



www.moaa.org

# Mahoning and Shenango Valleys Chapter

Military Officers Association of America



January 2014 • Volume 4 Issue 1

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

## MSVC-MOAA and ROA Raise Funds for Wounded Soldiers



### Military Officers of MOAA and ROA



Seated Thomas Petzinger, Michael Yaksic, George Myers, Mary Lee McClure.

Second Row: Harold Hutzen, Paul Stepuk, Robert Morris, Donald Oglesby, Walter Duzzny, Donld Rasile.

Third Row: Robert Milich, Nicholas Pacalo, Dick Calta, Samuel Axtell, Willard Stamp, William Sweeney, Michael Wisniewski.

Below: Officers Spouses, Guests and a lot of Christmas red... I mean cheer.

The MSVC and ROA combine at a recent Christmas Fund Raiser Dinner and Auction to raise money for a national charitable organization that primarily serves to assist wounded military and their families. Auctioneer Col Dick Calta kept up spirited auction bids for wrapped mystery gifts. Almost \$600 was generated by members of ROA and MOAA and donated to "The Boot Campaign" of Tyler, TX. This charitable organization, formed in 2011, provides PTSD counseling services to warriors and families, adaptive clothing for wounded military, therapy services, prosthetics, mobility equipment, counseling, wellness retreats for military families, academic and employment assistance, and mortgage free home donations. Each year the ROA and the Ladies Auxiliary (ROAL) holds its annual benefit Christmas Party at the Manor Restaurant in Austintown and selects a designated charitable military organization to receive the proceeds of evening's fundraiser. In the past two years the MSVC-MOAA has joined the effort of the ROA and ROAL and together have raised over \$1300 for military charities.



## Mahoning and Shenango Valleys Chapter Committee Chairperson Reports

### *President, MAJ Peter Mihai*

In February 23, 2012 VADM Norb Ryan, USN, Ret., President of MOAA presented our charter to chapter president COL Walter Duzzny. A year later Col Brian Anderson from MOAA National installed me as president. In these two years the chapter has accomplished some noteworthy goals. I would like to mention several of them that have started us on the way to being an outstanding chapter. In 2013, the retention of the 2012 members was close to 95%. We'll let MOAA national work out the exact number since they have a formula for it. That is a statement of believing in our chapter. According to MOAA national we have 27 new chapter members. That's a big Thank You for everybody for bringing in fellow officers. So many chapters do not have a newsletter; we have an award winning one thanks to Janet Oglesby. If a chapter does have a newsletter, many chapters our size do not have a Legislative Affairs chair like our John Koshan who writes a monthly column. Mike Wisniewski writes monthly news releases that are sent to our area papers. Some of the most gratifying moments for me this year have been seeing new members being welcomed at our dinner meetings.. Rod Hosler did a tremendous job in arranging the programs. The picnic in Salem, Ohio deserves a repeat in 2014. The Scrappers game was just great fun... thanks to Dennis Gartland and the Cafaro organization. Talking about baseball, Don Oglesby's pinch hitting skills as treasurer, ROTC chair and grill master didn't go unnoticed. Two other people who's actions you don't see are Chris & Edwina Whitehead for sending cards to our members, Ilona received one when she was in the hospital. I enjoyed serving as president of the chapter this past year but circumstances prevent me from serving another year. With so many board members returning, I know 2014 will be another successful year. Thanks for the opportunity and memories.



### *Membership, LTC Gary Williams*

This will be my last report as Membership chair, it has been quite a successful year for the chapter. The last three months we asked chapter members to become members of MOAA national. Though we had the most new chapter members, the monetary incentive is new chapter membership and MOAA national membership. I want to thank those chapter members that joined MOAA national. All chapter rosters have to be tallied by MOAA national in February. It will be March when we know if we are a repeat winner. I'd like to introduce three new chapter members. **COL Grey Barrier, ARNG, Ret.** Former Navy dentist **Dr. John Schuster.** **CPT Gary Bosley, USAR, Ret.** My wife **Patricia Williams** joined the chapter as a spouse member.



### *Programs, LTC Rod Hosler*

I want to thank you for your attendance at our events in 2013. As I move up to the position of President, I'll still be involved with programs. If you have any suggestions for speakers, topics, or locations let me know. The chapter will have a table/booth for the air show May 17-18, so we will need volunteers to be there.



### *Treasurer, Don Oglesby*

You can pay your CHAPTER dues online through MOAA's national web site. Use the MOAA web site [www.moaa.org/OnlineChapterDuesPayment](http://www.moaa.org/OnlineChapterDuesPayment). The following process has been established to allow annual dues payment be made using a credit card only. At this time SPOUSES CAN'T renew online but hopefully MOAA will change this in the future.



You can still pay with a check or cash, and mail it or give it to me in person. Here is the fine print online dues payment. Renewing members are required to pay a full year of annual dues, regardless of the date they submit the dues payment. Their local chapter membership expiration date will be the last day on the final month your chapter's dues cycle.

For example, the XYZ Chapter has an annual dues cycle of January to December, and dues are \$20 a year. If member John Doe renews his chapter membership in April, his dues payment would be \$20. If member John Doe renews his membership in October, his dues payment would still be \$20. The expiration date in both cases would be Dec. 31.

Newly joining members enter the chapter's annual dues cycle based solely upon the month/day in which they submit their chapter membership payment via the online tool. If they submitted their chapter membership payment within the first six months of the chapter's dues cycle, they would be required to submit a payment for the full annual rate. For those new members joining after six months of the chapter's annual dues cycle, the amount due offers a six-month prorated credit toward their annual local chapter dues.

For example, the XYZ Chapter has an annual dues cycle of January to December, and dues are \$20 a year. If new member John Doe joins the chapter in April, his dues payment would be \$20. If new member John Doe joined the XYZ chapter in October, his dues payment would be \$10. The expiration date in both cases would be Dec. 31.

All new joins and renewal confirmations will be sent directly to the account and email address established by the chapter. All newly joining and renewing chapter members will receive a confirmation page with the following information: Thank you for joining the (chapter name). Your credit card ending in XXXX has been charged \$XX. Your membership is valid through (expiration date).



## Legislative Issues – Jan. 2014 Your Action Needed

### Legislative Affairs Chair, COL John Koshan

Two major pieces of legislation have been enacted by the congress over the past few weeks, the Defense Authorization Act and the Budget Act. As you are aware, these legislative actions will have a significant effect on the military.

The first of these is the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2013 (BBA). This is a two year budget deal that eases the Pentagons sequester pain and includes a provision that reduces working age retiree's cost of living adjustments (COLA) by 1% until they reach the age of 62. Services members who retire at the 20 year point will feel the full negative financial impact by experiencing a near 20% reduction in their retired pay by the time they reach age 62. Incredibly, this bill did not exempt disabled veterans and certain survivors. Even though the bill includes a COLA "catch up" clause at age 62 that recalculates the retiree's annual pay base, the financial loss of the years between retirement and age 62 are permanent. Law makers scrambled to reverse this action before passing but the effort failed. The reductions will not begin until 2015, leaving plenty of time to amend this plan. It will however, take another specific legislative action to change and any action by law makers needs to pass both houses of Congress before enacted. Some legislatures have begun the process and we should keep a close vigil and ensure that our legislatures do what is right for our veterans.

The BBA also provides SEQUESTER cuts relief. The agreement would provide some \$31.5 billion in sequester cut relief for the Defense Department over a two (2) year period. What this relief does in effect is to reduce the planned cut to the Pentagon budget by half.

Additionally the BBA included a three (3) month delay in scheduled cuts to Medicare and TRICARE physician reimbursement rates. This

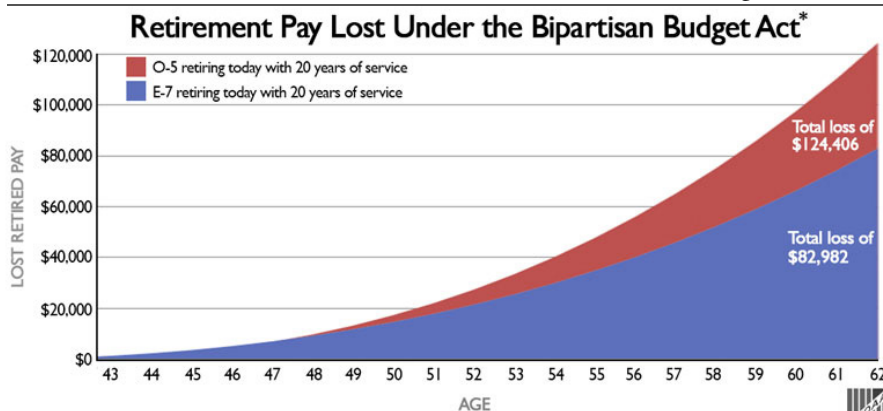
patch will prevent a 24% cut in rates that was scheduled to take effect January 1, 2014. The three (3) month extension will give lawmakers until 1 April to work out a permanent solution. Stay tuned to this one.

The second major piece of legislation to be passed by the congress was the FY 2014 Defense Authorization bill. (Defense Budget) The bill omits a critical provision to provide service members a 1.8% pay raise that would keep military pay in line with the private sector. Instead, by the President's executive authority the 2014 military pay raise will be set at 1.0%. This action is in keeping with the Pentagon's budget cutting catch phrase "Slow the Growth". Essentially the Pentagon has said that pay parity has been reached –military to civilian sector. This parity was a result of the past decade of 1.8% pay increases. Understandably the sequester cuts place the Pentagon in some difficulty, but achieving cost reductions on the backs of our military is short

The bill rejected the current administration's proposals to increase TRICARE fees and the bill prohibits the Pentagon from initiating a new round of base closures or BRAC.

Both of these legislative actions have been in the news and discussed with considerable zeal. It seems that lawmakers from both sides of the aisle were surprised and are now sponsoring legislation to fix the issues, especially for our disabled vets. Another case of "should have read before passing".

The MOAA website provides an excellent way for all of us to be informed on actions affecting the military. "Taking Action," a sub section of Legislative Action allows you to



\*Assumes 3% annual rate of inflation

Source: Military Officers Association of America



## Legislative Contacts

**MOAA Weekly legislative updates** [www.moaa.org](http://www.moaa.org) 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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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>

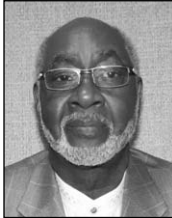
Email the legislative contacts through their web site.

## VA Offers Dental Insurance Program

*Personal Affairs Chair, CW3 Chris Whitehead*

<http://www.va.gov/opa/pressrel/pressrelease.cfm?id=2495>

VA is partnering with Delta Dental and MetLife to allow eligible Veterans, plus family members receiving care under the Civilian Health and Medical Program (CHAMPVA), to purchase affordable dental insurance beginning Nov. 15, 2013 VA officials announced.



“VA continues to explore innovative ways to help Veterans get access to the care and services they have earned and deserve,” said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki. “This new dental program is another example of VA creating partnerships with the private sector to deliver a range of high-quality care at an affordable cost, for our Nation’s Veterans.”

More than 8 million Veterans who are enrolled in VA health care can choose to purchase one of the offered dental plans. This three-year pilot has been designed for Veterans with no dental coverage, or those eligible for VA dental care who would like to purchase additional coverage. Participation will not affect entitlement to VA dental services and treatment. There are no eligibility limitations based on service-connected disability rating or enrollment priority assignment. People interested in participating may complete an application online through either Delta Dental, [www.deltadentalvadip.org](http://www.deltadentalvadip.org), or MetLife, [www.metlife.com/vadip](http://www.metlife.com/vadip) beginning Nov. 15, 2013. Coverage for this new dental insurance will begin Jan. 1, 2014, and will be available throughout the United States and its territories.

Also eligible for the new benefits are nearly 400,000 spouses and dependent children who are reimbursed for most medical expenses under VA’s CHAMPVA program. Generally, CHAMPVA participants are spouses, survivors or dependent children of Veterans officially rated as “permanently and totally” disabled by a service-connected condition.

Dental services under the new program vary by plan and include diagnostic, preventive, surgical, emergency and endodontic/restorative treatment. Enrollment in the VA Dental Insurance Plan (VADIP) is voluntary. Participants are responsible for all premiums, which range from \$8.65 to \$52.90 per month for individual plans. Copayments and other charges may apply.

Historically VA’s free dental services have gone to Veterans with dental problems connected to a medical condition that’s officially certified as “service connected.” Free dental services will continue for those Veterans.

For more information on VADIP, visit [www.va.gov/health-benefits/vadip](http://www.va.gov/health-benefits/vadip), or contact Delta Dental at 1-855-370-3303 or MetLife at 1-888-310-1681.

Veterans who are not enrolled in the VA health care system can apply at any time by visiting [www.va.gov/healthbenefits/enroll](http://www.va.gov/healthbenefits/enroll), calling 1-877-222-VETS (8387) or visiting their local VA health care facility.

## Interest-Free Student Loans

**MOAA’s Educational Assistance Program provides interest-free loans to students who are Children of Former, Active, or Retired Officers or Active or Retired Enlisted Military Personnel for college costs.**

Applicants must plan to attend an accredited college or university during the 2014–2015 school year as a full-time student. All loans, grants, and scholarships are designated for students seeking their first undergraduate degree. Funds must be used for educational purposes in the semester they are received. *No loans, grants, or scholarships are applicable toward graduate study.*

### Application

*There is one online application for all scholarships, grants, and interest-free loan programs.*

### Interest-Free Loan and Grant Program

Interest-free loans, MOAA’s main program, are renewable annually for up to five years of full-time undergraduate study. Assistance is available only to students who have not yet earned an undergraduate degree. The interest-free loan and grant program provides **\$5,500** loans, *which are renewable for up to five years of undergraduate study.* Students selected as loan recipients and their military parent must sign a promissory note before funds can be disbursed. Loans are disbursed in two increments: one-half by early August and one-half by mid-December. About 35% of new applicants will receive an interest free loan.

### Deadline

The online application opens the first Monday in November and must be completed and submitted no later than **noon EST March 3, 2014**. Semifinalists are notified in March. Recipients are notified in May.

### Eligibility

Students (under age 24) who are children of former, currently serving, or retired commissioned or warrant officers (Regular, Reserve or Guard) and 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. If such a child served in a Uniformed Service before completing college, however, his or her maximum age for eligibility will be increased by the number of years he or she so served, up to five years. Military academy cadets are not eligible for this program.

Membership in MOAA (for officers \$37 per year) or, MOAA’s subsidiary for non-MOAA members, *Voices for America’s Troops* (for enlisted personnel \$15 per year) will be required if your child is selected to receive Educational Assistance from MOAA.

*continue on page 5*

### Website for Loans

[www.moaa.org/main\\_article.aspx?id=2411](http://www.moaa.org/main_article.aspx?id=2411)

## New Membership Application for Mahoning and Shenango Valleys Chapter

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Military Status \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse Name \_\_\_\_\_

Component \_\_\_\_\_ Branch of Service \_\_\_\_\_ Rank \_\_\_\_\_

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

☐ Widow(er)—Auxiliary Member (Auxiliary membership is available for surviving spouses of officers **Membership \$15/year**)

☐ Spouse (local MOAA chapter only, not national, spouse is member of chapter) **Membership \$20/year**

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Secondary Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

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

Member of MOAA National ☐ Yes ☐ No # \_\_\_\_\_

**Chapter dues** from Jan. 1 2014 to Dec. 31, 2014

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

You may pay regular and auxiliary dues online [www.moaa.org/OnlineChapterDuesPayment](http://www.moaa.org/OnlineChapterDuesPayment)

**Navy Operational Support Center Youngstown**

**Attn: MSVC-MOAA**

**CWO3 Don Oglesby USCG, Ret., MSVC Treasurer**

**3976 King Graves Road Bldg 540**

**Vienna, OH 44473-5980**

## Thanks, 65 Members Who Paid in '14 20 More for 100% Retention

Scott Allen	Roderick Hosler	Daniel Rohan
Anthony Antolini	Harold Hutzen	John Schuster
Samuel Axtell	Harlan Jewett	Edward Speedy
Grey Barrier	John Koshan	Edwin Stahura
James Basista	John Marino	Barbara Stamp
Audrey Beatty	Thomas Masters	Willard Stamp
William Beatty	Mary Lee McClure	Matthew Stefanak
Elbert Bishop	Dennis McMahon	Michael Stewart
Gary Bosley	Joe Mersol	Lisa Stremel
Dick Calta	Peter Mihai	William J Sweeney
Linda Calta	Kay Milich	William T Sweeney
John Caparanis	Robert Milich	Chris Whitehead
Brian Chadwick	Ralph Minton	Edwina Whitehead
Frances Chadwick	Robert Morris	Gary Williams
Matthew Chikosky	Donald Oglesby	Patricia Williams
Daniel Dickten	Janet Oglesby	Patrick Williams
James Dignan	Nicholas Pacalo	John Williams
Myles Frohling	Thomas Petzinger	Barbara Wisniewski
Dennis Gartland	Jacob Rafidi	Mike Wisniewski
Esther Gartland	Thomas Raseta	Steven Wisniewski
Eric Hippley	Bonita Rasile	Mike Yaksic
James Hosack	Donald Rasile	

## Chapter Officers Contact Information

**President** ..... MAJ Peter Mihai, USA, Ret.  
[PMIHAI@NEO.RR.COM](mailto:PMIHAI@NEO.RR.COM) ..... (330) 704-5541

**First Vice President** ..... LTC Rod Hosler, USA, Ret.  
[HOSLER1@ZOOMINTERNET.NET](mailto:HOSLER1@ZOOMINTERNET.NET) ..... (330) 788-3270

**Second Vice President** .... LTC Gary Williams, USA, Ret.  
[GWILLIAMS15@COMCAST.NET](mailto:GWILLIAMS15@COMCAST.NET) ..... (330) 385-4873

**Secretary/Treasurer** . . . CWO3 Don Oglesby, USCG, Ret.  
[DJOS2800@NEO.RR.COM](mailto:DJOS2800@NEO.RR.COM) ..... (330) 568-4456

### Board Members at Large

**Board Member** ex officio .. COL Walter Duzzny, USA, Ret.  
[COLDUZZ@ZOOMINTERNET.NET](mailto:COLDUZZ@ZOOMINTERNET.NET) ..... (330) 774-4490

**Board Member** ..... COL John Koshan, USA, Ret.  
[CDR475@ROADRUNNER.COM](mailto:CDR475@ROADRUNNER.COM) ..... (330) 883-0192

**Board Member** .... LTC Michael Wisniewski, USA, Ret.  
[MWISNIEWSKI007@GMAIL.COM](mailto:MWISNIEWSKI007@GMAIL.COM) ..... (330) 856-1162

**Board Member** ..... Former CAPT Dennis Gartland  
[GARTLANDDJ2@YAHOO.COM](mailto:GARTLANDDJ2@YAHOO.COM) ..... (330) 637-4843

**Board Member** ..... Janet Oglesby  
[JLOS2800@NEO.RR.COM](mailto:JLOS2800@NEO.RR.COM) ..... (330) 568-4456

### Interest Free Loans from page 3

Students whose parents are classified as Traumatic SGLI may now apply for the American Patriot Scholarship. MOAA will ask for the TSGLI classification in the application for information purposes only.

### Selection Criteria

Qualified students with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale are selected on the basis of their scholastic ability, activities, and financial need.

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 2011 Military Officers Association of America All rights reserved.] For the benefit of the members. Questions or comments should be directed to: MAJ Peter Mihai, USA, Ret. E-mail: [pmihai@neo.rr.com](mailto:pmihai@neo.rr.com)



Navy Operational Support Center Youngstown  
Mahoning & Shenango Valleys Chapter  
3976 King Graves Road Bldg 540  
Vienna, OH 44473-5980

Place  
Stamp  
Here



### Directory Correction

T. Petzinger Phone #  
(330) 565-3587

## MSVC-MOAA January Membership Meeting/Officer Installation

**When:** Thursday, 23 January 2014

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

**Who:** Members, Spouses, Guests

*Lounge and Cash bar opens at 1600*

**Social:** 1800 (6:00 P.M.)

**Dinner:** 1830 (6:30 P.M.) Reservations  
Required for the Dinner

**Program:** 1915 (7:15 P.M) Welcome to join the dinner  
guests for the program

**Attire:** Board Members being installed, coat & tie,  
**Audience:** Business Casual Dress

**Program:** MAJ Patrick Williams, USA, Ret.

**Topic:** Progress of the new Veterans Resource Center at  
Youngstown State University.  
Installation of new Board Members

**Menu:** Tossed Garden Salad, Chicken Marsala,  
London Broil, Butter Parsley Potatoes, Green  
Bean Almondine, dessert, coffee/tea, tax and gra-  
tuity included for \$20.00

**RSVP:** Pay at the door, but the chapter pays for the meals  
ordered. **Make your reservation by email or leave  
a message by phone before Noon, Monday, Janu-  
ary 20<sup>th</sup>. Call Don Oglesby 330-568-4456 email  
[djo52800@neo.rr.com](mailto:djo52800@neo.rr.com) please indicate how many  
will be attending.**

**Directions:** The 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  
Community Activities Center (CAC), "Herk's  
Place", is building #113. (You'll see a loading  
dock, back entrance of CAC) Parking is avail-  
able on either side of the building but it is easier  
to enter the dining area from the upper park-  
ing lot. (It is a few stairs.) The handicapped  
entrance is the front of the building. There are  
signs that indicate that location. The CAC is  
adjacent to the Eagle Nest Lodging Building.