



# 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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This is your PACMOAA roving photojournalist reporting from Lakeland, FL. We report with great pleasure that the PACMOAA Gala was a great success. We had great food, great entertainment, and a chance to share. This traditional PACMOAA Yuletide season opener with great comradery is our highlight event of the year. The pan seared salmon was particularly good as was the apple pie for those

who chose those delights. The Tidewater Concert Band was in particularly good form, but alas we did not get to enjoy the annual vocal duets by President Hostetler and partner as illness prevailed over his partner. LTC Pratt's Marine Corp JROTC students from Churchland High School collected a bulging box of gifts for the Corps' "Toys for Tots" program. Children from 7 to 12 years of age did particularly well. Portsmouth Volunteers for the Homeless Drop-in Service Center fared equally well. The Pollyanna Gift exchange was fun as always. A great time was had by all.

Now as the we leave all the festivities and revelry of the holidays that define the ending of last year behind us, we must look ahead at the tasks ahead. With the music and merriment still ringing in our ears and we still retain the feeling of good will towards men, we must plan how we are going to meet the challenges of the new year.



Our first challenge of the year is the annual "Storming the Hill" on Monday the 25th of January. This will be the day following the 1st Quarter VCOC meeting. Last year PACMOAA had 4 members visit our state legislators and encourage them to vote for the JLC sponsored bills. Anyone interested in participating in this very

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DIRECTORY](#)

## Chapter Happenings

**Jan 01 New Year's Day**  
**Jan 14 PACMOAA Dinner**

**Jan 18 Martin L King Jr. Day**  
**Jan 25 "Storming the Hill"**

### JANUARY DINNER

Our dinner will be held on **Thursday, 14 January** 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

Caesar Salad with Parmesan Cheese and Croutons  
Chicken Marsala and Mashed Potatoes  
Broccoli 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, 10 January** with Sherry Ferki. Come join us for good company, good food and a good time. **REMEMBER A RESERVATION MADE IS A RESERVATION PAID.**



### JANUARY SPEAKER Jaime Areizaga-Soto

Jaime Areizaga-Soto serves as the Deputy Secretary of Veterans and Defense Affairs of Virginia. Mr. Areizaga-Soto works with Secretary John Harvey (retired Navy Admiral) in advising Governor McAuliffe on all matters related to approximately 800,000 Virginia veterans and in ensuring that a productive relationship is maintained between the Commonwealth and all Department of Defense (DoD) assets in Virginia. The Secretariat leads Governor's McAuliffe's initiatives to ensure Virginia remains DoD's base and installation location of choice and is the most "military-friendly" state in the Nation.

Mr. Areizaga-Soto graduated with honors from the School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University and upon graduation was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Army. After graduating from Stanford Law School, he practiced for twelve years with large U.S. law firms focusing in cross border infrastructure project finance. He is a former White House Fellow at the U.S. Treasury Department and also served as the Senior Attorney Advisor at the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). Concurrently, he has served as an Army National Guard JAG for almost 20 years, holds the rank of Colonel and



**January Speaker continued**

is the commander of a Judge Advocate Detachment. In 2013 he was called to active duty to attend the war college course in Fort McNair, where his fellow senior officers from the various U.S. services and 15 other nations elected him Class President.

Mr. Areizaga-Soto holds a Masters of Science in Security and Defense from the Inter-American Defense College, a *Máster* from the *Academia Nacional de Estudios Políticos y Estratégicos* (ANEPE) of Chile, and a *juris doctor* and Masters of Arts in Latin American Studies from Stanford University. He is a 2009 graduate of the University of Virginia's Sorensen Political Leaders Program. He serves as Vice President of the Hispanic National Bar Association (HNBA), is a lifetime member of the National Guard Association of the United States (NGAUS), and is fluent in Spanish, Portuguese and French.

Our program will begin with the Woodrow Wilson High School JROTC Color Guard presenting the colors. Mr. Areizaga-Soto will install the newly elected PACMOAA Officers.

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important event, please contact Karl Wilson, the PACMOAA Legislative Representative. The PACMOAA group usually drives up together. We always have great fun doing serious business. The PACMOBILE press van will have room for riders.

**!MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL REMINDER!**

Yes, it is that time of year again—time to pay the fiddler before the dance is over. PACMOAA dues are as follows:

Regular members pay \$25.00/year

Auxiliary members pay \$20.00/year

You can pay your dues at the next PACMOAA meeting or mail it to: PACMOAA, P.O. Box 5353, Portsmouth, VA 23703.

Your dues money enables PACMOAA to pay for things like the newsletter, website, speaker expenses, VCOC dues, name tags, printing, postage and entertainment like the Tidewater

Concert band that performed at our Christmas gala.

**Remember that your membership is important.** Some members feel like they should not belong to an organization if they cannot be an active member attending all meetings and participating in other PACMOAA activities. We would love to have all of you attend each meeting but that is not possible for many members. During our military careers and later in our lives, the time we can commit to any organization varies. An important part of PACMOAA and MOAA membership is legislative involvement. Whether you are able to attend meetings or not, you can contact your Congressman and State Legislators about issues relevant to veterans. Your membership helps keep you updated on those issues. **Please help us protect the benefits of our veterans, retirees, reservists, guard and active duty military.**

***Please pay your dues as soon as possible*** so PACMOAA can continue to provide all these services. Please include the renewal form on page 6 to update our records. If you are not sure if you've paid yet, check with Dolly Cherrington or Hans Sachse. Remember the effectiveness VCOC has in the state legislature is related to chapter membership! Thank you.

**AUXILIARY CORNER**

Surviving Spouse Corner: MOAA's New Website. By Michele Costello, Surviving Spouse Advisory Committee

Formerly, MOAA defined "auxiliary members" as the survivors of former national MOAA members who are deceased or as the survivors of deceased individuals who would, if living, be eligible for membership. These members now will be classified as "surviving spouses." Affiliate leaders should incorporate this change in their publications, websites,

and officer rosters.

After a year or more of construction, MOAA's new website now is complete. The new website launched Sept. 1. MOAA's new super highway to information was rebuilt and contains new signage and exit ramps that offer easy access to a wealth of valuable military- and legislative-related information, interesting and informative publications, and opportunities to take action on legislative issues that affect servicemembers and their families. The site also boasts MOAA's new modern logo. As noted by members of the board of directors' Communications Committee, "It is a work in progress, with adjustments occurring continuously." However, the website already provides members and visitors with better access and navigation tools.

At the top of the home page, you'll find several membership categories with drop-down menus. The "Currently Serving" category offers avenues for "Jr. Officers," "Mid-grade Officers," and "Sr. Officers." The "Retirees" category offers a choice between "Early Retirees" or "Retired." Select "Former Officers," and you'll find career and financial-planning information. The "Family" category is divided into "Surviving Spouses" and "Spouses." If you select the "Chapters & Councils" category, you'll find information on "Chapter Recruiting," "Council and Chapter Management," "Officer Form," "E-newsletters," and more.

The home page also contains links to "Benefits & Discounts," available through MOAA, "Events," and more. Be sure to follow the "Take Action" link to learn about MOAA's top legislative issues. Then visit the "Legislative Action Center" to contact your congressional legislators. Those emails and letters do make a difference!

The home page was designed to emphasize a particular legislative issue or news item. Remember when navigating MOAA's new website, you'll need to scroll down in order to see everything. Users will know they have reached the bottom of a Web page when they see the motto, "Never Stop Serving." From there, you

can link quickly to social media sites such as Facebook, Twitter, In, YouTube, and MOAA Connect.

The "Surviving Spouses" Web page, which is undergoing construction, can be accessed from the home page by selecting "Family" and then "Surviving Spouses" from the drop-down menu. The Surviving Spouse Advisory Committee (SSAC) submitted recommendations to ensure as much information as possible can be accessed easily by surviving spouses who are dealing with the loss of their servicemember spouse. Pay and benefits, publications, personal affairs, and legislative issues, such as repealing the Survivor Benefit Plan/Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (SBP/DIC) offset, are only some of the areas that will be covered.

Finally, it's easy to add a shortcut to MOAA's home page on the screen of your cellphone.

#### **For Apple iPhones:**

Open Safari and type in [www.moaa.org](http://www.moaa.org) to access MOAA's website.

At the bottom, you will see a box with an arrow pointing upward. Tap it, and then scroll over until you see "Add to Home Screen." You can rename the icon, or leave it as "MOAA — Home."

Tap "Add" in the top-right corner of the screen. The shortcut to MOAA's home page now should appear as an icon on your cellphone.

#### **For Android Phones using Chrome:**

Open Chrome and type in [www.moaa.org](http://www.moaa.org). Once the website is loaded, tap the menu icon. (Look for stacked lines at the top of the page near Login.)

Tap the star icon. Rename the title if you want, and then tap "Save."

While not entirely complete, MOAA's newly designed website offers a consistent format for users.

## THAT'S A WRAP FOR JANUARY

**PACMOAA MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM 2016****FULL NAME:**\_\_\_\_\_ **NICKNAME:** \_\_\_\_\_**GRADE/RANK:**\_\_\_\_\_ **SERVICE:**\_\_\_\_\_ **BIRTH DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_**STATUS:**    **Active**        **Retired**        **Former**        **Surviving Spouse****MAILING ADDRESS:**\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**EMAIL ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_**HOME PHONE:**\_\_\_\_\_ **CELL PHONE:**\_\_\_\_\_**Civilian Occupation:**\_\_\_\_\_ **MOAA Membership No.** \_\_\_\_\_**MOAA Membership No.:** \_\_\_\_\_ (From MOAA card or Military Off.  
Mailing Label)**Spouse's Name:**\_\_\_\_\_ **Spouse's Nickname:**\_\_\_\_\_**Are you willing to serve as board member or on a committee? ( ) Yes**  
**( ) No****PLEASE CIRCLE CORRECT AMOUNT: ANNUAL DUES ENCLOSED IS**  
**\$25.00 FOR REGULAR MEMBER OR \$20.00 FOR AUXILIARY MEM-**  
**BER. Make checks payable to PACMOAA and send mail to:****PACMOAA, PO Box 5353 , Portsmouth, VA 23703****DATE:**\_\_\_\_\_ **SIGNATURE:**\_\_\_\_\_**NOTE: For members joining after 1 July, \$12.50 for regular members**  
**and \$10.00 for auxiliary members**