

ON THE ROAd *Fast Track*

The Official Newsletter of the Department of Minnesota, Reserve Officers Association

Fall 2004

www.mnroa.org

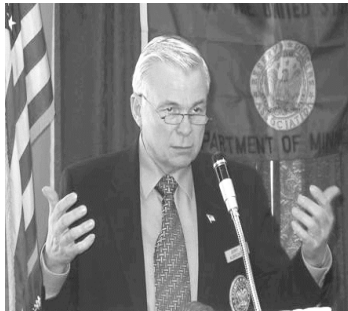
Vol 10, No 3

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National Convention Summary

Several members from the Minnesota Department of ROA had the opportunity to attend the Reserve Officers Association, National Convention, in Salt Lake City, Utah this past June. When we consider the vast number of individuals and units that are currently mobilized, the convention was well attended.

Major John Rosnow, the Department's National Council Representative, attended the 2004 Joint Officer Leadership Development and Training Seminar (JOLDTS). This was the sixth year for this joint officer professional development and group leadership skills seminar, which included a one-day field training exercise.

CW5 Bruce Hedblom and I kept busy attending other special meetings held at the convention. There were a number of resolutions that were passed and they are available on the Department of Minnesota ROA Web Site. I would however, like to highlight two of these resolutions that are certainly priorities for the Department of Minnesota.

1. Urge Congress to establish a permanent, comprehensive TRICARE health and dental program for Selected Reservists, and increase the frequency, and thoroughness of medical and dental evaluations of Reservists.
2. Urge Congress to increase funding to support authorized manning of 15,000 for the Coast Guard Reserve.

There was also an amendment to the Constitution and By Laws of ROA. With that, I am extremely happy to announce that the ROA voted to allow spouses, widows, and widowers to join its ranks as voting members of the association.

By an overwhelming margin, the delegates of the 82-year-old, 75,000-member association agreed that allowing spouses to join the association as voting members would better reflect today's military in which family issues, such as survivor benefits, are more important than ever.

As Major General Evan Hultman stated, "In World War II, 75 percent of the soldiers serving were single." "This however, is not the case anymore. Families are now a key part of the total military family, and ROA has to reflect that."

According to the analysis done by ROA, the association can add 10,000 new members under the spousal category in the first year alone. From my perspective, this analysis is very encouraging, since membership is the Department of Minnesota's number one priority this year. There will be more information forthcoming to each of you very soon concerning spousal membership. MG Jerald Albrecht, President.

On The ROAd Fast Track Wants to Be First Class

"Egad", the Major is at it again--she's changing the format of the newsletter. Why? We want to be first class. First class as a newsletter, and "first class" reaching you. Beginning with the Winter 2004 issue, the Department will mail the newsletter first class postage. Our intent is to reach you quickly with timely news and to eliminate the potential for newsletters delayed due to bulk mail distribution. Look elsewhere in this issue for how we are going to manage the additional cost.

VISION

The Department of Minnesota ROA strives to be the premier member organization on all issues affecting Minnesota's Reserve military officers

THE Maj DAN ANDERSON FREEDOM FUND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Professional Development Scholarship Announced



The Major Dan Anderson Freedom Fund (MDAFF), the educational foundation of the ROA's Department of Minnesota, has announced that it will provide one scholarship worth up to \$1,500.00 for one Officer or Warrant Officer to attend one of the Professional Development opportunities being offered at the National ROA Mid-Winter Conference to be held in Washington, D.C. in February 2005.

Included in the offer are four educational programs:

- Reserve Components Joint Officer Professional Development Seminar (RCJOPDS). 13-16 February 2005. Open to Officers in grades 0-1 through 0-3
- Air Force Reserve Leadership Today and Tomorrow. 12-14 February 2005. Open to USAFR Officers in grades 0-4 and 0-5
- Army Mid-Level Professional Development Seminar (AMLPDS). 12-14 February 2005. Open to Army Reserve Component Officers in grades 04-05.
- Warrant Officer Professional Development Seminar (WOPDS). 13-16 February 2005. Open to all Warrant Officers.

Under the policy guidelines adopted by the MDAFF Board of Directors, one Officer or Warrant Officer will be awarded the scholarship to attend the appropriate training seminar. The person selected to attend will have his/her expenses reimbursed up to a maximum of \$1,500.00. Allowable expenses will include registration fees, transportation, lodging, and meals.

Applicants must be ROA members in good standing, and members of ROA's Department of Minnesota. They must also agree to attend all scheduled events of their seminar during the Mid-Winter Conference.

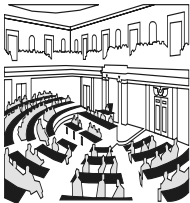
Scholarship applicants cannot be attending the 2005 Mid-Winter Conference on military orders. The individual selected will be asked to submit a written summary of his/her experiences at the sessions within 30 days of the completion of the Conference.

Application information will be found on the Department of Minnesota web-site <mnroa.org> under the Freedom Fund category. More information on the various seminar programs is available on ROA's web-site, <roa.org>

Applications must be received by the MDAFF President via e-mail or written form not later than 1 January 2005. The MDAFF Board of Directors will make its selection at its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, 11 January 2005, and notify all applicants by 15 January 2005. Personal appearance of applicants at the Board meeting is not authorized.

All Officers and Warrant Officers in the appropriate grades are encouraged to consider this opportunity. Please check out our web-site today, and apply before the deadline!

Department Establishes Strategy for Legislative Issues



On August 5th, MG Albrecht, LTC Rasmussen and CW5 Hedblom met to consider strategies for the Department to address legislative issues during the 2005 program year. In preparation for the meeting, Chief Hedblom had prepared a list of relevant topics for the organization to address in the arena of legislative initiatives.

We first discussed the potential value of making contact with State legislators to discuss issues of importance to our organization. In view of the lack of results from the 2004 session, we agreed that any effort in this forum would likely be fruitless. The Board will defer any allocation of resources to this agenda until the results of the 2004 elections are known.

As far as Congressional strategies are concerned, our top priority will be to prepare a timely presentation for the Mid-Winter breakfast in Washington, D.C. The updated presentation will highlight mobilization figures for Minnesota reservists. (As an aside, a total of 150,611 reservists from across the country were on duty as of August 4th).

Our communication with the Minnesota Congressional Delegation will begin on September 8th, when the session reconvenes. We plan to emphasize the need to equalize benefits, now that reserve component troops have become the backbone of the Total Force.

LTC Karl F. Rasmussen, AUS (Retired)
Director, Legislative Services

MISSION

Support our National Security through dynamic programs that positively impact locally elected officials, all levels of ROA, and future, current, retired, and former Reserve officers Of the Uniformed Services of the United States



Membership Director Returns From OIF Mobilization, Encourages Spouses To Join ROA

I am writing a personal word to the spouses of our members, and to our members, to encourage all ROA spouses to join ROA today. Spouses are now eligible to join ROA—and now, more than ever, we need spouses to join ROA. We have an opportunity to see our roles skyrocket in the coming months, increasing our clout on Capital hill, and we need our spouses of Officers in Minnesota to help lead that charge.

Over the years, spouses have paid a huge price due to all the extra hours your service member has spent away from family for reserve duties. During the past several years many have participated in repeated deployments: from Bosnia, to stateside bases in support of the Global War on Terror, to the Arabian Gulf and Iraq/Kuwait for Operation Iraqi Freedom. Many of our spouses had their officer deployed for years in WWII, Korea, Vietnam and others. *It is time your voice is more properly heard in ROA—and on Capital Hill through ROA efforts.*

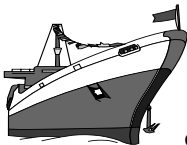
I am asking our Spouses, now, this week, to go to www.roa.org, click on “Join Now!” Or go to the July/August 2004 edition of *The Officer* and become a member today! You too have given and served and sacrificed; now is the time for your voice to be heard in this tremendous new way.

My wife and I recently experienced our first wartime separation due to deployment—Jan-Jun 2003, as part of a 12-month mobilization that same year. My family now has its first taste of the wartime separation—without getting melodramatic, we know something of the kind of sacrifice the rest of the family endures. Some of our fellow reservists have been deployed eight or more months in 2003, and again for eight months in 2004. Others were deployed for 14 straight months, Jan 2003-March 2004. The number of service members who have been deployed in excess of 400 days during the past 24 months is surprisingly high. And for those of you spouses from previous wars, where casualties were often counted in the thousands per day or week, I can only imagine what you went through, and be grateful.

ROA members, I am also writing to ask you to give this newsletter to your spouse, and ask them to join ROA today. Both you and your spouse believe in the ROA mission—you have seen us deliver time and time again the messages that Congress needs to hear. Military service is thankfully decreasing from WWII highs, due to increase in weapons accuracy and lack of a major global war. Now, we are in what can be termed WWIII, yet we have a congress with very few who have worn the uniform. They need a strong ROA more than ever, to advise them on military policy.

Again, please go to www.roa.org or the July/August 2004 edition of *The Officer* and become a member today!
LtCol (Sel) Thaddeus Jankowski, USMCR

United States Navy will celebrate 229 years of service: 1775-2004



Minnesota Navy folks will help the United States Navy celebrate its 229th birthday at a Navy Ball on October 15th. Sheila McNeill, National President of the Navy League of the United States, will be the guest speaker. The birthday ball will be held in downtown Minneapolis at the Minneapolis Depot and according to chairman Pat Dillon, “promises to be a magical evening.” The 451st USAR Dance Band will provide music for the evening. Navy Ball reservations can be made by contacting Pat Dillon at (612) 347-6751.

The Twin City Navy Chapter exists for the benefit of all Minnesota naval and affiliated services. One does not need to reside in the Twin Cities to belong. The chapter is open to members of United States Naval Reserve, United States Marine Corps Reserve, United States Coast Guard Reserve, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and Public Health Service.

Officers of the Twin City Navy Chapter elected at the annual meeting 4/22/04 are:

President: CAPT Kay Bauer, NC USNR (Ret.)
Exec. Vice President: CAPT Mark Salmen, USNR (Ret.)
Secretary: CDR Joan Beard, USNR
Treasurer: CAPT Larry DeVries, CEC USNR (Ret.)

The Twin City Navy Chapter congratulates two members recently elected to the board of the Department of Minnesota Reserve Officers Association. CAPT Mike Erickson, USNR will serve as VP Naval Services and LtCol (Sel) Thaddeus Jankowski, USMCR was elected as Jr. VP Naval Services. We appreciate their participation.

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ROTC & Junior ROTC Recognition, Spring 2004



The Department of Minnesota ROA has a long-standing interest in the ROTC programs of Minnesota. Representatives of the Department of Minnesota volunteered to attend and participate in ROTC program graduation ceremonies again this past spring. Each representative made a presentation of an ROA medal & certificate to one Cadet at each of the seven ROTC programs in Minnesota on university campuses. Congratulations to the recipients! We are proud of these young people and their outstanding accomplishments.

Additionally, the Department is re-developing its relationships with Junior ROTC programs in the state. The Junior ROTC program began in 1964 as a nationwide program. An ROA award was also made at the end-of-year ceremonies at eleven high schools with Junior ROTC programs.

At both the ROTC and Junior ROTC levels, the awardees are selected by the school's program administrators. The award may be given for leadership, scholastic ability, military skills, and other performance within the unit.

Major Darla White, USAFR, the Department's Director of ROTC Services, is on the planning committee for the awards and Col Marilyn Chambers, USAFR, VP Air Force, coordinated arrangements with the ROTC & Junior ROTC programs.

We appreciate the participation of the ROA member presenters in this worthwhile cause!!

ROTC Recognition Night – November 2, 2004

The annual ROTC recognition night will be held Tues, Nov 9, 2004 at the Ft Snelling Officers Club. The social time begins at 1830 with the program beginning at 1900. Hors d'oeuvres will be served. This is the Department of MN opportunity to recognize the seven detachments in Minnesota. Each school will report on activities they have accomplished this past year.

The program promises to be very interesting. There will be a representative from the Army Reserve, Marine Reserve, and Air Force Reserve sharing life and experiences in the Persian Gulf. While they are not nomads, they have seen the shifting sands with pictures to prove it. They will also bring the strength of life experience in matching plans with reality.

Dress is service dress or Class As, or business attire. All members are encouraged to attend and spouses are welcome. There is no charge but RSVP is requested to Maj Karla White at 651-408-9808 or whitehouseof9@frontiernet.net by Nov 2.

St. Paul Chapter Fall Outing

The St Paul Chapter's Oktoberfest outing will be held on Saturday, 23 October 2004, 1700, at the Gasthaus Bavarian Hunter in Grant Township. You can view one of their reviews at the following: <http://www.reneeandsteve.com/gasthaus.htm>. All ROA members are invited! Menu, prices and invitations will be coming shortly. Mark your calendars for an evening of great food, good fellowship and fun. See you there.

451st Army Band Annual Concert

The annual formal concert of the 451st Army Band will be presented on Saturday, 13 November 2004 at 7:00 p.m. The concert will be at Benson Great Hall on the campus of Bethel College. No tickets are required -- and the doors will open at 6:30 p.m. The Band has been very active in the past year, performing for many military and civilian functions. The high point this past summer was a two-week tour of Italy in support of the commemoration ceremonies marking the 60th Anniversary of the liberation of Rome by the 88th Infantry Division.

ROA Adopts Spousal Membership Category

Spouses of ROA members (and widows/widowers of deceased members) can now join ROA as members under a special Spousal membership category. The new category of membership was approved at the national convention held in Salt Lake City, UT in June.

Under the revisions to the ROA Constitution and Bylaws approved by the convention, spousal members pay dues at one-half the rate paid by military members of the Association. For an annual membership, this currently is \$20.00 per year. For a five-year term membership, the cost is \$78.00. Life memberships for spousal members were not provided for in the changes adopted in June, but they may be offered at a later date.

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**Support our National Security through dynamic programs that positively impact locally elected officials, all levels of ROA, and future, current, retired, and former Reserve officers
Of the Uniformed Services of the United States**

National ROA will remit 30% of the dues received from Spousal memberships to the respective Department, which may in turn send all or a portion on to the member's Chapter.

Spousal members have all the rights and privileges of current full active members except that they are not able to hold National office in ROA. They have full voting rights, and are encouraged to be active at the Chapter and Department level, and may hold elected or appointed office at all levels below National.

Spousal members do not receive the Officer Magazine in printed form, because it is assumed that the military spouse receives a copy. Access to the on-line version is available, however. (Should a spousal member want to receive the printed version of the Officer Magazine, it is available at a subscription price.)

With the addition of this membership class, current ROA members have an excellent opportunity to easily and inexpensively increase the number of our members. By being a larger organization, our organizational voice will be that much stronger in the halls of the government.

Please give serious consideration to asking your spouse to join ROA. This is a unique opportunity to strengthen our organization's finances, capabilities, and membership numbers.

We welcome these new members and look forward to their active participation.

ROA Amends Two Membership Categories

The delegates attending the ROA national convention in Salt Lake City, UT in June adopted amendments to two membership categories.

Virtual Membership

Following several earlier attempts to address the desire to have a Virtual Membership category, ROA has adopted a virtual membership program. The changes provide that any officer or warrant officer who qualifies for active or associate membership may become a virtual member for a five-year term membership at a cost of \$100.00.

The virtual member has all the rights and privileges of current full active members except that he/she will not receive a printed copy of the Officer Magazine (access to the on-line version is available). Virtual members have full voting rights, and are encouraged to be active at the Chapter and Department level, and may hold elected or appointed office at all levels.

National ROA will remit 30% of the dues received from virtual memberships to the respective Departments, which may in turn send all or a portion on to the Chapters.

Associate Members

Officers, retired officers, or former officers who are not eligible for full active ROA membership because they have not served under a Reserve commission or warrant, have been eligible to be Associate Members, with some restrictions on their ability to vote and hold national office in ROA.

Under a Constitutional amendment adopted in June 2004, Associate Members now have all of the rights and privileges of active membership, including voting, but still are excluded from holding national office in ROA.

The No Fundraiser Fund Raiser

The Department of Minnesota Reserve Officers Association depends upon the National ROA annual remittance to fund the Department's annual budget. The remittance is calculated on a formula for life and renewing memberships. The recent performance of the stock market and declining membership has significantly reduced the expected 2004-2005 allocation. At this time, it is projected the Department will experience a budget shortfall of more than \$2,000 by the end of the 2004-2005 fiscal year, 30 April 2005. The Board of Directors for the Department appreciates that each of you has many commitments on your time. Rather than asking you to attend a fund raiser, or help plan one, or work on a fund raiser, this is a flat-out, no frills appeal to each member to donate a tax-deductible contribution of \$25.00 to the general operating fund of the Department of Minnesota Reserve Officers Association for fiscal year 2004-2005. Please make your check payable to Department of Minnesota ROA and mail it to PO Box 11769, St. Paul, and MN 55111-0769

Thank you to the following contributors in 2004-2005 to the General Fund Non-Fund Raiser FundRaiser.

LtCol Clayton Berg, USAFR

Gerald Olson, Grade & Svc Unknown

Brig Gen Dennis Schulstad, USAFR

VISION

The Department of Minnesota ROA strives to be the premier member organization on all issues affecting Minnesota's Reserve military officers

BUCK-A-YEAR DONORS

For many years, the Department of Minnesota has been very fortunate to receive donations which have helped to offset the rising costs of producing the *On The ROAd Fast Track*. We are deeply appreciative of the generosity displayed by everyone who has contributed to this important publication. We attempt to put out four issues every year. If you find this newsletter valuable, please consider contributing. Just clip out the attached slip and mail your check to NEWSLETTER EDITOR, PO Box 11769, St. Paul, MN 55111-0769.

Buck-a-Year Contributors 2004-2005

BENEFACTOR

MG	USAR	Albrecht, Gerald
Maj	USAFR	Bauer, Kirby
LtCol	USAFR	Berg, Clayton
Col	USAFR	Chambers, Marilyn
COL	USAR	Connett, Walter
Maj	USAFR	Hanten, David
COL	USAR	Harrison, William
LTC	USAR	Hilt, Billy
COL	USAR	Kopitzke, Randall
COL	USAR	Landstrom, Lyle
MAJ	USAR	Layman, Robert
COL	USAR	Mukomela, Ken
COL	USAR	Rorig, Manfred
MAJ	USAR	Rosnow, John
Brig Gen	USAFR	Schulstad, Dennis

PATRON

? ? Fruin, Jerry

DONOR

Lt Col	USAFR	Tomporowski, Sylvester
MAJ	USAR	Wood, Richard

This Space Could Be Yours

Do you have a service or goods that you want your fellow Department ROA Members to know about? The Newsletter Editor is now accepting advertisements to be placed in the Winter 2004 Edition of *On The ROAd Fast Track*.

Size	Cost	Frequency
1/8 page	\$200	Appears in 4 issues
1/4 page	\$400	Appears in 4 issues
1/2 page	\$800	Appears in 4 issues
Full page	\$1,600	Appears in 4 issues

Please contact MAJ Kathleen Jensen at Jensen@visi.com.
Or, call after 6:00 p.m. 763-424-6177.

MISSION

Support our National Security through dynamic programs that positively impact locally elected officials, all levels of ROA, and future, current, retired, and former Reserve officers
Of the Uniformed Services of the United States

Yes! I want to help support the On The ROAd *Fast Track!* Please make checks payable to DEPARTMENT OF MINNESOTA ROA

NAME _____

RANK _____

Service _____

DONATION SUPPORT (Please circle one)

- Benefactor** **\$25.00**
- Patron** **\$20.00**
- Sponsor** **\$15.00**
- Donor** **\$10.00**
- Other** **\$ _____**

Dept of MN ROA, PO Box 11769, St. Paul, MN 55111-0769

**DEPARTMENT OF MINNESOTA
RESERVE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION
THE MAJOR DAN ANDERSON
FREEDOM FUND**

I wish to make a donation to support the endowment fund as follows:

- ☆ **\$100** _____
- ☆☆ **\$500** _____
- ☆☆☆ **\$1,000** _____
- ☆☆☆☆ **\$2,000** _____
- ☆☆☆☆☆ **\$2,500** _____

I pledge to honor my donation commitment with a payment of \$_____ each year as follows:

2 Years
 3 Years
 4 Years
 5 Years

Please make checks payable to The Major Dan Anderson Freedom Fund.

NAME _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

E-Mail address _____

Reserve Officers Association of the United States

Department of Minnesota

PO Box 11769

St. Paul, MN 55111-0769

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- **MDAFF Sponsors Scholarship** for MidWinter Meeting
- **St. Paul Chapter** fall outing details
- **451st Concert** information
- **Navy Ball** information
- **Spouses can join**

Moving! To change your address, clip out your old address label and this form and mail it to:

ROA Membership Services
1 Constitution Avenue NE
Washington, DC 20002-5655

PASTE OLD MAILING LABEL HERE

Name _____

Rank _____

NEW Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

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