Active duty troops must follow up with their primary-care manager, though, per DoD and service-specific regulations.

You can learn more about this and other changes to TRICARE [here](#).



**SPACE AVAILABLE TO THE EDITOR**

Last month we left the loosely controlled [Marine Hospital Fund](#) providing relief for sick and disabled merchant seamen at coastal seaports and along major rivers. The fund was just that, federal funds sent to local authorities to provide care. The 1798 Act specified the revenue for the hospitals was to come from a tax on merchant seamen. The US Collector of Customs taxed all merchant seamen 20 cents a month for this fund thus establishing the first pre-paid health insurance plan in US history. In 1799, the service expanded beyond merchant seamen to include all seamen, officers and marines of the Navy of the United States. In 1780-81, the Federal government purchased the first Federally owned Marine Hospital Fund hospital (Washington Point Hospital) located in the Town of Washington on the Elizabeth River in Norfolk County. The State of Virginia built the hospital in 1787 specifically to provide care for merchant seamen and was lacking operating funds at the time of acquisition. This was the first and only hospital in the area at the time.



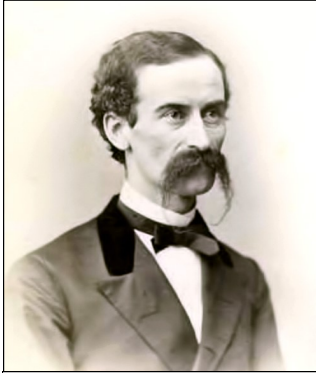
[Today, Washington Point is visible across the Elizabeth River from Waterside as the General Dynamics ship maintenance facility in Berkley adjacent to the downtown tunnel. At the beginning of the Civil War, the hospital served as Confederate Barracks and later as a US Army hospital during Union occupation.

After the Civil War, seamen were cared for by contract at St. Vincent de Paul Hospital in Norfolk. The Marine Hospital Fund building was sold and used as a military institute, a private school in the 1890s, and later as the residence of a Berkley winery owner. Finally, during WWI, the Imperial Tobacco Company purchased the building and opened it to servicemen as a recreation club. I can find no record of later use until demolition.

Now here's the rub. The demolition date according to the National Library of Medicine is 1933. The demolition is dated as 1952 by Norfolk City Historian Peggy Haile McPhillips to make way for construction of the downtown town tunnel. George Holbert Tucker, an esteemed local historian and columnist for *The Virginia Pilot* places the demolition in January 1993, probably required during expansion of the Berkley bridge with addition of ramps connecting 464. When crossing the bridge from Norfolk to Berkley and entering the Berkley exit ramp, Washington Point is visible on the immediate right as the red brick General Dynamics building.]

After the Civil War, Dr. John Billings, an Army Surgeon was appointed to investigate the Marine Hospital Fund and found it to be inadequate and completely unorganized. Congress reorganized the Fund in 1870 as the Marine Hospital Service appointing Dr. John Maynard Woodworth in 1871 as the Supervising Surgeon, located in Washington, DC. The monthly tax increased to 40 cents a month. Dr. Woodworth transformed the service into a disciplined organization utilizing his experience as Surgeon to the Union Army. Physicians, previously appointed by recommendation of the Collector of Customs, were now examined prior to appointment. He required his physicians to be mobile and stationed where needed. He mandated daily wear to be military style uniforms reminiscent of maritime officer ranks of the Coast Guard and Navy. The Marine Hospital Service interest in public health probably stemmed from Woodworth's experience as an Army Surgeon when he was

responsible to maintain good general health of large troop populations. Again demonstrating Army experience, he used Army-style heraldry creating the Marine Hospital Service fouled anchor and caduceus seal used to this day by the Public Health Service. His regimented or-



Dr. J M Woodworth  
1837—1879

ganization led to the creation of the modern Public Health Service Commissioned Officer Corps. Two years later, his title changed to "Supervising Surgeon General," a forerunner of the current Office of Surgeon General of the United States.

In 1878 due to global prevalence of major epidemic diseases such as smallpox and yellow fever, Congress passed the National Quarantine Act to prevent the introduction and spread of contagious and infectious disease in the United States. The task of controlling epidemic diseases through quarantine, disinfection, and immunization programs within the country fell to the Marine Hospital Service. One example is Public Health Service Officers at Montauk Point, New York Quarantine Station.

In 1879 Congress created The National Board of Health to prevent the introduction of infectious or contagious disease into the United States. The eleven member board included medical officers from the Navy, Marine Hospital Service and Army. The National Board of Health, responsible for conserving and improving public health, was the first federally organized effort for comprehensive medical research. They also had power to quarantine. In 1887, the Marine Hospital Service set up a one room bacteriological laboratory in Staten Island, New York known as the Laboratory of Hygiene. The lab established to conduct research on cholera and several other infectious diseases was renamed the National Institute of Health in 1930.

On Jan 4 1889, Congress established the United States Public Health Service Commissioned Corps formalizing the Commissioned Corps as a uniformed service component of the Marine Hospital Service. Congress organized Corps Officers with ranks and pay corresponding to Army and Navy grades.

### PARTING THOUGHTS FOR VALENTINE'S DAY

From The TruthBook

A group of women were at a seminar on 'how to live in a loving relationship with their husbands'. The women were asked, "How many of you love your husband?" All the women raised their hands. Then they were asked, "When was the last time you told your husband you loved him?" Some women answered today, a few yesterday, and some couldn't remember.

The women were then told to take out their cell phones and text their husband: "I love you, Sweetheart!" Next the women were instructed to exchange phones with one another and read aloud the text message they received in response to their message.

Below are 10 replies. If you have been married for a while, you understand that these replies are a sign of true love.

1. Who is this?
2. Mother of my children, are you sick or what?
3. Yeah, and I love you too. What's wrong?
4. What now? Did you wreck the car again?
5. I don't understand what you mean?
6. What the heck did you do now?
7. Don't beat around the bush, just tell me how much you need?
8. Am I dreaming?
9. I thought we agreed you wouldn't drink during the day
10. Your mother is coming to stay with us, isn't she?

**THAT'S A WRAP FOR FEBRUARY**