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Mahoning and Shenango Valleys Chapter

Military Officers Association of America



March 2016 • Volume 6 Issue 3

Never Stop
Serving

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

President's Notes

LTC Gary Williams



It seems that everyone has been enjoying the noon meetings that was an experimental project by the board during the winter months of 2016. So, maybe we'll come up with a different format for meetings next year. Hopefully, you can make your input known at our luncheon meeting on March 18th! March is Red Cross month Geoffrey Domowicz will

be speaking on how the American Red Cross helps people across the country and around the world.

Don't forget about all the upcoming meetings, especially the dinner meeting April 28th with Lt. Col. Shane Ostrom from MOAA national. He writes the *Financial Forum* each month in the *Military Officer* magazine. A MOAA national representative makes the circuit of the 400 plus chapters every four years. *We are a great chapter*, we had MOAA President, VADM Norbert Ryan in 2012, Col. Brian Anderson in 2013, Ostrom in 2016 and someone in 2017 for the Ohio Council of Chapters Convention. The chapter has requested MOAA President, Lt. Gen. Dana Atkins for that event. We need to show that *we are a great chapter*, with good attendance in April.

Our May meeting will be our ROTC/JROTC recognition dinner. We will be expanding the dinner this year to include the medal winners of ROA, which will be three additional cadets. Since many of MOAA chapter members are ROA members, the top two awards given to cadets are ROA and MOAA, it just seemed proper to recognize these outstanding young people. It is encouraging that this year YSU will be commissioning four, second lieutenants. The chapter will be asking members to "*Buy A Dinner for a Cadet*" to help offset the cost of the cadets attending.

June the chapter will go to the Golden Corral in Hermitage. In July the popular steak and corn roast at the air base. On August 18th, one I'm looking for to is the shoot-out and picnic at the Vienna Rod and Gun Club.

Now, how about everyone making a commitment to ask someone you know to our next meeting, or one of our future meetings. A personal invitation means so much when

The U.S. Navy Reserve 100 Years and Young

Article by LTC Rod Hosler

Lieutenant Benjamin J. Sacramento, the Commander of the Navy Operations Center, Youngstown spoke at our February luncheon meeting. Known as B.J., he is a career Navy officer and submariner, and assumed command of the Youngstown Operations Center in September of 2015. Lieutenant Sacramento briefed 35 members of the chapter on the 100th Anniversary of the U.S. Navy Reserve and complimented his program with many old photographs picturing the U.S. Navy Reserve from its inception in 1915 through today's war on terror. It is important to know and understand how Navy Reserve is integrated into the overall mission and operations of the Navy as it deploys personnel and organization around the world! With each photograph, he discussed the historical significance as it related to the Navy and Navy Reserve mission. He responded to many questions about the Navy Reserve and the Youngstown Center from the Army types that have little exposure to the Navy and Navy Reserve.



B.J. also talked about the specific mission and support requirements of the sailors at the Youngstown Navy Reserve Center. Accompanying him at the luncheon was his wife Leslie and six month old daughter Callie. Leslie is



a former Lieutenant Commander and Dental Officer. Callie captured the hearts of everyone there and was the model of behavior. Callie is a true inspiration for the sometimes gruff members of our chapter. We welcome B.J., Leslie and Callie to our chapter family and look forward to seeing them at many of our meetings and gatherings.

**Sign and Mail the Postcards that
are in the March issue of
Military Officer magazine**

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Contact Person
Janet L. Oglesby
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jlo52800@neo.rr.com



Lt Col Shane Ostrom, USAF, Ret., CFP® will be the guest speaker at our April Membership Meeting. Colonel Ostrom is Deputy Director of MOAA's Transition Center. His responsibilities include researching and writing articles and answering member inquiries regarding military benefits, health care, survivor issues, and financial concerns. He also travels extensively to discuss these matters with servicemembers and retirees and their families.

Meeting Details:

Date: Thursday, 28 April 2016

Where: Youngstown Air Force Reserve Station—Vienna, Ohio

Time: 5:45 p.m. Social

6:30 p.m. Dinner—Reservations required

7:15 p.m. Welcome to join dinner guests for program

Dress: Civilian Business Dress

Please use reservation form below to mail your reservation

Directions: The Youngstown Air Reserve Station (YARS) address is 3976 King Graves Road, Vienna, OH 44473. It can be accessed either off Rt. 193 or Rt. 11. After passing through the security gate on Arnold Rd., take the second left onto (Spaatz Rd.) The Community Activity Center (CAC), "Herk'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.

RSVP Mail Reservations must be received by Monday, 18 April

Cost: \$22 per person; checks payable to: MSVC-MOAA

Check must accompany reservation (Meal, tax and gratuities included.)

Or go www.msvc-moaa.org and pay by paypal or credit card

Mail Reservation form to: Navy Operational Support Center Youngstown

MSVC-MOAA

Janet Oglesby, MSVC Secretary

3976 King Graves Rd., Bldg 540

Vienna, OH 44473-5980

**This is mailed to all
the MOAA members
that aren't chapter
members in our area.**

Cost: **\$22.00** X _____ = _____

Your name: _____ Rank _____ Branch of Service _____

Status: Active Duty _____ Retired _____ Former _____ Guest(s): _____

Phone: _____ City _____

Do you have a military ID? yes _____ no _____ If "no" date of birth is required DOB _____

Non-military ID attendees need security clearance 10 days before the event

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 America All rights reserved.] Questions or comments should be directed to: LTC Gary Williams, USA, Ret. E-mail: gwilliams15@comcast.net

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asking and having them actually show up at a meeting. The flyer on page two, is mailed to all the MOAA members that aren't chapter members in our area, so great opportunity to invite someone.

Another request I would like to make of you is to consider becoming a lifetime member of MOAA, if you are not one already. Remember, we're still chasing that five-star Level of Excellence streamer!

Finally, let me personally thank each and everyone of you for your attendance at our last two luncheon meetings—they have been well attended and a great success. Again, our local MSVC-MOAA can only be successful if you attend meetings and take an active part in moving this chapter ahead!

Legislative Issues – March 2016



COL John Koshan
Legislative Affairs Chair

The administration unveiled its proposed FY 2017 Budget on February 9, 2016. It's "Déjà vu" all over again as the budget request once again calls for a **Military Pay Raise Cap, Commissary**

Funding cuts and higher TRICARE fees.

Under the Pentagons Proposal, the Military would receive a capped pay increase for the fourth year in a row. The proposal, a 1.6% pay increase is a .5% below the average Americans raise of 2.1%. This increases the pay gap between the Military and the private sector to 3.1%. It took congress close to a 10 year span to close the previous gap. And now a new effort needs to be made to close the gap.

The Budget proposal also provides for adjustments to the new Blended Retirement System for the Military that is scheduled to take effect for new service enlistees in 2018. Not yet in effect and we're changing it already, go figure. The new system establishes Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) accounts, held by the service member. The government is to provide up to a five percent (5%) government matching funds on savings beginning when a service member reaches 3 years of service. The new Budget proposal proposes to delay the government match until the 5th year of service and continue until the 26th year of service. This proposal would also extend the matching fund period beyond the 26 years to retirement and would also increase the government matching fund to six percent (6%).

The Budget proposal reflects a \$221 million cut to commissary funding. This is very perplexing given that last year's cut was restored by congress and the administration had reconsidered and agreed that the commissary benefits needed to be preserved. Incorporating business efficiencies was the agreed upon tract to follow.

MOAA's position on the proposed changes to the Retirement System is to support the matching fund and extending the time to full retirement, but to disagree with delaying the match until the fifth year of service. MOAA also with the cut to commissary funding and will work to restore that funding.

The time line for the 2017 Defense Bill calls for the House and Senate Armed Services committees to begin their work on the Defense Bill in the Apr–May time frame with the May–Jun period to

be used for both Chambers to pass their respective versions of the bill. Reconciliation then will take place Jul – Oct allowing final passage and approval to take place sometime before the end of the year. Sounds like a lot of time but given this is a presidential election year, not really.

In the last Congressional session House and Senate leaders signaled their intent to pursue significant **Health Care** reforms for Fiscal Year 17. They made it clear that their intent was to improve access to care and delivery. While expecting higher fees as part of the reform, their focus would be on improving the benefit, not just raising fees. "Haven't we heard this sales pitch before?"

In last month's update we discussed the issue of Health Care Reform and MOAA's position of Do No Harm. The focus of Health Care reform should be on keeping what is working and fixing what is broke. In this new Budget proposal it seems that reform areas are very general and lack specifics. In contrast, the Budget proposal is very specific in detailing a wide variety of fee changes and increases. This begs the question: **TRICARE Reform or just FEE Increases.**

What follows are selective highlights of the proposed fee changes and increases;

- Rebranding TRICARE PRIME and STANDARD as TRICARE SELECT and CHOICE
- Establish new annual "**Participation Fees**" for all retired members and families under which those not paying the fee would be denied coverage for the year
 - \$350/\$750 (single/family) for TRICARE PRIME
 - \$450/\$900 for TRICARE STANDARD
 - .5% to 2% of retired pay for TFL eligible couples, phased in over 5 years
- Zero Deductible for STANDARD and PRIME for in network but a \$300/\$600 (single/family) deductible for out of network
- Raising the catastrophic caps
- Roughly doubling most Pharmacy co-pays over a 10 year period
- Implementing a **Means – Tested** TRICARE for LIFE enrollment fee as of January 2017

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Legislative Contacts

MOAA Legislative Update
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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)

MSVC-MOAA 2016 Calendar

Date	Location and Program
4/23	Ohio Council of Chapters Meeting, Columbus
4/28	At YARS – 1830 Dinner MOAA national speaker Lt Col Shane Ostrom, USAF, Ret.
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	

Legislative Issues from page 3

MOAA's initial concerns about the proposal include;

- The continued effort to increase Pharmacy co-pays
- Requiring an Annual decision to enroll and pay the "Participation Fee" or be denied care for a year
- Reform that shifts more of the costs to the service member.
- Reform or just Fee increases

It is important to note that the Budget Submission is the first step in a long process. MOAA will be working with leaders and staffs of the House and Senate Armed Services committees to improve access and other problem areas while providing input to protect against imposing disproportionate fee increases on those who earned their Military Health Care coverage. It is time for all of us to get involved as some of the proposed changes target retirees. In this month's issue of the Military Officer magazine are pre-printed postcards to MOAA members to forward on to our Congressional representatives. We all should join the fight for time is "running out". Our lobbying as well as MOAA's efforts will help make the right changes to our health care system. Health care reform 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.

Time is running out and we need to act soon. Let's get involved and let our representatives know our position on Health Care. *Please use the pre-printed post cards, support fair and equitable reform.*

Thank You to the Following for Your 2016 Chapter Dues—25 more for 100% Retention

Scott Allen	Robert Davidson	Florence Hosler	Peter Mihai	Daniel Rohan	William Sweeney
Matthew Andrews	Lorin Davis	Roderick Hosler	Kay Milich	Jack Russell	William Sweeney
Samuel Axtell	Ralph DeLucia	Harold Hutzen	Robert Milich	BJ Sacramento	Deanna Thomas
James Basista	Shawn Dickerson	Harlan Jewett	Ralph Minton	Bill Schoenfeld	Chris Whitehead
Regina Bass	Daniel Dickten	John Koshan	Robert Morris	James Shurtleff	Edwina Whitehead
Richard Bass	James Dignan	David Kountz	Andrew Nelko	James Solmen	Gary Willams
Audrey Beatty	Kathy Duzzny	Sandra Lasure	Carl Nunziato	Edward Speedy	Patricia Williams
Bruce Bille	Walter Duzzny	Thomas MacRae	Janet Oglesby	Willard Stamp	Patrick Williams
Elbert Bishop	James Fairbanks	Michael Marcelli	Nicholas Pacalo	Matthew Stefanak	Barb Wisniewski
Dick Calta	Dennis Gartland	John Marino	William Petro	James Stiger	Mike Wisniewski
Linda Calta	Jared Hideg	Irvin Maurer	Thomas Petzinger	Lisa Stremel	Steven Wisniewski
Brian Chadwick	Eric Hippley	Alan McBane	Jacob Rafidi	Tyler Strohecker	Edi Zentis
Frances Chadwick	Brennan Hosack	Dennis McMahon	Bonnie Rasile	James Swager	Joe Zentis
Audrey Chengelis	James Hosack	Joseph Mersol	Donald Rasile	Margie Sweeney	

Please Pay Your Chapter Dues — Second Invoice Costs Time and Money

Dues Renewal/Membership Application for Mahoning and Shenango Valleys Chapter

Name: _____ Military Status _____ Spouse Name _____

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

*Free chapter membership if under government contract.

A non military email address is preferred, return this form

☐ 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
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

Vienna, OH 44473-5980

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

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.



Welcome new member
Frm LT Shawn Dickerson, USCG

Find us on 
Mahoning Shenango Valleys Chapter

Membership Meeting at YARS, Friday, 18 March at 1300 hr – RSVP by Friday 18 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: Red Cross

Speaker: Geoffrey Domowicz

Attire: Winter Casual

Pre order from the following selections;

RSVP:

1. Email Janet Oglesby jlo52800@neo.rr.com with your reservation and menu selection
2. Or call 330-568-4456 leave a message. Make sure you state your menu selection.
3. Use the web site www.msvc-moaa.org and pay with PayPal. It isn't required to have a PayPal account to use the system. You will answer "no" to the message asking if you have a PayPal account then you will be asked for credit card information. PayPal is a secure system.

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 Community Activity Center (CAC), "Herk'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.