

CINCINNATI

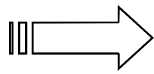
VOL 39 No. 1
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MILITARY

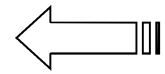
OFFICERS

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!



A DATE WITH ABRAHAM LINCOLN

WHERE: Manor House Restaurant
600 Maple Trace Dr., Springdale, OH (Gathering Room)
WHEN: Friday, 17 February 2012
TIME: 11:30 AM – Social Time
12:00 PM – Lunch Program follows Luncheon



Speaker: Stan Wernz as Abraham Lincoln - Lincoln's thoughts on George Washington, the Union and the Constitution

Stan Wernz is a life-member of the Association of Lincoln Presenters, and has served as President since 2005. His presentations are based on words Lincoln actually spoke or things which historical research suggest he could have spoken. Each presentation is unique. With President's Day (originally Washington's Birthday) on February 21, it is appropriate that this presentation will provide insight into both George Washington's thoughts and to those of Lincoln himself.

Mr. Wernz had a career as teacher, principal and superintendent of schools. Early in his teaching career, after growing a beard, a student called him "Abe", and commented, "You always acted like him, now you look like him!" With those words began a conscious promotion and role modeling of Lincoln's attributes, sayings, speeches and jokes.

For more than thirty years Stan has been recognized in street clothes by friends and strangers for his "Lincoln look-alike" features. When dressed in Lincoln attire, he fascinates listeners from pre-school to senior citizens as he relates the life, thoughts and comments of our 16th President. Audiences of all ages are captivated by the humor and wide range of topics included in the talks - Lincoln's youth, hardships endured, lawyering, political life, family, etc. The talks conclude with audience participation in questions and answers. When questions require research, answers follow in writing. **This event is not to be missed! Register now**

LUNCH RESERVATION: Friday, 17 Feb 2012—Manor House Restaurant—Springdale, OH.

Name: _____ **Rank & Service:** _____ **Spouse/Guests:** _____
(ARE YOU A NEW MEMBER, OR FIRST TIME OUT? _____)

Entrée choices:

Lunch BUFFET \$12.00
(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 than 15 Feb. No cancellations after that date.

2012 CHAPTER OFFICERS AND BOARD

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

Executive Committee

President	MAJ Ed Knox, USAF	674-7755
Immed PP	LTC Tom Grimes, USA	681-8295
1st VP	CWO3 Kym Mader, USN	759-0852
2nd VP	LTC James Hoeh, USAR	481-4045
Secretary	MAJ Ed Knox, USAF	674-7755
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Past Natl Bd	MAJ Isaac Mincy, USAF	542-6145
Aux Liaison	Vacant	

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Delegate	CAPT Jack Meyer, USN	489-7361
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Committees

Program	Vacant	
Membership	MAJ Ed Knox, USAF	674-7755
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Army	COL Robert Greene, USA (859)	689-4321
Navy/CG/PHS	CAPT Jack Meyer, USN	489-7361
Air Force	Vacant	
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

Mrs. Jane Springer, AUX - 17 Dec 2011

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! Watch www.cincymoaa.org for updates.

BOARD MEETINGS

Jan 13, 1300 - Xavier Univ ROTC Building
Spouses and guests are welcome at all meetings.

MEMBER MEETINGS

**Luncheon Feb 17 - Manor House Restaurant, Maple Knoll -
Speaker: Abraham Lincoln**

**Luncheon Apr - Manor House Restaurant, Maple Knoll
ROTC/JROTC Appreciation Day**

MORE VOLUNTEERS

A long, long time ago a senior officer gave me some very good advice. When you report for a new assignment the first thing you should consider is what your next assignment should be and start working toward that end. It is time for me to do so in regard to our chapter since my term as president will be ending in December.

There will be an important question to be answered at that time i.e. who will replace me. I have no illusion that I am irreplaceable given that several Air Force squadrons have flourished quite nicely subsequent to my reassignment. But I would be remiss if I didn't start our collective thinking in motion toward that end.

At the December general membership meeting we did have two officers step forward to volunteer for chapter positions. After they have cleared away some commitments their names will be appearing in the newsletter come spring. That is two steps in the right direction - but it is only a start. We need **MORE VOLUNTEERS** to step forward!

In the last few years board members have been shuffling between positions in order to maintain a viable chapter. These dedicated officers are now serving multiple terms. It is time for others to get involved for the good of the chapter. I am not asking anyone to leap right into one of the lead positions. There are many positions available that will give you a feel for how the chapter operates and gain you experience. Let's face it. We are all officers. Each of us is capable of taking our part in directing the successful operation of an organization. If we share the load we will all benefit.

Give me a call at (513) 720-5808 or call one of the other board members. We can discuss what needs to be done and what you can do to help.

Ed Knox, Chapter President

MEMBERS SET A RECORD

MOAA is thankful for all of our members that took the time to contact their legislators this year on issues important to them and others in the military community.

Below is a quick snapshot of our most active issues. Hopefully you took part in the record setting 1.3 million messages (includes e-mails, letters, and phone calls) we sent to Congress this year.

Protect military people from disproportionate budget cuts – 525,000

Oppose TRICARE changes – 102,000

Active duty pay – 86,000

Prevent Medicare/TRICARE cut – 60,000

Oppose a chained CPI – 30,000

Reject changes to commissaries – 26,000

Repeal the SBP/DIC offset – 27,000

Enhance concurrent receipt – 25,000

If you didn't participate in 2011 we hope you'll make it one of your New Year's Resolutions. Our user-friendly [Congressional messaging system](#) will make it one of your easiest resolutions to accomplish.

Know a Medically Separated Vet?

If you know of any veterans who were medically separated from military service between September 11, 2001 and December 31, 2009, please let them know they have some recourse if they feel they unfairly received a too-low disability rating from the military.

The Physical Disability Board of Review (PDBR) will reassess the accuracy and fairness of the combined disability ratings assigned to servicemembers who were discharged as unfit for continued military service by the military departments with a combined disability rating of 20 percent or less.

If you know someone who was medically separated from service since 9-11, they can find out more information on how to apply at: www.health.mil/pdbr.

AUXILIARY CORNER IN THE KNOW (Part 2)?

Patricia Bergquist, member, Auxiliary Member Advisory Committee

Remarriage after the loss of a spouse involves many considerations, especially the affect will have on the surviving spouse's Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) and Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC).

Remember these points when deciding to remarry:

- 1) Remarriage before age 55 results in suspension of SBP
- 2) Remarriage before age 57 results in suspension of DIC
- 3) Remarriage before age 55 results in suspension of both SBP and DIC.

When remarriage occurs after age 55 but before age 57, resulting in the loss of DIC, a surviving spouse may have SBP reinstated to the full amount by repaying DoD the SBP premium amount refunded when DIC initially was awarded. Repayments may be made in a lump sum without interest or in installments with interest based on the interest rate in effect at that time. If the remarriage at any age ends in death or divorce, the surviving spouse may apply for reinstatement of the SBP and DIC.

- 4) Remarriage after age 57 allows receipt of both SBP and DIC.

Recently, several survivors won a court case to restore full SBP and DIC upon remarriage after the age of 57. Be aware DoD requires full repayment of SBP premiums plus interest. (Original refunds of SBP premiums were without interest and fully taxable to the surviving spouse.)

Legislation (H.R. 178 and S. 260) has been introduced to eliminate the SBP/DIC offset and recoupment of refunded SBP premiums upon the surviving spouse's remarriage. Present law penalizes surviving spouses if they remarry before or after age 57.

TRICARE, commissary, and burial rights are lost upon remarriage at any age. While most benefits can be reinstated when the remarriage ends in death or divorce, TRICARE, once lost, cannot be reinstated.

MOAA encourages surviving spouses to consider these facts when considering remarriage. If you have any questions, call MOAA's Member Service Department at (800) 234-MOAA (6622).

VA DEPLOYING 20 NEW MOBILE VET CENTERS

Additions to Fleet Will Expand Veterans' Access to VA Services Across U.S.



COLUMBUS, Ohio- The Department of Veterans Affairs today deployed 20 additional Mobile Vet Centers from the production facility of Farber Specialty Vehicles to increase access to readjustment counseling services for Veterans and their families in rural and underserved communities across the country.

"Mobile Vet Centers allow VA to bring the many services our Vet Centers offer Veterans to all communities, wherever they are needed," said VA Under Secretary for Health Robert A. Petzel. "VA is committed to expanding access to VA health care and benefits for Veterans and their families, and these 20 new vehicles demonstrate that continued commitment."

In an event attended by Petzel, U.S. Senator Sherrod Brown of Ohio, representatives of the Ohio congressional delegation, and Veterans service organizations, VA launched the 20 new vehicles to their destinations ranging across the continental United States, Hawaii and Puerto Rico.

These customized vehicles--which are equipped with confidential counseling space and a state of the art communication package--travel to communities to extend VA's reach to Veterans, Servicemembers and their families, especially those living in rural or remote communities. The vehicles also serve as part of the VA emergency response program.

To find out more about Vet Center services or find a Vet Center in your area, go to www.vetcenter.va.gov.

The 20 new mobile Vet Centers will be based at:

Birmingham, AL	Evanston, IL	Jackson, MS	Lawton, OK
San Diego, CA	Indianapolis, IN	Greensboro, NC	Ponce, PR
Atlanta, GA	Baltimore, MD	Lakewood, NJ	Nashville, TN
Western Oahu, HI	Pontiac, MI	Reno, NV	Washington County, UT
Cedar Rapids, IA	Kansas City, MO	Stark County, OH	Green Bay, WI

2012 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 (2010) 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.)

Make check payable to: Greater Cincinnati Chapter / MOAA
Mail Renewal form and check to:

MAJ Ed Knox, 881 Yorkhaven Rd., Cincinnati, OH 45240-1254

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

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WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

- CAPT Alan Echt, PHS

Period Extended to File with VA for Gulf War Benefits

The Ohio Department of Veterans Services wants all Ohio veterans, family members and friends to be aware of the news release from the VA, below:

<http://dvs.ohio.gov/Portals/0/library/odvs/news/archive/2011/GulfWarIllnessesUndiagnosedNR.pdf>

It announces the five-year extension of the period for Gulf War veterans, with undiagnosed illnesses related to their service, to file for benefits, up to December 31, 2016 rather than the end of this year.

Veterans who need to apply for these benefits should visit their county veterans service office to begin the process. For contact information, see the map at the link below:

<http://dvs.ohio.gov/>

OIC - School Kits: Assembly volunteers invited

The 23rd school kits assembly event will be at Messiah Lutheran Church – Greenhills from 8:30 – 11:30 AM on Saturday, February 25. To date, in partnership with Messiah Youth Group, 3,090 kits have been shipped for distribution by our troops deployed to world various trouble spots. We will assemble and ship an additional 325 kits on February 25. While the youth do most of the work, you also are invited to participate. If interested, call Captain Jack Meyer 489-73671 for details. Financial help to purchase supplies is also need. Make checks out to Greater Cincinnati Chapter/MOAA with “OIC” on Memo line and mail the LTC Paul Fellingner, Chapter Treasurer

Questions about your Veterans Benefits?

Do you know where to go for questions or assistance about your Veteran Benefits? Do you know what is available to assist you with your job search and other programs? Do you know what your local Department of Veterans Services is doing for you? Go to your state Veterans Service website or Contact them today.

Ohio - [Dept of Veterans Services](#) website or call 1-877-OHIO-VET (1-877-644-6838)

Kentucky - [Dept of Veterans Affairs](#) website or call 1-800-928-4012

Indiana - [Dept of Veterans Affairs](#) website or call 1-800-400-4520



Greater Cincinnati Chapter
 MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF
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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