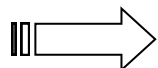


CINCINNATI MILITARY OFFICERS

VOL 48 No. 5
September 2021

NEWS

GREATER CINCINNATI CHAPTER MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA



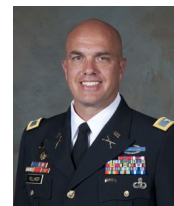
Renew your dues – please see page 5!



General Membership Meeting

Speaker: COL Paul Fellingner, Jr., USA (ret), Director, Xavier University Veterans Center

WHERE: Clovernook Country Club
2035 W. Galbraith Rd., Cincinnati, OH
WHEN: Friday, 17 Sept 2021
TIME: 11:30 Social Time
12:00 Lunch and Program



Thanks to an improved GI Bill, the number of veterans attending college and graduate school has been growing at an increasing rate for the last twenty years and our colleges and universities have responded by expanding or creating new programs to assist veterans. Our speaker (and fellow chapter member), COL Paul Fellingner, Jr., USA (ret) is uniquely qualified in his role as the Director of the Veterans Center at Xavier University. Not only is he a 1990 graduate of XU, but he attended Army Command and General Staff course and graduated from the Army War College as well. In addition he served as the commanding officer of the 1st Squadron (Airborne), 91st Cavalry and later as the commanding officer of the Presidio of Monterey. This promises to be a very interesting presentation that you do not want to miss. Please make your reservations prior to Monday, September 13th.

From the Chapter President

Congratulations to the entire chapter as we have been recognized by national MOAA as a 5 Star Chapter again for 2020. The fact that we were able to overcome all of the obstacles that presented themselves in the “Year of the COVID” and still be recognized as one of the top MOAA chapters in the country is solid testament to our membership and our current board. I have to admit that I am remiss in not knowing the number of consecutive years that we have been honored with this recognition but I can say with confidence that this is at least the sixth year in our streak.

Two events for our calendar this month and you will read more about both in this newsletter. If you have the chance please join us for the Membership Meeting on the 17th of September at the Clovernook Country Club featuring COL Paul Fellingner, Jr., USA (ret) who will bring us up to speed on the veterans’ programs at Xavier University. Then on the 22nd of September, we will be hosting a new member’s social at the Hoppin’Vine. Please join us for one or both of these events.

Finally, this year marks the 20th anniversary of the attacks on our country on 9/11. There are a number of events in the Tri-State area including a big one at Lunken airport that you will read about in this newsletter. If you get the chance, please take the time to attend one or set aside some time on that Saturday to remember our fallen shipmates and comrades who gave their lives in the service of our country these past twenty years.

Sincerely,

Mike Glaser
CAPT USN (ret)
michael.h.glaser@gmail.com

Lunch RESERVATION: Friday, 17 Sept 2021—Clovernook Country Club— 2035 W. Galbraith Rd. Cincinnati, OH.

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

Email: _____ **Phone #:** _____
(ARE YOU A NEW MEMBER, OR FIRST TIME OUT? _____)

Entrée choices:

Lunch Buffet

Total Reservations

_____ @ \$20.00

_____ = Total \$ _____

Make Checks payable to GREATER CINCINNATI CHAPTER/MOAA and mail to **CAPT Brent Ramsey, 1550 Smarty Jones Ct, Union, KY 41091**, (Phone (828) 734-1146), or email: shrbllr@bellsouth.net. Please make reservations NLT than 13 Sept. No cancellations after that date.

2021 CHAPTER OFFICERS AND BOARD

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

Executive Committee

President	CAPT Mike Glaser, USN	280-6256
Immed PP	CAPT Steve Drefahl, USN	752-4097
1st VP	CAPT Bill Heitbrink, USPHS	347-3193
2nd VP	VACANT	
Secretary	VACANT	
Treasurer	LTC Paul Fellingner, USAR	451-9881
Chaplain	VACANT	
Legislative Ofc	BG Tom O'Brien, USA	421-0118
Natl Bd		
Past Natl Bd	RADM Larry Hereth, USCG	812 537-2968
Spouse/	Diane Lochocki, Surviving Sp.	560-0540
Surviving Spouse Liaison		

State Council

Delegate	CAPT Mike Glaser, USN	280-6256
Alt Delegate	Immediate PP or 1st or 2nd VP	

Committees

Programs	CAPT Brent Ramsey	828 734-1146
	CAPT Hank Gurry, USN	459-0465
Membership	LTC Dan Shea, USA	792-0344
ROTC/JROTC	LtCol Brad Hamant, USAF	439-3140
Reserve/NG	CAPT Steve Drefahl, USN	752-4097
Historian	CAPT Roger Argalas, USCG	759-6267
Sympathy/Personal Affairs	CAPT Mike Glaser, USN	280-6256
Vietnam Commemoration/Public Affairs	LTC Al Brauer, USA	677-8320
TOPS	LtCol Brad Hamant, USAF	439-3140
CinMoaaNews	CWO3 Kym Mader, USN	759-0852

Service Representatives

Army	BG Tom O'Brien, USA	421-0118
Navy/MC	CAPT Hank Gurry, USN	459-0465
USPHS	CAPT Bill Heitbrink, USPHS	347-3193
Air Force	Lt Col Brad Hamant, USAF	439-3140
CG/NOAA	CAPT Roger Argalas, USCG	759-6267

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.

This newsletter is published by the Greater Cincinnati Chapter, which is an affiliate of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA). MOAA and its affiliated chapters and councils are non-partisan. Articles in this newsletter are the opinions solely of the individual authors and do not necessarily express the policy or opinions of the newsletters editor or publisher and do not reflect an endorsement by the Chapter or the National organization of MOAA, unless so indicated. Advertisements that appear in this publication also do not reflect an endorsement by MOAA or this affiliate.

TAPS

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

MG Joseph Lojek, AR - 28 Jun 2021
LTC Alvin Meyer, AR - 27 Aug 2021
LTC Robert Polewski, AR - 27 Aug 2021

2021 MEETINGS - Mark your Calendars NOW! Watch www.cincymoaa.org for updates.

2021 Membership Meetings / 5th Annual Dining Out

- **Membership Meeting** - Friday, Sept 17, 1200, Location (TBD)
- **Dining Out** - Saturday, November 13, 1800, Highland Country Club, Ft. Thomas KY
- **Membership Meeting** - Friday, Dec 10, 1200, Location (TBD)

For MOAA National information, Click on the links below:

[General Information](#)
[Legislative Updates](#)

Board Meetings

2nd Friday of each month, 1200 - 1300.

Due to the pandemic, these meetings are being held as virtual meetings on the gotomeeting platform (<https://www.gotomeeting.com>). Contact Mike Glaser for information to access the meeting. Attendance is either a phone call or by the gotomeeting software which will need to be installed on your computer. Spouses and members are welcome. In the future, we hope to resume in-person meetings at the Red Cross Building.

Never Stop Serving

This VA Job Training Program May Be Better Than the GI Bill for Some Veterans

(by Leo Shane III, Military Times)

Hundreds of thousands of veterans use their GI Bill benefits annually to earn a college degree, but thousands may be better served bypassing the well-known education program in favor of another Veterans Affairs program aimed at employment help for disabled veterans, according to a new report.

Officials from the Government Accountability Office said the Veteran Readiness and Employment program was used by about 123,000 veterans last year but has the potential to benefit even more, if VA leaders step up efforts to promote it.

“Most school and [veterans service organization] officials we interviewed said veterans with disabilities often choose the GI Bill for education benefits because they are unaware that the VR&E program exists,” the report states

Click [here](#) for full article.

Navy Captain Makes History of First Woman to Command an Aircraft Carrier

(by Kevin Lilley, Nat'l MOAA)

Capt. Amy Bauernschmidt, USN, became the first woman to take command of a nuclear-powered aircraft carrier Aug. 19 at a change-of-command ceremony for USS *Abraham Lincoln* (CVN-72) in San Diego.

Bauernschmidt, who was tapped for a 2022 carrier command in December along with five fellow officers, served as the carrier's executive officer from 2016-2019, the first woman to serve in that capacity aboard a nuclear-powered flattop. She recently commanded USS *San Diego* (LPD-22), an amphibious transport dock.

“There is no more humbling sense of responsibility than to know you are entrusted with the care of the people who have chosen to protect our nation,”

Click [here](#) for full article.

Legislative Affairs

(by BG Tom O'Brien, Legislative Officer)

Advocacy in action continues. Please take the opportunity to contact your federal legislators and ask them to support the following legislation.

Veterans Burn Pit Exposure Recognition Act:

HR 2436, S 437

Toxic Exposure “TEAM” Act: HR 2127, S 927

Military Hunger Prevention Act: HR 2339, S 1488

Parity for Tricare Young Adults: HR 475, S 1972

V/r

Tom O'Brien

Mental Health Resources Available for Veterans Unsettled by Afghanistan News

(by Leo Shane III, Military Times)

Advocates are reminding veterans that help is available if headlines about the disastrous end of the U.S. mission in Afghanistan and the looming Sept. 11 anniversary are triggering anxiety and mental health issues.

“Veterans should be on the lookout for red flags if news of Afghanistan starts changing behavior,” Dr. Sonya Norman, Director of the Department of Veterans Affairs' PTSD Consultation Program, said in a statement late last week. “These include isolating, using alcohol and drugs or any increase in unhealthy behaviors compared to normal.”

Even before the collapse of the Afghan government over the weekend, VA officials had been preparing for increased requests for mental health care and trauma assistance amid the ongoing U.S. military withdrawal from the country.

Health Officials said they have already seen an uptick in the number of veterans seeking help, and expected even more demand “as [veterans] come to terms with their service and as the Afghanistan withdrawal comes to completion.”

Click [here](#) for full article.

STARRS

(by CAPT Brent Ramsey, Programs Officer)

As everyone should know, MOAA is a non-partisan group that actively advocates on behalf of active duty officers, retired officers and former officers for their earned benefits and rights. MOAA does not comment or take a stand on DoD policy or the direction of the department and has confirmed this policy repeatedly in messages to the membership. STARRS, on the other hand, is a recently formed group of mostly former and retired members of the military who view the current direction of today's military as damaging to readiness and moving away from the core missions of the Department of Defense. It is a non-partisan educational group who has applied to the IRS for 501(c)(3) status.

Please contact Brent Ramsey at shrb1r@bellsouth.net or 828-733-1146 if you have any questions or would like more information about this group.

Membership is open to everyone and there are no dues. Their website is at the following link:

[STARRS](#). Their vision statement is “to unify and inspire all Americans to acquire a deep understanding of our unique heritage and to develop a lasting love for their country by embracing its North Star, America's founding principles.”

Surviving Spouse Corner **Financial Considerations for Spouses & Survivors** (by Pat Green, Nat'l MOAA)

You are never prepared for the loss of your spouse. This true emotionally, and sometimes financially. Even if you do all the work of setting legal instruments in place, often something is overlooked or neglected or some circumstance has changed the requires an update or adjustment.

To prepare, compile paperwork (especially DD Form 214 and Disability Claims) and determine your financial standing. Calculate the income of each spouse if the other dies. The reality might surprise you. Curtailing your lifestyle, downsizing, saving more, or buying insurance products are options that can avert financial chaos. Give these options serious thought.

Click [here](#) for full article.

MOAA Welcomes New Chaplains Chapter and Virtual Council

(by Blair Drake, Nat'l MOAA)

MOAA's newest virtual chapter brings together military chaplains to share resources and tools, support the association's mission, and advocate for issues pertinent to the community.

MOAA's board of directors approved in July the creation of the Chaplains Virtual Chapter, the association's fourth virtual chapter.

In addition to the military chaplains, non-clergy MOAA members serving as chaplains in their chapters can join, according to Col. Peter Baktis (Ret), president of the Chaplains Virtual Chapter.

"One of the goals is to help chaplains in MOAA chapters who aren't necessarily ordained people with providing spiritual guidance in their chapters," Baktis said. "We want to help provide the tools they need."

The chapter also aims to be a voice on legislative issues. "As chaplains, we also have specific legislative input that is important but doesn't always get heard," said Baktis, citing issues such as suicide and PTSD about which chaplains can provide a unique, personal perspective.

Click [here](#) for full article.

Now and Always We'll be There.



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Report Alleges Some VA Lenders Are Still Exploiting Troops, Veterans

(by Karen Jowers, originally appeared on Military Times)

Troops and veterans in some cases are being "grossly" overcharged for VA home loans, and federal regulators need to suspend or ban alleged bad actors and strengthen their oversight over lenders, according to a new report from the office of Rep. Katie Porter, D-Calif.

The report alleges the NewDay USA and The Federal Savings Bank "continue to aggressively market cash-out refinancings with fees and interest rates that could cost borrowers tens of thousands of dollars more over the life of the loan compared to other lenders."

"This report finds that grossly overpriced cash-out refinancings continue to scam veterans," Porter stated in an introduction to the report released Aug. 3.

Click [here](#) for full article.

Military History, Events and Commemorations

(by CAPT Roger Argalas, Chapter Historian)

If you know of an upcoming date that you would like to share, let me know. I can be reached at

roger.argalas@yahoo.com

September

National Service Dog Month

3 Sept: American Revolution ended (1783)

11 Sept: Patriot Day/National Day of Service and Remembrance

17 Sept: National POW/MIA Recognition Day

18 Sept: Happy Birthday US Air Force (1947)

26 Sept: Gold Star Mother's and Family's Day

October

13 Oct: Happy Birthday US Navy (1775)

26 Oct: National Day of the Deployed

9/11 Commemoration

A 20th anniversary commemoration of the 9/11 attacks will take place at Lunken Airport on Saturday, September 11. The event, "Operation Thank You, a 9/11 Commemoration" will have military static displays, aerial flyovers, information booths, and food trucks. Highlight of the day will be recognition of those killed in action during the war, with Taps being played at 11 AM, followed by a look to the future with an enlistment ceremony and recognition of ROTC cadets. Featured speaker is General Mike Murray, first commander of the Army's Futures Command. The gates open at 8:30 AM and the program will start at 10 AM. The event is free and open to all.

2021 CHAPTER DUES ARE DUE! Please pay now- IF you haven't done so.

If you receive the newsletter by mail, 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. If your number is (2019) 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). 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.

NEW - You can now renew your membership online. Go to <https://chapterdues.moaa.org/Membership.aspx>. There is no membership dues for Surviving Spouses.

Chapter Membership Renewal

Name: _____ Rank: _____
Your email address please: _____

Member _____ \$28 for three years _____ \$19 for two years _____ \$10.00 for one year
Surviving Spouse (surviving spouse of a deceased officer) _____ No Cost

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

MEMBER LIFE MEMBERSHIP FEES (Chapter Only)

(Fee is based on your age, nearest birthday)

Age up to 55	\$161.25
Age 56 to 70	\$127.50
Age 71 to 89	\$ 93.75
Age 90 and over	Waive

Make check payable to: Greater Cincinnati Chapter / MOAA

Mail Renewal form and check to:

LTC Dan Shea, 5736 Woodsway Dr., Cincinnati, OH 45236

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

WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

CPT Lawrence Lynch, USAR
Capt Shaun Meadows, USAFR
LCDR Stephen Murphy, USNR
Maj Brad Gallup, USAF

CDR William Fuson, USNR
COL Raymond Gaier, USA
CPT Casey Tannreuther, USAR
CAPT Richard Sawyer, USN

LTJG John Wilson, USNR
Maj Charles McCarney, USAF
LCDR Richard White, USN

Ohio Department of Veterans Services - Share Your Views to Help Transitioning Veterans

(Veterans Workforce Team)

Dear Veterans,

In our quest to find the best possible career opportunities for Ohio's transitioning veterans, the Ohio Department of Veterans Services, most notably the Veterans Workforce Team, is working with the Ohio Manufacturers' Association on a survey designed to gauge what veterans think about careers in manufacturing.

We welcome your input and encourage you to take the time to participate in a survey composed by the Ohio Manufacturers' Association. The survey should take no more than 15 minutes to complete and will provide insights that may help us connect veterans with career opportunities in Ohio.

Go to the survey: https://survey.col.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_7VbbNz2A6Rp7RZQ?Respondent=ODVS

[Learn more about our Veterans Workforce Team](#) and see a video featuring a student veteran who has launched his career into manufacturing.

Chapter Happy Hour

(by Daniel Shea, Membership Chair)

One of the stated purposes of our Chapter is to foster fraternal relations among retired, active and former officers of the uniformed services. To that end, we are planning to host a convivial gathering of all current, new and prospective members in the Greater Cincinnati Chapter area on 22 September.

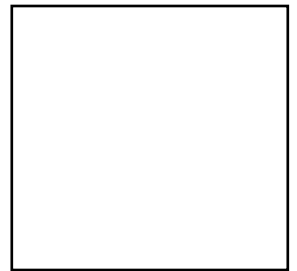
The venue for this Happy Hour event will be Hoppin' Vines, 8150 Montgomery Road (45236). This popular bar and eatery is located just east of the Kenwood Towne Center and was recently named the "Best Bar in Cincinnati" by Cincy Beat Magazine. It features a wide array of local craft beers, fine wines, top-drawer spirits and good bar food. It also offers duckpin bowling which provides all the fun of traditional bowling without the smelly, rented bowling shoes. There will be a nice spread of hors d'oeuvres and refreshments; and, at some point, we'll present a short overview of our Chapter's mission, makeup and activities. As already noted, however, the evening will be devoted primarily to fostering fraternity and camaraderie among Officers of the Uniformed Services. Hope to see you on there!

If you have any questions, please contact LTC Dan Shea at either 513-254-9336 or dshea@cinci.rr.com



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

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