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Mahoning and Shenango Valleys Chapter

Military Officers Association of America



April 2016 • Volume 6 Issue 4

Never Stop
Serving

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

President's Notes

by LTC Gary Williams



It always provides a “**hooah**” moment when I see MSVC name in the local newspaper or in the *Military Officer Magazine*. The chapter name is mentioned on page 82 in the April issue of *Military Officer* under Ohio. Our April 28th meeting will be back to an evening dinner meeting at the Youngstown Air Reserve Station—CAC and Lt Col Shane Ostrom, USAF, Ret., a MOAA national

officer will be our guest speaker. The chapter is very fortunate that MOAA national is sending us Shane for the evening of the 28th. We need to show our appreciation to MOAA and Shane by our attendance. Whether you are a monthly attendee or haven't attended since 2012 when we receive our charter we look forward to seeing you on the 28th. (The charter dinner still has the chapter record of the most members in attendance.)

I mention the attendance at our charter dinner. Your participation is the key factor in our success. The chapter had close to 50 charter members four years ago, and that too was a “**hooah**” moment as most chapters start with an average of 30. Our membership could break 100 officers next month, so your renewal is important. The retention of our chapter members since 2012 has been 95%. There are close to 200 MOAA national members that reside in our area that don't belong to our chapter. These 200 members have received a flyer in the mail concerning our 28th meeting. Janet distributed this list of MOAA members at our March luncheon and asked us to call an officer that we knew on the list and invite them to the dinner. We have received several reservations already from that list. The next step is asking them to join the chapter. Remember *someone probably invited you*.

continue on page 2

Recognizing our Blue Star Families

by Janet Oglesby

Starting in May I wish to list the MSVC members who have relatives presently serving in the military. I request the service person Rank, Name, Present Location. My contact information is on page 4.



The list would read like this:

Daughter or Son of _____

Grandson or Granddaughter of _____

Nephew or niece of _____

All the family of _____

The Red Cross—Many Missions

by LTC Mike Wisniewski

Geoffrey Domowicz, an American Red Cross Volunteer Services Specialist serving 13 counties in the Western Pennsylvania Region, was the guest speaker at our Chapter's third and final luncheon meeting held at CAC of the Youngstown Air Reserve Station in Vienna. Although Mr. Domowicz provides services in Western Pennsylvania, his presentation spoke of the total mission of the American Red Cross both domestically and internationally. The mission of the American Red Cross (ARC) is to “*Prevent and alleviate human suffering in the face of emergencies by mobilizing the power of volunteers and the generosity of donors.*” Studies have shown that the red cross symbol used by this agency is among the most recognized symbol in the world and is almost universally trusted and ranked more socially responsible, straightforward, helpful, and friendly than 95 percent of all other nonprofit and for-profit brands. Even though there is less need for buildings and offices, the ARC still has approximately 500 local chapters that provide a variety of services and serves the community needs. We all are familiar with the local Red Cross blood drives, but do you know they teach first aid, CPR, water safety and lifesaving courses, have Disaster Action Teams (DAT) that respond to natural or man-made disasters? The ARC also provides service to the Armed Forces by supporting clients during emergencies, provides volunteers at military and veteran medical facilities, and provides education and outreach programs to veterans and their families. Each year the Red Cross responds to over 77,000 disasters—a vast majority are home fires. When they are requested to respond to a home fire, the Red Cross will work with families to provide them with a “client assistance card” so they can purchase things they need most including food, clothing,



Geoffrey Domowicz accepts the MSVC flag set from President Gary Williams. The chapter gave a \$100 donation to the local Red Cross.

lodging, prescriptions, and toiletries. Please note, however, the Red Cross does not automatically respond to every home fire or disaster. The must be called upon to provide assistance and relief.

Following the very informative and enlightening slide

continue on page 2

August 2016 Military Rifle and Pistol Shoot

On August 18th MSVC member picnic will be held at the Vienna Fish & Game Club, 1508 Youngstown Kingsville Rd (Rt 193), Vienna, OH 44473. We will start off the event by offering our members a special opportunity to fire military pistols and rifles at the rifle range. A picnic dinner will follow after the range has been secured. A stocked pond for fishing is also on site.

Rifle and Pistol Shoot, 5:00–6:00. We are asking our members to volunteer in bringing their military weapons to the event. Please ensure they are in proper working order. You will be asked to allow others to shoot your weapon. You will be responsible for the cleaning and maintenance of your weapon after the event. If you would like to offer bringing a gun to shoot, please use the form below.

Ammunition. Those wanting to shoot the various military weapons will be responsible for bringing their own ammo or having cash to pay for ammunition used. We plan on having ammo provided by local sporting goods stores for purchase for the event, or to take home.

Schedule:

May 26–List of guns which will be available to shoot. Ask members which guns they want to shoot so we can have ample ammunition. Contact sporting goods stores.

July 28–Final preparations and confirmation. Determine guns and ammunition available.

Aug 18–Military Rifle and Pistol Shoot and MSVC picnic at Vienna Fish & Game Club.

If you would like to offer to bring a gun for others to shoot, please email Bruce Bille bbille.usna.82@gmail.com or call 330-333-0397. He needs the follow information:

- Type of gun you will provide for Rifle & Pistol Shoot?
- Will you bring your own ammo?

President's Notes from page 1

By the way, the Congress is still messing with our health-care, so if you haven't made an effort to let them know how you feel, there's still time to do it! Our legislators are listed in this newsletter, so please call or drop them a line.

Our records indicate that five chapter members let their national membership lapsed and five chapter members are still prospective MOAA members. Renew or join MOAA national. Remember they are our voice in Washington.

In closing, I hope to see you at the 28th April meeting for a great program and outstanding camaraderie.



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.

Contact Person
Janet L. Oglesby
330-568-4456
jlo52800@neo.rr.com

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

Lodging

Eagle's Nest Lodge at YARS

Tel: (330) 609-1268

Visitor Quarter: \$60.00

af.dodlodging.net Youngstown

Note: The Eastwood Mall Complex is six miles away

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 (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.

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

Cost: \$22.00 X _____ = _____

Your name: _____ Ra _____

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

Phone: _____ City _____

Do you have a military ID? yes ___ no ___ If "no" date of birth _____

Non-military ID attendees need security clearance 10 days before

This was mailed to all the 200 MOAA members that are not MSVC chapter members in our area. If you know a fellow officer, invite them.

Red Cross from page 1

presentation, LTC Gary Williams, Chapter President, presented Geoffrey Domowicz with a MSVC-MOAA flag set. Anyone wishing to contact Mr. Domowicz for help or additional information may call him at (814) 240-7598 or email at geoffrey.domowicz@redcross.org. The chapter appreciates Irv Maurer another Red Cross volunteer for scheduling Geoffrey presentation.

The roughly 30 Chapter members in attendance greatly appreciated the extra door prizes that were donated once again by Dennis Gartland. Please see the spring and summer lineup of exciting Chapter events and their locations printed elsewhere in this newsletter. The luncheon meetings during the winter months proved to be a very successful and will most likely follow suit again next year. Your feedback is important so please let our President and Board members know your feelings.

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

Legislative Issues – April



COL John Koshan, Legislative Affairs Chair

In last month's update we reviewed the various proposed changes to Military Personal costs contained in the Pentagon's Budget Proposal for FY 2017. Briefly the proposals contained changes to the new Military Retirement System, TRICARE, the pay raise for the Military and commissary funding.

The timeline for the budgeting process calls for the House and Senate Armed Services Committees to begin their work on the various proposals, starting now through May, with a House and Senate approval and reconciliation to take place by October. This process involves hearings and the gathering of input both pro and con. Additionally both the House and Senate can accept, reject, modify or add items to the proposed Budget.

MOAA has participated in discussions with the Armed Services Committees concerning the Military Health System. MOAA's position is that the Pentagon's plan is vague on program improvements and is focused mainly on new and expanded fees. The proposed fee increases are designed to push more care to Military Facilities (Hospitals and Clinics). However, the access to Military Health Facilities should be improved before we implement fee structures designed to increase access.

Enrollment fee increases as well as higher deductibles and out of network costs are being proposed. MOAA's contention is that the proposed fees are disproportionate to retirees. Additionally a means test for Tricare For Life (TFL) is also being considered. This proposal would set a fee for enrollment as a percentage of retired pay. No other Federal agency or for that matter does a civilian employer require this. MOAA has repeatedly stressed the need to improve care and access before expanding fees.

MOAA will continue to lobby for Military Health Care reform that makes sense. Improved access and realistic alternatives for out of network requirements is a must. Our continued input to our legislators is something we can and should do.

The Pentagon's Budget Proposal also included changes to the Military Retirement System and the plan to cap the Military Pay raise yet again. Both of these changes have come under criticism from both the Senate and MOAA. The proposed 1.6% pay increase is being touted as the largest in four years. However, it is still below the average American's 2.1% pay raise. Left unchanged, the Pentagon's proposal will increase the cumulative pay gap between the Military and the average civilian pay growth to 3.1%.

Additionally, the Senate has taken issue with the Pentagon's proposal to delay the government match to service member's deposits to their Thrift Savings Plan account from three (3) years to five (5) years of service. MOAA agrees with the Senate on both the pay raise and matching fund issue.

The commissary continues to come under budget scrutiny. The monies used to keep commissaries operating is small in comparison to other areas of the budget, but the desire to use that money is inviting. The commissary is a favorable benefit for both active and retired and is something that needs to continue. The commissary can't sell items for less or more than cost. A variable pricing scenario is proposed and could result in less tax dollars support for the system. MOAA is in favor of these variable pricing proposals if the result in efficiencies that help to maintain the system.

Our letters to support MOAA's positions do make a difference and need to be continued. The tear out letters in the Military Officer magazine resulted in thousands of letters being received by the Armed Services Committees. Committee members stress that this does make a difference. As we have stated numerous times, our voices need to be heard. Our efforts along with MOAA's will help to make the right changes that affect personal costs. Reform should be about improved access and care for the military service member thereby improving Military Readiness and not just Budgetary concerns.

Legislative Contacts

MOAA Legislative Update
moaa.org/takeaction 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

OHIO

Senator Sherrod Brown (D)

United States Senate
 713 Hart Senate Office Bldg.
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Senator Rob Portman (R)

United States Senate
 448 Russell Senate Office Bld.
 Washington, DC 20510
 Phone: (202) 224-3353
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Senator Patrick Toomey (R)

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 Fax: (202) 228-0284
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Email the legislative contacts through their web site.

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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)

Links for Military/Retirees/Veterans
[HTTP://WWW.HOSTMTB.ORG/DEFAULT3.HTM](http://WWW.HOSTMTB.ORG/DEFAULT3.HTM)

MSVC-MOAA 2016 Calendar

Date	Location and Program
4/15	East High School Army JROTC Awards Program and Dinner 1800–2100 at East High School reservation requested
4/23	Ohio Council of Chapters Meeting, Columbus
4/28	YSU ROTC Awards Breakfast 0800, reservation requested
4/28	MSVC at YARS – 1830 Dinner MOAA national speaker Lt Col Shane Ostrom, USAF, Ret.
5/7	TCTC Air Force JROTC Awards Program at TCTC 0900
5/26	MSVC at YARS – ROTC/JROTC Recognition 1830 “Buy A Dinner for A Cadet”
6/23	MSVC at Golden Corral Hermitage Pennsylvania 1830
7/23	Ohio Council of Chapters Meeting, Columbus
7/28	MSVC at YARS – Steak Fry and Corn Roast 1830
8/18	MSVC at Vienna Rod and Gun Club Picnic 1600–1700 shoot-up
9/22	MSVC at YARS TBA
10/22	Ohio Council of Chapters Meeting, Columbus
10/27	MSVC at YARS annual business meeting TBA
12/4	MSVC and ROA Christmas Party TBA
TCTC - Trumbull Career Technical Center, Warren, Ohio YARS - Youngstown Air Reserve Station, Vienna, Ohio TBA - To be announced Suggestions for programs contact: Florence Hosler	

Asking for Sponsors

“Buy A Dinner for a Cadet”

Our May 26th Recognition Dinner Meeting for our cadets of ROTC & JROTC and newly commissioned cadets. For this meeting we have instituted a “Buy A Dinner for a Cadet” where a member can contribute \$22 to offset the cost of the chapter, paying for the dinner for a cadet, their guest, or their military staff member. If you can assist by “buying a dinner” you may do so at the door. Any surplus of donations will be put into the scholarship fund.

To Join MOAA National:
use the web site 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.*

Thank You For Your Chapter Dues

The chapter salutes you for your commitment to support the MSVC financially. The chapter only had to mail out 10 reminders to ask for their support. If you did not receive an invoice in the mail, do we have your correct mailing address?

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

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*

☐ 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

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.



Navy Operational Support Center Youngstown
Military Officers Association of America
Mahoning and Shenango Valleys Chapter
3976 King Graves Road Bldg. 540
Vienna, OH 44473-5980

Place
Stamp
Here



*Welcome new member
LTC Wil Kline, USAR active*

Thursday, April 28th Membership Meeting at YARS

RSVP if possible by Monday April 18 (count for table linens) but no later noon Monday the 25th

Where: Youngstown Air Force Reserve Station
Community Activity Center
3976 King Graves Rd • Vienna, OH 44473

Who: Members, Spouses, Guests

Lounge and Cash bar opens at 1530

Social: 1745 (5:45 P.M.)

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

Program: 1930 (7:30 P.M.) **Welcome to join the dinner guests for the program**

Speaker: Lt Col Shane Ostrom

Colonel Ostrom writes the *Financial Forum* each month in the *Military Officer* magazine.



Attire: Request a sport coat or equivalent

Menu: Tossed Salad, Chicken Francaise, London Broil, Twice Baked Potato, Vegetable Medley, Dinner Roll, Dessert, Beverage, Gratuity for \$22.00 per person.
Chapter pays for no-shows.

RSVP:

1. Call Janet Oglesby, 330-568-4456 (leave a message if no answer).
 2. Or Email Janet at djo52800@neo.rr.com
 3. Or 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.
- You can pay at the door with cash, check, credit or debit card.



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.