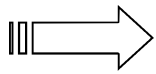


CINCINNATI MILITARY OFFICERS

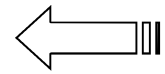
VOL 32 No. 6
November 2005

NEWS

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



*Have you forgotten to renew your dues –
please see page 5!*



LUNCHEON: ROTC/JROTC APPRECIATION DAY, PAST PRESIDENTS, ELECTIONS

WHERE: HOLIDAY INN—Riverfront
660 West 3rd Street, COVINGTON, KY

WHEN: FRIDAY, 2 December 2005

TIME: 11:30 AM – Social Time

12:00 PM – Luncheon Program follows Luncheon

Once again it is time to recognize the ROTC and JROTC units that we support. Come out and show your appreciation and hear what they have to say. We will also be honoring past presidents (Lt. Chuck Kenny, Capt. Clyde Middleton, Col. Bob Greene, Capt. Jack Meyer, and Col. Hoeh) to name a few and holding elections for new board members for the upcoming 2006 year. See page 5 for those who have been nominated or you may wish to nominate someone yourself. Come out and be heard and give your thanks for those who are serving and are about to serve your organization.

LUNCHEON RESERVATION: Friday, 2 December 2005—Holiday Inn—Riverfront, Covington, KY.

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

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

Entrée choices: (Includes rolls, butter, salad, vegetables, starch, and beverage)

HAM (w/Cherry Sauce) _____

BAKED COD (w/Lemon Butter sauce) _____

Total Reservations _____ @ \$17.00 = 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 29 November. No cancellations after that date.

2005 CHAPTER OFFICERS AND BOARD

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

Executive Committee

President	LT Chuck Kenny, USN	489-2957
Immed PP	1LT John Erby, AR	777-1538
1st VP	CWO3 Kym Mader, USN	759-0852
2nd VP	COL Dean Smittle, USAF	922-6018
3rd VP	1LT John Erby, USAR	777-1538
Secretary	Vacant	
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 Bob Greene, USAR	859-689-4321
Arrangements	LTC Paul Fellingner, USAR	451-9881
Membership	LT Chuck Kenny, USN	489-2957
Goodwill	LTC Earl Nichols, USAR	859 261-4266
Personal Affairs	COL Dean Smittle, USAF	922-6018
Historian	Vacant	
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 2005 (all at Holiday Inn- Riverfront, Covington)

Fridays: Feb 4 (lunch), Apr 1 (lunch), June 3 (lunch), Aug 5 (lunch), Oct 7 (lunch), **Dec 2 (lunch)**

BOARD MEETINGS - Naval Reserve Center - Gilbert Ave & Victory Parkway,

Fridays at 1300 hrs. In 2005: January 7, March 4, May 6, July 8, September 9, November 4.
Spouses and guests are welcome at all meetings.

NEXT MEETING

Watch this space for new and exciting changes for next year. We listened and want to make your experience a valuable one.

MOAA UPDATES

Veterans Subcommittee Slams VA's PTSD Crackdown - During Thursday's House Veterans' Affairs Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs Subcommittee hearing on disability compensation claims, committee members criticized the ongoing VA review of 72,000 Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) claims, describing it as potentially illegal and calling for an immediate halt. Chairman Jeff Miller (R-FL) and his subcommittee began with testimony from the Department of Veterans Affairs Inspector General, the Government Accountability Office. They then heard from New Mexico Secretary of Veterans' Services John Garcia, and a final panel of three senior VA benefits leaders, including Deputy Under Secretary for Benefits Ronald Aument.

Garcia presented particularly powerful testimony, describing how the VA's recently begun PTSD review contributed to the suicide of a New Mexico Vietnam Veteran/Purple Heart recipient. He said VA's PTSD review is seen as a personal assault on combat veterans' honorable service.

Rep. Shelley Berkley (D-NV) strongly criticized the PTSD review, saying, "Mental health professionals, treating psychiatrists, as well as veterans' advocates tell us that this review, which forces some veterans to revisit their traumatic experiences and increase their psychiatric symptoms is 'madness'." Rep. Tom Udall (D-NM) echoed Berkley's concerns and asked the witnesses to take the message back to VA leadership to stop the PTSD review now, before any more harm is done.

MOAA couldn't agree more. This insensitive review plan sends the wrong message when thousands of returning combat veterans and their families are suffering PTSD's traumatic effects. The Defense Department and Congress are working hard to de-stigmatize this debilitating disease so more victims will seek treatment. But that worthy cause is greatly undermined if VA-recognized PTSD victims are subjected to repeated grilling on whether they really deserve them.

COLA Iced - It's final. The Bureau of Labor Statistics reported on Friday that recent jump in energy prices boosted the Consumer Price Index another 1.5% in September.

That resulted in a 4.1% COLA based on the increase in average costs from the third quarter of 2004 to the third quarter of 2005 -- this 4.1% percentage increase is the increase that will be applied (in most cases) to military retired pay, Social Security, Survivor Benefit Plan annuities and veterans' disability compensation as of December 1, 2005. The increases will first appear in January 2006 paychecks. This is the largest COLA since the 1991 increase of 5.4%.

Check out the month-by-month inflation track and historical CPI/COLA information on MOAA's Web site at http://www.moaa.org/controller.asp?pagename=lac_issues_second_career_cola.

Newly retiring members receive a somewhat smaller, partial COLA for the year of their retirement, because they already received a January military pay raise (which also raised their retired pay) during their retirement year. Members retiring in 2005 will receive one of the corresponding COLAs below based on their year of entrance and date of retirement.

* Members who entered service before Sept. 8, 1980, and who retired on or after Jan. 1, 2005, will receive a 3.4% COLA.

* Members who entered service on or after Sept. 8, 1980 (whose retired pay is calculated on their highest 36 months' basic pay rather than final basic pay), and retired between Jan. 1, 2005, and Sept. 30, 2005, will receive a partial COLA based on the calendar quarter in which they retired. Those retiring in the first quarter of calendar year 2005 will receive 3.4%; in the second quarter, 2.8%; and in the third quarter, 1.4%. Those who retire after Oct. 1, 2005, (fourth quarter) will see no COLA this year.

Members retired during 2005 will receive full-year COLAs in future years.

While some may like the bigger retired pay increase, that only means that living expenses already have gone up more rapidly than usual, and retired pay, Social Security, SBP and other annuities are only chasing those expenses after the fact. Given a choice, we'd prefer lower inflation and the resultant lower COLAs.

MOAA UPDATES (continued)

Retiree Pay Statement to Show Concurrent Receipt - Retirees who have been receiving two separate checks from the Defense Accounting and Finance Center (DFAS) for retired pay and concurrent retired disability pay (CRDP) will see those payments combined in a single check starting this month. In the past, DFAS had to make the payments separately and didn't have the computerized capability to show the CRDP payment on retiree pay statements.

Now that's changing. But the updated statements are causing some confusion.

Retirees eligible for concurrent receipt will notice a change in the "VA waiver" line of the pay statement. Normally that means your VA payment changed. In this case, it just means that the accounting system is catching up with the actual amount of retired pay that is offset by the retiree's VA compensation.

Now that CRDP is being incorporated in disabled retirees' pay statements, the statements will show a dollar-for-dollar decrease in the waiver amount and a dollar-for-dollar increase to their taxable retired pay.

Unfortunately, DFAS can't yet show Combat-Related Special Compensation (CRSC) payments on the pay statement. That's in DFAS' plans for the near future, but a date has yet to be determined.

The bottom line: disabled retirees are still receiving the same pay amounts from both the VA and DFAS that they have in the past. They're just getting both retired pay and CRDP in a single check now, and that combined amount is now being shown on the pay statement.

CHAPTER UPDATES

SURVEY RESULTS IN CHANGES

Your Chapter Board was presented results and recommendations of the recent survey to which 35% of you responded. It approved the following recommendations:

1. Form an Ad Hoc committee to determine ways for the Chapter to reach out to the younger and female members.
2. Change general membership meeting times and locations to accommodate a larger population of its membership.
3. Substitute a tour for one of the meeting dates.
4. Include a member's biography in the newsletter, including the member's military experiences.

The Board of Directors expressed its appreciation for the work of the Survey Committee and noted its special appreciation of those members who responded.

CONTRIBUTE TO OPERATION IRAQI CHILDREN (OIC) - WIN A GREAT BOOK!

The Bluegrass chapter was September's winner. Greg Rhodes' OPENING DAY was duly shipped to that chapter. It was returned with the suggestion to raffle it again, and the comment, "...down here, if it doesn't bounce and get dunked in front of 23,000 screaming people dressed in blue and white, there's not much interest!" Therefore, December's winner has the choice of OPENING DAY or MG Charlie and Ann Cooper's TUSKEGEE'S HEROES - Tuskegee Airmen art with extensive narrative. Again all new OIC contributions will be in a drawing at the December meeting (one chance for every \$5 contributed, 5 for \$20). It is not necessary to be present to win! Send Checks to Paul Fellingner with OIC in the "For:" space.

SCHOOL SUPPLY KITS STATUS

Shortly, Messiah Lutheran Church youth along with MOAA and Church volunteers will assemble another 108 kits - bringing our total to 1110 school kits shipped! Contributions are welcome - send checks made out to Greater Cincinnati Chapter /MOAA to Paul Fellingner, 5493 Delhi Road, Cincinnati, OH 45238. Please mark OIC on the check.

2005 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 last two digits on the top line indicate the latest year for which your dues are paid.** (Life members show LIFE). If your two-digit number is 04 or lower, please return this form (with your name sticker on reverse) along with a check for your dues. Please mark your selection of dues (one year, multi-year or life). For those of you who receive your newsletter by email, you will receive a separate notice of Dues.

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:

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

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

----- cut here ----- **Dues Form** -----cut here-----
"GIVE ME 10"

National MOAA kicked off this campaign September 1st and runs until December 31st. It is a way to increase or membership and revitalize our strength not only with National but within the Chapter. Each chapter is asked to bring in 10 new members. Incentives are available. See our local website for more information. Go to www.cincymoaa.org and click on "Give Me 10". Also you can go to National's website www.moaa.org/giveme10. If you know anyone who 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.

LAST MEETING

Another small crowd of around 25 attended the last meeting to hear Maj. Gary Weaver talk to us about what the DAV is doing. They have quite an operation and have done so much. If you have the time it is very worthwhile to call him and ask for a tour of their operations and to see their museum. Their latest adventure is getting noticed on Sports cards teaming with major Football and Baseball teams to create player cards with DAV facts on the back. Help support the DAV.

NEW BOARD MEMBER NOMINEES

The following have been nominated for the positions listed for next year's board. If you know someone you think would be ideal for a position or you yourself would like to accept a position, make sure you come to the December luncheon. Additional nominees will be accepted.

President - CWO3 Kym Mader
1st VP - COL Dean Smittle
2nd VP - 1LT John Erby
3rd VP - COL Bob Greene

Secretary - VACANT
Treasurer - LTC Paul Fellingner
Dir Gov Relations - CAPT Clyde Middleton
Public Affairs - COL Dean Smittle

OTHER COMMITTEES

Programs - COL Bob Greene
Chaplain - VACANT
Service Reps - Army -
Navy/CG/PHS -
Air Force -
Marine Corps -

Arrangements - LTCOL Paul Fellingner
Membership - CWO3 Kym Mader
1LT John Erby
CAPT Jack Meyer
VACANT
MAJ Parker Lillie



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



NON-PROFIT ORG.
 U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
 CINCINNATI, OH
 PERMIT NO 6122

Postmaster: Dated material, Please Expedite

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



***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