

MOAA/ROA Christmas Party

Article and Photos by LTC Mike Wisniewski

For six years, the Mahoning Chapter of the ROA and ROAL have invited the MSVC-MOAA to participate in a joint Christmas Holiday Banquet and Veterans Charity Auction Fundraiser at the Manor Restaurant in Austintown, OH on the first Sunday in December. With 46 ROA and MOAA members, spouses, and family in attendance, the event was a huge success raising a record amount for a veteran charity/service organizations. A total of \$1,190 was raised from the auction, another \$105 from the Queen of Hearts board game, and Ron George, the executive chef for The Manor Restaurant donated \$100. To date \$4,981 has been raised by our two organizations since the inception of the joint Christmas Party.

Some of the past recipients of our fundraising have been: Wounded Warrior Project, Fisher House, The Boots Campaign, USO of NE Ohio (for the USO lounge at the Vienna Air Base), and the YARS Base Community Council. Last year Reserve Officers Association League (ROAL) donated \$1,000 towards the purchase of a new van used by the Mahoning County Veterans Commission to transport veterans to the VA Clinic and Hospital. The ROAL is soliciting ideas and suggestions as to which local veteran's group should receive this year's fundraising proceeds. One such proposal, offered by Judge Robert Milich, is to donate this year's money for use by the staff and volunteers of the Veteran's Court in Youngstown to assist in the recovery and rehabilitation of veterans who entered into the program. All suggestions submitted to Barbara Stamp, president of ROAL, will be carefully considered.

The evening's entertainment was jump-started with a "Queen of Hearts" board game by Barbara Stamp. It didn't take James Borgen too long to find the Queen of Hearts under card number 7 and take-home half of the ticket sales.

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Sam & Rose Axtell



Jim & Margie Basista



Geri & Jim Borgen



Linda and Dick Calta



Ralph DeLucia



David Di Tallo



Walt & Kathleen Duzzny



Jeanne & Jim Fairbanks



Carrie & Jim Hosack



Rod & Florence Hosler



Irv & Diane Maurer



Dennis & Shirley McMahon



Ginny & Bill Meshot



Kay & Bob Milich



Beth & Ralph Minton



Mickey & Mary Ann Morrel



Nick & Rose Pacalo



Bonnie & Don Rasile



Linda & Jim Shurtleff



Rebecca
Rogers &
Jim Swager



Barb & Will Stamp



Paul & Carol Stepuk



Bill & JoAnne Sweeney



Barb & Mike Wisniewski

MSVC-MOAA 2018 Calendar

Date	Location and Program
1/19	Luncheon Meeting, at CAC, YARS; speaker Dr. Rick Shale see pg 5.
1/27	<i>Ohio Council of Chapters Quarterly Meeting, DSC-Columbus</i>
2/1	MSVC Board Meeting, NOC, YARS
2/23	Luncheon Meeting at CAC, YARS, speaker; SGT Tines from YARS Fitness Center 12:30 Social 1:00 Call to Order
3/1	MSVC Board Meeting, NOC, YARS
3/20	FREE Veterans of the Valley Luncheon, 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM St. Nick's Hall, 764 5 th St. Struthers RSVP Rod Hosler 3/5
3/23	Luncheon Meeting at CAC, YARS, speaker; Capt. Palmer–Weather
4/5	MSVC Board Meeting, NOC, YARS
4/16-19	"MOAA Storming of the Hill," Washington, DC
4/20	Luncheon Meeting at CAC, YARS (3 rd Fri.) Program: Fly Fishing
4/20	East High School JROTC Awards Ceremony & Dinner at East HS
4/21	TCTC JROTC Awards Ceremony at Trumbull County Technical Career
4/26	YSU Army ROTC Awards Ceremony & Breakfast at YSU— invite only
4/28	<i>Ohio Council of Chapters Quarterly Meeting, DSC-Columbus</i>
5/3	MSVC Board Meeting, NOC, YARS
5/4–6	MOAA Leadership Seminar, Chicago, Illinois
5/5	YSU graduation & ROTC Commissioning after graduation
5/10	Dinner Meeting JROTC/ROTC/new 2LT's Recognition CAC, YARS
5/12	Decoration of Graves, Calvary Cemetery, Youngstown
5/19	Armed Forces Day at Buhl Park
5/28	Memorial Day Ceremonies 8:30 A.M. Oak Hill Cemetery, Youngstown
6/7	MSVC Board Meeting, NOC, YARS
6/21	Dinner Meeting at Golden Corral, Hermitage, PA program TBA
7/26	Picnic, Vienna Rod & Gun Club, rifle & pistol shoot
7/28	<i>Ohio Council of Chapters Quarterly Meeting, DSC-Columbus</i>
8/17-18	D-Day at Conneaut, Ohio www.ddayohio.us free bus transportation available on Friday reservations required
8/23	MSVC at YARS Steak Fry/Corn Roast—legislative night
9/6	MSVC Board Meeting, NOC, YARS
9/20	Dinner Meeting, CAC, YARS (Nomination of Officers)
10/4	MSVC Board Meeting, NOC, YARS
10/26	Luncheon Meeting, CAC, YARS (Business Mtg & Election of Officers)
10/28	<i>Ohio Council of Chapters Quarterly Meeting, DSC-Columbus</i>
10/31	MOAA Annual Meeting, Phoenix, AZ.
11/8	MSVC Board Meeting, NOC, YARS
11/16	Luncheon Meeting, CAC, YARS (Installation of Officers)
12/2	MOAA/ROA Christmas Party, Manor Restaurant, Austintown
YARS –Youngstown Air Reserve Station, Vienna, OH TBA –To be announced CAC –Community Activity Center NOC–Navy Operational Center Suggestions for programs contact: COL John Koshan 330-448-4758	

President's Message

A New Year and a fresh start for our chapter. With MOAA National, we need to create and work on goals we know we can meet and support.

Our chief focus should be legislative, look at the 10 goals set by MOAA, (see legislative report on page 3) they cover the gamut; healthcare, pay, veterans compensation, retirement, and force strength and training. Continue to call, write, and email your representatives both state and federal, we can be a strong voice for the services.

Locally we are able to lend support to veterans at many levels, the YSU Veterans Resource Center, the two VA clinics, and all the counties Veteran Service Commissions. The USO offers a way to assist active and reserve service members.

MOAA supports emerging leaders from ROTC and JROTC. There are two other teen-age leadership programs headquarters at YARS the Sea Cadets and the Civil Air Patrol.

One of our chapter goals is to encourage spouses to attend. Our next three luncheons we hope our spouses would find the topic of interest. Please join us at one of our upcoming lunches bring your spouse and ideas for programs/ activities—all are welcome.

Florence Holser, President

Christmas Party from page 1

Delicious hors d'oeuvres, prepared by Chef George, was donated by the ROA Chapter. The wine selection during the social hour was graciously donated by LTC Walt and Kathleen Duzzny. The table decorations were set up by Rose Pacalo and the ladies of the ROAL set up the homemade holiday cookie and desert table.

Every successful auction needs a smooth-talking auctioneer to excite the crowd into opening their wallets for a worthy cause. So, none other than the affable Col Dick Calta was called upon to squeeze every last dollar bill out of the bidding process. Together with the assistance of his side-kick, LTC Michael Wisniewski, Dick was able to raise a record sum of \$1,190 during the evening.

We sincerely thank all those who came out on a pleasant Sunday evening to support this joint fund raising event and especially to those who planned, prepared, and worked hard to make this Christmas Party a success. We also thank the Manor Restaurant for opening its doors for us on a Sunday, for Chef Ron George's generous personal donation to the fund raiser, and for preparing scrumptiously delicious meals. If you weren't able to attend this Christmas Party, or for some reason weren't able to get a successful bid on one of the fabulous prizes that were auctioned off, the ROAL will still accept your donation and add it to the amount already raised for a local military charity. Send your check in any amount payable to Mahoning Chapter – ROAL within the next few weeks to ROAL Treasurer, Mrs. Bonita Rasile, 45 Midwood Circle, Youngstown, OH 44512.

Legislative Issues – January 2018 *Legislative Affairs Chair, LTC Rod Hosler*

We are now into a new year, 2018. It is hoped that this year will be a rewarding and effective year for all members of the United States military; active, guard and reserve, and retired. It must be noted that one of MOAA's primary missions is to be the legislative advocate and voice for those that can't speak, our military.

MOAA has established ten goals it will advocate for 2018, and they are:

- 1.) Ensure any TRICARE reform sustains access to top quality care.
- 2.) Prevent disproportional TRICARE fee increases.
- 3.) Sustain military pay comparability with the private sector.
- 4.) Block erosion of compensation and non-pay and quality of life benefits.
- 5.) Protect military retirement and COLAs.
- 6.) Sustain wounded warrior programs and expand caregiver support.
- 7.) End financial penalties to survivors and the disabled.

MOAA is looking for chapter members that are "Chapter 61" retirement; that is, medical retirement under 10 U.S.C. Chapter 61, for people with less than 20 years of service, who are not eligible for concurrent receipt. If you are in this classification please contact me. –Rod

- 8.) Ensure the Guard and Reserve system adequately supports the requirements for an operational reserve.
- 9.) Ensure spouse and family support programs are aligned with current and emerging needs of an all-volunteer force.
- 10.) Ensure timely access to VA health care and preserve earned veteran's benefits.

Military pay and earned benefits are always in the Congressional "cross hairs" and this year will be no different. As Congress attempts to balance the budget and fund entitlement programs, they look for ways that enhance those who have not served or sacrificed. It is regrettable that America's military, current serving and retired must constantly fight for those benefits they have earned over years of honorable service to the country. Furthermore, it is unfortunate, but even DOD officials, military and civilian, in the Pentagon do not aggressively advocate on behalf of their serving personnel (active and reserve), retired and families in seeking better treatment and sustainment of those hard-earned benefits.

MOAA is the only organization that will vigorously advocate for and fight to ensure America's soldiers, sailors, marines, airmen and coasties are provided with pay commensurate to their service and receive the benefits they've earned. MOAA continues to provide the very best and most up to date information need by our elected officials as they discuss and attempt to enact legislation that supports military personnel and their families.

President Trump has signed the 2018 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). Some of the key NDAA measures that will impact troops, their families and retirees are:

A. Pay and Benefit Changes:

- 1.) A 2.4 percent pay raise for active duty troops, the biggest pay raise for military members since 2001. [This is a good start.]
- 2.) To permanently extend the Special Survivor Indemnity Allowance (SSIA) due to end this year. SSIA provides partial relief for military survivors affected by the "widow's tax," a financial penalty where the military Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) is off set dollar-for-dollar by the VA's Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC). [MOAA continues to fight this battle.]
- 3.) Increase to TRICARE prescription costs. [Not an outcome desired by MOAA, but will continue to advocate for lower TRICARE fees. Previously many retirees and dependents paid nothing for many prescriptions.]
- 4.) Creates a reimbursement of up to \$500 for spouses who get a new professional license or certification after a PCS. [This is also a good start.]

B. Military End-Strength Increase:

The size of the military will increase by nearly 20,000 troops.

The Army by at least 7,500; the Navy by nearly 4,000; the Marine Corps by 1,000; and the Air Force by about 4,100. Reserve forces will grow by about 3,400. [The military is at its lowest numbers since before World War II. With real threats out there, a large and strong military means a stronger national defense.]

Legislative Contacts

MOAA Legislative Update
moaa.org/takeaction or
1-800-234-6622 ext. 215

Pres. Donald Trump (R)

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.
 Washington, DC 20510
 Phone: (202) 224-2315
 Fax: (202) 228-6321
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

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

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

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.

Please maintain your MOAA national membership, it is invoiced separately

Thank You to the Following for Paying Your 2018 Chapter Dues—Due by January 31st

Donald Allen	James Hosack	Joe Mersol	James Solmen
Paula Allen	Brennan Hosack	Peter Mihai	Nick Spano
Matthew Andrews	Roderick Hosler	Robert Milich	Willard Stamp
Anthony Antolini	Florence Hosler	Kay Milich	Matthew Stefanak
Samuel Axtell	George Jarbeck	Ralph Minton	James Stiger
James Basista	Harlan Jewett	Robert Morris	Lisa Stremel
Audrey Beatty	William Kennedy	Andrew Nelko	Tyler Strohecker
Bruce Bille	Wilbur Kline	Carl Nunziato	James Swager
James Borgen	John Koshan	Janet Oglesby	William Sweeney
Michael Briceland	David Kountz	Rose Pacalo	Margie Sweeney
Brandi Burrows	Benjamin Kulper	Nicholas Pacalo	William Sweeney
Dick Calta	Eric Lasure	Joshua Palmer	Deanna Thomas
Linda Calta	Sandra Lasure	William Petro	Kristina Valentic
John Caparanis	Albert Lind	Jacob Rafidi	Audrey Williams
Brian Chadwick	Debbie Lonardo	Donald Rasile	Gary Willams
Frances Chadwick	Richard Lonardo	Daniel Rohan	John Williams
Lorin Davis	Julia MacRae	Jack Russell	Patricia Williams
Ralph DeLucia	John Marino	Benjamin Sacramento	Tim Williams
David Di Tallo	Irvin Maurer	Larry Scheetz	John Wingerter
James Dignan	Alan McBane	Dawnle Scheetz	Michael Wisniewski
James Fairbanks	Tierney McCaster	William Schoenfeld	Barb Wisniewski
Jared Hideg	Kevin McGee	Genevieve Strong Scupholm	Steven Wisniewski
Eric Hippley	Matthew McIntire	James Shurtleff	Joseph Zentis
Adam Hoover	Dennis McMahon	David Smith	Edi Zentis

Welcome New Members: Mrs. Rose Pacalo and Mrs. Debra Lonardo

January Birthdays: 1–Barb Wisniewski, 6–Dennis Gartland, 8–Jim Shurtleff, 8–Bob Milich, 16–Jim Hosack, 17–Richard Morgan, 19–Rich Lonardo, 23–Irv Maurer

February Birthdays: 12–Kay Milich, 16–Tim Williams, 17–Edwina Whitehead, 19–Dennis McMahon, 19–US Coast Guard Reserve, 26–Dawnle Scheetz



Membership Renewal or Application for Mahoning and Shenango Valleys Chapter

Name: _____ Military Status _____ Spouse Name _____

Branch _____ Rank _____ Years Active/Reserve ____/____ ☐ 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 _____

Drivers License# for Air Base access _____

E-mail: _____ Applicant DOB _____ Spouse DOB _____

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

Member of MOAA National ☐ Yes ☐ No MOAA # _____

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 to paid, regular, spouses and surviving spouse dues at msvc-moaa.org/membership

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

Membership Meeting at YARS, Friday, 19 January 1300 hr – RSVP by Wed. 17th by 1800 hr

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

Who: Members, Spouses, Guests of members,
Surviving Spouses

Social: 1230 no cash bar

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

Lunch: 1310 (preorder from the selections next column)

Attire: Warm Winter Causal

Program: **Dr. Rick Shale.** He is a local historian and has written several books about local history and will speak about local history activities and locations.

The web site is set up to take orders, but not credit cards. It will help with accuracy of the order. Please pay at the lunch meeting with cash or check. The "soup of the day" will be announced in the email reminder that arrives before the meeting.

RSVP:

1. Use the web site www.msvc-moaa.org to place your order.
2. Email Janet Oglesby djo52800@neo.rr.com with your reservation and menu selection.
3. Or call 330-568-4456 leave a message. Make sure you state your menu selection.

Pre order from the following selections.

Entrees:

Buffalo Chicken Wrap, beverage.....\$8.00
Lettuce, tomato, onion, shredded cheddar, ranch and buffalo sauce

Club Sandwich, beverage..... \$8.00
Ham, turkey, bacon, American & provolone cheese, lettuce, tomato and mayo

Reuben Sandwich, beverage..... \$8.00
Marble rye, cornbeef, sauerkraut, swiss and dressing

Fish Sandwich, beverage..... \$6.00
Tarter sauce and lettuce

Chef Salad, beverage, roll.....\$9.00
Cherry tomatoes, sliced red onions, cucumber, hard-boiled eggs, shredded cheddar and pepper jack cheese, julienne ham and turkey
Your choice of Italian, Balsamic, French, Ranch dressing

Side Options:

Side Salad..... \$3.00
tomatoes, cucumbers, black olives & cheese

French Fries..... \$1.00

Cup of "Soup of Day"..... \$3.00


Salad Dressing

Your choice of Italian, Balsamic, French, Ranch dressing

Note if you only order side options, beverage is \$1.00

Mahoning and Shenango Valleys Chapter Blue Star Families

If you know anyone who is deployed, or will be deploying, overseas, please contact the USO so we can add them to our recipient list. We want to support as many of our dedicated military members as possible and keep them connected with home and family. **Contact Information:** Bruce A. Bille, USO Northern Ohio Youngstown Air Reserve Station Support Office, Office: (330) 609-2115 Cell/Text: (330) 333-0397 Fax: (330) 617-8515 E-mail: USOTrumbullCo@gmail.com

Son of Mark and Patty Andrews Maj Matt Andrew, USAF, deployed to Afghanistan til March 2018	
Son of Jim & Carrie Hosack, LT Brennan Hosack, USN, Key West, Florida	
Son of Tom & Julia MacRae Maj John MacRae, USAF, Elgin AFB, Florida F35 instructor pilot.	
Sons of Rick & Janice Morgan LTC Andrew Morgan, USA, at NASA, Johnson Space Center, Houston, TX LCDR Benjamin Morgan, USCG, with VTS (Vessel Traffic Service) at USCG Sector New Orleans, Louisiana	
Grandson of Tom & Marla Raseta A1C Joshua Raseta, USAF, Hill AFB, Ogden, Utah, F16 Fighter Squadron	
Son of Gary & Patty Williams, Rick Williams brother LTC G. Tim Williams, USAR	
Son of Rick & Kelly Williams — PFC Garrett Williams, USA 82 nd Airborne at Fort Bragg, North Carolina	
Son of Mike and Barb Wisniewski CW1 Steven Wisniewski, USA at Fort Drum, NY UH-72 Lakota helicopter pilot	
Active Duty Chapter Members	
Col James Dignan, USAFR, Pentagon	
LTC Wil Kline, USAR, Norfolk, Virginia	
Capt Joshua Palmer, Ohio Air National Guard, Rickenbacker	

LCDR BJ Sacramento, USN, (COMSUBGRU 8) located on NSA Capodicinno, Naples, Italy
MAJ Lisa Stremel, USA, Ft Hood, Texas
1 st Lt Kristina Valentic, MC—USAFR, Youngstown Air Force Reserve Station
YSU ROTC Graduates
2013—1LT Eric Hippley, USA, Elmendorf/Richardson Alaska
2013—1LT Jacob Rafidi, USA, Virginia
2014—1LT Tyler Strohecker, USA, Ft Drum, New York
2014—1LT Lorin Davis, USA, Wheeler Army Airfield, Hawaii
2014—1LT James Stiger, Fort Leonard Wood with the 5 th EN BN
2015—2LT Jared Hideg, USA, Florida
2016—2LT Brandi Burrows, Military Intelligence, Ft. Campbell, Kentucky
2016—2LT Adam Hoover, Chemical Corps, Ft. Leonard Wood, MO then Korea
2016—2LT Matthew McIntire, Chemical Corps, currently at Ft. Leonard Wood, MO attending CBOLC
2016—2LT David Smith, Infantry
2017—2LT Lonnie Bissmeyer, Signal Corps
2017—2LT Tierney McCaster

Coping with the Loss of a Loved One – By: Anne Hartline Surviving Spouse Advisory Committee member

Grief is a highly complex, personal emotional process. Every person is unique, so there will be many individual differences in the grief process, including personal characteristics and circumstances of the death. The way in which an individual grieves also depends on the personality of the grieving person and his or her relationship with the person who died. In addition, evidence-based research suggests most people do not go through progressive stages. Other research indicates grief is a series of symptoms that come and go and possibly eventually diminish. Also, cultural and religious beliefs, coping skills, and socioeconomic status will affect how a person will cope with the death of a loved one. Proven clinical data documents grief following a sudden death differs from a death following a lengthy illness. Elizabeth Kubler-Ross, a pioneer in the field, developed a theory of the stages of grief that has received questionable support from research. A more recent model of grief names the psychological responses of numbness-disbelief, separation distress, depression-mourning, and recovery. This recent model emphasizes the theory that grief unfolds in stages is an oversimplification of a highly complex process. Researchers now have identified specific



patterns to grief's intensity and duration. They found the worst usually is over in about six months; however, there is no set timeline for the grief process. While loss is forever, acute grief is not. Some people who have developed a personal resiliency might be able to get through loss on their own. Others will have a much harder time and will need outside clinical intervention based on a recent evidence-based model.

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.

IN MEMORIAM

1st Lt Elbert "Lee" Bishop, US Air Force, Frm.
27 January 1932 – 25 April 2017

Lee saw an announcement in the Salem News, that MSVC was hosting a picnic at Centinnal Park in August of 2013. His residence was located in Damascus area of Salem. He joined the chapter that evening and became a life member of MOAA. In 2015 they moved to Normal, Illinois to be near family, he continued to maintain his MSVC membership.

Lee was a veteran of the U.S. Army, Navy and Air Force and Air Force Reserves, serving during the Korean War. He achieved the rank of lieutenant with the Air Force.

He worked as a police officer in Riverside, Calif., while going to law school to obtain his law degree and worked for State Farm Insurance in claims for 33 years in California. His life long love of horses led to many years of memories with the Riverside Rancheros and the De Anza de Cabelleros horse groups.

After retirement he became active in the Honor Guard for the AMVETS, Post 45 in Salem Ohio and most recently the Honor Guard with the American Legion, Post 635 in Normal, Illinois.

He is survived by his wife of 35 years, Pamela of Normal, four children and their families and many nieces and nephews.

IN MEMORIAM

COL Thomas MacRae, US Army, Ret.
7 October 1947 – 11 December 2017

Tom was a lifelong resident of Grove City, Pennsylvania. He graduated from Grove City High School and Grove City College. Tom worked at the George Junior Republic for 40 years his last position as the facilities manager. He enjoyed playing golf at the Grove City Country Club.

Tom served his country with distinction in the Vietnam War as a platoon leader, company commander, and MACV team distract advisor. He was awarded the Bronze Star, Purple Heart, Air Medal, and Combat Infantry Badge. He retired from the U.S. Army Reserve in 2007 at the rank of colonel, having served as Battalion Commander of the 402nd Quartermaster Battalion, 99th ARCOM during Operation Desert Storm.

He is survived by his wife Julia; son and daughter-in-law Sloan and Camille MacRae; son and daughter-in-law John and Amber MacRae and four grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a contribution to Wounded Warrior Project.

Memorial service: 12:30 p.m. May 18, 2018, with military honors at the National Cemetery of the Alleghenies, 1158 Morgan Road, Bridgeville, Pa., 15017.

A reception celebrating Tom's life will follow the ceremony.

MSVC BOARD MEMBERS

President **Former LT Florence Hosler, USN**
HOSLERFM@ZOOMINTERNET.NET (330) 788-3270

1st Vice President **COL John Koshan, USA, Ret.**
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2nd Vice President **LTC Sam Axtell, USA, Ret.**
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Secretary **Former LT Al Lind, USN**
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Treasurer **Former LT Bruce Bille, USN**
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Past President ex officio **LTC Gary Williams, USA, Ret.**
G.WILLIAMS15@COMCAST.NET (330) 385-4873

Board Members at Large

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Public Relations..... **LTC Michael Wisniewski, USA, Ret.**
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Legislative Affairs **LTC Rod Hosler, USA, Ret.**
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Historian Officer **Dennis Gartland**
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Membership..... **Sam Axtell and Mrs. Janet Oglesby**

Newsletter Editor..... **Mrs. Janet Oglesby**
JLO52800@NEO.RR.COM (330) 568-4456

United Veterans Council..... **Rod Hosler**
HOSLER1@ZOOMINTERNET.NET (330) 788-3270

USO Area Representative..... **Bruce Bille**
USOTRUMBULLCO@GMAIL.COM (330) 333-0397 cell

Ohio Council President..... **Col. Dick Calta, USAF, Ret.**
TRAILERDC@GMAIL.COM (330) 576-6404

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)

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retirement, it is refreshing to know that he won't have any more work related excuses to miss future luncheon meetings at our Chapter.

After the very informative presentation by Judge Milich, the Chapter conducted its annual business meeting. Minutes of the last meeting as well as the report of the officers and committee chairs were printed and passed out to the membership. If you wish to receive a copy of the reports, please contact Janet Oglesby at jlo52800@neo.rr.com and she will email you the report. The slate of officers as presented by the nominating committee was approved by vote of the Chapter membership. Thereafter, Judge Milich administered the oath of office to the incoming officers and board members. Outgoing president, Gary Williams, presented incoming president, Florence Hosler, former US Navy Lieutenant, with the president's pin and gavel. LTC James Shurtleff was the lucky winner of the 50/50 raffle.



Military Officers Association of America
 NOSC-Youngstown
 3976 King Graves Road Bldg #540
 Vienna, OH 44473-5980

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.

Last Year Awards



5-star chapter



5-star web site



4-star newsletter

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: Former LT Florence Hosler, USN email: hoslerfm@zoominternet.net

MSVC November Meeting Wrap-up

Article by LTC Mike Wisniewski

On November 17, 2017 the MSVC-MOAA hosted YSU Cadet Tierney McCaster and YSU instructor, LTC Joseph Paydock, USA Ret. at the Chapter's luncheon meeting at the Consolidated Activity Center at the Youngstown Air Reserve Station (YARS) in Vienna. Cadet McCaster will be commissioned as a Second Lieutenant Ordinance Officer on December 17th from Youngstown State University. Representing both MSVC and the Reserve Officers Association, LTC Rod Hosler presented Cadet McCaster with the Officer's Guide, a set of 2nd Lieutenant Bars, and a set of 1st Lieutenant shoulder straps, a gift of both organizations.



The guest speaker for the luncheon was Judge Robert Milich, retired US Air Force Lieutenant Colonel and judge of the Youngstown Municipal Court. Judge Milich is a native of Youngstown, graduated from YSU in 1966 with a BA in Business and the Akron Law School in 1978. He is a member of many veterans' organizations including American Legion, Am Vets, ROA, Catholic War Veterans, VFW, Air Force Association, YARS Base Community Council, and two MOAA Chapters. (MSVC and Cape Canaveral). The main topic of Judge Milich's presentation was an overview of the Veterans Treatment Court in Youngstown.

Among Judge Milich's many accomplishments and perhaps one of the most noteworthy was the establishment of this Veterans Treatment Court. It is the second such court established in the State of Ohio and is only one of 40 such courts in the nation. It was modeled after the first Veterans court established by Judge Russell in Buffalo, NY in 2008. When a veteran commits a misdemeanor crime or low level felony and commits to being placed into this program, he is given a full assessment of his problem which is often related to his combat experiences while on active duty. He is helped by a staff of 10 volunteer veterans who serve as mentors until he successfully "graduates" from the program. To date Judge Milich has had 44 veterans graduate from this program. All but three have successfully emerged from this program to lead a crime-free life thus far, a rate that has a better track record than all other rehabilitative court sponsored programs. It has been proven that when

veterans get treated and mentored by other veterans, the recidivism rate is very low. Initially there was no additional cost to administer the Veterans Treatment Court since it was staffed by volunteers. Maj Jack Russell, USAF, Ret., who introduced Judge Milich as the guest speaker, serves as a volunteer and mentor for the Treatment Court. However, because of the success rate, many court systems are starting to fund these



MSVC President Gary Williams presents the MOAA challenge coin to Judge Milich.

programs allowing for trained professionals to be hired to assess, treat, and mentor veterans who are brought before the court.

By the time you read this article, Judge Milich will have retired, having served as Municipal Court Judge for Youngstown City until December 31, 2017. The Veterans Treatment Court will be a lasting legacy, one that has served as the model for other similar programs around the country. As Judge Milich and his wife Kay enjoy their

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Judge Milich gives the oath to MSVC 2018 board members. Pres.—LT Florence Hosler, 1st VP—COL John Koshan, 2nd VP LTC Sam Axtell, Sec.—LT Al Lind. Board Members at Large, LTC Rod Hosler, LTC Mike Wisniewski, missing; CPT Dennis Gartland, Treas.—LT Bruce Bille and past president LTC Gary Williams.



LTC Rod Hosler presents a plaque from the Ohio Council of Chapters to Kevin Levin assistant manager for the Community Activity Center. The CAC outstanding service made our convention last September a success.



Air Force Junior ROTC Cadets present the Armed Forces Flags at a **Veterans Day** observance at the Trumbull County Career and Technical Center. The MSVC supports the cadets through awards, a recognition dinner, and classroom visits.



Boardman High School presented a **Veterans Day** Luncheon for local veterans and active duty members of the Armed Forces Friday, November 10. MSVC member and BHS alumnus CDR David J. Di Tallo, USN (Ret.) attended, along with Army Recruiting Command personnel and Air Force Reserve personnel from the 910th Airlift Wing, Youngstown Air Reserve Station.