

About us ...

Formed in 1968, our members hail from the greater Lehigh Valley area in mid-eastern Pennsylvania. Dinner meetings are held at various local restaurants on the third Thursday of March, May, September and November. Our July meeting is a social outing and is usually held on the third Thursday, based on the venue. Our chapter's executive committee (board) meets on the second Thursday of January, March, May, July, September and November. Our chapter currently has 80-plus members made up of currently serving, former, and retired officers and their survivors from all the armed services, including the National Guard and Reserve.

What is our mission?

Our chapter's mission is to actively participate in events and support programs including legislative initiatives that benefit and protect our men and men in uniform including those who served previously. This includes mentoring ROTC and JROTC cadets, donating funds to their programs, collecting goods for overseas shipment to deployed troops, supporting the Marines' Toys for Tots program and providing monetary stipends to military and veteran related causes and events.

Who are our leaders?

President

LTC Randy Brown, USA-Ret.

1st Vice President

LTC Erik Walker, USA-Ret.

2nd Vice President

CAPT Steve Kaja, USN-Ret.

Secretary

LtCol Len Kesselring, USAF-Ret.

Treasurer

LCDR Bob Frederick, USN-Ret.

Immediate Past President

CAPT Pat Denny, USN-Ret.

Chairman, Awards Committee

LTC Erik Walker, USA-Ret.

Chairman, Legislative Committee

Vacant

Chairman, Membership Committee

CAPT Steve Kaja, USN-Ret

Chairwoman, Personal Affairs Committee

Susan Harris

Chairwoman, Chapter Auxiliary

Susan Harris

Chaplain

Suzanne Frederick

At-Large Board Members

COL Bill Harris, USA-Ret.

Lt Col Ian Wallace, USMC-Ret.



What do we do?

Our dinner meetings feature guest speakers and have included elected officials, veterans office administrators, law enforcement officials and representatives from national headquarters.

At our May meeting cash awards are presented to the programs at Lehigh University Army ROTC, William Allen High School Navy Junior ROTC, Dieruff High School Air Force Junior ROTC, Wilson High School Army JROTC and Panther Valley High School Army Junior ROTC.

Our chapter also provides MOAA medals to top cadets and second lieutenant bars to newly commissioned officers through the Lehigh University Army ROTC program.

At our November meeting chapter members donate gifts for the Marine Reserve's Toys for Tots program. We also send thank you cards and other needed items to troops serving in overseas combat zones.



Our legislative goals

Our chapter, working with the state Council of Chapters, was successful in adding MOAA to the State Veterans Commission, which is the primary advisory board on veterans' issues to the State Adjutant General and governor. We are also in favor of creating a separate state department for veterans affairs. We have an active Legislative Affairs Committee which promotes various bills in the state house and senate and meets with various veterans organizations to coordinate support for statewide legislative initiatives.

Who can join ...

Chapter membership is open to anyone who has served as a commissioned officer or warrant officer in any component of the Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, Space Force, Coast Guard, U.S. Public Health Service or National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, including surviving spouses. Dues are free for the first year and \$25 annually thereafter. Our chapter also has honorary members, who are immediate family members of any Lehigh Valley officer or warrant officer who dies from combat related injuries. For further information please contact CAPT Steve Kaja, (309) 368-6423; swkaja@aol.

MOAA's national effort

MOAA's mission is to foster fraternal relations among retired, active, reserve, 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, and to serve our community and the nation.

MOAA accomplishes this by lobbying Congress on legislation affecting the career force, the retired community and veterans of the uniformed services. As a tax-exempt veterans organization it advocates issues but cannot by law support any political party or the election or defeat of any political candidate. MOAA has more than 350,000 members worldwide representing the five armed services, the U.S. Public Health Service and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. It is the nation's fifth largest veterans organization.

National dues are free for the first year for all active officers and warrant officers, including those serving in the Guard and Reserve. For other membership packages available, please go to the MOAA web site, <http://www.moaa.org/> or contact them at msc@moaa.org; (800) 234-6622; (703) 549-2311.

Military Officers Association of America

'Your Officers Club in the Lehigh Valley'



MOAA™

Lehigh Valley Chapter

A federally registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and officially recognized Pennsylvania non-profit organization.

www.lehighvalleymoaa.org