



# Stack Arms



Vol. 37 No. 4 SEPT/OCT 2014

Military Officers Association

Willow Grove Chapter

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

## COMING EVENTS

### September Luncheon

Thursday, Sept. 18, 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, Sept. 8, 2014
- 1000, Monday, Oct. 13, 2014

56<sup>th</sup> 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*



We finally worked our way around the awful weather this past winter. We had to wait until April to do so. In April we honored our Past President Major Bill Luckenbill and his wife Sharon for their service to MOAA-WG. An excellent weather delayed luncheon was held at the Spring House Tavern in Springhouse, PA. Previously scheduled for 13 February, ten to twelve inches of snow caused postponement of the original luncheon. Twenty five members and spouses were present. Bill had a terrific three plus years of service to MOAA-WG. He worked

extremely hard to add to our membership and was very successful. Meetings were well attended with fascinating speakers. We presented Major Luckenbill with a custom beer stein and Sharon an engraved compact. Thanks to LT Frank Gorman for arranging this event. Our May meeting was held at the Vereinigung Erzgebirge Club, (VE) Club in Warminster, PA. Our speaker for May was MOAA-WG member Col. Ed Scholl. Ed Scholl is a retired Army Colonel who served in the Chemical Corps. In period appropriate uniform he described how he and a group of other history buffs re-enacted the famous Lewis and Clark journey from Saint Charles, Missouri to Fort Clatsop, Oregon in September 2001. His photographs detailed the rigorous journey and showed all the historically correct boats that were recreated for this trip as-well-as many highlights of the journey. The total effort took almost two years to complete with various crews switching off at times but Col. Scholl was

(Cont. on page 2)



## **CHAPTER OFFICERS DIRECTORS & COMMITTEES**

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

**1<sup>st</sup> VICE PRESIDENT**  
**VACANT**

**2<sup>nd</sup> VICE PRESIDENT**  
CAPT Gordon L Bell, USCG-Ret.

**IMMED PAST PRESIDENT &**  
**Recording Secretary**  
MAJ (R) William Luckenbill, USA

**TREASURER**  
COL(R) William C. Cole, USA  
215-997-8133

**PERSONAL AFFAIRS LIAISON**  
**EDITOR "STACK ARMS"**  
CAPT Gordon L. Bell, USCG-Ret.  
E-Mail: [CaptBell@comcast.net](mailto: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  
215-674-1418

**CDR Peter Thomson, USN-Ret.**  
**Financial Auditing**

almost a constant participant on the journey.

Our annual picnic was held at the president's home in Dublin, PA on 12 July 2014 with twenty six members and spouses present. The weather was excellent. Everyone enjoyed the libations and the food. Thanks to Col Bill Cole and Jana for the fresh corn and drinks. Thanks as well to all those who helped on the day of the picnic. This picnic allowed the members much more time to get to know each other than we get at our regular meetings.

On Saturday 19 July I attended a meeting of the Pennsylvania Council of Chapters in State College. The first hour was devoted to legislation at the state level which affects veterans, reservists and active duty service members. Council of Chapters President Bob Gray and several other council members are in constant contact with state legislators about these issues. One such item is HB 472 which is in the Senate Education Committee. This bill would waive the one year residency requirement for in state tuition which would help get veterans to return to PA. There is an effort underway to start up a local MOAA chapter in State College. Several local MOAA members were present on Saturday and were present at a meeting Friday night where they mapped out the process to start a chapter and have it chartered.

Our next regular meeting will be Thursday 18 September 2014 at 1200 hours when Benjamin Franklin Chapter 16, National Sojourners will perform a "Nine Flags" presentation. We are having a special meeting on October 16<sup>th</sup> to view a personal WW1&2 museum in NE Philadelphia. Meet first for lunch at the Club House Diner, Bensalem, 1130 hrs,

**Maj. Gary M. Portnoy,**  
**USAFR, Ret.**

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

**18 Sept – 1200 VE Club-**  
**Sojourners 9 Flags**  
**Presentation**

**16 October –Visit WWII**  
**Museum. 11907 Walzemire Dr.**  
**NE Philadelphia, 19154 Meet at**  
**Club House Diner 1130 hrs.**  
**2495 Street Rd. near PARX**

**5 December –1130 Friday**  
**MOAA Holiday GALA-Wm.**  
**Penn Inn, Gwynedd, PA**

### **SCHEDULE OF BOARD MEETINGS FOR 2014**

**8 September Monday 1000**

**13 October Monday 1000**

**10 November Monday 1000**

### **Welcome New Members**

**Marguerite (Meg) Graf**  
**Spouse of CDR Albert**  
**Graf, USN-Deceased**

**CWO4 Thomas McLaughlin**  
**USCG-Ret**

**1LT Shea D. Mola, USAF-Ret.**



**Benjamin Franklin  
National Sojourners**

**Chapter 16**

**Nine Flags Ceremony**

Members of Benjamin Franklin Chapter 16 National Sojourners and Heroes of 76 will be presenting our Nine Flags Ceremony at the MOAA-WG meeting in September. National Sojourners is a relatively small but widely dispensed Masonic organization. We are composed of Master Masons who have served or are presently serving as commissioned officers, warrant officers and high ranking enlisted personnel of the uniformed forces of the United States. We also have a small number of Master Masons who have not served in the military and hold Honorary Memberships.

We have banded together for the purposes of fellowship, for supporting masonic ideals, and for promoting all patriotic aims and activities. We are united in furthering the military need of national defense and oppose any effort calculated to weaken the national security. As masons we are proud of our American heritage and bring you a program about our nation's flags.



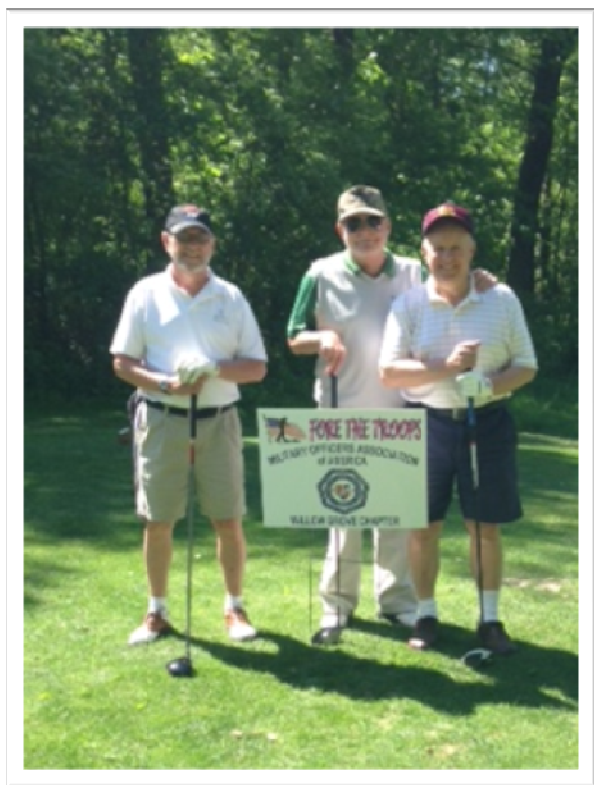
This photograph depicts four of our members at the conclusion of the Building the Flag Ceremony, another presentation conducted by Benjamin Franklin Chapter #16 National Sojourners.

## 2014 MOAA PA COUNCIL OF CHAPTERS CONVENTION

The state wide 2014 MOAA PA Council of Chapters Convention will be held on 12-13 September at the Doubletree Hilton, Pittsburgh-Meadowlands. Any member of a chapter may attend. Presenters include: VADM Norb Ryan, USN-Ret., President, MOAA National; BG (PA) Mike Gould, Deputy Adjutant General for Veterans Affairs; CAPT W.G. Bud Schneeweis, USCG-Ret. MOAA National Director, Benefits Information & Financial Education and Kostas Kalogeropoulos, Motivational Speaker and Patriot. If you are interested in attending, contact **MAJ Gary Portnoy** for information about the convention.

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**Fore the Troops** is a Golf Outing that raises money for Main Line Troop Support - Philadelphia Treats for Troops. Treats for Troops uses these funds to send care packages to deployed Service men and women serving our country.



(L-R) Skip Croushore, CAPT Milt April, COL Bill Cole at Skippack Golf Course, 14<sup>th</sup> hole sponsored by MOAA-WG Chapter for \$150

Check presentation for \$8,500 for 2014 "Treats for Troops"



## ***IF YOU HAVE NOT PAID YOUR 2014 ANNUAL 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/>

**\$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 Ro  
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, USAF-R**

Congress must make some big decisions in the second half of this year. The full House and the Senate Armed Services Committee (SASC) completed their respective drafts of the FY 2015 defense authorization bill. The SASC-passed version of the defense bill would make a number of cuts to pay and benefits proposed by the administration, including:

- Capping the FY 2015 Active Duty military pay raise at 1 percent, 0.8 percent below the increase dictated by current law to keep pace with private sector pay growth
- Increasing Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) out-of-pocket costs for service members by five percent over the next three years;
- Dramatically increasing TRICARE pharmacy copayments over next ten years and require all beneficiaries to refill maintenance medications via the mail-order pharmacy. The House-passed version of the defense bill rejects all of these cuts
- The Consumer Price Index increased another 0.2 percent in June. It now stands 1.9 percent above the FY2014 COLA baseline. Information for the Consumer Price Index for the month of July is scheduled to be released on August 19. This index determines both the Social Security and Retirees annual increases, based on the average increases of July, August & Sept.

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)**

**September Luncheon**  
**Thursday, 18 September 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 September 2014



**September Luncheon**  
**Thursday, 18 September 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**

**Members of Benjamin Franklin Chapter 16**  
**National Sojourners and Heroes of 76 will be**  
**presenting their Nine Flags Ceremony.**

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