

Bits & Pieces #5

This is from the Lee Coast Chapter News and Views (President RADM Roger Triftshauser USNR [at the time this article was written, he was the Vice President]) The paragraph is from a piece written by LCDR Doug Quelch, USN/Ret., outgoing Chapter President, about what the chapter had done over the past year.

In March, through the efforts of Chapter Vice President Roger Triftshauser, the United States Naval Academy Gospel Choir sang at the Shell Point Village Church. This afternoon concert brought out almost 1000 attendees. The Chapter was allocated 100 tickets and all were used. The midshipmen and women were impressive in their dress whites, along with the blue-uniformed U.S. Air Force Academy exchange student. Before the concert, RADM Triftshauser spoke to the students and their impressive director. The Lee Coast Chapter was mentioned several times during the concert, which increased visibility of the MOAA organization

We've noticed that several chapters have used this tactic. Citrus and Port Charlotte chapters have done it on a yearly basis, I believe, for local ceremonies. Military bands and choirs will come to your area and perform free as long as it's open to the public and there's no admission charge. However, sometimes the group requests that you pay their transportation and/or housing for the event. There's also a long waiting list so sign up early. Some have all expenses paid by the government – check before agreeing to anything.

RADM Triftshauser is a graduate of the US Naval Academy so he was able to make contacts there, but you can also do it.

Just as a start, try typing "United States Army Band" into the Google search bar. Their home page comes up, and one of the tabs at the top says "contact us". Click on that, and scroll down. There's a space for requesting a performance. Also try that with AF, Marines, Coast Guard, etc. What the heck – it don't cost nothin' to try!

If your chapter has done something that might help other chapters, you can give me a call at (239) 542-5627 to tell me about it or email me at dccalusa@comcast.net. Dottie Conner, Dedicated Darling of your Ever-Lovin' Florida Council of Chapters President, Jim.



Fishing in Minnesota – can you see what I've caught?