



MOAA

Military Officers Association of America

KEYSTONER

Keystone Capitol Chapter

“One Powerful Voice”

JANUARY 2014

The January meeting will be Thursday, January 23rd, 2014 in the Veranda Room at the Radisson Hotel in Camp Hill. **The social will start at 11:00 AM with lunch served at 12:00 Noon.** This is a great opportunity for all members to bring a friend that supports our troops and veterans.

Our meeting begins with the installation of officers and then **our speaker, Alan Gallagher, will present a humorous look at the art of growing older.** Drinks can be ordered from the waitress. The cost of the lunch is \$18.00 per person. **Please RSVP by January 18th.** The Reservation form is the last page of this newsletter.

A Humorous Look at Growing Older



‘A masterful victory, Higgins. Your method of distracting your opponent by loudly fouling your trousers at key moments in the game is a most formidable strategem.’

Source: Comic/ the Rut <http://www.bigeyedeer.wordpress.com>

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Don't Worry

At age 20 we worry about what others think of us;
At age 40 we don't care what they think of us;
At age 60 we realize that they haven't been thinking of us at all.

Source: <http://www.dennydavis.net>

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Point of Contact (POC)

For information or if you need help for the Survivor Benefits Program (SBP) please call 1-800-321-1080

If anyone knows of an ill chapter member please contact D'Arcy Wagonhurst at 717-766-7351. She will send a card from the Chapter.

BOARD MEETING

KEYSTONE CAPITAL CHAPTER

Meeting Location: Denny's Restaurant, Mechanicsburg, PA

December 3rd, 2013 at 11:30 AM

At this meeting Past President Bob Gray reported that David White finalized the contract with the Flagship Catering Center, formerly the O Club, on the Mechanicsburg Naval Support Activity base for Wednesday evening December 4th, beginning at 5 PM. Entertainment was arranged for the dinner hour. (Club closing again Jan 12th) Twenty two members attended the Holiday party.

The Treasurer reported a balance of \$1,789.47 as of December 3, 2013. Expenses for the Holiday party were yet to be paid for the entertainer, \$100.00 and table decorations.

A motion was made to make a donation for Wreaths Across America to support placement of wreaths at Fort Indiantown Gap National Cemetery. The motion was approved and a check was drawn for \$75.00 by the Treasurer to Wreaths Across America.

Programs for the year were discussed with two speakers suggested for January and March meetings. Bob Gray will contact the Junior ROTC instructors at Harrisburg, Cumberland Valley and Cedar Cliff/Red Land high schools to arrange for one of them to provide a program in March or May.

The January meeting will begin with the installation of chapter officers for 2014. The members elected are: president - Bob Gray, 1st Vice President- Keith Beebe, 2nd Vice President –D’Arcy Wagonhurst, Secretary - Fred Lovelace, and Treasurer – Warren Heidelbaugh. Board members are out of the area and will be sworn in at a later date.

****Dues notices are included in this newsletter for 2014 dues.**

Officers are \$18.00 and Auxiliary (widow/widower of an officer) is \$12.00. **Please return renewal with your check by February 28th.**

All members are welcome to attend the board meetings on the second Tuesday of the month, 11:30 am at Denny’s on the Carlisle Pike. Regular membership meetings will be held on the **third Thursday** in 2014 with the meeting location at the Radisson Hotel.

Contact Bob Gray at 623-8715 for additional information.

Next Meeting – Thursday March 20th at Noon
Veranda Room, Radisson Hotel, Camp Hill

PA LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Pay Day Lending

The new session of the state legislature begins on January 7th. Lobbyists have been seen at the capitol again visiting lawmakers on pay day lending. You will be contacted by email when the lobbying begins so you can contact your state legislators to voice your opposition to pay day lending. The coalition to Stop Predatory Pay Day Loans in PA has a web site www.stoppaydayloanspa.com/ and Face book page www.facebook.com/StopPayDayLoansPA.

State Veterans Legislation

Bob Gray of the Keystone Capital Chapter was recently named the chairman of the Pennsylvania War Veterans Legislative Committee. The legislative committee also works with the legislative liaison from the PA Department of Military and Veterans Affairs on state military and veteran legislation.

House Bill 107/Heffley - Considering military education and training to satisfy licensing or certification requirements for veterans and their spouses. **STATUS:** In Senate Finance Committee

Senate Bill 923/ Baker – Extending and expanding the Military Family Relief Assistance program beyond January 2014. The program gives grants up to \$3,500 to needy PA active duty service members and their families.
STATUS: House Finance Committee

Senate Bill 1004 / Baker - Developing Opportunities in Veterans Education. Requires institutions of higher education to designate a single point of contact for Veterans where they can receive academic and financial assistance.
STATUS: Senate Education Committee

House Bill 472/ Barrar – Military Residency for Colleges provides an exception to residency requirements for in-state tuition to the Commonwealth’s colleges and universities. It will also require that the sponsor rate for each community college be extended to the non-resident Veterans, their spouse and dependent children.
STATUS: Senate Education Committee

House Bill 43/ Harper – “Give an Hour” to our Veterans – legislation would change current language to allow psychiatrists, psychologists and counselors the ability to obtain a volunteer license so that they may provide free mental health services via “Give an Hour”.
STATUS: in Senate Consumer Protections and Professional Licensure Committee

HB 1205/Barrar - Veterans Lottery Ticket. Suggesting amendment for three or four times a year to lessen objections to using lottery funds.
Status: Out of House Veterans Affairs Committee



KEYSTONE CAPITAL CHAPTER

Join Today! FREE for 2014 (New members only)

Regular officer dues \$18, Auxiliary \$12

Full Name: _____

Please print clearly May use for Renewal Notice

Grade: _____

Service: _____

Check your status: Retired Officer Regular Active Duty
 Former Officer Currently Serving National Guard
 Currently Serving Reserves
 Widow (er)* of an officer (Auxiliary Member)

Mailing Address: _____

E-mail: _____

Phone: _____ Birth date: _____

Spouse's Name _____ Spouse's Birth date: _____

I am a member of MOAA National I am not a member of MOAA National

MOAA# (if known): _____

Signature _____ Date: _____

*Fill in your own name, address, etc. and show deceased spouse's rank and service.

Mail to: Mrs. Darcy Wagonhurst, 10 Red Bud Drive, Mechanicsburg, PA 17050

1% Reduction in COLA for Retirees under age 62



(From left to right) Sens. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., Roger Wicker, R-Miss., and Kelly Ayotte, R-N.H., and VADM. Norb Ryan Jr. MOAA president, speak out in a Capitol Hill press conference against plans to trim military retirement increases as part of a comprehensive budget deal.

LEO SHANE III/STARS AND STRIPES

By [Leo Shane III](#) - Stars and Stripes

Published: December 17, 2013

WASHINGTON — On the morning of December 28th, veterans advocates and their Senate Republican backers vowed to fight until the end to stop a budget deal that includes cuts to military retirement increases.

The end came about 30 minutes later.

A 67-33 procedural vote in the Senate shortly after that press conference put the budget deal on a likely path to becoming law this week. Now, those opponents will have to gear up for a fight next year to repeal or replace the cuts.

The budget plan – a compromise between Democrat and Republican leaders – would avert another government shutdown next month by capping federal spending for fiscal 2014 and 2015 at about \$1 trillion. The House approved the plan last week. After the procedural vote, the Senate was expected to give final approval late Tuesday or Wednesday.

The compromise replaces the mandated sequestration cuts created during a summer 2011 fiscal fight with alternate budget trims and several new fees and revenues.

Among those savings is an annual 1 percent reduction in cost-of-living increases for military retirees under 62. The move would save the government about \$6 billion over the next decade, but enraged veterans groups say it breaks financial promises made to servicemembers.

“This is not just about money,” said Norb Ryan, president of the Military Officers Association of America. “This is about keeping our word (as a nation). Instead, they’ve rushed and made a very bad decision.”

Supporters of the plan have argued that the veterans affected are all working age, so the retirement payouts would be extra income. But Sen. Kelly Ayotte, R-N.H., noted that no exemptions were made for disabled veterans, many of whom rely on military retirement as a primary source of income.

Several veterans groups were appalled that military retirement pay was even in the discussion for budget relief, noting an independent panel is conducting a comprehensive review of the system for Congress. A result on their work is expected next year.

“It’s unbelievable we have to continue to have this conversation,” said Tom Tarantino, chief policy officer for Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America. “When this budget deal was announced, they talked about all of the things that weren’t on the table. I was shocked that veterans and military families are on that table.”

Senate Democrats have publicly acknowledged the veterans groups’ concerns, but insist that providing some “sanity” to the congressional budget process is their top priority.

Senate Armed Services Committee Chairman Carl Levin, D-Mich., has promised to hold hearings on the retirement issue in coming months, well before the changes go into effect in 2015.

He blasted the rushed budget process and unpalatable result, calling it another symbol of dysfunctional Washington -- the opposite of how Senate leaders framed the measure. He said veterans should feel insulted and vowed to make sure the issue got broad attention in Congress and in the public in the weeks to come.

“The plan,” he said, “is to unleash the forces of hell.”



KEYSTONE CAPITAL CHAPTER

Renew Today! Officer dues \$18, Auxiliary \$12

Full Name: _____

Please print clearly **DUES RENEWAL NOTICE FOR 2014**

Grade: _____

Service: _____

Check your status: Retired Officer Current Active Duty

Former Officer Currently Serving National Guard

Currently Serving Reserves

Widow (er)* of an officer (Auxiliary Member)

Mailing Address: _____

E-mail: _____

Phone: _____ Birth date: _____

Spouse's Name _____ Spouse's Birth date: _____

I am a member of MOAA National I am not a member of MOAA National

MOAA# (if known): _____

Signature _____ Date: _____ (Return by Feb. 28)

* Fill in your own name, address, etc. and show deceased spouse's rank and service.

Mail to Treasurer: Warren Heidelbaugh, 1 Truman Drive, Elizabethtown, PA 17022



KEYSTONE CAPITAL CHAPTER

2014 DUES RENEWAL NOTICE

January 05, 2014

Keystone Capital Chapter Members,

Enclosed find your chapter renewal form to update your address and email information for 2014 and return with your check to the Treasurer. The chapter dues for officers are \$18.00 and Auxiliary members (widow/widower of an officer) are \$12.00. Please return by February 28, 2014.

The funds are used to publish and mail the chapter newsletter to all members, send get well cards to members, pay for materials and postage for the newsletter, recruiting letters and office supplies. Donations from the meeting 50/50 monies are made to Wreaths Across America for wreaths on the grave sites at Indiantown Gap National Cemetery. Donations have been made to PA Wounded Warriors Inc. and Keystone Wounded Warriors Inc. to support Pennsylvania's wounded soldiers and their families when they return home.

The chapter has been giving MOAA provided awards to the top junior JROTC cadets in units at Pine Grove, Shikalemy (Sunbury) and Harrisburg high schools but no financial support has been provided to the units. The Board will discuss financial awards to the three supported JROTC schools and ask if they will attend one of our meetings. The JROTC program provides a positive influence not only for the cadets but all of the students attending the school.

All lunch and dinner meetings are prepaid by the members, an average 18 members and spouses have been attending. Monies from the 50/50 drawing go to the treasurer for Wreaths Across America as stated above. We usually are not charged for the rooms or set up as we order food for the meeting. The Board will be planning some evening gatherings for the working members as most of the scheduled meetings in late fall and early spring have been during the day to allow members to drive during daylight.

The Board of Directors would like to hear from members about other organizations in the area that could use our support, both financial and through volunteers.

Sincerely,

Robert L. Gray LTC USA (Ret)
Chapter President
Keystone Capital Chapter
717-774-0707
Cell 717-623-8715 Email: rl_gray@hotmail.com



MOAA KEYSTONE CAPITAL CHAPTER

**THURSDAY JANUARY 23rd
Radisson Hotel – Veranda Room
Camp Hill**

LUNCH – 12:00 Noon

**Speaker
Alan Gallagher**

A humorous look at growing older

Menu:

Bridges Salad of grilled chicken breast, raisins, almonds, tomatoes and cheddar cheese served over greens with honey mustard dressing

Or

Soup and Sandwich with chef’s choice soup, ½ turkey and provolone on wheat

-- CASH BAR --

Event Invitation

JANUARY 23rd Radisson Hotel 12:00 Noon

Price per person: \$18.00 Choose #: Salad Soup and Sandwich

Make check out to: Keystone Capital Chapter

Names of Members and Guests attending:

****Please Reply NLT Saturday, January 18th to Host:**

**Robert Gray
221 Fineview Road
Camp Hill, PA 17011
717-774-0707 / cell 717-623-8715**