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Mahoning and Shenango Valleys Chapter

Military Officers Association of America



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

Chapter Donates to Camp Corral for Military Children to Attend a Free Summer Camp



Mr. William Weaver general manager of the Hermitage, Golden Corral receives a check of \$100 for Camp Corral from MSVC President LTC Rod Hosler. Golden Corral sponsors Camp Corral, which is a free summer camp for children of military families.

Through the sponsorship of Golden Corral Corporation, Camp Corral provides free summer camp for children in military families ages 8–15. Priority is given to children in a family with a wounded, disabled or fallen service member. These camps are located at 4-H and YMCA camps across the country.

One camp is located not that far away from Hermitage. Parents are responsible for camper's transportation. For more information on Camp Corral go to the web site www.campcorral.org

President's Notes for July

We had a great June meeting with very good turnout at Golden Corral in Hermitage, Pennsylvania. Since it was the beginning of our summer season, the meeting was rather informal. Volunteers from the American Red Cross brought three comfort dogs and they discussed the Comfort Dog Program. Nice dogs and well behaved. We also presented the manager of the Golden Corral with a \$100 cheque for the Camp Corral Program designed to help children for deployed service members with special emphasis to those children of service personnel killed on duty. Chapter member Dennis Gartland donated several boxes of books and audio tapes to the Veterans Affairs Medical Center at Wade Park in Cleveland. The audio tapes are specially designed for the visually impaired. Dennis also received and provided many cases of Girl Scout cookies to the USO lounge at the Air Reserve Station

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USO Representative Bruce Bille reads a thank you note from the Girl Scouts who donated cookies to the USO. Dennis Gartland (standing right) was instrumental in obtaining the donation.

Red Cross K - 9 Team

By Irv Maurer

Members of the Red Cross K-9 Team, Joan Heverly, Kathy Miller and Jerry Mason along with their therapy/comfort dogs, Reno, Okie and Gus gave a presentation at our June meeting at Golden Corral in Hermitage. They are the local team covering primarily the Mahoning and Shenango area and one of only a handful of Red Cross K-9 Teams across the country.

The Red Cross has four primary areas; Disaster Services, Health and Safety, Blood Services and Service to the Armed Forces. The K-9 Team participates in all of these areas but is the primary Red Cross representative at Military events. They travel around to Yellow Ribbon events in support of troops that are deploying and those that are returning from deployment. The team attends as many events as they can since they do so out of their own pockets without funding, except for donations.

In the Disaster Services area, the Red Cross provides assistance to folks who have been displaced by fire, flood, tornadoes, hurricanes, earthquakes, etc. When these events happen people are naturally in shock and the dogs provide a valuable service in comforting people and helping with recovery.

Health and Safety normally means the training programs of Red Cross swimming lessons and training in CPR, AED and First Aid. The K-9 Team can also teach CPR and First Aid for your dogs and cats.

At blood donations and other events the dogs will attract the attention of people to the activity and to allow the distribution of materials on being prepared for fires and natural disasters.

They are always open to attending events where they can be of assistance and provide information to the public on preparedness.



President Rod Hosler presents the MSVC flag sets to Red Cross K-9 Team of Kathy Miller and Joan Heverly, along with their therapy/comfort dogs, Reno, Okie and Gus.

From MOAA National—Follow-up From May Article by John Koshan

Defense Bill Clears Senate®

On 18 June, the Senate overwhelmingly passed its version of the FY16 defense bill, defying a veto threat from the administration. The 71-25 vote means the Senate has enough support to override the veto, should that occur.

The administration threatened to veto the defense bill because it exceeds budget caps put in place by sequestration. The bill attempts to circumvent the budget caps by funding base operations using special war accounts. War accounts are not subject to sequestration.

In a surprising move, lawmakers rejected the Senate Armed Services Committee's recommendation to privatize commissaries. However, many of the committee's original proposals remain in the final bill.

Although lawmakers submitted over 600 amendments, only a handful made it into the final bill.

Several significant amendments, which would have prevented further erosion to pay and benefits, never saw the light of day. Left out were amendments that would have granted a full active duty pay raise, blocked a five percent reduction to housing allowances, prevented further cuts to commissary benefits, and prohibited increased TRICARE pharmacy fees. We thank the senators who introduced these amendments.

The following table shows where we currently are with the House and Senate-passed defense bills:

Proposal	House	Senate	Final
Retirement Reform	Yes	Yes	Yes
TRICARE Consolidation	No	No	No
Means testing for TRICARE fees	No	No	No
Active Duty Pay Raises	2.3%	1.3%	TBD
Cuts to housing allowance	No	Yes	TBD
Cuts to Commissaries	No	Yes	TBD
TRICARE Rx Fee increases	No	Yes	TBD

What's Next?

Now that both chambers have passed their respective versions of the defense bill, House and Senate lawmakers will go to conference to iron out differences. Leadership from the Armed Services Committees announced that they hope to complete their work before the August recess.

When conferencing begins, we will need your help. During this process, we'll ask you to contact your legislators in support of the House version of the defense bill.

We sincerely appreciate all of our members who take the time to contact Congress. We need your effort and support to remind Congress not to balance the budget on the backs of the military.

Supreme Court Rules on Health Care®

In a 6-3 decision, the Supreme Court ruled that the Affordable Care Act (ACA) can continue to provide subsidies for health insurance to qualifying individuals. The decision upheld a centerpiece of the ACA & national health care reform.

The issue before the Court was whether individuals purchasing health care insurance through federally run exchange systems, rather than state run exchanges, are eligible to receive subsidies. Thirty-four states currently rely on the federal marketplace for health insurance plans.

TRICARE beneficiaries are unaffected by the decision. At the urging of MOAA and other military and veterans organizations, Congress passed the TRICARE Affirmation Act in April 2010, providing a statutory regulation saying that TRICARE satisfies the minimum essential coverage requirements of the ACA. Congress passed subsequent legislation a month later to exempt VA and CHAMPVA beneficiaries from the coverage requirements. These plans are also excluded from so-called "Cadillac taxes" on high-value plans.

Importantly, the ACA will not affect TRICARE or the VA's health administration, eligibility, or cost to beneficiaries.

MOAA's focus remains on safeguarding military and VA beneficiaries' health care benefits, protecting against taxation of those benefits, improving access to providers, and ensuring long-term sustainability of Medicare and TRICARE.

Our mission is to make sure government leaders in both the executive and legislative branches understand the important distinction between social insurance programs like Medicare and Social Security and earned compensation for a career of military service and sacrifice.

MOAA will continue to track the ACA and ensure that military and VA beneficiaries are not negatively impacted.

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President's Message from page 1

on behalf of the Chapter. I know our Veterans and troops will enjoy them. Thank you Dennis!

Our membership continues to be strong with 91 members, 2 surviving spouses and 10 spouse members; so and I continue to urge all MSVC chapter members to become MOAA National members. Remember that MOAA National is our direct voice with those in power in the halls of government and our hard earned benefits as well as those currently serving could be in jeopardy. Visit our chapter web site at MSVC-MOAA.org and share our newsletter.

MSVC-MOAA will continue to meet throughout the summer. I hope to see you all at our 23 July picnic in Salem, OH and please bring a covered dish. We'll be back to the YARS on 27 August for the steak fry and corn roast. Janet will have more on the picnic and steak fry so check your e-mail for additional information and updates.

Finally, the chapter needs a Second Vice President to assist with membership. So if you have good organizational, communication and computer talents please step up to the challenge. Also, this fall we'll be seeking nominations for both the chapter First Vice President (programs) and Second Vice President. These duties are not that difficult and I'm sure there are many with the skills to do either. The Executive Board of which they belong to meets eight times

a year, generally the first Thursday of the month. Please give some considerations to serving our chapter.

I encourage all of our members to continue to check the Chapter and MOAA National websites as well as reviewing the e-mail that are sent out. MOAA National continues to keep its members informed on legislative matters and as always, needs your responses to ensure actions take place. An informed and active membership is a progressive membership. LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD.

Lastly, as I continue to say, any organization is only as good as its membership and their active participation in chapter programs and meetings. Our chapter has become one of the more active chapters and perhaps one of the best chapters in Ohio. I truly think in the country as well. In our short existence, we have much to be proud of, and I encourage all MSVC-MOAA members to continue to attend our dinner meetings, to meet other officers, renew old acquaintances and meet new members. It's up to US to keep our chapter active, vibrant and strong. Thanks for your continued support to MSVC-MOAA and MOAA National.

Rod Hosler, MSVC President

"It's important that people know what you stand for, and what you won't."

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

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**)

☐ Active *(Regular)—☐ Reserve*—☐ National Guard*
*Free chapter membership if under government contract.
A non military email address is preferred, return this form

☐ Widow(er)—Auxiliary Member (Auxiliary membership is available for surviving spouses of officers **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 # _____

Chapter dues from Jan. 1, 2015 to Dec. 31, 2015—\$10 now for new members.

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

You may pay regular and auxiliary dues (not spouses) with a credit card at: www.moaa.org/OnlineChapterDuesPayment
you may use credit card and PayPal and paid, regular, spouses and auxiliary dues at msvc-moaa.org/membership

Navy Operational Support Center Youngstown
Attn: MSVC-MOAA
Janet Oglesby Secretary
3976 King Graves Road Bldg 540
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Happy
 Fourth
 of
 July



Our July Outing — Cookout at Centennial Park, Salem, Ohio

Who: MSVC Members, Spouse/Guest, Family

When: **Thursday, 23 July 2015**

Time: 1830 (6:30 P.M.)

Where: Centennial Park, Pavilion #1. Look for our banner.

Menu: The following will be provided by MSVC board
 Hamburgers, hot dogs, pulled pork, buns and
 condiments. Plates, bowls, cups, plastic ware and
 table cloths. Beverages of decaf coffee, water and
 lemonade.

Members BRING potluck, casseroles, salads,
 fresh fruit, desserts. Please bring a serving spoon
 or spatula for your dish and put your name on it.
 Electricity is available for crock pots.

RSVP: Not necessary but, appreciated by Tuesday, July 21.

1. On the web site MSVC-MOAA.org
2. Janet Oglesby (330) 568-4456 leave a message or
djo52800@neo.rr.com or this cell 330-301-4435
 if you can't find the park on July 23rd.

Directions from Canfield

1. In Canfield. Start out going west on E, Main St./US-224
 toward N. Broad St./US-62/OH-46.
2. Take the 1st left onto S Broad St./US-62/OH-46.
3. Take 1st right onto Lisbon St/US 62, follow US-62.
4. Turn RIGHT onto US-62. Bear LEFT US-62 towards
 Salem. (Landmark—pass by White House Fruit Farms)
5. Keep going STRAIGHT towards Salem. DO NOT turn
 right on the Bypass 62. Follow Route 9 (N. Lincoln Ave.)
 STRAIGHT ahead into Salem.
6. Continue on N. Lincoln Ave. to State St. intersection
 (landmarks Family Video and Home Bank) and continue
 STRAIGHT ahead to next traffic light which is the inter-
 section of S. Lincoln Ave. & E. Pershing St.
7. Turn LEFT onto E. Pershing Street.
8. Watch for park entrance on the right(5–6 blocks) circle
 area Pavilion #3 is on the left as you enter

For those using a GPS— Put in 1511 E. Pershing, Salem,
 Ohio 44460. That should get you to Centennial Park.

**No newsletter in August – watch for a postcard via United States Postal Service announcing our Steak Fry/Corn
 Roast, 27 August at YARS at 1800**