



November 2022 Final Edition

P.O. Box 1004 | Meadville, Pennsylvania 16335

MOAA.ORG | [FRENCH CREEK VALLEY CHAPTER](#)

**FCVC Board
President**

Granville Goza

Capt USAF RET

814-398-4470

814-724-9974 C

gbgoza3@gmail.com

Vice President

Ralph Dorman

LTC USAF RET

703-899-4511

rtdjbd@aol.com

Secretary

Newsletter Editor

Janet Oglesby

Surviving Spouse

330-568-4456

jlo52800@neo.rr.com

Treasurer

Marc Kirchner

LTC USAR RET

814-763-2929

marckirchner4@gmail.com

Past President

Jack Walter

LTC USAR RET

814-333-4602

walt@windstream.net

Directors:

Joal Wolf

COL USAR RET

814-382-9349

CCW@ConneautCellars.com

Mark Bellini

BG USA RET

412-894-8151

mmsb27@hotmail.com

Paul McKay

COL USAF RET

630-248-9797

pemckay71@gmail.com

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

Minutes of October 25, 2022

FCV-MOAA Chapter Closes After 38 Years

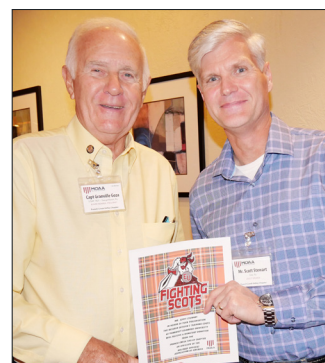
French Creek Valley President Granville Goza called the October board meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. at Perkins Restaurant in Meadville. The purpose of the meeting was the future of the chapter. There was much discussion on the pros and cons of becoming a satellite chapter of Pittsburgh. The Pittsburgh board did approve of FCV being a satellite. The FCV would still need to provide leadership for the satellite chapter. This is the present issue for FCV, no one is willing or able to assume the role of President and the chapter has a difficult task of recruiting new members. The chapter dues would be paid to Pittsburgh, and even though it's a separate account, it would still be awkward to obtain funds for FCV needs. Our legislative district is under Congressman Kelly, and part of Pittsburgh's chapter zip codes are in Congressman Kelley's district. MOAA would still have representation in the congressional district. A motion was made by Ralph Dorman, seconded by Joal Wolfe, to close the chapter effective December 31, 2022. The motion passed unanimously. The former chapter will meet socially, with the first social meeting on **March 28, 2023 at Perkins at 6:00 P.M.**

The issue of chapter funds. Treasurer Marc Kirchner was instructed to keep the post office box open for another year. A motion by Joel Wolfe and seconded by Ralph Dorman, that a \$100 check be made to the Edinboro University Foundation for ROTC. Every guest speaker that FCV had from March to October (7 speakers, skipped July) was informed that a donation was going to be made to Edinboro ROTC approximately \$15 per speaker. This replaced the coffee mugs that were \$12 each.) The remaining funds will be donated to Post 52 to help veterans in need, once all chapter expenses have been cleared. Motion passed.

Janet Oglesby announced that the Ohio Council of Chapters will hold their Biennial Convention **September 29th 30th and October 1st 2023**. This will be held at Youngstown Reserve Station, lodging and meals will be at the Station. It is anticipated that the new President of MOAA Lt. Gen. Brian T. Kelly, USAF (Ret) will be in attendance.

Meeting adjourn at 5:45 P.M.

Submitted by, Janet Oglesby, Secretary



*Scott Stewart
accepts the FCV
placard which
states that the
chapter will
make a mon-
etary donation
to PennWest
Edinboro ROTC
unit in honor of
his presentation.*

Chapter President Grandville Goza was informed by Joyce Stewart Hull in August that her son Scott could give us a talk on National Security. Fortunately there was no speaker scheduled for October, our last meeting of the year. Scott's mom and her husband Warren Hall and Scott's wife Jackie, were all present at our October meeting. Scott started off by informing us that he is a former military officer. An ROTC graduate of Gannon University. Upon graduation he was assigned to military intelligence. Upon his completion of his military obligation, he was employed by the State Department. He described some experiences working with that department. Scott then touched on the "hot spots" in the world. *The editor asked Scott if he would be willing to write a summary of that part of his presentation for the newsletter.*

I started out in the Western Hemisphere where we discussed the crisis in Haiti and the potential for external intervention. Sadly, I am skeptical that foreign intervention will help solve the deep cultural issues driving the problems in Haiti. Past interventions have not been able to make a lasting difference.

I then turned briefly to Mexico and discussed the extremely high levels of crime and violence there. Despite the ongoing cartel wars, only about 70 Americans a year are murdered in Mexico out of a total of some 20 million visitors. Many of the Americans killed are dual citizens who are involved with the cartels.

In Brazil we were watching the election which the leftist former president Lula da Silva subsequently won. This will likely result in a deterioration in US/Brazil relations.

Continue on page 2

2022 Veterans Day Free Meals and Restaurant Deals and Discounts

Many organizations offer Veterans Day deals, discounts and freebies. Check out [2022 Veterans Day Deals, Discounts and Freebies](#) or from [VA Newsletter](#).

If you're an active duty military member, reservist member of the National Guard or military retiree, the easiest way to access Veterans Day discounts is to use your military ID card. For veterans who receive Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) health benefits, the VA benefits photo ID card should serve as easy proof of veteran status at most businesses. If you don't have a VA benefits card, the VA can provide you with a Veterans ID Card. Rolled-out in 2017, the Veterans ID Card program allows all honorably discharged veterans to apply for online and receive by mail a card meant to function as proof of service. While not an official form of government ID, most businesses accept it as proof of service. If you're an active duty military member, reservist member of the National Guard or military retiree, the easiest way to access Veterans Day discounts is to use your military ID card. Some states include veteran status on their state ID cards and driver's licenses, offering another ID card option for veterans looking to show businesses proof that they served.



Change in address, email, -phone number, or military status Keep MOAA Upto Date

Every chapter member needs to establish a login at [MOAA create a profile](#). MOAA.org then click, login, "Create a web login." There is lots of information on the MOAA web site. You need to be a member to login to the "chapters" area. Our newsletter contains hyperlinks to the MOAA website.

You are a MOAA member and have a login go to [www.moaa.org/email](#) about updating email preferences. Many people don't realize they need to update their preferences. As soon as you go to this web page, simply add your email address in the box. Next, you can see all the MOAA alerts they receive and can remove/add at your leisure.

Correct your information via your login "My Profile" or call 1-800-234-6622. Changes include: address, email, phone number, rank or military status.

Scott's Presentation from page 1

In Africa, we were looking at Nigeria and the recent warnings by the U.S. and British governments of a possible suicide bombing attack in the capital of Abuja. In Africa it is all about jihadists.

We also touched on al-Shabaab's recent attacks in Somalia and the continuing US drone strikes against the group there, as well as the activities of al Qaeda and Islamic State aligned jihadist groups in the Sahel region of Africa (Mali, Burkina Faso, and Niger)

We had a long discussion on the war in Ukraine and how the Russian military has performed far worse than any of us would have imagined. Ukraine now has the initiative, and it looks like they are on a course to win the war due to massive support from the US and NATO.

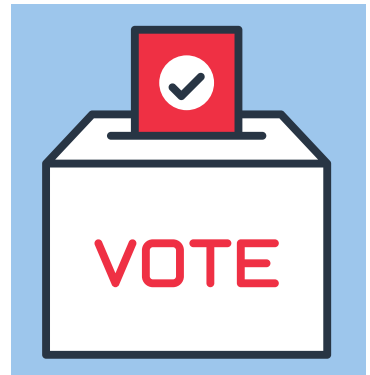
We also discussed several of the factors that constrain China's ability to invade Taiwan.

I think that is about it!

Alan Jackson Fans!

You're invited to thank and celebrate our **Veterans** during the next AARP Virtual Performance.

The performance is on November 11 at 8 p.m. EST | 7 p.m. CST. <https://aarpconcerts.org/alan-jackson/>



Senator Patrick Toomey is retiring and U.S. Representatives Mike Kelly and Glenn Thompson are up for re-election. A new Governor will be elected.

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

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

Senator Patrick Toomey (R)

248 Russell Senate Office Bld.
Washington, D.C. 20510
Phone: (202) 224-4254
Fax: (202) 228-0284
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

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

Email the legislative contacts through their web site.

It's Been A "Gran Time"

As Granville Goza became a Past President of the chapter on October 25th. He has been president for the past 11 years. How many of us really know Gran?

Born April 4th 1943, Granville B Goza, III, in El Dorado, Arkansas.

His dad, Granville B. Goza, Jr., was in the Army Air Corps until it was changed to the Air Force in 1947 and retired as a senior master sergeant (E8) with 20 years.

Inspired to become a pilot when he was 13 or 14 while watching F86 Saber jets fly-in, pitch out and go around and land at Hahn Air Base in Germany.

The family moved to Shreveport, La., when Granville, Jr., retired from the Air Force. After graduation from Kaiserslautern America High School in Vogelweh, Germany, with the goal of becoming a pilot — you needed a college degree. He started at Centenary College, Shreveport Louisiana in Engineering but realized that it would take 5 years and transferred to Louisiana Tech University which had an AFROTC program and majored in geography with a minor in history. He was at Centenary College for three semesters. Since he started late in AFROTC he needed to double up on AFROTC classes to complete the program for graduation, he also learned to fly in college a Cessna 150. He took his basic training after graduating from Louisiana Tech in 1965, at James Connally Air Force Base in Waco, Texas and upon completion he received his commission in the Air Force.

He moved to Fort Worth, Texas, and worked for Sears while he awaited orders to go to pilot training in October 1965. He reported to Laredo AFB in Texas, where they started in T10 (Cessna 172) to weed out those that would not make it through pilot training. They next moved to T37 in flight training, during this time the Air Force asked for volunteers to go to helicopter training. They got eight volunteers including Granville to go to helicopter training at Sheppard AFB in Wichita Falls, Texas, in March 1966, (This is where he met USAF Airman Barbara Householder, from Saegertown on a blind date — later to become his wife). At Sheppard they trained on H19 Korean war era helicopters (tough to fly), after completing training four of the eight volunteers went to the larger H3 helicopter, and three including Granville, went to H43, "Pedro".

Next steps:

- Fairchild AFB in Washington state for combat crew survival training. They trekked through Idaho in the snow with no food for 4–5 days, avoiding patrols (simulated enemy).
- Prisoner of war (POW) training — simulating what to expect if you are caught and become a POW including sleep deprivation, mind games, and other things.
- Mather AFB in California for small arms training, where he became proficient with a .38 caliber pistol (police special) — saw Sonny and Cher perform at a local nightclub.
- Flew to the Philippines, Clark AB for Jungle Survival Training/experience. Simulating evading and escaping, had to hide for one day and had local Negrito natives trying to find/capture — almost all were found by the natives.



Mark Bellini pinned Past President lapel pin on Granville.



Ralph Dorman presented the Leadership Award to Granville from MOAA President Dana Aktins..



Janet Oglesby presented to Granville & Barbara a gift card for Venango Inn in honor of their 55th wedding anniversary.

Continue on page 4

NEVER STOP SERVING®

"Gran Time" from page 3

- The next stop was Thailand, checked out on H43 for proficiency and then to Vietnam.
- Binh Thuy RVN base with Detachment 10 of 38th Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Service (ARRS). It started with four pilots and two helicopters and grew to six pilots. Over the ten months there, the Detachment had combat missions to rescue 44 crew members that were down in enemy territory. Experienced four mortar attacks, one of which destroyed/damaged all the aircraft on the flight line.
- In October 1967 came back to the United States, assigned to England Air Force Base in Louisiana — H43, he married Barbara and later had their first son (Granville IV).
- Around January 1969, found out he was not really an Air Force pilot since they had never completed a formal course with the T38 training (since eight of them moved to helicopter training). Had to go back and complete the T-38 program.
- At Randolph AFB near San Antonio, Texas they went back to finish the formal pilot training (six months), this time in T38s, he was in a class of all captains — being trained by instructors that had no combat experience. They even taught the instructors a number of things. After completing this training, as real Air Force pilots — they got their choice of aircraft and base. This is where he also met and flew with Fred Gregory, a future astronaut
- Granville picked C141 at McGuire AFB, New Jersey with their first child and not really any fighter aircraft that looked interesting. This is where Jeffery was born in August 1970. After Altus AFB, Okla., for training on C141. Granville flew the C141 to many points from Bangkok, Thailand to Iran and Thule, Greenland to Easter Island and many points in between he also performed duties as a Squadron and Wing Training officer.
- After two years, he received an assignment to the Joint European Rescue and Recovery Center (40th ARRW) at Ramstein Air Base in Germany. Worked with other countries to support operations, where he was Chief Space Recovery Flight for the Apollo-Soyuz program to recover the Apollo capsule in case it came down in the European/African region (it did not). Daughter Cheryl was born in 1973.
- Also flew (base support) UH-1P Huey, VIP transport—flying generals, diplomats, and ambassadors around Germany.
- Transferred to T39 executive jet, flew this until his vision went bad and was grounded, extended for another year which gave five years in Germany.
- Received promotion to Major but was medically retired before the promotion date.
- Came back to the United States on July 4th, 1976
- Assigned to Seymour Johnson AFB in Goldsboro, NC as Operations officer, #2 in the 4th munitions maintenance squadron — largest non-flying Air Force squadron.
- Medical discharge for vision — Retired from Air Force — November 17, 1976 at the age of 33.
- Awards
 - 2 Distinguished Flying Cross
 - Meritorious service medal
 - 9 air medals (5 from missions, 4 from hours of flying in combat)
 - Air force commendation medal
 - Combat crew medal
 - President's Unit Award
 - AF Outstanding Unit Award with V device
 - National Defense Service Medal
 - Vietnam Cross of Gallantry
 - Vietnam Campaign Medal (Multiple Stars)
- Military Education
 - Squadron Officers School
 - Air Command and Staff College

After retiring, Granville found a position with Greenleaf Corporation in Saegertown to help establish Data Processing/Computer Operations for the business. He retired after 28 years.

Granville Goza, has been the President of the French Creek Valley Chapter for the past 10 years. As President of a small chapter you wear many hats.

President Hat—conducting the monthly board meetings and prepares quarterly reports to the council. He attended some council meeting in person in Carlisle, if not in person, via telephone connection. He knew the MOAA organization, its structure and personnel at MOAA national far better than most chapter presidents. He would make a good mentor.

Membership Hat—very difficult to find officers that were interested in belonging to a chapter. If they did have chapter membership, coming to dinner meetings wasn't their thing. Gran knew each chapter member and potential members by name and what they did in their military career.

Program Hat—he made the arrangements for speakers and places to meet. It was frustrating when only five members would show up. He mentioned that it was encouraged by the number in attendance in 2022.

ROTC/JROTC Hat—He awarded the MOAA medal to ROTC at Edinboro cadets with Mark Belleni. All the JROTC schools are in Erie, an hour drive for Barbara.

Continue on page 5

“Gran Time” from page 4

One of the chapter's biggest events was the fundraising of a 5K walk/run involving ROTC cadets from Edinboro University. Granville, along with Ralph Dorman and other chapter members, had to find sponsors from local businesses. After the race and the collection of funds there was a dinner meeting where proceeds were distributed to local organizations that assist veterans.

Treasurer Hat—The chapter was fortunate to have a good treasurer in Marc Kirchner but Granville often paid the guest speaker dinner to save the chapter treasury. The one dreaded job, is asking members to pay their \$10 yearly dues.

Secretary Hat—That was the most difficult thing for Granville as he lost his ability to see what is in front of him and has difficulty reading, even with special glasses. Somewhere in his childhood or his own military career he picked up a virus that affected his eyesight. Thankfully he still has his peripheral vision and a fantastic memory. The willingness to learn and use technology has helped him tremendously. His wife Barbara of 55 years has been his eyes. This past year, with Barbara having to have cancer treatments, they realized that it was time to wear a Past President lapel pin.

Granville Goza—the members know how much it hurts you that the chapter has to closed. **What we will remember is that YOU embody the spirit of MOAA leadership as you have “NEVER STOP SERVING.”**

*MOAA Welcomes***New Judge Advocate Virtual Chapter**

By Editor Blair Drake

Military judge advocates can find career networking, educational, and advocacy opportunities through MOAA's newest virtual chapter. The Judge Advocate Virtual Chapter was approved by MOAA's board of directors at the association's annual meeting in Kansas City last week.

Maj. Peter “Brooks” Rose, USAF, chapter president, said any judge advocate — active, Reserve, Guard, and retired — from all branches of service are able to join. The chapter already has about 50 members from across the U.S.

“Being a virtual chapter, folks can tune in from wherever they're at,” Rose said. “We want to bring in the career-networking aspect during our meetings. We also want good educational content.”

Being a part of the association's advocacy efforts also is a key component of the virtual chapter's mission, and something that Rose said is a natural fit for the group's members.

“We are trained to be advocates,” he said. “I've participated through my geographic chapter in advocacy efforts, and I always thought it was a natural link that needed to be made. [Judge advocates are a] natural talent pool to bring into the organization. It's a very beneficial relationship.”

Those eligible and interested in joining the Judge Advocate Virtual Chapter can email Moaajavc@gmail.com.

*Surviving Spouse Corner***Surviving Spouse Corner: Finding a New Normal**

By Barbara Smith, Surviving Spouse Advisory Council Member

Grief is never easy, but finding a new purpose can help you navigate through the pain.

It's been a long time since I became a surviving spouse, and during that time, I've gone through many stages. None were easy, but all were necessary. No journey out of grief is straight forward. We all handle it differently, and it's how we deal with it that makes a difference.

We must choose to be positive and live or be unhappy the rest of our lives. I chose to be positive, but I also realized that I needed to find a purpose.

When my husband died at the age of 57, I didn't know where to turn or what to do. I became aware that my path forward was to do what I could to make sure no other survivor felt as alone and unprepared as I was. To that end, I joined my local MOAA chapter, took on the job as their surviving spouse liaison, was appointed to the national MOAA's Surviving Spouse Advisory Council, and became active in the Surviving Spouse Virtual Chapter.

I also found not only a mentor but a dear friend because of a chance meeting in 2015. Patricia “Pat” Farnsworth shared her vast knowledge of surviving spouse issues, her wisdom, and her wonderful sense of humor. She encouraged me to do the best I believed I could be — and then pushed for more. Pat died on Oct. 14 at age 86. She was an inspiration to many and a friend to all.

We will never forget our loved ones. We will always miss them. But I have found peace and comfort in my new normal. I hope you find the same.

In this newsletter hyperlinks are in this color and underlined.

MOAA Membership Eligibility

Membership in the Military Officers Association of America is open to active duty, former, retired, and National Guard and Reserve commissioned and warrant officers of the eight U.S. uniformed services and their surviving spouses. To join see page two.

French Creek Valley Chapter membership is the same, with the addition of spouses of officers can be chapter members.

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

By: Cory Titus

Here's Why the 2024 Military Pay Raise Should Be the Largest in Decades

A key indicator points to a 5.2% military pay raise in 2024, higher than the 4.6% boost set to take effect in 2023 and the largest average increase in more than two decades.

The projected pay hike comes from third quarter **Employment Cost Index** (ECI) for wages and salaries of private industry workers released Oct. 28 by the Bureau of Labor and Statistics (BLS). The 5.2% ECI figure, if it holds, would pave the way for the largest raise since 2002, when a 5% base raise averaged out to a **6.9% military-wide pay increase** thanks to larger, targeted increases, primarily for senior enlisted members.

MOAA tracks the ECI because uniformed services pay raises are linked to the index by law, with an automatic increase matching that percentage unless the President and Congress authorize a different percentage change. Such an authorization happened from 2014 to 2016, creating a 2.6% gap, or lost wages, between military pay and the cumulative ECI increases over those three years.

In short, servicemember pay is behind where it needs to be, and MOAA remains focused to ensure this does not happen again. Our current efforts urge Congress to fill this pay gap. For a servicemember with six years of service, closing this 2.6% pay gap would mean over \$1,000 more per year for an E-5, or over \$2,000 more per year for an O-3.

The recent ECI release will inform the FY 2024 NDAA, which would include the pay raise taking effect Jan. 1, 2024. Here's a look at the correlation since 2008:

- ECI third quarter, 2008: 2.9%, informing a 3.4% military pay raise in the FY 2010 NDAA.
- ECI Q3 2009: 1.4%, FY 2011 raise: 1.4%
- ECI Q3 2010: 1.6%, FY 2012 raise: 1.6%
- ECI Q3 2011: 1.7%, FY 2013 raise: 1.7%
- **ECI Q3 2012: 1.8%, FY 2014 raise: 1.0%**
- **ECI Q3 2013: 1.8%, FY 2015 raise: 1.0%**
- **ECI Q3 2014: 2.3%, FY 2016 raise: 1.3%**
- ECI Q3 2015: 2.1%, FY 2017 raise: 2.1%
- ECI Q3 2016: 2.4%, FY 2018 raise: 2.4%
- ECI Q3 2017: 2.6%, FY 2019 raise: 2.6%
- ECI Q3 2018: 3.1%, FY 2020 raise: 3.1%
- ECI Q3 2019: 3.0%, FY 2021 raise: 3.0%
- ECI Q3 2020: 2.7%, FY 2022 raise: 2.7%
- ECI Q3 2021: 4.6%, Expected FY 2023: 4.6% (Pending NDAA)
- ECI Q3 2021: 5.2%, Expected FY 2024: ??

Lagging Indicator

Ensuring the uniformed services pay increases with ECI is vital, but MOAA recognizes this increase will happen after a 15-month delay. While this is necessary for the government

to effectively budget, it puts service families in a very tight spot when facing record inflation. DoD recently took actions to address housing costs and the cost of moving; these changes will help, but they represent patchwork solutions for the challenges families face.

Supporting Families

While record low unemployment has contributed to this high ECI figure, spousal unemployment rates have not followed the national trend. Military spouses still have unemployment rates that must be addressed. While service-member pay in 2024 is going up, we need to help support families by ensuring they have access to two steady incomes to support their families.

As the military struggles to recruit new servicemembers, it is important MOAA continues its advocacy for a competitive pay and benefits package, and support services for families. A pay raise matching the ECI is a vital piece of Regular Military Compensation; the 5.2% increase for all eight uniformed services is the mark we must hit for our troops in 2024.

MOAA will vigilantly monitor uniformed servicemember pay and continue its work protecting service-earned benefits. Keep up with the latest MOAA advocacy news at MOAA.org and by following MOAA on Facebook and other social media outlets.

Contact Information for Veterans

Crawford County Veterans Affairs

Phone: 814-333-7314
Fax: 814-337-5623
Downtown Mall (Parking Lot Side)
900 Water St., Suite 2
Meadville, PA 16335

Crawford County has five DAV vans. The vans are used for transporting veterans to and from their VA medical appointments and are conveniently located at VFW posts in Linesville, Meadville, and Titusville. There is no cost for this service and the veterans do not have to be members of any veterans organization. The Transportation Coordinator works every Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday scheduling rides. Volunteer drivers are needed to keep things running smoothly.

Veterans Service Representative for Congressman Mike Kelly

Francis Lacamera Ph: 724-342-7170
33 Chestnut Ave. Fax: 724-342-7242
Sharon, PA 16146

Erie County Veterans Affairs

140 West Sixth Street Room 111
Erie, PA 16501
814-451-6265
veteraninfo@eriecountypa.gov

Venango Cty Veterans Affairs

Troy A Wood
Human Services Complex
1 Dale Avenue
Franklin, PA 16323
Phone: 814-432-9780

Mercer County Veterans Affairs

14 Courthouse
Mercer, Pa 16137
Ph: 724-662-7511
Fax: 724-662-7516