



THE EAGLE



THE MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA PENNSYLVANIA COUNCIL OF CHAPTERS

www.pa-coc.org

STILL SERVING



NEWS AND VIEWS July 2014

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

July marks another celebration of our country's freedom and the hope that it will continue into the future. Through the sacrifice of those who have served before us it is still the best place to live on earth.

Please take the time to review the information on the state convention September 12 and 13th in Washington, PA. There are links on the convention page for information on the speakers and nearby places to go on the hotel shuttle. The registration form can be downloaded on the Council web site, www.pa-coc.org. Complete the form and mail your check to the address on the form.

COUNCIL MEETING DATES

July 18, Council reception and organizational meeting to establish a State College Chapter

July 19, Council Meeting, State College

September 12 Council Meeting 1 PM & Convention Registration with Reception in the evening - 13th State Convention session/speakers Meadowlands Doubletree Hotel, Washington, PA

**November 8, Council Meeting
State College**

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Regards,
Bob Gray

State Veterans Legislation

Many veteran and military related bills passed the legislature before the legislature adjourned in July. They will return for a eleven day session in September before fall elections.

HB 43, now Act 86, expands the Give an Hour program by letting retired medical professionals volunteer to work with military families and work within their scope of practice. This includes mental health services to military personnel and their families.

SB 923, now Act 66, extended the Military Family Relief Assistance program for active duty soldiers and their families in Pennsylvania.

SB 403, now Act 78, provides for retention incentives for medical resident physicians of the PA National Guard.

SB 1115, now Act 82, Directs that federal GI Bills benefits be used before state National Guard Education Funds are used. Also specifies that only education related expenses can be paid and any excess funds will be returned to the National Guard Education program.

HB 1460, now Act 59, provides for Educational Leave of Absence for military mobilizations and requires the educational institution to return all fees or credit the military member or his spouse for later return to continue their education. It also enacts the Heroic Service Website which links to service websites naming soldiers who have won medals for valor. The web site will be hosted on the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs web site in the near future.

SB 1090, now Act 80, establishing free hunting and fishing licenses for disabled veterans paid at the 100 percent rate.

SB 1102, now Act 81, establishes reduced hunting and fishing licenses for \$1.00 to disabled veterans receiving a disability payment from the VA.

Federal Legislation

Key Bills in Limbo

July 11, 2014 MOAA Legislative Update
Congress has 15 working days left in Washington before legislators head home to their states and districts for five weeks of August recess. A number of major pieces of legislation have yet to be finished, including:

- defense authorization bill
 - defense appropriation bill
 - military construction and VA appropriations bill
 - VA health care access bill
- There's almost no chance Congress will debate and pass all four pieces of legislation in the next three weeks. Here's MOAA's prediction on what's to come on each of the four bills:
- Defense Authorization bill: The House already passed its version of the defense authorization bill in May. The Senate Armed Services Committee also agreed on its version of the legislation. It's unlikely the full Senate will debate and pass the bill by August. That could mean the final passage of the defense authorization bill could be delayed until the fall or as late as after the November elections.
 - Defense, and Military Construction/VA appropriations bills: With the passage of the Bipartisan Budget Act in late 2013, many on Capitol Hill were optimistic that all 15 appropriations bills that fund the government would be passed before the start of the next fiscal year on October 1. However, to date the House has passed only six appropriations bills, and the Senate none. With time running short it's likely that Congress will once again need to pass a continuing resolution to fund the government until Congress can focus on the budget instead of the November 4 elections.
 - VA health care access bill: The VA scandal in Phoenix exposed widespread health care access issues for veterans. The House and Senate are working on a bipartisan approach to fix the health care access problems. This bill has some chance of clearing before the

August recess. Act now and send your legislators a [MOAA-suggested message](#) asking them to establish an independent commission to study the VA health care system to help modernize it for the 21st century.

- See more at:

http://www.moaa.org/Main_Menu/Take_Action/Top_Issues/Serving_in_Uniform/Compensation/Key_Bills_in_Limbo.html#sthash.7kulUq9R.dpuf

Federal Veterans Affairs Information

Meetings Between Local Health Facilities, Veterans Service Organizations in All 50 States July 2, 2014

WASHINGTON - Acting Secretary of Veterans Affairs Sloan Gibson met with the leadership of 26 Military and Veterans Service Organizations (MSOs and VSOs) to reaffirm his commitment to work together to address the unacceptable, systemic problems in accessing VA healthcare.

During the meeting, he updated the organizations' representatives on VA's work with the Office of Special Counsel to restore Veterans' trust in the system and on VA's progress in reaching out to get Veterans into clinics and off of waiting lists. He told MSO and VSO leaders that he looks forward to working with them to better serve Veterans nationwide, in communities where they live. He also shared that he has directed all VA Medical Center leadership to hold monthly meetings with VSOs and community partners.

Acting Secretary Gibson thanked MSOs and VSOs for being VA's valuable partners in serving Veterans and continuing to improve the department and solicited their ideas on how VA can improve Veterans' access to care and services.

Monetary Burial Benefits Regulation Change

June 19 2014

Published by [Quincey Adams](#) under [Benefits Eligibility, Discussion](#)

On July 07, 2014, the VA will change its monetary burial benefits regulations to simplify the program and pay eligible



survivors more quickly and efficiently. These regulations will authorize VA to pay, without a written application, eligible surviving spouses basic monetary burial benefits at the maximum amount authorized in law through automated systems rather than reimbursing them for actual costs incurred.

Under the current regulations, VA pays for burial and funeral expenses on a reimbursement basis, which requires survivors to submit receipts for relatively small one-time payments that VA generally pays at the maximum amount permitted by law.

The new burial regulations will permit VA to pay, at a flat rate, burial and plot or interment allowances thereby enabling VA to automate

payment of burial benefits to eligible surviving spouses and more efficiently process other burial benefit claims.

These changes will help survivors of Veterans bear the cost of funerals by changing regulations to get them the benefits they deserve more quickly.

Service-related Death

VA will pay up to \$2,000 toward burial expenses for deaths on or after September 11, 2001, or up to \$1,500 for deaths prior to September 11, 2001. If the Veteran is buried in a VA national cemetery, some or all of the cost of transporting the deceased may be reimbursed.

Non-service-related Death

VA will pay up to \$700 toward burial and funeral expenses for deaths on or after October 1, 2011 (if hospitalized by VA at time of death), or \$300 toward burial and funeral expenses (if not hospitalized by VA at time of death), and a \$700 plot-interment allowance (if not buried in a national cemetery). For deaths on or after December 1, 2001, but before October 1, 2011, VA will pay up to \$300 toward burial and funeral expenses and a \$300 plot-interment allowance. For deaths on or after April 1, 1988 but before October 1, 2011, VA will pay \$300 toward burial and

funeral expenses (for Veterans hospitalized by VA at the time of death).

An annual increase in burial and plot allowances for deaths occurring after October 1, 2011 begins in fiscal year 2013 based on the Consumer Price Index for the preceding 12-month period.

- See more at:

<http://moaablogs.org/claimsassistance/#sthash.PG8LKYZp.dpuf>

Coaching Into Care

Jun 09 2014

Published by [Quincey Adams](#) under [Benefits Eligibility](#), [Discussion](#), [VA Initiatives](#)

If you know a veteran reluctant to receive the mental health care that they need, please consider using this resource provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs.



Coaching Into Care (CIC) is a free and confidential phone service of the VA that is celebrating three years as a national program this June. CIC helps callers discover new ways to talk with a Veteran about their concerns and about treatment options. Our mission is to educate, support and empower

family members and friends who are seeking care or services for a Veteran. Our goal is to help them encourage distressed Veterans to access VA care successfully anywhere in the United States.

We provide support and problem-solving assistance, coaching with family members about how to talk to Veterans about seeking VA care, referrals for care for Veterans and family members, and information about available programs or enrolling in VA Care.

CIC has grown to help more than 2,800 callers last year. Callers may receive assistance over the course of one or several phone calls, sometimes spanning several months.

Anyone concerned about a Veteran may call Coaching Into Care. Our lines are open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Eastern, after which calls roll over to the Veteran's Crisis Line and one of our responders returns the call the next business day. There are no eligibility requirements, and we work with all populations and eras of service. Occasionally, Veterans will call us directly and they are assisted or referred to appropriate services. When appropriate, CIC call responders warm transfer calls to other call centers, including the Veteran's Crisis Line and Caregiver Support Line.

Purpose: *To help family members and other loved ones encourage distressed Veterans to access VA Care successfully anywhere in the United States*

Phone: (888) 823-7458

Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:00 am – 8:00 pm Eastern Time

Web: www.va.gov/coachingintocare

Email: CoachingIntoCare@va.gov

Type of help provided: Coaching Into Care - See more at: <http://moaablogs.org/claimsassistance/#sthash.PG8LKYZp.dpuf>

Vets 4 Warriors

Call: 1-855-838-8255

Vets 4 Warriors provides active duty servicemembers, National Guard and Reserve members and their families worldwide with peer-to-peer support.

Peer-to-peer support is available to servicemembers 24/7, and is toll-free throughout the U.S. The call center is staffed with veterans and family members representing all branches of service. Vets 4 Warriors veterans have been there and understand the problems unique to military life and know your benefits and resources.

The call center's veterans provide information and referrals as needed. They will assist you in setting a plan to overcome adversity, manage stress, and build resilience. Their family peers are trained to assist families,

caregivers and survivors with their challenges and concerns with support and referrals.

They provide peer support and follow up for those with ongoing concerns. For those in crisis they will connect you with the Military Crisis Line.

Your call is confidential. Veterans do not discuss calls with anyone and if callers choose, they can remain anonymous.

- See more at:
<http://moaablogs.org/claimsassistance/#sthash.PG8LKYZp.dpuf>
www.vets4warriors.com

Happy Birthday to the GI Bill

On June 22, 2014, the GI Bill celebrated its 70th birthday. The Post 9/11 GI Bill benefit is much more generous than the original Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944. The Post 9/11 GI Bill pays for non-degree programs, licenses, certification tests, and entrepreneurial training.

Please do not wait to take advantage of the this program if you are eligible. The GI Bill benefit is easily accessible through the [eBenefits](#) Portal. Log in to apply for benefits, check your payment history and your remaining benefit entitlement.

Not sure where to start? Take advantage of these resources to begin your search for higher education:

- [Yellow Ribbon Program Participants 2014-2015](#)
 - [GI Bill Comparison Tool](#)
 - [Post 9/11 GI Bill Payment Rates August 2013-July 2014](#)
- See more at:
<http://moaablogs.org/claimsassistance/#sthash.CJaOVLxl.dpuf>



Pay Commission: DOD wrong about Personnel Costs

July 11, 2014 MOAA News Release
The Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) said The Military Compensation and Retirement Modernization Commission interim report released July 3 validated MOAA's analysis that military personnel costs have remained steady at about 30 percent of the defense budget. This is in sharp contrast to the 40-, 50-, or 70-percent increases various DoD and service officials have stated to the media, the public and Congress. Congress created the commission to conduct an independent, comprehensive review of military compensation and benefit programs and make recommendations for their modernization.

“Unbelievably, after repeatedly crowing that costs were spiraling out of control, DoD leaders are now saying costs are dropping, due to their plan,” MOAA President Vice Adm. Norb Ryan said. “DoD officials recently acknowledged military personnel costs are coming down and even claimed ‘We are making progress.’”

“But the truth is,” Ryan continued, “personnel

costs have held steady at about 30 percent of the defense budget for more than 30 years and despite Congress' rejection of pay and benefits cuts year after year, cost growth was already declining.

"MOAA understands the predicament defense leaders face," Ryan emphasized. "A way to balance the force and end the harmful effects of sequestration must be found. But capping military raises below private-sector pay growth has proven once pay raise caps begin, they continue until they undermine retention and readiness.

"The July 3 release of the Military Compensation and Retirement Modernization Commission's interim report removed all doubt about who's been stating the facts and who's been spinning the facts," Ryan concluded. "MOAA's analysis has been validated independently by a presidential commission. Going forward I'm hopeful Congress will insist DoD reform its own operations before blaming budget problems on military families."

Squaring Away Your Digital Estate

June 24, 2014

[Take digital inventory](#)

[For each, give instructions](#)

[Get the terms of service](#)

[Save the information](#)

[Get legal advice](#)

By Laura Shin

When Chanel Reynolds was 39 and her husband, Jose Hernando, was 43, he was hit by a van while riding his bike.

It smashed his upper spine and caused an immediate traumatic cardiac arrest, but he made it to the hospital with a trace of a pulse. For a week, until doctors determined he would never regain consciousness, Reynolds, who most wanted to be with her husband, had to spend precious hours dealing with a host of problems starting with the fact that she didn't know the four-digit passcode to his

phone.

"That meant I couldn't get a hold of his dad," she says. (She had some family numbers, but not all; his parents had separated when he was young and were not in contact.) For hours, she tried various passcodes, but the phone would lock her out for longer periods of time the more failed attempts she made.

"Eventually, the doctors were telling me he could die any minute and that they hoped he would be stable enough to take into surgery and there was a 50/50 chance that he wouldn't make it off the table, so I had to do a Facebook update saying, 'Hey, everyone in the Hernando family -- someone give me a call.' "

"That is absolutely not the way you want to let somebody know that something has happened."

Reynolds was encountering something relatively new in this digital age -- the fact that when we go, we carry a lot of our most important possessions with us. In the past, when information was held on paper, our loved ones could more easily gain access to our bank accounts, health insurance policies, business assets, photos and more.

Jamie Hopkins, a professor at The American College of Financial Services, says, "Normally, you would say, 'I know my dad has a couple bank accounts. Where are they?' " And you show up to his house, but if he's paperless, there won't be mail coming from Bank of America or Wells Fargo or Wachovia, and the only place that mail is going is to his email. So if you don't have access to the email, you can't really take care of that person's finances."

Also, as more and more people are learning nowadays, we will all experience "digital death," leaving behind a "digital afterlife" or "digital legacy" in the form of our online identities and possessions, which will essentially outlive us in the cloud -- whether through our email accounts, Facebook and Twitter profiles, online photos and videos, blogs, eBay and Etsy storefronts and more. And for those we leave behind, if we don't

prepare, they could lose these parts of us as well.

Reynolds says, "because I didn't have [passwords and access to accounts] ahead of time and because I realized it was going to be hard to get them, you end up having to make dozens of phone calls over and over and over again and basically talk to the 'I'm sorry for your loss' department just to get your bank account turned over to you, or access the things that were in your partner's name only." (She also didn't even know if their wills were updated or if they had life insurance, which prompted her to create a website called Get Your [Stuff] Together, which outlines all the documents one should have in place in an emergency.)

In the United States, the value of online assets is nearly \$55,000 per internet user, according to online security company McAfee, and while Hopkins says that much of that value is probably in small businesses, he also says, "There's a lot of unclaimed life insurance out there because nobody even knows somebody had a policy. Those types of issues will be highlighted as more and more things go digital."

Evan Carroll, coauthor of *Your Digital Afterlife* and author at TheDigitalBeyond.com, a website that monitors related issues, says, "Ideally, we'd have systems and laws and protocols in place and your heirs could gain access to your digital materials and you wouldn't have to do anything special for that to happen. Unfortunately, both our social norms and our laws have not caught up with the digital lives that we're leading today."

A group called the Uniform Laws Commission created a Committee on Fiduciary Access to Digital Assets that is currently drafting recommendations for digital assets statutes that states can adapt or adopt. (Seven states already have adopted such statutes -- Connecticut, Rhode Island, Indiana, Virginia, Idaho, Nevada and Oklahoma.)

But until the laws do catch up, here what you

can do to reduce the pain and suffering of our loved ones by preparing beforehand.

Yes, this sounds like a beast, but you should try to log all the digital accounts you have, though obviously certain ones are higher priority than others:

- Your computers, smartphones and other devices including tablets, ebook readers, mp3 players, etc.
- Email accounts
- Financial institutions and policies, for checking and savings accounts; credit cards; retirement accounts; other investment accounts; student loans; mortgage lenders; life, health, disability, auto and renter's/homeowner's insurance; Paypal; etc.
- Social media accounts, such as Facebook, Twitter, Google Plus, LinkedIn, Tumblr, Pinterest, Reddit, etc.
- Online businesses that produce revenue, such as eBay, Etsy, Amazon Marketplace, a blog that pulls in advertising, etc.
- Places where you upload photos, videos or other media, such as Flickr, Picasa, Instagram, Youtube, Vimeo, etc.
- Sites or applications where you store store music, movies, ebooks such as iTunes or Amazon
- Any site where you've registered your credit card information, such as online stores and services. This may seem extreme, but credit card fraud often involves people who have recently died, and those bills could end up going to spouses.

Delineate which accounts should be deleted. For other accounts, note your username and password or passcode and designate someone to receive them. When deciding what to do with each account, consider these guidelines:

Email: It's best, if possible, to give access to your email account, says Carroll. "Email is the master key to other accounts. As long as your executor has access to your email account, chances are good that they can reset that password and obtain the appropriate access to other accounts."

If you're uncomfortable with the idea of

others looking at your correspondence, "you could say, 'While I know you would need access for these reasons, I prefer if you don't go looking for this or that type of message,'" says Carroll. (See below for important notes on the differences between Gmail's and Yahoo Mail's policies.)

Online businesses: "When it comes to online businesses -- eBay or Etsy or advertising on a blog you write -- the financial value of these assets is a real financial value to the estate, so you want to make sure that is handled the appropriate way through your will," says Carroll. With anything financial, he adds, executors will need to follow the appropriate policies of both the service and orders in your will.

Social media: "Sometimes it makes sense for a social media account to remain in place to serve as a memorial," says Carroll. "Facebook has a way to memorialize accounts. On Twitter, some families have chosen to keep Twitter accounts online so people can read them, though obviously there are no additional posts there. It would be strange and almost unwelcome if an account from someone who is deceased continues to post. A final notification would be appropriate, but beyond that, it becomes an unwelcome reminder of a potentially sad event." If you'd like the account to have a final statement, you can leave instructions as to what it should be.

Yahoo's terms of service state that your account cannot be turned over to anyone else, and that, in fact, accounts of deceased users are subject to permanent deletion. This would affect everything ranging from email to Flickr photos. Though some people may prefer that policy, if those terms don't sit right with you, you could switch to email and the photo-sharing site Picasa by Google, which offers an Inactive Account Manager that allows you to dictate in advance how your possessions held by Google should be handled.

Reynolds also suggests having a digital power

of attorney written into your power of attorney document that empowers someone to get your assets online. "It clearly states your intent that someone can go get your information for you," she says. "It doesn't always mean the companies will give it back to you -- there aren't federal digital laws yet -- but you can have more power over what happens to your Facebook account or your YouTube channel so it's more what your wishes are than what the company policy is."

The challenge with storage is that, if someone undesirable accessed this information before you died, it could wreak a lot of havoc in your life, so you need to find a place that's secure but that a loved one could also easily access in the event of your death or if you became incapacitated. "You can't put that [information] in a will because, one, wills become public once they go through probate," says Hopkins. "The other problem is that wills -- you have to keep updating them every time your passwords and usernames change."

He recommends putting everything into a document stored on an external encrypted hard drive. That also protects against the possibility that someone could either steal or be on your computer, going through your passwords.

Carroll adds that you could also put them on paper in a locked file drawer if you have a high level of trust in your family, and that many attorneys will also store information for you, though that might become a pain every time you want to update a password or add to the document. You could also turn to one of a number of services like LastPass or SecureSafe that have cropped up to assist people in this task. With LastPass, you would only need to share your master password, and with SecureSafe, it gives you a 64-character code that you can include in your estate documents so someone can inherit your account.

Hopkins adds that some services will allow you to have more control over who sees which accounts -- for instance, you could use

the service to delete a certain account without any family members knowing you had it, and send one account to one person, but another account to a different loved one.

Ultimately, Carroll says, you should choose whatever method is best for your situation.

Because this does involve your estate, obtain legal advice to make sure you're in line with state laws or any other laws you may not be aware of. And unless you tell someone where this information is stored, some or all of your preparation could be for naught.

Finally, don't put this off -- and don't think you have to do it perfectly to do it at all. Even if you only have time for one small step, just do that.

"We suffer from this thing that researchers call benign neglect. It's the same thing with backing up our computers," says Carroll. "We know we need to do it, but we think, 'I'll get around to that another time.' With backing up your computer, oftentimes, it's not until someone loses significant data that they decide, 'I need to be diligent about backing up.' Unfortunately, with death we only have one chance. Take some action, because that's a million times better than taking no action."

MOAA's Estate Planning guides you through wills, power of attorney, probate, property laws, trusts, gifting, special relationship situations, and more. Make sure your estate is squared away today.

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Laura Shin contributes to [Forbes.com](#) and SmartPlanet, among other publications. Her most recent e-book is "*The Only 3 Money Principles You Need To Know*."
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- See more at: http://www.moaa.org/main_article.aspx?id=14554#sthash.8bg8Kyl6.dpuf

Hershey Park

Military Discount Program

Hershey Park's Military Discount program is for Active, Guard, Reserve, Retired and

Former military. You must show military ID card or DD-214 at the Hershey Park Ticket window. \$20 off price for regular admission tickets, age 9-54, and \$4 off Juniors age 3-8 and Seniors 55-69.

<http://www.hersheypark.com/tickets/discounts/index.php>

Star Spangled Manors

June 20, 2014

By Kris Ann Hegle

Everywhere you look these days, you see it. The American flag is in store windows, on bumper stickers, and flying from the flagpole your neighbors recently installed in front of their house. It's even on the T-shirt being worn by the most surprising of patriots, your neighbors' teenage son, a purple-haired, fashion-conscious lad.

A wave of patriotism has swept across the nation, and people are rushing to display our cherished flag everywhere they can. But many of these well-intentioned patriots don't know about or observe the rules for displaying the American flag, which can be found in the U.S. Flag Code. Although these rules aren't law, they serve as a guide for how to properly display the flag.

- Take a good look at the flag you intend to display, particularly if it's been stored for a while. Does it have any tatters or frays? Is it dirty? If so, take time to mend and clean it. Once that's done, "Old Glory" is fit to be displayed.
- Normally, the flag is displayed from sunrise to sunset on buildings and stationary outdoor flagpoles. However, if you plan to display the flag outside during inclement weather, be sure to use an all-weather flag.
- Some people like to display the flag 24 hours a day. You may display the flag at night as long as it is properly illuminated so that the stars and stripes can be seen by an observer from a reasonable distance.
- Take care in the way you raise and lower the flag. According to Flag Code, it should be "hoisted briskly and lowered ceremoniously."

- If you display the flag from a staff attached to a window, balcony, or building, the union (blue field) should appear at the top of the staff (the end farthest away from the window). If you display the flag in a window, however, the union should be at the top and the left, as viewed by an observer on the street. Likewise, if you place the flag against a wall in your home, it can be hung either horizontally or vertically, as long as the field of stars is on the top and to the observer's left. In addition to telling you what to do, the Flag Code also tells you what *not* to do. For example, you should never wear a real flag. Instead, use material printed with a flag pattern. Likewise, you should never sew anything onto the flag or mark it. You also should never:
 - Use the flag as part of a costume or athletic uniform;
 - Use the flag to receive, hold, carry, or deliver anything; or
 - Use the flag for advertising purposes or print it on items intended for temporary use.
 Other guidelines in the Flag Code govern how the flag is displayed. For example, the flag should never be displayed with the union down, except to signal an emergency. You also should never:
 - Allow the flag to touch anything underneath it, such as the ground or water;
 - Dip the flag to honor a person or thing; or
 - Carry the flag flat or horizontal, festoon it, or draw it back or up for any reason.
 Everyone should use proper etiquette when acknowledging the flag. Uniformed servicemembers should salute the flag as it is raised and lowered and maintain that salute through the late note of the national anthem or until the flag is unsnapped from the flagstaff, whichever is longer; veterans and servicemembers out of uniform also may render the military salute. Civilians can show their respect by placing their right hand over their heart. Men wearing hats should remove their hat and hold it over their left shoulder.

During a parade or procession, everyone should face the flag while standing at attention

with their right hand over their heart. Uniformed servicemembers should face the flag and salute the moment it passes.

- When the American flag is carried in a procession with other flags, it should be either on the marching right (or flag's own right) or in front and center of the line of flags.
- Never place another flag or pennant higher than the American flag or to the right of it if the flags are on the same level (except during religious services at sea, when the church pennant may be flown above the flag on the mast).
- If a line of flags is displayed indoors, the American flag always should be in the place of honor; behind the speaker and to the speaker's right. Other flags should be placed to the speaker's left.
- When flags are displayed in a semi-circle, the American flag should be centered and at its highest point.
- The U.S. flag always should be the first flag raised and last lowered.
- Occasionally the flag is hung over a street during a parade or other special event. When this is done, it should be hung vertically, with the union to the north or east. If the flag is suspended vertically over a sidewalk, the flag's union should be the farthest part from the building.
- The flag also may be used when mourning. The flag is flown at half-staff to mourn a government leader or following a presidential or gubernatorial order. To fly the flag at half-staff, first hoist it to the top of the pole for an instant, then lower it to a position halfway between the top and bottom. At the end of the day, raise the flag all the way to the top, then lower it completely.
- During memorials, burials, and funerals, the flag should be placed on the coffin with the union at the head and over the left shoulder. Never lower the flag into a grave. Instead, carefully fold it into a triangle, with only the blue field showing on both sides.

- See more at:

http://www.moaa.org/main_article.aspx?id=14507#sthash.3yKNiSza.dpuf

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PA Council of Chapters



2014 State Convention

Doubletree Hotel by Hilton

Pittsburgh Meadowlands

Free shuttles to the Meadowlands Casino, Meadowlands Race Track, Tanger Outlets, Trolley rides at PA Trolley Museum and Pittsburgh is 15 minutes away.



<http://www.pa-trolley.org>

Presentations by MOAA Staff, MOAA Travel and USAA

Speakers: Vadm Norb Ryan Jr. MOAA President



http://capitolwords.org/date/2002/09/17/S8663-3_tribute-to-vice-admiral-norbert-robert-ryan-jr

and Todd DePastino - writer, educator and motivational speaker



<http://veteranvoicesofpittsburgh.com/about/contact/about-todd-depastino>



* * * * *

GLORIOUS INSULTS

"His mother should have thrown him away
and kept the stork." - Mae West



* * * * *

PA COUNCIL OFFICERS 2014-2015 Term

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and another 10,591 MOAA national
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chapters. That means our total PA
membership is 12,485 and climbing.
Thank you for staying involved!

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