



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

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

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** National 4-Star Chapter 2008 **

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By Glenn Mitchell

It was great to see everyone again after the summer break. After an uplifting message and prayer from our Chaplain, we had a moment of silence in remembrance of those lost on 9-11-01 and beyond. We also celebrated our 60th anniversary year as a Chapter by displaying the new photo montage poster that Mike Zang put together over the summer. Thanks again to members who sent in their old active duty photos. The old posters are in the care of Bob Broyles.

Our dinner speaker was David Bennett, who was a marine helicopter pilot and a War College faculty member before his retirement. He gave us a personal view of what he feels has been a change in the focus of Army leadership over the years since 9-11-01. That change, he contended, resulted in a loss of truly strategic leader development and an increasing focus on tactical deployment skills for upcoming talent. He noted the presence of fewer scholars among War College students in part due to promotion selection pressure toward more tactical experience. The question and answer period was stimulating.

The new War College golf course clubhouse remains unfinished and is scheduled to be completed early next year, according to the current construction schedule. Thus, we will skip the usual Fall golf outing and picnic next month and proceed to a dinner meeting. The Board considered the input it received from our members and moved our get togethers to the Carlisle Country Club for the remainder of this year's meals. If the golf clubhouse



is finished before the May golf outing, we will see in May how that facility might fit into our needs for the future.

Another important item emerged from our Board's consideration of the data we collected about your preferences for social events. Most responses were from members who already attend our monthly meetings. The total number of persons responding was markedly less than the total number of Chapter members.

We are organizing a telephone campaign by Board members to reach out to those members who do not come to our events. We want to find out if there are things we could do to increase member participation. Such things as providing rides to and from the Club and providing different types of entertainment at meetings were discussed. The Board will divide up the roster at the next meeting and will likely begin calling in late October. Let us know how the Chapter can serve all of us better.

Our October dinner will be at the Carlisle Country Club. See you for dinner!



SEPTEMBER PROGRAM

By Lois Cole

MOAA will meet on Wednesday, October 9th, at the Carlisle Country Club. I encourage all members to suggest to other members that they attend as well, for entertainment and an informative presentation! Our speaker for the evening will be Barbara Landis, Carlisle Indian School Archivist & Library Specialist, who was very well-received when she visited us last fall. Her current subject is the "outing system" of the School: how and when the students went all around the state to "work".

The social hour entertainment beginning at 6:15 PM will be "Two Js" --keyboard & accordion, autoharp & dulcimer music.

Additionally, we will discuss the focus and format of MOAA events to be able to better attract and serve our members. The recent short survey conducted gave us some information on MOAA meeting location and frequency, and this discussion will help us get an in-depth look at what types of programming will draw more members to each of our future events.

Looking ahead: in November our speaker will be Jessica Sheets, who was recommended to me by Dr. Cron of AHEC. Her presentation will be based on her doctoral dissertation: "Families Politically Divided by the American Revolution".



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.



Glenn pins our newest member, Matt Lissner

ARMY WAR COLLEGE FALL ACTIVITIES

US Army War College activities from September to November 2019 (as of 8 Sep 19). All listed activities are subject to change and may have limited or restricted attendance. Check web sites for up-to-date information.

September

10: Strategic Art Film: "TBD", begins at 1630 in the Wil Wash Aud in Root Hall

17 or 19: USAWC students Gettysburg staff ride

18: US Air Force birthday celebration

18: AHEC Perspectives in Mil History Lecture, "The British are Coming," at 1915-2030

24: Strategic Art Film: "Ike: Countdown to D-Day", begins at 1630 in the Wil Wash Aud in Root Hall
27: Hispanic Heritage Observance, LVCC at 1130-1300
27: Air-Shipwreck Ball, on Indian Field, at 1630-2130

October

1: Strategic Art Film: "Conspiracy", begins at 1630 in the Wil Wash Aud in Root Hall
4-6: Octoberfest at AHEC
5: Retiree Appreciation Day, Bliss Hall, 0730-1600. Can get flu shots.
8: Strategic Art Film: "Master and Commander", begins at 4:30 PM in the Wil Washcoe Auditorium in Root Hall
11: U.S. Navy birthday celebration at Bliss Hall, 0800-0830
13: Army Ten-Miler in Washington D.C.
14: Discoverer's Day holiday, reduced hours on post
14-16: AUSA Convention in Washington DC
15: Strategic Art Film: "Dr. Strangelove", begins at 4:30 PM in the Wil Washcoe Auditorium in Root Hall
16: AHEC Perspectives in Mil History Lecture, "Field hospital at Manassas," at 1915-2030
17-19: USAWC Class of 1999 Class Reunion
21: Flu shots begin through 1 Nov
23-25: NYC trip for class
22: Strategic Art Film: "TBD", begins at 1630 in the Wil Wash Aud in Root Hall
29: Strategic Art Film: "TBD", begins at 1630 in the Wil Wash Aud in Root Hall
31: CBks Halloween Parade on Indian Field at 1630, followed by Treat or Treating

November

2: AHEC Foundation Annual Membership Dinner, 1800-2100
5: Strategic Art Film: "TBD", begins at 1630 in the Wil Washcoe Auditorium in Root Hall
6: International Fellows "Know Your World" at the Carlisle Expo Center, 1800-2100
7: AHEC Kleber Lecture Series "TBD", 1915-2030
8: U.S. Marine Corps birthday celebration
11: Veterans Day holiday, reduced hours on post
12: Strategic Art Film: "", begins at 1630 in the Wil Washcoe Auditorium in Root Hall
15: AHEC Native American Heritage Month observance, 1900-2100

19: Strategic Art Film: "", begins at 1630 in the Wil Washcoe Auditorium in Root Hall
22: Thanksgiving holiday recess begins at 1300, classes resume 3 Dec
26: Strategic Art Film: "TBD", begins at 1630 in the Wil Washcoe Auditorium in Root Hall
28: Thanksgiving Day Federal holiday
29: Military Training Holiday, reduced hours

Submitted by:

Fred Gellert Email:

frederick.gellert@armywarcollege.edu

A NOTE FROM OUR TREASURER

By Hal Nelson

Since our October meeting will be at the Carlisle Country Club, we can't hold a 50/50. One of our members has offered a \$200 challenge for matching at that meeting. This doesn't rule out the larger matching challenge we have traditionally been offered in the new year, but it could be a big help in funding our support for ROTC and JROTC. If you can't come to the October meeting, consider writing a check and sending it to our post office box with "October Challenge" on the memo line.



Many thanks to Dick and Sharon Blouch, who have faithfully conducted the 50/50 for the last few years!

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

By Harold Cooney

National Defense Authorization Act in Conference Committee

When lawmakers returned from their summer recess this week, one of the first things they began work on was legislation to prevent another government shutdown. With the Oct. 1 start of the fiscal year, Congress has only a few weeks to pass a series of spending bills to keep the lights on.

To date, the House has passed nine spending bills this year, including money for the Defense Department. However, the Senate has delayed work on its spending bills, waiting instead for the August agreement to raise spending levels above previous budget caps. Absent a new budget deal, federal agencies would be subject to automatic budget cuts, known as sequestration.

But with new top-line numbers in the budget agreements, lawmakers in each chamber must go back to the drawing board to rewrite the legislation to adhere to the new limits. Earlier this year, House lawmakers [authorized \\$733 billion in defense spending](#). The Senate's defense bill [authorized \\$750 billion](#). In July, Congress voted on a bipartisan budget deal [authorizing \\$738 billion](#).

The new budget numbers mean the House can authorize an additional \$5 billion in spending, while the Senate must trim \$12 billion from its bill.

Both bills support the 3.1% pay raise and have no impact on BAH or TRICARE fees. The House version supports the elimination of the Widow's Tax, the Senate bill is silent. The House bill address the 18K medical billet cut, the Senate bill is silent.

Lawmakers are trying to decide how long the stopgap funding measure, known as a continuing resolution, will last. Optimists expect the extension to last until Nov. 22, although some members of Congress are floating the notion of a funding bill going until Dec. 6. Even a short-term continuing resolution creates personnel turbulence and puts servicemembers in jeopardy.

Two More States Exempt Military Retired Pay

North Dakota and Indiana are the latest to join the list of states (24 total) that have approved at total exemption on taxing military retiree income.

Both states will offer full exemptions on military pay as well as surviving spouse benefits. However, neither state will extend exemptions to retirees of the U.S. Public Health Service or the National Atmospheric and Oceanic Administration.

Almost every state offers at least a partial exemption on state income tax for military retirees. MOAA's [Military State Report Card and Tax Guide](#) tracks changes in these benefits, with full breakdowns of state tax policy available to Premium and Life members.

In North Dakota's historic decision, military retirees will move from full taxation to full exemption on their state income taxes. Each veteran would receive an average of \$550 in tax relief.

In Indiana, the exemption will be phased in over four years. Previously, Indiana offered only a partial exemption for retirees – about \$6,250. Under the new law, the exemption is increased by about 25 percent each year until 2023, when the exemption will total 100 percent.

New Defense Health Agency Director

There is new leadership at the helm of the Defense Health Agency, and the three-star will play a pivotal role as military health looks to shutter facilities and cut billets.

Navy Vice Adm. Raquel Bono relinquished command of the DHA to Army Lt. Gen. Ronald Place on September 3. Place, who is a surgeon by training, has the background and experience to face the challenges that await. His bio indicates he has had significant leadership responsibilities as chief of surgery at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, in Germany, and at Madigan Army Medical Center, in Washington state, as the deputy commander for clinical services and principal deputy commander. He also commanded the medical activities at Fort Knox, Ky., and Fort Stewart, Ga.

Lt. Gen. Place's plate will be full as he faces a host of challenges. The biggest are the incorporation of all military treatment facilities from the services into the DHA, sorting out the right-sizing efforts of the services, which includes the potential of large military medical personnel reductions, and the administration of the TRICARE health plan managed care support contracts.

[TAKE ACTION: Send a letter to Congress, asking them to stop cuts to medical billets.]

MOAA is continuing our fight to pause nearly 18,000 medical billet cuts until the Defense Department can show their plan and analyses for such drastic reductions. You can help by sending a letter to Congress, seeing the inclusion of important language in the 2020 National Defense Authorization Act that would put these cuts on hold.

The Chaplains Corner

By Art Pace

The Pumpkin Patch



There is something about October that brings me joy. Seeing the leaves change color reminds me of the broad palate that God has with which to paint his creation. Of course there is the raking of those leaves which does not give me joy, but that is another matter. This month we celebrate Christopher Columbus who opened the way for our nation to be born. On Halloween children and adults will don alter ego costumes and for one night entertain the world for a candy reward. And on that same night some of us will celebrate the Reformer Martin Luther who nailed his theses to the door of a church. But one of the things I very much enjoy is seeing pumpkins everywhere. Some are carved, some are decorated, and some are just as they are. To me, seeing those pumpkins are as much a rite of passage into autumn as are the turning leaves. Even Linus in the Peanuts cartoon would wait in the pumpkin patch for the Great

Pumpkin to come. This reminds me of the old children's riddle. How do you mend a broken pumpkin? With a pumpkin patch! It is true that some of us in this beautiful season may not feel so beautiful. We may feel like a broken pumpkin at times. We need a patch to make us whole again. The good news is that we indeed have a patch for our brokenness, and it does not lie with any Great Pumpkin. It is from God Himself. Psalm 147:3 tells us of this promise, "He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds." That is a comforting promise, one worth claiming. And it is far better than a pumpkin patch! Now, if you don't mind, please pass me the pumpkin pie.



Glenn welcomes Julianna Olson, USAWC 2020



These gentlemen were enjoying the social hour



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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

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SGT Forrest Dowda, USA, Intelligence Analyst, FT Huachuca, AZ

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:

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E3 Erwin Villanueva, USN, Mayport Naval Stn, FL

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THE MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA



CUMBERLAND VALLEY CHAPTER

RESERVATIONS FORM

October Dinner

Carlisle Country Club

October 9, 2019



PLEASE RESPOND BY Thursday, October 3, 2019

Remember, it is very important that you send your reservations in before the cutoff date of **Thursday October 3, 2019**. If an unexpected event surfaces and you must cancel, please contact Jane Mitchell at 717-323-0012 or by e-mail at janehmitchell@gmail.com. Refunds for cancellations received after 4 p.m. October 3rd cannot be guaranteed.

The dinner at the Carlisle Country Club will begin with a social time with "Two Js" music at **6:15 p.m.** We will assemble at **7:00 p.m.** for dinner, followed by a short business meeting and our speaker, Barbara Landis, Carlisle Indian School Archives & Library Specialist.

Menu:

- Wild Mushroom Strudel (\$35 pp)
- Maryland Crab Cake (\$35 pp)

Cost: \$ 35 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(@\$35): \$_____ enclosed.

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



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