

Lancaster Chapter MOAA

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

www.moalancasterchapt.org

March 2026 issue

Editor Dave Lawrence

Volume 33 Number 2



In this issue:

- New Newsletter Format
- April 16th Chapter Meeting Information
- President's Letter
- Chapter Meeting, Breakfast Meeting, and Board Meeting information
- Chapter Dues Reminder
- Lebanon VA Comfort items
- Recent Event Pictures

From National MOAA

[From MOAA's Chairman: Building on Strength](#)

Chapter NEWS

New Look to Newsletter: This is my 12th go round as your newsletter editor, and you will notice a new format to our bimonthly musings. Microsoft will no longer support Publisher, the program we have relied on for years to create our newsletter. As a result, we have transitioned to an alternative platform. This means some familiar features may look a bit different as we adapt to new tools. The new format will be a work in progress, and I hope you will find gradual improvements as time goes on. If you have any thoughts or suggestions about the new format, please let me know. Your input will help us make the newsletter better for everyone. Best regards, Dave.

April Chapter Meeting: April 16th : Meadia Heights Golf Club, 5:00 pm.:

The Meadia Heights Golf Club is the site for our April dinner and meeting. We are looking forward to socializing and enjoying a dinner at one of Lancaster's popular meeting venues. The gathering will begin at 5:00 p.m. with a social hour. The meeting will be called to order at 6:00 p.m. with introductory remarks by our president Bill Zeird. Dinner will follow at 6:15 p.m. The meal will be a buffet consisting of the following choices:

Garden Salad with a choice of Ranch or Balsamic Vinaigrette
Seared Medallions of Beef and Herb Seared Salmon
Herb Roasted Red Potatoes and Vegetable Medley
Warm Dinner Rolls
Dessert - Vanilla Cheesecake
Coffee, Hot Tea, and Lemonade



The cost of the meal will be \$50.00 per person. The cash bar will be open at 5:00 p.m. 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.

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Be sure to write the names of your guests on your check for name tag purposes. The deadline for receipt of all checks is Monday, April 6th. Cancellations may be made by calling Dennis Benchhoff prior to April 6th. If you have any questions, please contact Dennis Benchhoff 717 560-1260 banzhafdl@gmail.com

Speaker Bio:

Our speaker for the meeting is Frank Fuller. Frank was born and raised in Scranton, Pennsylvania and enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1980 as a Culinary Specialist. Over a distinguished 24-year naval career, Frank rose through the enlisted ranks to E-8 before earning a commission, ultimately serving as a Navy Lieutenant. His assignments included service aboard numerous ships as well as duty at major shore-based installations. Frank's Navy career culminated at the White House, where he served as the President's Food Service Director, overseeing executive dining operations in the West Wing, Situation Room, Oval Office, Cabinet Room, and Executive Dining Rooms. He also served as Director of Worldwide Food Service Security, managing culinary teams during presidential travel and advance operations—often alongside the President.

After retiring from the Navy in 2004, Frank transitioned to the private sector, becoming a Vice President of Sales and Marketing in the foodservice equipment manufacturing industry, where he led U.S. and Canadian sales operations and was responsible for more than \$380 million in annual sales. Now semi-retired, Frank lives in Lancaster, Pennsylvania with his wife, Terry. He serves as a leadership coach for the Franklin & Marshall College football team, which captured the conference championship this past season. Frank will speak to us about his work at the White House.

President's Letter from Bill Zeird:



This event, 250 years ago, captures how a legendary military feat in 1776 can be transformed into a modern strategy for our organizational growth.

The Knox Miracle

In 1776, George Washington faced a stalemate in Boston: He had the city surrounded but lacked the heavy artillery to force the British out. To solve this, he directed Henry Knox, a former bookseller with no field experience, to undertake an "impossible" 300-mile mission in the dead of a freezing winter.

Knox used oxen and sleds to transport 60 tons of cannon 300 miles from Fort Ticonderoga through mountains and across frozen rivers back to Boston.

On March 4, 1776, Washington used stealth and "instant" fortifications to place these 59 cannons on Dorchester Heights overnight.

Faced with a wall of cannons overlooking their position, the British fleet evacuated Boston on March 17 without a single shot being fired.

This victory proved that a ragtag militia could achieve strategic success through logistical grit.

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Gaining new Members

The Henry Knox miracle translates this military feat into a motivational framework for gaining new members against difficult odds.

We need to stop looking at the “insurmountable problem” and start focusing on the “sleds and oxen”—the specific tools and resolve needed to move forward.

Look at potential members as the “Ticonderoga cannon”—a valuable asset currently sitting at a distance that needs to be brought into the fold.

Like Knox’s wooden sleds, modern recruitment should use “new sleds” (digital and community outreach) rather than relying on outdated methods.

By creating a visible, high-impact presence (the Dorchester Heights moment), the organization makes its value undeniable, attracting new members through a position of strength. If you have further ideas on recruitment, please contact President Bill Zeird at moaalancasterpresident@gmail.com.

Chapter Meeting, Breakfast Meeting, and Board Meeting Information:

Chapter Meeting Dates for 2026 from Past President, Dan Horting:

Please put these dates on your calendar and plan to join us. You will find your favorite venues as well as a Susquehanna cruise in the list below. Please note the change of date for the October Meeting.

March 5, Eden Resort 11:00 am

April 16, Meadia Heights Golf Club 5:00 pm

June 14, Susquehanna Cruise 6:00pm**

* Date change ** Tentative

August 29, Waltz Vineyards Picnic 11:00 am

October 22, Bent Creek Country Club, 5:00pm*

December 6, Millersville University, 1:00 pm

Breakfast Gatherings:

We will meet at Olde Hickory Grill, 709 Olde Hickory Rd, Lancaster, PA 17601 at 9:00 am. Breakfasts are informal with no agenda and occur on Thursday mornings, roughly every other month. They are open to all members and guests. Please note the venue and time change from previous years. For additional information or questions contact Dan Horting at k4sbuilder@comcast.net or 717 285-7320.

May 21

July 16

September 17

November 19

Board Meeting Dates:

Meetings are held six times a year on Wednesdays at 2:00 pm at the Lancaster Airport Authority Conference Room, 500 Airport Road, Lititz, PA 17543. All members are welcome to attend and please let us know if you are interested in serving on the board.

March 25

May 13

August 12

September 30

November 18

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Chapter Dues Reminder from Treasurer, Dave Shelton:

We encourage members to take advantage of the discounted 3-year rate of \$60, otherwise annual dues are \$25 per year. Checks should be made payable to Lancaster Chapter MOAA and mailed to the same at P.O. Box 5031, Lancaster PA 17606-5031. Please call or email Dave Shelton, 717-342-4600, dws Shelton@comcast.net, if you have a question about your dues status.

Lebanon VA Comfort Items:

Please remember to bring Comfort items for our hospitalized Veterans to any Chapter event, breakfast, Chapter meeting, or Board meeting. We are pursuing a year-round effort in 2026 for supplying these comfort items to our hospitalized Veterans. Your continued support can have a lasting impact. For current needs please see VA Lebanon website link:

<https://www.va.gov/lebanon-health-care/work-with-us/volunteer-or-donate/> Then scroll down to "Make a donation", then "Personal hygiene/comfort items", to see a list of specific needs; and drill down likewise under the heading "Clothing".

Breakfast meeting February 19, 2026

Seven Chapter members met for breakfast this past week. We enjoyed the new venue and the later start time. Our next breakfast is scheduled for May 21, 2026. We hope to see even more members at our next breakfast! Please let us know if you plan to attend.



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