



## FCVC Board

### President—Need for 2023

#### Granville Goza

Capt USAF RET  
814-398-4470  
814-724-9974 C  
[gboza3@gmail.com](mailto:gboza3@gmail.com)

### Vice President

#### Ralph Dorman

LTC USAF RET  
703-899-4511  
[rtdjbd@aol.com](mailto:rtdjbd@aol.com)

### Secretary—Need for 2023

#### Newsletter Editor

#### Janet Oglesby

Surviving Spouse  
330-568-4456  
[jlo52800@neo.rr.com](mailto:jlo52800@neo.rr.com)

### Treasurer

#### Marc Kirchner

LTC USAR RET  
814-763-2929  
[marckirchner4@gmail.com](mailto:marckirchner4@gmail.com)

### Past President

#### Jack Walter

LTC USAR RET  
814-333-4602  
[walt@windstream.net](mailto:walt@windstream.net)

### Directors:

#### Joal Wolf

COL USAR RET  
814-382-9349  
[CCW@ConneautCellars.com](mailto:CCW@ConneautCellars.com)

#### Mark Bellini

BG USA RET  
412-894-8151  
[mmsb27@hotmail.com](mailto:mmsb27@hotmail.com)

#### Paul McKay

COL USAF RET  
630-248-9797  
[pemckay71@gmail.com](mailto:pemckay71@gmail.com)

**In this newsletter  
hyperlinks are in this  
color and underlined**

## Chief Cain Provided a Glimpse in the Life of a Navy Reservists

Chief Kane briefly discussed her career and covered the functions of the Erie Reserve Center. They are an administrative unit that coordinates training for currently about 40 reservists and provides general training items such as Drug and Alcohol, Diversity and other mandated training courses. The Center also keeps track of personnel records and ensures medical records are up to date. The Center normally has over 100 reservists. A number of them have been transferred to the Pittsburgh Reserve Center.

The reservists are in many Navy positions, with a number in the SeaBee Construction Battalion. The reservist train with the unit they are assigned to during their training periods. The Erie unit is part of the Great Lakes region which is responsible for 60,000 reservists but they are currently running about 10,000 short.

### Military Retirees and Dependents

## With ID Cards That Don't Expire—Need to Get Replacements Within 4 Years

There was some discussion on this issue at the last chapter meeting. The Erie Reserve Center is a place you can get an ID card. (814) 866-3073. Plan on 2–3 months before you can get an appointment.

Here is a factual date for replacing retiree and dependent identification cards with the new "Next Generation Uniform Services Identification Card" (USID).

A recent Military.com copyrighted article dated 14 Jul 2022, states that retirees and military family members who have identification cards with no expiration date can choose to upgrade to the new Next Generation Uniform Services Identification Cards (USID) whenever it is convenient — as long as it's done within the next four years, according to the Defense Department. The article states there is no looming deadline for use of those old non-active-duty cards without expiration dates, but the department expects to completely phase out and replace them with the next-generation IDs, which are more durable and have enhanced security features, by 2026. The article says that cards with expiration dates are required to be replaced within 90 days of elapsing. It is recommended that retirees and dependents go to the



*Chief Jacqueline Cain accepts FCV placard which states that the chapter will make a monetary donation to PennWest Edinboro ROTC unit in honor of her presentation.*

ID Card Office Online, (<https://idco.dmdc.osd.mil/idco/>) and use the office locator to find a site that issues the new cards and book an appointment. Be patient in your efforts as some of these offices may only be open except on specific days of the week.

Members can read the complete article at the following web address: <https://www.military.com/daily-news/2022/07/14/military-retirees-and-dependents-id-cards-dont-expire-need-get-replacements-within-4-years.html>.

### French Creek Valley Calendar 2022

Date	Location and Program
<b>Tues 9/27</b>	Mr. Sandy Porter will present the Keystone Ordinance Works (KOW) during WW2 and is located in Geneva, between Conneaut Lake and I-79 Highway on Rt 285. The old KOW was a massive TNT factory and employed about 1,650 workers. Sandy Porter was a Lance Corporal in the Marine Corps, a two-time Purple Heart recipient, when he served during the Vietnam War. He retired from the State Police.
<b>Tues</b>	Membership meeting at Perkins. Decision on the future of the chapter. The last board meeting options discussed 1.) fold as a chapter but still meet socially. 2.) if possible, FCV would become a satellite chapter of Pittsburgh chapter. This suggestion would be a new concept for MOAA.



## Chapter Evening on Victoria Princess

## We passed two tall ships



Sandy Stuntz  
Susan Walter  
Jack Walter

Richard Stuntz  
Mary Wolf  
Joal Wolf



Trinidad



Cathy McDavid  
Joyce Hull  
Jackie Stewart

Mike McDavid  
Warren Hull  
Scott Stewart



US Brig Niagara



Janet Oglesby

Granville Goza  
Barbara Goza

## Record Monthly Check Increases 2023

Military retirees and veterans receiving disability pay from the Department of Veterans Affairs are likely to see record monthly check increases for the second year running thanks to the pace of inflation, according to new estimates.

The annual VA disability pay and military retirement cost-of-living pay adjustment, known as COLA, is typically tied to the Social Security rate change, which will likely be announced in October. An early projection based on national inflation data by The Senior Citizens League (TSCL), a nonpartisan senior advocacy nonprofit, estimates rates will rise by 9.6%.

For 2023, that means military retirees would see an average increase of more than \$240 in their monthly retirement checks. Veterans receiving disability compensation from the VA also would see their monthly disability payments increase, with the average monthly amount going up by more than \$150.

This newsletter is published for the benefit of the members of the French Creek Valley Chapter, which is an affiliate of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA). MOAA and its affiliated chapters and councils are non-partisan. Articles in this newsletter are the opinions solely of the individual authors and do not necessarily express the policy or opinions of the newsletter's editor or publisher. Also, the individual opinions do not reflect an endorsement by the French Creek Valley Chapter or the national organization of the Military Officers Association of America, unless so indicated [Copyright 2018 Military Officers Association of America All rights reserved.] Questions or comments should be directed to: Granville B. Goza, III, Capt USAF, Ret., (814) 398-4470 [gboza3@gmail.com](mailto:gboza3@gmail.com)

## MOAA's Core Mission

The Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) is the country's leading organization protecting the rights of uniformed servicemembers and their families. MOAA's constituents proudly hail from every branch of the uniformed services. To them, we have made the same promise that they have made to their country: Never Stop Serving.

MOAA's greatest mission is to improve the lives of those who serve and their families, which is achieved largely through the tireless advocacy efforts taking place in our nation's capital. For more than 90 years, MOAA has supported legislation that benefits the uniformed services community and has remained equally vigilant when fighting to stop legislation that threatens our livelihood. The larger our numbers, the greater our voice.

Click on a hyperlink to be informed about Key Advocacy Issues

[Active Duty](#)

[Retirees](#)

[Families](#)

[Guard & Reserve](#)

[Survivors](#)

[Veterans](#)

## Pennsylvania State Legislature

*Bob Gray – Legislative Chairman*

### House Bill 1868 Representative Mako

[Professional Licensing Reform for Veterans, Service Members & Spouses Link to bill:](#)

This bill has passed both houses and was signed into law by the Governor as Act No. 35 on July 07, 2022.

The bill will ease struggles and remove barriers to licensing and employment, to accomplish the following:

- Increase presence of veterans and military spouses on licensing boards and commissions.
- Expedited application review for veterans and military spouses, and initial licensure fee waiver for military spouses when traveling to Pennsylvania.
- Consideration of military experience acquired when determining if a military person meets the qualification for licensure.
- Use of the Military Occupational Codes Crosswalk to help translate the military experience into civilian licensure requirements.
- Early submission for licensure renewals of those military persons being deployed to allow them to immediately return to employment upon return.

### House Bill 1050 Representative Burns

[Guaranteeing In-State Tuition for Reassigned Military Families](#)

The bill passed the House and referred to the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee and was report out of Committee. The bill was referred to the Appropriations Committee and has been reported out of the Appropriations Committee. It just needs to be brought up for a third consideration vote to pass. The bill was laid on the table on September 8, 2021. Leadership must decide when they will pass the bill.

Dependents of military personnel who enroll at a public college or university in Pennsylvania are charged in-state tuition rates under current law. However, the U.S. Department of Defense has found that some students lose their in-state tuition rate if their military parent is reassigned to another state between the day they are accepted to a Pennsylvania college and the first day of the semester.

My legislation will correct this oversight by ensuring that military families are guaranteed the in-state tuition as soon as a student submits the enrollment deposit. A student

should not be penalized with years of higher college tuition because their military parent's reassignment happens to fall at just the wrong time.

### House Bill 1691 Representative Boback

To establish an instant Pennsylvania lottery ticket for Older Veterans

To establish a scratch off lottery ticket to benefit older veterans for programs and services for those veterans in need of care or access to programs and services, outreach and benefits.

The bill was voted out of the House Veterans Affairs Committee with amendments on April 12, 2022, and passed the first consideration by the full House on April 12, 2022. House leadership will decide when and if the bill moves forward. This is the First Veteran's Lottery ticket bill to make it past the first consideration phase.

## Legislative Contacts

**MOAA Legislative Update**  
<https://moaa.quorum.us/or>  
**1-800-234-6622 ext. 215**

## Legislative Contacts

President Joseph Biden (D)  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.  
Washington DC 20500  
Switchboard: 202-456-1414  
[whitehouse.gov](http://whitehouse.gov)

### PENNSYLVANIA

#### Senator Robert Casey Jr. (D)

393 Russell Senate Office Bld.  
Washington, D.C. 20510  
Phone: (202) 224-6324  
Fax: (202) 228-0604  
[casey.senate.gov](http://casey.senate.gov)

#### Senator Patrick Toomey (R)

248 Russell Senate Office Bld.  
Washington, D.C. 20510  
Phone: (202) 224-4254  
Fax: (202) 228-0284  
[toomey.senate.gov](http://toomey.senate.gov)

#### Representative District 16

##### Mike Kelly (R)

208 E. Bayfront Pwy, Suite 102  
Erie, PA 16507  
Phone: (814) 454-8190  
Fax: (814) 454-8197  
[kelly.house.gov](http://kelly.house.gov)

#### Representative District 15

##### Glenn Thompson (R)

217 Elm St.  
Suite B  
Oil City, PA 16301  
Phone: (814) 670-0432  
Fax: (814) 670-0868  
[thompson.house.gov](http://thompson.house.gov)

Email the legislative contacts through their web site.

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## Pennsylvania State Legislature from Page 3

### House Bill 995 Representative Kaufer

#### Establishing the Veterans' Outreach and Support Network Link to bill:

This bill passed the House on June 9, 2021. It was referred to the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee June 11, 2021. It was reported from committee on November 9<sup>th</sup> and passed on its First consideration and second consideration. It was referred to Senate Appropriations January 24, 2021 and reported from Appropriations January 26, 2021. It only needs one more vote to pass. Hopefully this bill will move through the Senate this spring. Last Action: Laid on the table (Pursuant to Senate Rule 9), April 13, 2022 [Senate]

This bill assigns the following duties to the Department of Military and Veteran Affairs:

1. Coordinate with network partners, which include other state agencies, county directors of veterans' affairs, veterans service organizations, the healthcare provider community, and non-profits identified by the department, that provide programs and services to veterans and their families.
2. Provide information regarding programs, resources, and services available to be utilized by network participants, which include family, friends, loved ones, and neighbors, who can regularly interact and offer outreach and support for veterans.

From GoErie—Click on this link

#### A guide to voter rights in Pennsylvania. What you need to know before you cast a ballot

## The PACT Act Will Bring These Changes

The PACT Act is perhaps the largest health care and benefit expansion in VA history. The full name of the law is The Sergeant First Class (SFC) Heath Robinson Honoring our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics (PACT) Act.

The PACT Act will bring these changes:

- Expands and extends eligibility for VA health care for Veterans with toxic exposures and Veterans of the Vietnam, Gulf War, and post-9/11 eras
- Adds more than 20 new presumptive conditions for burn pits and other toxic exposures
- Adds more presumptive-exposure locations for Agent Orange and radiation
- Requires VA to provide a toxic exposure screening to every Veteran enrolled in VA health care
- Helps us improve research, staff education, and treatment related to toxic exposures

If you're a Veteran or survivor, you can file claims now to apply for PACT Act-related benefits. To get a VA disability rating, your disability must connect to your military service. For many health conditions, you need to prove that your service caused your condition.

But for some conditions, the VA automatically assumes (or "presumes") that your service caused your condition. These are called "presumptive conditions." The VA considers a condition presumptive when it's established by law or regulation.

If you have a presumptive condition, you don't need to prove that your service caused the condition. You only need to meet the service requirements for the presumption.

To Join MOAA National: use the web site [www.moaa.org/join](http://www.moaa.org/join) or call 800-234-6622

## APPLICATION AND DUES RENEWAL FOR FRENCH CREEK VALLEY CHAPTER AN AFFILIATE OF MOAA

Name: _____		
Address _____		
Spouse's Name _____		
Primary Phone # _____	Is this a cell Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Do You Text Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
E-mail address _____		
2 <sup>nd</sup> Phone Number _____	Is this a cell Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Do You Text Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
Service Branch _____	Rank _____	Status (Retired, Former, Active) _____
Component _____	Years Active _____	Years Reserve _____
Years National Guard _____		
Member of MOAA National Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		

Make Check Payable to:  
**French Creek Chapter**  
PO Box 1004 Meadville, PA 16335  
Chapter Dues for 2022  
Regular Member **\$10**  
Spouse Member **\$10**  
Surviving Spouse **\$5**

How do you communicate, — these are faster than email  
☐ Are you on Facebook?  
☐ Do you use Twitter?

☐ Newsletters will be emailed, check this box if you prefer postal service **IMPORTANT DUE TO COST**

If you are an surviving spouse put your spouses name down, their branch(s) last rank, status