

# ON THE ROAd *Fast Track*

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

Summer 2005

www.mnroa.org

Vol 11, No 2

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## A Message from the President – Col Marilyn Chambers

Another year has flown by and your new Department of Minnesota Board has been elected. I am privileged to be this year's Department President. There is a long legacy of superb leaders who have served before me. It is also pertinent to note that many of these past presidents continue to be actively involved in ROA in a variety of positions. You are well served by your Department.

Last year's president, MG Jerald Albrecht, set out ambitious goals. The Board was fully aware we had a multi-year tasking ahead of us. My focus this year will be to build on the solid foundation MG Albrecht set. These areas will be:

**Membership:** Every name counts. Our membership numbers are critical for speaking authoritatively to our Congressional delegates. ROA is highly respected on Capital Hill. To maintain that respect, we have to show we represent a broad base of officers. A significant change from the National ROA is the addition of spousal memberships. Spouses have long been impacted by legislation affecting Reservists. They now have a direct voice. I encourage all spouses to join. Applications may be obtained online at the ROA website.

Many of you have been activated in the on-going contingency operations. Now is the key time for ROA to be your voice regarding issues that arose during your federal service. Get involved and be heard. Lt Col Jankowski will continue as Membership chair in addition to his role as Executive Vice-President. He is not a "Marine of one" in his membership role. You are the best recruiter at your unit.

**Conferences:** Your Board will continue to participate in the National and Mid-winter conferences. This affords a wonderful opportunity to have an impact on issues directly relating to Reservists. However, to be most relevant, we need to have input from the chapters. This is your opportunity at the grass roots level to identify issues and submit resolutions. We are the individual's voice. I would like to see each chapter submit at least one resolution for presentation at each conference. As a reminder, each chapter president is a member of the state Board. I would like to see each chapter represented at the monthly meetings. If the president is unable to attend, send a representative.

**Junior Officer Development:** The Major Dan Anderson Freedom Fund is intentionally focused on financial support for junior officers attending leadership training. We have not had candidates for this stipend the past three years. I encourage any junior officer to take advantage of this support.

**ROTC/JROTC:** The Department hosts an annual Reserve Officer Training Corps Recognition night in November. Each of the seven Minnesota detachments is invited. The Department awards medals to outstanding cadets in ROTC and JROTC units each spring.

Another key area to address is partnership as appropriate with other military organizations. The strength of each organization lies in our numbers of members and in the expertise of our members. Our voice is needed. I encourage all of you to be a part. 2005-2006 will be an exciting year.

## VISION

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

RESERVE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION (ROA)  
Department of Minnesota  
**STATE CONVENTION MINUTES**

**DRAFT – FOR INFORMATION ONLY –  
Not yet approved**

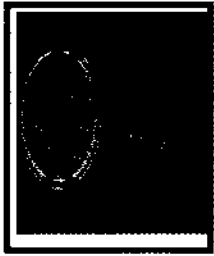
2 April 2005

On 2 April 2005, 1200 hours, President MG Jerald Albrecht, AUS (Ret) called the Minnesota Department ROA State Convention meeting to order at the 934<sup>th</sup> AW Officers' Club.

1. MG Albrecht welcomed everyone to the 2005 State Convention. He asked everyone to introduce themselves and he provided an overview of the days events
2. President's Report was provided by MG Albrecht. He summarized the Board of Directors' achievements the past year and highlighted the efforts by the board to foster the professional development of junior officers. MG Albrecht also discussed at length his experience at ROA Mid-Winter and briefing the MN Congressional delegation.
3. The Comptroller's report was provided by Maj Erredge in absence of Maj Hanten and approved as written. The financial situation for the past year was better than expected because the board held the line on costs and because we only published three newsletters this fiscal year. The members present approved the proposed budget for fiscal year 2006. Both budgets are attached.
4. Maj Dan Anderson Freedom Fund Report (MDAFF): CW5 Bruce Hedblom provided a summary of the MDAFF activities for the past year. He discussed the junior officer outreach program where MDAFF provided sponsorship opportunities to attend JOLDS in connection with mid-winter and national convention. MDAFF also provided financial support to the board for its annual ROTC appreciation event in November 2004 and is paying a pro rata share of the Fast Track printing and mailing costs.
5. Legislative Report: LTC Karl Rasmussen presented a summary of the Mid-Winter Congressional breakfast. It went very well and we have received outstanding support from our congressional delegation in Washington DC. Congressman Jim Oberstar is tentatively identified to be the sponsor for next year.
6. Old Business: No old business was left from the state convention in 2004.
7. New Business: No new business was presented.
8. Resolutions: No resolutions were presented.
9. Nominating committee report: CW5 Hedblom presented the report from the nominating committee. No nominations from the floor were presented and the proposed candidates were unanimously elected.
10. President Elect: Col Marilyn Chambers provided comments on the direction she wishes the board to follow in 2006. She outlined her plan to continue the momentum that MG Albrecht has initiated.
11. MG Bockel from ROA National spoke for about an hour. He provided an outstanding summary of the issues national is concerned about and what they're doing about them. He answered several questions. MG Albrecht thanked him and provided him with a modest thank you gift. (8.5 x 11 photo of the 934 AW C-130)
12. No further business, meeting was adjourned at 1545 hours.
13. The annual ROA State banquet was held in the evening at the 934 AW Officers' Club with Senator Mark Dayton as the keynote speaker. Two members of the Department of Minnesota were selected for induction into the Brigade of Volunteers. Congratulations to Col Marilyn Chambers, USARF and CAPT Larry DeVries USNR (Ret). MG Albrecht presented ROA National level awards for the "Fast Track" to MAJ Kathleen Jensen and for the website to CAPT Larry DeVries. A silent auction was held with proceeds benefiting the MDAFF.
14. Col Marilyn Chambers and CAPT Larry DeVries were also recognized and presented certificates as ROA Brigade of volunteers award recipients.

Respectfully submitted  
Richard Erredge, Maj, USAFR  
Department Secretary

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Susan Buelow

Marilyn Chambers

Bonnie Dreyer

**CAPT Kay Bowar and Vern Bowar**  
Banquet Attendees



**Maj Dennis Small and Kay Knutsen**  
Banquet attendees

**VISION**

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

# THE MAJOR DAN ANDERSON FREEDOM FUND

In Association with the Department of Minnesota,  
Reserve Officers Association of the United States

## ANNUAL REPORT -- 2005

The Major Dan Anderson Freedom Fund (MDAFF) has formally existed since April 2002. The idea for its inception, however, was developed in 1999-2000, when the Department of Minnesota of The Reserve Officers Association of the United States (ROA), determined that it would be beneficial to have a separate foundation that would support its goals of furthering the education and preparation of junior officers of the uniformed services of the United States. As the concept of the organization developed, a corps of volunteers was recruited, and initial funding was received from contributions and a variety of fund raising activities. The Charter and By-Laws of MDAFF were approved by the Board of Directors of the Department of Minnesota on 14 May 2002

MDAFF is recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as a 501 (c) (3) organization. Over time, this should facilitate fund-raising efforts aimed at our members, individuals interested in our mission, and corporate and foundation contributors.

The Board structure of MDAFF consists of five designated directors who are the elected officers of the Department – President, Executive Vice President, Secretary, Comptroller, and Immediate Past President. In addition, there are three At-Large Directors who are elected for staggered three year terms.

The MDAFF Board elects its own officers – President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer – from the eight Board members noted above. Since its inception, the Board has benefited from the services of COL Alan Ruvelson, AUS (Ret) who serves as legal advisor.

The Board met on nine occasions during the period 1 May 2004 through 2 April 2005.

In 2004-2005, the Board was composed of the following

CW5 Bruce Hedblom, AUS (Ret)	President	At-Large Director (2005)
Col Martin Coyne, USAF (Ret)	Vice Pres.	At-Large Director (2007)
Maj Rick Erredge, USAFR	Secretary	Designated Director
Capt David Hanten, USAFR	Treasurer	Designated Director
MG Gerald Albrecht, AUS (Ret)		Designated Director
Col Marilyn Chambers, USAFR		Designated Director
LtCol Douglas Kveene, USAFR		Designated Director
MAJ Norman Bennett, USAR (Ret)		At-Large Director (2006)

The objectives of MDAFF are to:

- 1) provide a vehicle for ROA members and others to make contributions that will be used to further the military education and professional development of junior military officers;
- 2) gather sufficient principal so that the interest earned therefrom will enable the MDAFF Board of Directors, or its designee, to provide scholarships, travel expenses, food and lodging expenses, and conference registrations for junior officers or ROTC cadets;
- 3) sponsor educational programs that will be of benefit to all military officers, community leaders, and government representatives on subjects pertaining to national defense, the role of the reserve forces, and military preparedness;
- 4) use its resources to contribute to the educational preparation of junior military officers so that they may assume greater leadership responsibilities.

Because we are still a relatively young organization, our outreach efforts have been limited, but we have obtained contributions from a variety of sources and activities. And even though our fund raising efforts are in their beginning stages, we have committed certain limited amounts of funding for scholarships this year.

- MDAFF sponsored one senior cadet and one officer from each of the seven ROTC detachments to attend the Department of Minnesota convention and banquet in April 2004.
- We made available one \$1,500 scholarship for an officer to attend the ROA national convention in Salt Lake City. The scholarship would cover full convention and JOLDS registration, and reasonable travel and living expenses. Because of mobilizations and other challenges, we were not able to award this scholarship.
- MDAFF responded to a request from the Department of Minnesota to provide the funds for the Department's annual contribution of \$100 to the Armed Forces Services Center (AFSC) at MSPIAP for 2003 and 2004.
- The Freedom Fund provided the money (\$645) to cover the out of pocket expenses associated with the annual ROTC recognition event held in November.
- For the JOLDS opportunity at the 2005 Mid-Winter Conference in February, the MDAFF Board again agreed to provide one \$1,500 scholarship which would not only cover the Conference registration, but would also assist in

funding lodging and/or transportation. Again, we were not able to find an officer interested in, or able to take advantage of this offer.

- MDAFF approved a Department request to fund three ROTC recognition medals for each ROTC and JrROTC detachment for 2005.
- The MDAFF Board asked the Department ROTC Committee to consider developing a plan for an ROTC scholarship to be funded by MDAFF which would be an appropriate way to honor the memory of Maj Dan Anderson.
- Once again, we have invited ROTC detachments to be represented at the Department of Minnesota convention on 2 April 2005. One officer and one senior cadet, or two senior cadets, have been invited from each of the seven detachments. MDAFF will cover the convention registration and banquet costs for these individuals.
- The 2005 National ROA Convention will be held in New York City in late July. We have made available one scholarship that will cover expenses up to \$1,500.00 for one officer to attend the JOLDTS event. For the first time, ROA has expanded the eligibility criteria to include O-4 (thus making officers in grades O-1 through O-4 and Warrant Officers in WO1 and CW2 eligible). The deadline for applications for this scholarship is 30 May 2005, and the MDAFF Board will make its selection at its regular Board meeting in June 2005. Details are available on the Department of Minnesota web site.

At 8 April 2003, the MDAFF fund balance was \$13,865. As of 31 March, 2004, our fund balance was \$15,134, and at 28 February 2005, the fund balance was \$16,269. Of this amount, \$12,803 is invested in Federally insured certificates of deposit.

As always, ROA members have many opportunities to serve the Major Dan Anderson Freedom Fund. Contributions of money are always welcome (and now fully deductible); your ideas, comments, and suggestions are welcome; and your participation on our Board or at sponsored activities is certainly appreciated.

Only through the support of our members, and potential contributors, can we materially impact the professional development of junior officers, and assist the Department of Minnesota in sponsoring meaningful and interesting programs.

Thank you all for your support this past year.

Respectfully submitted  
CW5 Bruce J. Hedblom, AUS (Ret)  
President

## **Representative McCollum sponsors forum for veterans**

On June 2<sup>nd</sup>, Representative Betty McCollum sponsored a forum at the North St. Paul Community Center, to discuss issues pertaining to veterans' benefits and improving access thereto. About 30 people attended the event, most of whom were members of the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) organization. Other veterans' organizations were represented, while CAPT Bauer and I participated on behalf of ROA.

During her remarks, Representative McCollum discussed the difficulties her father had experienced in receiving VA medical care for a hearing disability he incurred while on active duty with the Air Force. She talked about a new GI Bill of Rights she has been working on. This has been a challenge, due to proposed budget cuts and the difficulty veterans are experiencing when accessing their benefits. Vets are frustrated by co-pay requirements, in a period of rising prescription prices. She elaborated on the confusion reservists experience when trying to use their GI benefits. There was considerable discussion about the relationship between the VA and civilian health care providers. Several DAV members provided personal testimony as to the frustration they endure when they attempt to receive adequate medical coverage.

There was significant discussion about the fact that TRI-CARE users can not obtain service at VA facilities. Representative McCollum described the action being pursued by Representative Gene Taylor (from Mississippi) to resolve this impasse. DAV members commented on their frustration with account administration with their doctors. The forum concluded with a discussion of potential solutions to resolve the gaps between VA and health care provider coverage.

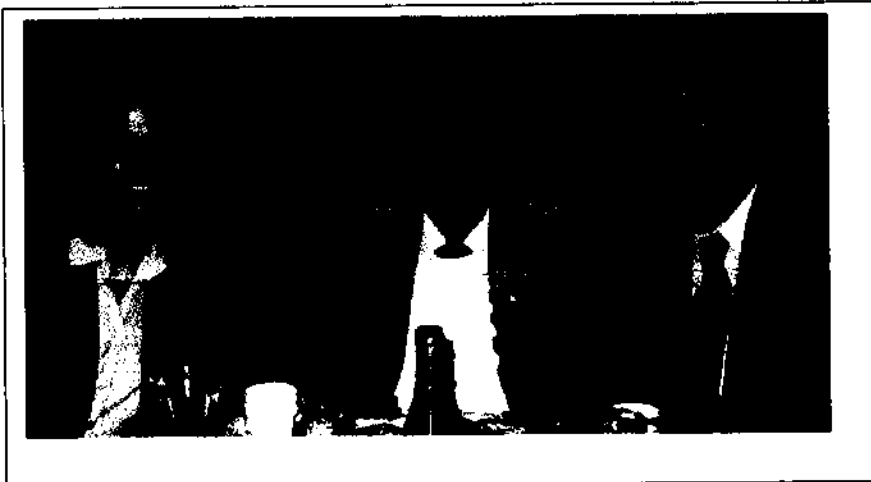
LTC Karl Rasmussen, USAR (Retired)  
Legislative Services Director

### **VISION**

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



Denise Hesselroth, Julie Kveene and Lt Col Doug Kveene



MAJ Kathleen Jensen  
Jens Jensen

**ROA Department of MN**

**Fiscal  
Year 2005**

**Statement of Income and Expense**

**As of April 30, 2005**

	Annual Budget	Budget	Actual	Variance Fav/(Unfav)	%
<b>Income</b>					
Dividends and Interest	\$ 330	\$ -	\$ 307	\$ 307	n/m
Fundraising	\$ 1,800	\$ -	\$ 1,170	\$ 1,170	n/m
Buck-a-Year	\$ 1,800	\$ -	\$ 1,391	\$ 1,391	n/m
Life Member Dues	\$ 6,500	\$ 6,500	\$ 4,325	\$ (2,175)	-33%
Annual Member Dues	\$ 1,900	\$ -	\$ 1,649	\$ 1,649	n/m
Newsletter Advertising		\$ -	\$ 1,266	\$ 1,266	n/m
Convention and Event Fees	<u>\$ 1,500</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 1,148</u>	<u>\$ 1,148</u>	<u>n/m</u>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 13,830</b>	<b>\$ 6,500</b>	<b>\$ 11,256</b>	<b>\$ 4,756</b>	<b>73%</b>

**Disclaimer:** Please note that the opinions expressed herein are those of the contributors and are not necessarily those of the Department of Minnesota ROA or National ROA

Expenses						
Bank Charges and Fees	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		n/m
Convention Expenses						
National	\$ 1,695	\$ 1,695	\$ 1,695	\$ -		0%
Midwinter	\$ 1,695	\$ 1,695	\$ 1,695	\$ (0)		0%
State	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,136	\$ 364		24%
Donations	\$ 100	\$ -	\$ 60	\$ (60)		n/m
Newsletter	\$ 6,700	\$ -	\$ 3,192	\$ (3,192)		n/m
Postal Expenses	\$ 215	\$ -	\$ 218	\$ (218)		n/m
Committee Expenses						
ROTC Committee		\$ 650	\$ 720	\$ (70)		-11%
Legislative Affairs Committee		\$ 350	\$ 369	\$ (19)		-6%
Chapter Dues	\$ 900	\$ -	\$ 719	\$ (719)		n/m
Miscellaneous Expenses	\$ 25	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		n/m
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 13,830</b>	<b>\$ 5,890</b>	<b>\$ 9,804</b>	<b>\$ (3,914)</b>		<b>-66%</b>
Net Fund Increase / (Decrease)	\$ -	\$ 5,890	\$ 1,452	\$ 842		14%



BG Bockel, National ROA Representative and Col Chambers Convention attendees

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\$	1.00	CAPT	USNR	Steffes, Arnold
\$	5.00	MAJ	USAR	Bisson, Ronald
\$	10.00	MAJ	USAR	Burch, John
\$	10.00	Cdr	USNR	Manthei, Michael
\$	10.00	LtCol	USAF	Tomporowski, Sylvester
\$	10.00	MAJ	USAR	Wood, Richard
\$	20.00	COL	USAR	Campion, Robert
\$	20.00			Fruin, Jerry
\$	20.00	MAJ	USAR	Sadowski, Gerald
\$	25.00	BG	USAR	Adamson, David
\$	25.00	MG	USAR	Albrecht, Jerald
\$	25.00	Maj	USAF	Bauer, Kirby
\$	25.00	CAPT	USNR	Bentley, Geoffrey
\$	25.00	LtCol	USAF	Berg, Clayton
\$	25.00	COL	USAR	Connett, Walter
\$	25.00	LTC	USAR	Court, Francis
\$	25.00	COL	USAR	Culp, Clyde
\$	25.00	LTC	USAR	Davidson, Keith
\$	25.00	COL	USAR	Hallett, Thomas
\$	25.00			Halstead, David
\$	25.00	LTC	USAR	Hammond, Charles
\$	25.00	Maj	USAF	Hanten, David
\$	25.00	COL	USAR	Harrison, William
\$	25.00	COL	USAR	Hermanson, Ray
\$	25.00	LTC	USAR	Hilt, Billy
\$	25.00	COL	USAR	Jessen-Klixbull, Ole
\$	25.00	LtCol	USAF	Kermes, Robert
\$	25.00	LTC	USAR	Kindelberger, Corwin
\$	25.00	Col	USAR	Kopitzke, Randall
\$	25.00	COL	USAR	Landstrom, Lyle
\$	25.00	LTC	USAR	Landsverk, Donald
\$	25.00	CPT	USAR	Larson, David
\$	25.00	MAJ	USAR	Layman, Robert
\$	25.00	MAJ	USAR	Layman, Robert
\$	25.00	MAJ	USAR	Mackin, Terry
\$	25.00	COL	USAR	Malcolm, Ron
\$	25.00	LtCol	USAF	Mattson, Roger
\$	25.00	CAPT	USCG	Mittendorf, William
\$	25.00	COL	USAR	Mukomela, Ken
\$	25.00	BG	USAR	Norenberg, Curtis
\$	25.00	LTC		Otteson, Glenn
\$	25.00	BG	USAR	Prem, Konald
\$	25.00	MG	USAR	Rehkamp, Paul
\$	25.00	LTC	USAR	Riediger, Norman
\$	25.00	COL	USAR	Rorig, Manfred
\$	25.00	MAJ	USAR	Rosnow, John
\$	25.00	COL	USAR	Sahlstrom, Stan D.
\$	25.00	LTC	USAR	Sapp, LTC Roger and MAJ Diane
\$	25.00	LTC	USAR	Sarafolean, Michael
\$	25.00	COL		Schmitz, Daniel

**2004-2005 Buck-a-Year Contributors.**  
**Thank you all. Your continued support is a significant help toward publishing the Department newsletter four times a year.**

**Gary Dahl**



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Buck-a-year contributors continued

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\$ 25.00	COL	USAF	Wofford, Kenneth
\$ 25.00	Maj	USAF	Zenner, David
\$ 35.00	Col	USAF	Chambers, Marilyn
\$ 100.00	Col	USAF	Chambers, Marilyn and LtCol Chambers, Gary

Maj Rick Erredge and spouse



The Honorable Mark Dayton, US Senator, State of Minnesota (Guest Speaker at the Banquet) and BG Jerald Albrecht, Dept President

**VISION**

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Joint Military Services' Retiree Appreciation Day  
September 17, 2005



Mystic Lake Casino & Hotel:  
Dakota Ballroom  
2400 Mystic Lake BLVD  
Prior Lake, MN. 55372

**2005 RAD PROGRAM – 17 SEPTEMBER 2005**

Start Time		Event
Start	Min.	
0730	60	Registration/Refreshments
0830	10	Colors/Pledge/Invocation
0840	15	Announcements & Intro of Guests
0855	15	RSO/RAO Services
0910	25	MN VA Dept Veterans' Affairs
0935	30	VA Medical Center
1005	20	BREAK
1025	25	VA Regional Office & VA Benefits
1050	20	VA National Cemetery
1110	30	DFAS (Defense Finance and Accounting Service)
1140	20	JAG Services
1200	40	LUNCH BREAK
1240	40	Keynote Address
<b>Rep. Jim Ramstad</b>		
1320	10	Military Officer Assoc. Legis Update
1400	20	BREAK
1420	20	Space "A"
1440	20	Long Term Care
1500	30	TRICARE Dental Plan
1530	20	BREAK
1550	60	TRICARE & TRICARE FOR LIFE.

**DIRECTIONS TO THE Mystic Lake Casino – Hotel.**

**East or West I-94 to 169 South:** Follow 169 South to County Road 83 then exit and take 83 south (left). Follow this route for proximately 2.5 miles to Mystic Lake.

Special room rates for the event will be available for \$89 per night.. Be sure to ask for Retiree Appreciation Day Rate. Reservation deadline is August 17, 2005. Call 1-800-262-7799 or 952-445-9000 to make reservations.

SATO Travel will provide a drawing for 2 \$100 rental car award letters and one Florida Hotel – Orlando stay for 2 nights and get a third night free offer. A name will be drawn from the registration list for entry in a GRAND PRIZE drawing held in November for entrants from all RAD events for a Blue Sky Tours vacation for two in Hawaii including a 5 night stay at hotel, rental car and airfare from L.A.Y.

**Advanced Registration is Required.**

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If attending:  
SPOUSES NAME \_\_\_\_\_

GUEST(S) NAME \_\_\_\_\_

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MAIL REGISTRATION FORM NO LATER THAN  
17 August 2005 TO:

Retired Activities Office  
Navy & Marine Corps Reserve Center  
6400 Bloomington Rd., Fort Snelling  
St. Paul, MN 55111

**FOR INFORMATION CALL:**  
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**M-F, 1000-1400**  
**NAVY RAO: 612-727-2854, Tu or Th 1000 - 1400**

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### Edward Jones

Department of Minnesota 2005  
Brigade of Volunteer Award recipients  
Col Marilyn Chambers and CAPT  
Larry DeVries. The awards were  
presented by BG Jerald Albrecht,  
Department President



### VISION

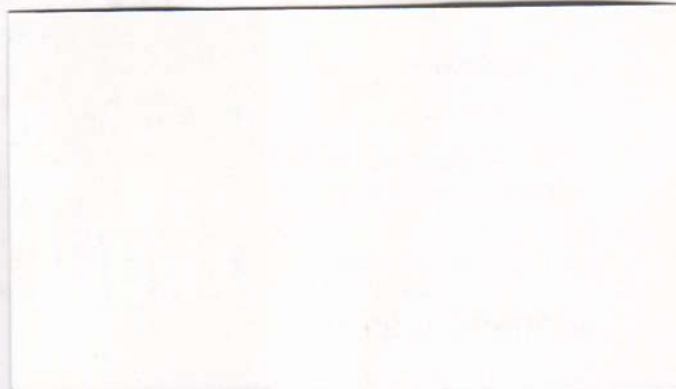
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**INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

- President's message
- Dept convention draft minutes
- Dept 2004-2005 financial report
- MDAFF Annual Report



Convention attendees: COL \_\_\_\_\_, CW4 Ken Hiemenz, MAJ Al Scherer, St. Thomas ROTC Cadet

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