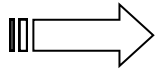


CINCINNATI MILITARY OFFICERS

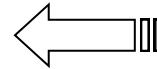
VOL 46 No. 5
September 2019

NEWS

GREATER CINCINNATI CHAPTER MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA



Renew your dues – please see page 5!



MOAA Ohio Council of Chapters 2019 State Convention

Guest Speakers: CAPT Erin Stone, Congressman Brad Wenstrup, & LtGen Atkins and more.

**WHERE: Quality Hotel Conference Center
5901 Pfeiffer Rd., Blue Ash, OH**

WHEN: Friday, 20 Sep 2019 - Sunday, 22 Sep 2019



MOAA Ohio Council of Chapters 2019 Convention “Continuing to Serve”



All. You are running out of time to register for the 2019 Convention. As an extra incentive, we will be providing each attendee with a Beer Stein in honor of Oktoberfest as well as a gift bag with donated items from our many sponsors.

It promises to be an exciting weekend, starting off with a social at the hotel on Friday the 20th from 6-9 pm to allow everyone to get settled in and meet their fellow MOAA members from around Ohio. The convention starts in earnest on Saturday morning with our opening ceremonies starting at 0830. At 0900 we will begin with our morning speakers with our focus being on “Continuing to Serve”. Those speakers will include CAPT Erin Stone, USN (ret), MOAA’s Program Director of Council and Chapter Affairs and Transition Services, Tracy Butts from the Cincinnati VA hospital Volunteer services, speakers from the Ohio State University and Xavier University Veterans offices and Caroline Bier from the Butler County Veterans Service Commission. Our invited lunch speaker is Congressman Brad Wenstrup from Ohio’s Second Congressional District who serves on the House Armed Services and Veterans Affairs committees and who is also an Army Reserve officer and an Iraqi War veteran. Finally, our dinner speaker will be LtGen Dana Atkins, USAF (ret) the president and CEO of MOAA. For those of you who were at the 2017 convention, you will remember LtGen Atkins as a personable and inspiring speaker. On Sunday morning, we will conclude the convention with the quarterly Ohio Council of Chapters meeting.

The cost for this year’s convention is \$65 for MOAA members and \$60 for spouses. You can register by either completing and mailing in the registration form included in this newsletter or by clicking on this [link](#) to register online.

In addition to the convention, for anyone looking to spend an extra day or two in Cincinnati, Cincinnati’s annual Oktoberfest celebration is being held that weekend and the Cincinnati Reds will be home at Great American Ballpark on Sunday versus the New York Mets. Continue to watch both the council homepage (<http://www.ohiomoa.org/index.htm>) and the Cincinnati MOAA homepage (<http://www.cincymoa.org/>) for updates.

2019 CHAPTER OFFICERS AND BOARD

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

Executive Committee

President	CAPT Steve Drefahl, USN	752-4097
Immed PP	LTC Al Brauer, USA	677-8320
1st VP	CAPT Mike Glaser, USN	280-6256
2nd VP	CAPT Rex Settlemoir, USN	598-9549
Secretary	CAPT Roger Argalas, USCG	759-6267
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	Vacant	

Committees

Programs	CAPT Brent Ramsey, USN	828 734-1146
Membership	CAPT Mike Glaser, USN	280-6256
R.O.T.C.	LTC Al Brauer, USA	677-8320
Reserve/NG	CAPT Steve Drefahl, USN	752-4097
Historian	Vacant	
Sympathy/	CAPT Roger Argalas, USCG	759-6267
Personal Affairs		
TOPS	LtCol Brad Hamant, USAF	439-3140
CinMoaaNews/	CWO3 Kym Mader, USN	759-0852
Public Affairs		

Service Representatives

Army	COL Robert Greene, USA	859 689-4321
Navy	CAPT Rex Settlemoir, USN	598-9549
Coast Guard	CAPT Roger Argalas, USCG	759-6267
USPHS	CAPT Bill Heitbrink, PHS	347-3193
Air Force	Lt Col Brad Hamant, USAF	439-3140
Marine Corps	CAPT Rex Settlemoir, USN	598-9549

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 it's 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.

CPT Earl McBrayer, USAR, Ret
CAPT Clyde Middleton, USN, Ret
Maj Ike Mincy, USAF, Ret

2019 MEETINGS - Mark your Calendars NOW! Watch www.cincvmoaa.org for updates.

Board Meetings

2nd Friday of each month, 1200 - American Red Cross Building*

2111 Dana Ave., Cincinnati, OH

Conference Call in is available. Contact a board member for more details.

Spouses and guests are welcome at all meetings.

(* Board meetings falling on the month of a member meeting are held the Friday after the member meeting)

**Now and Always
We'll be There.**



1-800-247-2192 • www.moaainsurance.com

2019 Membership Meetings / Convention / 4th Annual Dining Out

- **Ohio Council Convention** - Sept 20 -22, Quality Hotel, Blue Ash
- **Dining Out** - Saturday, November 2, 1800, Highland Country Club, Ft. Thomas KY
- **Membership Meeting** - Friday, Dec 13, 1200, Manor House Restaurant

For MOAA National information, Click on the links below:

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

Nearly 70 Senators Call for Full Repeal of Widows Tax in New Letter

(By: Amanda Dolasinski, Staff Writer)

Nearly 70 senators have made a passionate plea to repeal the “widows tax,” the unfair law that forces surviving military spouses to forfeit part or all of their Survivor Benefit Plan when they begin to receive the VA’s Dependency and Indemnity Compensation.

Sens. Doug Jones, D-Ala. and Susan Collins, Rep-Maine, have led efforts to pass the Military Surviving Spouses Equity Act of 2019. Now they are joined by senators from both parties, asking that the final National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal 2020 includes a provision for full repeal of the widows tax, also known as the SBP-DIC offset.

Click [here](#) for full article.

DoD, VA Continue Rollout of Electronic Health Record Systems

(By: Amanda Dolasinski, Staff Writer)

Implementation of electronic health record systems for the Defense Department and the VA has progressed as part of the larger effort to standardize records across both agencies.

Defense health experts announced the DoD’s record system will expand from the Pacific Northwest to California and Idaho by the end of next summer. The electronic health care records should be implemented at each military facility in waves over the next few years.

Click [here](#) for full article.

MOAA President Meets With New Top Pentagon Health Official

(By: CAPT Kathryn M Beasley, USN (Ret), Director of Government Relations, Health Affairs)

While MOAA council and chapter members have been supporting the Summer Storm Initiative by visiting legislators in their home states, MOAA national has been meeting with DoD leaders.

The Defense Health Agency and the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences have a newly confirmed leader. Thomas McCaffery was sworn in July 12 as assistant secretary of Defense for health affairs, making him Secretary of Defense Mark Esper’s eyes and ears of military health and MOAA’s chief ally in preserving military health care benefits for servicemembers, retirees, and their families.

On the day he was sworn in, MOAA President and CEO Lt. Gen. Dana Atkins, USAF (Ret), met with McCaffery at his Pentagon office to discuss MOAA’s primary concerns associated with DoD’s proposed reductions in military medical billets.

MOAA has made protecting military medicine from planned-but-unexplained manpower cuts one of its top issues during this year’s Summer Storm.

Click [here](#) for full article.

Surviving Spouse/Spouses Corner

The Ohio MOAA Convention is just around the corner. I would like to encourage Member Spouses and Surviving Spouses to attend. It is such a great opportunity to see old friends and make new ones. I know I will be attending. All the chapters attending the Convention were asked to Bring a basket for the raffle. We could use donations. Also if you want You can volunteer some of your time.

For donations for the basket, gift cards are always welcome or whatever you may like to give. Give me a call and I can pick up items or call me if you can volunteer.

A new pin is available to you SSpouses: Vietnam War Commemoration Surviving Spouse Pin and a Certificate of Honor. They are free. I will have to place an order for you if you would like one.

Once again we are being asked to contact Senator Rob Portman asking him to please support Section 630 Of the National Defense Authorization Act Section 630 which repeals what is commonly referred to as the Widows Tax. There are 75 Senate co-sponsors and with his vote yes we go to 76. The house has 375 co-sponsors at this time. Surviving Spouses need your support.

Senator Rob Portman can be reached at 202-224-3353.

Thank you for any basket donations And volunteer time.

Diane Lochocki,
Surviving Spouse/ Spouse Liaison
513-560-0540

Coast Guard Fitness Standards Unfair to Women? Findings Trigger New Pilot Program

(By: Amanda Dolasinski, Staff Writer)

The Coast Guard is revamping its body composition standards - which have disproportionately placed women on probation for failing to meet weight standards at rates three times higher than men.

In a pilot program that will begin Oct.1, servicemembers who fail weigh-ins will have more chances to prove they’re fit, including a physical fitness test and a new abdominal circumference test. The changes are among several recommendations made in recent RAND study examining women’s retention in the Coast Guard.

Click [here](#) for full article.

Ohio National Guard Family Readiness and Warrior Support Program

A Note from the Director ... “Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day; teach a man to fish and he’ll eat forever”

Our Family Readiness and Warrior Support programs are designed to teach Ohio’s Service Members and Families to be “good fisherman” — knowledgeable, aware of resources, adaptable, and networked to succeed and grow from the experiences unique to military culture.

Click [here](#) for full article.

TOPS Update

(by LtCol Brad Hamant, TOPS Officer)

The Officer Placement Service (TOPS) is a MOAA resource for transitioning officers. Though at the local level, we're happy to help any Veteran! [National](#) has lots of materials to read, link, and read some more, but by its very nature, transition is a personal and local journey. That's where we come in.

There are three types of helpful transition assistance that many of us have the skills and connections to provide: I know the area (location), I know how it is (coaching), and I know a guy (networking). Which are you good at? Probably more than one. I hear from relocating Veterans from time to time through my various contacts, and would love to put one in touch with you. Drop me a line!

Brad Hamant
bradhamant@gmail.com
513-439-3140

Deactivating? Learn About Your TRICARE Coverage Options as a National Guard or Reserve Member

(By: TRICARE)

You deactivate once you're no longer on active duty as a National Guard or Reserve member. Deactivating is a TRICARE Qualifying Life Event. This means you have 90 days after your activation date to change your health plan. You and your family may be able to continue TRICARE coverage while you transition out of active duty service. Your coverage options will depend on if your time on active duty was for a preplanned mission or in support of a contingency operation.

Click [here](#) for full article.

Are You 'Wealthy'?

Depends on how you define it...

(by CAPT Roger Argalas, Sympathy/Personal Affairs Committee)

Recently I read an article on the Yahoo website that asked me if I was rich. My first thought was about the balance in my bank account and the monthly bills I owe. But now I believe it depends more on how you define 'wealthy'. See if you agree by answering these questions:

Do you...

- 1) have enough to pay your bills each month (mortgage, utilities, food, etc.)?
- 2) have enough put aside to cover an unexpected expense such as a roof repair, a new furnace, a major car repair?
- 3) have the money to help out a family member in an emergency?
- 4) share your resources with others such as charities, your house of worship, etc.?
- 5) belong to a charitable or patriotic organization that encourages your participation?
- 6) find that you are comfortable talking with others, even new acquaintances? And have you made any new relationships/friendships this year?
- 7) have a spouse, partner, or good friend that you can talk with about almost anything?
- 8) consider yourself in pretty good health?
- 9) have a positive outlook on life?
- 10) have family and friends who genuinely care about you?

If you answered yes to most or all of these questions, then you, my friend, have 'wealth' beyond measure.

Or as one reader of the Yahoo article replied: "I am happy, healthy, have a loving family, a good job, and a nice home. I AM wealthy!"

DINING OUT - REGISTER NOW

Prospective guest of honor and speaker will be US Congressman Warren Davidson, of the 8th Ohio District.

DINING OUT RESERVATION: Saturday, 2 November 2019—Highland Country Club, 931 Alexandria Pike —Ft. Thomas, KY.

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

Menu: (Glass of Port for toasting, garden salad, glass of wine with dinner, prime rib of beef, green beans, whipped Yukon Gold potatoes)

Cost: Members & Spouses _____ @ \$37.00pp
 Cadets _____ @ \$25.00pp

Would you like to sponsor a ROTC/JROTC Cadet or Midshipman? _____ @ \$25.00pp
(Circle if you have a preference)

Total Reservations: _____ = 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 30 October. No cancellations after that date. Go to our [Calendar](#) page on our website and look for the event to pay by paypal.

Military Officers Association of America
Ohio Council of Chapters
Biennial State Convention 20-22 September 2019
“Never Stop Serving”
Quality Hotel Blue Ash
5901 Pfeiffer Road, Cincinnati, OH 45242

Registration Form -> **Return NLT 30 August 2019** <-

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Rank: _____ Branch: _____

Retired/Former/Active

Surviving Spouse/Guest Name: _____

Primary Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Chapter: _____

Member Full Convention: Friday evening: Meet and Greet, heavy hors d'oeuvres (cash bar);

Saturday: Meeting Breaks, Luncheon, and Banquet

@ \$65 per person = \$ _____

- Luncheon ONLY @ \$28 per person = \$ _____
- Saturday Banquet ONLY _____ @ \$40 per person = \$ _____

Spouse/Guest Full Convention @ \$60 per person = \$ _____

MOAA National Member (Non-Chapter member) @ \$75 per person = \$ _____

- Luncheon ONLY @ \$30 per person = \$ _____
- Saturday Banquet ONLY _____ @ \$45 per person = \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

Banquet Meal Choices (Saturday Night):

Chicken Parmigiana # _____

Shrimp Alfredo # _____

Vegetarian Lasagna # _____

Make check payable to: Greater Cincinnati MOAA and mail to:

MOAA State Convention

c/o Mike Glaser

6788 Brookville Road

Oxford, OH 45056

Or see: Event Bright Link at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/moaa-ohio-council-of-chapters-state-2019-convention-tickets-60541807175?aff=ebdshpsearchautocomplete>

Lodging: Quality Hotel, Blue Ash, OH. The hotel is directly off the I-71 at the Pfeiffer Rd exit, just north of Cincinnati. Room rate is \$89 per night, plus tax. This rate will be honored Thursday through Sunday (departing on Monday) for anyone wishing to spend some time visiting Cincinnati and includes breakfast for those staying at the Hotel. The link for room reservations is open now at:

<https://www.choicehotels.com/reservations/groups/NK48T0>

Schedule

Friday 20 September

- 1500-2000 Registration (**Hotel Lobby**)
1800-2100 Meet and Greet sponsored by Paul Conrad, et al (**Blue Ash room**)

Saturday 21 September

- 0700-0815 Breakfast (**Common Area** next to the indoor pool)
0700-0900 Registration (**Blue Ash room**)
0830-0900 Opening Ceremony (**Ball Room**) (Dress- Business Casual)
0830 – Color Guard/ Pledge of Allegiance
0835 – Benediction
0840- Mayor of Blue Ash – Welcome Proclamation
0845- Councilman David Mann of Cincinnati/Pinning Ceremony
0855- Welcome –Steve Drefahl/ Open – Rod Hosler
0930-1215 Spouses Tour of Cincinnati (Leaves from hotel lobby)

All morning speakers will be in the Blue Ash Room

- 0900-0950 MOAA Legislative Plans and Chapter Management (Erin Stone- confirmed)
0950-1000 Break
1000-1045 Ohio County Veterans Programs (Caroline Dineen, Director – Butler County Veterans Service Commission-confirmed)
1045-1130 University Veterans Programs (Michael Forrest – Ohio State/Paul Fellingner Jr. – Xavier University- confirmed)
1130-1145 Break
1145-1230 VA Volunteer Program (Tracy Butts- Cincinnati VA Volunteer Services- confirmed)

Lunch will be held in the Ball Room

- 1230-1400 Lunch sponsored by Home City Ice (speaker – Rep Brad Wenstrup- invited)
Split the Pot Raffle to support the USS CINCINNATI (LCS-20) Commissioning
1415-1730 Afternoon Optional Activity or free time

Dinner will be held in the Ball Room

- 1800-1830 Social – Cash Bar
Pictures of the MOAA Five Star Council and Chapter Award Winners in the Ball Room
1830-2100 Dinner (Dress- Business attire)
 - National Anthem...Vanessa Mosley, American Red Cross (confirmed)
 - Speaker confirmed, LtGen Dana Atkins –(confirmed)
 - Vietnam War Commemoration Presentation
 - MOAA Five Star Council and Chapter Awards Presentation
 - Gift Basket Raffle Results Posted

Sunday 22 September

0730-0900 Breakfast

0900-1100 Ohio Council of Chapters Meeting

Business Casual – The best definition that I have found is: wear something that gives a professional impression to our fellow MOAA members, speakers and guests. The particulars are up to the individual.

Business – A jacket and tie is recommended.

2019 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 (2018) 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 <http://www.moaa.org/Content/Chapters-and-Councils/Chapters-and-Councils.aspx#Chapter-Dues>. 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 Paul Fellingner, 5493 Delhi Rd., Cincinnati, OH 45238-5139

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

WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

USS Cincinnati to be Commissioned Fall 2019

(By: Aubrey Page, USS Cincinnati Commissioning Committee)

The USS Cincinnati Commissioning Foundation continues to press on towards the upcoming commissioning of the Queen City's namesake ship. The Navy recently announced the commissioning date of October 5th in Gulfport, MS.

The Commissioning committee is looking for people to reserve tickets today so that they can plan for the events surrounding the commissioning. Tickets can be reserved on their [website](#).

Additionally, they are looking to raise money in support of their educational scholarship for the crew and their families. Donors can receive different levels of gifts such as coins, prints, ball caps, and invitations to special events.

Sign up for their email updates on their [website](#) to track exciting updates leading up to the commissioning.

New State Budget is Beneficial to Ohio Veterans

The budget - which was approved with bipartisan support by both the Ohio House of Representatives and the Ohio Senate - also positively impacts Ohio's veteran's especially those who reside in the Ohio Veterans Homes in Sandusky and Georgetown. Both Homes are operated by the Ohio Department of Veterans Services (ODVS). Click [here](#) to read the entire message.

TOPS Update

(by LtCol Brad Hamant, TOPS Officer)

The Officer Placement Service (TOPS) is a MOAA resource for transitioning officers. Though at the local level, we're happy to help any Veteran! National has lots of materials to read, link, and read some more, but by its very nature transition is a personal and local journey. That's where we come in.

There are three types of helpful transition assistance that many of us have the skills and connections to provide: I know the area (location), I know how it is

Legislative Affairs

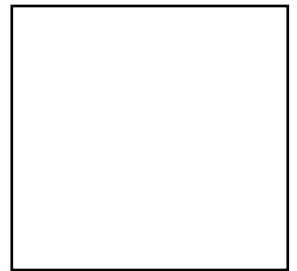
(by BG Tom O'Brien, Legislative Officer)

Several proposed pieces of legislation are pending in the Ohio legislature. Most apply to our active duty colleagues and deserve our support. HB 16 grants resident status for State colleges to active duty military and dependants. SB 7 would grant Ohio medical licenses to active duty personnel licensed in other states. HB 133 would grant temporary occupational licenses to active duty personnel and dependants licensed in other states. HB 193 and SB 125 expand 529 education plans. HB 18 would exempt vets disability severance pay from state income tax - armed forces only. Don't forget to contact your US Representatives and Senators and ask that there be no pay or benefit cuts, no increase in Tricare fees, end the "widows tax" and full concurrent receipt for military retirees.



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