



MOAA LANCASTER CHAPTER

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



FOUR STAR NEWSLETTER

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

November 2025

Editor: Dave Lawrence

Volume 32 Number 6

Next Membership Meeting: Millersville University, Lehr Dining Room, Gordinier Hall; Sunday December 7th, 2025, 1:00 pm.

The Lancaster MOAA Chapter's annual Christmas Luncheon will be held on Sunday, December 7th. The Lehr Dining Room in Gordinier Hall at Millersville University will be decorated for the season. Wine and soda will be available throughout the social hour at no additional cost. The social hour begins at 1:00 pm and following introductory remarks by our president, Dan Horting, the luncheon will be served at 2:00 pm.

The **Menu** for the event is:

Salad: Spinach and Apple Salad with Orange Dressing.

Entrée: Sirloin Tips with sliced Portabella Mushrooms, Garlic Red Skinned Mashed Potatoes, and a Roasted Vegetable Medley.

Dessert: Cheesecake with Cherry Topping.

Accompaniments: Assorted Dinner Rolls. Coffee, Hot Tea, Iced Tea, and Water with Lemon.

The cost of the event is \$38 per person.

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 let us know if you require a vegetarian meal.

The deadline for receipt of all checks is December 1st. Cancellations may be made by calling Dennis Benchoff prior to December 1st. If you have any questions, please contact Dennis Benchoff, (717) 560-1260.

Millersville needs an accurate attendance count on December 1st in order to place their food order. Please mail your check so that it may be received by December 1st. If you believe your check will not arrive on time, please call Dennis Benchoff and let him know your check is enroute.

Directions: Drive into Millersville on Rte 999 (Manor Avenue). Turn left onto N George Street and then left onto James Street. Gordinier Hall will be on your right with a parking lot on your left. Lehr Dining Room will be on the 2nd floor and is easily reached by elevator.

• **From the President's Desk**

As winter approaches, I am sure many of you are thinking about and preparing for an upcoming busy holiday season. As you make plans for the holidays, please consider attending our chapter's Christmas luncheon on Sunday, December 7 at Millersville University. The event falls on a date that our country will never forget and will be an opportunity for you to gather with those who are serving or have served our country. Details for the luncheon are contained in this newsletter.



The chapter has many outreach projects that we have engaged in over the past several years and is currently exploring additional opportunities. One of these new programs is a financial award to a JROTC cadet who has enlisted in the military prior to high school graduation. We currently support four JROTC programs to include the Marine JROTC at Dallastown High School, the Army JROTC at Lebanon High School, the Air Force JROTC at Muhlenberg High School and the Navy JROTC at Elizabethtown High School. The plan will be to reward one cadet from each of these schools. The selection criteria are still being developed and will be published once finalized.



• From the President's desk (continued)

The money for this award will be maintained in our treasury as a separate fund. There is currently a \$400.00 donation that will be committed to the fund. This will result a \$100.00 award for one cadet from each JROTC program. Once the program is fully implemented, we will be asking for donations that will be used to increase the monetary reward. This award is separate from the St Francis summer academy STEAM Camps that we will continue to support.

This newsletter column is the last I will write as the President of your chapter. I have enjoyed serving as your President and working with the committee chairs and directors to lead the chapter. I wish to thank all who have supported me throughout my tenure. Vice President Bill Zeird will be taking over as president beginning January 2026 and I am confident he will provide excellent leadership for our chapter. For the future we are still looking for a volunteer to serve as Bill's vice president.

Please enjoy the upcoming holiday season and I wish all of you safe travels when visiting friends and family!

• Chapter Officers and Directors Election

Election of chapter officers and directors to serve in 2026 was conducted at the October 16th membership meeting at Bent Creek Country Club. The following slate of officers and directors was approved by the membership:

Officers:

President: Bill Zeird LT, USN

Vice President: Open

Imed Past Pres: Dan Horting, Lt Col, USAF

Treasurer: Dave Shelton, Lt Col, USAF

Corres Secy: Dennis Benchoff, LTG, USA

Rec Secy: Open

Directors:

Greg Collison, Col, USAF

Wayne Foxworth, COL, USA

John Gareis, MAJ, USA

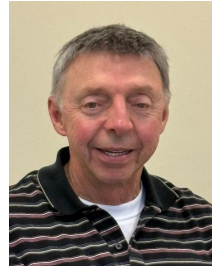
Jerry Link, CDR, USN

Kevin Powell, CAPT, USN

Barry Schmitt, LtCol, USAF

• New Chapter President

Our new chapter President is Bill Zeird who will relieve President Dan Horting at the Holiday Luncheon. Bill is a Penn State Grad and served in the Navy as a Supply Corps Officer. He is an active member of the group and is a charter member of the local Guitar for Vets organization. Please join us in warmly welcoming Bill as our new chapter President.



• Final 2025 Breakfast Gathering

The final Breakfast gathering for 2025 will be on **November 20th at Oregon Dairy** at 2900 Oregon Pike, Lititz, PA 17543 with an 8 a.m. start. Please contact Dan Horting at k4sbuilder@comcast.net or 717 285-7320 for further information or questions.

• Breakfast Gathering Dates for 2026; New Venue and Time

We are shaking it up! There will be a new breakfast venue beginning in January 2026. We will meet at Olde Hickory Grill, 709 Olde Hickory Rd, Lancaster, PA 17601 at 9:00 am. **Please note the time change.** As always breakfasts are informal with no agenda and are open to all members and guests. They are held on Thursday mornings about every other month. For additional information or questions contact Dan Horting at k4sbuilder@comcast.net or 717 285-7320.

January 15

September 17

May 21

November 19

July 16

• Chapter Membership Meetings for 2026

Please put these dates on your calendar and plan to join us in the new year. You will find your favorite venues as well as a planned Susquehanna cruise in the list below. Don't miss the fun.

March 5, Eden Resort, 11 am

April 16, Meadia Heights Golf Club, 5 pm

June (date TBD), Pride of the Susquehanna River Cruise

August 29, Picnic at Waltz Vineyards

October 15, Bent Creek Country Club, 5 pm

December 6, Millersville University Luncheon, 1 pm



• Chapter member speaks at Manheim Veterans Memorial

Jerry Link, our Chapter webmaster, was recently the Distinguished Speaker and guest at a Navy Birthday ceremony at the Manheim Veterans Memorial. A Navy Flag was raised in honor of a Manheim Veteran woman who served in the Navy as an Aviation Machinist Mate during World War II. Members of her family attended the ceremony. Jerry is a retired Navy Commander and Helicopter pilot who has over 2500 flight hours most of which were in the CH46 Sea Knight. Many thanks to Jerry for representing the Chapter at this event. Great job, Jerry.



• Comfort Items for Veterans at the Lebanon VA Hospital

The Chapter has traditionally collected Christmas gifts for the Lebanon VA Hospital at our Holiday luncheon in December. Last year when President Dan Horting delivered these gifts, he learned that there were various comfort items for hospitalized Vets that were in very short supply. These items are essential for improving the daily lives and well-being of veterans during their hospital stay and the hospital staff has emphasized how much they are appreciated. The Chapter Board asks that instead of Christmas gifts, members instead pursue a year-round effort for supplying these comfort items. Your continued support can have a lasting impact. Please bring these items to any membership meeting and they will be delivered to the hospital. Thank you in advance.

Deodorant, Male	Lotion, Male
Hair brushes	Sensitive skin Dove Body wash
Body Wash, Male	3 in 1 Body wash, Male
Alcohol free Mouthwash	Denture Adhesive, small tubes
Mens 4X Tshirts	4X Underwear, Male, briefs
Mens medium Tshirts	Baby Powder
Baby powder	Women's Bras, size small



Next Newsletter Release: Jan 2026

Chapter Contacts:

President:

Dan Horting

Vice President:

Bill Zeird

Immediate Past President:

Bill Confer Sr

Corresponding Secretary:

Dennis Benchoff

Recording Secretary:

Barry Schmitt

Treasurer:

David Shelton

Board of Directors:

John Gareis MAJ, USA

Wayne Foxworth COL, USA

Dave Lawrence CAPT, USN

Jerry Link CDR, USN

Diane Stackhouse Maj, USAF

Adopt a Kid/Adopt a Vet:

Vacant

Chaplain:

Kevin Powell

Legislative Affairs:

Diane Stackhouse

Member Assistance:

Dennis Benchoff

Membership Recruiting/Introductions/ Nominations/Publicity:

David Shelton

Member Records/Webmaster:

Jerry Link

Surviving Spouse Liaison:

Susan Collins

JROTC Liaison:

Dan Horting

Social/Programs/Meeting Sites/Menus

Dan Horting

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Dave Lawrence

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Lancaster, PA 17606-5031

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