



# MOAA LANCASTER PA CHAPTER

## NEWSLETTER

Visit our Web Site at [www.moaalancasterchapt.org](http://www.moaalancasterchapt.org)

September 2017

MOAA (Military Officers Association of America)  
Lancaster Chapter, P O Box 5031, Lancaster, PA 17606

Volume 24 Number 5

### ◇ **Eden Resort Meeting: Dan Horting**

We will return to the Eden Resort and Suites for our **October 26, 2017** Membership Meeting. The Eden, 222 Eden Road, Lancaster, PA 17601, is one of Lancaster's premiere hotels and offers a great setting for a fall dinner. The social hour will begin at 5 p.m. with a cash bar available for beverages. The meeting will be called to order at 6 p.m. by our president Tony Cerase. Dinner will follow at approximately 6 p.m. with a menu as follows:

*Mixed Green Salad with assorted dressings*

#### **Entrée:**

(choice of one of the following)

*Sliced Roast Top Sirloin of Beef with  
Bordelaise Sauce*

**OR**

*Baked Salmon with Basil Cream Sauce*



*Entrée's will be served with Au Gratin Potatoes  
Green Beans with Julienne Carrots  
Warm Rolls and Butter*

#### **Dessert**

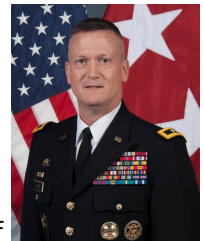
*Pumpkin Pie with Whipped Cream*

Regular and Decaffeinated Coffee, Hot Herbal Tea and Iced Tea

The cost of the dinner is \$32.00. As always your check is your reservation and should be made out to Lancaster Chapter MOAA and mailed to Lancaster Chapter MOAA, ATTN: Meeting Reservations, P.O. Box 5031, Lancaster, PA 17606-5031. Be sure to write the names of your guests on your check for name tag purposes and please indicate your choice of entrée. The deadline for receipt of all checks is Monday, October 23rd. Cancellations may be made by calling Jim Cunningham prior to Monday, October 23rd. If you have questions, please contact Jim Cunningham at 581-5299.

### ◇ **Speaker by Dina Cerase**

The speaker for the October meeting will be **Major General Walter T. Lord**. He will be presenting the current Army Reserve components and missions.



MG Lord has an exemplary career of 33 years. Currently, he is the Military Executive, Reserve Forces Policy Board, Office of the Secretary of Defense, Washington, DC. He serves as an independent advisor to the Secretary of Defense providing advice and recommendations to the Secretary on strategies, policies, and practices designed to improve and enhance the capabilities, efficiency and effectiveness of the Reserve components. This position is recommended by the Reserve Forces Policy Board Chairman and designated by the Secretary of Defense to serve as both the military adviser to the Chairman and as military executive officer for the Reserve Forces Policy Board. He also supervises the operations and staff of the Board.

Prior to joining the Reserve Forces Policy Board, he led the National Guard Bureau Quadrennial Defense Review team. MG Lord represented the National Guard Bureau Chief and Vice Chief while conveying the National Guard's position to key leaders in the Department of Defense, Joint Staff, Military Services, and the Army and Air National Guard.

These are just MG Lord's latest accomplishments in long and excellent career. Let's give him a hardy welcome.

### ◇ **From the President's Desk: Tony Cerase**

As we prepare to once again work on the 2018 budget, I would like to thank everyone who receive the newsletter via email. This has been a large cost savings to our chapter from previous years. However, we could use your help to





lower this cost further. We currently mail 141-145 newsletter, which costs an average of a \$142 per issue, which is an average annual cost of \$852. We have managed to decrease the pages and kept to the operational information needed to keep you informed which has greatly reduces the cost. To further reduce cost, I would like to encourage members that currently receive the newsletter by USPS to provide Tom Bender with an email address, if you have one.

Our policy is not to overburden the members with emails; you will only receive 2 emails on the meetings (newsletter and reminder), a timely notification of a death, or an urgent message. We do not do forwards, and we do not disseminate your email address. Your cooperation to continue to cut on the cost of the newsletter is greatly appreciated.

On another note; kudos go **Dan Horting** for once again providing a great venue for our picnic. We had a great day, and, six of our new members were able to attend among our 80 attendees.

◇ **Level of Excellence Award: Tony Cerase**



MOAA has again recognized our chapter with the 4 Star Level of Excellence Award. This is an honor given to those chapter that are above average performers in their operations. Kudos goes to those

that put their time and skills to make this chapter a success and a special thanks goes to John Gareis whose diligent work in composing all the required forms with the help of all the chairs have, for a second year, given us the opportunity to be recognized by National MOAA. This makes the 3rd major award for our chapter this year.

◇ **2018 Slate of Officers: George Knapp**

President: John Gareis  
 V-President: Dave Shelton  
 Treasurer: Dennis Benchoff  
 Corresponding Secretary: Jim Cunningham  
 Recording Secretary: Dave Hartmann  
 Director (3 yrs.): John Burke  
 Director (3 yrs.): Kathleen Knapp  
 Director (2 yrs.): Dan Cooper  
 Director (2 yrs.): Tom Bender

Director (1 yr.): Tony Castle  
 Director (1 yr.): Kenneth Knapp

⇒ **Legislative Update: Dennis Benchoff**

New federal legislation seeks to establish parity for Reserve Component service member benefits compared to those for active duty service, to permit Reserve and Guard members to increase contributions to their Thrift Savings Plan to \$18,000 per year, and to improve enforcement of employment and reemployment rights for uniformed service members by deleting mandatory arbitration clauses in employment contracts, which would permit service members to sue to enforce the provisions of the Service Member Civil Relief Act.

◇ **Welcome The New Members: John Burke**

MAJ Arthur Cassot  
 USA, 717-984-2365  
 627 Boundary Street  
 Lancaster, PA. 17601  
 Spouse: Valerie  
 Sponsor: John Burke

LTC Carolyn Haskell  
 USA, 717-274-8497  
 912 Cross Creek Court  
 Lebanon, PA 17042  
 Sponsor: John Burke

MAJ Richard Claypool  
 USA, 717-279-6276  
 1221 Ash Lane  
 Lebanon, PA. 17042  
 Spouse: Charlotte  
 Sponsor: John Burke

Mrs. Catherine Hunt  
 USA, 717-569-1248  
 1800 Village Circle, #128  
 Lancaster, PA 17604  
 Spouse: COL - Dec.  
 Sponsor: John Burke

MAJ Gerald Fahs  
 USA, 717-393-3442  
 154 Deer Ford Drive  
 Lancaster, PA 17601  
 Spouse: Berit  
 Sponsor: John Gareis

CPT Roger Lindsay  
 USAR, 954-448-5448  
 Private address  
 Spouse: Dori  
 Sponsor: John Burke

LCDR Joshua Feldman  
 USN, 757-339-2435  
 1 Herling Road  
 Quarryville, PA 17566  
 Spouse: Connie  
 Sponsor: John Burke

MAJ Jonathan Miller  
 USA, 410-652-5315  
 24 Tall Grass Path  
 Lancaster, PA 17602  
 Spouse: Kathryn  
 Sponsor: internet

LtCol. Byron Geer  
 USAF, 719-251-1296  
 4 Knollwood Drive  
 Lancaster, PA 17601  
 Spouse: Joanie

LtCol. Stanley Sneegas  
 USAF, 785-331-9536  
 1036 Freedom Street  
 Lititz, PA 17543  
 Spouse: Barbara



1LT Ernest Walker  
PAANG, 717-475-1401  
170 Countryside Lane  
Marietta, PA 17547  
Spouse: Tanna  
Sponsor: John Burke

LTC Thomas Wissinger  
USA, 717-484-9855  
207 Royal Horse Way  
Reinholds, PA 17569  
Spouse: Betty Jean  
Sponsor: John Burke

◇ **Adopt a Kid / Adopt a Vet Program Report: John Gareis, MD**

We have been invited to return to Landis Run Intermediate School to meet with their fifth grade students. Since there are a total of 18 classes we will do this on two days, November 1, and November 3, 2017. We assign two veterans to each class so we need a large number of volunteers. As before our basic theme will be "freedom is not free". These students always enjoy hearing about your experiences in the military and it is a chance for a very rewarding experience for the veteran also.

Landis Run Intermediate School is near Neffsville on Blue Streak Blvd off of Valley Rd. Our assembly time will be 8 AM at the school office. The program with the students will start at 8:20am and finish by 9:30am. A follow up assembly with the students will occur at 9:30am on 15 November at which time the students will have an opportunity to show their appreciation for your visit and entertain us with patriotic songs.

Please join me in this worthwhile event and If you are interested in participating on November 1 or November 3 or on both days, please notify me at 717 872-8005 or by email at: john.gareis@gmail.com.

**USNA Alumni Association, Susquehanna Valley Chapter**



The Susquehanna Valley Chapter will be hosting CAPT Robert B. Chadwick II, USN, Commandant of the Naval Academy and class of 1991, on **4 November 2017, 1800 hours**, at the Grand Ballroom of Hamilton Club, East Orange Street, Lancaster, PA. The host will be David Teply and Chris Nigon.

CAPT Chadwick will be speaking on the leadership lessons learned at the Academy and in the Fleet.

The cost for the evening will be \$50 per person, payable at the door for Paypal on the SVC Webpage. All funds will go to the USNA Foundation. A light meal/heavy hors d'oeuvres, dessert and coffee/tea will be served and there will be a cash bar.

Please RSVP by 20 October via Eventbrite or Chris Nigon (CAPTCSN@aol.com) 717-314-4653.

◇ **With Deepest Sympathy We Honor the Memory of:**

**++ Captain Harry A. Spencer**, USN (Ret.), died July 24, 2017, he was a graduate of the USNA, class of 1952. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions were requested for the USNA Alumni Association & Foundation, 25 Maryland Avenue, Annapolis, MD 21401.

◇ **Meeting Dates for 2017 : Dan Horting**

October 26— Eden Resort, 1700 hours  
December 3—Millersville, 1300 hours

◆ **Next Newsletter Release:**  
November 3, 2017

◇ **Chapter Contacts:**

**President:**

Tony Cerase 299-7177

**Vice President:**

John Gareis 872-8005

**Immediate Past President &**

**Member Assistance:**

Dennis Benchoff 560-1260

**Treasurer:**

Dennis Benchoff 560-1260

**Corresponding Secretary:**

Jim Cunningham 581-5299

**Recording Secretary:**

Dave Hartmann 568-8166

**Membership Co-Chairs:**

John Burke 627-6968

Tom Bender 626-4932

**Chaplain:**

William McElroy 228-2071

**Director:**

Dan Cooper 464-6688

**Director & Memorials:**

Tom Bender 626-4932

**Director:**

Tony Castle 394-8648

**Director:**

Dave Shelton 285-5971

**Director, Programs, ROTC Liaison & Newsletter Editor:**

Dina Cerase 299-7177

**Social Chair:**

Dan Horting 285-7320

**Scholarship Chair:**

George Resh 397-1906

**Nominations:**

George Knapp 581-1221



MOAA Lancaster Chapter  
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