



**MOAA**  
www.moaa.org  
www.msvc-moaa.org

# Mahoning and Shenango Valleys Chapter

Military Officers Association of America



Never Stop  
Serving

Navy Operational Support Center Youngstown • MSVC-MOAA  
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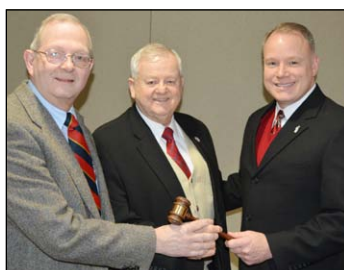
## New Chapter Officers Installed At Luncheon

Photos and article by LTC Mike Wisniewski

LTC Gary Williams, USA, Ret., took over the leadership reins of the Chapter at a first ever luncheon meeting of the Mahoning & Shenango Valleys Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America (MSVC-MOAA) on Friday January 15, 2016 at the Consolidated Activities Center of the Youngstown Air Reserve Station in Vienna, Ohio. LTC Williams had the unique and distinct honor of being sworn into office by his own son, MAJ Rick Williams, USA, Ret., who was invited to be our guest speaker and to administer the oath of office for the 2016 Chapter Officers. As the Coordinator of Youngstown State University Department of Veteran Affairs, Rick is no stranger to our Chapter having been invited twice before to speak on behalf of the YSU ROTC program and also the YSU Office of Veteran Affairs.

In a well-articulated presentation and slide show, MAJ Williams briefed the

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*Past president LTC Rod Hosler transfers the MSVC gavel to chapter president LTC Gary Williams, MAJ Rick Williams performed the installation of the new chapter officers.*



*MAJ Rick Williams presented his dad (MSVC President and past president LTC Rod Hosler) with YSU ROTC Challenge Coins as both individuals have history with the YSU ROTC program. Hosler presented Rick Williams with Ohio Council of Chapters MOAA Challenge coin for his presentation of the Veterans Resource Center on YSU campus.*



*Past President LTC Rod Hosler (right) pins on the "Chapter President" lapel pin on LTC Gary Williams.*



*LTC Rod Hosler presents the 2015 four-star Level of Excellence streamer. This joins our 2014 four-star streamer. MSVC received its charter in February 2012. The chapter deserves to "pat themselves on the back" for these accomplishments. Every member contributes to this award through chapter and MOAA national membership. A large part of the criteria is what our members do in our communities. Let Rod know what you do in your community, as the deadline for the 2015 LOE is March 1<sup>st</sup>.*



*Past President LTC Rod Hosler accepts a personalized flag set from President LTC Gary Williams. Rod served as MSVC-MOAA president from 2014-2015.*



*The MSVC-MOAA joined together with the Mahoning Chapter of the Reserve Officers Association (ROA) for their annual Christmas Charity Auction. Reserve Officers Association Ladies (ROAL) named the Youngstown Air Reserve Base Community Council (YARBCC) as the recipient of the \$1,080 donation.*

*LTC Roderick Hosler, MSVC-MOAA past president, Col Jim Dignan YARS 910<sup>th</sup> Wing Commander, YARBCC President Paul E. O'Brien, Bonnie Raisle, ROAL Representative, LTC Gary Williams, President of MSVC-MOAA, COL Walter Duzzny, ROA President*



*MAJ Rick Williams installing officer, son of the president. President - LTC Gary Williams, First Vice President - former Navy LT Florence Hosler; Second Vice President - former Army CPT Dennis Gartland; Treasurer - former Navy LT Bruce Bille; Board Members - COL John Koshan, LTC Michael Wisniewski.*

34 Chapter members in attendance on how the recently completed Veterans Resource Center benefits almost 400 Veteran and military students attending YSU. With only two other full time employees and a few student volunteers, the Office of Veteran Affairs is able gain state and national recognition as the “Best for Vets” three years in a row by Military Time Magazine and “Veteran Friendly” seven years in a row by GI Jobs Magazine. The amount of support provide to veteran students is phenomenal ranging from application and orientation fee waivers, early registration, and special recognition at graduation to providing a veterans lounge, community room, and a dedicated computer lab with 19 workstations and free printing. YSU is the only school in Ohio that has its own separate building to house the Office of Veteran Affairs. It cost \$1.4 million to build — all through private donations with \$200,000 still needed to be raised. MAJ Williams also presented a statistical breakdown of the veteran students by age, gender, race, major, and home of record (76% of whom come from Mahoning and Trumbull Counties). At the conclusion of his presentation, MAJ Williams was present with our Chapter’s first ever and newly minted Challenge Coin.

At the conclusion of his presentation, MAJ Rick Williams asked the following to step forward to take the oath for their respective office: President – LTC Gary Williams, 1st Vice President – former Navy LT Florence Hosler; 2nd Vice President – former Army CPT Dennis Gartland; Treasurer – former Navy LT Bruce Bille; Secretary – Janet Oglesby; Board Members – LTC Roderick Hosler, COL John Koshan, and LTC Michael Wisniewski. Among the last official acts of the outgoing President, prior to passing the gavel and pinning the new President with MOAA’s prestigious President’s Lapel Pin, LTC Roderick Hosler presented the Chapter membership with its second Four Star Level of Excellence Award streamer. The MSVC-MOAA is one of 51 Chapters to earn this distinction out of over 400 Chapters in the nation. Falling short in only one criterion prevented our Chapter from achieving the Five Star Award in only its fourth year in existence!! That very same criterion – membership participation in the national MOAA organization – prevented us from achieving the Five Star Award the previous year also.

The highly successful Installation of Officers Luncheon concluded with comments made by our new President. He highlighted his long and varied military career from his first two years of active duty as an Army Transportation Officer at Ft Eustis in 1966 and in South Korea followed by 6 years in the Reserves. He served another 6–8 years in the Army Reserve IMA program (Individual Mobilization Augmentation) during which he served short term tours of duty all over the country. He concluded his military career as an instructor teaching Command and General Staff Course and Combined Arms Service Staff School courses with the 1036 USAR School in Farrell. As a civilian, Gary was a school teacher which afforded him ample opportunities for short tours of duty in the summer. One of goals articu-

lated by LTC Williams was to achieve that Five Star Level of Excellence AND to substantially increase membership in our Chapter. Gary lists among his greatest and most notable achievements is being the father of 15 children (9 sons & 6 daughters). He and his wife Patty will be celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary next month. Wish the two love birds a happy Golden Anniversary!!

Dennis Gartland was the winner of the 50/50 raffle and gave the \$60.00 prize to Rick Williams as a donation towards the YSU Veterans Center. Dennis was kind enough to donate four lovely gifts to the Chapter which were also raffled off as prizes. Thank you, Dennis for helping out the Veteran Center and our Chapter.

The experiment to try a Friday Luncheon meeting during the winter months proved to be a resounding success. It was gratifying to see faces we hadn’t seen for a while. Many members expressed favorable comments and enjoyed the delicious menu selection and how quickly the meals were prepared. Mark your calendars for February 19<sup>th</sup> and March 18<sup>th</sup> at 1300 hours for the next two luncheon meetings.

## 2016 Wounded Warrior Project Update

Sent 1/29/16

Dear Colonel Williams,

We are aware of the recent media reports from CBS News and the New York Times alleging mismanagement of funds by the Wounded Warrior Project. We are sending this message because we want you to be able to have all of the information available to form your own informed conclusions.

MOAA’s General Counsel has carefully reviewed the allegations reported in the media and has conducted an independent review of Wounded Warrior Project’s financial reports. These are publicly accessible IRS Form 990’s which are available to the public at the following link: [http://www.woundedwarriorproject.org/media/879225/2014\\_form-990\\_wwp.pdf](http://www.woundedwarriorproject.org/media/879225/2014_form-990_wwp.pdf) He has also reviewed information provided by the senior leadership of the Wounded Warrior Project, which states that the allegations are untrue and do not accurately describe the Wounded Warrior Project’s practices and programs. For your reference, a copy of the letter from Wounded Warrior Project to CBS can be found at the following link: [https://www.woundedwarriorproject.org/media/957448/wwp\\_-\\_letter\\_to\\_cbs\\_-\\_1-27-16.pdf](https://www.woundedwarriorproject.org/media/957448/wwp_-_letter_to_cbs_-_1-27-16.pdf). You should also be aware that our experience in working with the Wounded Warrior Project has not disclosed any improprieties in their use of funds. For example, in 2015, Wounded Warrior Project funded two high impact MOAA programs and we can assure you that the Wounded Warrior Project funds expended for those programs were used effectively to support the mental health of veterans and the education of military children.

Based on the information available to us today, we are unable to substantiate the allegations reported in the media

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## Legislative Issues – February 2016



*Legislative Affairs Chair, COL John Koshan*

In our last legislative update we learned that Congress had overwhelmingly passed an Omnibus Spending measure that was signed into law by the President. The measure contained the Defense Policy Spending Bill providing stability and predictability for the Defense Department. What the bill also did was to enact significant and historic changes to the Military Retirement system. The Pentagon has long decried personnel costs (retirement and health care) as major concerns for military spending and budget stability. As a matter of review, recommendations of the Military Compensation and Retirement Modernization Commission or MCRMC were the driving force behind the changes enacted to the retirement system.

Now that the retirement system has undergone change, the next most significant step is to act on the Military's TRICARE Health care system. The MCRMC recommendation was to replace all forms of TRICARE with a commercial plan similar to those used by federal civilian employees.

A renewed push to overhaul the Military Health Care system is now underway in this Congress. Congressional subcommittees have held hearings and have sent staff members on several fact finding trips to gauge the various problems facing TRICARE. TRICARE services approximately 9.5 million beneficiaries and this will not be an easy task. (even for congress). A onetime fix all piece of legislation will probably not be the solution. Reform will most likely come in selective changes to the system and this should prove to be a daunting task.

MOAA has testified before the House Armed Services subcommittee and reiterated their long standing position on Health Care reform. Health Care reform should do no harm and MOAA emphasized that Congress should focus on what is not working and preserve what is working. This process should not be driven by budgetary concerns but by how we can best preserve Military Readiness and provide for the Best possible Health Care benefits to the Military. Simply taking more money out of a service members pocket is not reform.

This month's issue (Feb'16) of the *Military Officer* Magazine provides some excellent insights into the "TRICARE Reform" process. I would encourage all of our members to spend a few moments reviewing this information. Included in this issue are four (4) letters to the Chairman and Ranking Member of both the House and Senate Committees on Armed Services. These letters detail MOAA's position on TRICARE reform. ***We as MOAA members are asked to sign these letters and forward them on or to use them as a basis for our own appeal.***

TRICARE reform affects us all, active as well as retired. Change will happen because change is the only constant. Making the right change is the challenge and only through our own personal lobbying or by supporting MOAA's efforts will the right changes be made. It's time to get involved and let our representatives know our position on the Military Health Care System.

**Sign and  
Mail The  
Letters**

### *2016 Wounded Warrior Project Update from page 2*

and we see no reason to alter our relationship with the Wounded Warrior Project. Because the general public often attributes public statements made by chapter and council officers to MOAA National, we ask that you not use your official MOAA position when expressing your personal opinion regarding the Wounded Warrior Project. Should a reporter ask about MOAA's charity ratings or percentage of expenses spent on program costs, ask to get back with the reporter, and call MOAA's Director of Communications at (703) 838-8105 to coordinate a response. It is important to use caution in any public statements on this issue so that actions of our affiliate organizations do not inadvertently undermine MOAA's leadership role in the military and veterans' community.

Sincerely,

Barry Wright

Colonel, U.S. Army (Ret)

Director, Council and Chapter Affairs Military Officers Association of America (MOAA)

## Legislative Contacts

**MOAA Legislative Update**  
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**1-800-234-6622 ext. 215**

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Email the legislative contacts through their web site.

*Cracker Barrel— Flip It Forward! – March 3, 2016*

## A pancake breakfast with a cause

Country Living has teamed up with pancake powerhouse Cracker Barrel Old Country Store for *Flip It Forward*, a one-day nationwide event on March 3, 2016.

Visit any of their 635 locations between 6 a.m. and 2 p.m. to order Momma's Pancake Breakfast (three freshly made Buttermilk Pancakes served with 100% Pure Natural Syrup served warm, plus two eggs cooked to order and your choice of smoked sausage patties, thick sliced bacon, turkey sausage or turkey bacon) while supplies last. (\$8.29)

Cracker Barrel Old Country Store, Inc. will donate 20% of those pancake sales (up to \$50,000) to the USO, a nonprofit that has been dedicated to strengthening America's military since 1941. The USO achieves this mission by connecting service members to family, home and country throughout their service to the nation. Visit [crackerbarrel.com](http://crackerbarrel.com) to find a location near you. (And if you get in on the action, tag your photos with #flipitforward.)

### To Join MOAA National:

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

*With more than 390,000 members nationwide,  
MOAA is the country's leading organization  
protecting the rights of military servicemembers  
and their families.*

## MSVC Mission Statement —Our Purpose

MSVC will promote the objectives of the Military Officers Association of America providing a uniform lobbying platform on behalf of the active duty, Reserve, Guard, retired, and former officers of the uniformed services and their spouses and families.

Conduct activities which: perpetuate traditions, educate and inform members of world, national, and local events, which affect the current and former members of the U.S. military. Provide a fraternal and supportive community for members to network, socialize and promote camaraderie.

## MSVC Membership

*Membership in MSVC-MOAA shall be composed of: Men and women who are or have been commissioned or warrant officers of the seven United States uniformed services (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and Public Health Service). Surviving spouses of deceased individuals who, if living, would be eligible for membership. Chapter specific membership for spouses of present members and honorary members. MSVC-MOAA memberships are open to all eligible people.*

This newsletter is published for the benefit of the members of the Mahoning and Shenango Valleys Chapter, which is an affiliate of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA). MOAA and its affiliated chapters and councils are non-partisan. 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 2016 Military Officers Association of American All rights reserved.] Questions or comments should be directed to: LTC Gary Williams, USA, Ret. E-mail: [gwilliams15@comcast.net](mailto:gwilliams15@comcast.net)

## Membership Application for Mahoning and Shenango Valleys Chapter

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

Component \_\_\_\_\_ Branch of Service \_\_\_\_\_ Rank \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Active \*(Regular)—☐ Reserve\*—☐ National Guard\*

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

☐ Surviving Spouse is available for surviving spouse of a military officer **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 now to Dec. 31, 2016

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

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

**Navy Operational Support Center Youngstown**  
**Attn: MSVC-MOAA**  
**Janet Oglesby Secretary**  
**3976 King Graves Road Bldg 540**  
**Vienna, OH 44473-5980**

## MSVC Officers and Committee Chairs for 2016

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**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President** ..... Former LT Florence Hosler, USN  
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## MSVC-MOAA 2016 Calendar

Date	Location and Program
2/19	At YARS – 1300 Luncheon Topic USNR
3/18	At YARS – 1300 Luncheon Topic Red Cross
4/23	Ohio Council of Chapters Meeting, Columbus
4/28	At YARS – 1830 Dinner MOAA national speaker <b>Lt Col Shane Ostrom, USAF, Ret.</b>
5/26	At YARS – ROTC/JROTC Recognition 1830
6/23	At Golden Corral Hermitage Pennsylvania 1830
7/23	Ohio Council of Chapters Meeting, Columbus
7/28	At YARS – Steak Fry and Corn Roast 1830
8/18	At Vienna Rod and Gun Club Picnic TBA
9/22	At YARS TBA
10/22	Ohio Council of Chapters Meeting, Columbus
10/27	At YARS annual business meeting TBA
12/4	Christmas Party TBA
YARS - Youngstown Air Reserve Station, Vienna, Ohio	
TBA - To be announced	
Suggestions for programs contact: Florence Hosler	

## Student + College = \$\$ \$5,000 per year for 5 years interest free loan!

### Because a parent served or is serving

Eligibility: Students (under age 24) who are children of former, currently serving, or retired commissioned officers or warrant officers (Regular, Reserve or Guard). 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. Application for the 2016-2017 school year goes live in early November, and will be open until noon EST, 1 March, 2016. Go to the web site for online application process.

[www.MOAA.org/education](http://www.MOAA.org/education)



**Membership Data Input** ..... Janet Oglesby  
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### Nominations & Elections...

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### Ohio Veterans Affairs Monthly Newsletter

[HTTP://DVS.OHIO.GOV/HOME/MONTHLY\\_NEWSLETTER](http://DVS.OHIO.GOV/HOME/MONTHLY_NEWSLETTER)

### Pennsylvania Veterans Affairs Monthly Newsletter

[HTTP://WWW.DMVA.PA.GOV/VETERANSAFFAIRS](http://WWW.DMVA.PA.GOV/VETERANSAFFAIRS)



## Membership Meeting at YARS, Friday, 19 February at 1300 hr – RSVP by Friday, Feb 19 by 0900 hr

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

**Who:** Members, Spouses, Guests, Surviving Spouses

**Social:** 1230 no cash bar

**Call to Order:** 1300 (1:00 P.M.)

**Lunch:** 1315

**Program:** USNR

**Topic:** Yes there is a Navy in Youngstown

**Speaker:** LT Benjamin Sacramento, USN

**Attire:** Winter Causal

**Here is the change this month** Our past president Rod Hosler is doing triple duty this month. He is going to be secretary, treasurer and first vice president on the 19<sup>th</sup>. Needless to say he will need some assistance on the 19<sup>th</sup>. Our PR person will also be gone, need someone to take a picture. To make it easier on Rod, email or call him with your reservation.

- RSVP:** 1. Email Rod Hosler [hosler1@zoominternet.net](mailto:hosler1@zoominternet.net) with your reservation and menu selection  
 2. Or call 330-788-3270 leave a message. Make sure you state your menu selection.  
 3. **Don't** use the web site and come prepared with cash or check, **no credit card reader available.**

Pre order from the following selections;

**Club Wrap, w/fries and beverage . . . . . \$10.00**  
 Ham, turkey, bacon, American & provolone cheese, lettuce, tomato and mayo

**Buffalo Chicken Wrap, w/fries and beverage . . . . . \$10.00**  
 Lettuce, tomato, onion, shredded cheddar, ranch and buffalo sauce

**Reuben Sandwich, w/fries and beverage . . . . . \$10.00**  
 Marble rye, cornbeef, sauerkraut, swiss and dressing

**Fish Sandwich, w/fries and beverage . . . . . \$10.00**  
 Tarter sauce and lettuce

**Chef Salad and beverage . . . . . \$10.00**  
 Cherry tomatoes, sliced red onions, cucumber, hard-boiled eggs, shredded cheddar and pepper jack cheese, julienne ham and turkey

**Cup of Chili, Salad and beverage . . . . . \$5.00**  
 Chili on Fridays. Salad has tomatoes, cucumbers, black olives and cheese

**Directions:** The air 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 Consolidated Activity Center (CAC), "Her's Place", is building #113. (You'll see a loading dock, back entrance of CAC) Parking is available on either side of the building but it is easier to enter the dining area from the upper parking lot. (There are a few stairs.) The handicapped entrance is at the front of the building. There are signs that indicate that location.