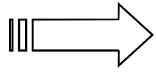


CINCINNATI MILITARY OFFICERS

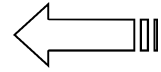
VOL 35 No. 1
February 2008

NEWS

GREATER CINCINNATI CHAPTER MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA
AN AFFILIATE OF THE MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA



Renew your dues – please see page 5!



LUNCEHON: VA Director of Public Affairs

**WHERE: Manor House Restaurant at Maple Knoll
600 Maple Trace Dr., Springdale, OH (Gathering Room)**

WHEN: SATURDAY, 15 March 2008

TIME: 5:30 PM – Social Time

6:00 PM – Dinner..... Program follows Dinner

Featuring: Todd Sledge, VA Director of Public Affairs

Todd Sledge was appointed as the Public Affairs Officer for the Cincinnati VA Medical Center in April 2003 and is responsible for media relations internally and externally, community relations with local veteran groups and local businesses, serves as congressional liaison related to veteran issues and communications of healthcare services to local political constituents, web content management, and lastly as an outreach coordinator for expanding and sustaining utilization of the VA healthcare system in Cincinnati.

2007 was a busy year for Todd and the Cincinnati VA Medical Center in regards to Public Affairs. Besides multiple local media engagements (14), he worked with the Washington Post (worked with reporter who broke Walter Reed Story), National Public Radio, PBS National Television, HBO, National American Legion Magazine, and US News & World Report. While the media kept him busy, the Cincinnati VA Outreach Team which he leads, participated in 350 hours of outreach to local veterans and their families. 2008 is an optimistic year for Public Affairs in Cincinnati. Todd has two significant projects that will be launched in 2008. The first is a hospital and CBOC facilities electronic messages board system, and the second is the implementation of a Mobile Health Unit called, The Vet Express.

Todd has been with the Cincinnati VA Medical Center for 15 years, beginning his VA career as a Psychiatric Counselor for the Post Traumatic Stress Disorder Program from 1992-2001, then the Vocational Rehabilitation Director in the Homeless Domiciliary program from 2001-2003, prior to being appointed to Public Affairs.

Todd holds a Masters Degree from Xavier University in Organizational Development, and received his Bachelor's of Science Degree in Criminology while attending Western Kentucky University on a football scholarship.

Todd is a native of Cincinnati and has been married for eight years to his wife Brandi. Brandi and Todd have one daughter, Kaidyn age 3 and a future son to be born in April 2008.

DINNER RESERVATION: Saturday, 15 March 2008—Manor House Restaurant at Maple Knoll—Springdale, OH.

Name: _____ **Rank & Service:** _____ **Spouse/Guests:** _____

(ARE YOU A NEW MEMBER, OR FIRST TIME OUT? _____)

Entrée choices:

Prime Rib Dinner Buffet _____ \$ 19.50

(Menu changes daily but always includes a selection of homemade soups, 3 salad selections, three entrees, two vegetable dishes and a side dish and includes Manor House bread pudding for dessert)

Total Reservations _____ = Total \$ _____

Make Checks payable to GREATER CINCINNATI CHAPTER/MOAA and mail to **LTC PAUL FELLINGER, 5493 Delhi Rd., Cincinnati, OH 45238-5139**, (Phone (513) 451-9881) or email: paulf@shriverco.com. Please make reservations NLT 12 March. No cancellations after that date.

2008 CHAPTER OFFICERS AND BOARD

(phone #'s are area code 513 unless noted)

Executive Committee

| | | |
|--------------|---------------------------|--------------|
| President | 1LT John Erby, USAR | 777-1538 |
| Immed PP | CWO3 Kym Mader, USN | 759-0852 |
| 1st VP | CWO3 Kym Mader, USN | 759-0852 |
| 2nd VP | LTC James Hoeh, USAR | 481-4045 |
| Secretary | MAJ Ed Knox, USAF | 674-7755 |
| Treasurer | LTC Paul Fellingner, USAR | 451-9881 |
| Chaplain | Vacant | |
| Dir Govt Rel | CAPT Clyde Middleton, USN | 859 331-1879 |
| Past Natl Bd | MAJ Isaac Mincy, USAF | 542-6145 |

State Council

| | | |
|--------------|----------------------|----------|
| Delegate | CAPT Jack Meyer, USN | 489-7361 |
| Alt Delegate | LTC James Hoeh, USAR | 481-4045 |

Committees

| | | |
|------------------|---------------------------|----------|
| Program | COL Dean Smittle, USAF | 922-6018 |
| Arrangements | LTC Paul Fellingner, USAR | 451-9881 |
| Membership | CWO3 Kym Mader, USN | 759-0852 |
| Goodwill | Vacant | |
| Personal Affairs | Vacant | |
| Historian | Vacant | |
| Public Affairs | COL Dean Smittle, USAF | 922-6018 |
| R.O.T.C. | 1LT John Erby, USAR | 777-1538 |
| CinMoaaNews | CWO3 Kym Mader, USN | 759-0852 |

Service Representatives

| | | |
|--------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| Army | 1LT John Erby, USAR | 777-1538 |
| Navy/CG/PHS | CAPT Jack Meyer, USN | 489-7361 |
| Air Force | LTC Jim Sholar, USAF | 859 384-2922 |
| Marine Corps | MAJ Parker Lillie, USMC | 281-5807 |

PURPOSES OF THE GREATER CINCINNATI MOAA CHAPTER

The purposes of Military Officers Association of America as stated by national are printed on the outside of each Newsletter. The corresponding purposes of our Chapter as stated in our BYLAWS, Article II are:

- To promote the purposes and objectives of the Military Officers Association of America
- To foster fraternal relations among retired, active and former officers of the uniformed services.
- To protect the rights and interests of personnel of the uniformed services and their dependents and survivors.
- To provide useful services for members and their dependents and survivors.
- To serve the community and the nation.

Your officers and Board members welcome your comments and suggestions on steps that may be taken to strengthen our Chapter and its benefits to all members.

LOCAL Chapter:

CinMoaa News is published to arrive at your home 10 days before each meeting. Articles and corrections for the News must be in the hands of editor 4 weeks before each meeting date. – Mail to CinMoaa News, 8099 Pepper Pike, West Chester, OH 45069. Or E-mail chmader@fuse.net.

For MOAA National information:

Visit the MOAA Web Site - INTERNET ADDRESS

[HTTP://www.moaa.org](http://www.moaa.org)

TAPS

If you know a member of MOAA who has past away, please let us know so we may pass it on.

MEETINGS - Mark your Calendars NOW!

REGULAR MEETINGS FOR 2008

Sat. Mar 15 (Dinner), May/June (Joint Dinner), Sat. Sept 13 (Dinner), Fri. Dec 5 (Lunch)

BOARD MEETINGS - January 8, February 15, April 11.

Spouses and guests are welcome at all meetings.

NEXT MEETING

Joint Meeting with Dayton Chapter - Possible speaker Senator Sherrod Brown

OHIO LEGISLATION



HB372 - Passed December 12th and signed December 20th. It will go into effect 90 days from signing. The following was included:

- exempt estates of armed forces members who died while serving in a combat zone from probate fees
- to exempt military retirement pay from the state income tax
- to provide that reservists and National Guard members may renew their professional licenses within six months after active duty service
- to extend continuing education reporting periods for National Guard members ordered to duty by the Governor
- to provide that standard "Purple Heart" license plates be issued without charge
- to designate Interstate Routes 70 and 71 as the "Purple Heart Trail,"
- to authorize the display of combat battle stars on certain special combat or military license plates
- to prohibit discrimination under the Ohio Civil Rights Commission Law and certain other laws on the basis of military status
- to require the Attorney General to appoint a staff member of the Consumer Protection Division to expedite certain cases or issues raised by a person, or the person's immediate family, who is deployed on active duty
- to grant certain military persons additional civil service credit
- to require relevant military experience to be considered in continuing education determinations
- to create an incumbent worker training program
- to create Civil Air Patrol license plates.

SB 25 - Passed

- Offers Gold Star Family license plate to all families of fallen war veterans.

OHIO LEADERS, VETERANS PUSH FOR QUICK PASSAGE OF SERVICE BONUS

- ◆ Sparked by an inquiry from an Iraq by an Ohio, Soldier, Treasurer of State Richard Cordray has proposed a constitutional amendment to provide compensation to Ohio veterans of the conflicts in the Persian Gulf, Afghanistan, and Iraq.
- ◆ Veterans who served in the Persian Gulf, Afghanistan or Iraq would receive \$100 for each month of service up to a total of \$1,000. Veterans who served elsewhere during those conflicts would receive \$50 a month up to a total of \$500. Family members of those killed in action would receive \$5,000 in addition to any other allowable compensation. These figures are in line with previous service bonuses, updated for inflation.
- ◆ In the past, Ohio has issued bonds through four separate voter-approved amendments to the state's constitution in order to provide compensation to its veterans of World War I, World War II, Korea and Vietnam.
- ◆ The cost is estimated at approximately \$100 million and will be spread over 15 years with a maximum annual debt service payment estimated to be approximately \$9.5 million.

Senate Joint Resolution 5, the Veterans Service Bonus Amendment, passed the Ohio Senate on January 30th. The bill sponsored by Senator Tim Grendell, received overwhelming support from the members of the Senate with a unanimous vote of 30-0, with two members abstaining. With the proposal now heading to the Ohio House, Treasurer Cordray recommends that the state continue to use bonds to support the program, as it did to recognize veterans of World War I, World War II, Korean, and Vietnam conflicts.

Auxiliary Corner

Columnist Paula Murth, Auxiliary Member Advisory Committee

HAVE YOU CHECKED YOUR I.D. CARD LATELY?

If you are the survivor of a military officer, then you have a Uniformed Services Identification Card. This card is the ticket to your continued health care coverage and ensures easy access to military installations, including use of base exchanges and commissaries. But remember, your I.D. card does expire and must be renewed every four years until you reach age 75, when you can obtain a permanent card.

Keep your information updated with the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System. Most surviving spouses age 65 and older are eligible for TRICARE For Life (TFL) for health care coverage. TFL beneficiaries must be eligible for Medicare Part A and maintain Part B enrollment.

Some survivors receive a monthly check through the Survivor Benefit Plan. The Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) must be advised of any changes to your address, direct deposit, or tax-withholding information. Beneficiaries will receive a form every year that should be filled out and returned to DFAS to ensure there is no interruption in payment.

If you receive Dependency and Indemnity Compensation, all changes to personal and contact information, such as your address or marriage status, must be reported to the VA.

Check the expiration date on your I.D. now. Save yourself and others a lot of trouble by keeping your card current. And be sure to mark your calendar each year to remind yourself of that very important date.

MEET OUR CHAPTER TREASURER



LTC Paul Fellingner (Ret), a Norwood native, earned a BA degree in history from Xavier University and a Masters in history from West Chester (PA) University.

He received a Regular Army commission through the ROTC program upon graduation from Xavier. As a Field Artillery officer, he spent his first 2 years at Fort Sill, in Oklahoma, in the 2nd Battalion, 44th Artillery (Pershing), and then proceeded to Vietnam, serving as Intelligence officer of a field artillery battalion and G-3 briefer and division TOC duty officer in 101st Airborne Division.

His first assignment after Vietnam was with the ROTC program at Widener College, in Chester, Pennsylvania, near Philadelphia. It was during this period that the Army started to accept women in its ROTC programs, and Paul was

involved in modifying the cadet summer camp training program to accommodate the female cadets during their first year attending the camp.

After his ROTC tour, Paul and his family traveled to Monterey, California for 8 months of language school, prior to his assignment to Flensburg, Germany. The ability to speak German proved invaluable; Paul and his family were assigned to this isolated, U.S. unit of 100 soldiers in northern Germany, located on the Danish border. Although Paul had his formal training in German in Monterey, his wife Patti learned the language by shopping on the local economy and his children learned the language by attending the local German school. The Fellingner family oftentimes acted as translators for the small, American community.

After Flensburg, Paul was transferred to Fort Meade, Maryland, where he was assigned to the First Army staff, serving as a training officer for field artillery and civil affairs units.

Upon completion of that tour, he and his family returned to Germany, at an even more isolated area, about 50 miles south of Flensburg, to Rendsburg, located on the Kiel Canal, about halfway between the Baltic Sea and North Sea. He was assigned to the only existing NATO Corps, Corps Landjut, as the corps special weapons officer. He also served as the Senior U.S. Officer, an interesting position because of the social and coordinating requirements associated with it. Each nationality's senior officer filled this position in NATO headquarters. It was during this time in Rendsburg when his children attended the Hamburg International School, traveling daily 1½ hours by train each way.

After Germany, Paul went on to his terminal assignment as Professor of Military Science (PMS) of the ROTC program at Youngstown State University.

Of his awards and decorations, he is most proud of earning his Ranger tab and of his induction into the Order of Saint Barbara.

Upon his retirement from the military, Paul and his wife, Patti, returned to Cincinnati. Paul became actively involved in the Cincinnati Chapter when he took over as Chapter Treasurer in 1994. He currently works for a CPA firm in downtown.

2008 DUES ARE DUE! Please pay now- IF you haven't done so.

To determine whether your dues are paid, please check your address sticker on the other side of this form. **The year is shown for the latest year for which your dues are paid.** (Life members show LIFE). If your number is (2007) or lower, please return this form (with your name sticker on reverse) along with a check for your dues to bring you up to current year. Please mark your selection of dues (one year, multi-year or life). For those of you who receive your newsletter by email, your dues date is located in the TO line of your email after your name. If you are moving out of state and don't want to continue your chapter membership or have any other status change, please let us know. Also please indicate on your check the year(s) your dues are for.

Membership Renewal. Your email address please: _____

Regular Member ___\$28 for three years ___\$19 for two years ___\$10.00 for one year

Auxiliary Member (as the surviving spouse of a deceased officer)

___\$14 for three years ___\$9.50 for two years ___\$5.00 for one year

Please renew as a LIFE member. ____ (Please circle amount in fee schedule.)

| LIFE MEMBERSHIP FEES | | |
|--|----------|-----------|
| (Fee is based on your age, nearest birthday) | | |
| | Regular | Auxiliary |
| Age up to 55 | \$161.25 | \$80.00 |
| Age 56 to 70 | \$127.50 | \$63.75 |
| Age 71 to 89 | \$ 93.75 | \$46.90 |
| Age 90 and over | \$ 10.00 | \$ 5.00 |

Make check payable to: Greater Cincinnati Chapter / MOAA

Mail Renewal form and check to:

LTC Paul Fellingner, 5493 Delhi Rd., Cincinnati, OH 45238-5139

----- cut here ----- Dues Form -----cut here-----

“2008 GIVE ME 10” Kicked Off Jan 1st

Are you a member of the chapter, but not National MOAA? Has your National MOAA membership lapsed? Is there someone you know that is an Active, Reserve, Guard, Former, or Retired Officer? Invite them to the luncheons and tell them how they can be a part of MOAA. Contact LTC Paul Fellingner (513 451-9881) or email paulf@shriverco.com for more information. Bring in a new member today.

LAST MEETING

Approximately 30 attended the last meeting to recognize past presidents, install new officers and hear from ROTC/JROTC cadets. Their stories were compelling and they reflect our future military. The following new officers were installed.

President - 1LT John Erby Secretary - MAJ Ed Knox
1st VP - CWO3 Kym Mader Treasurer - LTC Paul Fellingner
2nd VP - LTC Jim Hoeh

We still have vacancies for Chaplain, Goodwill, Personal Affairs, and Historian. If you have a lot or a little time please consider joining our board and committees to help make a chapter stronger and better. Auxiliary members are welcome too.

HELP IRAQI SCHOOL CHILDREN - SCHOOL KITS PROJECT

For the past several years, our chapter has teamed with Messiah Lutheran Church in supporting Operation Iraqi Children. This project was originated by actor and USO performer Gary Sinese to help provide badly need basic school supplies (ten items in a 2 gallon Ziploc bag) for distribution by our troops in the field to local Iraqi children. The school kits are greatly appreciated by the children, their parents and teachers. It also helps build goodwill for our troops and the U.S. in general. Go to operationiraqichildren.org and click on Letters from Iraq for numerous letters and photos showing the impact.

We have made 17 shipments to date totaling 2,226 school kits. The Messiah youth group has become very proficient at assembling and packing the kits, so we now schedule larger runs (306 kits). We currently have over \$1,000 in contributions and commitments - about half way to the amount needed for supplies.

Please again give this very worthwhile chapter project your support and send your check right now. Any amount will help. - send checks made out to Greater Cincinnati Chapter /MOAA to Paul Fellingner, 5493 Delhi Road, Cincinnati, OH 45238. Mark OIC on the check.



Greater Cincinnati Chapter
 MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF
 AMERICA
 8099 Pepper Pike
 West Chester, OH 45069-2842



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***PURPOSES OF
 MILITARY OFFICERS
 ASSOCIATION
 OF AMERICA***

- TO inculcate and stimulate love of country and flag;
- TO defend the honor, integrity, and supremacy of our National Government and the Constitution of the United States;
- TO advocate military forces adequate to the defense of our country;
- TO foster fraternal relations between all branches of the various services from which our members are drawn;
- TO further the education of children of service personnel;
- TO aid active and retired personnel of the various services from which our members are drawn and their dependents and survivors, in every proper and legitimate manner;
- TO present their rights and interests when service matters are under consideration; and
- TO foster the integrity and prestige of uniformed service.

—from the Preamble to the Association's Bylaws