

Our Chapter Area Has Exceptional ROTC and JROTC Programs, Cadets and Instructors



YSU 2LT Evan Beachler, 2LT Derek Kozlowski, East High School Cadet Kimberly McCann
TCTC Cadet Michael Redmond, YSU 2LT Zachary Marr and Cadet Nicholas Armeni

by CDR David J. Di Tallo
MSVC Board Member
Student Affairs

Mahoning and Shenango Valleys Chapter - Military Officers Association of America (MSVC-MOAA) held its largest ever Cadet Night Dinner May 2 with thirty three members and guests attending.

Cadet Night provides an opportunity for cadets, their parents and instructors, and chapter members to meet and share their experiences, as well as for the chapter to hear directly from the cadets about their J/ROTC experiences and goals. Thanks to the generosity of its members and a generous contribution from USAA, MSVC was able to cover the entire cost of the cadets' dinners and that of their guests and instructors.

Since the chapter's founding in Northeast Ohio and Western Pennsylvania, support for local ROTC programs at the high school and collegiate level has been at the forefront of the chapter's

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LTC Rod Hosler presents Cadet Kimberly McCann the MOAA Medal and Certificate at East High School Awards Program



LTC Mike Wisniewski presents Cadet Michael Redmond the MOAA Medal and Certificate at TCTC Awards Program



MSVC Pres. Florence Hosler presenting the Medal and Scholarship to Cadet Nicholas Armeni at YSU Awards Breakfast



2LT's receiving Class "A" Uniform insignia and the Army Officers Guide, LTC Rod Hosler to Evan Beachler, MSVC President Florence Hosler to Joseph Caudle, CDR David Di Tallo to Derek Kozlowski, COL Will Stamp to Zachary Marr. The new 2LT's were commissioned on May 11th as part of the graduation exercises. Photos courtesy of YSU. More photos on page six.

ROTC JROTC from page 1

efforts to NEVER STOP SERVING.® MSVC boasts no fewer than two dozen Youngstown State University Army ROTC alumni among its ranks, and many more chapter members were commissioned through ROTC. Further, the chapter includes a former YSU Army ROTC Professor of Military Science, the Manager of the YSU Veterans Service Center, and a former Army JROTC Senior Military Instructor.

Army JROTC Cadet Kimberly McCann (East High School, Youngstown, Ohio) and Air Force JROTC Cadet Michael Redmond (Trumbull Career and Technical Center, Warren, Ohio) each received the MOAA JROTC Medal and a fifty dollar cash award.

Cadet McCann is finishing her junior year at East High School and her second year as a cadet. In addition to JROTC, she plays on the Varsity Basketball, Softball, and Volleyball Teams, lettering in all three. Cadet McCann's parents, James and Tammy McCann, and her instructor MSG David Moon, USA (Ret), accompanied her.

Cadet Redmond is a junior at Trumbull County Career and Technical Center, where he serves on the JROTC Color Guard, Raider Challenge, and Commando Challenge Teams. He is enlisted in the U.S. Army Reserve and will attend Basic Training this summer. His parents, Michael and Heidi Redmond, and his Senior Aerospace Science Instructor, Lt. Col. John Miller, USAF (Ret), also attended.

Army ROTC Cadet Nicholas Armeni, a junior at Youngstown State University, received the MOAA ROTC Medal and a three hundred dollar cash award. He majors in Criminal Justice and hopes to enter the Infantry after graduating in 2020.

Three of four prospective Army Second Lieutenants graduating May 11 from Youngstown State University attended and received Class "A" Uniform insignia and copies of the Army Officers Guide: Cadet Evan Beachler (General Studies) will commission into the Infantry; Cadet Derek L. Kozlowski (Chemical Engineering) will commission into the Infantry; and Cadet Zachary Marr, USA (Exercise Science) will commission into the Armor Branch. Of note, Kozlowski was the chapter's 2018 ROTC MOAA Medal winner. Cadet Joseph J. Caudle, a Civil Engineering major slated for the Corps of Engineers, was unable to attend.

Members wishing to contribute to next year's Cadet Night Dinner or cash awards may contact chapter Treasurer Bruce Bille at (330) 333-0397 or treasurer@msvc-moaa.org. You may also contribute at any monthly meeting or dinner this year or next.

MSVC-MOAA 2019 Calendar

Date	Location and Program
5/18	Decoration of Graves: Calvary Cemetery, 9:00 A.M.
5/27	Memorial Day attend a service in your area or Oak Hill Cemetery, 8:30 A.M.
6/27	Dinner Meeting 1830 hr Golden Corral Hermitage see page 6
7/25	Pistol & Rifle Shoot at Vienna Rod & Gun Club
7/27	Ohio Council of Chapters Quarterly Meeting, National Vietnam Veterans Memorial and Museum Columbus 1000
8/4	Wings-n-Wheels 9-5 SLOAS Airfield, 4085 N River Road, Warren www.erniehallaviationmuseum.org Admission \$10 for adults, ages 6–12 \$5
8/15-17	D-Day at Conneaut, Ohio www.ddayohio.us free bus transportation available on Friday, reservations required call 330-740-2450
8/22	Dinner Meeting Steak Fry & Corn Roast, 1830 hr CAC, Dave Christner from Youngstown Air Reserve Base Community Council
9/20-21	Ohio Council of Chapters Convention – Cincinnati Chapter host at Blue Ash, Ohio Quality Hotel invited lunch speaker U.S. Rep Brad Wenstrup, COL, USA, dinner speaker MOAA President retired Lt Gen Dana Atkins, USAF Convention Information prices for entire convention, for lunch, for dinner, program for spouses
9/26	Lunch at MVR, then touring Youngstown Business Incubator with Rich Lonardo,
10/25	Lunch 1300 hr, CAC, YARS- Mercer County VSC Larry Scheetz
11/15	Lunch 1300 hr, CAC YARS
12/8	MOAA/ROA Christmas Party

Date, time and place subject to change, check our web site, www.msvc-moaa.org>Activities>Next Chapter Event

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

Mahoning and Shenango Valleys Chapter Membership Requirements

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

Retired Lt Col John Miller, USAF, John lives in the Boardman area and teaches AF JROTC at TCTC.

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



5-star web site and newsletter 2018

Legislative Report, May/June 2019, LTC Rod Hosler, USA Ret.

Bill That Would Grant Benefits to Blue Water Navy Vets Is Headed for a Vote

House members moved to accelerate extending disability benefits to "blue water" Vietnam veterans and expand eligibility to more troops, including those who served in the Korean demilitarized zone in the late 1960s.

A bill proposed by the House Veterans Affairs Committee would direct the Dept of Veterans Affairs to provide disability compensation for veterans who served on Navy ships off Vietnam and have been diagnosed with one of 14 diseases presumed related to Agent Orange exposure.

The bill, H.R. 299, now goes to the House for a vote. Members of the Senate, meanwhile, are considering similar legislation proposed by Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand, D-New York.

The legislation delineates the affected geographic regions off the coast, adds eligibility to troops who served in the Korean DMZ between September 1967 and 1971, and requires the VA to identify U.S. bases in Thailand where the defoliant Agent Orange was used.

It also would extend benefits to children of veterans who have spina bifida as a result of a parent who was exposed to Agent Orange while serving in Thailand.

A federal court ruled in January that the VA wrongly denied disability benefits to Blue Water Navy veterans. The decision in favor of the defendant, Alfred Procopio Jr., who served on the aircraft carrier Intrepid in Vietnam and later was diagnosed with diabetes and prostate cancer, potentially extends health care benefits and compensation to thousands of similarly diagnosed veterans.

VA officials had denied the claims of Procopio and ship-based sailors and Marines, saying the scientific research does not support a connection between their service and exposure to Agent Orange. The cost of extending the benefits to roughly 90,000 potentially affected veterans would be as much as \$5 billion over 10 years, the VA noted.

After a unanimous victory in the House Tuesday 5/14, legislation to grant benefits for Agent Orange exposure to Navy veterans who served in the waters off Vietnam will move to the Senate – where it failed to pass last year. Contact your Senators

Lawmakers said that legislation is needed to protect veterans who may be eligible for disability compensation. VA Secretary Robert Wilkie said the department will not appeal the ruling in the federal case, but House members said they wanted to make sure the ruling is applied.

"We need to ensure that blue water veterans are protected in the event that Procopio is appealed," said committee Chairman Rep. Mark Takano, D-California. "This proposal is the clearest and quickest route to delivering benefits to these deserving veterans."

Last year, the House unanimously approved a Blue Water Navy veterans bill, but the legislation died in the Senate when a vote was blocked in the final days of the last Congress.

"It's unclear how the VA plans to implement the Procopio decision. This [bill] would help remove any confusion over which veterans served in offshore in Vietnam. It would also help veterans who exposed outside of Vietnam," said Rep. Phil Roe of Tennessee, the ranking Republican on the committee.

Veterans who served in the Vietnam War receive health care and disability compensation if they have been diagnosed with one of several illnesses presumed to be connected to exposure to Agent Orange and other defoliants.

This compensation is usually awarded to those who served on the ground and inland waterways of Vietnam. But blue water veterans — those who served in ships up to 12 miles off the coast — weren't considered to have been exposed.

The veterans and their advocates have argued, however, that those troops were exposed because their ships used runoff-contaminated seawater in their desalination plants and vessels transported Agent Orange to the war zone.

The federal ruling allows former service members diagnosed with any of the presumptive illnesses related to Agent Orange to bypass a lengthy claims process that required them to provide proof that they were exposed.

Wilkie said the VA is considering how to award and pay for benefits for these veterans.

Legislative Contacts

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

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Email the legislative contacts through their web site.

VA May Have Incorrect Addresses for 25,000 Veterans

This article by Jim Absher originally appeared on Military.com, the premier resource for the military and veteran community.

The Department of Veterans Affairs has notified veterans in several states that the address the agency has on file for them may have been incorrectly changed.

In social media postings and press releases, the VA has stated that both the Veterans Health Administration and Veterans Benefits Administration have "detected inconsistencies with how veterans' permanent mailing addresses are being updated and stored at VHA medical facilities and shared with the national enrollment system."

The postings urge all veterans to verify that the information the VA has on file for them is correct. To do this, veterans should go to www.va.gov/change-address and verify that their mailing and home addresses, phone number and email information are all correct.

If you don't have an online account, the webpage will let you create one. If you are unable to do so, you can call the VA at 877-222-8387 to speak with a live person to check out the info the department has on file for you. You can also visit a local VA office for assistance.

Updating your address will affect the information the VA has for:

- VA health care (including prescriptions, appointment reminders, lab and test results, and other communications)
- Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (VR&E)
- Disability compensation Pension benefits
- Claims and appeals

It will not update the mailing address the VA uses for:

- GI Bill benefits, Home loans,
- Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Dept of Veterans Affairs (CHAMPVA),
- The Foreign Medical Program

Officials say the different computer systems do not talk to each other. The change of address page above explains how to change your address for these programs.

MSVC Board of Directors for 2019

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United Veterans Council Rod Hosler

USO Northern Ohio Executive Director Bruce Bille

MOAA Ohio Council President Rod Hosler

Ohio Veterans Affairs Web Page

[HTTP://DVS.OHIO.GOV/](http://DVS.OHIO.GOV/)

Pennsylvania Veterans Affairs Web Page

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

Lost or Missing or Stolen Military Identification Cards

If by chance your military ID card is lost, missing, or stolen, here is the recommended process to replace it:

First, notify your local law enforcement agency that your ID is missing, lost, or stolen. Have them generate a police report and give you a copy of the report. (If they cannot give you a copy, at least get the Police Report/Incident Number.)

Second, come to the base Security Forces Visitor Center (YARS Bldg. 102), during normal business hours (Mondays through Fridays, 8am through 3pm, closed weekends and all holidays), report the loss (verifying it with the police report you filed), and request a new one. They will have you complete a Security Police Form verifying the loss, then issue you a temporary base pass to go to the base Military Personnel ID Card office in HQ Bldg. 128.

If your information is current in the DoD DEERS system, re-issue of your military ID card will not take long to accomplish. NOTE: BEFORE you come to the base, it would be wise to telephone the Military Personnel ID card office (330) 609-1095 to advise of the situation and learn if there are any documents you will need to bring with you.

Membership Renewal or Application for Mahoning and Shenango Valleys Chapter

Name: _____ Military Status _____ Spouse Name _____

Branch _____ Rank _____ Years Active/Reserve _____ / _____

☐ 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 _____

Former Officers: Driver's License Number 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

May: 1–Adam Hoover, 14–Jack Russell, 18–Mark Andrews, 25–Janet Oglesby, 28–Audrey Chengelis
June: 7–Harold Hutzen, 9–Al Lind, 14–US Army, 14–Audrey Beatty, 16– Esther Gartland 18–Jim Bishop,
 19–Bob Morris, 21–Tom Raseta, 22–Eric Lasure, 26–Rod Hosler, 30–Don Rasile, **milestone July:** 1–Jim Basista,
 1–Alan McBane, 2–Josh Palmer, 6–Kristina Valentic, 7–Bill Kennedy, 8–Larry Scheetz, 14–Harlan Jewett,
 15–Rick Williams, 17–Ben Kulper, 20–Tom Masters, 22–James Dignan, 22–Gary Williams, 26–Mary Lee McClure



Mahoning and Shenango Valleys Chapter–Blue Star Families, Active Duty Members, YSU Grads

Son of Mark and Patty Andrews, Maj Matt Andrews, USAF, McGuire Air Force Base, New Jersey, reassign to Spain this summer	
Son of Jim & Martha Bishop Lt Col Kevin Bishop, USAF, Kirtland AFB Albuquerque, New Mexico	
Son of Walt & Kathy Duzny, Sr., BG Walter Duzny, Deputy Commanding General, North Fifth Army, Border Security	
Son of Jim & Carrie Hosack, LT Brennan Hosack, USN, Key West, Florida	
Son of 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 He heads into space JULY 20 12:25 p.m. EDT from Russia LCDR Benjamin Morgan, USCG, with VTS (Vessel Traffic Service) at USCG Sector New Orleans, Louisiana reassigned to Cleveland this summer.	
Nephew of Carl & Clara Nunziato, LTC Jerald Nunziato, battalion commander of public affairs at Ft. Bragg, North Carolina	
Nephew of Carl & Clara Nunziato, LT Carl A. Nunziato II, USN, Austin, Texas MD orthopedic surgeon	
Grandson of Tom & Marla Raseta A1C Joshua Raseta, USAF, Hill AFB, Ogden, Utah, F16 Fighter Squadron	
Son of Rick & Kelly Williams PFC Garrett Williams, USA, 82 nd Airborne at Fort Bragg, North Carolina	
Son of Mike and Barb Wisniewski CW2 Steven Wisniewski, is a Maintenance Test Pilot for the AH-64D Apache helicopter. He is stationed at Ft Drum, NY part of the 10 th Mountain Division	
Active Duty and Reserve Chapter Members	
LTC Wil Kline, USAR, Pittsburgh	
LT Jason Lassiter, USCG, Cleveland	

Capt Joshua Palmer, Ohio Air National Guard, Rickenbacker
LCDR BJ Sacramento, USN, (COMSUBGRU 8) NSA Capodichino, Naples, Italy
MAJ Lisa Stremel, USA, Germany
1 st Lt Kristina Valentic, MC–USAFR, Youngstown Air Force Reserve Station
2LT Aqeel Hamoodi, USAR, Atlanta, Georgia
YSU ROTC Graduates
2013–CPT Jacob Rafidi, USA, 2 nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1 st Cavalry Div.
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, Missouri
2015–2LT Jared Hideg, USA, Florida
2016–2LT Brandi Burrows, Military Intelligence, Ft. Campbell, Kentucky
2016–2LT Adam Hoover, Chemical Corps, Ft. Leonard Wood, Missouri
2016–2LT Matthew McIntire, Chemical Corps, Ft. Leonard Wood, Missouri
2017–2LT Lonnie Bissmeyer, Signal Corps
2017–2LT Tierney McCaster, Fort Campbell, Kentucky
2018–2LT Zachery Gibson, Field Artillery, Ft. Sill, Oklahoma (BOLC)
2018–2LT Zachary Szewczyk, Cyber Branch, Ft. Gibson, Georgia (BOLC)
2018–2LT Sean Pregi, Military Police
2019–2LT Evan Beachler, Military Intelligence/Infantry
2019–2LT Joseph Caudle, Engineer
2019–2LT Derek Kozlowski, Infantry
2019–2LT Zachary Marr, Armor

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: (216) 223-6427 E-mail: USOTrumbullCo@gmail.com

NEVER STOP SERVING.®

MSVC-MOAA Thursday, June 27th Meeting at Golden Corral in Hermitage

Where: Golden Corral, 1025 N Hermitage Rd (Rt. 18 N) Hermitage, PA 16148 before Walmart

Who: Members, Spouses, Surviving Spouses, Guests

Dinner Time: 1830 (6:30 P.M. The room is reserved for this time) Upon arrival you may go ahead to the buffet

Suggested Attire: Summer Casual

Menu: All you can eat buffet \$13.99 plus drink and tax. **Seniors 60+** \$12.99 plus drink and tax. Show your **military ID** and get a discount. You should **tip** your server.

RSVP: Not necessary but if you get a chance, email or call Janet Oglesby djo52800@neo.rr.com or 330-568-4456 she can inform Golden Corral to have the proper number of servers for us and your name tag will be waiting for you.

Program: Speaker Jon Kolb *Adventures in Training for a Purpose*

Program Time: 1930 (7:30 P.M.) Welcome to join the dinner guests for the program. Just inform the cashier you wish to attend the meeting.

Chapter Members Present Several Awards at YSU, East High School and TCTC



Berine Kosar, Sr. presenting on behalf of MAJ Carl Nunziato the Carl Nunziato, Room and Board Scholarship to Dejanais White pictured above, also to Alexander Blackburn, Katie O'Brien, Sam Madden, Ryan Grisse, and Tara Teloar



Jim Fairbanks presents three ROTC Alumni Scholarships one to Kyle Ritenour pictured above, also to Macauley White and Ting Yu Chiu

Photos courtesy of YSU



LTC Rich Lonardo presents Colonel Brian D. Allgood YSU ROTC Scholarship to cadet Zachary Marr



COL Will Stamp presents Colonel Arseny Melnick Award on behalf of Reserve Officers Association to cadet Ting Yu Chiu



LTC Rich Lonardo presents Major General Harold J. Green YSU ROTC Scholarship to cadet Derek Kozlowski



Judge Milich stands by the bronze plaque which has his name in raised lettering. Milich was an inductee into the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame Class of 2018. On May 1st the names of the 20 members of the class was unveiled. The bronze plaques representing each of the classes inducted are permanently on display at the Vern Riffe Building, 2nd Floor located at 77 South High Street, Columbus.



LTC Rich Lonardo presents Sargent Arthur Lonardo YSU ROTC Scholarship to cadet Hayden Sherwood



LTC Rod Hosler presents Assoc of the US Army, Military History Award to Katharine Repetski



COL Walter Duzzny presents the ROA JROTC Award to Cadet James Gilmer at East High



LTC Mike Wisniewski presents the ROA JROTC medal to James Fitzwater at TCTC.



LTC Mike Wisniewski presents the Order of Daedalians Award to Cadet Kent Sarno at TCTC. CDR David Di Tallo provides the award but could not be in attendance for the award ceremonies.



Cadet Miranda McCann accepts the Order of Daedalians Award from LTC Mike Wisniewski at East High School. Miranda sister Kim was awarded the MOAA medal. Mike was a graduate of East High School.