

**MAHONING SHENANGO VALLEYS CHAPTER
MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA**

JUNE 2020 Volume:11 Issue 5



PRESIDENTS MESSAGE *Rod Hosler*

MSVC is open for business! Here we are in June already, and I hope everyone is well and surviving. This has been an interesting three months for us a MOAA chapter, and for the country as a whole.

The YARS remains closed for non-workers until later phases. Unfortunately, the base is restricted to individuals who have a work related need to be on the installation. As it stands for now the base and CAC be able to accommodate our scheduled meeting dinners for August and September. However, conditions may change. We will keep everyone apprised of the situation and contact you as soon as possible.

One of our signature programs has taken a hit, we haven't been able to publicly recognize local outstanding ROTC/JROTC cadets since all programs were forced to be cancelled. The chapter will host JROTC/ROTC Recognition Dinner at our 23 September Meeting in the CAC at the YARS.

The China/Wuhan Virus has taken its toll on the country. Shut downs, isolation, draconian restrictions, the passing of friends and fear. Things have changed as we attempt to go about our lives. Contradictory information from a myriad of "health professional" continue to confuse the general public. I'm not certain of the final outcome, but we all have to deal with its aftermath in our own individual way. Please follow the safety guideline that you have done for the past several months. Be safe. We will all get through it.



SPECIAL PRESIDENT'S EDITORIAL

I am angry. The nation has been wrought by internal strife and violence and the killing in Minneapolis has shaken the nation to the core; but not as much as the wanton and deliberate rioting and destruction of our cities. We've seen this play out many times in our recent past, this latest episode in especially telling. Regardless of the chants of militant fascists in the mob and the unfounded indictment of the media, America is not a racist nation.

During the early 1930s a little known socialist organization began to systematically gain control of Germany. Demonstrations turned into riots; brown shirted thugs intimidated all who failed to adhere to their doctrine. Free speech and free expression were curtailed for fear of political, economic and physical retribution. They even gained power through free elections. The people submitted and the NAZI's gained control. We all know how it turned out. Today there are a new group of Fascists attempting to gain control of our streets and our political system. And the main street media is complicit in this takeover. These are the same tactics use in Russia, China and a dozen other countries that developed into totalitarian dictatorships. We must not give in to the intimidations of those that disregard history in order to foster an Anti-American dogma.

I believe that we as former officers have an obligation to speak up for the rights of man, our founding documents of governance and our heritage as defenders of those documents. We must not let ourselves and our family and friends be swayed by the radical fascist fringe that ploy the destruction of the country and values we fought to defend. Stand up to be counted. You have nothing to lose, but our country and the American way of life. I think I'm preaching to the choir, but I did want to get this off my chest.

Rod Hosler

June 2020

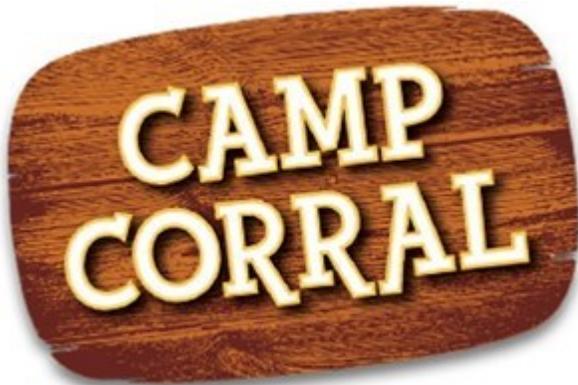
June Chapter Meeting

The Mahoning and Shenango Valleys Chapter will meet on Thursday, 25 June at 5:30 PM at the Golden Corral Restaurant in Hermitage, PA. All safety precautions are being take and the Colden Corral is ready to receive us. If you believe there are still concerns for social distancing, use your own judgement.

There will not be a speaker for this meeting, just a chance for the chapter members to get together again.

We will also be presenting a check for Camp Corral to the manager at this time.

Please call (330-788-3270) or email msvcmoaa@gmail.com to let us give the Golden Corral the numbers to prepare for. Thank you!



The vision behind Camp Corral is one where kids, ages 8 to 15, are free to be kids, far away from the day-to-day challenges they face as children of military service members and veterans. We partner with some of the best camps around the United States to host each session. Camp Corral has proven to be a "week of a lifetime," providing kids non-stop fun with activities like canoeing, swimming, fishing, arts and crafts, ropes course challenges, horseback riding, and more. Campers have the priceless opportunity to connect with other kids who understand the unique challenges that come with military life. Each of our host camps provides top-quality programming that teaches the skills needed to build emotional resilience. The positive effects may follow a child for a lifetime.

Camp Corral website

Coronavirus Resources MOAA website

[Coronavirus.gov](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus)

[Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Coronavirus Website](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus)

[CDC Advice for Higher-Risk Individuals VA Coronavirus Website](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus)

[TRICARE Coronavirus Information](https://www.tricare.mil/coronavirus)

[DoD Coronavirus Response Website](https://www.dod.mil/coronavirus)

[Health.mil Coronavirus Information](https://www.health.mil/coronavirus)

[Military OneSource Coronavirus Resources](https://www.militaryonesource.com/coronavirus)

[National Institutes of Health Coronavirus Information](https://www.nih.gov/coronavirus)

[From MOAA: What You Need to Know About the CARES Act](https://www.moaa.org/coronavirus)

[Latest Coronavirus News from Military.com](https://www.military.com/coronavirus)

[Latest Coronavirus News from Military Times](https://www.militarytimes.com/coronavirus)



MSVC 2020 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

25 Jun: Dinner Meeting at Golden Corral Hermitage, PA, Social at 5:30 PM, Dinner at 6:00.

02 Jul: Board Meeting, Place TBD, 10:00 AM.

23 Jul: Meeting and Rifle & Pistol Shoot, Vienna Rod & Gun Club at 5:00 PM. Pending

20 Aug: Steak Fry & Corn Roast Dinner Meeting, at CAC, YARS, Social at 5:30 PM, Dinner at 6:00.

24 Sept – ROTC Recognition Dinner Meeting, CAC, YARS, Social at 5:30 PM, Dinner at 6:00. (Nomination of Officers)

June 2020

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

Congress continues to dither over partisan issues and finger pointing while ignoring the major issues of concern to our membership and the country. Ballooning spending on “emergency issues” has put key legislative actions on the back burner. Frivolous programs continue to be funded with these “emergency issues” at the sake of real legislation designed to help America’s military community.

Several key legislation are listed below and need out attention. Please take action now to urge our legislators act on these and other issue. Go to the MOAA website and start your actions now.

Federal - HR 333

A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to permit retired members of the Armed Forces who have a service-connected disability rated less than 50 percent to receive concurrent payment of both retired pay and veterans' disability compensation, to extend eligibility for concurrent receipt to chapter 61 disability retirees with less than 20 years of service, and for other purposes. **MOAA Supported**

Federal - HR 413

A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow the work opportunity credit to small businesses which hire individuals who are members of the Ready Reserve or National Guard, and for other purposes. **MOAA Supported**

Federal - HR 847

A bill to provide interim appropriations for the Coast Guard Retired Serviceman's Family Protection and Survivor Benefits Plans for each fiscal year after fiscal year 2018, and for other purposes. **MOAA Supported**

Federal - S 1047

A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to create a dependency and indemnity compensation allowance for surviving spouses receiving dependency and indemnity compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes. **MOAA Supported**

Federal - S 21

A bill making continuing appropriations for Coast Guard pay in the event of an appropriations act expired prior to the enactment of new appropriations (official title to be confirmed). **MOAA Supported**



June 2020

Potential Elimination of 18,000 Military Medical Billets and Restructuring Military Treatment Facilities (MTFs)

Background on MHS Reform

With the FY 2017 NDAA, Congress directed DoD to reform the military health system (MHS), including both TRICARE and the direct care system of military hospitals and clinics, military treatment facilities (MTFs). Congress' goals were increased efficiencies, an enhanced focus on military medical provider readiness, and improved patient satisfaction across the MHS.

Earlier this year, as directed by Congress, DoD released its plan for rightsizing the direct care system. The plan recommended downsizing or closing 48 MTFs and would impact approximately 200,000 beneficiaries who receive care at those military hospitals and clinics. As part of the MHS reform process, Congress directed Government Accountability Office (GAO) to review DoD's plan.

GAO Findings

GAO found DoD's MTF restructuring analysis was based, in part, on incomplete and inaccurate information. (It is sad to note that on more than one occasion, DOD has provided incomplete and inaccurate information to Congress at the sake of America's military members and their depends; and on all occasions MOAA has set the records straight.) MOAA has been told the analysis of impacted MTFs will continue during the implementation phase. That is encouraging, but we are concerned about the lack of reporting requirements and formal congressional oversight during implementation.

The recently released GAO report highlights numerous shortfalls with DoD's plan for restructuring MTFs, including insufficient analysis – based on incomplete and/or inaccurate information – of the availability of high quality civilian medical care for impacted beneficiaries.

The report underscores MOAA's objections to moving forward with MTF restructuring at this time and builds on our sense of urgency in asking Congress to include additional reporting requirements and congressional oversight in the FY 2021 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA).

MOAA has already contacted Armed Services Committee staff in both the House and Senate, and we are drafting a letter to committee leadership in both chambers outlining our concerns.

For the last several months, MOAA has urged Congress to include a provision in the FY 2021 NDAA to suspend MTF downsizing and medical billet cuts. The issue was the centerpiece of our successful virtual Storming the Hill campaign, which mobilized thousands of MOAA members to contact their elected officials.

Go to the MOAA website and start your actions regarding this and other issues.



MEMBERSHIPRENEWAL for MAHONING SHENANGO VALLEYS CHAPTER MOAA

Name: _____ Military Status _____ Spouse Name _____

Branch _____ Rank _____ Years Active/Reserve ____ / ____

Regular Member (Retired, Former, Active* Officer of the seven uniformed US Services (Membership \$20/year)