

Steak Fry at YARS with Speaker Senator Michele Brooks

Article and photos by LTC Wisniewski

The MSVC held their annual Steak Fry at the YARS in Vienna but threatening rain brought the “picnic” inside the CAC. Almost 40 members and guests enjoyed a deliciously prepared steak fillet, baked potato, corn-on-the-cob, and all the trimmings. After the scrumptious meal, LTC Rod Hosler and COL Dick Calta previewed the up-coming Ohio Council of Chapters Convention Friday, 22 September to Saturday, 23 September which our Chapter is hosting for the very first time here at the Youngstown Air Reserve Station. (MSVC turn to host again will be in 14 years). All seven chapters will be present and MOAA National is mailing out over 1000 invitations to MOAA members in the regional area eligible to attend. Because this event is in lieu of our regular chapter meeting, Rod and Dick encouraged maximum participation from our Chapter membership.

Another reason for wanting to attend this convention is that for only the second time in our five year history has a 3-star level officer ever visited our Chapter. The last time that happened was when we received our Charter. This time Lt Gen Dana Atkins, USAF, Retired, President and CEO of MOAA, will be the keynote speaker at our Saturday banquet. He will also present our chapter with the prestigious MOAA Five-Star Levels of Excellence Award. We finally achieved the top award after three successive Four-Star Awards. This Five-Star Award ranks us in the top 20% of all MOAA Chapters nationally, regardless of their size. The list of speakers and presenters to the Convention is impressive. Your interest levels will be maintained at peak levels for sure throughout the day. You will not be disappointed.

The guest speaker for the evening was Pennsylvania State Senator, Michele Brooks, who represents the 50th Senatorial District encompassing all of Crawford and Mercer counties and parts of Erie and Warren counties. After serving as Mercer County Commissioner and State Representative for the 17th District, Michele was elected to the PA Senate in November 2014, the first woman to do so in each District. Senator Brooks serves on a number of committees. She is the Chair of the Senate Aging and Youth Committee, Vice-Chair of the Health and Human Services Committee, and a member of other committees including Veterans Affairs. As such she is very involved in getting service dogs for veterans and setting up a Veterans Trust Fund which generates over one million dollars for veterans by way of a donation on a check off box on state income tax returns. She has introduced legislation to fly the US Flag and the POW/MIA flag at all service station plazas on the Turnpike and Interstate highways in PA. She also has introduced legislation to grant real estate exemptions for disabled veterans equal to the rated percentage of disability. Senator Brooks ended her presentation with a story of how our national anthem, The Star-Spangled Banner, came to be written by Francis Scott Key after the horrific all day and night-long bombardment of Ft McHenry on September 13–14, 1814. The poem written by Key officially became the national anthem of the United States in 1931.

Winner of the 50/50 raffle was LTC John Marino.



LTC Gary William presents Pennsylvania State Senator, Michele Brooks, with the MSVC flag set. Senator Brooks represents the 50th Senatorial District encompassing all of Crawford and Mercer counties and parts of Erie and Warren counties.



Two new chapter members, one is Capt Joshua Palmer, he was a guest of Maj Fr. Rohan. Palmer graduated from the USAF academy with a bachelor's degree in meteorology. He is presently the weather officer at Rickenbacker with the Ohio Air National Guard.

The other member CDR Eric Lasure USPHS, Ret. sorry no picture. His wife MAJ Sandy Lasure is a MSVC member.



Former officers, Jim Fairbanks and Al Lind look at the schedule for the Ohio Council of Chapters convention this month.



THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2017
7:30 p.m. • Orr Auditorium
FREE tickets will be released one month prior to the performance.

**THE PRESIDENT'S OWN
UNITED STATES MARINE BAND**

Playing America's music since 1798
Thursday, October 5, 2017

At Westminster College. To Order Your Own Tickets Call 724-946-7354 to pick-up. Mail self-addressed stamped envelope with letter requesting tickets to: Celebrity Series, 319 South Market St., New Wilmington, PA 16172

MSVC Helping the Community

The chapter made the following donations. The ROA/MOAA Christmas party proceeds was donated to the VA Clinic on Belmont Avenue for the clinic to purchase a van. The chapter also donated to the YARS airman family day in August.



Commanding Officer
Navy Operational Support Center, Youngstown
requests the pleasure of your company at the
Change of Command Ceremony at which
Lieutenant Commander Benjamin A. Sacramento,
United States Navy
will be relieved by
Lieutenant Commander Jennifer L. Reid,
United States Navy
on Saturday, the fourteenth of October
at eleven o'clock
on board

Navy Operational Support Center, Youngstown
3976 King Graves Road, Bldg. 540, Vienna, Ohio 44473

R.S.V.P. by 29 September 2017

POC: YN2 Larry D. Bryant II

larry.bryant@navy.mil

Alt POC: BM1 Terrance C. Williams

330-609-1900

terrance.c.williams@navy.mil

Military: Uniform of the Day
Civilian: Business Casual

Make your own reservations, but MSVC security pass list will be submitted.

Come hear the music of...

THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
Heritage of America Band




Date: Friday, October 13, 2017

Location: Stambaugh Auditorium

Time: 7:30 pick up your own tickets

Free & Open to the public!!

WWW.HERITAGEOFAMERICABAND.AF.MIL - WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/HERITAGEOFAMERICABAND

MSVC-MOAA 2017 Calendar

Date	Location and Program
10/5	The President's Own, US Marine Band at Orr Auditorium, Westminster College, New Wilmington, Pa. 7:30 p.m. FREE tickets www.westminster.edu/celebrity or call 724-946-7354 See ad on this page, obtain your own tickets
10/13	USAF Heritage Brass, Stambaugh Auditorium, 7:30 p.m. FREE tickets. See ad on this page, obtain your own tickets
10/14	LCDR BJ Sacramento Change of Command Ceremony RSVP by Sept 29. See above
10/27	MSVC at YARS 1300, speaker Don Manning he is running for State Representative - 59 th District, Ohio
11/17	MSVC at YARS 1300 program TBA
12/3	MSVC and ROA Christmas Party

On the Ohio Ballot in November

STATE ISSUE 2: “To require state agencies to not pay more for prescription drugs than the federal Department of Veterans Affairs and require state payment of attorney fees and expenses to specific individuals for defense of the law”

Vote NO on issue 2 Costly–Deceptive–Unworkable.

Costly

- Ohio doctors, nurses, pharmacists and hospitals oppose the ballot issue because it could actually increase costs for the 7 million Ohioans—nearly two-thirds of our population— who are left out, including those with private insurance and those who rely on Medicare or otherwise do not obtain medications through state programs.
- Military veterans could also pay more for prescription drugs.
- Three Ohio Medicaid directors who served in both Democratic and Republican administrations and a state budget director warn the ballot issue could reduce patient access to medications.
- An unprecedented provision gives ballot sponsors a blank check by allowing them to intervene in any legal challenges and requires taxpayers to pay their attorney fees, win or lose.

Deceptive

- An Ohio budget director says the claim that the ballot issue would save \$400 million annually is “simply false” and based on an assumption that Ohio does not already receive substantial prescription discounts. In fact, Ohio’s Medicaid program receives federally mandated and voluntarily negotiated discounts that bring its costs down to levels similar to those of the VA.
- Ohio Medicaid directors warn the ballot issue could invalidate existing drug discount agreements—potentially increasing the state’s prescription costs by tens of millions of dollars annually.

Unworkable

- Health care experts say requiring Ohio to purchase drugs at the lowest price paid by the VA would be impossible to implement because, by law, the VA does not disclose this price.
- The ballot issue contains no language guiding implementation—and was proposed by a controversial California health care CEO without consulting any Ohio officials tasked with implementation—which will lead to bureaucratic in-fighting, delays, lawsuits and higher costs for taxpayers.

**Ohio MOAA members are urged to
vote NO
on Issue #2.**

Vote Yes

Ohioans pay too much for life-saving medicine. Drug companies have completely rigged the system so you pay more. Washington, DC doesn’t negotiate fair prices with drug companies, so it’s up to the states to enact reforms. To do that we must change Ohio law and vote YES on Issue 2.

Here are the facts:

- Issue 2 changes Ohio law to ensure we pay the lowest known price for medicine. Ohioans would save \$400 million, which would help fund schools, police departments, and cut taxes. Instead, that money goes to drug companies.
- Drug companies keep driving up prices on medicines needed to treat everything from asthma to cancer until they become too expensive for you to afford or insurance to cover. Life-saving medicine for children with allergies has skyrocketed from \$80 to over \$600 – just one of many examples.
- Drug companies fueled their profits by lying about opioids. They paid doctors over \$46 million to get them to overprescribe opioid pain medication, getting Ohioans hooked, killing kids, and destroying our communities.

These are the same drug companies spending millions of dollars to get you to vote against this issue – all so they can protect their profits.

Politicians make promises they never keep. They say they’ll lower the cost of healthcare, but then the lobbyists and political donations come, and our costs don’t go down—they only go up.

Here’s your chance to change that.

You can hold politicians and drug companies accountable even while they threaten to retaliate against us. They say they’ll hurt veterans and raise prices on senior citizens. But you can stand up to them. Take the power into your own hands. Join doctors, nurses, and veterans from across Ohio and bring change that is desperately needed. Vote yes on Issue 2



www.moaa.org & www.msvc-moaa.org

With more than **390,000** members nationwide, Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) is the country’s leading organization protecting the rights of military service members and their families.

Need Volunteers to Finish up the Slate for Board Members and Committee Chairs for 2018

President Former LT Florence Hosler, USN

These two positions lead to President duties.

1st Vice President COL John Koshan, USA, Ret.

In charge of the *Programs Committee*, should plan and execute a program of activities in consonance with the purposes of the chapter and the desires of the membership. It is vital that planned activities be varied and appeal to all members so they will want to participate and remain chapter members.

2nd Vice President Vacant

In charge of *Membership Committee* to retain existing members and recruit new ones.

Secretary Former LT Al Lind, USN

Treasurer Former LT Bruce Bille, USN

Past President ex officio ... LTC Gary Williams, USA, Ret.

Need Three (3) Board Members at Large to Oversee these three committees

- Legislative Affairs Committee** monitors state and national legislative developments that might affect service retirees. Inform the council and member chapters of legislative developments of interest to the membership.
- Public Relations/Communications Committee** oversees, newsletters, news releases papers and the web page
- Personal Affairs Committee** is a source of solutions to questions or problems about issues such as military rights and privileges, survivor benefits and entitlements, etcetera; and coordinate directly with MOAA's Benefits Information and Financial Education Department. This committee, mail greeting cards and check on our shut-ins members.

MSVC Membership

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.

Need Three (3) Committee Chairs

- Nominating Committee* develops a proposed slate of elective officers and board members for the next calendar year and determines their willingness to serve, if elected.
- Student Affairs* arrange to present MOAA medal to ROTC and JROTC at local colleges and schools that have the program.
- Surviving Spouse Committee* as a point of contact for surviving spouse issues with chapter counterparts; coordinate directly with national MOAA's Surviving Spouse Advisory Committee and provide information for dealing with questions or problems concerning surviving-spouse issues, to include legislation and benefits information.

Contact Mike Wisniewski if you can give a few minutes of your time. We need more help to share the needs and our vision of a growing chapter.

LTC Michael Wisniewski, USA, Ret.

MIKEWAPPRaiser@AOL.COM (330) 856-1162

2017 MSVC-MOAA Board Members

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

BBILLE.USNA.82@GMAIL.COM (330) 856-7958

Past President ex officio LTC Rod Hosler, USA, Ret.

HOSLER1@ZOOMINTERNET.NET (330) 788-3270

Our Purpose

MSVC Mission Statement

MSVC will promote the objectives of the Military Officers Association of America providing a uniform lobbying platform on behalf of the active duty, Reserve, Guard, retired, and former officers of the uniformed services and their spouses and families.

Conduct activities which: perpetuate traditions, educate and inform members of world, national, and local events, which affect the current and former members of the U.S. military. Provide a fraternal and supportive community for members to network, socialize and promote camaraderie.

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 American All rights reserved.] Questions or comments should be directed to: LTC Gary Williams, USA, Ret. E-mail: gwilliams15@comcast.net

Membership Renewal or Application for Mahoning and Shenango Valleys Chapter

Name: _____ Military Status _____ Spouse Name _____
 Branch _____ Rank _____ Years Active/Reserve ____/____ Active *(Regular) — Reserve* — National Guard*
**Free chapter membership if under government contract and you maintain a MOAA national membership. A non military email address is preferred.*
 Regular Member (Retired, Former, Active* Officer of the seven uniformed US Services **Membership \$20/year**)
 Surviving Spouse is available for surviving spouse of a military officer **Membership \$10/year**
 Spouse (local MOAA chapter only, not national, spouse is member of chapter) **Membership \$20/year**

Address: _____

Primary Phone: _____ Secondary Phone _____

E-mail: _____ Applicant DOB _____ Spouse DOB _____

Newsletters will be emailed, if you prefer postal service, check this box

Member of MOAA National Yes No MOAA # _____

New Members Chapter dues from now to Dec. 31, 2018 \$20

Make Check Payable to: **MSVC-MOAA** mail to address on right

You may pay regular and surviving spouses dues (not spouses) with a credit card at: www.moaa.org

You may use credit card and PayPal to paid, regular, spouses and surviving spouse dues at msvc-moaa.org/membership

Navy Operational Support Center Youngstown
Attn: MSVC-MOAA
Janet Oglesby, Secretary
3976 King Graves Road Bldg 540
Vienna, OH 44473-5980

Mahoning and Shenango Chapter Blue Star Families

If you know anyone who is deployed, or will be deploying, overseas, please contact the USO so we can add them to our recipient list. We want to support as many of our dedicated military members as possible and keep them connected with home and family. **Contact Information:** Bruce A. Bille, USO Northern Ohio Youngstown Air Reserve Station Support Office, Office: (330) 609-2115 Cell/Text: (330) 333-0397 Fax: (330) 617-8515 E-mail: USOTrumbullCo@gmail.com

Son of Mark and Patty Andrews Maj Matt Andrew, USAF, Randolph AFB in San Antonio, Texas Air Education and Training Command (AETC)	
Son of Jim & Carrie Hosack, LTJG Brennan Hosack, USN, Key West, Florida	
Son of Tom & Julia MacRae Maj John MacRae, USAF, Elgin AFB, Florida F35 instructor pilot.	
Sons of Rick & Janice Morgan LTC Andrew Morgan, USA, at NASA, Johnson Space Center, Houston, TX LCDR Benjamin Morgan, USCG, with VTS (Vessel Traffic Service) at USCG Sector New Orleans, Louisiana	
Grandson of Tom & Marla Raseta A1C Joshua Raseta, USAF, Hill AFB, Ogden, Utah, F16 Fighter Squadron	
Son of Gary & Patty Williams, Rick Williams brother LTC G. Tim Williams, USAR	
Son of Rick & Kelly Williams — PFC Garrett Williams, USA 82 nd Airborne at Fort Bragg, North Carolina	
Son of Mike and Barb Wisniewski CPT Steven Wisniewski, USA in Germany, UH-72 Lakota helicopter pilot	
Active Duty Chapter Members	
Col James Dignan, USAFR, Pentagon	

LTC Wil Kline, USAR, Norfolk, Virginia
LT BJ Sacramento, USN, Youngstown Navy Reserve Center
MAJ Lisa Stremel, USA, Schofield Barracks, Hawaii
1 st Lt Kristina Valentic, MC–USAFR, Youngstown Air Force Reserve Station
YSU ROTC Graduates
2013–1LT Eric Hippley, USA, Elmendorf/Richardson Alaska
2013–1LT Jacob Rafidi, USA, Germany
2014–1LT Tyler Strohecker, USA Fort Rucker Alabama training for HH-60M Black-hawk helicopters
2014–1LT Lorin Davis, USA, Wheeler Army Airfield, Hawaii
2014–1LT James Stiger, is back at Fort Leonard Wood with the 5 th EN BN after being deployed to Korea
2015–2LT Jared Hideg, USA, Florida
2016–2LT Brandi Burrows, Military Intelligence, Ft. Campbell, Kentucky
2016–2LT Adam Hoover, Chemical Corps, Ft. Leonard Wood, MO then Korea
2016–2LT Matthew McIntire, Chemical Corps, currently at Ft. Leonard Wood, MO attending CBOLC
2016–2LT David Smith, Infantry,
2017–2LT Lonnie Bissmeyer, Signal Corps, August

September Birthdays: 1–Nick Pacalo, 1–Bill Schoenfeld, 5–Bill Petro, 6–Dick Calta, 14–Matt Chikosky, 16–John Wingerter, 17–Peter Mihai, 18–US Air Force, 23–Jim Swager, 27–Sandy Lasure, 29–Lisa Stremel
October Birthdays: 4–David Di Tallo, 10–Lorin Davis, 13–US Navy, 25–Will Stamp, 25–Jim Solmen, 30–Jared Hideg





Military Officers Association of America
 NOSC-Youngstown
 3976 King Graves Road Bldg #540
 Vienna, OH 44473-5980

Place
 Stamp
 Here



5-star web site & 4-star newsletter



5-star chapter



Members without Military ID

A Driver's License Number Is Now Required to Obtain YARS Access 10 Days Before the Event

Ten days before an event on the Youngstown Air Base, I have to submit a Base Entry Access Request form to base security. On this form are all our chapter members that do not have a military ID. The form has you name and birthdate. This allows you to pass through security with your driver's license without being escorted by the military police.

Starting in **OCTOBER** the birthdate has to be replaced with your driver's license number. If you wish to have your spouses name on the list that is up to you. I prefer if you can email me your driver's license number—you may call me. Thanks for your corporation on this matter.

Janet Oglesby
djo52800@neo.rr.com
 330-568-4456

We are ready! Hope you will be there!

**Ohio Council of Chapters
 Biennial Convention
 September 22–23, 2017**



Mahoning and Shenango
 Valleys Host Chapter
 Youngstown Air Force
 Reserve Station