



The Star Spangled Banner

Chapter

BALTIMORE



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CHAPTER ANNUAL BANQUET NOVEMBER 18 *6:30 P.M. *

PIMLICO ROOM, MT. WASHINGTON TAVERN

*** RESERVATIONS REQUIRED ***SEE LAST PAGE!!!

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GEORGE W.OWINGS III, MARYLAND SECRETARY OF VETERAN AFFAIRS

Secretary Owings volunteered for the Marine Corps in 1965 and served three tours in Vietnam. He was an active reservist when he began seventeen years of service in the House of Delegates, ten years of which were as Majority Whip. He has served as Secretary of the Maryland Department of Veterans affairs under both Democratic and Republican administrations. His major contributions to Maryland's veterans include active outreach and communication. He will talk about **state services and benefits available to veterans** and is knowledgeable of all veteran issues! Have your questions ready about jobs and training, health and wellness, home and living, the VA, long term care and other veteran affairs. Read his [full biography](#) and other Department information at VETERANS.MARYLAND.GOV.

Secretary Owings has put his fingerprint on the Department through a unique blend of effective management, knowledge of the legislature and passion for veteran issues!

*****Reservation form, menu, dress code, directions and parking info are on the last page.**

MARTIN MUSEUM & AIRPORT EVENT-organized by Maj. Chuck Rishell, USMC (Ret.)

What a terrific tour guide! Carl Kokernak!

On September 26, members of the Star Spangled Banner chapter toured the Glen L. Martin Aviation Museum at Martin State airport in Middle River. The tour began in the indoor portion of the museum where we learned about the contributions of the Glen L. Martin Co. to America's aviation heritage. Displays and discussion included the great seaplanes the Co. produced on this site-- from the transoceanic clippers of the 1930's to the Navy transport and patrol seaplanes of the 1940's and 1950's. Martin even developed and tested a revolutionary jet powered seaplane nuclear bomber, the Seamaster, which was discontinued after the successful launching of the Polaris Missile.



The Company's most significant contribution to victory in WW2 was the design and production of the B-26 Marauder, which became the most successful medium bomber in the European Theatre. The museum also features a display honoring "Rosey the Riveter" who represented the vital role of women in the war effort. After viewing the many photos and artifacts inside, our tour guide, Carl Kokernak, led us to the outdoor aircraft display comprising more than a dozen significant airplanes spanning the period from the early post WW2 days through the 1960's. Notable in the display were a well preserved F-4C Phantom and an F-105G "Wild Weasel". The F105G on display was a veteran of missions over the Hanoi area during the Vietnam conflict, pioneering the so called "Wild Weasel" anti-surface to air missile tactics that saved many pilots up through the Gulf Wars. Our tour ended with a presentation by the President of a Francis Scott Key bust to Carl in appreciation for his outstanding tour! We then convoyed to Carson's Creekside Restaurant adjacent to Martin field for a short business meeting, a relaxing lunch on the water and much camaraderie.



Thanks Carl and Chuck for a superb walk through history!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

October 20, 2015



Please remember Chapter Members are our best ambassadors! Every member bring a Potential Member or Veteran Guest to our Annual Banquet! It is a unique opportunity to hear about Maryland Veteran Affairs from the Secretary! You will be surprised what you don't know!

Chapter members and wives had a **significant interaction** with our Maryland Congressional representatives September 17 in the Rayburn Building in Washington, D.C. attending the Fifth Annual Maryland Congressional Delegation Luncheon. We advocated MOAA critical issues for our active duty service personnel, veterans and retirees. Fifty MOAA members attended including twenty from National including MOAA President VADM Ryan, his key staff, the MD Council and all MD Chapter Presidents with contingents. Six of the ten Maryland Congressional Representatives gave remarks. Senator Cardin talked about an early plan to repair sequestration with Rep. Paul Ryan. Representatives Steny Hoyer, Chris Van Hollen, John Delany, Donna Edwards, and Dutch Ruppersberger all spoke. I introduced Rep. Dutch Ruppersberger who was scheduled for 3 minutes. He spoke for 25 minutes and was the highlight of the luncheon! His remarks included (I paraphrase) Snowden was a disaster for our country and the NSA is hunting terrorists, not searching your personal email life!

Our Chapter 1st Vice President and his wife, Col USA (Ret.) Jim & Tammy Shelley will proudly represent the Star Spangled Banner Chapter at the MOAA Annual Convention Oct 30-31 in Orlando, FL. He will be presented the Chapter's **Five Star Level of Excellence Award**, a banner from National MOAA. Congratulations again to all Chapter members for the effort this takes and your "continuing to serve!" **We need some fresh faces to step up and assume some support roles** with ROTC/JROTC awards and visits to our legislative representatives locally and in Annapolis and soon to the Loch Raven VA Family Rehabilitation Center. Just let me or the coordinators know. You have a lot to offer and will enjoy the **camaraderie with a purpose** from interacting with young cadets, influencing our political representatives at the state or federal level and assisting at the VA center.

For a treasure trove of **information on all MOAA and Chapter affairs, issues, advocacies and benefits** check out the new National MOAA website www.moaa.org. It has all the latest information and prepared messages concerning critical legislative issues available on drop down menus! For everything about the **Star Spangled Banner Chapter** refer to our website www.starspan.org. Included are important links to valuable current and archived resources.






Respectfully,

Tom Seybold, Colonel, USA (Ret.)

410-561-5377 tkseybold@hotmail.com



Chapter Events for 2015 and 2016:

<p>November 18, 2015 Wednesday</p> 	<p>Chapter Annual Banquet at Mount Washington Tavern, Baltimore at 6:30 P.M.</p> <p>Guest speaker is George W. Owings III, Secretary of the Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs. A former Marine with three Vietnam tours, Secretary Owings understands veterans. His experience in the Maryland House of Delegates and the Department of Veterans affairs qualifies him to tell us what we can expect from the state.</p>
<p>February 2, 2016 Tuesday</p> 	<p>Luncheon Meeting at Mount Washington Tavern at 12:00 P.M.</p> <p>Guest Speaker is Dr. Steven R. David, Professor of International Relations from Johns Hopkins University. He is versed on the IAEA and will undoubtedly discuss the Iranian Nuclear Treaty, Russian intervention in the Syrian crisis, and Israel/Palestinian issues. He can comment on a wide range of issues from the Chinese military expansion in the Pacific to the flood of refugees in Europe. His thoughts on U.S. foreign policy should be quite interesting!</p>
<p>To be determined....</p> 	<p>BBQ Tailgate at Lock Raven VA Community Living and Rehabilitation Center. The Star Spangled Banner Chapter joining with the ROTC Alumni Association of Morgan State University will conduct a BBQ for the resident patients.</p>
<p>April 16, 2016 Saturday</p> 	<p>Meet at NOON for Lunch at Dry Dock Restaurant. 1330 Guided Tour of US Naval Academy Museum by the Curator and Yard by VADM Jim Sagerholm.</p>
<p>Early June, 2016</p> 	<p>Maryland Historical Society with guest speaker.</p>



LZ Maryland
June 18, 19 All Day
Maryland State Fairgrounds
Timonium, MD

Vietnam 50th Anniversary Salute!
Special to Maryland Veterans!
Sponsored by Maryland Public Television.
Volunteers call 410-581-4138

<http://vietnam.mpt.org/lzmaryland>

*** Sept 17, Saturday, **ANTIETAM STAFF RIDE**—Sponsor—Col. USA (Ret.) Randy Everett (All Maryland MOAA Chapters invited to participate.)

“STORMING ANNAPOLIS”

The Maryland Council is sponsoring a “**Storming Annapolis**” event in January to influence our state legislators to advance tax free legislation for military retired pay. Last year MOAA efforts resulted in a state tax exemption increase from \$5,000 to \$10,000 for 2015 taxes. We want to keep the momentum going for **complete tax exemption** for all retired military pay as Governor Hogan supports. Your participation in this one day event will illustrate strength in numbers and earlier visits to local delegates will be particularly helpful. Dates and details to follow.

Our Chapter & the MD Veteran’s Task Force is also exploring the additional tactic of initiating a simple **economic study** to show as a **powerful marketing tool** the potential revenue benefits to MD from tax free military retirement pay. Current studies show that retired military with retirement jobs have incomes above average and after paying all the other taxes such as real estate, sales, estate, gasoline, and the myriad of fees or minor taxes, the income to the state is substantial. Military tax free retirement pay has the potential like FL and Texas to attract additional military retirees to live in Maryland increasing this benefit to the state. This **potential multi-million dollar revenue increase** could have a significant positive impact on the Maryland legislature if illustrated and advertised!

SSB Chapter Military History Book Club Organizing

The Star Spangled Banner Chapter is considering forming a **Military History Book Club**. The way it works is that a book is selected by the members. We read the book, get together at a nice restaurant, discuss the book, lunch off the menu with individual selection and settlement, and someone nominates the next book. With enough interest, we will schedule a meeting for **11:30 A.M., Wednesday, December 9, 2015 at the Mt. Washington Tavern. To show interest, indicate your attendance on the banquet reservation form or call or email the Treasurer!** You will be notified of further details.

For the first meeting, it is suggested we read ***The Roughest Riders***, a new book by Jerome Tuccille. He is the best-selling, award-winning author of biographies of such notables as Ernest Hemingway, the Gallo wine dynasty, Donald Trump, Robert Murdock, Alan Greenspan, and the Hunts of Texas. He has written over 30 biographies and novels. He lives in Anne Arundel County. Americans have long heard the story of Teddy Roosevelt and the Rough Riders charging up San Juan Hill during the Spanish-American War. But often forgotten in the great swamp of history is that Roosevelt’s success was ensured by a dedicated corps of black soldiers—the Buffalo Soldiers—who fought by Roosevelt’s side during his legendary campaign. ***The Roughest Riders*** takes a closer look at common historical legend and balances the record. You can begin reading as it is available in libraries, by EBook and at amazon.com.

GIFT CERTIFICATES for FOUR ARMY ROTC UNIVERSITY PROGRAMS

Our Star Spangled Banner Chapter Board approved funds to purchase gift certificates for each Army ROTC cadet to upgrade their commissioning 2nd Lt. shoulder boards from nylon to gold bullion. These shoulder boards are hooked on the Blue Class A uniform 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 a solemn and moving affair with families, guests and distinguished speakers! This appropriate gift of 2nd Lt. gold bullion “boards” will be meaningful to them forever! It also entitles them to a free, one year online membership in MOAA. This program adds about 50 new members to MOAA and motivates them as young officers to become lifelong members. MOAA National awards us \$250 for recruiting the new members which helps offset the cost of the gift certificates!

MOAA Scholarship Recipients

Three local students have received interest-free loans and/or grants for the 2015-16 academic year from the MOAA Scholarship Fund. The Star Spangled Banner Chapter of MOAA has invited them and their families to our Annual Banquet November 18. It provides an opportunity to increase awareness of our Chapter and provide recognition for their accomplishment.

Veterans' Benefits

(From the Maryland Council of Chapters)

MAJ Jeffery Burbank, an Army Chaplain at Fort Leavenworth and the son of Fort Meade Chapter member CW5 Larry Burbank, has prepared a [list of web-sites](#) that provide information on Veterans benefits and how to file/ask for them. There are many sites that explain how to obtain books, military/medical records, information and how to appeal a denied claim with the VA. Please pass this information on to every Veteran you know. Nearly 100% of this information is free and available for all veterans, the only catch is: you have to ask for it, because they won't tell you about a specific benefit unless you ask for it. You need to know what questions to ask so the right doors open for you and then be ready to have an advocate who is willing to work with and for you, stay in the process, and press for your rights and your best interests. (Note – the Maryland Council of Chapters has nothing to do with any of the listed sites, and is not responsible if any of them are no longer active.)

TOPS AND TRANSITION

Maryland is committed to helping veterans leverage their military experience, training, and qualifications in pursuing civilian careers.

Job search assistance is available through the [Maryland Workforce Exchange Virtual One Stop](#) (MWE-VOS), the largest source of job openings in Maryland. The MWE-VOS is a free, Internet-based, state-of-art tool that provides job-seekers with information about jobs, training, and workforce support throughout Maryland.

Did you know??? ***The [Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs](#)*** was created by the State Legislature in 1999 as an executive agency with the mission of assisting veterans, active duty service members, their families and dependents, in securing benefits earned through military service.

2016 DUES



The Chapter's membership year runs from January to December. It's time to pay your 2016 Chapter Dues. Annual dues are \$15. There are some members who have not yet paid their 2015 dues. **Dues pay for and support a wide range of activity.** Please give this your prompt attention! If you are uncertain about your 2015 dues, the Treasurer maintains the records of dues received. In case of doubt or uncertainty, contact CPT John Baesch, Treasurer, 410-244-8599 or baesch@live.com

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RESERVATION INFORMATION

****THE STAR SPANGLED BANNER CHAPTER MOAA****

PIMLICO ROOM, MT WASHINGTON TAVERN 5700 NEWBERRY STREET BALTIMORE, MD



410-367-6903

MTWASHINGTONTAVERN.COM

DIRECTIONS and PARKING:

Directions: From the JFX (I-83), take the Northern Parkway East exit, left at first signal onto Falls Road north, left at first traffic light onto Kelly Ave. bridge, cross bridge back over the JFX, turn right at second light onto Sulgrave Ave., the restaurant is the large building on the left. There is a side entrance on Sulgrave Ave. The main entrance is at the end of the block on 5700 Newbury Street. There is street parking and down Newbury Street a parking lot by the light rail line as well as a parking lot just west of the light rail line parking. Meters do not have to be fed after 6 pm. Our Banquet is in the Pimlico Room on the second floor and there is an elevator near the side entrance.

DELICIOUS BANQUET BUFFET MENU: \$40/person

DRESS: Class A Uniform or Business Suit

BLT Cups and Crab Claws—Butlered

Cocktail dress for ladies

Vegetable/International Cheese Display

Tavern Salad

Dinner Rolls

*****Morgan State University ROTC Color Guard*****

Scalloped Potatoes Au Gratin

Sirloin Kabobs, Shrimp Skewers, Chicken Saltimbocca

Zucchini Noodles

Dessert Tray

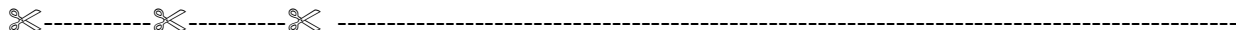
Coffee, tea and soft drinks included

Cash Bar

Make out check to the Star Spangled Banner Chapter.

Mail to: CPT John Baesch, Treasurer, 301 Warren Ave #203, Baltimore, MD 21230

For further event information call the Treasurer, CPT John Baesch, 410-244-8599 or email baesch@live.com or the 1st V.P. COL Jim Shelley, 443-570-5775 james.m.shelley@gmail.com



RESERVATION FORM for Annual Banquet November 18, 2015

(Please mail reservation with check to arrive **by November 14**)

Name _____ Guest Name(s) _____

Your email/telephone number to receive confirmation _____

Number of Reservations: _____ Total Banquet Reservation Amount \$ _____

Donation (circle) MOAA Scholarship Fund or SSB Chapter \$ _____ **2016 DUES! (\$15)** \$ _____

TOTAL CHECK \$ _____ (if due) **2015 DUES! (\$15)** \$ _____

_____(Check) **I will attend** the First Military History Book Club Meeting Dec. 9 at 11:30 a.m. at The Tavern.

Make out check to the Star Spangled Banner Chapter.

Mail to: CPT John Baesch, Treasurer, 301 Warren Ave #203, Baltimore, MD 21230

For further event or dues information call the Treasurer, 410-244-8599 baesch@live.com

