



# MINUTEMAN



NEWSLETTER OF THE  
DEPARTMENT OF PENNSYLVANIA  
RESERVE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES

“TO PROMOTE A MILITARY POLICY FOR THE UNITED STATES THAT WILL PROVIDE ADEQUATE NATIONAL SECURITY AND TO PROMOTE THE DEVELOPMENT AND EXECUTION THEREOF”

Fall 2004

Editor: CDR Robert A. Stoehr, USNR (Ret.) E-mail: [rastoehr@pitt.edu](mailto:rastoehr@pitt.edu)

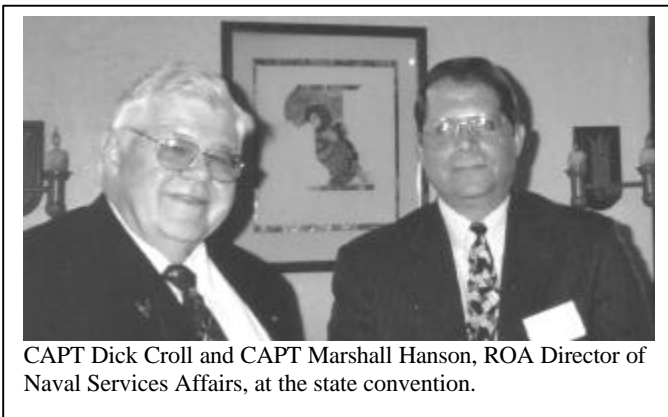
ROA-PA-04-2

## 2003 Recipient of the ROA Sword and Pen Award for the 34<sup>th</sup> time

### STATE CONVENTION REPORT

Our annual convention was held at the Edinboro Inn on Saturday, 24 April 2004. The event was hosted by PA Chapter 18 – “Erie” – with LTC Warren Hull, USAR, past president of the Department as the principal organizer. Things began with a social hour in the hospitality room on Friday evening with snacks provided by ROAL.

**Captain Dick Croll, USN (Ret.)**, president of the Department of

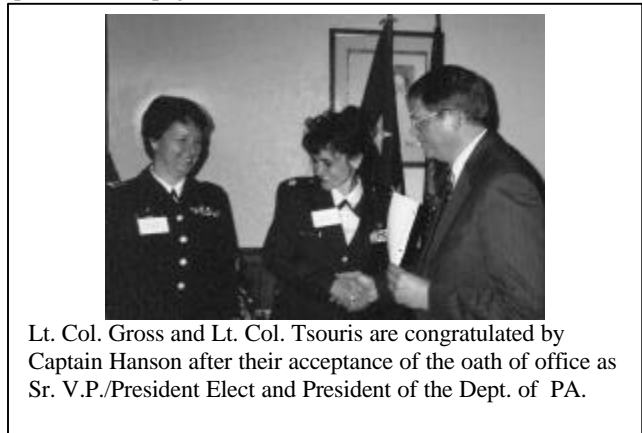


CAPT Dick Croll and CAPT Marshall Hanson, ROA Director of Naval Services Affairs, at the state convention.

Pennsylvania, presided over formal sessions on Saturday. **Captain Marshall Hanson, USN (Ret.)**, ROA Director of Naval Services Affairs, was present as the representative of ROA national headquarters. In his luncheon speech Captain Hanson discussed a number of high priority issues including monitoring the plans for *Active and Reserve Integration* (ARI) especially as they apply to the Naval Reserve. Whenever and however these ideas are implemented, they will bring sweeping changes to the Naval Reserve (now being referred to by some as the Navy’s Reserve). Captain Hanson has expressed concern that people with Reserve experience are not having enough input in shaping these plans. In the afternoon session, Lt. Col. Denise Gross, USAR, was elected Senior Vice President/President Elect. The minutes of the convention, including results of the election of other department and service sections officers, can be found on page 5 of this newsletter.

Captain Hanson performed the installation of officers at the banquet. Lt. Col. Vincetta Tsouris, USAFR, as installed as president of the department. She had been elected senior vice president/president elect at our convention last year. In June, LTC Tsouris was ordered to active duty and deployed to the middle east.

LTC Gross has assumed the duties as acting president of the department. See page 3.



Lt. Col. Gross and Lt. Col. Tsouris are congratulated by Captain Hanson after their acceptance of the oath of office as Sr. V.P./President Elect and President of the Dept. of PA.

Our banquet speaker was Major General Michael E. Dunlavey, USAR. He told us that he had just been released from active duty during the previous week simultaneously with his retirement from the Army Reserve. While on active duty he served as the general in charge of global anti-terror intelligence and as assistant to the director of the National Security Agency. For a period in 2002 he served as the commander of Joint Task Force 170 in charge of detainees at Guantanamo Bay. He warned us that the war on terror is likely to go on for a long time. The forces behind it are larger than Al Qaida and will continue even when Bin Laden is killed or captured. The U.S. is not the only target. The U.S. military, including the Reserve Forces,



Maj. Gen. Michael Dunlavey

must be prepared for long struggle. In civilian life, General Dunlavey is a Judge in the Common Pleas Court of Erie County.

**The 2005 Department of Pennsylvania Spring Convention will be hosted by Chapter 11 at Boiling Springs, PA on the weekend of 25 April. Details will be in the next issue of *Minuteman* due out in March.**

**Check out our Department of Pennsylvania Web Site at [www.roa.org/pa/](http://www.roa.org/pa/)  
2003 Winner of ROA’s BG David Sarnoff Award for Web Site Excellence**

**Department Officers and Committee Chairs  
(April '04- April '05)**

Vice President-Army – LTC Warren Hull, USAR (Ch 18)
Vice President-Air Force – LTC V. Ray Kicker, USAFR
Vice Pres.-Naval Services – CDR Nicholas Krawec, USNR (Ch 50)
Jr. Vice President-Army – 1LT Douglas Lecker, USAR (Ch 18)
Jr. Vice President-AirForce – CPT Geno D'Amico, USAFR (Ch 23)
Jr. Vice President-Naval Services – ENS Chris Briem, USNR (Ch50)
Surgeon - CAPT Karl Ludwig, USNR (Ch 50)
Dental Surgeon - CDR Max Burns, USNR (Ch 50)
Historian - COL Paul Platek, USAR (Ch 37)
Judge Advocate – CPT William Pentecost, USAR (Ch 99)
Chaplain – LTC Ward G. Stakem, USAFR (Ch 23)
National Council Rep. – LTC Gordon McKay, USAFR (Ch 23)
Membership Chair - LTC Denise Gross, USAR (Ch 11)
Retirement Affairs Chair – COL Catherine Scicchitano, USAR (Ch 43)
Legislative Chair – LTC Ruth Redenbaugh, USAFR (Ch 23)
Bldg. Fund & Endowment Chair – COL Joseph Daily, Jr. AUS (Ch 55)
Constitution and Bylaws Chair - COL Joseph Daily, Jr.,AUS (Ch 55)
ROTC Chair – MAJ Robert Zimmerman, USAR (Ch 11)
Resolutions Chair – LTC Donald Ladley, USAFR (Ch 23)

**ROA-PA Chapter Nos., Names, and Presidents**

<b>11 – "Central"</b> LTC Denise Gross, USAR 945 Whisler Rd. Etters, PA 17319	<b>14 – "Connemaugh Valley"</b> CPT John Lichtenfels, USAR RR 5 Box 471 Johnstown, PA 15905
<b>16 – "Delaware Valley"</b> MAJ Royce Fetherman, USAFR, RR1 Box 1381 Stroudsburg, PA 18360	<b>18 – "Erie"</b> MAJ Paul Masters, USAR 1741 Linwood Ave. Erie, PA 16510
<b>19 – "Fort Necessity"</b> CW3 Lawrence Hawkins, USAR 5 Oak St. Point Marion, PA 15474	<b>23 – "Golden Triangle"</b> CPT Steven Minor, USAFR 165 N. West St. Columbiana, OH 44408
<b>29 – "Lancaster"</b> LTC Steven D. Guinter, USAFR 804 Mowhawk Dr. Lancaster, PA 17601	<b>33 – "Lehigh Valley"</b> LTC Theodore Verensink 81 Jonathan Dr. Easton, PA. 18045
<b>34 – "Luzerne County"</b> LTC Kenneth P. Johnson 5 Wilson Circle Milton, PA 17847.	<b>37 – "Mercer County"</b> COL Paul Platek, USAR 201 Lakeside Dr. McKees Rocks., PA 15136
<b>43 – "Philadelphia-Army"</b> COL Catherine Scicchitano, USAR 666 W. Germantown Pike-Apt S413 Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462	<b>46 – "Reading"</b> MAJ James A. Killian, ARNG 227 Emerald Ave. Reading, PA 19606
<b>50 – "Sea Services-Pittsburgh"</b> CDR Nick Krawec, USNR 1426 Prospect Rd. Pittsburgh, PA. 15227	<b>53 – "Tri County"</b> LTC John J. Marino, AUS 616 Silverdale Rd. Julian, PA 16844
<b>55 – "Valley Forge"</b> COL Joseph I. Daily, Jr.,AUS 1960 Swedesford Rd Malvern, PA 19355	<b>57 – "Washington County"</b> COL Charles Rockwell, USAR 93 Frazee Rd. Amity, PA 15311
<b>60 – "York County"</b> COL Sebastian Hafer (Secretary) 168 S. Hay St. Gettysburg, PA 17325	<b>62 – "Military Government"</b> COL Gabriel Zinni, USAR 915 Wooded Pond Rd. Ambler, PA 19002
<b>63 – "Liberty Bell"</b> LTC John Roberts, AUS 209 Maine Ave Cherry Hill, NJ 08002	<b>99 – "Tri Services"</b> MAJ Duane Richards, USAR 134 Crossland Rd. Butler, PA. 16002

**Reports of Changes of Address, Rank, or Status** should be made to ROA National Headquarters, Membership Dept., One Constitution Avenue, N.E., Washington, DC 20002-5655. The mailing labels for *Minuteman* are prepared from a listing received electronically from ROA HQ just before each issue goes out. Although we try to make changes that are reported directly to us, if these changes are not reported to ROA HQ, they revert back to the old information each time we download the listing. Please help us keep everything synchronized by reporting all changes to ROA HQ.

**THE RESERVE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION  
of the United States**

Founded 1922 -- Chartered by Congress 1950

THE PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION REPRESENTING ALL  
MILITARY SERVICES

ARMY ★ NAVY ★ AIR FORCE ★ MARINE CORPS ★  
COAST GUARD ★ PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE ★ NOAA



**Minuteman**

The Newsletter of the Department of Pennsylvania  
Reserve Officers Association of the U.S.

**Principal Officers of the Dept. of PA (Apr. '04– Apr. '05)**

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Steubenville, OH 43952

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Etters, PA 17319

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Pittsburgh, PA 15237

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*Minuteman* is the authorized newsletter of the Department of Pennsylvania of the Reserve Officers Association of the United States. It is published 2 times annually in March (Spring) and September (Fall). The editor is CDR R. A. Stoehr, USNR (Ret.). All correspondence related to *Minuteman* should be sent to the editor at 93 Country Club Dr., Pittsburgh, PA 15241 or by e-mail to him at [rastoehr@pitt.edu](mailto:rastoehr@pitt.edu). Phone and fax: 412-831-6485. Members are invited to submit articles or commentaries to be published in *Minuteman* on a space available basis. Commentaries and bylined items express the views of the writer and not necessarily those of ROA, the Department of Pennsylvania, or the editor. Anonymous commentaries will not be published. The national ROA is not responsible for the content of this newsletter. Contributions should be received by the beginning of the month preceding the month of publication. Submission by e-mail or on floppy disk is preferred.

Report changes of address, rank, or status to ROA National Headquarters. To be removed from the *Minuteman* mailing list, send a notice to the editor.

*Minuteman* is available on-line on the ROA Department of Pennsylvania Website [www.roa.org/pa/](http://www.roa.org/pa/).

## The President's Page

### A MESSAGE FROM OUR ACTING PRESIDENT

I hope all have had a happy and healthy summer. In case you have yet to hear, our PA Department President, Lt. Col. Vincetta Tsouris, was recently mobilized on active duty, overseas. In accordance with ROA bylaws, I as your Senior Vice President and President Elect will perform the President's duties in an acting capacity on Lt. Col. Tsouris' behalf.

**Our first order** of business is to establish the tentative dates for upcoming PA Department Executive Committee Meetings. The following dates and locations have been selected.

DATE	TIME	PLACE
9 Oct 04	*1500 hrs	Penns Creek, PA
15 Feb 05	1400 hrs	At ROA Mid-Winter - Hilton Convention Center – Washington., DC
5 Mar 05	1200 hrs	911th (AF Base) - Pittsburgh, PA
24 Apr 05	0800 hrs	At Dept. of PA Spring Convention Allenberry Resort – Boiling Springs, PA

\* Note: The fall conference referred to on page 8 will begin at 1100 hours. A short ExCom meeting will follow with the probable starting time of 1500 hours.

**Our next priority is the Report to Congress.** MAJ Bob Zimmerman has volunteered to assist in assembling our Department's report. I ask that each service representative bring their input in electronic (Microsoft Word) and hardcopy format to our Fall Conference on 9 October. If you will not be attending the conference, please email to MAJ Zimmerman at [bobz1951@yahoo.com](mailto:bobz1951@yahoo.com) not later than 7 October 2004.

**Denise Gross, Lt.Col., USAR**  
Acting President, Department of Pennsylvania

### SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT LTC GROSS ASSUMES DUTIES OF ACTING PRESIDENT DURING MOBILIZATION OF DEPT. PRES. LTC TSOURIS

LTC Denise Gross, USAR, was elected Senior Vice President and President Elect of the Department of Pennsylvania at our annual

convention in April. She has previously served the department as Vice President Army and as ROTC Chairman. She has been the president of PA Chapter 11- "Central PA" for 20 years, leading that chapter in a very active program of recruiting and community out-



Lt. Col. Denise Gross, USAR

reach. She was a principal organizer of our state convention at Lewisburg in 2002 and will be hosting another Spring Convention in April 2005. In July she stepped into the role of Acting President of the Department of Pennsylvania when our President, LTC Vincetta Tsouris, USAF, was mobilized by the Air Force.

Lieutenant Colonel Gross is assigned to the 3rd Bde, 80th Division (IT), however she has been mobilized under a

derivative unit identification code, as a volunteer, since September 2002. Currently, she is assigned to HQDA G-3 at the Pentagon with duty at an Alternate Army Operations Center as a Crisis Action Team Chief.

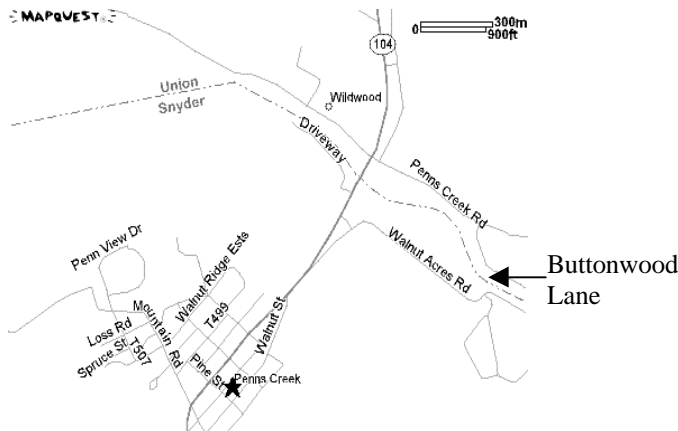
Denise received her Army commission through the ROTC program at Bloomsburg University where she earned her B.S. in Business Management in 1979. She earned an M.S. in Management from Salve Regina University, Newport, RI in 2000 and in July 2004 she graduated with a M.S. in Strategic Studies from the US Army War College Distance Education Program.

In civilian life she is a human resource analyst/labor relations manager with the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation. She resides in Etters, PA with her husband Jeffrey and her youngest daughter, Courtney. Her oldest daughter, Nicole was married on August 7, 2004.

### AN INVITATION FROM LTC GROSS

On **Saturday, 9 October 2004**, (1100-1500 hrs) members of the Dept. of PA of ROA and ROAL and guests are cordially invited to the Zerbe (Gross)/Zimmerman Cabins on Buttonwood Lane in Penns Creek, PA.

**Directions:** 11&15 onto 104 N (approx 3 miles north of Liverpool), through town of Penns Creek, past Shade Mountain, Winery, convenience store/gas station. At bridge turn right onto Penns Creek Road continue about ¼ mile then make next right onto Buttonwood Lane. First and second cabin on your right. (phone) 570-966-0907



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### Lunch Menu: Stuffed Cabbage and Pierogies

ROA members, ROAL, and their guests are encouraged to attend. This will be an opportunity to discuss Department, National, and chapter business. Please complete the response sheet below and return by 1 October 2004 to coordinate meals/lodging.

Questions regarding this meeting or department activities may be directed to: LTC Denise Gross, Department President, at (h)(717) 938-4759 or (w)(717) 878-4406

### ROA PA Dept. of PA October 9, 2004 MEETING RESPONSE

**Return by 10/1/04** to: LTC Denise Gross, 945 Whisler Road, Etters, PA 17319 or email: [denise.gross@us.army.mil](mailto:denise.gross@us.army.mil)

Yes, I will be attending  No Lodging Required  
 Yes, Lodging required: Fri. night  Sat. night

Names \_\_\_\_\_

### PLANNING FOR ROTC SPONSORSHIP AT MID-WINTER 2005 - A message from ROTC Chairman, MAJ Bob Zimmerman

As noted in the spring issue of *Minuteman* we sponsored 6 cadets/midshipmen to attend the 2004 ROA Midwinter/Pentagon Seminar. All cadets were very appreciative and their participation in the conference reflected very well on our Department's ROTC program. To make things much smoother for the 2005 Mid-Winter we need to be more proactive. Suggest that we not wait for the letter from National, which is expected in August or September 2004 with suspense in October 2004.

The following POC's were identified at the Spring Convention to coordinate the sponsorship of cadets/midshipmen for their respective service. LTC Ruth Redenbaugh, USAF; LTC Warren Hull, USAR; Wally Utley, USNR

These individuals are responsible for determining which school (s) with ROTC programs that their service wants to sponsor. Need each service to make contact with school(s) of choice and get a commitment that the ROTC program leadership will cooperate by sending cadets. Need commitment on number of cadets NLT 15 Sep 04 and tentative names by 1 Oct 04 – names can be changed. Recommend substitutes be identified by Professor of Military Science – since college students don't have their winter schedules finalized before names and registration fees are due at National HQ.

### MOBILIZATION STATUS OF THE RESERVE AND NATIONAL GUARD

During the last week of August, the total number on active duty in support of the partial mobilization for the Army National Guard and Army Reserve was 133,697; Naval Reserve 3,762; Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve, 11,279; Marine Corps Reserve, 11,371; and the Coast Guard Reserve, 1,546. This brings the total National Guard and Reserve on active duty to 161,646 including both units and individual augmentees. These numbers vary from week to week as some units and individuals are mobilized while others are released from duty.

The numbers currently mobilized from Pennsylvania are 4,344 Army Reserve and Guard and 411 Air Force Reserve and Guard. Most of the Naval, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard Reservists currently on active duty have been mobilized on an individual basis and state totals are not available.

For more details and updates check out [www.defenselink.mil/releases/2004/nr20040310-0449.html](http://www.defenselink.mil/releases/2004/nr20040310-0449.html).

### NAVAL SERVICES JR. VP IS FORMER CHIEF PETTY OFFICER

Ensign Chris Briem, USNR, has accepted our call to be Junior Vice President – Naval Services for the Dept. of PA. Although a newly minted ensign, Chris is well known around the Navy community as Chief Brien. Chris first joined the Naval Reserve in 1985 and rose to Command Chief Petty Officer with Military Sealift Command Northern Persian Gulf Det. 105 based at North Versailles. He recently completed a



**Chris Briem sworn in as Ensign aboard USNS Catawba at Bahrain – November 2003**

360-day mobilization to the Persian Gulf, during which he accepted a "demotion" to Ensign, USNR. In the summer of 2004 he returned to Bahrain for a month to help with the evacuation of U.S. dependents. Concurrent with his Navy career, he has pursued an ambitious aca-

demical program that has included a electrical engineering degree from Princeton, a Master of Public Administration degree from Columbia University, PhD candidacy (ABD) in economics at the University of Pittsburgh, and study at the Russian Language Institute in St. Petersburg, Russia. When not on active duty, he is employed as a regional economist with the University Center for Social and Urban Research at the University of Pittsburgh. For more about Chris, check out his web page [www.ucsur.pitt.edu/briem.htm](http://www.ucsur.pitt.edu/briem.htm).

### DEPARTMENT AND CHAPTER PUBLICATIONS RECEIVE AWARDS FROM ROA NATIONAL

At our state convention, CAPT Marshall Hanson, ROA Director of Naval Services Affairs, presented the Sword and Pen Award for 2003 to three publications from our department. They were *The Navigator*, Chapter 57–Washington County, LTC Gist Wylie, editor; *Straight Gouge*, Chapter 50 – Pittsburgh Sea Services, CDR R. A. Stoehr, editor; and *Minuteman*, Department of Pennsylvania, CDR R. A. Stoehr Editor. He also presented a Sword and Screen Award for our department web site, CDR R. A. Stoehr, webmaster. At the ROA National Convention in Salt Lake City, our web site was honored as one of three departmental web site to receive the BG David Sarnoff Award for web site excellence. Check it out at [www.roa.org/pa/](http://www.roa.org/pa/).

### CHAPTER CHATTER

**Chapter 57–Washington County** held their summer picnic on 14 August to coincide with the Olympics. It featured an Olympic Torch and competition (word challenge, beanbag toss, and ring toss) followed by a steak dinner. Their newsletter, *The Navigator*, is published monthly and contains useful info such as the Space-A trips available at the PAANG 171th Air Refueling Wing.

**Chapter 50–Pittsburgh Sea Services** in cooperation with the Pittsburgh Council of the Navy League held their annual outing and picnic lunch for patients at the VA long term care facility at Aspinwall on Saturday, 11 September. LCDR Dave Erdodi reports that there were 15 volunteers who helped with escorting the patients to the picnic area and serving the food. They served about 170 hot dogs to about 135 patients. The patients were extremely pleased with the food, prizes, and companionship.

**Send your items to the editor for inclusion in Chapter Chatter.**

### IN MEMORIAM

#### LT. COL MARION JONES, USAR (RET.), PAST-PRESIDENT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PENNSYLVANIA

Lt. Colonel Marion Jones, USAR (Ret.) passed away on 4 September 2004 after suffering from Alzheimer's Disease for the last several years. She was president of the Department of Pennsylvania 1976-77, and she was a regular participant in our state conventions, attending her last one in 2000 at the Holiday Inn at the Meadows. She graduated from Hood College. During World War II she was commissioned in the Army Hospital Service Corps as a dietician and served in Panama. During the Korean War she served as a dietician at Walter Reed Army Hospital and came to know a number of the prominent military and government leader of that era. She spent most of her civilian life as a dietician for the VA Medical Hospitals in the Pittsburgh region. She was also active in the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Military Order of the World Wars.

**ROA DEPARTMENT OF PENNSYLVANIA  
Minutes of the Spring Convention - 24 April 2004  
Edinboro Inn and Conference Center, Edinboro, PA**

**MORNING SESSION**

Department president, Captain Richard L. Croll, called the meeting to order at 0900. He described some of the issues that ROA is facing. The convention then broke out into separate meetings of the three service sections and ROAL.

**NOON SESSION**

After lunch, the convention was addressed by Captain Marshall Hanson, USN (Ret.), ROA Director of Naval Services Affairs.

**AFTERNOON SESSION**

Meeting commenced at 0145

**Opening Remarks** – Captain Richard L. Croll, USN(Ret.), presiding

Roll Call of Chapters - The following Chapters were represented: Chapters 11, 18, 23, 37, 43, 50, 55 & 99. The president declared a quorum present.

**ROAL Report -**

Captain Croll invited ROAL state president Nancy Pietrobon to present a report from their morning session. She reported that the PA ROAL is definitely against the proposed change to the ROA Constitution and Bylaws that would create a “Spousal Membership” within ROA. She said that they believed that this would spell the death of ROAL. She then invited Betty Doty, president of the ROAL Philadelphia Club to give a report of the activities of her organization.

**Secretary’s Report –**

Secretary CDR R. A. Stoehr reported that the minutes of the 2003 state convention were distributed to all members with the fall issue of *Minuteman* and asked to dispense with their reading. With no objection the president so ruled and asked if any corrections were needed. None arising, it was moved and seconded that they be approved as printed. Passed by voice vote.

The secretary reported that the department has 2853 members according to the April roster received from national.

**Treasurer’s Report -**

Treasurer LTC Al Smith handed out printed copies of the treasurer’s report for the period ending 31 March. He noted that some bills pertaining to that just concluded fiscal year have not been received particularly those related to national meetings. One bill for \$892 for the Mid-Winter hospitality room has just been received. The bill for the hospitality room we shared with NJ and NY has still not been received from the Department of New York. A copy of the treasurer’s report is appended to these minutes.

The treasurer then presented his proposed budget for the coming fiscal year. After discussion, the treasurer amended his proposed budget to include a new line item for “Dept. President National Convention Expenses - \$1000’ and to increase the budget for “JO/ROTC expenses” to \$2500, and to adjust the “Transfers from Inactive Chapters’ to maintain a balanced budget. Col. Platek moved that the budget be accepted as modified. CAPT Ludwig seconded. Passed.

**President’s Report -**

President Croll reported that the department ExCom held four meetings and the department Council held one meeting in the past year.

**Army Section Report -**

- The Army Section nominated LTC Denise Gross for Department Sr. VP/Pres. Elect. (It is the Army’s turn to fill this office.)
- Elected for Army Section offices: VP–Army - LTC Warren Hull, USAR; Jr VP-Army - 1 LT Doug Lecker, USAR
- Nominated for Dept. offices: Judge Advocate – CPT William Pentecost, USAR; Historian – COL Paul Platek, USAR
- Delegate list prepared for submission
- The section recommended MAJ Bob Zimmerman for ROTC and COL Joe Daily for the Endowment and Bylaws chairmanships.
- The Army Section considered the proposed amendments to the national Constitution and Bylaws sent to us from ROA headquarters. They voted against proposed amendments No. 4 (re Spousal Membership) and No. 5 (re National Council role at Mid-Winter). The section voted in favor of the other proposed amendments.
- The Army Section discussed the ROTC program and budget issues related to it.
- They also discussed a “Care Package’ plan for mobilized troops from Pennsylvania.

**Navy Section Report -**

- Elected for Naval Section offices: VP Naval Services – CDR Nicolas Krawek, USNR; Jr. VP – ENS Chris Briem, USNR
- Nominated for Dept. office: Surgeon – CAPT Karl Ludwig, USNR; Dental Surgeon – CDR Max Burns, USNR
- Delegate list prepared for submission
- The Naval Services Section voted in favor of all the proposed amendments to the national Constitution and Bylaws.
- Captain Marshal Hanson, ROA director of Naval Services Affairs, met with our state Naval Services Section. He discussed the proposed C&B amendments and their rationale. He also discussed the Navy’s plans to transform the Naval Reserve and integrate it with the active forces. He said that the ROA view is that these plans are being pushed forward too fast with too little input from the reservists involved.

**Air Force Section Report -**

- Six delegates were named to represent the Air Force at the National Convention.
- Elected for A.F. Section offices: VP A.F. – LTC V. Ray Kicker, USAFR; Jr. VP A.F – MAJ CAPT Geno D’Amico, USAFR
- Nominated for Dept. offices: National Councilman - LTC Gordon McKay, USAFR; Chaplain – LTC Ward Stakem, USAFR
- The Air Force Section voted against proposed amendments No. 4 and No. 5 to the national Constitution and Bylaws. They voted in favor of all of the other proposed amendments. They voted against the Memorandum related to Spousal Membership dues.
- The A.F. Section wants to go on record strongly recommending the ROA Academy for Department of PA leadership.
- The Air Force Section is very interested in the 2005 BRAC report.

**Committee Reports -**

The **ROTC Committee** report presented by LTC Denise Gross detailed a very active program in support of ROTC and JROTC units in the state. She provided printed copies of her report.

The **Historian**, LTC Paul Platek, reported that he could use more photos of our ROTC activities. He asks that a description of the event and the persons in the photos be included with the pictures.

The secretary reported on behalf of the **Resolutions Committee** chairman, LTC Don Ladley, that no resolutions have been proposed from within our department, by other departments, or by national headquarters for consideration at this convention.

**Proposed Amendments to the National Constitution and Bylaws -**

The proposed amendments to the ROA national Constitution and Bylaws were considered. All of the Service Sections had voted in favor of all of the proposed amendments except No. 4 and No. 5. The Naval Services Section had voted for these amendments while the Army and Air Force Sections had voted against them.

Colonel Charles Holsworth moved that the department accept the amendments that were approved by all of the sections. Seconded by CAPT Ludwig. Passed.

Proposed Amendment No. 4 (re: Spousal Membership) was then discussed. CDR Stoehr then moved that the department vote NO on this proposed amendment. LTC Redenbaugh seconded. Passed by voice vote.

Proposed Amendment No. 4 (re National Council role at Mid-Winter) was then discussed. COL Holsworth moved that the department vote NO on the proposed amendment. CW4 Ken McCauley seconded. Passed by voice vote.

**New Business**

**Unit Rule -**

CAPT Ludwig moved to adopt the unit rule for our delegation at the National Convention. CW4 McCauley seconded. Passed unanimous.

**Inactive Chapters -**

CAPT Ludwig introduced the subject of the disposition of chapters that are inactive or that have had no chapter activities for several years. He specifically referred to Chapter 44–Philadelphia RONS which has not had any meetings or other activities for many years. CAPT Ludwig is a past president of Chapter 44. He moved that Chapter 44 be dissolved and that the members be transferred to Chapter 16–Delaware Valley unless they request otherwise. Chapter 16 meets at Willow Grove, the only remaining site of Naval Reserve activity in the Philadelphia area. LTC Redenbaugh seconded. Passed by voice vote.

COL Joe Daily then describe the situation with Chapter 55. It has 93 members. He has completed a mail survey of the chapter members. In response he received 1 phone call and 1 letter. The president received 3 calls. No one wants to do anything. COL Daily moved that all of the members be transferred to Chapter 43 (except two who have requested transfer to Chapter 62) and that Chapter 55 be dissolved. CAPT Ludwig seconded. Passed unanimously.

COL Paul Platek noted that Chapter 1–Centre County has been inactive since he was department president. Secretary Stoehr reported that he received a note from LTC Bob Durbin of State College that he recently contacted a number of ROA members living in the area, but he got no interest in restarting Chapter 1. Secretary Stoehr also reported that he received word that Chapter 60–York County is meeting jointly with MOAA. COL Platek then said Chapter 37–Mercer County of which he is president has not been able to sustain any activities. President Croll then asked that any action on Chapters 1 and 37 be considered at the ExCom meeting that will take place tomorrow. LTC Redenbaugh so moved. COL Platek seconded. Passed

**2005 State Convention –**

LTC Denise Gross, president of Chapter 11, volunteered to have her chapter host our 2005 convention in the Harrisburg-Carlisle area. CAPT Ludwig moved that we accept the offer. LTC McKay seconded. Passed.

**CIOR – ROA recruiting CD-ROM – BRAC -**

COL Holsworth reported that anyone who wants to be a delegate to the CIOR meeting in Vienna should contact him and he will make the arrangements. He said that ROA has a new recruiting CD-ROM available. It will be set up for viewing in the hospitality room this evening.. He also has information about plans by a coalition of organizations in Pennsylvania to respond to the upcoming BRAC report.

**Election of Officers -**

LTC Vincetta Tsouris, USAFR, our current Senior Vice President and President Elect, is ready to assume the office of President for the coming year and no election is required for that office.

There were no nominations from the floor and no contest for other department offices. The following were elected by acclamation:

- Sr VP/Pres, Elect – LTC Denise Gross, USAR
- National Councilman – LTC Gordon McKay, USAFR
- Surgeon - CAPT Karl Ludwig, USNR
- Dental Surgeon – CDR Max Burns, USNR
- Chaplain - LTC Ward Stakem, USAFR
- Judge Advocate - CPT William Pentecost, USAR
- Historian – COL Paul Platek, USAR

**EXCOM Meeting – 25 April 2004 -**

Incoming President LTC Vincetta Tsouris announced a meeting of the new ExCom at 8:00 a.m. Sunday in the hospitality room.

**MEETING ADJOURNED at 4:25 p.m.**

**EVENING SESSION**

Following the annual convention banquet, the new officers were sworn in by CAPT Marshall Hanson, USN (Ret.), representing national ROA headquarters. The convention then concluded with a talk by MGEN Michael E. Dunlavey, USAR.

Submitted by R. A. Stoehr, CDR, USNR (Ret.), Secretary, April 2003-April 2004

**ROA NATIONAL CONVENTION APPROVES SPOUSAL MEMBERSHIP**

In spite of a vote to the contrary by the Department of Pennsylvania, the ROA convention voted to approve the Spousal Membership category open to spouses, widows and widowers of past and present members of the military services represented by ROA. See the July/August issue of *The Officer* for details.

**ROTC AWARDS PROGRAM – by MAJ. Robert Zimmerman, USAR, ROTC Chairman, Department of PA**

Request cooperation, support and participation from local chapters throughout the state in support of the ROTC awards program. This is essential because the future of ROA depends on programs that create a positive awareness about our organization.

Each college ROTC program (including those that support the cross enrollment of other institutions) is to receive three awards (Bronze, Silver, Gold) for their deserving cadets (MS II, III, IV or MS I, II, III). Each high school JROTC program should receive one medal and certificate set. In addition to the regular awards program, some special memorial awards have been given to deserving cadets and are coordinated by Chapter 53.

Again this year, some schools did not receive awards and some schools received duplicate medals from more than one chapter. Will need to monitor those Chapters, which failed to support their assigned schools or were confused about which schools they support more closely next year. There continues to be confusion as to who has responsibility for Penn State University and who at PSU is coordinating the awards for all three services. The POC for all Penn State University ROA Awards is Captain Carolyn Forner, USAF (814) 865-5453

Having a problem with feedback from some schools. For example, even though the letter, which accompanies the medal set requests award recipient name and invitation to ceremony – no response received. If you are having similar problem, suggest that you make a few calls and if school ignores your request for information, we can take them off the list and discontinue support for their awards program. My concern is that some of the schools that do not respond are discarding the medal set and may not even have a viable program. These medals are expensive and schools should be encouraging recipients to send a thank you note or the schools themselves should demonstrate common courtesy by responding.

Another change has been made regarding the ordering of certificates. To my surprise this year – the vendor supplied our certificates – not National HQ and we were charged \$2.00 for each certificate. For future planning, Medal kits (ROA medal, bar ribbon) and certificates can be purchased by the respective chapter directly from the vendor William W. Kendrick Co., 401 Butternut St. NW, Washington, DC 20012-1925. Contact the owners, Perry or Scott Lester, at 202-882-0900 or fax at 202-726-1758. The cost for each medal kit and certificate is approximately \$10.00 plus S&H and sales tax. The minimum order is one dozen. To save on shipping costs it is suggested that orders be placed before the Mid-Winter Convention and picked up at the convention. If your chapter needs less than 12 medal sets, no later than 10 Dec 2004, send your order and a check made payable to the ROA Department of PA to: MAJ Robert Zimmerman. MAJ Zimmerman will submit a consolidated order to the vendor, have the medals shipped or picked up, and upon receipt, mail to the respective chapter representative.

While the problems experienced this year are still fresh in all of our minds, I am asking for input to the list below which assigns schools to specific chapters for support. Since not all chapters are represented at State meetings – this list is being provided to all chapters and the Department Secretary. Please let me know if any changes are required NLT 1 Dec 04. You may contact me by phone (570) 259-1579 (w) (570) 286-2100 mail RR2 Box 472 Sunbury, PA 17801 or E-Mail: [bobz1951@yahoo.com](mailto:bobz1951@yahoo.com) if you have any questions or concerns.

Local chapters below are assigned with the responsibility for coordination of awards for schools listed. Any recommended changes need to be coordinated before 1 Dec 2004 to insure that the appropriate number of medals are ordered by each respective chapter.

**Chapter PA 11**

**ROTC** Dickinson College  
Shippensburg University  
Millersville University (follow-up required – program inactive?)  
**JROTC** Carson Long Military Institute  
Pine Grove High School  
Shikellamy High School  
Harrisburg Sr. High School (USN)  
Scotland School for Veterans Children  
RedLand High School  
Cedar Cliff High School  
William Penn High School - York

**Chapter PA 14**

**ROTC** Indiana University of PA  
**JROTC** Homer City Central H.S.  
Marion Center H.S.

**Chapter PA 18**

**ROTC** Edinboro University  
Gannon University  
**JROTC** East High School  
Strong Vincent High School  
McDowell High School (USAF)  
Cathedral Prep High School (USAF)

**Chapter PA 23**

**ROTC** University of Pittsburgh (Air Force)  
**JROTC** North Allegheny Sr. H. S. (USAF)  
West Mifflin (USAF)

**Chapter PA 33**

**ROTC** Lehigh University  
**JROTC** Dieruff High School (USAF)  
Panther Valley High School  
William Allen High School (USN)

**Chapter PA 34**

**ROTC** Bucknell University  
Lock Haven University  
University of Scranton  
Penn State University (Hazelton Campus)  
Wilkes University

**Chapter PA 43**

**ROTC** Temple University  
Valley Forge College  
Widener University  
Drexel University  
St. Joseph's University  
**JROTC** Frankford High School  
Roxborough High School  
South Philadelphia High School  
Abraham Lincoln High School  
Valley Forge Military Academy  
Coatesville Area High School (USAF) (new program)  
O. J. Roberts H. S. Pottstown (USN) (responsibility transferred from PA 46)

**Chapter PA 46**

**ROTC** Kutztown University – follow-up with Chapter 46 required – (former PA 49) has been

handling Pottstown – need confirmation that Kutztown received award

**Chapter PA 50**

**ROTC** Carnegie Mellon Univ. (Navy)  
Pennsylvania State Univ. (Navy)  
NOTE: POC for all PSU awards is - Captain Carolyn Forner, USAF (814) 865-5453  
**JROTC** Ambridge High School (USMC)  
Penn Hills High School (Navy)  
West Allegheny High School (USMC)

**Chapter PA 53**

**ROTC** Pennsylvania State Univ. (Army & A.F.)  
NOTE: POC for all PSU awards is - Captain Carolyn Forner, USAF (814) 865-5453  
MEMORIAL AWARDS:  
Pennsylvania State University – Army, Navy and Air Force (3 gold medal sets)  
Shippensburg University (1 gold medal set)

**Chapter PA 99**

**ROTC** Slippery Rock University  
University of Pittsburgh (Army) (Medals not available for ceremony)  
**JROTC** Beaver Area Senior High School  
Butler Intermediate High School  
Clairton High School  
Seneca Valley High School  
Valley High School, New Kensington  
Oliver High School, Pittsburgh

## ROA-ROAL - DEPARTMENT OF PENNSYLVANIA Conference and Council Meeting – Penns Creek -- 9 October 2004

The Department of Pennsylvania Fall Conference and Council meeting will be held on Saturday, 9 Oct. 2004 at the LTC Denise Gross family cabin located along Penns Creek at the town of Penns Creek. The meeting will start at 11 a.m. and conclude at approximately 3 p.m. Lunch will be provided and overnight lodging will be available. Bring your spouse if you like. Canoes and fishing poles will be provided. Bring your bicycle and come enjoy the country living of central Pa. Please RSVP to MAJ Bob Zimmerman (570-286-6952 or e-mail [bobz1951@yahoo.com](mailto:bobz1951@yahoo.com)) or send the response form found on page 3 to LTC Denise Gross, acting president of the Department of Pennsylvania.

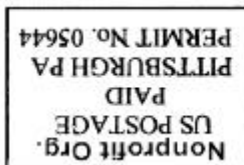
The tentative agenda for this meeting includes:

1. Congressional Breakfast at Mid-Winter
2. Endorsement of Outstanding JO/WO Candidates
3. Sponsorship of Cadets/Middies to Mid-Winter
4. Discussion on Early Retirement to include a Point Paper, which provides a financial analysis supporting age 55 retirement for RC and AC.
5. Preliminary planning for Spring Conference to include desired Dinner Speaker

All members of ROA and ROAL who are interested in the issues of importance to the Department of Pennsylvania are invited to participate in this meeting. It is particularly important that members of the **Council** (i.e., the Executive Committee plus all Past Presidents of the Department and the Presidents of each of the Chapters in Pennsylvania) attend. Chapter Presidents who can not come themselves should plan to send a representative. Contact acting president LTC Denise Gross to suggest additions to the agenda.

**Penns Creek is located on state route 104, between US 322 and state route 45. Driving directions:**

- **From Pittsburgh to Penns Creek**– Take the turnpike east to Fort Littleton Exit, then take Rt. 522 north to Middleburg. At Middleburg take Rt.104 north until you go through the town of Penns Creek
- **From Philadelphia to Penns Creek** – Take the turnpike west to Harrisburg, exit at Steelton, take Rt. 283 north, then 83 north, then 81 south to 322 north. Take 322 north until you reach 11 & 5, take 11 & 15 north until you reach 104. Take Rt. 104 north to the town of Penns Creek.
- **From Penns Creek to the Gross family Cabin** -- On the north side of town is the creek, immediately after crossing the creek, turn right toward New Berlin. Go past the fifth cottage on your right and the wooden fence, turn right on Buttonwood Road (a small stone road). It's the second cottage, with a two-story gray exterior. See map on page 3.



"The Minuteman"  
 Reserve Officers Association  
 Department of Pennsylvania  
 93 Country Club Drive  
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