

MAHONING SHENANGO VALLEYS CHAPTER

an affiliate of

MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

February 2022 Volume: 13 Issue 2



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Rod Hosler

As we continue to move 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 2nd VP Bruce Bille know.

I continue to promote the importance of 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. This is an opportunity to become informed by a roster of very good speakers. I encourage everyone to consider attending the 2022 OCC Convention. Please take a look at the OCC Convention article in this newsletter.



MSVC President Rod Hosler presented A La Cart owner Shelley Criswell with an appreciation award in January. Thanks to Shelley and her staff for great meals and being so accommodating to our chapter!
Photo by Florence Hosler

February Meeting

Our 18 February Luncheon Meeting program covered Cyber Threats to Home and Business and the speaker was Mr. Robert Merva, CEO, AVREM Technologies. We learned about threats to our business and personal computer systems and how to prevent those threats. This was an excellent program.



Speaker Robert Merva and MSVC President Rod Hosler
Photo by Bruce Bille

Mr. Merva offered a number of practical suggestions for keeping your personal computer/data safe. One is using a password vault, he specifically mentioned **KEEPER**. Click here to review several options. These are safer than your platform or browser password savers.

He also suggested asking your medical providers how they safekeep your electronic data...don't be shy!!



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MOAA Resources: Spouse and Family

[Program to Help Military Families Pay for In-Home Child Care Off to a Slow Start](#)

A pilot program that aims to give military families another option for obtaining scarce childcare is slowly getting off the ground.

The [Defense Department's In-Home Child Care Fee Assistance Pilot](#), available in five regions of the country since last summer, provides monetary assistance to help military families pay for a childcare provider in their own home. But to date, just five families are actively participating in it.

Those 250 spaces have been allotted to the five regions as follows:

- Hawaii, 30 spaces
- National Capital Region, 50 spaces
- Norfolk, Virginia, 70 spaces
- San Antonio, Texas, 30 spaces
- San Diego, California, 70 spaces

The process is complicated and there is a lack of child care providers nationwide, and it is still a test program.

[Check Out These Resources for Military Spouse Entrepreneurs](#)

According to surveys, 48% of the 12 million spouses of current servicemembers and veterans are self-employed, business owners, or aspire to be. And of those military spouses who've attained the goal of business ownership, half report earning six-figure incomes.

With those numbers and the abundance of entrepreneurship resources in your favor, your dreams of being your own boss can soon become your reality.

Military Spouse Employment Guide

The military lifestyle includes travel, adventure and new experiences. On the flip side, it also guarantees a transient lifestyle and challenges to maintaining a career. This publication will be a helpful resource to you in your pursuit of a career.

For more information on MOAA Spouse Programs and initiatives, please visit the [MOAA Spouse & Family page](#).

[Download your FREE copy](#)

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

Rod Hosler

MOAA continues to actively advocate for legislation to improve conditions for America's military and their families. MOAA's is beginning its annual "Advocacy in Action" (AIA) campaign which starts this month and will conclude in April. The key items that MOAA will address this year are: 1.) Concurrent Receipt for Combat Injured Service Members (Major Richard Star Act); 2.) Tricare Mental Health Copayments; and 3.) Military Pay Raise at 4.6% for the 2023 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). Last year's legislative issues are still on the table for advocacy and they are: Comprehensive Toxic Exposure Reform; Basic Needs Allowance (for junior enlisted personnel); and TRICARE Young Adult Coverage Parity.

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.

There are other legislative issues being considered and are in committee and MOAA continues to monitor their progress. The 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 is asking its members to take note of the issues at their Legislative Action Center and on the individual "Take Action" messages. Reach out to your lawmakers on these issues, as well as track what MOAA is engaging in 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 MOAA effort. Go to 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 ADVOCACY section scroll down to the 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.



MOAA Announces Dates, Topics for Spring Advocacy in Action Campaign

By: Dan Merry, MOAA Vice President of Government Relations

MOAA's annual Advocacy in Action (AiA) event is taking shape, and while there's more than a month until the official launch, there are several ways MOAA members can begin showing their support as the campaign draws closer.

First, the basics: The 2022 AiA event will be held virtually from April 1-29. Based on Capitol Hill security measures and nationwide health challenges, we will again exercise appropriate measures of caution to bring our messages to legislators via virtual engagements. However, there may be opportunities for you to engage your legislators in person (safely) when they are home during Congress' spring break (April 11-22).

[This year's advocacy topics:](#)

Support the Major Richard Star Act (concurrent receipt for combat-injured servicemembers)

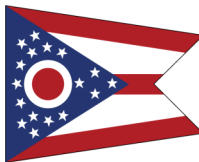
Reduce TRICARE Mental Health Copayments

Enact a 4.6% Military Pay Raise in the FY 2023 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA)

People often ask how we come up with the topics each year, and some wonder if their priorities are being considered in that process. I can assure our members we consider all the priorities, which are usually found within groupings of these [priorities on our website](#). The decisions are driven by guidelines established by our board of directors. We want to ensure we are taking care of the currently serving troops and their families – as members of an officer association, we should be proud MOAA maintains this important perspective.



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
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

OHIO

Senator Sherrod Brown (D) United States Senate

713 Hart Senate Office Bldg. Washington, DC 20510
Phone: (202) 224-2315 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 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

Senator Patrick Toomey (R)

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

Representative Mike Kelly (R) District 16

33 Chestnut Avenue Sharon, PA 16146

Phone: (724) 342-7170 www.kelly.house.gov



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Tips for Downsizing and Decluttering

By: Renée Brunelle is a member of MOAA's Surviving Spouse Advisory Council and co-founder of Pathfinders Downsizing Solutions.

Most people would agree they have experienced a move that did not go as planned. Missing items, broken items, and often a vague timeline for delivery from the moving company can make anyone have a few sleepless nights. Perhaps you have decades of "treasures" in your home you had planned on sharing with family. Then it is revealed all are not going to get passed down after all. Where do you start?

You must consider how long you have lived in the residence and how many people have lived there. As you add number of years and people, you also increase the number of weeks it will take to declutter.

I use the Marie Kondo "[Magic of Tidying Up](#)" approach to look at a client's home with my business as a senior move manager. Start where there is the least emotional connection: clothing and accessories. Often, if you just declutter the clothes that don't fit any longer and donate them, it can be a great way to start. Then tackle the books, papers, and general items (including bedroom, bathroom, office, and kitchen). End with mementos that hold the most sentimental triggers.

Luckily, help is available to begin this process and provide some professional guidance when needed. The [National Association of Senior Move Managers](#) has a website to find trusted professionals in a specific geographic area. They are experienced in helping someone sort their belongings and decide what is best to take, possibly sell, donate, or throw out. They can help with floorplan designs and mover scheduling if the final plan is to move. Depending on the business, they will charge by the hour or by the project.

Senior move managers often are a wealth of resources that can save you and your family time and/or money. They network with movers, senior placement specialists, senior living communities, Realtors, estate sale professionals, and many other businesses to be sure they can assist their clients when needed.

Family members often have good intentions to help with the decluttering and downsizing process. However, their own emotional attachment to items can complicate the downsizing process.

FRIDAY, 18 MARCH MOAA LUNCH MEETING

The Chapter will conduct its monthly lunch meeting on FRIDAY, 18 MARCH at 12:00/Noon at A La Cart Catering in Canfield. Please arrive between 11:30 AM and 12:00. The program is **Active Shooter Defense**, presented by Officer Jeff Duzzny, of the Austintown Police Department's Tactical Team. Reservation for the dinner must be received not later than **Monday, 14 March** at msvcmoaa@gmail.com or (330) 788-3270. [Please NOTE: If you make a reservation and do not attend, we request you remit the cost of the meal as the Chapter must pay for the reserved meals. Thank you for your understanding.] Hope to see you all there. *Fish will be on the menu throughout Lent.*

MSVC CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR 2022 MARK YOUR CALENDARS

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

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

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.

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.

Agenda and Registration: The agenda and registration form are at: 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 on Saturday. 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 is 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. The speakers (see below) with their spouses are invited as well.

We need as many of our chapter members with spouses/friends to come to socialize with members of other chapters. Those of you who can, will 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!

Continued in the next column

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.

Military History, Events and Commemorations for March

19 MAR 2003: Start of Operation Iraqi Freedom, 2003.

25 MAR 2022: Medal of Honor Day recognizing those that have been awarded the MOH for actions above and beyond the call of duty.

29 MAR 2022: National Vietnam Veterans Day saluting all military and Veterans that served during the Vietnam War (in or out of country, 1954-1975).



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 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 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, "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 Tollo, 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 DiTollo at [david.ditallo@gmail.com](mailto:david.ditallo@gmail.com) 330-758-8597. Thanks.



## Senior Moment

*Sometimes you need to talk to a three year old to understand life again.*

## WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

COL William "Ed" Meade, USA, Ret.

CPT Robert "Bob" Lohr, USA, Fmr.



Lakeland Student  
Veterans of America

presents

# Militaria Collectors Show

Friday, March 25, 2022 - 4 to 8 p.m.

Saturday, March 26, 2022 - 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

*Specializing in WWII and Korean Memorabilia.*

### Admission:

\$5.00 adults  
\$3.00 students, veterans and active military (with proper ID)

**Open to the public**

**FREE PARKING - ATM on site**

### Vendor Table Reservations

\$20 per table or \$50 for three tables

### For More information:

Phone: 440-525-7529

Email: [lakelandmilitariashow@gmail.com](mailto:lakelandmilitariashow@gmail.com)

Web: [facebook.com/Lakeland.militaria.show](https://facebook.com/Lakeland.militaria.show)

Note: Face Mask are optional

### Held at:

**Lakeland Community College**

Athletic and Fitness Center  
7700 Clocktower Drive  
Kirtland, Ohio 44094

Buy | Sell | Swap



### Guest Speakers

**Tony Mazzolini** Presenting  
'Saving B-29 Doc'  
'China Lake to Blue Clear Skies'  
6:30 p.m. Friday & 11:00 a.m. Saturday

**Peter Booth** Presenting  
The Normandy Invasion through the eyes  
of an Army Soldier  
12:30 p.m. Saturday

**Book Signing**



The college in no way endorses any specific political or religious idea. All items presented at this show are historical collectibles or antiques and are presented in that aspect only.