



ROAL

Reserve Officers Association League of the United States

www.roa.org/roal

National
Newsletter
*
October
2010

ROAL

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This newsletter is published three times a year in the Fall, Winter and Spring. Members are encouraged to contribute articles for publication.

ATTENTION!

Dear ROAL Member,

This newsletter is being sent to you, early, in order to give you an opportunity to read and respond to the changes that are being proposed for the future of ROAL.

The Strategic Planning Committee and Area Directors have been meeting regularly via conference calls and it is at their recommendation that this CONVENTION ISSUE of the newsletter be sent in October in hopes that it will not become buried in holiday mail...and in hopes that your club and/or department will be meeting before the convention so that you will be able to give your convention delegates the benefit of your personal opinions and collective voice when voting takes place.

As has been stated previously, our organization is at critical crossroads. We NEED YOUR FEEDBACK to help shape our future. Please read the proposed resolutions that are included in this newsletter and please respond by answering the questions in the enclosed survey. This may either be done by completing and mailing the survey or by answering the survey questions online at:

<http://www.zoomerang.com/Survey/WEB22BBEHVBATT>

If we do not hear back from you, we will assume that you agree that those in attendance at the national convention should have the authority to vote on the proposed changes.

Sincerely,
ROAL Strategic Planning Committee

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Preparing to Vote

Since the 2010 Convention snow storm prevented so many of our members from attending, we do not have a keen sense of numbers of potential delegates who will be planning to attend the 2011 National ROA/ROAL convention. In essence, this will be the first convention following the new timetable and format. For this reason, we want to make certain that we have current contact information for Department Chairpersons. In speaking with our Parliamentarian, Nancy Pietrobon, our plans are to follow the voting procedures as stated in current ROAL bylaws, even though we will be voting on recommendations to change those procedures in the future.

Please make certain that you send the current name, telephone number, address and email address (if available) to Tracey Ware at ROAL headquarters as soon as possible, or as soon as it is available for the following departments: Arizona, California, Florida, Georgia, Iowa, Indiana, Massachusetts, Missouri, Nebraska, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Texas, Virginia, Washington and Wisconsin. If you have already done so, thank you very much!

Resolution 10-02 for Membership Review

RESERVE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES

Resolution No. 10-02

Voting Change

WHEREAS, Voting for ROAL officers, resolutions and changes to bylaws are primarily transacted during a National Convention;

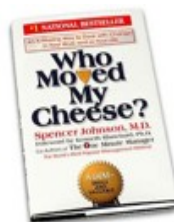
WHEREAS, declining attendance at the National Convention makes it impossible to achieve a quorum which is required to transact important business thus exposing a small group acting without the will of the majority;

WHEREAS, many from the ROAL membership would like to attend the National Convention, but are unable to travel because of age factors, health issues or escalating convention costs;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Strategic Planning Committee urges its members to adopt the creation of a one-member-one vote concept through the creation of an electronic or paper ballot enabling the entire ROAL membership an opportunity to cast a vote.

ROAL Book Discussion

Toni Livingston, 2nd Vice President



Are you ready for some fun?

ROAL is planning to hold a book discussion in the ROAL suite at the upcoming 2011 National Convention. Stay tuned for date and time.

What you'll need to do is read *Who Moved My Cheese?* by Spencer Johnson, MD before coming to the discussion. The author uses two mice (Sniff and Scurry) and two Littlepeople (Hem and Haw) to tell a story about dealing with change. "Cheese" represents whatever is important to you.

There are many lessons in this book and together we will have fun exploring them. Please plan on attending. You'll never know what other "surprises" may be at this event.

Resolution 10-01 for Membership Review

RESERVE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES

Resolution No. 10-01

Organizational Restructure Change

WHEREAS, Declining membership statistics within ROAL and fewer attendance at National Conventions prompted the Strategic Planning Committee to propose a restructuring and streamlining of National Officer positions, committees and internal entities;

WHEREAS, There are many ROAL Departments currently that do not meet the bylaw criteria for a Department; and

WHEREAS, Departments are having difficulty in filling leadership roles and some recently dissolved; and

WHEREAS, Area Directors are fulfilling some of the functions that departments did previously distracting their focus of support to their larger territorial boundaries;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Strategic Planning Committee urges its membership to adopt the following changes in order to preserve the legacy of the National organization, attract/retain new members at the Club level and foster a seamless National organizational structure:

Change #1 – delete the office of 2nd Vice President and utilize the ROAL website for recognizing individuals and Clubs;

Change #2 – delete the office of Historian and utilize the ROAL website for posting of photos and events for all to enjoy;

Change #3 – delete Departments to foster growth and participation at the Club level and eliminate the need for filling leadership roles where many Departments are faced with fulfilling their criteria;

Change #4 – combine Resolution and Bylaw committees to eliminate vacant positions due to declining attendance at the National Convention;

Changes #5 – combine the Budget/Audit committees to eliminate vacant positions due to declining attendance at the National Convention;

Changes #6 - maintain Credentials for a short term;

Change #7 – combine Convention committee to include the ROAL booth, tours, ROTC and luncheons;

Change #8 – a new Communications committee to include website, newsletter, etc.;

Changes #9 – establish an Awards/Incentives committee which will also look at offering scholarships;

Change #10 – assign Members at Large to a Club that is within X miles and establish an electronic club or use snail mail or round-robin communications.

Convention Hotel Information and Itinerary Link

The 2011 National ROA/ROAL Convention will be held at the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel at 2660 Woodley Road NW in Washington, D.C. from January 29, 2011 to February 2, 2011.



Conference rates start at \$199 plus applicable taxes and are available from January 27 through February 2, 2011. *To insure the conference rate you must make your reservation by January 6, 2011.* To make reservations, please visit: <http://cwp.marriott.com/wasdt/reserveofficersassoc/> or call 1-800-228-9290.

For more information about the 2011 Convention schedule, please visit: http://www.roa.org/site/PageServer?pagename=ROA2011_homepage

Things to do at the 2011 Convention!

Reserve Officers Association League (ROAL) Exhibit at the 2011 National Convention & Reserve Component Expo

There is an Expo Grand Opening Reception scheduled for Saturday evening, January 30. ROAL members will receive an exhibit pass (as part of their registration) and exhibits will be open as follows:

Exhibit Hall Hours

Saturday, Jan 29 6-8 PM

Sunday, Jan 30 Noon-5:00PM

Monday, Jan 31 9:30AM- 3PM

Plans are to make this a booth that is both informative and successful in fund raising.

We will have information about our many projects that assist reservists and their families. The beautiful quilt assembled by ROAL Clubs from all over the country to celebrate our 60 Year anniversary will be on display.

You will also have the opportunity to win some wonderful items to help us continue serving our dedicated and courageous men and women in the best military in the world.

Don't miss the opportunity to support your ROAL!

THINGS TO DO FOR FREE OR ALMOST FREE IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

Performances

- Take in a free performance at The Kennedy Center's Millennium Stage every evening at 6pm. Acts include everything from performances by the National Symphony Orchestra to gospel groups to jazz musicians to poetry slams.
- Check out free, live music at the National Gallery of Art on Sunday evenings at 6:30pm. Concerts feature choral, Afghan, opera music and more, and are held in the West Building (6th St. & Constitution Ave, NW entrance). Seats are available on a first-come, first-serve basis starting at 6pm. No entry after 6:30pm.

Family-Fun Freebies

- Even though Tai Shan, the third panda to be born in the US is back in China, you can still watch the National Zoo's conservation efforts first-hand and pay a visit to his parents, Mei Xiang and Tian Tian.
- Explore an exhibition and create a related art project to take home through the Freer & Sackler Gallery's ImaginAsia family programming.

THINGS TO DO FOR FREE OR ALMOST FREE IN WASHINGTON, D.C. (continued)

- Take pictures with Fala, the famous presidential pooch, at the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial.
 - Play pilot in a mock cockpit at *America by Air*, an exhibition on permanent display at the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum.
 - Walk among living butterflies at the National Museum of Natural History's Butterfly Pavilion (adults \$6/children \$5). Tuesdays are free, but timed-entry tickets are required and are available at the Butterfly Pavilion box office beginning at 10am each Tuesday.
 - Teach kids about history at the National Museum of American History. See the original "Star-Spangled Banner" that inspired our national anthem, explore the history of the American presidency, and check out Dorothy's red slippers in the permanent exhibition "National Treasures of Popular Culture."
- #### Musts for History Buffs
- Sit in the lobby of the Willard InterContinental Hotel to imagine history unfolding. The hotel is where Julia Ward Howe wrote "The Battle Hymn of the Republic," where President Ulysses S. Grant popularized the term "lobbyist" and where Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. wrote his renowned, "I Have a Dream" speech. (And where ROA was officially chartered!)
 - See the original Declaration of Independence, U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights at the National Archives, then stick around to research your own family's immigration records.
 - Visit Arlington National Cemetery to see the Changing of the Guard ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknowns.
 - Trace the names of loved ones lost at the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial Wall, a place of deep reflection for many visitors.
- #### Arts and culture
- Visit The Phillips Collection in Dupont Circle, America's first museum of modern art, where the permanent collection is free of charge (contributions welcome).
 - Take a walk off the beaten path and visit the National Geographic Museum to check out its free exhibitions that highlight international cultures and natural wonders.
 - Visit Eastern Market on weekend mornings to browse the work of local artisans and sample farm-fresh produce and concoctions.
 - Stroll through the U Street Corridor to reflect on yesterday's Black Broadway and see the venues (like Bohemian Caverns) that played host to musical performances by Ella Fitzgerald, Duke Ellington, Dizzy Gillespie and more. While you're there, stop at the African-American Civil War Memorial.

Adapted from: <http://washington.org/visiting/browse/dc/attractions/100-free-things-to-do>

Georgia ROAL Resolution

Be it resolved that National ROAL consider the option of becoming an active participant in ROA as a family support service section.

RATIONALE:

ROAL members at various times and with various other members have discussed the merits of becoming part of ROA. This resolution is meant to facilitate the exchange of ideas of ROAL members in a forum of all members, rather than in small groups, to consider what ROAL should become/do to remain relevant in the future and still be a viable organization and of service to our military family members.

At this time, this resolution is meant only to stimulate a discussion of our future path as an organization. ROAL cannot continue to function without a change in course direction, more members and more recognition of purposes and functions. If at some point in time, ROAL was to become part of ROA, we would need to develop a very specific list of ways that ROAL would be vital to ROA and how ROAL would be able to help ROA in its mission in the future. ROAL would need to present itself as a part of the ROA organization that they would not be able to do without. Asking this would at some point require that ROAL be taken seriously and found to be a part that was vital and necessary for ROA to have as part of their function and mission of adequate national security.

A group of ROAL members would need to be formed to develop the list of reasons and work to develop why ROAL members would benefit ROA.

Some of the questions that would need to be answered include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Can ROAL sit “at the table” with ROA and be able to contribute to the cause on all levels?
- Should ROAL be considered at a service section level or more on the level of the endowment committee, which would allow a degree of independent functioning.
- Is it important that members of ROAL continue to have a say via voting or not?
- How do ROAL members fit into the ROA dues structure or contribute to ROA? As spousal members? Then what happens with Club/Dept/local dues structure?
- What changes would be necessary in Bylaws, constitutions, charter both for ROA and for local levels of ROAL? Can they be designated for ROAL special projects? What happens to ROAL funds if ROAL is part of ROA as possibly a service section? ROAL funds are very small in comparison to ROA’s overall budget, but would provide some means of carrying out ROAL family support functions.
- How would all the levels of ROAL function when supporting projects? Would all levels need to focus on the same projects? Is there room for other projects on the local levels?
- Would the local levels function the same as the national level? How would the local ROA groups feel about having the ROAL members as a service level section? Would ROAL function better at the local level in some other committee/section?
- What would happen to local level funds?
- What are the tax implications for all levels of the organization? What forms would need to be filled out? What changes would need to be made in reporting?

THEREFORE be it resolved that ROAL begin discussing within the organization for all members to be heard the structure of ROAL in the future to better serve our members, our service members and their families to provide adequate national security for all of us.



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