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***SPRING 2014 NEWSLETTER***

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**Report on April membership dinner meeting.**

**OUTCOMES OF MARYLAND LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

**LIEUTENANT COLONEL PAUL CARROLL, US ARMY, SPEAKS ABOUT ROTC**

**FIFTY YEARS AGO, OUR CHAPTER BEGINNINGS**

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**LTC Carroll on Value of ROTC Program & Cadets**



**LTC Paul Carroll speaks with enthusiasm about tax payer benefits of the quality Army ROTC cadets at Johns Hopkins U.**

**LTC Carroll, US Army, Commander Reserver Officer Training Corps Unit, Johns Hopkins University, receives F.S. Key bust in appreciation from CAPT DeHaemer, USN (Ret.). Star Spangled Banner Chapter Meeting at the "Still" Restaurant, Timonium, April 9, 2014.**

**LTC Paul Carroll's Presentation**

LTC Carroll commands the JHU Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC), which has just received the MacArthur Award for 2012-2013. The award recognizes the JHU unit as the best in comparison with the 38 ROTC units in the region, based on achievement of the unit's mission, cadets' performance and standing on the Army Cadet Command's national order of merit list.

LTC Carroll began his presentation by reminding us that ROTC cadets are all future members of MOAA.

ROTC is one of three sources for commissioning officers, with OCS and the service academies as the other sources. Johns Hopkins University cadets have chosen majors mostly in the STEM subjects---science, technology, engineering and math. About 80 percent of the cadets are on full scholarship. LTC Carroll estimated that the full cost of the ROTC scholarship at JHU might be valued in excess of \$200,000. Despite the cost he was convinced that the value to the U.S. taxpayer to acquire these quality individuals into the officer corps is worth the expense. He reviewed the qualities of the JHU cadets, emphasizing foremost that they are patriots---devoted to our country. And further that they are self-starters, very mature upon graduation and commissioning, and are prepared to lead---to lead by example, and prepared to be team builders. We may be very positive for the future of our military in their hands.

With the appreciation of the Chapter, CAPT DeHaemer presented LTC Carroll with a miniature bust of Francis Scott Key.

#### **April 9 Meeting at An Poitin Stil Restaurant**

Exploring a new restaurant venue, the Chapter met at the “Still”, Irish pub themed restaurant, 2323 York Road, Timonium. 35 members and guests attended—one guest from Italy.

After introduction of guests and new members, officers and chairs gave reports.

- CPT Russ Allen, Treasurer, reported \$2200 in the bank and most members had paid dues for 2014.
- COL Tom Seybold and CAPT Bud Wanner reported on ROTC and legislative affairs. See reports later in *Newsletter*.
- CAPT DeHaemer noted that the Chapter received a bonus check of \$1200 from MOAA National for recruiting 20 new members, the highest number for a chapter of our size. He urged all to recruit members in this new recruiting year to gain another 20.
- CAPT DeHaemer reported the successful start of our website StarSpan.org with great credit due to LT George Wright, USN (Ret.)
- Finally CAPT DeHaemer reminded the membership of Chapter Officer and Board elections in November and encouraged nominations and volunteers.



Treasurer CPT Russ Allen with Giuliana Allen and family guest from Italy.



Webmaster LT George Wright, USN (Ret.) with LT Patricia Wright, USN.

**MORE PHOTOS of April Meeting** are at the end of the electronic version of this newsletter, found also at [StarSpan.org](http://StarSpan.org)

## CHAPTER EVENT CALENDAR

*Please note change: September meeting date changed to September 23.*

**SEPT. 23, 2014**  
**Tuesday, 6 p.m.**

**Dinner meeting at Canton Dockside Restaurant, 3301 Boston Street, Baltimore, MD 21224.** MOAA National speaker invited to present the Chapters Certificate for Fiftieth Anniversary. Please save the date. More details in next newsletter.



**NOV. 18, 2014**  
**Tuesday, 6 p.m.**

**Star Spangled Banner Chapter's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Banquet.** Guest of honor and speaker will be Lt. Gen. H Steven Blum, USA (Ret.), former Chief of the National Guard Bureau, President of the Maryland Military History Museum.

**ROTC REPORT: COL Tom Seybold, USA (Ret.), ROTC Liaison, 410 561-5377, tkseybold@hotmail.com**



16 Second Lieutenants from Towson University, smiling new members of MOAA with their upgraded gold bullion shoulder boards.



Our Chapter has submitted 40 applications to MOAA National for the free one year memberships for the new 2nd Lieutenants just commissioned from the three umbrella universities---Loyola University (includes Towson University), Johns Hopkins University, and McDaniel College. Our Chapter supplements the Gold Bar Program with gift certificates for gold bullion shoulder boards. Our program has been quite successful at gaining initial basic membership from the newly commissioned

officers. Hopefully this significant gift will encourage them to become long term members of MOAA.

You can see more ROTC cadet activities at the [starspan.org](http://starspan.org) website by clicking on ROTC UPDATE and then clicking on the university link.

### HIGH SCHOOL JUNIOR ROTC PROGRAMS



Chapter representatives presented MOAA medals and certificates to JROTC cadets at award ceremonies at four area high schools---Navy JROTC at Woodlawn High School, Navy JROTC at Randallstown High School, Marine Corps JROTC at Milford Mill Academy, and Air Force JROTC at Kenwood High School.

Photo: COL Seybold, USA (Ret.) presents Exceptional Potential for Military Leadership Award to Cadet Deborah Ogan of Milford Mill Academy Marine Corps JROTC.

### LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS REPORT: CAPT Bud Wanner, USPHS (Ret.) Liaison, nanbud65@aol.com

#### STATE LEGISLATURE SAYS NO TO VETERANS

Excerpted from report of Gail Murdock, Chairman, American Legion Department of Maryland, with permission.  
Note: LTC Jack Fringer, USAF (Ret.) and MAJ John Whitman, Maryland MOAA Council President very ably testified at a number of hearings and up to seven members of the Star Spangled Banner Chapter attended these hearings.

#### In-state Tuition for dependents

“When the 2014 legislative session started in Annapolis, the veteran service organizations had high hopes for a few bills to be passed to benefit the veterans of Maryland. After all, this is an election year, with 45 delegates not running for re-election and seven senators scheduled to retire at the end of this session. Also perceived as another plus was the fact that Lt. Gov. Anthony Brown (D) had stated that he supported an increase in state tax exemption on military retirement pay.

“Nothing went the way we thought it would, as all the bills died in committee.

“The top prize for not supporting active duty military and veteran’s dependent’s goes to the Senate Education, Health & Environmental Affairs Committee.

“Sen. Nancy Jacobs (R-Cecil, Hartford) sponsored a bill that would have given in-state tuition to those dependents of active-duty and retired military residing in Maryland. The committee took no action on this bill.

“She also introduced a bill that would have given in-state tuition to those dependents of active-duty and retired military, no matter where the veteran resides. The committee gave this an unfavorable report.

“We felt that since two years ago the state granted in-state tuition to illegal immigrants, it would be no problem getting these bills passed.

#### State Income Tax Relief for Military Retirement Pay


“The Senate Budget & Taxation Committee had two bills to increase the deduction of military retirement income from \$5,000 to \$10,000.....Veteran service organizations testified on both bills, but favored the one to apply to all veterans (*sic* not just to over 65 years old). The committee moved the bill with the age limit of 65 or older to the Senate floor, where it got a vote of 47-0 and then passed to the House Ways and Means Committee.

“The House Ways and Means Committee is another tough committee to get anything out of, and once again proved it. When the Senate bill was forwarded to the committee, it chose to take no action.

“.....

“All veterans need to get involved... Let you legislators know how you feel....Last but not least we all need to vote.” Gail Murdock, Mechanicsville.

**Maryland MOAA Council will continue to work these issues. Update in next newsletter.**

	<p><b>MOAA Travel **** Important Membership AND Chapter Benefit!</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Chapter received its first \$50 bonus from MOAA Travel. MOAA Travel will donate \$50 to our chapter for each cruise ordered by a chapter member. Just identify the chapter to MOAA Travel.</li><li>• Members will receive additional discounts beyond the cruise brochures...at least \$50 in discounts.</li><li>• If you have ordered a cruise from MOAA Travel in the last year, let me know. We can get a chapter bonus retroactively. Mike DeH</li></ul>
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**FIFTY YEARS AGO \*\*\*Early history of the Star Spangled Banner Chapter**

We thank chapter member MAJ Dick Martiny, USA, for researching documents in many file drawers to produce this history. Dick has just published *Military Beginnings: Early Development of American and Maryland Forces*, which may be found on amazon.com.

Our chapter’s story begins in 1964. The original organizers first considered a large geographic area because there were no other retired military officer associations in the Maryland.

**Early Days: The Baltimore Chapter of the Retired Officers Association**

The Retired Officers Association (TROA), predecessor of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA), was founded in Los Angeles, California on February 23, 1929. The first leaders of the organization hoped that by joining together they could provide assistance and advice to other military officers from all branches of the uniformed services. With the commencement of WWII, TROA moved to Washington, DC and by 1944 had a membership of 2,600. TROA became MOAA on January 1, 2003, signaling its change in focus from retirement issues to the full spectrum of military life, active and retired.

Several times **during the summer of 1964** a small group of retired officers met at the home of BG Thomas B. Catron to discuss the possibility of organizing a local chapter of the Retired Officers Association. Lists of retired officers in the Baltimore area were obtained from TROA. As a result of these meetings, an organizational meeting was held on 21 October 1964 at the Ft. Meade Officers Open Mess, presided over by Col Eugene J. Blakely, Jr., AUS (ret). At the meeting the Greater Baltimore

Chapter of the Maryland Retired Officers Association (MROA) was established, covering the areas of Baltimore City, Baltimore County and Howard County. Of the 44 officers attending, 36 signed membership applications and became the Chapter's founding members.

WO Abraham Trattler, USCG (ret), for the Nominating Committee, presented a slate of Chapter Officers and Board of Directors, who were unanimously elected. They were:

#### Officers

President	BG Thomas B. Catron, II, USA (ret)
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	COL Eugene Blakely, Jr., AUS (ret)
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	LTC John D. Slaughter, USMC (ret)
Secretary	CDR Arden E. Baughman, USN (ret)
Asst. Secretary	MAJ Eva Katowski, ANC (ret)
Treasurer	COL Leroy Brundick, AUS (ret)

#### Board of Directors

COL Donald McGrayne, USA (ret)  
COL G. E. C. Garrett, USA (ret)  
COL Donald C. Foote, USA (ret)  
WO Abraham Trattler, USCG (ret)

The time and place of the next meeting was left at the call of the President.

**On October 30 1964** BG Catron held an organizational Board of Directors meeting at his home. Committees were appointed and instructed on their duties. This confirmed appointments he had made at the 21 October meeting. They included Col Raymond Egner, AUS (ret), Constitution and By Laws, and COL Lloyd E. Stegner, AUS (ret), Membership. COL Stegner remained in this position at least through 1974. At the 23 February 1965 meeting BG Catron announced additional Committee Chair appointments: LTC Bernard Kuder, AUS (ret), Resolutions; and MAJ Katowski, Health and Welfare. He also announced two additional appointments to the Board of Directors: 1<sup>st</sup> VP COL Blakely and 2<sup>nd</sup> VP LTC Slaughter.

**On 1 January 1965** the Chapter was granted a charter by the MROA. It was formally presented at a General Meeting and dinner at the Ft. Holabird Officers Club on 6 January 1965 by COL Alfred M. Fort, USA (ret), President of the MROA. Col Fort also formally installed the officers elected on 21 October. On 1 August 1965 a charter of affiliation was granted to the Greater Baltimore Chapter of TROA. The Certification of Charter was formally presented at the first annual membership meeting on 23 November 1965 by BG James A. Bonaville, Executive Vice President, TROA.

Changes continued in the Chapter's first year. On 27 April 1965 the geographical area was extended by the Board of Directors to include Harford and Cecil Counties. In June the President appointed an Executive Committee to facilitate the work of the Board of Directors. The Committee would have the power and authority to exercise jurisdiction over all matters not involving changes in policy.

**On 14 March 1966** the Chapter was incorporated under the laws of Maryland as Greater Baltimore Chapter of the Maryland Retired Officers Association, Inc. Its Constitution and Bylaws indicated that its area was still Baltimore City and County and Howard County despite the Board's action to expand it in

April 1965. The Constitution stated that the Chapter's purpose "shall be to effectuate the preamble, purpose and principles of the national ...and Maryland [organizations] ... in Baltimore City, Baltimore County and Howard County and such other areas as may from time to time be granted it." Membership was to be "men or women who are or have been commissioned officers and warrant officers of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, Coast and Geodetic Survey, and Public Health Services, and of the reserve and other components of these services, as defined by TROA."

The purpose of the Maryland ROA, as outlined in 1968, was "To inculcate and stimulate love of our country and the flag; To defend the honor 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 cooperate fully with the various active services in the dissemination of information to the Public; To oppose any influence whatsoever calculated to weaken national Security; To aid active and retired personnel of the various services from which our members are drawn, their dependents and survivors, in every proper and legitimate way."

### **Comments on the Early Days**

As mentioned above, the Board of Directors in April 1965 had expanded the Chapter's area to include Harford and Cecil Counties. However, the Executive Committee, theoretically subordinate to the Board and including many of the same members, stated that the cost of soliciting members in the "distant counties" would be out of proportion to the probable increase in membership. Therefore, membership solicitation efforts would continue to be limited to Baltimore City and County and Howard County. However, a qualified person requesting membership from outside the area would be accepted. This speaks to several things; the relative lack of resources available to the Chapter at that time, limiting the scope of its endeavors; and the relative parochialism and Baltimore-centric views of its governing officers and Directors. At that time Harford and, especially, Cecil Counties were too rural and deemed too far away to have much impact on the powerful city. This despite the fact that Aberdeen Proving Grounds, with its potential strong recruiting area, was in Harford County. What's interesting is that Howard County, also very rural at that time, was included, and that there is no mention of Anne Arundel County the site of the Chapter's initial and most significant meetings in terms of organizing and becoming recognized at the state and national levels.

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**MOAA SCHOLARSHIP FUND DONATIONS** are fully deductible. We sent a modest amount of \$200 to the scholarship fund in 2013 from extra amounts members sent with dues and reservations to events. Our Board of Directors encourages further contributions through the chapter and we will show the opportunity with each of our submission forms this year. The chapter treasurer will issue receipts for tax purposes at the end of 2014. Send amounts anytime to our treasurer.

**ANNUAL CHAPTER DUES ARE \$15.00. Please make checks out to the Star Spangled Banner Chapter**  
**Please mail completed form below with check for 2014 Dues to:**

**MAJ Russell Allen, USA (Ret.)**  
**301 Warren Avenue, Apt 306**  
**Baltimore, MD 21230**

**Dues Submission for 2014 (\$15)**

**Name:** (last) \_\_\_\_\_ (first) \_\_\_\_\_ (middle or m.i.) \_\_\_\_\_

**Branch of Service** \_\_\_\_\_ **Rank** \_\_\_\_\_ **Spouse Name** \_\_\_\_\_

<input type="checkbox"/> Retired	<input type="checkbox"/> Active	<input type="checkbox"/> Former
<input type="checkbox"/> Reserve	<input type="checkbox"/> National Guard	<input type="checkbox"/> Auxiliary (surviving spouse)

**Address:** (street/apt no.) \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** (city) \_\_\_\_\_ (state) \_\_\_\_\_ (zip) \_\_\_\_\_

**Home Phone** \_\_\_\_\_ **Mobile** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email** \_\_\_\_\_

**STAR SPANGLED BANNER CHAPTER WEBSITE:** <http://starspan.org>



***The Star Spangled Banner Chapter***  
**Newsletter and Archives online:**  
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The STAR SPANGLED BANNER CHAPTER

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