



Stack Arms



Vol. 37 No. 2 MAR/APR 2014

Military Officers Association

Willow Grove Chapter

MOAA – WG Website:
<https://sites.google.com/site/moaawg/>

COMING EVENTS

March Luncheon

Thursday, March 20, 2014

1200-1500 Hours
Vereinigung Erzgebirge Club
• 130 Davisville Road
• Warminster, PA 189

• See Back Page for Menu
and Reservation Form



• Board Meetings

1000, Monday, Mar. 10, 2014
1000, Monday, Apr. 14, 2014

56th Stryker Brigade Combat
Team Conference Room

• 5600 Itami Avenue
Horsham Air Guard Station

• Questions Concerning
Events?
• Call Dave Manuel @
215-540-9809

Message from the President



Although there was an initial weather scare we still had a good turnout for our breakfast meeting at Ann's Choice in Warminster. Our normal venue the VE Club was hosting a Fishing Show on that Saturday. Many thanks to 1Lt. Frank Gorman for making the arrangements and for doing a yeoman's job shuttling people back and forth to the visitors parking lot.

We had almost forty people present including a couple of residents of Ann's Choice who are members of their veterans group. We

welcomed back LCDR. Richard Blackburn a resident of Ann's Choice who attended our breakfast and renewed his MOAA-WG membership. We also welcome LT David Jacoby, USNR, active reserve, who is processing his MOAA national membership and joining MOAA-WG. He attended with his father Robert Jacoby, USN, a resident of Ann's Choice. Col. (Private), Larry Rubini provided our speakers for the meeting. Col. Rubini is a private in the 5th Pennsylvania Regiment and came dressed for the part. Our guest speaker was John Godzieba who has been selected to play George Washington in the 5th PA and successfully crossed the Delaware this year in a raging snow storm, emulating the conditions met during the original crossing. He brought another member of the organization his aide Denis Cooke who was also properly attired. Visit this web site to view photographs of this year's successful crossing.
(Cont. on page 2)



CHAPTER OFFICERS DIRECTORS & COMMITTEES

PRESIDENT & Membership
Corres. Secretary, Webmaster
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215-249-1305

**1st VICE PRESIDENT &
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215-997-8133

PERSONAL AFFAIRS LIAISON
EDITOR "STACK ARMS"
CAPT Gordon L. Bell, USCG-Ret.
E-Mail: CaptBell@comcast.net
215-393-6195

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS
MAJ Thomas Sadowski, USAF-R

CHAPLAIN
(Vacant)

DIRECTORS
PROGRAMS & LUNCHEONS
BY-LAWS, Charity & Grants
LCOL David Manuel, USMC- Ret
215-540-9809

DATA BASE MAINTENANCE
1 LT (R) Frank Gorman, AUS
215-643-1418

CDR Peter Thomson, USN-Ret.

<http://www.5thpa.org/the-2012-crossing-has-begun/>.

General Washington discussed little known aspects of his life, the river crossing on Christmas night 1776, and subsequent battle of Trenton where his troops defeated the Hessians. He described his custom made exact replica of Washington's actual sword. MOAA-WG presented General Washington with a certificate, a custom beer stein and a donation to the Friends of Washington Crossing State Park. This park receives no Federal Funding and Pennsylvania cut out state funding in 2009. Please remember to renew your dues as soon as possible. Our Early Bird 2014 dues renewal expires on 31 March 2014. You receive three chances to win at our Annual Gala event in December. As we print this Stack Arms your National MOAA representatives are working hard on issues affecting both the retired force and active duty military members. Current issues include recalling the under age 62 COLA restriction, military exchanges/commissaries and pension changes. Your membership and vigilance preserves and protects our benefits. It ensures that future military members are treated properly, and receive the benefits they have earned and we know they deserve.

Maj. Gary M. Portnoy, USAFR, Ret.

SCHEDULE OF CHAPTER MEETINGS and LUNCHEONS FOR 2014

20 March – 1200 VE Club BG (Ret) Jerry G. Beck, Jr. Deputy AG Veterans Affairs

15 May – 1200 VE Club COL Ed Scholl, USA-Ret. - Lewis & Clark Expedition

July-Aug – Picnic-TBA

SCHEDULE OF BOARD MEETINGS FOR 2014

10 March – Monday 1000

14 April – Monday 1000

12 May - Monday 1000

9 June - Monday 1000

8 September Monday 1000

Welcome New Member

LT David Jacoby, USNR

In Memoriam

CDR LaVern Pyles, Jr, USN- Retired



MOAA SPEAKER-MARCH 20, 2014-VE CLUB 1200 HOURS

BRIGADIER GENERAL (RETIRED) JERRY G. BECK JR.

Deputy Adjutant General for Veterans Affairs



Brigadier General (Ret.) Jerry G. Beck Jr. was appointed Deputy Adjutant General – Veterans Affairs on July 8, 2013. In this position, he supervises the administration of assistance programs for nearly one million veterans and their dependents as well as the operation of the commonwealth's six veteran's homes.

General Beck retired as the Deputy Adjutant General – Army for the Pennsylvania Army National Guard in August 2011 and most recently served as the Deputy Garrison Commander (Civilian), Fort Indiantown Gap, PA Army National Guard.

General Beck began his military career in the 28th Infantry Division, where he enlisted as a private in July 1977. He received his commission as a second lieutenant from the Officer Candidate School of the Pennsylvania National Guard Military Academy in 1979

and was assigned as a Rifle Platoon Leader and later Mortar Platoon leader in Company B, 1st Battalion, 111th Infantry in Philadelphia. He held many assignments as Company Commander and Battalion Commander, 111th Infantry, Philadelphia in 1982. He completed his battalion command and was assigned as the Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations of the Pennsylvania Army National Guard at Fort Indiantown Gap in November 1998. He was assigned as the Chief of Staff, Pennsylvania Army National Guard in 2000. In 2002 he was deployed with the Headquarters 28th Infantry Division and was assigned as the Deputy Commander, Multi-National Brigade North (MNB-N) SFOR 12 in Bosnia-Herzegovina. Upon completion of that tour on March 1, 2003, he was promoted to Brigadier General and selected to perform a follow-on tour as the Commanding General of Multi-National Brigade (East) in Kosovo. During that tour of duty he provided command and control to approximately 3,500 multinational soldiers in the U.S. sector of Kosovo, and was responsible for soldiers from the United States, Ukraine, Poland, Lithuania, Armenia and Greece. He served as the Deputy Commanding General for Maneuver of the 28th Infantry Division from 2004 to 2006 and was subsequently appointed as the Commanding General of the 28th Infantry Division where he served from 2006-2009.

General Beck was born in Canonsburg, Pa. He graduated from Monongahela High School in Monongahela, Pa. in 1972 and Millersville State College, Millersville, Pa. in 1975 with a Bachelor of Science in German. In January 1996 he received a Master's Degree in Instructional Systems Design from Pennsylvania State University. In 2011 he earned his PhD in Organization and Management with a concentration in Leadership from Capella University. Before accepting a full time position with the National Guard, he was a high school Spanish and German teacher.

General Beck's Awards and Military decorations include: the Army Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit (3rd Award), Meritorious Service Medal (7th Award), Joint Service Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal and Army Achievement Medal, Pennsylvania 20 Year Service Medal with two silver stars, Major General Thomas R. White Medal and Major General Thomas J. Stewart Medal. General Beck's professional affiliations include: Veterans of Foreign Wars, National Guard Association of the United States, Military Officers Association of America, and Association of the United States Army, Reserve Officers Association and the American Legion.

MOAA-WG BREAKFAST 1-18-2014 WITH GEN WASHINGTON

John Godzieba, Friends of Washington Crossing State Park was our primary speaker with his aide Denis Cooke and Continental Army Private (COL) Rubini



Gen George Washington



Gen Washington, his Aide, and Army Private



Gen Washington with Pres. Maj Portnoy



**PRESENTATION OF CUSTOM BEER STEIN
AND A DONATION TO THE FRIENDS OF
WASHINGTON CROSSING STATE PARK**

2014 ANNUAL DUES NOTICE FORM

MOAA WILLOW GROVE CHAPTER ● 2014 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

As in the past, we are offering a special incentive for those who renew their membership before 31 March 2014. If you send a check for **\$35 (\$30 for a surviving spouse)**, we will send you THREE (3) \$10 TICKETS for our 2014 AWARDS DRAWING of \$3000 and your membership will be practically FREE!

Member's Name: _____ Rank _____ Service _____

Street _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip _____

Phone # () _____ Cell # () _____

Email address: _____ Check our MOAA Web: <https://sites.google.com/site/moaawg/>

\$35 (\$30 for Surviving Spouses) for 3 AWARDS TICKETS AND ALMOST FREE MEMBERSHIP.

Additional Donation to our Military Charity Assistance Funds: \$ _____

OR

\$15 (\$10 for surviving spouses) for MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL ONLY.

Additional Donation to our Military Charity Assistance Funds: \$ _____

Please mail this form, with your check **PAYABLE TO: MOAA-WG**

MAIL TO: COL (Ret) William Cole, USA

40 Douglass Road

Lansdale, PA 19446-1449

Please pay your dues promptly.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR QUICK RESPONSE!!!

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS UPDATE By: MAJ Thomas Sadowski, USAF-R

Senate to Vote on COLA Cut Repeal

The Senate could consider up to three separate bills that would reverse a 1 percentage point cut in the Cost of Living Adjustments for military retirees under age 62 established in the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2013. Momentum for repeal is building, but we need your support.

Which Way to COLA Relief?

Influential legislators on both sides of the aisle have offered differing paths to repealing cuts to military retired pay established by the Bipartisan Budget Act. Which path will lead to full and immediate repeal?

Drawdown Accelerates

A planned force drawdown is gaining speed and could grow if sequestration remains in place. What tools are the services using to trim the force?

MOAA Supports Mental Health Survey

MOAA is partnering with The United Health Foundation and the Rand Corporation to conduct a survey of civilian behavioral health providers to gather information about their knowledge, attitudes and preferences for delivering mental health services to veterans and their families.

**MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA
WILLOW GROVE CHAPTER
P.O Box 12
1051 Fairchild Street
Horsham, PA 19044-5203**

**Presorted Std.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Lansdale, PA
PERMIT NO. 634**

(CLIP COUPON AND MAIL)

**March Luncheon
Thursday, 20 March 2014
1200 Hours**

Name(s): _____

Guest(s): _____

**Amount of check enclosed:
\$ _____
(At \$17.00 per person)**

**Make check Payable to: MOAA-WG
Mail check and this form to:**

**Dave Manuel
501 N. Bethlehem Pike Unit 1C
Ambler, PA 19002**

**Reservations must be made by
14 March 2014**



**March Luncheon
Thursday, 20 March 2014
1200-1500**

**Vereinigung Erzgebrige Club
130 Davisville Road, Warminster, PA 18974-5599**

**Pork Schnitzel
Served with two Vegetables
Salad and Dessert, Coffee, Tea and Decaf**

**Come and enjoy a pleasant luncheon with your
fellow MOAA members.**

**PROGRAM
Speaker: BG (Ret) Jerry Beck, Jr.-Deputy Adj.
General –Veterans Affairs for Pennsylvania**

**Cost per person: \$17.00
Reservation form to the left of this menu.**