

Military Officers Association of America

-- We Never Stop Serving --

-- We Are One Powerful Voice --

For every officer at every stage of life and career

Heartland of America Chapter

******* December 2016 *******



The popular Barbershop singers, Sarpy Serenaders, will perform for us at 6:30pm. Please come early for check-in and seating.

-- Dinner Meeting Wednesday, December 14th --

(see inside back cover for details)



Check out our website at
www.heartlandMOAA.us
or call (402)339-7888

The Bulletin Board

Is the Newsletter of the Heartland of America Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America. Content is from members, MOAA's [Take Action](#), [Legislative Action Center](#), and other military-oriented sources. Material used is public domain or attributed as to source and copyright. Our editorial policy is the same [non-partisan policy as MOAA](#).

Lt Colonel Patrick L. Jones, USAF(Ret) Editor & Webmaster - (402)650-4457

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Our November dinner meeting was our annual ROTC salute where we invite cadets and midshipmen from five units plus their detachment commander. From the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, we had three midshipmen, two Army cadets, and two Air Force cadets. We also had two Air Force cadets from UNO and one Army cadet from Creighton. Prior to the meeting, Lt Col Ron Russell found a book titled “Cornhusker, the 1914 Annual of the University of Nebraska.”

This book described the origins of the ROTC program and how “The lack of educated men with military training was a serious handicap to the government in the organization of volunteers” with the result “the Civil War would have been of shorter duration and thousands of lives would have been spared.” Our ROTC Chairman, LCDR Brook Stafford read some excerpts from this book and then introduced the detachment commanders who briefly described their unit and they then introduced their cadets. The cadets then discussed how ROTC had affected them. The concept of being a leader and the role of leadership was most often mentioned. Since the UNL Naval detachment commander was unable to attend, Brook took over his duties and introduced the three midshipmen. There seemed to be an added element of enthusiasm as most of the seniors had just received their initial assignments. We are very proud of all of the cadets/midshipmen and two of the midshipmen were very happy to announce they had just been accepted into the demanding nuclear power training that will lead to nuclear submarine duty

Following the presentations, each cadet/midshipman was presented with a Chapter coin and a copy of the excerpts from the 1914 UNL Annual. Once again this meeting reinforces the important role of ROTC in ensuring our military services will be staffed with competent, excellent leaders and from Nebraska.

Besides the ROTC cadre from Lincoln, we had a couple of other members from Lincoln in attendance: Carol Maasdam and Rose Waddell. Carol and Marty Didamo, our Chapter Secretary, are both Gold Star Wives. I accompanied Carol,

Marty, and Sherrie Patterson, another Gold Star Wife, to Senator Deb Fischer's Lincoln office earlier this month to discuss the "widows' tax" and to encourage the Senator to support the Special Survivor Indemnity Allowance (SSIA). Rose Waddell is our newest chapter member, a retired Army nurse, and a former Chapter President (the last president) of the now defunct Lincoln TROA chapter. We hope Carol and Rose return for more meetings. We thank USAA for their financial support of our ROTC program, those members who helped defray the costs of the dinner (including two members who were not present), and to Brook, Ron, and Doug for making this a special and successful event.



Midshipman Tucker Bonow, Cadet Jesse Perkins,
Cadet Zachary Lucas with LtCol David McBlain
& his wife Ginny

Brig Gen Paul Cohen and I attended the 2016 MOAA Annual Meeting in Arlington, Virginia. The highlight for us was the announcement that Paula Muth was co-winner of the Surviving Spouse Liaison Award and her photograph and accomplishments were in the Annual Meeting Program. We will present the award to Paula at our December meeting. I also received our chapter's

5-Star Level of Excellence Award from the outgoing MOAA chairman General Tony Robertson, USAF (Ret). As I walked off the stage, I was surprised to meet incoming chairman, General Jack Sheehan, USMC (Ret).

General Cohen and I attended the inaugural ceremony opening the Douglas County Veterans Treatment Court on November 4th. We had supported Senator John McCollister's legislation that created this test court in Douglas County. I accepted a coin on behalf of the Chapter's support of the court. I also spoke to Chapter member, and a key supporter of the Court, Lt Col Mick Wagoner, USMC (Ret). Mick agreed to provide us an update presentation in a few months on the initial results.

Our December meeting will be on the second Wednesday of the month, December 14th and we are asking everyone to arrive 30 minutes early as Pat Jones and the Sarpy Serenaders will begin the Holiday Extravaganza at 6:30 pm. New officers will be given oaths, the new streamer will be affixed to our MOAA flag, and we hope to hear a few words from a member who will be spending a lot of time in Washington, DC.

Our January 18th speaker will be Brig Gen/Dr Michael McGinnes of the SAC Museum and Our February 15th speaker will be Jim Vokal of the Platte Institute.

Dan Donovan

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No Time To Rest

(by B/Gen Paul Cohen USAF(Ret))



Now that the election is over, there is no time to relax. The Congressional Session continues and there is much to be done if our lawmakers have the will to do it. The National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) still sits in the Conference Committee while both the House and Senate representatives try to get a consensus that will pass both houses and, of more importance, come closer to meeting the defense needs of the nation.

Equitable pay for the troops, TriCare fees and access, uncertainty with regard to the “new and improved” retirement plan, Commissary support, the end to The Survivor Benefit Plan/Dependents Indemnity

Compensation (SBP/DIC) offset (the “widows tax), or at least continuation of the Special Survivor Indemnity Allowance (SSIA), are among the people-issues still to be resolved or postponed beyond December 9, left for the next Congress to decide.

Be assured, with a \$20 trillion deficit facing the nation, efforts to fund the budget will continue to focus on finding the money for things by reducing pay and benefits for military people, both currently serving and retired. The effect of that policy over the past several years is as evident as predicted. The Department of Defense is seriously discussing how to address the shortage of pilots in the uniformed services. The air carrier industry is also facing a severe shortage in the coming years and is doing all it can to attract trained, experienced pilots from the services as soon as they are available. The Department appears to be surprised by the migration of mid-career members leaving to join the airlines. Why is that a mystery?

The meager pay raises afforded to military members, below the Employment Cost Index (ECI), the mandated measurement to maintain comparability and competitiveness for military pay, alone sends a negative message about how the country values their service. The troops also are mindful of the way in which promises made or implied to now-retired members have been compromised. One need only look at the agreement reached and placed into law in 2013 about increases in TriCare prescription co-pays to understand the air of distrust that now prevails. Legislation then included provision that tied those cost increases to COLA adjustments in retired pay. In 2015, Congress and the Administration over-rode that provision, and has done so repeatedly each year since. How can it be a surprise that people with in-demand honed skills are now leaving for what

appear to be better opportunities. That those opportunities don't come with multiple separations from family and serious threats of bodily harm just add to the incentive to find another profession.

The Survivor Benefit Plan/Dependents Indemnity Compensation (SBP/DIC) offset has been a target for reversal for many years. MOAA and others have petitioned Congress every year for decades to eliminate this unfair burden on survivors whose sponsors died as a result of military service. It's a lot like having two life insurance policies, one provided by your employer and the other paid for by you. As a survivor, you would be told that the one for which you paid premiums won't pay because the one from your employer paid all or a portion of the total to which you thought you were entitled. Two separate policies with one inexplicable exclusion. In an effort to alleviate some of the unfairness associated with the offset, Congress enacted the SSIA as a way of adding some very limited compensation. That act expires in 2018. At the very least, MOAA and others are asking that the SSIA be extended beyond 2018, and that efforts to eliminate the "widows tax" continue.



Jodie Faman Cadet Katelyn Schoneweis, Cadet Courtney Kovensky & Cadet Colin Webster

As individual members of MOAA, we all have a responsibility to act to achieve the organization's goal of a strong national defense, emphasizing fair treatment of uniformed personnel, both currently serving and retired. If you haven't weighed in on the discussion, it's not too late, yet.

Call, write or email Senator Fischer, as an influential member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, and ask that she not sit idly by while the unfair tax on widows continues and possibly increases. Ask that she vehemently support the extension of SSIA beyond 2018 and that she work with her colleagues to eliminate the offset as soon as possible.

Also ask Senator Fischer to support a full 2.1% pay increase for military members as the House version does, and to oppose disproportional increases in TriCare fees.

Then contact the rest of the Nebraska Delegation with similar requests, asking them to support these changes to the NDAA if presented.

If we don't show our vocal support, the conclusion is that we don't care. Watch the voting result as these issues move along (check the MOAA website, MOAA.org for updates) and respond accordingly.

Our motto is, "Never Stop Serving," and this is one relatively easy way to achieve that motto.

Why Tie Military Kids to Medicare?

(MOAA website – Nov 4th)

Medicare, the federal health insurance program for America's elderly, is causing real problems for military children.

Huh?

You might ask how that can be, but it's because TRICARE payments to medical providers are tied to Medicare's.

And Medicare's payments are mainly

designed for older patients, not for kids.

The result is TRICARE often doesn't pay for services unique to children.

One particularly awful example is coverage of hospice care for children facing late stage terminal illness.

Normally, when someone has a terminal illness and faces a short prognosis (e.g., less than six months), they can elect to begin hospice care. Hospice provides medical services, like pain and symptom control, and an option to be at home with caregiving assistance. But it also provides emotional support for the ill and their families, with counseling and support in preparing for death.

Under Medicare rules, electing hospice care requires giving up coverage for curative care. So TRICARE does, too.

That means, when a military family has a child in hospice care and the child has a medical crisis, TRICARE won't cover readmission or treatment in hospital for curative care.

In other words, the family must make the decision to let the child die, or bear the full cost of any medical treatment.



Carol and Max Moore (hm-m-m-m, wonder if Carol had to twist Max's arm to go out tonight?)

But a child's body is not like an adult's body. Children are faster healers, and every part of their body is still growing, developing, and renewing, while adults are in a steady state of aging.

The health variables are much higher for children, and their quality of life needs are different. Parents shouldn't have to forego all needed curative efforts in order to use hospice programs.

Nearly 10 years ago, a DoD-commissioned study concluded, "The requirements for these services severely restrict pediatric access and do not provide appropriate pediatric care." But this egregious policy is still in place.

It is unclear whether the Defense Health Agency (DHA) can fix this without legislation. When the policy was identified to DHA, it reached out to families facing this choice with additional options, but it remains unclear what additional services they are receiving and how such flexibility will be applied going forward.

MOAA and the TRICARE for Kids Coalition are committed to making a change to this regulation - and a law change, if necessary - a top priority.

- See more at: <http://www.moaa.org/Content/Take-Action/Top-Issues/Family/Why-Tie-Military-Kids-to-Medicare-.aspx#sthash.GiGQOy4b.dpuf>

High or Low COLA, CPI is Your Friend

(MOAA website)

By: Col. Steve Strobridge, USAF (Ret) Vice President, Government



(Strobridge, a native of Vermont, is a 1969 ROTC graduate from Syracuse University in Syracuse, N.Y. He was called to active duty in October 1969 and began his career as a Basic Military School training officer and commander and as a military personnel officer. He subsequently served as a compensation and legislation analyst at HQ U.S. Air Force and in the Office of the Secretary of Defense as director, Officer and Enlisted Personnel Management, with intervening assignments in Thailand and Germany.

His final assignment was as chief of the Entitlements Division at HQ U.S. Air Force, with policy responsibility for military compensation, retirement and survivor benefits, and all legislative matters affecting the military community. He is a graduate of the Armed Forces Staff College and National War College.

Strobridge retired from the Air Force in January 1994 to become MOAA's deputy director for Government Relations. In 2001, he was appointed as director of Government Relations and elected as cochair of The Military Coalition. He retired from MOAA in April 2013 but was recalled as Government Relations director in September 2015.)

Last year, the zero COLA prompted several legislators to introduce a bill that would have bypassed the CPI standard and substituted a one-time 3.9-percent COLA. Why 3.9 percent? According to the legislators, that was the average increase in compensation for CEOs of the top 350 U.S. corporations.

We've already seen some talk of introducing a similar bill in the post-election lame-duck session. If so, we expect the effort won't go far, as it didn't last year. At a time when Congress is worried about deficits, legislators are looking for ways to cut the budget rather than ponying up many, many more billions.

The special-COLA effort isn't just pandering. For years, organizations representing seniors have argued the CPI used for COLA doesn't reflect older Americans' spending patterns because it's overly influenced by fuel prices and doesn't account for seniors' disproportional health care spending.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics has tested a modified CPI for the elderly (CPI-E) and found it would, in fact, show a somewhat higher inflation rate than the standard CPI. But it hasn't been pursued seriously, mainly because it would cost more.

MOAA used to argue for the CPI-E. But once TRICARE For Life was enacted in 2001, that pretty much protected older military beneficiaries from health care inflation, other than Part B premium growth. While pharmacy copayments have risen, generic medications and all drugs received through military pharmacies are provided at no cost.

So it's difficult for military advocates to make the main case for the CPI-E — that it better reflects seniors' disproportional health care costs. Regardless, MOAA believes it would be unwise to set a precedent of breaking the COLA tie with the CPI.

The purpose of the current COLA law is to ensure your retired pay, Survivor Benefit Plan annuity, VA disability compensation, and Social Security check will have their purchasing power protected as long as you live.

When double-digit inflation hit in the 1970s, that COLA protection was retirees' lifeline. Many think those days will never come again, but history says they're wrong. Few people today can envision inflation ever going above 4 percent. Back in the 1970s, nobody thought inflation would ever fall as low as 6 percent.

We've had low inflation now for 30 years, and history says we're overdue for a change. In this time when world economies are entwined as never before, anything can happen.

If we support breaking the CPI-COLA tie when inflation is low, it will give ammunition to budget hawks to break the tie when inflation is high, because it would save so much money.

We can complain about low or no COLAs, but it's a fact that gas prices are down significantly from a couple of years ago. There have been some exceptions, but, overall, prices for food and other items also are down, in part because of lower transportation costs. So low COLAs generally mean your costs haven't risen much. High COLAs mean the purchasing power of your retired pay and other annuities is rising with prices.

High COLAs or low/no COLAs, the CPI is your friend.

- See more at: <http://www.moaa.org/Content/Take-Action/As-I-See-It/High-or-Low-COLA---CPI-Is-Still-Your-Friend.aspx#sthash.e44MWxLE.dpuf>

SurvivingSpouse Liaison Excellence Award

Our chapter Surviving Spouse Liaison, Paula Muth, has been recognized by MOAA as winner of their Excellence Award. Paula's lifetime experiences prepared her well to be a superb surviving spouse. Born into a Navy family, her father was a 30 year submariner. Paula learned many of the benefits of military life and many of the challenges such as frequent moves, the need to make new friends and attending new schools. She married a Naval Academy graduate who chose to join the Air Force and during the couple's military service, Paula got to see the benefits and challenges of military life from a new perspective. Her husband, LtCol Robert Muth passed away while on active duty in 1973. As a member of the Heartland of America Chapter (Nebraska), Paula was nominated by her chapter president to be one of the five members of MOAA's newly formed Chairman's Auxiliary Member Advisory Committee and served from 2004-2008. She contributed many of the policies and guidance that defined the role of the auxiliary member in assisting surviving spouses. Paula combines her duty as Surviving Spouse Liaison with the additional duty as Personal Affairs Chair. She ensures the spouses of deceased members receive a personal invitation to remain active in MOAA. She has written numerous articles for the chapter newsletter on advocacy and survivor issues and actively hosts events to encourage and inform surviving spouses on the key MOAA advocacy initiatives.



Our chapter newsletter, *The Bulletin Board* won MOAA's 5 Star Comm Award again

Paula's contributions to MOAA are particularly noteworthy. She is friendly, compassionate, reliable and epitomizes the active and involved leader who exemplifies the MOAA motto to "never Stop Serving."

Hands Off My Government

(MOAA Website Nov)

By: Col. Steve Strobridge, USAF (Ret) Vice President, Government

Coming off one of the most contentious elections in memory, feelings are running high among just about everybody. In newspapers, on TV, and on social media, speculation — positive and negative — is everywhere about what the election results mean and where the new president and Congress might or might not take us.

Will America become more confrontational in the world or withdraw from some international responsibilities?

Will the defense budget get bigger?

Will there be more or fewer threats to military pay, benefits, and COLAs?

Will there be a move to privatize Medicare, Social Security, VA health care, or TRICARE?

Will funding or support for programs we like (or don't like) be cut?

Before anybody goes off the deep end with worry or joy, we should remember a major change in philosophical leadership is nothing new for our country.

The elections of Richard Nixon, Jimmy Carter, Ronald Reagan, Bill Clinton, George W. Bush, and Barack Obama all represented major changes of course from their predecessors.

In retrospect, none solved all our national problems and none sent the country careening off the rails.

The reason is we don't give up our power to influence our national leaders just because an election is over.

There have been proposals from every administration of either party we (the public) haven't liked.

At various times, MOAA members have barraged their legislators with postcards, letters, emails, and tweets to support or oppose initiatives on Medicare, Social Security, COLAs, TRICARE, concurrent receipt, survivor benefits, pay raises, commissaries, and more.

Legislators haven't listened in every case, but they have more often than not.

With 535 individual senators and representatives, the only certain bet is some seemingly crazy ideas will be proposed in the coming Congress.

But it's also a certain bet the proposals that don't make sense will generate a barrage of grassroots input to rebalance our national sanity meter.

Just because a person or political party gets 47 percent or 51 percent or 55 percent of the vote on a given day definitely does *not* mean that person or party is going to enjoy majority support for whatever they might propose.

Every proposal must be vetted in the court of public opinion. And every elected official ignores public opinion at his or her peril.

There's a reason the pendulum of our national direction swings back and forth. Usually, it's because the public thinks their elected officials have overreached their limited "mandate."

No elected official is, or ever will be, the savior or the sinking of the nation.

The savior of our nation is you — an informed and actively involved electorate.

If you think you won or lost anything Nov. 8, you are mistaken.

The nation can only go down the tubes if you start thinking Election Day is the only time your voice matters.

Your willingness to express your opinion on an issue-by-issue and day-by-day basis is the counterweight of national conscience that remains essential to keep our elected officials on the right track.

Don't ever be shy about exercising it.

- See more at: <http://www.moaa.org/Content/Take-Action/As-I-See-It/Keep-Your-Government-Hands-Off-My--Blank-.aspx#sthash.vI4EBoYc.dpuf>

Programs

(from Ken McClure, Maj USA (Ret))

14 December will be our holiday meeting (NOTE: THIS IS THE 2nd WEDNESDAY, NOT THE 3rd). We will have a musical program at 6:30 performed by the Sarpy Serenaders. *Some of our members will sing with them!!!* Installation of officers and presentation of our latest Five Star Achievement Ribbon and other awards will occur.

18 January – Retired B/General Mike McGinnis, Executive Director of the SAC and Aerospace Museum will give a presentation about the museum, its improvements, and additions.



Program Chair Ken McClure

15 February – Our speaker will be Jim Vokal, Chief Executive Officer of the Platte Institute and an advocate for limited government and the free-market system. For eight years Mr. Vokal was an Omaha City Councilman, including two years as City Council President.

Your suggestions for future programs are needed. Please contact me, Ken McClure, at (402) 504-8796 or email kgmccclure@gmail.com

Surviving Spouse Corner: Aging in Place

(MOAA Advocate, Oct 4th)

Statistics show 1 in 3 Americans now is over age 50, and by 2030, 1 in every 5 will be over 65. Nearly 90 percent of those over 45 want to age at home, referred to as aging in place. Often, home modifications to improve your accessibility and livability help to ensure a safe, independent, and actively engaged lifestyle.

It is important to think proactively about the aging process rather than react once an event occurs. Will your home will work for you as you age? Ask yourself: What is your goal for your house? How long do you want to live there?

Often this is a head, heart, and financial decision. Life is a journey of adaptation, and our homes tell us what we need to do. The best living environment is safe, comfortable, fosters and preserves independence, accommodates the potential need for assistance, supports the way you live, and will continue to be affordable down the road.

Experts say the three most dangerous areas in a home are the kitchen, bathroom (the No. 1 place for accidents in the home), and stairs. While individual needs vary, some home modifications to consider include installing:

- **ramps at home entrances, eliminate steps;**
- **handrails at existing steps and porches;**
- **remote-controlled blinds/shades;**
- **lever-style door handles;**
- **adequate indoor and outdoor lighting;**
- **a front-loading washer and dryer;**
- **pullout shelves in cabinets;**
- **a raised dishwasher;**
- **a front-control cooktop;**
- **lever-style handles on all faucets, including a pullout sprayer in the kitchen;**
- **side-by-side refrigerator (with slide-out shelves and a water/ice dispenser);**
- **larger, user-friendly cabinet and drawer pulls;**
- **a curbless shower (no step over and wheelchair-friendly, if necessary later) with grab bars, a slide-bar-type handheld shower nozzle, tub and shower controls close to the entry point, anti-scald devices, and entry doors at least 32-inches wide; and**
- **raised toilets.**

Modifications can be made in all areas of your home, even in closets and garages. (Find more ideas in the AARP Home Fit Guide here.)

As you begin to examine your home and its condition, ongoing maintenance needs, and necessary changes, consider a variety of solutions and make informed decisions. Unbiased assessments by a certified aging-in-place specialist (CAP) can be helpful (\$300 average cost for home assessment).

Some CAPs are remodelers, but a growing number are health care professionals, designers, architects, or contractors who are trained to identify the unique needs of the older adult population, aging-in-place home modifications, common remodeling projects, and solutions to common barriers. CAPs provide a service, but eventually you'll need a professional remodeler to modify your home. Visit www.nahb.org/caps to find a CAP in your area.

The Birth of ROTC (presented by Ron Russell)

We had a great November dinner meeting with the cadets and cadre from UNL, UNO, and Creighton. They were spread out and seated with the rest of us. It was good chatting with them during the meal and hearing each cadet speak about their ROTC experience and career plans.



Excerpts from the **CORNHUSKER**, Annual of the University of Nebraska, 1914

“In 1862 the Congress of the United States enacted laws [i.e., Morrill Act] which granted large tracts of land to the different states to be used in establishing colleges of industrial and mechanical arts, and imposed the condition that in accepting the grant the undergraduate students should be given instruction in military drill. This was the result of the lesson so bitterly learned at the outset of the Civil War, then

waging. The lack of educated men with military training was a serious handicap to the government in the organization of volunteers. It was not until the war had progressed two years that the country had what could really be considered an army, which could and would do the things ordered by commanders, and, it was only by tragic experience that the officers learned the profession of arms. If the country had possessed a sufficient number of educated men with military training, the Civil War would have been of shorter duration and thousands of lives would have been spared. To prevent a repetition of such a condition in the future, Congress very wisely sought to have all college men possess some military training. It knew that this country would never maintain a large standing army and it sought in this way to organize a nucleus for a reserve force to draw upon in time of national peril.

Every cadet is benefitted in many ways by military drill. He becomes a more efficient and valuable citizen, a military asset, and a protector of his country. He betters his own condition physically and mentally. Discipline is essential in all military work, it requires a man to be at a certain place at a certain time to do the things required by superiors with exactness and without hesitation or question... Attention to detail, alertness of mind, proper carriage in standing and in walking, courtesy, straight-forwardness, and precision-these qualities give self-assurance, inspire self-respect, develop latent abilities, and bring out the best that is in a man. these are a few of the benefits, physical and mental, of the military department. But, greatest of all, is the instilling of a deeper and more active form of patriotism.”
(by E.N. BOWMAN, First Lieutenant Fourth U.S. Infantry, Commandant of Cadets)

MOAA's and Heartland Chapter's Missions are the Same

The Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, working to support military and their families at every stage of life. It actively petitions Congress on behalf of the military community on issues affecting the career force, the retired community, and veterans of the uniformed services. MOAA offers a wide range of personal and financial services exclusive to MOAA members. Whatever the stage of a career, MOAA membership delivers benefits geared specifically to you – and your family. You become part of the strongest advocate for our military and their families. Those with prior officer service in any of the seven uniformed services can become members. Consider joining today because every voice counts! You will be protecting not only your earned benefits but all serving today. Our Heartland Chapter also focuses on similar state and local issues. We provide an environment for camaraderie and mutual support with our meetings, newsletters, website, and community involvement.

**As MOAA, WE NEVER STOP SERVING.... We are *One Powerful Voice* –
For every officer at every stage of life and career... Join Us !!
*You will be glad you did!***

<p>When you join MOAA, you become part of the strongest advocate for our military's personnel and their families. The stronger our membership is, the stronger our voice becomes. Consider joining today because every voice counts.</p> <p>Three Membership Levels To Meet the Needs Of All Officers</p>	<p>BASIC</p>	 <p>PREMIUM</p>	 <p>LIFE</p>
<p>Features of each Membership Level</p>	<p>No-cost electronic membership designed for today's junior officers.</p>	<p>Full access to MOAA's career resources, countless discounts on products and travel, and access to all of MOAA-exclusive publications and news updates. Full access to a wide variety of member benefits for today's career officer.</p>	<p>Receive all the benefits that PREMIUM membership has plus exclusive privileges and benefits.</p>
<p>Membership Dues</p>	<p>Free</p>	<p>1 year - \$40, 2 years - \$75 3 years - \$98</p>	<p><u>Dues</u> are based on your current age</p>
<p>Support of critical advocacy efforts to protect the benefits of the entire military community</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>Electronic access to several of MOAA's news updates</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>Discounts on products and travel</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>Career transition resources MOAA helps transition officers by hosting career fairs, resume critiques, training sessions, & much more.</p>		<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>Expert advice on your military pay and benefits MOAA's team of highly trained professionals can help you receive the military benefits you've earned through one-on-one counseling.</p>		<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>Financial planning and investment advice</p>		<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>Military Officer magazine</p>		<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>Access to all MOAA-exclusive publications</p>		<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>Scholarships, interest-free loans, and grants For children of MOAA members seeking undergraduate degrees.</p>		<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>MOAA Chapters 1. Take advantage of the opportunity to get involved & meet fellow officers in your community. A PREMIUM or LIFE Membership makes it easy.</p>	<p>Dues vary by chapter.</p>	<p>New chapter members receive a voucher good for one year of chapter dues.</p>	<p>New chapter members receive a voucher good for two years of chapter dues.</p>
<p>Bonus travel rewards and discounts</p>			<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>Initiation fee waived at the Army and Navy Club of Washington, D.C.</p>			<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>Protection for your spouse Membership benefits transfer to your spouse should anything happen to you.</p>			<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>

Selection of Membership



With more than 380,000 members nationwide, the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) is the country's leading organization protecting the rights of servicemembers and their families. Those who belong to MOAA not only lend their voices to a greater cause, but they also gain access to extensive benefits tailored to the needs and lifestyles of military officers. MOAA members 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.

YOUR LEADERSHIP LIES WELL BEYOND THE BATTLEFIELD.

Select YOUR Membership LIFE PREMIUM BASIC

Name _____
 Branch of Service _____ Rank _____
 Active Retired Former Reserve National Guard Surviving Spouse
 Email Address _____
(MOAA values your privacy and will not sell or rent your email address to third parties. You will receive e-communications from MOAA and your local chapter as a benefit. Visit www.moaa.org/email for details.)
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ ZIP _____
 Phone Number _____
 Date of Birth _____
Required for BASIC Membership.
 Spouse Name _____
Your spouse has access to all of your MOAA member benefits.
 Chapter Name _____

LIFE Membership Dues

Dues are based on your current age.

50 and under	\$693
Age 51-55	\$654
Age 56-60	\$616
Age 61-65	\$564
Age 66-70	\$501
Age 71-75	\$431
Age 76-80	\$354
Age 81-85	\$270
Age 86-90	\$191
Age 91-95	\$118
Age 96-100	\$72
Age 101+	FREE

For LIFE or PREMIUM options, choose one of the following payment methods:

Payment in full Enclosed is my check
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 Card number _____ Expiration date _____
 Signature _____

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 Visa Discover MasterCard AMEX
 Card number _____ Expiration date _____
 Signature _____
 Check here to have your credit card automatically charged monthly for the remaining installment payments.

PREMIUM Membership Dues

One-Year PREMIUM
\$40 (Surviving Spouse – \$37)
Two-Year PREMIUM
\$75 (Surviving Spouse – \$68)
Three-Year PREMIUM
\$98 (Surviving Spouse – \$88)

BASIC Membership Dues

Free

Send To: **MOAA, PO Box 1488**
Merrifield, VA 22116-9820

For faster service,
 call **(800) 234-MOAA (6622)**
 or visit **www.moaa.org/join**.

M1500JOIN

Local Membership Form



Heartland of America Chapter
Military Officers Association of America
P.O. Box 1756
Bellevue, NE 68005-1756

LOCAL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

(Heartland Chapter members must also be a National MOAA Member)

Membership: Initial or Renewal

Annual local dues \$20.00 \$10.00 (new ones after 1 July) Aux. \$5.00

Benefactor Donor: \$50, \$100 or more _____

Last Name _____ First Name _____ MI _____

Nickname _____ e-mail _____

Street Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone(H) _____ W _____ Cell _____

Rank _____ Service _____ Retired NOAA USPHS

Active Duty Regular Reserve Nat'l Guard Former Officer

Spouse's Name _____

National MOAA Membership # _____ Life Member? Yes No

Brief Bio: (entered service: branch: assignment summary: Interesting career anecdotes:

Signature _____ Date _____

Contact Chapter Officers for more info: **President** Dan Donovan - 402-339-7888, **Ask about Membership:** Lou Zuccarello - 402-739-3521, **Programs:** Ken McClure - 402-504-8796, **Surviving Spouse Affairs** - Paula Muth - 402-292-1663, **Legislation:** Paul Cohen - 402-491-3551, **Treasurer:** Rene Dreiling 402-740-3127, **ROTC:** Brook Stafford - 402-916-9759, **Personal Affairs:** Paula Muth - 402-292-1663, **Hospitality & Reservations:** Ron Russell, 402-297-4244, **Webmaster & Newsletter:** Pat Jones - 402-650-4457

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Reserved Parking NOW Available !!

(no one thought it would ever happen...). Though many of us need to park closer to the door because of medical limitations, handicapped parking is very limited at Anthony's. (and there is no assurance that those limited number of spaces are really being used by authorized drivers; This editor has personally twice seen young apparently healthy drivers park in those slots with no handicap display) BUT, our erstwhile dinner planners have done it!!! WE NOW HAVE TWO SPACES !!!

Read & heed the info below – pj

*We have two "reserved parking" signs we'll be using at Anthony's from now on. The reserved parking spaces are for our mobility- limited members, on a first come, first served basis. Use of these spaces will be on the honor system to help our members who need to park as close to the entrance as possible due to medically-related conditions. The MOAA reserved parking space locations will vary from month to month due to the other events hosted by Anthony's. We will attempt to find spaces as close to the Anthony's main entrance as possible but members will need to look for our reserved spaces. The signs are mounted on orange cones and will be placed at the entrance of the parking space. The driver or passenger must move the sign to the far end to allow the car entry. **Please bring the reserved sign in with you and give to Ron & Sharon. That reduces the risk of thievery and misuse by "others"**. – Three cheers for Ron & Sharon Russell*

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May They Not Be Forgotten:

I mean the men and women who have answered the call and paid the ultimate price so that we and future generations could have the freedoms so cherished by human beings. We must ever be vigilant prepared to defend our way of life against those who would deny it. Callous politicians, power hungry egoists, corrupt individuals, adversarial religions, and even our latest self-oriented generations pose grave threat to the preservation of what many take for granted. Every citizen should take a few moments from time to time and reflect the benefits we have in our country. They should give thanks to those who have served and preserved our way of life.

Hopefully, they will also pledge to do their part to keep it so. – pj



and

on

Wandering Mind of An Old Retired Guy



When You live a long life, some things become pretty clear:

A clear conscience is the sign of a fuzzy memory.

We should ban pre-shredded cheese, to make America grate again!

The first five days after the weekend are the hardest!

We are still pretty hot stuff... it just comes in flashes now!

A sure cure for an obsession is to just get another one!

If stuck choosing between two evils, always pick the one you never tried before!

One thing I am real sure of is the second mouse gets the cheese!

But, then, some questions I still haven't figured out:

Is there ever a day that mattresses are not on sale?

Should you hold the door open for a clown.... would it be a nice jester?

If attacked by a mob of clowns.... should you go for the juggler?

Hm-m-m, does seven days without meat make one week?

TODAY IS THE OLDEST YOU'VE EVER BEEN, YET THE YOUNGEST YOU'LL EVER BE, SO ENJOY THIS DAY WHILE IT LASTS.



**Heartland of America Chapter
 Military Officers Association of America, MOAA
Dinner Meeting – Wednesday, December 14th, 2016**

Anthony's Restaurant (72nd and F Streets)

Registration and Social Hour Begins at 6 pm - Dinner at 7 pm

Reservations are for meal selections only, and should be e-mailed to our central e-mail address or phoned to Sharon Russell. Please specify names of attendees, meal choices and include a phone number in case we need to contact you. **Reservations should be in by Monday night before the dinner! If you must cancel your reservation, please call Sharon at (402) 297-4244 prior to 4:00 pm on the day of the event; otherwise the chapter will be charged if you are a NO-SHOW and we will send you a bill for the cost.**

E-mail: heartlandmoaa@hotmail.com

Phone: (402) 297-4244

Meal selections are as follows:

*10oz Prime Rib w/ Baked Potato & Green Bean Almandine - \$36.80
 _____ - With Spumoni Ice Cream - \$39.80_____*

*Parmesan Crusted Roughy w/Rice Pilaf & Green Bean Almandine - \$28.90
 _____ - With Spumoni Ice Cream - \$31.90_____*

*Strawberry Pecan Spring Salad - \$18.40
 _____ - With Spumoni Ice Cream - \$21.40_____*

Payment will be collected in the party room.

A pre-made-out check to Anthony's is preferred. Cash will be accepted but it slows down entry and causes lines. Thank you for your support of this procedure. Note: Prices include tax and gratuity.

Program

This is our holiday meeting that will begin with a performance by the Sarpy Serenaders. Their program will start at 6:30 pm so please try to arrive early. After dinner, we will have installation of officers and the affixing of another Five Star Award streamer to our MOAA flag.

Remember the expression, “the more, the merrier”? We ask you to make our meetings better, with your presence. We strive to provide a good meal, a stimulating program, and camaraderie. We’ll do our best to provide the first two, but only you can increase the camaraderie we share. Please attend.



Sharon & Ron Russell

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