



Never stop serving!



Banner & client Eric

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Star Spangled Banner Chapter of MOAA

October 2026 Newsletter

Contents: November Annual Dinner Meeting, President's Message, Recap Sept. 30th meeting, JROTC & ROTC news, Legislative & Membership Updates, TAPS reports, Future Event Dates

Dinner Meeting

Wednesday, November 11, 2026 at 6pm

Pappas Restaurant, Cockeysville



"Drone Warfare, the Current State"

Derek M. Morneault

Technical Project Manager, CACI International

Derek M. Morneault served 16 years in the United States Army, enlisting in 2010 as a crew chief on the UH-60 Black Hawk. In 2015 he earned his commission as a Chief Warrant Officer 2 and Army aviator. He served his entire career with Charlie Company, 2nd Battalion of the 224th Aviation Regiment, serving at locations across the United States and OCONUS, including a deployment to Taji, Iraq, in 2011-2012 in support of Operation New Dawn. Over his career he accumulated approximately 1,000 accident-free flight hours as a pilot and an additional 1,000 accident-free flight hours as a crew chief, earning a reputation as a dependable aviator and technical expert on rotary-wing operations.

Mr. Morneault is now a Technical Project Manager with CACI International, a defense contractor specializing in unmanned aircraft systems (UAS). He travels worldwide-including conflict areas such as Iraq and Syria-working directly alongside Army units to develop, field, and refine solutions to counter UAS threats, drawing on his firsthand experience as an aviator to shape capabilities for the modern battlefield.

Mr. Morneault resides in Abingdon, Maryland, with his wife, Maygan, and their four children.

DINNER RESERVATIONS: PAPPAS RESTAURANT & SPORTS BAR. 550 Cranbrook Road, Cockeysville, MD 21030. (410) 666-0030

\$55.00* (*please note increase!) per person, including three courses, coffee, tea, non-alcoholic beverages, gratuities, and tax. Cash bar is available for cocktails, wine, and beer.

Please make your reservation today. The final count is due on **6 Nov**

SOCIAL TIME: 6:00 PM. DINNER: 6:30 PM. DRESS: Military Uniform or Business Casual.

MENU SELECTIONS (at seating)

Entrée Selections (Select 1 entrée.)

Pappas' Famous Crab Cake, eight ounces.

Orange Roughy, filet broiled in lemon butter sauce.

New York Strip Steak, eight ounces, Angus steak.

Chicken Marsala, chicken breast with sauteed mushrooms in Marsala wine sauce.

All entrees are served with garden salad, baked potato, a fresh vegetable, and dessert (dessert will be our 62nd anniversary cake for this meeting!)

All members PLEASE register online for the meeting at:

<https://www.starspan.org/Chapter Info/Calendar/UpcomingEvents> and click on the Nov 11 Dinner Meeting, EVEN IF YOU PLAN TO PAY BY CASH OR CHECK. (Our site is now secure; make sure you type in the https:// if you are having trouble)

Reservation Form: FOR MAIL IN ONLY

You MUST mail the reservation form below by **30 Oct**. We need a firm count by **6 Nov**. MAIL CHECKS TO TREASURER RITA M. KUREK at the address below. (410) 294-4913

Please call Rita Kurek if you have doubts about your mailed reservation arriving by 30 Oct.

RESERVATION FORM (mail in)

NAME _____

Number of Guests _____

DINNER RESERVATION at \$55.00 per person..... \$ _____

DUES FOR 2027 \$30.00 (if not paid already)... \$ _____

Donation for Army Officer's Guides (gift to ROTC Cadets) \$ _____

Donation to paws4vets (our annual fundraising cause) \$ _____

TOTAL.....\$ _____

Make Checks payable to: **Star Spangled Banner Chapter of MOAA**

Mail check to: Treasurer, Rita M. Kurek, 1231 Engleberth Rd, Essex MD
21221



The Star Spangled Banner Chapter

COL George Stakias USAR (Ret.)

President's Message

It is with great sadness that we lost two beloved members of our chapter this year. May their memories be eternal and God grant their families many years of health and blessings to remember their loved ones.

Captain Derald N. Jendersee, USAF (Former), Age 86, passed on May 23, 2026
<https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/timonium-md/derald-jendersee-12898639>

Captain Jendersee graduated from Parkston High School in 1957, and from Augustana College. He served in the USAF for 16 years, a portion of which was working with the Nuclear Weapons Systems at Hill AFB, UT. He was an active member of the Star Spangled Banner Chapter since 2023, a Lifetime member of MOAA, and a very generous supporter of the paws4vets. He attended several dinner meetings of the Chapter until his strength was

compromised by cancer treatments. He was a dedicated family man with 6 children, 8 grandchildren and many great grandchildren. He was an avid Orioles & Ravens fan.

Captain Charles "Bud" R. Wanner, USPHS (Ret) , Age 83, passed on Sep 3, 2026

<https://www.mccullyfuneral.com/obituaries/charles-bud-wanner>

Captain Wanner was born in Hamilton, Maryland, a nearby suburb in the northeast of Baltimore City. He attended Loyola High School and Loyola College. After graduating from the Baltimore College of Dental Surgery in June 1969, he received a commission in the US Public Health Service to serve as a dentist with the US Coast Guard. Captain Wanner was an active Board Member of the Star Spangled Banner Chapter (MOAA). He gave staunch support to the rejuvenation of the Chapter in the early 2010s and remained as the Coast Guard representative on the Chapter Board until his health limited his service. He was the most engaging and enthusiastic attendee at every chapter program.

(See both TAPS reports at the end of this newsletter)

We have our 62nd Annual Dinner Meeting on Veteran's Day, November 11th 2026. We honor all the Veterans that served on the 11th day of the 11th month and 11th hour. Moreover, Veterans Day serves as a reminder that the contributions of veterans do not end when they leave active duty. Many veterans continue to serve in their communities, bringing leadership, resilience, and commitment to a variety of fields. Veterans are teachers, healthcare providers, business owners, first responders, and community leaders. Honoring their service on Veterans Day helps highlight this continued dedication to our nation, reinforcing that their value extends far beyond their military careers.

This will be our last dinner of the 2026 calendar year and we encourage a robust attendance and participation. We will conduct our annual business meeting, vote on officer positions, and collectively decide on our fundraising advocacies for 2027. All members' input is essential to continue this 62 year old institution! We will have the Fallen Soldier table to pay respects for those that paid the ultimate sacrifice along with the annual sword-cutting tribute of our anniversary cake. We will also have Color Guard presenting the flags.

I would like to thank the board members for their collaboration and the members who make up this historical chapter and their continuous contributions to our wonderful community.

Thank you so much for allowing me to serve you!

Recap Sep 30th, 2026 Dinner Meeting:



“Health Concerns for an Aging Population”

Colonel (Dr.) Slavomir “Andrew” Bilinski, MC, USA

Colonel Bilinski gave a stimulating talk on wellness and prevention as we age. He recommends looking at the whole person from three perspectives: Spiritual, Physical & Psychological, all of which are complimentary and synergistic with each other. His strongest recommendations were having a solid faith including praying, meditating, and forgiving yourself, getting the proper amount of sleep, hydration, balanced nutrition and physical exercise, especially walking every day, which will then have positive effects on our mental well-being. He recommends three vaccines- flu, pneumonia and shingles vaccines, regular dental care and twice a year fasting bloodwork and EKGs. He stated that low Vitamin B12 levels can affect sleep, forgetfulness and brain fog. Sleep deprivation can affect the immune system, bowels, cortisol levels and blood pressure. Col Bilinski reviewed many other organ systems and tests like colonoscopy, bone density, dermatologic, liver & gallbladder function, carotid artery checks and eye care. It was a very comprehensive “Mind & Body” review. Excellent presentation.



President George Stakias presents the FSK bust to speaker Col Bilinski

More photos from the Sep 30th dinner meeting



Ernie Schultz & Guest



John Backer and Pat & Bill Gray



Chaplain Ted Knach, George Stakias



Mike Butler, Mike Spencer



Dave & Rob Paolucci with guests Col (ret) Bill Fox (left) and SSG (ret) Dave Cook (2nd from right)

ROTC & JROTC News: Col (ret) Frank Hilsher, ROTC Chairman, Col (ret) Rob Paolucci, JROTC Chairman

No events since last newsletter. Several ROTC graduation & commissioning ceremonies will take place in December 2026. Frank Hilsher will obtain the Color Guard for the November meeting from possibly one of the JROTC programs this year if they are available.

Legislative Update: LTC (ret) Bill Gray, Chairman

Many of the same issues as last year are on the table again for the next legislative session with many dynamic elements. Bill Gray will provide a comprehensive update at the November meeting.

Membership Update: LTC (ret) Bill Gray, Chairman

New Members are always welcome!! Recruit your colleagues!

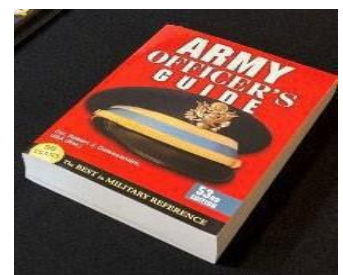
LTC (Ret) Gary Palmer (immediate past president of the MD Council) will be spearheading a comprehensive review of all membership status' for all Maryland Chapters with National MOAA. He will coordinate information with the Chapters for potential new members in each area who belong to MOAA but not a specific Chapter. Bill Gray will coordinate with Gary on this incentive for our Chapter.

On the website, under Chapter Info, Recruiting heading, the Recruiting Brochure is available to print and deliver to prospective members. If the individual has questions, refer them to Bill Gray or if they want to send in their dues, refer to Rita Kurek, Treasurer.

LTC (Ret) Bill Gray, 2nd VP, Legislative & Membership Chairperson
Email: graybillo@verizon.net
Cell: 410-746-2861

Pay Dues Online or mail to:
Col (Ret) Rita M. Kurek, Secretary-Treasurer
1231 Engleberth Rd.
Essex, MD 21221
rmkurek@aol.com
Cell: 410-294-4913

Dues help pay for the Army Officer Guides we present to newly commissioned 2nd LTs each year at our three supported ROTCs.



TAPS Report

Captain Derald Norbert Jendersee, USAF (Former)

JULY 26, 1939 – MAY 23, 2026



Captain Derald N. Jendersee, USAF (former) passed away on May 23, 2026 at the hospice facility at Stella Maris.

Derald was born on July 26, 1939 to Elmer and Selma Jendersee. He graduated from Parkston High School in 1957, and from Augustana College. He served in the US Air Force for 16 years, including several years at Hill AFB, UT in the Nuclear Weapons Systems Center. He married Shirley Petta on May 1, 1976 and they made their home in Cockeysville, Md.

Derald joined the Star Spangled Banner Chapter (SSBC) in 2023 and was a lifetime member of National MOAA. He attended many dinner meetings and fundraising events until his health was compromised by treatments for cancer in early 2026. He was extremely generous to the *paws4vets* foundation, one of the Chapter's major advocacies.



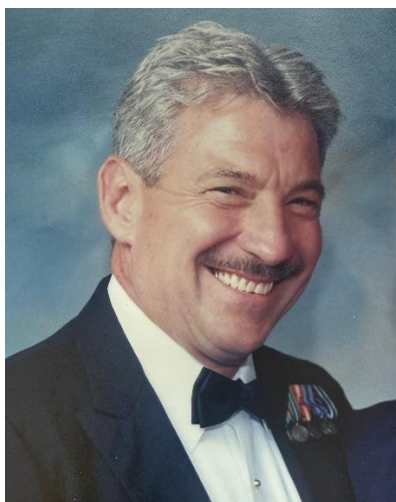
Derald was an avid Baltimore Orioles and Ravens fan and was honored to be an official “chain gang” member at a Ravens game, responsible for the down marker and the first down chains.

Derald was a dedicated family man and is survived by his 4 step-children and 8 step-grandchildren and many great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents, wife and 2 step-children.

TAPS Report

Captain Charles “Bud” Wanner, USPHS (Ret.)

March 3, 1943---September 3, 2026



Captain Charles “Bud” Wanner, US Public Health Service (retired) passed away on September 3, 2026, at his home in Stoney Creek.

Captain Wanner was born in Hamilton, Maryland, a nearby suburb in the northeast of Baltimore City. He attended Loyola High School and Loyola College. After graduating from the Baltimore College of Dental Surgery, University of Maryland in June 1969, he received a commission in the US Public Health Service to serve as a dentist with the US Coast Guard.

Bud Wanner served with the Coast Guard at Governors Island, New York; Air Station Borinquen, Puerto Rico; Training Center, Cape May, New Jersey; and the United States Coast Guard Academy, New London CT. As a senior dental officer, Captain Wanner worked with U.S. Surgeon General Koop to establish universal dental standards in the early years of the AIDS crisis. He also testified before Congress on the dangers of smokeless tobacco.

Captain Wanner was an active Board Member of the Star Spangled Banner Chapter (MOAA). He gave strong support to the rejuvenation of the Chapter in the early 2010s and remained as the Coast Guard representative on the Chapter Board until his health limited his service. He was the most engaging and enthusiastic attendee at every chapter program.

Legend has it that while sledding down Walther Boulevard as a seventh grader, Bud met his sweetheart, Nancy Williams, who would become his beloved wife of 61 years. He is survived by Nancy; children Michelle, Sherrie, and Derek and 10 grandchildren.

Future Chapter Events for 2026:

<i>DATE</i>	<i>EVENT</i>
11 November 2026 6pm “Veteran’s Day”	Annual Dinner Meeting, 62nd Chapter Anniversary Speaker: Mr. Derek Morneault Venue: Pappas Restaurant & Sports Bar, Cockeysville MD 21030 POC: Randy Everett (443) 910-0593

This letter 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 commitment 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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The Star Spangled Banner Chapter of the **Military Officers Association of America** is 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 commission and warrant officers of all eight services.