



The Salute online



Monthly newsletter of the Portsmouth Area Chapter, an affiliate of the Military Officers Association of America, serving Portsmouth, Chesapeake, Suffolk, Smithfield and Franklin, Virginia, since 1983. Dinner meetings are held the Second Thursday of each month except July and August. Although [MOAA](#) and [PACMOAA](#) actively lobby legislatures for all US uniformed services members, we are nonpartisan and do not participate in political activities.

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June 2019

FROM THE PRESIDENT



I hope you all were able to participate in some Memorial Day activity. There was a wonderful remembrance on WHRO at the annual Memorial Day Concert Sunday evening, 26 May. It included a salute to soldiers from WWII, Korea and Vietnam. For each group, there was a touching remembrance of the soldiers through their letter read by the actors. After that, the veterans that were able assembled on the stage for special recognition!! PACMOAA participated in the 135th annual Portsmouth Memorial Day parade with 2 cars as usual, the Ferki

vehicle as well as Bob Wall's vehicle. Many PACMOAA members participated in the parade: John Rowe on the viewing stand; Hal Hostetler in the band; Paige Cherry riding in the parade; Gordon Nelson taking pictures; and Sherry and Bruce Ferki, Shirley Barker, Bob and Nell Wall riding in the parade.

As you will see in more detail later in this newsletter, May was a very busy month. Leadership Team members attended 6 JROTC Award ceremonies, several community meetings including Vet Fest and the scholarship committee began selecting the 2019 recipients. Thank you for all your extra efforts over the past month. All of us are

volunteers and spend many hours working for PACMOAA especially Gordon for the newsletter and website.



Thanks again to Ken for getting another great speaker!! LCDR Jack Keane, USN (Ret) gave an excellent presentation on "Maritime Patrol Aviation in Vietnam (1964-1973)". As a VMI graduate, he of course mentioned that and Hal chimed in. As adjunct faculty at the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory Principal

Staff, Jack is used to doing in-depth research and presentations. That is what he did in order to present this topic. His presentation included a review of how we got there, the squadrons, command and control, seaplane tenders, operations, outliers (Project Igloo white and Project TRIM) and a wrap up with detailed references. Even though I grew up during the Vietnam war, much of what Jack discussed was new to me and very interesting. The history of Vietnam from 1954 to 1963 with the French being defeated, Vietnam being divided into the Communist North and democratic South, the overthrow of Diem set the stage for what followed. I cannot do justice to the depth of information Jack presented but will be happy to forward his power point presentation to anyone that is interested.

Continued on page 3

PACMOAA
LEADERSHIP

CHAPTER NEWS

JUNE CALENDAR

06 75th ANNIV. OF D-DAY	16 FATHER'S DAY
13 PACMOAA DINNER MEETING	23 COAST GUARD AUX. BIRTHDAY
14 244th ARMY BIRTHDAY	27 PTSD AWARENESS DAY
14 FLAG DAY	

JUNE DINNER

Our dinner will be held on **Thursday June 13th** at the Hilton Garden Inn (HGI) Ballroom at 5921 Harbour View Boulevard in Northern Suffolk. [MAP](#) to Hilton Garden Inn Harbour View. Social hour begins at 5:30 PM, dinner served at 6PM.

MENU

Iceberg Tossed Salad with Ranch or Italian Dressing

Pork Tenderloin with Apples

Jasmine Rice

Green Beans Almandine and Rolls

Chef's Choice Dessert

Coffee and Hot Water for Tea Station Water and Ice Tea

Cost is **\$30.00** (includes tax and gratuity) Please make your reservation no later than **Sunday, June 9th** with Sherry Ferki by phone or by email.. Come join us for good company, good food and a good time.

A RESERVATION MADE IS A RESERVATION PAID.

JUNE PROGRAM

GUEST SPEAKER



CAPT L.E. Reed, raised in Gambrills, Maryland, earned a Bachelor of Science degree from the United States Naval Academy in 1990, majoring in Political Science and Economics. He was designated a Naval Aviator in 1992 and patrol plane pilot in 1994.

In August 2016, CAPT Reed reported to the Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps Hampton Roads to serve as the Commanding Officer and Professor of Naval Science for an NROTC consortium consisting of Old Dominion, Hampton and Norfolk State Universities.

CAPT Reed's operational assignments include Commanding Officer and Executive officer of the Amphibious Transport Dock (LPD) 25 USS Somerset, San Diego, CA; Commanding Officer and Executive Officer of Patrol Squadron 4, Kaneohe, HI; Patrol Squadron 23 Brunswick, Maine; Patrol Squadron 11 Brunswick, Maine, as maintenance officer; USS Kitty Hawk Yokosuka, Japan, as assistant operations officer; Patrol Squadron 5 Jacksonville, Florida, as operations officer; Task Force 57/72 (Patrol and Reconnaissance Forces 5th/7th Fleet), Misawa, Japan, as the operations, plans and requirements officer. Other assignments include Patrol and Reconnaissance Wing 5, Brunswick, Maine; the Joint Staff J3 reconnaissance operations division, Chief of

Naval Operations (CNO) staff warfare integration group (N00X) and the National War College earning a master's degree in national security strategy.

(Continued from page 1) **FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK**

Membership continues to be a significant issue. PACMOAA currently has 68 paid members, with 3 new members this year so far. Most of our current losses are due to health issues or members moving in addition to five deaths since January 2018. Some members feel that, if they cannot participate, they should not be members. Please remember and remind potential new members that chapter membership numbers do have an impact when dealing with state legislators! I mentioned last month that if you bring a potential new member to a dinner meeting, their dinner would be half the normal dinner price. Please let Dolly Cherrington or any Leadership Team member know, if you have any suggestions on how to increase membership.



I hope to see many of you at the 13 June dinner **honoring our scholarship winners and their families**. Students will talk briefly about their goals. The Churchland HS MCJROTC will present colors. Unfortunately, the cadets will not be able to join us for dinner as they have exams the next morning. This is the fourth year that PACMOAA has received a scholarship/grant from USAA to help fund this annual dinner; thus allowing PACMOAA to invite the scholarship winners, their families and the JTOTC cadets.

One other event of note, PACMOAA had our 8th annual ceremony attaching our LOE award to the PACMOAA flag.



Thank you all for your support and membership in PACMOAA. Please continue to keep our troops, their families and wounded warriors in your prayers.

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR SUMMER AND FALL 2019

14 JULY ANNUAL SUMMER BRUNCH with Hampton Roads and Peninsula Chapters at Smithfield Station from 0900 - 1200.

17 JULY: Q3 VCOC MEETING

8 AUGUST: MOAA RECRUITING EVENT with Hampton Roads and Peninsula Chapters at Patriots Colony

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

May thru June

Oran W Chenault Jr.

Mary F McLain

Mary L. Snyder

Martha L Anderson

Joyce Johnson

Donna O. O'Brien

Kevin Terry

Steven Volovsek

Dollise Howard-

Whitehurst

29 AUGUST: PACMOAA BOARD MEETING

12 SEPTEMBER: Major Brian Gallivan. CO 2/183
Cavalry Squadron, Portsmouth

9 OCTOBER: Q4 VCOC MEETING

10 OCTOBER: Delegate Steve Heretick and possibly
Delegate Emily Brewer

14 NOVEMBER: ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING AND
PACMOAA ELECTIONS

NOVEMBER PACMOAA BOARD MEETING: DATE TBA

12 DEC: ANNUAL CHRISTMAS GALA

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

June thru August

Roger Hirsh
Thomas R Cahill
Sherry D Ferki
Irvin Lindley
Andre H Mayfield
Peggy E Moran
Robert G Ponton
Matthew J Streeter
Henry F Berck Jr.
Henry C Boschen Jr.
Dolores A Cherrington
Herbert W De Groft
Harry P Miller
Gordon M Nelson
Robert A Steorts
Steve Turner

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES IN MAY 2019

1. PACMOAA at RESET (Rapid Engagement of Support in the Event of Trauma)

Every time there is a homicide in Portsmouth, a group of Police personnel, clergy, and other caring citizens participate in a neighborhood walk in the immediate area the next day. I have been participating in this event to help give assurance to people in the area. We go door to door for about half an hour to meet people, share with them, and register their concerns. Karl Wilson and I attended this event on Tuesday, 7 May (It was sadly my second day in a row). We wore our MOAA lapel pins and introduced ourselves as representatives of PACMOAA. We always find most people to be appreciative of the visits, and our police officers present a positive and helpful presence. It is a sad but good event.

Hal Hostetler, COL USA RET



2. PACMOAA NURSES CELEBRATE NATIONAL NURSES WEEK:



Seven of eight PACMOAA nurses were able to get together to celebrate National Nurses Week. Because of work schedules, we could not all meet on the same day but it was great to celebrate our careers together!! Dolly Cherrington, Alice Fticsar, Shirley Barker, Donna App, Twila Nelson and Sherry Ferki enjoyed socializing on 8 May and Joyce Johnson was able to join Sherry on 9 May. Unfortunately, Heather Dickinson was unable to participate due to her work schedule.

Sherry Ferki, RN, MSN

3. JROTC AWARD CEREMONY



On Thursday, 9 May, I attended a splendid ceremony recognizing many outstanding youth of the Marine Corps JROTC at Churchland High School. The program is led by our own Lt Col Paul Pratt who oversaw this excellent ceremony. I was one of several presenters from various veterans groups. I took a few moments to explain who PACMOAA is and what we do. I then presented our award to Cadet Alexis Rudolph. The event was held in the library, a fine setting, and well choreographed. The principal, Mr. Shawn Millaci, spoke admiringly of the JROTC program and Lt Col Pratt's leadership. I recommend others in PACMOAA volunteer for this good and needy effort in the future.

Hal Hostetler, COL USA RET

4. END 22 Vet Fest 2019 (W/Code 9 Project) presented by GEICO Military at Bayside Harley Davidson



Five PACMOAA members (Sherry Ferki, Peg Cicirelli, Alice Fticsar, Hal Hostetler and Dolly Cherrington) manned the PACMOAA table on 25 May from 0830 - 1400. Roger Hirsh had a table next to PACMOAA with information per getting a Navy license plate in Virginia. This event was held to benefit END22 and Code 9 Project. Both are focused on PTSD/TBI and suicide - trying to increase awareness, educate and save lives. END 22 refers to 22Veterans and 1 active duty lost daily to the hidden wounds of war. Code 9 Project focuses on First Responders.

There were 15 to 20 vet friendly groups participating like DAV, VFW, USO, Homes for Heroes, Wreaths Across America, Navy Special Operations Foundation, Mutts with a Mission, Honor and Respect, etc. There were also quite a few groups whose focus was the same as END 22 and Code 9 Project - Hampton VA Medical Center Suicide Prevention coordinator, Mission Continues, Mission 22, Firstline, and Heroes to Heroes.

The event started with the END22 Memorial Ride from Waterside in Norfolk to the Bayside Harley Davidson dealership in Portsmouth and included military vehicles as well as motorcyclists. The event included food vendors, music and the vendors listed above. This provided a great opportunity for PACMOAA members to network and find out more about community efforts to combat this ongoing problem. Please let me know if you would like any more information about any of the groups listed above.

5. PORTSMOUTH'S 135TH ANNUAL MEMORIAL DAY PARADE on 27 May 2019



ANNUAL JOINT "BRUNCH"

The Portsmouth Chapter (PAC), Peninsula Chapter (VIP) and your Hampton Roads Chapter (HRC) of MOAA are hosting a breakfast buffet at Smithfield Station on Sunday **14 July from 0900 to 1200**. **All members and guests are cordially invited to attend.**

The address for Smithfield Station is:

409 S Church Street
Smithfield, VA 23430

BREAKFAST BUFFET INCLUDES:

Omelet Station	Sausage Gravy and Biscuits
Waffle Station	Fruit and Pastries
Either Eggs Benedict or Cheese Blintz's (varies every other week)	
Scrambled Eggs	Coffee or Juice (not both)
Bacon and Sausage	Hash Browns and Grits
Corned Beef Hash	

Cost of the brunch will be \$14.95 per person, plus tax and tip which the hotel staff will bill individually. Cash bar is available. Dress is casual

Reservation are required NLT 7 July to Sherry Ferki at navmed1@cox.net or 757-686-4650

2019 JROTC AWARD CEREMONIES

MOAA Medal presenters in RED Cadet Recipients in BLUE.

School	Director	Date/ Time	Presenter/Cadet
CHESAPEAKE	All AFJROTC	15 May 1800	Scott Dickinson
Deep Creek HS	MAJ Pearman		<i>Tyler Baggett</i>
Great Bridge HS	Lt Col Christian Wendler		<i>Jade Lewis</i>
Indian River HS	Lt Col Lynn Holmbeck		<i>Jacob Capps</i>
Oscar Smith HS	Col Bacon		<i>Sirr Titus Darby</i>
Western Branch HS	Col Mike Kloski		<i>Megan Sook</i>
Grassfield HS	Lt Col Gordon Strong		<i>Marcus Dioneda</i>
PORTSMOUTH			
Churchland HS <i>MCJROTC</i>	Lt Col Paul Pratt	9 May 0900	Hal Hostetler <i>Cadet Alexis Rudolph</i>
I.C. Norcom HS <i>NJROTC</i>	CWO2 Joseph Redwood	16 May 1800-2100	Karl Wilson <i>Jalek O'Neal</i>
Woodrow Wilson HS <i>AJROTC</i>	LTC Chailendrea Dickins	9 May 1800 Same time as PACMOAA meeting	<i>C/SGT Samyra Robinson</i>
SUFFOLK			
Lakeland HS <i>AFJROTC</i>	SMSgt Terrell Rogers (Ret)	10 May 1900	Rick Titi <i>Chandler South</i>
Nansemond River HS <i>AFJROTC</i>	LtCol David Hedger Sgt Young	8 May 1815-2000	Sherry Ferki <i>C/LT COL Isabel Robinson</i>
Smithfield HS <i>AJROTC</i>	LTC Badoiam 1SGT Marvin Hunter	22 May 1315	Ken App <i>C/CPT Shanyia Massenburg</i>
Franklin HS	LTC Linwood Wright	June	

NEWS FROM MOAA**SURVIVING SPOUSE CORNER: 4 Ways Surviving Spouses Can Contribute**

Surviving spouses not only should be welcomed into chapters but also encouraged to become active members and leaders.

By Patricia Farnsworth, Surviving Spouse Advisory Committee member

Surviving spouses of deceased military officers can serve MOAA chapters in many ways. Chapters should welcome these members and encourage them to become active in not only the chapter but also national MOAA. Here are four ways surviving spouses can contribute to MOAA chapters:

Recruiting. Having participated in activities on many military bases and within the community, surviving spouses might know others — both surviving spouses and couples — who have retired and are living in the chapter area and can help recruit them as new members. Welcoming these potential members and encouraging them to become active members serves national MOAA and local chapters as well as the new members themselves.

Leadership roles. Surviving spouses, formerly referred to as auxiliary members, are eligible to serve as chapter officers. Many chapters now have a surviving spouse in an office, sometimes even serving as president.

Event planning. Surviving spouses can help organize chapter luncheons or dinner meetings, a task for which they might be well prepared. Those who have been members of officers' wives' clubs wherever their spouses were stationed usually have helped with planning meetings and arranging for speakers or entertainment.

Social and personal affairs support. When a death occurs within the chapter membership, surviving spouses can assist the widow or widower with the sometimes complicated task of changing names on accounts, notifying insurance companies, stopping military retired pay, and applying for Social Security benefits as well as military survivor entitlements. Help with planning a funeral and burial arrangements also can be very useful. A surviving spouse who already has dealt with these tasks can offer support during a time when the recently bereaved member might be feeling overwhelmed and confused. The ability to provide the social support needed to accomplish the necessary adjustments can make the newly bereaved spouse feel more confident and comfortable. Surviving spouses also can help a new widow or widower regain a social life through friendships and organized social events. MOAA meetings and other occasions can provide this for those spouses. Becoming active in a local chapter is a good way to take advantage of this benefit. National membership is a wonderful source of help when questions arise about anything related to the military career of the deceased.

5 Defense Bill Issues to Watch from 30 May 2019 MOAA Newsletter

by **James F. Naughton** Associate Director, Government Relations

The Senate Armed Services Committee wrapped its annual defense authorization bill markup on May 22. The bill included a range of personnel and benefits issues. Here are five things on MOAA's radar:

1. Active duty pay raise: The Military Personnel Subcommittee supported the administration's request for a 3.1-percent pay increase. The proposal matches projected private-sector wage growth in 2019. The pay raise would be the largest in a decade.

TAKE ACTION: [Ask Your Legislators to Protect Military Pay and Benefits](#)

2. TRICARE: The subcommittee was silent on any new health care fees for TRICARE beneficiaries. The bill remained silent on the administration's proposal to eliminate up to 18,000 medical billet cuts, effectively providing tacit approval to the idea. Members of the House Appropriations Committee are skeptical of the proposal, and the issue will have to be resolved after the House Armed Services Committee begins work on its version of the defense bill later this month. We continue to engage both chambers throughout the bill's evolution.

TAKE ACTION: [Do Not Raise TRICARE Fees](#)

[Do Not Dismantle Military Medicine](#)

3. Housing: The bill includes a number of measures to address reports of substandard on-base housing as [reported by MOAA](#) earlier on.

TAKE ACTION: [Ensure Safe Housing for Military Families](#)

4. Military Survivors: The committee did not include language to eliminate the widows tax, the dollar-for-dollar deduction of DoD's Survivor Benefit Plan from the VA's Dependency and Indemnity Compensation. In April, MOAA members from across the country visited legislators on Capitol Hill to tell Congress to end the widows' tax. MOAA is looking for lawmakers to file an amendment to repeal the offset.

TAKE ACTION: [Act Now to End the Widows Tax](#)

5. Concurrent Receipt: The draft text of the defense bill currently does not contain language to expand concurrent receipt. MOAA will continue to press lawmakers to file an amendment to include language to expand concurrent receipt.

TAKE ACTION: [Support Full Concurrent Receipt For Disabled Military Retirees](#)

NEWS FROM VCOC

CONGRESSIONAL LUNCHEON 2019

On Tuesday, 30 April, 2019, Karl Wilson, Dolly Cherrington, Hans Sachse, and I attended the VCOC's annual Congressional Luncheon at the Capitol Hill Club in Washington D.C. The day was partially subsidized by Patriot's Colony of Williamsburg, and was a fine affair. Karl won one of their two \$50 sign-in awards. We heard from eight of our Virginia Congress men:

- Rob Wittman (1st District) spoke of his 12 year commitment to eliminating the "Widow's Tax."
- Denver Rigglesman (5th District/Freshman) is a retired AF EM and officer who was most interesting and humorous. He vowed to support military and veterans issues.
- Abigaile Spanberger (7th/Freshman of Louisa and Henrico Counties) A UVA grad, she thanked us for our advocacy.
- Elaine Luria (2nd) is a supporter of Chesapeake Bay clean-up as a social, health, and military issue. She is supportive of all three of VCOC's issues.
- Jennifer Wexton (10th) spoke of her interest in veterans homelessness.
- Ben Cline (6th) supports the "Widow's Tax" issue and reminded us of the shrinking pool of young people capable of serving.
- Don Beyer (8th/Northern Virginia) is a former "Army brat."
- Morgan Griffith (9th/ of the Salem area) was recognized as VCOC's Legislator of the Year.



We heard from eight of our eleven representatives. (No shows because of vote, and other issues, were our own Bobby Scott (3rd), Donald McEachin (54th) and Gerry Connolly (11th). Neither of our Senators attended.

Finally, we recognized Jim Carman as our MOAA staff person most helpful this past year. We then met Christina Ingram, Bobby Scott's assistant who had been in attendance. At the end Mary Lou Wassel, VCOC 1st VP, had her photo taken with Karl and me. She is always a warm and helpful person. All this was a most enjoyable day for the four of us. We'd like to encourage others to attend next year.

Hal Hostetler, COL USA (Ret)