



The Star Spangled Banner
Chapter



BALTIMORE

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SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER NEWSLETTER



NOVEMBER 18, ANNIVERSARY BANQUET *** RESERVE TODAY!!!

FIFTY YEARS AGO, OUR CHAPTER BEGINNINGS (Part 3)

YOUR ACTION REQUESTED: BOARD NOMINATIONS & SURVEY OF PROGRAM INTERESTS FOR 2015

CELEBRATE OUR FIFTIEH, NOVEMBER 18th *** A FIVE STAR EVENT**



- See announcement that accompanies the Newsletter
- Members and guests may look forward to a special evening--- LTG H Steven Blum, USA (Ret.) as guest speaker, the Milford Mill Academy MC JROTC Color Guard, and a terrific menu.
- A souvenir wine glass and wine for a toast are included in the cost of \$50 per person.
- Service dress is encouraged. **A uniform makes everyone look younger !!!!**

REPORT OF SEPTEMBER MEETING

Presidents Receive Fiftieth Anniversary Certificate from National MOAA



Shelley 2011 Coppinger 2005 COL Anderson DeHaemer 2013 Dooley 2009 Dann 2003

Thirty-six members and guests attended the Star Spangled Banner Chapter Meeting at Canton Dockside Restaurant on Boston Street in the Canton Section of Baltimore. President, Captain Mike DeHaemer, brought members up-to- date and announced that the chapter had won the Five Star Chapter

of Excellence Award for its efforts and activities in 2013. The chapter will receive a Five Star streamer for its flag to be presented at the National Awards Banquet of MOAA in Arlington on October 27, 2014. “Fifty years and five stars” sounds like a good motto. CAPT DeHaemer recounted the noteworthy achievements of the chapter: recruiting 21 new members, the highest number for a chapter of our size strong support for ROTC programs with gold bullion upgrades to shoulder boards for new 2nd lieutenants, strong participation in local legislative affairs, and a schedule of excellent meetings and events for the membership.

COL Brian Anderson, USAF (Ret.), Deputy Director, Council & Chapter Affairs of MOAA, was the guest speaker and presented a handsome, framed certificate that recognized the chapter’s fiftieth anniversary. COL Anderson passed congratulations from the Director, VADM Norb Ryan, and the staff of MOAA. He noted the importance of our efforts at recruitment, mentioning that MOAA had 380,000 members which give its spokes-persons a strong voice—a grass roots voice—among both the legislative and executive branches of the Federal Government. Since less than five percent of Congress has served in uniform, input from MOAA and its members is critical.

COL Anderson listed the greatest issues that MOAA was pursuing.

- The impression that personnel costs are out of line, when they are the same proportion of the military budget as has been the historical case, is a false claim by DoD.
- The President’s act of limiting COLA for the military on active duty and the push towards reducing commissary and other benefits reduces the purchasing power of those who serve and are fighting a war. These acts break promises made to the uniform services, are not proportional to cutbacks to the rest of the government work force, and will cause severe retention problems in the near future.
- MOAA sees benefits achieved in lobbying on behalf of veterans care with the newest budget for VA health care, and extension of GI bill benefits.
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See September Meeting Photo Gallery at the end of the email Newsletter or at StarSpan.org.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS	
LTC Annette Brown, USA (Ret.) CPT John Baesch, USA (Former) LtCol. Edward Herbert, III, USAF (Ret.) LT Trevor Prophet, USN CDR Michael Robles, USN	MAJ Glenn F. Williams, USA (Ret.) 1LT Maxine Canty, USA (Ret.)

CHAPTER EVENT CALENDAR		
November 18, 2014 Tuesday, 6 p.m.	FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY BANQUET AND MEMBERSHIP MEETING AT BLUE STONE RESTAURANT, TIMONIUM. SEE ANNOUNCEMENT. MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS !!!	
February, 2015 Planning in progress.	Winter Lunch Meeting with Guest Speaker More in December Issue	

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

Maryland MOAA Council Hosts Lawmakers.

On Sept. 11, MOAA’s Maryland Council of Chapters hosted its fourth Annual Congressional Luncheon on Capitol Hill. The event, sponsored by Rep. C.A. “Dutch” Ruppberger (D-Md.) hosted seven legislators who spoke to more than 80 MOAA members at the event. Legislators included Sen. Ben Cardin (D), Reps. Andy Harris (R), John Sarbanes (D), Donna Edwards (D), Steny Hoyer (D), John Delaney (D), and Chris Van Hollen (D).

A common theme among the legislators’ remarks was concern over the budget and the need to balance the budget in a responsible way without putting a disproportionate share of the burden on service members and retirees. Maryland Council members thanked the legislators for their support to date and urged them to do even more for the military and veterans community.

MOAA President Vice Adm. Norbert R. Ryan Jr., USN (Ret), thanked the council and the Maryland delegation for their support and asked members to continue challenging the Pentagon’s rhetoric that military personnel costs are spiraling out of control. “It’s up to us to speak up when they ask us to make disproportional [military personnel] cuts. Our fundamental argument is that we have a war going on and need to take care of our most important weapon system — our men and women in uniform. They are the best we have to offer and have never let this nation down.”

VETERANS’ RECOGNITION AND VETERANS’ DAY EVENTS



1Lt Viti & SecDef Gates in Afghanistan

FORMER ARMY FOOTBALL PLAYER---WALKING TO REMEMBER

Mike Viti, Army fullback and West Point Class of 2007, vows to walk one kilometer for every U.S. serviceman lost in the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. He began walking on the West Coast seven months ago and will cover 7100 kilometers, hoping the casualty amount now at 6830 doesn’t reach that total. He has to cover about 25 miles per day on a U-shaped trek, down the West Coast, across the Southern States, then finally along the East Coast to the Army-Navy Game on December 13. <http://www.mikeshikingforheroes.com/>



*******Loyola University Soccer*******
Hero Appreciation Days
Free Admission for Military and Veterans, \$3 for their guests

Loyola Women vs. Navy
 Sunday, October 26
 1:00 pm
 Ridley Athletic Complex

Loyola Men vs. Navy
 Saturday, November 1
 7:00 pm
 Ridley Athletic Complex



2014 Veterans Day Ceremony at Fort George G. Meade
Thursday, November 6, 2014, at 2.00 pm
 Guest speaker: MG Jim H. Keffer
 Chief of Staff, U.S. Cyber Command
 Memorial Plaza at the Fort Meade Museum, 4674 Griffin Avenue
 RSVP 301 677-3125 or Angelita.m.streets.civ@mail.mil

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

Our Chapter supports numerous ROTC and JROTC programs. We present MOAA medals and certificates to cadets who *demonstrate exceptional potential for military leadership* at three Army ROTC university programs and at JROTC high school programs for all three services. Chapter members are requested to volunteer to assist with these presentations. It is a fulfilling and rewarding experience to be among these young people and experience their vigorous military training and amazing success! The Army ROTC umbrella universities are [Johns Hopkins](#), [Loyola](#), and [McDaniel](#). Johns Hopkins ROTC program includes the University of Maryland Baltimore County, the University of Baltimore, and Stevenson. Johns Hopkins was recently awarded the MacArthur Award which recognized the best ROTC program for 2012-13 of the 38 ROTCs in the Mid-Atlantic Region. The other two umbrella universities, all outstanding Army ROTCs, are McDaniel University commanded by LTC Eric Atherton that also includes Mount St Mary's University and Hood College; and Loyola of Maryland commanded by Major (promotable) Sean Gallagher whose program includes Towson University, Notre Dame of Maryland, and Goucher College.

SHOULDER BOARD GIFT CERTIFICATES by the STAR SPANGLED BANNER CHAPTER

These ROTC universities together commission about 45 new Army 2nd Lieutenants each year. Our Star Spangled Banner Chapter initiated a new program in 2014 of a gift certificate from Marlow White to each cadet to upgrade his or her commissioning shoulder boards from nylon to gold bullion. These shoulder boards are presented by parents or other loved ones after they are formally sworn in as officers to defend the Constitution of the United States at their commissioning ceremony. It is quite a solemn and moving affair with their families, guests and distinguished speakers! This gift certificate is an appropriate gift that we hope will forever be meaningful to them. We also award them a free, one year online membership in MOAA. This program adds about 45 new members to MOAA and motivates them as young officers to become lifelong members. MOAA National also awards us \$250 for gaining these new members which helps pay for the gift certificates!

NOMINATIONS of Officers and Board for Election at November 18 Meeting

At the November 18th meeting, officers and board will be elected to two year terms for 2015 and 2016. Pending any further nominations, the following slate will be submitted for election by the membership. Nominations should be sent to the Chapter Secretary, eschultz_jr@yahoo.com, 410 561-5911.

OFFICER POSITION	NOMINEE
President	COL Tom Seybold, USA (Ret.)
First Vice President	COL Jim Shelley, USA (Ret.), incumbent
Second Vice President	CDR Bill Rose, USN (former)
Secretary	CAPT Victor Hrehorovich, USPHS (Ret.)
Treasurer	CPT John Baesch, USA (former)
BOARD POSITIONS	NOMINEE
Past President	CAPT Mike DeHaemer, USN (Ret.)
At-Large	VADM James Sagerholm, USN (Ret.)
US Army	LTC Annette Brown, USA (Ret.)
US Navy	***open
US Marine Corps	***open
US Air Force	Lt.Col. Edward Herbert, III, USAF (Ret.)
US Coast Guard	***open
US Public Health Service	***open

TOPS / TRANSITION LIAISON CPT Monique Smith, USA monique.smith@maryland.gov

Frequently I receive notices of job fairs and web links to employment ads. If any members or spouses are in a transition phase, seeking employment in Maryland or DC, contact me my email and I will supply the notices that I receive.

I now have connections in Baltimore City with the Director of Work Force Development and the Project Manager of Veterans Services. I have been providing them with employment information that I receive from the Maryland MOAA Council. As time goes on, there may be more support that we can provide to assist veterans here.

SUPPORT THE MOAA SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The MOAA Scholarship Fund was established in 1948, based on the belief that education serves to strengthen democracy. The principal use of the fund is to provide interest free loans for undergraduate education for children of service members. The usual loan is \$5500. As of year end 2013, **MOAA had loaned over \$100 million** to more than 12,000 deserving undergraduate students. In addition MOAA provides grants of up to \$5000 toward tuition for the surviving children of servicemen killed in action, including those killed in the events of 9/11. The sources of funds are from chapters, corporations, and private individuals. Loan money is recycled when loans are repaid. 1700 scholarships for \$9.3 million awarded this school year.

Last year our chapter donated \$200 to the Scholarship fund. A good goal for this year is \$10 per chapter member. **Please consider adding \$10 per person or more with your dinner reservation** to help achieve the goal and enable more students to receive loans.

FIFTY YEARS AGO *Early history of the Star Spangled Banner Chapter ***Part 3 Final**

By Maj Dick Martiny, USA, author of *Military Beginnings: Early Development of American and Maryland Forces*, which may be found on amazon.com.

Initially Chapter meetings were held at either Ft. Meade or Ft. Holabird, primarily at the latter until the issue of its potential closing in the early 1970s. Between September 1971 and May 1972 the meetings were held in one of two restaurants in the then Towson Plaza. In November 1972 they moved to Martin's Eudwood. The Chapter's long association with Libertini's Parkville Gardens began in September 1976.

By the early/mid 1970s attendance at meetings had begun to flag. In January 1974 the outgoing President, MAJ Rudolph Senn, USAF (ret), asked for an all out effort to boost general meeting attendance. . In March 1974 concrete steps were taken to decrease the Chapter's expense and to make the meetings/dinners more welcoming. Membership had been broadened to include anyone who had been in one of the seven uniformed services. This elicited some response, because the attendance at the March 1974 meeting was 94. However, it quickly faded. By the November 1974 General Meeting and dinner there were only 75 reservations. That year's Christmas party was canceled due to lack of interest.

As a regular activity in the 1970s, representatives of the Chapter participated at flag presentation and wreath laying ceremonies at the U. S. Public Health (USPH) Services Hospital and the George Washington Monument in Mount Vernon. They joined Baltimore's American Legion and 30 other organizations in these activities. In March 1973 the design of the Chapter's Newsletter was approved and its first edition was published.

In May 1974 the President, LTC Edward Starr, III, AUS (ret) was asked by CPT Bishop, Chairman of the Board of the MROA, to organize a “get together” of the MROA Chapters. It was to be centered around the Chapter’s tenth anniversary party on 24 September. It became the MROA’s first state-wide convention. Guests representing Chapters from Southern Maryland, Upper Eastern Shore, Prince George’s County and Susquehanna-Aberdeen arrived by 1100 for a buffet lunch. This was followed by sightseeing at the U.S. Frigate Constellation and Ft. McHenry. The convention goers then joined Chapter members for cocktails and dinner at Marin’s Eudowood. Dinner and cocktails were \$7.00 per person. The complete package of lunch, tour, reception, cocktails and gala banquet was \$15.00.

From its inception in the mid-1960s, guest speakers were, and continued to be, a central part of the General Meetings/dinners. Over the years speakers were senior military figures, senior managers for the City of Baltimore, including then Mayor William Donald Schaeffer, the directors of the Baltimore Zoo, the U.S. Frigate Constitution, and the Flag House. Entertainment and recreational activities included: performances by choral and musical groups as well as live theater; boat rides and bus trips. By the late 1980s average meeting attendance was about 35% of membership. By the mid 1990s this percentage had increased to 45%, although possibly of a smaller base.

From its inception the Chapter has been concerned with and involved in legislative and governmental issues that would impact on its members, as well as past, present and future members of the uniformed armed services and all veterans. Some examples of the issues which were worked with TROA and state and national legislators are:

- Giving Army Reserve Officer opportunity to continue training and earn credit for service after the Army Reserve and National Guard units merged.
- Increasing space for veterans’ burials in Maryland National Cemeteries.
- Opposition to amnesty for draft evaders.
- Initiation of some retirement benefits for survivors
- Retired pay equalization and recomputation, overcoming multiple pay scales for different year of being retired

In the Chapter’s Newsletter in December 1974 a description was given of its activities and interests. The Chapter supported ROTC units in three colleges and JROTC units in three high schools in the greater Baltimore area by presenting awards to meritorious cadets, thus assisting in promoting a spirit of achievement in the respective cadet corps and inspiring cadets to pursue careers in the U. S. Armed Services. The Chapter, through meetings and newsletters, kept members abreast of local, state and federal legislative developments, as well as developments in military scientific, medical innovations, and business affairs. It worked with the Maryland Council and TROA in their legislative lobbying efforts . It supported TROA’s scholarship fund and morale building measures for overseas personnel.

With some organizational name changes, this could be used as the Chapter’s statement of purpose and description of activities today, forty years later. While the membership has ebbed and flowed, the core values of the organization and its people, what it and they are about, has remained essentially the same. Military people interested in, and working to take care of, military people.

The Star Spangled Banner Chapter

Newsletter and Archives online:

<http://starspan.org>

Newsletter Production

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Photo Gallery
September 23, 2014, Canton Docksider Restaurant

