



LANCASTER CHAPTER MOAA

P.O. Box 5031, Lancaster, PA 17606-5031

NEWSLETTER

Visit our 5 Star Web Site at www.moaalancasterchapt.org

4 Star E-Newsletter

May 2020

Volume 27 Number 3

● 2020 Membership Meetings Status:

Our April 23rd meeting at Meadia Heights was cancelled by the Board of Directors due to the Covid-19 pandemic and our June 28 meeting at the Hamilton Club has also been cancelled for the same reason. We are hopeful (?) that perhaps our August 28th picnic meeting at Waltz Vineyard can be held but that date is also very iffy.

● From the President's Desk:

What a difference a few weeks make. In early March all those who were able to attend our luncheon at Lancaster Country Club enjoyed an excellent meal and interesting presentation by meteorologist Ethan Huston on a beautiful spring-like day. A short time later we are all sequestered and trying to fend off a nasty virus sweeping through our community



Shelton

As the COVID-19 situation began to evolve, we cancelled the planned April dinner meeting, and now have also decided to cancel our June meeting as well. I am still hopeful we may be able to continue with our summer picnic in late August, which being outside at least offers some opportunity for a degree of social distancing. However, since it seems likely some restrictions will continue until effective treatments and vaccines are approved, our social calendar for this year is clearly in jeopardy. We must also consider that the great majority of members normally attending are labeled as high risk due to our age and varying health conditions.

Some good news to report is that the chapter has again been recognized by MOAA with Colonel Marvin J. Harris Communications Awards for 2019. Our newsletter received a 4-star award and the website received a 5-star award. Board member Tom

● From the President's Desk (cont'd):

Bender serves as both the newsletter editor and the webmaster, and he has clearly earned our hearty congratulations.

Also, our ROTC Liaison, Peter Cardinal, had arranged to complete the evaluation board for our Millersville University ROTC Scholarship just before the college shut everything down. Unfortunately, with the school's awards ceremony and other events cancelled, there will be no formal presentation. A congratulatory letter and check mailed to our winner, Cadet Faith Willenbrock of Glenmore PA, will have to suffice. In addition, we have just now finished receiving all the applications for the Lancaster Chapter MOAA Memorial Scholarship Award. We had extended the due date from 30 March to 30 April after all the local high schools closed. Preliminary review by Scholarship Chair Ed Hurston indicates there are now at least a dozen applications and several strong candidates for us to make our selection in early May.

We all wish Ed Hurston well for being selected by the county commissioners to act in coordinating the county's COVID-19 response and salute all of our members, and any family members, who may be involved in fighting this virus. We have a great many retired and past military medical officers among our membership. I'm sure a number of them are directly helping like Ed and like board member Kim



Hurston



Bade

Bade who is on the WellSpan Ephrata Disaster Response Team and has been working with a COVID-19 testing station. Please all be safe.



● **From the President's Desk (cont'd):**

Hopefully we will be able to gather again socially sooner rather than later, but clearly all future events are uncertain at this time. While we are currently missing out on the excellent membership meeting dinners normally arranged by Social Chair Dan Horting, perhaps consider donating the usual cost of those meals to a local food bank, or charity, serving those affected financially. Let us all be mindful of the health experts' advice in combating this virus and stay safe.

● **2020 ROTC Scholarship Award:**

Our chapter is pleased to announce the award of the 2020 Lancaster Chapter Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) Scholarship to Cadet Faith Willenbrock of the Army ROTC Detachment at Millersville University. This scholarship is provided for a junior ROTC Cadet at the university, and is based on scholastic performance, evaluation of a written essay and personal interviews by a board comprised of Lancaster Chapter MOAA officers and an ROTC Cadre leader. Cadet Willenbrock has clearly demonstrated outstanding military leadership potential and is also currently a member of the Millersville University softball team.



Willenbrock

● **2019 Col Marv Harris Comm Awards:**

As our president announced, your Lancaster Chapter was once again awarded a 5 Star Website communications award and a 4 Star E-Newsletter award by MOAA National. A picture of the award logos are below.



5 Star



4 Star

● **2019 Col Marv Harris Comm Awards: (cont'd)**

The 4 Star award will appear on each newsletter on the front page upper left-hand corner. The 5 Star logo will be pinned on our meeting US flag streamer.

● **Welcome our newest members:**
LTC Lowell E. Wenger, USA (RET)

461 Settlers Drive

Lititz, PA 17543

Spouse: Emily

Phone: (513) 260-8061

Email: wenger49@gmail.com

Date Joined: March 23, 2020

Sponsor: George Kantra

● **Capt Robert L. Reggio USAF (FMR)**

19 Grouse Drive

Denver, PA 17517

Spouse: Ann M.

Phone: (610) 587-0981

Email: slopevate@icloud.com

Date Joined: April 9, 2020

Sponsor: TBD

● **LTG Ronald E. Adams, USA (RET)**

40 Freemason Drive, Apt 406

Elizabethtown, PA 17022

Spouse: Ardee

Phone: (717) 361-5287

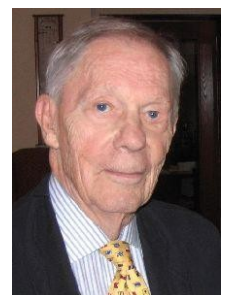
Email: radams300@comcast.net

Date Joined: April 10, 2020

Sponsor: Dennis Benchoff

● **We honor the memory of :**

LCDR John M. Gibson, USN (RET) who died suddenly on March 28 of COVID-19 while visiting family at Greenwich, CT. He was still vibrant, healthy and engaged at age 99. He was pre-deceased by his wife of 58 years, Sally Gibson. His second wife, June N. Gibson survives him.



Gibson



• **We honor the memory of :(cont'd)**

He was an active chapter member for over 19 years having joined in 2001. Nationally, he served as president of the American Heart Association and as president of the Boy Scouts of America. There were no services at his request. Donations in his memory may be sent Penn Hill Friends c/o Ethel Kirk, Treasurer, 290 Pilottown, Peach Bottom, PA 17563.

Lt Col Richard L. Smith, USAF (RET), 86, who died on March 1. He is survived by his wife Dorris of 58 years. He was a long-time chapter member (23 yrs) having joined in 1997. He served through several terms on the Chapter's Board of Directors and as our long-time publicity chair. He was awarded a life-time chapter membership for his dedicated service. A funeral was held on March 16 at the Leacock Presbyterian Church, Paradise, PA. Interment will be held at Ft Indiantown Gap.



Smith

Col Albert J. DeGroot, USAF (RET), 87, Died on April 17, at Willow Valley Communities. He is survived by his wife of 67 years, Marie DeGroot. He joined our chapter and remained active since Nov 2012. He served 26 years active duty as a fighter pilot. Funeral services and interment will be held at Arlington National Cemetery at a future date. Donations in his memory can be sent to the Michael J. Fox Foundation, P.O. Box 5014, Hagerstown, MD 21741-5014.

Suzanne T. Metzler, 81, who died on April 12 after a long illness. She is the wife of our chapter member, Capt Philip Metzler, USAF (FMR). They were married for over 61 years. Members who wish to donate in her memory may be made to Alzheimer's Association at www.alz.org/pa.

• **Remaining 2020 Meeting Schedule:**

Sat August 29 at Waltz Vineyards-Picnic (11 AM)
 Thu October 22 at Bent Creek Country Club-Dinner (5 PM)
 Sun Dec 6 at Gordinier Hall, Millersville-Luncheon (1 PM)

• **Chapter Picture:**



You're too close!

Next Newsletter Release:

July 1, 2020

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Recording Secretary:

Barry Schmitt 717-877-1810

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Peter Cardinal 717-778-7515

AF JROTC Program:

Ed Hurston 717-923-0181

Scholarship Chair:

Ed Hurston 717-923-0181

Social & Programs Chair:

Dan Horting 717-285-7320

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