

## About us ...

In our 50th year, 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 April, June, September and November. No meeting is held in January or February due to the possibility of inclement weather. Our July/August meeting is a social outing and is held at Coca-Cola Park to watch the Iron Pigs AAA baseball team play. Our chapter's executive committee (board) meets four/five times a year, either virtual or in person. Our chapter currently has 90-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 promote the purposes and objectives of the Military Officers Association of America; 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 the community and the nation.

## Who are our leaders?

President  
LTC Erik Walker, USA-Ret.  
1st Vice President  
LTC Ian Wallace, USMC-Ret.  
2nd Vice President  
CAPT Pat Denny, USN-Ret.  
Secretary  
Lt. Col. Len Kesselring, USAF-Ret.  
Treasurer  
LCDR Bob Frederick, USN-Ret.  
Immediate Past President  
LTC Randy Brown, USA-Ret.  
Chairman, Legislative Committee  
LTC Ian Wallace, USMC-Ret.  
Chairman, Membership Committee  
CAPT Steve Kaja, USN-Ret.  
Chairwoman, Chapter Auxiliary  
Susan Harris  
Chaplain  
Suzanne Frederick  
At-Large Board Members  
COL Bill Harris, USA-Ret., CAPT  
Steve Kaja, USN-Ret., CDR Sandra  
Thomas, USNR,  
CDR Brad Eckhart, USN-Ret., MAJ.  
Stanley Vasiliadis, USA-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 April meeting, cash awards are presented to the programs at Lehigh University Army ROTC, William Allen High School Navy Junior ROTC, Di-eruff 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 throughout the world.

## 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 holds or has ever held a commission or warrant in any component of the Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, U.S. Public Health Service or National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and their surviving spouses. Dues are free for the first year and \$25 annually thereafter. Our chapter also has associate members, who are surviving spouses of all members, plus widows and widowers of any deceased individuals who would, if living, be eligible for membership; and 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 CPT Steve Kaja, USN-Ret. (610) 398-7588; [swkaja@aol.com](mailto:swkaja@aol.com).

## 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 veteran's 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](mailto:msc@moaa.org); (800) 234-6622; (703) 549-2311.

# Military Officers Association of America (MOAA)

*Your Officers Club in the Lehigh Valley*



## Lehigh Valley Chapter

<http://www.lehighvalleymoaa.org>