



The Salute online



Monthly newsletter of the Portsmouth Area Chapter, an affiliate of the Military Officers Association of America, serving Portsmouth, Chesapeake, Suffolk, Smithfield and Franklin, Virginia, since 1983. Dinner meetings are held the Second Thursday of each month except July and August.

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November 2015



FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings again, PAC PATS,

That lovely fall time of year is with us when the days are usually just right—not too hot or too cold. It's a good time to share with friends, comrades, and family.

Our October meeting was a delightful and informative one with Delegate Matthew James who represents parts of Norfolk, Chesapeake, Suffolk, and Portsmouth (The 80th District) in the Virginia General Assembly. He was a warm, friendly, and informative guest who responded directly and frankly at the Q & A session at the end of his presentation. He is a local business leader with an education background that includes the Naval Academy, Hampton University, and an MBA from Northwestern University. He is a member of the appropriations sub-committee so is obviously an important contact.

Del. James pointed out that thirteen percent of the Federal Military budget ends up in Virginia, and with over 800,000 veterans, our Commonwealth is fourth only to three other much larger states that are retiree havens. He reminded us that the "Virginia Values Veterans" (V3) Program has led to 11,000 veterans having been recently hired in the state. Over-all the evening with him was enjoyable and he promised to return with additional info if we should wish. Present at the meeting were several that we had not seen in a while. It was a goodly number. Be sure not to miss the important November business and elections meeting. We have great programs scheduled through March so, grab someone by the arm and bring them along as we continue to fight for all our military, vets, retirees, and their families in these uncertain days.

Admiral Walter Doran, USN (Ret.) administered the oath of office to three PACMOAA members during the Virginia Council of Chapters biennial luncheon in Williamsburg, VA on 15 October 2015. The officers elected to the VCOC leadership are Col Steve Turner, USAF as President, LCDR Dolores Cherrington, USN as 2nd Vice-president and Lt Col James Stephan, USAF as Treasurer. Admiral Doran from the MOAA National Board of Directors also presented the MOAA Leadership Award to MAJ Sherry Ferki, USA (Ret) for her significant contributions over the years to the overall mission success in support of military service members, retirees, veterans and their family members. Congradulations to all.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Margaret E Cicirelli
Paul J Pratt
Robert M Wall
Chuck R Waggoner
William C Strickland
Mary H Keith
Edward H Kracker
Lonnie M Massey

You will be receiving your PACMOAA election ballots in a separate mailing before the November meeting. PACMOAA website voting will not be available this year. It is important that you vote! In order to vote on the changes to the Bylaws, you must attend the November meeting. Your ideas and discussion are important. Remember to monitor our website for TAKE ACTION NOW alerts in the HOT LINKS. I cannot emphasize enough the impact these prepared messages have on officials and your future.

Never stop serving,
Hal

PACMOAA LEADERSHIP

[CLICK HERE](#)

Chapter Happenings

Nov 01 Standard time begins	Nov 11 Veterans' Day
Nov 03 Election day	Nov 12 PACMOAA Dinner
Nov 10 USMC Birthday	Nov 26 Thanksgiving

NOVEMBER MEETING

Our dinner will be held on **Thursday, 12 November** at the Hilton Garden Inn (HGI) Ballroom at 5921 Harbour View Boulevard in Northern Suffolk. [LINK TO HGI](#) for an excellent map, GPS information and HGI contacts. Social hour will begin at 1800 with dinner at 1900.

MENU

Iceberg Tossed Salad with Ranch or Italian Dressing
 Chicken Florentine – Spinach, Tomatoes and White Wine Sauce
 Garlic Mashed Potatoes and Snap Green Beans
 Rolls and Chef's Choice of Dessert
 Water and Ice Tea
 Coffee and Hot Water for Tea Station

Cost is **\$30.00** (includes tax and gratuity) Please make your reservation no later than **Sunday, 8 November** with Sherry Ferki . Come join us for good company, good food and a good time.

REMEMBER A RESERVATION MADE IS A RESERVATION PAID.

NOVEMBER MEETING AGENDA ITEMS PACMOAA Bylaws Need to be Updated!

The last revision was in 2008. MAJ Sherry Ferki, USA (Ret) and Lt Col Bob Steorts, USAF (Ret) have been reviewing the bylaws since February to ensure they are completely up to date. Their recommended changes have been reviewed by the Board of Directors. Many of the changes will bring us more in line with MOAA and VCOC.

Please review the following abbreviated summary of major changes before our November 12 business meeting so they can be reviewed and voted on in an expeditious manner. Copies of the complete bylaws with all changes indicated will be emailed for your review before the business meeting. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact Sherry _____.

RECOMMENDED CHANGES/CLARIFICATIONS OF BYLAWS OCTOBER 2015

1. Many minor changes to update bylaws: Throughout bylaws change auxiliary member to auxiliary member/surviving spouse per MOAA change

Article II Purpose, Section 7 - Add "their reserve components", deleting to accomplish these aims

Article IV Membership



Section 2, c) Life members: delete 1st sentence and change life membership fee to **\$200.00**.

Section 3 - **Delete** "approval by the Board of Directors of a nomination for Life Membership shall be unanimous."

Section 5 - **Add** auxiliary member/surviving spouse to those who must belong to MOAA

Article V Voting, Section 2 - **Add** "to include absentee ballot"

Article VI Dues, Section 3 - Any member who fails to pay his dues within **30-90** days of time due shall be notified by the secretary/ membership chair.

Article VII Meetings

Section 1 - **Add** notices also "emailed" and **change** to "10" days in advance

Section 2 - **Add** "except July and August" , "emailed" and **change** to "10" days in advance

Sections 3 - **Add** "emailed" and "10" days in advance

Article VIII Board of Directors (BOD)

Section 5 - **Add** "emailed" and "10" days

Section 7 - Clarification - Only elected Leadership Team members (BOD) can vote

Article IX Officers/EX Committee

Sections 8 - How many alternates to be on checking account? **Suggest 2**.

Section 9 - Do we need a Sgt at Arms? **Delete** but **add** Auxiliary /Surviving Spouse liaison

Article X Committees

Section 2 - **Public Affairs** replaces Publicity and Community Services Committee per VCOC report format.

Section 2 - **Auxiliary/Surviving Spouse Liaison** replaces Widow/Widower Coordinator

Section 4 - **Change** Nomination committee to at least "three regular", add_"auxiliary/surviving spouse", and **change** to at least "10" days in advance.

Article XI Amendments - **Change** to at least "10" days before the meeting

2. Sections that may need more discussion

Article IX, Section 7 - Duties of secretary - The secretary shall provide timely notification of all meetings of PACMOAA and of the Board of Directors and shall maintain a record of all proceedings . He shall **ensure** maintenance of the membership rec-

ords/list , and shall ~~send out~~ **ensure** annual dues notification goes out in the newsletter. He shall prepare such correspondence as may be required and shall maintain PACMOAA's correspondence files

Function of Committees

Publicity and Community Services Committees combined into Public Affairs Committee per MOAA Guidelines

Public Affairs Committee - **To engage in activities/ events that promote PACMOAA and MOAA in the public arena, acting within the guidelines provided by the President and Board of Directors. To publicize PACMOAA activities as much as possible.**

Legislative - To provide area coverage for national, state and local legislative trends that may be of concern to PACMOAA; to develop and submit to the membership substantive reports and recommendations concerning these matters, using appropriate Chapter media such as the Chapter newsletter, email, website or announcements at meetings; ~~to ascertain, and to publish to PACMOAA members, with recommendations, the views of all candidates on important issues, within the limits dictated by the politically non-partisan nature of PACMOAA, endeavor to develop issue oriented positions that will have the endorsement and active support of members.~~ Recommend deleting as covered by MOAA for National issues

Personal Affairs Committee - To provide PACMOAA with a method of keeping the membership advised of those members and next of kin who are indisposed or experience illness or death in the immediate family; to educate/inform members of the importance of notifying PACMOAA of such events; to notify the Secretary of the illness or death of a member or of his immediate family; to assist in the personal affairs when requested by a member or his immediate family for preplanning or for information per survivor benefits; to send greeting cards or memorials when authorized by the secretary; and/or visit members who, for any reason, may be indisposed. ~~Widow/Widower Coordinator~~ The Personal Affairs Officer will contact the family after the death of a member, ~~and~~ provide assistance as needed, ~~and~~ **notify MOAA of death of member.**

Budget/Finance Committee - Add "Annual budget will be presented at November board meeting or by the end of the calendar year so that it will go in to effect 1 January."

The following bios are of candidates running for election.

1ST VICE PRESIDENT

CDR Kenneth G. App, USN (Ret.)

CDR Ken App, USN (Ret) a native of Brooklyn, NY, attended Public Schools and graduated from Brooklyn Technical HS. At The University of Virginia he received a BS in Electrical Engineering in 1969. A Naval ROTC student he was selected as the Midshipmen Battalion Commander. Upon graduation and commissioning, he attended Naval Flight Training, and was designated a Naval Aviator in May 1970. He initially flew as a flight instructor for the 1970 NROTC Midshipman Summer Training Cruise. His next assignment was as the Communications Officer for the Commander Operational Test and Evaluation Force in Norfolk, VA.

CDR App had two Operational flying tours, the first with Patrol Squadron Twenty Four (VP-24), flying the P-3C Orion Aircraft, serving as Communications, Schedules, and Aircraft Maintenance Quality Assurance Officers, deploying three times to NS Keflavik, Iceland. He qualified as Patrol Plane Commander and Mission Commander during this tour. His second was with VP-45, again flying the P-3C aircraft, where he was the Administrative Department Head and Executive Assistant to the CO.

His Second Sea Tour was as the ASW Officer on the USS John F Kennedy, CV-67, where he deployed twice to the Mediterranean, and qualified as Officer of the Deck Underway during this tour. He was then assigned to The Fleet Combat Directions Systems Support Activity, NS Dam Neck, VA, writing Fleet Software Specifications for the

Aircraft Carrier ASW Module (CV-ASWM), for all Fleet Aircraft Carriers.

After each Operational flying tour he was at the Naval Air Development Center (NADC), Warminster, PA, flying Research and Development Projects on P-3A/B/C aircraft, and was the P-3 Standardization Pilot, Schedules Officer, and Assistant Air Operations Officer.

During his second tour at NADC he served as the CV-ASWM Program Director, charged with three follow-on R&D Software and Hardware Upgrades, including training. He was awarded a Meritorious Service Medal for making these installations and software deliveries, which were behind schedule and over budget when he was assigned, on time and within budget.

He attended the U.S. Army War College, at Carlisle Barracks, PA, as a 1988 Resident student.

From July 1988 to July 1991, he was on the Staff of the Commander, U. S. Naval Forces Europe, in London, England, as the Fleet Logistic Plans Officer, where he planned and implemented Naval Logistics for: The Lebanon Crisis; the evacuation of civilians from Monrovia, Liberia; and setting up the Forward Logistics Sites supporting Operation Desert Shield/Storm. After that he was on the Staff of Commander, Naval Air Force Atlantic, as the Plans and Exercise Officer. He retired from the Navy on August 1, 1992. He earned designations as Weapons System Acquisition Manager and Sub-Specialties of: Anti-Submarine Warfare; Computer Systems; Electrical Engineering; and Logistics. His decorations include two Meritorious Service Medals, a Navy Commendation Medal, a Navy Achievement Medal, two National Defense Medals, 3 Sea Service Deployment Ribbons, and Overseas Service Ribbon (3 years).

After retirement he attended Old Dominion University, received a Masters Degree in Education and worked for Suffolk Public Schools 15 years teaching Math and Science

at John Yeates Middle School. He is a life Member of the following: the University of Virginia Alumni Association; the U.S. Army War College Alumni Association; the Association of Naval Aviation; and MOAA.

CDR App is married to the former Donna Smith of Sanford, VA. They have one daughter, Julie, who is a teacher at Carrollton Elementary in Isle of Wight County and is married to Paul Branch of Berlin, VA. They have three Grandchildren.

2ND VICE PRESIDENT

LCDR Dolly Cherrington, USN (Ret.)

LCDR Dolly Cherrington entered nursing at Lankenau Hospital Nursing School, Philadelphia, PA, following graduation from Princeton High School in New Jersey. She obtained her diploma as a Registered Nurse in 1971 after surviving rigorous training at the hands of the Lutheran deaconesses who ran the school. She entered the U.S. Navy as an Ensign in the Nurse Corps following graduation. Her career afforded her broad experience in nursing from inpatient critical care to outpatient clinic assignments and patient education. Her duty stations were mostly on the East Coast, including Naval Hospitals at Camp Lejeune, Bethesda, Quantico, and Pensacola where she completed a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing in 1984. She had overseas assignments at U.S. Naval Hospital Naples, Italy and later at the support base for the Sixth Fleet in Gaeta, Italy, where she retired in February 1992 after ending her tour as the clinic director.

She has served as the Treasurer and currently as the 2nd Vice President and Membership Chair for 6 years. She has also been serving as the Personal Affairs Officer and assistant Legislative Representative.

LCDR Cherrington was recently elected to the position as 2nd Vice President for VCOC and will be stepping down from the positions of Personal Affairs Officer and Assistant Legisla-

tive Representative.

TREASURER

CDR Hans Sachse, USN (Ret.)

A native of East Lansing, Michigan, CDR Sachse graduated from undergraduate and graduate school at Michigan State University and subsequently from medical school at the University of Michigan. After an initial residency training in general surgery at the University of Missouri-Columbia, he entered the U.S. Navy. He served in amphibious forces, first as Medical Officer on the USS DURHAM (LKA-114), participated in Vietnam refugee operations and the evacuation of Saigon, and then as Medical Officer on the USS NEW ORLEANS (LPH-11), which was the prime recovery ship for the Apollo-Soyuz Test Project and as a medical officer at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot in San Diego. He furthered his interest in aviation as a student Naval Flight Surgeon in Pensacola, FL, earning designation as a Naval Flight Surgeon in May 1979. Completed tours as the fighter flight surgeon on the CARRIER AIR WING TWO (CVW-2) and then Senior Medical Officer on the USS RANGER (CV-61). He then returned to hospital based medicine as a resident in radiology at Naval Hospital, San Diego, leading to Board Certification in Diagnostic Radiology in 1990. Tours as a radiologist followed at Naval Hospital, Naples, Italy and Naval Medical Center, Portsmouth, where he was Head of Diagnostic Radiology. He retired from active service in 1997 and has been in private practice since where he is also

involved in teaching radiology residents as an Assistant Professor at Eastern Virginia Medical School.

Hans has served as PACMOAA treasurer for the past 4 years.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mrs. Bettye Hussey

Bettye Hussey moved to Chesapeake when her

husband, COL William V. Hussey, was assigned to the NATO Headquarters here in Norfolk in 1996. Originally from Texas, she has a BS in Physical Education from Texas Christian University and a Masters' Degree in Applied Linguistics from Old Dominion University. Ms. Hussey has taught either physical education or English classes in each location and has spent the last several years teaching English as a Second Language at Old Dominion University.

She was a supportive military wife for 25 years serving in various leadership positions, including President, in various officers' wives' clubs as she moved with her husband to Hawaii, Georgia, Pennsylvania, Germany, South Korea and several tours in the Northern Virginia area. After arriving in Hampton Roads, she served on the Azalea Festival Committee in Norfolk for three years and has been a member of the World Affairs Council while here. She has also been actively involved with the English Conversation Group for the NATO wives for the last 19 years.

She has a daughter, Alisabeth Gheen, and her husband, Will, in the Harrisonburg area and a son, William J. Hussey and wife, Jean Marie, in Manila, the Philippines, and five grandchildren ranging in age from 8 years to 5 months old. She loves to travel, to cook and to dance! She looks forward to serving on this diverse board.

CWO 4 Whitney Jones, USCG (Ret.)

Whitney Jones retired from the Coast Guard with the rank of Chief Warrant Officer 4 with over 30 years having served as the Supply Officer of the U.S. Coast Guard Training Center Yorktown. Other distinguished duty assignments included Senior Finance Inspector at Maintenance and Logistics Command Atlantic, leading the Finance and Logistics Management Audit Task Force.

Chief Warrant Officer Jones's personal awards include four Coast Guard Commendation Medals, one Coast Guard Achievement Medal, five

Coast Guard Good Conduct Medals, numerous team and unit awards, and the CG permanent cutterman pin.

Chief Warrant Officer Jones and his wife Regina have three children; Rufus, Drucilla, and Monique.

AUXILIARY CORNER

By Gail Joyce, Surviving Spouse Advisory Committee

In April 2015, the Auxiliary Member Advisory Committee (AMAC) changed its name to the Surviving Spouse Advisory Committee (SSAC). SSAC members like the name change a lot because we think it reflects who we are. Many people do not know what an "auxiliary" is, but everyone knows the meaning of "surviving spouse." Based on early feedback, MOAA members like the name change as well.

SSAC members provide information about important issues facing surviving spouses and let you know what is happening at the national level. In turn, we ask our surviving spouse liaisons to let us know what is happening at the council and chapter levels. We communicate with our surviving spouse liaisons in all 50 states by sending emails and making personal telephone calls. MOAA has over 400 chapters and 34 councils. However, a little less than half of those affiliates have a surviving spouse liaison.

During the SSAC teleconference in July, we decided to increase the number of council and chapter surviving spouse liaisons in each state. Our goal is to increase the number of surviving spouse liaisons by 20 percent by April 2016.

Editorial note. The renaming of the MOAA Advisory Committee has caused a bit of a stir as Auxiliary membership still exists causing us to think of the Auxiliary as being populated by Surviving Spouses. PACMOAA does have an Auxiliary Liaison, which I imagine is now the Auxiliary/Surviving Spouse Liaison. Twila Nelson currently holds the position.

Even though she is not a surviving spouse, she is on the waiting list.

Military Officers Association of America Presents Leadership Awards to Members of the Virginia Council

The Virginia Council of Chapters (VCOC) of the Military Officers Association of America celebrated their 40th Anniversary as they came together during their biennial event on Thursday, October 15, 2015 in Williamsburg, Virginia. The Virginia Council is comprised of 18 chapters throughout the Commonwealth, representing over 35,000 members within the state. A memorial service for the departed members was conducted and recognition awards for outstanding service were presented to the outgoing officers of the council. In an unprecedented occasion, seven MOAA members from Virginia were awarded a MOAA Leadership Award for their significant contributions over the years to the overall mission success in support of military service members, retirees, veterans and their family members. Admiral Walter Doran, USN (Ret) from the MOAA National Board of Directors, presented the Leadership Awards. MAJ Sherry Ferki, USA (Ret.) former President the Portsmouth Area Chapter received one of the seven awards. COL Victoria Revilla, was presented the Virginia "Minuteman Award", voted among the members of VCOC as the individual contributing the most to the mission goals and objectives of the council. Admiral Doran administered the oath of office to the Virginia Council officers for the next two year term, 2016-2017.

The Virginia Council and 14 of the Chapters within the state will be receiving the 5-Star Award for Levels of Excellence at the upcoming MOAA national convention on 30-31 October in Orlando Florida; the Virginia MOAA has received the highest percentage of 5-Star awards nationally for the past 4 years.

PACMOAA President Hal Hostetler is attending the national convention and to accept our 5-Star Award for Levels of Excellence.

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER by Bob Steorts, Chaplain

Let Them In, Peter

Let them in, Peter
They are very tired
Give them couches where the angels sleep
And light those fires

Let them wake whole again
To brand new dawns
Fired with the sun, not wartime's
Bloody guns

May their peace be deep
Remember where the broken bodies lie
God knows how young they were
To have to die

Give them things they like
Let them make some noise
Give roadhouse bands, not golden harps
To these our boys

And let them love, Peter
'Cause they've had no time
They should have trees and bird songs
And hills to climb

The taste of summer in a ripened pear
And girls sweet as meadow wind
With flowing hair

And tell them how they are missed
And say not to fear
It's gonna be all right
With us down here

John Gorka

"Let Them In, Peter" was made into a song by John Gorka from a poem found in a hospital in the Philippines during World War II. The nurse who found the poem kept it all these years, and it was her daughter who sent a copy to John. A tribute to all our World War II veterans. Always remember - Never forget the price paid for our freedom!

God Bless America!

IN MEMORIAM



It is with a measure of profound sadness that we announce the passing of **CDR J. Michael Johnson USN (Ret.)**. You will be missed. Condolences to family and friends.

The following PACMOAA members were memorialized at a service held during the VCOG biennial luncheon: CAPT Charles H Leckrone USCG (Ret.), Mrs. Thias Keegan (auxiliary), CAPT Lawrence H Taylor Jr. USN (Ret.), CWO5 Joseph B Bush, USMC (Ret.), Mrs. Ada Sojourner (auxiliary), CAPT James H Swint USCG (Ret.), and Mrs. Norma Barclay (auxiliary). (listed in order of passing)

STAND DOWN FOR HOMELESS VETERANS

One out of every four homeless persons is a veteran! The VA Secretary Robert McDonald is striving to reduce this number to virtually zero by the end of the year. To this end, the Hampton VA Medical Center, along with Hampton Military Affairs Committee, is sponsoring a Stand Down for Homeless Veterans, 17 November 2015, at the YH Thomas Community Center, 1300 Thomas Street, Hampton from 0800-1400.

The Stand Down provides the homeless, at risk veterans and family members:

- Housing, health, employment and benefits assistance; Veteran Support from the VA, local Veteran Services Organizations and other community resources;
- On site medical screening, legal services, access to residential treatment programs;
- Haircuts, showers, hot lunch, clothing, health & welfare items for the veteran.

DO NOT FORGET THE PORTSMOUTH VOLUNTEERS FOR THE HOMELESS that we support. They provide: showers, clothes washing facilities and personal items. **THEY NEED DONATIONS!** Please bring laundry detergent or small per-

sonal care items to our next PACMOAA meeting. There are always winter short falls!

VETERANS IN THE VINEYARD

On Columbus Day there was a salute to all active duty military, guard, reserves, veterans, and their families as honored guests. The event at the Hensley Equestrian Center, a part of the Gauthier Vineyard, had a constant flow of honorees all day long. The event was free with food and non-alcoholic beverages provided. Barbeque and drinks were provided by Mission BBQ. The Code Blue bluegrass band, home based in Hampton Roads, provided attendees with hours of entertainment. The event was sponsored by MOAA, USAA, Yellow Ribbon Fund, Mission BBQ, Patriots Colony and VSE corp. The Gauthier, Saude Creek, New Kent vineyards were sponsors providing a wine tasting for a donation to the Yellow Ribbon Fund. All in all it was a great day and well worth the short trip to Barhamsville, Va. It would be great if this salute could be scheduled again next year.



TURKEY TRIVIA

The first Thanksgiving celebration in 1621 lasted for three days, it included food and games. Furthermore, the Pilgrims gave thanks for the bountiful harvest with the Wampanoag Indians. [Firkee](#) is the Native American name for this tasty bird. Sorry to burst the bubble, but the Pilgrims ate deer on the first thanksgiving not turkey.

THAT'S A WRAP FOR NOVEMBER