

## MSVC October Meeting – VSC Director Mercer County – Recognition of Vietnam War Era Veterans

by LTC Mike Wisniewsk

The MSVC-MOAA held its annual Business Meeting and election of officers on Friday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, at the Consolidated Activities Center of the Youngstown Air Reserve Station in Vienna.

A near record of over 50 members and guests in attendance listened to LTC Larry Scheetz introduce his replacement, Bradley Alan, as the new Director of Veterans Affairs in Mercer County. Scheetz, a Desert Storm veteran, had served as Director in Mercer County for the past several years since his retirement from the Army Reserves. Guest Speaker Brad Alan, is serving in the Marine Corps Reserves, Marine and Family Division, Marine For Life Network, Greater Pittsburgh Region was the guest speaker at the luncheon business meeting. Alan remains in the reserves where he serves as a Marine For Life Network representative helping recently discharged veterans to transition back into civilian life. The services the Mercer County Veterans Affairs office provides include assistance with disability compensation claims, pension claims, real estate tax exemption for 100% permanently and totally disabled veterans, emergency financial assistance, applications for VA home loan certificate of eligibility, applications for VA healthcare, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) counseling, and recording or requesting military discharge papers and death gratuity benefits.

The annual business meeting of the Chapter was conducted with a presentation of a two-page summary of each of the Executive Officers major accomplishments and duties over the past year as well as reports submitted by the various sub-committees of the Chapter. These included Legislative Affairs, Public Relations, Student Affairs (ROTC/Junior ROTC), Surviving Spouse Representative, Newsletter Editor, the Board Members at Large. The slate of Officers and Board Members who were nominated and accepted at last month's meeting were officially and duly elected to their respective positions by a unanimous vote of the members present. They will commence their term of office on January 1, 2020 and will be sworn in during the January meeting. A list of the incoming officers and contact information is published on page two of the newsletter.

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*Mahoning County: Al Lind, Don Rasile, Walter Duzzny, Paul Stepuk, Andrew Gall, Jim Swager, Rod Hosler, Bill Petro, Harold Huzten, Dennis McMahon, Tom Wilkes, Rob Morris, Michael Briceland, and Nate Walker*



*Trumbull County: Mike Wisniewski, John Caparanis, Sam Axtell, Dennis Gartland, Jim Borgen, Jim Fairbanks, Jim Basista, Tony Antolini, and Herm Breuer*



*Lawrence County: Brad Alan, Mark Andrews and Tom Whitten*



*Columbiana: Nate Walker, Will Stamp*



*Mercer County: Larry Scheetz, Irv Maurer, Brad Alan*



*Summit: Nate Walker, Dick Calta*

## MSVC Board of Directors for 2020

**President** ..... LTC Rod Hosler, USA, Ret.  
[HOSLER1@ZOOMINTERNET.NET](mailto:HOSLER1@ZOOMINTERNET.NET)

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President**..... Former LT Bruce Bille, USN  
[BBILLE.USNA.82@GMAIL.COM](mailto:BBILLE.USNA.82@GMAIL.COM)

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President** ..... LTC Sam Axtell, USA, Ret.  
[LCAXERO1@AOL.COM](mailto:LCAXERO1@AOL.COM)

**Secretary** ..... Former LT Al Lind, USN  
[MSVCOH10@GMAIL.COM](mailto:MSVCOH10@GMAIL.COM)

**Treasurer and Past President** ..... Former LT Florence Hosler, USN  
[HOSLERFM@ZOOMINTERNET.NET](mailto:HOSLERFM@ZOOMINTERNET.NET)

**Six Members at Large**

...Former CPT Ralph DeLucia, USA  
[ROK31A@MSN.COM](mailto:ROK31A@MSN.COM)

...LTC Larry Scheetz, USA, Ret.  
[THESCHEETZ@GMAIL.COM](mailto:THESCHEETZ@GMAIL.COM)

...CDR David DiTallo, USN, Ret.  
[DAVID.DITALLO@GMAIL.COM](mailto:DAVID.DITALLO@GMAIL.COM)

...MAJ Mark Andrews, USA, Ret.  
[ANDREWSFARM333@VERIZON.NET](mailto:ANDREWSFARM333@VERIZON.NET)

...Former CPT Dennis Gartland, USA  
[GARTLANDDJ@AOL.COM](mailto:GARTLANDDJ@AOL.COM)

...COL John Koshan, USA, Ret.  
[CDR475@ROADRUNNER.COM](mailto:CDR475@ROADRUNNER.COM)

## Help the Chapter by Serving on a Committee

### Board Members Head the Committees

- Legislative Affairs Committee*, monitors state and national legislative developments that might affect service retirees. Inform the council and member MSVCs of legislative developments of interest to the membership.
- Membership Committee*, is to retain existing members and recruit new ones.
- Nominating Committee*, develops a proposed slate of elective officers and board members for the next calendar year and confirms their willingness to serve, if elected.
- Personal Affairs Committee*, is a source of information to questions or problems about issues such as military rights and privileges, survivor benefits and entitlements, etcetera; and coordinate directly with MOAA's Benefits Information and Financial Education Department.
- Programs Committee*, should plan and execute a program of activities in consonance with the purposes of MSVC and the desires of the membership. It is vital that planned activities be varied and appeal to all members so they will want to participate and remain MSVC members.
- Public Relations/Communications Committee*, oversees, newsletters, news releases for newspapers and the web page.
- Student Affairs Committee*, arrange to present MOAA medal to ROTC and JROTC at local colleges and schools that have the program.
- Surviving Spouse Committee*, as a point of contact for surviving spouse issues with MSVC counterparts; coordinate directly with national MOAA's Surviving Spouse Advisory Committee and provide information for dealing with questions or problems concerning surviving-spouse issues, to include legislation and benefits information.
- Roster and E-mail Point of Contact Committee*, this committee will assist the secretary and membership committee by maintaining the electronic membership roster. Other responsibilities are email addresses and information distributed to the membership electronically.

**MERCER COUNTY'S FIFTH ANNUAL**  
**VETERANS STAND DOWN & RESOURCE FAIR**

**Wednesday, November 13th, 2019**  
**10:00 am to 2:00 pm**  
**Hickory VFW Post 6166**  
**5550 E. State Street, Hermitage, PA**

**What happens at a Stand Down?**  
Veterans and homeless veterans are provided with a broad range of necessities including food, medical, and mental health assistance, job counseling and referral, and most importantly, companionship and camaraderie.

**The hand up — not a handout —**  
philosophy of Stand Down is carried out through the work of hundreds of volunteers and organizations throughout the nation.

This event is for homeless veterans, service members and their families, as well as homeless civilians and the general public.

**FREE Flu Shots will be available for all Veterans\***  
\*Must have DD214 with you or already be registered with the VA



**For more information please contact**  
**Lori Johnson, CAPMC Planning & Development Manager**  
**724.342.6222 X14 [ljohnson@capmercerc.org](mailto:ljohnson@capmercerc.org)**

**Help Needed contact Larry Scheetz info above**

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](mailto:hoslerfm@zoominternet.net).




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In addition to Brad Alan, the Chapter invited Herman Breuer, the Director of the Trumbull County Veterans Service Commission, and Nate Walker, a Veteran Service Officer from the Mahoning County Veterans Service Commission to participate in presenting the official Vietnam Veterans Lapel Pin to qualifying Chapter members who served on Active Duty during the Vietnam War era. The purpose of the Lapel Pin, issued by the Department of Defense, is to recognize, thank, and honor United States military who served on Active Duty between November 1, 1955 to May 15, 1975, regardless of their service location. As directed by protocol, these pins are to be presented to each Vietnam veteran during public events held in their

communities by Commemorative Partners. The MSVC-MOAA became a Commemorative Partner on March 3, 2017. Of the 55 eligible Chapter members, 23 served in the country of Vietnam. It is estimated that 9 million veterans served during the Vietnam War era and that 7 million are still living and eligible to receive this recognition pin. Each Veteran Service Officer presented pins to their respective County constituents. Those who were not able to attend the presentation ceremony will be awarded the Lapel Pin at the next MSVC-MOAA luncheon meeting on Friday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> starting at Noon, CAC, YARS. Guest speaker will be Terri Ann Naughton, she is the Director of Psychological Health for the 910<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing.

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

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](mailto:USOTrumbullCo@gmail.com)

Son of Mark and Patty Andrews, Maj Matt Andrews is both installation Commander of Morón Air Base US forces and Commander the 496 <sup>th</sup> Squadron in southern Spain.	
Son of Jim & Martha Bishop Lt Col Kevin Bishop, USAF, Kirtland AFB Albuquerque, New Mexico	
Son of Walt & Kathy Duzzny, Sr., BG Walter Duzzny, 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 is at the International Space Station see right. LCDR Benjamin Morgan, USCG Ninth Coast Guard District Cleveland	
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 <sup>nd</sup> 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 <sup>th</sup> Mountain Division	
<b>Active Duty and Reserve Chapter Members</b>	
2LT Aqeel Hamoodi, USAR, Atlanta, Georgia	
LTC Wil Kline, USAR, 10th- 80th Regt TASS (CGSOC) out of Maryland.	
LT Jason Lassiter, USCG, Cleveland	
Capt Joshua Palmer, Ohio Air National Guard, Rickenbacker	
LCDR BJ Sacramento, USN, (COMSUBGRU 8) NSA Capodichino, Naples, Italy has one year old son Maximus. They are pencilled in to leave to Hi in August.	

MAJ Lisa Stremel, USA, Germany
W1 Nate Walker Ohio National Guard as a CH-47 pilot with Bco 3-238 GSAB in North Canton. <b>WELCOME NATE TO OUR CHAPTER</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> Lt Kristina Valentic, MC—USAFR, Youngstown Air Force Reserve Station
<b>YSU ROTC Graduates</b>
2013—CPT Jacob Rafidi, USA, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1 <sup>st</sup> Cavalry Div. Commander, Ft Hood, Tx
2014—CW2 Tyler Strohecker, USA, Blackhawk Helicopters
2014—CPT Lorin Davis, USA, 1 <sup>st</sup> Armored Division, Combat Aviation Brigade, 127 <sup>th</sup> Aviation Support Battalion, Alpha Company Commander. Ft. Bliss, Tx
2014—CPT James Stiger, Fort Leonard Wood, currently attending the Engineer Captains Career Course
2015—1LT BN Fire Support Officer in the 2-116 <sup>th</sup> Field Artillery Regiment. Sometime in 2020 we will be going to JRTC and I'll be planning to go to the Boards for my Captain. He is also a Deputy with the Lee County Sheriff's Office in FL
2015—2LT Tyler Severino Strohecker
2016—1LT Brandi Burrows, Military Intelligence, Ft Bliss, Tx
2016—1LT Adam Hoover, Chemical Corps, Ft. Bliss, Tx
2016—1LT Matthew McIntire, Chemical Corps, Ft Bliss, Tx
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

**November Birthdays:** 2—Rob Hanni, 2—John Koshan, 2—Debbie Lonardo, 3—BJ Sacramento, 7—Mike Wisniewski, 8—Evan Beachler, 10—Brennan Hosack, 10—US Marines Corps, 13—John Caparanis, 19—Matt Andrews, 19—Tom Whitten, 21—Sam Axtell, 26—Anthony Antolini-milestone, 27—Kathleen Duzzny  
**December Birthdays:** 4—Bruce Bille, 11—Florence Hosler, 13—National Guard, 16—Brian Chadwick, 17—Matt Stefanak, 17—Scott Allen, 18—Steven Wisniewski, 19—Carl Nunziato, 21—Ralph DeLucia, 21—Brandy Burrows, 23—Paula Allen, 25—Tierney McCaster 25—Matt McIntire, 25—Sean Pergi, 28—Patty Andrews 30—John Marino, 30—Jim Fairbanks

*Happy Birthday*

## Luncheon Meeting at YARS, Friday, Nov 22<sup>nd</sup> at 12:30 P.M. – RSVP by Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> – 8 P.M.

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

**Note: Date Change**

Who: Members, Spouses, Guests, Surviving Spouses

Social: Noon no cash bar

Call to Order: 1230, 12:30, half pass noon (you got it!)

Lunch: 1240 (preorder from the selections below)

Attire: Casual

Program: Terri Ann Naughton, she is the Director of Psychological Health for the 910<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing  
**Vietnam War Vets Recognition part 2**

The web site [msvc-moaa.org/next-chapter-event](http://msvc-moaa.org/next-chapter-event) 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, check, or credit card. 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, pepper jack cheese, julienne ham and turkey  
Dressings available, Balsamic, Blue Cheese, Italian, Ranch, Raspberry Vinaigrette

### Side Options

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

**Side Salad** ..... \$3.00  
tomatoes, cucumbers, black olives & cheese  
Dressings available, Balsamic, Blue Cheese, Italian, Ranch, Raspberry Vinaigrette

**French Fries** ..... \$1.00

**Cup of Chili** ..... \$3.00

RSVP:

1. Use the web site [msvc-moaa.org/next-chapter-event](http://msvc-moaa.org/next-chapter-event) to place your order.
2. Email Janet Oglesby [msvcmoaa@gmail.com](mailto:msvcmoaa@gmail.com) with your reservation and menu selection.
3. Or call 330-568-4456 leave a message. Make sure you state your menu selection.

## Veterans Day Programs

Mahoning County Court House, 11:00 A.M.

East High School, 474 Bennington Rd., JROTC at 8:30 contact <douglas.moon@youngstown.k12.oh.us> or (330) 740-4005, ext. 4175 to let him know you are coming.

TCTC, 528 Educational Highway, Warren, Air Force JROTC, at 8:55 and 9:50 both observances are identical. Members can contact Lt. Col. Miller at (330) 8479-0503, ext. 1302 or <john.miller@tctchome.com> if you plan to attend.

**Veterans Day Discounts:**  
Go to [www.military.com](http://www.military.com)



## MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA AND RESERVE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

### Joint Christmas Party Sunday, Decemeber 8<sup>th</sup>



Where: **The Manor Restaurant**

3104 South Canfield Niles Road  
Route 46 and Kirk Road

Austintown, OH 44451 or GPS Youngstown

Social: 1700 (5:00 P.M.) Cash Bar and complimentary hors d'oeuvres

Dinner: 1730 (5:30 P.M.)

Entrée items will be from a special limited menu prices ranging from \$15-\$25. All choices available... fish, chicken, steak, pasta, plus-beverage. tax and gratuity.

Who: Members, Spouses, Guests

Attire: Coat & Tie/Equivalent

Bring: Each couple/guest is asked to **bring** a gift-wrapped \$20 gift. Each gift is auctioned off with the proceeds going to an applicable veteran's charity. **Bring** your checkbook.

For our dessert **bring** 2 dozen cookies to share.

**Bring** a smile, joyful Christmas spirit with the expectation to have a *Wonderful Time!*

RSVP No later than **Monday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>**  
No web site reservations

1. Email Janet Oglesby [msvcmoaa@gmail.com](mailto:msvcmoaa@gmail.com) with your reservation state how many are attending.
2. Or call 330-568-4456 leave a message. Make sure you state how many are attending.