



THE EAGLE

NEWS AND VIEWS OF CUMBERLAND VALLEY CHAPTER
MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

“ONE POWERFUL VOICE ®”



CV-MOAA, P.O. Box 278, Carlisle, PA 17013

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** National 4-Star Chapter 2008 **

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By Glenn Mitchell

I am honored to be your new Chapter President. Mike Zang did a great job this past two years and I am grateful to him and to Harold Cooney – our new Past-past-President – for the mentoring they have provided to me during their tenures in this position. I hope to be as effective and helpful as they have been. I also want to thank Lois Cole for ‘volunteering’ to take over as our new Chapter Vice-President. We can all look forward to her success in arranging great speakers at our social events.

I will attempt to emulate Mike by bringing you a synopsis of our speaker’s presentation every month. This time Harold Cooney provided a detailed summary of what MOAA’s PA Council of Chapters does for our Chapter and the MOAA mission. Harold is the current President of PACOC. The Council is made up of Presidents from each of the PA Chapters of MOAA and meets regularly at the Country Club here in Carlisle. PACOC’s mission is to support veterans, retirees, and active military across the state by monitoring the legislature’s activities and lobbying as needed. They have been successful at reducing the impact of ‘payday’ lenders on active duty troops and veterans here in PA. PACOC also partners with other pro-military non-profit organizations to support military issues statewide. The fellowship of chapter leaders promotes sharing of lessons learned on topics such as member recruitment and community service. Harold also mentioned that membership retention and recruitment has been an issue in PA just as in

other states recently with three chapters closing in the past year.

Again, thanks for your confidence in me. I am looking forward to continuing to move our organization forward over the next two years.

PROGRAM NOTES

By Lois Cole, Vice President

I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the **Carlisle Country Club** on February for social hour at **11:15 a.m.** and lunch at **noon**. Entrée choices are Horseradish Crusted Salmon and Chicken Marsala with the usual accompaniments.

Our speaker for the February ROTC/JROTC luncheon will be **LTC Michael M. Wertz**, US Army (Retired), Senior Army Instructor, Gettysburg Area High School JROTC. He will speak to us about the JROTC program history & status system-wide, then give specifics on their program at Gettysburg. See you at the CCC – the RSVP form is at the back of this newsletter, as always!



If you have a change in your mailing address, telephone number, or email address please notify our membership chair **Jim Simms**. He will make the necessary changes to our roster so that you can continue to receive information from the Chapter.

Legislative News

By Jim Simms

TRICARE Benefits Again in Congressional Budget Office (CBO) Crosshairs

The CBO has targeted the following areas in TRICARE in their strategies for preparing for the 2020 Budget:

TRICARE for Life (TFL).

CBO has put forward several options which would result in increased costs for TFL beneficiaries. Specifically, with either requiring an enrollment fee for TFL, or requiring beneficiaries to pay out of pocket cost shares - or both. Their objective is to reduce spending for Medicare and TFL by both increasing revenue and providing incentives for beneficiaries to use their TFL benefit less, or to even switch to a commercial Medicare supplement.

Key CBO recommendations (could start in 2021).

An annual enrollment fee of \$485 for individual coverage and \$970 for a family. The cost savings estimate from this would be \$12 billion between 2021 and 2028 and savings are projected to increase by about 5 percent, mainly by indexing this enrollment fee to Medicare cost growth.

Introduce minimum out-of-pocket requirements starting in 2022. TFL would not cover the first \$750 of an enrollee's cost-sharing payments under Medicare and would cover only 50 percent of the next \$6,750. Essentially, TFL beneficiaries would pay a maximum of \$4,125. In anticipation of TFL beneficiaries returning to the military treatment facilities (MTFs) to avoid these cost shares, the MTFs would be required to charge the same amount as civilian facilities.

TRICARE Prime and Select Cost Sharing for Retirees Under Age 65.

By targeting working-age military retirees and claiming they are not paying their share, provides the rationale to abolish the current grandfathering originally established in the 2017 National Defense

Authorization Act, and to push beneficiaries away from utilizing their earned benefits.

TRICARE Prime.

An annual enrollment fee of \$650 for individual and \$1,300 for a family.

TRICARE Select.

An annual enrollment fee of \$485 for individual and \$970 for a family. The annual deductible for an individual would be \$300 and \$600 for a family. These cost shares would be tied to a national health expenditure index and not COLA.

WHY CUMBERLAND VALLEY MOAA?

By Harold Cooney



Recently someone asked, what is our why? That is a very good question. Why do we exist as an organization? Our Chapter bylaws say: the purposes of this organization shall be:

- To promote the aims of The Military Officers Association of America, as stated in the preamble of the bylaws of the national association.
- To further the legislative and other objectives of The Military Officers Association of America.
- To encourage and facilitate camaraderie among active, retired, and former officers of the uniformed services, their spouses and survivors.
- To provide information to, useful services for, and to protect the interests of, members and their dependents and survivors.
- To serve the community and the nation.

How do we accomplish these? While the first two are generic, we accomplish the third bullet through our nine monthly meetings. We are a social organization, a group of citizens with similar

backgrounds who enjoy each other's company and, to the fourth point, receive information through a series of guest speakers.

The last bullet is our grounding principle in my opinion. What do we do to improve or support our community and nation?

Our Chapter has chosen support to the local ROTC and JROTC organizations as our signature purpose. The two senior ROTC programs graduate, on average, thirty new lieutenants a year. We award a \$1000 scholarship to one cadet from each program each year. The Gold Bar/ sponsorship program, which you have so generously supported, links the past (you) with the future leadership of our Army and nation.

The five JROTC programs, four Army and one Navy, have a total of 533 students enrolled this year. We provide mission support funding to the tune of approximately \$2500 each year to enhance that 'margin of excellence' in their programs, filling gaps the school district or Services can't. Not all these young Americans join the military, but the program is one of the largest character development and citizenship programs for youth in the world. You need only speak with the principals and teachers to know how they value the program and the difference it makes in the lives of these future leaders, whether they choose the military as their next step or not.

Lastly, in April and May we recognize, with MOAA leadership medals, a junior cadet in each of the seven programs who will serve in a leadership capacity in the next school year.

So, when you are asked, "Why Cumberland Valley MOAA," you can proudly answer that we are contributing to the development of the future leaders of our military and the nation. And, as a secondary benefit, enjoy each other's company at nine meetings a year, sharing family stories and swapping lies, I mean, tales of how life was when giants walked the earth!

TREASURER'S NOTES

By Hal Nelson

Funding our Charitable Activities

Our Chapter is in good shape with about \$11,000 in our checking, savings, and CD accounts. Annual dues total nearly \$2000 annually and pay for memorials, speaker gifts, annual dues to the Pennsylvania Council of Chapters, a few administrative expenses, and about \$800 worth of charitable activity. We find local sponsors for our newsletters each year to cover the cost of printing and mailing it to members who do not have email accounts.

Our local charities have been the Cumberland County Honor Guard and the Carlisle Barracks Retiree Council. We have been budgeting \$150 for each. We recently raised our memorial gift amount from \$30 to \$50.

The bulk of our charitable giving is to ROTC's and JROTC's. With the closing of Carson Long, we will be supporting 5 JROTC's in 2009 and the Board approved \$500 per school, although the amount actually given to support operations varies from school to school. We still support the Dickinson and Shippensburg ROTC programs with \$1000 scholarships. When MOAA National stopped supporting the Gold Bar Program, our members stepped in to fill that gap with over \$700 in special donations. Harold Cooney has kicked off that program again for this year's graduates.

Our total charitable giving for 2018 was around \$5600.

Part of this generosity has been funded by deficit spending, but most has been covered by increased donations. The local Special Forces Association has been a generous donor, and we have had a large challenge gift offered in each of the past few years to help cover the loss of revenue from the recent changes in rules for Small Games of Chance that limit our 50/50 to on-post facilities. The challenge rose from \$400 last year to \$500 for 2019. Generous donors at the January luncheon got us off to fine start with \$190 which has already been matched since February is our big month for gifting. The Red Box will be out again next month. A few members have taken advantage of our status as a 501 (c) 17 organization to send in checks for a charitable deduction. Lots more of those would be welcome—I'll send you a nice letter to share with your accountant.

Great Decisions

These lectures begin on January 18, 2019 and run for 9 of the next 11 Friday afternoons from 1300 to 1500 at AHEC. Please note that there is one Thursday program this year. The schedule is as follows:

Friday, Jan 18, India and its Neighbors by Dr. Pat Bratton

Friday, Feb 01, State of the State Department and Diplomacy by Mr. Sherwood McGinnis

Friday, Feb 08, Decoding U.S. – China Trade by Professor John Troxell

Friday, Feb 15, The Middle East: Regional Disorder by Dr. Chris Bolan

Friday, Feb 22, Refugees and Global Migration by Mr. Alex Deprez

Thursday, March 07, The Rise of Populism in Europe by Army War College panel members

Friday, March 15, Cyber Conflicts and Geopolitics by Col. Mickey Evans

Friday, March 22, Nuclear Negotiations: Back to the Future? by Mr. Frank Jones

Friday, March 29, The United States and Mexico: Partnership Tested by Dr. Evan Ellis

The Chaplain's Corner

By Art Pace



Interesting Times

The Chinese have a curse that states simply, “*May you live in interesting times.*” I think it is fair to say that right now we live in interesting times. As we progress into this new year, we may feel like Don McLean in his song American Pie when he said, “*But February made shiver with every paper I'd deliver. Bad news on the doorstep. I couldn't take one more step.*” If we listen to the news, it is easy

CV-MOAA UPCOMING EVENTS



February 13 lunch - Carlisle Country Club

The Strategic Art Film Series continues Tuesdays in the Wil Washcoe Auditorium in Root Hall at 4:30 pm. The schedule for the remainder of January and February 2019 is as follows:

Jan 22: “Last Men in Aleppo”

Jan 28: “Tora, Tora, Tora”

Feb 5: “Midway”

Feb 12: “Pentagon Wars”

Feb 19: “Fog of War”

to pessimistically believe that we are in an apocalyptic time in the US. But I am reminded of a quote often attributed to Mark Twain, *“If you don’t read the newspaper, you’re uninformed. If you read the newspaper, you’re misinformed.”* Maybe instead of looking around we should spend more time looking up. This month we remember the birth of George Washington, the Father of our Country. He knew a thing or two about a troubled nation. As President he stated, *“It is the duty of all nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey His will, to be grateful for His benefits, and humbly to implore His protection and favor.”* As those who have honorably served our Nation, let us never lose sight that the Lord who led us in the past leads us still. Let us put more trust in the promises of God than in the ramblings of reporters. Now let’s move out smartly.

January MOAA Meeting Memories



We hope to see all of you at our next MOAA gathering in FEBRUARY!

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY SERVING

Daughter of Lance and Laurel Betros:

1LT Rosemary Betros, USA, 8th Engr Bn, Schofield Barracks, HI

Grandson of Don and Lois Bliss:

CPT Kyle Bliss, USA, Hohenfels, GER

Family of Dick and Sharon Blouch:

SSG Emily Dowda, USA, Intelligence Analyst, Eglin AFB, FL
SGT Forrest Dowda, USA, Intelligence Analyst, Eglin AFB, FL
SPC Matthew Blouch, USA, Ft. Gordon, GA

Son of James Cermenaro

Capt Scott Cermenaro, USAF, 8th Air Force Global Strike Command, Dyess AFB, TX

Grandnephew of Lois Cole

PVT Hunter Sheaffer, USA, Basic Training

Son of Jerry and Karen Comello:

LTC (P) Anthony Comello, USA, Ofc of J6, USSOCOM, MacDill AFB, FL

Grandson of George and Beverly Connolly:

SSgt Nathaniel Connolly, USAF, England

Son of Kevin and Dee Connelly:

MAJ Michael Connelly, USA, PEO-Aviation, Huntsville, AL

Granddaughter of Mike Daley:

1LT Brianna Burnstad, USA, 1st Infantry Division, Ft. Riley, KS

Son of Jeffrey and Lori Elliott and Grandson of Ron Elliott:

CPT Christian Elliott, USA, 1st Armored Division, Ft Hood, TX

Daughter-in-law of Chip and Dee Fenton:

Col Anne Marie Fenton, USAF, The Netherlands

Family of Bob and Mary Lee Gerard:

CPT Robert Snook, USA, C/6-17 Cav, Germany

Son of Keith and Marilyn Gillespie:

MAJ Stephen Gillespie, USA, Professor, USMA, West Point, NY

Son of Mike and Patty Gould:

2LT Michael Gould II, USA, 10th ID, Ft Drum NY

Son of Charlotte Kinney:

SSG Jeffrey Geer, USA, 420th CSB, Fort Bliss, TX.

Family of Dutch Kissinger:

LtCol Andrew Kissinger, USAFR, IP, 559th Flight Trng Sqdn
Maj Niki Kissinger, USAF, FAA Liaison, Ft Worth, TX
Airman 1st Class Ryan Kissinger, USAF, Special Ops, Davis-Monthan, AZ

Family of Patti Leggett:

LT Miles Ennis McGee, USN, Whidbey Island, WA
LTJG Ryan P. McGee, USN, Norfolk, VA

Nephew of Julie and John Manta:

CPT Christopher Manta, USA, Ft Hood, TX

Son-in-law of Art and Mary Pace

E3 Erwin Villanueva, USN, Mayport Naval Stn, FL

Family of Mike Pasquarett:

LTG James F. Pasquarette, USA, Deputy Chief of Staff, G-8, Pentagon
1LT Jay Pasquarette, USA, 3-67 Armor, 3d Infantry Div, Ft. Stewart, GA
SGT Drew Pasquarette, 503rd Infantry, 173d Combat Team, Vicenza, IT

Son of Bob & Judie Read:

COL Mark Read, USA, Professor, USMA, West Point, NY

Family of Bill and Ann Whitesel:

MAJ William Whitesel, USA, Dhaka, Bangladesh
Capt Thomas Whitesel, USMC, Camp Lejeune, NC
LT Connor Whitesel, USN, Quantico, VA
MAJ Andrew Pfeiffer, USA, Washington, DC

Daughter of David and Trish Willmann:

LT Megan Willmann, USCG, CO, Pacific Regional Fisheries Training Center, Alameda, CA

Son of Mike and Karen Zang:

CPT Patrick Zang, USA, 3-16th CAV, Ft Benning, Ga



**PLEASE SUPPORT THOSE WHO
SPONSOR US!**

**(and tell them you saw them in the MOAA
newsletter!)**



**COL Robert S. Hume, U.S. Army Retired
Chapter President**

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Our purpose is to encourage and facilitate camaraderie among active, retired, and former officers of the uniformed services, their spouses and survivors; to provide information to, useful services for, and to protect the interests of, members and their dependents and survivors; to promote the aims of the national MOAA; and to serve the community and the nation.

**THE MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA
CUMBERLAND VALLEY CHAPTER**



**RESERVATIONS FORM
February Luncheon
Carlisle Country Club
February 13, 2019**



PLEASE RESPOND BY Thursday, February 7, 2018

Remember, it is very important that you send your reservations in before the cutoff date of **Thursday February 7, 2018**. If an unexpected event surfaces and you must cancel, please contact Jane Mitchell at 323-0012 or by e-mail at janehmitchell@gmail.com. Refunds for cancellations received after noon on February 8th cannot be guaranteed.

The luncheon at the Carlisle Country Club will begin with a social time at **11:15 a.m.** We will assemble at **Noon** for lunch, followed by a short business meeting and our speaker, **LTC (RET) Michael M. Wertz**, Senior Army Instructor, Gettysburg Area High School JROTC.

Menu:

- A. Horseradish Crusted Salmon
- B. Chicken Marsala

Cost: \$28.00 per person, which also includes salad, a starch, a vegetable. dessert, beverages, tax and gratuity.

A cash bar will be available. (For a special dietary meal, please indicate below.)

*****CLIP AND RETURN SHEET*****

NAME: _____ Number to attend: _____

Name of Spouse/Guest(s) if applicable _____

Menu choices: A _____; B _____; Special Dietary Meal _____

Check for dinner to CV-MOAA (@\$28 each): \$ _____ enclosed.

Mail to: CV-MOAA, P.O. BOX 278, CARLISLE, PA 17013



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