

MAHONING SHENANGO VALLEYS CHAPTER

an affiliate of

MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Rod Hosler

We are half way through this year and our MOAA and MSVC programs and activities have been extremely successful to date, especially our ROTC and JROTC support. Our meetings have provided excellent speakers and information. We have a great chapter and terrific members. And we hope our members have supported National MOAA through their advocacy for MOAA's legislative priorities. Keep the fire under Congress to enact our legislation priorities that support America's military.

Our membership continues to grow even if only by one or two new members. We did pickup three new ROTC graduates. Our "bring a guest" program to our dinner meeting has exposed potential members to our chapter. The best method of obtaining new members is by word of mouth.

May was a special month for MOAA members. First is Armed Forces day celebrating out currently serving military, but more important is our honoring and remembering those soldier that paid the ultimate sacrifice in the defense of our country. On 20 May the chapter participated in the decoration of graves with American flags. The day was started with a torrential down pour that lasted throughout the morning. Harold Hudson and I placed flags on the graves of veterans at Calvary Cemetery in Youngstown. It rained so hard that it took two days for my wallet to dry out. Still, we did our duty to recognize our deceased veterans. On Memorial Day, Monday, 29 May, MOAA along with the ROA conducted a short ceremony at Oak Hill Cemetery in Youngstown. COL Walt Duzzny, LTC Jim Shurtleff and I along with some family and friends honored the spirit of Memorial Day. On an interesting note, Jim Shurtleff read Major General John A. Logan, commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, an organization of Union Civil War veterans, order declaring Decoration Day to remember fallen Union soldiers.

Cont. on pg. 3

18 MAY NIGHT DINNER MEETING ROLLUP

The Chapter conducted its monthly dinner meeting on Thursday, 18 at A La Cart Catering in Canfield. The program was military artifacts of the Indian and Spanish-American War periods given by chapter members Steve Motika and Al Lind. On display were an array of original equipment and uniforms and Steve and Al described their variations, uses and how technology influenced their development. Extremely interesting program with many questions. The meal was, as usual, superb. Sixteen members and one guest were in attended.



Al Lind and Steve Motika
Photo by F. Hosler

DINNER MEETING FOR THURSDAY, 29 JUNE

The Chapter will conduct its monthly dinner meeting on Thursday, 29 June at 5:30 PM with dinner at 6:00 PM at Golden Corral in Hermitage, PA. The program is: Military Community Support Project, presented by Dan Steighner. **This is a date change.** RSPV / Reservations for the dinner are not required. Dress is casual and please arrive between 5:30 and 6:00 PM. Hope to see you all there.

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LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

By Rod Hosler

The Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) is the country's leading organization protecting the rights 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's greatest mission is to improve the lives of those who serve and their families, which is achieved largely through the tireless advocacy efforts taking place in our nation's capital. For more than 90 years, MOAA has supported legislation that benefits the uniformed services community and has remained equally vigilant when fighting to stop legislation that threatens our livelihood. The larger our numbers, the greater our voice.

MOAA'S LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES FOR THE 118TH CONGRESS

MOAA's experts in Washington are constantly reviewing and assessing any and all legislation that may impact the earned pay, benefits, and support programs of the uniformed services and veteran communities. The organization's endorsement process is deliberative; MOAA will not support or oppose any legislation without a thorough review of its potential effects, positive or negative.

Any bill that was not signed into law before the end of the 117th Congress will need to be re-introduced new 118th Congress. MOAA will need time to assess new and old legislation as it is introduced by lawmakers. Check to see what bills MOAA supports in the 118th Congress. MOAA's legislative priorities and other issues can be found at the legislative take action alerts on the MOAA website at <https://takeaction.moaa.org/moaa/>

MOAA's legislative advocacy program is well underway. Interacting with Congress places us in the forefront of protecting our military and keeping it strong. Hopefully we can the Major Richard Star Act reintroduced in the 118th Congress and passed. Please contact your representative and senators and urge them to support the Major Richard Star Act. But there is more MOAA could do to support America's military and maintain strong national defense. MOAA should take up torch and leading to eliminate the woke culture and political instability affecting our military.



Cont. on pg. 5



Florence Hosler, SSL

mvcmoaa@gmail.com

Preparing a Spouse or Family Member for Survivorship

This is an online event scheduled for August 8, 2-3 pm EDT. If you cannot attend register and they will send you a link afterwards.

The passing of any family member is a time of upheaval. The death of a uniformed services retiree causes an additional number of notifications that can be daunting for a surviving spouse.

Join MOAA's financial and benefits professional – Capt. Paul Frost, USN (Ret), AFC® – for a comprehensive review of the issues associated with the passing of a retiree.

Topics include:

- Understanding the Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) and Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC)
 - Addressing financial matters and estate planning concerns
 - Solving former spouse and/or remarriage issues
- Working with the VA, the Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS), and other support organizations (including the Coast Guard, for non-DoD personnel)

REGISTER NOW

I will be attending and will pass on any new information after the webinar.

MOAA WEBINARS

**Transition and Career
Finance
Health Care
VA and Military Benefits
End of Life
How MOAA Can Help**

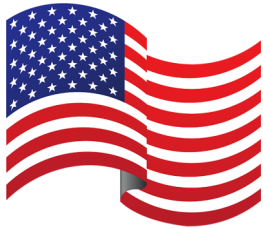
MOAA offers both live and archived webinars under the topics listed above, if you can't make a current event they are sent to registered participants as well as being archived for your own schedule. Check them out, there is a great deal of useful information!

Presidents' message cont.

Their son, Major John A. Logan, Jr., who was killed in action in the Philippines in 1900 and received the Medal of Honor, is buried in Oak Hill Cemetery. Finally, our Chapter is co-hosting the Ohio Council of Chapter Convention to be held at the Youngstown Air Reserve Station, 29 and 30 September and 1 October. We hope to get a great turnout in supporting our upcoming state convention. Your active participation in the convention and Chapter programs, events and meetings are critical for the life and survival of our Chapter and MOAA. I hope you all plan to attend and register now. See more detailed information on following pages. There will be opportunities to volunteer at the convention as well.

MILITARY HISTORY, EVEVTS AND COMMEMORATIONS FOR JUNE

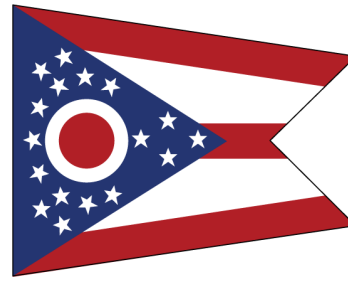
- 4 Jun 1942:** Battle of Midway, U.S. victory over Japan.
- 4 Jun 1944:** Rome was liberated by the U.S. 5th Army.
- 6 Jun 1944:** D-DAY, Invasion of Normandy, Allied Victory over Germany.
- 14 Jun 1775:** Birthday of the U.S. Army.
- 14 Jun 1777:** Flag Day, adoption of U.S. flag.
- 22 Jun 1944:** GI Bill of Rights signed.
- 25 Jun 1950:** Beginning of the Korean War.
- 25-26 Jun 1876:** Battle of the Little Bighorn.



We hire military veterans because they make great employees. They bring proven technical and leadership skills. They understand teamwork, and they're adaptable. Bottom line, hiring veterans is good for business.

[Randall L. Stephenson](#)

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.

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.

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 or call 800-234-6622

Legislative Contacts:

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

President Joseph R. Biden Jr. (D) The White House
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Mentor, OH 44060 (440) 352-3939

PENNSYLVANIA

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Senator John Fetterman (D) U.S. Senate
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(202) 224-4254 www.fetterman.senate.gov/

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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 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, "My Profile" Information or call 1-800-234-6622. Changes include:

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



Legislative Issues cont.

Active Legislative Campaigns

Legislative issues before the 118th Congress are:

- Reverse cuts to the TRICARE Pharmacy network.
- Pay Full Housing Costs for Servicemembers, seeking to restore the Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) to 100%. Our nation expects 100% from servicemembers and we need to ensure they get 100% of their housing allowance by supporting BAH restoration.
- Support the All-Volunteer Force.
- Fix the TRICARE Young Adult Coverage Gap to expand TRICARE eligibility to young adult dependents up to age 26, bringing TRICARE in line with commercial plan requirements.
- Urge Your Legislators to Support Concurrent Receipt
- Expanding America's National Cemetery Act.
- Oppose TRICARE for Life Fees and out-of-pocket cost requirements. - Military Spouse Hiring Act, to incentivize businesses to hire military spouses.
- Retain Skilled Veterans Act, to end the so-called "180-day rule," which imposes a waiting period on those leaving service before they can take on certain types of DoD civilian employment. Many of these jobs are empty as qualified applicants with security clearances are forced to look elsewhere to start their careers.
- The Advancing Toward Impact Aid Full Funding Act to provide our schools with the resources they need to help military-connected students reach their potential.

Please take a few moments to visit the MOAA web site and link to ADVOCACY section scroll down to Legislative Action Center. MOAA's legislative issues can be found at the legislative take action alerts on the MOAA website at <https://takeaction.moaa.org/moaa/> 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. It is unfortunate that our federal legislators fail to step up and meet the needs of American's military without constants reminders and prodding to do the right thing; and people wonder why Congress has a low popularity rating.

The TRICARE Fairness for National Guard and Reserve Retirees Act (S. 1670) introduced by Sen J.D. Vance (R-Ohio), and the House companion bill (H.R. 3668) introduced by Reps. Bill Johnson (R-Ohio), would ensure these "gray area" retirees who qualify for retirement pay before age 60 are covered by the TRICARE retiree benefit. Under current law, gray area retirees who want TRICARE coverage must purchase TRICARE Retired Reserve (TRR), an expensive premium-based plan, even if they receive retired pay. Ask Your Lawmakers to Back Expanded TRICARE Access for 'Gray Area' Retirees

Remember to contact your Congressional representatives (Senate and House) to express your concerns. Please remember that there are also many state legislative issues that require your support as well.

MOAA OHIO COUNCIL OF CHAPTERS CONVENTION

The OCC will convene its biennial convention 29-30 September 2023 at the Youngstown Air Reserve Station.

Tentative program speakers are: the new MOAA President and CEO, Lt. Gen. Brian T. Kelly, USAF (Ret.); former CEO of USAA, Gen. Lester Lyles, USAF (Ret.) and CAPT Erin Stone, Director of the Councils and Chapters of MOAA and others. OCC has reached out to Congressman Bill Johnson to attend the convention and talk about congressional actions affecting Ohio, the military and veterans.

Friday evening, 29 September will be the meet and greet reception and Saturday, 30 September is the Convention program, banquet/keynote speaker. The OCC will conduct its quarterly meeting on Sunday, 01 October, 10:00 – 12:00.

Cost is \$59.00 for five meals. Those that desire, may stay at the **Eagles Nest Lodge** on base for \$89.00 per night. Reservations for the Eagles Nest Lodge can be made by calling: (330) 609-1120 or (330) 609-1411.

Over \$4,000.00 worth of items will be auctioned off with proceeds going to the National Veterans Memorial and Museum in Columbus.

A separate drawing will take place to reimburse one lucky member of the lodging cost in the Eagles Nest.

It is important that the MSVC supports this convention with our attendance.

CONVENTION COUNTDOWN 111 DAYS

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When a soldier came to the clinic where I work for an MRI, he was put into the machine by an attractive, young technician. Sometime later, when the examination was over, he was helped out of the machine by a far older woman. The soldier remarked, "How long was I in there for?" *Joanne Korman, Bedford, Nova Scotia*

## MSVC Board Members:

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## Directory updates:

If there are any corrections to be made to your listing please email the editor at  
[msvcmaa@gmail.com](mailto:msvcmaa@gmail.com)

## MSVC CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR 2023 MARK YOUR CALENDARS

[Note: Unless otherwise noted, all chapter meetings are held at A La Cart Catering, Canfield.]

[Dinner Meetings (Apr. – Sept.) - 5:30 PM gathering, 6:00 PM dinner served.]

[Lunch Meetings (Oct. – Mar.) - 11:30 AM gathering, 12:00/ Noon lunch served.]

**JUN 29** – Dinner Meeting at Golden Corral Hermitage, PA, 6:00 PM, Program: Military Community Support Project

**JUL 20** – Picnic and Gun Shoot at Fish and Game Club of Vienna, OH, 4:00 PM.

**AUG 17** – Dinner Meeting, Program, [DOVE Transplant Organization](#), (Nomination of Officers).

## **SEPTEMBER 29 & 30 – OHIO COUNCIL OF CHAPTERS, Youngstown Air Reserve Base**

**OCT 20** – Lunch Meeting (Annual Business Meeting)

**NOV 11** – Veterans Day Ceremony, Mahoning County Courthouse, Youngstown, 11:00 AM.

**NOV 17** – Lunch Meeting, program: TBA.

**DEC 09** – MOAA/ROA Christmas Party and Fund Raiser, 3:30 PM gathering, 4:00 Dinner.

This month's meeting is at Golden Corral, sponsor of Camp Corral for children of service members killed or seriously injured on active duty. We have been supporting their efforts for a number of years.

