



Stack Arms



Vol. 37 No. 3 MAY/JUNE 2014

Military Officers Association

Willow Grove Chapter

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

COMING EVENTS

May Luncheon

Thursday, May 15, 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, May 12, 2014
1000, Monday, June 9, 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



MOAA-WG returned to the VE Club in Warminster for our March meeting. We had thirty-two people present to enjoy a "light" lunch of wiener schnitzel. My wife Kathy twisted a few arms which resulted in two new members to our chapter. We welcomed CW3 Ken McCauley Jr., USAR-Ret. to our ranks. In addition, CDR Bill Doty, USCG ret., who is already a life member of MOAA, joined the Willow Grove Chapter. CDR Doty is very involved in a number of veteran's organizations and is a welcome addition.

Our speaker was Brigadier General Jerry G. Beck Jr., Deputy Adjutant General – Veterans Affairs, PA Department of Military and Veterans Affairs. General Beck brought with him his Deputy, Richard Hamp and Chief Counsel Dennis Guise. The general described the many state wide programs available to assist the veterans. There are nearly one million veterans and families that can be served by these programs. There are programs that provide assistance for blind, disabled and homeless vets to name a few. General Beck is responsible for the state system of six veteran's homes. He described the various categories of care available at these facilities and the number of beds available. For additional information concerning the Pennsylvania Department of Veteran's Affairs please visit this web site:
http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/dmva_home/5902 MOAA-WG presented BG Beck with a certificate of appreciation, and a custom beer stein.

(Cont. on page 2)



CHAPTER OFFICERS DIRECTORS & COMMITTEES

PRESIDENT & Membership
Corres. Secretary, Webmaster
MAJ Gary Portnoy, USAF-Ret.
215-249-1305

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Recording Secretary
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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.
Financial Auditing

As part of the efforts of the Pennsylvania Department of Veterans Affairs a "Veterans" designation is now available on your PA driver's license visit www.dmv.state.pa.us Click the American flag and follow instructions. The word Veteran and flag will be applied to your next license.



Our next event will be the luncheon at the Springhouse Tavern on 17 April 2014 at 1200 hours honoring Past President Major Bill Luckenbill and his wife Sharon for their service to MOAA-WG. Our next regular lunch meeting will be Thursday 15 May 2014 at the VE Club. Our own Col. Ed Scholl will describe his journey following in the footsteps of Lewis and Clark.

Although the COLA issue was at least partially resolved, the COLA's cuts for new military members were left in-tact. MOAA is still working to eliminate all COLA cuts. The next big issue will be changes to the military compensation and retirement systems. We need to guarantee that our future warriors are treated as fairly as possible and receive the compensation and retirement benefits they deserve.

Maj. Gary M. Portnoy,
USAFR, Ret.

SCHEDULE OF CHAPTER MEETINGS and LUNCHEONS **FOR 2014**

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

July 12 – Picnic-Tentatively at
the Presidents house in Dublin.

18 Sept - VE Club-Sojourners
9 Flags Presentation

SCHEDULE OF BOARD MEETINGS FOR 2014

12 May - Monday 1000

9 June - Monday 1000

8 September Monday 1000

Congratulations to MOAA-WG member LCDR Bill Grun. His daughter, Rear Admiral Margaret G. Kibben has been selected to be Deputy Chief of Chaplains of the Navy. RADM Kibben is "dual hatted" as the Chaplain of the U.S. Marine Corps.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Margaret_G._Kibben



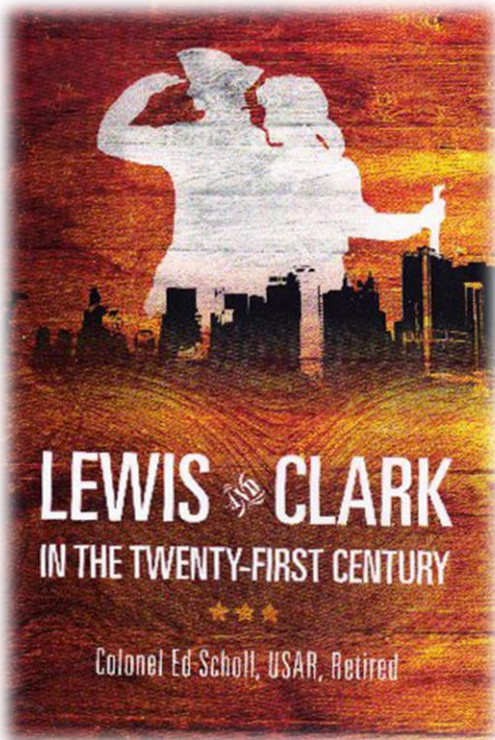
RADM Margaret G. Kibben

Welcome New Members

CW3 Ken McCauley, Jr.
USAR- Ret

CDR William C. Doty
USCG-Ret

MOAA SPEAKER-MAY 15, 2014 –VE CLUB 1200 HOURS COL ED SCHOLL, USA-RET



Ed Scholl is a retired Army Colonel who resides just outside of center city Philadelphia. A graduate from Central High School in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, he has been awarded a Bachelor in Administration Degree from Drexel University with a follow up Master of Science Degree from Troy State University. Since he is retired every day is a vacation day for him. Therefore he can devote three years of his life to this once in a lifetime opportunity to participate in a three-year living history event. Ed has attended in excess over forty Elderhostel Programs; however, it was one particular program that changed his life. It was an eighteen-day trip, for forty-two elder hostlers via bus from Saint Charles, Missouri to Fort Clatsop, Oregon in September 2001. Their trip included all of the highlights of the original expedition's trip. When the author saw what these men had experienced, **he had to get involved. After surfing the Internet, he found that the Discovery Expedition** of Saint Charles, Missouri was planning

a re-enactment. He sent them an email stating that he had an interest and received a reply back that would change his life forever, "Welcome aboard". COL Scholl will be presenting a power point presentation of this Lewis & Clark Expedition. You don't want to miss this opportunity to hear his story as relived by him in the twenty-first century!!!



MOAA - REPORT OF OUR SPEAKER-MARCH 20, 2014

BRIGADIER GENERAL (RETIRED) JERRY G. BECK JR.

Deputy Adjutant General for Veterans Affairs

Our Mission

To increase awareness of all benefits for Pennsylvania veterans and their dependents, to provide the best advice and assistance in obtaining benefits and to provide the highest quality care to the residents of our State Veterans' Homes. Veterans in Pennsylvania: http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/dmva_home/5902

- 326,577 age 70 or older
- 256,731 age 60 to 69
- 139,325 age 50 to 59
- 210,771 up to age 49
- Blind Veteran's Pension – 116 Participants \$150/m Total Program \$222K/Yr
- Paralyzed Veteran's Pension – 810 Participants
- \$150/m Total Program \$2.1Million/Yr.
- Disabled Veterans State Veterans Homes
- 6 Homes
- \$82M State/\$100M Fed and Aug
- 1554 Beds
- 90% fill
- 2000 employees
- 12% Non-Vet Population

Pennsylvania Veterans' Home System PROVIDES:

- Domiciliary Care
- Personal Care
- Skilled Nursing Care
- Dementia Care

BG (Ret.) Jerry G. Beck, Jr.



2014 DUES NOTICE FORM

MOAA WILLOW GROVE CHAPTER ● 2014 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

These annual dues support your local chapter and are separate from National MOAA Life Memberships

If you have not renewed your MOAA WG Chapter Dues, please do so now. Also consider an additional donation to our Military Charity Assistance Funds to support our many military organizations and families. THANK YOU

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!!!



Scan with your smart
phone QR Code Scanner
for our web site.

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS UPDATE By: MAJ Thomas Sadowski, PAAANG, ret.

On 09 April 2014 your MOAA National representatives "Stormed the Hill", visiting nearly all 535 representatives and senators. This was their agenda:

- Sustain military pay and benefits and avoid repeating past mistakes that destabilized the all-volunteer force;
- Reject disproportional TRICARE fee increases which shift costs onto beneficiaries while reducing access;
- Eliminate catastrophic sequestration cuts which threaten national security; Reject proposal to eliminate the existing TRICARE Prime, Standard, and Extra options for retirees under age 65 and military families. These options would be replaced by a single consolidated health care plan most similar to the existing TRICARE Standard/Extra. The fee-for-service plan would require all beneficiaries to pay copays and a deductible, and retirees would be required to pay an annual participation fee. Access would not be guaranteed under this proposal.
- Reject proposals to establish an annual TRICARE For Life (TFL) enrollment fee. The fee would be a percentage of retired pay, rising to 2 percent of pay per year in 2018. **Current TFL beneficiaries would be exempt from the fee.**
- Reject proposals to increase pharmacy copays, and require all beneficiaries to obtain their maintenance medication refills through either an MTF or the mail-order pharmacy.

**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)

**May Luncheon
Thursday, 15 May 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
12 May 2014**



**May Luncheon
Thursday, 15 May 2014
1200-1500**

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

**Chicken Parmegiana with
Penne Pasta & One Vegetable
Salad and Dessert, Coffee, Tea and Decaf**

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

PROGRAM

**Speaker: COL Ed Scholl, USA-Ret.
Relive the Lewis & Clark Expedition
In the Twenty-First Century**

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