



KEYSTONER

Keystone Capitol Chapter

"One Powerful Voice"

MAY 2014

The May picnic meeting will be Thursday, May 29th, 2014 at the Park Inn Hotel on the Carlisle Pike. The social will start at 05:00 PM with dinner served at 06:00 PM on the covered Patio Courtyard or in the Patio Room if bad weather. This is a great opportunity for all members to bring a friend that supports our soldiers and veterans.

Our social time begins on the covered Patio Courtyard at the Rear of the hotel with a cash bar. **Our special guest will be MAJ Will Shiffer USA Ret, senior Army instructor for JROTC at Pine Gove High School and his wife.** The Reservation form is the last page of this newsletter. **Please RSVP by May 23rd.**

Pine Grove High School Military Ball



Bob Gray presents the MOAA JROTC award to Cadet Josiah Ferrebee

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Photos courtesy of the Pine Grove High School JROTC Cardinal Battalion



Bob Gray presents the MOWW award to Cadet Tyler Wessner

This year marks the 32nd year for the Pine Grove JROTC program. The program started in 1982 with Department of the Army General Order Number 18 effective 1 April 1983, establishing the Junior ROTC program at Pine Grove High School. From the beginning of the JROTC program, approximately 1,650 students have been influenced by the ideals of this course. As there is no military obligation with JROTC, graduates have gone on to be successful in every career field, including military service.

The Patio Courtyard

The Patio Courtyard is on the **right side** of the Park Inn Hotel, Carlisle Pike, near the volley ball courts. You must drive around the side of the hotel to get to the patio. A gravel path runs directly behind the Buck Wilds Bar and leads onto the patio. The patio is up against the back of the hotel.



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Point of Contact (POC)

For information or if you need help for the Survivor Benefits Program (SBP) please call 1-800-321-1080

If anyone knows of an ill or recuperating chapter member please contact D'Arcy Wagonhurst at 717-766-7351. She will send a card from the Chapter.

BOARD MEETING

KEYSTONE CAPITAL CHAPTER

Meeting Location: Park Inn – Legends Restaurant, Mechanicsburg, PA

April 15th 2014 at 11:30 AM

At this meeting the board voted to award each of the three JROTC units the chapter supports with a \$200.00 contribution to help with cadet programs. Checks will be presented to JROTC at the picnic. Final dues payments are due by the end of May to the treasurer, Warren Heidelbaugh, 1 Truman Drive, Elizabethtown, PA 17022. Contact Bob Gray at 623-8715 for additional information.

**Next Meeting – Thursday September 18th at 6PM
Speaker from Naval Supply Center, Mechanicsburg**

2014- 2015 Meeting Dates

**Nov. 20th Lunch Meeting (Elections)
Revolutionary War Rein actor**

**Dec. 11th (5 PM Holliday Party in
Terrace Ballroom)**

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

State Veterans Legislation

Senate Veterans Affairs & Emergency Preparedness Committee April 30, 2014

SB 403 (physician recruiting and retention incentive program for Guard) reported out as amended 4/30/14

SB 923 (Military Family Relief Asst. for active PA military families - extension) reported out as amended 4/30/14

SB 1115 (VA benefits used before state Educational Assistance Program) reported out as amended 4.30/14

Senate Veterans Affairs & Emergency Preparedness Committee Meeting April 19, 2014

SB 1129 (Amputee and paralyzed Veterans) Amends eligibility to only severely disabled veterans. Reported out as amended 4/29/14

SB 1224 (Allows VA medications to be broken down into single unit doses in personal care and assisted living facilities) Passed the Senate 4/7/2014. Sent to the House

Other Bills we are tracking: Part of Education Package

HB 1164 (Veterans Priority College Registration) Passed the Senate, signed in the Senate, Signed in the House, presented to the Governor 5/8/2014

HB 1460 (protects money paid for semester when mobilized and to change W-withdraw on transcript to M-mobilized) reported out of Education 4/8/14 referred to Appropriations 4/9/14

HB 472 (waive residency for veterans moving into PA for instate tuition) Stalled in Senate Education Committee - Two separate letters of support provided for this bill from the PA War Veterans Council

Federal Legislation

Key Committee Rejects Personnel Cuts

May 9, 2014 - MOAA Legislative Update

The House Armed Services Committee followed the lead of the Personnel Subcommittee and rejected administration proposals to increase TRICARE fees, cut the active duty pay raise, the commissary benefit, and increase out-of-pocket housing costs when it passed its version of the FY 2015 defense authorization bill on May 7.

The committee's mark paves a path for Congress to block these proposals this year, though much depends on the Senate's deliberations later this month. The bill addresses several key MOAA concerns:

TRICARE Fees: rejects the administration's proposals to hike TRICARE fees for beneficiaries of all ages, eliminate TRICARE Prime, and consolidate health care options for beneficiaries under age 65.

Housing: rejects the administration's proposal to increase servicemembers' out-of-pocket housing costs.

Pay: Supports a 1.8 percent pay raise to keep pace with private sector wage growth. However, current law allows the president to implement an alternative pay raise, an authority he exercised last year. The Committee also supports a pay freeze for flag and general officers in FY 2015.

Commissary: The committee rejected the reduction in the commissary benefit this year but indicated calls for an outside review of the commissary system to identify future budget savings.

Other key personnel-related provisions include:

- improving sexual assault prevention and prosecution – including the elimination of the “good soldier defense”
- \$45 million for behavioral and mental health programs for Special Forces
- report on the Defense Health Agency's structure
- protection of child custody arrangements for deployed servicemembers
- additional study and reporting of servicemember and family member suicide

The House is expected to consider the defense authorization bill in late May. The Senate Armed Services Committee is also expected to begin its

mark by the end of the month. There is still a long way to go in the defense bill process, but this represents another significant step.

Hershey Park - Military Discount Program - Active, Guard, Reserve, Retired and Former military. You must show military ID card or DD-214 at the Hershey Park Ticket window. \$20 off price for regular admission tickets, age 9-54, and \$4 off Juniors age 3-8 and Seniors 55-69.

<http://www.hersheypark.com/tickets/discounts/index.php>

MOAA, Joint Chiefs Clash on Budget

On May 6, the Joint Chiefs of Staff made a rare unified appearance before the full Senate Armed Services Committee (SASC) in support of the Pentagon's FY 2015 budget proposals to "slow the growth" in personnel costs in pay and benefits.

MOAA Chairman of the Board, Gen. John H. Tilelli, Jr., USA (Ret.) [provided the counter-argument](#) to the Pentagon's proposals during a second panel that included representatives from the Association of the United States Army (AUSA), the Association of the United States Navy (AUSN), and the Air Force Association (AFA).

Tilelli explained that while debt reduction is a national priority, a disproportionate share of the burden of reducing it must not be placed on the backs of servicemembers and military families.

He called on Congress to support a bipartisan debt reduction package to replace sequestration. "Continued sequestration cuts for FY 2016 and beyond will place national security at risk," he said.

Much of Joint Chiefs testimony focused on personnel cost growth since 2000. Tilelli countered their argument saying, "Since 2000, personnel and health care costs experienced an average 7.8-percent rate of growth due to the necessity of correcting previous cutbacks from breaking the career force. However, since 2011, personnel cost growth has not just slowed, but [rather] declined on an average of 1.5 percent per year." - See more at: [http://www.moaa.org/Main_Menu/Take_Action/Top_Issues/Serving in Uniform/Compensation/MOAA, Joint Chiefs Clash on Budget.html#sthash.cA3b6Fhn.dpuf](http://www.moaa.org/Main_Menu/Take_Action/Top_Issues/Serving_in_Uniform/Compensation/MOAA_Joint_Chiefs_Clash_on_Budget.html#sthash.cA3b6Fhn.dpuf)



KEYSTONE CAPITOL CHAPTER

Join Today! FREE for 2014 (New members only)

Regular officer dues \$18, Auxiliary \$12

Full Name: _____

Please print clearly May use for Renewal Notice**

Grade: _____

Service: _____

Check your status: ☐ Retired Officer ☐ Regular Active Duty
☐ Former Officer ☐ Currently Serving National Guard
☐ Currently Serving Reserves
☐ Widow (er)* of an officer (Auxiliary Member)

Mailing Address: _____

E-mail: _____

Phone: _____ Birth date: _____

Spouse's Name _____ Spouse's Birth date: _____

☐ I am a member of MOAA National ☐ I am not a member of MOAA National

MOAA# (if known): _____

Signature _____ Date: _____

***Fill in your own name, address, etc. and show deceased spouse's rank and service.**

Mail to: Warren Heidelbaugh, 1 Truman Drive, Elizabethtown, PA 17022

Army consolidates programs for retired Soldiers and Veterans

WASHINGTON — Army Chief of Staff Gen. Raymond T. Odierno approved the reorganization of the Army Retirement Services Office (RSO) and the Transition Strategic Outreach Office (TSO) under the Soldier For Life Program (SFL) effective Feb. 1, 2014. At the same time, SFL was reorganized under the Directorate of Military Personnel Management within the Army G-1. The moves bring together under one umbrella the three organizations at Department of the Army level that connect transitioning Soldiers to their communities and the employment, education, and health resources available to veterans through government, for-profit, and non-profit organizations. SFL promotes the mindset that service and a sense of community do not end at separation or retirement.

The Soldier For Life concept is a holistic approach to this entire cycle, which ensures veterans connect to resources and their communities as they make the important transition from active duty back to the Army Reserve, National Guard or become civilian leaders.

Post AKO: Retirees access personnel and benefits info via DS Logon

By Marvin D. Wages, AKO Transition Chief, Army CIO/G-6

As of June 30, 2014, most retirees and family members will access personnel and benefits information held by both the Departments of Defense and Veterans Affairs via DOD Self-Service Logon (DS Logon).

DS Logon, which is operated by DOD, allows access to multiple DOD and VA websites using a single username and password. You sign in once, and then can get to any of the connected sites and your accounts on them. DS Logon complies with federal security guidelines and provides a secure user experience.

You must be enrolled in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS) to obtain a DS Logon account. Soldiers (active duty, National Guard, U.S. Army Reserve, and retired), spouses, veterans and family members are eligible for DS Logon accounts.

Retirees can register using their DFAS My Pay account or by contacting the VA. Visit

<https://myaccess.dmdc.osd.mil/identitymanagement/help.do?execution=e4s2#retiree> for more information.

Family members' registration options include: (a) your military sponsor can request an account for you; (b) you can ask for a DS Logon account when getting your military ID card; and (c) you may go through a TRICARE Service Center.

Visit

<https://myaccess.dmdc.osd.mil/identitymanagement/help.do?execution=e4s2#familyMember> for more information.

For sites not currently using DS Logon, like myPay, you must establish an individual username and password. myPay is planning to adopt DS Logon in 2014. For additional information, visit the Migration Page for retirees and family members at www.eis.army.mil/ako .



PA Council of Chapters 2014 State Convention

September 12-13 www.pa-coc.org

Doubletree Hotel, Washington, PA

Attractions: Meadowlands Casino and Racetrack

Pennsylvania Trolley Museum, Tanger Outlets and

Pittsburgh is only a 15 minutes drive

Presentations by MOAA Staff, MOAA Travel and USAA

Speakers: Vadm Norb Ryan Jr. and Todd DePastino -

writer, educator and motivational speaker

MOAA KEYSTONE CAPITAL CHAPTER

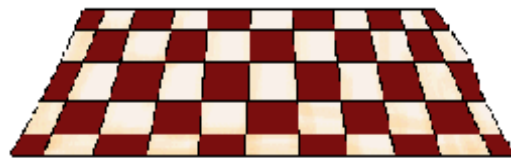
THURSDAY, MAY 29, 2014

The Park Inn by Radisson

5401 Carlisle Pike, Mechanicsburg, PA

ANNUAL PICNIC – 5:00 PM

Picnic



MENU:

Flame Broiled Hamburgers, BBQ Chicken, potato salad, fruit salad, baked beans, potato wedges, brewed iced tea, refreshing lemonade, apple cobbler, cookies

-- CASH BAR --

Event Invitation

May 29th - Park Inn patio garden area - 5:00 PM

Price per person: \$27.00

Make check out to: Keystone Capitol Chapter

Names of Members and Guests attending:

****Please Reply NLT Friday, May 23rd to Host:**

Keith Beebe
108 April Drive
Camp Hill, PA 17011
717-761-5335