
Lancaster Chapter News

Lancaster, PA Chapter
Military Officers Association of America

Editor: Bob Wilcox, 211 Willow Valley Square, Lancaster 17602, 464-2575, bob.wilcox1@verizon.net
Chapter web site: www.moalancasterchapt.org

Volume 22 Number 3

May 1, 2015

<p>MOAA DINNER AT THE HAMILTON CLUB Thursday, June 25, 2015</p>
--

We're looking forward to spending the evening at one of downtown Lancaster's historic venues. Free parking is available onsite in a lot behind the Hamilton Club beginning at 5 p.m. Other nearby lots are available as shown on the provided city map. Street parking is also available near the club with meter fees ending at 6 p.m..

The gathering will begin at 5 p.m. with a social hour and cash bar

The meeting will be called to order at 6 p.m. with introductory remarks by our president, Dennis Benchoff. Dinner will follow at 6:15 p.m. The meal will be:

Spinach and Strawberry Salad tossed with bleu cheese crumbles, candied walnuts, and balsamic vinaigrette

Rosemary-Crusted Pork Loin with natural jus

Buttermilk chive mashed potatoes

Colorful seasonal vegetable medley

Warm Seasonal Fruit Crisp served with vanilla ice cream

Traditional Club Sticky Buns and Assorted Rolls with Butter

Our speaker will be CAPT Harry E. "Rusty" Yeiser, U.S. Navy (Ret.), who will speak on the current status of naval training. Rusty was a naval aviator after graduating from the U.S.

Naval Academy. His overseas experience includes two Atlantic and Mediterranean deployments as well as two deployments to the western Pacific, Indian Ocean, and Persian Gulf. In the Pentagon, he served for two years on the staff of the Chief of Naval Operations and later served another tour there on the Joint Staff. After retiring from the Navy in 1999, he joined the U.S. Naval Foundation, where he currently serves as Senior Director, Annual Programs.

The cost of the meal will be \$32 per person. As always, your check is your reservation and should be made out to Lancaster Chapter MOAA and mailed to Lancaster Chapter MOAA, ATTN: Meeting Reservations, P.O. Box 5031, Lancaster, PA 17606-5031. Be sure to write the names of your guests on your check for name tag purposes.

The deadline for receipt of all checks is Tuesday, June 23rd. Cancellations may be made by calling Jim Cunningham prior to June 23rd. If you have any questions, please contact Jim Cunningham, 581-5299.

Parking options for the Hamilton Club are shown on the map below:

Lot 1 is the Murray lot behind the club. 25 spaces. Use after 5 p.m. Please do not park on the area marked Land Transfer Co.

Lot 2 5 Spaces. Use after p.m. in spaces marked 16-20 only.

Lot 3 10 spaces. Use after 6 p.m. on upper level only.

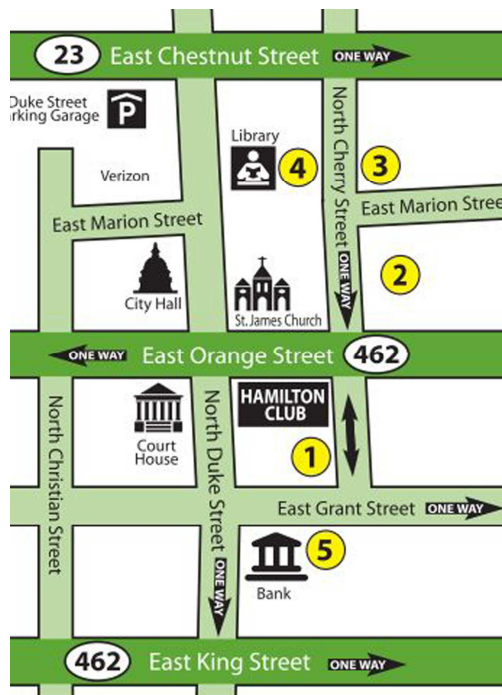
Lot 4 The library's metered lot. 18 spaces.

Log 5 48 spaces. Use after 5 p.m. Enter off

E. Grant St. Use second deck only.

Duke St. Parking Garage. \$2 for first hour, \$1 thereafter.

Metered parking on streets is free after 6 p.m.



News of our August picnic

Our August 29 picnic promises to be something special. So we're carrying the details early so you can be sure to get this on your schedule.

This year our picnic will be held at Waltz Vineyards at 1599 Old Line Road, Manheim, Pa. The event will begin with social time from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.. During this time the vineyard will present optional tours of the vineyard and associated production facilities for a cost of \$10.00 for each individual.

The meal will be prepared by Hess BBQ and served at 12:30 p.m. The menu is applewood smoked pulled pork BBQ, hickory smoked beef brisket, baked beans, macaroni and cheese, dutch potato salad, cole slaw, and cake.

A selection of Watzl wine as well as assorted non-alcoholic drinks are provided in the cost of the picnic. We are treating this event as a membership appreciation event and a portion of

the cost of the meal will be covered by the chapter. The cost will be \$18.00 for each attendee (\$28.00 for those requesting the option tour).

As always your check is your reservation and should be made out to Lancaster Chapter MOAA and mailed to Lancaster Chapter MOAA, ATTN: Meeting Reservations, P.O. Box 5031, Lancaster, PA 17606-5031. Be sure to write the names of your guests on your check for name tag purposes.

The deadline for receipt of all checks is Wednesday, August 26th. Cancellations may be made by calling Jim Cunningham prior to August 26th. If you have any questions, please contact Jim Cunningham, 581-5299.

Say hello to our new member

ENS Frank C. Fryburg
USN (717)560-1222
P.O. Box 5093
Lancaster, PA 17606-5093
Spouse: Margaret (Dec)
Rejoined: 4/13/15
Sponsor: Dave Roy

From our president's desk

I am pleased to announce that after reviewing over 50 applications with most applicants being in the top 10% of their classes, our scholarship committee has selected Warwick High School senior Madelyn Class as this year's recipient of our \$1,000 scholarship. A very talented and active student, Madelyn's transcript indicated she received only one A in all of her courses with the rest being A pluses. This was quite an accomplishment. She will receive her award at her high school's awards ceremony on May 4th. She and her parents will be invited to attend our June dinner at the Hamilton Club, where those members present will be able to meet and congratulate this outstanding scholar. I hope you'll be there to congratulate her.

Continuing with awards, I am also pleased to announce two awards to cadets of the Millersville University ROTC detachment. Junior Cadet Nicholas Vanleuven, a chemistry major, has been selected to receive the combined Lancaster Chapter, MOAA-Red Rose Veterans Honor Guard scholastic award of \$500 for demonstrating outstanding scholarship

among undergraduate cadets. In addition, cadet senior Samantha Lewis has been selected to receive the MOAA Outstanding Leadership Award, a medal, for her demonstrated leadership while a member of the cadet detachment during her tenure as a cadet at Millersville University. Both awards were presented to these outstanding cadets at the detachment's awards' ceremony on April 23rd.

All members have an opportunity to participate in the Strasburg Memorial Day Parade and ceremony on Monday, May 25th. Our own Jim Cunningham will provide remarks at the ceremony following the parade. If you would like to participate, please contact Jim at jetpilot37@comcast.net or 581-5299. I hope you'll be there to support Jim as we honor our fallen comrades.

One final item needs your attention. The chapter is in need of someone to audit our 2014 finances. Anyone with a background in banking, finance or who isn't afraid of numbers, please contact me at dlbencho@hacc.edu or 560-1260 if you would like to help us out. Our treasurer, Barry Hitchcock, has done a tremendous job of keeping a detailed record of our financial transactions, so this audit should not take very long to complete. I'd appreciate your support in this endeavor.

Now that spring has finally arrived, I hope you will all enjoy what it has to offer.

Dennis

Our members made news

Ryan Aument, state Senator, was pictured in LNP in an article that told of the attacks that must be weathered by lawmakers. He was quoted as saying, "I have come to expect that if you choose to take on a controversial issue or sponsor legislation of real consequence, that very action will stir passionate opposition."

Walt Offermann was pictured in LNP as part of the Manheim Township Board of Commissioners as they met in January 1988 when they "had important decision to make."

Joe Pitts, U.S. Congressman, was pictured in LNP in an article that told of the attacks that must be weathered by lawmakers. He was quoted as saying, "This job is not for the faint of

heart. You're a free target, and you really can't do anything about it."

Neal Rice wrote LNP on the need to destroy Islamic State. He said in part "Fifteen months in Baghdad as infantry platoon leader taught me a lot about myself, my country, Islamic terrorists, and the ways of the world.

"We should have left a residual force of American combat troops in Iraq.

"Nobody desires peace more than a war veteran, as he is the one who has seen the true viciousness of battle. That aside, it is time to destroy Islamic State, and we're the only ones who can do it."

Paul Ripple wrote LNP to explain that "Gov. Tom Wolf's tax plans (will) provide some tax relief for senior citizens who now provide most of the funds for education through property tax." He also mentioned "Some of the governor's pension reforms, which are aimed at saving money."

Our Board meeting dates have changed

In the March newsletter, we reminded that all of us are welcome to attend our Board meetings whenever we may wish to. We also pointed out that they're held at 2 PM at the Lancaster General Hospital Suburban Outpatient Pavilion (formerly the LGH Campus), 2100 Harrisburg Pike, in the third floor conference room. However, the dates we gave you have now changed. This year's correct dates are:

February 25, 2015
April 8, 2015
June 17, 2015
August 19, 2015
October 14, 2015
November 18, 2015

We got the name right, but not the person

In last month's newsletter, we reported that Karen Davis had written a letter to LNP about moving from fossil fuels to clean energy. Our Karen Davis called to ask that we let you know that the letter was not hers. She added that she knew four women in Lancaster County named Karen Davis. When your editor was a Journalism student at Indiana University, his professor had stressed, "You can call anyone an

axe murderer, but don't misspell his name." He might well have added, "and make sure you're quoting the right person."

Local post for Korean War vets forms

Paul Cunningham, brother of our Jim Cunningham, was a prime mover in establishing a new post of the Korean War Veterans Association. And they're a bunch of live wires, gaining 60 members even before they received their charter from the national organization on April 1. That made them the 46th largest chapter in the U.S. before even being formally recognized as a post.

They're named the Gen. John H. Michaelis Post #327 for the famed Lancastrian who graduated from West Point, then led the legendary "Wolfhounds" in the Korean War. For his courage, he was nicknamed "Iron Mike" by his men.

Their post's members consist of any veteran who served in Korea in the war years or at any time since. Members meet the first Monday of every month at Oak Leaf Manor North at 2901 Harrisburg Pike, where they receive free meeting space and refreshments.

Annual dues are \$25 for national and \$15 for the post, and joining is as easy as calling Paul at 299-1990. He'll be happy to send you an application.

We honor the memory of...

Katharine Bush, wife of CDR Frederick B. Bush. Kay was a 1953 graduate of Russell Sage College, in Troy, NY. In 1954, she married Fred whom she had met in college. She worked as a certified medical technologist at Robert Breck Bringham Hospital in Boston. In 1962, she and Fred came to Lancaster as part of Fred's civilian career as a newspaperman. She joined the newly formed Allergy Immunology Associates of Lancaster, and as office manager for nearly 30 years, helped it grow from a "one-girl office" to a thriving medical practice with multiple locations and physicians. Surviving in addition to her husband are two daughters and one son, five grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. Kay had been a member of our chapter family since July 1997.

George Steedle, who was a Charter Member of our chapter. He joined on January 12, 1975 when the chapter was formed and rejoined on January 29, 1982 when our chapter was rejuvenated. During WWII he served in the Navy, retiring as a Lieutenant Commander in 1963. He became Lititz Borough Manager for 10 years, and then was employed and retired from Huth Engineers as Director of Marketing. He served our chapter as a Vice President and Director. In addition to his wife Deloris, George is survived by a daughter and a son and three grandchildren.

An anecdote from the military days of one of our members, past or present



LTJG G. Richard Kreider in 1945 being awarded the Silver Star

Glenn "Dick" Kreider was a Navy pilot whose actual combat aboard carriers began in early 1944, with his taking part in battles in New Guinea, Peleliu, Saipan-Tinian, Guam, Moritai, and the Second Battle of the Philippine Sea.

One time, his hook mechanism failed, and he barreled into the cable barrier that kept the plane from plowing into planes parked forward on the carrier. The barrier pitched his plane over on its nose, upside down. He unhooked his seatbelt and fell out on his head as he scrambled to get free of the plane.

Another time, he and his buddies strafed a Japanese cruiser and destroyer, sinking the destroyer in the Second Battle of the Philippine

Sea. On the way back, he was low on fuel, so he had to land at a primitive forward strip that had been plowed out of the jungle and was barely as wide as his wing tips.

But he says that one of the hairiest things to happen to him was one time when his squadron was taking off from their carrier on a mission before dawn. He was flying on the blue flame of the plane ahead of him, when another plane hit his right wing with its tail and knocked out his hydraulic system. That all-but eliminated his ability to control the plane, but by cross-controlling, he was barely able to keep the plane in the air. He now had no flaps to use on landing, however. So he radioed his situation to the carrier, and they said it was his call. He could either ditch or attempt a landing. He chose to try a landing and somehow managed to get the plane down in one piece..

How Admiral Nimitz saw Pearl Harbor

On Sunday, December 7th, 1941--Admiral Chester Nimitz was attending a concert in Washington D.C. He was paged and told there was a phone call for him. When he answered the phone, it was President Franklin Delano Roosevelt on the phone. He told Admiral Nimitz that he (Nimitz) would now be the Commander of the Pacific Fleet.

Admiral Nimitz flew to Hawaii to assume command of the Pacific Fleet. He landed at Pearl Harbor on Christmas Eve, 1941.

There was such a spirit of despair, dejection and defeat--you would have thought the Japanese had already won the war.

On Christmas Day, 1941, Adm. Nimitz was given a boat tour of the destruction wrought on Pearl Harbor by the Japanese. Big sunken battleships and other Navy vessels cluttered the waters everywhere you looked.

As the tour boat returned to dock, the young helmsman of the boat asked, "Well Admiral, what do you think after seeing all this destruction?" The admiral's reply shocked everyone within the sound of his voice.

Admiral Nimitz said, "The Japanese made three of the biggest mistakes an attack force could ever make, or God was taking care of America . Which do

you think it was?"

Shocked and surprised, the young helmsman asked, "What do you mean by saying the Japanese made the three biggest mistakes an attack force ever made?"

Nimitz explained:

Mistake number one: The Japanese attacked on Sunday morning. Nine out of every ten crewmen of those ships were ashore on leave. If those same ships had been lured to sea and been sunk, we would have lost 38,000 men instead of 3,800.

"Mistake number two: When the Japanese saw all those battleships lined in a row, they got so carried away sinking those battleships, they never once bombed our dry docks opposite those ships. If they had destroyed our dry docks, we would have had to tow every one of those ships to America to be repaired. As it is now, the ships are in shallow water and can be raised. One tug can pull them over to the dry docks, and we can have them repaired and at sea by the time we could have towed them to America . And I already have crews ashore anxious to man those ships.

"Mistake number three: Every drop of fuel in the Pacific theater of war is in top of the ground storage tanks five miles away over that hill. One attack plane could have strafed those tanks and destroyed our entire fuel supply.

"That's why I say the Japanese made three of the biggest mistakes an attack force could make, or God was taking care of America."

You heard, of course...

of the professor who, after years of work, aided by research papers of his graduate students, finally completed a book. On the day his book was published, his wife gave birth to a baby boy.

The next morning, as he walked to the campus, immersed in thoughts of his book, he met a neighbor who had just heard of the new baby.

"Congratulations, professor," she said.

"Thanks," he said, "but I never could have done it without the help of my graduate students."