



Monthly newsletter of the Portsmouth Area Chapter, an affiliate of the Military Officers Association of America, serving Portsmouth, Chesapeake, Suffolk, Smithfield, Franklin, and surrounding counties, Virginia, since 1983. Dinner meetings are the Second Thursday of each month except July and August. Although **MOAA** and **PACMOAA** actively lobby legislatures for all US uniformed services members, we are nonpartisan and do not participate in political activities.

VOLUME XXXIX Issue X

LEARN MORE AT PACMOAA.ORG

NOVEMBER 2020

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK



It was a pleasure to see many of our longtime PACMOAA members at the dinner meeting in October. We had 19 attendees as one spouse was ill and only 20 people could be in one room in order to abide by the social distancing rules. We welcomed three guests – our speaker, Fred Schoenfeld; Teresa Wilfong, guest of Bruce LaLonde; and CWO3 Randolph Mann, JROTC Instructor at Churchland, guest of Paul Pratt. The program and meeting were shown to 4 members/spouses at home via Zoom which seemed to work fairly well for our first attempt at having an in-person and Zoom meeting.

Thank you all very much for voting on the proposed bylaws revisions!!! 22 ballots were returned via mail/email and 14 members voted at the meeting for a total of 36 out of 70 members voting or **51.4%**. We really appreciate the feedback several

members provided; unfortunately, several of those arrived after the 8 October meeting. Last year for our November election, only 24 out of 70 members voted via mail/email or in person for a 34% return rate, which was the highest return rate we'd had in some time.

Many changes were obvious at the Hilton Garden Inn including only one entrance at the door near the reception desk; only 4 seats per dinner table and tables spaced at least 6 feet apart; only bottled water and tea on the tables for drinks with coffee available in the back of the room with plastic cups; individual packets of butter, salt and pepper, salad dressing, and sweeteners on a separate plate for each person; and everyone wearing masks except when eating. As you know from all the news over the past 7 months, COVID 19 can begin much like a cold or the flu with the severity of symptoms varying. One of the dinner attendees had a cough on the Sunday before the dinner but was feeling good several days later and attended. His wife had cold symptoms and didn't feel good so she didn't attend. She felt worse the next day and went to the Dr. She tested negative for COVID 19 but the dinner attendee without symptoms at that point was positive so the members sitting at the table with him went in to quarantine following CDC Guidelines as he did! I've included both the NMCP Screening Tool for COVID as well as the CDC Self-Screening Tool below for everyone to review as a refresher.

Naval Medical Center Portsmouth COVID Screening Tool

Do you have a cough, difficulty breathing or shortness of breath, **UNRELATED TO allergies**, that has started in the last 14 days?

Have you been in direct contact with someone who is suspected or confirmed of having Coronavirus in the last 14 days?

Have you traveled outside of Virginia within the last 14 days?

Are you on "restricted movement" or have you been tested for COVID-19 in the last 14 days?

CDC Self-Screening Tool

Have you experienced any of the following symptoms in the past 48 hours:

- fever or chills
- cough
- **shortness** of breath or difficulty breathing

(continued on page 4)

PACMOAA LEADERSHIP



CHAPTER NEWS

NOVEMBER CALENDAR

- 01 Daylight Saving Time Ends (Move clocks back)
- 03 ELECTION DAY
- 10 MARINE CORPS 245th Birthday 1775
- 12 PACMOAA Dinner Business Meeting
- 19 PACMOAA BOARD MEETING
- 23 Coast Guard Women's Reserve Established 1942
- 26 THANKSGIVING

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

BOB BREWER	PEG CICIRELLI
LARRY MELLIS	PAUL PRATT
CONRAD STRICKLAND	
CHUCK WAGGONER	BOB WALL

NOVEMBER DINNER

Our dinner will be held on **Thursday, November 12**, at the Hilton Garden Inn (HGI) Ballroom at 5921 Harbour View Boulevard in Northern Suffolk.
Social hour begins at 6 PM, dinner served at 6:30PM.

MENU

Iceberg Tossed Salad with Ranch or Italian Dressing
 Pork Tenderloin with Apples Jasmine Rice Green Beans Almandine
 Rolls and Butter
 Chef's choice for Desserts
 Bottled Ice Tea and Water as well as Coffee

Cost is **\$30.00** (includes tax and gratuity). Please make your reservation as early as possible due to limited seating, but no later than **Sunday, November 8th** with Sherry Ferki at 686-4650 or by email at navmed1@cox.net. **NO LATE ADDITIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED.**
 Come join us for good company, good food and a good time. **Reminder- There will be no bartender for PACMOAA. Any drinks will need to be purchased and consumed at the bar, due to liquor licensing rules.**

A RESERVATION MADE IS A RESERVATION PAID.

PROGRAM & MEETING

6:00 pm	Registration/Social time with social distancing and masks
6:30 - 7:15 pm	Dinner
7:15 – 8:30pm	Business meeting in person and via Zoom

BUSINESS MEETING AGENDA

REPORTS:

President: MAJ Sherry Ferki
 1st Vice President/Programs: CWO3 Karl Wilson
 2nd Vice President/membership: LCDR Dolly Cherrington
 Secretary: COL Hal Hostetler

Treasurer: CDR Hans Sachse

VCOG Rep.: LCDR Dolly Cherrington

Leg. Rep.: CWO3 Karl Wilson

Personal Affairs Report: MAJ Sherry Ferki

Scholarship committee: MAJ Sherry Ferki

Newsletter and website: Thanks to Gordon for all his hard work on both of these for 12 years! Sherry edited the newsletter until Sept. Ken App is now the Editor as well as Facebook and Website Manager

BUSINESS ITEMS TO ADDRESS:

Election – election committee to count ballots and report on outcome. COL Hal Hostetler, USA (Ret) Immediate Past Pres and Sec., Chair of Nominations Committee

New Issues to be discussed and voted on:

- **Dues structure** – see document on **page 9**.
- **Proposal to increase dinner cost at Hilton Garden Inn** - increase regular monthly meals to \$35.00, Christmas dinner (meal a little more expensive, 2 rooms & TCB) to \$45.00. Scholarship dinner will remain at \$40.00 (up to 6 guests with winners & families + 4 or 5 JROTC Color Guard Cadets). PACMOAA has consistently lost about \$100.00 per dinner meeting over the past 1½ years per dinner analysis by Treasurer, Hans Sachse (see Sept 2020 newsletter, page 11) and that will increase even more now due to social distancing guidelines.

NOTE: Upon checking with the Hilton in March 2020, it was noted that the regular room cost is \$350 versus the \$100 we are charged and there is normally a bartender fee of \$100 as well as a screen fee of \$75. Before the social distancing restrictions, we were not paying a bartender fee or screen fee!!

- **Proposed amendment to current bylaws**

○ Current bylaws:

ARTICLE IX - OFFICERS/EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

SECTION 1. The elected officers shall be a president, a first vice president, a second vice president, a third vice president, a secretary, and a treasurer, each of whom shall be a regular or surviving spouse member of PACMOAA and MOAA.

○ Suggested change:

SECTION 1. The elected officers shall be a president, first vice president, second vice president, third vice president, secretary, and treasurer, each of whom shall be a member of the chapter **or the spouse of a chapter member.**

MOAA actually suggested this change to the guidelines for chapter bylaws in 2015. Per discussion MAJ Ferki had with MOAA personnel several times, some chapters could not find officers so they asked if spouses of members could serve. The spouses are not eligible to be MOAA members and can only vote in the chapters while in office. For example: Bruce Ferki, Brenda Hostetler, and Gladys Steorts would be eligible to run for office next year if this proposed change to the bylaws is approved.

1. Efforts to increase membership

- Joint chapter recruiting event at Patriots Colony in Williamsburg – held via Zoom 28 Oct
- Continue 1/2 price dinner cost for potential new member or new member attending for the first time?
- Reaching out to local JROTC leaders
- Other suggestions

4. Events PACMOAA members participated in 2020.

5. Any other business to address?

Date of next board meeting: 19 November via Zoom. **All members are welcome to attend the board meetings.**

MEMBERSHIP

WELCOME ABOARD

PACMOAA wishes a hearty welcome to new member CWO3 Randolph (Gunner) Mann, USMC (Ret) and his wife, Kelly Rae, from Virginia Beach. Gunner is a JROTC Leader at Churchland HS

Remember that membership is important. Without increased membership and engagement of the current membership, we will not be able to continue being effective in legislative advocacy and involvement with community advocacy.

PACMOAA had 69 paid members, including 7 life members and 8 new members, as of 27 October.

Please think about an eligible friend that you can invite as your guest to a dinner or to invite to join PACMOAA. As we did at the October meeting, we should have Zoom capability at our regular meeting so new members can participate that way also. Potential members can attend their first dinner meeting at half price. A selling point could be if someone joins MOAA as a Premium or Life member first, they receive 1 or 2 years chapter membership free!

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK continued

- fatigue
- muscle or body aches
- headache
- new loss of taste or smell
- sore throat
- congestion or runny nose
- nausea or vomiting
- diarrhea

With the increasing cases/individuals testing positive for COVID 19 in our community and the country, we all need to be extra cautious when participating in events with others. We've all attended many events in the past with a "cold" but need to err on the side of caution now. If anyone in your household has any of the symptoms listed above, unless they're isolated from you, you should not attend our dinner meetings. The hotel may be implementing some extra precautions also and I will keep you updated on that.

Updated CDC Guidelines per close contact: "The CDC previously stated that close contact meant spending a solid 15 minutes within 6 feet of someone who tested positive for coronavirus. It's now defined as a total of 15 minutes or more — so shorter but repeated contacts that add up to 15 minutes over a 24-hour period now count." 22 October 2020.



It was fascinating listening to Fred Schoenfeld and the history of the movies. He reviewed much of the info in his bio that was in the last newsletter but went in to more detail per how he started working in movie theaters. Fred grew up in Norfolk and when he was 12 or 13 years old, he started working in theaters for Mr. Levin along with men 40, 50 and 60 years old. There was a lot of show and tell with different types of movie reels – 35 mm reels that came in 2000 foot reels and took 5 or 6 reels to show a movie as well as a small section of 70 mm film from the Sound of Music – whole reel weighed 50 pounds. In 2012, movies changed to digital.

Before early 1950, the material films were made from was very flammable so if the film broke, the light from the projector could ignite it. Thus, theaters

had fire shutters in the projection room and someone had to be there the whole time the movies were playing, often 12 hours!! There was no safety equipment of any kind then.

Did you know that Thomas Edison held the patent for movie film?

The video and sound did not always go together well. George Lucas had seen one of his movies presented and the presentation was poor. He wanted to improve the quality of the movie experience in the theater and the THX concept was started – no extraneous noise, picture and sound perfect. Per Wikipedia - "THX" has high fidelity audio/visual reproduction standards for movie theaters, screening rooms, etc. THX started in 1983 and the Commodore became THX certified in 1990 and is one of the oldest THX certified theaters in the county!

Like all movie theaters, The Commodore was closed 21 March – 12 June and is open for limited hours now. The 2018 and 2019 movie releases have been moved to Christmas or spring 2021. If you've never been to The Commodore Theater, it "is a luxuriously restored 1945 Art Deco style motion picture theatre presenting first run films with a fine dining restaurant within the main auditorium" per the website located in downtown Portsmouth. Currently, The Commodore is open Friday, Saturday & Sunday at 7 PM; Matinees Saturday & Sunday at 2 PM. Hal and Brenda Hostetler recently attended a viewing of Fiddler on the Roof there and thoroughly enjoyed the evening.

Be sure to VOTE! Remember local elections and the Virginia Amendments impact all of us as much or more than the national election. There are 2 statewide amendments and several cities have specific issues to be voted on like the Casino in Portsmouth. Be informed. I think military members and retirees have always voted more than many in the community so forgive me for preaching to the choir.

As we "**Never Stop Serving**", please remember our troops currently serving – Active Duty, Reserve, National Guard, and their families; retirees and their families; and all the veterans and wounded warriors in your thoughts and prayers. Please remember our country also during this very difficult time and continue to provide love and support to your family, friends and community. My thoughts and prayers are with all of you and your families as we continue to navigate through this most unusual and stressful year.

Don't forget our Annual Christmas Gala on December 10th.

We hope to continue the traditions we have had for many years. Hal's Band known as the Tidewater Concert Band will be performing and the Churchland HS Marine Corps JROTC cadets will be collecting toys for the "Toys for Tots" program. Santa Claus will arrive and with the help of his elves will distribute gifts to members participating in this year's Pollyanna. Some members like to bring a small Pollyanna item (\$15.00 or so) to exchange. All in great fun.

We will keep you updated if we need to modify this due to social distancing, etc..

PACMOAA FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES



PACMOAA Scholarship 50-50 Raffle Tickets sold at every dinner meeting

1 ticket for \$1.00

8 tickets for \$5.00. What a Deal!!!

PACMOAA Mug: Only \$10.00 each and will be available at all Dinner Meetings! Also available from Sherry Ferki's home for pickup!

PERSONAL AFFAIRS



Former longtime PACMOAA member RADM Phillip Geib died on 11 October at his home in Portsmouth. He was 99 years old. RADM Geib served in many medical commands including NMCP. ‘In 1974, Admiral Geib was promoted to Rear Admiral upper half and was then ordered to Norfolk, Virginia where he served as the Fleet Surgeon for the Atlantic Fleet until his retirement from active duty in 1977.’

“After retiring from the Navy, he worked as the Company Physician for Norshipco until 1993. He later served as an Assistant Professor at Eastern Virginia Medical School . In addition to serving as an Assistant Professor for family medicine at EVMS, he also served as a member of the Medical School's admission committee. He was still actively seeing patients until he was nearly 95 years old.

In 2019, Admiral Geib was awarded a Distinguished Citizen Medal by the Portsmouth-based Fort Nelson chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. That medal was designed in an effort to recognize people who have demonstrated courage, leadership, and patriotism, among other qualities.

A Memorial Service for Admiral Geib will be held at 2 o'clock on Saturday, October 31, 2020 at Altmeyer Funeral Home, 5033 Rouse Drive in Virginia Beach, Virginia. A burial with full Military Honors will occur at Arlington National Cemetery on Friday, February 19, 2021. Condolences may be left for the family at www.altmeyerfh.com. A live stream viewing will be concurrently broadcast on October 31, at 2 PM on the website under Phil's obituary.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the Philip O. Geib, MD Scholarship Fund. Please make memorial gifts payable to the EVMS Foundation and indicate "in memory of Dr. Philip Geib" on your gift. These gifts may also be made online at www.evms.edu/givenow or mailed to: EVMS Foundation, PO Box 5, Norfolk, VA 23501.”

FROM MOAA & LEGISLATIVE

MINUTES FROM MOAA STATE LEGISLATIVE FORUM

20 October 2020

Zoom meeting of group that has members in 31 states and 82 members. Looks at common issues in chapters. This is the 5th meeting of this group. Anyone that is interested is welcome to attend.

1. Gen Adkins , CEO of MOAA shared his thoughts and perspectives

- Military covered with budget until Dec 11, 2020. May have government shut down again if Congress doesn't act on FY 2021 NDAA. Nothing will be done until after election. Go to MOAA **Take Action Center for Pass a Budget, On time, to Avoid Damage Caused by Continuing Resolutions!**
- Reviewed medical changes proposed - moving 200,000 beneficiaries to civilian community along with reducing medical personnel billets by 18,000 (25% of medical billets). Go to **MOAA Take Action Center to Urge Your Lawmakers to Support FY21 NDAA Provisions to Stop Cuts to Military Medicine!**
- Ongoing attempt to restrict burials at Arlington. Open comments can be made until 15 November.
- Discussed concurrent receipt and phased approach MOAA is taking. Currently advocating for MAJ Richard Star Act – Chapter 61 – which would provide concurrent receipt for service members unable to complete 20 years of service due to their combat-related injuries. Also listed under Take Action Issues – not likely to be passed this year but need to show interest.

- Guard and Reserves a priority as same ops tempo as AD but benefits and pay different than AD. Have increased some but not enough.
 - State Legislatures also important! MOAA will try to become more involved with this.
 - Reminded members of **\$5000** grants from MOAA Foundation that chapter can apply for Community Outreach - three types of grants to support veteran housing, food assistance, employment, family support, (including behavioral health), and more- to chapter for community outreach. MOAA Foundation also has collected a **COVID Relief Fund** and members have been very generous. That generosity makes it possible for MOAA to continue offering relief to members of the military and veteran community who are struggling to fend off economic disaster. Grants of up to **\$500** per household are available. “If you are a member of a chapter and want to share the application in your community, please visit MOAA.org/billreliefapp. Chapter-connected applicants should select “chapter application” for the first question. If you’re facing financial stress brought on by the pandemic (or know someone who is) and you aren’t affiliated or near a MOAA chapter, visit the above link for instructions and to fill out the digital application.”
2. Gail Joyce – Surviving Spouse Virtual Chapter
 - Reviewed what the chapter hopes to accomplish and stressed importance of surviving spouses in chapters.
 - Noted problem with cause of death on veterans death certificate for veterans in state veterans homes. If diagnosis just COVID and not underlying disability, problem with surviving spouse getting veteran disability payments!! **I can provide additional information if anyone is interested.**
 3. Mike Dempsey – DSLO (Defense-State Liaison Office) for Midwest Region
 - Discussed what DLSO does - Great resource, advocates for military families. **I will check on liaison for Virginia.** Speaker noted statepolicy.militaryonesource.mil great resource also.

Very interesting forum that was very educational!!

Submitted by:

Sherry Ferki, MAJ, USA (Ret)

President

MINUTES FROM 3rd QTR VCOC MEETING 8 October 2020

Note: this VCOC meeting was held via ZOOM and several members experienced technical difficulties. Highlights included below.

1. President’s Report included mention of Virtual Summer Storming the Hill from June - August. VCOC President , Boyd Nix, recognized and thanked the members that participated in sessions and noted info on VCOC website per Summer Storming. Boyd also recognized COL Victoria Revilla from Southside Chapter for 18 years of service to VCOC . She was a VCOC Past President and a very active member of the VCOC Leadership Team!! She will be relocating to Texas to be close to her family.
2. Communication and Public Affairs:
 - Website updated by Linc Smith and members encouraged to review it and submit any recommendation to Linc. New homepage ½ price of old one and better.
 - Chapters were encouraged to send in articles per chapter activities like scholarships, etc.
3. Membership and Chapter Affairs: Jim Stephan is acting as chair. Reviewed current report and noted membership up 2 total versus down previously. Current membership - 2327! Noted no new recruiting income for several years. All chapters have to submit report to show new members for VCOC to be able to obtain award.
4. Legislative Report: Secretary Monti Zimmerman

- Reminder- Initiative for 100% disabled to not pay personal property tax on cars and pickups on 3 Nov ballot.
- JLC 2020 Initiatives reviewed – 9 potential proposals. Some discussion per bill that lists it as a class 5 felony to teach use of firearms and question how it relates to color guard, honor guard at funerals, etc. Monti will investigate this further.
- JLC Legislative Initiatives timeline for 2021 discussed per Leg Committee.
 - 21 Oct – Vote on issues and rank them
 - 16 Dec – Meet with Board of Veterans Services
- VCOC Congressional Awards
 - State Legislator of the Year – Senator Bryce Reeve (D-17) attended meeting briefly and spoke to members present. He noted the Legislature was still meeting and that governor will probably not sign any bills if they don't give him more power.

Update from COL Dan Merry, USAF (Ret) - MOAA Vice President, Government Relations

- Need to keep chapters strong and motivate members
- **MOAA Nonpartisan on legislation**
- Need to be very careful sending emails or talking in a partisan manner if say representing MOAA , VCOC or chapter. Can do so as individual!
- MOAA and VCOC need to stay in the middle to reach out to make progress with legislature.

Submitted by Sherry Ferki, MAJ, USA (Ret) President

COL Hal Hostetler, USA (Ret), Assist Leg Rep also attended

HEALTH RELATED ISSUES

NAVAL MEDICAL CENTER PORTSMOUTH UPDATE NOVEMBER 2020

PHARMACY

Tidewater Regional Refill Site going through system upgrade 11 November – 15 November 2020.

- **NO prescriptions will be processed during this time.**
- Any prescriptions called in between 1500 on 10 November and 0700 16 November will be ready for pick up at your preferred pharmacy on 20 November after 1200.
- Be sure to check your medications and make sure you won't need any refills while the pharmacy is being upgraded.

IMMUNIZATIONS / FLU SHOTS

8 October on NMCP website:

“Currently Naval Medical Center Portsmouth (NMCP) has the flu vaccination for those eligible beneficiaries who are six months to 35 months old at the NMCP main campus, and at all of the Branch Health and TRICARE Prime Clinics. For those 65 and older, only NMCP has the FLUAD flu shots provided the beneficiary has a prescription from their provider and is a high-risk patient. We anticipate the rest of the vaccine for those who do not fall into the very young or older age groups/high risk to be available in November. Please remember that receiving your shot from a military treatment facility is not required, and you are still able to get your annual flu shot for free now.” NMCP Immunization number is 953-2207.

- Tricare covers the flu vaccine so you can receive it without charge at most local civilian pharmacies.

Remember, if you need the senior vaccine, be sure to check with whichever pharmacy you wish to go to ahead of time to make sure they have some in stock!

Proposal for Amended Annual Dues

The following changes are recommended to the 2021 Membership Dues. These changes, if implemented would go into effect for the 2021 Membership Year.

Membership Category	1 Year	15%	20%
		Discount	Discount
		2 Year	<u>Best Value</u> 3Year
Retired/Active/Vet Regular (Voting Member)	\$25.00	\$42.50	\$60.00
Surviving Spouse (Voting Member)	\$20.00	\$34.00	\$48.00
Active Duty (Non-Voting Member)	\$5.00	\$8.50	\$12.00

Rational for 3 Year Dues Payment: Since we often have a difficult time having members renew membership in a timely manner, add a two and three year paid option. It would also be cheaper for Members. Propose having a 15% discount for two years of the annual dues, and 20% discount for three years of the Annual Dues. The advantage is that members save money, will not have to renew every year, and hopefully view multi-year membership as a bargain they can't pass up. MOAA and the Hampton Roads Chapter have 1, 2, & 3 memberships too.

Additionally, **send out Individual Membership Renewals**, in lieu of just sending out a General Membership email. It provides more personal responsibility to pay the dues when due.

Add an Active Duty Membership Category (Non-Voting Member), with Dues at \$5/year. This would incentivize Active Duty Membership. Similar in nature to MOAA BASIC Membership, they would receive only the Email PACMOAA Newsletter, can attend Dinner Meetings, July Breakfast/Brunch, and all other PACMOAA Activities. *We also get funds from National MOAA for basic members.*

Here Are Your 2021 FEDVIP Dental and Vision Rates

15 Oct 2020 Military.com | By [Jim Absher](#)

Military retirees and their families as well as military dependents can now see what options they will have available to them for vision and dental insurance in 2021. The Federal Employees Dental and Vision Insurance Program (FEDVIP) has released its selection of vision and dental insurance plans as well as pricing information for the upcoming year. While the FEDVIP 2021 plans and rates have been made public, open enrollment season, which allows you to pick a new plan or make changes to your existing coverage, won't begin until Nov. 9. Open season (also known as open enrollment) is the time each year when you can make changes to your FEDVIP coverage for the following year. The rest of the year, you can make changes only if you have a [Qualifying Life Event](#) such as moving to a new area or changing your number of dependents.

This year's open season will run from Nov. 9 through Dec. 14, 2020.

Monthly premiums for the 2021 dental and vision insurance programs remain almost unchanged from 2020. In fact, most plans show monthly premium increases of \$5 or less. The government has also negotiated new contracts with providers to make more dental and vision plans available to beneficiaries. This year at least 12 dental and five vision insurance options will be available, depending on your location.

[Check out the 2021 rates here.](#)

The FEDVIP website contains pricing information as well as details of covered procedures and a comparison tool which allows you to research the costs and coverage of all the different plans. You can also see the different levels of coverage available for your location and choose what fits your situation.

Most plans have different reimbursement levels as well as coverage options available for single, married with one dependent or family coverage levels available.

If you're currently enrolled in a FEDVIP plan and don't want to make any changes to your coverage, there is nothing you need to do to remain in your current plan. Your coverage will remain the same in the upcoming year.

However, it's still a good idea to check out all the available options you have in case the plan or your personal situation has changed over the past year, or you are anticipating any changes to your coverage in the upcoming year.

PORTSMOUTH VOLUNTEERS FOR THE HOMELESS

PLEASE DONATE ITEMS TO THE PORTSMOUTH VOLUNTEERS FOR THE HOMELESS, INC, (PVH) AT OUR NOVEMBER 2020 MEETING

PACMOAA has helped support PVH since November 2011, normally on a monthly basis with donations of needed supplies. Some members have been donating through Amazon Smile during the pandemic. Please consider donating whenever possible. Every little bit helps!

Portsmouth Volunteers for the Homeless, Inc., is a non-profit 501 (c) 3 corporation governed by a 13 member independent Board of Directors. Working with over 25 houses of faith in Portsmouth and Chesapeake and students from Virginia Wesleyan College. PVH normally provides nightly shelter for homeless persons from mid-November through the beginning of May each year. In response to COVID 19, the emergency shelter for homeless and vulnerable populations has been greatly expanded.

In addition to sheltering, PVH operates a 12 month Service Center where clients can shower, do laundry, receive their mail and telephone usage. Clients also meet with a case manager for support in becoming self-sufficient, Legal Aid, and receive referrals for mental health, substance abuse and employment counseling. PVH, Inc.'s early intervention with housing focused coaching and community partnerships has a proven track record of helping to move individuals from homelessness to housing.

Supplies Most Needed Items per Facebook posting on 24 October

- **Cleaning supplies like** Lysol disinfectant spray, Clorox disinfectant wipes, Chlorine bleach, Laundry detergent, etc.
- **Client Pandemic Protection Kit Supplies** – Small personal size items like disposal gloves (non-latex), masks, hand sanitizers, etc.
- Always need small personal size personal care items

Donations are accepted at PVH 800 Williamsburg Ave (behind Social Services on the side of the Oasis building). New hours of operation (Expanded in response to increased need during pandemic)

Service Center: Monday - Sunday, 7 AM - 6 PM

Shelter: Monday - Sunday, 6 PM - 6AM

Please call if you have any questions 399-0200. Donation tax receipts are provided.

Remember you can order items through Amazon Smile – please donate items to #TeamPVH on Amazon Smile.

**HUMEROUS EMAIL FROM ONE OF OUR DECEASED MEMBERS
JOSEPH BUSH (A RETIRED MARINE)**

It's all about one's perspective....

The Master Chief Petty Officer and the Master Gunnery Sergeant, one a Marine and one a Sailor meet in a bar one day (I know it may be hard to imagine either a Sailor or a Marine being in a bar, but hear the tale). They began to discuss which of them had had the more difficult and dangerous 30 year career.

The retired Marine Master Gunnery Sergeant begins: "I graduated from high school, the next morning I was on the train for Parris Island, South Carolina. Following boot camp I found myself in a regiment assigned to the Iwo Jima assault. With my fellow Marines we fought our way to the top of Mount Suribachi. In Korea I was with Chesty Puller at Inchon, then we fought our way toward the Yalu River. In the cold Korean winter we fought at the Battle of Chosin Reservoir, I ended my career after Viet Nam where I spent 3 months in the Battle of Khe Sanh after stomping through endless rice paddies.

The Navy Master Chief looked him in the eye and took a long draw on his bottle of beer and said simply:
"Well, it figures...all shore duty!"

NOTE: PACMOAA ELECTION BALLOTS were sent out on OCTOBER 27th. To date I have only received 9 return Ballots. Please send them back as soon as you can.

Thanks,
Ken App
Salute Editor

**THAT'S A WRAP FOR
NOVEMBER!**