



4 Star E-Newsletter

LANCASTER CHAPTER MOAA

P.O. Box 5031, Lancaster, PA 17606-5031

NEWSLETTER

Visit our 5 Star Web Site at www.moaalancasterchapt.org

May 2021

Volume 28 Number 3

• From the President's Desk:

Hopefully all of our members are working their way through the COVID-19 vaccination process or have already been vaccinated. While we have come a long way since the release of vaccines last year, it often seems like we are stuck in "two steps forward, one step back". It is a bit troubling to see local infection rates in some areas similar to a year ago. It is difficult to know if this is due to new more contagious virus strains or just carelessness as we are all tired of the pandemic's restrictions.



David Shelton

For our part, we still see light at the end of the tunnel and plan a return to in-person membership meetings starting with our chapter picnic at the end of August. We will again meet at Waltz Vineyards outside Manheim for some always excellent barbeque, and of course a bit of wine. Reservation details will be in our July newsletter. Our Social Chair, Dan Horting, has also begun the process of organizing our annual meeting for elections October 21st at Bent Creek Country Club and our year end Christmas luncheon December 5th at Millersville University.

In addition, as warmer weather returns, we are looking at outside dining opportunities for re-starting the quarterly breakfast we tried to initiate last year. We were only able to have one event before everything shut down. As noted in the March newsletter, we will be keeping a close eye on the virus situation and continue to evaluate member interest and any concerns with mass gatherings. We are now all so used to social distancing that it sometimes seems uncomfortable to be with a larger group of people.

In other business both our scholarship programs have now completed their evaluations. The Millersville ROTC Scholarship board organized by ROTC Liaison Peter Cardinal has selected Cadet Olivia Berardi as

• From the President's Desk (cont'd):

this year's recipient. Cadet Berardi is a junior at Millersville majoring in international studies. She will be presented our check for \$1000 and certificate at the Millersville University awards ceremony April 29th. Cadet Daniela McCurdy will receive the MOAA Leadership Medal and certificate. Both have demonstrated outstanding potential as future military officers. This year's ROTC commissioning ceremony is planned for May 16th at the university stadium.

Surprisingly the recipient of our \$1000 Lancaster Chapter Memorial Scholarship is also named Olivia. After a herculean effort by Scholarship Chair Ed Hurston to organize and digitally scan the 26 completed applications for review, the selection committee chose Olivia Fedorshak as this year's winner. Olivia is a senior at Ephrata High School. Her twin sister, Alyssa, was also near the top of our final list and their brother is currently serving in the U.S. Navy. Olivia is not only an outstanding student, but also an accomplished athlete and musician. She is hoping to be selected for appointment to the U.S. Naval Academy, or will attend the University of Pittsburg on a Navy ROTC scholarship.

In closing, it seems we are reminded by daily news reports to be mindful of virus prevention methods and cautious in our social gatherings. We certainly want to see everyone again later this year, so please take it seriously.

• Special Forces Vet Scholarship Opportunity:

The chapter was recently asked to help publicize a college scholarship opportunity for veterans who have served in the U.S. Army Special Forces. The CPT James Ahn Memorial Scholarship provides \$1000. Candidates must have served in the Special Forces and be a current full-time student.



• Special Forces Vet Scholarship Opp (cont'd):

The scholarship is sponsored by ROTC Consulting, a company that specializes in assisting applicants nationwide for U.S. military ROTC scholarship programs and service academy appointments. Scholarship details and the application form are available on the company website at rotcconsulting.com.

• 2021 Membership Meetings:

The following meeting dates have been established and their meeting dates reserved with the venues:

Sat Aug 28 picnic at Waltz Vineyards
Thur Oct 21 dinner at Bent Creek CC
Sun Dec 5 luncheon at Millersville Univ.

• Breakfast Gatherings :

Our Social Chair, Dan Horting, is planning a breakfast gathering in the very near future. An email will be sent out when a date and location is finalized.

• Say hello to our new members:

CPT Harold O. Rhoads, USA (FMR) CHIC
563 Red Maple Way
Lancaster, PA 17603
Spouse: Karen
Email: chicrhoads@hotmail.com
Date Joined: 3/14/2021
Sponsor: Jim Geurts

Mrs. Barbara L. Krank,
519 Allegiance Drive
Lititz, PA 17543
Spouse: deceased MOAA member, COL Daniel F. Krank. USA (RET)
Date joined: 4/6/2021
Sponsor: David Hartmann

• We honor the memory of:

Mrs. Jean C. Safran (76) who passed away on Thu, Jan 7, 2021. She was the wife of 57 years to Col Vincent P. Safran, USAF (RET). Vince is a long-time member (25 years) of the chapter.

CDR Donald D. Renicky, USN (RET), 89, passed away on Tue, Jan 22, 2021. He is survived by his wife of 69 years, Florence, who is now one of our surviving spouses. Don was a 15 year

• We honor the memory of (cont'd):

active member in the chapter. He was a career naval aviator. In civilian life, he worked as a field tech representative for GTE Sylvania/North American Phillips until retirement in 1993.

Rita J. Zacharias (87), passed away on Mar 24, 2021, at Willow Valley. She was the surviving wife of CAPT Jerry Zacharias, USN, who died last May, 2020.

• Important Chapter Needs:

Newsletter Editor-The chapter is looking for a new newsletter editor to replace Tom Bender who is stepping down at the end of this year. MS Publisher software is currently being used to publish the newsletter but one may also use MS Word as Bob Wilcox did for many years. The newsletters are published in Jan, Mar, May, July, Sep and Nov. UPS makes copies and mails out newsletters for the Chapter. As we all realize, our newsletters serve as the vital glue that binds our chapter. If interested in assuming this important responsibility, please contact Tom Bender at mot2017@ptd.net or 717 471-6810.

Membership Chairperson-Our chapter is also looking for someone with fresh ideas to increase our membership as Membership Chair. Retiring membership co-chairs Tom Bender has been involved with our membership for the past 13 years and John Burke for the past seven years.

The new chair will concentrate on bringing new members into the chapter by sending out member applications and other materials to prospective members suggested by our own members and by MOAA NATIONAL sources. Contact Tom Bender or John Burke for this great opportunity to support our chapter and help lead us into the future.

• 2021 Very Friendly Dues Reminder:

We still have 30 members who have hopefully inadvertently not remembered to pay their 2021 dues. If you are not sure if you are one of the 30, check the mailing label on your PO delivered newsletter which will show what year your dues are paid through. If that year is 20, you owe dues for 2021. You may also click on the MBR Roster tab on our website's front page and scroll down to the second



● 2021 Very Friendly Dues Reminder (cont'd):

listed roster "Member Names" and click on it to select (you must enter our pass word to open) and then in that roster, scroll down to your name listed alphabetically. The number listed after your name is the year through which your dues are paid. If that number is 20, you owe 2021 dues. Dues are \$15 per year or \$40 for three years. Contact Tom Bender with any questions at 717 471-6817 or mot2017@ptd.net.

● Past Memories at Waltz Vineyards:



Enjoying shaded hilltop view



Chapter camaraderie



Also Enjoying view



Meal is served!



Our "Let Freedom Ring" cake



Frisbee chaser

Next Newsletter Release:

July 1, 2021

Chapter Contacts:

President:

David Shelton 285-5971

Vice President:

Bill Confer Sr 712-3849

Immediate Past President:

John Gareis 872-8005

Treasurer:

Dennis Benchhoff 560-1260

Corresponding Secretary:

Jim Cunningham 581-5299

Recording Secretary:

Barry Schmitt 877-1810

Board of Directors:

Kim Bade CDR, USN (RET)

Tom Bender CAPT, USN (RET)

Peter Cardinal COL, USA (RET)

Dina Cerase MAJ, USA (RET)

Tony Cerase CW3, USA (RET)

Ed Hurston Col, USAF (RET)

Chaplain:

Kim Bade 228-1543

Mbr Asst & Legislative Affairs:

Dennis Benchhoff 560-1260

Membership Co-Chairs:

John Burke 627-6968

Tom Bender 471-6817

Memorials/Webmaster/Nwsltr Editor:

Tom Bender 471-6817

Nominations:

Tony Cerase 299-7177

ROTC Liaison:

Peter Cardinal 778-7515

AF JROTC Program:

Ed Hurston 923-0181

Scholarship Chair:

Ed Hurston 923-0181

Social & Programs Chair:

Dan Horting 285-7320

Surviving Spouse Liaison:

Bill Confer Sr 712-3849

MOAA Lancaster Chapter
P.O. Box 5031
Lancaster, PA 17606-5031

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

The MOAA Lancaster PA Chapter Newsletter is published by the Lancaster Chapter, which is an affiliate of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA). MOAA and its affiliated chapters and councils are nonpartisan.



Standing with you
at every stage.

93569

1-800-247-2192 • www.moaainsurance.com