



# 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.

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[pacmoaa.org](http://pacmoaa.org)

October 2015



## FROM THE PRESIDENT

PACMOAA started off the fall season with a wonderful evening at The Hilton Garden Inn enjoying a sumptuous dinner, attentive service, and warm comradery. It was sensational to see everyone after the summer break and get back in the swing of things again. Our guest speaker, Ms. Vanessa Greene, is a certified Institutional Rehabilitation counselor and Virginia state Certified Substance Abuse Counselor who currently works for the City of Suffolk, Dept. of Social Services, as the Program Coordinator (Director) for the 5th Judicial Community Corrections Program. Her presentation was personal and eye opening concerning the scope of domestic violence and abuse. Be sure to take a moment to read a summary of her presentation later in this issue (see page 4). Thank you Vanessa, from me and all of PACMOAA .

We have several important events coming up over the next several weeks that I would like to emphasize. First is our October Dinner with Delegate Matthew James as the guest speaker. It is important that we have good attendance as Delegate James represents many of us in Richmond. Additionally, we must maintain a reputation with legislators and other individuals of such stature that a speaking engagement with us is worth the investment of an evening out of a busy schedule. Please attend and do not hesitate to invite a friend or neighbor. I think they will find the cost of the dinner worth attending.

We also have two away trips in October, both should be great fun. On Columbus Day, Monday the 12th of October, there will be a Salute to Veterans and their Families at the Gauthier Vineyards just north of Williamsburg. There is no charge with food, drinks, and entertainment provided. Supporting organizations will be on hand with information on the various resources available to the military and their families. Virginia's Secretary of Veterans Services will be in attendance. National and state legislators have also been invited. This salute is a "thank you" to all service members past and present. (see page 5)

On Thursday October 15th the VCOC Biennial Luncheon is scheduled at Patriots Colony in Williamsburg. As you know three PACMOAA members will be installed as VCOC Officers at this event. It would be great if we had a definite presence for the installation as a good show of support for the work they are about to undertake. They are people who Never Stop Serving. For those interested, the luncheon cost is \$20 and reservations must be made by the 10th. *The Salute* editor will be driving the PACmobile Press Van to BOTH away events and has room for six or seven passengers. To reserve seats in the PACmobile [email](#) or call ——— for additional information. (see page 6)

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**  
Frederick Cross  
Philip Geib  
John Lyons  
Joseph Barreca  
Anne Mallory

Finally, I must stress the importance of our November PACMOAA elections to fill several leadership positions: 1st and 2nd Vice Presidents and two board member openings. Please contact me, or Sherry Ferki, if you would like to STEP UP to a leadership position! Your higher level of serving will be appreciated by all. (see page 3)

Never Stop Serving, Hal

## Chapter Happenings

Oct 08 PACMOAA Dinner !

Oct 13 NAVY Birthday

Oct 12 Salute to Veterans !

Oct 15 VCOC MEETING !

### OCTOBER MEETING

Our dinner will be held on **Thursday, 8 October** at the Hilton Garden Inn (HGI) Ballroom at 5921 Harbour View Boulevard in Northern Suffolk. [LINK TO HGI](#) for an excellent map, GPS information and HGI contacts. Social hour will begin at 1800 with dinner at 1900.

#### MENU

Iceberg Lettuce salad  
Pork Tenderloin with Apples  
Jasmine Rice and Green Beans Almandine  
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, 4 October** with Sherry Ferki. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_. Come join us for good company, good food and a good time.

**REMEMBER A RESERVATION MADE IS A RESERVATION PAID.**

### GUEST SPEAKER: Delegate Matthew James



**Matthew James** is a Democratic member of the Virginia House of Delegates from the 80th district, which includes parts of Chesapeake, Norfolk, Portsmouth, and Suffolk. He has served in that position since 2010. He is a member of the Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources; Appropriations; and Health, Welfare and Institutions Committees. Delegate James is also a member of four subcommittees. Delegate James, born in Norfolk, earned a B.A. in economics at Hampton University and an M.B.A. from Northwestern University. He currently holds the position of President and CEO for the Peninsula Council for Workforce Development and is the President of the Virginia Economic Developers Association. The Council is a Virginia Peninsula-based regional economic development organization focused on workforce development.

Delegate James will discuss how the state legislature plan to address veteran interests to include the plight of homeless veterans, educational concerns, and assistance for needy veterans and their dependents. This is an excellent opportunity to ask your questions about what is going on in Richmond while having a good time and meeting other local MOAA members.



## IN MEMORIAM

**It is with a measure of profound sadness that we announce the passing of Auxiliary Member Norma Barclay. Norma, 86, passed away quietly and peacefully in her Olde Towne residence. You will be missed. Condolences to family and friends.**

## UPCOMING 2015 EVENTS

8 October - PACMOAA dinner meeting with Delegate Matthew James.

12 October - Salute to Veterans.

15 October -- VCOC Biennial Memorial Service and Meeting in Williamsburg. Three PACMOAA members will be sworn in as VCOC Officers!

23 October - Hampton Roads Chapter Meeting  
WHEN: Friday, 23 Oct 2015

WHERE: Virginia Beach Resort Hotel and Conference Center, 2800 Shore Drive, Virginia Beach, VA

TIME: Social-1100 hours, Lunch-1200 hours  
MENU: Grilled Chicken Breast with Teriyaki Glaze OR Oven Baked Atlantic Salmon with Cool Cucumber Sauce. Both meals served with Chef's selection Starch and Vegetable and a Red Pepper Tomato Basil Soup, rolls w/ butter; and Carrot Cake. Coffee, tea and water provided. Cash Bar.

PRICE: \$20.00

PROGRAM: Guest Speaker is Virginia Department of Veteran Services Commissioner, John Newby. Commissioner Newby will discuss his vision and goals in guiding Virginia's veterans and services. <http://www.dvs.virginia.gov/dvs/dvs-commissioner-john-newby/>

RESERVATIONS / CANCELLATIONS: Reservations required by 1200 hours Tuesday, Oct 20, 2015. RSVP to Barb Smith: 576-1114 (cell), 427-3475 (home) or e-mail: [barb4mom@cox.net](mailto:barb4mom@cox.net). If providing an email or leaving a message, please give the names of those attending, phone number, and meal choice. [A Reservation Made Is A Reservation Paid!](#)

5 November—PACMOAA Board Meeting

12 November PACMOAA ANNUAL BUSI-

NESS MEETING when annual reports will be presented, bylaws revisions will be voted on, and election of officers will take place. Ballots and proposed changes to bylaws will be in the November newsletter. Do not miss this important meeting

10 December - PACMOAA Annual Christmas Celebration with the Tidewater Concert Band, Santa, Toys for Tots and much more.

## HELP US HELP YOU

As a follow-up to the President's message the following brief description of vacant positions and responsibilities are presented for your thoughtful review.

The Board of Directors is composed of the elective officers, president, 1st and 2<sup>nd</sup> vice presidents, secretary, and treasurer, the immediate past president, and four elective directors who will serve for a period of two years. Positions to be filled include:

**1st Vice President** : Is Program Chair, a member of the Board of Directors, and fills in for the President in his absence.

**2nd Vice President**: Is a member of Board of Directors and Membership Chair.

**Treasurer**: Collects dues and maintains financial records. Prepares budget, quarterly, and annual reports to the board. Financial or accounting background would be helpful!

**Two Board Members** : "The Board of Directors shall have supervision, control and direction of the affairs of PACMOAA, shall determine its policies or changes therein within the limits of the Bylaws, shall actively prosecute its purposes, and shall exercise direction in the disbursement of funds. It may adopt such rules and regulations for the conduct of its business as may be deemed advisable and may, in the execution of the powers granted, appoint such agents as it may consider necessary". From Bylaws. Also participate in quarterly board meetings and other duties as designated.

## SEPTEMBER SPEAKER SUMMARY

Ms. Vanessa Greene, gave a very personal and informative presentation on the difference between Domestic Abuse versus Assault and Battery, the White Ribbon Campaign and the needs of victims. She described her experience as a victim of Domestic Abuse as a young wife and how it led her to become a police officer. Her journey dealing with this terrible experience put her on a path to help others and strive to prevent it from happening whenever possible. It took many years and tremendous support for her to be able to even see and acknowledge her ex-husband. Vanessa has been a Coordinator of the Hampton Roads Military and Civilian Family Violence Prevention Council. In the flyer she provided, it states "Domestic Violence is a pattern, not simply the result of emotion. Domestic violence/spousal abuse is often the result of calculated programming which puts the abuser in full control. The victim is programmed to believe that he/she is deficient and is placed in a position of complete dependency on the abuser." Breaking out of that dependent state is very difficult. There are many programs directed at changing the climate that allows this situation to exist. The Planning Council has many programs like the Batterer Intervention Programs, Anger Management Counseling, etc. to help change this environment. The White Ribbon Campaign is a national program that "positively engages men, young men and boys through relevant educational programming that challenges language and behaviors, as well as harmful ideas of manhood that lead to violence against women." There are also local shelters like The Genieve Shelter in Suffolk and the HER Shelter in Portsmouth that have many resources and counseling for victims of Domestic Violence. From 2015 CDC publication Intimate Partner Violence Surveillance:

'Intimate partner violence (IPV) is a significant public health problem. The most recent data, from the 2011 National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey (NISVS), indicate that over 10 million women and men in the

United States experience physical violence each year by a current or former intimate partner. Further, over 1 in 5 women (22.3%) and nearly 1 in 7 men (14.0%) have experienced severe physical violence by an intimate partner at some point in their lifetime, translating to nearly 29 million U.S. women and nearly 16 million U.S. men.

Data from NISVS also show that nearly 1 in 11 women (8.8%) have been raped by a current or former intimate partner at some point in their lives.

Finally, approximately 9.2% of women and 2.5% of men have been stalked by an intimate partner in their lifetime.

In addition to the immediate impact, intimate partner violence has lifelong consequences. A number of studies have shown that beyond injury and death, victims of IPV are more likely to report a range of negative mental and physical health outcomes that are both acute and chronic in nature.

During the past decade, a number of studies have also improved our understanding of the biologic response to acute and chronic stress that links IPV with negative health outcomes.

In addition, there are a number of behavioral factors that are likely to play a role in the link between IPV and adverse health outcomes as victims of IPV are more likely to smoke, engage in heavy/binge drinking, report HIV risk factors, and endorse other unhealthy behaviors.'

Vanessa mentioned that women may experience emotional abuse if not physical abuse and this also leaves long lasting effects. Hopefully, few of us have any experience with situations like those mentioned previously but we all need to be very observant and ready to assist anyone in need from Domestic Violence (Intimate Partner Violence or Abuse (emotional or physical)). Vanessa is a volunteer with the Genieve Shelter and brought some flyers about their program and resources. Sherry has copies of the flyers if anyone would like further information.





*Gauthier Vineyard*

JOIN US, RAIN OR SHINE

# VETERANS IN THE VINEYARD

A Salute to Our Military Veterans & Their Families



Join us this Columbus Day for a salute event of food, beverages, entertainment, and more. All active duty Military, Guard, Reserves, Veterans, and their Families will be our honored guests.

For information/RSVP please contact:

Frank G. Wickersham III 540-351-0665  
[thesalute1@gmail.com](mailto:thesalute1@gmail.com) 757-642-0046

**Date:** Monday, 12 October 2015

**Time:** 1:00 to 5:00 PM,

**Location:** **Gauthier Vineyard**

5000 Farmers Drive

Barhamsville, Virginia 23011

[www.gauthiervineyard.com](http://www.gauthiervineyard.com)



**2015 Biennial Luncheon  
15 October 2015, 1200 hours  
Patriots Colony, Williamsburg, VA**

Agenda

- 12:00 PM ...Welcome  
    Song: "America the Beautiful"  
    Memorial Service
- 12:30 PM....Lunch Served  
    Guest Speaker Remarks  
    Awards Presentations
- 2:00 PM...Oath of Office, New Officers  
    Term 2016-2017
- 2:30 PM ...Adjourn

Menu

- Bruchetta Salad w/fresh mozzarella &  
    White Balsamic Vinaigrette
- Duo plate of Petite Filet & Crab Cake  
    Green Beans & Wild Rice Flan  
    Tiramisu Dessert  
    Coffee & Tea
- \*\*\*Cash Bar \*\*\*\*  
\$20.00 per person  
Business Attire

Patriots Colony Coffee, juice & donut service begins at 9:00 AM. A bus trip into downtown historical Williamsburg is scheduled to leave Patriots Colony at 9:30 AM. The bus will return at 11:30 AM in time for the start of the Biennial Luncheon. There is no charge for the bus trip or morning coffee. The PACmobile will leave the Hilton Garden Inn Parking lot no later than 0730 to ensure a timely arrival. If you need a ride, email [The Salute](#) or call 642-0046 for more information. Detach the completed form below and mail it with your check to Col Revilla. Remember a reservation made is a reservation paid! PACMOAA may coordinate a group reservation so be sure to inform Sherry, Hal, or The Salute if you made or want to make reservations and be sure to relay your choice on the bus trip. This will help coordinate transportation and hopefully catch any lost reservations.

————— DETATCH HERE —————

**RESERVATION FORM**

Name/Rank \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter \_\_\_\_\_

Name Spouse/Guest \_\_\_\_\_

Phone & EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

RSVP WITH RESERVATION FORM AND CHECK (\$20 PER PERSON) NO LATER THAN 10 OCT 2015

I PLAN TO TAKE 9:00 AM BUS TRIP \_\_\_\_\_ I WILL NOT TAKE 9:00 AM BUS TRIP \_\_\_\_\_.

MAKE CHECKS TO: Virginia Council of Chapters

MAIL TO: COL Victoria Revilla, USA  
10824 Bland Ridge Drive, Petersburg, VA 23805

FOR INFO CONTACT: [victoria.revilla@comcast.net](mailto:victoria.revilla@comcast.net) or (804) 862-1162

**JUST A REMINDER:** PACMOAA is a supporter of The Portsmouth Volunteers for the Homeless that is always in need of personal hygiene items as well as laundry detergent, etc. We haven't done a very good job recently and are reminding everyone to please bring something to each meeting, if you can. Small items like toothbrushes, personal size toothpaste, hand soap and shampoos are always needed. These items placed in zip lock bags so each visitor to the facility has personal care items to help with taking a shower. Laundry detergent is always needed. Please let Sherry or Bob Steorts know if you have any questions or go to their website at [portsmouthhomeless.org](http://portsmouthhomeless.org).

## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

by Bob Steorts, Chaplain

John Todd was born in Rutledge, Vermont, into a family of several children. They later moved to the village of Killingsworth back in the early 1880s. There, at a very early age, both of John's parents died.

One dear and loving aunt said she would take little John. The aunt sent a horse and a servant, Caesar, to get John who was only six at this time. On the way back, this endearing conversation took place.

John: Will she be there?

Caesar: Oh, yes, she'll be there waiting up for you.

John: Will I like living with her?

Caesar: My son, you fall into good hands.

John: Will she love me?

Caesar: Ah, she has a big heart.

John: Will I have my own room? Will she let me have a puppy?

Caesar: She's got everything all set, Son. I think she has some surprises.

John: Do you think she'll go to bed before we get there? Caesar: Oh, no! She'll be sure to wait up for you. You'll see when we get out of these woods. You'll see her candle in the window.

Sure enough, as they neared the house, John saw a candle in the window and his aunt standing in the door-way. As he shyly approached the porch, she reached down, kissed him, and said, "Welcome home!"

John Todd grew up in his aunt's home and later became a great minister. She was mother to him. She gave him a second home.

Years later his aunt wrote to tell John of her own impending death because of failing health. She wondered what would become of her. This is what John Todd wrote in reply:

My Dear Aunt,

Years ago, I left a house of death, not knowing where I was to go, whether anyone cared, whether it was the end of me. The ride was long, but the servant encouraged me. Finally I arrived to your embrace and a new home. I was expected; I felt safe. You did it all for me.

Now it's your turn to go. I'm writing to let you know, someone is waiting up, your room is all ready, the light is on, the door is open, and you're expected! I know. I once saw God standing in your doorway---long ago!

As we consider the many things others have done for us, may we also be a beacon of God's love to others. []

### REPORT FROM 3 SEPTEMBER 2015 PACMOAA BOARD MEETING REPORTS FROM OFFICERS

**President:** COL Hal Hostetler, USA (Ret): Very proud of PACMOAA and continued support of board with great team work! Thanks for everyone's assistance in PACMOAA again being awarded the 5th Level of Excellence Award (PACMOAA's 5th in a row!!).

**Secretary:** MAJ Sherry Ferki, USA (Ret) : Minutes approved as read.

**Treasurer:** CDR Hans Sachse, \$5300.00 in operating fund. Money Market accounts for Scholarship fund will cover 2 scholarships awarded for 2015.

Reviewed cost and income for dinner meetings from December 2013 (when charge increased to \$40.00 for December and June

dinners) to June 2015.

Losses include members or potential new members that were invited as guests of PACMOAA but did not attend (at least 3 times), speakers (1 or 2 each month except November and December), cadets with Toys for Tots (usually 2) and JROTC Color Guard (usually 4), scholarship winners and their families (usually 6) as well as JROTC instructor of scholarship winner, and members that sign up for dinner but do not attend or pay.

When attendees pay \$30.00/dinner and there are no guests or speakers, PACMOAA still has to pay anywhere from \$10.00 to \$40.00 more than collected due to taxes. The \$40.00/person charge for the December dinner (an extra room for the band also increases the cost of that dinner by over \$100.00) and the June dinner (scholarship winners and their families attend) helps balance out PACMOAAs losses.

The USAA Sponsorship Funding for \$500.00 that PACMOAA received to help cover the expenses for the Scholarship winners and JROTC guests in June helped cover the expenses for the 13 guests that attended that meeting.

**Auditor:** RADM Wendi Carpenter, USN (Ret): Completed 2012 audit but is leaving town soon and may not be able to complete 2013 audit. Sherry will follow up with her.

**Membership:** LCDR Dolly Cherrington, USN (Ret) was out of town but her report noted that PACMOAA currently (as of 31 August) had 78 members, 61 regular and 17 auxiliary. That is a 14% drop from 1 January with 6 deaths of members this year.

**Programs:** Vacant but members discussed scheduled programs and potential speakers including Peter Youngblood, a medic in the Vietnam War, and Col Irv Lindley, USA (Ret) and the Chairman of the Mayor's Military Affairs Committee for Portsmouth. Karl Wilson has secured Jamie Soto, Deputy Secretary of VA Veterans Affairs to speak in January and Rick Titi has been working

with Congressman Randy Forbes office since March 2014. Rick has contacted many VFW's in the area that are interested in participating in a meeting with Congressman Forbes; his office needs more than just PACMOAA members to attend. Karl Wilson also has contacted Congressman Bobby Scott's office for a future speaking engagement.

**VCOC Rep:** Col Steve Turner, USAF (Ret) will be stepping down as PACMOAA rep since he will be the President of VCOC and LCDR Dolly Cherrington will assume that position after October 2015. Reminder for the 15 October Biennial meeting in Williamsburg.

**Legislative Rep:** CWO3 Karl Wilson: Congress going back soon with very short time to address many major issues. Discussed importance of meeting with your representatives as well as calling and emailing them.

**Scholarship/JROTC Awards Committee:** MAJ Sherry Ferki, USA (Ret) suggested inviting one or two JROTC leaders to our dinners meetings as PACMOAA guests to encourage them to join. Of the 5 we have invited over the past few years, 3 have joined! They include LTC Paul Pratt, USMC (Ret) from Churchland HS in Portsmouth, LTC Al Harris, USAF (Ret) from King's Fork HS in Suffolk, and LTC Gordon Strong, USAF (Ret) from Grassfield HS in Chesapeake.

**Bylaws Committee:** LTC Bob Steorts, USAF (Ret) and MAJ Sherry Ferki, USA (Ret) reviewed suggestions for changes/updates in depth and they will be included in the November newsletter.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Need to replace Assistant Legislative Rep as Dolly Cherrington will be moving to the Leg Rep position.

Need to replace Personal Affairs Officer also as Dolly Cherrington will be taking over as 2nd VP for VCOC. Anyone interested in ei-



ther of these positions or wanting more info about them, please contact Hal Hostetler or Sherry Ferki.

Hal reported on attending the Mayor's Military Affairs Committee and encouraging them to have a Veteran's Day celebration. Members on the committee were very impressed with how well the Vietnam Vets celebration went on Memorial Day. That was noted by board members to be an interesting response since no veterans groups in the community knew about the event ahead of time including PACMOAA.

New auditor needed.

Old PACMOAA member survey distributed and reviewed. Sherry will update it and put it in a future newsletter.

Encouraged board members to attend community activities as PACMOAA representatives and let Sherry know about these. This info is important for the Levels of Excellence Awards.

**UPDATE SINCE BOARD MEETING:** RADM Wendi Carpenter was able to complete the 2013 and 2014 audits with no major discrepancies. Her suggestions will be discussed at the November Business meeting. Thanks again Wendi for your persistence and all your efforts to assist PACMOAA!! Best wishes for success in your new endeavors.

## NEWS FROM MOAA

### WHAT ARE THE ODDS OF A FISCAL TRAIN WRECK?

September 25, 2015

Following the surprise announcement by House Speaker John Boehner (R-Ohio) that he will resign at the end of next month, lawmakers threatening a government shutdown agreed to a funding proposal to keep the government running – for now.

“The commitment has been made that there will be no shutdown,” said Rep. John Fleming

(R-La.).

House and Senate leaders now seem poised to agree on a “clean” temporary continuing resolution (CR) next week that would keep the government running until Dec. 11. It would simply continue funding at current-year levels, with no controversial amendments.

But the short-term CR is only the tip of the political iceberg looming ahead.

To start with, no one knows if the post-Boehner House leadership will take an even harder line on budget issues.

In the Senate, Republicans still have differences over the way forward. Some think there could be another short- or long-term CR after Dec. 11. But Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz), Chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, says he won't vote for any more continuing resolutions because that would hurt national defense.

Behind the scenes, there is talk of a “grand bargain” to raise budget caps and end sequestration, which has been a major sore spot for the entire government, especially defense, since 2011. Sequestration prevents responsible planning and budgeting. But any grand bargain also will be highly controversial, and the roiling of House leadership only adds to the uncertainty.

If that weren't enough, Congress must act on several more contentious bills before Christmas, including:

- The annual defense bill
- A massive highway bill to make emergency infrastructure improvements
- A bill to extend important expiring tax breaks
- Legislation to raise the federal debt ceiling and avoid national default

The key question: Can Congress overcome politics long enough to avoid a fiscal train wreck in December?

### THREE THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT CR's

September 18, 2015

With less than seven legislative working days

between now and the end of the fiscal year, Congress appears unlikely to complete work on its annual spending bills in time. Without a compromise, there could be another government shutdown.

To prevent a shutdown, it is likely Congress will pass some sort of continuing resolution (CR) to keep the lights on.

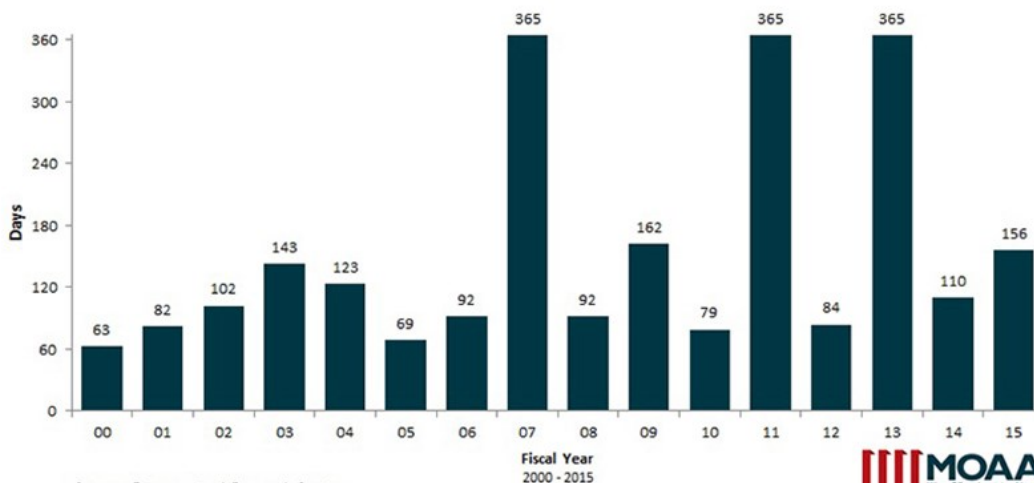
ago with the FY 1997 budget. CRs can last for as little as a day or as long as an entire fiscal year.

### 3. CRs are costly.

CRs create massive inefficiencies for the government. Every time Congress heads towards a CR, federal agencies and departments have to spend time creating guidelines for offices and develop new spending plans.

## The New Normal

Between FY 2000 and FY 2015, the average continuing resolution lasted 153 days.



Source: Congressional Research Service

CRs usually contain provisions stipulating that money can only be spent on what was approved the previous year.

Effectively, that means the government goes into a hiring freeze. Since agencies lack the authority to hire replacements, it also means potentially delaying termination of bad employees.

For the military, it

Here are three things you need to know about continuing resolutions.

### 1. Even without a continuing resolution, not everything stops.

In the event of a shutdown, “nonessential” government functions will shutter, but that doesn’t mean everything will close.

Agencies protecting life, limb, and property will remain open. That means the military will continue to work – without pay – but civilian staff may have to stay home.

Programs codified in existing statute, like military retired pay and Social Security, will continue uninterrupted.

However, anything considered “discretionary,” like defense spending and processing of new VA disability and Social Security claims, will be halted.

### 2. CRs aren’t that uncommon.

Unfortunately, CRs aren’t uncommon. The last time Congress passed all of its annual appropriations bills in time was almost 20 years

ago with the FY 1997 budget. CRs can last for as little as a day or as long as an entire fiscal year. means not spending money on new bullets, planes, or infrastructure. Delaying purchasing decisions on new weapon systems drives up per unit cost. Deputy Defense Secretary Bob Work recently lamented, “There is no organization on this earth that would be able to remain in business, operating under these conditions.”

On the military personnel side, CRs wreak havoc on force management. The services have to go to Congress to get special permission to provide bonus pays and incentives.

In an interview with Defense One, Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Mark Welsh said DoD has the ability to maneuver for about three months under a CR, but any longer proves much more difficult. “It creates a lot of work, a lot of churn, and a lot of confusion for everybody involved.”

“Nobody is a fan of CRs,” said Welsh. “Nobody.”

**THAT’S A WRAP FOR OCTOBER**