



4 Star E-Newsletter

# MOAA LANCASTER CHAPTER

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

## NEWSLETTER

Visit our 4 Star Web Site at [www.moalancasterchapt.org](http://www.moalancasterchapt.org)

September 2022

Editor: Tom Bender

Volume 29 Number 5

### • Our October Dinner at Bent Creek CC:

Bent Creek Country Club will be the venue for our next membership meeting on October 20, 2022. Bent Creek offers a beautiful setting for us to gather on a fall evening. Following a social hour that begins at 5:00 p.m., the meeting will be called to order at 6:00 p.m. with introductory remarks by our president, Bill Confer. Dinner will follow with the following menu:

#### Salad:

Bent Creek House Salad served with a choice of two salad dressings.

#### Entrée:

Chicken Piccata served with Chef's Choice of two vegetables.

#### Beverages:

Coffee and Tea with Assorted Rolls and Butter

#### Dessert:

Warm Seasonal Fruit Cobbler served with Vanilla Ice Cream

**The cost** of the meal will be \$35 per person. As always, your check is your reservation and should be made out to MOAA Lancaster Chapter, 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 Thursday, October 13th. Cancellations may be made by calling Jim Cunningham prior to October 13th at 717 568-2949. If you have any questions, call Jim Cunningham.

**Location:** Bent Creek CC is located at 620 Bent Creek Drive, Lititz, 17543, just off Fruitville Pike.

**Our Speaker,** Dan Rapak, will talk about the start of Desert Storm's impact on Super Bowl XXV. Dan was born and raised in Reading PA. From an early age he was hooked on all things electronic and was among the first in his area to attend a VoTech school where he studied early electronics. Besides graduating with honors from VoTech, he also received an Associate Degree in Electrical Engineering from

### Our Speaker (cont'd)

Penn State. Most of Dan's career was as a lead television broadcast engineer on the elite ABC Wide World of Sports worldwide traveling team where he was awarded three Emmys. Dan was also the key player in building the temporary 3-Mile Island emergency communication system following the March 29, 1979, accident. Dan's talk will describe the hectic coverage of Super Bowl XXV in Tampa FL between the New York Giants and Buffalo Bills on Jan 27, 1991 - just 9 days after the start of Operation Desert Storm. Dan is now retired in Marysville and is heavily involved in extensive railroad facility renovations

### • From the President's Desk:

As we move through the hot and hazy Summer months, I want to congratulate all the members and especially the Board of Directors and Officers of our MOAA Lancaster Chapter for their excellent performance over the past year and especially Past President David Shelton, for his guidance and effectiveness on receiving the 5 Star Leadership Excellence Award for this past year. MOAA's Motto is "Never Stop Serving," which is an excellent description of what MOAA is all about and what our entire Group of Officers of all the Military Services exemplify.

In my attempt to live up to that MOTTO, I have been working on starting up a group of Veterans here at Brethren Village and calling it "The Veteran's Story Group," for I believe that too many of us are dying without telling our story of military service to our families. I then post the video of their story to YouTube so it remains there for anyone to see later in life as their family may be concerned about their ancestry. An interesting note from doing research on my own ancestry, I found out I had a great-great Uncle who died in the Andersonville Prison during the Civil War. What an amazing fact! I invite all of you to participate in my group or just come to our meetings and listen to others' stories. All have been very interesting, all are welcome.





- **From the President's Desk: (cont'd)**

Come to enjoy other's stories or come and tell your story. Please bring family members. It is held the fourth Tuesday of each month at Wolfe Auditorium in the Welcome Center, here at Brethren Village. If I get volunteers, you should call me at 717 712-3849, to verify the meeting is taking place. I thought this story of my group would interest you because it interested MOAA National who interviewed me for an article in the MOAA Magazine, "Members Spotlight." It will appear in September's magazine.

My next Veteran's story group meets on October 25<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m. in Wolfe Auditorium, in the Welcome Center. We're right near the Airport and have signs all over Campus to direct you to the welcome center.

This brings me to my next story: MOAA supports American Corporate Partners (ACP) which helps veterans achieve career goals through a free national mentorship program. This is a one-on-one yearlong national mentorship program. It is open to post 9/11 veterans and has helped over 25,000 veterans since 2010 in reaching meaningful employment. If interested in serving as a mentor for this worth-while program, email ACP at [info@acp-usa.org](mailto:info@acp-usa.org) or call the ACP front office at 212 752-0700, to obtain more information. The MOAA National web site at [www.moaa.org](http://www.moaa.org) also has more detailed information if interested either as a veteran seeking help or potential mentor.

To continue on our latest events, Lancaster Chapter will be supporting the 22 October parade in Millersville by riding in convertibles. If you'd like to participate, please contact Jim Cunningham (717-568-2949). We could also use a few more convertible automobiles.

We have an Adopt a Kid/Adopt a Vet visit planned to Mountville School on 10 November for Veteran's day this year. You can contact John Gareis to participate at 717 872-8005. It is a very rewarding experience talking with middle school students.

Also, our Chapter, for the purpose of recruiting new Chapter members, will be hosting a booth/tent at the Lancaster Airport during the airport's Lancaster Community Days Celebration on 17-18 September. If you can be there for any portion of time let me know at 717-712-3849. It should run about 9 to 4 Saturday and 9 to 3 on Sunday. If the weather is nice we should see thousands of

- **From the President's Desk: (cont'd)**

visitors. USAA and MOAA have given us some freebies to hand out.

At our last Board meeting, I appointed Kim Bade as our Chaplain. She has filled that position for some time now and so I felt it justified to appoint her permanently, especially after the loss of Bill Foreman.

You may also be interested in knowing that David Shelton has taken over the nominating committee and has already proposed a new slate of officers for next year.

I am happy to announce that Susan Collins has accepted a job as the President's Liaison for Surviving Spouses. As one of our Chapter's surviving spouses, she can contribute greatly to helping me with surviving spouse issues while I'm working as president to this great organization.

You should know that our group, MOAA Lancaster Chapter, is an active and formidable group in the Lancaster Area. We are made up of 160 specialized individuals and spouses who contribute greatly to the community and we are just a small portion of the 350,000 national MOAA members in the U.S. "Never Stop Serving."

- **Our Remaining 2022 Membership Mtg:**

Please put this date in your calendars and plan on joining us for good food and camaraderie on Sunday, Dec 4th starting at 1 p.m. for a luncheon meeting at Millersville University.

- **Breakfast Gatherings:**

Our next Breakfast Gathering will be Thursday, September 15th at 8 a.m. As usual, the venue is Oregon Dairy at 2900 Oregon Pike, Lititz 17543. These gatherings remain informal, have no agenda and are open to all members and guests. Come and enjoy the camaraderie! Give Dan Horting a courtesy heads-up phone call at 717 285-7320 or email [k4sbuilder@comcast.net](mailto:k4sbuilder@comcast.net) if planning to attend.

- **Our Remaining 2022 Bd of Directors Mtgs:**

Wed Oct 5, 2 p.m. Conf Rm Lancaster Airport  
Wed Nov 16, 2 p.m. Conf Rm Lancaster Airport

- **Free Guitars-for-Vets Classes:**

Our own David Bowen (LTC, USA (Ret)) is serving as class coordinator for a one hour vets class every Tuesday at 1 p.m. at Saint Joan of Arc Catholic Church Community Center, 359 Areba Ave., Hershey, PA 17033, from Sep 13 thru Nov 22, 2022. Courses are free and guitars and all lesson materials are provided at no cost. Transportation on your own.



### • Free Guitars–for-Vets Classes:(cont’d)

Nearly one million vets are afflicted with PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder), but many are finding hope in the unlikely place: behind the wood and strings of an acoustic guitar. The healing power of music therapy helps soldiers cope. If interested, or know of someone who might be interested, contact David at [pa.lebanon@guitarsforvets.org](mailto:pa.lebanon@guitarsforvets.org). More info at [www.guitars4vets.org](http://www.guitars4vets.org).

### • 2022 Friendly Dues Reminder:

Our 2022 dues were due on Jan 1st. We still have 20 members who need to pay these dues. Dues continue to be \$15 per year or \$40 for three years. These newsletter reminders serve as our dues vouchers. If you haven't paid your 2022 dues, now is the time to get your check book out and write a check to MOAA Lancaster Chapter and send it to: MOAA Lancaster Chapter, P.O. Box 5031, Lancaster, PA 17606-5031. Contact our Treasurer, Dennis Benchoff, with any dues questions at 717 560-1260 or [dlbencho@hacc.edu](mailto:dlbencho@hacc.edu). Surviving Spouses pay no Chapter dues.

### • Surviving Spouse Corner:

Check out these links that go to the Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) website for information concerning retirement pay and Surviving Benefit Plan (SBP) issues:

<https://www.dfas.mil/sbp2023childoptrev> (SBP)–DIC Offset Phased Elimination News

<https://www.dfas.mil/sbp2023childoptrev-Optional-Dependent-Annuity-Elimination/Reversion-to-Surviving-Spouses>

### • Picnic Pictures:



You took my pic?



Hope she joins!



Surviving Spouse



Enjoying view



Army vs Navy



Great Food

Next Newsletter Release: Nov 1, 2022

### Chapter Contacts:

#### *President:*

Bill Confer Sr [conferw@gmail.com](mailto:conferw@gmail.com)

#### *Vice President:*

Dan Horting [k4sbuilder@comcast.net](mailto:k4sbuilder@comcast.net)

#### *Immediate Past President:*

David Shelton [dwsheltn@comcast.net](mailto:dwsheltn@comcast.net)

#### *Treasurer:*

Dennis Benchoff [dlbencho@hacc.edu](mailto:dlbencho@hacc.edu)

#### *Corresponding Secretary:*

Jim Cunningham [jetpilot37@comcast.net](mailto:jetpilot37@comcast.net)

#### *Recording Secretary:*

Barry Schmitt [sbschmitt@comcast.net](mailto:sbschmitt@comcast.net)

#### *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)

#### *Adopt a Kid/Adopt a Vet:*

John Gareis

#### *Chaplain:*

Kim Bade

#### *Mbr Asst/Legislative Affairs:*

Dennis Benchoff

#### *Membership Recruiting/Introductions/Nominations:*

David Shelton

#### *Mbr Records/Memorials/*

#### *Webmaster/Nwsltr Editor/Photos:*

Tom Bender

#### *President's Surviving Spouse Liaison:*

Susan Collins

#### *ROTC Liaison:*

Peter Cardinal

#### *Scholarship Chair:*

Ed Hurston

#### *Social/Programs Chair:*

Dan Horting



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