Dayton Area Chapter – Military Officers Association of America







Editor: Terry Cooney

DECEMBER 2022



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

At our Executive Board meeting on November 9, COL Larry Simpson, USMC (Ret), who serves as our Marine Corps Representative on the board, presented our \$1,000 check to MSgt Luis Durant, the Toys for Tots Coordinator for Montgomery and Greene Counties. Larry and MSgt Duran are shown to the right. As you probably know, our chapter has supported Toys for Tots in this manner for many years. Many thanks to our members whose contributions for this



purpose make this possible.

As mentioned briefly in last month's message, there will be a dinner at the Black Rock Bar & Grill at Fairfield Commons in Beavercreek on December 14th. The happy hour will begin at 5:30 PM with dinner following. Attendees will be able to order off the menu. We have used this venue before, with excellent results. This is an opportunity to meet and socialize with our colleagues, so please plan on joining us for this event. The private room we have reserved is limited to 30 patrons, but there are still about a dozen places available. Please notify me at trobisch63@gmail.com or 757-327-1388 to reserve your spot. Hope to see you there!

As has been publicized in the past, our chapter's future depends on members stepping up to serve on our board. At the present time, there are several vacancies on the board, and there is no clear succession arrangement for my position for or for any of the positions that are currently occupied. This circumstance is not sustainable, so please consider donating some time to our chapter. A substantial time commitment is not necessary. Contact me or any of the board members listed at the end of the newsletter if you are interested in discussing becoming more involved.

Finally, I encourage everyone to visit our website at <u>www.daytonmoaa.weebly.com</u> where you can find more information about our organization and functions, legislative issues, as well as our current and past newsletters. Also, MOAA National's website at <u>www.moaa.org</u> contains information concerning MOAA resources, member benefits, and current news/event of interest to the military community.

Tom Robisch President, Dayton Area Chapter

The Military Officers Association of America is an independent politically non-partisan organization operated to benefit members of the uniformed services, their families and survivors

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

14 December Dinner at Black Rock Cafe

AUGUST IS MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL MONTH

A reminder that your membership is due for renewal during the month of August 2022 for all who pay their dues (i.e., \$15/year-regular and \$10/year-surviving spouse) annually. Please watch for your renewal mailing. In addition, we'd like to encourage all our members to submit a donation to support our key programs (i.e., Scholarship Fund (\$2,000), Fisher-Nightingale House (\$1,000), Marine Toys for Tots (\$1,000), USO (\$1,500) and Air Force Museum Foundation (\$375)). Any donation amount is sincerely appreciated and we strive to fully fund our key programs annually through our membership dues, outright donations, and monthly program proceeds/revenues. Thank you for your continued support of our Dayton Area Chapter (DAC) and the good work we do for our Wright-Patt and Air Force community.

DINNER OUT ON DECEMBER 14

Please join us for dinner on Wednesday, December 14th at the Black Rock Bar and Grill at Fairfield Commons in Beavercreek. This is an opportunity to meet and socialize with our colleagues – there will be no formal program. Happy Hour will begin at 5:30 PM, followed by dinner of your choice off the menu. Additional information will be provided in the next newsletter. The purpose of this email is to encourage you to reserve this date/time for the opportunity to gather with your fellow chapter members and celebrate the upcoming holidays. We will be limited to 30 diners, so reservations are necessary. Please notify Tom Robisch at trobisch63@gmail.com or 757-327-1388 if you plan to attend. Hope to see you there!

TRICARE SPECIALTY DRUG CHANGES STARTING 1 JANUARY

TRICARE beneficiaries filling specialty medication prescriptions at retail pharmacies should begin moving those prescriptions to <u>Accredo</u>, which will be the primary in-network pharmacy option for specialty medications as of Jan. 1, 2023.

The TRICARE Home Delivery Program and military treatment facility (MTF) pharmacies will continue to be available for some specialty medications, but Accredo will be the only retail specialty pharmacy option for most specialty prescription drugs, which are used to treat chronic, complex conditions such as cancer, rheumatoid arthritis, multiple sclerosis, and hepatitis C..

Only 1% to 2% of TRICARE beneficiaries take specialty medications. Impacted beneficiaries should have received a letter from Express Scripts notifying them of this change. You can also check the <u>specialty drug list</u> on the TRICARE website to verify if any of your medications are specialty drugs.

To fill your specialty medications at Accredo, call 1-877-882-3324 and an Accredo patient care advocate will work with you and your doctor. Accredo provides 24/7 access to personalized care and support from specialty-trained pharmacists and nurses. Your medication also may be eligible for home delivery from Express Scripts; call 1-877-363-1433 to find out. You also can check with your local MTF pharmacy to see whether it stocks your specialty medication on their formulary. If you are receiving your specialty drug through home delivery or an MTF pharmacy, you don't need to make any changes.

Specialty drugs represent a significant and growing portion of <u>TRICARE pharmacy spending</u>. From FY 2018 to FY 2021, TRICARE specialty drug spending increased 43% from \$2.360 billion to \$3.369 billion. In FY 2021, specialty drugs accounted for less than 1% of military health system (MHS) prescription drug utilization, but 47% of MHS drug spending.

OFFICERS CALL

DECEMBER 2022

Although the cost of specialty drugs is high, some represent significant advances in therapy. The high price may be offset by decreases in future medical costs.

The <u>current TRICARE specialty drug retail network</u> is already very narrow and includes Accredo, Kroger, Rite Aid, and Walgreens. Consolidating TRICARE retail specialty drug dispensing at Accredo will reduce TRICARE's growing pharmacy spending by allowing DoD to leverage the <u>National Prime</u> <u>Vendor procurement/replenishment model</u>, which provides discounted pricing on specialty drugs.

Have you been impacted by this change to the specialty drug network? If so, please share your story with us at legis@moaa.org.

FISHER HOUSE NOW RECEIVING SUPPLIES AGAIN



Thanks to all MOAA DAC members who have supported WPAFB Fisher Houses. The Fisher House program recognizes the special sacrifices of our men and women in uniform and the hardships of military service by meeting a humanitarian need beyond that is normally provided by the DoD and the VA

. Please consider making a tax-deductible donation by

sending a check to Fisher Nightingale House 417 Schlatter Dr Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, OH 45433. To make a contribution by credit or debit card contact FNHI Director Chris Stanley at (937) 672-8724. With a lessening of restrictions. Fisher Houses can now accept deliveries of donated items; Bring your Fisher House gifts to our events and we'll deliver them for the chapter

Wright-Patt Fisher House Wish List*

» Individually wrapped snacks (cookies, crackers, candy, etc.)

- » Individually wrapped cereals
- » Variety of individually wrapped breakfast bars
- » Individually packaged small sugar packets
- » Variety of assorted chips, individual packaged
- » Keurig coffee (K-cups) variety
- » Small coffee creamers
- » Green tea, tea bags
- » A variety of individually packaged tea bags
- » Mac and cheese (individual cups)
- » Individual small containers of apple sauce

- » Individual containers of fruit cups
- » Individually packaged microwave popcorn
- » Assorted cookies
- » Paper towels
- » Toilet paper
- » Tissues
- » Clorox Wipes containers

» Small containers of hand sanitizers from name brands (so they can fit them in their purses, backpacks, etc.)

» Red plastic solo cups

- Purex or Tide and regular Tide Pods
- » Coffee cups
- » Dishwasher Tablets (Cascade)

WORDS TO PONDER



Life can either be accepted or changed. If it is not accepted, it must be changed. If it cannot be changed, then it must be accepted.

Winston Churchill -

AZQUOTES

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ELECTED 2020 EXECUTIVE BOARD OFFICES

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ELECTED SERVICE/AUXILIARY REPRESENTATIVES			

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jblorette@gmail.com JAN LORETTE

APPOINTED OFFICERS/COMMITTEE CHAIRS

TIM CRAVEN CAPT, USAF

LAURENCE SIMPSON, COL, USMC

VACANT

RICK WHITAKER

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