

# MAHONING SHENANGO VALLEYS CHAPTER

an affiliate of

## MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

February 2022 Volume: 13 Issue 2



### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Rod Hosler

Here we are entering the second month of the new ice age the climate activists said was coming in the early 1970s. I hope everyone is surviving? If this weather keeps up, I'll have to trade my car in for a dog sled, the coupe model with seating for two. The only winter Olympic sport many local competitors are engaged in is the international snow shoveling competition. So far, I've achieved the black and blue rump. Our motto is "keep shoveling and hope for an early spring."

Echoing Colonel Ted Janosko from MOAA National Board of Directors, who was our guest last month, we have a great chapter with members that add to that greatness. Through all kinds of weather, the dreaded plague of COVID-19, political division and turmoil in our national government; the members of the MSVC have "soldiered" on. (Not to slight other branches of service with the terminology.) This is really a testament to the dedication of our members and to MOAA.

As we continue to move forward into this new year, there are many activities and programs available for our members. Attendance at our monthly meetings is always a first step. Our programs, I hope, inform and entertain. We are always looking for fresh topics and speakers, so if you have any thoughts, please let me know.

Of importance is the upcoming Ohio Council of Chapters (OCC) Convention scheduled for 13-15 May in Columbus. Many MOAA members throughout Ohio attended our convention in 2017, and we all worked hard to make it a success. The members of the Central Ohio Chapter are likewise working hard to do the same for 2022. I encourage everyone to consider attending the 2022 OCC Convention. Please take a look at the OCC Convention article in this newsletter.

### Guest Speaker swears in the new Board of Directors



Al Lind, Bruce Bille, Ralph DeLucia, Steve Motika, John Marino, Walt Duzzny, Dave DiTallo, Florence Hosler & Rod Hosler

The Chapter wishes to recognize and thank **Colonel Ted Janosko, USA (Ret)** of the MOAA Board of Directors for installing the Mahoning and Shenango Valleys Chapter officers and Board of Directors. Colonel Janosko addressed MOAA's concerns and programs especially MOAA's legislative efforts. He also applauded the chapter for its active participation in chapter programs and a model for other affiliates.



Photos by Irv Mauer and Florence Hosler

## Progress in Congressional Gold Medal Legislation for WWII 'Six Triple Eight' Unit

By Judy Christie

A bipartisan effort to honor a pioneering World War II Women's Army Corps unit with a Congressional Gold Medal has been approved by the Senate and could soon reach the House floor.

The "Six Triple Eight," officially named the 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion, was the only all-African American Women's Army Corps battalion to serve overseas in World War II, clearing a backlog of millions of pieces of mail that had led to a drop in troop morale.



Maj. Fannie Mae "Fran" Griffin McClendon, left, poses with fellow members of the 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion. (Courtesy photo)

[US Army Center of Military History](#) for even more!

## Women Veterans Health Care

[Provider and Nurse Training on Women's Health Continues to be on the Move in Rural Areas](#)

[Women's Health Mini-Residency Training Continues to Equip VA Providers and Nurses to Provide Gender-Sensitive Care](#)

## February is American Heart Month

Heart disease is the leading cause of death and disability in women in the U.S. One in three women die from cardiovascular diseases and stroke each year, and every 100 seconds a woman in the United States has a heart attack.

[Go Red for Women\\*](#)

## LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

Rod Hosler

MOAA continues to advocate for legislation to better the condition of America's military. Comprehensive Toxic Exposure Reform, Basic Needs Allowance, and TRICARE Young Adult Coverage Parity are still on the table. How much progress is being made is difficult to ascertain at this point. However, Congress continues to legislate massive spending; 3.5 trillion for infrastructure, considering billions for reparation for illegals and endless investigations that do not seem to be pushing our legislative issues forward. Taking care of soldiers and their families should be a priority for all legislators. However, some other legislative issues are being considered and are in committee and MOAA continues to monitor their progress. Three of MOAA's legislative priorities and other issues can be found at the legislative take action alerts on the MOAA website at <https://takeaction.moaa.org/moaa/>

MOAA National has recently made changes to how we as members voice our support to/on initiatives being pushed by MOAA National. MOAA is asking its members to take note of the changes at their Legislative Action Center and on the individual "Take Action" messages. The new system is designed to make it even easier to reach out to your lawmakers on these issues, as well as track what MOAA is engaging on in the halls of Congress. To see how MOAA has changed its "MOAA Take Action" category go to "Meet MOAA's New Legislative Action Center." <https://www.moaa.org/content/publications-and-media/news-articles/2022-news-articles/advocacy/meet-moaas-new-legislative-action-center/>.

In working in the new system, you must re-register before you can provide your support to the MOAA effort. Go to [https://moaa.quorum.us/sign\\_in/](https://moaa.quorum.us/sign_in/). MOAA has prepared a YouTube video that will lead you through the registration process.

The site includes a series of questions and answers for members to review as relates to the new changes.

Please take a few moments to visit the MOAA web site and link to the ADVOCACY section scroll down to Legislative Action Center. This link identifies all of the legislative issues and bills that MOAA supports which require our active involvement "to take action." The needs of our military should always be the first priority of Congress. It is unfortunate that our federal legislators fail to step up and meet the needs of America's military without constant reminders and prodding to do the right thing; and people wonder why Congress has a low popularity rating. Remember to contact your Congressional representatives (Senate and House) to express your concerns. Please remember that there are also many state legislative issues that require your support as well.

MOAA's motto: "**Never Stop Serving,**" is a practice we all can subscribe to.



Getty Images/File; MOAA staff illustration  
By [MOAA Government Relations Staff](#)

We appreciate your grassroots efforts, which shore up all the work we are doing in the Capitol region. You can [follow us online](#) for updates on our progress.

Here is what we are focused on for 2022 (click each link for more on the topic):

[Sustain pay raises and adequate BAH for the troops and COLA raises for retirees.](#)  
[Ensure the Coast Guard, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and Public Health Service continue to receive pay during a government shutdown.](#)[Protect the value of the military health care benefit.](#)

[Protect the Military Health System pharmacy benefit, and achieve flexibility in TRICARE pharmacy copays.](#)

[Address barriers to accessing care within the MHS, including TRICARE coverage gaps and mental health care access challenges.](#)

[Protect family support programs, and ensure military-provided services \(housing, PCS, child care, youth programs, financial counseling\) are readily available and meet standards for quality and costs.](#)

[Achieve equity of benefits, protections, and administrative support for Guard/Reserve members consistent with their active-duty counterparts.](#)

[Sustain Veterans Health Administration \(VHA\) foundational missions and services.](#)

[Reform the presumptive process to support veterans claiming service-connected disabilities for toxic exposures.](#)

[Achieve concurrent receipt of service-earned retirement pay and VA disability pay.](#)

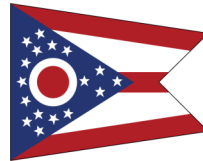
[Protect full military honors and burial at Arlington National Cemetery for those currently eligible.](#)

[Improve survivors' benefits.](#)

[Support a quality transition experience from active duty to veteran status for all servicemembers.](#)

[Recognize the pandemic continues to affect the lives of our servicemembers.](#)

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## OHIO

[S. B. No. 160](#) A B I L L To amend sections 173.42, 3712.06, and 3727.75 and to enact section 3721.141 of the Revised Code to require certain entities to inform veterans about available health care benefits and to name this act the Veteran Information Act. **Passed by Senate, referred to committee.**

[H. B. No. 29 2021-2022](#) A B I L L To amend sections 317.24 and 317.241 of the Revised Code to allow a person who was discharged from the United States Public Health Service or the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to obtain an Ohio veterans identification card. **House and Senate Conference reports agreed to: Effective 3/23/22**



## Pennsylvania

There are several bills before the [General Assembly](#) pertaining to veterans housing, homelessness and Veteran's Affairs funding.

[House Resolution 129 P.N. 2003](#) A Concurrent Resolution establishing the Task Force on Women Veterans' Health Care in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. [A Concurrent Resolution establishing the Task Force on Women Veterans' Health Care within the Joint State Government Commission.](#) Change of some language to be more encompassing

[House Bill 688 P.N. 646](#) An Act establishing the Veterans' Housing Assistance Program; and making appropriations.

*Your Editor is now able to receive updates on legislation of interest to MSVC members from both state legislatures, but things do move slowly so please contact your state representatives to urge them on.*



## Legislative Contacts:

**MOAA Legislative Update** [moaa.org/takeaction](http://moaa.org/takeaction)  
or 1-800-234-6622 ext. 215

**Pres. Joseph R. Biden Jr. (D)** The White House

1600 Pennsylvania Ave. Washington DC 20500  
Switchboard: 202-456-1414 [www.whitehouse.gov](http://www.whitehouse.gov)

## OHIO

**Senator Sherrod Brown (D)** United States Senate

713 Hart Senate Office Bldg. Washington, DC 20510  
Phone: (202) 224-2315 [www.brown.senate.gov](http://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](http://www.portman.senate.gov)

**Representative Bill Johnson (R)** District 6  
192 East State St. Salem, OH 44460  
Phone (330) 337-6951 <http://billjohnson.house.gov>

**Representative Tim Ryan (D)** District 13  
241 West Federal St. Youngstown, OH 44503  
Phone: (330) 740-0193 <https://timryan.house.gov>

## PENNSYLVANIA

**Senator Robert Casey Jr. (D)**

393 Russell Senate Office Bld. Washington, D.C. 20510  
Phone: (202) 224-6324 [www.casey.senate.gov](http://www.casey.senate.gov)

**Senator Patrick Toomey (R)**

248 Russell Senate Office Bld. Washington, D.C. 20510  
Phone: (202) 224-4254 [www.toomey.senate.gov](http://www.toomey.senate.gov)

**Representative Mike Kelly (R)** District 16

33 Chestnut Avenue Sharon, PA 16146  
Phone: (724) 342-7170 [www.kelly.house.gov](http://www.kelly.house.gov)



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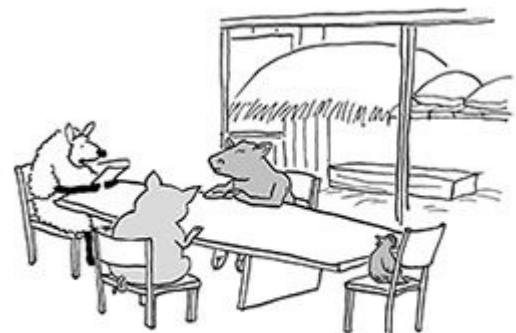
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Ralph DeLucia, CPT, USA, (Fmr)  
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"The cow mooed, the pig oinked, the chicken clucked, I baated and then we adjourned."



Florence Hosler, SSL

[msvcmoaa@gmail.com](mailto:msvcmoaa@gmail.com)

## End of life Documents

By: Barbara Ann Bowman

Most people would list among end-of-life documents a will, a trust, an advance directive, a DNR (do not resuscitate) order, and a durable power of attorney. But the list of documents that deal with end-of-life issues is much longer. Deeds to real property, beneficiary declaration for life insurance, and the signature card to a bank account are all end-of-life documents. They determine who gets what and through which legal procedure when someone dies.

Fortunately, checklists to help create an end-of-life plan are available through a number of trustworthy organizations. Among them:

MOAA's [Help Your Survivors Now: A Guide to Planning Ahead](#)

VA's [Planning Your Legacy](#)

Military.com's [Military Retiree Survivor Checklist](#)

State Bar Association articles and forms:  
[Ohio State Bar Association](#)

[Pennsylvania Bar Association](#)

[Consumer Resources](#)

[Military and Veteran's Services](#)

[Wills for Heroes](#) local contact

Mercer, J. Jarrett Whalen, [whalenlaw@att.net](mailto:whalenlaw@att.net)

*This Newsletter is published by the Mahoning-Shenango Valleys Chapter (MSVC), which is an affiliate of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA). MOAA and its affiliated chapters and councils are non-partisan. Any advertisements that appear in this publication/website also do not reflect an endorsement by MOAA or this affiliate. 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, nor do they 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 Roderick A. Hosler, USA, Ret.; P.O. Box 5342; Poland, OH 44514; E-mail: [msvcmoaa@gmail.com](mailto:msvcmoaa@gmail.com).*

## MSVC MEETING, Friday February 18, 2022

The program is **Cyber Threats to Home and Business**, presented by Mr. Robert Merva, CEO of AVREM Technologies.

**Reservations must be made by end of day, Monday, February 14.** Call the Hosler's at 330-788-3270 or email [msvcmoaa@gmail.com](mailto:msvcmoaa@gmail.com). You can also make your reservation and pay for the meal at the same time on our chapter website: [msvc-moaa.org](http://msvc-moaa.org) on the [Next Chapter Event](#) page.

## MSVC CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR 2022 MARK YOUR CALENDARS

All meetings are at, A La Cart Catering, Canfield, OH, unless otherwise identified.

**FEBRUARY 18** – Luncheon Meeting, 11:30 am-1:30 pm, Personal Cyber Security.

**MARCH 18** – Luncheon Meeting, 11:30 am-1:30 pm, Active Shooter Prevention.

**APRIL 14** – ROTC/JROTC Recognition Dinner, 6:30 pm -7:30 pm.

**MAY 13-15 – MOAA Ohio Council of Chapters Convention, Columbus.**

**MAY 26** – Dinner Meeting, 6:00 pm-7:30 pm, Civil War Artifacts Collecting.

**JUNE 23** – Dinner Meeting at Golden Corral Hermitage, PA.

**JULY 21** – Picnic/Gun Shoot at Vienna Rod and Gun Club, 4:30pm-7:00pm, Vienna, OH.

**AUGUST 18** – Dinner Meeting, 6:00 pm-7:30 pm.

**SEPTEMBER 15** – Dinner Meeting, 6:00 pm-7:30 pm.

**OCTOBER 21** – Lunch Business Meeting, 11:30 am-1:30 pm.

**NOVEMBER 18** – Lunch Meeting, 11:30 am-1:30 pm.

**DECEMBER 10** – MOAA/ROA Christmas Party, 12:00 pm-4:00 pm.

## **OHIO COUNCIL OF CHAPTERS (OCC)** **CONVENTION**

The OCC will convene its biennial convention **13-14 May 2022**, at The Quest Convention Center, Polaris, 9200 Worthington Road, Westerville, OH (close to I-71 and Polaris Parkway in northeast Columbus). Hotel accommodations are at the Fairfield Inn & Suites (Columbus - Polaris), 9000 Worthington Road, Westerville, (directly behind the Quest Convention Center) at \$109 per night. Program speakers are: Lt. Gen. Dana Atkins, President/CEO MOAA; LTG Michael Ferriter, President/CEO of the National Veterans Memorial and Museum (NVMM); MG John Harris, Adjutant General of the Ohio National Guard; and CAPT Erin Stone, Director of the Councils and Chapters of MOAA. Friday evening, 13 May will be the Meet and Greet reception and Saturday, 14 May is the Convention program, banquet, and keynote speaker. The OCC will conduct its quarterly meeting on Sunday, 15 May, 1030 – 1230 at the NVMM. Mark your calendars and plan to attend this noteworthy event. More information will be provided in the months to come.

### **Military History, Events and Commemorations for January**

#### **February 3, 2022 - Four Chaplains Day**

A day set aside to honor the four U.S. Army chaplains who gave their lives to save others when the troop ship USAT Dorchester sank during World War II. [Learn more...](#) military personnel on Valentine's Day

#### **February 19, 2022 - Coast Guard Reserve Birthday**

**23 Feb 1945:** Marines raise the American flag on Mount Suribachi during the Battle of Iwo Jima.

**24 Feb 1991:** Desert Storm (Persian Gulf) began with a skilled ground assault against Iraqi forces.

**28 Feb 1991:** Desert Storm (Persian Gulf) ends with the destruction of Iraqi forces.



Agenda and Registration: The agenda and registration form are at: [www.moaa-centralohio.org](http://www.moaa-centralohio.org). the hotel registration link is [HOTEL](#) You will need to register for the event with your guest and select the meals and activities you wish to attend. There is a schedule of fees and description for each on the form.

I encourage each of you to attend, at least for the Convention. If possible, bring your spouse or a friend with you. (Spouses and guests do not have to pay the convention fee unless they are attending themselves.)

Friday evening we host the Meet and Greet at the hotel. Everyone is invited to this at no charge (there will be a cash bar). We will be welcoming Lt. Gen. Dana Atkins, MOAA President and CEO; and MG Dan Hahn, President of the OCC, with their spouses. We are inviting the speakers (see below) with their spouses as well. We need as many of our chapter members with spouses/friends to come to socialize with people from out of town. Those of you who would enjoy a weekend away, The Fairfield Inn is very comfortable and the price is reasonable. You can enjoy the Meet and Greet and join a small group of new friends to go out to dinner!

Hotel and Convention Center: The convention center is Quest Convention Center – Polaris. A quick drive from the hotel, walking is a bit difficult...carpool!

The Convention speakers are:

Lt. General Dana Atkins, MOAA President and CEO;  
Lt General Michael Ferriter, President and CEO, National Veterans Memorial and Museum;  
MG Deborah Ashenhurst, Director of the Ohio Department of Veterans' Services;  
MG John Harris, Adjutant General of the Ohio National Guard;  
CAPT Erin Stone, Director of MOAA National's Department of Councils and Chapters; and  
Dr. Chris Jelppe, PhD, former director of OSU's Intelligence and Securities Studies (I & S) to discuss with attendees the current events regarding I & S activities.

The Banquet: Lt. Gen. Dana Atkins, head of MOAA national, will be the keynote speaker).

**The MSVC will offset the cost of the convention by paying the registration fee and providing transportation for ten attendees (members and spouses). It is important that the MSVC supports this convention with our attendance.**

Beer and wine is available at the Happy Hour and the banquet for a nominal fee.

## Why Join MOAA?

The Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) is the country's leading organization protecting the rights of military servicemembers and their families. Those who belong to MOAA not only lend their voices to a greater cause, but they also gain access to extensive benefits tailored to the needs and lifestyles of military officers. MOAA members proudly hail from every branch of the uniformed services. To them, we have made the same promise that they have made to their country: NEVER STOP SERVING.

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

## BECOME A MOAA NATIONAL PREMIUM (ANNUAL) OR LIFE MEMBER:

The Chapter currently has 118 members: 44 Life members, 24 Premium (Annual) Members, and 50 Basic members. Premium (Annual) and Life level of membership allows members full access to all MOAA benefits, travel service, free information publications, and discounts at many MOAA supported businesses. Basic member are MOAA National members, but pay no National MOAA dues and only have access to the MOAA website receiving just the electronic newsletter. Paying Premium or Life member dues also funds the programs sponsored by MOAA, and more important MOAA's lobbying efforts with Congress. Get full MOAA National benefits by becoming a Premium or Life member. Use the MOAA web site [www.moaa.org/join](http://www.moaa.org/join) or call 1-800-234-6622

## KEEP MOAA NATIONAL INFORMED

Personal information listed on the MOAA National membership roster can only be changed by you, the individual member. Correct your information via your login at [www.moaa.org](http://www.moaa.org), "My Profile" Information or call 1-800-234-6622. Changes include:

- address
- email
- telephone number
- rank or military status

Membership Minute  
By David J. Di Tallo, 2nd Vice Pres/  
Membership Dir.

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There has been some confusion over dues to MOAA and MSVC/MOAA. We are an affiliate of MOAA and thereby collect dues for the chapter, your MOAA national dues are separate from the chapter though you can pay **BOTH** on the MOAA website.

If you have any questions about your chapter dues please contact Dave DiTallo at [david.ditallo@gmail.com](mailto:david.ditallo@gmail.com) 330-758-8597. Thanks.

## MOAA Insurance Plans

### Tricare Supplements:

MEDIPLUS® TRICARE SUPPLEMENT INSURANCE PLAN

MEDIPLUS® TRICARE RESERVE SELECT SUPPLEMENT INSURANCE PLANS

MEDIPLUS® TRICARE RETIRED RESERVE SUPPLEMENT INSURANCE PLAN

### Life Insurance

There are 6 products

### Personal Insurance

To include Vision and Pets

### Life Stages

Guides for your age and career level as well as retirement

We are not endorsing Mercer specifically, but they are a good starting point to do some comparison shopping. Our chapter does have coverage with their *Chapter Liability Insurance*.



## Senior Moment

I like having conversations with kids. Grownups never ask me what my third favorite reptile is.



## MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL for MAHONING SHENANGO VALLEYS CHAPTER MOAA

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Regular Member (Retired, Former, Active\* Officer of the seven uniformed US Services, Spouse (Membership \$20/year) \*FREE Surviving Spouse: FREE as of 2022