

# MAHONING SHENANGO VALLEYS CHAPTER

an affiliate of

## MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

November 2022 Volume: 13 Issue 11



### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Rod Hosler

On Friday, 28 October in Kansas City, Missouri, the MOAA National President and CEO Lt. Gen. Dana Atkins presented the Level of Excellence (LOE) Awards to councils and chapters that met the criteria for the award of a 5-Star or 4-Star Level of Excellence distinction. Of the 440 chapters, 136 received a 5-Star level and 20 a 4-Star level. Our Chapter was awarded a 5-Star LOE medallion presented to me by Gen. Atkins. Four other Ohio chapters also were awarded a 5 Star and one, a 4-Star.

The MOAA general meeting also allowed chapter leadership to receive information about MOAA and to share ideas. MOAA paid for a first-class hotel for two nights, and all meals for two days and a \$200 reimbursement for travel. Not bad. Highlighted during the meeting were services provided by MOAA and our number one mission, "legislative advocacy."

I have seen for the past several months that our monthly meetings have dwindle down to about 25 in attendance, down from the 35 we have experienced in the past, even with COVID. Our chapter leadership strives to have good meetings that are informative and entertaining. Your attendance lets us know we are doing a good job at both, but dwindling attendance is not a good sign.

Florence and Bruce have put together first-class award-winning newsletter and website, but we're not sure how many members truly read them for the information they provide? MOAA national puts out great articles in their newsletters and website, again, I don't know how many partake in the information they provide? That being said, I'm inquiring to our chapter membership: **1.)** "How many of you read newsletter and website?" **2.)** "How many of you receive the 'bi-weekly National MOAA emails?'" **3.)** "How many receive the MOAA Legislative Advocacy for Action email alerts?"

Cont. on page 5

### OCTOBER DINNER MEETING ROLLUP.

The Chapter's Annual Business Meeting was conducted on 21 October and featured an introduction of the chapter board of directors, a rollup of our activities for the past year to include short written reports and financial statement. The meeting determined to leave our chapter dues at \$20.00 per year. Additionally, Dennis Gartland was elected to serve on the chapter board of directors as a member-at-large. So, thank you Dennis for stepping up to the challenge and serving. Eighteen (18) members were in attendance. A La Cart put on another great lunch for all to partake.

### NOVEMBER LUNCH MEETING FRIDAY, 18 NOVEMBER

Mahoning-Shenango Valleys Chapter (MSVC) of MOAA will meet on **Friday, 18 November 2022**, at **12:00/Noon** at A La Cart Catering, 429 Lisbon Street in Canfield. The program is "The Last Flight of Extortion 17," the shooting down of the Ch-47 helicopter that wiped out Navy Seal Team 6 in Afghanistan on 6 August 2011, will be presented by renowned author Ed Darack. Ed's book of the same title will be a 50/50 give prize. **RSVP** not later than Monday, 14 November at: [mvcmoaa@gmail.com](mailto:mvcmoaa@gmail.com) or call: 330-788-4370. See last page for more information. Hope to see you there.

Please join us for this well-researched presentation on the provocative subject of Extortion 17.

Date/Time: Friday, November 18, 2022; 12:30pm EST.

Virtual: <https://teams.live.com/join/9322754218485>

POC: Bruce Bille, 2nd VP, MSVC. [BBille.usna.82@gmail.com](mailto:BBille.usna.82@gmail.com) / (330) 219-2473

**Please use links above as I can't include the flyer online**

MSVC-MOAA  
PO Box 5342  
Poland, OH 44514

WWW.MSVC-MOAA.ORG  
[mvcmoaa@gmail.com](mailto:mvcmoaa@gmail.com)  
WWW.MOAA.ORG

## [MOAA Resources: Spouse and Family](#)

List of Companies Committed to Hiring Military Spouses Tops 600

By: Jen Goodale

Last week, DoD's [Military Spouse Employment Partnership](#) (MSEP) hosted its annual conference welcoming [76 corporations, government agencies, non-profits, and universities](#) committed to hiring and retaining military spouses. The additional organizations bring the total number of MSEP partners to more than 610 organizations.

MSEP was established in 2011 following the release of [Strengthening Our Military Families: Meeting America's Commitment](#), a White House report highlighting the need for a unified federal government approach to developing career and education opportunities for military spouses. MSEP creates employment connections that provide actively recruiting companies with direct access to a talented, highly educated pool of military spouses seeking career opportunities. Since its official launch in 2011, more than 249,000 military spouses have found employment through MSEP.

At the event, Patricia Barron, deputy assistant secretary of defense for military community and family policy, referenced previous comments from Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin, who said "our people and our readiness remain inextricably linked."

MOAA appreciates DoD's efforts to enhance employment opportunities for military spouses; however, the other side of the equation is incentivizing businesses to hire spouses who experience frequent moves. This was part of a multipronged approach used to address veteran unemployment in 2010 and must be implemented for the spouse community, as well.

**TAKE ACTION:** [Urge Your Legislators to Support the Military Spouse Hiring Act](#)



Florence Hosler, SSL

[msvcmoaa@gmail.com](mailto:msvcmoaa@gmail.com)

### **Finding a New Normal** *Barbara Smith*

It's been a long time since I became a surviving spouse, and during that time, I've gone through many stages. None were easy, but all were necessary. No journey out of grief is straight forward. We all handle it differently, and it's how we deal with it that makes a difference.

We must choose to be positive and live or be unhappy the rest of our lives. I chose to be positive, but I also realized that I needed to find a purpose.

When my husband died at the age of 57, I didn't know where to turn or what to do. I became aware that my path forward was to do what I could to make sure no other survivor felt as alone and unprepared as I was. To that end, I joined my local MOAA chapter, took on the job as their surviving spouse liaison, was appointed to the national MOAA's Surviving Spouse Advisory Council, and became active in the Surviving Spouse Virtual Chapter.

I also found not only a mentor but a dear friend because of a chance meeting in 2015. Patricia "Pat" Farnsworth shared her vast knowledge of surviving spouse issues, her wisdom, and her wonderful sense of humor. She encouraged me to do the best I believed I could be — and then pushed for more. Pat died on Oct. 14 at age 86. She was an inspiration to many and a friend to all.

We will never forget our loved ones. We will always miss them. But I have found peace and comfort in my new normal. I hope you find the same.

Barbara Smith is first vice chair of MOAA's Surviving Spouse Advisory Council.

[Veterans Day military discount](#) for 2022.

<https://www.military.com/discounts/kohls-doubles-military-discount-veterans-day> If you're a Kohl's lover, you're probably already a fan of its Kohl's Cash system, coupons and "[military Mondays](#)" Kohl's military discount program, in which it gives military members, veterans and their families 15% off every Monday. Kohl's is sweetening the deal and not just for [Veterans Day](#) on Thursday, Nov. 11, Starting Thursday, Nov. 11, and running through Sunday, Nov. 13, [Kohl's plans to double its regular military discount](#) and give veterans, active-duty members and their families 30% off in stores nationwide.

[Veterans Day Restaurant Discounts](#)

[Target's website](#). From there, users should visit the [Target military registration page](#).

[Target's veteran and military shoppers 10% discount](#), which is available Oct. 30 through Nov. 12 in store and online. Unlike Kohl's, however, Target shoppers are asked to register via their Circle program for a specific coupon to use at the store. Target also does not offer a military discount year-round, instead giving it around both Veterans Day and July 4.

## LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS – Rod Hosler

### LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

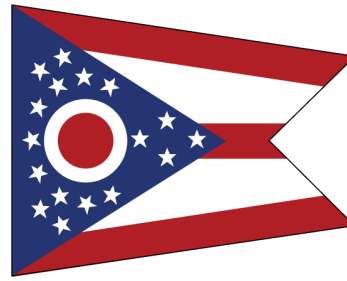
MOAA's Core Mission: The Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) is the country's leading organization protecting the pay and benefits of uniformed servicemembers and their families. MOAA's constituents proudly hail from every branch of the uniformed services. To them, we have made the same promise that they have made to their country: Never Stop Serving.

MOAA is trying to ensure legislation to improve Americas military as a viable force. MOAA's Legislative Action Center continues to monitor the legislative actions before Congress. MOAA's legislative priorities and issues can be found at the legislative take action alerts on the MOAA website at <https://takeaction.moaa.org/moaa/>. To learn more about the PACT Act, go to the MOAA web site. Please take a few moments to visit the MOAA web site and the link to ADVOCACY section, scroll down to the Legislative Action Center. This link identifies all of the legislative issues and bills that MOAA supports which require our active involvement "to take action." The needs of our military should always be the first priority of Congress. Contact your Senators and Representatives. Remember that there are also many state legislative issues that require your support as well.

MOAA's motto: "Never Stop Serving," is a practice we all can subscribe to.



## STATE LEGISLATIVE NEWS



### OHIO

[Ohio Legislature](#)



### Pennsylvania

[DOCUMENTS REPORTED OUT BY THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS](#)

These links take you to current OH & PA bills of military and veteran interest.

### MILITARY HISTORY, EVENTS AND COMMEMORATIONS FOR NOVEMBER

11 NOV 1918: Armistice signed ending the fighting in World War I.

11 NOV: Veterans Day

11-14 NOV 1918: Battle of Tulas, Bolsheviks attack U.S. troops in North Russia, U.S. Victory.

24 NOV: Thanksgiving Day.

23–25 NOV 1863: Battle for Chattanooga, Union Victory.

### MSVC Networking Board

Too many times, business opportunities walk right past us because we are unaware of the needs or solutions within an arm's reach of us. MSVC is starting an opportunities or networking display board so that MSVC members with businesses or talents to share can provide that information to other members of the Chapter.

Cardstock forms will be available attach your business card to and provide a description of your business or services, to be placed on the Business Networking Board



We supported the 910th Airlift Wing's Key Spouse Group's Trunk-or-Treat this year with a candy donation. Thanks to Kast Iron Soda Works and owner Will Kline for getting us a good deal!!



The ladies from the Key Spouse group, our own Bruce Bille (we think) and various participants having fun!!



President's msg. cont.

4.) "How many of you respond to the Legislative Advocacy for Action cards and letters in the MOAA magazine, *The Military Officer*. 5.) Finally, how many have contacted their Senator or Representative regarding important issues?" Please take the time, a few movements, and let me know by email your responses to the preceding questions? I truly value your input. Thanks.

We are approaching another Veterans Day, 11 November. The significance of the day once known as Armistice Day was to commemorate those that served and sacrificed to end the Great War or World War I when the guns fell silent at 11:00 AM on 11 November 1918, the war to end all wars. Sadly, there have been many wars since then and there will continue to be more wars until we find a better way to resolve our differences. The key equation to our fighting wars and defending American has been those steadfast men and women that have taken it upon themselves to step forward, put on a uniform and serve. Those that return home are given the honored title of VETERAN. They don't ask for much, but give all. Many have seen the following verse, but I'd like to share it again.

#### "It is the Veteran"

It is the veteran, not the preacher, who has given you freedom of religion.

It is the veteran, not the reporter, who has given you freedom of the press.

It is the veteran, not the poet, who has given you freedom of speech.

It is the veteran, not the protester, who has given you freedom to assemble.

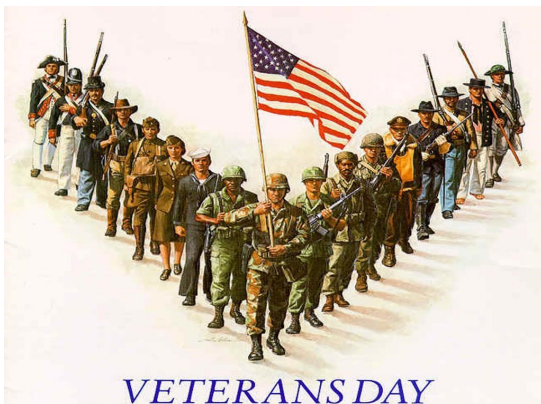
It is the veteran, not the lawyer, who has given you the right to a fair trial.

It is the veteran, not the politician, who has given you the right to vote.

It is the veteran, who salutes the Flag, who serves under the Flag, whose coffin is draped by the Flag.

(Author, unknown)

**To all Veterans we say, "Thank you for your service."**



## MSVC CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR 2022 MARK YOUR CALENDARS

**Friday, NOV 11** - Veterans Day, Mahoning County Courthouse, Youngstown, 11:00 AM.

Friday, 18 November -- Lunch Meeting  
Venue: A La Cart Catering, Canfield  
Program: The Final Flight of Extortion 17  
Speaker: Ed Darack

### **Saturday, 10 December -- Christmas Party and Fundraiser**

Venue: A La Cart Catering, Canfield  
There will be a change of format this year, we will no longer have a mystery auction but instead a Chance Auction. You will be able to purchase tickets and place them in a bag in front of the **unwrapped** item you wish to win, the more tickets the better your chances!  
Be prepared to bring an item or items of at least \$20-25 value, this may be accumulated value if you have a number of small items.  
The tickets will sell at \$20 for 24 and you can certainly purchase as many as you wish!! Lunch will be \$20 as usual. Hors d'oeuvres and wine will be provided, feel free to bring your own wine/beer. This is our big fundraiser for area veterans in need.

## LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

MOAA's Core Mission: The Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) is the country's leading organization protecting the rights of uniformed service-members and their families. MOAA's constituents proudly hail from every branch of the uniformed services. To them, we have made the same promise that they have made to their country: Never Stop Serving.

At least MOAA that is trying to ensure legislation to improve America's military is a viable force. MOAA's Legislative Action Center continues to monitor the legislative actions before Congress. The MOAA's legislative priorities and issues can be found at the legislative take action alerts on the MOAA website at <https://takeaction.moaa.org/moaa/>. To learn more about the PACT Act, go to the MOAA web site. Please take a few moments to visit the MOAA web site and the link to ADVOCACY section scroll down to the Legislative Action Center. This link identifies all of the legislative issues and bills that MOAA supports which require our active involvement "to take action." The needs of our military should always be the first priority of Congress. Contact your Senators and Representatives. Remember that there are also many state legislative issues that require your support as well.

## Why Join MOAA?

The Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) is the country's leading organization protecting the rights of military servicemembers and their families. Those who belong to MOAA not only lend their voices to a greater cause, but they also gain access to extensive benefits tailored to the needs and lifestyles of military officers. MOAA members proudly hail from every branch of the uniformed services. To them, we have made the same promise that they have made to their country: NEVER STOP SERVING.

To Join MOAA National: use the web site [www.moaa.org/join](http://www.moaa.org/join) or call 800-234-6622

## BECOME A MOAA NATIONAL PREMIUM (ANNUAL) OR LIFE MEMBER:

The Chapter currently has 129 members: 35 Life members, 27 Premium (Annual) Members, and 48 Basic members. Premium (Annual) and Life level of membership allows members full access to all MOAA benefits, travel service, free information publications, and discounts at many MOAA supported businesses. Basic member are MOAA National members, but pay no National MOAA dues and only have access to the MOAA website receiving just the electronic newsletter. Paying Premium or Life member dues also funds the programs sponsored by MOAA, and more important MOAA's lobbying efforts with Congress. Get full MOAA National benefits by becoming a Premium or Life member. Use the MOAA web site [www.moaa.org/join](http://www.moaa.org/join) or call 1-800-234-6622

## KEEP MOAA NATIONAL INFORMED

Personal information listed on the MOAA National membership roster can only be changed by you, the individual member. Correct your information via your login at [www.moaa.org](http://www.moaa.org), "My Profile" Information or call 1-800-234-6622. Changes include:

- ◆ address
- ◆ email
- ◆ telephone number
- ◆ rank or military status

## November Membership Corner

By David J Di Tallo

The Chapter currently has 129 members: 35 Life members, 27 Premium (Annual) Members, and 48 Basic members. Premium (Annual) and Life level of membership allows members full access to all MOAA benefits, travel service, free information publications, and discounts at many MOAA supported businesses.

Basic member are MOAA National members, but pay no National MOAA dues and only have access to the MOAA website, receiving just the electronic newsletter. Paying Premium or Life member dues also funds the programs sponsored by MOAA, and more important MOAA's lobbying efforts with Congress. Get full MOAA National benefits by becoming a Premium or Life member. Use the MOAA web site [www.moaa.org/join](http://www.moaa.org/join) or call 1-800-234-6622.

Please contact me at [msvcmoaa@gmail.com](mailto:msvcmoaa@gmail.com) or call me at home at (330) 758-8597 if you have any questions regarding your membership status. The best recruiting tool we have is word of mouth. Please make use of our "Bring a Friend" program - invite a current, former, or retired Commissioned or Warrant Officer and/or their current or surviving spouse, and the chapter will cover the cost of their meal(s).

We also have our "Be Our Guest" cards, which you can hand someone you may or may know personally. If they qualify for chapter membership, they can attend a lunch or dinner meeting at no cost. Please contact me if you need any "Be Our Guest" cards.

*This Newsletter is published by the Mahoning-Shenango Valleys Chapter (MSVC), which is an affiliate of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA). MOAA and its affiliated chapters and councils are non-partisan. Any advertisements that appear in this publication/website also do not reflect an endorsement by MOAA or this affiliate. 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, nor do they 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 Roderick A. Hosler, USA, Ret.; P.O. Box 5342; Poland, OH 44514; E-mail: [msvcmoaa@gmail.com](mailto:msvcmoaa@gmail.com).*



## MSVC MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL - 2023

**\$20 for members and spouse membership.**

Pay online: <http://msvc-moaa.org/membership>

Or by mail:

**MSVC-MOAA  
PO Box 5342  
Poland, OH  
44514**



## Senior Moment

One of the penalties for refusing to participate in politics is that you end up being governed by your inferiors.

Plato