



4 Star E-Newsletter

MOAA LANCASTER CHAPTER

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

NEWSLETTER

Visit our 4 Star Web Site at www.moalancasterchapt.org

July 2022

Editor: Tom Bender

Volume 29 Number 4

• Our Aug 27 Picnic at Waltz Vineyards:

Please join us for MOAA Lancaster Chapter's annual picnic at Waltz Vineyards on Saturday, August 27th. We have used this venue for the past several years and those who have attended were treated to a great afternoon of good food and wine at a beautiful setting overlooking the rolling hills of northern Lancaster County. Waltz Vineyards is located at 1599 Old Line Road, Manheim, PA 17545-8222. The event will begin with social time from 11 to 12 noon. The meal for the event, prepared by Hess BBQ, will be served at noon.

Menu:

Applewood smoked pulled pork
BBQ Hickory smoked beef brisket
Baked beans, macaroni and cheese, potato salad, and coleslaw.

Dessert:

Cake

Beverages:

A selection of Waltz wine as well as assorted non-alcoholic beverages which are provided in the cost of the picnic.

The cost will be \$20 per person. As always, your check is your reservation and should be made out to MOAA Lancaster Chapter, 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.

The deadline for receipt of all checks is Monday, August 22nd. Cancellations or any questions you may have can be made by calling Jim Cunningham at 717 548-2949.

Parking is readily available at the top of the hill in the grass to the right and just below our picnic area.

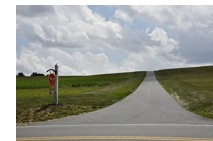
Seating is limited so please bring your own lawn chairs.

Directions from Lancaster: proceed to Manheim City and go north on Rte. 72 through Manheim. At the north end of Manheim, turn left onto West

Directions (cont'd) Colebrook Street. In 0.4 miles, West Colebrook Street becomes Old Line Road. Continue 2 miles to the winery entrance sign on the left side of the road and proceed up the entrance road hill to the parking area on the right.



Entrance sign



Entrance road

• From the President's Desk:

As we enter into the "HOT" Summer months of 2022 please take care to hydrate properly and protect yourself from the direct sunlight. We all know those effects worsen as we get older.



Bill Confer Sr

Now for the summer fun, we hope to see you all at the Waltz Vineyard on the 27th of August at 11AM. Bring friends/family and anyone else you might want to bring along. Have your favorite lawn chair and canopy ready for the hot summer sun and we'll all meet under the great shade tree on the yard of the Vineyard. We have been steadily growing the group participation for our dinners from 35 to 44 the past two meals. This is how we get some money for our Scholarship awards we give out each year and we really need to improve attendance, not to mention the great times we have at each meal along with the great speakers that Dan Horting schedules.



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

Our last meeting at the Hamilton Club was an excellent event in the upstairs ballroom with a beautiful view of the city. Our Guest Speaker, Kate Merriman, of WGAL was an excellent speaker who told us of all her time in the news business and some of her greatest challenges that brought some folks to tears. It was a moving and interesting discussion. There were a lot of questions for Kate and a very interesting time.

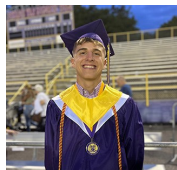


Merriman

I would like to invite all spouses to come along with their husbands to the gathering breakfast we have at the Oregon Dairy Restaurant. It is currently scheduled for Thursday, July 21, 2022, at 8AM. Please come and bring a friend/spouse. Call our VP, Dan Horting, if you plan on attending so he can reserve the space with Oregon Dairy that suits our group. His number is 717-285-7320.

During the past month we awarded two scholarships, one to Daniela McCurdy at Millersville University, with a great deal of thanks for all the work that Peter Cardinal did to set up the Review Board and the presentation event at the State Capital Museum.

In addition we awarded another scholarship to a HS senior Austin Brass of Ephrata High School and can thank Ed Hurston for his thorough screening process for this scholarship and the approximately seven applicants. It's a lot of work screening for this award and we can always use your help if you'd like to assist Ed with the process.



Austin Brass

At our last Board of Directors meeting we decided to setup a recruiting stand at the Airport Community Days the 17th and 18th of September. We will have a table setup along with a tent to shade us and hopefully some handouts and little gifts from MOAA to give to prospective members of our MOAA Chapter. If you have other suggestions for this type of event to recruit for our Chapter please let one of our Board of Directors know or call or email me with some details.

I have one task for all members, "show your spouse what your DD 214 looks like and where it's stored." As the Surviving Spouse representative, I see all too frequently what happens when the surviving Spouse doesn't know where the DD 214 is and

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

what it means to survivors. Did you know, if you have a Military Pension and die on the last day of the month (actually anytime during the month) the government will withdraw (Called "claw back") that months pay from your bank account; this is why you need to have several months pay saved in the bank savings account so your spouse can make it through those hard times before her payments start which can take up to three months if you have the survivor benefit plan for her/him. Not to be a downer but I want you to be prepared for the future events that some spouses have a problem with when their Veteran passes.

I wish you all a very happy and wonderful summer and hope to see you at some of our great events! Welcome to "Post-Covid." Get out, get active and come participate in our events. God Bless!

● **Our Remaining 2022 Membership Mtgs:**

Please put these dates in your calendars and plan on joining us for good food and camaraderie:

Thu Oct 20, 5 p.m. dinner-Bent Creek CC

Sun Dec 4, 1 p.m. luncheon-Millersville Univ.

● **Breakfast Gatherings:**

Our next Breakfast Gathering will be Thursday, July 21 at 8 a.m. As usual, the venue is Oregon Dairy at 2900 Oregon Pike, Lititz 17543. These gatherings remain informal, have no agenda and are open to all members and guests. Come and enjoy the camaraderie! Give Dan Horting a courtesy heads-up phone call at 717 285-7320 or email k4sbuilder@comcast.net if planning to attend.

● **Our Remaining 2022 Bd of Directors Mtgs:**

Wed Aug 10, 2 p.m. Conf Rm Lancaster Airport

Wed Oct 5, 2 p.m. Conf Rm Lancaster Airport

Wed Nov 16, 2 p.m. Conf Rm Lancaster Airport

● **Say Hello to our Newest Member:**

CAPT Timothy (Tim) L. French, USN (Ret.)

90 Sycamore Drive, Apt 381

Elizabethtown, PA 17022

(201) 981-3703

Spouse: Mary Lou French

Joined: 5/4/2022

● **2022 Friendly Dues Notice:**

Our 2022 dues were due on Jan 1st. We still have 26 members who need to pay these dues. Dues continue to be \$15 per year or \$40 for three years. These newsletter reminders serve as our dues vouchers. If you



● **2022 Friendly Dues Reminder (cont'd):**

haven't paid your 2022 dues, now is the time to get your check book out and write a check to MOAA Lancaster Chapter and send it to: MOAA Lancaster Chapter, P.O. Box 5031, Lancaster, PA 17606-5031. Contact our Treasurer, Dennis Benchoff, with any dues questions at 717 560-1260 or dlbencho@hacc.edu. Surviving Spouses pay no Chapter dues.

● **Surviving Spouse Corner:**

Check out these links that go to the Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) website for information concerning retirement pay and Surviving Benefit Plan (SBP) issues:

<https://www.dfas.mil/sbp2023childoptrev> (SBP)–DIC Offset Phased Elimination News

<https://www.dfas.mil/sbp2023childoptrev-Optional> Dependent Annuity Elimination/Reversion to Surviving Spouses

● **Chapter Pictures:**



Guest speaker Merriman



Hamilton Club Table setting



Speaker



Hurston/Schmitt



Dinner Served

Next Newsletter Release: Sep 1, 2022

Chapter Contacts:

President:

Bill Confer Sr conferw@gmail.com

Vice President:

Dan Horting k4sbuilder@comcast.net

Immediate Past President:

David Shelton dwsheltn@comcast.net

Treasurer:

Dennis Benchoff dlbencho@hacc.edu

Corresponding Secretary:

Jim Cunningham jetpilot37@comcast.net

Recording Secretary:

Barry Schmitt sbschmitt@comcast.net

Board of Directors:

Kim Bade	CDR, USN (RET)
Tom Bender	CAPT, USN (RET)
Peter Cardinal	COL, USA (RET)
Dina Cerase	MAJ, USA (RET)
Tony Cerase	CW3, USA (RET)
Ed Hurston	Col, USAF (RET)

Adopt a Kid/Adopt a Vet:

John Gareis

Chaplain:

Kim Bade

Mbr Asst & Legislative Affairs:

Dennis Benchoff

Membership Recruiting:

David Shelton

Mbr Records/Memorials/

Webmaster/Nwsltr Editor/Photos:

Tom Bender

Nominations:

(Vacant)

ROTC Liaison:

Peter Cardinal

Scholarship Chair:

Ed Hurston

Social & Programs Chair:

Dan Horting

Surviving Spouse Liaison:

Bill Confer Sr



The MOAA Lancaster PA Chapter Newsletter is published by the Lancaster Chapter, which is an affiliate of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA). MOAA and its affiliated chapters and councils are nonpartisan.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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