



MOAA™
www.moaa.org
www.msvc-moaa.org

Mahoning and Shenango Valleys Chapter

Military Officers Association of America



Never Stop
Serving

Navy Operational Support Center Youngstown • MSVC-MOAA
3976 King Graves Road Bldg 540 • Vienna, OH 44473-5980

ROA/MOAA Christmas Party

Photos and article by LTC Mike Wisniewski

The MSVC-MOAA joined together with the Mahoning Chapter of the Reserve Officers Association (ROA) for their third annual Christmas Charity Auction Fundraiser Banquet at the Manor Restaurant in Austintown on Sunday December 6th. The Banquet was sponsored by the Reserve Officers Association League (ROAL) which named the Youngstown Air Reserve Base Community Council as the recipient for the money raised during the mystery



gift auction. Being the glib-tongued polished auctioneer that he is, Col Dick Calta squeezed dry the wallets and purses of the 50 in attendance

to successfully raise \$1,080 for the Base Community Council. A presentation of the check to the YARS Commander by Barbara Stamp, ROAL President, COL Walter Duzzny, ROA President, LTC Gary Williams, President of MSVC-MOAA, and LTC Roderick Hosler, past President will take place at an opportune time after the Christmas holidays.

Barbara Stamp provided the entertainment for the evening with an array of Christmas themed quizzes. While no one answered all the questions correctly, there were a few smart cookies who took home some pretty neat door prizes. We thank Rose Pacalo for providing the festive table decorations. I bet everyone will be checking the back of their chair before they sit down next time to see who gets to take home



the center pieces. Bonnie Rasile was in charge of the reservations and the beautifully decorated dessert cake. This year the dinner guests were treated to something special—wine and hors d'oeuvres

Continue on page 2



Sam Axtell, wife Rose was ill



Dick & Linda Calta



Ralph DeLucia



Walt & Kathy Duzzny



Jim & Jeanne Fairbanks



Anna & Rob Hanni



Carrie & Jim Hosack



Florence & Rod Hosler



Dianne & Irv Maurer



Ginny & Bill Meshot



Mary Ann & Mickey Morrell



Janet Oglesby



Nick & Rose Pacalo



Tom Petzinger & Paula Barrett



Don & Bonnie Rasile



Benjamin & Lesley Sacramento



Lesley & Callie Sacramento



Jim & Linda Shurtleff



Barb & Will Stamp



Paul & Carol Stepuk



Jim Swager & Rebecca Rogers



Bill & Margie Sweeney



Bill & JoAnn Sweeney



Barb & Mike Wisniewski



Patty & Gary Williams



Joe & Edi Zentis

President's Notes



To all of our members, I want to extend a Happy New Year and to thank you all for your service to this country.

This is my last input as the President of our Chapter. It has been a pleasure and honor to have served as your president for the last two years. During this time we have grown in membership, we continue to have noteworthy meetings and programs and your efforts have enabled the Chapter to earn two national level newsletter and legislative newsletter awards, more importantly two Four-Star Level of Excellence awards! These accomplishments couldn't have been achieved without the support and assistance of the general membership and our Chapter officers and I'd like to thank you all.

Our new chapter officers for 2016 are LTC Gary Williams, Army Retired as President; former Navy LT Florence Hosler as First Vice President; former Army CPT Dennis Gartland as Second Vice President; former Navy LT Bruce Bille as Treasurer and Janet Oglesby as Secretary. They will need the same level of support, assistance and participation as you have given me over the past two years.

Any organization is only as good as its membership and their active participation in chapter programs and meetings. I encourage all MSVC-MOAA members to continue to attend our gatherings, to meet other officers, renew old acquaintances and meet new members. It's up to **US** to keep our chapter active, vibrant and strong. It is you that maintains high quality of our chapter.

As retired and former officers, we made the personal commitment for service to our country and promote excellence through our leadership. We have always set the standard where ever we serve. The commitment we made when we were commissioned must continue even today. I continue to urge all MSVC chapter members to become MOAA National members. Remember that MOAA National is our direct voice with those in power in the halls of government. It is important to keep our voice loud, clear and heard.

Visit our chapter web site at msvc-moaa.org and share our newsletter, as well as review the e-mails that are sent out. Continue to check the MOAA National website at www.moaa.org designed to keep members informed on important legislative matters. The slogan of MOAA is "NEVER STOP SERVING."

Rod Hosler, MSVC President

"It's important that people know what you stand for, and what you won't."

Christmas Party from page 1

complements of both military chapters who split the cost. The wine certainly helped open up any inhibitions of the wallet and the masterful auctioneering and prodding of Col Dick Calta did the rest.

We thank all those who came out to support this joint fund raising event and to those who planned, prepared, and worked hard to make this Christmas Party a success. The evening was marked by merriment, mirth conviviality, and camaraderie – and absolutely scrumptious food. There were a number of guests who attended the Christmas Party for the first time along with our perennial standbys. As this event continues to grow, we hope that you reserve the first Sunday in December 4, 2016 as your official start of the Christmas holiday season by joining us in this worthy charitable endeavor.

Thank You to the Following for Your 2016 Chapter Dues—Presently at 65% Paid

Scott Allen	Harlan Jewett	Bonnie Rasile
Matthew Andrews	John Koshan	Daniel Rohan
James Basista	David Kountz	Jack Russell
Audrey Beatty	Sandra Lasure	BJ Sacramento
Dick Calta	Thomas MacRae	Bill Schoenfeld
Linda Calta	Michael Marcelli	James Shurtleff
Brian Chadwick	John Marino	James Solmen
Frances Chadwick	Irvin Maurer	Edward Speedy
Audrey Chengelis	Alan McBane	Willard Stamp
Robert Davidson	Dennis McMahan	Matthew Stefanak
Lorin Davis	Robert Milich	James Stiger
Ralph DeLucia	Kay Milich	Lisa Stremel
Daniel Dickten	Robert Morris	Tyler Strohecker
James Dignan	Andrew Nelko	James Swager
James Fairbanks	Carl Nunziato	William J. Sweeney
Jared Hideg	Nicholas Pacalo	Margie Sweeney
Eric Hippley	William Petro	Deanna Thomas
James Hosack	Thomas Petzinger	Gary Williams
Brennan Hosack	Jacob Rafidi	Patricia Williams
Florence Hosler	Donald Rasile	Steven Wisniewski

Please Pay Your Chapter Dues by January 31

Use the MOAA web site www.moaa.org/Content/Chapters-and-Councils/Chapters-and-Councils.aspx then the bottom right of the screen is chapter dues. MOAA pays the transaction fee. The other option is MSVC web site www.msvc-moaa.org and pay with PayPal. It isn't required to have a PayPal account to use the MSVC-MOAA.org site. You will answer "no" to the message asking if you have a PayPal account then you will be asked for credit card information. PayPal is a secure system. You can write a check put in the address envelope that came with your dues notice, put a stamp on it and put it in the mail.

Legislative Issues – January 2016



Legislative Affairs Co-Chair, COL John Koshan

In our last update we learned that Congress was grappling with funding for FY 2016. A Continuing Resolution (CR) was passed to allow more time for members to come to an agreement on funding. The CR extended 2015 funding levels through December 15. There was however, at the time, an agreement between both houses of Congress on a Defense spending bill. This bill provided the Pentagon most of what it had requested, but was threatened by a Presidential veto because of the use of War Fighting accounts and Sequestration.

Since then Congress has overwhelmingly passed and the President has signed into law the \$1.2 Trillion Omnibus Spending measure containing The Defense Policy Spending bill agreed to by Congress. This bill eliminated the drama of a possible government shutdown. More importantly for the Defense Department it advanced a budget deal providing stability and predictability by using the appropriation process and not just kicking the can down the road by using or continuing last year's spending levels.

As a review, the following is a brief outline of what is in the bill.

The Military Pay raise is capped at 1.3% rather than the 2.3% called for by law. This is the third year in a row of pay caps and expands the difference between the military and the private sector to 5%.

This spending bill enacts the changes to Military Retirement that we've heard about and read about over the past year. The new system goes into effect January 1, 2018. The new system reduces retired pay by about 20% and substitutes a 401(k) style savings program to offset the loss in retired pay. A Thrift Saving Plan (TSP) is introduced and will be initiated allowing service members to contribute. DoD will contribute 1% of basic pay to each soldier's TSP. Additionally DoD will match service members contributions up to 4% of basic pay, stopping after 26 years of service. Unlike the current system's 20-year requirement, service members under the new system would be able to keep government contributions to their TSP after two years of service. MOAA has expressed concern with this new system. MOAA's view is that this retirement system will erode recruiting and retention and may force members to leave early. Essentially it is MOAA's opinion that this new system erodes pay and benefits.

No major changes to the Military Health Care System were included in this legislation. However, increased prescription drug co-pays are included. It is significant to note that DoD considers the Military Health Care system a high cost area and should be subject to major re-evaluations in future appropriations.

Congress had rejected DoD's recommendations for Commissaries and this legislation continues that track. Instead of DoD's desire to consolidate the Commissary with the Exchange, this legislation provides funding and authority to test new pricing techniques and privatization evaluations.

This spending legislation, touted as a bi-partisan feel good model for future appropriation, should concern anyone who worries about the national debt. This bill adds to nation's deficit with Billions of dollars more in debt. Our deficit and how it will affect this country's future should be a concern for everyone for it is what I consider the biggest threat to this country, not global warming. This bill was critical for defense and for supporting our on-going operations and acquisition programs that are essential to the future of the military. Yet the specter of SEQUESTRATION still looms large. Until we control our debt and deficit, we will continue to battle with defense spending.

As stated in the previous paragraph our nation's deficit and Sequestration still remain the biggest threat to our military and well-being as a nation. The Budget Act of 2011 that established SEQUESTRATION was a crude way to force budgetary constraint. It overly affected defense spending and has led to some drastic cuts in defense programs including force modernization, pay and benefits and end strength. These cuts have left us with a military that is the smallest since WWII, outdated equipment and seriously lacking in combat readiness. Partisan politics

Continue on page 4

Legislative Contacts

MOAA Legislative Update
moaa.org/takeaction or
 1-800-234-6622 ext. 215

Pres. Barack Obama (D)

The White House
 1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
 Washington DC 20500
 Switchboard: 202-456-1414
www.whitehouse.gov

OHIO

Senator Sherrod Brown (D)

United States Senate
 713 Hart Senate Office Bldg.
 Washington, DC 20510
 Phone: (202) 224-2315
 Fax (202) 228-6321
www.brown.senate.gov

Senator Rob Portman (R)

United States Senate
 448 Russell Senate Office Bld.
 Washington, DC 20510
 Phone: (202) 224-3353
www.portman.senate.gov

Representative District 6

Bill Johnson (R)

192 East State St.
 Salem, OH 44460
 Phone (330) 337-6951
 Fax (330) 337-7125
<http://billjohnson.house.gov>

Representative District 13

Tim Ryan (D)

241 West Federal St.
 Youngstown, OH 44503
 Phone: (330) 740-0193
 Fax: (330) 740-0182
<http://timryan.house.gov>

PENNSYLVANIA

Senator Robert Casey Jr. (D)

393 Russell Senate Office Bld.
 Washington, D.C. 20510
 Phone: (202) 224-6324
 Fax: (202) 228-0604
www.casey.senate.gov

Senator Patrick Toomey (R)

248 Russell Senate Office Bld.
 Washington, D.C. 20510
 Phone: (202) 224-4254
 Fax: (202) 228-0284
www.toomey.senate.gov

Representative District 3

Mike Kelly (R)

33 Chestnut Avenue
 Sharon, PA 16146
 Phone: (724) 342-7170
 Fax: (724) 342-7242
<http://kelly.house.gov>

Email the legislative contacts through their web site.

Legislative Issues from page 3

must be put aside and our nation's well-being must be the priority. An alternative debt reduction program needs to be developed that balances required sacrifices and avoids penalties for the military.

The year 2015 saw some of the biggest changes to the military retirement system in a generation and a continued erosion of military pay. 2016 is already shaping up to be the year where every military beneficiary could see significant changes to their health care benefits. It can't be stressed enough, that if we want to protect our military and sustain the benefit programs available, we need to be involved. MOAA's voice and our support are critical now and in the foreseeable future. Please support MOAA's call to action and let our representatives know how we feel.

Lastly I would like to take this opportunity to express my best wishes to all of you for the best and healthiest New Year and a sincere hope that the Christmas Holiday was a time of joy and family celebration.

IN MEMORIAM

Former CPT John Hulan, USA
5 August 1933 – 21 November 2015



John was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant through the ROTC Program at Kent State in 1955. He was a graduate of the Basic Infantry Officer's Course at Ft. Benning, GA; ten years as a Reserve officer, serving as Platoon Leader, Executive Officer, Company Commander, and Asst. S3 on Battalion staff; and was

Honorably Discharged with the rank of Captain in August 1965. He joined the chapter in March 2013.

John enjoyed a long and distinguished career in education, predominately in the Warren City School system. John worked as an Elementary School Teacher, Jr. High Social Studies and English Teacher, Guidance Counselor, School Psychologist, Coordinator of Federal Programs Development, Supervisor of Early Childhood Education and Testing for Federal Assistance Programs, and Director of Curriculum and Research, including functioning as Interim Superintendent. John also worked as Part-Time Supervisor of Student Teachers at Youngstown State University and Akron University. During the three years John was Coordinator of Federal Programs Development, he directed Head Start and Adult Basic Education Programs.

He is survived by his wife Ruth Hrenick and family. A memorial service took place at the Howland United Methodist Church on November 25. The complete obituary may be viewed and condolences sent to www.statonborowskifuneralhome.com

Welcome New Members

CW4 David Kountz, USAR, Ret. lives in Poland with his wife Beckey.

COL Thomas MacRae, USAR, Ret., lives in Grove City with his wife Julia.

LT Benjamin Sacramento, USN he is the CO of the Navy Operation Support Center on the airbase. He is from California and his wife Lesley is a former LCDR-DC she is from Hawaii and those of us who were at the Christmas party also got to meet their five month old daughter Callie.

2015 Review by the Numbers

90 chapter members

86 of the 90 belong to MOAA national

17 of the 90 are on active duty

5 of the 90 were new chapter members in 2015

5 members lost; death, active duty move (2), no dues (2)

2 of the 90 are surviving spouses

12 spouse chapter members

27 average attendance at chapter functions

801 years of military service in the chapter, 287.5 active, 513.5 reserve, with the 40 biographical forms returned (blue form set with dues notice)

1400 dollars donated to military related charities in our valleys and to ROTC - JROTC cadets in 2015.

4 years this coming February since receiving the charter.

3 years straight of recruiting the most new members came to an end in 2015. The chapter generated \$1200 a year in prize money—pay your 2016 dues and recruit a new member, let's start again.

Membership in MSVC-MOAA shall be composed of: Men and women who are or have been commissioned or warrant officers of the seven United States uniformed services (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and Public Health Service). Surviving spouses of deceased individuals who, if living, would be eligible for membership. Chapter specific membership for spouses of present members and honorary members. MSVC-MOAA memberships are open to all eligible people.

This newsletter is published for the benefit of the members of the Mahoning and Shenango Valleys Chapter, which is an affiliate of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA). MOAA and its affiliated chapters and councils are non-partisan. Articles in this newsletter are the opinions solely of the individual authors and do not necessarily express the policy or opinions of the newsletter's editor or publisher. Also, the individual opinions do not reflect an endorsement by the Mahoning Shenango Valleys Chapter or the national organization of the Military Officers Association of America, unless so indicated [Copyright 2016 Military Officers Association of America All rights reserved.] Questions or comments should be directed to: LTC Gary Williams, USA, Ret. E-mail: gwilliams15@comcast.net

MSVC Officers and Committee Chairs for 2016

- President**LTC Gary Williams, USA, Ret.
GWILLIAMS15@COMCAST.NET (330) 385-4873
- 1st Vice President**..... **Former LT Florence Hosler, USN**
HOSLERFM@ZOOMINTERNET.NET (330) 788-3270
- 2nd Vice President**.....**Former CPT Dennis Gartland, USA**
GARTLANDD2@YAHOO.COM..... (330) 637-4843
- Secretary****Janet Oglesby**
JLO52800@NEO.RR.COM (330) 568-4456
- Treasurer**.....**Former LT Bruce Bille, USN**
TREASURER@MSVC-MOAA.ORG (330) 856-7958
- Past President ex officio****LTC Rod Hosler, USA, Ret.**
HOSLER1@ZOOMINTERNET.NET(330) 788-3270
- Committee Chairs**
- Chapter Programs**..... **Former LT Florence Hosler, USN**
HOSLERFM@ZOOMINTERNET.NET (330) 788-3270
- Chaplain**..... **Lt Col Ralph Minton, USAF, Ret.**
MINTONREBA1@VERIZON.NET (724) 674-6642
- Chapter Development**..... **Col. Dick Calta, USAF, Ret.**
TRAILERDC@GMAIL.COM..... (330) 576-6404
- Historian Officer** **Former LT Florence Hosler, USN**
HOSLERFM@ZOOMINTERNET.NET (330) 788-3270
- Legislative Affairs****COL John Koshan, USA, Ret.**
CDR475@ROADRUNNER.COM.....(330) 883-0192
- Membership**..... **Former CPT Dennis Gartland, USA**
GARTLANDD2@YAHOO.COM..... (330) 637-4843
- Personal Affairs****NEED SOME ASSISTANCE**
- Cards to Shut-ins****Bonnie Rasile**
RASILED@ZOOMINTERNET.NET(330) 758-3348
- Surviving Spouse****Janet Oglesby**
JLO52800@NEO.RR.COM..... (330) 568-4456
- Public Relations**.....**LTC Michael Wisniewski, USA, Ret.**
MIKEWAPPRASER@AOL.COM..... (330) 856-1162
- ROTC/JROTC**.....**LTC Rod Hosler, USA, Ret.**
HOSLER1@ZOOMINTERNET.NET(330) 788-3270
- Newsletter Editor**.....**Janet Oglesby**
JLO52800@NEO.RR.COM..... (330) 568-4456
- Surviving Spouses**.....**Janet Oglesby**
JLO52800@NEO.RR.COM..... (330) 568-4456
- United Veterans Council**..... **Rod Hosler**
HOSLER1@ZOOMINTERNET.NET (330) 788-3270
- USO Area Representative**.....**Bruce Bille**
USOTRUMBULLCO@GMAIL.COM (330) 333-0397 cell
- YARS MOAA Liaison Officer**.....**Maj Scott Allen, USAFR**
SCOTT.ALLEN5@US.AF.MIL(330) 847-4033

MSVC-MOAA 2016 Calendar

Date	Location and Program
1/15	See Last Page of Newsletter
1/23	<i>Ohio Council of Chapters Meeting, Columbus</i>
2/19	At YARS – 1300 Luncheon Topic USNR
3/18	At YARS – 1300 Luncheon Topic Red Cross
4/23	<i>Ohio Council of Chapters Meeting, Columbus</i>
4/28	At YARS – 1830 Dinner MOAA national speaker Lt Col Shane Ostrom, USAF, Ret.
5/26	At YARS – ROTC/JROTC Recognition 1830
6/23	At Golden Corral Hermitage Pennsylvania 1830
7/23	<i>Ohio Council of Chapters Meeting, Columbus</i>
7/28	At YARS – Steak Fry and Corn Roast 1830
8/18	At Vienna Rod and Gun Club Picnic TBA
9/22	At YARS TBA
10/22	<i>Ohio Council of Chapters Meeting, Columbus</i>
10/27	At YARS annual business meeting TBA
Dec.	Christmas Party TBA

YARS - Youngstown Air Reserve Station, Vienna, Ohio
TBA - To be announced
Suggestions for programs contact: Florence Hosler

Request for Three Personal Affairs Officers

The care and comfort of our hospitalized and homebound members is an ongoing concern in our Chapter. MOAA has a Personal Affairs Guide which is very involved, but the MSVC Board would like see the chapter take a step in the right direction. We would like the personal affairs officers to contact members who have been absent from monthly meetings to see if there is a difficulty that the members are experiencing such as health or hospitalization. We need three officers to cover our membership in Mahoning, Trumbull and Mercer counties. If you can become an officer in one of these counties, please contact Janet Oglesby.

Student + College = \$\$
\$5,000 per year for 5 years
interest free loan!

Because a parent served or is serving

Eligibility: Students (under age 24) who are children of former, currently serving, or retired commissioned **officers** or warrant officers (Regular, Reserve or Guard). To children of currently serving or retired **enlisted** military personnel (Regular, Reserve or Guard), for up to 5 years of undergraduate education at an accredited 2 or 4-year college or university of their choice. Application for the 2016–2017 school year goes live in early November, and will be open until noon EST, 1 March, 2016. Go to the web site for online application process.

www.MOAA.org/education





Navy Operational Support Center Youngstown
 Military Officers Association of America
 Mahoning and Shenango Valleys Chapter
 3976 King Graves Road Bldg. 540
 Vienna, OH 44473-5980

Place
 Stamp
 Here



Membership Meeting at YARS, Friday, 15 January at 1300 hr – RSVP by Friday 15 by 0900 hr

Where: Youngstown AF Reserve Station
 Community Activity Center
 3976 King Graves Rd
 Vienna, OH 44473

Who: Members, Spouses, Guests,
 Surviving Spouses

Social: 1230 no cash bar

Call to Order 1300 (1:00 P.M.)

Lunch: 1315

Program: 1345 Welcome to join the lunch guests for the program, installation of officers.

Topic: Veterans Resource Center at YSU— The surprises, challenges and joys of VRC 16 months after opening

Speaker: MAJ Rick Williams, USA, Ret., Coordinator
 Veterans Resource Center at YSU

Attire: Winter Casual

Directions: The air base is on King Graves Road which can be accessed either off Rt. 193 or Rt. 11. After passing through the security gate on Arnold Rd., take the second left onto (Spatz Rd.). The Consolidated Activity Center (CAC), “Herk’s Place”, is building #113. (You’ll see a loading dock, back entrance of CAC) Parking is available on either side of the building but it is easier to enter the dining area from the upper parking lot. (There are a few stairs.) The handicapped entrance is at the front of the building. There are signs that indicate that location.

*New Time
 New Menu*

Here is the change.

Pre order from the following selections; they will be served to us at 1315. If it is possible please use the web site www.msvc-moaa.org. You can cancel up to 0900 on Friday.

Club Wrap, w/fries and beverage. \$10.00
 Ham, turkey, bacon, American & provolone cheese, lettuce, tomato and mayo

Buffalo Chicken Wrap, w/fries and beverage. \$10.00
 Lettuce, tomato, onion, shredded cheddar, ranch and buffalo sauce

Reuben Sandwich, w/fries and beverage \$10.00
 Marble rye, cornbeef, sauerkraut, swiss and dressing

Fish Sandwich, w/fries and beverage \$10.00
 Tarter sauce and lettuce

Chef Salad and beverage. \$10.00
 Cherry tomatoes, sliced red onions, cucumber, hard-boiled eggs, shredded cheddar and pepper jack cheese, julienne ham and turkey

Cup of Chili, Salad and beverage. \$5.00
 Chili on Fridays. Salad has tomatoes, cucumbers, black olives and cheese

- RSVP: 1. Use the web site www.msvc-moaa.org and pay with PayPal. It isn’t required to have a PayPal account to use the system. You will answer “no” to the message asking if you have a PayPal account then you will be asked for credit card information. PayPal is a secure system.
2. Or Email Janet at djo52800@neo.rr.com
3. Call Janet Oglesby, 330-568-4456 (leave a message if no answer).