



MOAA LANCASTER CHAPTER

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

NEWSLETTER

Visit our Web Site at www.moaalancasterchapt.org

September 2023

Editor: Tom Bender

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• **Our Oct 12 Dinner at Bent Creek CC:**

Bent Creek Country Club will be the venue for our next Membership Meeting on October 12, 2023. Bent Creek offers a beautiful setting for us to gather on a fall evening. Our social hour 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 at 6:15 p.m. The menu for the evening is:

Salad:

Bent Creek House Salad served with a choice of two salad dressings with assorted rolls & butter.

Entrée:

Apple Cider Marinated Pork Tenderloin, Granny Smith Apples, Caramelized Sweet Onions, Au Jus, Served with Buttermilk Mashed Potatoes and Seasonal Vegetable Medley.

Dessert:

Apple Caramel Galette Flaky Pastry Folded Around Fresh Apples with Caramel and Vanilla Ice Cream.

Beverages:

Coffee, Iced and Hot Tea

The cost of the meal will be \$45.00 per person. As always your check is your reservation and should be made out to MOAA Lancaster Chapter 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 Monday, October 9th. Cancellations may be made by calling Bill Zeird prior to October 9th. If you have any questions, please contact Bill at 717 626-0232.

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

Our Guest Speaker, Ken Gorman, will speak to us about his time with the Old Guard serving as sentinel over the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

Our Guest Speaker (cont'd)

Ken enlisted in the Army in 1980 and retired in 2008, after a 28-year career. Starting as an Infantryman, Ken served in the 1st Ranger Battalion, The Old Guard-where he served as a Sentinel at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, and as an instructor at the US Army Ranger School.

After receiving his commission at OCS, he served as a Platoon Leader, Company Executive Officer, and Battalion Operations Officer at The Old Guard. Ken also served as a Military Police officer. He commanded a Military Police Company in the Republic of South Korea. Ken spent the last 14 years as a Civil Affairs Officer where he specialized in humanitarian assistance, disaster response, and defense support of civil authorities. In that role, Ken deployed to New Orleans with the 82nd Airborne Division three days after Hurricane Katrina and to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Since his retirement from the Army, Ken has worked at an emergency management consulting company. He manages a team that provides consulting services to the Federal Emergency Management Agency across the country.

Ken lives in Abingdon, MD, with his fiancé, Dawn Bradshaw. He and Dawn enjoy boating on the Chesapeake Bay on weekends. He has a son and is the proud grandfather of two delightful granddaughters.

• **From the President's Desk:**

I hope this newsletter finds you all in good health and doing well. This year has been a year of some needed changes for our MOAA Chapter and this newsletter will explain some of them. Please note that the prices are driving everything up and has necessitated our Board of Directors to discuss how to cope with the changes. We have two really good explanations in this newsletter on some proposed changes that we will



Bill Confer Sr



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

vote on at Bent Creek's meeting and dinner in October, so please try to attend our dinner there, it's always a great event. Please take the time to review our two proposals that we will vote on in October.

The world is changing and we need to stay active and involved in the MOAA Chapter and contribute to those things that help save our country from those trying to destroy our heritage. Never stop serving is the MOAA Motto and has never been more appropriate than in today's environment.

If you are a Surviving Spouse you should have received an email from our surviving spouse representative, Susan Collins, inviting you to get involved. If you didn't get an email, maybe we don't have yours on file yet! If you know a surviving Spouse who could benefit from our help, please encourage them to get involved.

I want to thank all those members who have stepped up to fill positions in our Chapter that are vacant or need filling due to those leaving our Board of Directors and our Chapter positions. Service here is a valuable opportunity and there are still slots that need filling. God Bless you all and stay well.

● **Request to Redirect Scholarship Funding:**

At the October 12 Membership Meeting at Bent Creek Country Club, your Board of Directors will be asking for a vote on a proposal to redirect the annual high school scholarship funding. If approved the redirected funds will be used to support JROTC cadet attendance at one week summer STEAM camps at St Francis University located in Ebensburg, PA. We are intending to support the Muhlenberg H.S. Air Force JROTC, the Lebanon H.S Army JROTC, and the Elizabethtown H.S. Navy JROTC.

The funding would be used to pay for one cadet from each high school to attend a camp. The current cost of the camps is \$525.00. The board feels that this change has the potential to positively impact the future readiness of our forces if selected cadets go on to serve in the military. Additionally, the funding could target some deserving students who may not have the financial means to attend one of the camps. The cadets that will be selected to receive the funding will be coordinated between the JROTC faculty and representatives of our chapter."

● **Proposed Increase to Annual Dues:**

During the Christmas meeting of December 1998, the chapter membership voted to increase the annual dues from \$12 to \$15. This increase was specifically designated to cover the cost of a new scholarship for college-bound high school students of Lancaster County who had a family member who was a veteran. We have been awarding a \$1,000 scholarship ever since although few of the 25 recipients expressed an interest in serving in our Armed Forces.

Now with the proposed refocus of our giving in this area to junior ROTC cadets who have a higher probability of serving, it will be necessary to increase our annual dues again. Not only will the cost of funding our scholarship increase, but we have also experienced an increase in the cost of printing and mailing our bimonthly newsletter for those receiving a printed copy, an increase in our post office box rent and an increase in the fee to maintain our chapter's website. A decrease in our membership base has also adversely affected our financial position although it remains solid for the time being.

It will be proposed at the meeting at Bent Creek Country Club, that the dues be increased to \$25 per year or \$60 for a three-year membership. Surviving spouses will continue to be exempt from chapter annual dues payments. If this proposal is approved, it will become effective in January 2024. Payment of dues at the current rate of \$15 per year and \$40 for three years will be accepted until that date.

Please plan to attend our next meeting on October 12 to either support or voice your concerns about this proposal.

● **Election of Officers & Directors for 2024:**

Election of chapter officers and directors to serve in 2024 will be conducted at the October 12th meeting at Bent Creek Country Club. The following slate of officers and directors is proposed for review and approval by the membership:

Officers:

President:	Dan Horting, Lt Col, USAF
Vice President:	Bill Zeird, LT, USN
Imm Past Pres.	Bill Confer Sr, LTC, USA
Treasurer	Dave Shelton, Lt Col, USAF
Corres Secy	Dennis Benchhoff, LTG, USA
Rec Secy	Barry Schmitt, Lt Col, USAF



- **Election of Officers & Directors** (cont'd)

Directors:

Peter Cardinal, COL, USA
 John Gareis, MAJ, USA
 Dave Lawrence, CAPT, USN
 Diane Stackhouse, Maj, USAF
 Jim Cunningham, Lt Col, USAF
 Kim Bade, CDR, USN

- **2023 Membership Mtgs & Venues:**

Please put these dates in your calendars and plan on joining us for
 Thursday, Oct 12, 5 p.m., Bent Creek CC
 Sunday, Dec 3, 1 p.m., Millersville University

- **Breakfast Gatherings:**

Our breakfasts gatherings will meet on the third Thursday of each month where there is no membership meeting. Our remaining Breakfast Gatherings will be on the following dates:

Thursday-Sep 21, and Thursday, Nov 16.

As usual, the venue is Oregon Dairy at 2900 Oregon Pike, Lititz 17543, starting at 8 a.m. These gatherings remain informal. All members and guests are welcome. Contact Dan Horting with questions at k4sbuilder@comcast.net or 717 285-7320.

- **2023 Chapter Dues Reminder:**

We still have 24 members still owing 2023 dues. Dues are \$15 per year or \$40 for three years. All dues checks should be made out to MOAA Lancaster Chapter and sent 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 dlbenchoff2@comcast.net. Surviving Spouses pay no Chapter dues.

- **Replacements needed for Chapter Duties:**

Guest Speakers for Meetings Chair-Dan Horting
 Advertising Chair-David Shelton
 Newsletter Editor (Microsoft Publisher)-Tom Bender
 Web Master (Adobe Dreamweaver)-Tom Bender

For additional details, if interested, please contact our nominating chair, Dave Shelton, at dwsheltn@comcast.net or 717 342-4600, or the position incumbent.



Next Newsletter Release: Nov 1, 2023

Chapter Contacts:
President:

Bill Confer Sr conferw@gmail.com

Vice President:

Dan Horting k4sbuilder@comcast.net

Immediate Past President:

David Shelton dwsheltn@comcast.net

Treasurer:

D. Benchoff dlbenchoff2@comcast.net

Corresponding Secretary:

Bill Zeird rgerzsr@gmail.com

Recording Secretary:

Barry Schmitt sbschmitt@comcast.net

Board of Directors:

Dave Lawrence	CAPT, USN (RET)
Diane Stackhouse	Maj, USAF (RET)
Kim Bade	CDR, USN (RET)
Jim Cunningham	Lt Col, USAF (RET)
Peter Cardinal	COL, USA (RET)
Ed Hurston	Col, USAF (RET)

Adopt a Kid/Adopt a Vet:

John Gareis

Chaplain:

Kim Bade

Legislative Affairs:

Diane Stackhouse

Member Assistance:

Dennis Benchoff

***Membership Recruiting/Introductions/
Nominations/Publicity:***

David Shelton

Mbr Records/Memorials/
Webmaster/Nwsltr Editor/Photos:

Tom Bender

Surviving Spouse Liaison:

Susan Collins

ROTC Liaison:

Peter Cardinal

Scholarship Chair:

Ed Hurston

***Social/Programs/50-50/Meeting Sites/
Menus/Welcome Table***

Dan Horting

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.

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