

PHILA



GRAM

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June 2013



PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Hello to everyone. Hope that all is well and you are enjoying spring. Since the last newsletter we have had the pleasure of welcoming the following new members to the Chapter: CDR James Falcone, COL Debra Meserve and LtCol Timothy Meserve. Recruiting new members to our Chapter is vital to our existence. We are fortunate that CWO4 Douglas Craig, 2nd Vice President, has agreed to coordinate the Chapter's Recruitment Program.

The format for the general membership meeting June 8 at Shannondell will be slightly changed to include a brief business meeting. The social time will be from 11:30am to 12:15pm. At 12:15pm the meeting will be called to order. Please note this time change to accommodate the Chapter Update. Our speaker for June 8 is CAPT Kathleen Moore, Sector Commander of Coast Guard Sector Delaware Bay. CAPT Moore will talk about her recent assignment here in Philadelphia which has included the Coast Guard's responses to Hurricane Sandy and the overturned tanker car incident in Paulsboro, NJ.

Joseph Blaisse, an Eagle Scout Candidate of Boy Scout Troop 315, St. Anastasia Parish, needs help finding WWII veterans to be honored on June 15th. His Eagle Scout Service Project "Be Prepared 2 Honor" serves Honor Flight Philadelphia, which transports WWII veterans to D.C. to see major war memorials without expense, and then returns them home for a dinner party held in their honor on behalf of a grateful nation. If you are a WWII veteran, or you know one, please call Joe at 610-348-6077 or view his website at: www.BePrepared2.Honor.com.

Last year efforts opposing payday lending (HB2191) in PA were successful, however, some state legislators in both the Senate and the House are in the process of writing new legislation to permit payday lending in 2013. Hopefully our continued participation in a



LUNCHEON MEETING



statewide Coalition (letter to legislators posted on website) opposing payday lending will result in legislation of this type not being enacted. Please voice your concerns against payday loans to your local legislators thru www.stoppaydayloanspa.com.

The Board meets July 25 at the Coast Guard Base in Philadelphia. Board meetings are open and start at 12:30pm. General membership meetings will be held Sept. 14, and Dec. 14. Thanks to all of you who continue to support the Philadelphia Chapter. Each member is important to the organization and has something to contribute. If you want to be more involved in activities related to carrying out the Chapter's mission please contact me at alicia-blessington@verizon.net

Take care.

Alicia M. Blessington, President

Luncheon Guest Speaker

Captain Kathleen Moore, Commander, Coast Guard Sector Delaware Bay. The Sector boasts an 850 member workforce distributed across 3 states and including 15 subunits. The Delaware River and Bay system hosts the world's largest deep water port complex, the nation's fifth largest city, the largest fresh fruits and vegetable ports along with nationally significant petrochemical and fisheries activity.

Prior to taking command in Philadelphia, her other command cadre tours include serving as Deputy Sector Commander at Sector Honolulu and Deputy Sector Commander at Sector Air Station Corpus Christi.

CAPT Moore holds a BS in Mechanical Engineering, an MS in Engineering Management both from the University of Maryland and a Master of Marine Affairs from the University of Rhode Island.



LUNCHEON MEETING



OFFICERS AND BOARD



June Luncheon Meeting

Chapter Buffet Luncheon Meeting

Date: Saturday, June 8, 2013

Time: Social Hour 11:30 – Lunch 12:15

Location

Shannondell at Valley Forge

10000 Shannondell Drive

Audubon, PA 19403

Phone: 610-728-5200

www.shannondell.com

Beer and Wine @ \$2.00

Buffet Menu

Beef Barley Soup, Assorted Rolls

Tossed Salad, Various Dressings

Roast Turkey, Cornbread Stuffing, with

Gravy, Cranberry Sauce

Hot Sliced Roast Beef with Gravy

Green Bean Casserole, Mashed Potatoes

Beverages

Coffee, Tea, Iced Tea, Fruit Drink

Dessert

Pie and Ice Cream

Cost \$25.00 per person

Speaker

Capt Kathleen Moore

Sector Commander

Philadelphia Coast Guard Base

Topic: The involvement of the Coast Guard during Sandy, the Paulsboro Spill, and the overall responsibilities of the United States Coast Guard.

2013 Officers and Board Members

OFFICERS

President	CAPT Alicia M. Blessington, USPHS
1 ST Vice President	LTC William Pfeiffer, USAF
2 nd Vice President	CW4 Douglas Craig, USMC
Treasurer	CAPT Anthony Basilio, USN
Recording Secretary	CAPT Alicia M. Blessington, USPHS
Chaplain	Rev. Marianne H. Vance
Membership Director	MAJ Richard G. Levering, USAF
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Legislative Affairs Dir.	CAPT Thomas Pendergast, USN
Awards Director	LTC Ramon Ramos, USA
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Program Director	CW4 Augustus R. DiMino, USA
Arrangements Director	CW4 Augustus R. DiMino, USA

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

COL Saul W. LaKier, USA * / LTC John J. Conboy, USA
 CW4 Thomas J. Scutti, USA
 CAPT Thomas Pendergast, USN
 CW4 Augustus R. DiMino, USA *
 * Past Chapter Presidents

2013 Chapter Membership Dues

Welcome to our newest members LtCol Tim Meserve, USAF and his wife, COL Deb Meserve, USAF.

We still have 18 2012 members who have not yet renewed their 2013 membership by paying their \$15 annual dues. We are already in our new membership year. If you think you had renewed your membership, please let me know by e-mail at RLevering@verizon.net or phone at 215-483-2900

If you don't have a copy of your dues check, just send a \$15 check to me at: 527 Hermitage Street, Philadelphia PA 19128-2603. We have several members who "Pay-Ahead" for more than 1-year by sending a check for \$30 or \$45.



MEMBERSHIP



AWARDS



2013 Membership Dues Not Paid

LTC Keith M. Cianfrani USA
LTC David C. Deardorff
CWO4 Frank J. DeFranco USNR
LTC Daniel V. DiLoretto USAR
1LT Louis Essaf
BG Henry C. Frisby
LTC Russell A. Gallagher USA
Mrs. Sarah Ann Habbersett
LTJG William Heller USN
CAPT Daniel B. Leonard, Jr. USN (Ret.)
Mrs. Grace R. Sevier Lincoln
CWO2 Louis E. Miller, Jr. USCG
LTC Dr. Lewis E. Neumann USAR (Ret.)
Sgt. Raphael M. Randles USAF
CPT Catherine Makem Stock USA
LTC Arthur C. Tompkin USA (Ret.)
LtJg. Raymond L. Tyler USNR
CDR Richard P. Wilking USN Ret.

Thank you.

Maj Dick Levering, USAF (Ret.), Membership Director

Personal Affairs

It is important at this time while you are in good health, capable of working and/or functioning independently, consider seriously the possibility of becoming disabled. Help your surviving spouse or significant other while you are able, by making a list of your assets, insurances, location of your bank accounts, investments, properties owned, money due you from loans, debt, and/or from an estate.

Remember, your pay stops at midnight on the day of your death. Neglecting to inform your spouse or significant other can result in unnecessary problems added to the grief and/or confusion.

Captain Pauline R. Jones-Tate, USPHS (Ret.)
Chairman, Personal Affairs Committee

Chapter Awards

Our chapter participated once again in the 2012-13 ROTC and JROTC award ceremonies at local high schools and universities throughout the Greater Philadelphia Area. The national MOAA Award is designed to encourage local chapters to reach out to ROTC units in their area. We also made presentations at suburban High Schools with JROTC programs.

The Cadet or Midshipman who was recommended by his or her commanding officer for outstanding leadership received from one of our chapter's presenters a certificate and a check for \$100.00. We are glad to report that our chapter incorporated the Gold Bar Program again this year to 30 graduating Cadets and Midshipmen with their first set of 2nd LT gold bars. They were also offered a free one year National MOAA membership, which they were authorized to receive as newly commissioned active duty officers.

We offer a sincere thanks to our presenters, BG Richard Merion, CAPT Tom Pendergast, and MAJ Richard Levering, and CW4 Gus Dimino for their outstanding efforts and support in this program. We received letters of appreciation from ROTC commanders for their participation.

Thanks again.

Ramon L. Ramos, LTC (Ret.) US Army, Awards Director

Digital copy of the newsletter and additional information about Philadelphia Chapter of the MOAA can be found of the Chapter's website at www.MOAAPhiladelphia.com

To contribute to the PHILAGRAM or the website, please contact the editor, CPT Robin Islam at robin.islam@us.army.mil or mail to 522 Lombardy Road Drexel Hill, PA 19026



Philadelphia Chapter MOAA
527 Hermitage Street
Philadelphia, PA 19128-2603

*Address Corrections Required *



Philadelphia Chapter Military Officers Association of America

Please Note: Reservations, with payment, must be received no later than June 4th. For cancellations (48 hours prior to the event) or late reservations, please call Mrs. Ann Froehlich at 610-728-5412. Return the reservation form to Mrs. Ann Froehlich, 12204 Shannondell Dr, Audubon, PA 19403.

Directions to Shannondell: From Turnpike, Schuylkill Expressway or Rt. 202: Merge onto US-422 W toward Pottstown, Merge onto PA-363 toward Audubon/Trooper, use right lanes to 363 N, turn left at 4th traffic light (Wawa) onto Shannondell Blvd. Gate House is on the left. Ask for direction to Ashcroft Club House. Audubon Dining Room is on the 2nd floor.

Remove and Return by mail

Luncheon Reservation

Please reserve ____ places for Saturday, June 8, 2013 Buffet Luncheon at Shannondell at \$25.00 per person.

Name(s) of Guest(s) _____

Enclosed is my check for \$_____, payable to MOAA Philadelphia Chapter.

Signed _____

Name (please print); Rank/Grade; Telephone Number