



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

***** November 2017 *****



U.S. AIR FORCE
R•O•T•C



ROTC produces officers in all branches of the U.S. Armed Forces except the U.S. Coast Guard. ROTC graduates constitute 56 percent of U.S. Army, 11 percent of U.S. Marine Corps, 20 percent of U.S. Navy, and 41 percent of U.S. Air Force officers, for a combined 39 percent of all active duty officers in the Department of Defense

Come and meet Cadets and staff from the ROTC programs at Creighton, UNL, and UNO

*-- Next Dinner Meeting, Wednesday, November 15th --
(see inside back cover for details)*

Check out our website at
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The Bulletin Board

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

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT



The speaker for our October meeting was Will Ackerman, Director of Communications and Voluntary Service of the Veterans Administration's Nebraska-Western Iowa Health Care System. A native of Yakima, Washington, he enlisted in the Air Force and served as a POL specialist (ground refueling aircraft), a video photographer, and a Public Affairs specialist. His military career included assignments in both Kosovo and Bagdad. His career with the VA began in 2008 as a Public Affairs Director, then Public Affairs Manager, and now Spokesman for the VA Nebraska-Western Iowa region.

Will earned two Masters degrees from Bellevue University, an MA in Managerial Communication in 2009 and an MS in Strategic Marketing in 2014.

The timing of Will's presentation is somewhat coincidental. He had been scheduled for some time and the attitude of most veterans, the medical community, and entire region was that we had a very effective VA Hospital and organization. Internal VA rankings have consistently listed it among the best in the VA system. The biggest complaint from many was the parking situation. An article that appeared in the Omaha October 15th World-Herald and repeated in the October 19th Air Pulse reported: "Employees at the VA Nebraska-Western Iowa

Healthcare System kept an unauthorized, off-the-books waiting list for some Omaha mental health appointments." As the VA Spokesman, Will has had an interesting and challenging week. The article reported that "Employees involved with this situation were held accountable. . ." and that "the situation brought to its attention had been fixed."



Will reported that the new VA Director, Dr. David Shulkin, who began duty in February 2017 had infused the VA with reemphasized priorities and restated core values. The priorities include: greater access to VA facilities, including an expanded Choice program (by which veterans are allowed to use local civilian facilities); modernized systems; focused



resources; improved timeliness; and suicide prevention. The core values include transparency, accountability, innovation, teamwork, and integrity. Will also discussed the VA's research efforts and the rapid adoption of cutting-edge technology such as Tele-Health that permits VA doctors and patients to meet on-line. Another prominent role of VA hospitals is the training of doctors and nurses. In Omaha, both UNMC and Creighton have medical students and nursing students spend part of their training at our VA Hospital.



Senator Sasse had already asked for additional information on the unauthorized list and both Iowa senators, Chuck Grassley and Joni Ernst, recently announced they believe there are some unanswered questions. Will Ackerman will probably have another interesting week. We do want to thank him for his excellent presentation, for his personal insights on suicide prevention, and for being a veteran who had served in two different combat zones, his ability to relate and communicate with veteran patients.

Thanks to Dick Doolittle, Ron Russell, Marty Didamo, Terry Lehigh, Cindy Keyes, and Carol Maasdam for working our information booth at Retiree Appreciation Day. We signed up two new Chapter members and made arrangements for the 55th Wing Commander Col Manion to speak to us next year.

We will be riding in an extended cab Silverado in the November 11th Bellevue Veterans' Day Parade. If you would like to join us please meet us in the Fareway Foods parking lot on Harlan Drive by 8:45 am. There is lots of parking and you will see our vehicle with the MOAA signs.

Our November 15th meeting is our annual salute to the five ROTC units (3 at UNL, Air Force at UNO, and Army at Creighton). We will have two cadets/midshipmen and the unit commander from each unit. Each cadet will speak on their training, aspirations, etc. It is considered by many to be our best meeting of the year. Steak will be on the menu and, if you would like to purchase a steak for a cadet, please let us know when you place your reservation.

Please mark December 13th on your calendar as that will be our holiday extravaganza where you are encouraged to wear your mess dress uniforms. We will ask Gen Cohen to officiate as we swear in three Board Members, we will place our 2017 awards on our Level of Excellence streamer, and we will have Pat and the Sarpy Serenaders get us into the Christmas spirit.

Dan Donovan d.donovan1@cox.net 402-339-7888

Programs

(from Ken McClure, Maj USA (Ret))

Our November 15th meeting is our special dinner featuring ROTC cadets from all the Nebraska colleges. A great time to rekindle our faith in those who follow us in serving our country.

Our December 13 meeting will see installation of officers and special entertainment by the Sarpy Serenaders. They are a Barbershop style a'capella men's singing group who have performed for us before. A couple of our members are Serenader members too and will sing for us!! Wear your service's dress uniform, if you can!



Program Chair, Ken McClure

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

TRICARE Publishes New Changes: Beneficiaries see increased costs next year

(MOAA 5 October)

Timing is everything- and we are now into the fall, and marching ever closer to the Jan. 1, 2018, start date for anticipated changes to the TRICARE program. As part of this process, TRICARE late last week announced its formal requirements for implementing portions of last year's National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA).

The Interim Final Rule (IFR) guides the implementation of TRICARE Select, the new preferred provider organization option, which combines the current TRICARE Standard and Extra plans. Other significant changes are forthcoming as well, many of which are addressed in the MOAA TRICARE questions and answers series you may have seen before:

[Part 1: Who's affected by the new TRICARE changes?](#)

[Part 2: How will TRICARE's new enrollment rules work?](#)

[Part 3: Will TRICARE changes affect my access to care?](#)

But shockingly, the story took an unanticipated twist.

Along with implementation of the new TRICARE Select option, and without any prompting or open discussion, a new set of cost shares and fees unexpectedly appeared in the IFR. These new fees are targeted at existing beneficiaries who currently, by law, are grandfathered into the current TRICARE Standard/Extra program fee structure.



New member Ron Bailey welcomed by David Heer, and Jeff Mikesell

Recall that a key feature of last year's package of sweeping TRICARE reforms was that all those currently serving, as well as those retiring prior to Jan. 1, 2018, would be grandfathered into the existing fee structures. New entrants into the services after Jan. 1, 2018, would be subject to newer, much higher fees. The whole goal of the grandfathering was to keep fees where they currently are, at what we believe to be a reasonable level, for beneficiaries in the service prior to Jan. 1, 2018. Now this commitment seems to be slipping away.

Many of these new TRICARE Select fees water down any benefit of grandfathering. In most cases, there will be higher fixed fees and cost shares for both retirees and active duty families who choose the new Select option.

In many instances, new entrants who join after Jan. 1, 2018, will be paying less than current beneficiaries, who should be grandfathered into the previous, lower fee structure.

To focus on a few of the most glaring TRICARE Select examples under the IFR guidance:

- **A current, would-be grandfathered, active duty family member's cost for a primary care visit will be \$27 for a network provider. Contrast this with a new entrant family member after Jan. 1, 2018, who will pay \$15.**
- **The same grandfathered member above would pay \$34 for a specialty care visit, while a new entrant family member would pay \$25.**
- **Grandfathered retirees under age 65 would pay \$35 for an in-network primary care visit. Future retirees who entered after Jan. 1, 2018, would pay \$25.**
- **Grandfathered retirees under age 65 will pay quite a bit more for inpatient hospitalizations than future entrants - \$250 a day, versus \$175 per admission.**

This new structure leaves us scratching our heads, with more questions than answers.

How can it be that existing grandfathered beneficiaries will pay more for their health care than those newly entering the service? Are grandfathered beneficiaries being saddled with disproportional increases as to cover costs of other programs? Why would DoD unveil these new fees, couched as necessary to stabilize costs, before a defense bill is resolved and presented to the president?

Not to mention the Senate's version of the pending defense bill, which has its own designs on increasing TRICARE pharmacy copayments. What led DoD and the Senate to change their level of support to currently serving and retired servicemembers?

MOAA is concerned these changes will result in cost increases for many beneficiaries, increases which bypassed open dialogue among military service organizations.

As the Armed Services committees begin to take on their annual defense bill negotiations in conference committee, these fee changes muddy the waters, as noted above. Adding to the confusion, a provision in the FY18 NDAA would repeal the grandfathering clause from last year's defense bill, subjecting all beneficiaries to the fee structure for new entrants. But according to the IFR, the fee structure for new entrants after Jan. 1, 2018 is marginally better than what would be put in place should grandfathering remain.

MOAA hopes beneficiaries aren't being coaxed into picking between two bad choices: leave grandfathering alone and take disproportional fee hikes anyway, or repeal grandfathering and take on newer, smaller - but still disproportional - fee hikes. The latter also would achieve one of DoD's objectives: to have only one fee system for all beneficiaries, old and new. It seems this strategy of two choices ensures DoD wins either way.

A peculiar and frustratingly confusing strategy should be concerning for all TRICARE beneficiaries. As MOAA has said from the beginning, timing is everything. We will be using the comment period following the IFR release to demand clarification that will reveal the underlying intent of these changes.



Ken Fortney and Rick Croasdale get ready to discuss Army and Air Force virtues. Fortney is reputed to walk softly but carry a big stick, (Hm,m,m, is that it?)

[Take Action!](#)

The congressional session is underway. Please engage your members of Congress—express your concerns. You can notify them in several ways:

1. Click on the link, [MOAA ISSUES](http://capwiz.com/moaa/issues/alert/?alertid=74607626). (or cut and paste into your browser address line <http://capwiz.com/moaa/issues/alert/?alertid=74607626>) & use MOAA's email or letter assist.
2. Send the suggested message, or your own version, email or U.S. Mail, or both.
3. Use MOAA's toll-free Capitol Hill Hotline (866) 272-6622

These officer-owned breweries give back to the military community

(from MOAA Features 29 Sep, by Gina Harkins)

“When medically retired Navy Lt. Paul Jenkins saw the high veteran unemployment rates in 2012, he knew he had to do something to help his fellow servicemembers.



The U.S. Naval Academy graduate saw beer companies marketing to veterans, which sparked the idea for Veteran Beer Co. But his company's mission goes far beyond brewing. He only employs other veterans, and they buy their materials and ingredients from other veteran-owned companies - or those committed to hiring former servicemembers.

“The idea is to run it like a nonprofit,” Jenkins says. “The first 10 percent of anything we bring in goes to charities that support local veterans. Then, as soon as we make enough money, we hire another veteran.”

Veteran Beer Co., which opened in 2013, bottles flavors like the Blonde Bomber, Hooyah!, India pale ale (IPA), Freedom Road, and Bunker Buster. Beer fans also can purchase a mix of the brews in a 12-pack called the “Show of Force.” The results have been promising. The company's beer has won or placed in 39 of the 42 beer contests it has entered.

This isn't the first time Jenkins, a former A-4 Skyhawk pilot and Gulf War veteran, has sought to employ other servicemembers. He's also the chief executive officer at Bancroft Architects and Engineers, a firm that hires disabled veterans and has created designs for VA facilities and laboratory suites.

To encourage his staff at Veteran Beer Co., Jenkins says he's giving himself a 10-year limit in the organization's top leadership position. By 2022, he wants to see another veteran step up and take the reins.

“On the one hand, it's scary,” Jenkins says. “But it can't be nearly as scary as turning over your command in a war. What we've been taught to do as officers is trust the next generation.



David McBlain, Ron Russell, Lou Zuccarello, Doug Pikop and Brook Stafford deep into a thought stimulating discussion

“It can be horrifying to be an entrepreneur and not know how you’ll get through a crisis, but it goes back to what we were trained to do - lead,” he adds. “I feel like leadership didn’t end the day I resigned my commission.”

Former Army Capt. Kevin Ryan and his fiancée, Meredith Sutton, also wanted to start a brewing company that did more than just make beer.

The two came up with a business plan and mission statement that included giving back to the veteran community. With that plan, they attracted investors who also were interested in supporting charities for servicemembers or first responders.

Once they had the funding, the couple launched Service Brewing Co. in 2014. They had the help of 23 investors - 20 of whom had served in the Army, Navy, or Marine Corps.

“I think I’ve always had a charitable mind-set,” says Ryan, a U.S. Military Academy grad who served as an infantry officer in Iraq. “When I was in Iraq, my unit would receive packages every day from people all over the country who had no idea who we were - it was just their way of showing support. ... We try to do that here at the brewery as well.”

Over the years, Service Brewing Co. has not only brewed up beer for its tasting room - regulars include Ground Pounder Pale Ale, Rally Point Pilsner, and Scouts Out Honey Saison - but also donated more than \$30,000 to charitable organizations. Those organizations include a group that matches veterans with service dogs, the Marine Corps Reserve’s Toys for Tots program, and an organization helping troops who are transitioning out of the military.

Ryan also mentors other veterans who want to start their own businesses. He attends transition summits and works with the Veteran Mentor community, which links up servicemembers with people in their desired career fields.

Ryan’s advice for servicemembers who are leaving the military: Get off base and meet people in your community. “You’ll be surprised at how much people are willing to help,” he says.

Service Brewing Co. also encourages its patrons to express how they give back to their communities. There’s a board in their tasting room that asks, “How do you serve?” Patrons are invited to sign the board and leave messages.

“You don't always think about how much your neighbors are doing for your community,” Ryan says. Someone might be a lawyer by day, he adds, but they also might volunteer to clean up a beach or help mentor young people.

Service Brewing's board got what Ryan calls its coolest addition in May 2016, when Sgt. Maj. of the Army Dan Dailey signed it. Dailey, who was Ryan's former first sergeant, dropped by the brewery during a visit to nearby Fort Stewart. His message says, “Never, and I mean never, forget that I am a soldier, no better or worse than any other!” “That pretty much sums up his attitude toward his leadership,” Ryan says.

Seth Jordan wants you to raise your beer can and toast a fallen servicemember.

Dog Tag Brewing teamed up with Pabst Brewing Co. to create Legacy Lager, a 16-ounce can of beer that features names of troops who lost their lives in combat. The goal: to prompt people to pause for a moment and reflect on the loss of a servicemember.

“I think the family really likes that,” says Jordan, who served as a Marine Corps officer. “They say, ‘Somebody in California today took a selfie with the beer and [said] cheers to my son. He's been gone for eight years, but it's nice to know that someone learned about him today.’ ”

Jordan and his teammates at Dog Tag Brewing Foundation are familiar with the pain of losing a comrade in combat. Jordan fought in the Battle of Marjah, where thousands of leathernecks and other coalition forces eliminated the Taliban's last stronghold in Afghanistan's Helmand province. Dozens of U.S. troops were killed in the 10-month battle - and that had an impact on Jordan, who deployed to Afghanistan twice, first as a joint terminal attack controller and later as a Huey pilot.

After about 10 years in uniform, Jordan wanted to find a way to give back to families who had lost loved ones in Iraq and Afghanistan. He teamed up with other vets to launch a foundation awarding grants to Gold Star families who establish charities in honor of their fallen servicemember.

Dog Tag Brewing offers free consulting and advisory services to help Gold Star families make their charities special, Jordan says. Many families have ideas about how to honor their sons or daughters, but don't quite know where to start.

The family of Army National Guard Spc. Christopher Patterson, for example, recently met up with Jordan's team for advice. Their son was killed in 2012 in Afghanistan when his vehicle struck an IED. Growing up, Patterson's parents say he was a bit shy. But he came into his own once he got involved in the performing arts.

His family wanted to create a charity in Patterson's name that provides resources and money for other young men and women interested in the performing arts. Dog Tag Legacy Fund helped them establish the Chris Patterson Memorial Foundation, and on the fifth anniversary of the soldier's death, the group held its first-ever board meeting.

"We can't control what happened to them, but we can help control how they're remembered and how their families interact with the community," Jordan says. Families who receive grants are then eligible to apply for the Legacy Lager dedication cans.

It's Jordan's personal mission to get more veterans involved in philanthropy. Former or retired officers are a great fit for the work, which he says made him a better leader.

"I think [philanthropy] softens your heart and puts you in the right mind-set for civilian life," Jordan says. "It's also an opportunity for [veterans] to be seen as civic assets."

Many aspects of the brewing community remind Casey Jones of his time in the military.

"It has more of a community feel than any other commercial industry I've been in before," says Jones, a U.S. Coast Guard Academy graduate who runs Fair Winds Brewing Co. "That's what draws people to the military - they love that culture, and you get that in brewing."

When a local microbrewer's wife was sick with cancer, for example, Jones and the other nearby brewers collaborated on a drink in her honor. They all sold it in their taprooms and donated the proceeds to help cover the family's medical bills.

"When you're part of this community, people really rally around you," Jones says. "You don't really find that in the classic retail space."

Jones, who served as a Coast Guard officer aboard East and West Coast-based cutters for eight years, opened Fair Winds in 2015. Their brews have a Coastie vibe with seafaring names like Siren's Lure and Howling Gale IPA.

On any given night, Jones estimates 20 percent of the crowd at Fair Winds is veterans or active duty servicemembers from nearby Fort Belvoir. The brewery only will be successful if it connects with its community, Jones says, and for Fair Winds, that means honoring those who serve.

Every month, Fair Winds runs an event benefiting a military or veteran charity. Around Veterans Day, they also launch a “buy a vet a beer” program. Patrons can purchase an extra beer that, on Veterans Day, goes to someone who served.

Like Jenkins, Jones says military officers are well-suited for entrepreneurship. He still applies lessons he learned at the academy to his business.

“Every Friday, we clean down the brewery as if we're getting ready for a Saturday-morning inspection,” Jones says. “It has sort of become our ethos here - cleanliness matters above all else.”

Enforcing good practices means setting a good example as a leader. If the restrooms need to be cleaned, Jones grabs the mop to pitch in. And when the brew house hits 110 degrees in the summer, he's back there helping his staff. “They don't want someone in their air-conditioned car driving by and waving,” he says.

Veterans also are tenacious and know how to adjust course amid ever-changing scenarios.

“Most of us have operated in an environment where failure is not an option,” Jones says. “You can't say, 'I had to crash the plane, the weather was just too rough.' In this current business environment, things change all the time, and veterans are used to finding solutions no matter what.”

The Vast Majority Of Americans In Their 20s Are Unfit For Military Service

(MOAA October 13, 2017, By James Clark,
former Marine vet of Afghanistan, and Staff writer for Task & Purpose)

The military is facing a growing recruiting crisis: 71% of Americans between 17 and 24 can't meet the minimum criteria for service, which places the burden of service on an ever-small and shrinking pool of troops with a family history of joining the military.

At an Oct. 12 Heritage Foundation panel in Washington, D.C., Rep. Don Bacon, a Nebraska Republican and former Air Force one-star general told attendees “the single most important ingredient to readiness is the constant flow of willing volunteers.”

Yet with less than a third of the population eligible for service, “it's a red flag for our country,” Bacon said. “If we don't turn this around, where does the world's strongest military recruit from?”

Some quick math shows what the services are up against For the Army, the recruiting goal for the coming fiscal year is roughly 180,000 new soldiers. According to a detailed analysis by Army Times, only 9.7 million out of the 33.4 million Americans between 17 and 24 meet the Army's minimum standards. The

reasons for disqualification range from failure to meet weight and fitness standards, misconduct, medical issues, mental health, and substance abuse concerns.

Once you take into account whether or not the remaining 9.7 million are enrolled in college — and that the Army doesn't want the bare minimum for its future soldiers — the recruiting pool shrinks to just 1.7 million. And that's before you get to those who are even interested in enlisting. What you're left with is just 136,000 potential recruits interested in joining out of the original pool of 33.4 million, Army Times reports.

A less diverse, more insular volunteered force: Due to the growing divide between civilians and those who serve, it's from a small set of geographic regions and families with ties to the Armed Forces that our all-volunteer force is recruited.

Military service is increasingly shouldered by a small subset of the population — a “warrior caste” of multigenerational military families — and that population is shrinking. According to a Nov. 11, 2016 Pew Research report, the number of veterans has fallen by half since 1980, and as it declines, so too does the share of Americans with close ties to the military — those most likely to volunteer for service

Roughly 80% of recruits entering the military have family members who served in the military; between 22% and 35% are children of veterans, depending on which service you look at, according to an Aug. 2 Slate analysis. Among Americans under 30, just a third have a relative with military service.

This uneven recruitment is also keenly represented along geographic lines, with a disproportionate number of new troops hailing from rural towns or the South. In 2010, rural Americans accounted for just 20% of the population, but were responsible for providing 44% of military recruits, as Task & Purpose previously reported.

Looking for solutions: Through incentives, aggressive marketing campaigns — and a spike in drug waivers for pot and a dip in testing standards — the Army in particular, and the military at large, can continue to keep its ranks filled, for now. But should a national security concern arise that requires mass mobilization, there may not be big enough pool of willing quality recruits to draw from. As USNI points out, the recruitment problem would be compounded if the United States found itself in a security crisis that required a surge of fresh recruits.

“What happens if we had a national emergency?” Bacon asked during the panel. “I'm concerned about our reserve structure.”

Let's just hope that those Americans who have made military service a family business — offering up generation after generation in defense of the country — don't decide to go on strike.

The Navy Is Finally Giving Sailors A Break Amid Growing Pressure Over Collisions

(MOAA21 Sept, by Sasa Sicard)

Sleep deprivation is a silent killer, especially in the military. Now, the service is scrambling to address the vicious cycle of exhaustion and overwork within the 7th Fleet that officials see as the root cause of the USS Fitzgerald and the USS McCain collisions that claimed the lives of 17 sailors over the summer.

The Navy will start with changing its sleep schedules, according to Naval Surface Force-Pacific commander Vice Adm. Tom Rowden on Sept. 19, giving overworked sailors a chance to actually get some rest between long watches.

“We will institute circadian rhythm” — which typically means an acknowledgment of the body's 24-hour cycle — “in our watchbills and shipboard routines,” said Rowden, who is retiring early for reasons unknown. “Many units are already utilizing circadian rhythm, and I realize the pace of operations might dictate some modifications to the manner in which circadian rhythm is implemented.”

For Rowden, the needs of the sailors have too long been overlooked, and his remarks came a day after lawmakers, led by Sen. John McCain, grilled Navy officials regarding the routine burdens of the 100-hour work-week frequently faced by sailors.

“As stated in previous warfighting serials, personal readiness is equally important as material readiness,” Rowden said. “Additional guidance and implementation tools will be forthcoming.”

According to memos uncovered by Navy Times, skippers have been granted a number of options for watch schedules, which will better adhere to the sailors' natural rhythms.

The Navy's exhaustion is no secret. The RAND Corporation performed a two-year sleep study of the services in 2015, and found “a high prevalence of insufficient sleep duration, poor sleep quality, daytime sleepiness, fatigue, and nightmares,” Task & Purpose previously reported in August. And the Navy was among the hardest hit: In particular sailors with multiple prior deployments “had greater sleep-related daytime impairment” than those without.

For Navy officials, this is an obvious problem for a 7th Fleet tasked with keeping a bellicose North Korea at bay. “Fatigue has measurable negative effects on readiness, effectiveness and safety,” Rowden said of the Navy's sleep schedules in 2016. “After a day without sleep, human performance drops to dangerously ineffective levels.”

The Navy isn't just taking a long, hard look at lack of sleep. On Sept. 18, two senior officers — Rear Adm. Charles Williams and Capt. Jeffrey Bennett —in the 7th Fleet were also removed for “a loss of confidence in their ability to command,” CNBC reported. These departures follow a perceived lack of leadership in Williams, chief of the Navy's largest battle force, and doubts that Bennett could continue commanding the destroyer squadrons under the 7th Fleet. Training remains a major issue. By June, a third of warfare training certifications for the Navy's destroyers and cruisers in Japan had expired, CNN reported after obtaining numbers from a Government Accountability office study on the Pacific Fleet was released. And Rowden said the Navy is taking all these issues into account.

“We must take every opportunity to evaluate how we are executing our core competencies, and improve at every turn,” he said. “As a community, we will always make the course corrections necessary to safely conduct operations at sea.”

(Update: This post has been corrected due to the fact that Vice Adm. Rowden's comments came from an All Naval Surface Forces Memo dated Sep. 19, not a Sep. 20 farewell address. It has also been updated to reflect that Rowden's request for early retirement would release him from the service several months before his planned separation date, not a year early, as was previously stated.)

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 a really great environment for camaraderie and mutual support with our meetings, speakers, newsletters, website, and community involvement.

As MOAA does, 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!



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.

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LIES WELL BEYOND
THE BATTLEFIELD.**

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Dues are based on your current age.

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Age 81-85	\$270
Age 86-90	\$191
Age 91-95	\$118
Age 96-100	\$72
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Selection of Membership

<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. Three membership levels to meet the needs of all Officers.</p>	 BASIC	 PREMIUM	 LIFE
<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, & access to all of MOAA-exclusive publications & 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>Dues are based on your current age</p>
<p>Support of critical advocacy efforts to protect the benefits of the entire military community.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p>Electronic access to several of MOAA's news updates.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p>Discounts on products and travel.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p>Career transition resources MOAA helps transition efforts by hosting career fairs, resume critiques, training sessions & much more.</p>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p>Expert advice on your military pay & benefits MOAA's team of highly trained professionals can help you receive the military benefits you've earned through one-on-one counseling.</p>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p>Financial planning and investment advice</p>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p>Military Office magazine</p>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p>Access to all MOAA-exclusive publications</p>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p>Scholarships, interest-free loans, & grants</p>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p>MOAA Chapters Take advantage of the opportunity to get involved & meet fellow offices 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>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p>Initiation fee waived at the Army and Navy Club of Washington, D.C.</p>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p>Protection for your spouse Membership benefits transfer to your spouse should something happen to you.</p>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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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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 and 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 on 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

Wandering Mind of An Old Retired Guy

I remember Red Skelton's marriage experiences:



Two times a week we go to a nice restaurant, have a little beverage, good food and companionship. She goes on Tuesdays, I go on Fridays

We also sleep in separate beds. Hers is in California and mine is in Texas.

I take my wife everywhere, but she keeps finding her way back.

I asked my wife where she wanted to go for our anniversary. "Somewhere I haven't been in a long time!" she said. So I suggested the kitchen.

We always hold hands. If I let go, she shops.

She got a mud pack and looked great for two days. Then the mud fell off.

Remember: Marriage is the number one cause of divorce.

I married Miss Right. I just didn't know her first name was 'Always'.

I haven't spoken to my wife in 18 months. I don't like to interrupt her.

The last fight was my fault though. My wife asked, "What's on the TV?" I said, "Dust!"

"GOOD FRIENDS ARE THE RARE JEWELS OF LIFE...

DIFFICULT TO FIND AND IMPOSSIBLE TO REPLACE!

**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

Members and Invited Guests

Please Join Us for Dinner

Date: Wednesday, November 15th, 2017

Our Heartland Chapter welcomes cadets from Creighton, UNO, and UNL ROTC programs, Air Force, Army, and Navy (including Marines). Chapter members are encouraged to buy a cadet's meal by ordering an extra meal when placing their own order.

Time: Social Hour – 6PM

Dining Hour – 7PM

Place: Anthony's Steakhouse

7220 F Street - Omaha

Meal selections are as follows:

8oz Top Sirloin w/Smashed Potatoes & California Mixed Vegetables- \$28.90

_____ with Vanilla Ice Cream - \$31.90 _____

Chicken Cordon Bleu w/Rice Pilaf & California Mixed Vegetables- \$25.00

_____ with Vanilla Ice Cream - \$28.00 _____

Cobb Salad - \$14.50

_____ with Vanilla Ice Cream -\$17.50 _____

RSVP: Lt Col Ron & Sharon Russell

Tel: 402-297-4244

heartlandmoaa@hotmail.com

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 Ron 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 have to send you a bill for the cost.

Your pre-filled out check for the amount made payable to Anthony's will greatly assist in processing.



Sharon and Ron Russell

Dress: Business attire or as appropriate

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