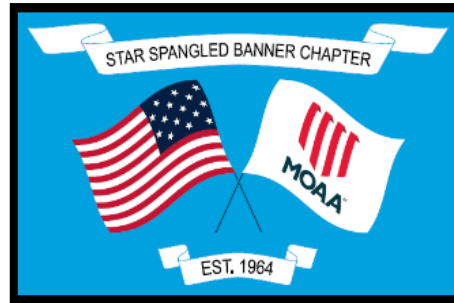


“Never Stop Serving”



Join us at –
www.starspan.org

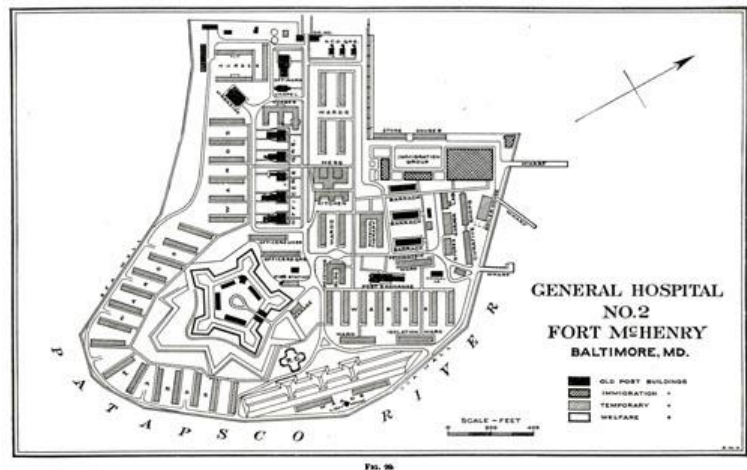
Welcome to the **Star Spangled Banner Chapter** of the **Military Officers Association of America**. We are the oldest, continuously operating MOAA chapter in Maryland. Founded in 1964, we provide camaraderie with purpose and align with MOAA's national mission: a strong national defense, taking care of our country's veterans, and protecting the benefits of all who have served and currently serve. Our chapter membership is open to all seven services and supports ROTCs/JROTCs, numerous heartfelt charities and state tax exemption for retired uniformed services members and SBP recipients!

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2018 NEWSLETTER

Contents: 54TH Annual Meeting & Banquet; paws4vets Fundraiser; Name our Chapter Puppy Contest; Congressional Luncheon; Nominations 2019-20; Recruiting; Legislation Update; Member & Spouse Information; Future Events

Fort McHenry's Role in WWI & More! Ranger Vince Vaise

Liberatore's Ristorante, November 14, 2019, 5:30 PM
9515 Deereco Rd., Timonium, MD 21093



Vincent Vaise is park ranger extraordinaire and was chief of interpretation at Ft McHenry!

In more than 25 years with the National Park Service, Vince became the face of Fort McHenry. Superintendents came and went, but he could always be counted on to lead a parade, hoist a flag, don a period costume or answer the goofiest question involving the fort – all with a straight face.

“His passion for the Fort that saved America is undeniable.”

Excerpts from Ed Gunts Article June 15, 2016 Baltimore Fishbowl

Maryland Bell Ringing - Excerpts: MD Dept. of Veterans' Affairs Press Release 8 Aug 2018

Maryland Gov Larry Hogan issued a [proclamation](#) calling for bells to be tolled in Maryland on November 11, 2018 at 11:00 am in remembrance of veterans of World War I. The proclamation coincides with a call by the United States World War I Centennial Commission for all Americans to participate in a national tolling of bells. "Over 62,000 Marylanders served honorably during World War I, making incredible sacrifices to bring justice and freedom to all people," - Governor Hogan.

Sunday, November 11, 2018 marks the 100th anniversary of the signing of the Armistice which ended World War I. 62,000 Marylanders served in World War I, including 11,000 African Americans and 6,000 women. Nearly 2,000 gave the ultimate sacrifice.

Marylanders are asked to toll the bells twenty-one times with a five-second interval between tolls beginning at 11:00 am on Sunday, November 11, 2018 in commemoration of the armistice. Organizations, towns, churches and museums across the state will also participate.

The action of tolling the bells has historical significance as a signal indicating the end of World War I. During WWI, all church bells were silenced only to ring as a warning of invasion by enemy troops.

BANQUET RESERVATIONS: *Liberatore's Ristorante* – Wednesday, November 14, 5:30 pm

9515 Deereco Rd., Timonium, MD 21093 410-561-3300 Plenty of Onsite Parking! Delicious Food!

Buffet: \$55/person

DRESS: Uniform or Business Suit

Cash Bar

Appetizer: Bruschetta – Crab Dip **Liberatore Salad** *Name our 88B Chapter Puppy Contest*

Four Buffet Entrees:

Chicken Marsala

Penne Margarita,

Mini Meat Balls

Egg Plant Rollatini

Sautéed Mixed Vegetables

Bread & Butter

Dessert: 54th Anniversary Cake and cookies

Coffee, tea, soft drinks included

\$50 Gift Certificate Prize!

see page 4



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RESERVATION FORM: Please cut off and mail \$55/person Dinner Reservation, and any other contributions to the Treasurer **by November 7, 2018.**

Name _____ Guest Name(s) _____

Number of Dinner Reservations _____ Total Dinner dollars at \$55/person \$ _____

A generous donation to **paws4vets** would be appreciated for veterans in need \$ _____

You may also include a donation for our ROTC Officers Guide (circle) for new 2nd Lieutenants or to the MOAA Scholarship Fund (circle) or to the MOAA Family Initiative (circle) \$ _____

TOTAL CHECK \$ _____

Make check payable to: **Star Spangled Banner Chapter**

Mail to: **Treasurer, John Dyer, 11602 Hunters Run Dr., Cockeysville, MD 21030, 410-610-7183.** For further information contact the Treasurer or President Tom Seybold, 410-561-5377.



Fundraiser

September 22, Sparrows Point Country Club

\$7,200 Donation - HUGE SUCCESS!

Thank you, Star Spangled Banner Chapter Members, and Donors!

The Live Band *"Three4All"*, Buffet, Auction, Raffles, Door Prizes and Mary Agnes Evans' **music** were all truly delightful. The informative remarks by paw4vets Randy Powers, with his assistance dog MORGAN, fellow client comments and the comprehensive PTS presentation by Member BG Stan Minken, MDDF (Ret.) were all memorable! **Most of all, was the opportunity to meet the wonderful assistance dogs and the remarkable contribution Chapter members and donors made for the paws4vets organization totaling \$7,200!**

Thank you, Chairperson and Secretary, Col. (Dr.) Rita Kurek, USAF (Ret), her committee, Treasurer LTC John Dyer USAF (Ret) and all helpers and donors! Please see Randy Powers' heartfelt email of appreciation following the pictures! ---Tom Seybold, Chapter President



"Name a paws 🐾 Dog Contest"

Due to our dedication to and our recent very successful fundraiser for the paws4vets organization, our Chapter has been invited to name one of their dogs. This dog, named in honor of our Chapter will have the name we choose embroidered on their service collar and our Chapter name embroidered on the inside of the collar. The service dog will wear this collar for as long as they are actively working with one of our deserving vets. At our Annual Meeting on Nov 14 you will have an opportunity to vote for your favorite name. All members casting a ballot will be entered in a drawing for a \$50 Gift certificate to Liberatore's restaurant so put this meeting date on your calendar now for an opportunity to honor our Chapter with an awesome name for a new pup starting its life of service, comfort and partnership with a chosen veteran experiencing PTS, Traumatic Brain Injury, Moral or Sexual trauma or suicidal behavior. Some of the names so far (taking from either the Star Spangled Banner lyrics, Francis Scott Key's name or fort where he wrote it) are Banner, Star, Spangles, McHenry, Frankey, Friskey, Dawn,other suggestions???

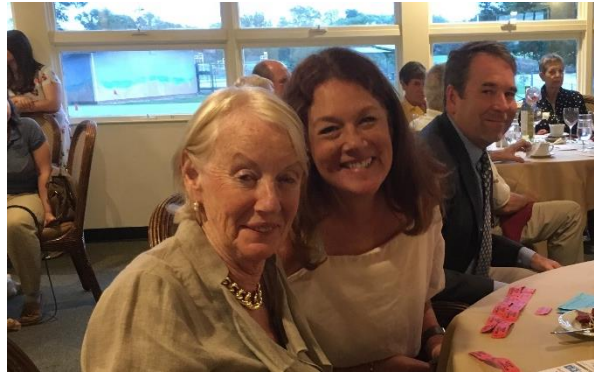


Arrive ready to enter a signed ballot with your favorite dog name. We will count dog names and the most popular one wins. Then hold a drawing to select a chapter winner of the **\$50 gift certificate to Liberatore's!**

See you Nov 14th at Liberatore's!

More Fundraiser Pictures!







More raffle prizes!!!



Three dogs receiving a special present!"

Randy Powers <rpowers45@gmail.com>9/24/2018, 9:04 PM

You;
John Dyer;
Rita Kurek;
Stanley Minken;
terry.henry@paws4people.org;
kyria.henry@paws4people.org

📧

Tom,

I can't begin to express how appreciative we are for the Star Spangled Banner Chapter of MOAA and for your incredible support of paws4vets.

The amount of time and effort that went into making this event such a success was evident from beginning to end. Kimberly, Nick, Eva, April and I all agreed, we were made to feel like family. Once again, we are overwhelmed by your incredible hospitality and the generosity of the members and their families.

Kyria Henry, CEO has also asked that I pass on her extreme gratitude to you and everyone involved in making the Star Spangled Banner Chapter's second annual paws4vets fundraiser such an overwhelming success. Although she and the staff down in Wilmington are still picking up the pieces after Hurricane Florence, they are still getting mail delivery to the address you noted below.

Thank you for the kind words Tom, but my inspiration comes from the incredible people, dogs and partnerships we make along the way...all of which are literally helping to save lives.

Randy

P.S., BG Minken slideshow/presentation was very interesting and I would love for he and Terry Henry to be able to talk and share some ideas. No doubt they would both benefit from that conversation and only good things could come from it.

8th Annual Congressional Luncheon

The 8th Annual Congressional Luncheon was held on 26 September in the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington DC. Both US Senators (Ben Cardin and Chris Van Hollen) and eight of the ten US Representatives (Andy Harris, Dutch Ruppersberger, John Sarbanes, Steny Hoyer, John Delaney, and Jamie Raskin) spoke to the audience. MOAA President Lt Gen Dana Atkins, USAF (Ret), and 22 members of the MOAA staff attended. President Tom Seybold and his wife Karen and John and Evelyn Baesch represented the Chapter. Tom introduced Representative Dutch Ruppersberger from the 2nd District. He also had a chance to chat with LTG Atkins about our successful paws4vets Fundraiser. Gen. Atkins mentioned it to the assembled MD Chapter Presidents, Council and MOAA staff.

Some of the legislators' comments reported by Laural Hobbes, MOAA Senior Editor:

"It's a great privilege to hear the stories of veterans and think about the things I can do as a legislator to help [you]," Rep. John Delaney (D-Md.) told the assembled group of Maryland chapter members. "Most of the legislation I've done related to veterans came from stories I heard from them."

Rep. John Sarbanes (D-Md.) implored chapter members to continue advocating for servicemembers and veterans. "[Advocacy] is more important now than it's ever been because there are more fiscal constraints,"

The widows tax was just one of the issues Rep. Andy Harris (R-Md.), a veteran of the Navy Reserve, vowed to work on: He also identified [Chapter 61 retirees](#) and the necessity of ensuring the fitness of those who enter military service by offering competitive recruiting packages. "We need to make the determination," Harris said. "Which is more important: a force we know is mentally and physically capable, or hitting a number?"

Multiple representatives discussed the importance of funding a strong military, especially in light of national security threats. "We need to stand strong, and it's the men and women of our military who are standing there," said Rep. Ben Cardin (D-Md.).

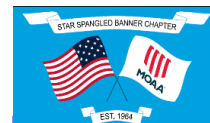
Rep. Dutch Ruppersberger (D-Md.), co-chair of the House Army Caucus, identified funding future weapons as a top priority. "We have to make sure we work and put in the money for the future and future weapons that Russia and China are also developing," he said, while calling for veterans to get the medical care they deserve, fair disability compensation, benefits reflective of honorable service, and a responsive VA.

"Russia impacted our elections," said Rep. Steny Hoyer, minority whip. "That's a threat to our basic democracy. But if we invest directly in cybersecurity, we can compete with anyone in the world."

Sen. Chris Van Hollen (D-Md.) echoed Hoyer's message on the importance of cybersecurity. He also detailed wins for veterans in Maryland. "We made it a priority to pass the VA and military construction appropriations signed into law by the president a few days ago," he said.

Volunteers are needed for Navy Board Member, non-medical Legislative Affairs and Personal Affairs, Webmaster and Jobs & Transition.

PROPOSED SLATE 2019-2020 OFFICERS, BOARD MEMBERS, & COMMITTEE CHAIRS - Election Nov 14, Annual Meeting



OFFICERS	(elected)	
President	COL Tom Seybold, USA (Ret.)	H410-561-5377 C410-818-4641
First Vice President	CPT Chuck Rishell, USMC (former)	410-730-1263
Second Vice President	COL Randy Everett, USA (Ret)	410-538-6229
Secretary	COL Rita Kurek, ANG (Ret)	410-574-5330
Treasurer	LTC John Dyer, USAF (Ret)	C410-610-7183 H410-677-4575
BOARD MEMBERS	(elected)	
Past President	CAPT Mike DeHaemer, USN (Ret.)	443-695-4741
At-Large	LTG Ed Leland, USA (Ret)	H410-732-7555 C410-340-1780
US Army	LTC Sean Gallagher, USA (Ret.)	C910-273-9427
US Navy		
US Marine Corps	CPT Charles G. Rishell, USMC (former)	410-730-1263
US Air Force	COL Rita Kurek, ANG (Ret)	410-574-5330
US Coast Guard/USPHS		
COMMITTEE CHAIRS	(appointed)	
Membership	COL Tom Seybold, USA (Ret.)	H410-561-5377 C410-818-4641
ROTC	LTC Sean Gallagher, USA (Ret.)	C910-273-9427
JROTC	LTC Gallagher, CAPT DeHaemer, CPT Rishell, COL Kurek (by JROTC Schools)	
Legislative Affairs	??? MD Legislative BG Stan Minken , MDDF (Ret) Medical	H410-382-1301
Jobs and Transition	???	
Personal Affairs	BG Stan Minken , MDDF (Ret) Medical ??? Other	H410-382-1301
Auxiliary Liaison	Mrs. Karen Seybold	410-561-5377
PROGRAMS	VOLUNTEER PLANNERS/EVENTS	
Newsletter Editor and Distribution	COL Tom Seybold, USA (Ret.)	H410-561-5377 C410-818-4641
Webmaster	???	
Chaplain	???	
Historian	MAJ Glenn Williams, USA (Ret)	410-747-9009
Music	Ms. Virginia (Gini) Pielke Mrs. Mary Agnes Evans	410-321-1228 410-785-1557
ROTC/JROTC Award Presenters & Volunteers	DeHaemer, Seybold, Kurek, Leland, Shelley, Rishell, Gallagher, Minken	

Recruiting:

300 Life and Premium National MOAA members in the Baltimore area have been mailed the chapter's updated Recruiting Brochure. They were invited to mail the application in the brochure and to join us at the Fundraiser, September 22 and our 54th Annual Banquet, November 14.

You can join the recruiting effort! The chapter website <http://www.starspan.org/about.html> has the Recruiting Brochure. Print one from the website and recruit a veteran service friend! Carry one in your pocket as a chapter ambassador, ask for \$25 and fill out the form for a potential member you may meet! **New members bring clout to the tax exemption effort!**

A new **"Why MOAA" video** produced by the MOAA National Office. Please use the following link to access the video: <https://youtu.be/42YD9d8WI5Q>

Jobs and Transition: For periodic postings of **job search related information** go to the MD Council Website. Click here [Job Search](http://mdmoaa.org/#Job Search) section -<http://mdmoaa.org/#Job Search>

Legislative Report: Stan Minken: see www.starspan.org **Legislation, See - What's Happening for Stan's latest update!!!** VA Choice, etc.

Our chapter website has everything you need under **Legislation!** There is information on the Veteran's Caucus and references to find your Senators and Representatives. There are sample emails and how to work major issues such as MD tax free retirement pay!

MD Council Legislative Liaison - Annie Brock

Make MOAA's One Powerful Voice® heard in Maryland. It will take each MOAA member living in Maryland to make this happen. Act now to do your part! **Register for Legislative Update emails** at <http://bit.ly/MDLegisUpdates>

There is an email address, mdcoclegis@gmail.com, to reach Legislative Liaison CPT Annie Brock, USA (Former) or whoever is filling in for her if she is out of town.



Maryland National Guard Unit of the Year

The 200th MP Company was called upon in 2017 to assist the U.S. Virgin Islands in the aftermath of the devastation left behind from Hurricane Irma.

Council Past President COL Andy Fallon, Md Adjutant General MG Linda Singh, Star Spangled Banner Chapter representative COL Jim Shelley with trophy



UPDATE FOR MEMBERS, SPOUSES AND SURVIVING SPOUSES:

FEDVIP is Coming for Dental and Vision Coverage in CY 2019. The June-September issue of Army Echoes (the official Army newsletter for retired soldiers, surviving spouses, and families), shares the fact that "beginning with the 2018 Federal Benefits Open Season (Nov. 12 to Dec. 10, 2018), beneficiaries enrolled in a TRICARE health plan will be eligible to enroll in the Federal Employees Dental and Vision Insurance Program (FEDVIP). Coverage will start Jan. 1, 2019." So, those of us who are enrolled or are eligible to enroll in the TRICARE Retiree Dental Program will be able to select from several dental options for 2019. There are expected to be a total of 10 dental plus four vision carrier options. Delta Dental will be one of the ten. Everyone is advised that enrollment is not automatic--and that is even if you currently are enrolled in the TRDP plan. It also is important to understand that benefits and costs are susceptible to adjustment each year. In summary, while all the details of your options are not yet available, almost all TRICARE beneficiaries will be eligible to sign up during the open season coming this fall. The TRICARE Retiree Dental Program will end at the close of this calendar year. FEDVIP already has a website for additional information and to sign up for notifications about the upcoming changes: <https://tricare.benefeds.com> Future updates to the website are expected to include (a) educational webinars, (b) premium payment information, (c) 2019 FEDVIP plans and rates, and (d) FEDVIP carriers' and OPM contact information. By the way, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), regular eye exams are key in keeping one's vision strong, diagnosing potential issues early, and preventing diseases that may lead to vision loss or even blindness. The retired members of the U.S. Civil Service already have both dental and vision coverage options in their plans.

Surviving Spouses in MOAA. The Surviving Spouse Advisory Committee and the Board of Directors recommended MOAA's Bylaws be changed this year to delete references to "auxiliary members" and "life auxiliary members." The proposed titles will be "surviving spouses" and "life surviving spouses. The term "surviving spouse" recognizes their unique role in the association. Many of our Chapters in Maryland already have established the new titles. By way of example, my role on the Maryland Council of Chapters is to serve as the Spouse and Surviving Spouse Liaison Officer.

Naomi M. Kaplan, Spouse and Surviving Spouse Liaison, MOAA Maryland Council

Future Chapter Events for 2019:

Jan 16, 2019 Wed.		<i>New Navy "Frigate", Dr. Regan Campbell, Program Manager Venue TBD</i>
March 13, 2019 Wed.		<i>"Red Cross Missions", Member CDR Barbara Riester, Manager of Red Cross Emergency Contingencies all over the world. Venue TBD</i>

***This newsletter is published by the Star Spangled Banner Chapter. It is a 501(c)19 nonprofit affiliate of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA). The Star Spangled Banner Chapter is one of more than 400-plus chapters affiliated with National MOAA. Our chapter is a non-partisan veterans' organization. MOAA and its affiliates are dedicated to maintaining a strong national defense and ensuring our nation keeps its commitments to currently serving, retired and former members of the uniformed services, their families and survivors. Our chapter supports national MOAA's federal legislative actions and MD Council's State legislative priorities. ***

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Name the Chapter
Pup and win a \$50
Gift Certificate!
Nov 14

